

“The Crucifixion”

Mantegna (1457)

Character Analysis



1. Identify as many of the characters in the painting as you can. What are they doing?

2. What is Christ like? Is he an attractive figure? What would you say if you saw someone looking like that?

3. Is anyone actually looking at Jesus? Who?

4. How does the artist use **light** to distinguish between the characters?

5. How does the artist use **posture** to say something about the characters? (say something about each of the following:

the crucified figures

the women

the soldiers

6. Does the busy-ness of all the things going on in the painting surprise you?

What scene/ place does it remind you of?

7. What can you tell from the above about

a. how Christ felt about doing what he did

b. how the people that Jesus died for reacted to it

c. what the artist makes you understand about Christ's death

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