

Mastering Monet: Impressionism Flashcards

Learning objective: To understand the techniques, philosophy, and historical significance of Claude Monet within the Impressionist movement.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of Claude Monet. Read the term or question on the left, then reveal the answer on the right to check your understanding.

What is the name of the art movement that Monet helped to found?

Impressionism, a style focused on capturing a fleeting moment rather than precise detail.

What does the French term 'en plein air' mean in the context of Monet's work?

Painting outdoors, which allowed artists to observe the changing effects of natural light directly.

How would you describe Monet's typical brushwork?

Short, thick, and visible 'broken' brushstrokes that capture the essence of a subject rather than a photographic likeness.

Why was the study of light so crucial to Monet's paintings?

He believed that the appearance of objects changes constantly depending on the time of day, weather, and season.

What was the name of the village where Monet established his famous gardens?

Giverny, where he designed the Japanese-style bridge and water lily pond he painted repeatedly.

What is a 'series' in Monet's artwork?

A collection of paintings of the same subject (like the Rouen Cathedral or Haystacks) painted at different times to show changing light.

How did Monet use colour in his work?

He often placed complementary colours side-by-side without mixing them thoroughly, allowing the viewer's eye to blend them from a distance.

Why did critics initially dislike Impressionist paintings?

They thought the paintings looked unfinished or 'messy' compared to the traditional, highly detailed 'Academic' art of the time.

Explain why Monet's work is considered 'subjective'.

Because it captures his personal perception and emotional response to a scene rather than documenting it objectively like a camera.

Compare and contrast Monet's style with traditional portrait painting.

Traditional art focused on smooth blending and fine detail, Monet's style focuses on light, movement, and capturing an immediate 'impression'.