Let's Write! Military Watchtower
Grades 3-5, 6-8

Related to video *The 5 W’s of Art: Military Watchtower*

**ALABAMA COURSE OF STUDY**

**Language Arts Standards**

- ELA 3.22.4
- ELA 3.22.6
- ELA 3.24.4
- ELA 3.24.5
- ELA 3.24.7
- ELA 4.26.1
- ELA 4.29.1
- ELA 5.25.1
- ELA 5.25.2
- ELA 6.24.1
- ELA 6.24.2
- ELA 7.22.1
- ELA 8.22.5
- ELA 8.22.6

**Social Studies Standards**

- Objective 8.2.1
- Objective 8.8.1
- Objective 8.8.3

**Overview**

Watch *The 5 W’s of Art: Military Watchtower*

Following the video, students will:

- Write a descriptive sentence about the artwork
- Think critically about 3 questions and write their answers
- Write a brief story about a family ritual

**Objectives**

- Write a descriptive sentence about the Military Watchtower
- Think critically about why objects were used in the past
- Write sentences with correct capitalization and punctuation
- Write a story with a clear beginning, middle, and end
- Think critically about why objects were used in the past

**Materials**

- Paper
- Pen or pencil

**Key Terms**

- Mingqi (spirit objects)
- Clay
- Ceramic
- Watchtower
- Dynasty
- Han dynasty
- China
- tomb
**Demonstration/Motivation**
The teacher will:
- Play Military Watchtower video
- Help students formulate descriptive sentences

**Evaluation**
Have students share what they wrote, either to the class or in small groups.

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**WRITING ASSIGNMENTS**

**THIS ARTWORK IN 1 SENTENCE**
When we put all the facts together, we can create one sentence that describes an artwork.
Here is my sentence:
This work of art is an earthenware model of a watchtower found in an ancient Chinese tomb.

What is your 1 sentence about this artwork?

**QUESTIONS**
How would you describe this artwork? Use descriptive terms.
What would you include in your watchtower?
What would you place in your burial tomb?

**WRITE A STORY**
In early Chinese culture, watchtowers, such as this one, were created as part of the burial ritual. Typically, a family would create a watchtower while their loved one was still alive and then the tower would be placed in his or her tomb after death.
One way beliefs are passed along within a culture is through rituals and related objects. These are traditions that are repeated many times.

Have your students write a story about a “ritual” their family does together, such as birthday celebrations, holiday gatherings, or sport superstitions.

**Have extra time?**
Print the coloring sheet and encourage students to decorate the watchtower and create scenery around it.