

Resources for the lesson:

- 1 A3 sheets of paper per group of 4 pupils
- Print outs of artworks with prompt questions
- describe colour composition narrative cards
- Glue sticks, scissors, colour pens/pencils

Lesson Plan (part 1):

- Discuss meaning of democracy (use mini whiteboards? Also could watch part/all of BBC bitesize video. Write up spider diagram on whiteboard)
- Introduce Y8 'Curate your own exhibition' 6 part course on the theme of democracy. Explain that there will be a follow up letter sent home and sign up sheet.
- What is a curator? Also could watch part/all of PBS video if didn't watch the one on democracy. Write up spider diagram on whiteboard
- Model how to consider theme of democracy in 'Liberty Leading the People'
- Group work in groups of 4-6. Pupils use [describe, colour, composition, narrative](#) cards to consider their artwork in more depth and how it might relate to the theme of democracy. They stick their artwork onto a A3 sheet of paper and then annotate with coloured pens / highlighters.
- Pupils report back on their ideas
- Can art/architecture express things that language can't on the topic of democracy? Hold a mini discussion.

SEE NEXT SLIDE

Lesson Plan (part 2):

-Pupils stay in the same groups and on the other side of the A3 sheet of paper plan an exhibition on the theme of democracy. They should answer the following via a drawing, writing or sticking artworks onto their sheet:

Where would the exhibition be held?

Would it be free or would it be paid entry?

What artworks would be in the exhibition. They can use any those printed plus any others they would like to include

How would the artworks be organised? Would they be chronologically or arranged according to themes?

-Each group presents their ideas to the rest of the class.

What is democracy?

Answer the following while watching this 4 min video:

1. What is the difference between a dictatorship and a democracy?
1. What was the name of a famous 1215 document that set down the laws that not even the King was above the law?
1. What name is given to the women who fought for the rights of women to vote?



What is democracy?

Make a spider diagram to explain this word using information from the video you have just watched.

Include in your spider diagram answers to the following questions (taken from Britannica):

- When was **democracy** first practiced?
- How might **democracy** be better than other types of government?
- Why does **democracy** need education?



Definition of democracy:

“democracy, literally, rule by the people. The term is derived from the Greek *dēmokratia*, which was coined from *dēmos* (“people”) and *kratos* (“rule”) in the middle of the 5th century bce to denote the political systems then existing in some Greek city-states, notably Athens.”

Britannica

Extension question:

**How does a
democracy compare
to a aristocracy,
monarchy or an
oligarchy?**

What is a **curator**?

Let's watch the first two minutes of this video and write down a 2 sentence definition of this job title



This first session is the **first of six sessions** taking place next year where you will get the chance to curate **your own exhibition on the theme of democracy**. The finale will be an opening to which your friends and parents will be invited!

Talk to Mr Gallagher, Ms Farmer, EPAS and HoA reps for more info!



-Why has this painting become a symbol of democratic ideals?

Delacroix,
Liberty Leading the People
1830



The right to **liberty** is part of the human rights act.

How is the theme of liberty or freedom portrayed in this painting?

Think about colour and the placement of figures

Delacroix,
Liberty Leading the People
1830
260 x 325cm

Her breasts being shown is a reference to Classical antiquity - a period considered the birthplace of democracy



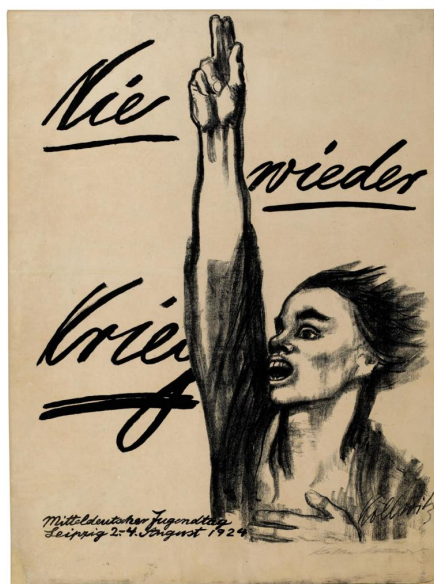
She wears a Phrygian cap which is a symbol of freedom



How does the composition of the painting help to convey meaning?



What kinds of people were involved in this uprising?



Can art/architecture
express things that
language can't on the topic
of democracy?



Warm up tasks:

1. Each group is to **choose an artwork** from the printouts. Get one person in your group **to describe it** to the rest of the group while the rest of you have your eyes closed.
1. Now use the figure & setting, composition, colour, narrative **cards** to analyse your work in your more depth.
1. How might your work relate to the theme of democracy?

Write your ideas down on your A3 sheet of paper.

On the other side of your A3 plan an exhibition on the theme of democracy in groups. You should answer the following via a drawing, writing or sticking artworks onto their sheet:

Where would the exhibition be held?

Would it be free or would it be paid entry?

What artworks would be in the exhibition. They can use any those printed plus any others they would like to include

How would the artworks be organised? Would they be chronologically or arranged according to themes?

-Be prepared to present your ideas to the rest of the class so nominate a spokesperson.



Parthenon: Temple of Maiden Athena, Athens
447-432BC



Gilbert, *Supreme Court Building*, 1935,
Washington, DC USA

Athens in the 6-5thC BCE is sometimes considered the birthplace of democracy as citizens in Athens directly participated in political decision making.

Can a building symbolise democratic ideals? If so how? How is the Parthenon **similar** to the Supreme Court Building in the USA?



Which is the depiction of the
good and bad government
here.

How can you tell?

Lorenzetti
The Allegory of Good and Bad Government
1338-1339





While not a 'true' democracy, the Florentine republic was ruled by a council known as the Signoria of Florence and can be considered within this theme.

They commissioned this work by Michelangelo. Who was David in the bible and how did he defeat Goliath?

Consider **Pose**
Gesture
Expression
Gaze

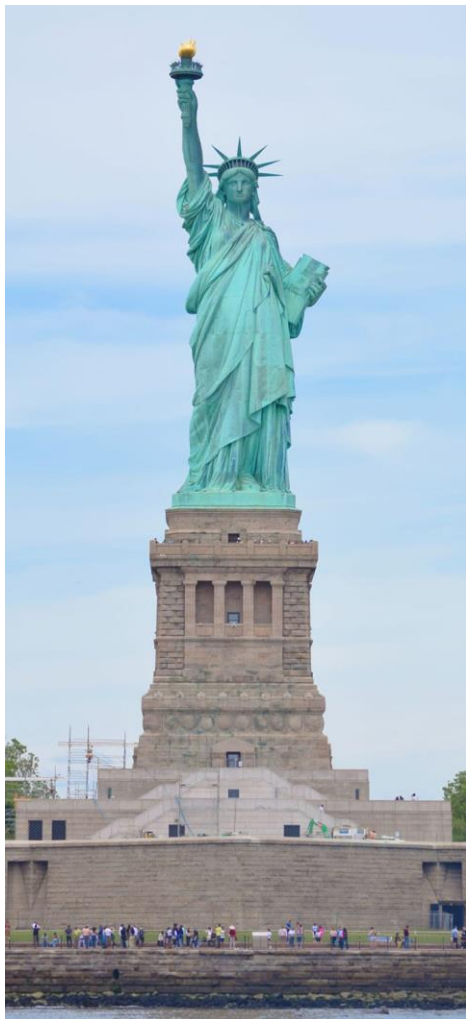
Michelangelo,
David
1501-4



This painting depicts the Great Reform Act of 1832. The Reform Act allowed more men to vote according to their rate-paying or property ownership.

Is there a sense of order to this painting in spite of all of the people depicted? How is this sense of order created?

Hayter, *The House of Commons*, 1833



What is an allegorical figure?

How does this statue represent the value of liberty?

Consider **Pose**
Gesture
Expression
Gaze

Frederic Auguste Bartholdi
Statue of Liberty
1886



How might this painting be about democracy?

Key facts:

The woman depicted was the president of the Manchester Society for Women's Suffrage. The female artist of this work was a keen advocate for women suffrage.

What does the sitter's facial expression tell us about her? What about her dress?

Dacre, *Lydia Becker*, 1860-1910

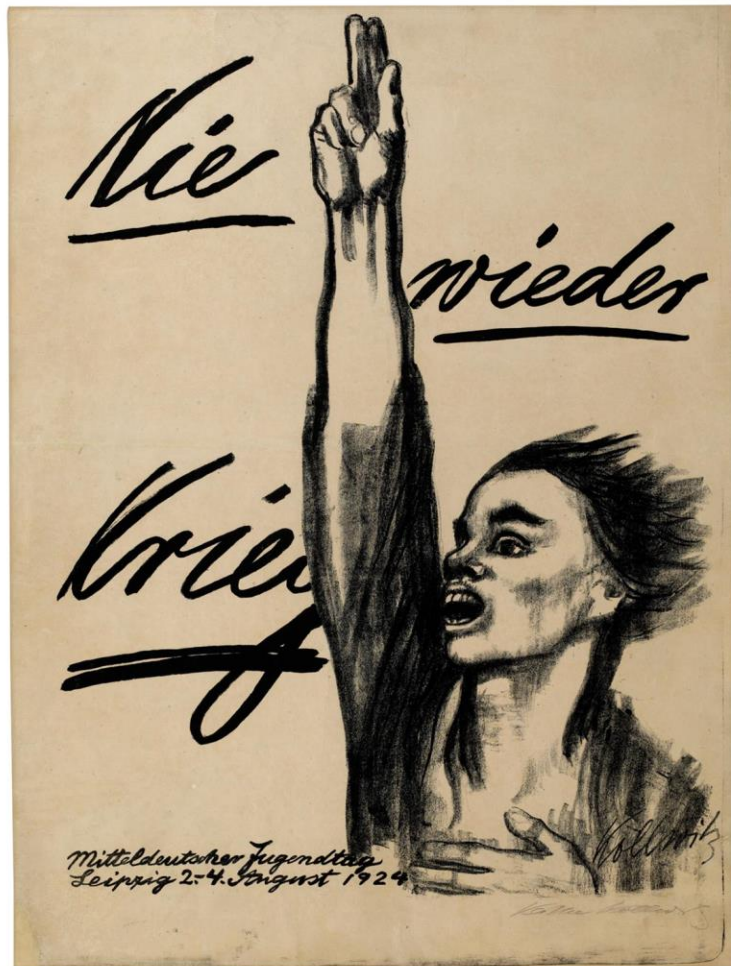


Lion, Women's canteen at Phoenix Works, Bradford, 1918

Given the date of this painting what do you think this work might be about?

How might it relate to the theme of suffrage?

Consider **the facial expressions** of the women in this painting. How do you think they are feeling?



Kollwitz used her art to support the fragile democracy in the Weimar Republic in Germany in the 20s.

Consider **Pose**
Gesture
Expression
Gaze

Kathe Kollwitz
Never again war!
1924



This image of the American woman became known as 'Rosie the Riveter'. She was sometimes understood to be an 'arsenal of democracy'. Can you guess why this might be the case?

Clue: what role did the the US play in WWII at the time this work was made?

Miller, *We Can Do It*, 1942



Consider the title of this work and how it might apply to the artwork.

Much of the work by this German graphic designer is **ironic** and aimed to poke fun at the government. How might this be the case in this image?

Klaus Staeck
And New Life Blooms from the Ruins
1980



Oliver Strebelle,
Confluences
1989

Polished stainless steel
32 x 14 x 13 m

This sculpture is located in the European Parliament complex of buildings in Brussels.

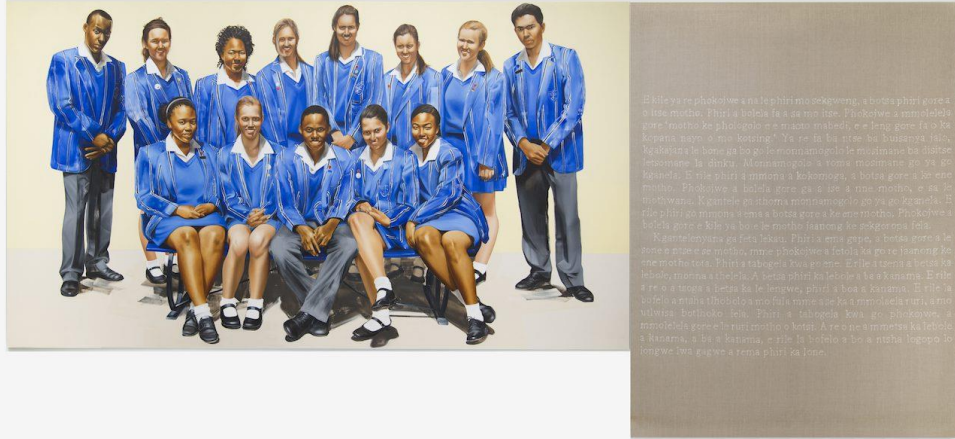
How do you think an **abstract** work like this might convey ideas about democracy?



In this artwork Holzer projected famous quotes about democracy onto museums in Washington, DC USA

Jenny Holzer
The People
 Light projection
 2023

Do you like this work? How might you change it?



‘Democratic Intuition’ are paintings depicting South Africa. Here is one example set next to text which is included as part of the artwork.

What do you think the artist might be suggesting is important in order to have a successful democracy?

Meleko Mokgosi, *Democratic Intuition*,
2013-2020



Shelterers in the tube

The very fact that in this and many other *Shelter Drawings* Henry Moore avoids being heroic (unlike Delacroix), or indeed sentimental, makes these people's situation all the more believable, poignant and timeless.

How does this piece capture democracy? What feelings is this piece conveying to you?

Shelterers in the Tube, 1941 by Henry Moore. Tate.

Teacher Notes

What is covered in PRE for democracy - PRE: Leviathan, Locke, Hobbes, punishment

History: Suffrage