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Depending on the context, a painting may need a complex description. These can be especially complicated and overwhelming since art is so subjective, and if it requires a long description then the painting may be very detailed. Like all long descriptions, break it down into logical parts and start describing.

The description of a Painting needs to reference the following elements:

- An overview of the artwork piece including style
- the title
- a brief description of the main components



Often this is enough, and can go into the Alt-text with no long description required. If the context calls for more then proceed with a long description.

The [Poet Centre](#) has a few tutorials on writing Alt-text for paintings that are very helpful.

For a complex description it is important to consider the context for which you need the description. This may include:

- The painting style
- The color and composition
- The style and location of the figures/elements in the image
- Allegorical Meaning
- Historical Context

For examples, go to [Alt-text Samples: Paintings](#).



Go to [Writing Tip: Using Point Form Technique](#) for a breakdown on how you can start the writing process



If you have any questions, post your question on the [Alt-Text Q&A](#)

[Navigate Back to Complex Images and Long Descriptions](#)

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