

# 'Guernica' by Pablo Picasso

## Background Information

This painting, called 'Guernica', was painted by Picasso in 1937 in Spain. He used oil paint on canvas to create it. It is very large, measuring over twenty-five feet in width and over eleven feet in height. Picasso painted it as a protest against an attack on the Spanish town of Guernica in 1937. During this attack, many civilians were killed and injured as planes bombed the town. This horrific event occurred during the Spanish Civil War. As it is such a big painting, it barely fitted in Picasso's studio while he worked on it.

**Take a look at the following labels. Link them to the correct part of the painting. Draw a line from each one to the relevant part of the painting.**



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An angry bull looks on as a distraught woman clutches her dead child.

A dead soldier lies on the ground after the attack.

Picasso used definite, strong shapes and jagged lines.

An onlooker has a shocked expression as he or she looks on from a window above.

A woman falls from a burning building.

Picasso showed the people of Guernica through the symbol of the horse. There is a spear piercing its side.

A woman tries to run and escape as quickly as she can.

Picasso used contrasting patches of light and darkness. He wanted to remind people of the flashes the bombs made by doing this.

# Questions

**Why did Picasso only use shades of black and white to create 'Guernica', do you think?**

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**Did Picasso agree with the bombers who attacked Guernica, in your opinion? Give reasons for your answer.**

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**Pick one of the figures from the painting. Imagine you have experienced and seen what they have during the bombing. Write about your feelings, experiences and hopes or fears.**

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

**Now draw your own sketch of the painting using your memory only.**

# Extra Challenge

Use the Internet or your dictionary to find the main meaning for the following art term:  
**monochrome:**

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Use the Internet to research three facts about the artist - Pablo Picasso.

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3. 

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