

Keith Culen

IB ATL I

3-2-16

Per 8

1. "Urban land, American life"
2. The artist I selected is Grant Wood. Born in Iowa and that's where he painted his most famous painting "American Gothic" 1891-1942.



3. Painted in 1930 "American Gothic"
4. American Gothic is a very famous painting and was a huge hit of fame to the painter Grant Wood. The painting helped grow the art style of regionalism which is usually paintings of rural areas of America consisting of American traditions. It is a man and woman who are supposed to have a father and daughter relationship. They are dressed in old clothes from 1930. It is in a small town and there is a barn and house behind them. Also Grant Wood purposely included religious symbols into the piece and put a steeple church in the

background behind the trees. Gothic is an architectural style from the High Middle ages which influenced the way the house in the back was painted as it was. The pitchfork is supposed to show that the man is a representation of a Protestant and the pitchfork is connected with god.



- 5.
6. I think art can extremely impact and influence people's opinions about the world.  
Art is all visual and it's based on how we interpret it. Sometimes when we are in history class we sit and listen to history without fully getting the picture. When we see art we can actually see what things looked like, for example in Ellison's train station we get to see what the migration actually looked like and you can see all

the whites were going south and all the blacks were going up north and the train station was very crowded and you get to see that transportation during that time was a very busy and a process.

Some things I learned from the American Sources experience was that almost all art fits into a genre. Sometimes when I look at art I can see any message or meaning it gives off but after looking up the art online you can see it usually matches into a category and it really starts to make sense and I can get a better understanding about the painting based in the era it's from. I also learned methods to analyze paintings by looking at color scheme and analyzing the background of the paintings not just foreground. A lot of the paintings also match up with with the society and politics that is going on in their generation. Like when I looked at American Gothic in the background there was a top of a church steeple representing the religion aspect in the painting.