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## Claude Monet: Plein Air Painter and Impressionist

By Dan in Research > Historical Artists

Claude Monet was born in 1840 in Paris. He was especially influential in the **Impressionist art movement**, and is probably best known for his famous paintings of water lilies and Impressionist Parisian scenes.

Monet first started drawing as a child, doing portraiture and caricatures for spending money. He also painted **plein** air landscapes as a teenager, before leaving to serve for two years in the military.

When he returned to Paris Monet formed friendships with several other young painters. The Impressionist movement that grew out of those friendships soon became characterized by his (then) peculiar obsession with painting almost entirely outdoors.

You see, most artists of that era spent hours in their studios, working from **sketches** or posed models, but Monet rarely did.

His paintings were intensely devoted to capturing the play of *natural* light and shadow on every surface—and he felt that the outdoors provided the best means of doing that.

Monet also challenged the traditional idea of what made a “finished” painting. He and the other Impressionists painted quickly, almost roughly.



In this detail of Monet’s *Fishing Boats Leaving the Harbor*, you can see why art critics ridiculed the early Impressionists’ work.

From their point of view, each figure was merely **daubed on** — and work like that was considered a sketch, not a true painting.

Most people will look at Monet’s work today and love that “painterly” approach, but for his time it was quite different from traditional paintings.

Like many of the other Impressionists, Monet was also interested in Japanese culture and art, as evidenced in the painting below.



*La Japonaise* is an interesting departure for him, since it's obviously set indoors, but even so, Monet still portrays the same sense of movement and looseness that can be seen throughout his plein air pieces.

And in looking at the painting beside (among others) it's obvious that Claude Monet's adherence to a certain style didn't keep him from exploring new subjects and ideas.

Even something as simple as a **haystack**, for instance.

Just like his more famous water lilies, Monet painted several of these haystacks, in different lighting, different seasons, and different weather.

He took a subject that many artists would have passed by just because he was most interested in the *image*, the way the light landed at a certain time.

In the end, it didn't matter to Monet whether the light was reflecting off a **swirling** red Japanese kimono or a simple stack of hay — he knew there was beauty in both.

Claude Monet died in 1926, at the age of 86.

<http://emptyeasel.com/2007/07/25/claude-monet-plein-air-painter-and-impressionist/>

### **Vocabulary:**

**Plein air:** pintar ao ar livre.

**Sketches:** esboço, rascunho.

**Daubed on:** borrada, embaçada.

**Haystack:** monte de feno.

**Swirling:** serpenteante,

encaracolado, espiral.

### **QUESTIONS**

1. O texto:

- Fala da história de vida do pintor Monet.
- Fala dos trabalhos e estilo do pintor Monet.
- Conta sobre os conflitos e família do pintor Monet.
- Conta toda a trajetória de sucesso de Monet.

2. Observe o trecho:

*You see, most artists of that era spent hours in their studios, working from sketches or posed models, but Monet rarely did.*

Fica claro no trecho que:

- Monet trabalhava com modelos vivas que posavam para ele.
- Passava horas e horas em estúdio pintando suas obras.
- Trabalhava apenas com rascunhos e raramente finalizava suas pinturas.
- Não trabalhava como os pintores de sua geração e inovou a forma de pintar.

3. Podemos dizer a respeito de Monet que:

*His paintings were intensely devoted to capturing the play of natural light and shadow on every surface—and he felt that the outdoors provided the best means of doing that.*

- Ele se preocupava mais em pintar pessoas.
- Ele se preocupava mais com a luz do que com a imagem.
- Ele se preocupava mais em ganhar dinheiro do que sua técnica.

d. Ele se preocupava mais em pintar trancado em seu estúdio que fora.

4. Observe o trecho acima e marque a forma negativa correta da frase:

- a. *His paintings were didn't intensely devoted to capturing the play of natural light and shadow on every surface.*
- b. *His paintings were not intensely devoted to capturing the play of natural light and shadow on every surface.*
- c. *His paintings hadn't were intensely devoted to capturing the play of natural light and shadow on every surface.*
- d. *His not paintings were intensely devoted to capturing the play of natural light and shadow on every surface.*

5. Observe o trecho e julgue os itens:

*Monet first started drawing as a child, doing portraiture and caricatures for spending money. He also painted plein air landscapes as a teenager, before leaving to serve for two years in the military.*

Percebemos que existem ações no passado neste trecho. Uma delas aconteceu primeiro. Utilizando-se do past perfect para indicar a ação que aconteceu primeiro a frase correta está na questão:

- a. Monet **had painted** portraiture and caricatures before he **painted** air landscapes.
- b. Monet **painted** portraiture and caricatures before he **had painted** air landscapes.
- c. Monet **had painted** portraiture and caricatures before he **had painted** air landscapes.
- d. Monet **painted** portraiture and caricatures before he **painted** air landscapes.

6. Observe o trecho abaixo:

**In this detail of Monet's *Fishing Boats Leaving the Harbor*, you can see why art critics ridiculed the early Impressionists' work.**

Se eu tiver uma ação acontecendo ao mesmo tempo que outra eu uso o passado contínuo nas duas orações. Digamos que nesta frase acima os críticos tenham feito a ação ao mesmo tempo que Monet – ambas no passado. A frase que contém duas ações ao mesmo tempo está correta na letra:

- a. Art critics ridiculed Monet while he painted his work.
- b. Art critics were ridiculing Monet while he was painting his work.
- c. Art critics had ridiculed Monet while he had painted his work.
- d. Art critics was ridiculing Monet while he painted his work.

7. Responda as perguntas de acordo com o texto:

- a. Did Monet paint outdoors? \_\_\_\_\_

- b. Was he a great artist? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Did he die young? \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Did he consider the light during his paintings? \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Had he gone to the military service before he got old? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Responda sobre você:

- a. Did you study for this test? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Had you made exercises before the test? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Were you studying English when the clock was 10p.m.? \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Did you came by bus to IFRN today? \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Were you sleeping when the alarm clock rang this morning? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Selecione a forma correta das frases de acordo com a figura:



- ( ) David **had won** the lottery before buying a very expensive car.
- ( ) David **hadn't won** the lottery before buying a very expensive car.
- ( ) **Had** David **won** the lottery before buying a very expensive car?

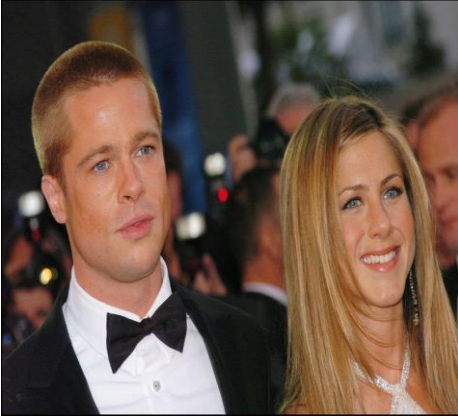


- ( ) Andrew and Elisa had fought before they separated.
- ( ) Andrew and Elisa were fighting before they separated.
- ( ) Andrew and Elisa fought before they were separating.



- ( ) Peter was stealing a camera when someone called the police. Then he wasn't arrested.
- ( ) Peter had stolen a camera and then he was arrested by the police.
- ( ) Peter was arrested and then he hadn't stolen a camera.

Leia o texto e responda às questões:



### **Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston's Divorce**

After seven years together, Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston announced in a statement in January 2005 that they were calling it quits. At the time, rumors were already swirling that Pitt had an affair with Angelina Jolie while filming their movie **Mr. and Mrs. Smith** the previous year. Photos taken of the two vacationing together in the summer of '05 make it clear that they were very much together. Thus began years and years of tabloid magazine covers declaring how horribly lonely it is to be Jennifer Aniston.

<https://www.cosmopolitan.com/entertainment/celebs/g12049412/biggest-celebrity-scandals-past-20-years/?slide=16>

10. Para a situação acima é correto afirmar que:

- a. Brad Pitt had had an affair with Angelina Jolie while he was married to Jennifer Aniston.
- b. Brad Pitt had filmed **Mr and Mrs Smith** before he married Jennifer Aniston.
- c. Brad Pitt had vacationed together with Angelina Jolie before he got divorced to Jennifer.
- d. Brad Pitt did not have an affair with Angelina Jolie while they were filming **Mr and Mrs Smith**.

11. A frase correta sobre o texto acima está na letra:

- a. Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston were married before he filmed Mr and Mrs Smith with Angeline Jolie.
- b. Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston were married while he was having an affair with Angelina Jolie.
- c. Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston got divorced after he had had an affair with Angelina Jolie.
- d. All sentences above are correct.

12. Observe a frase abaixo:

*Thus **began** years and years of tabloid magazine covers declaring how horribly lonely it is to be Jennifer Aniston.*

- a. O verbo em destaque é regular.
- b. O verbo em destaque é irregular.
- c. O verbo em destaque está no presente.
- d. O verbo em destaque está no past perfect.

13. A frase acima quer dizer que:

- a. Jennifer Aniston passou muito anos se sentindo bem e aliviada depois da separação.
- b. Angelina Jolie e Brad Pitt nunca assumiram o romance à época da separação dele.
- c. As revista de tabloides declaravam como era bonito o relacionamento de Brad e Angelina.
- d. As revistas nunca deixaram a vida particular de Jennifer Aniston em paz por vários anos.

