

## Humanities I

Unit 8. Greek Art and Ideas

The three themes used to make esthetic judgement of classical art in Athens were:

Humanism: Idealism: Rationalism

Seek a working definition of these terms first by checking your own dictionary and second by consulting excellent authorities on Greek Art and Culture. There is a fine bibliography included in your textbook.

Follow the filmstrip carefully and try to assign the works of art as examples of each theme.

Consider the merits and de-merits of each of the themes. Humanism, for example, may be too low a standard for some. Rationalism may subdue emotional content. Idealism may seem unattainable. Do you think these themes are adequate or relevant as criteria for judging the modern artistic works?

Is man indeed "the measure of all things"? What higher standard of morality is required to humanize the life of the average man? Have men who held authority over other men been "the measure of all things"? OR Does this kind of authority tend to breed a tyrant devoid of real humanitarian considerations?

What exactly is meant by humanism?

How is this idea best defined? Give examples.

What is meant by rational thought and rational behavior?

Is idealism concerned only with Romanticism? Support your opinions with evidence and examples.

Can rationalism lead to maximum human fulfillment if it denies human emotions?