



Museum Access: The J. Paul Getty Museum

SEASON 3 - EPISODE 7

The J. Paul Getty Museum, in Los Angeles, CA is located in the foothills of the Santa Monica Mountains. It is home to European paintings, drawings, sculpture, manuscripts, decorative arts and photography. The ever expanding collection is the legacy of businessman and art collector J. Paul Getty. Let's continue the learning with these questions and talking points.

Question 1

Why was the Getty Museum designed to incorporate both indoor and outdoor spaces?

More Talking Points:

1. What other museums are you familiar with that have indoor/outdoor spaces?
2. How does this design create a unique museum experience for visitors?

Question 2

How do museums like the Getty build their collections?

More Talking Points:

1. Why is it important for museums to expand their collections?
2. If you had an important work of art or artifact, would you consider donating it to a museum? Why or why not?

Question 3

Why is it important for museums to know how long a photograph has been on display?

More Talking Points:

1. What other pieces do you think could be impacted by light?
2. Have you ever seen the effects of light on a photograph, painting, or something you've made? What happens to them?

Question 4

What were some of the challenges early photographers faced?

More Talking Points:

1. What were the main subjects of the early photographers?
2. Why were these locations popular with early photographers?

Question 5

How were early photographs processed and shared?

More Talking Points:

1. How did photographs compare to paintings and drawings of the time?
2. How do you think people responded to seeing their first photograph?





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Question 6

How have cameras changed through the years?

More Talking Points:

1. What different types of cameras have you used?
2. What do you think the future of photography holds?

Question 7

How did the first mass market camera from Kodak change photography?

More Talking Points:

1. What was part of the first Kodak Camera "package"?
2. What changes in technology have impacted consumer cameras?

Question 8

What different ways has photography been used since its invention?

More Talking Points:

1. How was photography used by spies during the cold war?
2. Why has the way photographers see the world played such an important role in fine art photography?

Question 9

How did Walker Evans change world of documentary photography?

More Talking Points:

1. Why was his ability to document people and their lifestyles so unique?
2. How would you photograph your surroundings to tell your story?

Question 10

What was the original purpose of studio viewers?

More Talking Points:

1. Why were they so popular in the 1800s and early 1900s?
2. How did the studio viewers lead the way to the entertainment industry?

