The first task of arts interpretation is to describe the points of reference in a work of art. By articulating the main components of an artwork, it is possible to begin identifying the various possibilities for interpretation.

*Write the names of your group members on the back of this page. Write the name of the artwork you are discussing in the space below. On the back of this page, or on a separate page if needed, keep notes of the ideas and associations you come up with as a group. Write your proposed interpretation of the artwork at the bottom of this page in the space provided.*

Name of Artwork: _________________________________

1. **Description.** Describe the artwork in as much detail as you can, in list form, identifying the various parts and details that make up the piece. What are its components? What is it made of? How is it positioned or situated? This list should be as long as you can make it, identifying any details of the piece that you think are important.

2. **Association.** Select 2-3 components from the list above. For each component make a list of possible references and associations. What could this component of the artwork symbolize? Is there more than one possibility for what each element of the artwork might represent?

3. **Relationships.** Based on the associations you have identified, what relationships do you see between the elements of the artwork? What story might you tell through your analysis of the piece? What sorts of ideas or connections or provocations does the artwork set in motion?

4. **Meaning.** When you are finished discussing the artwork, try to formulate a 1-2 sentence interpretation of the main ideas, themes or provocations of the piece.