

How to Create a Short Biography:

A text-based task demo for language teaching using the model text “Tintoretto” by *Encyclopædia Britannica*

STEP 1 TEACHING SLIDES

Task created in 2023 by

Chiara Montera, assistant professor, University of Pittsburgh

textbasedtasks.commons.gc.cuny.edu



CILC projects are funded in part by a U.S. Department of Education grant.



How to write a short biography of a painter

Step 1 - Building knowledge of the field

Learning objectives for today

- We will learn vocabulary specific to the field of painting
- We will learn some basic information about Italian Renaissance
- We will learn about an important work of art by painter Tintoretto

MATERIALS

PASTELS

INK

EGG TEMPERA

OIL PAINT

CHARCOAL

1



2



3



4



5



MATERIALS

CANVAS

PEN

PAPER

WOOD PANELING

BRUSHES

1



2



4



3



5



PAINTING TECHNIQUES

OIL ON CANVAS

PRINT

FRESCO

DRAWING

OIL ON WOOD
PANELING

1



2



4



3



5



SUBJECTS



Is this...

...a historical subject

or

... a religious subject?

Paolo Uccello,
The Battle of san Romano,
1438

SUBJECTS



Is this...

...a mythological subject

or

... a historical subject?

Sandro Botticelli,
The Birth of Venus, 1486

SUBJECTS



Is this...

...a mythological subject

or

... a religious subject?

Giotto, *Adoration of the Magi*, 1303-1305

TIMELINE



MIDDLE AGE

NEOCLASSICISM

BAROQUE

**LATE
RENAISSANCE**

RENAISSANCE

**ROMAN
EMPIRE**

476

1400

1520

1600

1700

1800



TIMELINE



**ROMAN
EMPIRE**

476



**MIDDLE
AGE**



RENAISSANCE

1400



1520



**LATE
RENAISSANCE**

1600



BAROQUE

1700



NEOCLASSICISM

1800



Where did the Renaissance originate from?



**Originated in Florence, but
then it spreaded all over
Italy**



Milan



Venice



Roma



Sicily



Le Marche



**Let's observe
one of the most
famous paintings by
Tintoretto**

What's the subject?

Religious, historical, mythological
etc?

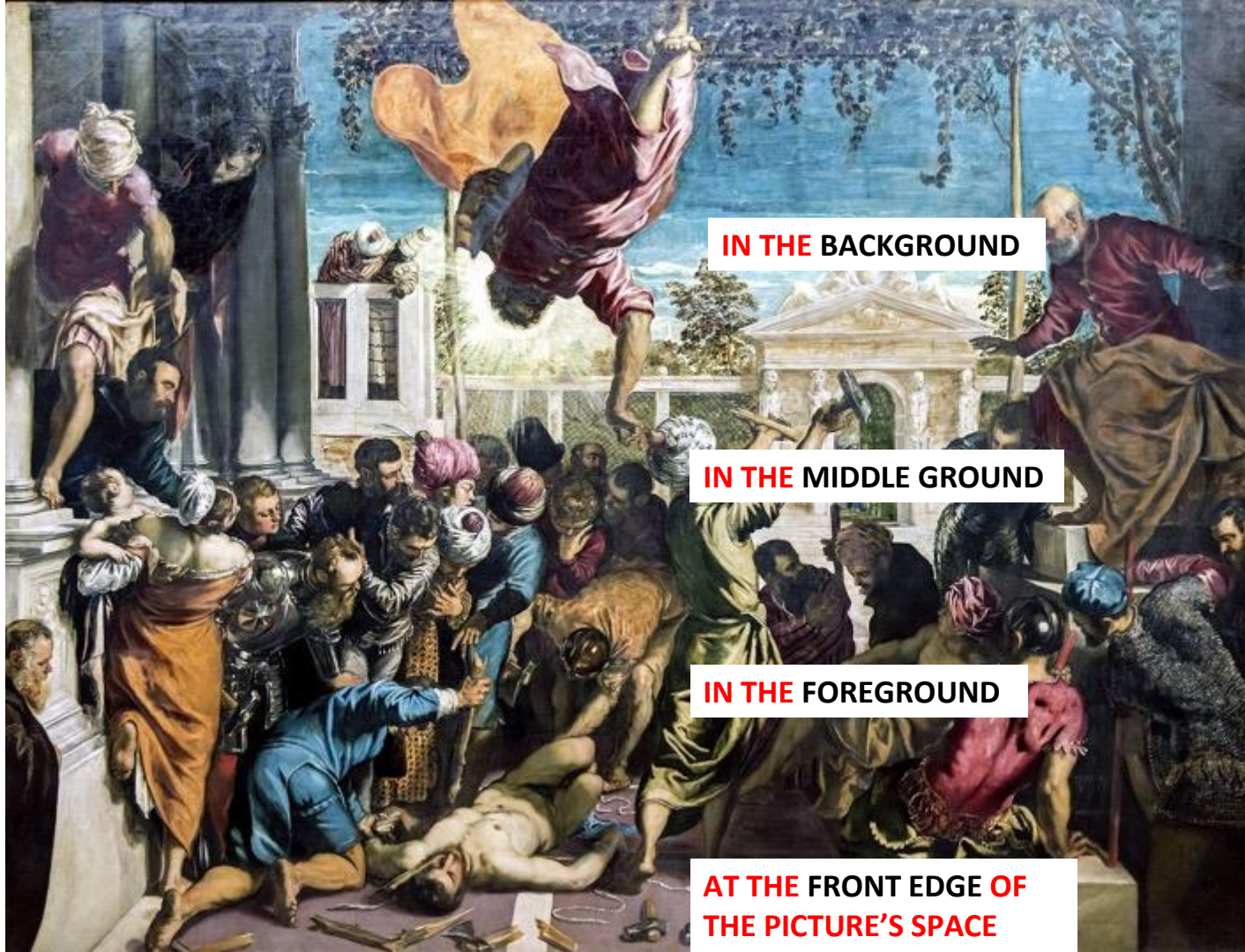
Could you describe the scene using
three adjectives?

Can you describe the people in the
scene? How do they look? Happy,
mad, sad, amused, etc?

Where is the scene taking place?

Who are the main characters in this
painting?

*Miracle of the slave or
St. Mark freeing the slave*



IN THE BACKGROUND

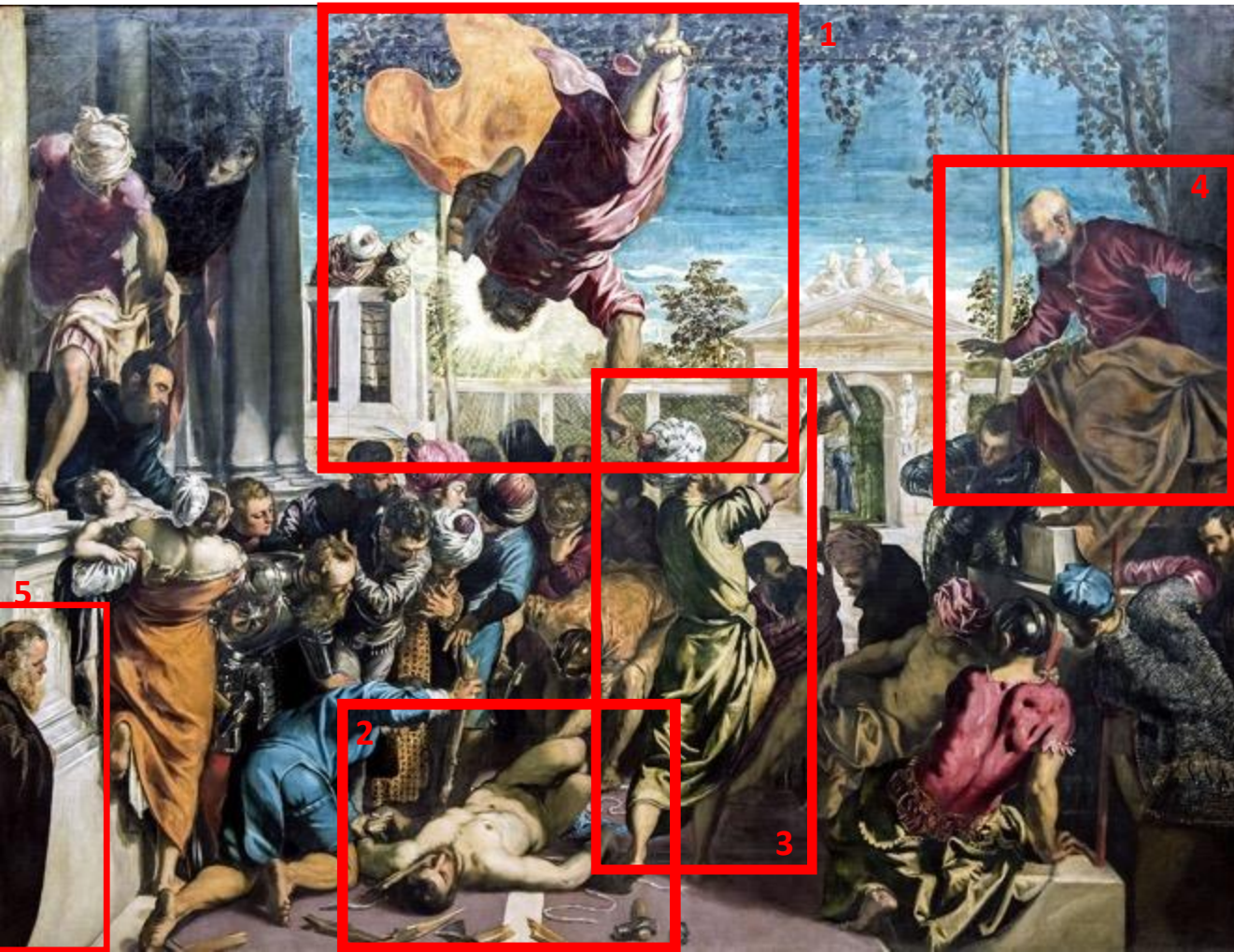
IN THE MIDDLE GROUND

IN THE FOREGROUND

**AT THE FRONT EDGE OF
THE PICTURE'S SPACE**

**Describe what's
on different levels
of the painting,
what's in the
background,
what's in the
middle ground,
etc.**

*Miracle of the slave or
St. Mark freeing the slave*



Can you find these main characters in the painting?

- The slave
- St. Mark
- The judge
- The executioner
- The painter Tintoretto

*Miracle of the slave or
St. Mark freeing the slave*