

Name _____

Alexander Calder: The Master of Mobile Art

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answers will vary depending on the individual's reflection. Students should describe their experience with a Calder mobile, including the movement, colors, and emotions it evokes. They can discuss how the mobile's ever-changing shapes create a sense of wonder and engagement.
2. In comparing Calder's mobiles and stabiles, students should highlight the differences in movement and artistic technique. Mobiles move with the breeze and are characterized by delicate, balanced structures, while stabiles are stationary, featuring abstract, geometric shapes. The engagement with mobiles comes from their dynamic nature, while stabiles offer a different visual experience.
3. Students should explore the concept of kinetic art and how Calder's mobiles exemplify this artistic movement. They can discuss the importance of movement and interaction in his sculptures, emphasizing how the viewer's engagement adds depth to the artwork's meaning and emotional impact.
4. The role of public art in urban spaces should be examined, with a focus on the impact it has on the community. Students can use Calder's "Flamingo" sculpture in Chicago as an example, discussing how it enhances the cityscape, serves as a landmark, and fosters a sense of identity and pride among residents.

