

Name _____

Louise Bourgeois: Weaving Emotions into Sculpture

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answers will vary depending on individual reflections. Students should describe their sensory experiences, emotions, and thoughts when standing in front of one of Louise Bourgeois's spider sculptures. They can discuss how it makes them feel and why it evokes those emotions.
2. Louise Bourgeois challenged traditional sculpture norms by combining elements of abstraction, surrealism, and symbolism in her work. For example, her spider sculptures blended the form of an arachnid with complex emotional symbolism, defying traditional representational sculpture.
3. Exploring complex emotions and traumas through art can serve as a therapeutic outlet for both the artist and the audience. It allows for the expression and processing of difficult experiences, facilitating emotional healing and understanding.
4. Louise Bourgeois's use of personal and family-related themes in her art, such as her mother's profession and her own life experiences, added a deeply personal and autobiographical dimension to her work. It allowed her to connect with her own history and emotions, making her art profoundly meaningful.

