

Name _____

Michelangelo's Masterpiece: A Life in Stone

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Michelangelo's early years as an artist were marked by his evolution from a painter to a renowned sculptor and architect. His pursuit of excellence and his unwavering passion for capturing the essence of the human form drove him to excel in these fields. His commitment to art as a lifelong journey allowed him to leave an enduring legacy.
2. Michelangelo's sculptures, such as David and the Pieta, reveal his extraordinary ability to sculpt the human form with incredible precision and emotional depth. These works showcase his artistic vision, his mastery of anatomy, and his capacity to imbue stone with life and emotion.
3. Painting the Sistine Chapel ceiling presented immense challenges, including the physical strain of working on a ceiling for an extended period. Michelangelo overcame these challenges through his determination and artistic genius, resulting in a masterpiece that continues to captivate the world of art.
4. Michelangelo approached the design of the dome of St. Peter's Basilica with a unique blend of engineering and artistry. His innovative architectural solutions and attention to aesthetic detail left a lasting legacy in both the world of architecture and in the religious significance of the basilica as a symbol of the Catholic Church.

