

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Mark Rothko: The Colors of Emotion**  
**Open Ended Response Answer Key**

1. Answers may vary. Depending on personal interpretation, Rothko's paintings may evoke emotions such as serenity, introspection, contemplation, or even sadness. For example, the use of deep, calming colors might evoke a sense of tranquility, while the arrangement of forms might elicit a feeling of introspection.
2. Answers will vary based on individual experiences and interpretations. Students may describe their emotional response to a hypothetical Rothko painting and explain how the colors and forms in the artwork contribute to their feelings. For instance, someone might feel a sense of calm and introspection when faced with Rothko's soft, overlapping rectangles of warm colors.
3. Answers will vary based on personal opinions. Students may agree with Rothko's approach, emphasizing the personal and emotional connection with art. Others may have different perspectives, such as valuing art for its historical or cultural significance or its aesthetic appeal, regardless of emotional connection.
4. Mark Rothko's legacy has influenced contemporary abstract artists to explore the power of color and form to convey emotions and meaning. Many artists today draw inspiration from Rothko's ability to create deep emotional experiences through abstraction. Some might experiment with similar techniques or seek to continue the tradition of abstract expressionism.

