

A YEAR OF JOURNALING



Winslow Homer, *Shepherdess of Houghton Farm*, c. 1878. Watercolor and graphite, with additions in ink and gouache, on cream woven paper. Acquired by Sterling and Francine Clark 1943, 1955.1483.

LEISURE AND LABOR

American painter and illustrator Winslow Homer depicts a young shepherdess relaxing in the shaded part of a pasture, looking after her flock from afar.

In the later part of his career, Homer focused on depicting scenes of workers engaging in leisure activities, showing his nostalgia for simpler times.

IN YOUR OWN WORDS

Besides the leisurely nature of the shepherdess, what other details does Homer include to give the scene a relaxed feeling? Is the shepherdess being responsible to the requirements of her job?

Does this image give information about what time of day it might be? How can different times of day affect your energy and your approach to your work?

Summer is sometimes considered a season of leisure while autumn is associated with labor, perhaps due to the harvest and the start of the school year. How does the changing of the seasons affect you and your work? Do the seasons affect your work at all?

In what ways do people from your personal life understand or misunderstand your work life? Do you think it's possible to keep one's personal and professional lives completely separate?