

THE CLARK

IN YOUR CLASSROOM

DRAWING DISCOVERIES

✓ Best for Grades 4 and up
🔗 Links to ELA, Social Studies, Visual Art

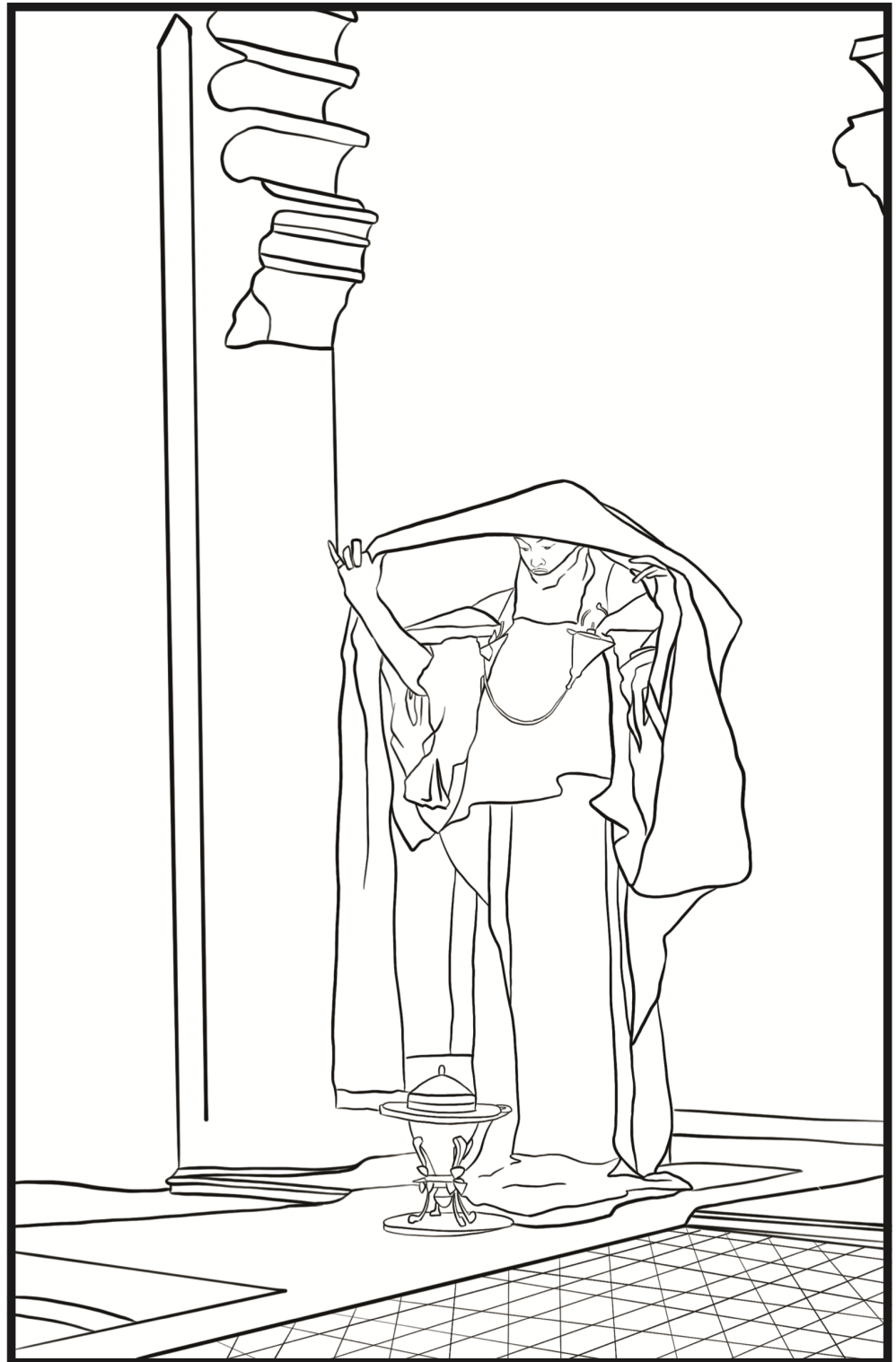
PLAYING WITH COLOR



John Singer Sargent, *Fumée d'ambre gris (Smoke of Ambergris)*, 1880. Oil on canvas. Acquired by Sterling and Francine Clark, 1914. 1955.15.

Artist John Singer Sargent made *Fumée d'ambre gris (Smoke of Ambergris)* after traveling to North Africa in 1879. The painting combines details inspired by different places and people he observed, so Western audiences interpreted the resulting image as a realistic view of North Africa. It is actually a made up scene! The painting is also an experiment with a specific color: white. Sargent combined different colors with white paint to create many **shades** and **tints**. This allowed him to define shadows and highlights—even with a limited **color palette**!

Grab your **media** of choice and experiment with different colors. How does color change the **mood** of the picture? You can also try drawing your own version of this artwork, and color it in. Consider drawing something on the wall behind the woman. What might be featured there?



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ADDING TO A STORY

The French artist Odilon Redon started experimenting with color in the 1890s after many years of working exclusively in black and white. The introduction of color to Redon's paintings gave them a new kind of energy. Similar to many of the artist's paintings from this time period, this image combines lifelike details with an imaginative, dream-like feeling. In this painting, a woman leans over a vase of brightly colored flowers; her eyes are closed just enough to see and smell the blossoms. Streaks and blotches of color emerge from the **abstract** background, raising questions about what kind of space she is in, and what kind of thoughts occupy her mind...

Take a closer look at the woman's expression in the image. What do you think she could be dreaming about? Use the thought bubble in the image below to draw what the woman may be thinking about in this moment.



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BEFORE & AFTER

Mary Cassatt was an American artist who made many paintings of Spanish culture during an extended stay in Spain in 1873. Here, a young woman holds a glass of water for an **elaborately**-dressed bullfighter, who dips *panal* (honeycomb) into it to produce a refreshing, energizing drink. With their intense expressions and active poses, the figures' interaction is interesting, yet mysterious.

Let's add some of your own creativity to this image! What might have happened 10 minutes before this moment between the young woman and the bullfighter? What about 10 minutes after? Draw your imagined scenes in the boxes on either side of the image.



BEFORE



Mary Cassatt, *Offering the Panal to the Bullfighter*, 1873. Oil on canvas. Acquired by Sterling and Francine Clark, 1947. 1955.1.

AFTER



FEATURED VOCABULARY

ABSTRACT

AN ART STYLE THAT USES COLORS, SHAPES, AND LINES, INSTEAD OF OBJECTS

COLOR PALETTE

THE RANGE OF COLORS USED IN AN ARTWORK

ELABORATELY

IN A DETAILED AND FANCY MANNER

MEDIA

ART MATERIALS, LIKE PAINT OR MARKERS, USED TO MAKE AN ARTWORK

MOOD

THE FEELINGS THAT AN ARTWORK PRODUCES IN THE PERSON VIEWING THE ART

SHADE

ADDING BLACK TO A COLOR TO MAKE A DARKER VERSION OF IT

TINT

ADDING WHITE TO A COLOR TO MAKE A LIGHTER VERSION OF IT