

## GCSE ART HOMEWORK

February 2014

**Read the text and answer the questions below.**

### **Lucian Freud**

- 1922–2011
- Nationality: British

Lucian Freud is considered one of Europe's greatest modern artists. He painted unsettling portraits and nudes in drab rooms, with peculiar focus on the texture of their flesh.

Freud was the grandson of Sigmund Freud. He moved to Britain from Germany with his family in 1933 to escape persecution as a Jew. He spent most of his working life in London's Paddington, saying that its sleaziness appealed to him.

Freud's early works, like *Girl With A White Dog*, were very controlled and formal. Over time his style changed and his later painting were mainly nudes, using coarse, layered dabs of paint to create skin texture.

The figures in Freud's paintings often look distant and depressed. However he had a close relationship with his subjects and claimed his pictures are "to do with hope and memory and sensuality". One of his best known paintings, *Benefits Supervisor Sleeping*, was reportedly bought by Russian billionaire Roman Abramovich for \$33m at auction. This was a record at the time for a living British artist.

Freud provoked public outcry with a portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Many people said the painting made her look old and unhappy. The Queen refused to comment.

**Text source: BBC**

1. Look at the painting “Queen Elizabeth 11” and describe the colours Freud uses?

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2. Do you like or dislike this artwork? Give a reason for your answer.

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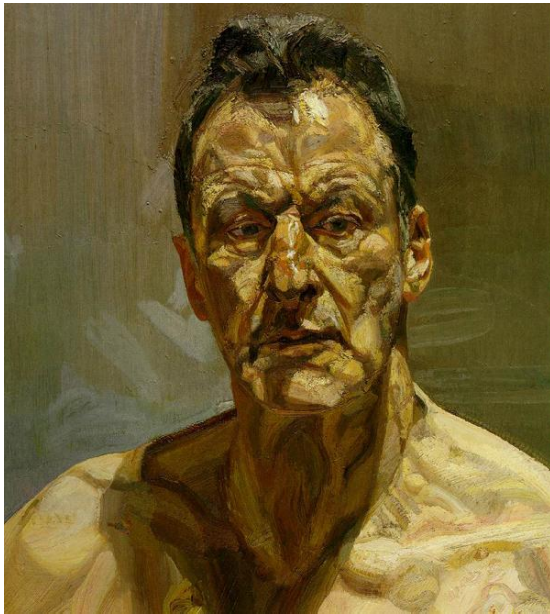
3. Do you think Freud painted an accurate painting of the queen? Give a reason for your answer.

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4. Look at the painting technique Freud used in “The queen” and describe it in detail.

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## Lucian Freud



Lucian Freud - *Sleeping Head* - 1979-80 - oil on canvas, 40.32 x 50.48 cm. - Private Collection, Photo: Courtesy Acquavella Contemporary Art, Inc.

Freud's subjects are often the people in his life; friends, family, fellow painters, lovers, children. As he has said 'The subject matter is autobiographical, it's all to do with hope and memory and sensuality and involvement really'.