

Mosaic Art & the Byzantine Empire

AIM: How Can We Compare Modern Mosaic Art to that of the Byzantine Empire?

TASK A: Read Introduction

A mosaic is an art form made with small pieces of colored glass, stone, or other materials. Individual pieces are called tesserae. They fit together to form a design, which is set in mortar. Mosaics can decorate ceilings, floors, walls, sidewalks, and furniture.

People of many cultures have used mosaic art. Mosaics appeared as early as 3000 BCE and became widespread during 300 BCE in cities ruled by Greece. In the 6th century, mosaics were a popular art form in the Byzantine Empire. Islamic people of India and Persia, the Aztec and Mayan Indians, and Mexicans in modern times have all created mosaic art.

TASK B: Use Google Images search engine to research and find examples of each of these types of mosaics, ancient and modern. Discuss and share pictures with your classmates. Answer the following questions:

1. Google Ancient Mosaic Art:

- What type of images do you see? _____
- What do you notice about the colors? _____

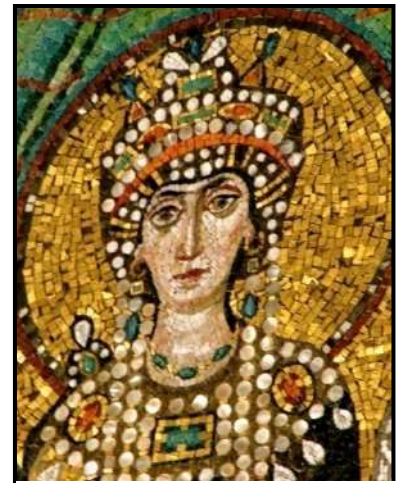
2. Google Modern Mosaic Art:

- What type of images do you see? _____

- What do you notice about the colors? _____

3. How have mosaics changed over time? _____

4. Compare their similarities and differences. _____



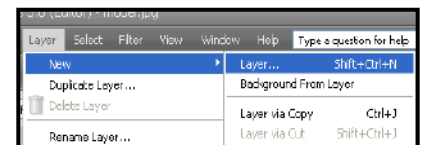
Empress Theodora in a mosaic at St. Vitale in Ravenna

PROJECT LEARNING OBJECTIVES, SWBAT:

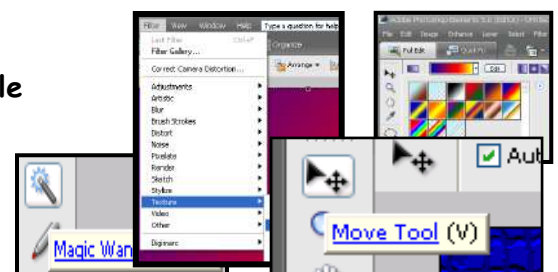
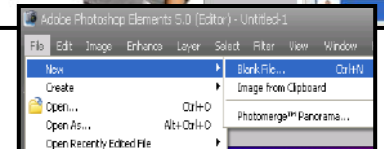
- Use internet to exchange information for specific purposes
- Multi-task applications
- Explore ancient art and modern forms of mosaics
- Compare and contrast mosaics from different cultures and time periods
- Create their own mosaic artwork using software applications
- Upload images to applications
- Layer and edit objects
- Demonstrate proficiency using editing tools and palettes

TASK C: Using Photoshop create a Mosaic Portrait of yourself, a famous celebrity or even your favorite animal! Use the following guidelines/directions for your project:

1. Open **Google Images** and search for a picture. **Save it** to your computer.
2. Open the image of into the Adobe **Photoshop** program using the **File Menu, Open Command**
3. Click the **Layer Menu** and **New Layer from Background**, type **Mosaic Person** as the layer name.
4. **Save the File as Mosaic Person**
5. Click **File New Blank File**
6. Click the **Gradient tool**
7. Choose a **multicolored** background from the Gradient and **drag the mouse onto the workspace area**.
8. Name the **layer BKG** using the directions listed in step 4
9. Apply **Mosaic Tile Filter** using the Filter, **Texture, Mosaic Tile Command**.
10. **Save the File as Mosaic Background**
11. Click the Mosaic Person and **remove the background with the Magic Wand Tool**



your computer.

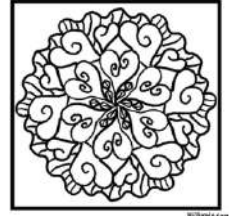


12. If necessary, deselect the image using the **Select Menu, Deselect** command.
13. Place your **person** into the **background** file using the **drag and drop** method.
14. Apply **Mosaic Tiles** to the Person using step 9.
15. If necessary, move your person into the final place on the work area using the **Move Tool**.
16. Use the **Text Tool** to type **your name** on the background
17. If necessary, move your name into final place, change font type, size and/or color.
17. **Resave** your file(s)



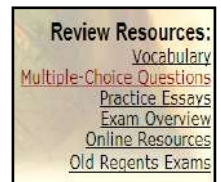
TASK D: Open **Google Images** and **search** for a mosaic tile coloring page. **Save** it to your computer.

1. Print out an image of your choosing
2. Use crayons, markers, or color pencils to fill in designs



TASK E: Log onto www.regentsprep.org.

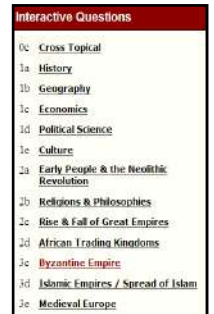
- Click the Global Studies Exam
- Click Multiple Choice Questions
- Click Interactive Questions 3c Byzantine Empire
- Answer all 3 questions online and record your answers below by circling the best response:



1. "Western Europe owed a debt of gratitude to the Empire that for almost a thousand years ensured the survival of Christianity during a time when Europe was too weak to accomplish the task."

Which Empire is referred to in this quotation?

1. Hellenistic
 2. Mongol
 3. Byzantine
 4. Ottoman
2. An influence that spread from the Byzantine Empire to Early Russia was the
 1. use of the Latin alphabet
 2. Orthodox Christian religion
 3. beginning of democracy
 4. factory system
 3. Which empire introduced the Eastern Orthodox Church and the Cyrillic alphabet to Russia?
 1. Mongol
 2. Byzantine
 3. British
 4. Gupta



CLOSING TASK(S): Save Work, Clean Workstation, Follow Log Off Procedures

