

Discussing Portraits

Strands - 1. Drawing, 2. Life, society, work & culture in the past.

1. What is a portrait?

2. Who is usually in a portrait?

3. Do you have any family portraits at home?

4. Today we have lots of photographs of ourselves and the photographs tell a story of who we are. Portraits used to be expensive and time consuming to paint so people might have only had one.

We know an artist can paint a face but how did the artist paint personality?



Lucy Guinness by Philip De László
On loan from Hugh Lane Gallery



The Idle Girl by William Orpen
On loan from the Guinness Family



5. Look at the pictures on the other page and describe the people. What are they wearing? What are they holding? Where do you think they are? What does this say about who they were?

6. Draw your own portrait here. What symbols, objects, clothes or places would you draw to describe your personality, or what you like?

A large, empty rectangular box with a dark green border, intended for drawing a portrait. The box is positioned below the text of question 6 and occupies most of the lower half of the page.