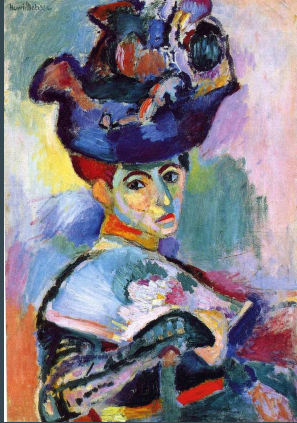


# Comparative Study

## By Dylan Budzien

In my comparative study I will examine three works by William Turner and Henri Matisse



Henri Matisse/*Woman with a hat*  
1905/oil paint/ San Francisco  
Museum of modern art.



William Turner/*Fishermen at  
Sea* / 176 / Oil paint / Tate  
Britain. London, United  
Kingdom



William Turner/*Rain, Steam  
and Speed The great Western  
Railway*/1844/oil paint/  
national gallery, London

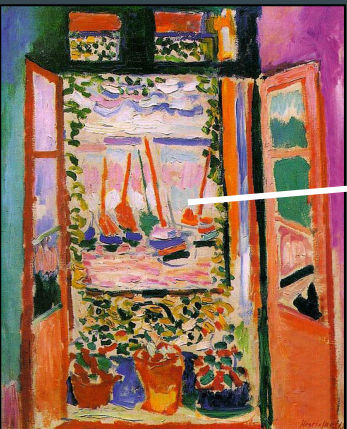
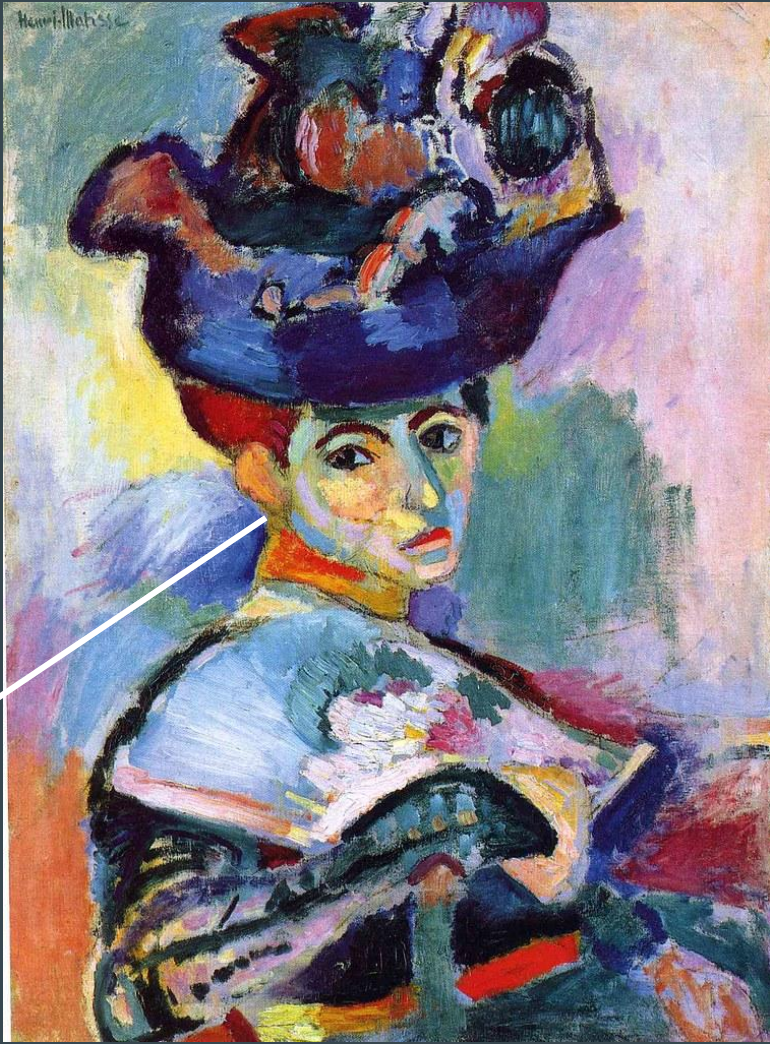
William Turner was an English romantic painter whose works mainly focus on landscapes and cityscapes. He lived from 1775 to 1851 and contributed heavily to romanticism. His paintings give off an ethereal look with watercolors before moving to oil paints later on.

Henri Matisse was a French fauvist artist whose works focused on a mix of both portraits and landscapes, more often interiors. His style is known for his many a multitude of bright colors and nude portraits of woman. He was the co-founder of the fauvism movement.

# Analysis of Cultural Significance of Henri Matisse's *Woman in a hat*

Henri Matisse was one of the first fauvist artist, creating the movement with one other person. The fauvism movement was defined by painting qualities and strong colors rather than the realistic values of previous movements such as impressionism. This is because Matisse believed color trumps all This favist inspiration is shown clearly with the multitude of bright hues and stylized look of the woman.

Compared to *The Open Window* (1905) ,which was painted earlier the same year, which appears more grounded with it's hues. Many of the colors match with what the colors are “suppose” to be. But the woman has less grounded hues, but they blend together to form something coherent.



The Open window (1905)  
(left)

The woman with A Hat (1905)  
(right)

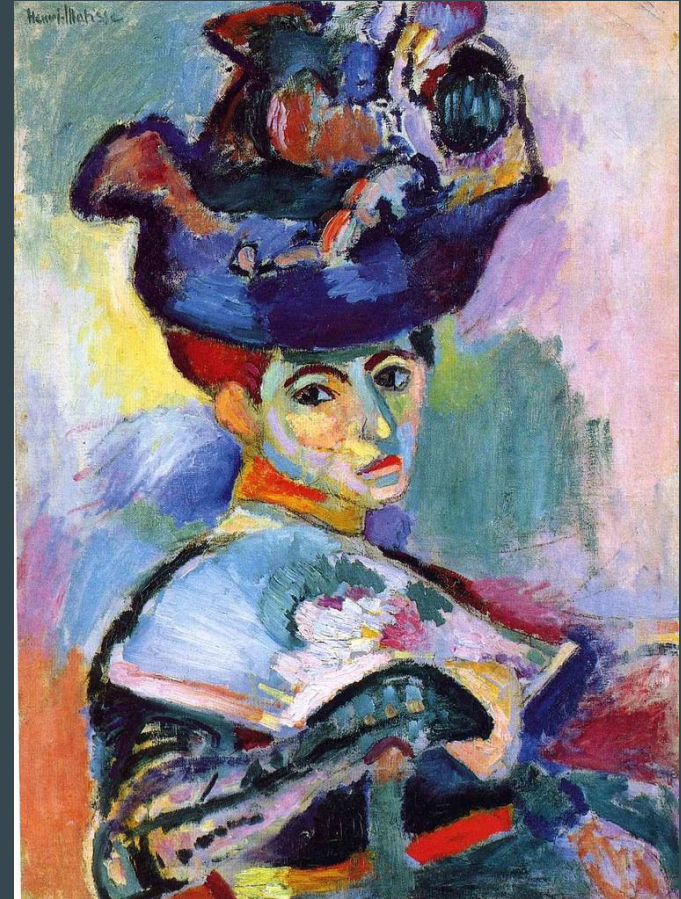


## Function & purpose of Henri Matisse's *Woman in a hat*

*Woman with a Hat* marked the change in style for Matisse as he moved towards the fauvist art style. It was the first painting he made in the fauvist style and it shows the core aspect of the movement & the artist. Matisse believed color triumphed all, and this painting demonstrates that with its multitude of hues blended together all throughout the painting.

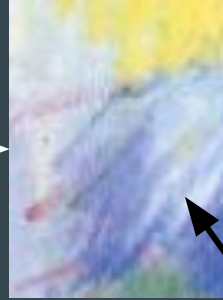
Another purpose was to display it at the 1905 Salon d'Automne in Paris. As it was the first fauvist painting, being displayed there allowed larger amounts of people to see it compared to if it was displayed somewhere else. This event allowed fauvism to spread to other artists who wanted to express themselves through this movement and giving it a name.

Both of these had the main purpose of showing off this more expressive style that many were shocked to see. Many disliked it simply due to it being different to the style they were used to.



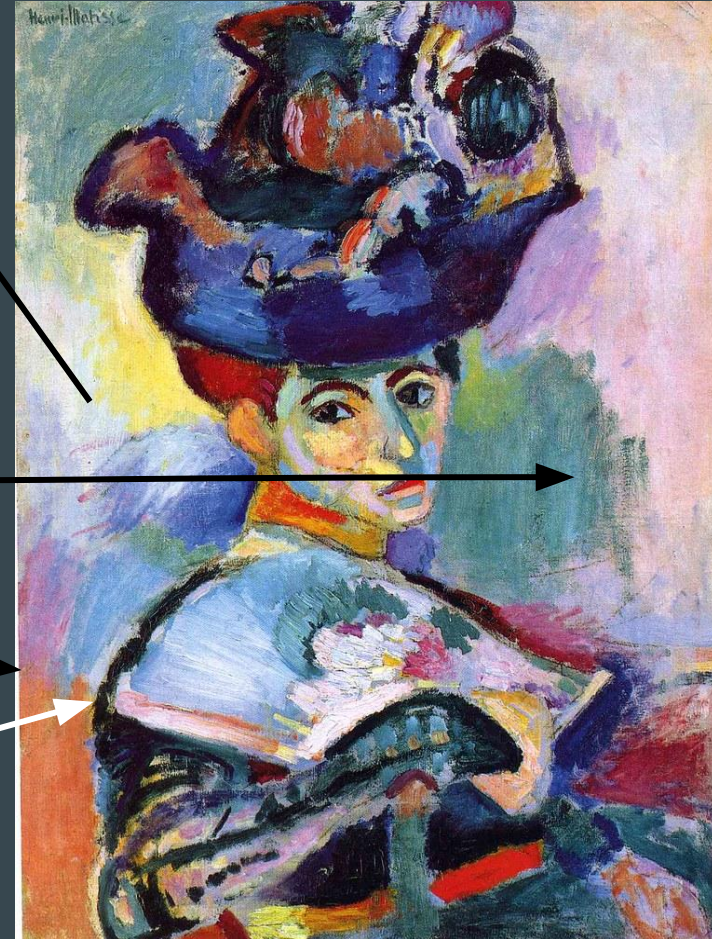
## Formal qualities of *Woman with a Hat* by Henri Matisse

The Multitude of hues and the brushstrokes create a course-looking texture. This, along with the little blending of the hues cause the colors to jump out more creating a more expressive piece. This also help to define its identity as the first fauvist painting and setting up the style that other paintings would likely use.



The medium of oil paint helped the blending of the colors. Despite the colors not mixing well due to them not the same color(s) and the artist purposely not mixing together as much, this makes each color able to stand out a lot more than they would have otherwise if they were more traditionally blended together.

The dark outlines of the clothing makes the entire woman pop out of the background without the use of a traditional background seen in more realistic art movements..This also helps it to distinguish itself from the previous movements like impressionism by helping it create a better identity This helps to emphasize the hues of the backgrounds.





## Analysis of *Rain, Steam and Speed The Great Western Railway & Fisherman at Sea* by William Turner

The inspirations from this piece was the industrial revolution. The painting was made closer to the end of the industrial revolution as such Most of the advancements made during this time was fairly new for the people. Another thing is that .industrial advancement can be art. Most people don't believe that it could be considered art, Turner believed that it could and paint this piece to prove it. The Great Western Railway (GWR) was also an cultural inspiration because it was generally seen as a symbol of pride in Britain.



The inspirations for *Fisherman at Sea* was nature. He wanted to show the power of nature through the piece. He used the ocean and fishermen because of how often their work would become peerless for them. “Turner adored the power of nature, and loved to capture elements of it within his work.” (<https://www.williamturner.org/fishermen-at-sea/>) This piece also deviates from most of his other works because of the darker hues & colors. This causes it to contrast against the others.

## Purpose of *Rain, Steam and Speed The Great Western Railway* by William Turner

The purpose(s) of this art work is to show that industrial advancement can be art. Many people during this time didn't believe that these objects could be considered art. Turner believed that these advancements could be, So he made this painting to prove his point. Using one of the

Another purpose is "...commenting on the way in which human engineering can become one with nature" This can be seen with the steam coming from the train mixing into the clouds. The steam would already look like the clouds.

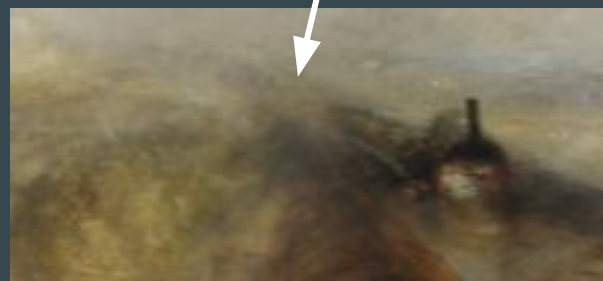




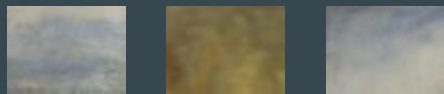
# Formal Qualities of *Rain, Steam and Speed The Great Western Railway* by William Turner

The way the oil is spread on the canvas creates the combined effect of the steam mixed with the clouds. The clouds spread down far enough to appear like the steam from the train. The train and bridge are painted in a much darker creating contrast with the landscape surrounding it. The landscape is painted in lighter and muted colors whereas the man-made objects are painted in darker colors to create contrast, but eventually it mixes into the landscape.

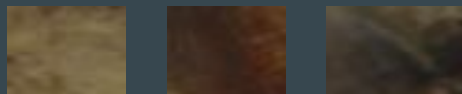
The contrast created by the hues symbolizes the difference between the nature beauty and the beauty of the man-made. The man made are darker then the natural hues.



Landscape hues



Man-made Hues



## Function & purpose of *Fisherman at Sea* by W. Turner

*Fisherman at Sea* by William Turner was created in 1796. It was the first oil painting displayed at the Royal Academy the same year. The painting also reflects the fashion for Sublime subjects, which gave viewers a sense of the overwhelming power of nature.

Turner wanted to display the Overwhelming power of nature, and this piece shows that through the dark storms and rough waves. The darkness brought about by the clouds obscures most of the scene besides for where the sun pokes through causing us to focus more intently on where it shines. The waves show how despite our advancements we are helpless against nature by showing the boat seemingly being tossed around and the other boat that has already been tossed around



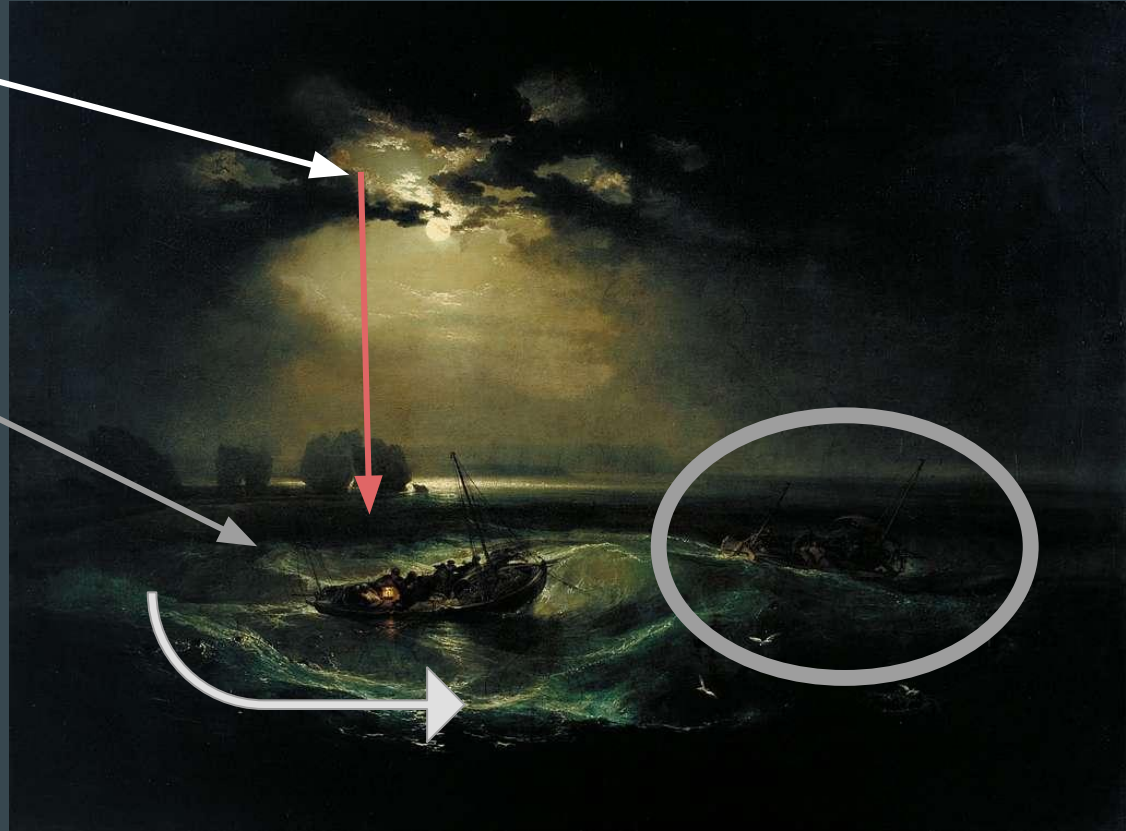


## Formal qualities of *Fisherman at Sea* by W. Turner

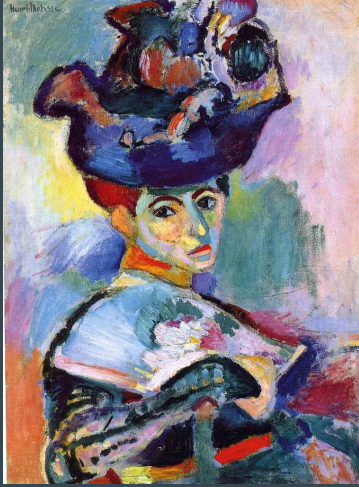
The highlights from the sun creates a section in the middle that draws our attention and leads it down towards the boat. The Shadows then help to focus and lead our eyes straight to the highlights and hide things in plain sight, such as a tipped boat

The muted hues also lend to drawing our eyes to the middle because of how bright the sun's hue is compared to those around it. It also helps distinguish the boat from the water around it. It also helps to conceal the boat hidden in the shadows

The way the waves are on different levels create a dynamic feeling such as the waves are ready to capsiz the boat we are focusing. It also leads our eyes away from the boat that's already been tipped by leading our eyes towards the boat like most of the other elements of this piece.

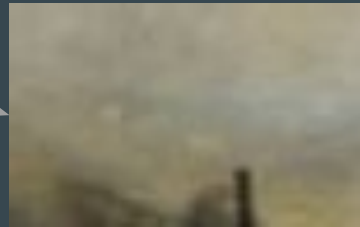


## Similarities of *Woman with a Hat* by Henri Matisse & *Rain, Steam and Speed The Great Western Railway* by William Turner



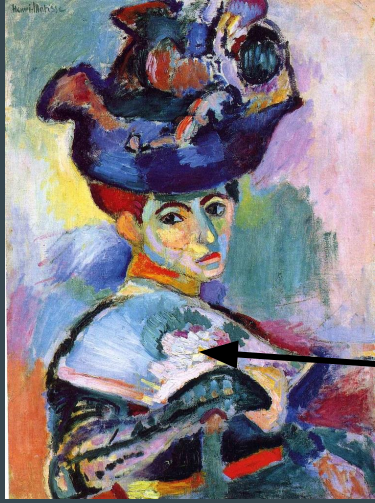
Both of these pieces were made to show off what can be considered art. Matisse showed his new fauvist style which used colors to express the qualities of the model. Turner wanted to show that industrial creations can be considered art as well. Both were showing that something most considered “not art” whether it’s a style or the focus of a painting.

The use of hues in both pieces are used to further express what they are trying to show. Matisse expresses the woman’s qualities by way of brighter & less natural hues to express her qualities rather than through a more realistic like impressionism. Turner uses hues to express technology can fused with nature. With the darker tones of the man made aspects such as the bridge & train fuse or mix with the lighter hues & highlights of the more natural aspects such as the clouds and hills. Both mix colors to better express what they are trying to show through these hues



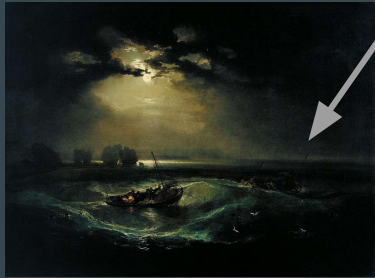


## Similarities of *Woman with a Hat* by Henri Matisse & *Fisherman at Sea* by W. Turner



Both pieces have been created to express their main focus(es). *Woman with a hat* was painted to show off the fauvist style. *Fisherman at Sea* was created to express & show the power of nature. Both of these paintings portray these feelings well through the use of the hues and medium.

Both use hues to help express their purpose. *Woman with a hat* uses a multitude of brighter hues to show the woman. The hues are not traditionally used for the specific areas, such as on the woman's clothes near her neck. The color is many colors mixed together that makes it seemingly blend into the background. The *Fisherman at Sea* does nearly the same thing but uses darker colors to have a ship fade within the sea & darkness. Both color palettes are very different but are used in very similar ways.


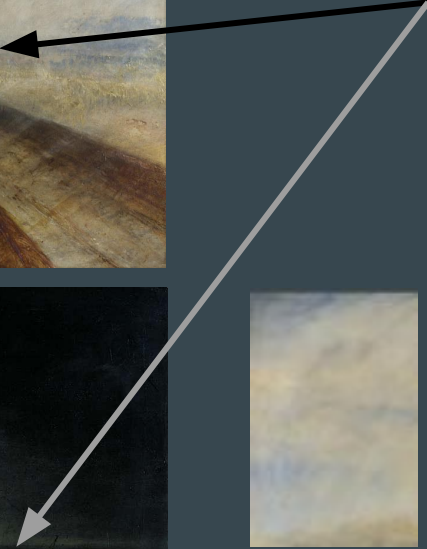


The zoom ins show what I am trying to convey. Both have used hues to have things blend into the background.

## Similarities of *Rain, Steam and Speed The great western railway* & *Fisherman at Sea* by William Turner

Both of these pieces have the the purpose of combining nature and man made object. Both of they show vehicles as they are mixed together with nature surrounding them. This can be seen with the train in the Great Western Railroad as it emerges from the clouds, which is mixed with the train's steam. In *Fisherman at Sea*, the boat is slowly merging with the waves surrounding, and the one that's in the darkness. Both show the mixing of nature and man made objects.

They both have the same medium of oil paint, tis allows for the artist to better blend together the aspects of the highlights & shadows which is seen most prevalently in the sky where the clouds meet to make it look as if they are connected not like they're on two separate levels in *Rain, Steam & Speed*. This is also seen where the sun's light hits the dark clouds & sea in *Fisherman at Sea*.



Part of the sea from *Fisherman at Sea* (left)



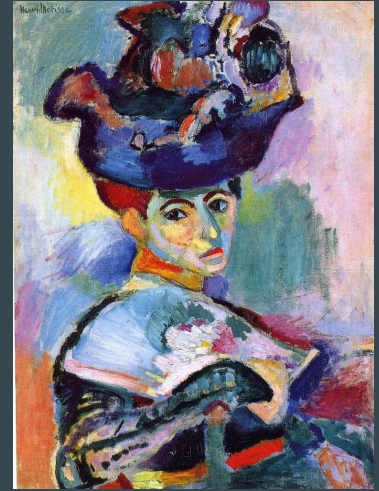
Part of the sky From *The Great Western Railway* (right)

## Differences between *Woman with a Hat* by Henri Matisse & *rain, Steam and Speed The great western railway* by William Turner

Despite having similar purposes, What they are trying to express is different. *Woman with a Hat* express the woman through color rather than overall form and realism. Turner's piece was made to show that industrial advancement could be called art, as most people believed that it could not be called art. Both of these have different purposes as to what they are expressing.

The use of hues are different as well. Matisse used bright and colorful hues to express the woman. Many of the colors wouldn't commonly be used for what purpose he used.. Turner however used more natural hues. The hues themselves are muted and dull compared to *Woman with a Hat*. Because of this is creates a distinct contrast between the two pieces of art.

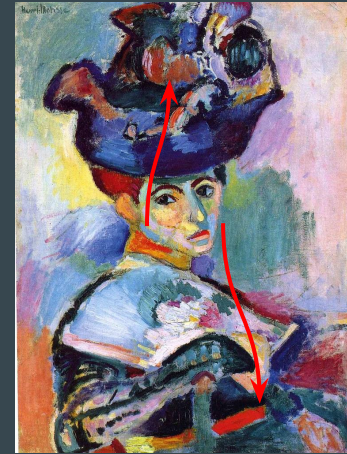
The subjects are different as well. *Woman with a hat* focuses on the woman. This makes it a portrait and makes the orientation vertical as well. The great western railway primarily focuses on the Steam engine and railway. Thus this landscape piece has a different format compared to the portrait.





## Differences between *Woman with a Hat* by Henri Matisse & *Fisherman at Sea* by William Turner

The main focus of the pieces are different from each other, Matisse's purpose was to create a painting in his fauvist style, while Turner created it to show the power of nature. This then causes the paintings to be a portrait and landscape respectively. The time period they were made in also has an impact because there is nearly 110 years between the two (Turner's was made in 1796 and Matisse's was 1905.) Because of this, Matisse's time was more likely to be receptive to a newer style of painting and change compared to the rigidity of Turner's time period.



Another difference between them is the use of the medium. While both are oil paintings, they both have visual distinctive looks compared to one another. The dark hues of *Fisherman at Sea* along with the blending causes it to appear more visually coherent and lifelike, whereas *Woman with a Hat* brighter colors and lack of prominent blending cause the colors to help showcase the art movement. They also have opposing lines of sight. Turner's starts near the top by the sun, as opposed to Matisse's work starts near the face and moves out from there.

## Differences between *Rain, Steam and Speed The great western railway* & *Fisherman at Sea* by William Turner

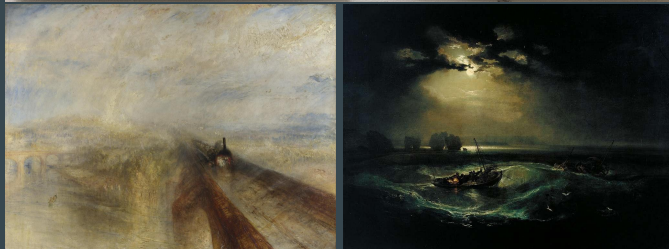
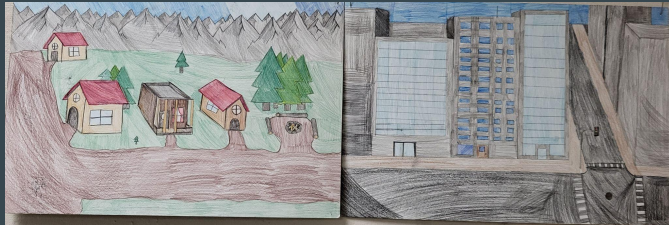
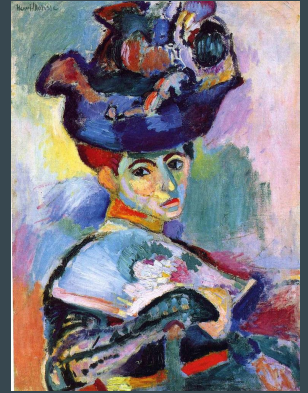
Despite being made in the same medium, their purpose are different. *The Great Western Railway's* purpose is to show that industrial advancements could be considered art, because many people didn't believe that it could. The purpose of *Fisherman at Sea* was to show the power of nature, as shown by the capsized boats. They both convey different meanings in the same medium.

The use of dark & light hues are used differently in each. In *The great Western Railway*, The darker colors are used to signify man made objects, such as the bridge & train. In *Fisherman at Sea* the dark hues cover nearly the whole piece besides for the sun shining through. This helps to show that most of the power of nature is almost never seen, such as the hidden boat in the darkness.



## Compare & contrast studied work and personal work's cultural significance

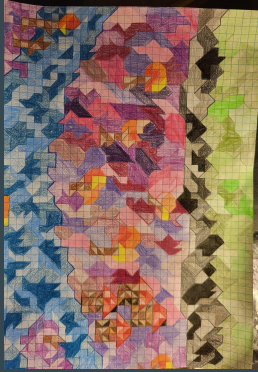
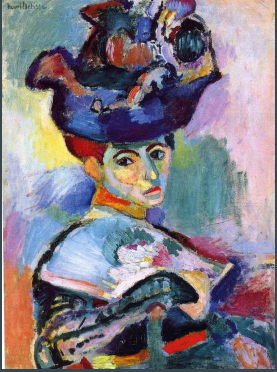
My work *Fantasy* is similar to Matisse's *Woman with a hat* because they were both firsts with an experimental color palette. *Woman with a hat* was Matisse's first artwork under the fauvist movement, while my work was the first I would use a color palette that does not match the realistic style of the real world. Both works also were made to help develop their technique because Matisse's was the first one made for a style and mine was made to continue my journey into abstraction.



My other work, *Past or Present?* Is similar to Turner's two pieces as they all deal with human inventions and structure mixed with nature. *The Great Western Railway* and the left side of *Past or present?* both focus on the small amount of human structures mixed together. Both *The Great Western Railway* and *Past or Present?* Deal with the advancements of human engineering. *Fisherman at Sea* and my work are similar as they are landscapes with human construction. While not as strong as the other piece, both feel like if you took out the man made aspects the landscapes could stand as their own piece, as well as the other piece.

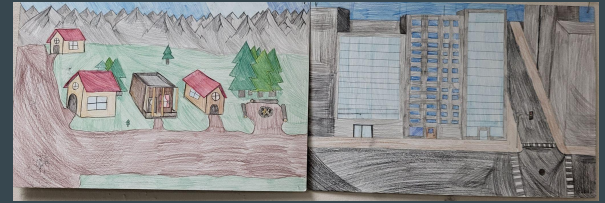


## Compare & contrast studied work and personal work's function and purpose

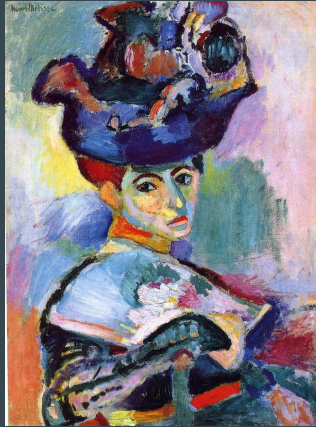
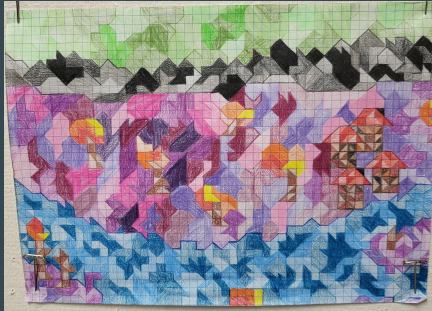


Henri Matisse's artwork was made to help develop his new theme of fauvism. Thus the whole piece was made to encapsulate that. My work was also made to develop my theme of nature and abstracts. However, my work differs because it was also made as part of a curriculum, while he had no such obligations. While both purposes are similar in the fact that they were both made to display, the reasons they are displayed differently. Matisse's work was for the 1905 Salon d'Automne in Paris as opposed to those passing by it and the individuals who are grading it.

Turner's Works are similar to my work because they were both made to showcase human invitation and nature, but they differ with how. *Rain, Steam & Speed* was made to show how the industrial revolution could be art. My art was to show how human invasion is destroying nature as time goes on. *Fishermen at Sea* was made to show the power of nature while my theme of nature was to show how it was slowly being destroyed as we continue to advance. While thematically different, they are similar in their connection to nature and human innovation.

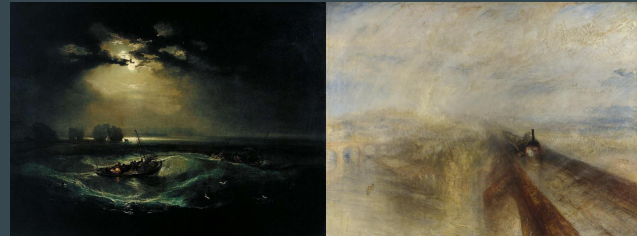
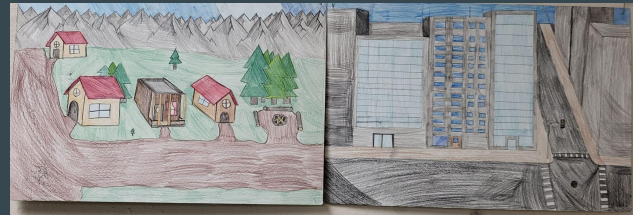


## Compare & contrast studied work and personal work's Material & concept significance



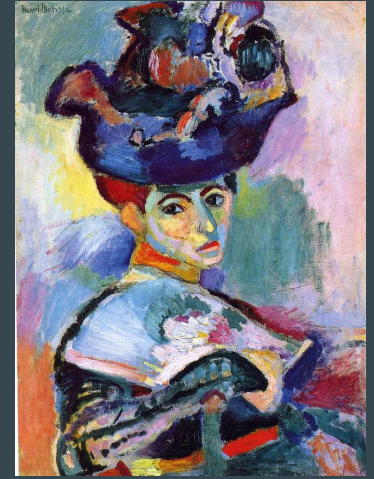
My work and Matisse's work were using different materials. His was an oil painting on a canvas while mine was colored pencils on a piece of paper. The use of paper as the canvas could cause the piece to look and feel as though it was a map of the land I had drawn. The oil paint can have not much physical significance, but it allows for the colors to appear brighter. While normally blended, the lack of more detailed blending causes the colors to be at the forefront which was the point of fauvism. The same point can also be applied to my work as well to a lesser extent, as I wanted the colors to be the main aspect of the drawing, rather than the contents to a degree.

Some side colored pencil on the tagboard is very different than oil paint on a canvas. The lighter colors of the colored pencils along with the split nature of my work can cause it to appear almost like a children's picture book. This could enforce its theme as though it's a precautionary tale of human innovation. Similarly, the blended oil paints cause the vehicles in each to blend into the landscape itself. The darkness swallowing the boats can show the power of nature, and the steam from the train mixing with the clouds above shows that it can be considered art. However, the fact that Turner's pieces are two separate pieces with no inherent connection shows how strong themes are for them, as opposed to my diptych which doesn't work unless they are together.



## Compare & contrast Henri Matisse and personal work's formal qualities

Matisse's work is soft with each color flowing together coherently with paint. Oppositely My work is composed entirely of sharp jagged lines with seemingly random color placements of colored pencil. This causes Matisse's work to appear much more coherent while my work is busy and messy. Another thing that causes this is my work has clear points where the colors start and end and each "section" are separate. On top of that, my work is very geological with the shapes containing every aspect, as opposed to the round and smoother edges of Matisse's art. Another difference is the subject. While Matisse's is a human woman, mine is a landscape. However these also cause them to have a different identity from one another.



As different as these pieces are, they are still similar in other ways. The first is the use of colors. Both use colors in a non-traditional way for the most part. There are differences in how they are used such as mine to make it appear alien, but both are using them to convey meaning through color. Another way color is used in a non-traditional way is by still having them present. While Matisse's work has the mixtures in places not typically seen, they are still present in 'appropriate' places, such as the hair and skin. The colors of my own are similar, the water and mountains, and trees are the same as in real life. But they both still appear not entirely as they do in real life. Both are not the same color with lights and shadows of the same hue, but rather with different colors or having them separate



# Compare & contrast Turner's work and personal work's formal qualities

The first noticeable difference is that both of Turner's pieces are single pieces while my work is a diptych. This then changes the relations between my work as they could function alone or together while Turner's works are disconnected from one another. This could cause similarities to be slightly more muddled than they would be otherwise should I talk about it as one piece rather than one half.

Another difference between them is their medium. While Turner's are oil paintings, my work is colored pencils on tagboards. Along with the colors, Turner's art being darker and less vibrant with color causes them to appear more dramatic rather than the simplistic color of my work. Turner's work also has more depth compared to the flat colors of my art.

Some similarities between them are their focus on man-made objects within nature. All of the works have either buildings or vehicles mixed with landscapes. That's another similarity, they are all landscapes due to their purposes. All have the blanket purpose of showing human innovation interacting with nature. Turner's piece also matches similar flows with lines. While *Fishermen at Sea* and the left part both are more horizontal, the *Rain, Steam & Speed*, and the city have a main vertical direction. These lines go in roughly the same direction as one another. This causes more parallels between all three pieces as they gain similarities through this.

