

# Secondary learning resources

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## For teachers

### Imagine You Were Here

Teach your students about the art of *Enchanted Worlds: Hokusai, Hiroshige and the Art of Edo Japan* and help them engage with, and make meaning of, art through creative writing. Use this resource as a starting point to support and develop their creative writing skills.

#### Students will need:

Pen/pencil, writing material, internet access to our website



Katsukawa Shunsho *Banquet at the Green House* circa 1788, hanging scroll, ink and colour on silk, courtesy Sumisho Art Gallery

#### Exhibition connection

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This student activity relates to the exhibition *Enchanted Worlds: Hokusai, Hiroshige and the Art of Edo Japan* presented at Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki in 2020.

Find out more and support your teaching by visiting us online:

See [www.aucklandartgallery.com/enchantedworlds](http://www.aucklandartgallery.com/enchantedworlds) for more information about the exhibition or experience the exhibition through virtual reality by taking the tour at [www.virtual.aucklandartgallery.com/](http://www.virtual.aucklandartgallery.com/)

#### Curriculum Year Levels: 9–11 (Ages 13–15)

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This activity relates particularly to Achievement Standard English 1.4 AS 90052: Producing creative writing (Internal Assessment) including drafting, reworking and presenting at least one piece of creative writing. Students will develop creative writing text types such as narratives, poems, personal accounts and scripts.

Key concepts: Identity. Communication. Story and Meaning.

#### Exhibition Summary

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*Enchanted Worlds: Hokusai, Hiroshige and the Art of Edo Japan* presents a captivating introduction to the characters, places and pastimes of a flourishing era during Japan's more than 250 years of self-imposed isolation from the world. See life as it was captured by the most popular artists of the period, including Katsushika Hokusai and Andō Hiroshige, Kitagawa Utamro and Keisai Eisen. Explore iconic depictions of popular and seasonal landmarks, including rare paintings of snowcapped Mount Fuji, waterfalls, rivers and blossoming trees.



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## Student Worksheet

### You will need:

Pen/pencil writing material, internet access to our website



Katsukawa Shunsho *Banquet at the Green House* circa 1788, hanging scroll, ink and colour on silk, courtesy Sumisho Art Gallery

- 1 Look closely at the painting by Katsukawa Shunsho. What can you see? Who do you think the people are? Are they a group of friends, a family, a theatre group, a group of high school food tech students celebrating local cuisine? Be as imaginative and creative as you can!
- 2 Choose a character to focus on. Write some notes about your thoughts. Remember it is your story and you can take these ideas in any direction your imagination desires. Here are some questions to prompt your thinking:
  - Which character do you choose to focus on?
  - What is your character thinking?
  - Is the body language of your character telling a story?
  - What might your conversation be about?
  - What does your clothing say about your personality?
- 3 Develop a plan for your story. By telling a good story you will connect with people and and transport them to a world they can 'see' in their mind's eye.
- 4 Start writing your first draft. Develop a text that is around 350 words long. Are you someone in the painting describing your experience? Or are you someone looking at the events it depicts and talking about them in the third person? What are the main ideas or events in your story?
- 5 Refine and clarify. Edit, proofread and redraft your work. This will ensure your development of ideas is compelling to the reader and well organised.

Suggestions for editing the text:

- Strengthen the opening to command attention
  - Improve the flow of sentences
  - Vary the way sentences begin
  - Vary the length of sentences
  - Improve the link between ideas
  - Consider the effect of language choices in developing the ideas
  - Use a wide range of vocabulary and language features such as verbs and adjectives.
  - Ensure that the structure of ideas suit audience and purpose.
- 6 Reflection questions:

What did you learn by completing this process? How would your story change if you wrote from the viewpoint of another character in the painting? What is another artwork that you can use to implement this creative writing process?