

ART HISTORY first year

The **written test** presupposes a basic preparation in Italian art history commensurate with the best high school knowledge, from the Paleochristian Age up to and including the last century, based on the study of one of the more widely used high school textbooks currently in circulation. Depending on the era dealt with, these texts tend to widen the geographical horizon, going beyond Italy (including for example the French Gothic architecture or Impressionism): candidates will seek guidance from the textbooks also regarding this aspect. The test will consist of a single written answer developing an outline of your choice from among three or four proposed by the commission, with or without the aid of a selection of images (depending on the chosen outline). You are advised to consult the [past test papers](#).

The **oral test** will start by referring to the written test, which will be submitted to further comments and possible in-depth scrutiny. The rest of the interview will consist of the reading and interpretation of various reproductions of artworks of differing type, chronology and geography proposed by the commission.

Recommended textbooks:

- S. Settis, T. Montanari, *Arte. Una storia naturale e civile*, several volumes, Mondadori 2019
- P. De Vecchi, E. Cerchiari, *Arte nel tempo*, several volumes, Bompiani 1995 (or subsequent editions)
- C. Bertelli, G. Briganti, A. Giuliano, *Storia dell'arte italiana*, several volumes, Electa-Mondadori 1986 (or subsequent editions)

Also very useful is the reading of this classic introduction:

- *La storia dell'arte raccontata da Ernst H. Gombrich*, Leonardo Arte 1995

In addition to the textbook or textbooks, the reading will be much appreciated of **two or three** texts of detailed study and of a methodological nature chosen from among those listed here below.

Questions of method:

- F. Antal, *Classicismo e Romanticismo*, Einaudi 1975, pp. 204-221
- E. Castelnuovo, *Di cosa parliamo quando parliamo di storia dell'arte?*, in Id., *La cattedrale tascabile*, Sillabe 2000, pp. 69-84
- E. Castelnuovo, *Arte, industria, rivoluzioni*, Einaudi 1985
- H. Focillon, *La vita delle forme*, Einaudi 1990
- O. Pächt, *Metodo e prassi nella storia dell'arte*, Bollati Boringhieri 1994
- E. Panofsky, *La storia dell'arte come disciplina umanistica*, in Id., *Il significato nelle arti visive*, Einaudi 1996, pp. 3-28
- M. Schapiro, *Stile*, Donzelli 1995
- E. Wind, *Arte e anarchia*, Adelphi 1986

Detailed study of the Middle Ages and the Modern Age:

- *La scultura raccontata da Rudolf Wittkower. Dall'antichità al Novecento* [1977], Einaudi 1985
- E. Kris, O. Kurz, *La leggenda dell'artista: un saggio storico* [1937] with a presentation by E. Castelnuovo, preface by E.H. Gombrich, Bollati Boringhieri 2013
- G. Previtali, *La fortuna dei primitivi: dal Vasari ai neoclassici*, Einaudi 1964 (or a re-edition with an introductory note by Enrico Castelnuovo, Einaudi 1989)
- M. Baxandall, *Pittura ed esperienze sociali nell'Italia del Quattrocento*, Einaudi 1978 (or one of the reprinted editions of subsequent years)
- J. Shearman, «Arte e spettatore nel Rinascimento italiano. «Only connect...», Jaca Book 1995
- R. Wittkower, *Arte e architettura in Italia, 1600-1750* [1958], Einaudi 1972 (or subsequent reprinted editions)
- *H. Honour, Neoclassicismo* [1968], Einaudi 1980

Detailed study of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries:

- F. Rovati, *L'arte dell'Ottocento*, Einaudi 2015
- F. Rovati, *L'arte del primo Novecento*, Einaudi 2015
- Del Puppo, *L'arte contemporanea. Il secondo Novecento*, Einaudi 2013
- M. Schapiro, *L'arte moderna*, Einaudi 1986
- Scharf, *Arte e fotografia*, Einaudi 1979
- T.J. Clark, *Addio a un'idea. Modernismo e arti visive*, Einaudi 2005
- M. Schapiro, *L'Impressionismo. Riflessi e percezioni*, Einaudi 2008
- K. Varnedoe, *Una squisita indifferenza. Perché l'arte moderna è moderna*, Johan & Levi 2016