

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS EXAMPLES OF STUDENT OBSERVATIONS



ROYAL STANDARD OF UR, WAR SIDE
SUMERIAN, CA. 2,600-2,400 BCE WOOD
INLAID WITH SHELL, LIMESTONE, AND
LAPIS LAZULI, APPROX. 8" X 19"
BRITISH MUSEUM, LONDON

Similarities

"Figure 1 and Figure 2 both make sure to have fully shown the right arm, expressing authority and strong leadership."

"Both artworks depict dead enemy combatants. In the *Royal Standard of Ur*, the enemies of the Sumerians from the city of Ur are killed and run over by soldiers controlling chariots led by onagers. In the *Stele of Naram-Sin*, the enemies of the Akkadian empire are killed and found dead and are trampled over by Akkadian soldiers."

"The use of hierarchic [scale] is incorporated in both figures. Figure 1 depicting Naram-Sin is the most important figure in the piece as shown by the center placement, large scale and size. In Figure 2, the more prominent figure is placed in a central position close to the top, showing their significance. Both are focal points of the image."

"Figure 1 which shows figures climbing up a mountain, and Figure 2, which has figures and animals galloping or marching forward, illustrate motion."

"Figures created with heads in profile view while bodies are created to be viewed from the front is called composite view or twisted [perspective], which is present in both figures."



STELE OF NARAM-SIN
AKKADIAN, CA. 2,270 BCE
PINK LIMESTONE
HEIGHT, 6'6"
MUSÉE DU LOUVRE, PARIS

Differences

"While both express rhythm, Fig. 1 utilizes registers to tell the story while guiding the "reader" along a clear pathway, whereas Fig. 2 narrates by drawing the eye haphazardly in an organic, upwardly diagonal stream of motion."

"The *Royal Standard of Ur* contains a wide variety of colors; these are red, blue, yellow, and the composite brown. The *Stele of Naram-Sin* does not have a wide variety of colors like the *Standard of Ur*. The *Stele of Naram-Sin* is only the color pink because the artwork was created on pink limestone."

"Figure 2 of the stele is a relief sculpture, the sculptural technique which gives the impression that the sculpted material has been raised above the background material whereas Fig. 1 is not made with this technique, it was inlaid."