

If you only have 15 minutes ...

Observe (3 minutes)

- Examine the three featured pavilions. Identify one traditional material, technique or craft used in each pavilion. What evidence from the article supports your observations?¹

Discuss (8 minutes)

- How does each artist use traditional craftsmanship in a different way to preserve cultural memory? Support your answer with evidence from the article.²

- Throughout the article, the author returns to the ideas of memory, transmission and cultural preservation. How do these themes connect the three pavilions into one central message? Use evidence from more than one section of the article.³

Reflect (4 minutes)

Think about a tradition, craft, place or story that is important to your family or community. How could art help preserve it for future generations?⁴

Common Core Standard(s) Met:

CCRA.R.8 Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.

RI.11-12.2 Determine two or more central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to provide a complex analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.

1 Possible responses:

- Morocco: Handwoven textiles created by 166 artisans.
- France: Dévoré textile technique, natural dyes, textiles.
- Saudi Arabia: Handmade clay bricks arranged in mosaic patterns.
- Students should support each with evidence from the article.

2 Possible responses:

- Morocco preserves living traditions through collaboration with artisans.
- France demonstrates that traditions evolve through experimentation and adaptation.
- Saudi Arabia memorializes endangered heritage through symbolic reconstruction. Students should compare approaches rather than simply list them.

3 The article's central argument is that art and traditional craftsmanship preserve cultural memory by connecting generations, adapting inherited knowledge and resisting cultural erasure. Students should reference evidence from all three pavilions.

4 Responses will vary. Strong answers connect a meaningful tradition, object or place with an artistic form—such as weaving, photography, storytelling, music or public art—and explain how it could preserve community memory.