

Romanesque & Gothic Art

Painting

Painting in the **Romanesque** and **Gothic** era had come a long way from the Medieval predecessors

Painters were now experimenting with different techniques, compositions and styles, and pushing further and further away from the static gold-encrusted imagery of the Byzantine style. Many artists during the Gothic period began painting with egg tempera.

Two of the most famous painters were Duccio and Giotto, both innovators in their own right.

How do their paintings compare to paintings we've seen in the Middle Ages?



Duccio, Calling of the Apostles, c. 1310 Italy.



Giotto, Lamentation, c. 1305, Italy.



St. John from the Franco-Saxon Gospels. (Middle Ages: 850 A.D.)

Name: _____ /38

Grade 10 - Romanesque & Gothic Questions

1. Painters during the Gothic and Romanesque period were experimenting with new techniques and moving further away from what past imagery and style? (1)

2. What material did many painters during the Gothic period start painting with? (1)

3. Compare the depiction of figures in Giotto's Lamentation with the figures depicted in the earlier St. John from the Franco-Saxon Gospels from the Middle Ages. List two stylistic differences between the works. (2)

1.

2.

Architecture - Two Styles: Romanesque & Gothic

Churches predominated architecture, and most of the sculpture produced during these periods was for church decoration.

The **Romanesque** style covers the earlier period, from about AD 1000 to the mid 12th century (1150).

The **Gothic** style picks up around AD 1150 and lasts until the Renaissance in the 16th century. (although sometimes the styles overlap depending on location)

The term "**Romanesque**" refers to the style of architecture containing both Roman and Byzantine elements and also refers directly to the Roman arch through the use of the **round barrel vault**.

Romanesque churches were often used built along **pilgrimage** routes, and as such were designed to accommodate a large number of worshippers.

In order to accommodate the crowds, two more **aisles** were typically constructed (**nave** and **transept**), as was a **circular aisle**, called an **ambulatory**. Also, **chapels radiating** out from the **ambulatory** were common, and also the **round arches** and **barrel vault ceiling**,



The Church of St. Sernin, Toulouse France, AD 1080-1120.

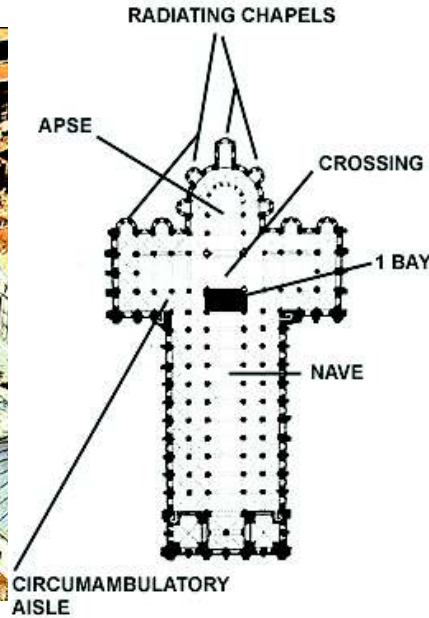


Nave of St. Sernin

(Interior Barrel Vaults)

Interior Apse

Radiating Chapel, St. Sernin.



Floor Plan, St. Sernin.



Early Christian Basilica AD. 3-5th

4. Where were Romanesque churches often built and why? (2)

5. The Romanesque style of architecture begins and ends at approximately what dates? (1)

6. What does the term Romanesque mean? (1)

7. Make a sketch of the floorplan of the church of St. Sernin and label the 6 sections. (7)

8. Compare the floorplans of St. Sernin with the early Christian Basilica. List two architectural similarities and two differences. (4)

Similarities

- 1.
- 2.

Differences

- 1.
- 2.

9. Make a sketch of a Romanesque arch and vault, what shape does it look like? (2)

Gothic Architecture: Abbot Suger & Abbey of St. Denis

Gothic churches, in contrast to the short, round churches of the Romanesque period, were **tall** and **light** looking.

The first Gothic church was the Abbey of St. Denis in France and Abbot Suger built it in 1137-1144 AD.

He wanted to open the space up within the church and believed that the shimmering light which passed through the stained glass windows was "divine" and could transport the viewer to a place closer to God.

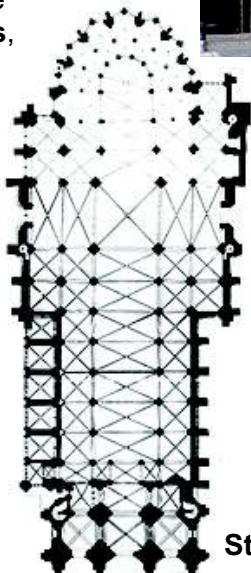
The most defining features of any gothic cathedral is the **pointed arch**, the **flying buttresses**, **rib vaults** and the large areas of **stained glass**.



Abbey of St. Denis, France
c. 1137-1144 and later



Abbey of St. Denis. Interior choir & north transept, stain glass windows

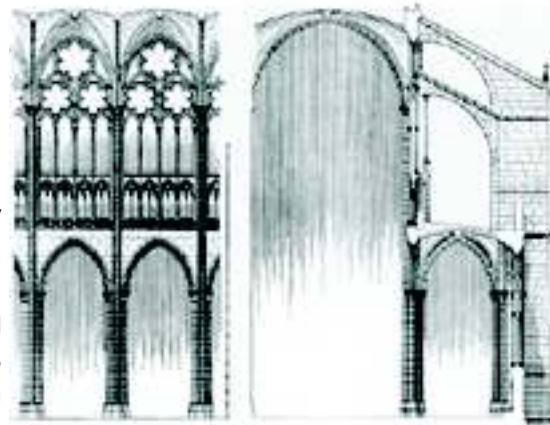


St. Denis Floor plan



Abbey of St. Denis,
Gothic Rib Vaults

Abbey of St. Denis,
Flying Buttress Diagram



10. What is the name of the first Gothic church and who was responsible for building it? (2)

11. Compare the floor plans of St. Denis (Gothic section) and St. Sernin (Romanesque section) and list two stylistic differences. (3)

Stylistic Differences

1.

2.

12. What two architectural innovations enabled Gothic churches to be built much taller than Romanesque churches? (2)

1.

2.

13. Make a sketch of a Gothic arch, what shape does it look like? (1)

14. During the Gothic period, production of what material grew and was used to help fill space over entrance facades? (1)

Romanesque Sculpture: Abbey Church of St. Foy

Romanesque sculpture was usually very dynamic and dramatic.

Areas of sculpture on churches, such as in the **tympanum portal**, usually told stories relating to Christian ideology.

Abbey Church of St. Foy,
France. Tympanum Portal.
c. 1130 A.D.
Last Judgement.



Close up top half,
Last Judgement,
Tympanum Portal,
Abbey Church of St. Foy,



15. How are the figures arranged in the top half of the tympanum portal Abbey Church of St. Foy? What mood/feeling is created as a result? (2)

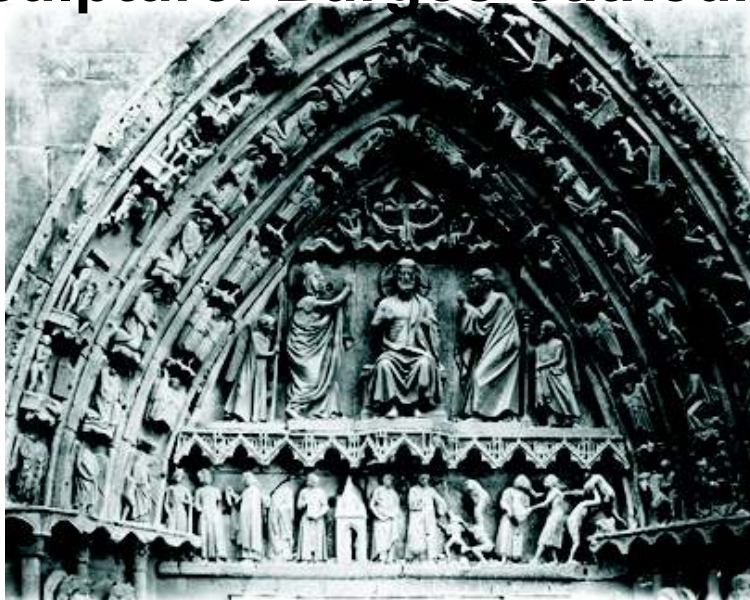


16. How are the figures arranged in the bottom half of the tympanum portal Abbey Church of St. Foy? What mood/feeling is created as a result? (2)

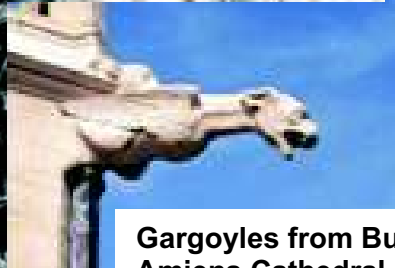
Gothic Sculpture: Burgos Cathedral

Sculpture on Gothic churches was less dynamic than their Romanesque counterparts. How does the tympanum shown here differ from the Romanesque one?

Burgos Cathedral,
Spain. c. 1250 A.D.
Tympanum Portal
Last Judgement.



Close up bottom half, Last
Judgement, St. Foy.



The word "**gargoyle**" is from the Latin word, "gurgulio", which had a double meaning, "throat", and the "gurgling" sound water makes as it passes through a gargoyle. A carved creature that does not serve the purpose of a drain pipe is frequently referred to as a "Grotesque".

Gargoyles from Burgos Cathedral &
Amiens Cathedral, France. c. 1220-1247

17. How are the figures arranged in the top half of the tympanum portal from the Burgos Cathedral. What mood/feeling is created as a result? (2)

18. What does the term Gargoyle mean and what is it frequently referred to as? (2)