In all battles two things are usually required of the Commander-in-Chief: to make a good plan for his army and, secondly, to keep a strong reserve.

Both of these are also obligatory upon the painter. To make a plan, thorough reconnaissance of the country where the battle is to be fought is needed. Its fields, its mountains, its rivers, its bridges, its trees, its flowers, its atmosphere—all require and repay attentive observation from a special point of view. One is quite astonished to find how many things there are in the landscape, and in every object it in, one never noticed before. And this is a tremendous new pleasure and interest which invests every walk or drive with an added object. So many colours on the hillside, each different in shadow and in sunlight; such brilliant reflections in the pool, each a key lower than what they repeat; such lovely lights gilding or silvering surface or outline, all tinted exquisitely with pale colour, rose, orange, green or violet. I found myself instinctively as I walked noting the tint and character of a leaf, the dreamy purple shades of mountains, the exquisite lacery of winter branches, the dim pale silhouettes of far horizons. And I had lived for over 40 ears without ever noticing any of them except in a general way, as one might look at a crowd and say, "What a lot of people!"

I think this heightened sense of observation of Nature is one of the chief delights that have come to me through trying to paint.

Paintings by the preeminent English artist J. M. Turner (1775-1851), whose best-known works are probably The Fighting Temeraire (1838), Slave Ship (1840), and Rain, Steam and Speed (1844), and whose treatment of light influenced the Impressionists.

Multiple choice questions based on excerpts from “Painting as a Pastime” by Winston S. Churchill

1. Churchill uses each of the senses in discussing painting EXCEPT:
   a) **sight**: the dim pale silhouettes, *line 60*
   b) **smell**: forensic argument, *line 35*
   c) **taste**: delicious to squeeze out, *line 2*
   d) **hearing**: each a key lower than what they repeat, *line 53*
   e) **touch**: exquisite lacery of winter branches, *line 59*

2. The extended analogy comparing trying to paint with trying to fight a battle is exemplified best in the discussion of:
   a) reconnaissance, *lines 41-45*
   b) atmosphere, *lines 44-46*
   c) gilding, *lines 54-57*
   d) lacery, *lines 59-60*
   e) forensics, *lines 35-36*

3. The heightened sense of observation noted by Churchill comes across most clearly in this line:
   a) “When we look at the Turners...” *line 24*
   b) “What a lot of people!” *line 64*
   c) “...each different in shadow and in sunlight” *lines 52-53*
   d) “...interest invests every walk” *line 50*
   e) “Nature is one of the chief delights” *line 66*

4. The word “subordinate” in line 29 most nearly means:
   a) lower
   b) unimportant
   c) small
   d) pale
   e) orderly

5. The reader may infer that Turner’s works including *Rain, Steam and Speed*:
   a) are influenced by the Impressionists
   b) are painted on large canvases
   c) influenced Churchill
   d) were all of battles
   e) had gilded or silvered surfaces

6. Churchill alludes to but does not explain:
   a) how both commander and painter must plan ahead
   b) how both commander and painter need to keep a strong reserve
   c) the effect of light and shadow
   d) how trying to paint is like a trying to fight a battle
7. The reader may infer that Churchill takes up painting as a pastime:
   a) to relieve stress
   b) following a war injury
   c) after the age of 40
   d) to please his wife
   e) to mimic Turner

8. Churchill notes attributes that suit both painters and commanders, including:
   a) keen eyesight
   b) a single unity of conception
   c) astonishment at what may be found in landscapes
   d) philosophical adjudication
   e) interlocked arguments

9. The tone evident in this passage may be described as:
   a) nostalgic
   b) sentimental
   c) martial
   d) ruminative
   e) apologetic

10. The overall meaning of the text may be stated as:
    a) The challenges of painting bring great rewards.
    b) Painting requires great concentration
    c) Painting is a battle from beginning to end.
    d) Colors make the greatest difference.
    e) The best paintings, like the best battles, are on a grand scale.
ANSWER KEY to excerpts from PAINTING AS A PASTIME:

1. b
2. a
3. d
4. b
5. b
6. b
7. c
8. b
9. d
10. a
As a painter, it's lovely to read about this activity from someone of another professions point of view. It also inspired me to do more outside of tradition creative, art forms. Read more. The first thing you should do is contact the seller directly. If you've already done that, your item hasn't arrived, or it's not as described, you can report that to Etsy by opening a case. Report a problem with an order. We take intellectual property concerns very seriously, but many of these problems can be resolved directly by the parties involved. We suggest contacting the seller directly to respectfully share your concerns. If you'd like to file an allegation of infringement, you need to follow the process described in our Copyright and Intellectual Property Policy. Review how we define.

SECRET WEAPON: Winston relaxes with cigar and paintbrush. Here is a delightful treat for any reader who has ever picked up a paint brush for pleasure. Long out of print, it is Churchill's essay on how much painting meant to him and it contains some of his liveliest, most unbuttoned prose. A painting of the valley in which Chartwell sits forms the jacket of this attractive small hardback book. It exemplifies Churchill's style. You will not find subtlety in his work but there is warmth - and joie de vivre in plenty.