

Six-Word Memoir

The memoir should teach the reader about the sitter's contributions, significance, era, appearance, emotions, or actions. This exercise helps students express their ideas succinctly and encourages them to be precise with their word choice.

Sitter _____ Artist _____

Looking at the portrait, write as many words and short phrases as you can think of to describe your interpretations of the following:

Expression:

Pose:

Clothing:

Setting:

Objects:

Other words, phrases, thoughts, feelings, ideas:

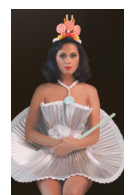
Writing a Six-Word Memoir

What words feel most important to you in teaching others about the sitter and the portrait?

Organize your words to create at least five different six-word memoirs.

Circle your favorite six-word memoir. Why is it your favorite?

Staff picks



left: *Dempsey-Willard Fight*, James Montgomery Flagg, 1944 © Cathy O'Brien
right: *Cupcake Katy* by Will Cotton, oil on linen, 2010, gift of the James F. Dicke Family © Will Cotton