

Artifact as Muse/Ann Quinn/Works Cited

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Working with your artifact, Some options:

1. Is there additional research that might help give context for writing about this artifact? Begin to list some resources that you want to begin to explore.

2. Take a chance, right here, at some stupid bravado. Chat up the unknowable—ask your artifact some questions, right on the page.

3. Write an imaginary conversation with the original owner or creator of this artifact.

4. Write about yourself writing about the artifact.

5. How will you set up the lineage of this artifact for the reader in an interesting way?

6. Describe the artifact and its effect on your life as if the reader cannot see the artifact.

7. Try looking at your artifact through the eyes of a stranger—a stranger who happens to be a very good writer. What new details emerge?

8. Let your artifact evoke all the senses—sound, touch, taste, smell, sight—even though you'll have to conjure some of them.

9. What other artifacts from history can be used in your writing to help bring your artifact to life?