

1. Who was David?

Jacques Louis David or David was an influential French painter in the neoclassical style. David was wounded at his cheek in the sword fight. This wounded really effect his life, his sword fight enemy called him "David with the swollen cheek" .This accident make David could not talk properly he just mumble. David became an active supporter of the French Revolution and was effectively a dictator of the arts under the French Republic. David had a huge number of pupils, making him the strongest influence in French art of the early 19th century, especially academic Salon painting. His paintings are considerably related to politics. He always expressed his bias feelings about politics through his painting. "The death of Marat" which was a very famous painting was one of the biased feeling examples through his work. He drew this painting by basing on his good relationship with Marat. Marat was a close friend of David. He left the facts of what really happened behind and adapted the painting as his want.

2. Who was Marat?

Jean-Paul Marat or Marat was a member of the radical Jacobin faction which had a leading role during the Reign of Terror. He suffered from skin disease and was not handsome. He was a journalist and politician during the French revolutions. He always expressed his opinions on his writing works. He broadcast his views through impassioned public speaking, essay writing, and newspaper journalism, which carried his message throughout France. Marat's radical denunciations of counter-revolutionaries supported much of the violence that occurred during the wartime phases of the French Revolution. He oppressed people who resisted the dictator at that time and signed many death warrants during the Reign of Terror. At last, He was murdered in his bathtub by Charlotte Corday.

3. Why did Corday kill Marat?

Charlotte Corday killed Marat because of Corday's scare. She thought that Marat is the reason why many people were killed. She believed that Marat's opinion and action could lead France to civil war. So, she killed him and claimed that she had to kill one man to save the lives of 100,000.

4. Why does Simon Schama call *The Death of Marat* a "beautiful lie"? How is it beautiful? How is it a lie?

Because David had twist many facts about Marat's dead in order to make Marat look like a victim instead of a crucial dictator. Although realistically depicted the subject remains lifeless, it is the very beautiful painting. It is the death sense but isn't too depressed or cruel. The Death of Marat is designed to commemorate a personable hero. Even the name Charlotte Corday can be seen on the paper held in Marat's left hand, she herself is not visible. Close inspection of this painting shows Marat at his last breath when Corday and many others were still nearby because she didn't try to escape. The

message in note which Marat holds in the painting was changed. Corday did not give him a polite note but she gave him a list of traitors whom he said would be executed within a week. Moreover, Marat's figure is idealized. The painting contains no sign of his skin problem that different from his original looks. He had a bad skin condition and was not a handsome man. His wound is bloodless; the knife is on the floor instead of in his chest. In this sense, for realistic as it is in its details, the painting as a whole from its start, is a methodical construction focusing on the victim. David was overwhelmed by their natural capacity for convincing crowds with their speeches. Determined to memorialize his friend, David painted this portrait of Marat.

5. Describe your own aesthetic of beauty. (Remember to write using only your own words, i.e. don't copy from a friend.)

Aesthetic is a set of principle relating to the appreciation of art and beauty. In my opinion, the aesthetic of beauty expresses the kind of person who creates the work. It is concerned about the balance or the harmonious arrangement that make the work having equality and uniting as a whole. The colors should be matched for the same zone color that shows the simplicity of work. The work should have the emotional restraint. It shouldn't be made much complicate because it might make the viewer confuse about the real things which the painters want to show their works. In each work should have the outstanding character in itself.