

1. Who was David?

-Jacques-Louis David was a renowned French painter who has participated in the French Revolution as a propagandist.

2. Who was Marat?

-Jean-Paul Marat was a journalist and a politician during the French Revolution. He has accused a huge number of people to be traitors to the republic.

3. Why did Corday kill Marat?

-Because Corday believed that killing Marat would be beneficial for the country. Many people were executed because Marat claimed that they were traitors to the country, and Corday thought that killing Marat would save other ones' lives.

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

-The Death of Marat is, without a doubt, a breathtaking piece of art. The way that Marat is lying in the bathtub with the facial expression so innocent, so peaceful, make us to believe that Marat is a good person. However, as Simon Schama said, "it's a lie". Corday sent him a list of traitors, but in the painting it is changed to a letter that will only make Marat seem like a good person. Also, the wounds from his skin disease are all gone and made him look handsome.

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

-I believe that the most basic principle of beauty is about the balance of various elements. A person's beauty is determined by how well-balanced each body parts are. Beauty of an artwork is determined by how well-arranged each elements are and how various colours are used so that the audiences can capture the artist's intention.