

'The Magpie' by Claude Monet

Background Information

This painting is called 'The Magpie' and was painted by French artist Claude Monet between 1868-1869. It was painted in Normandy, France during the winter months from a house in Etretat where Monet was staying with his family. This painting is one of around 140 winter landscapes painted by the artist. It is thought that this is due to the harsh winters recorded in France during the late 19th century.

The painting is one of the first examples of Monet experimenting with coloured shadows

The original painting measures approximately 89cm x 130cm.

The winter sun beaming down onto the crisp white snow makes blue shadows.



The painting features a single black magpie perched on the fence.

His new use of light and colour resulted in the painting being rejected by the famous Paris Salon art exhibition.

Monet used oil paint applied to canvas.

Questions

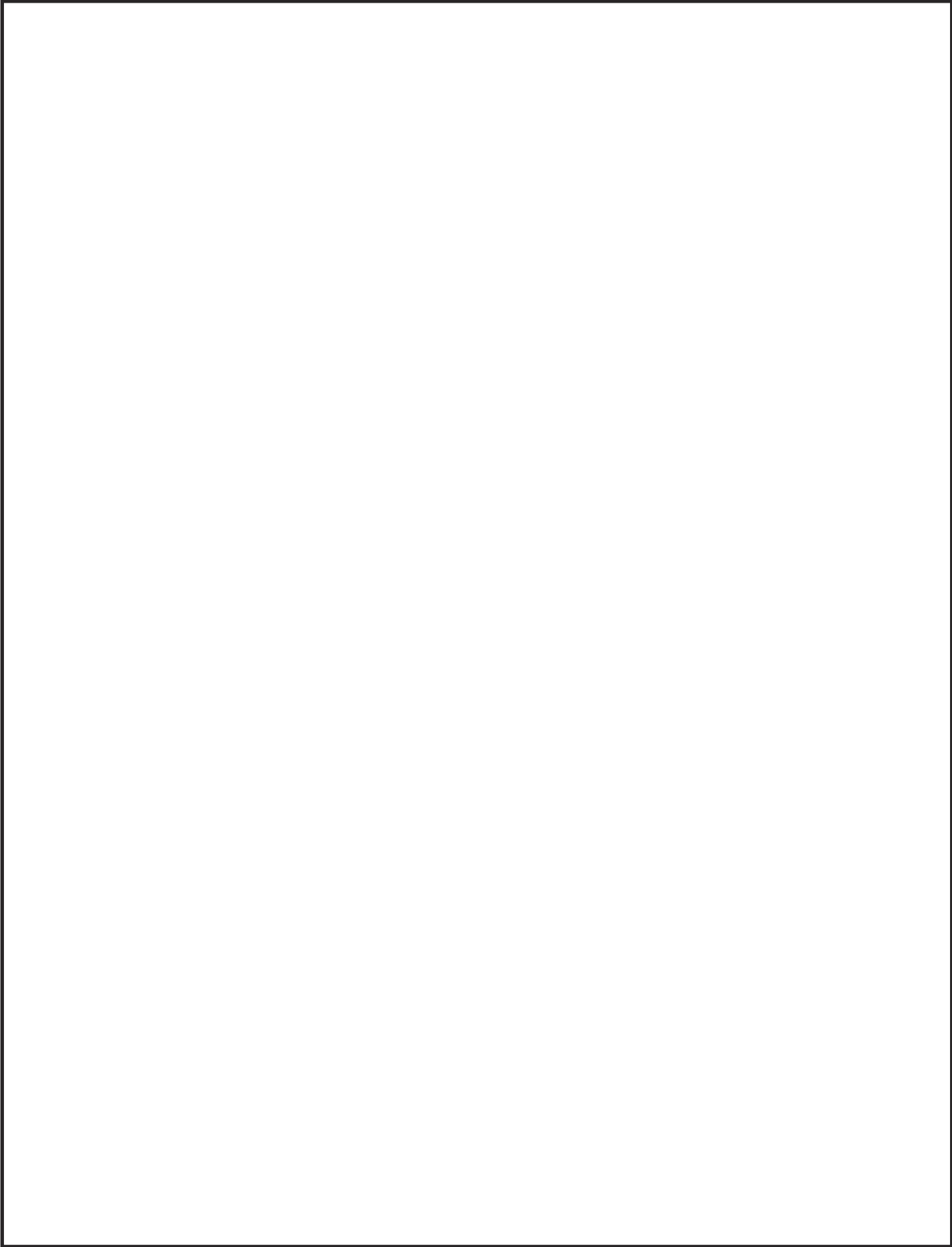
Why do you think the artist enjoyed painting winter scenes?

Do you like the use of blue shadows? Explain your answer.

How do you think the painting would differ if traditional shadows created with black had been used?

When you heard the title 'The Magpie', what did you expect of this painting?

Next, draw your own sketch of a magpie.



Extra Challenge

Use the Internet to find out three facts about the artist Claude Monet.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Claude Monet is described as an impressionist. Find out what this artist term means and record below.
