

### Building Vocabulary

On a separate sheet of paper, write the term that best matches each definition given below.

1. The principle of art concerned with equalizing visual forces, or elements, in a work of art.
2. A dividing line that works like the point of balance in the balance scale.
3. The type of balance that results when equal, or very similar, elements are placed on opposite sides of a central axis.
4. A special type of formal balance in which two halves of a balanced composition are identical, mirror images of each other.
5. When the forces or elements of a design come out (*radiate*) from a central point.
6. A balance of unlike objects.

### Reviewing Art Facts

Answer the following questions using complete sentences.

7. Why is balance important to a work of art?
8. What are the visual forces, or weights, in art?
9. What is the difference between symmetry and approximate symmetry?
10. What factors in a work of art influence the visual weight of the art elements?
11. Which carry more weight, warm or cool colors?
12. How can value affect visual weight?
13. What does a formally balanced building express?

### Thinking Critically About Art

14. **Research.** The Zapotec people, a pre-Columbian civilization in Mexico, left behind some interesting artifacts, as shown in Figure 9.6 on page 230. Using online or print resources, write a one-page research report on whether or not the use of symmetry is common in Zapotec architecture and art.
15. **Historical/Cultural Heritage.** Analyze the painting of Mexican peasants in Figure 9.5 on page 229. After reading the Meet the Artist feature on Diego Rivera on the same page, identify the general theme of this artwork. Then compare and contrast Rivera's style with Figure 9.14 on page 235 by David Alfaro Siqueiros. Describe the differences between the works of the two Mexican contemporaries.



Like other fine artists, sculptors need to consider balance as they design their sculptures.

Try your hand at creating a balanced sculpture design at the education Web site of the Smithsonian Institution. Simply follow the **Web Museum Tour** link at [art.glencoe.com](http://art.glencoe.com).

### Linking to the Performing Arts

Turn to the Performing Arts Handbook on page 421 to learn how Eth-Noh-Tec uses a balance of music, movement, and words to present their unique style of theatre and storytelling.

