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| Artist | Unknown |
| Title | Augustus of Prima Porta |
| Date | **C17AD** |
| Medium | Marble |
| Scale | 2.03 meters |
| Scope | Sculpture |
| Patron | It is thought that an original version in bronze was requested by the Senate in 20BC and set up in a public place to honour Augustus. This marble version was found in the villa of his wife, Livia, and may have been presented to her by her son, Tiberius, who went on to become Emperor of Rome after his death. |
| Location | Rediscovered in 1863 in the Villa of Livia, the villa which Livia Drusilla, wife of Augustus,  retired to after his death. |
| Function | To provide a portrait of Augustus to citizens |

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| Composition | The figure of Augustus is said to be  based on the ideal human proportions  of an Athenian athlete. |
| Colour or texture | The marble is white and polished on his limbs. |
| Light & tone | The polished areas create more light and shine to the sculpture and the darker tones are made from the carving and cast of shadows. |
| Space & depth or relief | The work is three dimensional and looks realistic although it is slightly larger than life which emphasizes his status and significance. |
| Line or brushwork | Detailed incised carved lines evident in the hair, facial features, robes and armour. |

Historical context/subject of work:

The work is of classical roman style which has been influenced by classical greek.

Born Gaius Octavius, he is also commonly referred to as Octavius. He was a political leader who was successful.

Idealised face, Augustus is depicted younger than he actually was at the time of this sculpture’s creation. The face appears deep in thought suggesting intelligence. Stylistically the face of Augustus borrows from classical Greek sculpture; the solid mass of hair, deep set eyes and full lips are all characteristics.

His torso depiects scenes of war and gods and goddesses.

Cultural/social factors:

Augustus is shown barefoot suggesting divinity. The positioning of the feet is the traditional classical stance of *contrapposto*. *Contrapposto* translates as *counterpose*. One foot is lifted off the ground with the opposing leg bearing the weight of the body. *contrapposto* gives the body a subtle but dynamic pose. The symmetry of the body is broken

How does this example fit the scope of work:

The work is a carved marble sculpture which is 3D.



Political factors:

Augustus was the first emperor of Rome. He replaced the Roman republic with an effective monarchy and during his long reign brought peace and stability. . He fought to avenge Caesar and in 31 BC defeated Antony and Cleopatra at the Battle of Actium. Augustus also ensured that his image was promoted throughout his empire by means of statues and coins.