Discuss the characteristics and aims of one style or movement of art that emerged during this period. Make reference to three works of art in your answer.

The Die Brucke movement was a part of the German Expressionism style which began in 1905. It developed first in Dresden when a group of architectural students from the Technical Academy set out to push against the academic conventions of the time in order to find “spontaneity and sincerity” (Kirchner). Led by Ernst Kirchner, this group were strongly influenced by the work of Nietzsche and named themselves ‘Die Brucke’ (The Bridge) to reflect their desired role as a bridge to the future. Nolde, Heckel, Pechstein and Schmidt-Rottluff shared these aims as well as workshops, materials and, for much of the summer, a communal lifestyle by the lake at Moritzburg. Their artwork is characterised by vibrant non realistic colour, a desire to put mood and emotion above slavish imitation of reality and a shared belief in the importance of primitive art. When the group moved to Berlin in 1913, their subject matter becomes more aggressive and their mutual anxiety and frustration with the bourgeois society of Germany under Kaiser Wilhelm more evident. Three works which show the aims and characteristics of this style are ‘Landscape near Dresden’ by Heckel (1910); ‘Masks’ by Emil Nolde (1911) and ‘Self Portrait as a Soldier’ by Kirchner in 1915.