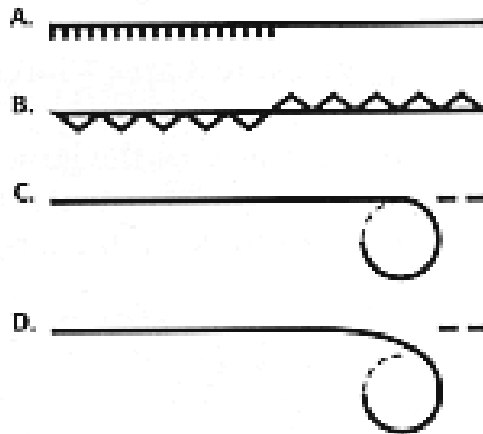


CONNECTION TO FINE ART**● Momentum of Line in Art**

Scientists use the term *momentum* to describe the product of an object's mass and velocity. Imagine two objects moving toward each other. As moving objects, they will continue in a straight line until some force interferes. When they collide, the motion of the object with more momentum will be affected less.

As your eyes follow a line in a painting or sculpture, they tend to hold to the same direction until something distracts them. Artists use the term *momentum* to describe how a viewer's eyes move along a line. The shape and consistency of a line both affect the eye's momentum. A line that affects the momentum of the eyes viewing it can also be described by artists as having momentum. Lines that "pull" the eye quickly and hold it to a direction are said to have strong momentum.

**Your Turn to Think**

1. On which of lines A and B do your eyes tend to move faster?
2. On which of lines C and D do you tend to follow the original line at the curve?
3. What characteristics give a line strong momentum?
4. Compare the two meanings of the word momentum.