



BANKSY ART RAISES MONEY FOR HOSPITALS



1

Warm up

Look at the photo and answer the questions.



1. What is your reaction when you see graffiti? Why?
2. Is there a lot of graffiti where you live in your country? What do people in your country think about graffiti generally?
3. Have you ever drawn any graffiti anywhere? Where?
4. What can happen in your country if you get caught writing graffiti?



2 Synonyms

Look at the following words from the recording you will hear. Choose the correct synonym (a - c) for each.

1. anonymous (adj.)
 - a. infamous
 - b. unidentified
 - c. celebrated
2. outbreak (n)
 - a. beginning
 - b. escape
 - c. rest period
3. depicts (v)
 - a. describes
 - b. shows
 - c. creates
4. pays tribute to (idiom)
 - a. gives money to
 - b. explains something to
 - c. shows respect to
5. invaluable (adj.)
 - a. cheap
 - b. precious
 - c. not working
6. estimates (pl. n)
 - a. guesses
 - b. specifics
 - c. facts
7. auctioned (v)
 - a. borrowed
 - b. lent
 - c. sold
8. reproduction (n)
 - a. creation
 - b. imitation
 - c. fake

3 Prediction

The artist Banksy recently gave a piece of art which was sold to raise money for hospital charities. You are going to listen to news report about this story. Why do you think the following are mentioned?

1. Southampton General Hospital
2. Batman
3. "tragic loss"
4. "an image of hope"



4

Comprehension

Now listen again and decide if the following statements are True or False.

1. The new owner of the painting paid 14.4 million for the painting.
2. The staff at the hospital don't know what the artist looks like.
3. The picture is created using just black and white.
4. Paula Head is very grateful for and proud of the picture.
5. The money paid for the painting was far more than anticipated.
6. The original painting will stay in the hospital for the nurses and patients to look at.

Now in pairs, answer these questions.

1. Do you think that is too much money to pay for a painting? Or not? Why?
2. Why do you think the painting was called "Gamechanger"?
3. Have people in your country shown gratitude to healthcare workers in any way? What have they done?
4. What was the situation like in hospitals in your country during the Covid-19 pandemic? Did a lot of healthcare workers die? Or not?

5

Focus on vocabulary

Part A: Match the vocabulary to the definitions.

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. portray (v) | a. in a manner that may or may not be true |
| 2. seemingly (adv.) | b. someone's reputation or social position |
| 3. widespread (adj.) | c. something happening over a large area or an action taken by a lot of people |
| 4. status (n) | d. something which is complex and has a lot of detail to it |
| 5. evolve (v) | e. the criminal act of causing damage to, or the destruction of, someone else's property |
| 6. elaborate (adj.) | f. to attract |
| 7. draw (v) | g. to change from one form to another, usually more complicated, form |
| 8. vandalism (n) | h. to show something in a picture or to describe it in writing |



Part B: Now write the words from Part A into the correct gaps in the following sentences.

1. I think she's broken up with her boyfriend. I haven't spoken to her but she changed her _____ to "single" on Facebook.
2. My little brother is in trouble for _____. He swears he accidentally dropped the paint, but our neighbours think he's lying.
3. The journalist didn't intend to _____ her as a criminal, but that was what everyone who read his article thought of her.
4. My sister and I used to fight all the time, but our relationship has managed to _____ to a more peaceful one.
5. The dress was amazing with beautiful colours mixed into the fabric and _____ designs on the sleeves.
6. When the fire broke out, there was _____ panic. Fortunately, the Fire Department arrived quickly and contained it.
7. "She's wearing that loud shirt again. She really knows how to _____ attention to herself!"
8. He suggested we eat sushi. It was a _____ casual suggestion, but I knew that he really wanted it.

Now, discuss the following questions.

1. Is **vandalism** a problem in your country? What is the solution to vandalism do you think?
2. How do you think you will **evolve** as a person in future? What skills do you hope to have in ten years that you don't have now?
3. Is there **widespread** poverty in your country? What causes poverty in your country?
4. Have you ever done something to **draw** criticism from someone? What did you do? What happened?
5. Is your social **status** important to you? Why/Why not?
6. How does the media usually **portray** the leader of your country at the moment? Are they generally positive, or negative, or a mixture?

6

Scanning for details

Quickly read through the text and write down what happened in the following periods of time.

1. the mid-60s _____
2. the late 70s _____
3. the early 80s _____
4. the late 90s _____



Street art or vandalism?

Graffiti through the ages

1. The word *graffiti* is borrowed from an Italian verb meaning 'to scratch'. It's easy to understand the connection as graffiti in Ancient Rome was literally scratched into stone and often made fun of politicians or merely recorded the writer's thoughts.
2. However, it's in the Ancient Greek city of Ephesus where the first recorded graffiti was found, which is now modern-day Turkey. Historians believe a picture which is still visible today, **portraying** a foot, a woman, and a jug of wine on a table, is an advertisement for a brothel.
3. Modern graffiti as we know it **seemingly** started in Philadelphia, USA in the mid-60s with two local graffiti writers, *Cornbread* and *Cool Earl* writing their names all over the city in a practice known as 'tagging'. This soon spread to New York City, and with the rise of Hip Hop culture in the late 70s, graffiti became even more **widespread**.
4. Writers, often working in groups called 'crews' were soon painting entire subway trains with their colourful designs. As it was illegal, the crews had less chance of getting caught in train yards where the subway cars were stored overnight. Their criminal **status** only added to the appeal in the eyes of many youths.
5. By the early 80s, graffiti was worldwide. Some writers, such as *Blek Le Rat* in Paris had begun using stencils to create their pieces. The stencil, a thin piece of metal or card with a design cut into it, allowed graffiti artists to prepare their work in advance.
6. The time then spent painting, the most dangerous time for the writers as they can be caught, was shortened. Stencils **evolved** the style of graffiti, with some artists creating **elaborate** pictures, often with a political message behind them.
7. In Bristol in the UK, Banksy started his career in the late 90s and was influenced by 3D, a member of Bristol-based music group, *Massive Attack* and fellow graffiti artist. From there he moved to London where his graffiti started to get noticed, **drawing** criticism and praise. Not limited to walls, Banksy has also used canvas, paper, bank notes and even portable toilets to create his work.
8. Much of his work has been both intentionally and unintentionally destroyed, often depending on whether it is viewed as art or **vandalism**. Since he started, Banksy's work has appeared internationally, and sold for millions of pounds. His identity, however, remains secret.

Sources: Goodgraffiti.org, Britishcouncil.org,
Udemy.com





7

Comprehension

Fill the gaps in the following sentences with no more than three words from the text.

1. Due to the graffiti from Ancient Rome, we can see that people used to _____ their political leaders, just as they do now.
2. It's still possible to see the _____ in, what is now Turkey, but used to be controlled by Greece.
3. _____ is when graffiti artists write their names in various public places around a city or town.
4. Graffiti artists had to be cautious about where they did their paintings as what they were doing _____ .
5. Artists started to use stencils as it _____ the time they spent actually painting and was therefore safer.
6. With the use of stencils, artists could create more intricate paintings and they would often contain _____ .
7. Early on in his career, Banksy was _____ , but later moved on to London.
8. Even though his work is famous, Banksy does not reveal _____ as he is still a graffiti artist and has broken the law.

8

Extended activity/homework

In pairs, discuss the following questions.

1. What is your opinion on graffiti? Do you think it is art or vandalism? Why?
2. In what situation do you think graffiti can be art?
3. In what situations do you think graffiti is vandalism?
4. Imagine you are the mayor of a large city. Write a paragraph giving your view on graffiti and what you think should happen to graffiti writers. Use your discussion from the first three questions to help you as well as vocabulary from the lesson. Make sure to check your grammar and spelling



Transcripts

3. Prediction

- Newsreader:** Excitement today as a painting raises £14.4 million for the United Kingdom's National Health Service charities. The painting, by anonymous artist Banksy, appeared in Southampton General Hospital in May 2020 not long after the outbreak of the pandemic.
- Newsreader:** The artist left a note which read "Thanks for all you're doing. I hope this brightens the place up a bit, even if it's only in black and white."
- Newsreader:** The artwork, which measures 1 metre square, depicts a young boy playing with a superhero doll dressed in a nurse's uniform with a red cross on the front (the only colour in the picture) and wearing a face mask.
- Newsreader:** Beside him in a basket are the now forgotten superheroes, Batman and Spiderman. Entitled, "Gamechanger", the painting pays tribute to the invaluable role of healthcare workers, particularly during the Covid-19 crisis.
- Newsreader:** CEO of the University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust, Paula Head said, "Our hospital family has been directly impacted with the tragic loss of much loved and respected members of staff and friends." She went on to describe the gift of the painting as "a huge honour." In total, the buyer of the painting paid £16.6 million.
- Newsreader:** Price estimates before the sale were between £2.5 and £3.5 million. The company which auctioned the painting called it "an image of hope" and described it as a "personal tribute to those who continue to turn the tide of the pandemic."
- Newsreader:** After the sale, a reproduction of the painting will remain on the wall of the hospital for staff and visitors alike to enjoy.



Key

1. Warm up

5 mins.

Be able to express your own thoughts and write it down.

2. Synonyms

10 mins.

Please attempt this without any aid in the first instance, but allow them to check their work with a dictionary or on the Internet if needed.

1. b 2. a 3. b 4. c 5. b 6. a 7. c 8. b

3. Prediction

5 mins.

To predict how the following will be involved in the news story. And find photographs of the piece or prepare one yourself so that they can discuss the artwork after the comprehension.

1. The hospital which Banksy gave the painting to.
2. Appeared discarded in favour of the nurse superhero in Banksy's painting.
3. The deaths of the health workers who were lost due to Covid-19.
4. The painting that was sold.

4. Comprehension

10 mins.

Please, predict the answers to the comprehension and then listen to check their results. And take notes so as to identify the reasons for their answers being True or False. When they have completed that, ask them to discuss the questions. Circulate and help as needed.

1. False. "In total, the buyer of the painting paid 16.6 million."(It raised 14.4 million for charity)
2. True. "The painting, by anonymous artist Banksy, appeared in Southampton General Hospital..."
3. False. "The artwork, ... depicts a young boy playing with a superhero doll dressed in a nurse's uniform with a red cross on the front, the only colour in the picture..."
4. True. "She went on to describe the gift of the painting as "a huge honour."
5. True. "...the buyer of the painting paid 16.6 million. Price estimates before the sale were between 2.5 and 3.5 million."
6. False. "a reproduction of the painting will remain on the wall of the hospital for staff and visitors alike to enjoy."



5. Focus on vocabulary

Part A:

5 mins.

Match the definitions to the vocabulary. Ensure that they can pronounce all of the target words.

1. h 2. a 3. c 4. b 5. g 6. d 7. f 8. e

Part B:

10 mins.

Identify what part of speech could fill the gaps. Then ask them to fill the gaps. When they have done this, ask them to discuss the questions. Circulate and help as needed.

1. status 2. vandalism 3. portray 4. evolve
5. elaborate 6. widespread 7. draw 8. seemingly

6. Scanning for details

5 mins.

1. Modern graffiti allegedly began in Philadelphia, PA in the US.
2. Hip Hop culture helped graffiti to become better known
3. Graffiti had travelled across the world and people started to use stencils
4. Banksy started his career in Bristol

7. Comprehension

10 mins.

1. make fun of 2. first (recorded) graffiti 3. Tagging
4. was illegal 5. shortened 6. a political message
7. Bristol-based 8. his identity

8. Extended activity

15 mins +

Be strongly consider opposing viewpoints, and you may want to play devil's advocate to encourage them to defend their points of view.