

Graded reading: Graffiti and street art (level 2) – exercises

Do the preparation exercise first. Then read the text and do the exercises to check your understanding.

Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–f next to the numbers 1–6.

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|---------------------------|---|
| 1..... the global village | a. words or pictures drawn on walls or public places |
| 2..... graffiti | b. the American English name for an underground train system |
| 3..... vandalism | c. a kind of paint that is sprayed from a can |
| 4..... aerosol paint | d. the act of deliberately damaging or destroying things, especially public property |
| 5..... a subway | e. the modern world, in which countries seem close together and interdependent because of modern communications and transport |
| 6..... a gallery | f. a building containing paintings and other works of art |

1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

- | | | |
|--|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Pictures of people and animals have been found on the walls of Pompeii. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. Demetrius wrote his tag in subway stations in New York. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. In Taiwan, there are 'graffiti zones' where you can write and paint on walls. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. At the street art festival in Bristol, the artists paint a castle. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. Os Gêmeos want people to think about the homeless. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. Blek le Rat began by painting rats on the walls of Paris. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 7. Faith47's art can be found on pavements, postboxes and buses. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

2. Check your understanding: multiple choice

Circle the best word to complete these sentences.

- In prehistoric times, people used to paint pictures of animals and **trees / people / the sun / food** in caves.
- Demetrius chose his tag because of his name and **phone number / address / favourite number / shoe size**.

3. Demetrius wrote his tag when he went to [school](#) / [work](#) / [university](#) / [the cinema](#) .
4. In São Paulo, the council allows [a few](#) / [some](#) / [most](#) / [all](#) graffiti artists to paint on subway trains.
5. In 2007, Os Gêmeos painted a [station](#) / [train](#) / [bridge](#) / [castle](#) / [gallery](#) in Scotland.
6. [Faith47](#) / [Taki 183](#) / [Os Gêmeos](#) / [Blek le Rat](#) wants people to think about the homeless.

Discussion

What do you think about graffiti? Is it really art?

Is there much graffiti in your town or city?

Do you think it makes your town or city look better or not?

Should the police stop graffiti artists?