

Northern Ireland's Street Art: Video UK - exercises

In some places in Northern Ireland you can see huge paintings on walls and houses. Watch this video and learn more about their interesting history.

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises to check your understanding. If you need help, you can read the transcript at any time.

1. Preparation: matching

Match the vocabulary with the correct definitions and write a – h next to the number 1 – 8.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1..... a mural | a. the capital of Northern Ireland |
| 2..... imagery | b. a person who follows the religion of Jesus Christ |
| 3..... a Christian | c. a very large picture painted on a wall |
| 4..... militaristic | d. pictures that represent an idea or belief |
| 5..... Belfast | e. promoting war, soldiers and armies |
| 6..... lasting | f. money given to a place to develop its business and economy |
| 7..... to want something on your doorstep | g. long-term; permanent |
| 8..... investment | h. to want to have something in your local area |

2. Check your understanding: multiple choice

Circle the best word to complete these sentences.

What were the Troubles?

1. a. a period of religious and political violence in Northern Ireland
 b. a period of economic problems in Northern Ireland
 c. a period of investment in Northern Ireland
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When were these murals painted?

2. a. hundreds of years ago
 b. during the Troubles
 c. this year
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Who created the murals?

3. a. Protestant Christians
 b. Catholic Christians
 c. both sides
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What is different about the images painted by the two communities?

4. a. the size
 b. the content
 c. the symbolism of the colours

Has Belfast changed in the last few years?

5. a. No, it's the same as before.
b. It's just starting to change.
c. Yes, it's very different now.

What do Belfast's new murals show?

6. a. that people want to leave violence behind
b. that people are still violent
c. that the communities are still divided

According to the young woman, if young people have the chance to create street art, what does this help to reduce?

7. a. unemployment
b. violence and alcohol and drug use
c. crime

What has helped Belfast's art scene to grow?

8. a. the TV
b. the internet
c. newspapers

3. Check your grammar: gap fill

Complete the gaps with a word from the box.

| | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|--------|------|
| more | main | many | much | mostly | most |
|------|------|------|------|--------|------|

1. During the Troubles, one community, who are _____ Protestant Christians, wanted Northern Ireland to remain part of the United Kingdom. The other community, who are mostly Catholic Christians, wanted it to join up with the Irish Republic.
2. The _____ reason for painting the murals was to show support for one side or the other.
3. Nowadays, the violence is mostly over and _____ people want peace.
4. Today, _____ murals are being preserved as an important part of Belfast's history.
5. The murals contain so _____ imagery and symbolism.
6. They make Belfast a _____ colourful and interesting place.

How much street art is there where you live?

Have you ever created any street art?

Would you like to see more street art in your local area?