



Why is the Mona Lisa famous?

Reading lesson, A2+/B1



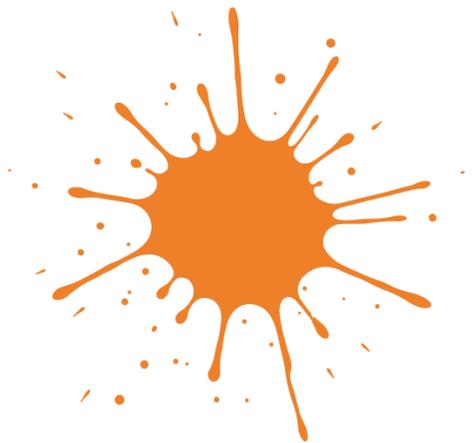
Warm-up 1

- Do you ever go to museums or galleries?
- What kinds of art do you think are beautiful? (paintings, photos, street art, sculptures)
- Why do you think some pieces of art are very expensive?
 - Is it the artist?
 - The age?
 - The story behind it?



Warm-up 2

- Can you name any famous paintings or artists?
- Have you heard of the Mona Lisa before?
 - Where do you think it is now?
 - Why do you think it is famous?

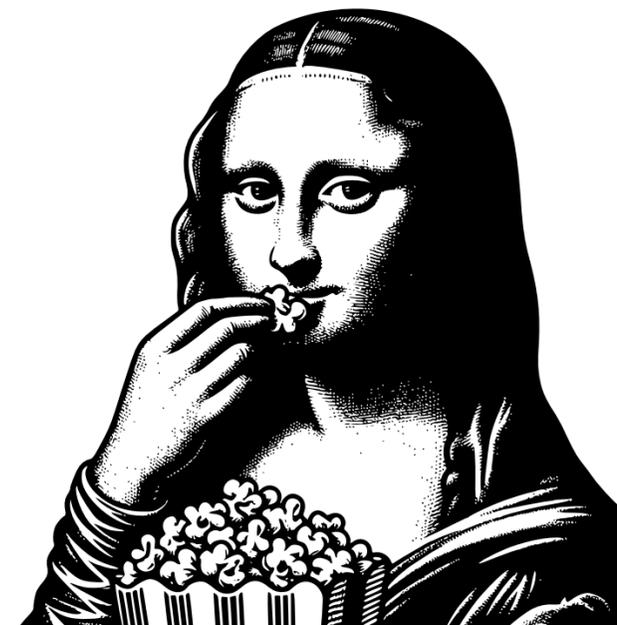
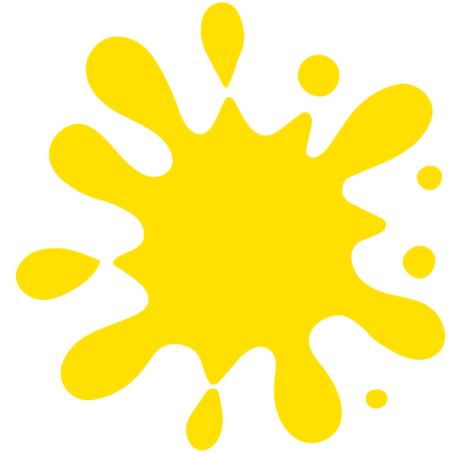




Vocabulary 1

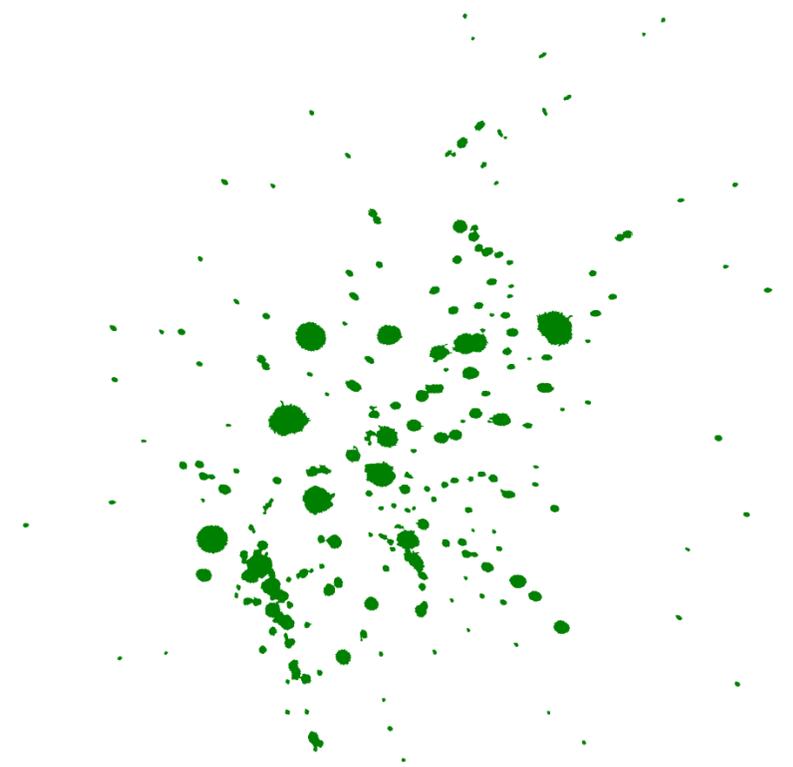
1. portrait
2. ordinary
3. stolen
4. investigation
5. shocked
6. visitors
7. treasure
8. guards

- A. something very valuable
- B. people who come to see a place
- C. not special or unusual
- D. a painting of a person
- E. taken illegally
- F. people who protect something
- G. very surprised
- H. careful search to find the truth



Vocabulary 2

1. What is something **ordinary** in your daily life?
2. Have you ever created a **portrait**?
3. Why do museums need **guards**?
4. What would you do if something important was **stolen** from you?
5. Is there a **treasure** in your country (a place, object, or tradition)?
6. Do you like being a **visitor** in new cities? Why / why not?

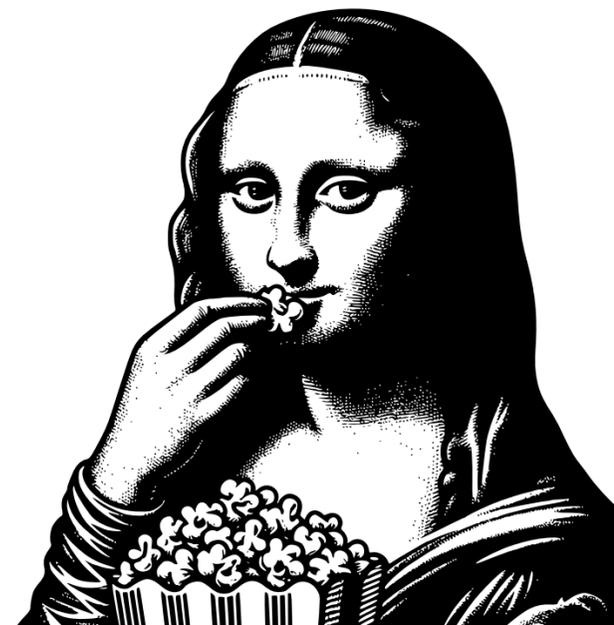




Before we read...

Was the Mona Lisa always famous?

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Reading - put the paragraphs in the correct order



A

Newspapers all over the world wrote about the crime. People who had never been interested in art before suddenly wanted to know more about the painting. Thousands of visitors came to the museum just to see the empty wall where the Mona Lisa used to hang.

The painting was missing for two years. When the thief was finally caught, the story became even more popular. The Mona Lisa was returned to the museum, and this time it was treated like a treasure. Guards protected it, and visitors waited in long lines to see it.

B

C

For many years, the painting stayed quietly in a museum. In 1911, everything changed. One morning, workers at the Louvre Museum discovered that the Mona Lisa was missing. Someone had stolen it. The empty space on the wall shocked the museum staff, and the police started an investigation.

Today, the Mona Lisa is famous not only because of the artist or the painting itself, but also because of its dramatic history. Sometimes, a good story can turn an ordinary piece of art into a legend.

D

E

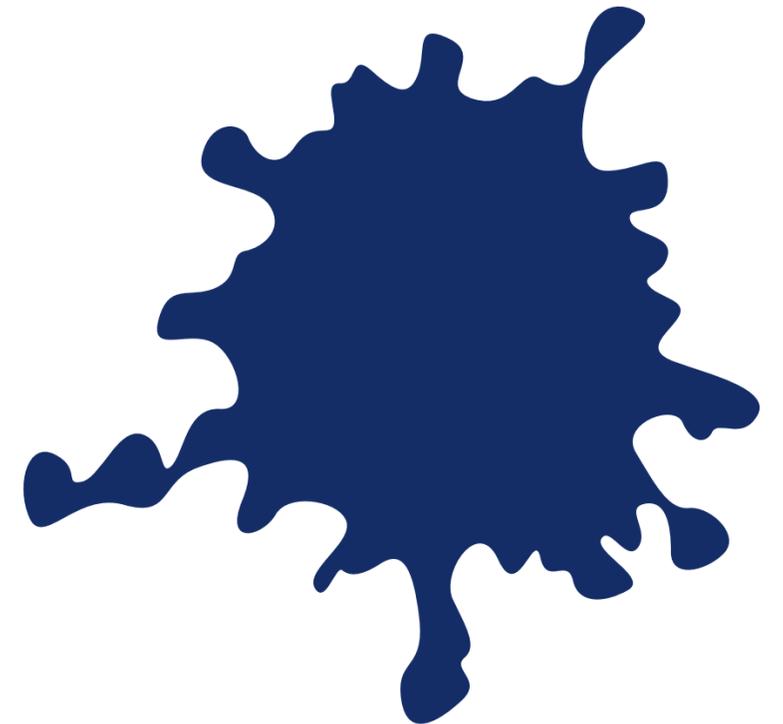
The Mona Lisa is one of the most famous paintings in the world, but this was not always true. It was painted more than 500 years ago by Leonardo da Vinci, an Italian artist. At the time, it was just a small portrait of a woman. Many people liked it, but it was not very special or popular.

1. _ 2. _ 3. _ 4. _ 5. _

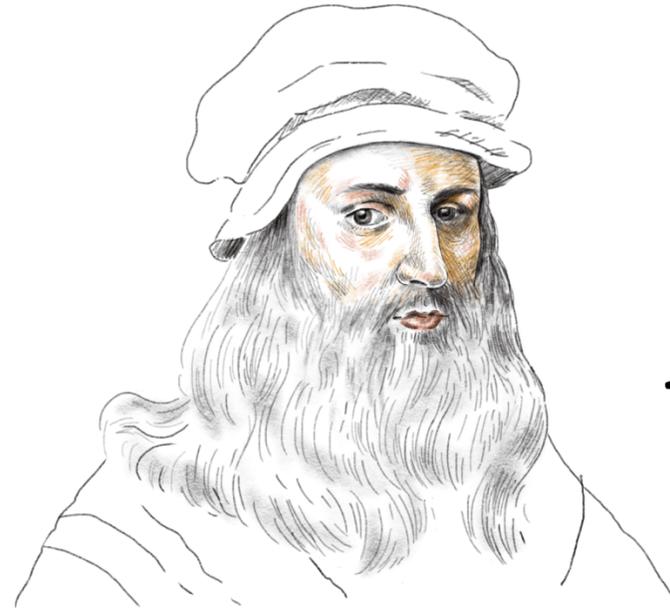
True or false?

Decide if the sentences are True (T) or False (F).

1. The Mona Lisa was very famous when it was first painted.
2. Leonardo da Vinci was an Italian artist.
3. The painting was stolen from a museum in 1911.
4. The Louvre Museum is in Italy.
5. Newspapers did not write about the stolen painting.
6. The painting was missing for two years.
7. People visited the museum to see where the painting had been.
8. Today, the Mona Lisa is famous only because it is old.

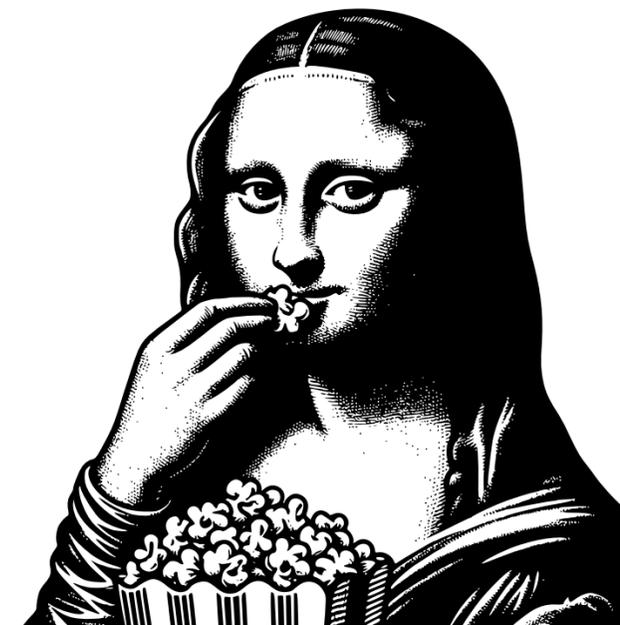


Retell the story



Let's talk!

- Do you think a story can make art more interesting? Why?
- Should famous art be free to see, or protected behind glass?
- Is modern art as valuable as old art?
- If you were an artist, what kind of art would you create?





If time...

Think about the words from today's lesson. Describe one, and the other person will guess.
Then swap!

Example words:

- treasure
- portrait
- valuable
- guards
- visitors



Answer key

Vocabulary 1 – Matching

- 1.D
- 2.C
- 3.E
- 4.H
- 5.G
- 6.B
- 7.A
- 8.F

Reading

- 1.E 2. C 3. A 4. B 5. D

Comprehension (True / False)

- 1.F
- 2.T
- 3.T
- 4.F
- 5.F
- 6.T
- 7.T
- 8.F



Thank you!

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