



1. studio
2. easel ['i:zəl]
3. canvas
4. frame
5. sitter
6. portrait
7. palette ['pælət]
8. painter, artist
9. brushes
10. oil paint
11. pastels, pastel crayons ['kɹeɪtɒnz]
12. charcoal ['tʃɑ:kəʊl]
13. ink drawing
14. watercolours
15. sketch

Unter [www.spotlight-online.de/teachers/picture-it](http://www.spotlight-online.de/teachers/picture-it) finden Sie Übersetzungen und das gesamte Vocabulary-Archiv

## VOCABULARY

# Art

Do you enjoy visiting art galleries? Or do you perhaps paint in your free time? ANNA HOCHSIEDER presents language to talk about art.

**MEDIUM PLUS**

### At the Museum of Fine Arts

- Lucy: Oh, look! I love this **painting**. The **colours** are so **vivid** — they seem to fly off the **canvas**.
- Tom: Hmm, **abstract art's not my cup of tea**. What does it **represent** anyway?
- Lucy: Whatever you want it to. Anyway, most of this painter's **works** are **figurative**. Look at this **reclining nude**. It's a **masterpiece**!
- Tom: I prefer the **still life** next to it. But on the whole, I think this **artist** is a bit **overrated**.
- Lucy: But look at the **composition**! It's **perfectly balanced**. And the **texture** and **depth** that he **creates** with his **brushstrokes** — wonderful!
- Tom: Well, **there's no accounting for taste**. I prefer **pictures** that are **lifelike**.
- Lucy: Look, why don't we go upstairs to the **temporary exhibition**?
- Tom: What's **on display** there?
- Lucy: Early 19th-century **watercolour landscapes**. They should be **right up your street**!

Illustration: Martin Haake

## Practice

Now, try some exercises to practise talking about art.



### Exercise 1

E

Works of art: Complete the definitions below with nouns from the opposite page.

- A. A(n) ..... is a quickly made drawing without many details.
- B. A(n) ..... is a picture of an arrangement of objects such as fruit or flowers.
- C. A(n) ..... is a picture of the countryside.
- D. A(n) ..... is a picture of a person, especially of the head and shoulders.
- E. A(n) ..... is an excellent work of art by a particular artist.

### Exercise 3

M

Art for sale: Complete the paragraph with the words from the list.

**canvas | charcoal | frame | nude | pastels | sitter**

- (A) ..... is expensive, and so is the wooden (B) ..... needed to stretch it. That is why most of my works are on paper. I produce a lot of (C) ..... drawings, although I also like to work in (D) ..... I can't afford to pay for a (E) ....., so my wife often sits for me. But this means that my prices are low. What do you think of this **reclining** (F) .....? I'd let you have it for only £500.

### Exercise 2

M

The best word: Choose the correct option to complete each sentence below.

- A. The portrait is so **lifelike / lively** it could be a photograph instead of a painting.
- B. He's best known for his abstract paintings, but his early work is **concrete / figurative**.
- C. Look how well she has **captured** the **vivacious / vivid** reds and yellows of the evening sky.
- D. Many critics consider him to be **overtaxed / overrated**, but collectors will pay nearly any price for his works.

### Exercise 4

A

What do the idiomatic phrases below (1–3) mean? Match them to the correct explanations (A–C).

- A. If you don't like something, you can say:
- B. If something is exactly the kind of thing you are interested in, you can say:
- C. If you don't understand why someone likes something that you don't like, you can say:
1. "It's right up my street."
  2. "There's no accounting for taste."
  3. "It's not my cup of tea."

### "Art", "arts" or "the arts"?

To talk about the activity of creating paintings, drawings or sculptures, use the uncountable **noun art**:

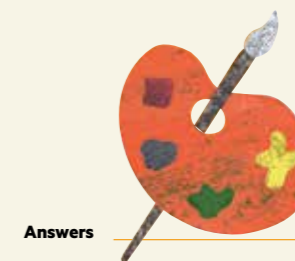
- Even as a little boy, he was very good at art.

To talk about subjects you can study that are not scientific, for example, history or languages, use the plural noun **arts**:

- What are your career options if you have an arts **degree**?

To talk about activities such as art, music, literature, etc., use **the arts**:

- The government should spend more money on the arts.



### Answers

1. A. sketch  
B. still life  
C. landscape  
D. portrait  
E. masterpiece
2. A. lifelike  
B. figurative  
C. vivid  
D. overrated
3. A. Canvas  
B. frame  
C. charcoal  
D. pastels  
E. sitter  
F. nude
4. A-3; B-1; C-2

- capture** ['kæptʃə] ▶ erfassen  
**degree** [di'grɪ:] ▶ Diplom, Abschluss  
**noun** [naʊn] ▶ Substantiv  
**reclining** [ri'klaɪnɪŋ] ▶ hier: liegend