

[02] Art

Getting Ready to Read

A. Learn the words.

Key Vocabulary

modern art	art created from the mid-19 th century
tired	no longer interested
canvas	strong cloth that artists paint on

TOEFL Vocabulary

century	a time period of 100 years
imagine	to create an idea or image in the mind
inspire	to cause or bring about
odd	not regular; unusual
formal	following the correct ways; official

B. Learn the question types.

TOEFL Question Types

● Factual Information

- According to the author, X did Y because . . .
- According to the passage, X occurred because . . .
- The author's description of X mentions which of the following?
 - This type of question asks about specific facts or details.
 - The answer is always directly stated somewhere in the passage.

● Negative Factual Information

- According to the passage, which of the following is NOT true of X?
- The author's description of X mentions all of the following EXCEPT . . .
 - This type of question asks which fact or detail does NOT appear in the passage or is NOT correct.
 - The other answer choices are usually directly stated somewhere in the passage.

Reading Passage

C. Read the passage. Number each paragraph with the correct main idea or purpose.

1. Opinions of modern art
2. What modern art looked like
3. Why modern art began
4. Where art comes from

Modern Art

___ Art comes from the imagination. In the 19th century, some painters imagined new ways to paint. They inspired a new kind of art—modern art.

___ Modern art began when some painters were tired of painting the same way. Most people thought paintings should look real. However, these painters made people and other things look odd.

___ How did the painters do this? Some used odd colors. Others threw paint on canvases. Later, one even painted things like soup cans.

___ At first, people did not like this kind of art. They thought art should look formal. Then, things changed. Many people began to understand and like modern art.

Note-taking

D. Complete the summary notes by filling in the blanks.

Topic:	Modern Art
Introduction:	Art comes from the _____. In the 19 th _____ painters _____ new ways to paint.
Beginnings:	Painters were _____ of painting the same way. Most thought paintings should look _____. Painters made people and things look _____.
Painting styles:	Some used odd _____. Others threw _____ on canvases. Others painted things like _____.
People's thoughts:	At first, people _____ like this kind of art. Then, people began to _____ and like modern art.

TOEFL Questions

E. Choose the correct answers.

1. According to the passage, which is true of art?
(A) Art comes from the imagination.
(B) All art is modern.
2. According to the passage, modern art began because
(A) people were tired of looking at the same paintings
(B) some painters were tired of painting in the same ways
3. According to the passage which of the following is NOT true of modern art?
(A) Painters started it in the 19th century.
(B) People said it was too formal.
4. The author's description of modern art mentions all of the following EXCEPT
(A) at first, people loved it
(B) modern art made people and other things look odd
(C) some modern artists threw paint on canvases

TOEFL Vocabulary Practice

F. Fill in the blanks with the correct words.

century inspire imagine odd formal

1. Many famous painters had no _____ art education.
2. The first airplane flew in the 20th _____.
3. Most artists _____ their paintings before they begin to paint.
4. The works of famous modern artists like Picasso and Matisse still _____ artists today.
5. Some people think the modern art makes people and things look _____.

Practice

A. Learn the words.

Key Vocabulary

stroke	a line made with a paintbrush or pen
dot	a very small round mark
pure	nothing mixed in

TOEFL Vocabulary

introduce	to present for the first time
blend	to mix together
normal	regular; usual
pose	to hold your body in a certain position
style	a way of doing something

B. Read the passage and underline the key information.

Georges Seurat

Georges Seurat was born in 1859. He was a French painter. He studied art like a science. He knew a lot about colors and light. He introduced a way of painting no one had ever seen.

Seurat's paintings looked different. He did not paint with big strokes. He put many, very small dots on the canvas instead. Some paintings were made of millions of dots.

Another difference was the way he used color. Most artists blended their paints. However, Seurat did not. He used only pure paint colors. This odd use of color made his paintings shimmer.

Also, the people in his paintings were just doing normal things. They weren't posing. This did not look like normal art.

Seurat died in 1891. He was young when he died. He was only 31. His different style made him a well-known modern artist.

TOEFL Questions

C. Choose the correct answers.

1. The word shimmer in the passage is closest in meaning to
(A) shine (B) age
2. The word they in the passage refers to
(A) people who looked at the paintings
(B) people in the paintings
3. According to the passage, which of the following is true about the people in Seurat's paintings?
(A) The people all knew each other.
(B) The people were doing normal things.
4. According to the passage, which of the following is NOT true about Seurat's painting style?
(A) He used only pure paint colors.
(B) He used normal brush strokes.

TOEFL Vocabulary Practice

D. Fill in the blanks with the correct words.

normal blend introduce pose style

1. Georges Seurat did not have people _____ for his paintings.
2. Some artists _____ their paints.
3. Georges Seurat liked to paint pictures of people doing _____ things.
4. Many museums offer lessons to _____ children to modern art.
5. Many artists have their own _____ of painting.