

1. Art



Welcome to London! My name is Harry and I'll be your guide here. Do you want to see one of the most famous London museums? Let's go!

In this unit we will learn:

- about London museums and human culture
- how to use the passive voice in different tenses
- vocabulary on the topic of art
- how to describe photos connected with street art
- how to compare ideas and express opinions

The **British Museum** in London is one of the world's largest and most important museums of human history and culture. More than seven million objects from all continents are presented there. They illustrate the history of human culture from its beginning to the present.

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The **Rosetta stone** is a stone with 3 types of writing carved into it. It was found in Egypt in 1799 by French soldiers. Ancient Egyptian writing, which is called hieroglyphics, was translated after the stone had been discovered. The stone is named after the city where it was found, Rosetta.

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Hoa Hakananai'a is a statue which represents the culture of Easter Island. It was taken from the island in 1868 by the British. It has been described as the finest example of Easter Island sculpture. Perhaps the statue will be returned to Easter Island because it is especially worshipped by the island's natives.

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The **Gebelein mummies** are six naturally mummified bodies, dating to approximately 3400 BC. The mummies were excavated in the 19th century by Wallis Budge near Gebelein in the Egyptian desert. These mummies are now being seen by us as we are in the Egyptian hall.

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Passive Voice

Read these two pairs of sentences:

- 1. Everyone in the world knows the British Museum.
2. The British Museum is known all over the world.
- 1. The British took the statue from Easter Island.
2. The statue was taken from Easter Island by the British.

Answer the following questions about these two pairs of sentences:

- Who or what is the subject? Underline it.
- In sentence 2, does the museum do the action? Did the statue do the action?
- Then, who does/did the action?
- What is more important, who does the action or the action itself?
- Sentence 2 in both pairs of sentences are examples of the passive voice. Can you now formulate how we form passive?

Now study the Grammar box to prove your ideas. Find more examples of the passive in the descriptions of the objects of the British Museum collection.

Grammar box

- We use the passive when we think *what* happens is more important than who does it, or when we don't know *who* does it. To say who performed an action, use *by*.
- We form the passive with the correct form of the verb *to be* and the past participle.

Present Simple Passive: It **is done**.

Present Continuous Passive: It **is being done**.

Present Perfect Passive: It **has been done**.

Past Simple Passive: It **was done**.

Past Perfect Passive: It **had been done**.

Future Simple Passive: It **will be done**.

You've just arrived, but we've already learnt so much! Fantastic! Let's practise a bit.

If you want to continue our virtual tour in the British Museum, download the app!



1. Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first one, using the passive.

1. Sir Hans Sloane founded the British Museum.
The British museum _____.

2. Robert Smirk had constructed the current building of the British museum by 1852.

The current building of the British museum _____.

3. The British have collected different objects from all over the world for more than 250 years.

Different objects from all over the world _____.

4. The museum is constantly expanding its collection.

The collection of the museum _____.

5. A lot of people visit the museum every day.

The museum _____.

6. You will study two million years of world history and culture in the museum.

Two million years of world history and culture _____.

2. Put the verbs in brackets into the correct passive tense.

The remains of an Anglo-Saxon ship 1) _____ (discover) by archeologists digging on the Kent coast last week. It 2) _____ (claim) that the ship 3) _____ (bury) by the 7th century alongside a great warrior. Although none of the original wood from the ship remains, many items, including weapons and helmets 4) _____ (find). These finds 5) _____ (now/examine) by experts at the University of Kent. Afterwards, the items 6) _____ (clean) so that they 7) _____ (display) in the British Museum in London.

3. In pairs, ask and answer questions about the text. Use the passive.

Let me start! What was discovered near Kent last week?



4. Look at the information about other London museums and tell your partner about the ones you'd like to visit. Don't forget to use the passive!

The Tower of London

Completed in: 1097

Used as: a fortress and a prison

Nowadays: guarded/the Beefeaters



Natural History Museum

Located: South Kensington

Established: 140 years ago

Collections presented: botany, zoology



National Gallery

Founded: 1824

Situated: Trafalgar Square

Modern building: designed/William

Wikings



Tate Modern

Visited by: 1,5 million people a day

Established: 2000

Considered: as the largest museum of modern art



I hope you enjoyed our museum day! What about finishing it walking and speaking to people about museums?

[Click here](#)

5. Watch the video that Harry suggested. Decide if the statements are true, false or not stated.

1. Museums in London are usually free. _____
2. More Londoners visit museums these days. _____
3. Since 2016 the number of museum visitors decreased by 10%. _____
4. The only reason for this drop in number are terrorist attacks. _____
5. Number of tourists arriving to the UK has grown. _____
6. Young generation find paintings dull. _____

6. In pairs, discuss the questions.

1. Do you agree that less people visit museums nowadays? Why do you think it happens?
2. Do you like museums? What kind of museums do you like, historical ones, natural museums, art galleries?

It was a nice walk, wasn't it? Now I suggest a totally different experience. Let's catch a train and go to Bristol, I'll show you something extraordinary!



Wow, we've finally arrived at Bristol! Can you guess why I've decided to take you here?



Graffiti: street art or vandalism?

Bristol: UK capital of street art

If you want to see art, it's normal to go to an art exhibition in a gallery. There you'll find landscapes, **still lifes**, sketches. But wouldn't it be more fun to see these works in the street? Well, there's a city in the UK whose biggest tourist attraction is street art: Bristol!

There are historical **grounds** for this fame. The city was badly bombed in World War II, leaving large areas that were empty and required new buildings. Many of these new constructions were put up in a hurry and the buildings quickly became **abandoned**. The **concrete** walls were perfect **canvases** for street art. Today you can find art everywhere – on bridges, in alleys and on the main streets in the city centre. The whole place seems like an **immense** outdoor gallery!

If you're able to stay for a while, book onto one of Bristol's popular street art walking tours. Experts will tell you about the artists who have decorated the city's streets. The most **prominent** of them is Banksy, with his **stencilled** graffiti designs. He is celebrated all over the world for his funny and, at times, **controversial murals** but nobody knows his real identity. Most of his early work was removed by the local council but there is one famous work that survives. It shows a man hanging from a painted window on the side of a large wall.

Of course, some people call Banksy's creations street art and others call it graffiti. What's the difference? Well, the debate is open. Some people say that graffiti is **destructive** and political, while street art is constructive and creative. But others say that the only difference is that graffiti includes letters – people's 'tags' or special signatures. Whatever you think, a lot of these works are now worth large sums of money at auctions. Is that a good thing or are people just paying for acts of vandalism?



7. Match the words from the article with their meanings.

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1. still life | • a large painting done on a wall |
| 2. ground | • causing disagreement or discussion |
| 3. abandoned | • no longer being used or cared for |
| 4. concrete | • a type of art that represents objects rather than people, animals, or the countryside |
| 5. canvas | • made of a very hard building material consisting of cement, sand, small stones and water |
| 6. immense | • extremely large |
| 7. prominent | • causing severe damage or harm |
| 8. stencilled | • painted using a piece of metal, plastic, etc. into which shapes have been cut |
| 9. controversial | • important and well known |
| 10. mural | • a piece of this cloth used by artists for painting on |
| 11. destructive | • reason for something |

8. Complete the sentences using the words from exercise 7.

- This _____ by Leonardo da Vinci with a beautiful woman on it is priceless.
- We bought this flat without renovation: there were only _____ walls and floor.
- One of Sweden's most _____ and respected leaders is gone.
- I worry about the _____ effect that violent films may have on children.
- Many _____ issues were discussed during the meeting.
- We went to an exhibition of 17th century Dutch _____.
- I was impressed by a huge _____ on the wall showing reindeer and northern lights.
- The fire started in an _____ warehouse which hasn't been used since 2008.
- He inherited an _____ fortune and he spent everything for a big new house.
- We have _____ to believe that you have been lying to us.
- The back of the chair was painted solid black with designs _____ in gold.

Your results are amazing, carry on!





Do you understand now why I like walking in Bristol so much? Do you enjoy this city? Do you agree that the whole city is an outdoor museum?

If you want to find out more, watch this video about urban street art festival in Bristol!

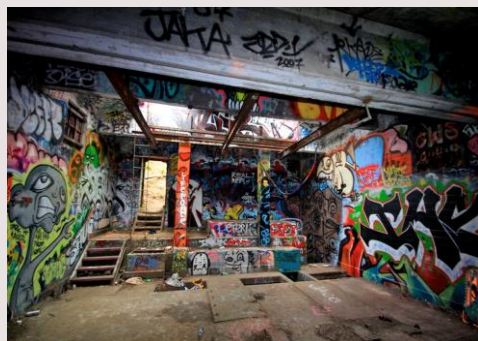
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9. Read the article again and choose the correct option.

1. The writer believes that it's *normal* / *unusual* to see art in the street.
2. Street art became popular in Bristol because there were many *abandoned buildings* / *street artists* there.
3. *Not many* / *A lot of* people know about the city's art tours.
4. Banksy's art *is* / *isn't* well-known.
5. There is *not much* / *a lot of* Banksy's art in the streets of Bristol today.
6. People *agree* / *disagree* about the difference between graffiti and street art.

10. Describe these photos to your partner using at least 5 words from exercise 7 and at least 2 passive structures. Use Functional language box to help you. Don't forget to express your opinion about each piece of street art.



Functional language

Comparing ideas

- On the one hand, ... but on the other hand, ...
- Personally, I think ... is better/more interesting than ...
- ... is the best idea because ...
- It's exactly/almost the same as ...
- ... is totally different from ...

Expressing opinions

- In my opinion, ... is brilliant/amazing /awful.
- As I see it, ...
- I think you're right.
- As far as I can see, .../As far as I'm concerned, ...
- It seems to me that...
- If you ask me, ...
- I'm not sure ...
- I could be wrong, but ...

11. In pairs, discuss the questions about the article. Use the phrases from Functional language box to express your point of view.

1. What can you see in the photo next to the article on the previous page? What do you think is the message?
2. Is it graffiti or street art? Why? What do you think is the difference?
3. Do you think street art can be worth money? Why? / Why not?
4. If you had money, would you buy this kind of art? Why? / Why not?
5. Is there a lot of graffiti/street art where you live? Is it often removed?

Group projects

- With the help of the Internet find out about street artists and street art movements.
- Do a presentation in groups of 2-3 about the artist/the movement which you like.
- Be ready to tell the class about it and don't forget to show the pictures.

Homework

- Learn new words via [Quizlet](#); [Click here](#)
- Do a group project:
- Opinion essay on the topic "All street art has to be removed as it is the act of vandalism";
- Workbook Unit 1.

Wow! It was such an exciting trip, wasn't it? Let's see what we've learnt by Kahoot.

[Click here](#)

Bye! See you in the next city!

