

Read the text and match the concepts to the chapters and dates.

1 the technique of painting on different surfaces

Chapter 88 ✓

2 ways of mixing different colours

Chapter 37 ✓

3 the elevation of art and the artist

21st century ✓

4 the first encyclopedia of artists' biographies

1550 ✓

5 the High Renaissance

Part 3 ✓

6 Picasso and the cult of the artist

Chapter 4 ✓

7 the rise of the modern art exhibition

Chapter 6 ✓

has been dubbed by many as the first art historian as he invented the genre of the encyclopaedia of artists' biographies, which has been reproduced many times since.

Chapters 2–6 of this book move forwards in time in their examination of the idea of the artist as a hero in the Western world. Artists as diverse as Rembrandt (Chapter 2), Van Gogh (Chapter 3), Picasso (Chapter 4) and Jackson Pollock (Chapter 5) are examined within the context of the cult of the artist. Chapter 6 looks at the elevated status of the artist in the nineteenth century and the concept's close ties to the rise of the modern art exhibition as well as celebratory novels, stories and poetry about artists which proliferated at the time. The final chapter of the book examines the conceptual art of today and the range of motivations behind its creation.

Read the text again and complete the table.

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Before Vasari's book

Art was paid for by size, time spent and materials used.



Artistic style was imitated.



Artists worked together.



Art was made to order.



After Vasari's book

Art was analyzed from a psychological, social or historical point of view.



Art was produced as a means of self-expression.



Artists' biographies were published.



Examination of artistic methods seen as 'quaint'.



The modern cult of the artist



In early 15th century Italy, the artist known as Cennino d'Andrea Cennini published, *'Il Libro dell'Arte'* or 'The book of art'. Cennini's

Scan the text again. Put the names of the people in the order they are mentioned in the text.

Cennino d'Andrea Cennini

Today's readers

Skilled craftsmen

Patron

The head artist

Leonardo da Vinci

Andrea del Verrocchio

Giorgio Vasari

Donatello

Titian

Rembrandt

Jackson Pollock



of the High Renaissance such as Michelangelo and Titian. Vasari has been dubbed by many as the first art historian as he invented the genre of the encyclopaedia of artists' biographies, which has been reproduced many times since.

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Choose the correct verb to complete the sentences.

- 1 The experts  the possible meanings of Botticelli's *Birth of Venus* but couldn't agree on a single interpretation.
- 2 The auction house  that the painting was executed by the Flemish artist Pieter Bruegel but this is yet to be proven.
- 3 The modern materials used in the painting  without a doubt that it's a fake. The yellow colour you can see wasn't available when the original was painted.
- 4 The art critic  the exhibition as being 'dull' and 'incoherent'.
- 5 By winning the Turner prize, the artist  a name for himself in the contemporary art world.
- 6 The style of the work  that it was painted by Gustav Klimt but it is unsigned so we can't be completely sure of the identity of the artist.
- 7 The restorer  how the painting was composed of many layers by showing the group a series of X-rays.
- 8 Ford Madox Brown's painting *The Last of England*,  the misery of a poor couple who have to leave their country in search of a better life in Australia.

Read the press conference. Complete the sentences using the correct form of the words in the box.

admit argue be be can deny have
insist state suggest will have say

- 1 The FBI sergeant  that the press conference  being held to report on the investigation into 21 stolen works of art.
- 2 In response to the journalist's question, the sergeant  that the FBI  lost the paintings in Philadelphia.
- 3 The journalist  that the FBI  not trying hard enough to recover the stolen works of art.
- 4 The FBI sergeant  that this was the case, explaining that they  a full deployment of undercover officers working on the case.
- 5 The journalist  that very little  be done to find works of art unless they were sold.
- 6 The FBI sergeant  that although sale of stolen works makes their recovery easier, it is still possible to find artworks without their being sold.
- 7 The FBI sergeant  that they  keep the journalists up-to-date with any further developments on the case.

Look at the pictures. Complete the sentences using the words in the box.

1



Jacob Epstein's *Rockdrill*, executed between 1913 and 1915, looks like a cross between a **mechanical** object and a human.

2



Abstract art was first created in the early 20th century.

3



Picasso's *Guernica* is a **moving** and disturbing portrayal of the suffering caused by war.

4



The 19th century Impressionists were considered **avant-garde** by their contemporaries because they chose to paint everyday life rather than classical subjects.

5



This sculpture is not **Heike** but the viewer can still recognize the form of a man.

6



This is an example of **figurative** art.

7



The frame has both a functional and **decorative** purpose. It provides a means to hang the picture as well as enhancing its appearance.

Read the text. Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

The great philosopher Confucius once observed that, 'Everything has beauty, but not everyone sees it.' This is a fitting description of Rinko Kawauchi's photographs. The Japanese artist is a specialist in making **banal**  objects from everyday life look beautiful.

A **cynical**  art critic might say that her photographs are nothing special – that anyone could take a snapshot of a half-eaten watermelon, for example. But one glance at any of Kawauchi's beautifully lit shots dismisses such a statement.

The photographs are as **aesthetic**  and creative as the best painted still life. Take her photograph of a peony with the light shining behind it, rendered in beautiful pastel shades as an example.

Kawauchi's photographs could also be described as **expressive** . A young girl sitting at a desk with light illuminating her hair hints at the beauty and fleeting nature of youth.

It is Kawauchi's attention to detail which is a mark of her **genius** . She sees things that most people don't see and possesses the technical ability to render them visible.

Her eye is **objective**  rather than emotional. She does not project her own opinion through her photographs but appears to merely observe.

That is not to say her photographs are not **creative** ; however, it takes an artist's eye to arrange a bunch of grapes on a highly decorated Japanese plate and capture the intermingling of patterns and colours.

Kawauchi does not confine herself to **specific**  subject matter; objects, people and animals all feature in her work.

Her photographs are deceptively artless. They look as if they've captured a brief moment in time as if by chance. However, to get the perfect composition, detail and lighting must be very **time-consuming** . It takes a very talented photographer to make sophisticated techniques appear effortless.

Match the pairs of sentences.

1 Frida Kahlo was a famous Mexican artist.

She is best known for her self-portraits.



2 Kahlo's life wasn't easy. She was involved in a very serious traffic accident as a teenager.

It made painting very difficult and meant she was often very lonely.



3 Before that, at the age of six, Kahlo contracted polio.

This left one of her legs thinner than the other.



4 Frida's husband was the famous artist Diego Riviera.

He had a great influence on her work.



5 Kahlo's paintings are characterized by bright colours, dramatic symbolism and a primitive style.

These are all features of indigenous Mexican art.



6 Kahlo's life began in Mexico city.

It also ended there. She died at the age of 47.



7 Kahlo didn't enjoy much international recognition during her life. The exception was in 1939 when the Louvre bought one of her paintings: *The Frame*.

This was the first work by a twentieth-century Mexican artist to be purchased by the museum.



Complete the text. Use the words in the box.

Art, like clothes, can go in and out of fashion. goes some way to explain why movements such as Art Nouveau (French for New Art) thrived and died in a relatively short time. Appearing just before the Art Deco era in the 1920s was, in many ways, a response to the Industrial Revolution. Artists, seeing machines and mass production as an enemy of art and design, turned to nature, to express rejection of industry. The Art Nouveau aesthetic was wide reaching. It can be found in paintings, architecture, glass, textiles, furniture, silver, china, and jewellery. Dynamic, wavy, curved lines in flowing rhythms like found in Japanese prints characterize much of Art Nouveau. Natural forms allowed artists freedom. could be twisted, elongated, and curved to fit any composition. A principal aim of Art Nouveau was to create a sense of unity in all arts. Because of , many artists worked in several different mediums. The reason why Art Nouveau went out of fashion so quickly could be explained in economic terms. Designing buildings in every detail needed to be coordinated demanded time and money. were in plentiful supply in 1930s Europe.

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