

**Liven up learning with Diana Funtana ESL Productions!**



## **Get in on the Act V: Art Gallery**

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## Introduction

**Task: to describe and discuss works of art**

**Level: Intermediate**

**Duration: 30-40 minutes**

**Materials: worksheets, photographs of paintings**

Art is a subject that many ESL students are usually not very interested in at first. However, once they get involved in this activity, they end up enjoying it, especially when they have a variety of interesting works of art to discuss.

When I did this activity, I used the following paintings:

1. Sandro Botticelli	Venus Rising	1482
2. Alex Colville	Horse and Train	1954
3. Salvador Dali	Premonition of Civil War	1936
4. Leonardo da Vinci	Virgin of the Rocks	1505-1508
5. Paul Cézanne	Mont Ste. Victoire	1882-1885
6. David Hockney	A Bigger Splash	1967
7. Frida Kahlo	The Two Fridas	1939
8. Pablo Picasso	Friendship	1908
9. Andrew Wyeth	Christina's World	1948
10. Andy Warhol	Marilyn	1962
11. Vincent Van Gogh	The Starry Night	1889
12. August-Phillipe Renoir	La Moulin de la Galette	1876

Art, of course, is a matter of taste and feel free to take the above as suggestions. Feel free to choose works of art other than paintings that you think would most appeal to your class and generate discussion.

## Lesson Plan

### 1. Warm-up: general discussion

In groups have students discuss the following questions:

- Do you like art? What kind of art do you like?
- Name some famous artists. Which famous artists live in your country? Who is your favorite artist?
- Are you or anyone in your family artistic?

- How important is art to culture?
2. Vocabulary and grammar
    - Teach or review vocabulary that students can use to describe works of art. The vocabulary will depend on their level.
    - Talking about art is also a good opportunity to use the passive voice if your class is at that level.
  3. Preparation
    - Hang photocopies of 12 pictures around the classroom or in a corridor to form an art galley.
    - Make double-sized copies of the worksheet so that there are 4 in total on each sheet.
    - Choose a painting (that is not included in the gallery) and model the activity in class so that students know what is expected of them.
  4. Activity
    - In pairs have students walk around the gallery and fill out the worksheet for 4 works of art.
    - Have students form groups of 4 or 6 and compare their results.

Diana Funtana ESL Productions / Art Gallery Worksheet

Title:
Artist:
What is the painting about? What is the artist saying?
Description:
Why I like or don't like it:

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