



Name: Class: Date:

Worksheet 12: C/B pp. 35-40

UNIT 4: Vincent Van Gogh

Warm-up Task A (Reading. Decoding. 5 min)¹

Instructions

- a) There are many artists that have had a huge impact on our culture. Study the following Fun Facts about the famous Dutch painter, Vincent van Gogh. Which one is the most surprising of all?



Self Portrait



Starry Night

Vincent van Gogh

Fun Facts

Van Gogh:

- only went to art school for a couple of months
- was very close with his brother Theo, to whom he wrote about 800 letters
- was friends with Paul Gauguin, another famous artist
- **Starry Night** and **Sunflowers** are two of his famous paintings
- sold only one painting in his lifetime
- painted 37 self portraits

- b) Follow the instructions on the left of the picture to solve the puzzle.

Van Gogh Puzzle Secret Code

S	S	A	R	L	E	S	I	N	A	P	E	R	I	I
O	T	R	D	O	F	T	E	R	N	Y	E	A	R	M
S	V	A	E	A	N	G	O	O	G	G	H	C	R	P
E	A	T	R	W	E	L	D	A	B	A	O	U	T	R
P	A	I	N	R	O	T	I	N	G	U	S	Y	B	E
B	T	P	P	C	Y	L	M	W	H	G	L	F	B	S
A	W	J	L	N	S	N	F	H	P	U	L	Y	V	S
Q	V	O	T	T	Q	R	I	N	R	I	R	K	W	I
S	Y	H	M	F	F	Z	T	G	U	N	E	B	K	O
T	E	D	P	M	N	E	C	D	H	S	V	X	T	N
O	X	R	F	X	N	S	T	S	C	T	I	R	S	I
C	Q	Z	I	O	A	Q	U	W	B	O	T	T	K	S
E	Q	Y	M	H	D	A	J	O	N	E	U	K	S	M
T	E	X	T	U	R	E	L	Z	K	R	U	K	P	E
Q	H	C	M	E	I	D	B	M	R	L	E	D	E	B

Find and highlight the words below in the word search puzzle. Start with the first remaining letter on the top left and use the letters to uncover the secret code!

ARLES
BOLD
COLOR
GAUGUIN
IMPRESSIONISM
MONET
STARRY NIGHT
SUNFLOWERS
TEXTURE
THEO

¹ URL: <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Vincent-van-Gogh-Biography-Puzzle-and-Activity-Sub-lesson-2188394>

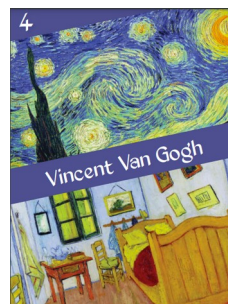
Warm-up Task B (Speaking. 10 min)

Instructions

1. Watch the following video that explains how we can describe a picture in English.
How to Describe a Picture in English² (URL: https://youtu.be/ihIQ8_-49Fo)
2. Study the following notes.

Describing pictures in English³ Useful Language
1. Introduction <i>The photo/picture shows ...</i> <i>It was taken by/in ...</i> <i>It's a black-and-white/coloured photo.</i>
2. What is where? <i>In the foreground/background you can see ...</i> <i>In the foreground/background there is ...</i> <i>In the middle/centre there are ...</i> <i>At the top/At the bottom there is ...</i> <i>On the left/right there are ...</i> <i>Behind/In front of ... you can see ...</i> <i>Between ... there is ...</i>
3. Who is doing what? Here you describe the people in the picture or you say what is happening just now. Use the <u>Present Progressive</u> .
4. What I think about the picture <i>It seems as if ...</i> <i>The <u>lady</u> seems to ...</i> <i>Maybe ...</i> <i>I think ...</i> <i>... might be a symbol of ...</i> <i>The atmosphere is peaceful/depressing ...</i> <i>I (don't) like the picture because ...</i> <i>It makes me think of ...</i>

3. Now try to describe the two (02) pictures on p. 35 of your coursebook.



4. Can you guess what these two (02) pictures are about?

² For more information: (URL: <https://www.oxfordonlineenglish.com/describe-pictures>)

³ URL: https://www.englisch-hilfen.de/en/words/describing_pictures.htm

Task 1 (Speaking. 5 min)⁴

Instructions

Fill in the following table by answering the questions.

1. How many famous painters' names can you think of?
2. Where are they from?
3. Can you name some of their works?

You can browse through the internet and try to find as many famous painters' names as you can.

Painters	Origin	Paintings

Alternatively, match the painter with his

Painters	Nationality	Paintings
Vincent van Gogh	Greek	Impression, Sunrise
Pablo Picasso	Italian	January
Leonardo da Vinci	French	Carols
Claude Monet	Greek	Guernica
Nikiforos Lytras	Dutch	Mona Lisa
Yannis Tsarouchis	Spanish	The Starry Night

But if you are keen on playing games try this one:

https://www.educaplay.com/learning-resources/17160860-famous_artists.html

Task 2 (Reading. Listening. 15 min)⁵

Instructions

1. You are going to watch a video and listen to a song called "Starry-starry Night" by Don Mc Lean. You can find the song on pp. 36-37 of your coursebooks.
2. Before listening, read the lyrics of the song and match the underlined phrases with the relevant Van Gogh painting. (8 min)
3. Then watch the video and put the stanzas in the correct order. (7 min)
[Don McLean - Vincent (Starry, Starry Night) With Lyrics, URL: <https://youtu.be/oxHnRfhDmrk?t=3>]

⁴ 35 Most Famous Painters of All Time, <https://www.artst.org/famous-painters/>
Nikiforos Lytras, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nikiforos_Lytras

Yannis Tsarouchis, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yannis_Tsarouchis ,

⁵ 35 Most Famous Painters of All Time, <https://www.artst.org/famous-painters/>
Nikiforos Lytras, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nikiforos_Lytras
Yannis Tsarouchis, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yannis_Tsarouchis ,

Task 3 (Pair work. Reading. Listening. 10 min)

Instructions

1. Work with a partner.
2. Listen to the song once more.
3. Try to ...
 - a. fill in the blanks,
 - b. correct the wrong words which are in italics, and
 - c. strike out the extra words.

Starry starry night
..... your palette blue and grey
look out on a summer's day
with eyes that know the darkness in my *bowl*
Shadows on the hills and
cliffs the trees and the
daffodils catch the breeze and the winter
drills
in colours on the linen land.

Now I understand
what you tried to say to me yesterday
and how you suffered for your *vanity*
and how you tried to them
free
they would not listen they did not know how
perhaps they'll *fasten* now.

Starry starry night sky
Flaming flowers that
brightly
swirling clouds in violet days
reflect in Vincent's eyes of china blue
colours hue
morning fields of amber grain
weathered faces lined in *rain*
are soothed beneath the artist's loving *band*.

Now I understand well
what you tried to say to me
and how you suffered for your sanity
and how you tried to set them free
they would not listen
they did not know how to listen
perhaps they'll listen now and forever.

For they not love you
but still your love was true
and when no hope was left beside
on that starry starry night
You took your life as lovers often do
But I have told you, Vincent,
this world was never meant for one
as *dutiful* as you are.

Starry starry night
..... hung in empty halls
frameless heads on nameless *dolls*
with eyes that watch the world and can't
forget them
like the strangers that you've met
The ragged men in ragged clothes
a silver thorn a rose
lie crushed and broken on the virgin snow.

Now I think I know very well
what you tried to say to me
and how you suffered for your sanity
and how you tried to set them *tree*
they would now listen
they're not listening still
..... they never will.

Task 4 (Pair work. Reading Comprehension. 10 min)

Instructions

- ✓ Read the following questions.
- ✓ Discuss them in your pairs.
- ✓ Write the answers.
- ✓ Report to the class.

1. Do you think that the song reflects Van Gogh's attitude and feelings? If so, mention specific verses.
2. How does this song make you feel?
3. Write up to 5 sentences giving facts about Van Gogh's life, based on the song.

-
-
-
-
-

Task 5 (Individual work. Speaking. 10 min)

Instructions

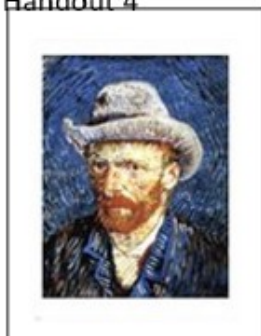
1. Browse the following site of Van Gogh Museum and choose the painting you like most.
<https://www.vangoghmuseum.nl/en/visit/whats-on/the-permanent-collection-van-goghs-masterpieces>
2. Scroll down to find the Collection Highlights.
3. Choose the painting you like most.
4. Spend some time observing it.
5. Write down how it makes you feel.

6. Finally, note down the following information about the painting.

- Title:
- Type of painting:
- Height: cm Width: cm
- Year it was painted:
- Viewing notes:
-
-

Warm-up Task Ab

Handout 4



Self Portrait



Starry Night

Answer Key

Vincent van Gogh

Fun Facts

Van Gogh:

- only went to art school for a couple of months
- was very close with his brother Theo, to whom he wrote about 800 letters
- was friends with Paul Gauguin, another famous artist
- **Starry Night** and **Sunflowers** are two of his famous paintings
- sold only one painting in his lifetime
- painted 37 self portraits

Van Gogh Puzzle Secret Code

S S A R L E S I N A P E R I I
O T R D O F T E R N Y E A R M
S V A E A N G O O G H C R P
E A T R W E L D A B A O U T R
P A I N B O T I N G U S Y B E
B T P P C Y L M W H G L F B S
A W J L N S N F H P U L Y V S
Q V O T T Q R I N R I R K W I
S Y H M F F Z T G U N E B K O
T E D P M N E C D H S V X T N
O X R F Y N S T S C T I R S I
C Q Z I O A Q U W B O T T K S
E Q Y M H D A J O N E U K S M
T E X T U R E L Z K R U K P E
Q H C M E I D B M R L E D E B

Find and highlight the words below in the word search puzzle. Start with the first remaining letter on the top left and use the letters to uncover the secret code!

ARLES
BOLD
COLOR
GAUGUIN
IMPRESSIONISM
MONET
STARRY NIGHT
SUNFLOWERS
TEXTURE
THEO

IN A PERIOD OF TEN YEARS VAN GOGH CREATED ABOUT 900 PAINTINGS

What do you think about van Gogh's art Work? Draw Some Of your Own!

Task 1 (Speaking)

Painters

Nationality

Paintings

Vincent van Gogh
Pablo Picasso
Leonardo da Vinci
Claude Monet
Nikiforos Lytras
Yannis Tsarouchis

Greek
Italian
French
Greek
Dutch
Spanish

Impression, Sunrise
January
Carols
Guernica
Mona Lisa
The Starry Night

Task 3 (Pair work. Reading. Listening)

Starry-starry night

paint your palette blue and grey
look out on a summer's day
with eyes that know the darkness in my ~~bowl~~ (soul)
Shadows on the hills ~~and cliffs~~
Sketch the trees and the daffodils
catch the breeze and the winter ~~drills~~ (chills)
in colours on the snowy linen land

Now I understand

what you tried to say to me ~~yesterday~~
and how you suffered for your ~~vanity~~
and how you tried to set them free
they would not listen they did not know how
perhaps they'll ~~fasten~~ now.

Starry-starry night ~~sky~~

Flaming flowers that brightly blaze
swirling clouds in violet ~~days~~ (haze)
reflect in Vincent's eyes of china blue
colours changing hue
morning fields of amber grain
weathered faces lined in ~~rain~~ (pain)
are soothed beneath the artist's loving ~~band~~ (hand)

Now I understand ~~well~~

what you tried to say to me
and how you suffered for your sanity
and how you tried to set them free
they would not listen
they did not know how ~~to listen~~
perhaps they'll listen now ~~and forever~~

For they could not love you
but still your love was true
and when no hope was left ~~beside~~ (behind)
on that starry-starry night
You took your life as lovers often do
But I could have told you, Vincent,
this world was never meant
for one as ~~deaf~~ (beautiful) as you are

Starry starry night

Portraits hung in empty halls
frameless heads on nameless ~~dolls~~
with eyes that watch the world and can't forget ~~them~~
like the strangers that you've met
The ragged men in the ragged clothes
~~a~~ silver thorn of a bloody rose
lie crushed and broken on the virgin snow

Now I think I know ~~very well~~

what you tried to say to me
and how you suffered for your sanity
and how you tried to set them ~~free~~
they would ~~now~~ (not) listen
they're not listening still
perhaps they neville

Task 5 (Individual work. Speaking)

- Yes, it does, because it reflects his turbulent past and his journey through that. The night reflects his turbulent time that he spent in overcoming his illness, his depression, hopelessness, social isolation (loneliness), devastation, self-destruction, suicidal tendency as well as a feeling that nobody, not even his family members, could understand him.

Sample Verses:

"... with eyes that know the darkness in my soul ..."

"... how you suffered for your sanity ... they did not know how ..."

"... Weathered faces lined in pain ..."
"... For they could not love you ..."
"... And when no hope was left in sight ..."
"... You took your life, as lovers often do. ..."
*"... This world was never meant
 for one as beautiful as you ..."*

2. It makes me feel sad and depressed as I realise how easy it is to get misjudged and socially isolated due to prejudice, stereotypes and lack of understanding and tolerance.
3.
 1. Van Gogh suffered from a mental disorder (probably schizophrenia) (*"How you suffered for your sanity"*)
 2. Van Gogh committed suicide (*"you took your life as lovers often do"*)
 3. Van Gogh cared for poor people and tried to help them and even painted them (*"ragged men in ragged clothes"*, *"how you tried to set them free"*)
 4. Van Gogh's family were sometimes critical of him (*"They would not listen/They did not know how"*)
 5. Van Gogh painted Starry Night using a mixture of blue and gray (*"Paint your palette blue and gray"*)

Task 5 (Individual work. Speaking)

Example (from <https://www.vangoghmuseum.nl/en/collection/s0027V1962>)

- **Title:** The Langlois Bridge
- **Type of painting:** oil on canvas
- **Height:** 59.6 cm
- **Width:** 73.6 cm
- **Year it was painted:** March 1888
- **Viewing notes:** The sky was grey when Van Gogh painted this bridge. He worked in the open air more than once in this spot in the southern French city of Arles. Laundry was done in this canal, and linens have been laid out to bleach on the far bank. All that is missing are the washerwomen – who were included in an earlier version. Van Gogh carefully organised his composition. He chose a place for his easel where he could paint the patch of land with the road in the foreground as a large diagonal leading into the left background. He had seen diagonals of this kind used in Japanese prints. Vincent and his brother Theo had accumulated a joint collection of these prints in Paris.