

Van Gogh (worksheet)

skyteach

Task 1

Warm-up



Discuss the questions:

Do you like fine art?

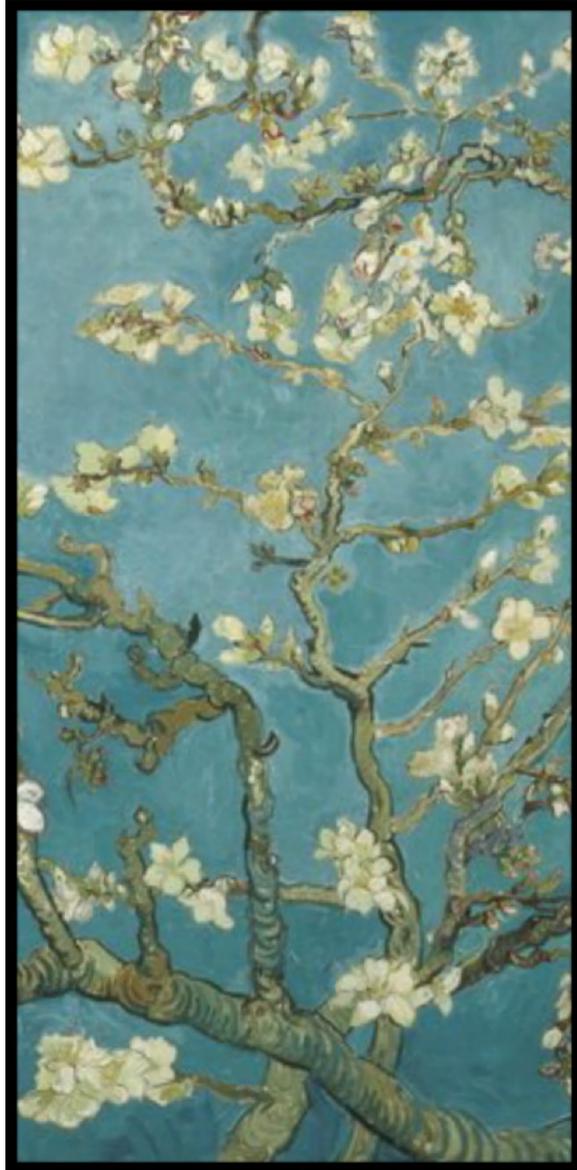
Do you know Van Gogh? What is he famous for?

Do you know any of his pictures?

Can you paint?

Activity 2

Works of art



Take a look at Van Gogh's pieces of art, describe what you see, try to guess their names:

Which one do you like the most?

Activity 3

Van Gogh's biography

***Look at these facts about Van Gogh.
Which of them are new for you?***



Read his biography and mark the sentences True or False.

Activity 3

Van Gogh's biography

Vincent van Gogh was one of the world's greatest artists, with paintings such as 'Starry Night' and 'Sunflowers,' though he was unknown until after his death.

Vincent van Gogh was a post-Impressionist painter whose work — notable for its beauty, emotion and color — highly influenced 20th-century art. He struggled with mental illness and remained poor and virtually unknown throughout his life.

Van Gogh was born on March 30, 1853, in Groot-Zundert, Netherlands. Van Gogh's father, Theodorus van Gogh, was an austere country minister, and his mother, Anna Cornelia Carbentus, was a moody artist whose love of nature, drawing and watercolors was transferred to her son.

At age 15, van Gogh's family was struggling financially, and he was forced to leave school and go to work. By this time, van Gogh was fluent in French, German and English, as well as his native Dutch.

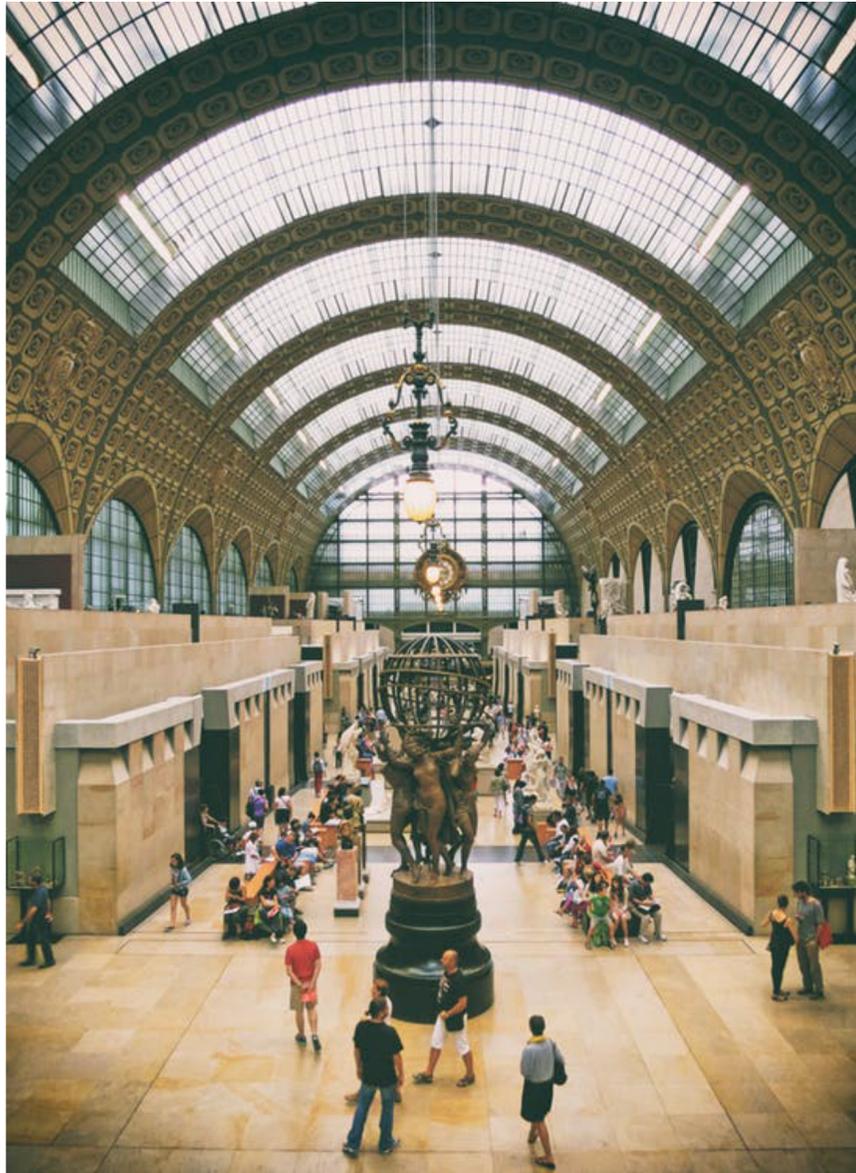
In June of 1873, van Gogh was transferred to the Goupil Gallery in London. There, he fell in love with English culture. He also fell in love with his landlady's daughter, Eugenie Loyer. When she rejected his marriage proposal, van Gogh suffered a breakdown. He threw away all his books except for the Bible, and devoted his life to God. He became angry with people at work, telling customers not to buy the "worthless art," and was eventually fired.

Are these sentences True or False?

1. Van Gogh was famous throughout all his life
2. Van Gogh was mentally ill
3. He was born in France
4. His father was a painter
5. Van Gogh knew many languages
6. He got married with Eugenie Loyer
7. Van Gogh was religious

Activity 4

Vincent Van Gogh Visits the Gallery



Watch *an episode* from “*Doctor Who*” and discuss the questions:

1. What museum do they visit? Have you been there?
2. What is Van Gogh’s reaction?
3. What does the man wearing a bow tie tell about him?
4. Would you like to meet any artists? What would you discuss?

Activity 5

Modern perusal

We've already watched a video about Musée d'Orsay. Nowadays there are not only classical exhibitions, but modern, immersive ones.

Let's watch *the video* about one of them and answer the questions:

1. How many works are shown?

- A) 200
- B) 2000

2. Can you touch the canvas?

- A) Sure
- B) No, it's forbidden

3. What other painters are mentioned in the video?

- A) Dali, Picasso
- B) Da vinci, Picasso

4. Does everybody like such kind of art?

- A) Not at all
- B) Yes

5. Can we see real paintings there?

- A) Yes
- B) No



Activity 6

Planning your visit

There's a special museum about Van Gogh.

Click and check *its website*. Answer to some questions:

1. Where is it located?
2. How much does a ticket cost? Can you buy it online?
3. Do you usually buy tickets online?
4. Have you visited this museum? If not, would you like to?
5. Do you agree with an opinion that art galleries help to preserve art and its history? How?

Activity 7

Let's sum it up

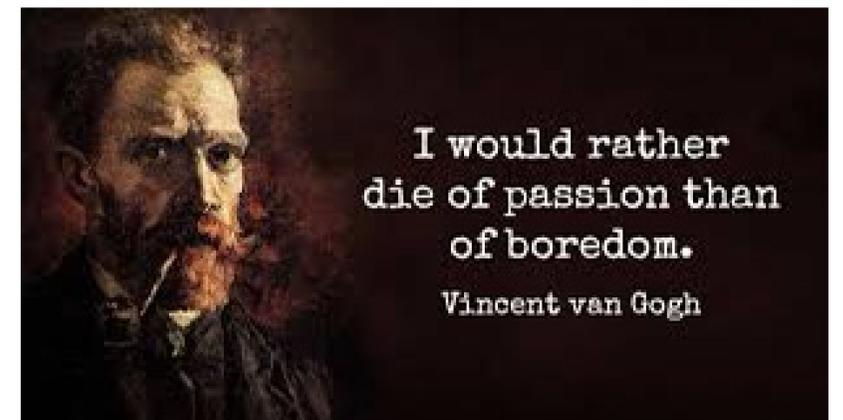
Let's check what you remember!
Answer to some questions:

1. Retell Van Gogh's biography using lesson's information
2. Is he popular nowadays? Do you think his genius?
3. Which of his pictures do you admire the most and why?
4. What's the difference between an art gallery with real pieces of art and immersive exhibitions?

Optional task (homework)

Let's focus on one of the painter's quotes and discuss it:

1. What's the main idea of the quote?
2. What makes your life interesting?
3. Are you passionate?
4. What don't you like? What is boring for you? Can you improve it?



Keys:

Activity 2

(keys: Almond Blossoms, Starry Night, Sunflowers)

Activity 3

- 1. False (he was unknown until after his death)*
- 2. True*
- 3. False, Van Gogh was born in Netherlands*
- 4. False, he was a country minister*
- 5. True*
- 6. False, she rejected his marriage proposal*
- 7. True*

Activity 4

- 1. Musee d'Orsay in Paris*
- 2. He can't believe his eyes, he's really impressed, he even cries*
- 3. He says he is genius and that he's the greatest man who ever lived*

Activity 5

- 1) A*
- 2) A*
- 3) B*
- 4) A*
- 5) B*

Activity 6

- 1. Amsterdam*
- 2. 19 euros. Tickets are available online*