

What is street art?

Street art is visual art created in public locations, usually unsanctioned artwork executed outside of the context of traditional art venues. Other terms for this type of art can be "urban art", "guerrilla art", "independent public art", "post-graffiti", and "neo-graffiti". Common forms and media can include spray paint graffiti, stencil graffiti (a form of graffiti that makes use of stencils made out of paper, cardboard, or other media to create an image or text that is easily reproducible), wheatpasted poster art (wheatpaste is a combination of flour, sugar, and water to put up a poster), sticker art, street installations, and sculpture.

Street art is a form of artwork that is displayed in a community on its surrounding buildings, streets, and other publicly viewed surfaces. Many instances come in the form of guerrilla art, whose aim is to make a public statement about the society that the artist lives within. The work has moved from the beginnings of graffiti and vandalism to new modes where artists work to bring messages, or just simple beauty, to an audience.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Street_art

Who is Banksy?

Banksy is an anonymous England-based graffiti artist. His (or maybe her) satirical street art and subversive epigrams (short and interesting statements) combine dark humour with graffiti executed in a distinctive stenciling technique. Banksy's works of political and social commentary have been featured on streets, walls, and bridges of cities throughout the world. Banksy's work grew out of the Bristol underground scene, which involved collaborations between artists and musicians.

Based on <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Banksy>

What types of street art are shown in the photo gallery of Bristol?

Discuss the following questions:

- Is there a lot of graffiti and street art in your town and neighbourhood?
- Can you describe graffiti or a work of street art that has impressed you?
- In your opinion, is graffiti vandalism?
- Is street art really a form of art?
- Street artists sometimes use their art to draw attention to the problems in society. Do you think street art is an effective means to this end?