

Worksheet Street Art (Level B1-C1)

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What is street art?

Street art is visual art created in public places, usually unsanctioned artworks that are created outside the context of traditional art venues. Other terms for this type of art include "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 uses stencils made of paper, cardboard or other media to create an image or text that is easily reproduced), wheat paste poster art (wheat paste is a combination of flour, sugar and water used to make a poster), sticker art, street installations and sculpture.

Street art is a form of artwork that is displayed in a community on surrounding buildings, streets and other publicly visible surfaces. Often it takes the form of guerrilla art, the aim of which is to make a public statement about the society in which the artist lives. The work has evolved from the early days of graffiti and vandalism to new forms where artists work to communicate messages, or simply beauty, to an audience.

Based on https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Street_art

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

Who is Banksy?

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

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

Discuss the following questions:

- Is there a lot of graffiti and street art in your city and neighbourhood?
- Can you describe a piece of graffiti or street art that has impressed you?
- Do you think graffiti is vandalism?
- Is street art really an art form?
- Street artists sometimes use their art to draw attention to problems in society. Do you think street art is an effective way to do this?