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Level 5

Art galleries waste of time for kids, says artist

7th August, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1408/140807-art-galleries.html>

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Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26–page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1408/140807-art-galleries.html>

A thought-provoking British artist has said children visiting art galleries is "a total waste of time". Jake Chapman made his controversial comments in an interview with a newspaper. He also said other things that might anger parents, child development experts, and children. He said parents were "arrogant" for thinking children could understand modern art. He said showing a child a painting by an abstract artist was an "insult" to the artist. Mr Chapman explained that it was like telling the artist their art is "as moronic as a child". He also said: "Children are not human yet."

Chapman has created a stir in the art world. Artist Anthony Gormley said: "I don't think art is to be understood....It is to be felt. Feeling comes before understanding." London's National Gallery said: "Children benefit a great deal from visiting art galleries and museums. It widens their horizons." A BBC Arts Editor said Chapman's comments were made to get the media to give him more attention. He said it was a simple formula to promote an exhibition. The artist says something crazy to the press, who then write a lot about it. After that, ticket sales for the exhibition soar.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-28639242>
<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/aug/04/jake-chapman-snob-children-galleries-gifts>
<http://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/art/news/a-gallery-visit-leave-the-children-at-home-says-top-artist-9644678.html>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1408/140807-art-galleries.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. A thought- | a. comments in an interview |
| 2. a total | b. the artist |
| 3. Chapman made his controversial | c. understand modern art |
| 4. things that might | d. abstract artist |
| 5. arrogant for thinking children could | e. provoking British artist |
| 6. a painting by an | f. moronic as a child |
| 7. an "insult" to | g. waste of time |
| 8. their art is as | h. anger parents |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Chapman has created a | a. before understanding |
| 2. I don't think art is | b. horizons |
| 3. Feeling comes | c. to be understood |
| 4. Children benefit a great deal | d. promote an exhibition |
| 5. It widens their | e. stir in the art world |
| 6. get the media to give | f. the exhibition soar |
| 7. a simple formula to | g. from visiting art galleries |
| 8. ticket sales for | h. him more attention |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1408/140807-art-galleries.html>

A thought-provoking British (1) _____ visiting art galleries is "(2) _____". Jake Chapman made his controversial comments (3) _____ a newspaper. He also said other things that might anger parents, child development experts, and children. He said parents were (4) _____ children could understand modern art. He said showing a child a painting (5) _____ was an "insult" to the artist. Mr Chapman explained that it was like telling the artist their art is "(6) _____". He also said: "Children are not human yet."

Chapman has (7) _____ the art world. Artist Anthony Gormley said: "I don't think art is to be understood....It is to be felt. Feeling (8) _____." London's National Gallery said: "Children benefit a (9) _____ art galleries and museums. It widens their horizons." A BBC Arts Editor said Chapman's (10) _____ to get the media to give (11) _____. He said it was a simple formula to promote an exhibition. The artist says something crazy to the press, who then (12) _____. After that, ticket sales for the exhibition soar.

ART GALLERY SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1408/140807-art-galleries.html>

Write five GOOD questions about art galleries in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

