



ครูปอม-ครูปลา สอนพิเศษ 09-555-19391, 09-241-99-638

Mona Lisa: What Is Your Secret?



Do you have secrets, things that you do not or cannot tell anyone? How long can you keep your secrets? There is one lady who has kept her secret for over five centuries! People call her Mona Lisa, which means Madame Lisa in Italian. She may be a real person, but she is better known as the most famous portrait in the world. Her unique smile is what makes her so special. The lady in the painting smiles at you as if she knows something that nobody else does - a big secret.

In the past, wealthy people employed artists to paint pictures for them. Most of the paintings were of themselves or their family members. The portrait of Mona Lisa was painted by an Italian artist called Leonardo da Vinci in the 15th century. We do not know for sure who the lady in the painting really was. Most people believe that Mona Lisa was a wife of a very rich merchant in Florence, a very beautiful city in Italy. Some people believe that it is a portrait of Leonardo da Vinci himself! They think that he imagined himself as a woman and painted from his imagination. So who really is the lady in the painting? This is the big secret that Mona Lisa is keeping to herself.

If you want to see the Mona Lisa, you can go to the Louvre in Paris, one of the world's largest museums. Leonardo da Vinci took it to France with him when he went to work for a French king. The painting hung in a lot of palaces before moving to the Louvre. The Mona Lisa was once stolen by an Italian man. He tried to take it back to Italy, to where he thought the painting belonged. What he did was wrong, but many Italians were proud of him. Today, it is safely kept behind bulletproof glass to prevent theft and damage. Mona Lisa still keeps her secret behind her beautiful smile, tempting people to solve the mystery.



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Unit 9 Mona Lisa: What Is Your Secret?

1. Write T (True) or F (False).

- _____ 1. The portrait of Mona Lisa was painted by Leonardo DiCaprio.
- _____ 2. Madame Lisa was a real person and very popular in the 15th century.
- _____ 3. Mona Lisa is famous for the unique smile.
- _____ 4. The Mona Lisa painting is now displayed at the Louvre Museum.
- _____ 5. If you would like to see the Mona Lisa painting, you have to go to Italy.
- _____ 6. In the past, only the rich could have their portrait painted by good artists.
- _____ 7. Some people still believe that Mona Lisa was a picture of the painter himself.
- _____ 8. Mona Lisa was painted by an Italian artist.
- _____ 9. Only kings or rich people can see the Mona Lisa at the palace.
- _____ 10. Mona Lisa was smiling because she was a secret wife of a rich merchant in Florence.