

## VOCABULARY Talking about pictures

### 1 Complete the paragraph with the correct form of the words in brackets.

There are nearly as many opinions on art as there are paintings themselves. Describing a painting is always open to <sup>1</sup> ..... (interpret). What appears <sup>2</sup> ..... (atmosphere) or <sup>3</sup> ..... (drama) to one person may seem dull or <sup>4</sup> ..... (convention) to another. Abstract art is perhaps the style that is most difficult to appreciate because its meaning is often <sup>5</sup> ..... (ambiguity).

### 2 Complete the conversation with the words in the box.



realistic intimate subtle abstract bold

- A: Can we skip the modern art section? It's all a bit too <sup>1</sup> ..... for me. I like to know what I'm looking at.  
B: Yeah, sure. ... Look, this one is very <sup>2</sup> ..... You feel you could almost pick up the fruit and eat it.  
A: You're right. It must be difficult to get in all that detail. And what do you think of this one?  
B: Oh, it's very dramatic, isn't it? The colours are very <sup>3</sup> .....  
A: Yeah ... but this one is different. These <sup>4</sup> ..... colours are very soft and relaxing.  
B: Hmm. I find it a bit disturbing to look at a private moment like this, though. It's too <sup>5</sup> ..... to share with other people, really.

### 3 Match the sentence halves.

- 1 This one is so realistic. It looks as .....
  - 2 Come and look at this. The man in the picture .....
  - 3 I don't see the attraction. To me all his paintings .....
  - 4 She looks furious so they've .....
  - 5 The artist was born in Belgium and that could .....
  - 6 It all seems very weird. I think it must .....
  - 7 It's a celebration and they appear .....
  - 8 Looking at this one, I get .....
- a to have just got married.  
b well be his hometown.  
c look really dull.  
d if it's been photographed with a camera.  
e the impression the artist was rather depressed.  
f obviously just been arguing.  
g looks a bit like your brother.  
h show some sort of nightmare.

### Language note uses of look

They **look** really dull. (look + adjective)

It **looks as if** it's been photographed. (look as if + clause)

He **looks like** your brother. (look like + noun)