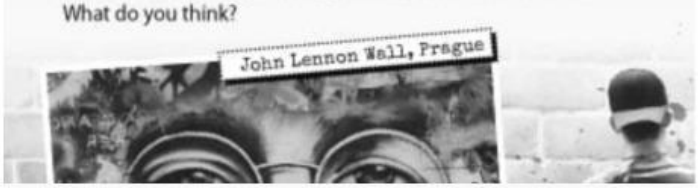
GRAFFITI – CRIME or Art?

If you go to any city in the world, you will see graffiti on walls and buildings. Graffiti has changed over the years, from people writing their names on public property to painting huge, colourful pictures. In some countries, graffiti is a crime, but in others, graffiti is encouraged.

Some people think graffiti makes towns and cities look ugly. Shops and businesses are sometimes affected by graffiti because some people don't want to go into a place with graffiti. It also costs a lot of money to clean graffiti. Even historic buildings and monuments are vandalised by graffiti. In 2017, graffiti was found on four important monuments in Washington, DC.

In other places, people believe graffiti is art. In many old neighbourhoods, street art has transformed ugly buildings, and in some cities, graffiti is legal on specific walls. In Bondi Beach in Sydney, Australia, experienced street artists paint pictures on the walls of some buildings. Graffiti is also a way for people to share thoughts about politics and society. In the 1980s in Prague, Czech Republic, people wrote on a graffiti wall called "The Lennon Wall". John Lennon, the Beatles musician, wrote songs about peace and people used to write the song lyrics on the wall. If you visit Prague today, you will see "The Lennon Wall" – it's a popular tourist attraction. Is graffiti ugly vandalism or beautiful art? What do you think?



Complete the sentences. Type the answers.

1. People can see graffiti _____ .
2. Graffiti can be writing or _____ .
3. Important monuments in Washington, DC were _____ .
4. Some cities allow graffiti _____ .
5. Graffiti gives people the opportunity to _____ .

Read the **article**. Then choose T (true), F (false) or DS (the text doesn't say).

1. The first graffiti appeared hundreds of years ago. — T F DS
2. Graffiti is illegal in every country. — T F DS
3. Businesses can lose customers because of graffiti. — T F DS
4. Cleaning graffiti is very expensive. — T F DS
5. Graffiti isn't allowed on Bondi Beach. — T F DS
6. John Lennon wrote his song lyrics on a wall in Prague. — T F DS
7. In the writer's opinion, graffiti should be illegal. — T F DS

LIVEWORKSHEETS