

Reading Comprehension

Questions 1 through 3 refer to the following advice.

Paintbrush Storage Tips

Good paintbrushes can be very expensive, so we here at *Hobby Artist Magazine* have made some suggestions to help keep your paintbrushes in good shape.

First, always clean your brushes right after using them, because some paints have acids that can weaken the brush over time.

Second, clean your brushes with a mild cleaner. We recommend a mixture of one part alcohol and three parts water.

Finally, store your brushes with the tips up. This allows them to dry more quickly.

Remember to keep your paintbrushes in good shape!

1. Who would be most interested in an article like this?
(A) A mechanic
(B) A professor
(C) A surgeon
(D) A painter
2. What is a good cleaning solution for paintbrushes?
(A) One part alcohol and three parts water
(B) Two parts alcohol and two parts water
(C) Water
(D) Strong chemicals
3. According to the text, how are paintbrushes best stored?
(A) On their sides
(B) In a wooden box
(C) With their tips up
(D) With their tips down

Questions 4 through 7 refer to the following advertisement.

GRAND OPENING SALE!

The Art Shoppe, Europe's biggest and most exciting art supply super-store, is opening a new store in the downtown area. To celebrate this exciting event, all six Art Shoppe store branches are having a "Buy One, Get One Free" sale!

What does this mean for you? It means savings, savings, SAVINGS! That's Right! Buy one fantastic oil painting and receive another one ABSOLUTELY FREE!!!!

Imagine that you want a beautiful landscape painting, but your wife wants a portrait. No need to argue about which one to get—GET THEM BOTH!!!! It's Buy One, Get One Free!!!

Your children think that some modern art would color up the walls of their bedrooms, but your husband thinks that classical art would be better. Don't worry—get one of each! Its buy one, get one free!

Landscapes, portraits, still-life, modern, classical, rococo, cubist. All styles! All sizes! All shapes! BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE!

The Art Shoppe also offers painting classes for all levels beginning through advanced. On Wednesday evenings from 6:00—8:00 The Art Shoppe also offers sculpture classes. So come on down to the place that everyone is talking about —The Art Shoppe!

Note: Offer does not apply to watercolors.

4. How many store branches does The Art Shoppe have?
 - (A) One
 - (B) Six
 - (C) Ten
 - (D) The article does not say.
5. According to the advertisement, what do you get if you buy a painting at The Art Shoppe?
 - (A) Some money
 - (B) Painting lessons
 - (C) Another painting
 - (D) Some paint
6. What does the offer NOT apply to?
 - (A) Animal paintings
 - (B) Watercolor paintings
 - (C) Landscape paintings
 - (D) Portraits
7. What classes are offered on Wednesday evenings?
 - (A) Photography
 - (B) Painting
 - (C) Flower arranging
 - (D) Sculpture

Questions 8 through 11 refer to the following letter.

Dear Grandma and Grandpa,

Thank you both for the wonderful wedding present. Both Jill and I have always wanted to go to France and visit the many museums. We were so shocked when we first saw the airplane tickets that we almost fainted! It was more than we could have hoped to receive airplane tickets to France as a wedding present! Paris is wonderful! The only trouble is trying to decide where to go. I want to go to the museums, but Jill wants to see some of the beautiful traditional churches. In the end, we decided to see the churches in the morning (when the weather is cool), and the museums in the afternoon (because they're air-conditioned). This allows us to get the most sightseeing done during our two-week stay. There are many coffee shops, too. Jill likes sitting outside and watching people, but I like sitting inside where I can enjoy the smell of the coffee. French coffees are so much more aromatic and stronger than the coffee we are used to back home. Thanks again for the lovely trip! We sent you a postcard, but I think we will arrive back home before you get it. It is a picture of the Eiffel Tower.

Love,
Freddy and Jill

8. What did Freddy's grandparents give him and Jill for a wedding present?
(A) A cake
(B) Some coffee
(C) A trip to France
(D) Tickets to a museum
9. Based on this letter, which of the following could be inferred?
(A) Freddy is an indoor person, and Jill is an outdoor person.
(B) Freddy is an outdoor person, and Jill is an indoor person.
(C) Both Freddy and Jill are indoor people.
(D) Freddy and Jill hate to travel.
10. Why did they decide to visit the museums in the afternoon?
(A) They could get a discounted price in the afternoon.
(B) The museums are closed in the mornings.
(C) The weather is hot and the museums have air conditioning.
(D) The art is better in the afternoon.
11. How long was their trip?
(A) One week
(B) Two weeks
(C) One month
(D) The reading does not say.

Questions 12 through 16 refer to the following survey results and article.



What do students consider to be "art"? According to the World Arts Council, most students who were asked this question considered art to be painting. Almost seventy percent of students age 15 through 18 said that painting was art. This takes into account all manner of painting from watercolor to pastels, oils, and acrylics. A much smaller number, twenty percent, said that sculpture was art. This number includes students who said that sculpture included wood and clay. Eight percent said that stone sculpture was art. Only two percent of the students surveyed thought that working with wood was art. "I think that paintings are artistic," one student said, "but sculpture isn't." According to Liza Melter, art director at Bandas University, students tend to associate art with color; things that lack color aren't considered art. This research will be used in the future to help better develop high school and university art curriculums.

Newspaper clipping

Local high-school teacher communicates with blind students via sculpture. Matt Creaborne, an art teacher at Crestview High-School, recently began using sculpture to assist blind students with such subjects as math and geometry. He got the idea by watching the great Spanish sculptor Rigo Rossi use his hands to count off measurements as he sculpted. "By using their hands, students can feel things like distances and spatial relationships," Mr Creaborne said. "This allows them to think abstractly, just like in geometry." Mr. Creaborne's technique will be tried in several other schools this fall including three high schools for blind learners. According to Jim Miller, director for assisted student learning, Mr. Creaborne's methods should help visually impaired students match non-visually impaired students in terms of their test scores in mathematics. "We are looking forward to big improvements in test scores in the next few years," Mr. Miller said.

12. What was the age range of the students interviewed?
(A) 10 - 14
(B) 14 - 16
(C) 15 - 18
(D) 15 - 20
13. According to one art director, what do students associate art with?
(A) Color
(B) Shape
(C) Size
(D) Popularity
14. According to the chart, what is the least likely to be considered art?
(A) Painting
(B) Clay sculpture
(C) Stone sculpture
(D) Woodworking
15. According to the newspaper clipping, which students are Mr. Creaborne's classes for?
(A) Students who cannot see
(B) Students who cannot hear
(C) Students who cannot taste
(D) Students who cannot feel
16. According to the newspaper clipping, what benefit will Mr. Creaborne's technique have on the students?
(A) Test scores will go up.
(B) Test scores will go down.
(C) Test scores will stay the same.
(D) The article does not say.