8.3 Reading and Vocabulary

A young artist

1 Complete the sentences with the words below.

blocks canvas display image gallery self simple ~~typical~~

1 The artist's new piece was a change in direction, as it wasn't her *typical* style.
2 This music always creates a(n) _____ of a dark landscape in my mind.
3 It's incredible how you've created this picture just using _____ lines.
4 Have you ever painted a(n) _____-portrait?
5 Banksy's new work is on _____ at the Tate Modern at the moment.
6 I usually paint on _____, but sometimes I paint on paper.
7 We visited an interesting art _____ when we went to London.
8 She usually paints using _____ of colour to create abstract art.

2 Read the article quickly. Where does Aelita get her ideas for painting?

_____

3 Read the article again and answer the questions.

1 How old was Aelita when she painted her first picture?

_____

2 What did her dad think about her first picture?

_____

3 What did the people at the Melbourne art gallery want to do when they saw her work?

_____

4 How long did it take to sell all the tickets for the New York exhibition?

_____

5 What unusual objects does she sometimes include in her paintings?

_____

6 What do people watch her do at her live events?

_____



'An artist before she could talk'

Aelita Andre is a young Australian painter, but she is not your average artist. When she was just nine months old, her dad, who used to paint occasionally, put out some canvas and began to paint. Then Aelita sat on the canvas and started using her hands, feet and legs to move the paint around. Her father could see how happy she was, but when he stood up and looked at the image, he was really surprised – it was amazing and very beautiful.

Her parents were so impressed with her work that they took it to a major art gallery in Melbourne, looking for a professional opinion. The people at the gallery liked the painting so much that they wanted to put her work on display. Aelita was one year old at that time. Her art became more popular and she had her first solo exhibition in Australia at the age of two. By 2011, she was known internationally, and her exhibition at the Agora Art Gallery in New York was so popular that it sold out in just seven days.

Her typical style is abstract, and varies from simple lines to big blocks of colour. She often includes real toys in her pictures, stuck to the canvas. Many art experts consider her work to be brilliant.

She has travelled the world, putting her work on display at art galleries and even doing 'live painting' events where people come to see her in action. People may think that such success at an early age could be difficult for her, but she leads a very normal life otherwise. She plays the piano and violin, and likes ballet and gymnastics. She also loves animals. At home they have chickens, a rabbit, guinea pigs, a turtle and some fish. She says she gets a lot of her ideas about what to paint from nature: trees, animals and space. Let's hope we get to see a lot more of her beautiful work in the future.

I can understand an article about a young artist.

On the Digital Extra Practice Activities, Lesson 8.3, Unit 8
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