

TA7. Unit 4. Music and arts – Reading 1

READING 1: "The World of Water Puppetry"

Water puppetry is a traditional Vietnamese art form that dates back over a thousand years. It is performed in a shallow pool of water, with puppets controlled by artists using long sticks hidden under the water. The performances are often accompanied by folk music, played with traditional musical instruments like drums, flutes, and stringed instruments.

Water puppetry tells stories about daily life in Vietnam, including farming, fishing, and village festivals. Sometimes, it features mythical creatures, like dragons and phoenixes, to create exciting scenes. The art form has been recognized as a unique part of Vietnamese culture and continues to entertain audiences worldwide.

Questions:

1. What is water puppetry?
2. Where is water puppetry performed?
3. What tools do artists use to control the puppets?
4. What kind of music usually accompanies the performances?
5. Name one theme often featured in water puppetry stories.
6. How long has water puppetry been a part of Vietnamese culture?
7. Which mythical creatures are mentioned in the text?
8. What does water puppetry showcase about Vietnamese culture?
9. Is water puppetry still popular today?
10. Which art form is described as unique in the text?

READING 2: "A Night at the Concert Hall"

Last Saturday, I went to a concert hall to watch a musical performance featuring both classical and pop music. The show was amazing! A young musician played the piano beautifully, and an artist painted a large street painting on stage during the performance. The audience was thrilled to see such a creative combination of art and music.

The second half of the concert was a music contest where talented singers performed country music and folk songs. One of the contestants even played the cello while singing. At the end of the night, the concert ended with a loud applause from the crowd. Everyone agreed that it was a truly artistic event.

Questions:

1. Where did the writer go last Saturday?
2. Which two music genres were featured in the musical performance?
3. What instrument did the young musician play?
4. What artistic activity took place during the show?
5. What type of music did the contestants perform in the contest?
6. What unique talent did one contestant show?
7. How did the audience react to the performance?
8. What does the writer think of the event?
9. Which art tool is mentioned in the text?
10. How does the writer describe the event?

READING 3: "The Life of a Talented Artist"

Emily Green is a talented artist and actress who has been creating works of art since she was a teenager. She loves painting portraits using her favorite paintbrush, and her art collections are displayed in famous art galleries around the world. Emily is also a hard-working actress who performs in both comedies and operas. In her free time, Emily enjoys listening to classical music and taking photos of beautiful landscapes. She believes that being creative and friendly helps her connect with people. Emily says, "Art is not just my career, it's my passion."

Questions:

1. What is Emily Green's profession?
2. What type of art does Emily create?
3. Where are her art collections displayed?
4. Which musical genre does Emily enjoy?
5. What does Emily like to photograph?
6. What kind of performances does Emily act in?

7. Which art tool does Emily use for her portraits?
8. Name one quality Emily thinks is important for an artist.
9. What does Emily say about art?
10. How long has Emily been creating art?

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