

Q1: Read a paragraph about Vincent van Gogh. Then explain to your partner what you learned about him and his art.

Vincent van Gogh (1853–1890) was a painter from the Netherlands, who is known for his paintings of landscapes with fields, trees and flowers. He also painted beautiful pictures of streets and cafés in Paris and Arles, and portraits of his friends. His self-portraits are also well-known. His style was different from that of other painters as he used very bright colours and thick paint that took days to dry. Vincent was never famous or rich. He only sold one painting while he was alive, so his brother Theo, who worked in an art gallery in Paris, had to send him money to support him. Vincent got sick and died alone in Arles, in the south of France. Today, his paintings are among the most valuable in the world. His painting Portrait of Dr. Gachet, for instance, became one of the ten most expensive paintings in history when it sold for over \$150m dollars at auction in 1990.

Vocabulary

2 Match the words in **bold** from the text with their definitions below.

- 1** _____ a particular way of painting or drawing
- 2** _____ a place where art is shown
- 3** _____ a picture that the artist draws of himself/herself
- 4** _____ a painting of someone
- 5** _____ a painting of the countryside
- 6** _____ something that's worth a lot of money
- 7** _____ to help someone who has problems
- 8** _____ the opposite of *dead*