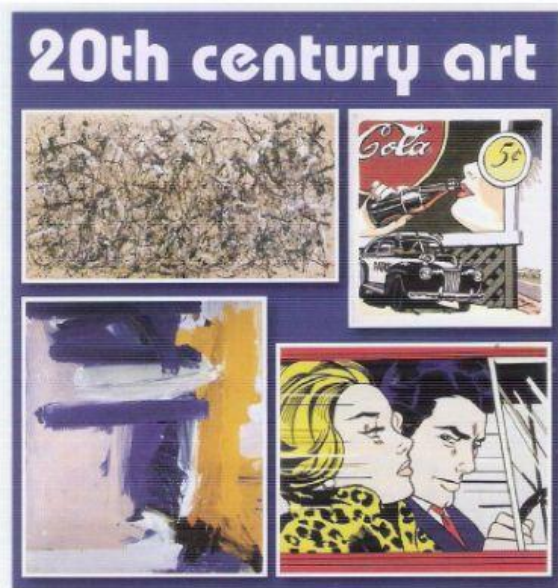


**A- Read and listen to the text carefully and do the following activities.**



## **20th century art**

### **Abstract expressionism**

Abstract expressionism is an art movement which became popular in the USA after World War II, from the mid 1940s to the end of the 1950s.

The artists of this movement were also known as "The New York School". However, not all of them were American. Some were forced to move to the USA from Europe because of the war.

Abstract expressionism was more of an attitude than a particular style. The characteristics of the paint itself and the act of painting were very important to its artists. Typically, broad brushes were used, and the paint was sometimes dripped or thrown onto a large canvas. The artists enjoyed this freedom of expression, and they depicted emotions in their paintings rather than actual objects.

### **Pop art**

Popular Art, or Pop Art, organized in Britain in the mid 1950s and became popular in the USA, in the 1960s. It started as a reaction to Abstract Expressionism, which was considered too profound and pretentious by some people. "Pop artists" believed art should be simpler and more representative of real life. They wanted art to be more accessible to ordinary people.

Pop Art celebrated post-war materialism and consumerism. The images often depicted everyday objects, brand names and packaging, such as tubes of toothpaste, or boxes of cereals. Celebrities, the media, or comic strips also appeared. Bright, bold colours were used, and the pieces of art often contained the same image, repeated in different colours.

## ACTIVITIES

- 1- Check the meaning of the words in the box. Which words would you use to describe which painting?

Bright bold colours   drips of paint   a comic strip   representative of real life   a brand name

20th century art

Four empty boxes for labeling the art styles: top-left, top-right, bottom-left, and bottom-right.

- 2- Which art movement are the words in exercise 1 from? **AE**(Abstract Expressionism) or **PA** (Pop Art)?

- a- Bright bold colours ☐
- b- drips of paint ☐
- c- a comic strip ☐
- d- representative of real life ☐
- e- a brand name ☐

- 3- Read the text carefully. Write **AE**(Abstract Expressionism), **PA** (Pop Art) or **N**(Neither) for sentences 1-6.

1. It became popular during the Second World War. \_\_\_\_
2. It started in Europe. \_\_\_\_
3. Common objects appeared in the pictures. \_\_\_\_
4. The painting process itself was extremely important to the artists. \_\_\_\_
5. The artists were all the same nationality. \_\_\_\_
6. Famous people were sometimes portrayed. \_\_\_\_