

# Graffiti

Graffiti has existed since people learned how to scratch symbols in rocks. Graffiti is any image, symbol or letters made on public property. While some people still make scratches in rocks, concrete or buildings, most graffiti is now made with spray paint or markers.

Is graffiti vandalism? Some graffiti is ugly. Some graffiti, called tagging, is just the name or initials of a person. It is often unreadable. The only purpose of tagging seems to be to quickly spray your initials on as many different surfaces as possible. Nobody likes tags except the taggers.

Is graffiti art? Some graffiti is artistic and takes time, skill and talent to create. It can be nice to look at. The purpose of some graffiti is to spread social messages or political messages. Some cities have places where walls or other surfaces can be used by people to create pieces of graffiti art.

## Comprehension Check:

Are these sentences true or false?

1. Graffiti is new.
2. Graffiti can look nice.
3. Tagging is done quickly. .
4. Graffiti can show social and political messages.
5. Everybody likes tags

## Fill in the Blanks: UGLY- INITIALS - ARTISTIC- WRITE - TAGS- MESSAGES

1. Graffiti has existed since people learned how to \_\_\_\_\_ symbols in rock.
  - 2- Sometimes graffiti has social or political \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3- Some graffiti is \_\_\_\_\_ and has taken some skill and talent to create.
  - 4- Some graffiti looks nice but other graffiti is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 5- Taggers like making \_\_\_\_\_ but most people don't like them.
  - 6- If you tag something, you probably paint or write your \_\_\_\_\_ on it.
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## Read the text and answer

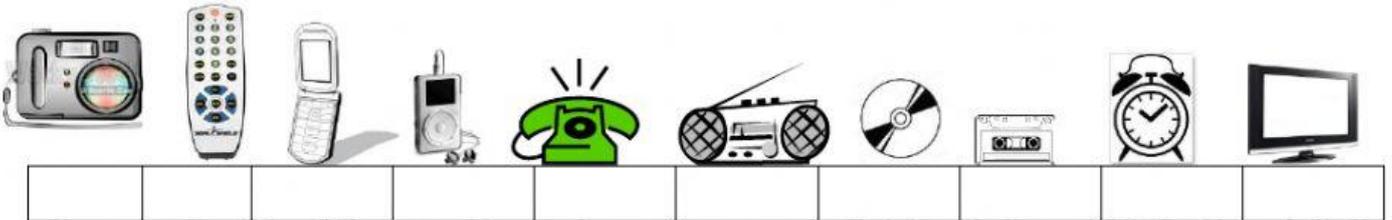
JR is the name of a French photographer and artist whose identity is unconfirmed. He has described himself as a "photographeur", he flyposts large black-and-white photographic images in public locations in a manner which is similar to the appropriation of the built environment by the graffiti artist. He states that the street is "the largest art gallery in the world." He started out on the streets of Paris. JR's work "often challenges widely held notions propagated by advertising and the media."

JR's work combines art and action and deals with commitment, freedom, identity and limits. He has been introduced by Fabrice Bousteau as: "the one we already call the Cartier-Bresson of the 21st century". On October 20, 2010, JR won the TED prize for 2011. "The TED Prize is awarded annually to an exceptional individual who receives \$100,000 and, much more important, 'One Wish to Change the World.' Designed to leverage the TED community's exceptional array of talent and resources, the Prize leads to collaborative initiatives with far-reaching impact."

1. Who is JR ? What is his nationality ?
2. Where does he display his art ?
3. Has he ever won any prizes ?

## The World of Technology

### 1- Match these words to the Pictures:



plasma television/ Cassette/ telephone/ compact disk/ cell phone/ MP3 player/ digital camera/ remote control/ telephone/ audio system/

### 2- Read the clues and find the electronic gadget

- a- It is an optical disc used to store digital data. \_\_\_\_\_
- b- You can make and receive telephone calls everywhere with it \_\_\_\_\_
- c- This device makes a loud sound at a specific time. \_\_\_\_\_
- d- You can listen to music everywhere using your.... \_\_\_\_\_
- e- You can switch on the TV, or change the channel with it \_\_\_\_\_

### Write **for** or **since** in the following sentences:

1. Sam hasn't been here \_\_\_\_\_ a month.
2. Kate has lived there \_\_\_\_\_ 2005.
3. I have come to you \_\_\_\_\_ three weeks.
4. Bob has been in Washington \_\_\_\_\_ Monday.
5. I haven't seen her \_\_\_\_\_ ages.
6. Sally has been in hospital \_\_\_\_\_ April.

## WHILE READING / LISTENING

**GAP FILL:** Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Much has been \_\_\_\_\_ about how anti-social the Internet and mobile phones are. The truth is however, according to new research, communication technology is bringing people \_\_\_\_\_ together. A study by the Pew Internet and American Life Project found family members were keeping in \_\_\_\_\_ contact today more than ever before. And this is all \_\_\_\_\_ to e-mail, chat, our cellphones and SMS messaging. It makes \_\_\_\_\_. Years ago, it took a long time to write a letter, then find an envelope and go to the post office to buy a stamp and post it. Today we write mails while we wait for our \_\_\_\_\_ in the convenience store and they're sent in an instant. Having free Internet telephone calls also \_\_\_\_\_ us to stay in touch more often and for longer. Everyone's \_\_\_\_\_ it, from five-year-olds to tech-savvy grandparents.

*change  
regular  
at  
down  
said  
helps  
sense  
closer*

According to the Pew survey, technology has a very positive \_\_\_\_\_ on communication within families. Researchers asked 2,252 adults whether new technologies had increased the \_\_\_\_\_ of communication with their family. Fifty-three \_\_\_\_\_ said it increased communication with family members they did not live with, two per cent said technology \_\_\_\_\_ this. Numbers were \_\_\_\_\_ for those living in the same house as their family. The project director Lee Rainey said: "There's a new \_\_\_\_\_ of connectedness being built inside of families with these technologies". Survey co-author Barry Wellman agreed: "It used to be [that] husbands went \_\_\_\_\_ to work, wives went off to a different job or else stayed home...and the kids went off to school...and not until 5:30, 6 o'clock did they ever \_\_\_\_\_," he said.

*decreased  
connect  
quality  
kind  
similar  
effect  
off  
percent*

**Make Present Perfect sentences or questions using the given words and just / already / yet.**

1. Your cousin / not / come / to the party / **yet**

\_\_\_\_\_

2. My sister / make / breakfast / **just**

\_\_\_\_\_

3. You / finish / your homework / ? / **yet**

\_\_\_\_\_

4. My friend and I / not / be / to London / **yet**

\_\_\_\_\_

5. She / pay / all the bills / **already**

\_\_\_\_\_

6. They / buy / food / for the dog / **already**

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Your mother / visit / Europe / ? / **yet**

\_\_\_\_\_

8. We / arrive / to the cinema / **just**

\_\_\_\_\_