

Task 5

A. Let's Read

Now, read the following posts written by Hanif and Soia.

I'm simmering with anger as the school wall is cleaned and repainted for the fourth time to get rid of graffiti. Creativity is admirable but people should find ways to express themselves that do not inflict extra costs upon society. Why do you spoil the reputation of young people by painting graffiti where it's forbidden? Professional artists do not hang their paintings in the streets, do they? Instead they seek funding and gain fame through legal exhibitions. In my opinion buildings, fences and park benches are works of art in themselves. It's really pathetic to spoil this architecture with graffiti and what's more, the method destroys the ozone layer. Really, I can't understand why these criminal artists bother as their "artistic works" are just removed from sight over and over again.

Picture 5.9 Social media status

Source: Dwiharyanti/generatestatus.com (2022)

There is no accounting for taste. Society is full of communication and advertising. Company logos, shop names. Large intrusive posters on the streets. Are they acceptable? Yes, mostly. Is graffiti acceptable? Some people say yes, some no. Who pays the price for graffiti? Who is ultimately paying the price for advertisements? Correct. The consumer. Have the people who put up billboards asked your permission? No. Should graffiti painters do so then? Isn't it all just a question of communication – your own name, the names of gangs and large works of art in the street? Think about the striped and chequered clothes that appeared in the stores a few years ago. And ski wear. The patterns and colours were stolen directly from the flowery concrete walls. It's quite amusing that these patterns and colours are accepted and admired but that graffiti in the same style is considered dreadful. Times are hard for art.

Picture 5.10 Social media status

Source: Dwiharyanti/generatestatus.com (2022)

B. Let's Discuss

1. Why do you think they write the posts?
2. Which writer do you agree with? Explain your answer. Refer to what is written on the posts.
3. How would you feel if somebody painted graiti on your property?
4. Who owns the graiti? If somebody paints on your property, can you legally claim the artwork as your own?
5. In your opinion, what would the world be like without graiti?

C. Let's Make a List

People always have different opinion about something, including Graffiti. Some people think that graiti is art. Others think it is an act of vandalism. With your classmates, list in the table below reasons why people think graiti is art or an act of vandalism.

Graffiti is Art	Graffiti is Vandalism
<i>Graffiti can decorate a community in some peoples' eyes</i>	<i>Graffiti makes an area look run-down</i>