

CONTEMPORARY SCULPTORS

## 1 According to the texts, which artist:

- 1 still lives in his/her country of birth?
- 2 did not complete his/her education?
- 3 lived through a major conflict?
- 4 is influenced strongly by his/her country of birth?
- 5 has received criticism of his/her talent?
- 6 uses him/herself as a model?
- 7 is currently combining two artistic disciplines?
- 2 Which of the works of art in the photos do you like the most? Why? Would you like to go to the artists' exhibitions? Why / Why not?

### VOCABULARY: order of adjectives

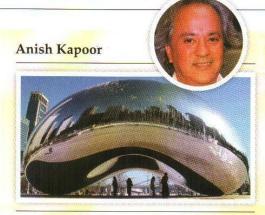
- 3 Look at the highlighted phrases in the texts. List the adjectives in them under some of these headings. age, material, colour/pattern, opinion, nationality, function/class, size, shape, other
- 4 Add the adjectives from the following examples under the headings in Exercise 4a. Can you work out the order of adjectives before a noun (i.e. opinion is first)?

beautiful, antique, colourful, Japanese silk paintings huge, well-known, dark Cubist sculpture

Check your answers in the table on page 173.

5	Rewrite th	e sentences,	putting the	adjectives	in
bra	ackets into	the correct of	order before	the noun.	

- 1 Michael Ayrton made \_\_\_\_\_ sculptures. (bronze, fabulous, large)
- 2 Rothko's paintings often consist of a number of boxes. (coloured, large, rectangular)
- 3 The \_\_\_\_ materials date back 2,000 years. (ancient, fine, Javanese)
- 4 Turner is perhaps the best known of the \_\_\_\_\_ artists. (British, Impressionist)
- 5 Lacquer is a \_\_\_\_\_ varnish. (hard, coloured, heat-resistant)
- 6 Wall paintings are used to brighten up some \_\_\_\_\_ environments. (dreary, urban, modern)
- 7 The bird was made with a piece of \_\_\_\_\_ paper. (square, Japanese, origami)



Anish Kapoor was born in Mumbai, India, in 1954 and moved to England *in 1972*. He studied at two outstanding, famous art schools in London, before starting out as a sculptor. Kapoor soon became well known because of his particular style, which, in his early works, involved the clever use of monochrome and brightly-coloured pigments surrounding the sculpture.

Although he is *mainly* resident in London, he often visits India, and Western and Eastern styles influence his work. It is said that his use of colour is *strongly* influenced by the heaps of coloured spices and powders found in Indian markets.

Kapoor's later works are often very large. In fact, his 110-ton Cloud Gate sculpture in Chicago is amongst the largest in the world. This sculpture is forged from a series of highly-polished stainless steel 'plates' that create an arched, highly-reflective work with Chicago's skyline and Millennium Park in the background.

Nowadays, Kapoor works on subway design in Italy and his work is becoming a mixture of art and architecture.

#### GRAMMAR: position of adverbs

6	Look	at the	adverbs /	adverb	phrases	in	italics	in
the	texts.	Add th	em to the	e lists.				

1	Time: then, in May,,
	Place: there, at home,,
3	Manner: quickly, carefully,,
4	Frequency: sometimes, never,,
5	Certainty: definitely, perhaps,,
	Degree: a lot mostly

## 7 Look at the clauses these adverbs / adverb phrases appear in and answer the questions.

- 1 Do groups 1–3 come at the beginning, middle or end of the clause?
- 2 Where do groups 4–6 come in the clause?
- 3 Where do the adverbs in 4–6 go in relation to the verb they modify?
- 4 Is this the same with all verbs? (Look at mainly.)

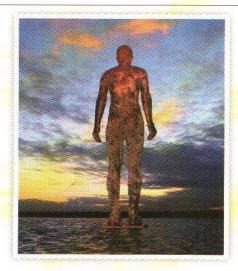


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### **Antony Gormley**

Antony Gormley was born in 1950 in Hampstead, England, and, like Kapoor, is famous for his very large sculptures. He studied at Cambridge from 1968 to 1971 before travelling to India and Sri Lanka to study Buddhism until 1974. On his return he studied in a number of colleges in London. His work mainly focuses on the human body and he uses his own body creatively to form metal casts for his sculptures. One of his best-known sculptures is 'The Angel of the North', an enormous metal figure, now completely rusted to a brown colour, with huge, fully-extended wings. Motorists travelling on the A1 road to the North of England and Scotland see the Angel rising above them dramatically as they drive closer to it. Another striking sculpture is 'Asian Field', installed in Sydney in 2006. It has 180,000 small brown clay figurines crafted by 350 Chinese villagers in five days from 100 tons of red clay. The installation is reminiscent of the terracotta warriors of Xian, China.



# 8 Rewrite the sentences with the adverb(s) in brackets in the correct place(s).

- 1 Van Gogh painted outdoors. (often)
- 2 Picasso has influenced many artists. (strongly)

#### Yoko Ono

Yoko Ono, who once said 'Everybody's an artist', was born in 1933 in Tokyo, Japan. She has mainly been active as a sculptor, artist and film-maker since 1961. Moreover, she uses all these genres in her work, often mixing art with poetry and music. However, she is *probably* most famous for her marriage to John Lennon, of The Beatles.



In 1945, at the end of World War Two, she had to hide with her family when Tokyo was fire-bombed. Although she came from a rich, aristocratic family, she had to pawn her mother's property to obtain rice when Japan surrendered and everyone was poor. She moved with her family to New York when she was 18. She went to college but dropped out after two years. Her artistic work has frequently been criticised. Indeed, Brian Sewell, a traditional art critic, said, 'She's shaped nothing, she's contributed nothing, she's simply been a reflection of the times ...'. There is certainly disagreement with Sewell's views nowadays. In 2001, her show YES YOKO ONO received an international award.

- 3 Leonardo da Vinci sketched technical designs. (very skilfully)
- 4 The French post-impressionist Paul Gauguin died alone. (in Tahiti)
- 5 The most noticeable form of expression of art deco is in the huge skyscrapers in the USA. (probably)
- 6 The batik effect is produced by machines rather than being hand-made. (nowadays)