1

History of Art Art in the UK

1 READING & SPEAKING

- a In pairs, ask and answer the questions.
 - Have you been to any art galleries?
 - Which did you visit?
 - Did you enjoy your visit? Why (not)?
- **b** In pairs, match the artists with the country and genre

A Andy Warhol

1 Germany

i Surrealism

B Wassily Kandinsky

2 Spain

ii Cubism

C Pablo Picasso

3 Russia

iii Abstraction

D Max Ernst

4 America

iv Pop Art

- c Read the article about the Tate Modern and check your answers to b.
- **d** Look at the **highlighted** words in the text and choose the correct meaning.
 - 1 belonging to the present time
 - 2 arranged in the order in which they happened
 - 3 a piece of modern sculpture that can be made using sound, light or objects
 - 4 the side of a river
 - 5 Groups of people who share the same ideas or aims
 - 6 a machine to generate electricity
- e Cover the text. In pairs, can you remember what these numbers or dates refer to? Make a sentence about each number.

2000 1981 200 99 5

- f Read the text again. In pairs, answer the questions.
 - 1 Where is Tate Modern?
 - 2 Who designed the original building?
 - 3 What is the Turbine Hall used for?
 - 4 How are they planning to extend Tate Modern?
 - 5 How does Tate Modern organise its galleries?
 - 6 Where are the other Tate galleries?

Tate Modern is Britain's national museum of international modern art. It is in London, on the south bank of the River Thames, opposite St Paul's Cathedral and the City of London. It displays examples of modern art from 1900 to the present day.

Tate Modern opened in 2000. The building was originally the Bankside Power Station, designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, who also designed Waterloo Bridge and the famous British red telephone box. The power station closed in 1981 and architects Herzog and de Meuron helped convert it into an art gallery. The building is more than 200 metres long and its chimney is 99 metres high. There are 5 levels and the vast Turbine Hall. This is where the Tate displays large installations by contemporary artists. One famous example of an installation was a series of huge slides that visitors could go down, leading from the different levels of the building to the hall floor. This, and other popular installations, has helped capture the imagination of the public, and Tate Modern is now one of the biggest tourist attractions in London. There are plans to build a glass pyramid extension, dedicated to photography and video exhibitions.

Many art galleries arrange art chronologically, but Tate
Modern organises its works of art according to the
important movements in twentieth century art. There
is Abstraction, with paintings by artists like Wassily
Kandinsky; Surrealism, including artists like Salvador Dali
and Max Ernst; Cubism, including works by Picasso; and
Pop Art, represented by artists like Andy Warhol.

There are 3 other Tate galleries — Tate Britain (also in London), Tate Liverpool and Tate St Ives, in Cornwall. Tate Modern is, however, the most popular.



2 READING

a Complete the descriptions (A–D) with the words from the box.

culture geometric images United States dream realistic science ideas

A style of art, developed in the 1950s and 60s, that started in Britain and the 1______. Artists use materials from the everyday world of popular 2______, such as comic strips, canned goods, Hollywood movies, and 3______ fiction.

B A style and movement in art and literature in which 4_____ and events that are not connected are put together in a strange or impossible way, like in a 5_____, to try to express what is happening deep in the mind.

A style and movement of art in which objects and people are represented as 6______ shapes, often shown from many different angles at the same time.

A style and movement in art not representing people or things in a 7_____ way, but expressing the artist's 8_____ about them.

b Match the descriptions (A–D) with the headings (1–4).

- 1 Surrealism
- 2 Cubism
- 3 ___Abstraction
- 4 ___Pop Art

3 LISTENING & SPEAKING

a 17.1 Listen and complete the fact file about British artist, Antony Gormley.



- **b** 17.1 Listen again and mark the sentences T (true), F (false) or DS (doesn't say). Correct the false ones.
 - 1 Antony came from a small family.
 - 2 In the 1970s, he started painting pictures of India.
 - 3 He is interested the connections between people.
 - 4 Most of his work is in art galleries.
 - 5 Event Horizon is displayed in Liverpool.
 - 6 Waste Man was burnt by Antony Gormley.

What do you think?

- Are you interested in art? Why (not)?
- **Who is your favourite artist? Why?**

PROJECT

Write a description (100 words) of a famous artist. Include information on:

- their life
- · their education
- famous works
- where you can see their work today