



lingoda



Dadaism

SPEAKING

LEVEL
Advanced

NUMBER
C1_1046S_EN

LANGUAGE
English

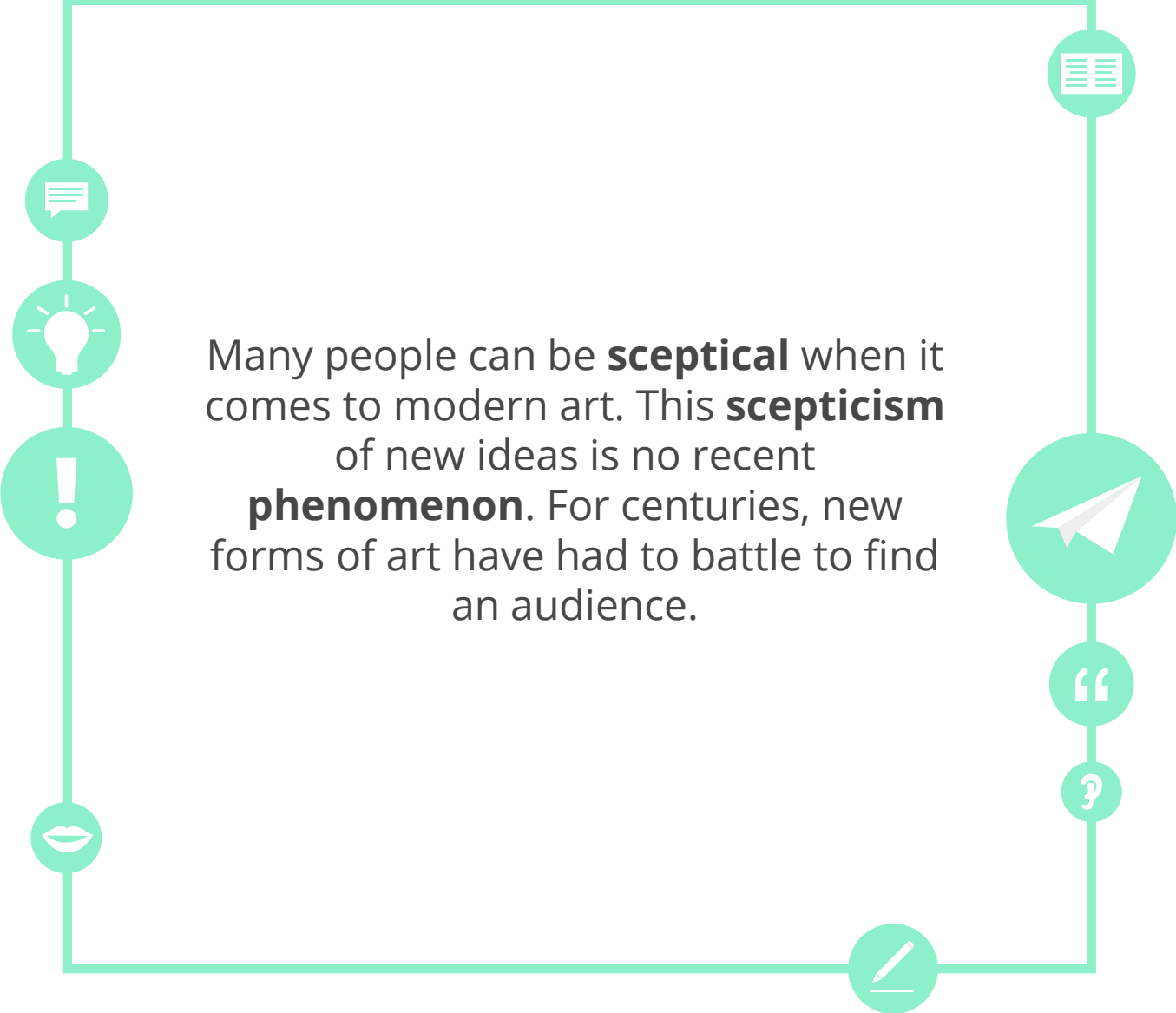




Goals

- Can read and understand a challenging text about Dadaism.
- Can express my own experience with and opinion on political art in depth.





Many people can be **sceptical** when it comes to modern art. This **scepticism** of new ideas is no recent **phenomenon**. For centuries, new forms of art have had to battle to find an audience.



Warm-up

**What do you
associate with
modern art?**

intelligent?

silly?

a waste of time?

complicated?

experimental?



Dadaism

Have you heard of any of these art movements before? If so what do you know about them? What do you think of the different movements?

//

Dadaism is an art movement of the early 20th century. Before Dadaism came Fauvism and Expressionism, Cubism and Primitivism, and then Futurism. After Dadaism came Surrealism, Abstract Expressionism and then Pop Art.

//



Discuss

Do you recognise the names of any of these artists? If so, what do you know about them?

Hugo Ball

Emmy Hennings

Marcel Duchamp



Dadaism

Born out of the turmoil of World War I, from the outset Dadaism was a politically motivated art movement. Dadaism sought to challenge ideas of nationalism, capitalism and the bourgeois. Members of the movement believed that the proliferation of these ideas had helped to contribute to the start of the war.

The roots of this art movement can be traced back to Zurich in 1916, two years prior to the end of the war. Switzerland remained neutral during the war and, unlike many other countries was not particularly affected by censorship, naturally making it an attractive destination for artists. Two artists who were to establish a home in the city were the German couple Emmy Hennings and Hugo Ball. Today, Hugo Ball is hailed as one of the founders and leading members of the Dadaist movement.



Dadaism



On February 5th 1916 in the backroom of a rundown pub, Hennings and Ball founded the Cabaret Voltaire, which was to become a type of collective and centre for artists and entertainers in the city.

Later that same year, at the first official Dada evening, Ball would hear the Dadaist manifesto for the first time. With this act, Dadaism was officially born.



Review these words and phrases with your teacher

turmoil

outset

nationalism

capitalism

bourgeois

manifesto

to be

hailed as

rundown

leading
member

to seek to challenge



Multiple Choice Quiz

Dadaism began...

- a. two years prior to 1916.
- b. two years prior to 1918.
- c. after the end of WW1.

'Dadaism sought to', we could also say...

- a. The goals of Dadaism were...
- b. The strength of Dadaism was...
- c. Dadaism didn't want to...



Multiple Choice Quiz

Zurich was an attractive destination for artists because...

- a. it hadn't taken sides during the first year of the war.**
- b. it wasn't affected by censorship.**
- c. it was a relatively free city at that time.**

Dadaism started when...

- a. the Cabaret Voltaire was founded.**
- b. the manifesto was read out by Emmy Hennings.**
- c. a political document was read out.**



Discuss

Talk with your teacher about the terms below. Can you explain what each is in your own words?

Do you have strong opinions on any of these ideas?

nationalism

neutrality

capitalism

bourgeois



Put the text back in order

A

Cabaret Voltaire was founded in the back room of a pub by Emmy Hennings and Hugo Ball.

B

WW1 had caused a great deal of outrage and upset amongst many artists.

C

Hugo Ball wrote the Dadaist manifesto and Dadaism was born.

D

Prior to the end of the war Zurich was attracting artists to the city.

1.

2.

3.

4.



What do you think?

Now you understand a little about the history of Dadaism and the motivations behind this movement. Do you believe political art can work? Can it ever be effective at instigating change in the world? Give examples to back up your claims if you can.

//

Dadaism sought to challenge ideas of nationalism, capitalism and the bourgeois...

//



Instigating change

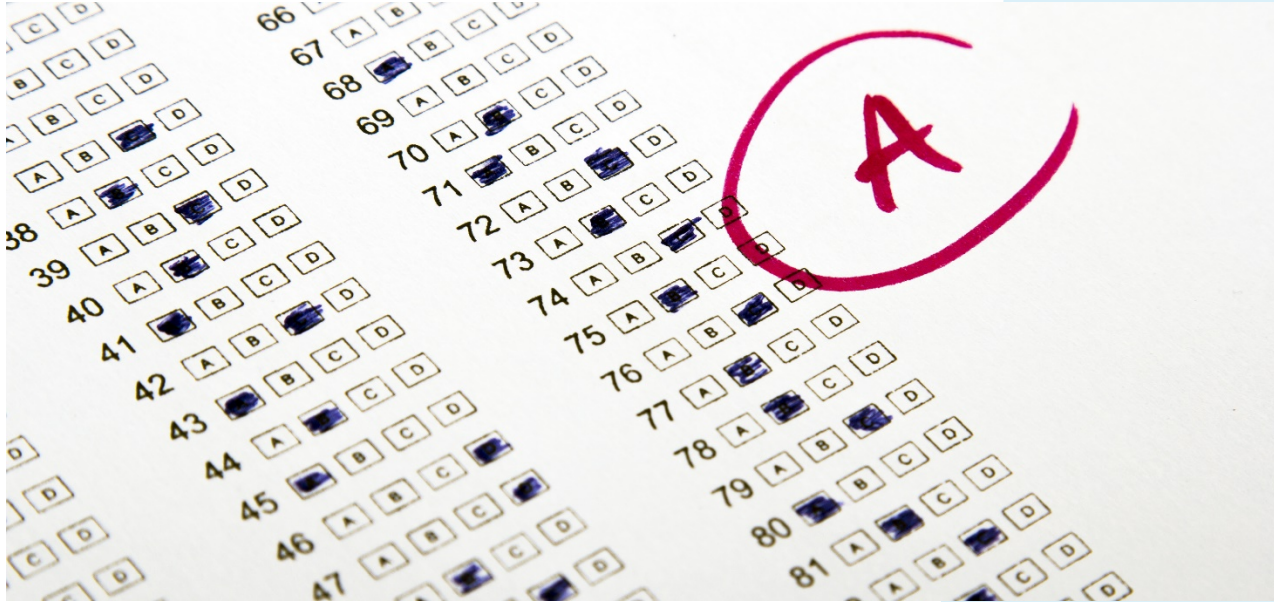
Is there anything you are aware of that you have a strong desire to change?

If you were to try to change it through artwork, how would you go about it? What kind of art would you produce?





Get ready to listen



The next few slides will focus on training your listening comprehension



Listening activity

As you listen, note down the key points about Dadaism mentioned in the text. Be as detailed as possible.

A vertical sheet of white paper with a spiral binding on the left side. The paper has ten horizontal lines for writing, spaced evenly down the page. The paper is slightly offset to the right, creating a shadow effect.



Discuss

Dadaism was different to previous art movements – how? Use the words below to help you, along with the notes you made in the previous activity.

to provoke

to generate

to question

to protest



Duchamp and his readymade objects

**What are
Readymades?
Explain in your
own words!**

household
object

Duchamp

art



Write a postcard

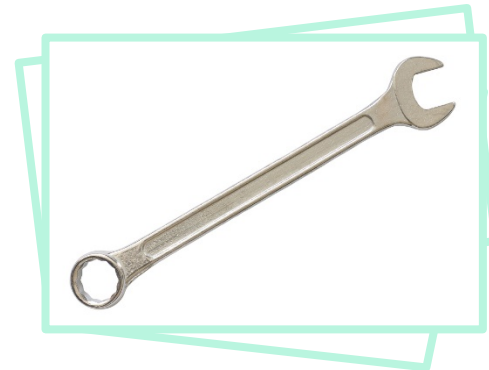
Imagine you were at the first exhibition of Duchamp's Readymades. What do you think your reaction might have been to these works of art? Would you have been excited at the new idea? Would you have found them offensive? Write a postcard to a friend describing them and sharing your reaction.

The postcard template is divided into two main sections by a vertical line. The left section, representing the front of the postcard, contains ten horizontal lines for writing. The right section, representing the back, features a small square area in the top right corner containing a blue square and a red arc, likely representing a stamp or a logo. Below this area are four horizontal lines for an address.



Duchamp for a day

Pretend you are Duchamp! Find the art in these objects, explain each briefly and give each one a fitting title.





Market yourself

Now come up with a good slogan for your own art movement involving everyday objects. Write an email to your friends inviting them to your debut exhibition!

To: My dearest friends

Subject: My innovative movement



Talking about Dadaism

In this lesson, you've learnt a little about the history of Dadaism and about Duchamp, one of the main artists involved in this movement.



1

Summarise what you've learnt about Dadaism for your teacher.



Talking about art

Dadaism is an art movement that started more than 100 years ago but it influenced the course of art and the effects of the movement can still be felt in art today. Think about your own experience with art, at school and in your personal life.



1

Summarise to your teacher what you've learnt about Dadaism.



2

Tell your teacher about your own experience with art. Did you enjoy art at school? Do you make art? Do you often go to galleries? What role does art play in your life?



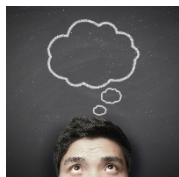
Art and politics

Dadaism was born out of frustration with the politics and attitudes of society. The movement caused outrage at the time.



1

Summarise to your teacher what you've learnt about Dadaism.



2

Tell your teacher about your own experience with art. Did you enjoy art at school? Do you make art? Do you go often to galleries? What role does art play in your life?



3

Think about the art world today. What art controversies can you think of? Does art still have the power to shock? How can art influence us?



Transcription

Dadaism was markedly different from other art movements. It was the first conceptual art movement where the focus lay not so much on the aesthetics of the works produced but on the reaction that they provoked. It was in many ways a sort of protest movement. Dadaists set out to deliberately provoke, offend and upset bourgeois sensibilities. The artists wanted to question society and politics and to generate a dialogue about and opposition to the established artistic norms.

One of the most famous works of art from the Dadaist movement is Marcel Duchamp's urinal. Duchamp was a key figure in the Dadaist movement, especially famous for his ready-mades. Ready-mades were ordinary, household objects that had been designed for a particular purpose which Duchamp took and repositioned, or simply signed and titled, and then called works of art. There was an element of playfulness in Duchamp's art; he knew his works would cause controversy and in fact for him this was a motivating factor in producing his work. He wanted to show that art didn't have to be purely visual, that it could also be about ideas. Today, his urinal is one of the most well-known examples of Dadaist art.



Reflect on the lesson

Take a moment to review any new **vocabulary, phrases, language structures** or **grammar points** you have come across for the first time in this lesson.

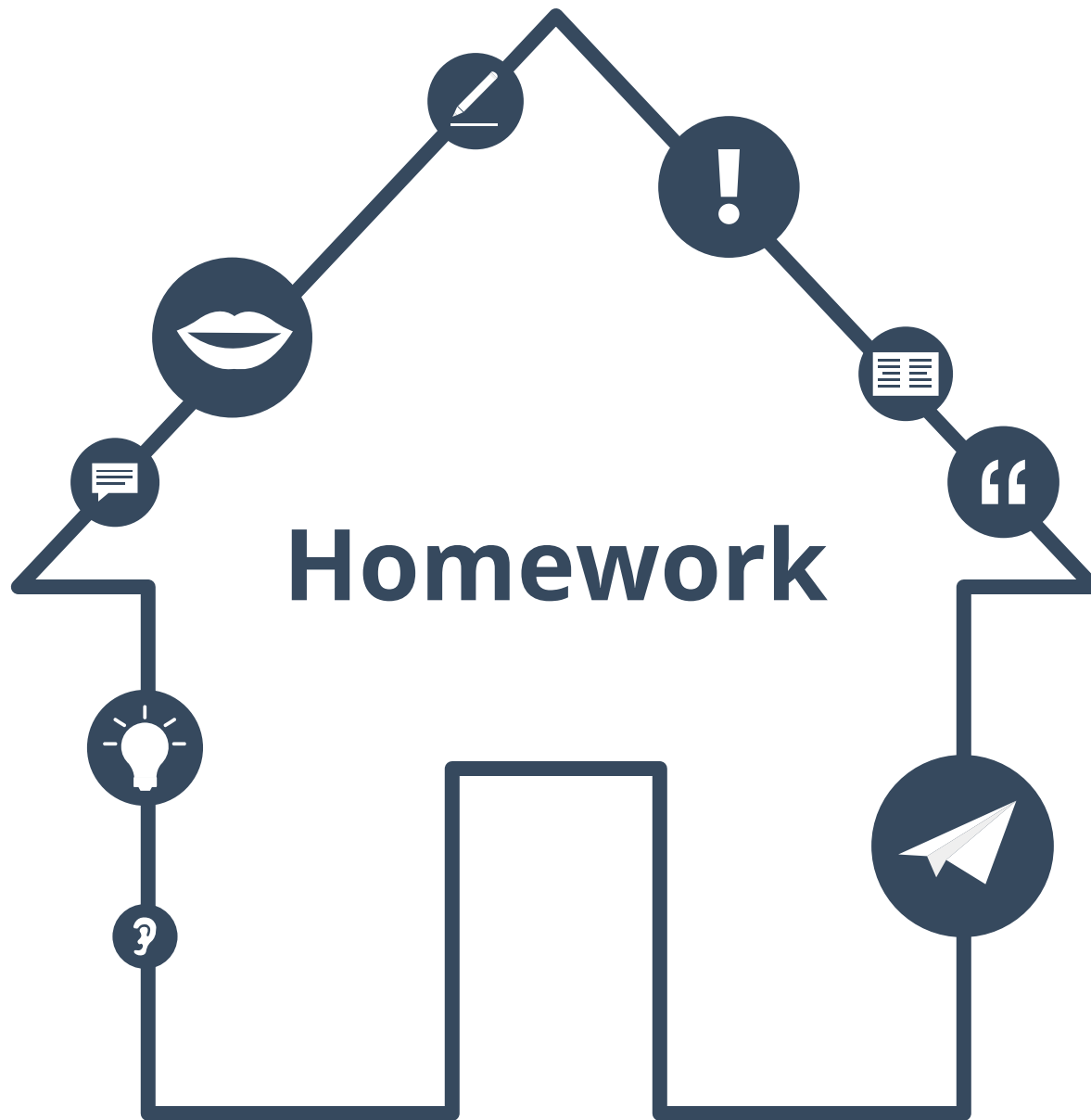
Review them with your teacher one more time to make sure you don't forget!





Answer key

p. 13
B, D, A, C





List new vocabulary

Read the text again. Make two lists of interesting and useful new words using the lists below.

useful words and
phrases

vocabulary specific to art



Write an e-mail

Look again at the list of new words you found in the first homework exercise. Now use those new words to write an email to your friend Tom who knows very little about art or Dadaism but is interested in finding out more about the subject.

- □ ×

To:

Subject:

Hi Tom,

I had a really interesting English lesson yesterday, we learnt all about Dadaism!



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