



Abby Aldrich Rockefeller

Before reading

1 Abbina le forme d'arte (a-d) all'oggetto (1-4).

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| a <input type="checkbox"/> drawing | 1 camera |
| b <input type="checkbox"/> painting | 2 pencil |
| c <input type="checkbox"/> photography | 3 marble |
| d <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture | 4 watercolours, oils |

Vincent van Gogh, *Starry Night*, 1889, MoMA

MoMA

MoMA is the Museum of Modern Art in Manhattan, New York. It has the world's largest collection of modern painting and sculpture. There are 3,600 works dating¹ from the late 19th century to the present. The museum is important for collecting and developing Modern art, which is art from the 1860s to 1970s. Modern art begins with painters like Vincent van Gogh, Paul Cézanne and Toulouse-Lautrec. The museum has works from the early 20th century by Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso. There are also architecture and design, drawings, photography, film and electronic media in the museum.

The Ladies

Three women had the idea for the museum in 1928. Their names were Abby Aldrich Rockefeller, Lillie P. Bliss and Mary Quinn Sullivan. People called them 'the Ladies'. They created a small museum, which was a stop-over² for some of Europe's finest Modern art – an art gallery where art comes and goes, because, by nature, Modern art is constantly changing. There was also a permanent collection which was diverse and impressive. They opened their museum to the public nine days after the Wall Street Crash of 1929. This was the day when the New York Stock Exchange collapsed³. Despite⁴ this, the museum was a success and

Comprehension

2 Leggi i testi, poi rispondi alle domande.

- 1 Where is MoMA?
- 2 Why is the museum important?
- 3 Which different types of art can you see in the museum?
- 4 When did the museum first open?
- 5 What was on display in the 1935 exhibition?
- 6 What happened in New York nine days before the museum opened?
- 7 When did MoMA acquire its first Picasso?
- 8 What exhibition was held^a at MoMA in 2011?
- 9 What did this exhibition explore?

Vocabulary

3 Abbina le parole (a-e) alla loro definizione (1-5).

- | | |
|--|---|
| a <input type="checkbox"/> Abstract | 1 inspired by comic strips and advertising |
| b <input type="checkbox"/> Expressionism | 2 small dots make up the pictures |
| c <input type="checkbox"/> Impressionism | 3 not painted to look like something specific |
| d <input type="checkbox"/> Pointillism | 4 scenes of everyday life |
| e <input type="checkbox"/> Pop Art | 5 art tries to express feelings |

4 Completa il testo sul Cubismo con le seguenti parole.

- portraits • browns • real
- colours • abstract • shapes

In Cubism, paintings are not supposed to look ¹..... The artist uses geometric ²..... to show what he is trying to paint. In Cubist ³..... the artist broke up facial features. Picasso wanted to show people from different points of view and moments in time. Early Cubists used earth tones; greys, ⁴....., greens and yellows. After 1914, Cubists started to use brighter ⁵..... Cubism was the beginning of ⁶..... and non-objective art styles.



Vincent van Gogh, *Iris*, 1890, Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam

they had many famous exhibitions. At the van Gogh exhibition on 4th November 1935, there were sixty-six oil paintings, fifty drawings and

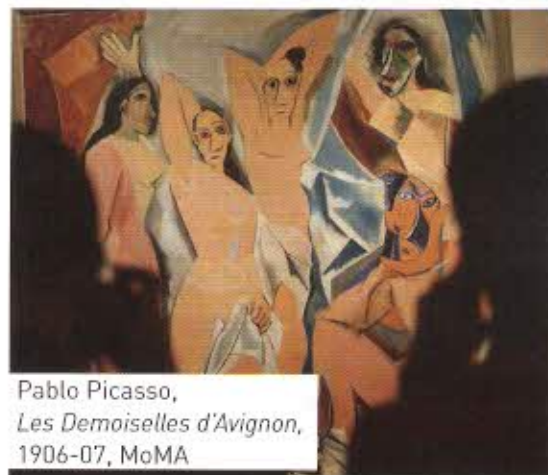
some of van Gogh's letters from the Netherlands. MoMA only had six gallery rooms to begin with, but in 1939, when Nelson Rockefeller became President, the gallery obtained the money needed for a new location.

Picasso at MoMA

MoMA acquired their first Picasso in 1930, a year after the museum opened.

Picasso liked to create different kinds of art. He explored sculpture and drawing, printmaking⁵ and ceramics. At MoMA you can see Picasso's diversity from the simple sketch⁶ *La Belle qui passe* to *Les Femmes d'Alger* (O. J. R. Version O) in February 2011 to 6th June 2011

there was an exhibition of Picasso: *Guitars – 1912-1914*. It explored the artist's breakthrough moment in Cubism. MoMA brought together⁷ 65 collages and several drawings, paintings, photographs and constructions.



Pablo Picasso, *Les Femmes d'Alger*, 1906-07, MoMA

CLIL Project

5 Fai una ricerca in Internet (<http://primaryfacts.com/famous-artists/>) su un artista d'arte moderna a scelta tra Jackson Pollock, Claude Monet, Vincent van Gogh e Alberto Giacometti, poi completa la tabella.

Name	
Nationality	
Date of birth	
Where he studied art	
Famous paintings	
Influenced by	
What he used to paint	
Died	

- Scegli tra i dipinti dell'artista quello che preferisci.
- Stampa una copia del dipinto e scrivi un breve paragrafo in cui spieghi perché ti piace.
- Leggi il testo davanti alla classe.



6 And in your country?

- Who is a famous modern artist in your country?
- Where did he/she study?
- Which of his/her paintings do you like? Why?

WORDS YOU NEED

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. dating | risalente |
| 2. stop-over | sosta, scalo |
| 3. collapse | crollare |
| 4. despite | nonostante |
| 5. printmaking | incisione |
| 6. sketch | schizzo |
| 7. bring (p.s. brought) together | raccogliere, riunire |
| 8. hold (p.s. held) | tenere |