

WHAT IS ART?

<http://ed.ted.com/lessons/is-there-a-difference-between-art-and-craft-laura-morelli#watch>

TASK 1: Go to the website at the top of the page; here you will find a video by Laura Morelli entitled “Is there a difference between art and craft?” Watch the video as many times as you need

Task 2: Once you have watched the video, go to the section entitled “**Think**” and do both tasks (Choose the best option and Answer the questions). Remember that you can complete the task in the website (you need to register and log in to do that), but you need to send us a **copy** of the completed task via the **Campus Virtual**, so we can check your progress.

Task 3: At the end of this document you will find the transcript of this video. Some sections have been extracted from it. Can you identify the tenses underlined in each section? Can you remember when and how to use each of them?

When you hear the word art, what comes to mind? A painting, like the Mona Lisa, or a famous sculpture or a building? What about a vase or a quilt or a violin? Are those things art, too, or are they craft? And what's the difference anyway?

Florentine intellectuals began to spread the idea of reformulating classical Greek and Roman works, while they were placing greater value on individual creativity than collective production. A few brave painters, who

for many centuries, had been paid by the square foot, successfully petitioned their patrons to pay them on the basis of merit instead.

In many cultures of the world, the distinction between art and craft has never existed.

Grammar: tense revision

Complete the gaps in the following sentences; use the verbs in brackets in the correct tense (Present Simple and Continuous, Past Simple and Continuous and Present and Past Perfect). If you have any doubts, refer back to the copies given in class.

Michelangelo WAS (be) an Italian artist who LIVED (live) in Florence. He WAS (be) one of the best artists in art history and his works are known all around the world: The Sistine Chapel, David and Moses are some of the most famous.

When he WAS PAINTING (paint) The Sistine Chapel, the Pope INTERRUPTED (interrupt) him many times, because he WANTED (want) Michelangelo to do other works for him. He FINISHED (finish) the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in 1512.

Before that, in 1505, he HAD DONE (do) the most famous sculpture in the world: David. David is a 5.17-metre statue of a young man. It represents King David, who FOUGHT (fight) the giant Goliath. In this statue, we can see that David standing and he IS WAITING (wait) for the giant to come. David IS WEARING (wear) no clothes and he IS HOLDING (hold) a piece of rope. This statue LOOKS (look) very realistic and it REPRESENTS (represent) the admiration Michelangelo FELT (feel)

for the art of the Ancient Greeks and Romans.

Michelangelo CREATED (create) Moses for Pope Leo X; this statue PORTRAYS (portray) Moses, who LED (lead) the Jews out of Egypt: the man IS SITTING (sit) down and he IS HOLDING (hold) a stone tablet with the Ten Commandments. He IS WEARING (wear) a tunic and a crown and he HAS (have) a very long beard. For many years, critics BELIEVED (believe) that Michelangelo got very angry when he FINISHED (finish) the statue, because it was very realistic, but it would not talk. Contemporary art historians HAVE PROVED (prove) that the hole in Moses's knee, is not the result of Michelangelo's rage, but of a vandal.

Task 4: Once you have completed the previous task and once you have uploaded your answers to the Campus Virtual, you can now go to the “Dig Deeper” section. Here you will find a task entitled “Is it a Pot or a Picasso?”, where you will visit the websites of different museums and galleries. After that, you are asked to think about the division between Art and Folk Art and to answer some questions about this topic. **Record** yourself answering the questions suggested in this section and upload the video/audio to the **Campus Virtual**.

WRITING FOLDER 1: Write a short paragraph (90-100 words) stating what art is for you and whether you agree with the ideas expressed in the video.