



Philosophical Inquiry



What is Art?

We just heard about cryptocurrency billionaire Justin Sun, who made headlines by purchasing a \$9.5 million artwork—an ordinary banana taped to the wall of an art gallery—and then eating it!






Source: <https://youtu.be/XMRK0a-nK9c>



Source: <https://abc11.com/post/crypto-entrepreneur-bought-banana-art-62-million-eats-fruit-hong-kong/15607237/>

The artwork, which was named *Comedian* was originally made with a banana that cost less than 40 cents. The banana has been replaced many times and has been eaten before.

As a class or in small groups, have a discussion about what art is and what it's not. We have provided some questions to help start you off. Remember to listen respectfully to everyone's ideas. It's ok if you disagree.

-  Was the banana stuck to the wall, art? Why or why not?
-  What might the name of the artwork reveal about the artist's intentions?
-  Must art always be created by humans? The works on the right were created by an elephant and by AI. Are they art?






Source: Elephant Art: 'You Found Me' by Somjai elephantartgallery.com



SA sea otter in the style of Girl with a Pearl Earring by Johannes Vermeer, created with Dall-E

Imagine someone asking to paint your portrait. They take a sheet of paper and paint it all a single colour, then stick it up on the wall. "That's your portrait!" they tell you.

-  Would you pay for a single-colour portrait? How much do you think it's worth, and why?
-  What makes a piece of art valuable: how much someone will pay for it, or something else?
-  What is the definition of art? Work with your class or your group. Can you come up with a definition that everyone agrees with?



Text Structure

Types of Texts

Read these beginnings with your partner. They're all about the AFLW Grand Final. **First**, identify what kind of text each is, and write it at the top. Then, **underline** the language that is typical of each type of text. (We've done the first one for you.) You'll notice that we've left one blank. Start it off yourself! Remember to use language that is appropriate for that kind of text.

Opinion / Argument

I think everyone should play sports to have fun, not just to win. Winning is great, but it's even better to make friends and enjoy being part of a team.

Types of Texts

Informative

Autobiography

How To

Opinion / Argument

Story / Narrative



The North Melbourne Kangaroos are the AFLW champions! They beat the Brisbane Lions by 30 points in the grand final. The team worked hard all season and stayed undefeated to claim their first premiership trophy.

The crowd cheered as Emma Kearney lifted the premiership cup high into the air. The team hugged and laughed, proud of their hard work and their historic win. For one young fan, watching her heroes win was the best moment of her life.

How to win a grand final!

- Train hard every week.
- Study your opponent's strengths and weaknesses.
- Work together as a team.
- Stay focused during the game.
- Celebrate your win with your teammates!
