

Artist uses thousands of Lego bricks to make sculptures of animals

By The Smithsonian Institution, adapted by Newsela staff on 08.31.20

Word Count **502**

Level **580L**



Sean Kenney's Lego creation of a sloth. Photo: Luc Coekaerts/Flickr

Sean Kenney is an artist. He builds statues of animals and plants out of Legos. His work is shown at museums and zoos around the world.

His latest work is being shown across the United States. The San Antonio Zoo in Texas, the Denver Zoo in Colorado and other places are showing it.

The art show started traveling around in 2012. It includes life-size copies of plants and animals.

From Buildings To Plants To Polar Bears

As a child, Kenney played with Legos. Now he uses them in his work.

Kenney started out making buildings out of Legos. Then a garden in Iowa asked him to make art of its plants. He focused on building statues of nature after that. His work was very popular. Zoos paid him to make art of their animals.

He has made more than 150 animals out of Lego blocks. They include lions, bears, buffalo, butterflies and ducks. Making them look real is not easy, though.

Lego Animals Sometimes Fool Zoo Visitors

Making animals' faces can be hard, he said. He enjoys the challenge. "When you've done it, you've really done it. You step back and are proud of it," he said.

Kenney once saw a woman at one of his shows turn to see the statue he made of a snow leopard. She jumped back, thinking it was alive. That is when he knew he did a good job.

Photos, Videos And Thousands Of Legos

Kenney works with other artists. First, they draw what they are going to build. Then they plan the shape and size of it. They look at photos and watch videos of the animal to see how it moves.

It can take thousands of bricks and months of work to create one piece. They glue every brick together. To build a lion, it took them 474 hours and they used 48,248 bricks.

Kenney said he uses regular Legos. "I use the same ones that children play with," he said.

Statues Can Have Conservation Message

Kenney is interested in building animals that have died out. For example, he has built the Dodo bird. It died out more than 300 years ago. He also likes to build animals that are in danger of dying out.

People enjoy Kenney's art because he is very talented. His work also brings attention to conservation. Wildlife conservation is the protection of animals and their habitats.

He made a model of a Formosan clouded leopard. The leopard lives in Taiwan, a country in Asia. Its habitat, or living area, is shrinking. This is because people are cutting down trees. People had thought the leopard had died out. Then it was seen in 2018. The Lego statue reminds people of an animal that is very rare. It reminds them that its habitat is getting smaller and that it needs to be protected.



Image 1. Sean Kenney's Lego sculpture of a tiger swallowtail butterfly on display at the Naples Botanical Garden in Naples, Florida.

Photo: Carol VanHook/Flickr

Quiz

1 Read the paragraph below from the section "Statues Can Have Conservation Message."

He made a model of a Formosan clouded leopard. The leopard lives in Taiwan, a country in Asia. Its habitat, or living area, is shrinking. This is because people are cutting down trees. People had thought the leopard had died out. Then it was seen in 2018. The Lego statue reminds people of an animal that is very rare. It reminds them that its habitat is getting smaller and that it needs to be protected.

Which sentence from this paragraph explains how Sean Kenney's work helps wildlife conservation?

- (A) He made a model of a Formosan clouded leopard.
- (B) This is because people are cutting down trees.
- (C) People had thought the leopard had died out.
- (D) The Lego statue reminds people of an animal that is very rare.

2 Read the paragraph below from the section "From Buildings To Plants To Polar Bears."

Kenney started out making buildings out of Legos. Then a garden in Iowa asked him to make art of its plants. He focused on building statues of nature after that. His work was very popular. Zoos paid him to make art of their animals.

Which question is answered in this paragraph?

- (A) Who helps Kenney with his Lego projects?
- (B) Why did Kenney start making nature statues?
- (C) What buildings did Kenney copy for his statues?
- (D) Where did Kenney learn to make his Lego statues?

3 Read the sentence below from the section "From Buildings To Plants To Polar Bears."

He focused on building statues of nature after that.

Which word could replace "focused" WITHOUT changing the meaning of the sentence?

- (A) concentrated
- (B) fixed
- (C) planned
- (D) settled

4 Read the sentence below from the section "Photos, Videos And Thousands Of Legos."

It can take thousands of bricks and months of work to create one piece.

What is the definition of "bricks" based on the context clues?

- (A) cement cubes
- (B) hard squares
- (C) Lego pieces
- (D) small stones

Answer Key

- 1 Read the paragraph below from the section "Statues Can Have Conservation Message."

He made a model of a Formosan clouded leopard. The leopard lives in Taiwan, a country in Asia. Its habitat, or living area, is shrinking. This is because people are cutting down trees. People had thought the leopard had died out. Then it was seen in 2018. The Lego statue reminds people of an animal that is very rare. It reminds them that its habitat is getting smaller and that it needs to be protected.

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By The Smithsonian Institution, adapted by Newsela staff on 08.31.20

Word Count **730**

Level **880L**



Sean Kenney's Lego creation of a sloth. Photo: Luc Coekaerts/Flickr

Building things with Lego bricks sounds like a dream job, but it's the real deal for Sean Kenney. He turned his hobby into a job.

For more than 15 years, the artist has been creating masterpieces using Lego bricks. His creations have been shown at museums and zoos around the world.

His latest project, "Nature Connects: Art with Lego Bricks" is one of his biggest. It is on tour across the United States, including at the San Antonio Zoo in Texas, the Denver Zoo in Colorado, Flamingo Gardens in Davie, Florida, and the North Carolina Arboretum in Asheville. The traveling exhibition launched in 2012. It shows a collection of life-size and larger-than-life copies of plants and animals.

From Buildings To Plants To Polar Bears

Like many kids, Kenney spent time playing with Legos. As an adult, he worked as a designer, often using Lego bricks in his work.

Living in New York City, he created versions of the Empire State Building and other sights. Then a botanical garden in Iowa asked him to build models of its plants. He began to make the natural world his subject. His work began touring to other places. It was so popular that zoos hired him to make models of their animals.

Kenney has made more than 150 animals out of Lego blocks. They include lions, polar bears, buffalo, peacocks, butterflies and ducks. However, making them lifelike is not easy.

Lego Animals Sometimes Fool Zoo Visitors

One of the biggest challenges is trying to get the softness of an animal's looks and get the expressiveness of the face right with the bricks, he said. "To me, that's one of the most fun things to overcome. When you've done it, you've really done it. You step back and are proud of it."

Kenney recalls a woman at one of his shows turning to see his art of a snow leopard crouched down. She jumped back, thinking it was alive. "Knowing that I got the face right means I did it right," he said, "and that's why the challenge is worth it."

Work Starts With Photos, Videos

To do this, Kenney works with a group of artists. They work in teams to create each sculpture. Most start out as sketches on paper. They are then transferred onto graph paper or computer models to plan the shape and size of the animal.

Then they look at photos and videos online to see how the animal moves, he said.

One sculpture can take thousands of bricks and months of labor to complete. Builders glue every brick together as if they're building a brick wall. A lion took 474 hours and 48,248 bricks to build.

Creations Uses No Special Bricks

"There's still a lot of stuff that we do the old-fashioned way, like when we're adding facial features or we need creatures to interact with each other and show emotion," Kenney said. "We'll grab all the funny-shaped Lego pieces like circles, triangles and slopes, and bricks that look like wheels and windows and coffee cups." Making an animal's eyes look real with circles and arches is "the real fun," he said.

Kenney said that he uses only bricks that are sold to the public. He does not use any special bricks. "I use the same ones that children play with," he said.

Statues Can Have Conservation Message

One of his interests is animals that are extinct, like the Dodo bird. It went extinct, or died out, in the 1680s. He also likes to create models of endangered animals, which are at risk of dying out.



Image 1. Sean Kenney's Lego sculpture of a tiger swallowtail butterfly on display at the Naples Botanical Garden in Naples, Florida.

Photo: Carol VanHook/Flickr

His piece called "Deforestation" shows a rare Formosan clouded leopard. The animal is found in the mountains of Taiwan, a country in Asia. The animals' habitat, or living area, is shrinking as trees are cut down. The leopard was believed to be extinct until people saw it in 2018.

Audiences value Kenney's pieces for their craftsmanship and because they draw attention to conservation. Wildlife conservation is the protection of animals and their habitats.

Hope Roth works at the San Antonio Zoo. The zoo has more than 30 sculptures by Kenney.

"His work is amazing and so impactful when you see it in person," Roth said.

Quiz

- 1 Read the section "Lego Animals Sometimes Fool Zoo Visitors." Which selection from this section supports the conclusion that Sean Kenney's work is good because he pays attention to the smallest details.
- (A) One of the biggest challenges is trying to get the softness of an animal's looks and get the expressiveness of the face right with the bricks, he said.
 - (B) "You step back and are proud of it."
 - (C) Kenney recalls a woman at one of his shows turning to see his art of a snow leopard crouched down.
 - (D) "Knowing that I got the face right means I did it right," he said,"

- 2 Read the section "Statues Can Have Conservation Message." Select the sentence from the section that shows WHY Sean Kenney continues creating Lego sculptures of the natural world.
- (A) He also likes to create models of endangered animals, which are at risk of dying out.
 - (B) His piece called "Deforestation" shows a rare Formosan clouded leopard.
 - (C) The animals' habitat, or living area, is shrinking as trees are cut down.
 - (D) Wildlife conservation is the protection of animals and their habitats.

- 3 Read the following paragraph from the Introduction [paragraphs 1-3].

For more than 15 years, the artist has been creating masterpieces using Lego bricks. His creations have been shown at museums and zoos around the world.

Which phrase from the paragraph helps the reader to understand the meaning of "masterpiece"?

- (A) more than 15 years
 - (B) artist has been creating
 - (C) Lego bricks
 - (D) museums and zoos
- 4 Read the following paragraph from the section "Statues Can Have Conservation Message."

Audiences value Kenney's pieces for their craftsmanship and because they draw attention to conservation. Wildlife conservation is the protection of animals and their habitats.

What is the meaning of the word "craftsmanship" as it is used in the paragraph?

- (A) character
- (B) detail
- (C) originality
- (D) skill

Answer Key

- 1 Read the section "Lego Animals Sometimes Fool Zoo Visitors." Which selection from this section supports the conclusion that Sean Kenney's work is good because he pays attention to the smallest details.
- (A) **One of the biggest challenges is trying to get the softness of an animal's looks and get the expressiveness of the face right with the bricks, he said.**
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Miyuki keeps the Japanese art of candy sculpting alive

By Atlas Obscura, adapted by Newsela staff on 10.24.18

Word Count 375

Level 400L



For 17 years, Miyuki awed her audiences with her candy craftsmanship. Photo: Flickr/Jeff Christiansen

Candy Miyuki is from Japan. She is a candy artist. She does amezaiku. It is the Japanese art of candy sculpture.

Ms. Miyuki used to make candy figures at Disney World's Epcot. Disney World is in Florida. Ms. Miyuki left Disney in 2013. She still makes her sweet treats.

In the summer, she made amezaiku at the Tampa Museum of Art. The museum is in Florida. It showed the work of Yayoi Kusama. Kusama is a famous Japanese artist. She uses bright colors. Her artwork is covered in dots.

Long Road To Stardom

Amezaiku is made out of a syrup. First, Ms. Miyuki heats the syrup. Then, she pulls it like taffy. Each piece starts with a lump of hot candy on a stick. Ms. Miyuki can make anything. She can even make a purple pig or a glittering dragon.

Ms. Miyuki may be the first female amezaiku star. The road to becoming one was bumpy.

Ms. Miyuki decided she wanted to make the Japanese candy. She then looked for a teacher. She learned about Takeo Kimura. He was an amezaiku artist.

Their first meeting went badly. He told her he did not want to teach a woman. Many men thought women should stay home and take care of the house. Finally, he agreed to teach her.

Animals Are The Popular Sculptures

Mr. Kimura taught her how to make the candy. He taught her to make different animals.

Ms. Miyuki was Mr. Kimura's last student. He died one year after they met.

Soon, Ms. Miyuki got a call from Disney. They were looking for an amezaiku artist. They hired her. In 1996, she moved to Florida to start work.

Disney guests watched Ms. Miyuki make her sugar figures. They were amazed. One lucky person got to take each figure home. The most popular figures were dragons and unicorns. She can make one in two minutes. Her favorite is candy faces. They can take up to 30 minutes.

Sometimes, children complained about the candy figures. They did not taste sweet enough. Japanese candy contains less sugar. "There's too much sugar in America," Ms. Miyuki says.



Image 1. Miyuki creates a traditional Japanese candy, called amezaiku, during a performance. Photo by: JeffChristiansen/Flickr [click to expand]

Quiz

1 Read the following paragraph from the section "Animals Are The Popular Sculptures."

Soon, Ms. Miyuki got a call from Disney. They were looking for an amezaiku artist. They hired her. In 1996, she moved to Florida to start work.

What is the focus of this paragraph?

- (A) why Ms. Miyuki first started making amezaiku
- (B) where Ms. Miyuki learned to make amezaiku
- (C) how Ms. Miyuki got a job making amezaiku
- (D) what Ms. Miyuki likes best about amezaiku

2 What detail in the article shows which candy figure Ms. Miyuki likes to make most of all?

- (A) Ms. Miyuki can make anything.
- (B) She can even make a purple pig or a glittering dragon.
- (C) The most popular figures were dragons and unicorns.
- (D) Her favorite is candy faces.

3 What is the MAIN topic of the section "Long Road To Stardom"?

- (A) how Ms. Miyuki taught others to make amezaiku
- (B) how Ms. Miyuki makes amezaiku animal figures
- (C) how Ms. Miyuki discovered amezaiku figures
- (D) how Ms. Miyuki became an amezaiku artist

4 Which sentence from the section "Long Road To Stardom" explains WHY it was hard for Ms. Miyuki to become an amezaiku artist?

- (A) Ms. Miyuki may be the first female amezaiku star.
- (B) The road to becoming one was bumpy.
- (C) She learned about Takeo Kimura.
- (D) He told her he did not want to teach a woman.

Answer Key

1 Read the following paragraph from the section "Animals Are The Popular Sculptures."

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Japanese artist lives the sweet life as a candy sculptor

By Atlas Obscura, adapted by Newsela staff on 10.24.18

Word Count 437

Level 530L



For 17 years, Miyuki awed her audiences with her candy craftsmanship. Photo: Flickr/Jeff Christiansen

Amezaiku is the Japanese art of making candy sculptures. Craftsmen used to make them in front of a crowd. Many people thought amezaiku was dying out. However, in Japan, it is getting popular again.

Candy Miyuki is an amezaiku artist. For 17 years, she made candy figures at Disney World's Epcot. Disney World is in Florida. Miyuki left Disney World in 2013, but still makes her sweet treats. In the summer, she made amezaiku at the Tampa Museum of Art in Florida. The museum was showing the work of Yayoi Kusama. Kusama is a famous Japanese artist. She uses bright colors and covers her artwork in dots.

Amezaiku is made out of a syrup. First, Miyuki heats the syrup. Then she pulls it like taffy. Each piece starts with a lump of hot candy on a stick. Miyuki can make anything, from a purple pig to a glittering dragon.

Finding A Candy Sculpting Teacher

The road to sugar stardom was bumpy. Miyuki says she is the first female amezaiku artist to study it formally. Miyuki read about amezaiku in the newspaper. She decided she wanted to be an amezaiku artist.

Miyuki looked for a candy-making teacher. She learned about Takeo Kimura, an amezaiku artist.

Miyuki's first meeting with him went badly. He told her he didn't want to teach a woman. Miyuki said many men thought that way. Many women were encouraged to stay at home and not work. Still, he agreed to teach her.

Kimura taught her how to make the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac. The zodiac is based on a 12-year cycle. Each year is represented by a different animal, like a snake or a dragon. This year, 2018, is the year of the dog. Miyuki was Kimura's last student. He died one year after they met.

A Sweet Opportunity

Miyuki practiced making her sugar sculptures. Soon, she got a call from Disney. Disney officials were looking for an amezaiku artist. Miyuki got the job. In 1996, she moved to Florida with her daughter to start work.

At Epcot, visitors watched Miyuki made her sugar figures. They were amazed. One lucky person got to take each figure home. The most popular were dragons and unicorns. She can make one in two minutes. Miyuki's favorite is candy faces. They can take up to 30 minutes each.

Sometimes children complained about the candy figures. They weren't very sweet. Japanese candy contains less sugar than American sweets. "There's too much sugar in America," Miyuki says.



Image 1. Miyuki creates a traditional Japanese candy, called amezaiku, during a performance. Photo by: JeffChristiansen/Flickr [click to expand]

Quiz

1 Finish the sentence below. One main idea of the article is that_____.

- (A) Miyuki worked at Disney World's Epcot for 17 years
- (B) amezaiku is the art of making candy sculptures
- (C) Miyuki became the first female to learn amezaiku
- (D) amezaiku animals are based on the Chinese zodiac

2 Read the following paragraph from the introduction [paragraphs 1-3.]

Amezaiku is the Japanese art of making candy sculptures. Craftsmen used to make them in front of a crowd. Many people thought amezaiku was dying out. However, in Japan, it is getting popular again.

Which question is answered in this paragraph?

- (A) Why did people in Japan make amezaiku?
- (B) How is most amezaiku made today?
- (C) Why did amezaiku start to die out in Japan?
- (D) How do people feel about amezaiku today?

3 Read the section "A Sweet Opportunity." Which sentence from the section states the MAIN idea about which figures most people liked best?

- (A) At Epcot, visitors watched Miyuki made her sugar figures.
- (B) One lucky person got to take each figure home.
- (C) The most popular were dragons and unicorns.
- (D) Miyuki's favorite is candy faces.

4 Read the following paragraph from the section "A Sweet Opportunity."

Miyuki practiced making her sugar sculptures. Soon, she got a call from Disney. Disney officials were looking for an amezaiku artist. Miyuki got the job. In 1996, she moved to Florida with her daughter to start work.

Which sentence from this paragraph explains why Miyuki got a call from Disney?

- (A) Miyuki practiced making her sugar sculptures.
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- (D) In 1996, she moved to Florida with her daughter to start work.

Miyuki practices the "sweet science" of making candy sculptures

By Atlas Obscura, adapted by Newsela staff on 10.24.18

Word Count **585**

Level **660L**



For 17 years, Miyuki awed her audiences with her candy craftsmanship. Photo: Flickr/Jeff Christiansen

Amezaiku is the traditional Japanese art of making candy sculptures. A long time ago, craftsman used to fashion them in front of a crowd. The art began dying out. However, amezaiku is becoming popular again in Japan.

Candy Miyuki is an amezaiku artist. For 17 years, she made candy figures at Disney World's Epcot in Florida. Miyuki left Disney in 2013, but still makes her sweet treats. In the summer, she made amezaiku at the Tampa Museum of Art in Florida. The museum was showing the work of Yayoi Kusama. Kusama is a famous Japanese artist. She is known for using bright colors and covering her artwork in dots.

Miyuki makes her amezaiku out of a starchy syrup. She heats it to 200 degrees Fahrenheit. Water starts to boil at 212 degrees Fahrenheit. Once the syrup is hot, she pulls it like taffy. Each piece starts with a golf ball-sized lump of hot candy on a stick. She can make anything from a purple pig to a glittering dragon.

Not Traditionally A Job For Women

The road to sugar stardom was bumpy. Miyuki says she is the first female amezaiku artist to study it formally. About 25 years ago, she picked up a newspaper in Japan. She read an interview with an amezaiku artist. "This is my new job," she remembers thinking.

Miyuki looked for a candy-making teacher in Tokyo, the capital of Japan. She eventually got the phone number of Takeo Kimura, an amezaiku artist.

Miyuki's first meeting with her Kimura went badly. He told her he didn't want to teach a woman. Miyuki said many men thought that way. Women were encouraged to be housewives, and cook and clean. Still, he took her on as his student.

Kimura taught her the most important forms of amezaiku. They are the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac. The zodiac is based on a 12-year cycle. Each year is represented by a different animal, like a snake or a dragon. Miyuki was Kimura's last student. He died one year after they met.

Finding A Home In The Magic Kingdom

Miyuki practiced making her sugar sculptures. Soon, she got a call from Disney. Disney officials wanted an amezaiku artist at Epcot. They hired Miyuki, and in 1996, she moved to Florida with her young daughter to start work.

At Epcot, Miyuki made her sugar sculptures in front of visitors. People were amazed. One lucky person got to take each sculpture home. The most popular were dragons and unicorns. She is able to make one sculpture in two minutes. Miyuki's favorite is elaborate candy faces, which can take up to half an hour each.

The traditional art form can be challenging. Florida is known for its balmy weather. In the winter, it can be cooler. Her candy would harden faster in the cold, so she had to work more quickly. In the summer, she could make a piece in three minutes. But in the winter, the candy is soft enough for just a minute.

There was another problem. Sometimes guests, especially children, pointed out that her final candy sculptures didn't taste very sweet. Miyuki says Japanese candy contains less sugar than American sweets. "There's too much sugar in America," Miyuki says.

Miyuki hopes her candy art will become more popular. Although she is no longer at Epcot, her daughter now works for Disney World as a dancer.



Image 1. Miyuki creates a traditional Japanese candy, called amezaiku, during a performance. Photo by: JeffChristiansen/Flickr [click to expand]

Quiz

1 Read the paragraph below from the introduction [paragraphs 1-3.]

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What conclusion can the reader make based on this paragraph?

- (A) Miyuki has built a successful career as an amezaiku artist.
- (B) Miyuki stopped making amezaiku after 17 years.
- (C) Miyuki is the only amezaiku artist in the state of Florida.
- (D) Miyuki left Disney to begin working in museums.

2 Read the section "Not Traditionally A Job For Women." Which selection explains how Miyuki decided to become an amezaiku artist?

- (A) Miyuki says she is the first female amezaiku artist to study it formally.
- (B) She read an interview with an amezaiku artist.
- (C) Kimura taught her the most important forms of amezaiku.
- (D) Miyuki was Kimura's last student. He died one year after they met.

3 How does the information in the section "Not Traditionally A Job For Women" support the MAIN idea of the article?

- (A) by explaining how students of amezaiku get a formal education
- (B) by emphasizing how amezaiku- making was mostly done by men
- (C) by showing how amezaiku figures are based on the Chinese zodiac
- (D) by describing the steps Miyuki took to become an amezaiku artist

4 Select the answer choice that summarizes the article.

- (A) Miyuki learned about making amezaiku from an interview in a newspaper; she was determined to become an artist.
- (B) Miyuki had to work hard to become an amezaiku artist; her teacher did not think a woman should be an amezaiku artist.
- (C) Miyuki studied amezaiku 25 years ago in Japan; she has built a successful career as an artist in the United States.
- (D) Miyuki was the first woman to formally study amezaiku; she now makes the sculptures for audiences in the United States.

Answer Key

1 Read the paragraph below from the introduction [paragraphs 1-3.]

Candy Miyuki is an amezaiku artist. For 17 years, she made candy figures at Disney World's Epcot in Florida. Miyuki left Disney in 2013, but still makes her sweet treats. In the summer, she made amezaiku at the Tampa Museum of Art in Florida. The museum was showing the work of Yayoi Kusama. Kusama is a famous Japanese artist. She is known for using bright colors and covering her artwork in dots.

What conclusion can the reader make based on this paragraph?

- (A) **Miyuki has built a successful career as an amezaiku artist.**
- (B) Miyuki stopped making amezaiku after 17 years.
- (C) Miyuki is the only amezaiku artist in the state of Florida.
- (D) Miyuki left Disney to begin working in museums.

2 Read the section "Not Traditionally A Job For Women." Which selection explains how Miyuki decided to become an amezaiku artist?

- (A) Miyuki says she is the first female amezaiku artist to study it formally.
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- (D) **Miyuki was the first woman to formally study amezaiku; she now makes the sculptures for audiences in the United States.**

"Candy girl" breathes new life into ancient Japanese art form

By Atlas Obscura, adapted by Newsela staff on 10.24.18

Word Count **639**

Level **830L**



For 17 years, Miyuki awed her audiences with her candy craftsmanship. Photo: Flickr/Jeff Christiansen

Amezaiku is the traditional Japanese art of making candy sculptures. A long time ago, Japanese craftsman performed this feat in front of a crowd. It was close to dying out. However, amezaiku been given a second life by social media and new stores.

Until recently, an amezaiku artist named Candy Miyuki made candy figures at Disney World's Epcot in Florida. She worked at the Japan Pavilion for 17 years. Miyuki left Disney in 2013, but still makes her sweet treats. In the summer, she made amezaiku for an art exhibition at the Tampa Museum of Art in Florida. The museum was showing the work of Yayoi Kusama. She is a famous Japanese artist who uses bright colors and covers her artwork in dots.

Miyuki makes her amezaiku out of starch syrup. She heats it to 200 degrees Fahrenheit and then pulls it like taffy. Each piece starts with a golf ball-sized lump of hot candy on a stick. She can produce anything from a purple pig to a glittering dragon.

"This Is My New Job"

The road to sugar stardom was bumpy. Miyuki says she is the first female amezaiku artist to receive formal training. About 25 years ago, she picked up a newspaper in Japan and came across an interview with an amezaiku artist. "This is my new job," she remembers thinking.

Miyuki set out to find a candy-making teacher in Tokyo. She ended up calling her local police station to ask if they knew about any candy artists. One policeman said that amezaiku was old-fashioned and that it would be impossible to find a teacher. Another officer pointed her in the right direction, and she got the phone number of Takeo Kimura, an amezaiku artist.

Miyuki's first meeting with her teacher-to-be was not ideal. During their first conversation, he told her he didn't want to teach a woman. Miyuki says that was a typical attitude. Craftsmen usually wanted to pass their arts down to male heirs, while women were encouraged to be housewives. Still, she became his student.

He taught her the most important forms of amezaiku, the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac. The Chinese zodiac is based on a 12-year cycle. Each year is symbolized by an animal. Miyuki was Kimura's last student; he died one year after they met.

Miyuki Took Her Talents To Disney World

Miyuki practiced making her sugar sculptures, and soon Disney came calling. Disney officials wanted an amezaiku artist at Epcot. Miyuki got the job, and in 1996, she moved to Florida with her young daughter for the job.

At her booth in the Japan Pavilion, Miyuki made her sugar sculptures in front of awed guests. One lucky spectator got to take the final piece home. People asked for dragons and unicorns most often, which she is able to whip up in two minutes. Miyuki's favorite is elaborate candy faces, which can take up to half an hour each.

The traditional art form does have its challenges. While Florida is known for its balmy weather, the cooler winters meant that her candy would harden faster. In the summer, she could take three minutes per piece. But in the winter, the candy would be soft enough to work for just one minute. Plus, there were cultural differences. Sometimes guests, especially children, pointed out that her candy sculptures didn't taste sweet. Miyuki says Japanese candy contains less sugar than American sweets. "There's too much sugar in America," she says.

"Candy art is very rare Japanese culture," she says. Mikuki hopes it will become even more popular. While there's no more Candy Miyuki at Epcot, her influence continues in a different way. Miyuki's daughter now works for Disney World as a dancer.



Image 1. Miyuki creates a traditional Japanese candy, called amezaiku, during a performance. Photo by: JeffChristiansen/Flickr [click to expand]

Quiz

1 Which two statements are MAIN ideas from the article?

1. Miyuki overcame a traditional attitude about women in Japan.
2. Miyuki has been making amezaiku in the United States since 1996.
3. Amezaiku artists create figures based on the Chinese zodiac.
4. Amezaiku is gaining popularity among American tourists.

- (A) 1 and 3
- (B) 2 and 4
- (C) 1 and 2
- (D) 3 and 4

2 Read the introduction [paragraphs 1-3]. Which sentence from the introduction shows WHY amezaiku is gaining popularity?

- (A) A long time ago, Japanese craftsman performed this feat in front of a crowd.
- (B) However, amezaiku been given a second life by social media and new stores.
- (C) Until recently, an amezaiku artist named Candy Miyuki made candy figures at Disney World's Epcot in Florida.
- (D) Miyuki left Disney in 2013, but still makes her sweet treats.

3 Read the following paragraph from the section "Miyuki Took Her Talents To Disney World."

The traditional art form does have its challenges. While Florida is known for its balmy weather, the cooler winters meant that her candy would harden faster. In the summer, she could take three minutes per piece. But in the winter, the candy would be soft enough to work for just one minute. Plus, there were cultural differences. Sometimes guests, especially children, pointed out that her candy sculptures didn't taste sweet. Miyuki says Japanese candy contains less sugar than American sweets. "There's too much sugar in America," she says.

Which of the following is an accurate explanation of what this paragraph means?

- (A) It is easier to make amezaiku in the cooler weather of Japan than in sunny Florida.
- (B) Differences between the United States and Japan affect Miyuki's candy sculptures.
- (C) Children eat less candy in Japan than in the United States because it is seen as a special treat.
- (D) American and Japanese cultures have very different ideas about raising children.

4 Select the answer choice that summarizes the article.

- (A) Amezaiku is gaining popularity as Miyuki carries on the tradition of making candy sculptures.
- (B) Amezaiku is one of the most popular destinations for people visiting Epcot in Disney World.
- (C) Amezaiku created by Miyuki is currently on display at the Tampa Museum of Art in Florida.
- (D) Amezaiku often incorporates figures based around the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac.

Answer Key

1 Which two statements are MAIN ideas from the article?

1. *Miyuki overcame a traditional attitude about women in Japan.*
2. *Miyuki has been making amezaiku in the United States since 1996.*
3. *Amezaiku artists create figures based on the Chinese zodiac.*
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The life and times of a Japanese candy artist

By Anne Ewbank, Atlas Obscura on 10.24.18

Word Count **865**

Level **MAX**



For 17 years, Miyuki awed her audiences with her candy craftsmanship. Photo: Flickr/Jeff Christiansen

Amezaiku is the traditional Japanese practice of molding hot candy into artistic shapes before it hardens. This feat, traditionally accomplished by experienced craftsmen in front of a crowd, was once thought to be a fading art. But it's been given a second life by social media and new brick-and-mortar stores.

Until recently, American audiences could watch an amezaiku artisan at work in an unlikely place. Audiences could see this at the Japan Pavilion inside Disney World's Epcot. She was known to the public as "Candy Miyuki." She has been known more recently, as "Candy5." The artist deftly twisted figurines out of candy there for 17 years. Miyuki left Disney in 2013, and is now a freelance candy artist. In the summer, she made sweet treats for the preview of a Yayoi Kusama exhibition at the Tampa Museum of Art, riffing on both that artist's famed silhouette as well as her "dot" motif.

Miyuki's primary medium is glutinous starch syrup. It is heated to 200 degrees Fahrenheit and then pulled like taffy. Each piece starts with a golf ball-sized lump of hot candy impaled on a stick. With food coloring and a few judicious snips from custom-made Japanese candy scissors, she can produce anything from a purple pig to a glittering dragon in mere minutes.

The road to sugar stardom was bumpy. According to Miyuki, she is the first female amezaiku artist to receive formal training in the practice. Twenty-five years ago, while living in Japan, she went through a divorce. She needed a job and she prayed every night for guidance from her long-passed father. He was a former newspaper writer. Then, picking up a newspaper one day, she came across an interview with an amezaiku artist. "This is my new job," she remembers thinking. To this day, she considers it a "nice message" from her father.

So Miyuki set about finding a candy-making teacher in Tokyo, which was a challenge during the pre-Internet era. Miyuki ended up calling her local police station to ask if they knew about any candy artists. One policeman protested that amezaiku was "old culture," and that it would be impossible to find a practitioner. But another officer pointed her towards the director of an Edo-era (1603-1868) cultural festival, who gave her the number of Takeo Kimura, an accomplished amezaiku artist.

Miyuki's first encounter with her teacher-to-be was less than ideal. During their first conversation, he told her he didn't want to teach a woman. Miyuki says that until recently, that was a typical attitude. Craftsmen usually wanted to pass their arts down to male heirs, while women were encouraged to be housewives. Regardless, she became his student.

He taught her what she considers the essential forms of amezaiku, the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac. Miyuki learned the "eastern" style of amezaiku. This relies on hands and scissors to make the final creation. Another "western" variation, she notes, uses a straw to inflate sugar sculptures with air, giving them a round form. But the practice was deemed unsanitary in Japan a generation ago. And now it's relatively rare (Miyuki also notes that inflating the sugar sculptures makes them more fragile). But Miyuki was Kimura's last student: The elderly artist died a year after they met.

Miyuki practiced making her sugar sculptures, and soon Disney came calling. American administrators wanted an amezaiku artist at Epcot, and put in a call to Tokyo Disneyland. Miyuki sent in an audition tape, and in 1996, she moved to Florida with her young daughter for the job.

At her booth in the Japan Pavilion, Miyuki made her signature sugar sculptures in front of awed guests, with one lucky spectator able to take the final piece home. The most requested shapes, Miyuki says, were dragons and unicorns. While she's able to whip those up in two minutes, Miyuki's favorite thing to make are elaborate candy faces, which can take up to half an hour each.

The traditional art form does have its challenges. While Florida is known for its balmy weather, the cooler winters meant that her candy would harden faster. In summer, she could take three minutes per work, while winter shortened the candy's



Image 1. Miyuki creates a traditional Japanese candy, called amezaiku, during a performance. Photo by: JeffChristiansen/Flickr [click to expand]

malleability to a minute. Plus, there were cultural differences. Sometimes guests, especially children, noted that her final candy sculptures weren't tremendously sweet. According to Miyuki, Japanese candy contains less actual sugar than American sweets. "There's too much sugar in America," Miyuki says.

Miyuki's career at Disney wasn't uninterrupted. Disney briefly laid her off when the U.S. economy dipped in the early 2000s. But it wasn't long before she was asked to come back, something she attributes to the demands of guests who loved watching her work. When she left in 2013 for New York, it was her own decision. Now, she makes candy for cultural events and parties. "Candy art is very rare Japanese culture," she says, and she hopes it will become even more popular. While there's no more Candy Miyuki at Epcot, her legacy continues in a different way. Miyuki's daughter now works for Disney World as a dancer.

Quiz

1 Read the following sentences from the article.

1. *Twenty-five years ago, while living in Japan, she went through a divorce.*
2. *So Miyuki set about finding a candy-making teacher in Tokyo, which was a challenge during the pre-Internet era.*
3. *Craftsmen usually wanted to pass their arts down to male heirs, while women were encouraged to be housewives.*
4. *When she left in 2013 for New York, it was her own decision. Now, she makes candy for cultural events and parties.*

What CENTRAL idea does this evidence support?

- (A) Miyuki became an amezaiku artist at Disney World's Epcot in the hopes of becoming rich and famous.
- (B) Miyuki did not accept some of the traditional ideas about gender in Japan that limited what women could do.
- (C) Miyuki is responsible for making candy sculpture popular again in Japan as well as in the United States.
- (D) Miyuki overcame many obstacles to become an amezaiku artist and develop a successful career.

2 Which sentence from the article would be MOST important to include in a summary of the article?

- (A) Amezaiku is the traditional Japanese practice of molding hot candy into artistic shapes before it hardens.
- (B) Until recently, American audiences could watch an amezaiku artisan at work in an unlikely place.
- (C) Miyuki practiced making her sugar sculptures, and soon Disney came calling.
- (D) "Candy art is very rare Japanese culture," she says, and she hopes it will become even more popular.

3 Which sentence from the article BEST supports the conclusion that Candy Miyuki was determined to find an amezaiku teacher?

- (A) She needed a job and she prayed every night for guidance from her long-passed father.
- (B) So Miyuki set about finding a candy-making teacher in Tokyo, which was a challenge during the pre-Internet era.
- (C) Miyuki ended up calling her local police station to ask if they knew about any candy artists.
- (D) Craftsmen usually wanted to pass their arts down to male heirs, while women were encouraged to be housewives.

4 Why did Candy Miyuki think that she was meant to become an amezaiku artist? How do you know?

- (A) She felt that she was directed to it by her father; "This is my new job," she remembers thinking. To this day, she considers it a "nice message" from her father.
- (B) She wanted to become the first female amezaiku artist; According to Miyuki, she is the first female amezaiku artist to receive formal training in the practice.
- (C) She felt that amezaiku would give her and her daughter a new life; Miyuki sent in an audition tape, and in 1996, she moved to Florida with her young daughter for the job.
- (D) She knew that she could convince Miyuki to teach her; During their first conversation, he told her he did not want to teach a woman.

Answer Key

1 Read the following sentences from the article.

1. *Twenty-five years ago, while living in Japan, she went through a divorce.*
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- (B) She wanted to become the first female amezaiku artist; According to Miyuki, she is the first female amezaiku artist to receive formal training in the practice.
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All About Art: The evolution of drawing

By Encyclopaedia Britannica, adapted by Newsela staff on 05.01.17

Word Count **497**

Level **380L**



A pen drawing of a lion by the Dutch artist Rembrandt. He lived about 400 years ago. Image from: Wikimedia Commons. Image: Wikimedia Commons

Drawing is an important art. For many artists, drawing is the first thing they learn. They draw before they do anything else. Drawing is a starting point. It helps with painting, sculpture and other arts.

Pen, Pencil Or Crayons?

Artists have many drawing tools. Some prefer pens. Others like pencils best. Artists can use charcoal and crayons. Chalk is good for drawing, too.

Artists use different kinds of pencils. Harder pencils make cleaner lines. They are good for outlining. Softer pencils make darker marks. They are good for coloring in.

Many artists today use computers to draw. They use a special program. It lets them draw with a mouse.

Lines And Shadows

Drawings are made up of lines. These lines sometimes form objects. They may form a picture of a person. Some artists want their drawings to look very real. They add in shadows. This can make the picture look 3-D. It looks like something in real life.

Drawings Became Writing

People have been drawing for thousands of years. Early humans drew on cave walls. Some scribbled on rocks.

Early drawings became writing. Ancient Egyptians wrote with pictures. Their writing was called hieroglyphics. Chinese writing also began as drawings.

In China, artists have been drawing for 3,000 years. They drew on scrolls. These are long rolls of paper. Most Asian artists did not use pens. They used brushes. These artists drew with dark ink.

Renaissance Art

About 600 years ago, drawing became important in Europe. This was during the Renaissance. It was a time of great art. An artist named Leonardo da Vinci became famous. He drew the human body. He also drew pictures of inventions. Da Vinci imagined amazing machines. Then he drew them on paper.

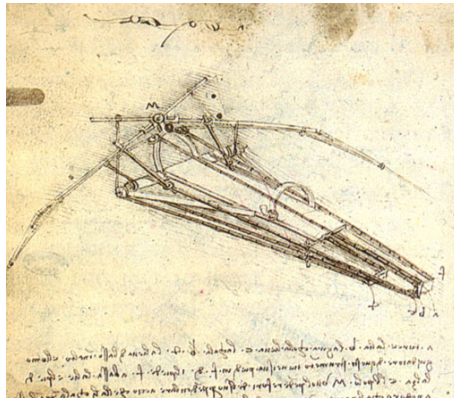


Image 2. Leonardo da Vinci drew a design for a flying machine in the year 1488. Image from: Wikimedia Commons.

Artists Started Trying Something New

In the 1900s, drawing changed. Artists were trying something new. Before, they had used lines to draw people and objects. So artists began making abstract drawings. These drawings did not look like anything in particular. They did not show a person. They did not show life-like objects, like a flower, either.

Instead, artists drew to show their feelings. Sometimes they drew something that stood for an idea. Pablo Picasso was a Spanish artist. He made some of the greatest abstract drawings.

Drawing Has Many Other Uses Now

Today, drawing is still popular. It is still an art. Yet it is used in business, too. Companies use drawings to sell products. Inventors use it to plan their work. For some, drawing is just for fun. Many kids and grown-ups like drawing.

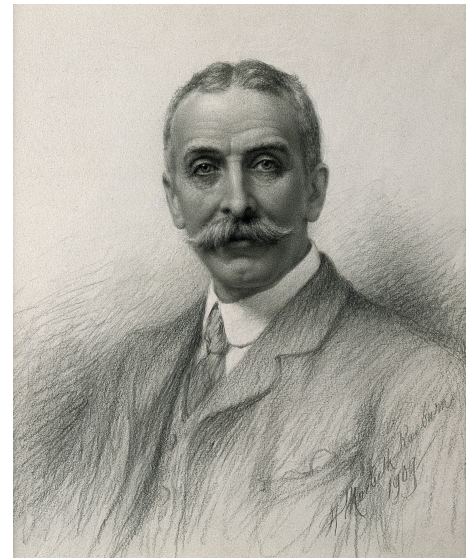


Image 1. The artist H. M. Raeburn made shadows in this pencil drawing from 1909. Image from: Wikimedia Commons.

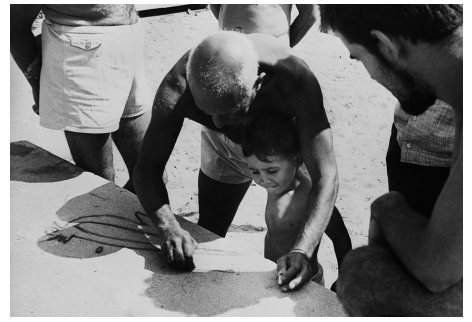


Image 3. Pablo Picasso drawing a pigeon with his son Claude in 1950. Picasso was a famous Spanish painter known for his surreal works of art. Photo from: Getty Images/Bettmann.

Quiz

- 1 What is the article MOSTLY about?
- (A) Drawing has changed over time.
 - (B) Leonardo da Vinci drew humans.
 - (C) Artists in China used brushes.
 - (D) Many people like to look at art.
- 2 What is "Artists Started Trying Something New" MOSTLY about?
- (A) Artists used to make their drawings look like people and objects.
 - (B) Artists wanted to try new ways to draw objects like flowers.
 - (C) Artists began to draw abstract objects to show their feelings.
 - (D) Artists tried to draw objects the same way Pablo Picasso did.
- 3 Which event happened first in the article?
- (A) Pablo Picasso made abstract drawings.
 - (B) Drawing is used by companies to sell products.
 - (C) Asian artists used scrolls and brushes to draw.
 - (D) Artists wanted to make drawings look very life-like.
- 4 How is Leonardo da Vinci different from Pablo Picasso?
- (A) Leonardo da Vinci was a great artist.
 - (B) Leonardo da Vinci made life-like drawings.
 - (C) Leonardo da Vinci did not draw with lines.
 - (D) Leonardo da Vinci liked to draw his feelings.

Answer Key

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All About Art: Drawing through the ages

By Encyclopaedia Britannica, adapted by Newsela staff on 05.01.17

Word Count **570**

Level **560L**



A pen drawing of a lion by the Dutch artist Rembrandt. He lived about 400 years ago. Image from: Wikimedia Commons. Image: Wikimedia Commons

Drawing is an important art. Most artists learn to draw before they do anything else. Drawing is a good starting point. It helps with painting, sculpture and other forms of art, too.

Pens, Pencils And Paper

Artists use many tools for drawing. Pencils and pens are common tools. Artists use many different kinds of pencils. Harder pencils make cleaner lines. They are good for outlines. Softer pencils make darker marks. Artists use thin-tipped pens for thin lines. Thicker pens make thick lines.

Artists also use charcoal, chalk and pastels to draw. Pastels are sticks made from colored powder. Today, some artists also use computers. They use special computer programs. These allow them to draw with a mouse or a drawing pad.

Forming Figures With Lines

Drawings are usually made up of lines. These lines form figures or pictures.

Artists have many ways to make shadows in their drawings. They can fill in part of their drawing to create a shadow. This helps make the object they are drawing look 3-D. It looks more real this way.

Egyptian And Chinese Drawing

People have been drawing since ancient times. Thousands of years ago, people drew on cave walls and on rocks. Early drawings developed into writing. Ancient Egyptian writing used pictures. It was called hieroglyphics. Many of the characters in Chinese writing began as drawings, too.

Chinese artists were drawing long ago. They started making ink drawings about 3,000 years ago. About 1,000 years ago, they started drawing on scrolls. These are long, rolled pieces of paper or silk. Most Asian artists drew with ink. They used brushes instead of pens.

Drawing During The Renaissance

About 600 years ago, drawing became an important art in Europe. This was during the Renaissance. It was a period of great art and culture. Leonardo da Vinci was one of the greatest artists of this time. He drew the human body. He also drew pictures of amazing machines he imagined.

New Styles And Artist Messages

Later, European artists used drawings for another purpose. They drew to share their opinions. English artist William Hogarth lived in the 1700s. He made drawings that poked fun at people's mistakes. In the 1800s, Spanish artist Francisco Goya made many important drawings. He drew scenes of war. They showed how terrible war can be.

In the 1900s, many artists started trying new styles. Some artists made abstract drawings. These drawings did not look like anything in particular. They did not show anything life-like, like a flower or a bowl of fruit. Instead, they were supposed to show an idea or a feeling. Pablo Picasso was an artist from Spain. He made some of the greatest abstract drawings.

Drawing Today

Today, drawing is still really popular. It is still an art. Drawing is used in business, too. Companies use drawings to sell their products. Designers use them to plan their work. Cartoonists use drawings to make comic books. Also, many children and adults draw just for fun.

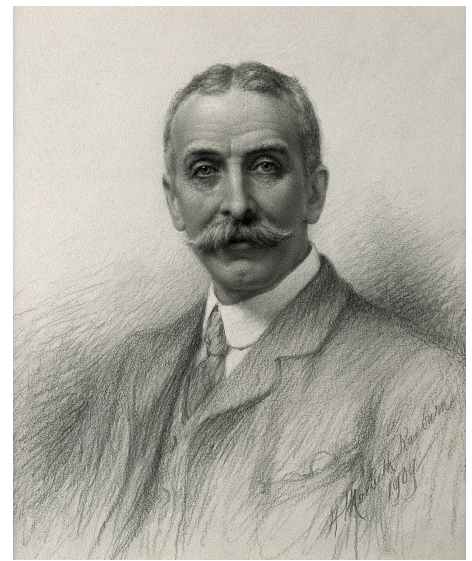


Image 1. The artist H. M. Raeburn made shadows in this pencil drawing from 1909. Image from: Wikimedia Commons.

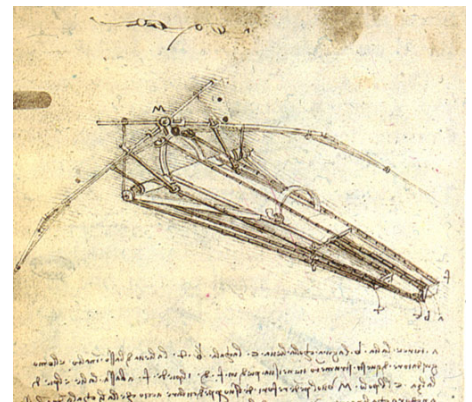


Image 2. Leonardo da Vinci drew a design for a flying machine in the year 1488. Image from: Wikimedia Commons.



Image 3. Pablo Picasso drawing a pigeon with his son Claude in 1950. Picasso was a famous Spanish painter known for his surreal works of art. Photo from: Getty Images/Bettmann.

Quiz

- 1 Which sentence BEST states a MAIN idea of the entire article?
- (A) Artists use lines to form people and objects.
 - (B) In Asia, artists used ink and brushes to draw.
 - (C) Leonardo da Vinci lived during the Renaissance.
 - (D) Over time, the way artists draw has changed.
- 2 Why is the Renaissance an important time in Europe?
- (A) During the Renaissance, many people were interested in art.
 - (B) During the Renaissance, artists expressed their opinions.
 - (C) During the Renaissance, artists drew machines.
 - (D) During the Renaissance, many people drew bowls of fruit.
- 3 What is the MAIN reason why drawing is an important art?
- (A) Drawing is very easy and very fun for children and adults.
 - (B) Drawing can be done at almost any time or in any place.
 - (C) Drawing helps artists become better painters and sculptors.
 - (D) Drawing requires many tools and a lot of practice for artists.
- 4 What is the MAIN idea of "Pens, Pencils And Paper"?
- (A) The best drawings are made using paper and pens.
 - (B) Artists can draw with many different tools.
 - (C) Computers are one tool artists can use to draw.
 - (D) Pencils can make different kinds of lines.

Answer Key

- 1 Which sentence BEST states a MAIN idea of the entire article?
- (A) Artists use lines to form people and objects.
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All About Art: A history of drawing

By Encyclopaedia Britannica, adapted by Newsela staff on 05.01.17

Word Count **688**

Level **680L**



A pen drawing of a lion by the Dutch artist Rembrandt, who lived about 400 years ago. Image from: Wikimedia Commons. Image: Wikimedia Commons

Drawing is an art form. Most artists learn to draw before they learn how to do anything else. Drawing is the starting point for painting, sculpture and other arts.

What You Need To Draw

Artists can choose from many tools for drawing. Pencils and pens are common drawing tools. Artists have many different kinds of pencils to work with. Harder pencils make sharper lines and are good for outlines. Softer pencils make darker marks. Artists' pens come in different tips for making wide or thin lines. Some artists use special pens that they dip in ink before drawing. Artists also use charcoal, crayons, chalk and pastels. Pastels are sticks made of colored powder.

Most artists draw on paper. Paper comes in many colors and textures. It can be thick or thin, bumpy or smooth. Artists often use smooth paper for fine drawing.

Many artists today also use computers to draw. They use special programs to draw with a mouse or a drawing pad.

Lines, Shadows And Filler Color

Drawings are usually made of lines. An artist uses lines to make figures or pictures of things. Lines also create borders between an object and the space around it.

Artists have several ways to make shadows. Shadows can make an object look three-dimensional, or 3-D. Hatching is one way to make shadows. In this technique, the artist draws short lines close together. They can make light or dark areas. In crosshatching, an artist uses lines that crisscross.

Not all drawings are made with just lines. Artists often fill in parts of their drawings, as well. By doing this, they make shadows or areas of solid color. Some artists use spots and dots to fill in areas, or to make objects.

Early Drawings

People have been drawing since ancient times. Thousands of years ago, people drew on cave walls and on rocks. Early drawings eventually developed into writing. Ancient Egyptian writing is called hieroglyphics. It was a picture-based writing system. Many of the characters in Chinese writing also began as drawings.

Chinese artists made ink drawings as early as 3,000 years ago. About 1,000 years ago, the Chinese began drawing on scrolls. These are long, rolled pieces of paper or silk. Most Asian artists made drawings with ink. They used brushes instead of pens.

Drawing Becomes A Fine Art

Drawing in Europe became a form of fine art during the Renaissance. The Renaissance lasted from the 1300s through the 1500s. The time period is known for its many famous artists, like Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo. They made many fine drawings. Da Vinci drew the human body, as well as the machines he invented. Albrecht Dürer was a German artist. He made detailed drawings with pen and ink.

Later European artists made drawings that expressed their opinions. English artist William Hogarth lived in the 1700s. He made drawings that poked fun at human mistakes. In the 1800s, Spanish artist Francisco Goya did many drawings of war. They showed how cruel war could be.

In the 1900s, many artists made drawings that did not look realistic. They used shapes or free-flowing lines to represent people and objects. Some artists made abstract drawings. These drawings did not look like anything in particular. They were made to express feelings or ideas. The Spanish artist Pablo Picasso made some of the greatest drawings of this period.

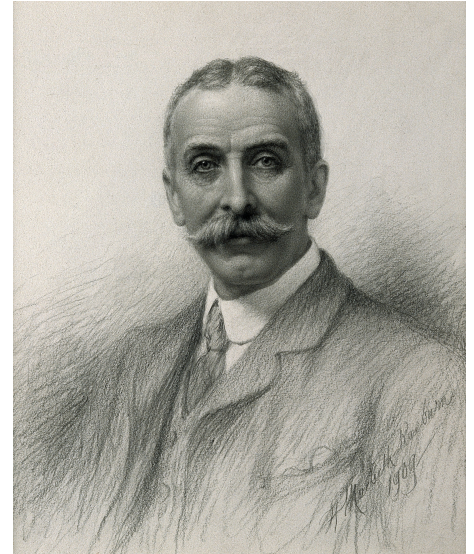


Image 1. A pencil drawing by H. M. Raeburn from 1909 using hatching to create shadows. Image from: Wikimedia Commons.

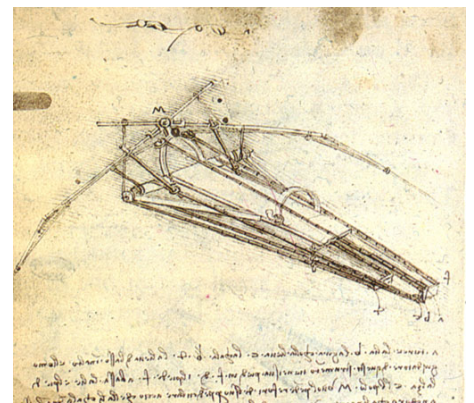


Image 2. Leonardo da Vinci drew a design for a flying machine in the year 1488. Image from: Wikimedia Commons.

Drawing's Many Purposes Today

Today, drawing is still a popular art. People also use drawing for many practical purposes. Advertisers use drawings to sell products. Fashion artists and products designers use them to plan their work. Illustrators and cartoonists draw pictures for books, newspapers and magazines. Many children and adults draw just for fun.

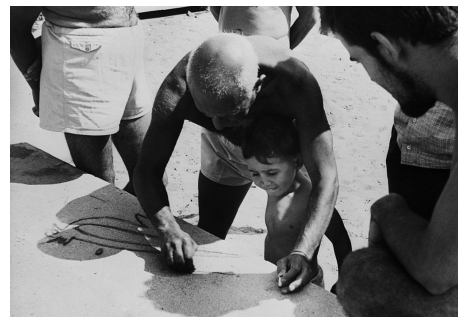


Image 3. Pablo Picasso drawing a pigeon with his son Claude in 1950. Picasso was a famous Spanish painter known for his surreal works of art. Photo from: Getty Images/Bettmann.

Quiz

- 1 Which sentence from the article is MOST important to include in its summary?
- (A) Pastels are sticks made of colored powder.
 - (B) An artist uses lines to make figures or pictures of things.
 - (C) In crosshatching, an artist uses lines that crisscross.
 - (D) English artist William Hogarth lived in the 1700s.
- 2 What is the MAIN idea of the section "Early Drawings"?
- (A) People in Ancient Egypt drew hieroglyphics instead of writing.
 - (B) Chinese artists have been drawing on scrolls for 1,000 years.
 - (C) During ancient times, people drew on walls instead of paper.
 - (D) People have been drawing to express themselves for a long time.
- 3 Based on the section "Drawing Becomes A Fine Art," which of the following statements is TRUE?
- (A) People living in Europe didn't draw anything until the Renaissance.
 - (B) Drawing became an important art form in Europe during the Renaissance.
 - (C) Picasso is not a very popular artist because he did not draw humans.
 - (D) European artists tried not to express opinions in their drawings.
- 4 What is the MAIN reason why drawing is still an important art form?
- (A) Drawing is used by many people and is fun.
 - (B) Drawing is used for selling products and fashion.
 - (C) Drawing is used for newspapers and magazines.
 - (D) Drawing is used for cartoons and books.

Answer Key

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All About Art: The basis for most forms of art is drawing

By Encyclopaedia Britannica, adapted by Newsela staff on 05.01.17

Word Count **684**

Level **800L**



A pen drawing of a lion by the Dutch artist Rembrandt, who lived about 400 years ago. Image from: Wikimedia Commons. Image: Wikimedia Commons

Drawing is an important art form. Most artists start out by learning how to draw. This is because drawing is the basis for painting, sculpture and other forms of art.

Drawing Instruments

Artists can choose from many tools for drawing. Pencils, pens and pastels are common drawing tools. Artists' pencils come in a wide range of hardnesses to create different effects. Harder pencils make cleaner lines and are good for outlines. Softer pencils make darker marks. Artists' pens may have different tips for making wide or thin lines. Some artists use special pens that they dip in ink before drawing. Other drawing tools include charcoal, crayons, chalk and pastels. Pastels are sticks made of colored powder.

Paper is by far the most common surface for drawing. Paper comes in many colors and can have different types of surfaces. Artists often use smooth paper for fine drawing.

Many artists today also use computers to draw. Special software lets artists draw with a mouse or a drawing pad.

Putting Lines Together

Drawings are usually made up of lines. An artist can put lines together to form figures or pictures of objects. Artists can also use lines to create borders between something and the space around it.

To create shadows, an artist can combine or cross lines. Hatching is one drawing technique. It is a series of short, parallel lines that make light and dark areas. In crosshatching, an artist uses parallel lines that crisscross each other.

Not all drawings are made with just lines. Artists often fill in parts of their drawings as well. By doing this, they can create shadows or areas of solid color. Some artists use spots and dots to fill in areas or to create forms.

History Of Drawing

People have been drawing since ancient times. Prehistoric people drew on cave walls, on rocks and probably in sand. Early drawings eventually developed into writing. Ancient Egyptian writing, called hieroglyphics, used pictures as symbols. Many of the characters in Chinese writing also began as drawings at first.

Chinese artists made ink drawings as early as 3,000 years ago. They began drawing on scrolls at least 1,000 years ago. Scrolls are long, rolled pieces of paper or silk. Asian artists generally used brushes instead of pens to make ink drawings.

Drawing in Europe became a form of fine art during the Renaissance. The Renaissance was a time of great culture. It lasted from the 1300s through the 1500s. Artists like Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael and Michelangelo made many fine drawings. Da Vinci created drawings of the human body, as well as scientific drawings. In Germany, the artist Albrecht Dürer made detailed pen-and-ink drawings of religious subjects, plants and animals.

Later, European artists made drawings that expressed their opinions. In the 1700s, the English artist William Hogarth made drawings that made fun of human mistakes. In the 1800s, the drawings of Spanish artist Francisco Goya showed the violence of war.

In the 1900s, many artists made drawings that did not look very realistic. They used geometric shapes or free-flowing lines to represent people and objects. Some artists made abstract drawings. These are drawings that did not represent anything. Instead, they were meant to express emotions or ideas. The Spanish artist Pablo Picasso made some of the greatest drawings of this period.

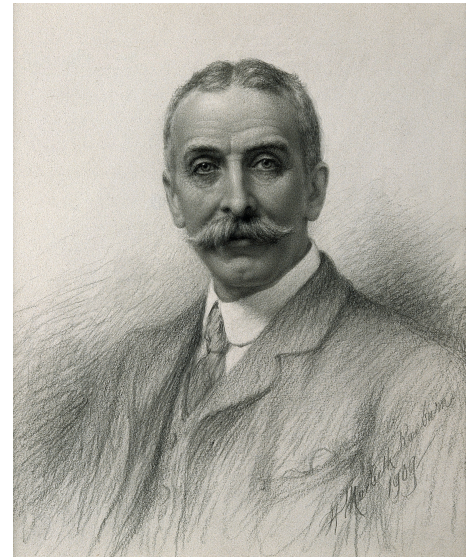


Image 1. A pencil drawing by H. M. Raeburn from 1909 using hatching to create shadows. Image from: Wikimedia Commons.

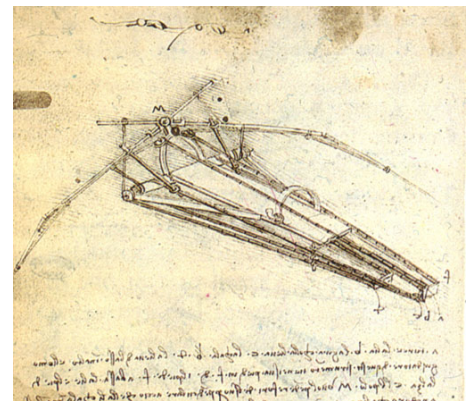


Image 2. Leonardo da Vinci drew a design for a flying machine in the year 1488. Image from: Wikimedia Commons.

More Practical Or Relaxing Applications

Today, drawing is still a popular form of art. People also use drawing for more practical purposes. Advertisers use drawings to sell products. Fashion artists and designers of products use drawings to plan their work. Illustrators and cartoonists draw pictures for books, newspapers and magazines. In addition, many children and adults draw just for fun.

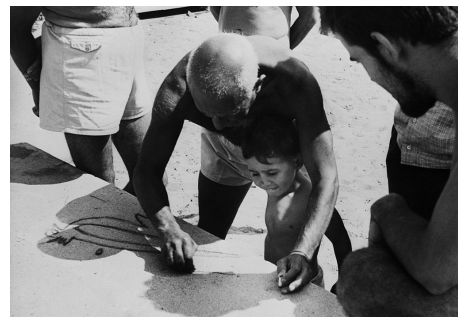


Image 3. Pablo Picasso drawing a pigeon with his son Claude in 1950. Picasso was a famous Spanish painter known for his surreal works of art. Photo from: Getty Images/Bettmann.

Quiz

- 1 What is the relationship between writing and drawing?
- (A) Many ancient civilizations used drawings before they used writing.
 - (B) Drawing is easier to practice than writing because anyone can draw.
 - (C) Prehistoric people didn't have paper to write on so they drew on walls.
 - (D) During the Renaissance people were more interested in drawing as art.
- 2 What is the the MAIN goal of abstract drawing?
- (A) to make shadows using several parallel lines that crisscross each other
 - (B) to use geometry to express opinions and make fun of human mistakes
 - (C) to use lines and shapes to represent emotions and ideas instead of objects
 - (D) to make drawings that represent ideas in practical and popular ways
- 3 What effect did the Renaissance have on drawing in Europe?
- (A) Artists began to use the fine art of pen-and-ink drawings.
 - (B) Artists began to focus on drawing the human form only.
 - (C) Artists began to consider drawing as a serious art form.
 - (D) Artists began to receive recognition for their religious work.
- 4 Which of the following are two MAIN ideas from the article?
- (A) A lot of artists became very popular during the Renaissance; most art after the Renaissance is not good.
 - (B) Drawing began in ancient China; people use a lot of different tools to draw with thanks to technology.
 - (C) People have been drawing since ancient times; now drawing is considered a form of art.
 - (D) Paper is the best surface for drawing; most artists learn to draw because it helps with sculpting and painting.

Answer Key

- 1 What is the relationship between writing and drawing?
- (A) **Many ancient civilizations used drawings before they used writing.**
 - (B) Drawing is easier to practice than writing because anyone can draw.
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- (A) A lot of artists became very popular during the Renaissance; most art after the Renaissance is not good.
 - (B) Drawing began in ancient China; people use a lot of different tools to draw with thanks to technology.
 - (C) **People have been drawing since ancient times; now drawing is considered a form of art.**
 - (D) Paper is the best surface for drawing; most artists learn to draw because it helps with sculpting and painting.

All About Art: Art begins with drawing

By , Encyclopaedia Britannica on 05.01.17

Word Count **695**

Level **MAX**



A pen drawing of a lion by the Dutch artist Rembrandt, who lived about 400 years ago. Image from: Wikimedia Commons. Image: Wikimedia Commons

Drawing is a form of art. To make a drawing, an artist puts lines on paper or another surface. Most artists start out by learning to draw. This is because drawing is the starting point for painting, sculpture and other art forms.

Drawing Tools

Artists can choose from many tools for drawing. Pencils, pens and pastels are common drawing tools. Artists' pencils come in a wide range of hardness. Softer pencils make darker marks. Artists' pens may have different tips for making wide or thin lines. Some artists use special pens that they dip in ink before drawing. Pastels are chalk-like sticks made of colored powder. Other drawing tools include charcoal, crayons and chalk.

Paper is by far the most common surface for drawing. Paper comes in many colors and textures. Artists often use smooth paper for fine drawing.

Many artists today also use computers to create drawings. Special software allows artists to draw with a mouse or a drawing pad.

How Artists Draw

Drawings are usually made up of lines. An artist can put lines together to form figures, or pictures of things. Artists also can use lines to stand for borders between a figure and the space that surrounds it.

To create shadows, an artist can combine or cross lines. In a technique called hatching, an artist draws short, parallel lines to make light and dark areas. In a technique called crosshatching, an artist uses two sets of parallel lines that cross each other.

Not all drawings are made with just lines. Artists often fill in parts of their drawings by rubbing their drawing tools across the drawing surface. This technique creates shadows or areas of solid color. Some artists use spots and dots to fill in areas or to create forms.

History

People have been drawing since prehistoric times. Prehistoric people drew on cave walls, on rocks and probably in sand. Early drawings eventually developed into writing. Ancient Egyptian writing, called hieroglyphics, was a system of picture symbols. Many of the characters in Chinese writing also were drawings at first.

Chinese artists made ink drawings as early as 3,000 years ago. By about 1,000 years ago, the Chinese drew on scrolls, or long, rolled pieces of paper or silk. Asian artists generally used brushes instead of pens to make ink drawings.

Drawing in Europe became a form of fine art during the Renaissance. The Renaissance was a time of great culture that lasted from the 1300s through the 1500s. Artists in Italy — including Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael and Michelangelo — made many fine drawings. Da Vinci created drawings of the human body as well as scientific drawings. In Germany, the artist Albrecht Dürer made detailed pen-and-ink drawings of religious subjects.

Drawing Is Still Popular

Later European artists made drawings that showed their opinions. In the 1700s, the English artist William Hogarth made drawings that made fun of human mistakes. In the 1800s, the Spanish artist Francisco Goya made drawings that showed the horrors of war.

In the 1900s, many artists made drawings that looked less realistic than earlier drawings. They used geometric shapes or free-flowing lines to represent people and objects. Some artists made abstract drawings, or drawings that did not represent anything. These drawings were meant to

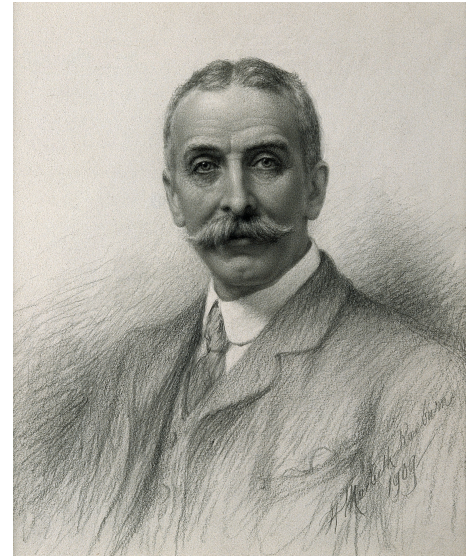


Image 1. A pencil drawing by H. M. Raeburn from 1909 using hatching to create shadows. Image from: Wikimedia Commons.

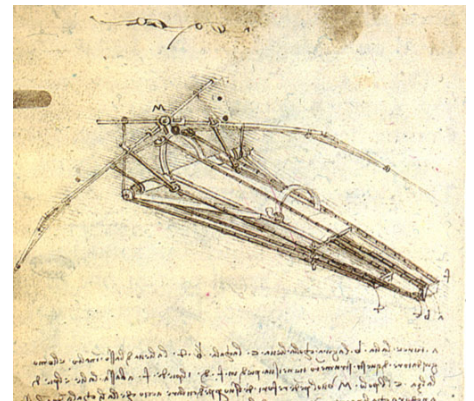


Image 2. Leonardo da Vinci drew a design for a flying machine in the year 1488. Image from: Wikimedia Commons.

express emotions or ideas. The Spanish artist Pablo Picasso made some of the greatest drawings of this period.

Today, drawing is still a popular form of art, but people also use drawing for many business and entertainment purposes. Advertisers use drawings to sell products, and fashion artists and designers of products use drawings to plan their work. Illustrators and cartoonists draw pictures for books, newspapers and magazines. In addition, many children and adults draw just for fun or relaxation.

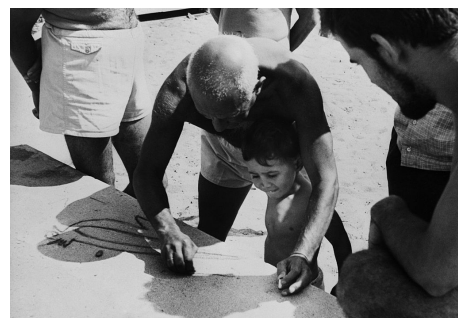


Image 3. Pablo Picasso drawing a pigeon with his son Claude in 1950. Picasso was a famous Spanish painter known for his surreal works of art. Photo from: Getty Images/Bettmann.

Quiz

- 1 Which of the following BEST expresses a MAIN idea from the section “How Artists Draw?”
- (A) Artists use lines to stand for borders around a figure.
 - (B) Artists use lines, cross lines and spots and dots to create a picture.
 - (C) Artists use a technique called hatching to create shadow in their art.
 - (D) Artists use a rubbing technique to fill in parts of their drawings.
- 2 Which detail would be MOST important to include in a summary of the article?
- (A) Today, drawing is still a popular form of art, but people also use drawing for many business and entertainment purposes.
 - (B) Special software allows artists to draw with a mouse or a drawing pad.
 - (C) Asian artists generally used brushes instead of pens to make ink drawings.
 - (D) In Germany, the artist Albrecht Dürer made detailed pen-and-ink drawings of religious subjects.
- 3 Fill in the blank. The author MAINLY explains the importance of the Renaissance by _____.
- (A) telling readers that the most popular artists were from Italy
 - (B) citing specific examples of some of the things da Vinci drew
 - (C) giving examples of artists who were important during that time
 - (D) explaining how Dürer made his detailed religious drawings
- 4 According to the article, how did European artists' thoughts on art change after the 1900s began?
- (A) They thought that art should not represent anything, but later thought art should show religious ideas.
 - (B) They thought that art should show the horrors of war, but later thought art should make fun of human mistakes.
 - (C) They thought that art should have free-flowing lines, but later thought art should focus on geometric figures.
 - (D) They thought art should highlight real-life issues, but later thought art should should represent feelings.

Answer Key

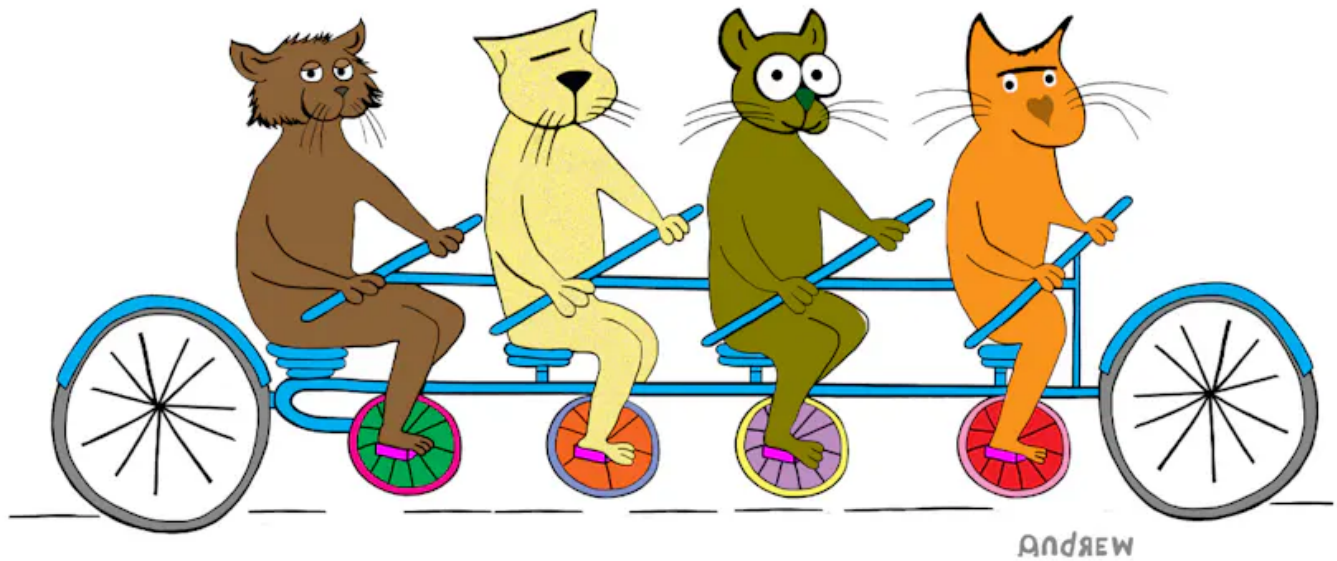
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Dream Jobs: Cartoonist

By Hailee Romain, Newsela staff on 01.30.20

Word Count **563**

Level **570L**



One of Andrew Grossman's illustrations shows his cat characters riding a tandem bike for four. Illustration: Andrew Grossman Illustrations: Andrew Grossman

Andrew Grossman has been drawing cartoons for the past 30 years. They have been published all over the world. They have appeared in magazines and newspapers. His cartoons focus on pets, work and family.

Question: What made you interested in creating cartoons? How did you start?

Grossman: I was really interested in poetry. So, I got a degree in English from Penn State University in Pennsylvania. Poetry doesn't usually pay very much, though. I wanted to do something that was creative, but I also wanted to make a living.

I did not study drawing or any of the visual arts. However, I liked cartoons. One day I realized something. Someone gets paid to create the comics in newspapers. I thought it would be fun to try creating some myself.

Q: How does the cartoon business work?

Grossman: First of all, I draw my cartoons on the computer. I have thousands of images available on my website. People then pay me for permission to use my work.

Q: What is a typical day at work like?

Grossman: I've always worked at home. It's the place I feel most comfortable. I'm usually at work in my home office by about 8 in the morning and work until around noon. Later, I'll put in another three or four hours.

Q: How do you get inspired?

Grossman: I've worked with some of the same characters for a long time. I think about what they are saying to each other. The characters have become like friends of mine. It's as if I'm having an ongoing conversation with someone that I know. A lot of the humor comes from that.

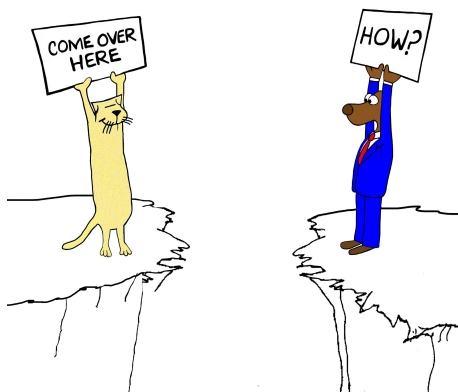


Image 2. Another of Grossman's cartoons illustrates the big divide between cats and dogs.

I enjoy my cat and dog characters the most. I especially like this one named Yellow Cat. Yellow Cat has a sharp sense of humor and an independent personality. It reminds me of my own pet.

I get inspired from other sides of life, too. My wife works in business, and she talks about things going on at her office. I'm fascinated by that. I think that's why businesses purchase so many of my cartoons.

Q: Do you think that communication via cartoons can be more effective than other means of communication?

Grossman: Cartoons do not have to rely on words. Where people live and what language they speak can affect how they understand your meaning. Images, though, get around this. If the humor is visual, it can be understood anywhere. As a result, my cartoons sell all over the world.

Q: What is your favorite part of your job?

Grossman: The best part of cartooning for me is making somebody laugh. It's the driving force behind everything I do.

Q: Do you have any advice for kids who might want to become cartoonists?

Grossman: First, you need to get your work out there. Sign up with an image hosting website. That is where you can post your

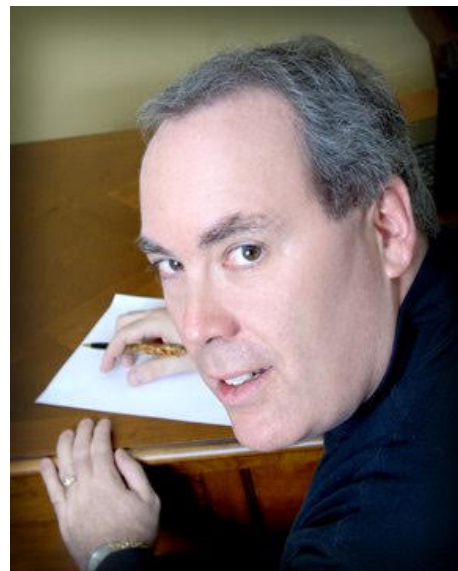
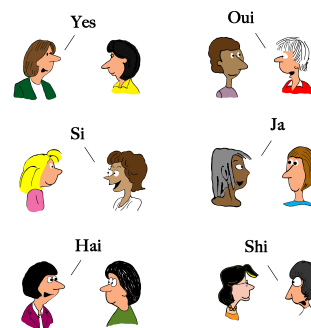


Image 1. A close-up of cartoonist Andrew Grossman as he sketches at his desk.

WAYS TO SAY YES



work. Then, other people can see it and maybe choose to buy it.
It's helpful to study other cartoonists, too.

To be a good cartoonist? You should care about making
someone's day a little lighter.

Image 3. One of Grossman's cartoons shows
how to say

Quiz

- 1 Read the section "Question: What made you interested in creating cartoons? How did you start?" Select the sentence from the section that explains why Andrew Grossman decided to become a cartoonist.
- (A) So, I got a degree in English from Penn State University in Pennsylvania.
 - (B) Poetry doesn't usually pay very much, though.
 - (C) I wanted to do something that was creative, but I also wanted to make a living.
 - (D) I did not study drawing or any of the visual arts.

- 2 Read the paragraph from the section "Q: Do you have any advice for kids who might want to become cartoonists?"

First, you need to get your work out there. Sign up with an image hosting website. That is where you can post your work. Then, other people can see it and maybe choose to buy it. It's helpful to study other cartoonists, too.

Which question is answered by this paragraph?

- (A) When were the first cartoons posted on websites?
 - (B) Who are the best cartoonists working today?
 - (C) What can someone learn from studying cartoons?
 - (D) How can new cartoonists show people their work?
- 3 Why does Grossman love his job as a cartoonist?
- (A) because he has met many famous cartoonists
 - (B) because he cares about making people laugh
 - (C) because he can work at home in the morning
 - (D) because he gets to travel all over the world
- 4 How does using the same characters all the time affect Grossman's work?
- (A) It makes him bored with his cat and dog characters.
 - (B) It makes him want to work in an office to meet new people.
 - (C) It gives him a way to use many different languages.
 - (D) It gives him humorous ideas because they are like friends.

Answer Key

- 1 Read the section "Question: What made you interested in creating cartoons? How did you start?" Select the sentence from the section that explains why Andrew Grossman decided to become a cartoonist.
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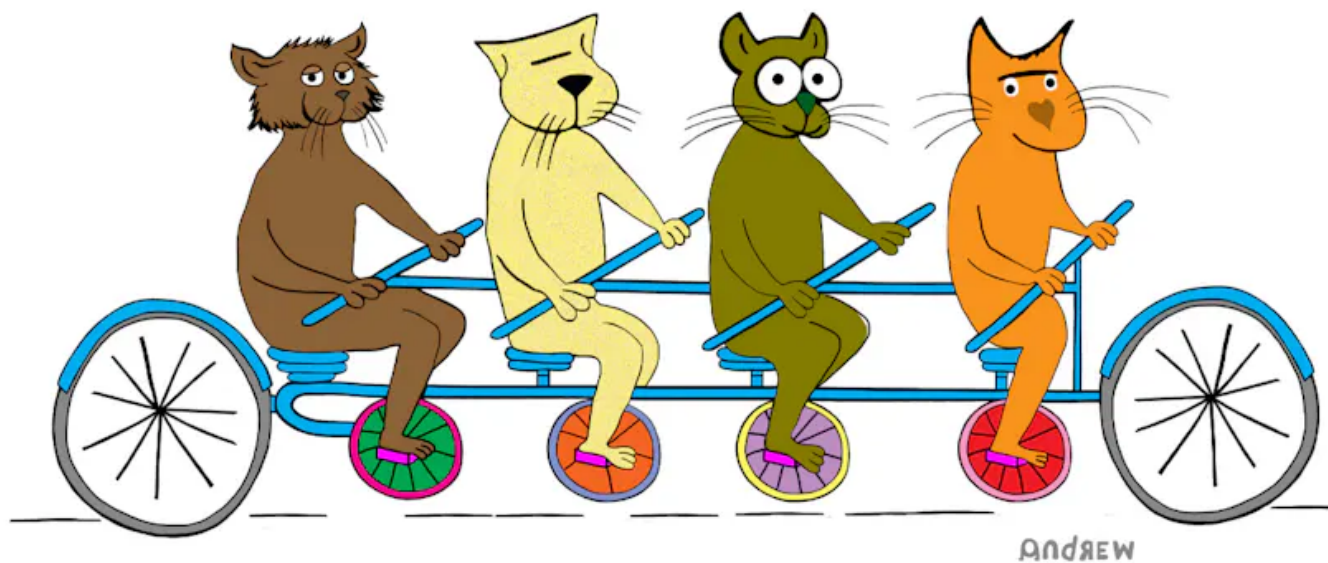
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Dream Jobs: Cartoonist

By Hailee Romain, Newsela staff on 01.30.20

Word Count **729**

Level **730L**



One of Andrew Grossman's illustrations shows his cat characters riding a tandem bike for four. Illustration: Andrew Grossman Illustrations: Andrew Grossman

Andrew Grossman is a cartoonist. He has been drawing illustrations for the past 30 years. They have been published in magazines, newspapers and business publications all over the world. There's a good chance you've seen his work before. His cartoons focus on everyday topics like pets, work and family.

Question: How and why did you first become interested in creating cartoons?

Grossman: I was actually really interested in literature, especially poetry. So, I got a degree in English from Penn State University in Pennsylvania. Of course, poetry doesn't usually provide a stable income. I needed a career and wanted to find a creative way to make money.

I had no education in the visual arts. However, I liked cartoons. One day I realized that someone gets paid to create the comic strips in magazines and newspapers. I thought it would be fun to try creating those cartoons myself.

Q: How does the cartoon business work?

Grossman: First of all, I draw my cartoons on the computer instead of by hand. This is actually much faster. There are fewer printed publications now compared to when I first started. At the same time, the audience for my work is much wider thanks to the internet. I have thousands of images constantly available on my website. I own the publishing rights to the images I create. People then pay me for permission to use my work in different ways.

Q: What is a typical day at work like?

Grossman: I've always worked at home. It's the place I feel most comfortable and where I have the least distraction. I usually get up and go to my home office by about 8 in the morning. I work until around noon. Then, I run errands, get lunch, go to the gym, and come back to work for another three or four hours.

Q: How do you get inspired?

Grossman: I think about what my characters are saying to each other. I've worked with these characters for a long time. At this point, it's like they have ongoing relationships.

I enjoy my cat and dog characters the most, especially this one cat character simply named Yellow Cat. As a cat owner, it's fun to play with the character's attitude. The character of Yellow Cat has a sharp sense of humor and an independent personality. It reminds me of my own pet.

The characters are like friends of mine, and it's like I'm having an ongoing conversation with someone I know. A lot of the humor stems from that.

I get inspired by other sides of life, too. My wife works in advertising. She has told me a lot about the world of corporate America. Many of my cartoons are inspired by hearing her talk about things going on at her office. I'm fascinated by that world, and I think that's why businesses purchase so many of my cartoons.

Q: Do you think that communication via cartoons can be more effective than other means of communication?

Grossman: One benefit of cartoons is that they do not have to rely on words. Where people live and what language they speak can get in the way of how they understand what you're trying to say. Images can get past that barrier. If the humor is visual, it can be understood anywhere. As a result, my cartoons sell all over the world.

Q: What is your favorite part of your job?

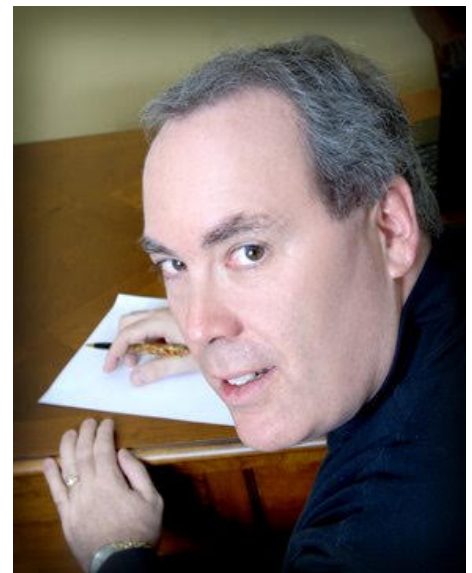


Image 1. A close-up of cartoonist Andrew Grossman as he sketches at his desk.

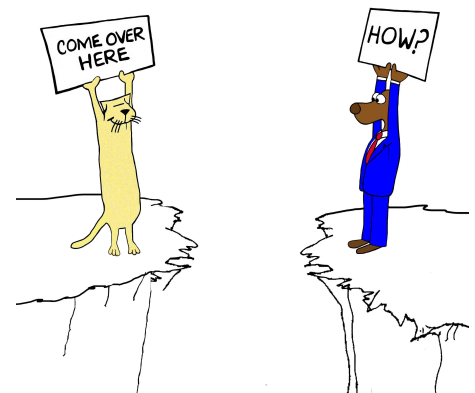
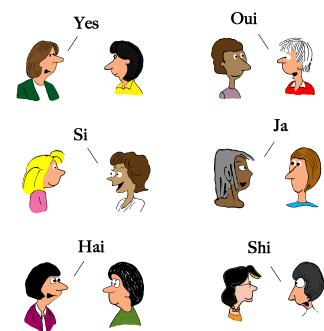


Image 2. Another of Grossman's cartoons illustrates the big divide between cats and dogs.

WAYS TO SAY YES



Grossman: The best part of cartooning for me is making somebody laugh. It's the driving force behind everything I do.

Image 3. One of Grossman's cartoons shows how to say

Q: Do you have any advice for kids who might want to become cartoonists?

Grossman: First, you need to send your work out into the world. Sign up with an image hosting website. That is where you post your work so that other people can see it and maybe choose to buy it. From there, you can see what kind of work sells best and create more of that. It also helps to study the work of other cartoonists.

As a cartoonist, you should care about making someone's day a little lighter.

Quiz

1 Read the following sentence from the section "Q: Do you have any advice for kids who might want to become cartoonists?"

As a cartoonist, you should care about making someone's day a little lighter.

Based on this sentence, choose the statement that is TRUE.

- (A) Grossman believes the goal of cartoons is to make others laugh.
- (B) Grossman believes the goal of cartoons is to share serious news.
- (C) Grossman believes most people would make great cartoonists.
- (D) Grossman believes most cartoonists are doing a great job.

2 How does Andrew Grossman create and sell his cartoons?

- (A) He draws his ideas on a computer before copying them by hand, and advertises them in newspaper offices.
- (B) He draws his ideas by hand before putting them on the computer, and gives them to his wife to bring to her office.
- (C) He draws his ideas on the computer, then posts the cartoons on his website where people can see and buy them.
- (D) He draws his ideas by hand on paper, then sends them to different printed publications to see who will buy them.

3 Why does Andrew Grossman think cartoons are an effective way to communicate?

- (A) They show people what it is like to work in business.
- (B) They are creative work that does not provide a stable income.
- (C) They can be made in different languages around the world.
- (D) They use visuals that do not rely on language or words.

4 Which selection from the article helps the reader understand that Grossman gets ideas for cartoons from his own life?

- (A) It's the place I feel most comfortable and where I have the least distraction. I usually get up and go to my home office by about 8 in the morning.
- (B) I work until around noon. Then, I run errands, get lunch, go to the gym, and come back to work for another three or four hours.
- (C) As a cat owner, it's fun to play with the character's attitude. The character of Yellow Cat has a sharp sense of humor and an independent personality.
- (D) I'm fascinated by that world, and I think that's why businesses purchase so many of my cartoons.

Answer Key

- 1 Read the following sentence from the section "Q: Do you have any advice for kids who might want to become cartoonists?"

As a cartoonist, you should care about making someone's day a little lighter.

Based on this sentence, choose the statement that is TRUE.

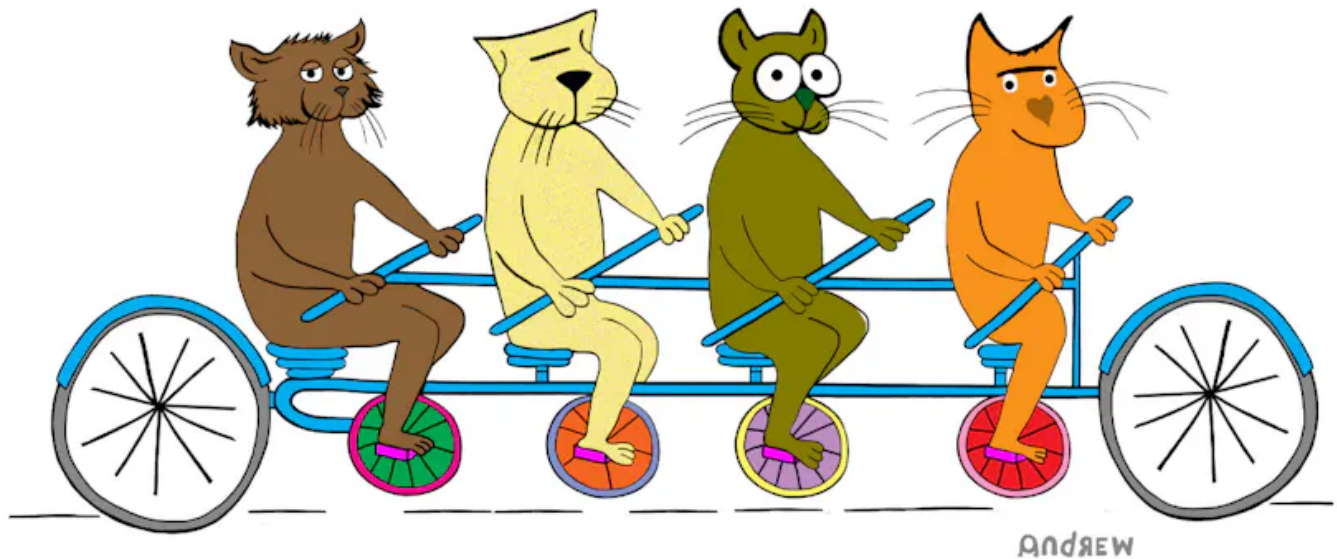
- (A) **Grossman believes the goal of cartoons is to make others laugh.**
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- (D) I'm fascinated by that world, and I think that's why businesses purchase so many of my cartoons.

Dream Jobs: Cartoonist

By Hailee Romain, Newsela staff on 01.31.20

Word Count **787**

Level **830L**



One of Andrew Grossman's illustrations shows his cat characters riding a tandem bike for four. Illustration: Andrew Grossman Illustrations: Andrew Grossman

Andrew Grossman is a cartoonist. He has been creating illustrations for the past 30 years. They have been published in magazines, newspapers and business publications all over the world. There's a good chance you've seen his work before! His cartoons focus on everyday topics like pets, work and family relationships. In this interview, he talked about his work as a cartoonist.

Question: How and why did you first become interested in creating cartoons?

Grossman: I was always a fan of cartoons, but I was really into literature, and especially poetry. I actually got a degree in English from Penn State University in Pennsylvania. However, poetry doesn't usually provide the most stable of incomes. So my main desire in starting a career was to find a creative way to make money.

I had no formal arts education. However, one day I realized that someone gets paid to create the comics and cartoons in magazines and newspapers. I thought it would be fun to try creating those cartoons myself.

Q: How does the cartoon business work?

Grossman: First of all, I draw my cartoons on the computer instead of by hand, which is actually much faster. There are fewer printed publications now compared to when I first started. At the same time, the audience for my work is much wider thanks to the internet. I have thousands of images available on my website. I own the publishing rights to the images I create. People then pay me for permission to use my work in different ways.

Q: What is a typical day at work like?

Grossman: I've always worked at home because it's the place I feel most comfortable and where I have the least amount of distractions. I usually get up and go to my home office by about 8 in the morning. I work until around noon. Then, I run errands, get lunch, go to the gym, and come back to work for another three or four hours.

Q: How do you get inspired?

Grossman: I think about what my characters are saying to each other. I've worked with these characters for a long time, and at this point, they have ongoing relationships.

I enjoy my cat and dog characters the most, especially this one cat character simply named Yellow Cat. It's not a very complicated drawing, but as a cat owner, it's fun to play with the character's attitude. The character of Yellow Cat has a biting sense of humor and an independent personality. It reminds me of my own pet. I really loved that cat.

The characters are like friends of mine. It's like I'm having an ongoing conversation with someone that I know, and a lot of the humor naturally stems from that.

There are influences that come from other sides of life, too. My wife is a business executive. She has given me a peek into the world of corporate America. A lot of the topics in my cartoons are inspired by hearing her talk about things that are going on at her work. I'm fascinated by that world, and I think that's why businesses purchase so many of my cartoons.

Q: Do you think cartoons can be more effective than other means of communication?

Grossman: One benefit of cartoons, and images in general, is that they do not rely on words. They can overcome many of the barriers of geography and language. In many of the cartoons that I do, the humor is visual, which allows it to be understood anywhere. As a result, my cartoons sell all over the world.

Q: What is your favorite part of your job?



Image 1. A close-up of cartoonist Andrew Grossman as he sketches at his desk.

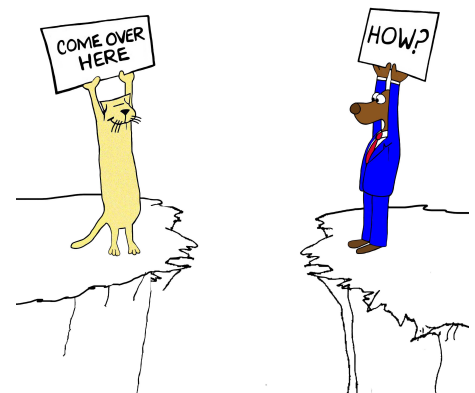


Image 2. Another of Grossman's cartoons illustrates the big divide between cats and dogs.

Grossman: The best part of cartooning for me is the idea of making somebody laugh. It's the driving force behind everything I do. I hope that readers will be happier as a result of looking at my cartoons.

Q: Do you have any advice for kids who might want to become cartoonists?

Grossman: To have a career as a cartoonist, you need to get your work out there. Sign up with an image hosting website. That is where you upload your work so that other people can see it and maybe choose to buy it. From there, you can see what kind of work sells the best and create more of that. It also helps to study the work of other cartoonists.

As a cartoonist, you should care about making other people's days a little lighter.



Image 3. One of Grossman's cartoons shows how to say

Quiz

1 Read the paragraph below from the section "Q: How do you get inspired?"

There are influences that come from other sides of life, too. My wife is a business executive. She has given me a peek into the world of corporate America. A lot of the topics in my cartoons are inspired by hearing her talk about things that are going on at her work. I'm fascinated by that world, and I think that's why businesses purchase so many of my cartoons.

Which detail from this paragraph supports the conclusion that Grossman's wife gives him ideas?

- (A) My wife is a business executive.
- (B) She has given me a peek into the world of corporate America.
- (C) A lot of the topics in my cartoons are inspired by hearing her talk about things that are going on at her work.
- (D) I'm fascinated by that world, and I think that's why businesses purchase so many of my cartoons.

2 Read the selection from the section "Q: How does the cartoon business work?"

First of all, I draw my cartoons on the computer instead of by hand, which is actually much faster. There are fewer printed publications now compared to when I first started. At the same time, the audience for my work is much wider thanks to the internet.

Which of the following is an accurate explanation of what this selection means?

- (A) The way people create and sell cartoons has changed a lot because of computers.
- (B) The cartoons that Grossman makes today are much funnier than they used to be.
- (C) The best way for cartoonists to get noticed for their work is in printed publications.
- (D) The internet is making cartoons more expensive and harder for most people to buy.

3 What caused Grossman to become a cartoonist?

- (A) He had always loved cartoons and went to college to study them.
- (B) He wanted to communicate his ideas without language barriers.
- (C) He needed to find a fun and creative way to make a stable income.
- (D) He was teaching cartoonists at Penn State University in Pennsylvania.

4 What effect does working at home have on Grossman?

- (A) It allows him to travel when he wants to get new ideas.
- (B) It allows him to work comfortably with fewer distractions.
- (C) It forces him to find ways to keep his pets out of his office.
- (D) It forces him to use websites as a way to study cartoonists.

Answer Key

1 Read the paragraph below from the section "Q: How do you get inspired?"

There are influences that come from other sides of life, too. My wife is a business executive. She has given me a peek into the world of corporate America. A lot of the topics in my cartoons are inspired by hearing her talk about things that are going on at her work. I'm fascinated by that world, and I think that's why businesses purchase so many of my cartoons.

Which detail from this paragraph supports the conclusion that Grossman's wife gives him ideas?

- (A) My wife is a business executive.
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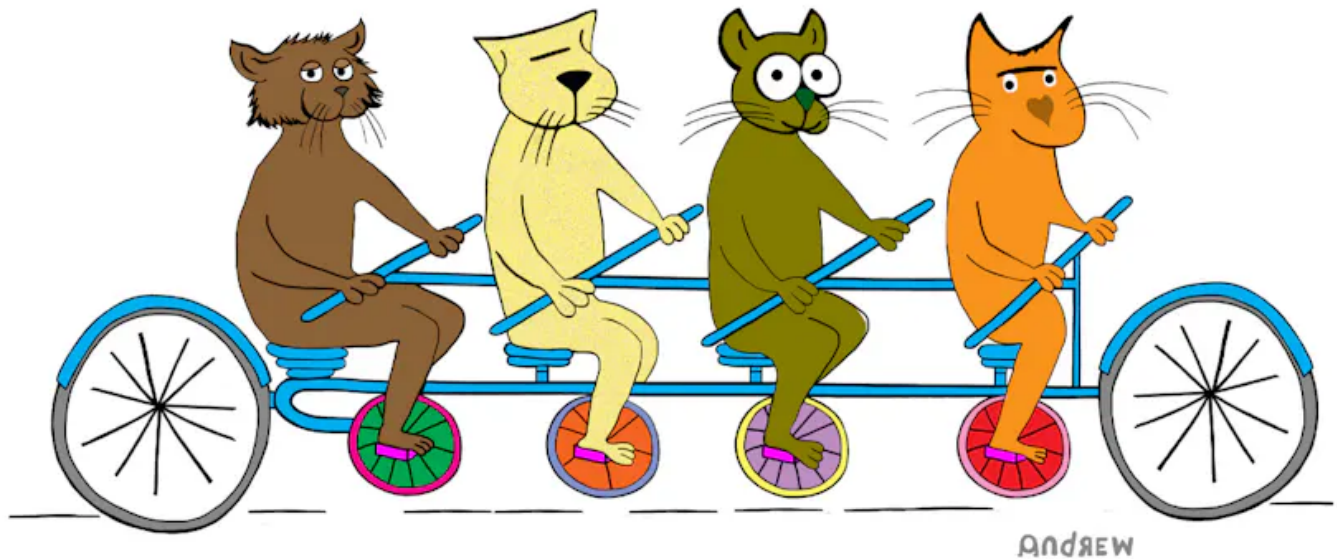
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- (D) It forces him to use websites as a way to study cartoonists.

Dream Jobs: Cartoonist

By Hailee Romain, Newsela staff on 01.31.20

Word Count **885**

Level **960L**



One of Andrew Grossman's illustrations shows his cat characters riding a tandem bike for four. Illustrations: Andrew Grossman

Andrew Grossman has spent the last 30 years creating illustrations. They have been featured in magazines, newspapers and business publications all over the world. There's a good chance you've seen his work before! His cartoons focus on everyday topics like pets, office life and family relationships. In this interview, Grossman talks about what it's like to be a cartoonist.

Question: How and why did you first become interested in creating cartoons?

Grossman: While I was always a fan of cartoons, what I was really into was literature, especially poetry. I actually got a degree in English from Penn State University in central Pennsylvania. However, poetry doesn't usually provide a stable income. So my main desire in starting a career was to find a creative way to make money. I wanted financial stability as well as flexibility.

I had no formal arts education. However, one day I realized that someone gets paid to create the comics and cartoons in magazines and newspapers. I thought it would be fun to try creating those cartoons myself.

Q: How does the cartoon business work?

Grossman: First of all, I draw my cartoons on the computer instead of by hand, which is actually much faster. There are fewer printed publications out there compared to when I first started. At the same time, the audience for my work is much wider thanks to the internet. I have thousands of images constantly available on my website. I own the publishing rights to the images I create, and people pay me for permission to use my work in different ways.

Q: What is a typical day at work like?

Grossman: I've always worked at home because it's the place I feel most comfortable and where there are the least amount of distractions. I usually get up and go to my home office by about 8 in the morning. I work until around noon. Then, I run errands, get lunch, go to the gym, and come back to work for another three or four hours.

Q: How do you get inspired?

Grossman: I think the main way that I get inspiration is to just think about what my characters are saying to each other. I've worked with these characters for a long time. At this point, they have ongoing relationships, and the way they chat with each other drives a lot of my work.

I enjoy my cat and dog characters the most, especially this one cat character simply named Yellow Cat. It's not a very complicated drawing, but as a cat owner, it's fun to play with the character's attitude. The character of Yellow Cat has a semi-sarcastic, independent personality. It reminds me of my own pet, and I really loved that cat.

The characters are like friends of mine. It's like I'm having an ongoing conversation with someone that I know, and a lot of the humor naturally stems from that.

There are influences that come from the real world, too. My wife is a marketing executive, and she has given me a peek into the world of corporate America. A lot of the topics in my cartoons are inspired by hearing her talk about her day and things that are going on at work. I'm fascinated by that world, and I think that's why so many of my cartoons are purchased by businesses.

Q: Do you think that communication via cartoons can be more effective than other means of communication?

Grossman: One benefit of cartoons, and images in general, is that they do not rely on words, which means they can overcome many of the barriers of geography and language. In many of the cartoons that I do, the humor is visual, which allows it to be understood anywhere. As a result, my cartoons sell all over the world.



Image 1. A close-up of cartoonist Andrew Grossman as he sketches at his desk.

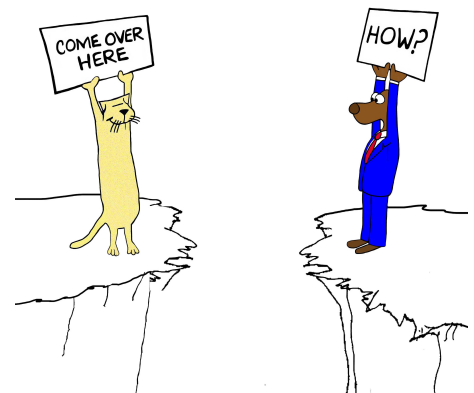


Image 2. Another of Grossman's cartoons illustrates the big divide between cats and dogs.

Q: What is your favorite part of your job?

Grossman: The best part of cartooning for me is the idea of making somebody laugh. The driving force behind everything I do is the hope that readers will be happier as a result of looking at my cartoons.

Q: Do you have any advice for kids who might want to become cartoonists?

Grossman: An important part of starting a career as a cartoonist is to get your work out there. New cartoonists should think of themselves as entrepreneurs. That means it's up to you to sign up with an image hosting website where you upload your work so that other people can see it and maybe choose to buy it. From there, you can see what kind of work sells the best and create more of that.

I think studying what other cartoonists do is definitely helpful. I would also say it's very important to read and be curious about the world, especially people. That way you can get an idea for the daily situations that people are in and especially get a feeling for the importance of entertainment. Anyone who wants to be a cartoonist should be driven to lighten other people's days a little bit.

WAYS TO SAY YES

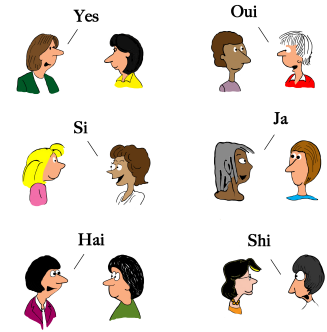


Image 3. One of Grossman's cartoons shows how to say

Quiz

1 Read the inference below.

The fact that cartoon images can be understood by people all over the world makes them a valuable tool for communicating ideas.

Which sentence from the article provides the BEST support to the statement above?

- (A) I own the publishing rights to the images I create, and people pay me for permission to use my work in different ways.
- (B) My wife is a marketing executive, and she has given me a peek into the world of corporate America.
- (C) One benefit of cartoons, and images in general, is that they do not rely on words, which means they can overcome many of the barriers of geography and language.
- (D) The driving force behind everything I do is the hope that readers will be happier as a result of looking at my cartoons.

2 Read the section "Q: How does the cartoon business work?" Select the sentence from the section that suggests a cartoonist's work can be viewed by more people today than in the past.

- (A) First of all, I draw my cartoons on the computer instead of by hand, which is actually much faster.
- (B) There are fewer printed publications out there compared to when I first started.
- (C) At the same time, the audience for my work is much wider thanks to the internet.
- (D) I have thousands of images constantly available on my website.

3 Read the paragraph from the section "Q: How do you get inspired?"

I enjoy my cat and dog characters the most, especially this one cat character simply named Yellow Cat. It's not a very complicated drawing, but as a cat owner, it's fun to play with the character's attitude. The character of Yellow Cat has a semi-sarcastic, independent personality. It reminds me of my own pet, and I really loved that cat.

Why did the author include this idea?

- (A) to encourage readers to skip Grossman's cartoons about Yellow Cat
- (B) to elaborate on the relationship Grossman feels with his characters
- (C) to introduce different things Grossman's characters say to each other
- (D) to illustrate how much Grossman misses the cat that used to be his pet

4 Which answer choice accurately characterizes Grossman's reaction to young people who want to become cartoonists?

- (A) Grossman says young people should stop thinking about being entrepreneurs creating their own websites and think only about making people laugh.
- (B) Grossman says young people should go to college and get a degree in cartooning or visual arts before attempting to start a career as a cartoonist.
- (C) Grossman says young people should be concerned about the fact that there are fewer printed publications for cartoonists' work now than there used to be.
- (D) Grossman says young people should focus on promoting their work where people can see it as well as have curiosity about the world and other cartoonists.

Answer Key

1 Read the inference below.

The fact that cartoon images can be understood by people all over the world makes them a valuable tool for communicating ideas.

Which sentence from the article provides the BEST support to the statement above?

- (A) I own the publishing rights to the images I create, and people pay me for permission to use my work in different ways.
- (B) My wife is a marketing executive, and she has given me a peek into the world of corporate America.
- (C) **One benefit of cartoons, and images in general, is that they do not rely on words, which means they can overcome many of the barriers of geography and language.**
- (D) The driving force behind everything I do is the hope that readers will be happier as a result of looking at my cartoons.

2 Read the section "Q: How does the cartoon business work?" Select the sentence from the section that suggests a cartoonist's work can be viewed by more people today than in the past.

- (A) First of all, I draw my cartoons on the computer instead of by hand, which is actually much faster.
- (B) There are fewer printed publications out there compared to when I first started.
- (C) **At the same time, the audience for my work is much wider thanks to the internet.**
- (D) I have thousands of images constantly available on my website.

3 Read the paragraph from the section "Q: How do you get inspired?"

I enjoy my cat and dog characters the most, especially this one cat character simply named Yellow Cat. It's not a very complicated drawing, but as a cat owner, it's fun to play with the character's attitude. The character of Yellow Cat has a semi-sarcastic, independent personality. It reminds me of my own pet, and I really loved that cat.

Why did the author include this idea?

- (A) to encourage readers to skip Grossman's cartoons about Yellow Cat
- (B) **to elaborate on the relationship Grossman feels with his characters**
- (C) to introduce different things Grossman's characters say to each other
- (D) to illustrate how much Grossman misses the cat that used to be his pet

4 Which answer choice accurately characterizes Grossman's reaction to young people who want to become cartoonists?

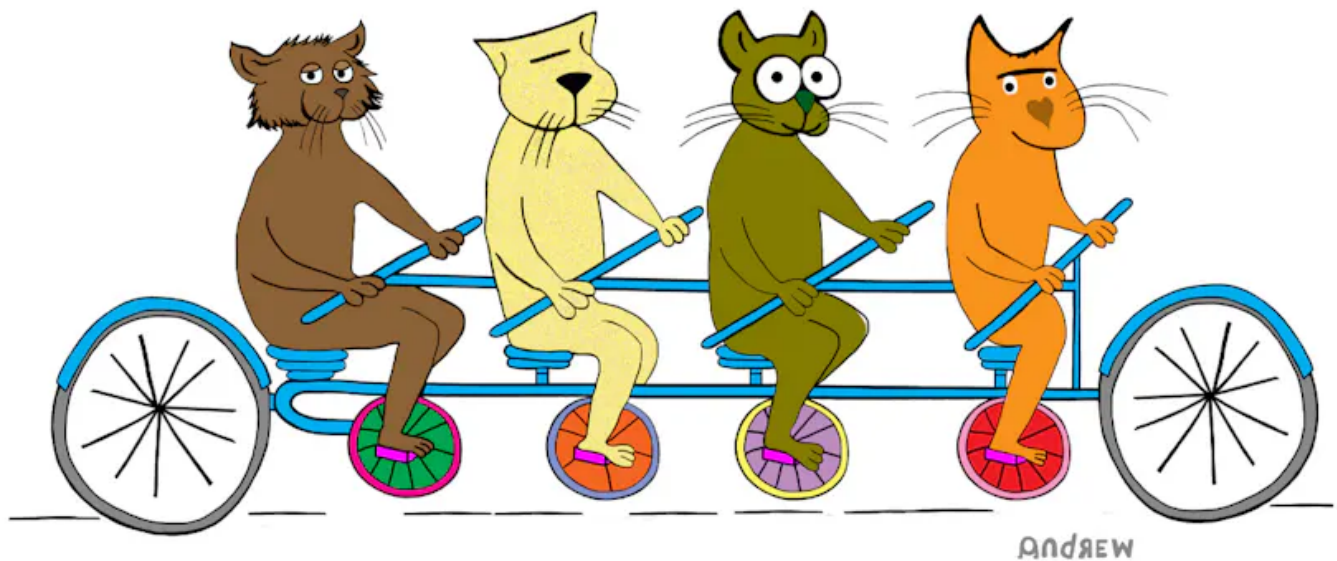
- (A) Grossman says young people should stop thinking about being entrepreneurs creating their own websites and think only about making people laugh.
- (B) Grossman says young people should go to college and get a degree in cartooning or visual arts before attempting to start a career as a cartoonist.
- (C) Grossman says young people should be concerned about the fact that there are fewer printed publications for cartoonists' work now than there used to be.
- (D) **Grossman says young people should focus on promoting their work where people can see it as well as have curiosity about the world and other cartoonists.**

Dream Jobs: Cartoonist

By Hailee Romain, Newsela staff on 01.31.20

Word Count **1,250**

Level **MAX**



One of Andrew Grossman's illustrations shows his cat characters riding a tandem bike for four. Illustration: Andrew Grossman Illustrations: Andrew Grossman

Andrew Grossman is a cartoonist who has spent the last 30 years creating illustrations that are featured in magazines, newspapers and business publications all over the world. This means there's a good chance you've seen his work before! His single-panel cartoons focus on everyday topics like pet ownership, office life and family relationships. In many of his illustrations, Grossman relies on keen observations and familiar characters to shine a humorous light on daily life. In this interview, Grossman talks about how he became a cartoonist and how he stays creative.

Question: How and why did you first become interested in creating cartoons?

Grossman: While I was always a fan of cartoons, what I was really into was literature, and especially poetry. I actually got a degree in English from Penn State University in central Pennsylvania. However, poetry doesn't usually provide the most stable of incomes, so my main desire in starting a career was to find a creative way to make money that gave me financial

stability as well as flexibility. That way, I could use most of my time to do what I wanted, which was write poetry.

I had no formal arts education, but one day I realized that someone creates the comics and cartoons in magazines and newspapers, and that they get paid for those images! I thought it would be fun to try creating those cartoons myself.

This was in the 1980s, and at that time the process was to create your cartoons, put them in an envelope, and mail them out to different publications. With any luck, the publications might decide to buy a couple of the cartoons you had sent. Once I realized that I could draw well enough to send out my work, I quickly began doing that.

Q: How does the cartoon business work?

Grossman: The cartoon business has changed quite a bit over time. When I first started, there were thousands of printed publications that cartoonists could pitch their work to. I used to draw my cartoons by hand and mail them to companies, hoping that someone would print my work. But if no one chose to buy the cartoons I mailed out, I didn't make any money at all.

Today, things work a little differently. First of all, I draw my cartoons on the computer instead of by hand, which is actually much faster. There are fewer printed publications out there now, but the audience for my work is much wider thanks to the internet. Instead of mailing out a handful of my cartoons to prospective buyers each day, I have thousands of images constantly available on my website, cartoonresource.com. I own the rights to the images I create, and people pay me for a license, or permission to feature my work in different ways. These days, many of my cartoons are purchased by people who use them as stock images and illustrations in presentations or business publications.

Q: What is a typical day at work like?

Grossman: I've always worked at home because it's the place I feel most comfortable and where I have the least amount of distractions. I usually get up and go to my home office by about 8 in the morning and work until around noon. Then, I run errands, get lunch, go to the gym, and come back to work for another three or four hours until my wife gets home around 6.

Q: How do you get inspired?

Grossman: I draw a lot of characters, so I think the main way that I get inspiration is to just think about what these characters are saying to each other. I've worked with these characters for a long time. At this point, they have ongoing relationships, and the banter between the characters drives a lot of my work.

I enjoy my cat and dog characters the most, especially this one cat character simply named Yellow Cat. It's not a very complicated drawing, but as a cat owner, it's fun to play with

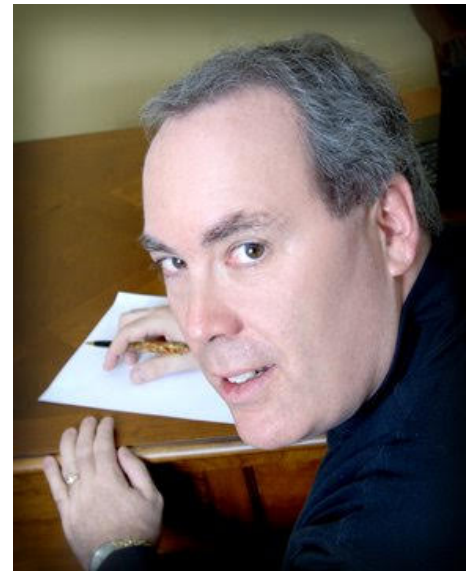
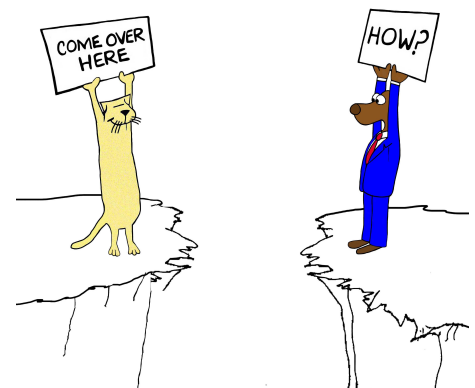


Image 1. A close-up of cartoonist Andrew Grossman as he sketches at his desk.



the character's attitude. The character of Yellow Cat, with its semi-sarcastic, independent personality, reminds me of my own pet, and I really loved that cat.

In terms of creating the cartoons, there's very little thinking on my part, and I don't ponder too much. But that's the fun of having the characters, because they're like friends of mine. It's like I'm having an ongoing conversation with someone that I know, and a lot of the humor naturally stems from that.

There are influences that come from the real world, too. My wife is a marketing executive, and she has given me a peek into the world of corporate America. A lot of the topics in my cartoons are inspired by hearing her talk about her day and things that are going on at work because I'm fascinated by that world. Even though I've never worked in an office, many of my images illustrate situations that are typical in a corporate setting. I think that's why so many of my cartoons are purchased by businesses.

Q: Do you think that communication via cartoons can be more effective than other means of communication?

Grossman: One benefit of cartoons, and images in general, is that because they do not rely on words, they can overcome many of the boundaries of geography and language. In many of the cartoons that I do, the humor is visual, which allows it to be understood anywhere. As a result of this, my cartoons sell all over the world.

Q: What is your favorite part of your job?

Grossman: It's fun to create characters, but the best part of cartooning for me is the idea that what I'm doing is going to make somebody laugh. The driving force behind everything I do is the hope that readers will be happier as a result of looking at my cartoons.

Q: Do you have any advice for kids who might want to become cartoonists?

Grossman: An important part of starting a career as a cartoonist these days is to get your work out there. Unless you work in a studio or for a company, any new cartoonist should think of themselves as an entrepreneur. That means it's up to you to sign up with an image hosting website and upload your work so that other people can see it and maybe choose to buy it. From there, you can see what kind of work sells the best and create more of that.

I think looking at as many cartoons as possible and studying what other people do is definitely helpful. As far as creating your own work, try not to be self-conscious and keep in mind that not everything you draw is going to be judged negatively. I would also say it's very important to read and be curious about the world, and especially people. That way you can get an idea for the daily situations that people are in and especially get a feeling for the importance of entertainment. People work very hard, and their jobs are often demanding. Anyone who wants to be a cartoonist should be driven to lighten other peoples' days a little bit and get something positive and fun from their work.

Image 2. Another of Grossman's cartoons illustrates the big divide between cats and dogs.

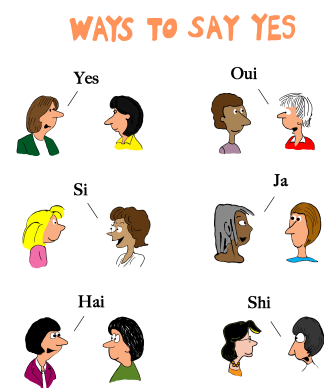


Image 3. One of Grossman's cartoons shows how to say

Quiz

1 Which option would Andrew Grossman MOST likely agree with?

1. *Being a cartoonist is mostly a lonely job that comes with some serious financial risks.*
2. *Being a cartoonist is mostly a rewarding job that provides a chance to bring people joy.*

Which selection from the article supports your response?

- (A) Option 1. "However, poetry doesn't usually provide the most stable of incomes, so my main desire in starting a career was to find a creative way to make money that gave me financial stability as well as flexibility."
- (B) Option 1. "I used to draw my cartoons by hand and mail them to companies, hoping that someone would print my work. But if no one chose to buy the cartoons I mailed out, I didn't make any money at all."
- (C) Option 2. "One benefit of cartoons, and images in general, is that because they do not rely on words, they can overcome many of the boundaries of geography and language."
- (D) Option 2. "Anyone who wants to be a cartoonist should be driven to lighten other peoples' days a little bit and get something positive and fun from their work."

2 How is Grossman's work different from his wife's?

- (A) Grossman and his wife both have a degree in English, but he creates cartoon images and she writes poetry.
- (B) Grossman and his wife are both cartoonists, but he works for newspapers and she works for large businesses.
- (C) Grossman has an office at home and sets his own schedule, while his wife works in a traditional corporate office.
- (D) Grossman focuses on marketing and working with businesses, while his wife runs a popular image hosting website.

3 Which option BEST explains how Grossman interacts with the characters in his work?

- (A) Grossman uses his own dog and cat as inspiration, and tries to make them more interesting as cartoon characters so that other people will love them as much as he does.
- (B) Grossman uses influences from the real world as inspiration, and has used some of the same characters for so long that their personalities and interactions come naturally.
- (C) Grossman creates new characters for each of his cartoons, so that he can think of each cartoon as a unique way of expressing his message without using words or language.
- (D) Grossman creates human characters that have traits he admires, so that he can think of the best way to show his wife and his friends what he loves most about each of them.

Read the list of sentences from the article.

1. *I had no formal arts education, but one day I realized that someone creates the comics and cartoons in magazines and newspapers, and that they get paid for those images!*
2. *I own the rights to the images I create, and people pay me for a license, or permission to feature my work in different ways.*
3. *That means it's up to you to sign up with an image hosting website and upload your work so that other people can see it and maybe choose to buy it.*
4. *As far as creating your own work, try not to be self-conscious and keep in mind that not everything you draw is going to be judged negatively.*

Which two sentences taken together provide the BEST evidence to support the idea that cartoonists must think of their work like a business they need to promote?

- (A) 1 and 3
- (B) 1 and 4
- (C) 2 and 3
- (D) 2 and 4

Answer Key

1 Which option would Andrew Grossman MOST likely agree with?

1. *Being a cartoonist is mostly a lonely job that comes with some serious financial risks.*
2. *Being a cartoonist is mostly a rewarding job that provides a chance to bring people joy.*

Which selection from the article supports your response?

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- (C) Option 2. "One benefit of cartoons, and images in general, is that because they do not rely on words, they can overcome many of the boundaries of geography and language."
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- (C) **Grossman has an office at home and sets his own schedule, while his wife works in a traditional corporate office.**
- (D) Grossman focuses on marketing and working with businesses, while his wife runs a popular image hosting website.

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- (C) 2 and 3**
- (D) 2 and 4

Man eats \$120,000 piece of art — a banana taped to wall

By Agence France-Presse, adapted by Newsela staff, Agence France-Presse on 12.19.19

Word Count **394**

Level **MAX**



A woman takes a selfie in front of Maurizio Cattelan's "Comedian" presented by Perrotin Gallery and on view at Art Basel Miami 2019 in Miami Beach, Florida, on December 6, 2019. Two of the three editions of the piece, which feature a banana duct-taped to a wall, have reportedly sold for \$120,000. Photo by Cindy Ord/Getty Images

The move was bananas ... or maybe the work was just too appealing.

A performance artist shook up the crowd at the Art Basel show in Miami Beach, Florida, on December 7, when he grabbed a banana that had been duct-taped to a gallery wall and ate it.

The banana was, in fact, a work of art by Italian artist Maurizio Cattelan titled "Comedian" and sold to a French collector for \$120,000.

In a video posted on his Instagram account, David Datuna, who describes himself as a Georgian-born American artist living in New York, walks up to the banana and pulls it off the wall with the duct tape attached.

"Art performance ... hungry artist," he said as he peeled the fruit and took a bite. "Thank you, very good."

A few bystanders could be heard giggling before a flustered gallery official whisked him to an adjoining space for questioning.

But the kerfuffle was resolved without a food fight.

"He did not destroy the art work. The banana is the idea," Lucien Terras, director of museum relations for Galerie Perrotin, told the Miami Herald.

As it turns out, the value of the work is in the certificate of authenticity, the newspaper reported. The banana is meant to be replaced.

A replacement banana was taped to the wall about 15 minutes after Datuna's stunt.

"This has brought a lot of tension and attention to the booth and we're not into spectacles," Terras said. "But the response has been great. It brings a smile to a lot of people's faces."

Gallery director Peggy Leboeuf said that no legal action was planned against Datuna.

"He was not arrested, but we asked him to leave the booth and to leave the fair," she said.

"We have his contact and everything, so we can go further, but I don't think we will."

Cattelan is perhaps best known for his 18-carat, fully functioning gold toilet called "America" that he had once offered on loan to President Donald Trump.

The toilet, valued at around \$5 million to \$6 million, was in the news again in September when it was stolen from Britain's Blenheim Palace — the birthplace of wartime leader Winston Churchill — where it had been on display.



Image 1. The artist David Datuna who ate the banana art off of the wall attends a press conference to discuss

Quiz

- 1 Which selection from the article shows Lucien Terras' MAIN opinion about David Datuna's stunt?
- (A) "Art performance ... hungry artist," he said as he peeled the fruit and took a bite. "Thank you, very good."
 - (B) As it turns out, the value of the work is in the certificate of authenticity, the newspaper reported. The banana is meant to be replaced.
 - (C) "He was not arrested, but we asked him to leave the booth and to leave the fair," she said.
 - (D) "We have his contact and everything, so we can go further, but I don't think we will."
- 2 What effect did David Datuna have on Maurizio Cattelan's artwork "Comedian"?
- (A) Datuna brought more attention to the work of art.
 - (B) Datuna destroyed the work of art.
 - (C) Datuna made the work of art more valuable.
 - (D) Datuna caused the work of art to be worthless.
- 3 What caused David Datuna to eat the banana from the "Comedian"?
- (A) Datuna wanted to make the art more valuable.
 - (B) Datuna believed the art cost too much money.
 - (C) Datuna was doing a piece of performance art.
 - (D) Datuna thought more people should be able to see the artwork.
- 4 Select the paragraph from the article that suggests Maurizio Cattelan's work has been interfered with before.
- (A) A performance artist shook up the crowd at the Art Basel show in Miami Beach, Florida, on December 7, when he grabbed a banana that had been duct-taped to a gallery wall and ate it.
 - (B) In a video posted on his Instagram account, David Datuna, who describes himself as a Georgian-born American artist living in New York, walks up to the banana and pulls it off the wall with the duct tape attached.
 - (C) Cattelan is perhaps best known for his 18-carat, fully functioning gold toilet called "America" that he had once offered on loan to President Donald Trump.
 - (D) The toilet, valued at around \$5 million to \$6 million, was in the news again in September when it was stolen from Britain's Blenheim Palace — the birthplace of wartime leader Winston Churchill — where it had been on display.

Answer Key

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 - (C) Cattelan is perhaps best known for his 18-carat, fully functioning gold toilet called "America" that he had once offered on loan to President Donald Trump.
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Man eats \$120,000 banana taped to wall in an art gallery

By Agence France-Presse, adapted by Newsela staff on 12.19.19

Word Count **414**

Level **420L**



A woman takes a selfie in front of Maurizio Cattelan's "Comedian" presented by Perrotin Gallery and on view at Art Basel Miami 2019 in Miami Beach, Florida, on December 6, 2019. Two of the three editions of the piece, which feature a banana duct-taped to a wall, have reportedly sold for \$120,000. Photo by Cindy Ord/Getty Images

Art Basel is a famous art show. It takes place in Miami Beach, Florida.

This year, it showed a strange work of art.

It was simply a banana taped to a wall.

Italian artist Maurizio Cattelan made it. He calls the banana work "Comedian." Someone paid \$120,000 for it.

Datuna Posted Video On Instagram

On December 7, a different artist came in. His name was David Datuna. He grabbed the banana art and ate it. His action shook up the crowd.

Mr. Datuna says he is an American artist. He was born in the European country of Georgia. Now, Mr. Datuna lives in New York. He posted a video to social-media website Instagram. In it, Mr. Datuna walks up to the banana. Then he pulls it off the wall.

"Art performance ... hungry artist," Mr. Datuna said. He peeled the fruit and took a bite. "Thank you, very good."

A few people watching could be heard laughing. Soon a nervous gallery official came up. Mr. Datuna was moved away to a nearby space. He was questioned there.

Certificate Of Authority Made The Banana Valuable

The mess was handled. There was no food fight, either.

"He did not destroy the art work. The banana is the idea," said Lucien Terras. He works for the Galerie Perrotin museum.

The Miami Herald newspaper wrote about this. It says the work is not ruined. What makes it worth money is the certificate of authenticity. This certificate is a kind of proof. It shows the piece of art is the real deal. Each time the artwork is shown, a new banana is supposed to be used.

A new banana was soon taped to the wall.

Datuna Was Kicked Out Of The Art Gallery

Datuna's move troubled the art gallery, Mr. Terras said. However, it made many people smile. For that he is glad.

Peggy Leboeuf leads the gallery. She said that they were not planning on taking Datuna to court. They just asked him to leave.

Cattelan once made a gold toilet. He called this work of art "America." The toilet actually works. Mr. Cattelan had once offered to let President Donald Trump borrow the toilet.

The toilet is valued at around \$5 million to \$6 million. It was in the news again in September. The golden toilet was stolen from Britain's Blenheim Palace.



Image 1. The artist David Datuna who ate the banana art off of the wall attends a press conference to discuss

Quiz

- 1 Who in the article ate the banana?
- (A) Maurizio Cattelan
 - (B) David Datuna
 - (C) Lucien Terras
 - (D) Peggy Leboeuf
- 2 Where does the Art Basel show happen?
- (A) in Miami Beach, Florida
 - (B) in the country of Georgia
 - (C) at the Galerie Perrotin museum
 - (D) at Blenheim Palace
- 3 What happened AFTER the banana was eaten?
- (A) The artist who made the art was sad.
 - (B) The artist who made the art was happy.
 - (C) The artist who ate the banana had to leave the museum.
 - (D) The artist who ate the banana made a gold toilet.

- 4 Read the list of events in order.

1. *The museum displayed Cattelan's banana art.*
 2. *The banana was taken down and eaten.*
 - 3.
-

What answer choice goes third?

- (A) A golden toilet was stolen.
- (B) Datuna was arrested.
- (C) Cattelan took Datuna to court.
- (D) A new banana was hung on the wall.

Answer Key

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Man takes a bite out of the art world by eating a \$120,000 banana

By Agence France-Presse, adapted by Newsela staff on 12.19.19

Word Count **451**

Level **540L**



A woman takes a selfie in front of Maurizio Cattelan's "Comedian" presented by Perrotin Gallery and on view at Art Basel Miami 2019 in Miami Beach, Florida, on December 6, 2019. Two of the three editions of the piece, which feature a banana duct-taped to a wall, have reportedly sold for \$120,000. Photo by Cindy Ord/Getty Images

For one man, a piece of art was also a snack.

On December 7, the Art Basel show was taking place. It happens in Miami Beach, Florida. One of the works of art there was an especially strange one. It was simply a banana duct-taped to a wall.

Maurizio Cattelan Created The Banana Art

The banana art was a work by Italian artist Maurizio Cattelan titled "Comedian." It had sold to a French collector for \$120,000.

Then a different artist came in. His name was David Datuna. He grabbed the banana art and ate it. His action shook up the crowd.

Datuna says he's an American artist from the European country of Georgia. He now lives in New York. Datuna posted a video to his page on social-media app Instagram. In it, he walks up to the banana. Then he pulls it off the wall with the silver tape still on.

"Art performance ... hungry artist," he said. He peeled the fruit and took a bite. "Thank you, very good."

Artwork Kept Its Value After Datuna Ate It

A few people watching could be heard giggling. Soon a nervous gallery worker came up. Datuna was moved away to a space next door to be questioned.

But the mess was handled without a food fight.

"He did not destroy the art work. The banana is the idea," said Lucien Terras. He is a museum official for Galerie Perrotin.

The Miami Herald newspaper reported on this. It says the work is still valuable. What makes it worth money is the certificate of authenticity. This certificate is proof the piece of art is the real deal. The banana is meant to be replaced each time the artwork is shown.

Soon after Datuna's stunt, a new banana was taped to the wall.

"This has brought a lot of tension and attention to the booth," Terras said. "But the response has been great. It brings a smile to a lot of people's faces," he added.

Cattelan Once Created A \$5 Million Gold Toilet

Gallery leader Peggy Leboeuf said that they were not planning on taking Datuna to court. They just asked him to leave.

Cattelan is perhaps best known for making toilet out of real gold. He called this artwork "America." The toilet actually works. Cattelan had once offered to let President Donald Trump borrow the toilet.

The toilet is valued at around \$5 million to \$6 million. It was in the news again in September. The golden toilet was stolen from Britain's Blenheim Palace. It had been on display there.



Image 1. The artist David Datuna who ate the banana art off of the wall attends a press conference to discuss

Quiz

- 1 Which question is answered in the section "Cattelan Once Created A \$5 Million Gold Toilet"?
- (A) Why did Cattelan choose to eat the banana?
 - (B) Why did Cattelan create art with a banana?
 - (C) Where was Cattelan born?
 - (D) What is Cattelan's most famous work of art?
- 2 Read the section "Artwork Kept Its Value After Datuna Ate It." Select the paragraph that explains why David Datuna DID NOT get in trouble for eating the banana.
- (A) A few people watching could be heard giggling. Soon a nervous gallery worker came up. Datuna was moved away to a space next door to be questioned.
 - (B) But the mess was handled without a food fight.
 - (C) "He did not destroy the art work. The banana is the idea," said Lucien Terras. He is a museum official for Galerie Perrotin.
 - (D) Soon after Datuna's stunt, a new banana was taped to the wall.
- 3 Which event happened FIRST in the article?
- (A) The golden toilet artwork was stolen from Britain's Blenheim Palace.
 - (B) The Art Basel show took place in Miami Beach, Florida.
 - (C) An artist sold a piece of banana art for a lot of money.
 - (D) An artist ate a piece of art off of the wall at a famous art show.
- 4 How did the banana being eaten affect the value of the piece of art?
- (A) The piece of art was worth nothing after the banana was eaten.
 - (B) The piece of art was worth more after the banana was eaten.
 - (C) The value of the art did not change when the banana was eaten.
 - (D) The value of the art went down after the banana was eaten.

Answer Key

- 1 Which question is answered in the section "Cattelan Once Created A \$5 Million Gold Toilet"?
- (A) Why did Cattelan choose to eat the banana?
 - (B) Why did Cattelan create art with a banana?
 - (C) Where was Cattelan born?
 - (D) What is Cattelan's most famous work of art?**
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Ms. Nye's mother showed her poems when she was young. She says she learned to like the language in poems. She liked it better than regular language. Ms. Nye called it "more delicious."

Teacher Loved Poems

Ms. Nye had a second-grade teacher who helped her love poems, too. The teacher had each student find a poem. They brought one to class. That happened every Monday. The students talked about the poems all week. The kids were asked to write their own poems. It got Ms. Nye excited. Her class noticed "the beauty and power of words," she said.

Poetry feels very important in hard times, she says. Poems can talk about our feelings. They can talk about our families. Poems can help us to notice things around us.

Tips For Writing A Poem

April is National Poetry Month so Ms. Nye shared some tips for writing a poem.

Her first tip: look out a window. Maybe walk out a door. Write about the first five things you notice. They do not have to be big or important. "Tree with bunches of purple blossoms smelling like grapes" is an example.

Ms. Nye says to make a list of what you notice. Which details are more interesting to you? Pick two or three. Write more about them. You can also say what these details remind you of. How do they make you feel?

Her second tip: ask questions. You can write about any idea. "Who lost that red ribbon?" is an example. Then make up some answers.

Ms. Nye's third tip: find something in the room. It could be a picture. Maybe it is a book. It could be a chair. Then, connect it to something else in your life. Pick something from a different time.

Ms. Nye has one more tip for writing poems. Think of something that has changed in your life. Write about what it was like before that thing happened. Write about what happened after. Mostly, think of the way it changed. Or think of the moment it changed. What is different? What is the same? That can be a poem, too.

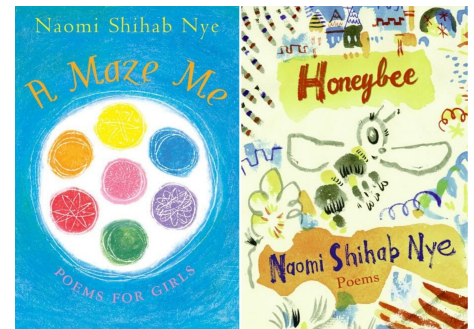


Image 1. Naomi Shihab Nye has written many poetry books including the two pictured above,

Quiz

- 1 What happened because Naomi Nye's mother showed her poems when she was young?
- (A) She tried to find trash to put into poems.
 - (B) She brought poems to school every Monday.
 - (C) She wrote poems to show her friends.
 - (D) She learned to like the language in poems.

- 2 Read the list of Naomi Nye's tips in order.

1. ?
2. *Ask questions.*
3. *Find something in the room.*
4. *Think about what has changed.*

Which answer choice goes FIRST?

- (A) Make up different answers.
 - (B) Look out a window.
 - (C) Write about five things.
 - (D) Think about another time.
- 3 Read the selection below from the introduction [paragraphs 1-4].

Pieces of trash have an odd beauty, she says. She tries to notice that when she writes.

What does the word "odd" mean?

- (A) less
 - (B) rare
 - (C) normal
 - (D) regular
- 4 Read the sentence below from the section "Tips For Writing A Poem."

April is National Poetry Month so Ms. Nye shared some tips for writing a poem.

What are "tips"?

- (A) surprise endings
- (B) big problems
- (C) helpful ideas
- (D) extra money

Answer Key

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Nye's mother made her aware of trash and poetry. Her mother was friendly, intelligent and also messy. She let stacks of junk mail and crumbs pile up, said Nye. The poet also remembers her mother reading aloud poems by Emily Dickinson.

Poetry Language

"Poetry language was more delicious than conversation language," said Nye.

In second grade, Nye grew to love poems more. Her teacher had each student find and bring in a poem every Monday. The students read and talked about the poems during the week. Her teacher encouraged the kids to write their own. It got Nye excited.

"We became aware of the beauty and power of words," she said.

Poetry seems especially important during challenging times, Nye noted. Poems can express feelings. They can explore our families and background. Poems can encourage us to notice what's around us. You might look closely at the lampshade. Maybe you listen to the sound of your own breath. Nye encourages everyone to write about what interests them.

Tips For Writing A Poem

Since April is National Poetry Month, Nye shared some tips for writing a poem.

Nye's first tip: look out a window or walk out a door. Write about the first five things you notice. They do not have to be big or important. "Blue car with crushed bumper parked by curb" is one example. "Tree with bunches of purple blossoms smelling like grapes" is another example.

Nye says to make a little list. Then pick two to three that are more interesting to you and write more about them. You can also say what these details remind you of. How do they make you feel?

Nye's second tip: ask questions. You can write about any idea. "Where did my energy go?" "Why is my friend looking sad today?" "Who lost that red ribbon?" Then make up some answers.

Nye's third tip: find something in the room. It could be a picture, a book or a chair. Then, connect it to something else in your life from a different time.

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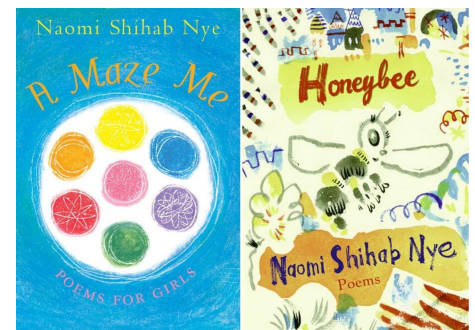


Image 1. Naomi Shihab Nye has written many poetry books including the two pictured above,

Quiz

- 1 How did Naomi Nye's teacher affect her poetry?
- (A) The teacher made Nye write about her family background.
 - (B) The teacher made Nye notice that trash could be poetry.
 - (C) The teacher made Nye love poems by Emily Dickinson.
 - (D) The teacher made Nye more excited about poetic language.
- 2 What does Naomi Nye say to do FIRST in the section "Tips For Writing A Poem"?
- (A) Make a list of two or three details.
 - (B) Ask questions and make up answers.
 - (C) Look out a window and notice things.
 - (D) Focus on how things have changed.

- 3 Read the selection below from the Introduction [paragraphs 1-4].

Many of her new poems have a surprising source. They are about trash.

What is the definition of "source" based on the context clues?

- (A) a topic that gives an idea
- (B) a person who sells things
- (C) a happy ending
- (D) a wrong answer

- 4 Read the selection below from the section "Poetry Language."

Poetry seems especially important during challenging times, Nye noted. Poems can express feelings.

Which word could replace "express" in the sentence above WITHOUT changing the meaning of the selection?

- (A) speed
- (B) share
- (C) cover
- (D) close

Answer Key

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Her poems include lines that make the reader stop and think. "Pine Cones" mentions how comforting it is to "hold a little beauty during difficult times." "Not My Problem" suggests that trash reveals "who you are,/how you spend your days."

Nye became aware of trash and poetry from her mother. Nye's mother was good-natured, intelligent and untidy. She never paid much attention to stacks of catalogues, junk mail and crumbs in their home, said Nye.

So, as the oldest of two children, "I tried to create order," she explained.

Nye also remembers her mother reading aloud poems by Emily Dickinson.

Childhood Love Of Poems

"Poetry language was more delicious than conversation language," said Nye about her childhood love of poems. She especially loved Christina Rossetti and Langston Hughes.

This love was sparked into passion in second grade. Her teacher had each child find and bring in a poem every Monday. Favorite lines were written on the board. The students read and talked about the poems during the week. Her teacher encouraged the kids to write their own. It got Nye excited.

"We became aware of the beauty and power of words," she said.

As a grown-up, Nye loves to share poetry with others. Nye has written many books of poems for children and adults. She's traveled around the world to teach poetry. Often, she goes to faraway places that rarely have events relating to books or poems.

Now she is staying at home during the coronavirus outbreak. But Nye has continued to do events online, she said.

Special Power

Poetry seems especially important during challenging times. It has a special power, Nye said. Poems can express feelings. They can explore our families and our past. Some of Nye's poems reflect her background as a Palestinian American. Poems can encourage us to notice what's around us. You might look closely at the lampshade or listen to the sound of your own breath.

Nye encourages everyone to write about what interests them. Her young grandson loves bikes and moss. Those could be topics for a poem. A piece of trash can be the subject of a poem, too.

Tips For Writing A Poem

Nye shared some tips for writing a poem for National Poetry Month in April. Or the poem could celebrate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day on April 22.

First, look out a window or walk out a door and write about the first five things you notice. They don't have to be big or important. "Blue car with crushed bumper parked by curb" is an example. "Mountain laurel tree with bunches of purple blossoms smelling like grapes" is another one.

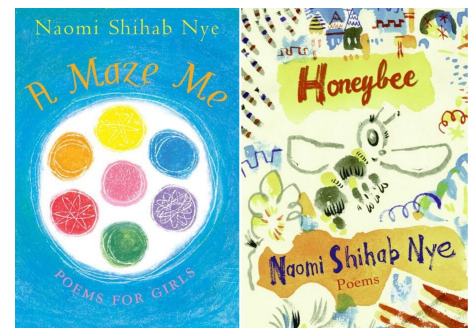


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Nye says to make a little list, then pick two to three that are the most interesting to you and write more about them. You can add other things, too — what these details remind you of, and make you feel like.

Nye's second tip is to ask questions. Writing doesn't have to start with a big or even a small idea. "Where did my energy go?" "Why is my friend looking sad today?" "Who lost that red ribbon?"

Then make up some answers.

Nye's third tip is to find something in the room: a picture, a book, a chair. Then, connect it to something else in your life from a different time.

The last tip is to think of something that has changed in your world recently. Write about the before and after. But mostly focus on the moment or way it changed. What is different? What is the same?

Quiz

- 1 Naomi Nye said, "Poetry language was more delicious than conversation language." Which answer choice explains what Nye meant?
- (A) Nye enjoys eating more when she can read poetry at the same time.
 - (B) Nye enjoys talking to other people more when she is writing poetry.
 - (C) Nye thinks writing poetry is more difficult than writing other things.
 - (D) Nye thinks poetry is more interesting and exciting than regular language.

- 2 Read the following paragraph from the section "Special Power."

Poetry seems especially important during challenging times. It has a special power, Nye said. Poems can express feelings. They can explore our families and our past. Some of Nye's poems reflect her background as a Palestinian American. Poems can encourage us to notice what's around us. You might look closely at the lampshade or listen to the sound of your own breath.

Which sentence from the paragraph helps the reader to understand the meaning of "reflect"?

- (A) Poetry seems especially important during challenging times.
 - (B) It has a special power, Nye said.
 - (C) They can explore our families and our past.
 - (D) You might look closely at the lampshade or listen to the sound of your own breath.
- 3 How did Naomi Nye become involved with writing poetry about trash?
- (A) She had two children who always forgot to throw out their trash.
 - (B) She was given an assignment about trash by her second-grade teacher.
 - (C) She remembered the kinds of trash her mother left around the house.
 - (D) She tried to clean up the trash she saw on the street during her walks.
- 4 How can young people get ideas for poems of their own?
- (A) They can look at things that interest them, make lists and ask questions or think about how life has changed.
 - (B) They can ask their friends questions about how they feel, think of solutions for problems and write them down.
 - (C) They can go to faraway places where people read poetry or sign up for poetry events that are held online.
 - (D) They can collect natural objects like pine cones and moss and then read books about how they grow or work.

Answer Key

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One bit of trash — a child's blue mitten — became a gift to her editor. The mitten cleaned up nicely, and is shown in the illustration on the book's back cover.

Making Reader Stop And Think

Nye's poems include lines that make the reader stop and think. "Pine Cones" mentions how comforting it is to "hold a little beauty during difficult times." "Not My Problem" ends by suggesting that trash reveals: "who you are,/how you spend your days."

Nye became aware of trash and poetry from her mother. Nye's mother was good-natured, intelligent and untidy. She never paid much attention to stacks of catalogues, junk mail and crumbs, says Nye.

So, as the oldest of two children, "I tried to create order," she explained.

Nye also has early memories of her mother reading aloud poems by Emily Dickinson. Her favorite lines were "I'm Nobody! Who are you?/Are you - Nobody - too?"

Poetry Language Is Delicious

"Poetry language was more delicious than conversation language," said Nye about her childhood love of poems. She especially loved Christina Rossetti and Langston Hughes.

This love was sparked into passion in second grade. Her teacher had each child find and bring in a published poem every Monday. Favorite lines were written on the board, and the students read and talked about the poems during the week. Her teacher encouraged the kids to write their own poems.

"There was such a buzz of excitement about poetry in that class," said Nye, with a laugh. "We became aware of the beauty and power of words."

As a grown-up, Nye is much like her second-grade teacher. She loves to share poetry with others. Nye has written many books of poems for children and adults, and has traveled around the world to teach poetry.

Last year, Nye was named the nation's Young People's Poet Laureate by the Poetry Foundation. As part of her role, she has visited and shared poetry in remote places that rarely had poetry events. Now she is staying at home during the coronavirus outbreak. But she has continued to do events virtually, she said in a recent email.

Poetry seems especially important during challenging times. It has a unique power, Nye said. Poems can express feelings. They can explore our families and who we are, as do those poems that reflect Nye's Palestinian-American heritage. Poems can encourage us to notice what's around us. You might look closely at the lampshade or listen to the sound of your own breath. Many of the poems in "Cast Away" focus on small details that may seem ordinary.

Nye encourages everyone to write about what interests them. Her young grandson loves bikes and moss. Those could be the subjects of a poem or even a piece of trash.

Tips For Writing A Poem

The poet shared some tips for writing a poem for National Poetry Month in April or for the 50th anniversary of Earth Day on April 22.

First, look out a window or walk out a door and write about the first five things you notice. They don't have to be big or important. "Blue car with crushed bumper parked by curb." "Mountain laurel tree with bunches of purple blossoms smelling like grapes."

Nye says to make a little list, then pick two to three that are more interesting to you and write more about them. You can add other things, too — what these details remind you of, make you feel like and so on.

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Then make up some answers.

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The last tip is to think of something that changed in your world recently. Write about the before and after. But mostly focus on the pivot, the moment or way it changed. What is different? What is the same?

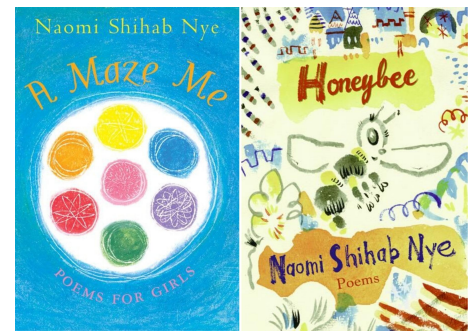


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Quiz

- 1 What is the relationship between Naomi Nye's mother and her second-grade teacher?
- (A) Nye's mother only let her read Christina Rossetti and Langston Hughes, but her teacher liked Emily Dickinson.
 - (B) Nye's mother said that poems should be messy and unique, but her teacher said poems should be neat and organized.
 - (C) Nye's mother taught her to write poems about different topics, and her teacher suggested she write poems about the trash she noticed.
 - (D) Nye's mother introduced her to poems by reading them aloud, and her teacher increased her interest by having students bring poems to class.

- 2 According to the section "Poetry Language Is Delicious," HOW do poems help people during challenging times?
- (A) They help people share feelings and notice the things around them.
 - (B) They give people a way to leave home during the coronavirus outbreak.
 - (C) They let people spend time with their families from far away.
 - (D) They make people ask their friends about how they are feeling.

- 3 Read the following sentence from the section "Making Reader Stop And Think."

"Pine Cones" mentions how comforting it is to "hold a little beauty during difficult times."

What is the meaning of the word "comforting" as it is used in the sentence?

- (A) creating something that is quicker or easier
 - (B) creating something that is softer or smoother
 - (C) giving a feeling of calm or happiness
 - (D) giving a feeling of boredom or tiredness
- 4 Read the following paragraph from the section "Tips For Writing A Poem."

The last tip is to think of something that changed in your world recently. Write about the before and after. But mostly focus on the pivot, the moment or way it changed. What is different? What is the same?

Which phrase from the paragraph helps the reader to understand the meaning of "pivot"?

- (A) to think of something that
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later in a garbage can.

One bit of trash — a child's blue mitten — became a gift to her editor. The mitten cleaned up nicely, as shown in the illustration on the book's back cover.

As she began to write the poems, Nye drew from notebooks she's kept for decades. In them, she has jotted ideas, snippets of dialogue and descriptions of things around her, from the birds and pecan trees in her yard to the straws and chip bags on the sidewalk.

Her poems include lines that make the reader stop and think. "Pine Cones" mentions how comforting it is to "hold a little beauty during difficult times." "Not My Problem" ends by suggesting that trash reveals: "who you are,/how you spend your days."

Nye became aware of trash and poetry at about the same time and from the same person, her mother. Good-natured, intelligent and untidy, Nye's mother never paid much attention to stacks of catalogues, junk mail and crumbs, said Nye.

So, as the oldest of two children, "I tried to create order," she explained.

Nye also has early memories of her mother reading aloud poems by Emily Dickinson. Favorite lines were "I'm Nobody! Who are you?/Are you - Nobody - too?"

"Poetry language was more delicious than conversation language," said Nye, about her childhood love of poems by Christina Rossetti and Langston Hughes.

This love was kindled into passion in second grade. Her teacher, Harriet B. Lane, had each child find and bring in a published poem every Monday. Favorite lines were written on the board, and the students read and talked about the poems during the week. Ms. Lane encouraged the kids to write their own poems.

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As a grown-up, Nye is much like her second-grade teacher. She loves to share poetry with others. Nye has written many books of poems for children and adults, and she has traveled to numerous places around the world to teach poetry.

Last year, Nye was named the nation's Young People's Poet Laureate by the Poetry Foundation. As part of her duties for the two-year position, she has visited and shared poetry in remote places that rarely had literary events. Now she is staying at home during the coronavirus outbreak. But she has continued to do events virtually, she said in a recent email.

Poetry seems especially important during challenging times. It has a unique power, Nye said. Poems can express feelings. They can explore our families and identity, as do those that reflect Nye's Palestinian-American heritage. Poems can encourage us to notice what's around us, both indoors and outside. You might look closely at that tassel on the lampshade or listen to the sound of your own breath. Many of the poems in "Cast Away" focus on small, seemingly ordinary details.

Like her teacher Ms. Lane, Nye encourages everyone to write about what interests them. Whether that's bikes or moss (her young grandson's current passion) or a piece of trash, surely there's a poem in there.

Nye shared some tips for writing a poem for National Poetry Month in April for the 50th anniversary of Earth Day on April 22.

First, look out a window or walk out a door and write about the first five things you notice. They don't have to be big or important. "Blue car with crushed bumper parked by curb." "Mountain laurel tree with bunches of purple blossoms smelling like grapes."

Nye says to make a little list, then pick two to three that are more interesting to you and write more about them. You can add other things, too — what these details remind you of, make you feel like, etc.

Nye's second tip is to ask questions. Writing doesn't have to start with a big or even a small idea. Sometimes a question is a good place to begin. "Where did my energy go?" "Why is my friend looking sad today?" "Who lost that red ribbon?"

Then make up some answers.

Nye's third tip is to find something in the room and follow it back to something in your past: a picture, a book, a chair. Connect it to something else in your life from a different time.

The last tip is to think of something that changed in your world recently. Write about the before and after. But mostly focus on the pivot, the moment or way it changed. What is different? What is the same?

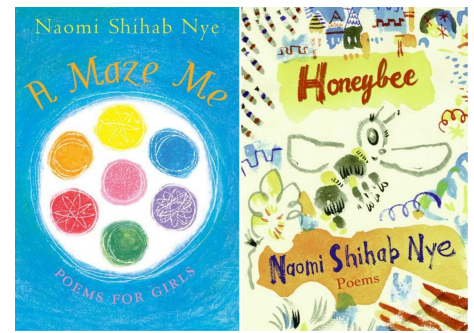


Image 1. Naomi Shihab Nye has written many poetry books including the two pictured above, "A Maze Me" and "Honeybee." Photos: courtesy of HarperCollins

Quiz

- 1 Which sentence from the article BEST introduces the topics of Naomi Nye's new poems to the reader?
- (A) "I've been thinking of trash for so long," said Naomi Shihab Nye when asked about the inspiration for her new book of poems, "Cast Away."
 - (B) Clearly for Nye, the trash of others has become her poetic treasure.
 - (C) These 81 short verses explore what she's picked up over the years as she walks: the rim of a pizza box, plastic tops, three soggy, old report cards.
 - (D) The objects have their own odd beauty, she told KidsPost by phone from her home in San Antonio, Texas.

- 2 How does the author build understanding of what readers can do to write poems like Naomi Nye's?
- (A) by naming the remote places where Nye has traveled to teach poetry
 - (B) by listing the tips Nye gives for how to look at and think about the world
 - (C) by describing what caused Nye to decide to write about her heritage
 - (D) by comparing what Nye writes about to what her nephew writes about

- 3 Read the following sentence from the article.

In them, she has jotted ideas, snippets of dialogue and descriptions of things around her, from the birds and pecan trees in her yard to the straws and chip bags on the sidewalk.

Which of the following words, if it replaced the word "snippets" in the sentence above, would CHANGE the meaning of the sentence?

- (A) pieces
 - (B) scraps
 - (C) fragments
 - (D) directions
- 4 What is the definition of the word "kindled" as it is used in the following selection?
- This love was kindled into passion in second grade. Her teacher, Harriet B. Lane, had each child find and bring in a published poem every Monday.*
- (A) set on fire
 - (B) made wild
 - (C) developed by
 - (D) angered about

Answer Key

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