

Finding Out: Words in Context

**Step 1:** Look at the words in bold below. Can you guess what they mean? Write a short definition in English. (Don't use your dictionary yet. You will be able to check their meanings in the next section: Definitions.)



An interesting **exhibition** of African art, including many objects from neighbouring villages, was held here in 1904.

I am going to visit the art **exhibition** soon.

What do you think 'exhibition' means? \_\_\_\_\_

The government is still failing to provide enough **funding for the arts**.

Nations should stop government **funding for the arts** when large numbers of their people are hungry or unemployed.

What do you think 'funding of the arts' means? \_\_\_\_\_

As a student, I received a \$2,000 **government grant**, in addition to a \$1,800 loan, to study at university.

Scientists at UBC have won a **government grant** for their research into sharks.

What do you think 'government grant' means? \_\_\_\_\_

She carefully put out the food in an **attractive** manner and returned to the kitchen.

Agricultural crops today are more **attractive**, but not necessarily more nutritious.

What do you think 'attractive' means? \_\_\_\_\_

Your mother really **appreciates** it when you help her around the house.

We can see and **appreciate** the beauties of nature, the flowers and trees, the green fields and the clear blue of the sky.

What do you think 'appreciate' means? \_\_\_\_\_

In the past 5 years, this government has **created** 15 new major parks.

It is believed that the seafloors are constantly moving and continually being **created** and destroyed.

What do you think 'create' means? \_\_\_\_\_

His essay was full of **original** ideas.

The book is beautifully made with **original** drawings by the author.

What do you think 'original' means? \_\_\_\_\_

It is difficult for a **work of art** to make it onto the wall of The White House.  
The pictures are some of the most important **works of art** ever made.

What do you think 'a work of art' means? \_\_\_\_\_

She has **published** a number of important papers in a medical journal.  
A new book is **published** every 13 minutes in America.

What do you think 'publish' means? \_\_\_\_\_

Brian Sewell, who was described as Britain's most famous **art critic**, has died aged 84.  
Though many artists say that they don't care what **art critics** say or write about them, they must care a little.

What do you think 'art critic' means? \_\_\_\_\_

Sometimes when we look at a piece of art we understand it. Its **meaning** is clear to us.  
I thought about the **meaning** of the work of art for a long time.

What do you think 'meaning' means? \_\_\_\_\_

The **sculpture** La Pieta by Michelangelo shows Mary holding Jesus in her arms.  
The **sculpture** was six feet tall and stood in the dining room.

What do you think 'sculpture' means? \_\_\_\_\_

**Traditional crafts** are sold to tourists in the local markets.  
Parents teach their children how to make **traditional crafts**.

What do you think 'traditional crafts' means? \_\_\_\_\_

These images are still recognized as **fine art** and are highly collectable.  
An example of **fine art** is a Picasso painting.

What do you think 'fine art' means? \_\_\_\_\_

A woman holding her baby is the **subject matter** of the painting.  
New artists sometimes find it hard to choose the right **subject matter** to paint.

What do you think 'subject matter' means? \_\_\_\_\_



Finding Out: Definitions

**Step 1:** Match the words with their definitions. (If you can't understand the definitions, you can use a bilingual dictionary.)

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 1 exhibition (of)      | 1 an amount of money that the government gives you for something and does not ask you to pay back.   |
| 2 government grant     | 2 something such as a painting or sculpture that is of very high quality   |
| 3 funding for the arts | 3 someone whose job is to write or broadcast their opinions about art  |
| 4 attractive           | 4 objects such as paintings and sculptures that are created to be looked at because they are beautiful or interesting. It is different to crafts or performance art. |
| 5 appreciate           | 5 to put something someone has written where other people can read it, on paper or online  |
| 6 create               | 6 a word used to describe something that looks good  |
| 7 original             | 7 a public show where art or other interesting things are put so that people can go and look at them   |
| 8 a work of art        | 8 something produced skilfully by hand, for example a plate or a piece of furniture  |
| 9 publish              | 9 the ideas that writers, artists, musicians etc. try to express in their work   |
| 10 art critic          | 10 a person or thing that is shown in a photograph, painting, or piece of art  |
| 11 (have) meaning      | 11 to recognize the good or special qualities of a person, place, or thing   |
| 12 sculpture           | 12 money that a government or organisation provides for the arts   |
| 13 traditional crafts  | 13 to make something   |
| 14 fine art            | 14 new, interesting, and different from anything else  |
| 15 subject matter      | 15 something that someone makes as a work of art by shaping stone, metal, or wood  |

Definitions taken from [www.macmillandictionary.com](http://www.macmillandictionary.com)