



English 2 (First Additional Language) – Grade 8

Welcome to your Conquesta Olympiad. When you have decided which of the answers is correct, scratch out the letter in the matching square on your answer sheet. Example:- If the answer to question 4 is c, then scratch out the letter c in the square containing c next to the number 4 (see example 1 below). If you've made a mistake and b should have been the answer, neatly cross out the mistake and then scratch out b (see example 2 below).

Example 1:- 4. a b ~~c~~ d

Example 2:- 4. a ~~b~~ ~~c~~ d

Read the extract below for questions 1 – 17.

Graffiti, what is it?

Graffiti is a type of deliberate marking on property, both private and public. It can take the form of pictures, drawings, words, or any decorations inscribed on any surface – usually outside walls and sidewalks. When done without the property owner's consent, it constitutes illegal vandalism.

Graffiti has existed at least since the days of ancient civilisations. Graffiti originally was the term used for inscriptions, figure drawings, etc., found on the walls of ancient tombs or ruins, as in the Catacombs, or at Pompeii. In the modern era, in the early 1970s, young New Yorkers, belonging to black and Puerto Rican communities, started to adopt tags – signatures and signs made with aerosol sprays and markers, in public places. Tags started to cover the city's walls, buses and subway trains, with spectacular 'whole car' works covering entire trains. Tags, like screen names, are sometimes chosen to reflect some qualities of the 'writer'. Some tags also contain subtle and often cryptic messages.



The first modern identified tagger in New York, was Taki. The Greek-American artist signed himself Taki 183 (probably the number of his apartment block). At the same time the 'grafs' also made their appearance. These were real urban wall paintings done with spray-paint. Artists such as Futura 2000, Dust and Pink all earned recognition and fame.

Two other artists, Basquiat and Haring, also started in the street and subway but their fame would spread beyond the works of graffiti. Their works won instant critical acclaim, and attracted the attention of influential art dealers. Their art was one of the rare forms to circulate freely, and attract enthusiasts from all sorts of people.

The difference between tagging and graffiti is arguable, but some say it's a clear one: tagging is gang-motivated and/or meant as vandalism (illegal), or viewed as too vulgar or controversial to have public value; while graffiti can be viewed as creative expression, whether charged with political meaning or not.

(adapted from: <https://archithoughts.wordpress.com/2011/03/24/graffiti-what-is-it/>)

- Refer to paragraph 1.
When is graffiti considered illegal?
 (a) When bad language is used.
 (b) With consent from the government.
 (c) Without the consent of the owner of the property.
 (d) Only on public property is it legal.
- What did the term 'graffiti' originally refer to?**
 (a) Inscriptions. (b) Tags.
 (c) Signs. (d) Catacombs.
- Pompeii was an ancient Roman city.**
What type of noun is the word 'Pompeii'?
 (a) Common noun. (b) Abstract noun.
 (c) Pronoun. (d) Proper noun.
- A 'graffiti tag' refers to**
 (a) a gang sign.
 (b) the area logo.
 (c) which city the graffiti belongs to.
 (d) a sign used to identify a graffiti artist.
- When did 'modern' graffiti start to emerge?**
 (a) 1990s (b) 1980s (c) 2000s (d) 1970s



Notes to remember:

A common noun names non-specific people, objects, places or ideas. A proper noun names a particular person, place or event. An abstract noun names an idea, feeling or state of being. A collective noun names a group of people, objects, animals or ideas. A synonym is a word similar in meaning. An antonym is a word that means the opposite. An adverb modifies verbs, adjectives, etc. A conjunction is a joining word, e.g., and, but, if, etc. A preposition is a word used to link nouns, pronouns or phrases to other words within a sentence, e.g., 'He climbed up the ladder to get onto the roof.' An indefinite pronoun does not refer to any person or thing in particular. A reflexive pronoun is preceded by the adverb, adjective, pronoun or noun to which they refer, ending in -self or -selves, e.g., myself, yourselves. A personal pronoun is associated with a person, animal, thing or group, e.g., they, she, you, I, we, us, etc. A demonstrative pronoun always identifies a noun, whether the noun is named specifically or not, e.g., 'Neither of the horses can be ridden.' or 'This was my mother's ring.'

6. Identify the **subject** of the following sentence:
 ‘Some tags also contain subtle and often cryptic messages.’
 (a) ‘subtle and often cryptic messages’
 (b) ‘tags also contain’
 (c) ‘Some tags’
 (d) ‘tags’

Notes to remember:

An **auxiliary verb** is a helping verb used together with the main verb to indicate tense.

An **article** is a word used to define a noun, e.g., a/an, the, some., etc.

A **simile** is a comparison between two things using ‘like’ or ‘as’.

A **metaphor** is a comparison without using ‘like’ or ‘as’.

A **homophone** is a word that sounds the same as another word, but differs in meaning. It may also differ in spelling, eg., rose (flower) and rose (past tense of rise).

A **hyperbole** is an exaggerated statement.



7. Identify the **part of speech** for the underlined word:
 ‘...first modern identified tagger in New York was Taki.’
 (a) Conjunction. (b) Adverb.
 (c) Common noun. (d) Preposition.
8. Identify the **punctuation mark** in the sentence:
 ‘The Greek-American artist’.
 (a) Hyphen. (b) Dash.
 (c) Apostrophe. (d) Colon.
9. What type of **pronoun** is the word ‘himself’?
 (a) Reflexive. (b) Indefinite.
 (c) Demonstrative. (d) Personal.

10. Provide a possible reason for Taki using 183 as part of his signature name.
 (a) It was his lucky number as a child.
 (b) It is the number of his apartment block.
 (c) It is made up from his birth date.
 (d) It is the first amount that he earned after school.
11. Identify a name given to large wall paintings done with spray-paint.
 (a) Tags. (b) Signatures.
 (c) Grafs. (d) Wall-mounts.
12. To ‘earn recognition’ means to
 (a) become famous.
 (b) receive acknowledgment for the work you do.
 (c) earn money so that you make a profit
 (d) show people your work.
13. Identify an **antonym** for the word ‘instant’.
 (a) Immediately. (b) Prevention
 (c) Speedily. (d) Delay
14. The word ‘attract’, when taken from the word ‘attracted’, is an example of a/an
 (a) root word. (b) prefix.
 (c) suffix. (d) original word.

15. Why were the works of artists like ‘Basquiat’ and ‘Haring’ able to spread beyond the graffiti world?
 (a) Graffiti art became famous.
 (b) The hip-hop culture embraced graffiti.
 (c) Graffiti was ‘legalised’ by the mayor of New York.
 (d) Their work attracted the attention of influential art dealers.
16. What must be done to the word ‘arguable’ so that it becomes a **verb**?
 (a) Remove the suffix. (b) Remove the prefix.
 (c) Change the tense. (d) Add a new suffix.
17. How is ‘tagging’ different from ‘graffiti’?
 (a) Tagging is gang-related and illegal; while graffiti can be viewed as art.
 (b) Tagging has no income for the artist while graffiti does.
 (c) Graffiti is gang-related and illegal; while tagging can be viewed as art.
 (d) Graffiti is done by artists while tagging is done by amateurs.



Read the extract below for questions 18 – 25.

Commercial graffiti (also known as aerosol advertising or graffiti for hire) is the commercial practice of graffiti artists being paid for **their** work. In New York City in particular, commercial graffiti is big business and **since the 1980s has also been seen** in many of the major cities of Europe such as London, Paris and Berlin.

Graffiti as a commercial activity, dates back to **Ancient Greece**, when pottery makers employed artists to decorate their items. In the modern era, it has been strongly associated with **New York City** since the late 1960s and the **hip hop culture that emerged** in the 1980s, according to a 1993 *New York Times* article. The term ‘commercial graffiti’ was used in an article by **Time** as early as 1968 and used to describe activity in **Chicago** as early as 1970.

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