

Unit 1 New Media Art

Art is becoming more and more interesting. (1) Instead of just looking at a (2) piece of art, you can do much more. You can (3) interact with it. (4) In other words, you become part of the art.

New technology (5) brings people together with the artists' art. One artist uses computers to control his art. His art is a wall (6) full of robot faces. The robots' eyes open when you (7) stand close to it. Then the eyes follow your (8) movements.

New media art is unique for (9) each person. Every (10) person's experience will be different. Like the pieces of art, each one is special.

Unit 2 Music in the City

Luke Jerram is (1) an artist. He makes art with (2) pianos.

First, he finds a city that (3) wants to work with him. A city that wants his art will (4) let him put pianos on the streets. He puts them in parks, at bus stops, and other places (5) where people often go.

Each piano has a (6) sign on it. The sign says, "Play me, (7) I'm yours." Any person can play. Many people can become (8) street musicians. They don't play for money. They just play for (9) fun.

Since 2008, Jerram has put pianos in (10) more than sixty cities. People in London, New York, and Paris have enjoyed Jerram's art. Maybe street pianos will be in your city soon!

Unit 3 Online Guitar Lessons

Take guitar lessons online! There are many (1) reasons to do this.

You can take online lessons any time. Online lessons can start in the morning or (2) at night, (3) whenever you want. You can easily (4) cancel or change the time of your lesson if you (5) need to.

Online lessons can also save money. (6) Face-to-face lessons can cost from \$25 to \$50 for each hour. Online classes often cost \$50 for a (7) whole course. A course (8) might be ten or more lessons. And some online lessons are free!

You can also (9) learn alone through online lessons. No one will be watching you practice. Many students feel less (10) nervous when there is no one watching them.

Unit 4 Twyla Tharp

In the 1960s, Twyla Tharp studied (1) ballet and modern dance in New York. In 1965, Tharp decided to open her (2) own dance school. Dancers in her school (3) combined ballet and natural movement. For example, the dancers ran, walked, and skipped (4) while they danced.

Tharp worked very hard. Many people liked her new (5) way of dancing. Tharp became famous because of it. A lot of dancers wanted to (6) learn from her.

(7) Now in her 70s, Tharp (8) still works with dancers. She has created dances for (9) stage, movies, and television. Some of her most famous dances (10) are taught by ballet schools around the world.

Unit 5 DNA from Extinct Animals

(1) Would you like to see extinct animals (2) living on Earth again? Some (3) scientists want to bring some extinct animals back to life. One of the animals is the woolly mammoth, a (4) relative of today's elephants.

(5) In 2013, a woolly mammoth's body (6) was found frozen in Siberia. Scientists are studying the animal's DNA. They want to use the DNA to make a (7) copy of the animal.

First, they would (8) take the DNA from the woolly mammoth. Then they would put it into an egg. After that, they would put the egg in an elephant. (9) After 22 months, a woolly mammoth would be born.

If it works, other (10) extinct animals could be brought back to life, too.

Unit 6 The Clever Octopus

The octopus is a very (1) smart creature. (2) Compared to other similar-sized animals, the octopus has a very big brain. It uses its big brain to do clever things.

There is one (3) famous octopus named Inky. Inky lived in the National Aquarium (4) of New Zealand. But it found a way (5) to escape. First, it (6) pushed out of a small gap at the top of its tank. Then it went down a pipe. Finally, it escaped (7) back into the ocean.

A group of octopuses at the Seattle Aquarium wanted to (8) have some fun. They created (9) their own game with a small bottle. They (10) bounced and passed the bottle around.

These examples show us that the octopus is a clever animal.

Unit 7 How a Frog Grows

The (1) life cycle of a frog has four (2) stages. It (3) begins with an egg.

In the spring, a mother frog (4) lays her eggs in a pond. She lays (5) up to 4,000 eggs.

After (6) about ten days, a tadpole comes out of each egg. Tadpoles have long tails and look a little like small fish. They have (7) gills so that they can (8) breathe underwater. They swim around and eat plants in the pond. But tadpoles don't look like fish for long.

After about six weeks, they start growing back legs. Then, their front legs grow. Their (9) tails get smaller and their legs get bigger.

This cycle (10) finishes after about fourteen weeks, when the tadpole finally becomes a young frog.

Unit 8 Snake Skin

When an animal (1) loses their old skin or hair, it is called (2) shedding. The way snakes shed their skin is unique.

Snakes (3) grow all their lives. Their skin does not (4) stretch like other animals'. So they need to shed their skin to keep growing. Snakes shed their skin in one piece. It (5) comes off like a sock.

The old skin comes off when a (6) layer of new skin grows (7) underneath. To shed its skin, the snake (8) rubs against a rock or a tree to make a (9) rip. Then it uses water to (10) help get out of the old skin. Sometimes, you can see snakes swim in water.

This is one of many reasons snakes are interesting creatures.

Unit 9 Smart Glasses for the Blind

Smart glasses have small computers in them. They tell people about what is (1) around them. Soon, blind people will be (2) able to buy special smart glasses that help them see.

Engineers have made smart glasses for people who are (3) partly blind. A camera is put on the smart glasses. (4) Objects appear brighter and bigger so that partly blind people can see (5) better.

In some smart glasses, a computer voice tells the person what is in front of them. They (6) guess the feelings of the people they see. They say what color (7) clothing people are wearing. They can also (8) give directions. They can also read signs, menus, and (9) documents.

Engineers are working on smart glasses for people who are fully (10) blind.

Unit 10 Reading with Your Fingers

(1) Usually, we read (2) by sight. However, not everybody reads this way.

(3) Instead of letters, some people read (4) raised dots. This is called (5) braille. These are letters that blind people can read with their fingers.

Braille was developed (6) around 1825 by Louis Braille. He became blind when he was a child (7) because of an accident. (8) Even though he was blind, he was a good student. He learned about how French (9) soldiers used “night writing.” This was how soldiers (10) communicated quietly in the dark. Using this idea, Louis created a way for blind people to read and write.

Today, braille is used around the world.

Unit 11 Stevie Wonder

Stevie Wonder is a famous (1) blind musician. He sings, writes music, and plays the piano and many other (2) instruments. He said that (3) being blind is not a problem. He learns using other (4) ways. His hearing is amazing.

One day when he was young, there was a mouse in his classroom. Stevie said that he would (5) catch the mouse. The teacher told everyone (6) to be quiet, so Stevie could (7) listen carefully. Stevie caught the mouse using only his ears.

This taught him that his (8) hearing was fantastic. He started to learn how to play music by listening. Later, he became an (9) award-winning musician. Stevie may be blind, but (10) life is not difficult for him.

Unit 12 Helen Keller

Helen Keller was (1) born in 1880. When she was a baby, Helen got very (2) sick. She became both (3) deaf and blind.

(4) As a child, life was not easy for Helen. She didn't know how to (5) communicate with people. A tutor, Anne Sullivan, started working with Helen. Anne taught Helen how to read and communicate by using her (6) hands. This changed Helen's life.

Using these new (7) skills, Helen studied hard. She went to Radcliffe College, a famous women's school. She also wrote twelve books, (8) including *The Story of My Life*, a book about her life and (9) adventures. Helen Keller taught people to (10) respect blind and deaf people.

Unit 13 3D Food Printing

3D food printing is a new way to make food. It is fast and easy.

Cooking can (1) take a lot of time and (2) effort. 3D food printers can (3) fix that problem. First, you put (4) ingredients into the printer. Next, you (5) push a button. Then, the 3D printer prints out (6) shapes of food that you can eat.

You can already find 3D food printers in some (7) bakeries and restaurants. People use them to make (8) nice designs for candy, pancakes, and chocolate. There is a 3D printer that uses fresh ingredients. It can make (9) more difficult foods like pizza, (10) pasta, and brownies.

This new and interesting way of making food can help people save time and effort.

Unit 14 Microwave Popcorn

(1) Here is what you need to make microwave popcorn (2) by yourself.

You need a paper bag. It (3) does not need to be a special bag. A (4) plain brown paper bag is (5) fine. Then you need popcorn kernels. Popcorn kernels are pieces of dried (6) corn.

Put the kernels in the bag with (7) a little oil and salt. (8) Fold the top of the bag a few times. Then put the bag in the microwave for two minutes. You will hear the (9) kernels start to pop. When the popping sounds stop, the popcorn is ready.

The next time you want to eat popcorn at home, try this. It is easy and you can (10) save money this way.

Unit 15 How a Factory Makes Food

People all (1) over the world love potato chips. Let's learn about how a plain potato (2) turns into delicious crunchy chips.

After farmers (3) harvest potatoes, they (4) ship the best ones to a factory. Here are the steps that (5) take place in the factory.

(6) Preparation

Step 1. Machines (7) peel the skins off the potatoes.

Step 2. Blades cut the potatoes into very (8) thin slices.

Step 3. Machines wash and dry the chips.

Cooking

Step 4. Robots put the (9) chips in 350-degree oil and cook them for four minutes.

Step 5. The chips go to a different machine in the factory. It adds salt.

(10) Packaging

Step 6. Machines put the potato chips in bags.

Unit 16 Number Cakes

Old cookbooks show us when different foods were (1) first made. This is (2) how we know that the first cupcakes were (3) made around 1800.

Some cookbooks called these first (4) cupcakes “number cakes.” The name came from the (5) easy way to remember the recipe. A person just (6) needed to remember the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, and 1 to make these cupcakes.

What do the numbers (7) mean in this recipe? First, the numbers in this recipe mean use one cup of (8) butter and two cups of sugar. Then, put in three cups of (9) flour and four eggs. Last, add one cup of milk and one spoon of baking soda.

This was one of the first and (10) easiest cupcake recipes.