

The arts

A. Look at sentences 1-10, which are all extracts from art reviews, and decide what is being talked about in each one. Choose the most appropriate answer from the box. There are some which are not needed.

Performing arts

a modern dance piece • a concert • a play • an opera • a film • a ballet

Literature

poetry • a biography • drama • a novel • a collection of short stories

Fine / Visual Arts

abstract art • a landscape • photography • a portrait • a still life • a sculpture

1. Mimi Latouche is getting a little too old for this kind of thing, and as I watched her pirouette across the stage in a tutu two sizes too small, she reminded me not so much of a swan as a rather ungainly crow.
2. The scenery was wonderful. The costumes were marvellous. The cast were incredible. I wish I could say the same about the script. The playwright should be shot.
3. In his new book on Ernest Hemingway, acclaimed writer Michael Norris has brought the great man to life in a way nobody else could.
4. Move over Michelangelo! You have a rival. Vittorio Manelleto's marble pieces embody the human form in a way that has not been achieved in over five hundred years.
5. I had to study the picture for almost two minutes before I realised who it was. It was none other than our Queen. I doubt she would have been amused.
6. There are no great tenors in Britain. That is until now. Brian Clack's performance in La Traviatta sent shudders down my spine. What a man! What a voice! What a size!
7. Herbert von Caravan has been conducting now for almost forty years, and his final appearance yesterday was greeted with remarkable applause from both musicians and members of the audience.
8. 'Stone Angel' is an hilarious tale about the fall and rise of an opera singer. I picked it up and didn't put it down until I had finished. A fantastic book.
9. Dylan Thomas showed remarkable eloquence, and this latest compilation of some of his finest prose will surely be a bestseller.
10. Bruschetta's studies of dead animals might not be to everyone's taste, but it is impossible to deny his skill in representing inanimate objects like these on canvas.
11. He usually works in black and white, and in my opinion that's the medium he should stick to. His colour shots are too static and are heavily over-filtered, the strong lighting washes out any subtlety, and much of it is out of focus.
12. Shot entirely on location in Iran, this is perhaps the director's finest hour. A stunning setting, fine performances from the leads, and a cast of thousands of extras make this a truly visual feast.

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B. Complete these sentences with an appropriate word or expression from A, B or C.

1. Tonight's _____ of 'Hamlet' begins at 7.30.
A. perform **B. performing** **C. performance**

2. Camford University Press have just released a collection of Shakespeare's _____ .
A. works **B. workers** **C. workings**

3. The rock group 'Glass Weasel' have released a limited _____ of their new album which contains a CD-Rom of their latest show.
A. edit **B. edition** **C. editor**

4. His last book received excellent _____ in the newspapers.
A. reviews **B. previews** **C. revisions**

5. There is an _____ of Monet's work at the Tate.
A. exhibitionist **B. exhibit** **C. exhibition**

6. The British National Orchestra is delighted with the government's promise of a £500,000 _____ .
A. subsidiary **B. subsidy** **C. subpoena**

7. Tickets have already sold out for the first day's showing of Tom Cartmill's paintings at the National _____ .
A. Galleon **B. Galley** **C. Gallery**

8. Ernest Hemingway was one of the twentieth century's most famous _____ .
A. novels **B. novelties** **C. novelists**

9. The French _____ of the nineteenth century had a profound influence on the world of art.
A. impressions **B. impressionists** **C. impressionisms**

10. Oldhaven Press are going to _____ my new book!
A. publish **B. publisher** **C. publication**

Don't forget to keep a record of the words and expressions that you have learnt, review your notes from time to time and try to use new vocabulary items whenever possible.