



**GRAFFITI**

**Graffiti** is the name for images or lettering scratched, painted or marked on public or private property. Graffiti is sometimes regarded as a form of art and other times regarded as unattractive damage.

5 The term *graffiti* was first used to refer to the inscriptions, figure drawings, etc., found on the walls of ancient sepulchres or ruins, as in the Catacombs of Rome or at Pompeii. Usage of the word evolved to include any graphics applied to surfaces in a manner that constitutes vandalism. Nowadays, graffiti is any type of public markings that may appear on property: from simple written words to elaborate wall paintings.

10 In modern times, spray paint and markers have become the most commonly used materials. Graffiti has evolved into a pop culture existence often related to underground hip hop music and break dancing, creating a lifestyle that remains hidden from the general public. Sometimes graffiti is employed to communicate social and political messages. To some, it is an art form worthy of display in galleries and exhibitions; to others it is merely vandalism.

15 There are many different types and styles of graffiti and it is a rapidly developing art form whose value is highly contested, being reviled by many authorities while also subject to protection, sometimes within the same jurisdiction. The controversies that surround graffiti continue to create disagreement between public officials and graffiti artists looking to display their work in public locations. In most countries, defacing property with graffiti without the property owner's consent is considered vandalism, which is punishable by law.

20 In an effort to reduce vandalism, some countries have called for zero tolerance of graffiti. Measures range from banning the sale of aerosol paint to anyone under the age of sixteen to using charges of vandalism to convict graffiti 'artists'.

Adapted from Wikipedia

**1.- Based on the ideas of the text, answer the following questions using your own words as far as possible. (25 words maximum each.) (2 points)**

- a) – Why is graffiti regarded as vandalism nearly everywhere?
- b) – What steps have been taken to fight against this kind of vandalism? (Give at least 2.)

**2.- Say whether the following sentences are TRUE or FALSE according to the text. Copy the evidence from the text. No marks will be given without the evidence. (1 point)**

- a) – The meaning of the word graffiti has always been the same.
- b) – Graffiti can be a form of art or a way of destroying property.

**3.- Choose ONLY THREE of the following words and write a synonym (=), an opposite (≠), a definition or a sentence (only one of these four) to show that you understand their meaning in the text. Use your own words. (1.5 points)**

- a) – to regard (line 2)
- b) – sepulchre (line 5)
- c) – often (line 10)
- d) – merely (line 13)
- e) – to display (line 17)
- f) – location (line 18)

**4.- Write down three grammatically correct and meaningful sentences by matching both columns. ONLY THREE of them are correct. (1.5 points)**

I hate it when I see horrible pieces that really	secure spray paint displays for prevent customer accesses without assistance.
New laws requires retailers to proper	significantly reduces the chance of graffiti reoccurring.
I personally enjoy how they look	since I am a fine artist.
Research shows that graffiti removal within 24 to 48 hours	make a building look bad.

**5.- Write a composition of about 100 words on ONE of the following topics. (4 points)**

- a)– I am for/against graffiti. Comment why.
- b) – People listen to music for different reasons. Why is music important to many people? What about you?