











History of Graffiti

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- Graffiti has been around for millions of years. Romans wrote on the walls of buildings they conquered and cave men drew illustrations on cave walls.
- Graffiti first became big in New York and spread through other states. It started as tagging or writing your name on a street sign. Then gangs used graffiti as a way to mark territory.
- Not long after, graffiti became a form of art. It inspired young artists to come out and use this new art as a form of self expression. Whatever mood they were feeling they were able to make something beautiful.
- Graffiti started moving from streets to subways and quickly became competitive. Graffiti artists had to compete for space and it inevitably offended property owners.
- This, and the misunderstanding that all graffiti represented gang activity, led to community pressure on politicians.



However, Some councils have allocated certain places for graffiti like skate parks, subways and abandoned buildings.

Can you think of any places that you have been to where there are areas designated for graffiti?















For Graffiti or Against Graffiti

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Graffiti is a symbol of freedom. Freedom of speech is a right people have died for.	The graffiti problem, I suppose, will never stop because more and more people who can't write on paper come and write on our walls, our environment!
Graffiti is disgusting and gets people into bad habits, wherever people find a blank space they scribble all over it.	Graffiti inspires people to enjoy their environment and to express themselves. It makes areas look interesting.
Graffiti artists take much time and effort in practicing technique, covering portfolios prior to visually entertaining the public.	There is no way of finding out who does graffiti but I know it should be stopped!!!!!!
Art is an output of feelings and emotions which can express and inform particular issues of society.	The people who do this obviously don't respect other people's property.
Graffiti is against the law. There is never a reason to break the law	Murals are painted in memory of respected people and events on places such as the Berlin Wall to improve our landscape and remind passersby.
Some places become famous for their graffiti culture, which attracts visitors and money to the area.	People should only do graffiti in legal areas as it encourages people to vandalise private property and 'tag' things which looks scruffy.

Read through these statements and colour those FOR graffiti in one colour and those AGAINST graffiti in another colour

LO: To be able to express my own opinion about graffiti

Time for you to make up your own mind...

Communicate your opinion on 'is graffiti art or vandalism?' using an A4 piece of paper. You can write a paragraph, draw a mind map or create a piece of graffiti inspired art, it's up to you! Ensure you have included the following information:

I think that graffiti is....

My first reason for this is...

My second reason for this is....

My final reason for this is....

I think that graffiti artists should...

