

UNIT 9 *Read and Write*



En esta unidad vas a:

- leer un artículo sobre un robo en un museo
- aprender a escribir en inglés utilizando la puntuación inglesa.



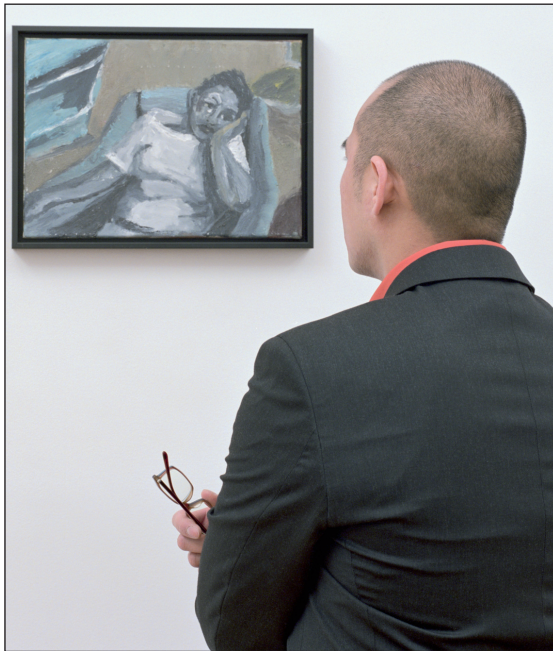
ART THIEVES

It was New Year's Eve in Oxford and people were at parties. However, while the people of Oxford ate and drank, a group of men celebrated New Year's Eve in a different way. They spent the night at the Ashmolean Museum. But this wasn't a group of art lovers; this was a gang of art thieves. They thought a noisy New Year's Eve night was a good night for a robbery, and they were right. When the museum workers went to work on the second of January, they saw that a painting by the French artist Paul Cézanne was missing.

In the past, life was very easy for art thieves and they didn't wait for New Year's Eve to go to work. In 1911 an Italian, Vincenzo Peruggia, took a very famous painting from the Louvre art gallery: the *Mona Lisa*. He was alone in the museum room and he put the painting under his coat and went home. He took the *Mona Lisa* because he was angry about the number of Italian paintings in the French art gallery! He had the painting for two years.

Today's museums have security guards, but today's art thieves, like the thieves in Oxford, can always find a solution. The biggest art robbery in the USA was at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston. Two art thieves in police uniforms went to the museum late at night. They said, 'We're here to check security.' The guards opened the door, and the 'policemen' handcuffed them! They left with paintings by Vermeer, Rembrandt and Manet, and they are still missing today.

- 1** Escribe el nombre de la ciudad donde ocurrió cada suceso: *Oxford, Paris o Boston*.



A thief left with a painting under his clothes. **Paris**

- 1 The most important art robbery in the country's history. _____
- 2 Workers were surprised when they returned to work. _____
- 3 People celebrated New Year's Eve. _____
- 4 Men in uniforms took some paintings. _____
- 5 A man didn't like seeing paintings from his country in another country. _____

2 Elige la respuesta correcta.

- 1 It was **New Year's Eve** / a university party night in Oxford.
- 2 The thieves in Oxford were at a **party** / museum.
- 3 Vincenzo Peruggia was alone in the **Louvre** / room that had the **Mona Lisa**.
- 4 Peruggia **had the painting for some time** / returned the painting after a year.
- 5 The security guards in Boston **handcuffed** / didn't stop the thieves.
- 6 The police **haven't got** / found the paintings.

Words to remember

- 3** Escribe junto a cada definición la palabra del texto que le corresponda.

- 1 Celebrations with other people (paragraph 1). _____
- 2 A place you go to look at interesting objects and paintings (paragraph 1). _____
- 3 An adjective for a person who makes a lot of noise (paragraph 1). _____
- 4 The opposite of 'difficult' (paragraph 2). _____
- 5 The police wear these (paragraph 3). _____

- 4** Busca en el texto las formas singulares o plurales de las palabras de la tabla.

singular	plural
person	
party	
man	
thief	
	robberies
	galleries

- 5** Completa las frases con las formas plurales de las palabras del ejercicio 3.



The **men** play basketball every weekend.

- 1 The _____ stole a lot of money.
- 2 We went to five different art _____ in New York!
- 3 There were a lot of _____ at the party.
- 4 She's going to two _____ on the same night. She's not going to get much sleep!
- 5 There were various _____ at the city's banks in 2007.

Punctuation

Apóstrofes

Los apóstrofes se utilizan para formar las contracciones de los verbos y para indicar pertenencia con la forma posesiva 's.

But this wasn't a group of art lovers.

Pero no era un grupo de amantes del arte.

Films don't really give a true impression of the art thief's world.

Las películas no representan cómo es en realidad el mundo de los ladrones de arte.

Comillas

Las comillas se utilizan para reproducir las palabras exactas de alguien. Detrás del verbo que introduce la cita siempre se coloca una coma, a diferencia del español, en el que se utilizan los dos puntos.

They said, 'We're here to check security.'

Dijeron: 'Venimos a comprobar la seguridad.'

Dos puntos

En inglés, los dos puntos se utilizan para introducir enumeraciones o ejemplos.

Vincenzo Peruggia took a very famous painting from the Louvre art gallery: the *Mona Lisa*.

Vincenzo Peruggia se llevó un cuadro muy famoso del museo del Louvre: la *Mona Lisa*.

1 Corrige los errores y vuelve a escribir las frases, añadiendo comillas y mayúsculas.



You said I'm having a break.

You said, 'I'm having a break.'

1 I said I'm very happy.

2 The president said we're winning.

3 She said it's time to stop.

4 We said that's brilliant!

5 They said we're having a party.

2 Añade apóstrofes o dos puntos al texto.

The men who sold monuments

Its one thing to steal art, but selling national monuments that arent for sale is quite different. Two men received a lot of money from doing this Victor Lustig and Arthur Furguson.

Lustig sold a famous tower twice the Eiffel Tower. He told some metal dealers the government didnt want to pay for it any more, but that hed like the sale to be a secret. When the first buyer realized it wasnt a real sale, he didnt report the crime, but the second victim went to the police. Lustig escaped to the US.

Furguson first sold Nelsons Column in London, to an American, for £6,000. Americans were good customers;



others paid for Big Ben and Buckingham Palace. Furgusons final 'sale' was the Statue of Liberty. This time he didnt succeed and went to prison.

Lustigs luck also ended and he died in Alcatraz. Furguson, however, left prison and lived comfortably in Los Angeles till he died.