

A2+ HOMEWORK UNIT 3

NAME: CLASS: DATE:

READING The Arts: Is It Talent or Hard Work?

Some people believe that artists are born with **talent**. They think that great musicians, painters, and dancers are naturally gifted. For example, Mozart started playing the piano when he was only three years old. Famous painters like Pablo Picasso also began creating art at a very young age. These examples make people believe that success in the **arts** comes from natural ability.

However, many experts say that **hard work** is just as important—or even more important—than talent. A good artist must practice for many hours, learn different **techniques**, and improve their **skills**. Some famous actors and musicians train for years before they become successful. They go to art schools, take private **lessons**, and perform in small shows before they reach a big audience. In painting, learning to use different **materials** like watercolors or oil paints takes time. In music, learning an **instrument** requires daily practice. In theater, actors must remember lines, express emotions, and work with other performers. In dance, practice and discipline are key to perfecting movements.

So, is it talent or hard work that matters most? The truth is, both are important. Talent can help someone learn faster, but without hard work, talent is not enough. Many successful artists are not the most talented, but they are the most dedicated.

If you want to be a great artist, the most important thing is to love what you do. People who enjoy drawing, singing, dancing, or acting are more likely to continue practicing and learning. With **passion**, **practice**, and **patience**, anyone can improve and become successful in the arts.

Completion Questions (Fill in the blank)

1. Some people think that artists are born with _____.
2. Mozart played the _____ when he was three.
3. A good artist must practice and improve their _____.
4. Many actors take private _____ to become better.
5. In painting, artists learn to use different _____.
6. In music, learning an _____ takes time.
7. Theater actors must remember their _____.
8. The text says talent is not enough without _____.
9. The three important words in the last paragraph are passion, practice, and _____.
10. People who love the arts are more likely to keep _____.

Comprehension Questions

1. What are the two main things the article says help people succeed in the arts?
2. Why do some people believe talent is most important?
3. What examples does the text give to show that some artists are born talented?
4. What must an artist do to improve their skills?
5. How do actors prepare before performing in big shows?
6. What does the word **techniques** mean in this context?
a) Mistakes b) Artistic styles and methods c) Music books
7. True or False: The most talented people are always the most successful.
8. Why is passion important in becoming a great artist?
9. What is the main idea of the text?
10. What advice does the text give to someone who wants to succeed in the arts?