



# BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH

Mona Lisa Speaks Mandarin

蒙娜丽莎讲汉语

## Mona Lisa Speaks Mandarin 蒙娜丽莎讲汉语

### What Would You Ask Her? 你会向她提什么问题?

Read the text below and do the activity that follows.

阅读下面的短文，然后完成练习：

One question has intrigued art lovers around the world for generations: what is the secret behind the Mona Lisa's enigmatic smile?

Well now they have the chance to ask her directly, thanks to a new interactive exhibition in Beijing which brings the 500-year-old painting to life.

Leonardo da Vinci's 16<sup>th</sup> century masterpiece is now able to move her head and wave her hand in 3D, and even answer questions.

But when she talks it's not Renaissance Italian you hear. Instead, it's something like this:

"Dajia hao, wo jiao Mengna Lisha. Hen gaoxing jiandao nimen."

The new, digital version of the Mona Lisa is the centrepiece of the World Classic Interactive Arts Exhibition in Beijing, which also features other world-famous paintings such as da Vinci's Last Supper.

The exhibition's organiser Wang Hui spent two years preparing the collection with a team of over 400 digital artists in South Korea, at a cost of around 50m yuan.

He says, "What's special about this is that it's the first time 3D technology, holographic technology, and voice recognition technology are fused together in one exhibit."

So what does the Mona Lisa say if you ask her why she is smiling?

She admits many people find her smile mysterious, but also hints that she is happy about becoming pregnant again after the death of a child.

Indeed, research by Canadian scientists on the actual painting revealed she was wearing a thin gauzy dress popular with early 16<sup>th</sup> century Italian ladies who were pregnant or had just given birth.

The original Mona Lisa is an oil painting on a board of poplar and is housed at the Louvre Museum in Paris.



## Glossary 词汇表

<b>intrigued</b> - 令人好奇的	<b>for generations</b> - 世世代代
<b>enigmatic</b> – 莫测高深的，像谜一般的	<b>interactive exhibition</b> - 互动式展览
<b>brings ... to life</b> – 让 ... 活起来	<b>masterpiece</b> - 杰作
<b>Renaissance</b> - 文艺复兴	<b>centrepiece</b> – 重头展品
<b>features</b> - 展出了	<b>holographic technology</b> – 全息技术
<b>voice recognition technology</b> - 语音识别技术	<b>fused together</b> - 融为一体
<b>exhibit</b> - 展品	<b>mysterious</b> - 神秘的
<b>hints</b> - 暗示	<b>becoming pregnant</b> - 怀孕
<b>gauzy</b> - 薄纱的	<b>oil painting</b> - 油画
<b>poplar</b> - 白杨树	<b>housed</b> - 收藏在

### 1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假? 请圈出正确答案。

1. The original painting is 16 centuries old. True / False
2. The Mona Lisa walks around in the new exhibition. True / False
3. Scientists think the real Mona Lisa might have been pregnant.  
True / False
4. The original Mona Lisa painting cost the Louvre 50m yuan. True / False
5. The digital Mona Lisa combines several kinds of new technology. True / False

## 2. Smile Words 微笑词语

Mona Lisa is famous for her enigmatic smile. In English we have different words and phrases to describe different kinds of smile.

Try working out the meanings below and then use them in sentences.

蒙娜丽莎以其神秘的微笑而闻名于世。英语中有多种表示不同微笑的词语。

看看你能不能对下列词语做出判断然后填入正确的句子里。

### 2a Meanings

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. beam           | A. a smile which is bigger on one side than the other                         |
| 2. crooked smile  | B. a radiant 容光焕发的 smile  |
| 3. grin           | C. a small, smug 自足, self-satisfied smile                                     |
| 4. smirk          | D. a broad smile  |
| 5. sheepish smile | E. an embarrassed smile because you know you've done something wrong or silly |

### 2b Sentences

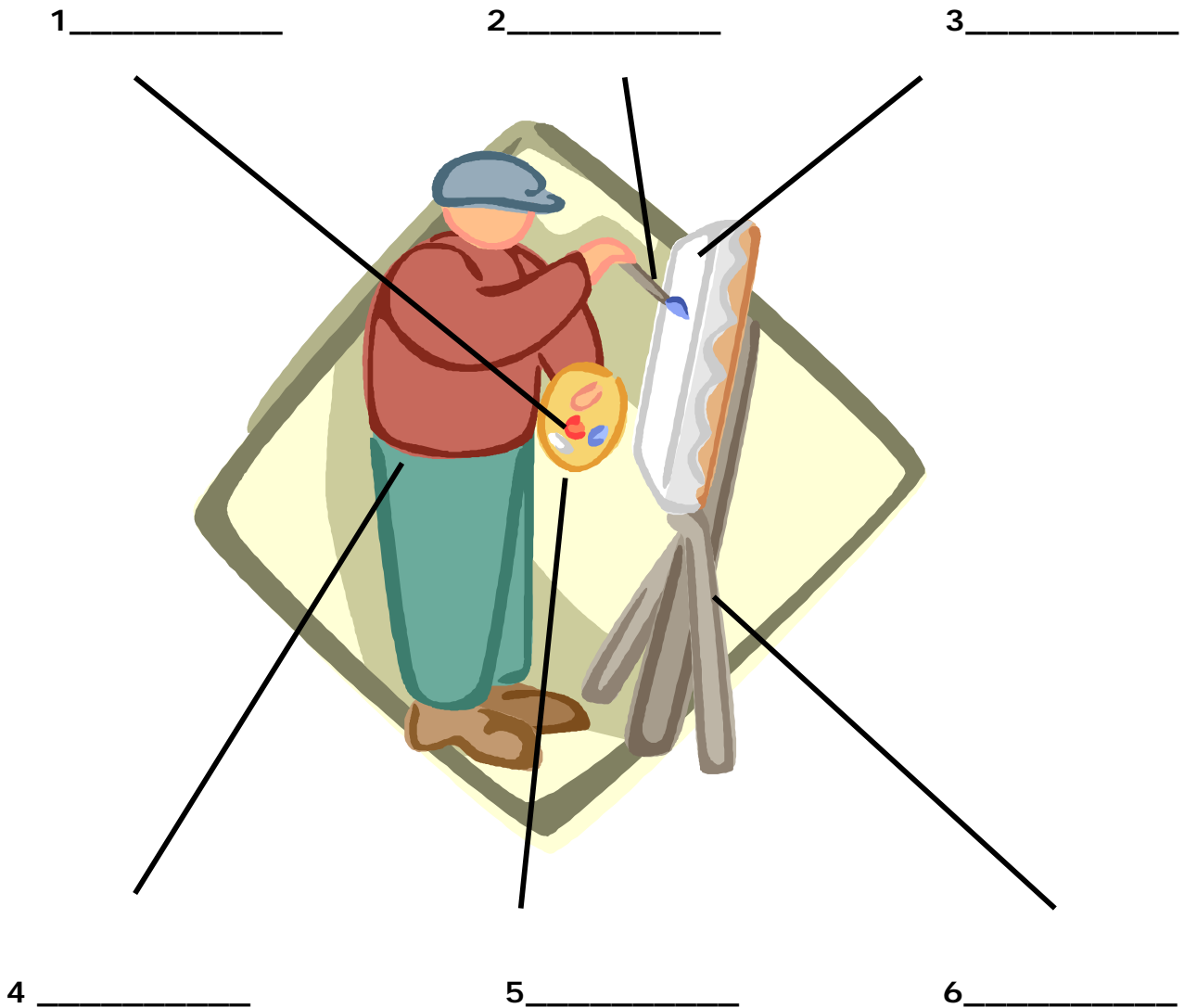
1. Not everyone likes his \_\_\_\_\_, but I think it's gorgeous.
2. I can tell Martin likes his new girlfriend because he really \_\_\_\_\_ when he talks about her.
3. Philip enjoys his work. He sits at his computer and \_\_\_\_\_ as he writes.
4. I don't like the way Barbara always \_\_\_\_\_ when talking about her colleagues. She thinks she's the best.
5. From the \_\_\_\_\_ on his face, I knew Johnny was coming to apologise about something.

### 3. Painting Vocabulary 有关绘画的词汇

All the images below are related to painting. Try matching the words from the box below to their images.

请看以下与绘画有关的图片并将正确的表达填入横线中。

easel	paintbrush	palette	canvas	painter	paint
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#### 4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

Try to find the words associated with this week's story in the puzzle below.

There are ten words to find. Words can be written horizontally (g), vertically (i) or diagonally (m&)

请在下面的字谜游戏中，找出今天的文章有关的英语单词来。

共有10个单词，其组成方式可能以水平的(g)垂直的(i)或对角的(m&)形式出现。

m	a	k	p	a	i	n	t	i	n	g	k
n	a	r	t	o	i	w	t	w	o	a	g
a	u	s	y	g	a	u	z	z	e	u	a
h	i	n	t	r	t	h	i	n	r	z	i
n	t	r	i	e	g	u	e	d	a	y	t
f	e	s	t	i	r	v	a	l	o	f	a
c	e	n	t	r	e	p	i	e	c	e	n
e	w	a	r	s	t	i	i	m	a	o	s
t	e	r	p	i	e	c	e	e	h	i	t
p	e	n	i	g	m	a	t	i	c	l	a
u	z	y	i	n	t	r	i	g	u	e	d
m	y	s	t	e	r	i	o	u	s	o	i

intrigued	painting	enigmatic	masterpiece
centrepiece	mysterious	gauzy	art oil hint

# Answers 答案

## 1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

1. The original painting is 16 centuries old. **False**
2. The Mona Lisa walks around in the new exhibition. **False**
3. Scientists think the real Mona Lisa might have been pregnant. **True**
4. The original Mona Lisa painting cost the Louvre 50m yuan. **False**
5. The digital Mona Lisa combines several kinds of new technology. **True**

## 2. Smile words 微笑词语

### 2a Meanings

1. B
2. A
3. D
4. C
5. E

### 2b Sentences

1. Not everyone likes his **crooked smile**, but I think it's gorgeous.
2. I can tell Martin likes his new girlfriend because he really **beams** when he talks about her.
3. Philip enjoys his work. He sits at his computer and **grins** as he writes.
4. I don't like the way Barbara always **smirks** when talking about her colleagues. She thinks she's the best.
5. From the **sheepish smile** on his face, I knew Johnny was coming to apologise about something.

## 3. Painting Vocabulary 有关绘画的词汇

1. paint
2. paintbrush
3. canvas
4. painter
5. palette
6. easel

## 4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

m			p	a	i	n	t	i	n	g	
	a	r	t							a	
		s								u	
h	i	n	t							z	
				e						y	
					r						
c	e	n	t	r	e	p	i	e	c	e	
							i			o	
							e		i		
	e	n	i	g	m	a	t	i	c	l	
			i	n	t	r	i	g	u	e	d
m	y	s	t	e	r	i	o	u	s		