

Unit 5

Art

abstract (adj)	/æbstrækt/	astratto	Was she a figurative or an abstract painter?
collection (n) C	/kə'lekʃn/	collezione	Which gallery or museum in your country has the biggest collection of fine art?
conceptual (adj)	/kən'septʃuəl/	concettuale	Orlan's work is conceptual rather than figurative.
dealer (n) C	/di:lə/	mercante	An art dealer is someone who buys and sells works of art.
exhibition (n) C	/eksɪ'bɪʃn/	mostra	Do you ever go to art exhibitions ?
figurative (adj)	/fɪgərətɪv/	figurativo	Orlan's work is conceptual rather than figurative .
landscape (n) C	/lændskeɪp/	paesaggio	Do you prefer landscapes , still lifes or portraits?
mural (n) C	/mjuərəl/	pittura murale	Are there any large sculptures or murals in the streets and squares of your town?
patron (n) C	/peɪtrən/	patrono, mecenate	Vermeer had not been planning to paint Griet but he complied with his patron's request.
portrait (n) C	/pɔ:trɪt/	ritratto	In general, do you prefer landscapes, still lifes or portraits ?
sculpture (n) C	/skʌlptʃə/	scultura	Are there any large sculptures or murals in your town?
self-portrait (n) C	/selfpɔ:trɪt/	autoritratto	Her self-portraits are her most recognizable paintings.
still life (n) C	/stɪl laɪf/	natura morta	In general, do you prefer landscapes, still lifes or portraits?

-ever words

however	/haʊ'evə/	comunque, in qualunque modo	'How shall we get there? Taxi?' ' However you suggest.'
whatever	/wɒt'evə/	qualsiasi cosa	They can think whatever they like.
whenever	/wen'evə/	ogni volta che	Whenever we unveil a work of art, people always get together and talk about it.
wherever	/weə'evə/	dovunque	Wherever you go, you see large public arts projects.
whoever	/hu:'evə/	chiunque	'Who shall we invite with us?' ' Whoever you like, you're paying.'

Phrasal verbs

come up with	/kʌm 'ʌp wɪð/	venir fuori con	In the mid 1990s Oprah came up with the idea of a book club.
live up to	/lɪv 'ʌp tu:/	essere all'altezza di	Not enough contemporary novels lived up to her expectations.

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put (sb/sth) off	/pʊt 'ɒf/	scoraggiare (q.cuno / q.cosa)	Oprah told viewers that the 837 pages of <i>Anna Karenina</i> shouldn't put them off .
set up	/set 'ʌp/	istituire, fondare	Many women have now joined or set up their own book clubs.
take to	/teɪk 'tuː/	accogliere con favore	The public took to Oprah immediately and her career took off.
turn (sb) away	/tɜːn ə'weɪ/	respingere	The juvenile detention centre was full and Oprah was turned away .
turn (sth) down	/tɜːn 'daʊn/	rifiutare (q.cosa)	One novelist, Jonathan Franzen, turned down the chance to have his book feature on the show.
turn out	/tɜːn 'aʊt/	rivelarsi	No one thought her life would turn out a success.

Other words & phrases

ambiance (n) U	/æmbiəns/	atmosfera	You know you need to give it the right ambiance but there was a stench of paint.
best-seller (n) C	/best'selə/	best-seller	<i>Anna Karenina</i> shot to number one in the <i>New York Times</i> best-sellers list.
billionaire (n) C	/bɪljə'neə/	miliardario	Oprah became the first-ever African-American woman billionaire .
boxed set (n) C	/bɒkst 'set/	serie completa con custodia	The Oprah Winfrey logo will ensure huge sales for even the most unlikely of titles, such as a boxed set of William Faulkner's novels.
brass (n) U	/brɑːs/	ottone	The sculpture of a horse is made of imitation brass and has been painted green so that it looks old.
bring up (v)	/brɪŋ 'ʌp/	allevare	Oprah Winfrey was brought up by her grandmother on a farm.
broadcast (n) C	/brɔːdkɑːst/	trasmissione TV	A worldwide audience watched the live broadcast in fascination and horror.
campaigner (n) C	/kæm'peɪnə/	propagandista, militante	Oprah Winfrey is a tireless campaigner against child abuse.
candle (n) C	/kændl/	candela	Van Ruijven cornered her in the hallway as she was passing along it with a lighted candle .
catch up with (v)	/kætʃ ʌp 'wɪð/	mettersi in pari con	I agree that this seems rather new, but in some ways, this country is simply catching up with other countries.
charm (n) C	/tʃɑːm/	attrattiva	Well, it has a certain organic charm , and it fits, I think it looks quite nice.
chin (n) C	/tʃɪn/	mento	He grabbed her chin in his hand.
cloth (n) C	/klɒθ/	panno	The end of the yellow cloth came loose and fell over her shoulder.
clove (n) C	/kləʊv/	chiodo di garofano	I got out a needle and clove oil and pierced my other ear. I did not cry, or faint, or make a sound.

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colossal (adj)	/kə'lɒsl/	colossale
commission (n) C	/kə'mɪʃn/	incarico
commit suicide	/kə'mɪt 'suɪ,sɑɪd/	suicidarsi
comply (v)	/kəm'plaɪ/	accondiscendere a
controversy (n) C	/kɒntrəvɜːrsi; kən'trɒvəsi/	controversia
conviction (n) C	/kən'vɪkʃn/	condanna
cover (n) C	/kʌvə/	copertina
craze (n) C	/kreɪz/	moda
curator (n) C	/kjʊ'reɪtə/	sovrintendente
dangle (v)	/dæŋɡl/	penzolare
deafen (v)	/defn/	assordare
depression (n) U	/dɪ'preʃn/	depressione
detention centre (n) C	/dɪ'tenʃn ,sentə/	casa di correzione
disbelief (n) U	/dɪsbr'li:f/	incredulità
elitist (adj)	/ɪ'lɪ:tɪst/	elitista
exhibit (v)	/ɪɡ'zɪbɪt/	esporre
faint (v)	/feɪnt/	svenire
falter (v)	/fɔːltə/	balbettare
farce (n) C	/fɑːs/	buffonata
focal point (n) C	/fəʊkl ,pɔɪnt/	centro di interesse
forehead (n) C	/fɒrɪd; 'fɔːhed/	fronte
fuel (v)	/fjuːəl/	alimentare
godsend (n)	/gɒdsend/	dono del cielo
grab (v)	/græb/	afferrare
greet (v)	/gri:t/	accogliere, salutare

Her influence on the world of books has been **colossal**.

I got the **commission** because they wanted to smarten the place up, make it look nice, you know, give the right ambiance.

Frida Kahlo suffered from depression and tried to **commit suicide**.

What can she do but **comply** with her master's every desire?

I spoke to an independent art consultant for her opinion on the **controversy**.

He had a previous **conviction** for grievous bodily harm.

The Oprah Winfrey Book Club logo on the front **cover** of a novel is enough to ensure huge sales.

The **craze** has even inspired writers to use the idea of a book club for the plot of their novels.

Where does the money for the art **curator**'s salary come from?

Only the end of the yellow cloth **dangled** free.

At the end of each kiss an electronic siren **deafened** the gallery.

Frida Kahlo suffered from **depression** and tried to commit suicide.

The victim of abuse, Oprah ran away from her home and, at the age of 13, was sent to a juvenile **detention centre**.

The unveiling of the sculpture was greeted with **disbelief**.

Franzen's comments came across as pretentious and **elitist**.

We worked together to decide the best way to **exhibit** the work in the offices.

She did not cry or **faint** or make a sound.

'But, my other ear is not pierced,' she **faltered**.

It is a **farce** to wear only one.

Many environments could be improved with well-chosen works of art as a **focal point**.

Parts of Orlan's body were changed to resemble her favourite paintings, the **forehead** of the Mona Lisa for example.

The appointment of the new curator has **fuelled** the debate.

Oprah's book club was a **godsend** for the publishing world.

He **grabbed** my chin in his hand, his other hand pulling the candle up to light my face.

The unveiling of the sculpture was **greeted** with disbelief.

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hallway (n) C	/hɔ:lweɪ/	vestibolo	Van Ruijven cornered her in the hallway as she was passing along it.
have an affair	/hæv ən ə'feə/	avere una relazione amorosa	By the time they divorced both of them had had affairs with other people.
honour (v)	/ˈɒnə/	onorare	She was honoured in the Hall of Fame of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.
influential (adj)	/ɪnflu'entʃl/	influyente	She was voted one of the most influential people of the twentieth century by <i>Time Magazine</i> .
jug (n) C	/dʒʌg/	boccale	She was passing along the hallway with a lighted candle and a wine jug .
juvenile (adj)	/dʒu:vənaɪl/	giovanile	At the age of thirteen she was sent to a juvenile detention centre.
lie on (v)	/laɪ ˌɒn/	giacere	Orlan was lying on a surgical table in an operating theatre reading texts from French philosophers.
life-size (adj)	/laɪfˌsaɪz/	a grandezza naturale	She sat behind a life-size photograph of her body and sold kisses to the audience.
maid (n) C	/meɪd/	cameriera	Griet had been working as a maid at Vermeer's house for a little over a year.
needle (n) C	/ni:dl/	ago	She got out a needle and clove oil and pierced her other ear.
negotiate (v)	/nɪ'gəʊʃieɪt/	trattare	You think you can negotiate a reduction of 25% in the price of the steel egg.
network (n) C	/netwɜ:k/	rete, network	Oprah is also the co-founder of a cable TV network .
nominate (v)	/nɒmɪˌneɪt/	nominare, proporre	She was nominated for an Oscar for her role in Steven Spielberg's <i>The Color Purple</i> .
nosedive (v)	/nəʊzdaɪv/	precipitare	Franzen's comments came across as pretentious and his reputation nosedived .
operating theatre (n) C	/ˈɒpə'reɪtɪŋ ˌθiətə/	sala operatoria	Orlan was lying on a surgical table in an operating theatre reading texts from French philosophers.
organic (adj)	/ɔ:'gænɪk/	organico	Well, erm, the sculpture has a certain organic charm.
overly (adv)	/əʊvəli/	eccessivamente	It sounds a lot of money but I don't think it's overly expensive for a work of this kind.
overpowering (adj)	/əʊvə'paʊəɪŋ/	insopportabile	The smell of paint was so strong it was overpowering .
perfectionist (n) C	/pə'fekʃnɪst/	perfezionista	The artist was a perfectionist .
prestigious (adj)	/pre'stɪdʒəs/	prestigioso	She is a professor of fine arts at a prestigious college in Dijon.
provoke (v)	/prə'vəʊk/	provocare	In the tradition of Marcel Duchamp, her work is designed to shock and provoke , not simply to be admired.
put forward (v)	/pʊt ˈfɔ:wəd/	suggerire	As part of the show, Oprah put forward a book she had read and enjoyed.

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quote (n) C	/kwəʊt/	preventivo	Whatever your car, wherever you are, get instant online quotes and cover at Quantum Quotes.
rate (n) C	/reɪt/	percentuale	Do you believe that an artistic environment can help in quicker recovery rates for the patients?
recover (v)	/rɪ'kʌvə/	ristabilirsi	It was while Frida was recovering from the bus accident that she started painting.
regime (n) C	/reɪ'ʒi:m/	programma	As part of the regime , Oprah had to learn five new words every day, and each week she had to read a book and write a report on it.
release (v)	/rɪ'li:s/	rilasciare	Police thought Frida and her husband had been involved in Trotsky's death but they were later released .
resemble (sb) (v)	/rɪ'zembəl/	assomigliare a (q.cuno)	It resembles him very strongly.
retire (v)	/rɪ'taɪə/	andare in pensione	She's been running the press office single handed since the senior communications officer retired last year.
sabre (n) C	/səɪbə/	sciabola	Luke Skywalker's original light sabre from <i>Star Wars</i> .
satellite (n) C	/sætə'laɪt/	satellite	A worldwide satellite audience watched the live broadcast in fascination and horror.
scandal (n) C	/skændl/	scandalo	Her performance at an art fair in Paris caused a scandal .
set about (v)	/set ə'baʊt/	accingersi a	Vermeer had not been planning to paint Griet, but he complied with his patron's request and set about preparing a portrait of his maid.
single (sth/sb) out (v)	/sɪŋɡl aʊt/	scegliere (q.cosa / q.cuno)	It informs them that they have been singled out to receive a very large sum of money.
siren (n) C	/saɪrən/	sirena	At the end of each kiss an electronic siren deafened the gallery.
slight (adj)	/slaɪt/	minima	Do you believe that an artistic environment can make the slightest difference to patients' recovery rates?
slip (v)	/slɪp/	lasciarsi cadere	He was looking at a book and did not notice as I slipped into my chair.
slot (n) C	/slɒt/	spazio	Oprah came up with the idea of introducing a regular book slot on her show.
smarten (sth) up (v)	/smɑ:tən/	abbellire (q.cosa)	The hotel management wanted to smarten the place up .
stain (n) C	/steɪn/	macchia	The place was awful, with coffee stains all over the carpets.
stardom (n) U	/stɑ:dəm/	celebrità	International stardom for Orlan came in the 1990s.
steel (n) U	/sti:l/	acciaio	The egg-shaped sculpture in steel is on display in the Santa Barbara Museum of Art.
stench (n) U	/stentʃ/	fetore	But the smell of paint was really such a stench that a couple of prints on the walls or a nice sculpture wasn't going to make a difference.

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sting (v)	/stɪŋ/	bruciare	The pearl he could not see was stinging like fire in her other ear.
strict (adj)	/strikt/	severo	Her father, Vernon, was strict but, according to Oprah, he saved her life.
surgical (adj)	/sɜːdʒɪkl/	chirurgico	A woman was lying on a surgical table in an operating theatre and was reading texts from French philosophers.
suspend (v)	/sə'spend/	sospendere	For the publishing world, it was a godsend, but the writers were less impressed when Oprah suspended her book club in 2002, because, she said, not enough contemporary novels lived up to her expectations.
take over (v)	/teɪk 'əʊvə/	prendere la direzione di	Oprah worked as a TV reporter before taking over a Chicago talk show.
talented (adj)	/tæləntɪd/	dotato	She was a talented child but no one thought her life would turn out such a success.
tireless (adj)	/taɪələs/	instancabile	She is a tireless campaigner against child abuse.
unveil (v)	/ʌn'veɪl/	inaugurare	The hospital recently unveiled a sculpture outside the entrance.
vending machine (n) C	/vendɪŋ məʃiːn/	distributore automatico	There were broken down vending machines everywhere – the place was awful.
viewer (n) C	/vjuːə/	telespettatore	Her TV talk show is watched by over thirty million viewers .
worldwide (adj)	/wɜːld'waɪd/	in tutto il mondo	The short-listed authors are guaranteed a worldwide readership.