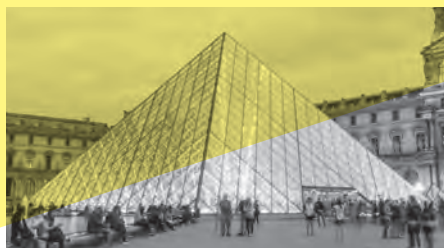


Contents

	Listen in	6
REPORT	Stolen from the Louvre	8
	Characters	10
	Before Reading	12
1	Angelica	17
2	Porter	21
3	Detective Champion	25
4	Madame Helene	29
5	Isabelle	33
6	An Email	37
7	The Final Test	41
8	At the Palais-Royal	45
9	Teddy	49
10	The Crown	53
11	Paris by Night	57
12	The Gardens	61
	After Reading	65

STOLEN FROM THE Louvre!



The Louvre, Paris.

The Louvre is located in the centre of Paris, next to the river Seine, and opposite the Palais-Royal. It was once a royal palace, and now it's the world's most popular museum. It is home to some of the most famous paintings in the world. Its biggest attraction is *The Mona Lisa*, by the Italian artist, Leonardo da Vinci. Over 80% of the people who visit the museum, go there to see this painting, which even has its own post box, because it receives so many love letters!

The museum also has an impressive collection of sculptures, including two masterpieces from Ancient Greece, *Venus de Milo* and the *Winged Victory of Samothrace*. One of these sculptures is important in this story. Look through the illustrations and find which one.

A thief in the night

The Mona Lisa wasn't especially famous before it was stolen in 1911. The theft was in all the newspapers, and it shocked the world. The thief was an Italian artist Vincenzo Peruggia, who wanted to return the painting to its home country.

Vincenzo hid in a cupboard during the night, then left the museum with the *Mona Lisa*, without anyone seeing him. In fact, no one noticed the painting was missing for 24 hours. He hid the painting for two years, but he was arrested when he tried to sell it in 1913. It is now safely back at the Louvre.





- **arrested:** taken to a police station to be questioned about a crime
- **attraction:** thing people want to see
- **especially:** more than usual
- **impressive:** amazing; very important
- **masterpieces:** very important works
- **priceless:** very expensive
- **sculptures:** statues
- **theft:** the act of stealing
- **thief:** someone who steals

OVER TO YOU



Find out more about the *Venus de Milo* or the *Winged Victory of Samothrace*. Share your findings in class.

PRICELESS SWORD STOLEN!



- 1 Listen to this news report about another theft from the Louvre Museum in 1976. Then answer the questions.

- a What type of sword is it?



- 1 emerald 2 garnet 3 diamond

- b In which year was the sword made?

- 1 1824 2 1924 3 1976


- c What did the thieves break?

- 1 the window
2 the glass case
3 the king's sword

- d This is a real news story. Find out online where the sword is now.


Listen in



- 2  Listen and repeat the sentence. Pay attention to the underlined parts of the words.

Three thieves climbed through a window.



- 3  Listen to these words. Repeat the words with a partner to practise the difference.

thick / tick three / tree both / boat
theme / team thief / teeth path / part



- 4 Listen and tick (✓) the words you hear.

- a That part / path by the river is my favourite place in Paris.
b He looked closely at the thief / teeth.
c Can you bring those three / tree books to my study?

Before Reading

1 Match the words to the things in the collection room. Use a dictionary if necessary.

bracelet

brooch

column

crown

diamond

earring

necklace

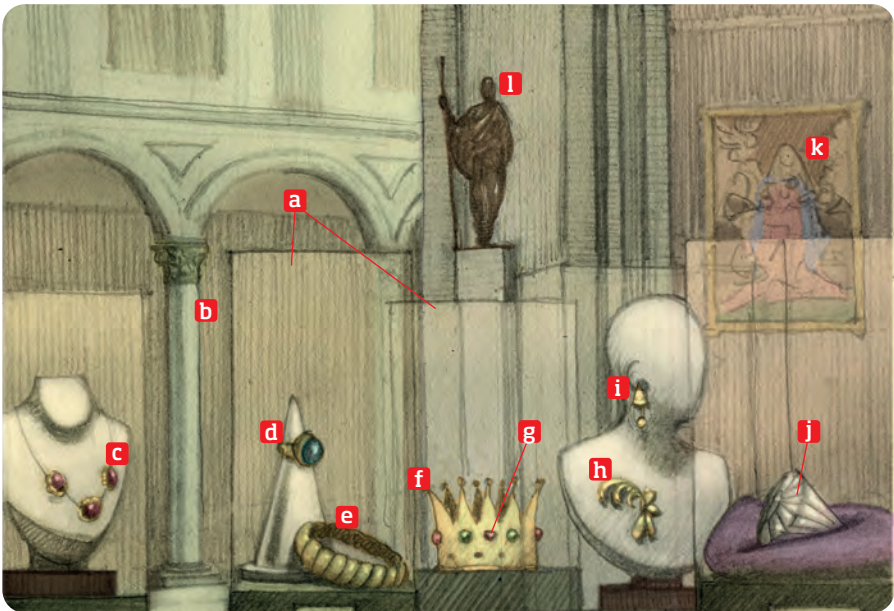
painting

ring

ruby

statue

glass cases



2 Use the words from Exercise 1 to complete the sentences.

- a The collection room was full of, each one with a piece of jewellery inside.
- b She held up the pair of ruby to the light. They were beautiful.
- c In the Louvre, there is a of the goddess *Nike*. It looked like an angel.
- d Angelica climbed up a and ran along the top wall of the palace.
- e All the jewels were stolen from Louis XV's, including the famous Regent diamond .

Listen in



- 3  Listen to the pronunciation of the word *ruby* in these sentences. Then repeat the sentences with a partner.

A *ruby* is a dark red stone or jewel.
She stole Empress Josephine's *ruby* necklace.



- 4 Listen and tick (✓) the words that have the same sound as the vowel in ruby.

clue food jewel music
 could good moved put

- 5 Look at the pictures of rooms from *The Angel*. Then match them with the descriptions below.



a collection room



b conference room



c hall



d living room



e reception room



f study

- 1 This room is used for events and parties.
- 2 This is used for working or studying.
- 3 A space to display items of value, such as jewellery or paintings.
- 4 This room is inside a home and is used for relaxing.
- 5 This room is used for meetings.
- 6 This is a long passage that leads to other rooms.



1 Angelica



A figure in a long grey coat climbed out of a window, and ran silently into the shadows[•] of the many columns of the Palais-Royal. It was a dark, wet evening in Paris. A cold fog from the river Seine was beginning to cover the streets. The streetlights made moving shadows in the fog. It was a perfect evening to steal Empress Josephine's ruby necklace. And one or two other things.

Angelica pulled her coat closer to her neck and tightened[•] the straps on her backpack. She could feel the extra weight of the necklace inside it. She checked her watch – it was too early to leave.

She walked casually[•] in the shadows. She was good at it. People didn't notice[•] her. But this evening she could feel something. Was someone watching her? She decided to get a better viewpoint.

In a few seconds, she climbed a column and ran along the top wall. She jumped across a gap[•] between the buildings, threw a rope over a statue on the roof, and climbed up. She sat next to the statue, and looked down at the courtyard[•] of the Palais-Royal and the gardens beyond it.

GLOSSARY

- **casually:** in a relaxed way
- **courtyard:** large area in front of a palace or big house
- **gap:** empty space
- **notice:** see
- **shadows:** dark areas where the light does not fall
- **tightened:** (here) made shorter

Was there someone in the gardens? She thought she saw something move. She looked down – she could hear sirens. The police were finally here! She checked her watch. It had taken them 15 minutes! Far too slow, as usual. She watched the blue flashing lights go down the road and through the gates.

She sat on the top of the Palais-Royal with her legs over the edge. She was bored. Another brilliant theft of priceless jewellery. Ten years of planning and carrying out the most difficult and dangerous thefts, but it wasn't the same anymore.

The police were running into the old palace now. She could hear them talking to the guards. A bigger car arrived, and two men stepped out. One was tall and had a moustache. Angelica smiled. She knew him well. Detective Champion – head of the Major Crimes Unit. *How many years is it now?* she asked herself. *He'll never give up – but he'll never catch me!*



GLOSSARY

- **carrying out:** doing
- **catch:** find and stop (a criminal)
- **edge:** (here) highest point
- **give up:** stop doing something
- **major crimes unit:** part of the police that solves important cases
- **priceless:** very expensive
- **sirens:** sound on police cars, etc

She didn't know the second man. He was younger, tall and slim, with short, dark hair. He wasn't talking to the guards. He was looking up at the buildings. She stopped moving. Was he looking directly at her? Could he really see her on the roof?

'THE ANGEL?!' she heard a voice shout. 'NOOOO!'

It was the detective. He was angry. Very angry. A guard was holding a white feather in his hand. Angelica's feather, her angel wings. Her name was Angelica, but everyone knew her as 'the Angel'. The best thief in the world.

The detective had reason[•] to be angry – twenty years of chasing[•] the Angel. But he didn't know that Angelica was the *second* Angel. The first Angel stopped working ten years ago. She was his apprentice[•]. Angelica thought back. There were three of them then – the Angel, the Phoenix and Angelica. The Phoenix's real name was Terence. He was the same age as Angelica, and together they learned all the skills to become the best thieves in the world. But after a final test, the Angel chose Angelica. Then he retired[•], went to live on an island, and she became the new Angel. Terence lost. He was so angry that he left Paris. Of course, the detective didn't know these things. He thought that he was still chasing the same person.

Poor Detective Champion. But it was time for a new Angel soon. Angelica watched him as he spoke to a police officer, then she ran along the walls and down the side of the building into the gardens. She was like a ghost. She ran down to the river. A small motorboat was coming. A big man with a blue hat was behind the wheel. The boat slowed down as it came past Angelica to let her jump on board[•].

'Good evening, Porter,' she said to the man.

'Good evening, Miss,' he said. 'Home?'

'Yes Porter, take me home, please,' she said.

-
- **apprentice:** person who learns how to do something from another person
 - **chasing:** going after; following

- **had reason:** was right
- **on board:** onto (a boat or plane, etc)
- **retired:** stopped working

After Reading

Over to you

- 1 Can you solve the mystery of the Angel? First, write your clues below.



- 2 Now look at the pictures and choose the new Angel.



- 3  Now tell a friend, explaining why.


- 4  Listen and check.

After Reading

Listen in  and Debate

GRAFFITI



- 1  What do these words mean? Discuss in pairs. Do you know other words associated with graffiti?

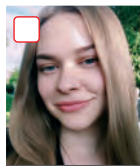
can
crew
spray
tag

Banksy is the most famous graffiti artist in the world. He started doing graffiti when he was 14. He hated school, and spray painting made him feel better about himself, and gave him a voice. Now he and his work are famous all over the world. However, no-one knows who Banksy really is. Much of Banksy's work has a political message. He speaks out against war, capitalism, and injustice, and takes sides with immigrants, the poor, and the homeless. Banksy did the graffiti above on a wall in Palestine. What is the message?

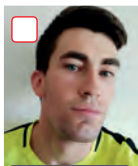
Is all graffiti art?



1 David



2 Solomiia



3 Marcos



4 Tamara



- 2 We asked this question to four teenagers. Who agrees? Listen and tick (✓).



- 3 Listen again and write the correct names.



- a says graffiti can make a place seem unsafe.
b says that graffiti is an art form for young people.
c says that not all graffiti is good.
d says graffiti can bring artists together.

- 4 Think. Who do you agree with?




GRAFFITI AS VANDALISM

- aggressive
- ancient
- anti-social
- boring
- historical
- huge
- illegal
- private
- ugly

5   In pairs, read then complete with the adjectives in the box. Listen and check.

Not all graffiti is street art. Indeed a lot of it is a series of (a), quickly (and often badly) written tags. These tags are at best (b), and at worst (c) And there is an increase in (d) behaviour in areas with a lot of graffiti. Graffiti has destroyed (e) ruins, (f) buildings and (g) property. Governments all over the world spend (h) amounts of money cleaning and fixing damage done by graffiti. For this reason it is seen as a form of vandalism, and is i in many countries. However, many towns and cities have permission walls where street artists can paint without breaking the law.

DEBATE

6  In two groups, discuss the question below. Do you agree? Say why or why not. Give reasons and examples. Use the quotes to help.

Is all graffiti art?



I AGREE
BANKSY
 (Graffiti artist and activist)

"Graffiti ultimately wins out over proper art because it becomes part of your city, it's a tool."



I DISAGREE
DAVID LYNCH
 (Film director)

"Graffiti kills the possibility to go back in time and have the buildings be as they were."