

Brief History of Art and design

20th-21st century

07 POSTMODERNISM IN ART AND DESIGN

(1980–2000)

LISTENING

for English lesson



Co-funded by
the European Union

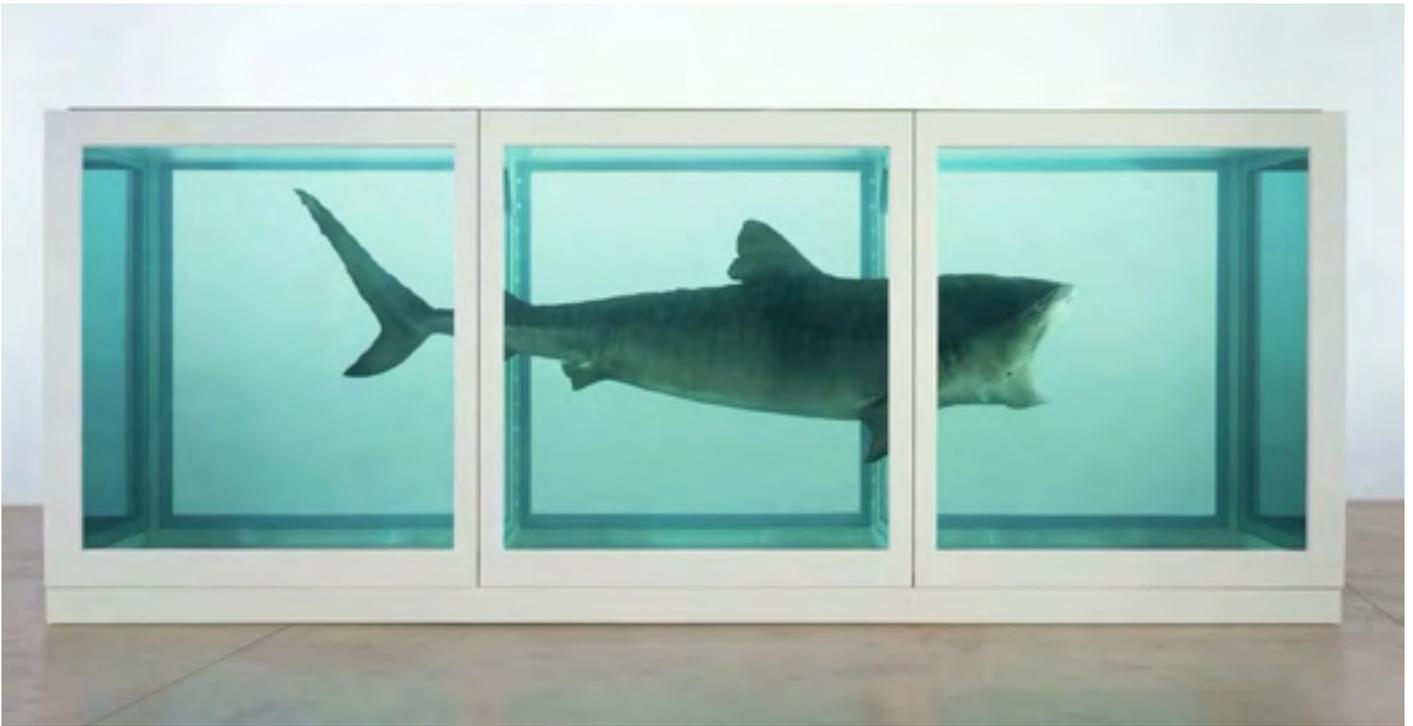
LAMOV
LIEPĀJAS MŪZIKAS,
MĀKSLAS un DIZAINA
VIDUSSKOLA



Empower **ED**

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LISTENING



Damien Hirst, The Physical Impossibility of Death in the Mind of someone Living , 1991

BEFORE listening:

Discuss with your partner:

1. What do you know about the term "postmodernism" in art and design?
2. Can you think of any famous buildings, art, or media that might be considered postmodern?
3. How do you think modernism differs from postmodernism?
4. What role do you think mass media plays in influencing art and design?
5. Do you think art should follow certain rules or should artists have freedom to break the rules? Why?

WATCH HISTORY & THE ARTS

Postmodernism: Design in a Nutshell (6/6) - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKomOqYU4Mw>

AFTER listening:**Exercise 1: Fill in the Blanks**

Listen to the video and complete the sentences with the correct words:

1. Postmodernism began at precisely ____ pm, March 16th, 1972.
2. Modernists believed in forging a better world through science and universal _____.
3. To postmodernists, less was a _____.
4. Postmodernists embraced methods like _____, anarchy, and repetition.
5. The Las Vegas Strip is a great example of postmodernism's _____.
6. Postmodernism was liberating, giving a dynamic, often _____ voice.
7. Mass media helped postmodernism to _____.

Exercise 2: True or False?

Decide whether the following statements are true or false:

1. Postmodernism began at 3 pm on March 16th, 1972.
2. Modernists believed that less was more.
3. Postmodernists favoured simplicity and minimalism.
4. The Las Vegas Strip is a prominent example of postmodern architecture.
5. Postmodernists believed that art should follow a single method.
6. Mass media played a small role in the rise of postmodernism.
7. Postmodernism rejected the idea of using past references in art.
8. Postmodernism was seen as liberating by many artists and creators.

Exercise 3: Vocabulary Matching

Match the word to its definition:

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Postmodernism | 9. Mass Media |
| 2. Modernism | 10. Eclecticism |
| 3. Collage | 11. Iconoclast |
| 4. Anarchy | 12. Deconstruction |
| 5. Repetition | 13. Parody |
| 6. Liberating | 14. Whimsical |
| 7. Blandness | 15. Silliness |
| 8. Ornamentation | |

- I. The act of using existing works or materials to create a new piece.
- J. The state of being free and unrestricted in artistic expression.
- K. The principle of chaotic or disorderly absence of government.
- L. The use of decorative elements, often seen as excessive.
- M. The repeated use of elements in art to create emphasis or rhythm.
- N. A movement in art and culture that challenges traditional concepts.
- O. A person who attacks or criticizes beliefs or institutions.
- P. Breaking down concepts and ideas to analyse their origins or meaning.
- Q. An imitation of the style of a particular writer, artist, or genre with deliberate exaggeration.
- R. Playfully quaint or fanciful, often in a light-hearted or unusual way.
- S. Behaviour or actions that are foolish or lacking seriousness.
- T. A movement focused on progress, innovation, and breaking from traditional forms.
- U. The combination of elements from various sources or styles.
- V. Forms of communication (TV, radio, etc.) that reach large audiences.
- W. Lacking in variety, dullness, or simplicity.

Exercise 4: Discussion Questions

Answer the following questions based on the video:

1. How did postmodernism differ from modernism in its approach to art and design?
2. What role did mass media play in the spread of postmodernism?
3. Why do you think postmodernism was considered "liberating"?
4. How do postmodernist buildings, like those in Las Vegas, reflect the movement's principles?