

# GEORGIA O'KEEFFE

<http://www.famouspeoplelessons.com/g/georgia-okeeffe.html>

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## THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Georgia O'Keeffe was one of America's greatest artists. She was born in 1887 in the state of Wisconsin, one of seven children. She studied at the Art Institute of Chicago in 1905-06 and then moved to New York, where her career took off. She moved to New Mexico in 1946 and painted many famous landscapes of the scenery there. Her unique works can be viewed in galleries across the world.

O'Keeffe first came to the attention of the New York art community for her large-format paintings of flower blossoms that looked like close-ups. She met well-known photographer Alfred Stieglitz, who gave O'Keeffe her first gallery show in 1916. The two married in 1924. Some of her most popular works from this early period include *Black Iris* (1926) and *Oriental Poppies* (1928).

After her husband died in 1946, O'Keeffe moved to New Mexico. There, she was inspired by the landscape to create numerous well-known paintings. Also in 1946, New York's Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) held an exhibition of her life's work – its first ever for a woman artist. O'Keeffe also won many accolades and was given honorary degrees from various universities.

In 1972, O'Keeffe's eyesight started to fail. She stopped painting in oil but continued working in pencil and charcoal until 1984. In 1977, President Ford presented O'Keeffe with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest honour given to U.S. citizens. O'Keeffe died on March 6, 1986, in Santa Fe, Mexico, aged 98. She is widely recognized as the mother of American modernism.

*Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georgia\\_O%27Keeffe](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georgia_O%27Keeffe)*

## SYNONYM MATCH

### *Paragraphs 1 and 2*

- |              |                      |
|--------------|----------------------|
| 1. moved     | a. exhibition        |
| 2. took off  | b. distinctive       |
| 3. unique    | c. relocated         |
| 4. attention | d. time              |
| 5. show      | e. became successful |
| 6. period    | f. notice            |

### *Paragraphs 3 and 4*

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 7. inspired    | g. awards      |
| 8. numerous    | h. deteriorate |
| 9. accolades   | i. passed away |
| 10. fail       | j. influenced  |
| 11. died       | k. accepted    |
| 12. recognized | l. countless   |

## PHRASE MATCH

- |                                      |                               |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. ... and then moved to New York,   | a. by the landscape           |
| 2. Her unique works can be viewed in | b. this early period          |
| 3. first came to the attention of    | c. of her life's work         |
| 4. paintings of flower blossoms      | d. the New York art community |
| 5. Some of her popular works from    | e. where her career took off  |
| 6. she was inspired                  | f. of American modernism      |
| 7. MOMA held an exhibition           | g. in pencil and charcoal     |
| 8. O'Keeffe's eyesight               | h. that looked like close-ups |
| 9. continued working                 | i. started to fail            |
| 10. widely recognized as the mother  | j. galleries across the world |

**LISTENING GAP FILL**

Georgia O'Keeffe was one of America's greatest artists. She was born in 1887 (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Wisconsin, one of seven children. She studied at the Art Institute of Chicago in 1905-06 and then moved to New York, where (2) \_\_\_\_\_. She moved to New Mexico in 1946 and painted many (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the scenery there. Her unique works (4) \_\_\_\_\_ galleries across the world.

O'Keeffe first came (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of the New York art community for her large-format paintings of flower blossoms that (6) \_\_\_\_\_. She met well-known photographer Alfred Stieglitz, who gave O'Keeffe her (7) \_\_\_\_\_ in 1916. The two married in 1924. Some of her most popular works from this (8) \_\_\_\_\_ Black Iris (1926) and Oriental Poppies (1928).

After her husband died in 1946, O'Keeffe moved to New Mexico. There, she (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the landscape to create numerous well-known paintings. Also in 1946, New York's Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of her life's work – its first ever for a woman artist. O'Keeffe also (11) \_\_\_\_\_ and was given honorary (12) \_\_\_\_\_ universities.

In 1972, O'Keeffe's (13) \_\_\_\_\_ fail. She stopped painting in oil but continued working in (14) \_\_\_\_\_ until 1984. In 1977, President Ford presented O'Keeffe with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest honor (15) \_\_\_\_\_. O'Keeffe died on March 6, 1986, in Santa Fe, Mexico, aged 98. She is (16) \_\_\_\_\_ the mother of American modernism.

## CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD

Georgia O'Keeffe was one of America's greatest artists. She was born in 1887 in the *state / condition* of Wisconsin, one of seven children. She studied at the Art Institute of Chicago in 1905-06 and then *removed / moved* to New York, where her career took *away / off*. She moved to New Mexico in 1946 and painted many famous landscapes of the scenery there. Her *unique / uniquely* works can be viewed in galleries across the world.

O'Keeffe first came to the *attentive / attention* of the New York art community for her large-format paintings of flower blossoms that looked *as / like* close-ups. She met well-known photographer Alfred Stieglitz, who gave O'Keeffe her first gallery show in 1916. The two *married / marriage* in 1924. Some of her most popular *working / works* from this early period include Black Iris (1926) and Oriental Poppies (1928).

After her husband died in 1946, O'Keeffe moved to New Mexico. There, she was *inspired / conspired* by the landscape to create *numbered / numerous* well-known paintings. Also in 1946, New York's Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) *held / withheld* an exhibition of her life's work – its first ever for a woman artist. O'Keeffe also won many accolades and was given honorary degrees from *variety / various* universities.

In 1972, O'Keeffe's eyesight started to *fail / fall*. She stopped painting in oil but continued working *by / in* pencil and charcoal until 1984. In 1977, President Ford presented O'Keeffe with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the *tallest / highest* honor given to U.S. citizens. O'Keeffe died on March 6, 1986, in Santa Fe, Mexico, aged 98. She is *widely / narrowly* recognized as the mother of American modernism.

## SPELLING

These jumbled words are from the text. Spell them correctly.

### *Paragraph 1*

1. her eraecr took off
2. famous landscapes of the neycres
3. Her ineuuq works
4. elaisglre across the world

### *Paragraph 2*

5. came to the ionneattt of the New York art community
6. flower lmosssob
7. Some of her plorpau works
8. from this early eroidp

### *Paragraph 3*

9. uornemus well-known paintings
10. MOMA held an hiteinxbio of her life's work
11. O'Keeffe also won many sadaccole
12. degrees from ovriais universities

### *Paragraph 4*

13. O'Keeffe's shegtiey started to fail
14. working in linpce and charcoal
15. U.S. nctezsii
16. widely cerznodieg as the mother of American modernism

## PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) many accolades and was given honorary degrees from various universities.
- ( ) format paintings of flower blossoms that looked like close-ups. She met well-known photographer Alfred Stieglitz, who gave
- ( ) her career took off. She moved to New Mexico in 1946 and painted many famous landscapes
- ( ) O'Keeffe her first gallery show in 1916. The two married in 1924. Some of her popular works
- ( ) After her husband died in 1946, O'Keeffe moved to New Mexico. There, she was inspired
- ( ) from this early period include Black Iris (1926) and Oriental Poppies (1928).
- ( ) of the scenery there. Her unique works can be viewed in galleries across the world.
- ( ) In 1972, O'Keeffe's eyesight started to fail. She stopped painting in oil but continued
- ( ) Medal of Freedom, the highest honor given to U.S. citizens. O'Keeffe died on March 6, 1986,
- ( **1** ) Georgia O'Keeffe was one of America's greatest artists. She was born in 1887 in the state
- ( ) working in pencil and charcoal until 1984. In 1977, President Ford presented O'Keeffe with the Presidential
- ( ) an exhibition of her life's work – its first ever for a woman artist. O'Keeffe also won
- ( ) of Wisconsin, one of seven children. She studied at the Art Institute of Chicago in 1905-06 and then moved to New York, where
- ( ) in Santa Fe, Mexico, aged 98. She is widely recognized as the mother of American modernism.
- ( ) by the landscape to create numerous well-known paintings. Also in 1946, New York's Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) held
- ( ) O'Keeffe first came to the attention of the New York art community for her large-

## SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With your partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. was America's O'Keeffe of artists one greatest.

---

2. scenery famous there landscapes of Painted the many.

---

3. works galleries can be Her viewed unique in.

---

4. flower looked - of that close Paintings blossoms like ups.

---

5. this her from period of works early Some popular.

---

6. inspired There by , the she landscape was.

---

7. woman a for ever first Its artist.

---

8. 1972 to , fail O'Keeffe's eyesight In started.

---

9. in 1984 pencil and Continued charcoal working until.

---

10. citizens The honor given honor highest to U.S.

---



**DISCUSSION (Write your questions)**

**STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)**

1. What do you know about Georgia O'Keeffe?
2. Would you like to have met Georgia O'Keeffe?
3. What would you like to know about Georgia O'Keeffe and why?
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

**DISCUSSION (Write your questions)**

**STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)**

1. What did you learn from this text about Georgia O'Keeffe?
2. What questions would you like to have asked Georgia O'Keeffe?
3. What do you like about her life?
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

# THE GEORGIA O'KEEFFE SURVEY

Write five questions about Georgia O'Keeffe in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

**Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.**



## HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or other search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find more information about Georgia O'Keeffe. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. GEORGIA O'KEEFFE POSTER:** Make a poster showing the different stages of the life of Georgia O'Keeffe. Show your poster to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all find out similar things?

**4. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article Georgia O'Keeffe. Include an imaginary interview with someone who knew her. Write about what she did every day and what she thought about.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**5. LETTER:** Write a letter to a Georgia O'Keeffe expert. Ask him/her three questions about her life. Tell her/him three things you like about Ms O'Keeffe. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your "Georgia O'Keeffe expert" partner(s) will try and answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## SYNONYM MATCH:

### *Paragraphs 1 and 2*

- |              |                      |
|--------------|----------------------|
| 1. moved     | a. relocated         |
| 2. took off  | b. became successful |
| 3. unique    | c. distinctive       |
| 4. attention | d. notice            |
| 5. show      | e. exhibition        |
| 6. period    | f. time              |

### *Paragraphs 3 and 4*

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 7. inspired    | g. influenced  |
| 8. numerous    | h. countless   |
| 9. accolades   | i. awards      |
| 10. fail       | j. deteriorate |
| 11. died       | k. passed away |
| 12. recognized | l. accepted    |

## PHRASE MATCH:

- |                                      |                               |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. ... and then moved to New York,   | a. where her career took off  |
| 2. Her unique works can be viewed in | b. galleries across the world |
| 3. first came to the attention of    | c. the New York art community |
| 4. paintings of flower blossoms      | d. that looked like close-ups |
| 5. Some of her popular works from    | e. this early period          |
| 6. she was inspired                  | f. by the landscape           |
| 7. MOMA held an exhibition           | g. of her life's work         |
| 8. O'Keeffe's eyesight               | h. started to fail            |
| 9. continued working                 | i. in pencil and charcoal     |
| 10. widely recognized as the mother  | j. of American modernism      |

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES:

Look at the text on page 2.