TEACHER'S GUIDE

Listening activities and suggested answers

Mona Lisa: The Smile, the Inventor and the Great Theft

This version: English | Duration: 9:30 (about 10 min)

Published languages: English, Finnish.

Spotify: open.spotify.com/episode/1uXfLaYnKLAq0OBric5tDe
YouTube: youtu.be/e3F9FPKFijs

Introduce the questions before listening. Students write answers after the whole episode. Discuss their answers as a class or in pairs.

Suggested answers are in italics. Accept students' own wording when the meaning is correct.

1 **How did Leonardo use observation in both art and invention?**

He studied birds and flight as well as light and faces. Careful looking helped him design machines and paint people.

2 **What do soft changes between light and shadow do to Mona Lisa's expression?**

They make it feel alive but hard to define. The smile is not outlined with thick, sharp lines.

3 **How did the theft make the painting better known?**

Newspapers printed its picture and reported its disappearance. People who had never seen the original began recognising the face.

4 **Change an expression with one small detail**

A small visible difference separates the faces, and the student describes its effect. There is no single correct interpretation of an expression.

Teaching tip: Students may interpret the same face differently and explain why.