

Historical bridge discovered from the *Mona Lisa*

A2+/B1 Writing cloze

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|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. ysymret | 6. nscoucoslin | 11.uofnitnc |
| 2. gckubardno | 7. iltshircoa | 12.lsiacm |
| 3. oceadtl | 8. roatrtpi | 13.cxtmeietne |
| 4. mgeiranin | 9. uirvigsvn | 14.tneriets |
| 5. rutemnga | 10.fetyepcrl | 15.rotetpc |

The *Mona Lisa* has one less 1._____ today thanks to an Italian art expert. The bridge in the 2._____ of the painting has been 3._____ in real life. The expert, Silvano Vinceti, has matched it to the 4._____ part of a bridge in the countryside of Tuscany, Italy. His theory may end an academic 5._____ that has been going on for years.

At a press meeting in Rome, Vinceti announced his 6._____. The expert has made 7._____ analysis of the famous 8._____ his main work throughout life. The bridge in the painting, just over the shoulder of the woman, has four gaps in it. Vinceti measured the 9._____ single gap in the real bridge, the Romito, and found that four similar gaps would fit 10._____ across the river Arno.

Through research, Vinceti determined that the bridge did have a 11._____ once. The *Mona Lisa* was painted between 1503 and 1519. Da Vinci would have used the bridge to visit his uncle in the town of Laterina at that time, Vinceti 12._____. The current mayor of Laterina says there is a lot of 13._____ over the expert's suggestion. She says there is a lot of 14._____ the town now and the town is certain to 15._____ the monument.

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Answers:

1. mystery
2. background
3. located
4. remaining
5. argument
6. conclusions
7. historical
8. portrait
9. surviving
10. perfectly
11. function
12. claims
13. excitement
14. interest
15. protect

Full lesson with interactive exercises at:

www.everybitenglish.com/lesson-20230508-b1-mona-lisa

Writing practice

Choose a question and write your answer below.

1. Have you ever been to a place that was featured in a book, a film, some art, or the news?
2. Is there a famous local landmark where you live?
3. What do artists get inspiration from?
4. What types of buildings are most interesting to you and why?
5. What would happen if we didn't try to protect things from history?

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