

Marc Chagall

Marc Chagall was a famous painter born on July 7, 1887, in Vitebsk, Belarus. His art is known for its bright colors and dream-like quality. Chagall's paintings often show scenes from his childhood, including floating figures, animals, and whimsical elements.



Chagall studied art in Saint Petersburg, Russia, before moving to Paris, where he became part of the vibrant art community. His unique style combines elements of Cubism, Fauvism, and Surrealism. He often used symbols and images from Jewish folklore, which made his work very personal and expressive.

One of Chagall's most famous works is *The Birthday* (1915), which shows a couple floating in the air, celebrating their love. This painting is a good example of his imaginative and romantic style. Chagall also created stained glass windows, murals, and illustrations for books, demonstrating his versatility as an artist.

Throughout his life, Chagall's art was celebrated for its originality and emotional depth. He lived in several countries, including France and the United States, and continued to create art until his death on March 28, 1985. His work remains admired for its beauty and unique vision.





Decide if the sentences are True or False and correct the false ones:

- 1. Marc Chagall was born in Paris, France.
- 2. Chagall's paintings are known for their bright colors and dream-like quality.
- 3. Chagall studied art in Paris before moving to Saint Petersburg.
- 4. His style combines elements of Cubism, Fauvism, and Surrealism.
- 5. The Birthday (1915) shows a couple floating in the air, celebrating their love.
- 6. Chagall only created paintings and did not work on any other types of art.
- 7. Marc Chagall passed away on March 28, 1985.





Look at the paintings of Chagall below and answer the questions:







1 Choose your favourite painting and describe it in a few sentences. Talk about the colours, the shapes, the people, the objects.

2 What is the reason you chose this painting? What feelings does it create? Can you understand why?

3 Is there anything surprising in these paintings?

4 If you could talk to the painter, what would you like to ask?



Chagall

Teacher's B1

True/False Statements

- 1. Marc Chagall was born in Paris, France. False (He was born in Vitebsk, Belarus.)
- 2. Chagall's paintings are known for their bright colors and dream-like quality. True
- 3. Chagall studied art in Paris before moving to Saint Petersburg. False (He studied art in Saint Petersburg before moving to Paris.)
- 4. His style combines elements of Cubism, Fauvism, and Surrealism. True
- 5. *The Birthday* (1915) shows a couple floating in the air, celebrating their love. **True**
- 6. Chagall only created paintings and did not work on any other types of art. False (He also created stained glass windows, murals, and illustrations for books.)
- 7. Marc Chagall passed away on March 28, 1985. True



For more ideas on how to use masterpieces of Art to teach critical thinking, you can read my blog post here:

https://www.ruthlessteacher.com/how-to-use-works-of-arts-to-teach-critical-thinking/

And about the use of images in the language classroom, another of my blog posts here:

https://www.ruthlessteacher.com/the-use-of-images-in-language-learning/

I have made a pdf with a set of questions that I use a lot with my students when we study all types of images, you can download it here:

https://www.ruthlessteacher.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Questions-about-images-in-class.pdf

Painter

Marc Zakharovich Chagall (1887 – 1985) was a Russian-French artist of Belarusian Jewish origin. An early modernist, he was associated with several major artistic styles and created works in virtually every artistic format, including painting, book illustrations, stained glass, stage sets, ceramic, tapestries and fine art prints.(information from Wikiart).

Paintings

You can see Chagall's work online here:

https://www.wikiart.org/en/marc-chagall/all-works#!#filterName:all-paintings-chronologically,resultType:masonry

The first painting is called "I and the village" (1911) and you can see it in the MoMA museum in New York

https://www.moma.org/collection/works/78984

The second painting is called "Birthday" (1915) and you can see it in the MoMA museum in New York

https://www.moma.org/collection/works/79360

The third painting is called "The betrothed and Eiffel Tower" (1913) and you can see it in the National Museum Marc Chagall in Nice, France

https://musees-nationaux-alpesmaritimes.fr/chagall/en



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For any questions you may have you can message me at info@ruthlessteacher.com

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