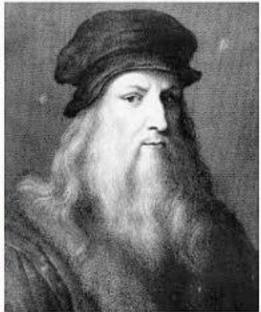
1. Mona Lisa





The Mona Lisa is one of the most famous paintings in the world. It was created by world-famous Italian artist Leonardo da Vinci. It was painted around 1503. It is a portrait of the wife of a rich Merchant who lived in Florence, Italy. Her name was

More than 30 layers of paint have been used on the painting and some of them are thinner than a human hair. This painting is worth around \$782 million.

Quick Facts:

- The subject of the painting has no visible eyebrows or eyelashes. It is believed that they gradually
 disappeared over time or because of cleaning.
- This painting shows the most famous smile in the world.
- Mona Lisa is an English title that has been derived from the Italian word "Mona" which is a short form of the phrase "ma doona".
- Mona or Ma doona means "My Lady".
- Another name for the Mona Lisa in Italian is La Gioconda and in French is La Joconde which means happy.
- · The Mona Lisa painting is around 500 years old.

- It took around four years to paint Mona Lisa.
- Mona Lisa is owned by the French government and is put on display at Louvre Museum.
- In 2022, an old man went to the museum and smeared cake all over the Mona Lisa. The painting
 was not damaged because it is protected by a bulletproof glass. The man said he wanted to attract
 people's attention to 'the climate change'.

Questions:

- Who painted the Mona Lisa?
- 2. Who is the subject of this painting?
- How old is this painting?
- 4. Where is it kept?
- 5. How long did it take to paint the Mona Lisa?
- 6. What does Mona mean?
- 7. What are the other names for this painting?