

1

Answer the following questions in your own words.

1. Describe Claude Monet's family background. **born in Paris, father had a shipping company, went to school in Le Havre, mother cared for the family**
2. Where did Monet study art? Who did he meet there? **in Paris, Renoir and Sisley**
3. How did Monet's life change after he had become famous throughout the art world? **he spent too much money, sank into debt, married his long-time mistress**
4. On which occasion did the impressionist movement start? **1874 at an exhibition**
5. What kind of paintings did Monet paint in his later life? **garden scenes, pictures of his pond**
6. Describe the features of impressionist artwork. **about nature, experiments with light and shadows, strong colours, short brush strokes**
7. How was Monet criticized for his work? **some thought his paintings did not have enough detail, were unfinished works of art**

2

Explain in English

mistress **woman whom you have a relationship with, even though you or she is married to someone else**

landscape painting **images of nature and natural surroundings**

stroke **single movement with a pen or brush**

canvas **piece of cloth that artists paint on**

exhibition **show of paintings or works of art**

debt **the money you have borrowed from someone and have to pay back**

pond **small lake**

shadow **dark shape that a person or object makes when the sun shines on them or it**

## CLAUDE MONET – KEY

3

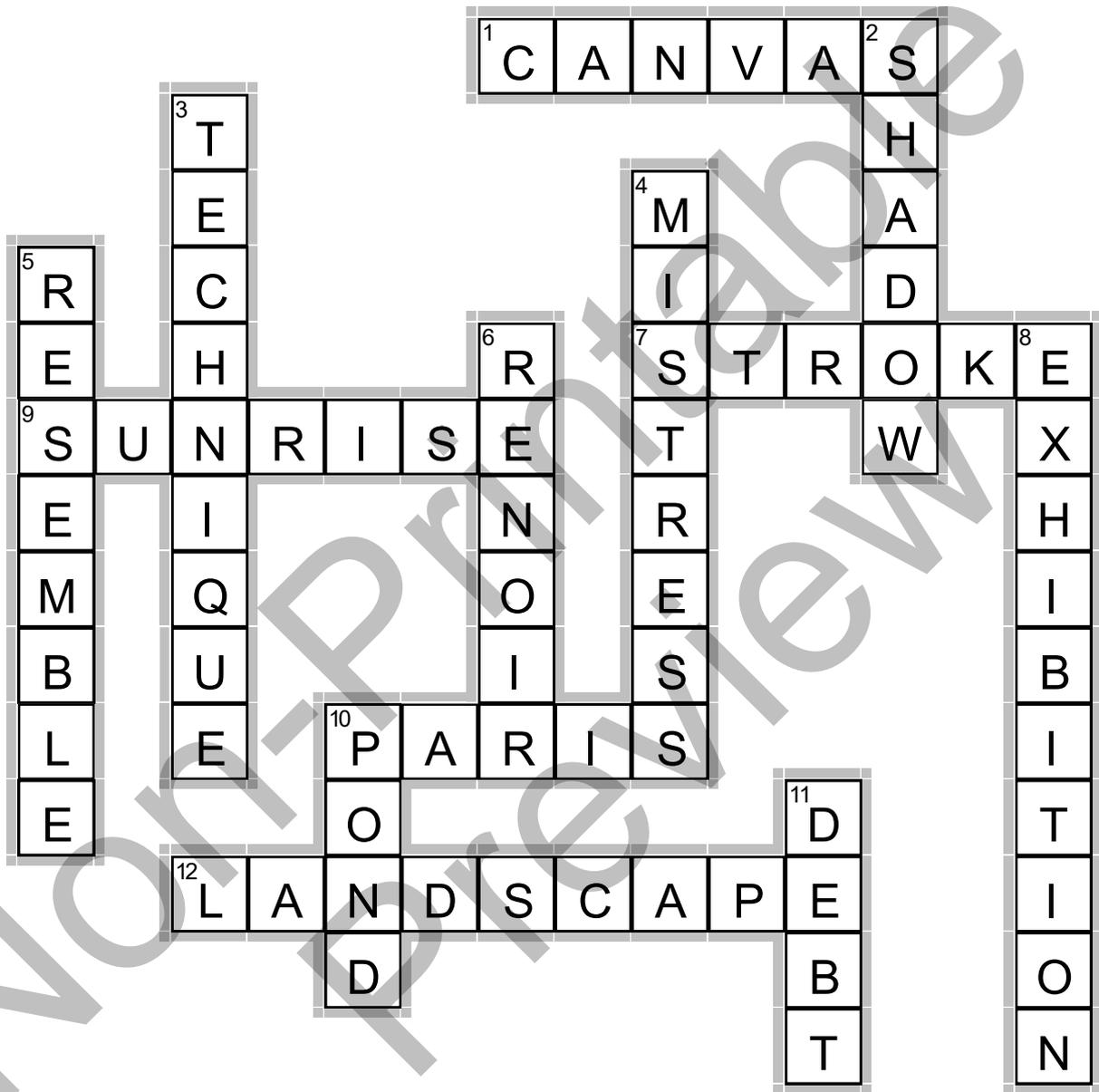
Match the words on the left with the definitions on the right.

<b>A</b>	abandon		<b>D</b>	look like
<b>B</b>	technique			someone who criticizes another person or idea
<b>C</b>	shadow		<b>F</b>	money that you have to give back to someone
<b>D</b>	resemble		<b>A</b>	leave, keep away from
<b>E</b>	fellow		<b>G</b>	piece of cloth that an artist paints on
<b>F</b>	debt		<b>C</b>	dark shape that an object makes in the sunlight
<b>G</b>	canvas			collection of paintings
			<b>B</b>	method of painting
			<b>E</b>	colleague

4

Match the beginnings of the sentences with the sentence endings. There is ONE ending you will not need.

<b>A</b>	Claude Monet was one of the most famous artists		<b>C</b>	experimented in nature painting with other impressionists.
<b>B</b>	After being born in Paris, Monet's family		<b>E</b>	did not sell any paintings.
<b>C</b>	In his early Paris life Monet		<b>D</b>	his life started to change.
<b>D</b>	When Monet became famous		<b>F</b>	as unfinished artwork.
<b>E</b>	In the first impressionist exhibition Monet and his colleagues		<b>A</b>	of the French impressionist period.
<b>F</b>	Some of Monet's critics saw his paintings			drew a series of paintings of his garden.
			<b>B</b>	moved to Le Havre.



6

**Claude Monet - Complete the text with the words from the box. There are TWO words you will not need.**

Claude Monet was one of the most famous painters of the (1) **impressionist** period. He worked together with many other painters of his period, including Renoir and Sisley.

At an early age Monet developed a (2) **talent** for drawing. He spent much of his time as a child in (3) **nature** and observed the world around him.

After studying (4) **art** in Paris he soon became famous but quickly went through a dark period in his life. He started spending too much money and saw how his wife became ill and died.

In 1874 Monet and other (5) **artists** showed their works at an (6) **exhibition**. It was the first display of impressionist paintings. Although many people came to see them, the group did not sell any paintings.

Monet liked to paint nature as it (7) **appeared** to him, with different (8) **shades** of colours, shadows and light effects that he observed during different times of day. He became famous for short, colourful (9) **strokes** of the brush. Critics of the time, however, claimed that Monet had given up classical painting and thought his works were (10) **unfinished**.

In his later life Monet concentrated on (11) **landscape** art that he painted in London and Venice. He came back to France and settled in Giverny, where he stayed until he died in 1926. There, Monet became obsessed with painting (12) **garden** scenes. A series of paintings, called *Water Lilies*, displays impressions of a pond.

**appeared**  
**art**  
**artists**  
**colours**  
**exhibition**  
**garden**  
**impressionist**  
**landscape**  
**nature**  
**period**  
**shades**  
**strokes**  
**talent**  
**unfinished**