The definitions below provide just-in-time support for understanding challenging words in the prompt and sources. Use them as needed while you read.

## **Prompt**

**Art** (noun): a creative work expressing the creator’s feelings, thoughts, or ideas

**Position statement** (noun): a document that explains an organization’s stance on an issue

**Vandalism** (noun): destruction or damage to property

## “Is Graffiti Art?” by Steve Dolan:

**Accomplished** (adj.): having achieved a some success

**Annoyance** (noun): something that is bothersome

**Applaud** (verb): to clap, cheer, or express support for something

**Artistic merit** (noun): quality of a work of art

**Boundary** (noun): a line that defines an area or category

**Coordinate** (verb): work together

**Design** (noun): a pattern or idea for a work of art

**Dissolve** (verb): to break apart a substance in a liquid

**Legitimate** (adj.): valid

**Monochrome** (adj.): using only one color

**Multicolored** (adj.): made up of many colors

**Prevalent** (adj.): common

**Removal** (noun): taking something away

**Varying degrees** (noun): different levels or amounts

## "Graffiti: Art or Vandalism?" (Video)

**Commentary** (noun): a statement of opinion

**Custom** (adj.): made for a specific person; unique

**Exhibition** (noun): display of art

**Influential** (adj.): having a strong effect on another’s ideas

**Overblown** (adj.): perceived to be greater than it is

**Plastered** (verb): covering a surface, like plaster on a wall

**Taggers** (noun): people who spray graffiti

**Vandalism** (noun): destruction or damage to property

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## "Graffiti as Art" (Source 3)

**Aesthetic Criteria** (noun): the measurements used to determine how appealing something is to look at

**Aesthetics** (noun): beauty

**Anonymity** (noun): having one’s name unknown

**Appeal** (noun): pleasing quality

**Billboard** (noun): a large board seen on the side of roads, usually for advertising

**Calligraphic** (adj.): relating to calligraphy—a fancy way of writing

**Cityscape** (noun): the scene of a city

**Composition** (noun): the way something is arranged

**Considered** (verb): thought to be

**Diversity** (noun): celebration of differences among people

**Elements** (noun): the basic structures that make up an object

**Eyesore** (noun): something that is ugly

**Executed** (verb): created or completed

**Extent** (noun): limit; length

**Fading** (verb): getting lighter in color

**Foreground** (noun): the front part of an image

**Galleries** (noun): places where art is displayed and sold

**Hefty** (adj.): expensive; substantial or significant

**Illegal** (adj.): against the law

**Illegality** (noun): the condition of being against the law

**Intention** (noun): purpose; goal

**Interlocking** (adj.): fitting together

**Interpretation** (noun): a person’s personal idea about the meaning of something

**Legitimacy** (noun): validity

**Legitimate** (adj.): valid

**Legitimized** (verb): made valid

**Manner** (noun): the way in which something is done

**Movement** (noun): an organized effort aimed at a specific cause

**Mural** (noun): a large painting on a wall

**Nuisance** (noun): something that is irritating

**Obstacle** (noun): something standing in the way of achieving a goal

**Parodying** (verb): making fun of by imitating

**Police brutality** (noun): excessively violent acts by law enforcement officers

**Protesting** (verb): expressing opposition

**Provocative** (adj.): causing a strong reaction on purpose

**Random** (adj.): having no particular pattern or connection; unpredictable

**Relies** (verb): depends upon

**Resultant** (adj.): something that results from something else

**Statement** (noun): a declaration of an idea

**Stencil** (noun): a tool used for drawing or painting shapes

**Stylized** (adj.): having a particular style

**Tremendous** (adj.): very large or great

**Typical** (adj.): usual

**Wildstyle** (noun): a complicated form of graffiti

## "Graffiti as Art" (Source 4)

**Merits** (noun): positive qualities

**Denied** (verb): argued against

**Private** (adj.): owned by an individual or an organization or business; not public

**Taxpayers** (noun): people who pay taxes to the government

**Property** (noun): something that is owned

**Typically** (adv.): usually

**Budget** (verb): specify the amount of money someone has to spend on something

**Removal** (noun): the act of taking away

**Annually** (adv.): on a yearly basis

**Shoplift** (verb): steal from a store

**Revenue** (noun): money that comes in

**Associated** (verb): believed to be related

**Subways** (noun): underground public transit systems

**Wave effect** (noun): a situation where one event causes a series of other events

**Public disorder** (noun): actions that disturb the peace of the public, such as riots or looting

**Gateway crime** (noun): a small crime thought to encourage the perpetrator to commit larger crimes

**Truancy** (noun): significant absence from school

**Quality of life** (noun): the level of overall happiness of a person or group

**Extensive** (adj.): large amounts of

**Eyesore** (noun): something that is ugly

**Gang-related** (adj.): referring to activity caused by organized gangs

**Sentiments** (noun): feelings