



28-Modern Art

Two-Syllable Words

single consonant between vowels
short vowels, colors

One day Dan said to Rat, “Hey, Rat! There is a modern art show in the park by the river. Do you want to go?”

“I don't know,” said Rat. “Art is strange these days. People used to paint, but now they make weird things.”

“The things they make are neat, Rat,” said Dan.

“Well,” said Rat, “I've been thinking about making a modern art project myself. So I guess I will go.”

When Dan and Rat got to the modern art show, Dan used his credit card to pay to get in. The first modern art piece they came to was called “Yellow And White Linen.” It was a bed with yellow and white sheets on it.

“Wow! See that?” asked Dan.

“What?” said Rat. “Even *I* can make a bed.”

“Yes,” said Dan. “But I think the artist is making a statement about sleep — how nice it is.”

“Do they get paid for making this?” Rat asked.

The next piece was called “Tropic Seas.” It was a big, blue paper with red, yellow, green, and orange dripped on it.

“Look at the artist's modest use of paint,” exclaimed Dan.

“It looks like my shirt after I eat Fruit Loops,” said Rat.

“Rat,” said Dan, “you do not know art.”

“Dan, there is an old saying,” said Rat. “I may not know art, but I know what I like!”

Dan and Rat went on.

The next piece was called “Shovel Chapel.” It was a model of a chapel. But there were no people inside the chapel, just little, brown shovels in the seats.

“I think the artists is trying to say we dig our own graves and worship the shovels we use to

dig them,” said Dan.

“What?” said Rat. “I think the artist is trying to say *“Help! I am crazy. Please lock me up!”*”

Dan and Rat went on.

The next piece was called “Rapid Pace By Roger.” It was a picture of the artist, Roger, on a big panel, and the panel was spinning around.

“Wow!” said Dan. “Roger the artist is trying to tell us to slow down our lives.”

“I think Roger is telling us to stay away from Roger,” said Rat.

Then Rat asked Dan, “Do they get paid for this stuff?”

“Yes,” said Dan.

“Hmmm...” said Rat.

Dan told Rat, “You stay here while I go get us

two pops. The lines are long, so it may take some time.” Then Dan left.

The second Dan left, Rat went to see the modern art.

When Dan came back a bunch of angry artists met him.

“That cat of yours!” the artists yelled. “He is bad!”

“He broke my panel!” said Roger. “Now it does not spin.”

“He stuck a lemon on my Tropic Seas,” said a lady.

“He is sleeping in my Yellow And White Linen now!” said a man.

Dan went and got Rat, and Dan had to use his credit card to buy all the pieces. Dan was angry at Rat.

Rat said, “You should thank me, Dan. Now you can sit and stare at that stuff all you want.”

The next day Dan smelled a bad odor in the garage. He went to check it out and saw Rat with a big ball of red, brown, black, and yellow stinky trash.

“What is that?” Dan screamed. Rat smiled.

“Dan, I am going to be rich!” Rat said. “This is my modern art piece. I call it 'Vomit Comet.' I am trying to say that we all should eat out of the trash cans in the alley. I am an artist now! We will be rich, Dan! You can quit your job now!”

“I don't think so, Rat,” said Dan. “I don't think so.”

Vocabulary

vomit	solid	linen
tropic	modern	shovel
second	model	project
modest	comet	river
level	travel	lemon
chapel	panel	Roger
rapid	credit	rabid

Colors

red	yellow	green	black
blue	orange	brown	white

Weird Words

can't	clothes	artist's	going
know	wrong	exclaimed	piece
puny	hundred	worship	comics
school	wearing	lady	around
stinky	crazy	guess	people
point	shoes	garage	contest

Dictation

Rat made an art project.

His project was modern art.

He called his project the Vomit Comet.

It was made of yellow, brown, and black trash.

Dan ate a lemon.

The lemon was yellow.

The black dog saw the orange cat.

The orange cat went to get a big, yellow cat.

The yellow cat put the dog in a river.

A bug can travel on a model train.

That dog is rabid.

I need a shovel to make my project.

This is the second green comet to pass us.

Did Dan use a credit card to buy yellow linen?

The flag is red, white, and blue.

Is the ice solid?

The panel is brown.

Roger is a model.