

## Reading Part One

*You are reading an article on digital art. Some parts are missing from the text. Find these parts from among the list below. There are more possible missing parts given than you need. There is an example already done for you.*

### Race to save digital art from the rapid pace of technological change

A race is on against the fast pace of technological change as scientists search for ways to preserve today's most innovative artworks. A team of experts is warning that some of Britain's contemporary artistic landmarks **0** \_\_\_\_\_ within a decade unless conservationists can effectively archive digital works and stop them degrading.

"The threat is very real that, **1** \_\_\_\_\_, we will have a 'lost generation' in terms of our cultural heritage," said an expert of the School of Creative Technologies, who is leading efforts to save the more complex artworks of the digital age from oblivion. "Past generations captured who they were and what they did via museums and books," he said, "but the pace of technological development in the digital age has now outstripped our capacity for preservation." "Digital preservationists" are campaigning for more shared research and have organised the first of a series of symposiums **2** \_\_\_\_\_.

The fast pace by which technology changes means that many of the earliest works of art created on computer are in danger of being lost, or **3** \_\_\_\_\_, while new interactive digital artworks, such as 3D visualisations and video games, are so complex that scientists are not yet capable of faithfully preserving them.

Digital preservation is desperately important. In technology little things change all the time. Over the course of a 20- or 30-year working life, the software we use is updated or made obsolete all the time, but most of us **4** \_\_\_\_\_. But in terms of science and art, digital preservation is increasingly important.

**5** \_\_\_\_\_ poses more of a challenge to science than continued efforts to restore and conserve the great oil paintings and sculptures of the past. It is a problem already faced by collectors and contemporary art galleries, as formats are updated and CDs, DVDs and digital recordings degrade.

In digital art, the key is to find ways of preserving the colour and visual aspects of a piece of art. If we don't preserve the digital art made today, **6** \_\_\_\_\_ into a world-famous gallery and seeing nothing on the walls, that no art has survived some global meltdown.

A new digital art gallery is to launch in the centre of Cambridge. The chosen section, set up by Anglia Ruskin University inside the Ruskin Gallery, which was opened in 1858, has been fitted with cutting-edge 3D plasma screens to enable digital artists to experiment. But the preservation of this kind of work, in contrast, **7** \_\_\_\_\_.

A digital video artist and senior lecturer in film and media at Anglia Ruskin University, who will be exhibiting at the gallery, points out that **8** \_\_\_\_\_ for their work to have a short lifespan, or at least can



## Reading Part Two

*You are reading an article about an issue in agriculture in the USA. On the basis of the text answer the questions below. Give short answers.  
There is an example for you.*

### Amish Farming Draws Rare Government Inspection

Manure - animal waste used to fertilize land - that accumulates on Amish farms easily washes into nearby streams, then into the troubled Chesapeake Bay. The federal government's work with Amish farmers is part of an initiative of the Environmental Protection Agency (E.P.A.) that wants to restore the bay to good health.

"We are supposed to be stewards of the land," said Simon Zook, a 34-year-old dairy farmer and father of seven whose family, like many other Amish, shuns cars in favor of horse and buggy and lives without electricity. Farmers like Mr. Zook are facing growing inspection for agricultural practices that the federal government sees as environmentally destructive. Their cows generate heaps of manure that easily washes into streams and flows onward into the Chesapeake Bay. Farmers will have to either change the way they farm or face stiff penalties.

"There's much work that needs to be done, and I don't think the whole community understands," said the E.P.A. official leading an effort by the agency to change farming practices here in Lancaster County. Runoff from manure and synthetic fertilizers has polluted the Chesapeake Bay for years, reducing oxygen rates, killing fish and creating a dead zone that has persisted since the 1970s despite off-and-on cleanup efforts. But of the dozens of counties that contribute to the deadly runoff of nitrogen and phosphorus, Lancaster ranks at the top. According to E.P.A. data from 2007, the most recent available, the county generates more than 61 million pounds of manure a year. That is 20 million pounds more than the next highest county on the list of bay polluters, and more than six times that of most other counties.

The challenge for the environmental agency is to steer the farmers toward new practices. The so-called plain-sect families are notoriously wary of outsiders and of the government in particular. But the focus on the plain-sect dairy farmers is unavoidable: they own more than 50 percent of Lancaster County's 5,000-plus farms. For now, the environmental agency's strategy is to approach each farmer individually in collaboration with state and local conservation officials and suggest improvements like fences to prevent livestock from drifting toward streams, buffers that reduce runoff and pits to keep manure stored safely.

"These are real people with their own histories and their own needs and their own culture," said the secretary of environmental protection in Pennsylvania. "It's about treating people right, and in order to treat people right, you've got to be able to start where they are at."

But if that does not work, the government will have to resort to fines and penalties. Mr. Zook said that as the news circulated, some farmers decided on their own to make changes in anticipation of intervention by the agency. Mr. Zook applied for a government grant to help finance construction of a heifer barn with a manure pit. He expects the grant to cover about 70 percent of the cost.

But some Amish farmers were angered by the agency's intrusion and its requirements.

"It's certainly generated controversy," said a farmer in the area. "We wonder whether we are being told what to do, and whether the E.P.A. will make it so that we can't even maintain our farms." He said he had vowed never to accept a government grant. He does have a manure management plan and a manure pit, he said, although several of his neighbors do not.

Mr. Zook hopes he is ahead of the game. By adopting new practices and building the manure pit, he thinks he can both help the environment and steer clear of E.P.A. interference.

At midday, Mr. Zook was placing a bowl of cut fruit into a propane-powered cooler in his backyard, one of the family's few concessions to technology. Hand-washed black pants and plain cotton dresses

fluttered on a clothesline behind him. He offered a taciturn reflection on how quickly things had changed — his willingness to accept the grant, for example.

“A while back, Old Order Amish would not participate in programs like this,” he said, “but farming is getting expensive.”

And then he ended the conversation.

“Is that all?” he said politely but coolly. “I have work to do.”

It was milking time.

<u>Example</u>	What is the bay polluted by? ... <i>manure</i> ...
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1	Why does this issue originate on Amish land?
2	What does the government suspect?
3	What could be the solution?
4	What puts counties lower on the list?
5	Who should the E.P.A. convince in particular?
6	What is expected from the improvements?
7	What’s the key to reach the final result?
8	Why did the news make some farmers act?
9	What is the biggest concern for some farmers?
10	What change has time brought for Amish farming?