Reading!

LO: To retrieve key information from the text to answer questions.

Stanley & Boodgie

DAVID HOCKNEY'S DACHSHUNDS

Although David Hockney was born in chilly, rainy England, since 1964 he has spent most of his life in sunny California. His paintings often capture the sun-drenched swimming pools, villas, and gardens of the rich and beautiful. He often swapped his brushes and pencils for cameras, fax machines, and even his iPad.

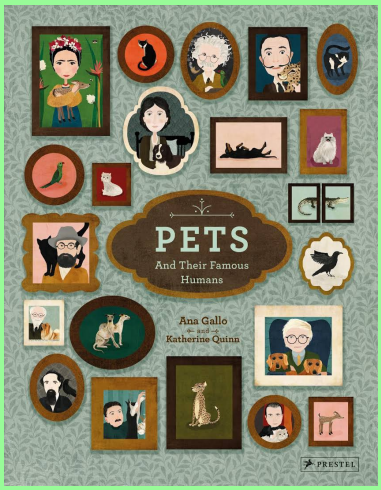
When he first encountered his neighbor's dachshunds in the Hollywood Hills overlooking Los Angeles in the 1980s, he immediately fell in love. From then on, David, Stanley, and Boodgie were always together. David has captured his dachshunds on canvas countless times. He set up easels all over the house to be able to paint the animals in all sorts of poses, whether sleeping, lying, sitting, curled up, paws raised in the air, blinking with one eye, or cuddled up on their dog cushions. Sometimes just one alone and sometimes both together. *Dog Days*, an entire book containing eighty-four of these images, was published in 1998.

As David explains, "These two lovely, little creatures are my friends. They are intelligent, loving, funny and often bored. They watch me at work and I observe the warm shapes that they make together, their sadness and their joys." And Hollywood dogs seem to somehow know that a picture of them is being made. "The two of them, and this is typical of Hollywood dogs, pose with the bored expression of someone who is used to being considered very special." And indeed, Stanley and Boodgie are very special to David!

David Hockney (*1937)
David Hockney was born in Bradford, England. After studying at the Royal College of Art, David embarked on a brilliant career as an artist, graphic designer, photographer, lecturer, and stage designer. He became world famous in the 1960s for his cool, brightly painted images of California. David constantly bowled people over with his use of different techniques, ranging from classic painting styles to photo collages, which he made using his iPhone and iPad.

Brief outline of the text:

David Hockney was born in Saltaire, Bradford and was a famous painter. This text is an extract taken from "Pets and their famous owners" by Ana Gallo. This book tells you all about famous people, from the point of view of their pets.



Glossary:

1. sun-drenched - hot and sunny
2. fax machine - a machine that can scan a piece of paper in one place, and send it somewhere else so it can be printed out else where.
3. dachshunds - a type of small dog, often known as a sausage dog.
4. canvas - material that people often paint on.
5. observe - watch/look at.

Questions:

1. When was David Hockney born?
2. How is England described?
3. Where does David Hockney live?
4. What are David's dogs called?
5. Why are David's dogs so important to him?

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