



Document

Should we send graffiti artists to jail?

1 An online campaign is calling for the release¹ of Krek and Mers, two graffiti artists jailed² for causing £13,000 of damage to railway trains and bridges.

Thomas Dolan, 20, and Thomas Whittaker, 18, were jailed for 15 and 12 months respectively last month after admitting to causing damage of around £13,000 to trains and bridges in Greater

5 Manchester. A campaign to free them has attracted hundreds of supportive messages online – though a proportion of posters feel the pair's sentence was fair.

The campaign to free them has a Facebook presence. [...] Around 200 skateboarders held a rally at the weekend to call for the release of the two, who are known by their tags, Krek and Mers.

The judge said ahead of sentencing that they were “decent people who have talent” but had damaged

10 property and had to be deterred³.

Their supporters argue that there must have been a better way of punishing them.

One aspect of the debate is the classic question of whether graffiti is art. Some posters, such as Andy on the BBC website, argue that there are talented artists like Banksy but also “vandals” and taggers who “unfortunately give the art a bad name”.

15 He feels, though, that prison is not the right answer for Dolan and Whittaker and that vandals should be educated “with the money saved from [putting people in] prison”.

Mark Oliver, 18/09/2007

1. release = liberation - 2. jailed = sent to jail, to prison - 3. deterred = stopped

Questions

Lis le texte ci-dessus, puis réponds aux questions en français (sauf quand on te demande de citer le texte).

① Ce texte est... : ☐ un extrait de roman ☐ un article de journal ☐ une pétition 0 0.5 1 / 1 pt

Comment le sais-tu ?

② Que signifie le titre du texte ? 0 0.5 1 / 1 pts

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3 a. Quel est le lien entre “Krek and Mers” et “Thomas Nolan and Thomas Whitaker” ?
Qui sont-ils ? 0 0.5 1 1.5 2 / 2 pts

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Relis bien la ligne 8 si tu as du mal à répondre à cette question.

b. Où habitent-ils ? 0 0.5 1 /1 pt

a. Qu’ont-ils fait ? 0 0.5 1 /1 pt

4 Quelles sont les personnes qui donnent leur avis sur l’événement ?

Souligne-les en bleu dans le texte, puis reporte les noms dans ce tableau et finis de le remplir.
S’il n’y a rien mettre dans « leurs arguments » marque « Ø »
(il ne faut pas mentionner Krek and Mers)

Personnes	Pour ou contre une peine de prison ?	Leurs arguments (explique en français 0.5 p et cite les passages pour justifier) 0.5 p	Points
			0 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 /3 pts
			0 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 /3 pts
			0 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 /3 pts
			0 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 /3 pts

5 Quel éternel débat se pose à nouveau à l’occasion de cet incident ? 0 0.5 1 1.5 2 /2 pts

Explique, puis justifie en citant le texte.

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