



Jan Van Eyck (1390-1441) was a Dutch artist. He was called "The King of Painters" in his time because he was brilliant at using oil paints. His technique working with oil gave his art works a three-dimensional appearance. Van Eyck painted portraits of people and his pictures are very detailed. The colours in his paintings are delicate and bright.

The Arnolfini Marriage is one of the most original and complex oil paintings in art history. It is a portrait of the two people in the picture and it is also a record of their marriage in 1434.

In this painting, all the objects in the room suggest the Arnolfini couple was moneyed. For example, there are some oranges in the picture. Oranges and lemons were very expensive in that time because they were imported from Spain.

In the middle of the painting there's the artist signature. Can you see the circular mirror with some words above it? If you look closely, the writing says: "Jan Van Eyck was here" in Latin.

Circle the correct answer:

1. Jan Van Eyck lived...
 - a. about 50 years.
 - b. 49 years.
 - c. 52 years.

2. Jan Van Eyck was...
 - a. from Italy.
 - b. from Denmark.
 - c. from The Netherlands.

3. Jan Van Eyck...
 - a. painted portraits.
 - b. painted landscapes.
 - c. painted abstract pictures.