

ART CLASS

“Hallo. We spoke on the phone. Miranda, yes. Good to meet you. Shall I put my easel here? I’ll move that person over a bit – give me a bit more space. Oh. well, you set it up where you like then but I need bags of room. No, good heavens, no I’m not a beginner. Well I haven’t been to an art class before, if that’s what you mean. But I’ve been painting since 1998. I went with Jeremy to the Summer Exhibition and said ‘good heavens, I could do that!’ So he bought me all the equipment and well look, I’ll show you on my phone. This one. Jeremy adores it. Don’t you just love it? Hm, maybe the boat’s not quite right but I think I’ve got the sky, don’t you? Then I tried this – our cat – but she wouldn’t keep still long enough. I like to paint flowers most of all. I’ve just got a gift for them. No, they are certainly not roses. Everyone does roses. Peonies, but they were going over a bit there, see? I did roses once. Here. Yellow ones. Hard to get the yellow just right though. I went in and out of so many art shops but they’ve never got the right colours. You cannot believe how many colours I have. That’s one of the things I hope to learn. Where to buy the right colours. The colour wheel? Well who hasn’t heard of it? It’s in all the dozens and dozens of art books I’ve bought but I don’t see the point of it. I mean if you can buy a tube why mix it? That’s what is wrong with the world today. Nobody wants to take things as they are - they have to ----- No thank you, I don’t need to paint my own wheel. I’ve got plenty of them, if I want one, in those books at home. Are they really? Look, shall I start by drawing them all painting their little wheels? No, I can’t actually do figures, in fact I’m a little weak on drawing but I’ve got to do something till they catch up. Look, Mr Peters, I’m not doing the damn colour wheel. I think we’ve started off on the wrong foot. Look, maybe it would be better if I joined your advanced class.”

395 words