

## Unit 6: Art Matters

### Adjective Clauses

Sentences with adjective clauses are a type of complex sentence. The connecting words for subject adjective clauses are *who*, *that*, and *which*. Adjective clauses modify nouns, for example:

1. Vincent van Gogh, who lived from 1853 to 1890, . . . (information about van Gogh)
2. The van Gogh painting that many people recognize . . . (information about the painting)
3. . . . *Starry Night*, which shows a night-time street scene . . . (information about *Starry Night*)

**A** Look at the facts about Vincent van Gogh. Then read the paragraph.

**Artist's name:** Vincent van Gogh

**Native country:** The Netherlands

**Lived:** 1853–1890

**Art form:** painting

**Artistic style:** expressionistic

**Personal style:** bold colors and strong brushstrokes

**Famous piece:** *Starry Night*

Vincent van Gogh, who lived from 1853 to 1890, painted in the expressionistic style, which tried to reveal human emotions through images of people, landscapes, and other scenes. The van Gogh painting that many people recognize is called *Starry Night*, which shows a night-time street scene with bright colors swirling around the streetlights and stars. The bold colors and strong brushstrokes that van Gogh used make his paintings unique and instantly recognizable.

**B** Look at the quick facts about Lola Álvarez Bravo and then write a descriptive paragraph about her in your notebook. Make sure your paragraph has a topic sentence and supporting sentences. Show relationships between ideas by using compound and complex sentences, including subject adjective clauses.

**Artist's name:** Lola Álvarez Bravo

**Native country:** Mexico

**Lived:** 1907–1993

**Art form:** black-and-white photography

**Famous piece:** portrait of the painter Frida Kahlo looking into a mirror

**Artistic style:** realistic

**Personal style:** pictures of daily life and people—famous and ordinary—in Mexico

#### Writing Tips

1. We don't use commas when the information in the adjective clause is needed to identify the noun, for example: *The woman who called me had a very deep voice.* In this case, the adjective clause tells us which woman (out of all the women in the world) called.
2. We do need commas when the information in the adjective clause is not needed to identify the noun, for example: *My English teacher, who studied at Yale, gives very tough writing assignments.* In this case, we know you mean your English teacher and no one else.