

Name:

Day One

Who Are the Vandals?

Part 1: Silent read

➔ Why do some students destroy their schools? Read silently.

“Oh my gosh!” “Did you see the library?” Teachers arrived early at Clinton Middle School. Right away they could see something bad had happened. Someone had broken in over the weekend. In the auditorium, seats and drapes had been slashed. Floor wax was dumped on the library carpet. Books were soaked with cleaning fluid.

Vandalism is property damage that is done on purpose. Schools that are large or run-down are often targeted. Schools without houses nearby are vandalized more. Poorly lit buildings are targets for vandals. And vandalism is more common in schools with other behavior issues.

Everyone is affected by vandalism. Students feel disrespected, and teachers feel that their work doesn't matter. Repair costs can drain money from arts and sports. At Clinton, library and drama classes were canceled for months. Vandalized schools get a bad reputation.

Who are the vandals? Seventh grade is the peak age. Vandals are most often boys. Bored students and students with poor grades vandalize more.

What may start as a prank can get out of hand quickly. Drugs and alcohol are often part of the story. Teens who are high will behave in a reckless way. Actions can spiral out of control.

Peer pressure is often part of vandalism. Teens may do things in a group that they would never try on their own. What are your ideas about dealing with vandalism?



Day One

// one minute

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Part 2: First timed read

WPM _____

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Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

How does vandalism hurt a school?

What kinds of students vandalize more?

Day One

Who Are the Vandals?

Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

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I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.