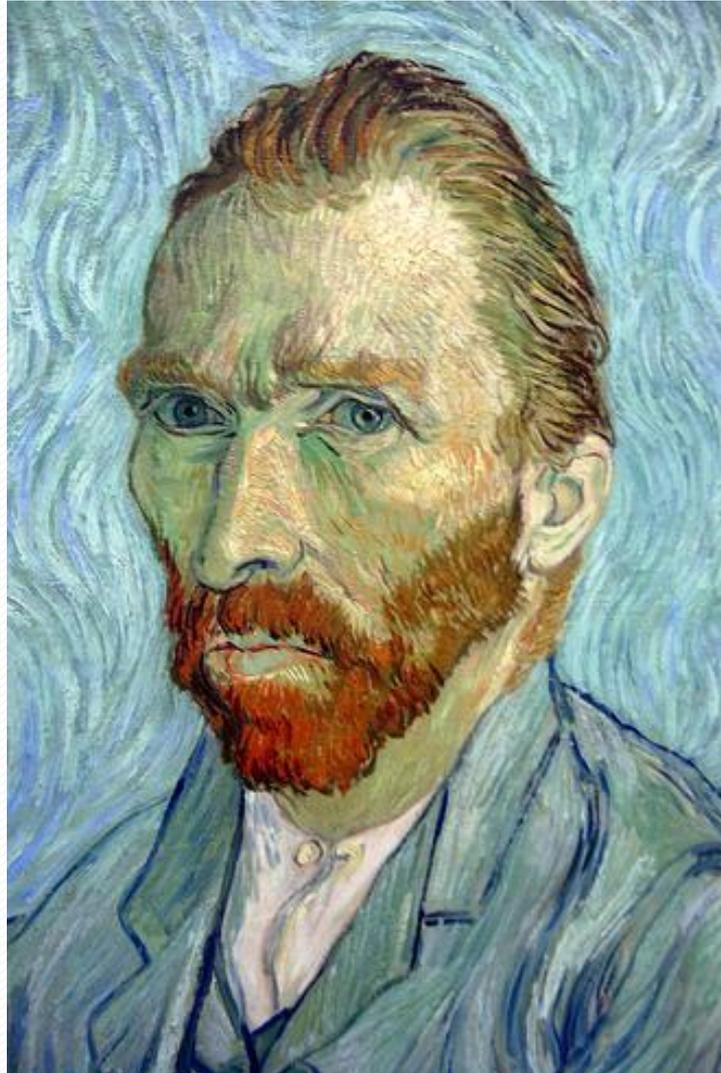
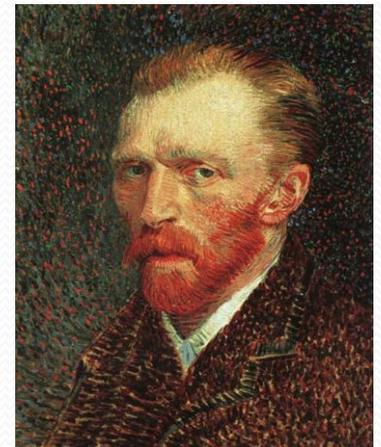
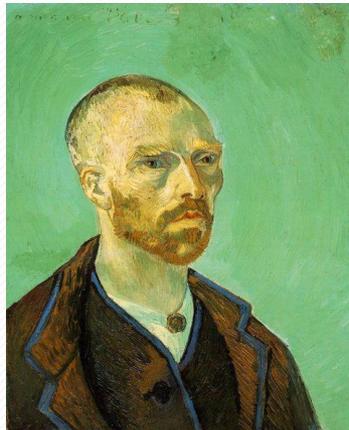
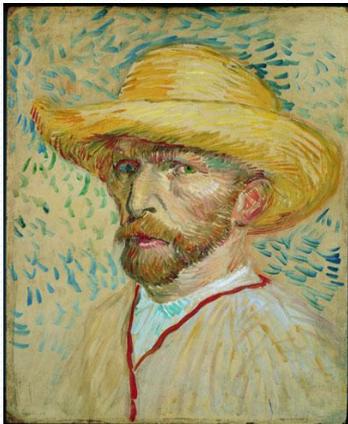


# Vincent van Gogh



# Who was Vincent van Gogh?

- Vincent van Gogh was one of the most tragic artists who ever lived.
- Nothing ever seemed to go right for him and he wasn't very happy.
- He never smiled – just look at some of his self – portraits !



# Background Information

- He was born in Holland in 1853 and died in France in 1890 (He was only 37 years old!)
- Unlike most artists, van Gogh didn't decide to become a painter until he was grown up.



# He tried a LOT of things such as...

- Working in a gallery....
- As a teacher.....
- Working in a bookstore.....
- As a preacher like his Dad...



**..then FINALLY – an artist !**



- Van Gogh's first paintings were mostly of poor people.
- The colours in his early paintings are **DARK** and **SAD**



**Two Women in the Peat,**  
1883,  
Oil on Canvas

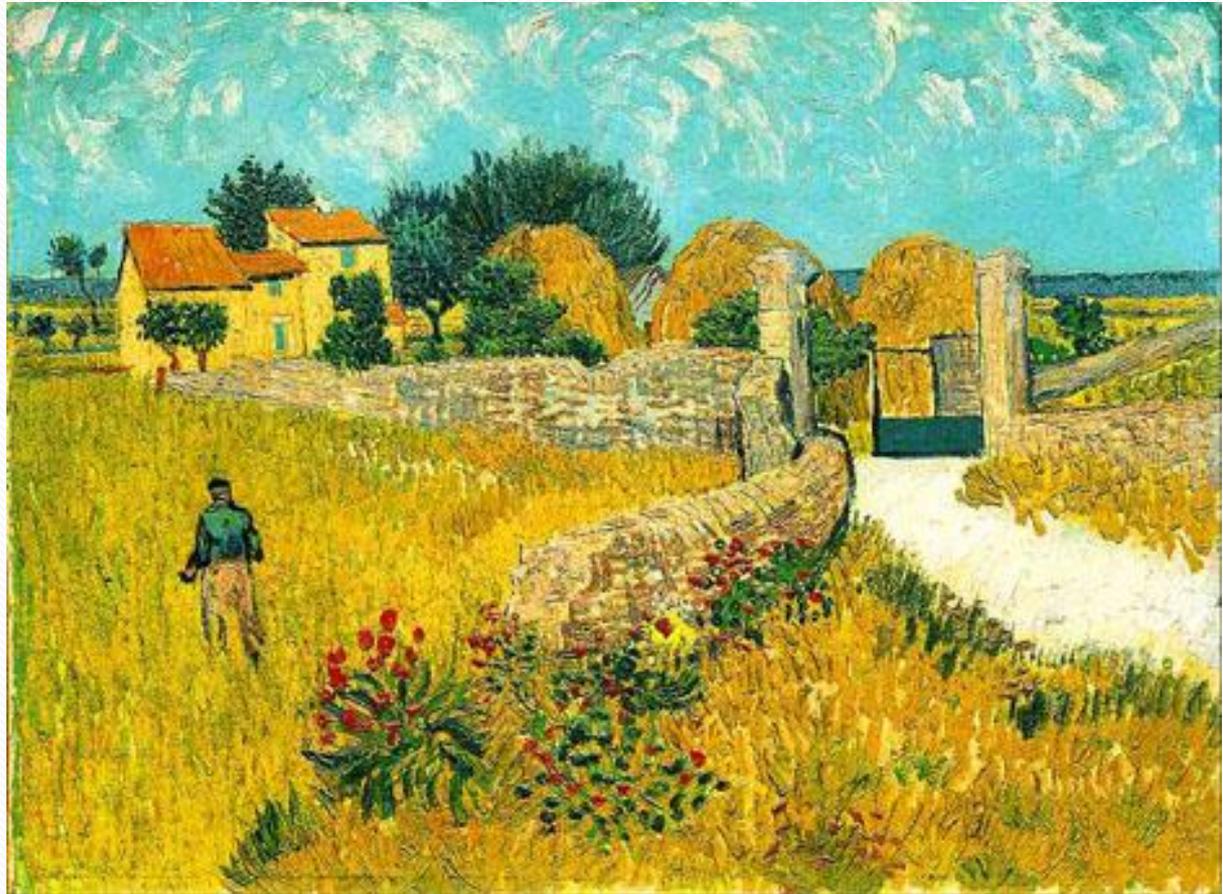
- He wanted everyone to know how hard the lives of the poor people were.



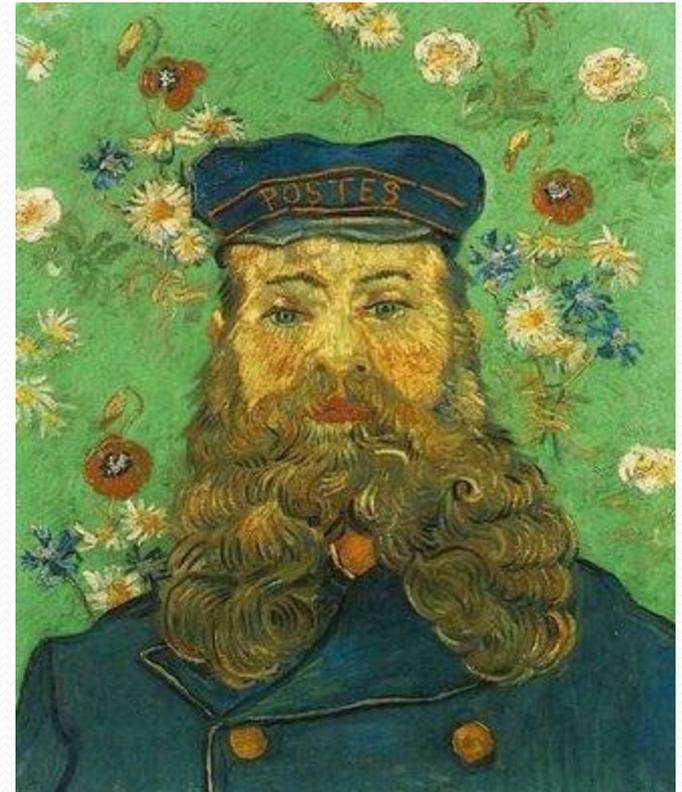
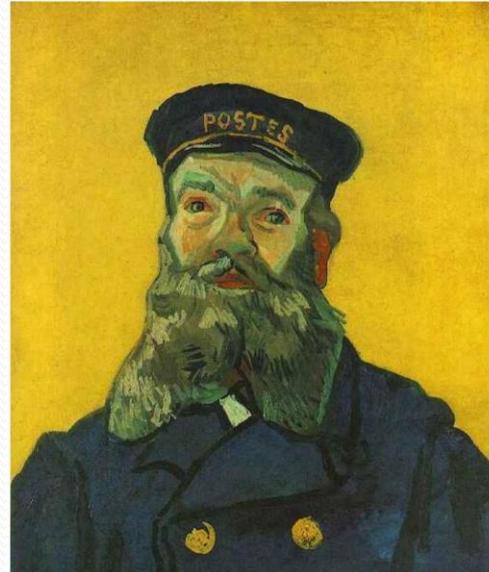
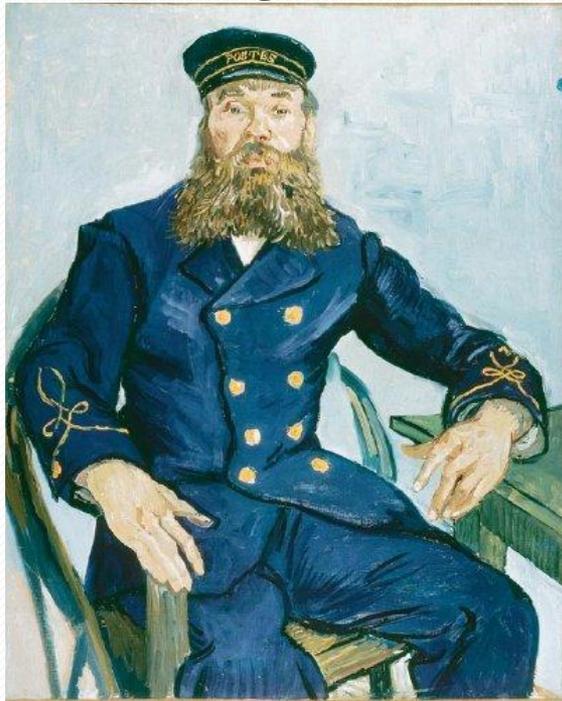
**Potato Eaters,**  
1885,  
Oil on Canvas

- He discovered colourful Japanese artwork, and loved the bright, strong colours.
- Soon his paintings started to look much more colourful!

**Farmhouse in Provence,**  
1888,  
Oil on Canvas



- We know a lot about how van Gogh felt, because he was ALWAYS writing letters to his younger brother, Theo.
- He got to know the postman pretty well!



- His brother Theo, encouraged Vincent and sent him money when he could.
- Vincent eventually moved to France to join Theo, and Theo introduced him to a lot of painters. (Including Pissarro, Seurat, & Gauguin !)



- He later moved to a small country town called Arles.
- He tried hard to get other artists to join him, but the only one to try was Paul Gauguin.
- It turned out to be a big mistake, and eventually Gauguin left.

**Bedroom at Arles,**  
1888,  
Oil on Canvas

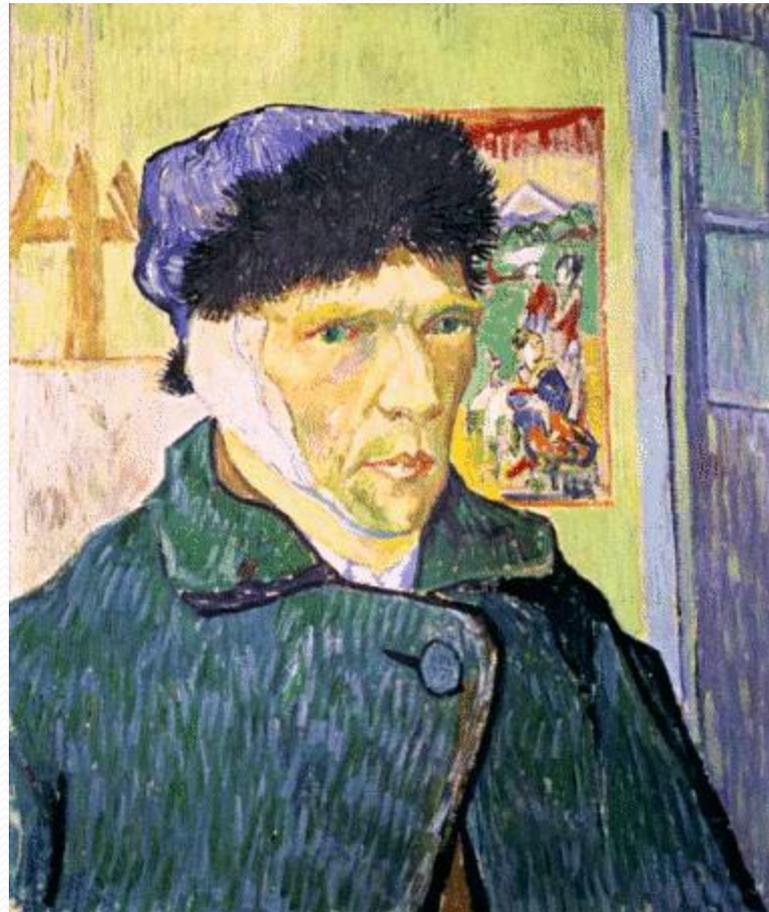


- Van Gogh always had problems during his life with the way he felt.
- One time he became so angry and upset that he cut off part of his ear!

**Self-Portrait with  
Bandaged Ear,**  
1889,  
Oil on Canvas

*In this picture, it is his  
right ear that is bandaged,  
but he cut his LEFT ear.*

Why do you think this is?



# About his Art...

- Van Gogh usually put on his paint VERY THICK. Sometimes he used paint right out of the tub, and used a palette knife instead of a brush!



- He was really good at using COLOUR to create mood and feelings
- He also used a lot of different types of LINES in his paintings!

**Olive Trees,**  
1889,  
Oil on Canvas



- His brushstrokes give a feeling of MOVEMENT.



**Starry Night,**  
1889,  
Oil on Canvas

- Hardly anyone was interested in van Gogh's work when he was alive.
- He only actually sold 1 painting, and often had to give them away as payment (if they would accept them!)



**Wheatfield with  
Crows,**  
1890,  
Oil on Canvas

*This is believed to be  
his LAST painting.*

**How do you think  
he was feeling?**

*Soon after this  
painting was finished,  
he shot himself. He  
died 2 days later*

- More than any other artist, van Gogh's feelings came out in his paintings. This is why he is one of the World's greatest artists.
- Lets see some more examples of his work.....

