

If you looked at Esref Armagan's paintings of trees, skies, or a fish playing a cello, you would never guess that the painter is blind. Armagan was born without sight in Istanbul in 1953. He grew up in a poor family and never went to school. But as long as he can remember, he loved to draw, and he has developed his ability over the years.

So, how does he create his paintings? First, Armagan learns about what he will paint. He touches it (if possible), studies it, and he asks friends to describe the colors and the shading. Then, he etches an outline of his drawing using a Braille stylus pen*. When Armagan is ready, he applies* oil paint with his fingers and leaves it to dry completely before applying a new color. This unique method is used so that colors do not mix. While creating, Armagan requires total silence.

In 2004, two researchers invited him to Harvard as a study case. They took scans of Armagan's brain and eyes while he drew. His brain's visual cortex*, usually inactive in the visually impaired*, behaved as if he really was seeing. An inexperienced researcher might assume Armagan really could see.

Armagan's works have received praise in galleries across Europe and in New York, not just because they were painted by a blind person, but because they are extremely good. "No one can call me blind," he says. "I can see more with my fingers than sighted people can see with their eyes."

(252 words)

🕒 本文を読むのにかった時間 ()分 ()秒=()秒

NOTES

1.9 Braille stylus pen 点字作成用ペン

1.9 apply ...を塗る

1.13 visual cortex 視覚野

1.14 the visually impaired 視覚障害者

1 Fill in the blanks with suitable options below to fit the text. (2点×4=8点)

- Armagan was [] at birth.
 (a) sighted (b) weak-sighted (c) blind (d) sick
- When Armagan paints in oil, he uses [].
 (a) special brushes (b) his fingers (c) palette knife
 (d) Braille stylus pen
- While Armagan is creating a work, he needs [].
 (a) to be alone (b) an assistant (c) music
 (d) absolute quiet
- According to a test, while Armagan drew, his brain looked like he [].
 (a) was actually seeing (b) was seriously ill (c) was listening carefully
 (d) could see nothing

2 According to the text, which statement is true? [] (2点)

- If you look at Armagan's paintings, you can tell that the painter is blind.
- When Armagan decides he will paint something, he studies it in his own way before starting.
- Armagan had a thorough physical examination at Harvard in 2004.
- Armagan says that he can draw a picture better than people who can see.



読解速度を計算してみよう

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{読む速度 (1分で読む語数)} \\
 \frac{252 \text{語} \times 60 \text{秒}}{(\quad) \text{秒}^*} \times \frac{\text{理解度}}{10 \text{点}} = \frac{\text{読解速度}}{(\quad) \text{語/分}}
 \end{array}$$

*本文を読むのにかった時間 *Score

👑 目標 96語/分