

# Trevi Fountain water turned black by climate activists

- 1 8 climate activists in Rome poured charcoal into the Trevi Fountain, one of the most visited tourist attractions in the world, and turned the water black on May 21<sup>st</sup>. The protesters from the Ultima Generazione (Last Generation) group held up banners, “We won’t pay for fossil (fuels),” and shouted, “Our country is dying.”
- 2 They claimed that the climate crisis is the reason for the deadly floods in Emilia-Romagna in Northern Italy, and called for an immediate stop to public subsidies for fossil fuels.
- 3 On May 17<sup>th</sup>, 14 people died and 36,000 people were forced to evacuate the region due to the flood. Many of those who remained in flooded areas were left without electricity. It caused billions of euros worth of damage and hit agriculture particularly hard.
- 4 The group says, ①“No damage was committed to the fountain, nor has any damage been done to past sites of protest by the group. But what has been damaged is the cultural heritage in Emilia-Romagna.” The group has organized several acts of civil disobedience, such as spraying artworks and blocking highways.
- 5 Rome Mayor Roberto Gualtieri tweeted, “Enough of these absurd attacks on our artistic heritage. Today the #FontanadiTrevi was smeared.” He told the local media that the 300,000 liters of water would have to be emptied and the dyed water would have to be thrown away. “②It will cost time, effort and water.”
- 6 The Trevi fountain is a must see in Rome. It was designed by Nicola Salvi and completed by Giuseppe Pannini in 1762. According to a legend, those who toss coins into its water will return to Rome. All of the money thrown into the fountain goes to charity. 1,200 people visit the Trevi Fountain every hour.

the Trevi Fountain トレヴィの泉    climate 気候    pour 注ぐ    charcoal 木炭    fossil fuel 化石燃料    claim 主張  
する    deadly 死者をもたらすほどの    flood 洪水    crisis 危機    subsidy 補助金    evacuate～:～を避難する  
agriculture 農業    be committed to～:～に深く関わっている    cultural heritage 文化遺産    organize 組織する  
civil disobedience 市民的不服従    (I’ve had)enough of ～!:～はもうたくさんだ!    absurd 馬鹿げた    smear 汚す

Q1 What is the name of the group that made the water of the Trevi Fountain black on May 21<sup>st</sup>?

Q2 What did they pour into the water?



Q3 What did the climate activists try to tell the government through this terror act?

Q4 Why did so many people die in Emilia-Romagna on May 17<sup>th</sup>?

Q5 What do you think about the statement ①?

Q6 ローマ市長が②のように発言していますが、“It”とは具体的に何をすることを指しますか。

Q7 トレヴィの泉には、どのような伝説がありますか。

	Watch: Climate activists pour black liquid into Rome’s Trevi Fountain/NBC News ★環境活動家により、トレヴィの泉が汚染されている映像です。
	G20 leaders toss coin into Trevi Fountain 2021 年 10 月にローマで行われた G20 サミットで、首脳たちがトレヴィの泉に   ユーロ硬貨を投げた。(岸田首相は衆議院選挙のため欠席)

# What are “eco-terrorism”?

7 Art masterpieces have been attacked worldwide by eco-terrorists who have a perverted sense of justice. Under the guise of environmental activism, they destroy artworks, saying ③“Which is more important, artworks or human lives?”

8 In October, 2022, two climate protesters from Ultima Generazione (Last Generation) threw mashed potatoes at Monet’s “Les Meules” at the Barberini Museum in Germany in a protest against fossil fuel extraction. They justified their attack by saying, “Expensive art will be useless in the future when food is scarce.”

9 In the same month, two climate protesters threw tomato soup over Van Gogh's “Sunflowers” at the National Gallery in London. They are from the group ④“Just Stop Oil”, the group which wants the British government to stop new oil and gas projects.

10 Just Stop Oil has drawn criticism for targeting artworks in museums. Back in May 2022, Leonardo Da Vinci’s “Mona Lisa” was attacked with a cake. In July, two activists glued themselves to Sandro Botticelli’s “Spring” at Uffizi Gallery in Florence, and also to the frame of Leonardo da Vinci’s “The Last Supper” at London’s Royal Academy of Arts, and to John Constable’s “The Hay Wain” in the National Gallery. The group has also blocked bridges and intersections across London during two weeks of protests.

※Fortunately, all the artworks were covered with glass, so they were not damaged.

masterpiece 傑作    perverted sense of justice 歪んだ正義感    under the guise of～:～を装って

“Les Meules”積みわら    extraction 抽出    justify 正当化する    scarce 乏しい    glue oneself to～:自分の体の一部分を、接着剤で～にくっつける    Florence フィレンツェ    “The Hay Wain”乾草の車    intersection 交差点

Q8 What do eco-terrorists do?

Q9 How do you answer to the question ②?

Q10 In October, 2022, what did two eco-terrorists throw at Monet’s “Les Meules”?

Q11 What is the purpose of their act?



Q12 What did eco-terrorists throw over Van Gogh's “Sunflowers” at the National Gallery in London?

Q13 下線④の団体の活動目的を説明しましょう。

Q14 What did the members of “Just Stop Oil” do to Leonardo Da Vinci’s “Mona Lisa” in May 2022?

Q15 Name three artworks that the members of “Just Stop Oil” glued themselves to.

Q16 Please give examples of the acts of civil disobedience of “Just Stop Oil” except for attacking artworks.

	Climate Activists Throw Mashed Potatoes on Claude Monet's "Les Meules" Painting (CBS Miami) 環境活動家たち、モネの『積みわら』にテロ行為
	Climate protesters throw soup on Van Gogh painting (Washington Post) 環境活動家たち、ゴッホの『ひまわり』にテロ行為

11 Sky News host James Macpherson says, “The climate activists have turned the water in Rome’s Trevi Fountain black in an act of senseless vandalism. How stupid they are to think that the best way to make the world cleaner is to contaminate water!?” ⑤Fighting pollution with pollution doesn’t make sense. Vandalism is not protesting.”

senseless 無分別な vandalism 破壊行為 contaminate 汚染する pollution 汚染 make sense 筋が通る・道理にかなう ★今日のニュースで学んだ言葉( )

Q17 Sky News の司会者の James Macpherson 氏の発言⑤について：“Fighting pollution with pollution”とありますが、1 つ目と 2 つ目の pollution は、具体的に何を指していますか。

Q18 James Macpherson says that vandalism is not protesting. How can we make a protest against the environmental pollution? Please give your idea.

★参考動画

	Climate protester throws cake at Mona Lisa painting (CTV News) 環境活動家たち、レオナルド・ダ・ヴィンチの『モナ・リザ』にテロ行為
	Italian Climate Activists Glue Hands to Botticelli Painting (Voice of America) 環境活動家たち、ボッティチェリの『春』にテロ行為
	‘Stupid’: Climate ‘bedwetters’ turn Trevi Fountain black during protest 11 段落に出てきた James Macpherson 氏の番組です。彼の全スピーチ(4 分半)を聞くことができます。

★次の文を3回以上読んで、暗唱しましょう。

1. Climate activists in Rome poured charcoal into the Trevi Fountain to protest against fossil fuels.
  2. They claimed that the climate crisis is the reason for the deadly floods in Emilia-Romagna.
  3. "Enough of these absurd attacks on our artistic heritage. Today the #FontanadiTrevi was smeared."
  4. Under the guise of environmental activism, they destroy artworks, saying "Which is more important, artworks or human lives?"
  5. "Fighting pollution with pollution doesn't make sense. Vandalism is not protesting."
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(和訳)

1. ローマ市の環境活動家達が、化石燃料に講義するため、トレヴィの泉に炭を注ぎ入れた。
2. 彼らは、気候危機こそがイタリア北部エミリア・ロマーニャ州の恐ろしい洪水を起こした理由だと主張している。
3. 「このような芸術的遺産への愚かな攻撃は、もうたくさんだ。今日、トレヴィの泉が汚された」  
(ローマ市長のツイートより)
4. 環境活動と見せかけて、彼らは「芸術作品と人間の命、どっちが大事なんだ？」と言いながら芸術作品を破壊する。
5. 「汚染行為によって汚染と戦うなど、意味がない。破壊行為は、抗議活動ではない」  
(スカイニュースの司会者 James Mcpherson 氏の発言より)