

## A look at English Art

### C Group: self-portrait

#### A. Answer the following questions:

1. What is portrayed in these pictures?
2. Why do you think there are two dogs behind the artist? (*Read the biography...*)
3. In the first picture where is the artist looking at? And where are the dogs looking at?
4. What kind of person do you think the artist is? A serious one? A funny person? Sad? Why?
5. *What do these pictures have in common?*
6. *What are the differences between these pictures?*
7. Nowadays everybody can do something similar to a self-portrait with a smartphone. What is that?
8. Like a painter who paints a self-portrait, a novelist can write a biography about himself choosing what to tell and what to omit. What am I talking about?

**B.** Write a brief explanation of the pictures using the answers and share it with your classmates.

**C.** Everybody write a (very) short autobiography, choosing the most important things.

Sir Edwin (Henry) Landseer was an English painter. He was born in London in 1802 and died in 1873. He was famous for his paintings of animals, his favourite subjects were dogs, monkeys, horses and deer. He is also famous for lion sculptures in Trafalgar square (a very important place in London).

He is so famous for his paintings that a breed of dog takes its name from him. The Landseer in fact is a particular kind of Newfoundland (Terranova).

He also worked many times for the Royal Family, often painting their beloved pets.