How might some of the exhibits have been dangerous?

Modern sculpture rarely surprises us anymore.

The idea that modern art can only be seen in museums is mistaken.

Even people who take no interest in art cannot have failed to notice examples of modern sculpture on display in public places.

Strange forms stand in gardens, and outside buildings and shops.

We have gotten quite used to them.

Some so-called 'modern' pieces have been on display for nearly eighty years.

In spite of this, some people—including myself—were surprised by a recent exhibition of modern sculpture.

The first thing I saw when J entered the art gallery was a notice which said: 'Do not touch the exhibits. Some of them are dangerous!'

The objects on display were pieces of moving sculpture.

Oddly shaped forms that are suspended from the ceiling and move in response to a gust of wind are quite familiar to everybody.

These objects, however, were different.

Lined up against the wall, there were long, thin wires attached to metal spheres.

The spheres had been magnetized and attracted or repelled each other all the time.

In the centre of the hall, there were a number of tall structures which contained coloured lights.

These lights flickered continuously like traffic lights which have gone mad.

Sparks were emitted from small black boxes and red lamps flashed on and off angrily.

It was rather like an exhibition of prehistoric electronic equipment.

These peculiar forms not only seemed designed to shock people emotionally, but to give them electric shocks as well!

On entering the art gallery, the writer saw a notice which forbade people to touch the exhibits because they were dangerous.

The exhibition consisted of pieces of moving sculpture.

Against a wall, the writer saw long, thin wires attached to metal spheres which attracted and repelled each other.

In the centre of the hall were tall structures containing coloured lights which went on and off.

Sparks were emitted from small black boxes and red lamps flashed on and off.

Recently, I went to the Royal Academy in London to see the summer exhibition.

The work of many artists was on display and the exhibition aroused a lot of public interest.

Crowds of people filled the galleries.

The pictures were, with a few exceptions, mainly by relatively unknown artists.

Many of them were traditional pictures of landscapes and portraits.

I particularly liked a picture of an old farmhouse by a stream with a few sheep in a field.

The strangest picture I saw was an untitled abstract painting by a well-known modern artist.

It consisted of swirls of different colours which had been rubbed into the canvas with the artist's fingers.

The picture looked a mess, but was also very effective, attracting a lot of comments.

I couldn't help overhearing what people said, things like 'I could paint a picture like that with my eyes shut' or 'Look how perfect the sunset is in that painting. I'd love to own a picture like that', and so on.

There is no doubt it was an excellent exhibition because there were so many different styles on display.

There was something to suit everyone, but only if you could afford the high prices!

I'll pay the bill.

He never pays his bills.

He owns a donkey.

I own two donkeys.

You'll wake up the baby.

Babies often cry.

Will he try again?

He never tries very hard.

Modern sculpture rarely surprises us anymore because even if not in museums, we see it in and around other public places.

What surprised the writer when he visited a recent exhibition of modern sculpture? The way in which electrical energy was used to produce mobile effects.

The pieces of sculpture on display at the exhibition were such that one could not pass them unnoticed, though it seemed wiser to pass them untouched.

'Modern' pieces were first on display nearly eighty years ago.

The notice prohibited people from touching the exhibits.

There were a number of tall structures illuminated in different colors.