

Still Life: Capturing the Moment with Zara

Look closely, paint boldly, and bring the ordinary to life!

- A still life is an artwork featuring inanimate objects, such as fruit, flowers, or everyday items, arranged carefully by the artist.
- Composition is the way you arrange your objects on the page; try placing them at different heights to make your drawing more interesting.
- To create the illusion of 3D, observe where the light source is hitting your object and mark the brightest part as your 'highlight'.
- Shadows are your best friend! Use a darker pencil or paint to create depth on the side of the object furthest away from the light.
- Texture is how a surface feels; use short, scratchy marks for rough surfaces and smooth, blended colours for shiny objects like a glass or an apple.

Did you know? Did you know? Still life artists often use 'foreshortening' to make objects look like they are popping out of the page! By carefully placing shadows, you can trick the eye into thinking a flat drawing has real depth and weight.

Key vocabulary: Composition · Perspective · Highlight · Shadow · Texture · Foreground · Background