

Artistic Landscapes: The Lowry Style

Learning objective: To explore the artistic style of L.S. Lowry and apply his techniques of perspective, figure drawing, and colour palette to create an original industrial scene.

Follow the steps below to create your own Lowry-inspired masterpiece. Zara the Zebra has been studying Lowry's work and suggests focusing on simple shapes and a limited colour palette.

Draw: Create an industrial scene on A4 paper. Use a pencil to sketch tall, thin matchstick figures walking in different directions. Draw rows of terraced houses and tall factory chimneys reaching towards the top of your page. Use a limited colour palette of white, black, red, yellow, and blue to fill in your shapes. Ensure your figures in the foreground are much larger than the buildings in the background to show depth.



Label words: Matchstick figures · Industrial landscape · Perspective · Background · Foreground · Chimneys · Smog

Steps:

1. Identify one colour from the limited palette Lowry often used. Why do you think he chose a limited palette instead of every colour in the rainbow?
2. Step 1: Draw a faint horizontal line across your paper, three-quarters of the way up, to act as your horizon. How does a high horizon line change the perspective of your drawing?

3. Step 2: Add several simple, rectangular buildings in the distance. Label these 'Background'.
4. Step 3: Draw five 'matchstick figures' in the foreground. Make them larger than the buildings in the distance to show they are closer to the viewer. Label these 'Foreground'.
5. Step 4: Add smoke coming from the chimneys. Why is it important to keep your figures simple when drawing in Lowry's style?