Exploring Abstract Art: Year 4 Assessment

Learning objective: To demonstrate knowledge of abstract art techniques, the use of colour and shape, and the ability to interpret artistic expression.

Read each question carefully. Use the provided word bank to help you express your ideas clearly. Ensure your answers reflect your understanding of abstract principles.

Abstract art does not try to look like real-life objects or people. Instead, artists use shapes, colours, and lines to create a feeling or an idea. Zara the zebra loves abstract art because she can show her mood through swirling patterns and bright splashes of paint. When you look at an abstract painting, you might see something different to your friend, and that is what makes it exciting!

Word bank: composition · vibrant · geometric · organic · expression · contrast · texture · interpretation · mood · abstract

1. What is the main difference between a realistic painting and an abstract painting? (2 marks)

2. Identify two elements artists might use to create an abstract piece of work. (2 marks)

3. Zara uses 'vibrant' colours in her work. Explain how using bright or contrasting colours can change the mood of a painting. (3 marks)

4. Why might two people look at the same piece of abstract art and describe it in completely different ways? (3 marks)

5. Look at a piece of art that uses only geometric shapes (like squares and triangles). How does this differ from art that uses organic, flowing lines? (4 marks)

6. Extended Writing: Imagine you are an artist creating an abstract piece to represent the feeling of 'Joy'. Describe your painting. What shapes, colours, and textures would you use, and why did you choose them to represent that feeling? (6 marks)

7. Define the word 'composition' in your own words as it relates to art. (2 marks)

8. Name one artist or artistic movement you have studied and one technique they used. (3 marks)

Draw: In the space below, create a small abstract composition. Use at least three different geometric shapes and two contrasting colours to express the feeling of 'Energy'.

Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Write a short poem to accompany your drawing, focusing on how the colours make the viewer feel.