

Year 4 Art Assessment: The Abstract World of Wassily Kandinsky

Learning objective: To demonstrate knowledge of Wassily Kandinsky's artistic style, his use of geometric shapes, and the relationship between colour and sound.

Read each question carefully. Zara the zebra is looking for your expert artistic knowledge! Use the word bank to help you complete your answers.

Wassily Kandinsky was a famous artist who believed that painting could be like music. He often painted 'abstract' art, which does not show realistic objects like trees or houses. Instead, he used geometric shapes like circles, triangles, and squares, and bright, vibrant colours to express his feelings. He experienced a condition called 'synaesthesia', which meant he could 'hear' colours as if they were musical notes.

Word bank: Abstract · Synaesthesia · Geometric · Composition · Primary · Emotion · Vibrant

1. Explain what the term 'abstract art' means in your own words. (2 marks)

2. Name two geometric shapes that Kandinsky frequently used in his paintings. (2 marks)

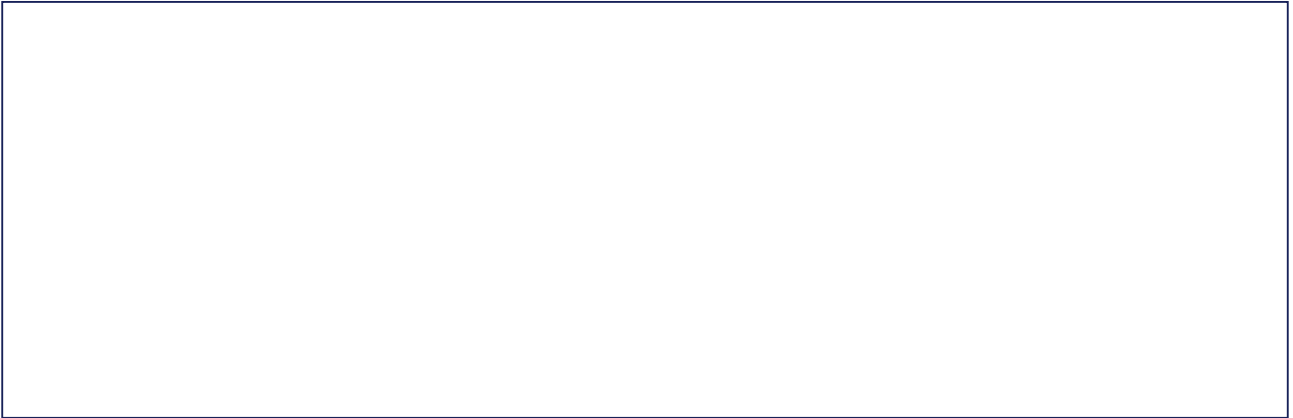
3. How did Kandinsky's condition, synaesthesia, influence the way he created his artwork? (3 marks)

4. Kandinsky often used contrasting colours. Why do you think an artist might choose to use very bright, primary colours in an abstract piece? (4 marks)

5. If you were to paint a piece of music, which colours would you choose for a loud, fast section and a quiet, slow section? Explain your choices. (4 marks)

6. Extended Writing: Imagine you are an art critic. Write a paragraph describing a Kandinsky-style painting. Include details about the shapes, the colours, and the mood or 'feeling' the painting gives the viewer. Use at least three words from the word bank. (5 marks)

Draw: In the space below, create a small, original abstract composition inspired by Kandinsky. You must include at least three overlapping geometric shapes and use at least three different colours.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Research another abstract artist and write one sentence explaining how their style is different from Kandinsky's.