

Exploring Cubism with Zara

Learning objective: To understand the artistic style of Pablo Picasso and explore the key features of Cubism.

Read the clues and use your knowledge of Picasso's work to answer the questions. Think about how Zara would look at these paintings to find the hidden patterns and shapes.

Word bank: Cubism · Perspective · Abstract · Geometric · Fragmented · Pablo Picasso

1. Pablo Picasso was one of the founders of a style called Cubism. In your own words, describe what makes a painting look 'Cubist'. (2 marks)

2. Picasso often painted subjects from more than one viewpoint at the same time. Why do you think he chose to do this instead of painting a realistic portrait? (2 marks)

3. Look at a portrait by Picasso. If you were to buy a print of a famous Cubist piece for your bedroom wall, and it cost £12.50, how much change would you get from a £20 note? (2 marks)

4. List three geometric shapes that you might find hidden within a Cubist painting. (3 marks)

5. Explain why Picasso's work is considered 'abstract'. (2 marks)

Draw: Zara the zebra wants you to draw a self-portrait in the style of Picasso. Use geometric shapes like triangles and rectangles to create your face. Try to show one eye from the front and one from the side, just like in a Cubist painting!



Extension challenge: Research Picasso's 'Blue Period'. Write a short poem about why you think he chose to use so many shades of blue in his paintings during that time.