

Year 4 Art Assessment: The Beauty of Still Life

Learning objective: To understand the techniques of composition, light, and tone within still life art.

Read each question carefully. Use the provided word bank to help you with your answers. Ensure your writing is clear and legible.

Zara the zebra loves to set up beautiful arrangements of objects before she begins to paint. She looks for items with different shapes, such as a round apple, a tall glass vase, and a folded piece of fabric. By placing these objects carefully, Zara creates a balanced scene. She notices how the light from the window hits one side of the apple, creating a bright spot, while the other side sits in darkness. Zara uses her pencils and paints to capture these details to make her artwork look realistic.

Word bank: Composition · Highlight · Shadow · Texture · Perspective · Form · Contrast

1. Using the passage, define what a 'still life' artwork is in your own words. (2 marks)

2. Zara notices a bright spot on the apple where the light hits. What is the correct art term for this area? (1 mark)

3. Why is it important to arrange objects carefully before you start drawing? Use the word 'composition' in your answer. (3 marks)

4. Explain the difference between 'form' and 'shape'. Why do artists use shading to show form? (4 marks)

5. If you were setting up a still life, how would you use 'contrast' to make your drawing more interesting? (4 marks)

6. Zara wants to show that a piece of fabric feels soft compared to a hard glass vase. How can an artist use marks and lines to show 'texture'? (3 marks)

7. Look at the objects around you. Imagine you are curating a still life scene. Write a short paragraph describing which three items you would choose and why they would look good together. Consider their sizes, colours, and the story they might tell. (5 marks)

Draw: In the space below, sketch a still life arrangement consisting of one piece of fruit, one book, and one natural object (like a leaf or a shell). Use shading to show where the light source is coming from.



Extension challenge: Total: /25