

The Poet's Workshop: Crafting Imagery with Zara

Learning objective: To identify and use expanded noun phrases, similes, and metaphors to create vivid imagery in poetry.

Follow Zara the Zebra's creative steps to build your own poem. Start by choosing a subject, then use the prompts below to build your verses. Remember to use your senses to describe the world around you, just like an artist paints with colours.

Word bank: shimmering · vibrant · ancient · delicate · rhythmic · echoing · magnificent · fleeting · symphony · silhouette

1. Choose a subject for your poem (e.g., a stormy sky, a hidden forest). Write an expanded noun phrase to describe it using at least two adjectives and a prepositional phrase. (2 marks)

2. Create a simile to describe how your subject moves or sounds. Remember to use the words 'like' or 'as'. (2 marks)

3. Write a metaphor to compare your subject to something else entirely. (e.g., 'The wind is a hungry wolf howling at the moon'). (2 marks)

4. Explain why you chose these specific adjectives. How do they change the 'mood' or 'atmosphere' of your poem? (3 marks)

5. Compare and contrast your poem with a piece of art. If your poem were a painting, what brushstrokes and colours would you use? (3 marks)

6. Justify your choice of structure. Why did you choose to group your lines into stanzas (verses) in this specific way? (3 marks)

Extension challenge: What might happen to the meaning of your poem if you removed all the adjectives? Rewrite two lines without them and explain how the impact on the reader changes.