

Zara's Perspective Adventure

Learning objective: To understand how to use a horizon line and vanishing point to create the illusion of depth in art.

Zara the zebra is learning how to make her paintings look 3D! To do this, she uses a 'horizon line' (where the sky meets the ground) and a 'vanishing point' (a single dot where all lines seem to disappear). Follow the steps below to complete your own perspective drawing.

Word bank: Horizon line · Vanishing point · Depth · Foreground · Background · Parallel · Convergence

1. Why do the lines on a road seem to get closer together as they move further away towards the horizon? (2 marks)

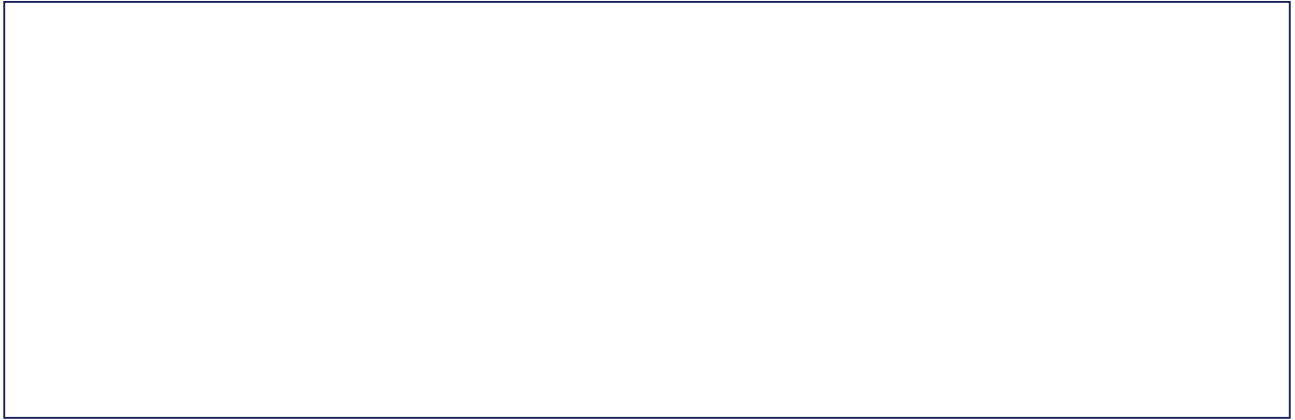
2. If you draw a tree in the foreground and a tree in the background, which one should be drawn larger to show it is closer to the viewer? (1 mark)

3. What is the name of the imaginary line that represents the eye level of the artist? (1 mark)

4. Zara wants to draw a train track. Explain how the vanishing point helps her show the distance of the tracks. (2 marks)

5. True or False: Objects drawn above the horizon line look like they are floating in the sky. Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

Draw: Using a ruler, draw a horizontal line across the middle of your page. Place a small dot in the very center of that line. Now, draw four lines coming out from that dot to the corners of your paper. These are your guide lines! Draw three houses along these lines, making sure the houses closest to the dot are tiny, and the ones further away are much larger.



Extension challenge: Try adding a path or a road that leads directly to your vanishing point. How does adding a dark shadow to one side of your houses change the way they look?