

Mastering Perspective with Zara the Zebra

Learning objective: To understand how to use a horizon line and vanishing point to create the illusion of depth in a 2D drawing.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of art techniques to explain how artists make drawings look 3D. Remember to think like Zara the Zebra, who looks for patterns and shapes in everything she sees!

Word bank: Horizon line · Vanishing point · Foreground · Background · Scale · Depth

1. Zara is drawing a long, straight road. What is the name of the imaginary line where the sky meets the ground? (1 mark)

2. If you are drawing a row of trees that get smaller as they move towards the horizon, why do they appear to shrink? (2 marks)

3. Explain the difference between the foreground and the background in a landscape painting. (2 marks)

4. If a tall building is drawn very small near the vanishing point, does it look like it is closer to the viewer or further away? Explain your answer. (2 marks)

5. Max the monkey wants to buy a painting of a forest that costs £12.50. If he has £20.00, how much change would he receive? Show your working out. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a simple landscape scene using a horizon line and a single vanishing point. Include at least three objects (like trees, houses, or fence posts) that follow the rules of perspective, becoming smaller as they reach the vanishing point.



Extension challenge: Try drawing a city street. Add a row of windows on a building. How do the shapes of the windows change as they get closer to the vanishing point? Write one sentence describing what happens to their height.