

Zara's Abstract Art Adventure

Learning objective: To understand the core principles of abstract art, including shape, colour, and emotion, and to recognise how artists move away from realistic representation.

Join Zara the Zebra as she explores the colourful world of abstract art! Read the questions carefully and use your artistic knowledge to answer them. Good luck!

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.True, 3.False, 4.Geometric, 5.True, 6.Emotion, 7.B, 8.True, 9.False, 10.Composition.

Word bank: Abstract · Geometric · Organic · Composition · Primary · Emotion · Texture · Expressionist

1. 1. What does it mean for a painting to be 'abstract'? A) It is a photograph B) It is a perfect portrait C) It does not attempt to represent accurate depictions of reality* D) It is only painted in black and white. (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Abstract artists often use bold colours to represent feelings rather than real-life objects. (1 mark)

3. 3. True or False: All abstract art must be painted using only straight lines. (1 mark)

4. 4. If an artist uses triangles, squares, and circles in their work, what kind of shapes are they using? (One word answer) (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: Abstract art can be inspired by music or the weather. (1 mark)

6. 6. Abstract artists often focus on capturing a specific _____ rather than a physical scene. (1 mark)

7. 7. Which of these is a key element of abstract composition? A) Focusing only on the frame B) The arrangement of shapes and lines* C) Using only one colour D) Making the painting look like a fruit bowl. (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: You can create abstract art by focusing on the texture of the paint itself. (1 mark)

9. 9. True or False: Abstract art is considered 'wrong' if it doesn't look like a real object. (1 mark)

10. 10. What is the word for how an artist decides to place their shapes and colours on the canvas to create balance? (One word answer) (1 mark)

Draw: Create your own piece of abstract art! Choose three emotions (like 'joy', 'calm', or 'excitement') and use shapes, lines, and colours to express them without drawing any recognisable objects.



Extension challenge: Greater Depth Challenge: 1. Explain why an artist might choose to use non-realistic colours in their work. 2. Compare and contrast a realistic landscape painting with an abstract representation of a storm. 3. Justify your answer: Does a painting need to look like something real to be considered 'good' art? 4. What might happen if an artist removed all colour from their work—how would that change the viewer's experience? 5. How does the 'composition' of an artwork change the way it makes us feel? 6. Design a brief argument for why abstract art is a challenging and skilful form of expression.