

Zara's Colourful Kandinsky Challenge

Learning objective: To understand the artistic style of Wassily Kandinsky, focusing on abstract art, the link between music and colour, and geometric shapes.

Join Zara the Zebra on an artistic journey! Read the questions carefully and use your knowledge of abstract art to help Zara identify the patterns and styles used by the famous artist Wassily Kandinsky.

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

Word bank: Abstract · Geometric · Composition · Synaesthesia · Primary · Shapes · Emotion

1. 1. Kandinsky is often called a pioneer of which style of art? A) Portraiture B) Abstract* C) Realism D) Landscape (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Kandinsky believed that colours could represent different musical sounds. (1 mark)

3. 3. True or False: Kandinsky only ever painted realistic pictures of bowls of fruit. (1 mark)

4. 4. Which of these shapes did Kandinsky frequently use in his works? A) Only squares B) Only triangles C) Circles, squares, and triangles* D) Only stars (1 mark)

5. 5. What is the name of the rare condition where senses overlap, which Kandinsky experienced (hearing colours)? (1 mark)

6. 6. How did Kandinsky often choose his titles for his paintings? A) Like musical compositions* B) By naming them after pets C) By the price of the paint D) By the date of the week (1 mark)

7. 7. True or False: Abstract art focuses on shapes, colours, and lines rather than trying to look exactly like a real-life object. (1 mark)

8. 8. What is the term for shapes like circles, triangles, and rectangles that have precise, mathematical edges? (1 mark)

9. 9. Why did Kandinsky use bright, bold colours in his art? A) To save money B) To make the painting heavy C) To annoy other artists D) To express his emotions* (1 mark)

10. 10. True or False: Zara thinks that Kandinsky's art is a great way to show how patterns can be found everywhere. (1 mark)

Draw: Using a ruler and a compass (or a round object to trace), create your own 'Kandinsky-inspired' artwork. Include at least three overlapping circles, two triangles, and a variety of bold, primary colours to express a 'happy' musical melody.



Extension challenge: Research one of Kandinsky's famous paintings, such as 'Squares with Concentric Circles'. Write a short paragraph explaining how the colours make you feel and which musical instrument you think matches that specific painting.