

Zara's Lowry Art Investigation

Learning objective: To analyse and evaluate the artistic style of L.S. Lowry, focusing on his use of perspective, colour palette, and subject matter.

Use this template to explore the work of L.S. Lowry. Look closely at his famous industrial landscapes and use your observations to answer the questions below. Think like an artist—look beyond the surface and consider what the painter was trying to tell the viewer about life in the North of England.

Word bank: Industrial · Perspective · Matchstick figures · Palette · Landscape · Atmosphere · Urban · Composition · Monochrome · Contrast

1. Describe the colour palette Lowry uses in his paintings. Why do you think he chose these specific shades rather than bright, vibrant colours? (3 marks)

2. Look at the 'matchstick figures' in the scene. Explain why you think Lowry chose to draw people this way instead of painting them with realistic detail. (3 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the setting of an industrial town in Lowry's time with your own local area today. What are the main similarities and differences? (4 marks)

4. Justify your answer: Does Lowry's work make the industrial landscape look lonely or busy? Support your opinion with evidence from the composition. (4 marks)

5. What might happen if Lowry painted the same scene using bright, primary colours instead of his usual muted tones? How would the mood of the painting change? (3 marks)

6. Explain why Lowry focused so much on chimneys, factories, and terraced houses. What story was he trying to tell about the people living there? (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a reporter in a Lowry painting. Write a short, descriptive paragraph explaining what you can hear, smell, and see. Then, create your own 'Lowry-style' sketch of your school or street using his signature perspective and muted colours.