

Year 5 Art Assessment: The Power of Pattern

Learning objective: To demonstrate knowledge of pattern, symmetry, and repeat designs in visual art.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of art vocabulary to provide clear, detailed answers. For drawing tasks, use a sharp pencil and be precise.

Zara the zebra is an artist who loves looking for patterns in nature. She notices that some patterns are simple and repeat in a line, while others, like the shapes on a tortoise shell, fit together perfectly without any gaps. Zara uses these observations to create beautiful designs for her sketchbooks, focusing on how colours and shapes interact to create visual rhythm.

Word bank: Symmetry · Tessellation · Motif · Geometric · Organic · Repeat · Asymmetrical · Interlocking

1. Define the term 'motif' in your own words. Why is it important when creating a repeating pattern? (2 marks)

2. Explain the difference between a geometric pattern and an organic pattern. Give one example of each found in the natural world. (4 marks)

3. What does the term 'tessellation' mean? Describe what must happen for a shape to tessellate correctly. (3 marks)

4. Look at a butterfly's wings. Is this an example of symmetry or asymmetry? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

5. Zara is designing a patterned wrapping paper. If she sells 5 sheets for £2.00, how much would 20 sheets cost? Show your working out. (3 marks)

6. Imagine you are an artist commissioned to design a pattern for a new school mural. Describe your design concept. Include what shapes you would use, your chosen colour palette, and why you think this pattern would look effective on a large scale. (5 marks)

7. Name one artist or cultural tradition that is famous for using complex patterns in their work and describe one feature of their style. (5 marks)

Draw: In the space provided, create an original repeating pattern using at least two different geometric shapes. Ensure your shapes interlock or repeat in a clear, rhythmic sequence.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Can you add a second colour to your pattern above to create a sense of 'visual depth' or 'contrast'?