

Year 4 Art Assessment: The Art of Sculpture

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of 3D form, materials, and the techniques used to create sculptures.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of sculpture techniques and terminology to provide detailed answers. Remember to use art-specific vocabulary.

Zara the zebra is designing a new sculpture for the school garden. She is experimenting with different methods: building up shapes with clay (an additive process) and carving intricate patterns into a block of soft stone (a subtractive process). Zara must ensure her sculpture has a sturdy structure to withstand the British weather and uses an internal wire frame, called an armature, to keep her creation balanced.

Word bank: Form · Texture · Structure · Malleable · Armature · Relief · Composition · Additive · Subtractive · Stability

1. Explain the difference between an 'additive' sculpture process and a 'subtractive' sculpture process. Give one example of a material for each. (2 marks)

2. Why is an 'armature' important when building a tall sculpture out of a soft material like clay? (2 marks)

3. Define the term 'relief sculpture'. How does it differ from a sculpture 'in the round'? (3 marks)

4. If you were choosing materials for a sculpture to be displayed permanently outdoors, why would you choose bronze or stone over paper or cardboard? Justify your answer using the concept of 'durability'. (4 marks)

5. Look at the composition of a sculpture you have created this term. Describe how you used texture to make your sculpture more interesting to look at and touch. (3 marks)

6. Zara wants to create a sculpture that represents 'Movement'. Design a sculpture concept using wire and recycled materials. Describe your design and explain why your choice of shapes helps to convey the idea of movement. (5 marks)

7. Critique the following statement: 'A sculpture is only successful if it looks exactly like a real-life object.' Do you agree or disagree? Explain your reasoning using evidence from art styles you have studied. (3 marks)

Draw: In the space below, sketch a design for a sculpture inspired by nature. Label your sketch with at least three materials you would use and one technique (e.g., carving, joining, modelling) to connect the parts.



Extension challenge: Imagine your sculpture is being sold to a local gallery for £150. Write a short 'artist's statement' (50-75 words) to persuade a buyer, explaining the inspiration behind your piece and the skill required to construct it. Total: /25