

World Book Day: Artistic Interpretation Assessment

Learning objective: To analyse how visual art techniques can represent narrative themes and characters from literature.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of colour theory, texture, and composition to answer. Show your understanding of how artists create mood in their illustrations.

Zara the zebra has been asked to design a new cover for a book about a magical forest. She wants to use cool colours like blue and green to show the forest is calm, but she needs to add contrast so the main character stands out. She is deciding between using charcoal for a rough, mysterious texture or watercolours for a soft, dreamy effect.

Word bank: Composition · Texture · Primary colours · Contrast · Tone · Proportion · Narrative · Medium

1. Identify two 'cool colours' Zara could use for her forest design and explain how these colours might make the reader feel. (2 marks) (2 marks)

2. Why might an artist choose charcoal instead of watercolours when illustrating a mysterious scene? Refer to the idea of 'texture' in your answer. (3 marks) (3 marks)

3. Define the term 'composition' and explain why it is important when placing a character on a book cover. (3 marks) (3 marks)

4. Compare and contrast the effect of using primary colours versus using earthy, muted tones in a book illustration. (4 marks) (4 marks)

5. Justify your answer: If you were illustrating a scene of a storm at sea, which artistic medium would you choose to show movement and energy? Explain your reasoning. (4 marks) (4 marks)

6. Extended Writing Task: Describe how an artist uses light and shadow (tone) to shift the mood of a story from a happy morning scene to a frightening midnight scene. (5 marks) (5 marks)

Draw: In the box below, sketch a book cover for your favourite story. You must include one example of 'contrast' (such as light vs. dark or rough vs. smooth) and label your choice of medium.



Extension challenge: Imagine the book cover you designed is going to be printed in a gallery. What might happen if you changed the scale of the main character? Explain how changing the proportion would alter the way the audience perceives the story's theme. Total: /25