

Year 4 Art Assessment: The Art of Collage

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of collage techniques, textures, and the visual impact of layering, cutting, and assembling materials.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of Zara the Zebra's creative techniques to answer. Ensure your explanations are clear and use subject-specific vocabulary.

Zara the Zebra is planning a new mural for the school library. She wants to use collage to show the beauty of the natural world. She is experimenting with different papers, fabrics, and natural materials to create depth. Zara knows that by overlapping different shapes and textures, she can make her artwork look three-dimensional rather than flat.

Word bank: Texture · Layering · Composition · Overlap · Assemblage · Foreground · Background · Contrast · Juxtaposition

1. Define the term 'collage' in your own words. Why is it different from a painting? (2 marks)

2. Zara decides to layer thin tissue paper over thick cardboard. Explain why this choice creates an interesting 'texture' in her artwork. (2 marks)

3. How can an artist use 'overlap' to show that one object is closer to the viewer than another? (2 marks)

4. Compare and contrast using natural materials (like leaves or twigs) versus man-made materials (like shiny foil or magazines) in a collage. (3 marks)

5. If Zara wanted to show a sense of 'movement' in her collage, how might she arrange her shapes? Justify your choice. (3 marks)

6. What might happen to the visual balance of a collage if all the largest, brightest pieces were placed in only one corner of the page? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

7. Extended Writing Task: Imagine you are designing a collage based on the theme 'An Underwater World'. Describe your plan. Include which materials you would choose, how you would create a sense of depth, and how you would ensure the composition is balanced. Use at least four words from the word bank. (5 marks)

8. Critique: Why is it important for an artist to step back and look at their collage from a distance while they are working? (3 marks)

Draw: In the space below, sketch a quick plan for a collage that uses 'juxtaposition' (placing two very different things together). Label the materials you would use to create contrast.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Research the artist Henri Matisse and his 'cut-outs'. In one paragraph, explain how his technique influenced modern collage and why his work is considered a form of 'drawing with scissors'.