Year 5 Art Assessment: Mastering Perspective

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of one-point perspective, horizon lines, and vanishing points in creating the illusion of depth on a 2D surface.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of Zara the zebra's techniques for seeing patterns and shapes in the world to answer the questions. Show your working for any calculations or diagrams.

Zara the zebra is standing on a long, straight road looking towards the sunset. As she looks ahead, the edges of the road seem to meet at a single tiny spot in the distance. Zara notices that objects close to her feet look large and detailed, while the trees further away look small and faint. She uses her sketchbook to capture this scene, ensuring her lines lead the viewer's eye exactly where she wants them to go.

Word bank: Vanishing point · Horizon line · Orthogonal lines · Foreground · Background · Depth · Parallel

1. Define the term 'horizon line' in the context of an artistic landscape drawing. (2 marks)

2. What is the name of the single point on the horizon line where all parallel lines appear to converge? (1 mark)

3. Explain why objects in the 'foreground' are drawn larger than objects in the 'background'. (3 marks)

4. Zara is drawing a series of street lamps along a path. Describe how the size and spacing of the lamps must change as they get closer to the vanishing point. (4 marks)

5. If a rectangle is drawn below the horizon line, why do we draw lines from its corners towards the vanishing point to create a 3D effect? (4 marks)

6. Write a short paragraph explaining how using one-point perspective helps an artist create a sense of 'depth' or 'space' in a 2D painting. Include at least three words from the word bank in your response. (5 marks)

7. If a canvas costs £4.50 and a set of charcoal pencils costs £1.50, how much would it cost for Zara to buy 3 canvases and 2 sets of pencils? (6 marks)

Draw: In the box below, draw a simple one-point perspective scene. Include a horizon line, a vanishing point, and at least three shapes (such as cubes or rectangles) that appear to recede into the distance.

Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Research 'two-point perspective' and explain one way it differs from the one-point perspective used in this assessment.