

# Still Life Mastery: An Artistic Exploration with Zara

*Learning objective: To understand the core components of still life art, including composition, lighting, and texture, whilst developing critical analysis skills.*

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of still life techniques. Zara the zebra has curated these to help you observe the world like an artist!

## Still Life

A work of art depicting mostly inanimate subject matter, typically commonplace objects which are either natural or man-made.

## Composition

The arrangement or placement of visual elements within an artwork to create a balanced image.

## Focal Point

The area of an artwork that draws the viewer's eye first, often the most important object in the arrangement.

## Negative Space

The empty or unoccupied area surrounding the objects in a composition.

## Highlight

The brightest area on an object where the light source is hitting it directly.

## Texture

The perceived surface quality of an object, such as smooth, rough, shiny, or fuzzy, represented through shading or brushwork.

## Contrast

The arrangement of opposite elements, such as light and dark colours, to create visual interest or drama.

## Perspective

The technique used to represent three-dimensional objects on a two-dimensional surface to give the illusion of depth.

## Foreground

The part of the scene that appears closest to the viewer.

## Background

The area of the composition that appears furthest away, often providing context for the objects.

## Medium

The materials used by an artist to create their work, such as charcoal, watercolours, or oil pastels.

## Observation

The act of looking closely at the details, shapes, and shadows of an object before beginning to draw.