

Autumnal Aesthetics: A Study of Color and Pattern

Learning objective: To explore the formal elements of art by observing seasonal changes in nature and applying color theory through fall-inspired design.

Zara the zebra loves finding patterns in the changing leaves. Look at the word bank provided and use these artistic terms to complete the analysis tasks below. Think about how the temperature of colors changes as we move from summer to fall.

Word bank: Warm palette · Texture · Complementary · Contrast · Symmetry · Hue · Organic shapes · Tone

1. Zara has collected three leaves: one bright red, one burnt orange, and one golden yellow. Explain why these colors are categorized as a 'warm palette' and how they evoke the feeling of fall. (3 marks)

2. Compare and contrast the shapes of a smooth, apartment pebble and a crinkled, dried fall leaf. Which artistic term would you use to describe the surface quality of the leaf? (2 marks)

3. Justify your answer: If you were to paint an fall forest scene, why might you use 'contrast' between the dark brown tree trunks and the bright yellow leaves? (2 marks)

4. Many leaves show 'symmetry' when you draw a line down the center. What might happen to the visual balance of your artwork if you drew an asymmetrical, decaying leaf instead? (2 marks)

5. If a pack of high-quality sketching pencils costs £4.50 and a set of watercolors costs £7.75, calculate the total cost. If you have a £15.00 voucher, how much change would you receive? (3 marks)

6. Describe the difference between 'hue' and 'tone'. How would you change the 'tone' of an orange leaf to make it look like it is fading? (2 marks)

Draw: Create an fall leaf design using 'organic shapes'. You must incorporate at least three different patterns within the leaf surface (such as stripes, dots, or cross-hatching) and use a warm palette of colors to fill it in.



Extension challenge: Research the work of famous landscape artists who focused on the changing seasons. Write a short paragraph justifying which 'warm palette' colors best represent the month of November in your local area and explain the emotions those colors trigger for you.