

Grade 3 Art Assessment: The Art of Perspective

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of how artists create the illusion of depth, distance, and scale on a two-dimensional surface.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of horizon lines, vanishing points, and scale to answer. Please use a pencil for all drawings and a blue or black pen for your written answers.

Zara the zebra is creating a landscape painting of the African savannah. She wants the viewers to feel like they can step right into her picture. To do this, she makes the baobab tree in the front look very large and detailed. Far away, she paints a small herd of wildebeest near the edge of the sky. By using a horizon line, Zara ensures that everything in her painting looks like it exists in 3D space rather than just apartment shapes on a page.

Word bank: Vanishing point · Horizon line · Foreground · Background · Scale · Overlapping · Convergence

1. Define the term 'horizon line' and explain why it is essential when drawing a landscape. (2 marks)

2. Look at Zara's painting technique. Why does painting objects in the foreground larger than objects in the background help create the illusion of depth? (2 marks)

3. What is a 'vanishing point' and how do parallel lines, such as the sides of a road, behave as they move towards it? (3 marks)

4. Compare and contrast the appearance of an object in the foreground versus an object in the background. Mention detail, color intensity, and size. (4 marks)

5. If an artist decided to ignore the rules of perspective, how would the 'feel' or 'mood' of the artwork change for the viewer? Justify your answer. (4 marks)

6. Extended Response: Imagine you are teaching a younger student how to draw a city street. Write a step-by-step guide explaining how to use a single vanishing point to make the buildings look like they are receding into the distance. (5 marks)

Draw: In the space provided, draw a simple scene containing a road, a tree, and a mountain. You must include a horizon line and a vanishing point to show that the road is moving away from the viewer. (5 marks)



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Extension Task: What might happen to the perspective of a drawing if you moved the horizon line to the very top or the very bottom of your page? Explain the visual impact this would have on the viewer's perspective.