

Zara's Abstract Art Exploration Journal

Learning objective: To explore the techniques of abstract art by analysing composition, colour theory, and emotional expression through geometric and organic shapes.

Use this journal to document your creative process. Zara the Zebra believes that art doesn't have to look like a photograph; it just needs to express an idea or feeling. As you plan your own abstract masterpiece, think carefully about the balance, rhythm, and contrast in your work. Use the word bank to help describe your artistic intentions.

Word bank: Composition · Geometric · Organic · Contrast · Saturation · Harmony · Rhythm · Texture · Expressionist · Asymmetry

1. The Concept: What emotion or concept are you trying to represent in your abstract piece? Explain why you chose this theme. (3 marks)

2. Colour Palette: Which colours have you selected and why? Justify your choices based on the mood you want to evoke. (3 marks)

3. Compositional Balance: Compare and contrast the use of geometric shapes versus organic shapes in your design. How do they interact? (4 marks)

4. Texture and Rhythm: Explain how you intend to create a sense of movement or 'rhythm' across your canvas using lines and marks. (3 marks)

5. Critical Reflection: What might happen to the 'message' of your artwork if you changed all the colours to shades of grey? Justify your answer. (4 marks)

6. Creative Evaluation: If your piece were to be displayed in a public gallery, how would you describe it to a visitor who was confused by the lack of recognisable objects? (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Design a secondary abstract piece that uses only three colours. Write a paragraph explaining how 'negative space' plays a role in your final composition, and evaluate whether your second piece is more or less effective at conveying your chosen emotion than your first.