

# Zara's Colour Theory Masterclass

*Learning objective: To understand, identify, and apply colour theory, including primary, secondary, and tertiary colours, and the impact of complementary colour schemes.*

Use your knowledge of the colour wheel to answer the questions below. Think like an artist as you describe the relationships between colours.

*Word bank: Primary · Secondary · Tertiary · Complementary · Hue · Intensity · Warm · Cool*

**1. Zara is painting a sunset using warm colours. Identify the three primary colours and explain why they are categorised as 'primary'. (2 marks)**

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**2. If Zara mixes equal parts of blue and yellow paint, what secondary colour will she create? Describe the process of creating a tertiary colour. (2 marks)**

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**3. Compare and contrast 'warm' colours and 'cool' colours. What effect does each group have on the mood of an artwork? (3 marks)**

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**4. Explain why artists often choose to place complementary colours next to one another in a composition. What impact does this have on the viewer's eye? (2 marks)**

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**5. Justify your answer: If you were painting a landscape of a bustling city, would you choose a monochromatic colour scheme or a vibrant, varied palette? Give a reason for your artistic choice. (3 marks)**

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**6. What might happen to the appearance of a painting if you were to mix a colour with its direct complement on the colour wheel? Describe the resulting change in intensity. (2 marks)**

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**Draw: Draw a 12-segment colour wheel. Label the primary, secondary, and tertiary colours correctly in their respective positions. Choose two opposite segments and colour them with complementary colours to demonstrate high contrast.**



*Extension challenge: Design a 'mood board' for an imaginary room using a triadic colour scheme. Write a short paragraph justifying why these three colours work well together and how they influence the atmosphere of the space.*