

Year 5 Art Assessment: Capturing Landscapes

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of artistic techniques used to create depth, perspective, and atmospheric effects in landscape painting.

Read each question carefully. Use artistic vocabulary to justify your choices. Ensure your responses are clear and concise.

Zara the zebra is sketching the rolling hills near the Great Oak. She notices that the trees closest to her have vibrant, detailed leaves and deep shadows, while the mountains in the distance appear pale blue and fuzzy, blending into the sky. Zara wants to ensure her painting captures the vastness of the countryside using the rules of perspective.

Word bank: Foreground · Background · Horizon line · Atmospheric perspective · Vanishing point · Overlap · Scale · Texture · Cool colours · Warm colours

1. Define the term 'horizon line' and explain its role in a landscape composition. (2 marks)

2. Explain why artists often use 'cool colours' like blues and greys when painting objects in the far distance. (2 marks)

3. Describe the technique of 'overlap'. How does this simple method help create a sense of three-dimensional depth on a two-dimensional page? (3 marks)

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

5. Justify your answer: Why is it important for an artist to consider the 'vanishing point' when drawing man-made structures like a bridge or a fence within a natural landscape? (4 marks)

6. Extended Writing Task: Zara is planning to paint a dramatic sunset over a valley. Explain the artistic choices you would make to guide the viewer's eye from the front of the painting to the very back. Consider composition, light, and colour. (5 marks)

Draw: In the space provided below, sketch a quick landscape scene that includes at least three layers of depth (foreground, mid-ground, and background). Label each layer clearly.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: What might happen to the viewer's perception of a landscape if the artist deliberately ignored the rules of scale and perspective? Write a short justification for why an artist might choose to break these rules in a surrealist painting.