

Zara's Lowry Art Adventure

Learning objective: To identify key characteristics of L.S. Lowry's artistic style, including his use of colour, subject matter, and distinctive 'matchstick' figures.

Help Zara the Zebra analyse the works of L.S. Lowry! Read the questions carefully and test your knowledge of this famous industrial artist.

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.True, 3.False, 4.Matchstick, 5.B, 6.A, 7.Industrial, 8.True, 9.B, 10.White. Summary: Lowry used a limited palette of white, black, red, yellow, and blue. His figures are famous for their simple, elongated shapes. He often painted the Northern English industrial towns he lived in, capturing a sense of community and daily life rather than just the factories.

Word bank: Industrial · Matchstick · Perspective · Atmosphere · Monochromatic · Foreground · Background · Landscape

1. Which of these colours did Lowry NOT typically include in his limited paint palette? A) Vermilion red B) Prussian blue C) Neon pink* D) Flake white (1 mark)

2. True or False: Lowry often painted scenes showing the daily lives of people in industrial Northern towns. (1 mark)

3. True or False: Lowry's paintings are famous for having very realistic, detailed faces on all his characters. (1 mark)

4. What popular nickname is given to the thin, simplified figures Lowry painted? (1 word) (1 mark)

5. Where did Lowry usually place his figures to create a sense of depth? A) Only in the sky B) In the foreground and middle ground* C) Only hidden behind buildings D) Floating in the corners (1 mark)

6. Which phrase best describes the 'mood' of a typical Lowry painting? A) Busy and rhythmic* B) Silent and terrifying C) Floral and bright D) Tropical and exotic (1 mark)

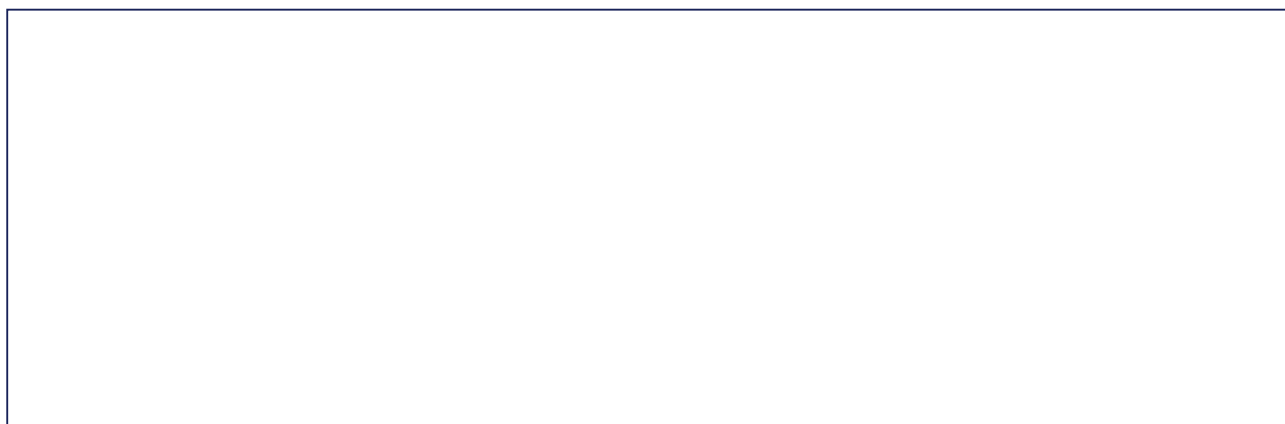
7. Lowry is most famous for painting which type of landscape? (1 word) (1 mark)

8. True or False: Lowry often used a plain, light-coloured background to make his dark figures stand out. (1 mark)

9. 9. Why did Lowry paint his figures in a simplified way? A) He couldn't afford pencils B) To represent the collective movement of a crowd* C) Because he disliked people D) He was trying to copy a photograph (1 mark)

10. 10. What colour did Lowry use as the base layer for almost all of his canvases? (1 word) (1 mark)

Draw: Using Zara's love of patterns, draw a street scene inspired by Lowry. Use simple 'matchstick' figures, but add a modern twist by including a pattern (like stripes or chevrons) on the clothing of at least three people.



Extension challenge: Greater Depth Challenges: 1. Explain why Lowry chose to paint the industrial North instead of beautiful countryside scenes. 2. Compare and contrast a Lowry painting with a portrait by a Renaissance artist; how does the level of detail differ? 3. Justify your answer: Does the lack of facial detail make the figures more or less relatable to the viewer? 4. What might happen if Lowry had painted his scenes using only bright, neon colours? How would the 'atmosphere' change? 5. Analyse how Lowry uses line to show movement in a static painting. 6. If you were to paint your own street today in the style of Lowry, what modern elements would you include, and how would you represent them using his simplified style?