

Exploring the Master: Pablo Picasso Assessment

Learning objective: To evaluate understanding of Pablo Picasso's artistic evolution, his use of geometric forms, and his contribution to the Cubist movement.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of art history and techniques to provide detailed answers. Ensure your explanations are clear and use subject-specific vocabulary.

Pablo Picasso was a Spanish painter and sculptor who changed the way we look at the world. Throughout his career, he went through distinct phases, including his melancholic 'Blue Period' and his warmer 'Rose Period'. He is most famous for co-founding the movement known as Cubism. Cubist artists rejected traditional perspective, instead breaking objects into geometric shapes and reassembling them to show multiple viewpoints at the same time.

Word bank: Cubism · Perspective · Geometric · Abstract · Blue Period · Rose Period · Fragmentation · Composition

1. Identify and explain one key difference between Picasso's 'Blue Period' and his 'Rose Period'. (2 marks)

2. Define the term 'Cubism' in your own words. How does it differ from a realistic portrait? (3 marks)

3. Zara, our zebra artist, wants to create a piece of art inspired by Cubism. Explain why she might choose to use geometric shapes when painting a bowl of fruit. (3 marks)

4. Compare and contrast how a traditional landscape artist and a Cubist artist might represent a mountain range. (4 marks)

5. Justify why Picasso's decision to show multiple viewpoints in a single painting was considered a revolutionary change in the history of art. (4 marks)

6. Extended Response: Evaluate the impact of Picasso on modern art. Consider how his refusal to follow traditional rules of beauty and perspective paved the way for future artists to express themselves creatively. (5 marks)

7. What might happen to the emotional impact of a painting if an artist chose to use only dull, grey tones instead of bright, vibrant colours? Explain your reasoning. (4 marks)

Draw: Using your knowledge of Cubism, sketch a self-portrait. Instead of drawing your face realistically, break your features (eyes, nose, mouth) into geometric shapes and rearrange them to show different angles of your face on a single plane.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Creative Challenge: Imagine you are an art critic. Write a short review (approx. 100 words) of a fictional Cubist painting of a busy London street scene. Use at least four words from the word bank to describe the artist's technique and the effect on the viewer.