

Zara's Cubist Challenge: Mastering Picasso

Learning objective: To understand the artistic contributions of Pablo Picasso, specifically focusing on the Cubist movement and his use of geometric abstraction.

Join Zara the Zebra as she explores the colourful and fractured world of Pablo Picasso! Read the questions carefully and use your knowledge of art history to complete this quiz. Good luck!

Answer Key: 1. B, 2. A, 3. True, 4. Blue Period, 5. C, 6. False, 7. B, 8. True, 9. 1937, 10. D. Note: Cubism often depicts objects from multiple viewpoints simultaneously.

Word bank: Cubism · Perspective · Abstract · Geometric · Blue Period · Rose Period · Guernica · Collage

1. 1. Pablo Picasso was a co-founder of which revolutionary art movement? A) Surrealism
B) Cubism* C) Impressionism D) Pop Art (1 mark)

2. 2. What did Picasso often use to represent objects in his Cubist paintings? A) Geometric shapes* B) Perfect realism C) Only shades of grey D) Tiny dots (1 mark)

3. 3. True or False: Picasso was born in Spain. (1 mark)

4. 4. What is the name of the early phase in Picasso's career where he painted mostly sad, melancholic subjects in shades of blue? (1 mark)

5. 5. Which of these materials did Picasso help pioneer in fine art? A) Spray paint B) Plastic
C) Collage* D) Digital pixels (1 mark)

6. 6. True or False: Picasso only ever painted people; he never painted musical instruments. (1 mark)

7. 7. In a typical Cubist painting, how is a face often portrayed? A) As a mirror image B)
From multiple viewpoints at once* C) Hidden behind a curtain D) Only in profile (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: Picasso's 'Guernica' is a massive mural-sized painting depicting the horrors of war. (1 mark)

9. 9. In what year did Picasso paint his famous anti-war masterpiece, 'Guernica'? (1 mark)

10. 10. Why did Picasso break objects apart in his paintings? A) He was angry B) He ran out of paint C) He wanted to hide the subject D) He wanted to show different perspectives* (1 mark)

Draw: Zara the Zebra wants you to create a portrait of her in the style of Picasso. Instead of drawing her realistically, use geometric shapes like triangles, squares, and circles to 'fracture' her features. Use bold, contrasting colours to show her stripes!



Extension challenge: 1. Explain why Picasso's style of painting was considered so shocking and new compared to traditional portraits of the time. 2. Compare and contrast Picasso's 'Blue Period' with his 'Rose Period'. How does colour choice influence the mood of an artwork? 3. Justify your answer: Is 'Guernica' a successful piece of art if it makes the viewer feel uncomfortable? 4. What might happen if an artist today tried to paint a portrait using only geometric shapes? 5. If you were to create a 'Cubist' version of your classroom, which objects would you break into shapes and why? 6. Research the 'Rose Period'. Why do you think Picasso changed his colour palette from blue to warmer pinks and oranges?