

Zara's Sculptural Perspectives: Form, Texture, and Balance

Learning objective: To analyse the techniques used in 3D sculpture and apply principles of form, texture, and structural balance to creative design.

Zara the Zebra sees patterns in everything! Look at the sculptural concepts below. Your task is to act as a gallery curator. Match the sculptural technique to the correct definition, then justify your choice in the questions provided. Use the word bank to help you complete the definitions.

Word bank: Additive · Subtractive · Armature · Relief · Texture · Balance

1. 1. Define 'Subtractive' sculpture. Explain why an artist must be extremely careful when using this method compared to 'Additive' techniques. (3 marks)

2. 2. An 'Armature' acts as a skeleton for a sculpture. Why is an armature essential if you are using a soft material like clay to create a tall, thin figure? (2 marks)

3. 3. Compare 'Relief' sculpture to 'In-the-round' sculpture. Justify which one might be better suited for a public monument in a park. (3 marks)

4. 4. What might happen to a sculpture's 'Balance' if the centre of gravity is placed too far to the left? How could an artist correct this? (2 marks)

5. 5. Describe how 'Texture' can change the mood of a sculpture. Contrast the feeling of a rough, jagged surface with a smooth, polished one. (2 marks)

6. 6. Zara wants to create a sculpture that represents 'Movement'. Design a brief plan for your own sculpture. Justify your choice of materials and the sculptural technique you would use to convey a sense of energy. (4 marks)

Draw: Sketch a concept for an 'Additive' sculpture titled 'The Flow of Nature'. Ensure you include an element of texture and indicate where the armature would be hidden.



Extension challenge: Research a historical sculptor who worked with bronze or stone. Write a short paragraph evaluating how they achieved structural stability in their work. If you were to recreate their masterpiece using modern recycled materials, what structural challenges would you face?