

Year 5 Art Assessment: The Art of Sculpture

Learning objective: To evaluate understanding of sculptural techniques, materials, and the works of famous historical sculptors.

Read each question carefully. Ensure your answers use appropriate art vocabulary. For longer responses, provide clear justification for your artistic choices.

Zara the Zebra is planning a new sculpture exhibition. She is debating whether to create a 'subtractive' sculpture by carving into a block of limestone, or an 'additive' sculpture using a wire armature covered in clay. She wants her sculpture to be a 3D representation of a forest canopy, ensuring the structure is balanced and visually interesting from every angle.

Word bank: Form · Texture · Subtractive · Additive · Armature · Malleable · Relief · Composition · Stability · Proportion

1. Define the term 'armature' and explain why it is essential when working with malleable materials like clay. (2 marks)

2. Compare and contrast 'subtractive' and 'additive' sculpture techniques. Give one example of a material used for each. (3 marks)

3. What is meant by a 'relief' sculpture? Describe how it differs from a 'sculpture in the round'. (3 marks)

4. Explain why 'stability' is a critical factor when designing a large-scale sculpture. How might an artist ensure a tall sculpture does not topple over? (3 marks)

5. Zara is considering the 'texture' of her sculpture. How could she manipulate clay to represent the rough bark of a tree versus the smooth surface of a leaf? (4 marks)

6. If you were to create a sculpture representing 'Movement', which materials would you choose and why? Justify your choice by referencing the physical properties of the materials. (5 marks)

7. What might happen to the final appearance of a sculpture if the artist fails to consider 'proportion' during the initial planning phase? Provide an example. (5 marks)

Draw: Sketch a design for a sculpture that incorporates both geometric and organic shapes. Label your diagram to indicate where you would use additive or subtractive methods.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Extension Task: Research a historical sculpture. Write a short paragraph evaluating how the artist used space and light to create an emotional response in the viewer. Why do you think this sculpture has remained significant over time?