

Year 5 Art Assessment: The Art of Sketching

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of sketching techniques, tonal shading, and observational drawing skills.

Read each question carefully. Use a sharp pencil for your sketches and clear, concise language for your written answers. Ensure you manage your time effectively.

Zara the zebra is preparing for an exhibition. She explains that a sketch is not just a quick doodle; it is a vital tool for artists to map out shapes, test compositions, and capture the play of light before beginning a final piece. By observing how light hits an object, an artist can create the illusion of depth on a flat surface.

Word bank: Hatching · Cross-hatching · Stippling · Blending · Tone · Proportion · Perspective · Highlight · Shadow · Texture

1. Define the term 'tonal range' and explain why it is essential when sketching a three-dimensional object. (2 marks)

2. Compare and contrast 'hatching' and 'stippling' as techniques for creating shadow. (3 marks)

3. Explain why an artist must consider 'proportion' before adding fine details to a sketch. (2 marks)

4. What might happen if an artist ignores the 'light source' when shading a sphere? (3 marks)

5. Justify your answer: Is it better to use a hard (H) or a soft (B) pencil when starting a light outline sketch? Why? (3 marks)

6. Describe the process of 'blending' to create a smooth transition between light and dark tones. (2 marks)

7. Extended Writing: Zara says, 'A sketch is a visual conversation between the eye and the hand.' Reflect on this statement. How does careful observation change the way you draw an object compared to drawing from memory? (5 marks)

8. You are purchasing art supplies. A pack of sketching pencils costs £4.50 and a high-quality sketchbook costs £5.75. If you have £12.00, how much change will you receive, and how could you spend that remaining money to improve your sketching tools? (5 marks)

Draw: In the space provided on your paper, select a piece of fruit. Draw it using at least three different shading techniques (e.g., hatching, blending, and stippling) to demonstrate how light hits the surface.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Research the concept of 'foreshortening'. Draw a sketch of your own hand reaching towards the viewer, applying the rules of perspective to show how the size changes as it gets closer.