

Mastering the Art of Sketching with Zara the Zebra

Learning objective: To develop sketching techniques by using light, shadow, and observation to create form and texture.

Follow Zara's guide to sketching. Focus on using different pressures with your pencil to create a range of tones. Remember, sketching is about observing the shapes before adding the fine details.

Draw: Choose a natural object (such as a conker, a smooth stone, or a leaf). Sketch this object using observation. Begin by lightly sketching the outline (contour). Use 'cross-hatching' on the side furthest from the light source to create a deep shadow, and leave the area closest to the light source clear to create a highlight. Ensure your pencil strokes follow the curve of the object to give it a 3D appearance.



Label words: Hatching · Cross-hatching · Tonal value · Perspective · Contour · Highlight · Shadow · Texture

Steps:

1. Explain why Zara suggests using different pencil pressures when sketching a sphere.
2. Compare and contrast 'hatching' and 'cross-hatching' as techniques for creating shade.
3. Justify your answer: Does a sketch require a dark outline to look realistic? Why or why not?
4. Step 1: Draw a simple geometric shape (like a cube or a ball) in the centre of your page. Label the 'Highlight' and the 'Shadow'.

5. Step 2: Using the 'Hatching' technique, fill in the darkest area of your shape.
6. What might happen to the appearance of your sketch if you used a 2B pencil for the whole drawing compared to using a range of pencils from 4H to 6B?