

Illustrating Imaginary Worlds: World Book Day Art

Learning objective: To explore how artists use colour, composition, and texture to visually interpret characters and settings from literature.

Use your knowledge of artistic techniques to analyse how we can bring stories to life. Consider how Zara the zebra might use patterns to show the mood of a scene. Answer the following questions in detail, applying your understanding of visual elements.

Word bank: composition · contrast · texture · vibrancy · perspective · focal point · atmosphere · medium

1. Zara the zebra is designing a cover for a story about a mysterious, foggy forest. Explain why Zara might choose a 'cool' colour palette (blues, purples, and greys) to establish the atmosphere, and how this contrasts with a 'warm' palette. (3 marks)

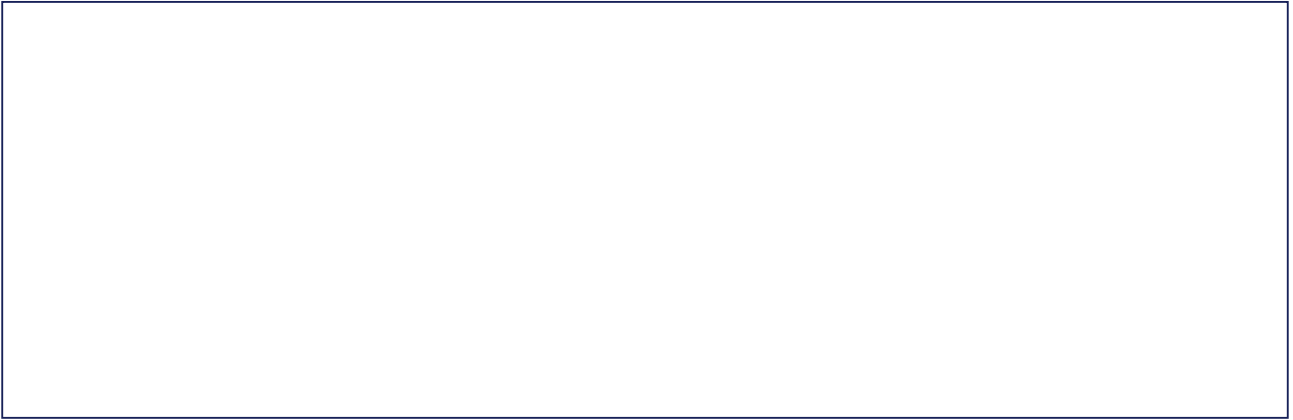
2. When creating an illustration of a character, why is the 'focal point' important? Justify how an artist can use size and position to guide the viewer's eye to the most important part of the page. (3 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the effect of using soft, blended charcoal shading versus sharp, heavy ink lines when illustrating a dramatic scene in a book. What mood does each technique evoke? (4 marks)

4. If you were illustrating a scene set in a bustling marketplace, what perspective would you use to show the scale of the crowd? Explain your choice. (2 marks)

5. What might happen to the narrative impact of an illustration if the artist chose to ignore 'texture' and made every surface in the picture appear smooth and flat? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

Draw: Imagine a new book character. Draw a portrait of them using a specific pattern (like stripes, dots, or geometric shapes) to reflect one part of their personality. Surround them with an environment that uses at least three different textures (e.g., rough bark, soft clouds, jagged rocks).



Extension challenge: Choose a favourite scene from a book you have read. Create a 'storyboard' of three frames that shows the scene from three different angles: a bird's-eye view, a worm's-eye view, and a close-up. Write a short justification explaining how changing the angle changes the way the reader feels about the action.