Zara’s Portrait Masterpiece Quiz

Learning objective: To understand the features, techniques, and purpose of portraiture in art, in line with Year 4 Art and Design requirements.

Help Zara the Zebra identify the key elements of portrait art! Answer the 10 questions below to test your knowledge of how artists capture personality and likeness.

Answer Key: 1. A (Self-portrait); 2. True; 3. Proportion; 4. B (To show emotion); 5. False (It captures the side view); 6. Shading; 7. Composition; 8. False (Artists can use many materials); 9. Background; 10. True.

Word bank: Expression · Proportion · Feature · Self-portrait · Sketch · Shading · Background · Medium · Composition · Profile

1. 1. What do we call a portrait that an artist creates of themselves? A) Self-portrait* B) Solo-sketch C) Mirror-art D) Auto-drawing (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: A portrait can show just the head and shoulders of a person. (1 mark)

3. 3. Which word describes the relationship between the sizes of different parts of the face, like the distance between the eyes and the chin? (One-word answer) (1 mark)

4. 4. Why might an artist paint a person with a wide smile? A) To make the canvas look messy B) To show emotion* C) To hide the teeth D) Because they forgot to paint the eyes (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: A 'profile' portrait shows the person looking directly at the viewer. (1 mark)

6. 6. What technique do artists use to make a flat drawing look 3D by adding light and dark areas? (One-word answer) (1 mark)

7. 7. What is the word for how an artist arranges the elements on the page? (One-word answer) (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: Portrait artists are only allowed to use pencils. (1 mark)

9. 9. What do we call the area behind the person in a portrait that helps tell a story about where they are? (One-word answer) (1 mark)

10. 10. True or False: Portraits are often used to show what someone looked like at a specific time in history. (1 mark)

Draw: Zara the Zebra wants to see your artistic flair! Draw a portrait of a friend or family member. Focus on their expression and use shading to give their face a 3D shape.

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a famous artist commissioned to paint a portrait of a historical figure. Which items would you include in the background to show what they were famous for, and why?