

Grade 3 Art Assessment: The Power of Portraits

Learning objective: To demonstrate knowledge of portrait techniques, facial proportions, and the ability to express mood and character through artistic choices.

Read each question carefully. Use the word bank to help you express your ideas clearly. Ensure your drawings are neat and show attention to detail.

Zara the Zebra loves to visit the local gallery. She notices that a portrait is more than just a picture of a face; it is a way to capture a person's personality and their story. Artists use different techniques like shading to create tone, or careful measurements to ensure the eyes, nose, and mouth are in the correct place. Some artists choose bold colors to show how a person is feeling, while others keep it simple to focus on the person's expression.

Word bank: Proportion · Expression · Texture · Tone · Symmetry · Features · Mood · Medium · Composition · Sketch

1. What is a portrait? Give a definition in your own words. (2 marks)

2. When drawing a face, where should the eyes usually be positioned in relation to the whole head? Explain why this is important for proportion. (3 marks)

3. Identify two different artistic mediums an artist might use to create a portrait and explain why an artist might choose one over the other. (4 marks)

4. How can an artist use 'tone' and 'shading' to make a face look three-dimensional rather than flat? (3 marks)

5. Look at a friend or family member. How would you change your drawing style if you wanted to make them look 'happy' versus 'serious'? Mention specific facial features. (3 marks)

6. Extended Writing: Zara wants to paint a portrait of her friend Leo the Lion. She wants the portrait to show that Leo is brave and gentle. Describe how she could use color, background, and facial expression to communicate these two personality traits. Why are these artistic choices important? (5 marks)

7. Bonus: If you were to sell a portrait you created, why might you charge more for a detailed oil painting than a quick pencil sketch? (5 marks)

Draw: In the space below, create a self-portrait. Focus on getting the proportions of the eyes, nose, and mouth correct. Add shading to show the light source.



Extension challenge: Total: /25