Zara's Festive Art Workshop

1. Blue and yellow. (1 mark)

Working: Green is a secondary colour made by mixing blue and yellow.

Award 1 mark for both blue and yellow.

2. Red and orange (or yellow). (2 marks)

Working: Warm colours are associated with heat and light.

Award 1 mark for each correct warm colour.

3. Using different materials adds texture, which makes the bird look more realistic and interesting to touch. (3 marks)

Look for: The student must mention 'texture' or how the materials change the look/feel of the collage.

Good: It makes the bird look nice and colourful.

Better: It adds texture so the bird looks more real than just using paper.

Best: Using felt, tissue, and foil creates different textures, making the robin look more realistic and interesting to look at.

What moves an answer up: Moving from a simple opinion to using the specific vocabulary word 'texture' and explaining the effect.

4. I would draw small triangles or dots in a repeating pattern. This makes the star look decorated and eye-catching. (4 marks)

Look for: A description of a pattern and a reason why it improves the design.

Good: I would draw dots all over the star.

Better: I would draw a pattern of triangles because it makes the star look fancy.

Best: I would use a repeating pattern of small triangles and circles because it makes the star look detailed and festive.

What moves an answer up: Moving from a simple idea to a specific, descriptive pattern with a clear artistic reason.

5. I would design a card with a snowman. I would use cotton wool for the body, felt for the scarf, and blue and white paint. This is a good design because it feels cold and wintery. (5 marks)

Look for: The student must include a subject, materials, colours, and a reason for their choices.

Good: I would draw a snowman with paint and paper. It is a good design because it is fun.

Better: I would make a snowman using cotton wool and blue paint. It is a good design because it looks like a snowy winter day.

Best: I would design a snowman using cotton wool for texture, felt for a scarf, and blue and white paint. These choices are good because they represent the cold, snowy feeling of December.

What moves an answer up: Moving from a basic list to a detailed explanation that links materials to the theme.

6. It is important to clean the brush so the colours do not mix and become muddy or brown. (2 marks)

Working: Mixing dark and light colours on a brush ruins the brightness of the new colour.

Award 2 marks for explaining that it prevents colour mixing/muddy colours.

7. You could describe the pinecone as 'rough', 'bumpy', or 'spiky'. (2 marks)

Working: Texture refers to how a surface feels.

Award 2 marks for any appropriate descriptive word for texture.

8. A secondary colour is a colour made by mixing two primary colours together. For example, mixing red and yellow makes orange. (4 marks)

Working: Primary colours are red, yellow, and blue.

Award 2 marks for the definition and 2 marks for the correct explanation of how to make one.

What a secure answer looks like

A secure answer uses the vocabulary from the word bank (texture, pattern, primary, secondary) correctly in context. Pupils should be able to link their artistic choices to the festive theme.

If your child is stuck

Ask the child to close their eyes and imagine the object (like a pinecone). Ask: 'Does it feel smooth like glass or bumpy like a rock?' Use those words to describe the texture.

Common mistakes to watch for

Children often confuse primary and secondary colours, or they may forget that 'texture' refers to the physical feel of an object rather than just its colour.