Festive Patterns and Artistic Traditions

1. C) Red and gold (1 mark)

Working: Red and gold are traditional warm colours used to create a cosy, festive atmosphere.

Award 1 mark for the correct option.

2. True (1 mark)

Working: Snowflakes have a central point and radiate outwards with identical patterns on each side.

Award 1 mark for the correct answer.

3. B) Tessellation (1 mark)

Working: Tessellation is the mathematical term for shapes fitting together without gaps or overlaps.

Award 1 mark for the correct option.

4. A) Green (1 mark)

Working: Blue + Yellow = Green.

Award 1 mark for the correct option.

5. C) Paper cutting (1 mark)

Working: Paper cutting (often used for snowflakes) involves folding and cutting to create symmetry.

Award 1 mark for the correct option.

6. D) The lightness or darkness of a colour (1 mark)

Working: Tonal value refers to the shade or tint of a colour, not the medium or subject.

Award 1 mark for the correct option.

7. False (1 mark)

Working: Cool colours (blues, whites) create a cold or icy effect, not a warm one.

Award 1 mark for the correct answer.

8. B) The placement of the focal point (1 mark)

Working: Composition is about how elements are arranged to guide the viewer's eye.

Award 1 mark for the correct option.

9. Red, yellow, and blue (1 mark)

Working: These are the primary colours from which all other colours are derived.

Award 1 mark for naming all three correctly.

10. Symmetry creates a sense of balance, order, and harmony, which makes designs look neat and professional. (2 marks)

Look for: The student must mention balance, order, or visual harmony.

Good: It makes the card look balanced and neat.

Better: Artists use symmetry because it makes the design look balanced and organised, like a real snowflake.

Best: Symmetry creates a sense of visual harmony and order, which is essential for festive designs like snowflakes or stars to look balanced to the viewer.

What moves an answer up: Moving from 'neat' to 'visual harmony' shows a deeper understanding of artistic composition.

What a secure answer looks like

A secure answer demonstrates an understanding of colour theory and the mathematical nature of patterns. Students should be able to link artistic terminology like 'tessellation' to real-world examples.

If your child is stuck

Ask the child to look at a piece of wrapping paper or a tiled floor and ask, 'Do these shapes fit together without leaving any gaps?' This helps them visualise tessellation.

Common mistakes to watch for

Children often confuse primary and secondary colours, or mistake 'symmetry' for 'tessellation'. Remind them that symmetry is about reflection, while tessellation is about repeating shapes.