Mastering Perspective: The Artist's View

Learning objective: I can use vanishing points and horizon lines to create the illusion of 3D space on a 2D surface.

About 15 minutes. Grown-up tip: Encourage your child to look out of a window and identify where the road or fence lines seem to meet in the distance.

Today, Zara is helping us explore linear perspective. When we draw, the horizon line is where the sky meets the land. A vanishing point is the single spot on that line where all parallel lines seem to disappear. Example: To draw a road, start with a dot on the horizon line. Draw two diagonal lines spreading out from that dot towards the bottom of your page. Everything inside those lines looks like it is getting closer to the viewer.

Word bank: Vanishing point · Horizon line · Foreground · Background · Parallel · Convergence

1. 1. Defining the Horizon: Describe where the horizon line is positioned in your sketch and explain why it is essential for creating depth. (2 marks)

2. 2. Finding the Point: Identify where you have placed your vanishing point. How does this placement change the viewer's focus in your artwork? (2 marks)

3. 3. Foreground vs. Background: Explain how you have used scale (the size of objects) to show that a street lamp or tree is in the foreground rather than the background. (3 marks)

4. 4. Mathematical Patterns: If you were drawing a row of houses leading to the vanishing point, why must the height of the houses decrease as they get closer to the horizon? (3 marks)

5. 5. Applying Technique: Describe the steps you took to ensure your parallel lines (like the edges of a pavement) accurately converge at your chosen vanishing point. (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Try drawing a two-point perspective scene. Instead of one vanishing point, place two on your horizon line at opposite ends of the page. How does this change the 'angle' of the buildings you draw?



I did it! Name: _____ Date: _____

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