

Exercises to improve drawing skills.

1. Contour drawing: A contour line defines a form or an edge. It is the outline or silhouette of a given object or figure. Additionally, a contour line includes lines or edges that intersect the outline. A contour line is a continuous line that is drawn very slowly depicting the outline of an object.

A. Blind contour drawing:

1. Do not look at the paper while drawing.
2. Keep the pencil in contact with the paper at all times.
3. Be silent and quiet so that the mind stays in the correct state for drawing.
4. Erasing is not allowed.
5. Draw very slowly.
6. The pencil should follow the eye as it travels slowly around the object.
7. Cover the drawing hand if tempted to peek.

B. Modified contour drawing:

1. Look at the paper only 10 % of the time.
2. Can lift the pencil to reposition it.
3. Be silent and quiet so that the mind stays in the correct state for drawing.
4. Erasing is not allowed.
5. Draw very slowly.
6. The pencil should follow the eye as it travels slowly around the object.

2. Gesture drawing: A fast observation drawing that captures the essence of the object.

A. Draw quickly.

B. Tighten or stiffen the wrist.

C. Draw with the arm from the shoulder.

D. Erasing is not allowed.

E. This is not an outline or contour drawing. Use shapes and cross contour lines.

3. Draw upside down.

A. Use a photo and place it upside down next to the drawing paper.

B. Do not turn either the drawing or the image right side up until finished.

C. Compare lines, angles and spaces.

4. Negative space drawing.

A. Draw the shapes and spaces around the object.

B. Draw the shapes and spaces in between objects.

C. Darken the negative spaces/shapes in leaving the object white.



5. Vase/Face drawing

A. On one side of the paper, draw a profile of a face.

B. On the other side of the paper, draw the other profile but concentrate on the spaces between the lines.

