

10.3 Tonalities

A sense of volume of some three-dimensional object can be captured by line alone. Tonalities that capture light and shadow can greatly enhance the realism of a drawing. A useful exercise to attempt in the initial stages is to use the tool to build different tonalities (shades of grey). Begin with the very light shades that is almost white and work your way towards a shade that is close to black.



Fig. 10.3.01

The drawing above shows seven squares having different tonalities. Use different tools to create similar sets of squares that become progressively darker. Use the techniques of hatching and stippling to create such tonalities with a ball pen.



Fig. 10.3.02

The still life composition captures light falling on the objects as well as the shadows that are cast. Use basic forms such as cubes, spheres, cylinders and cones made of plaster as models for drawing. Observe the light and shadow areas and create appropriate tonalities by shading.



Fig. 10.3.03

Natural forms are often variations of the basic forms of spheres, cylinders, cubes and cones. Notice that there are almost no distinct lines that can be seen. Those that appear as lines gradually fade out and merge with surrounding tones.

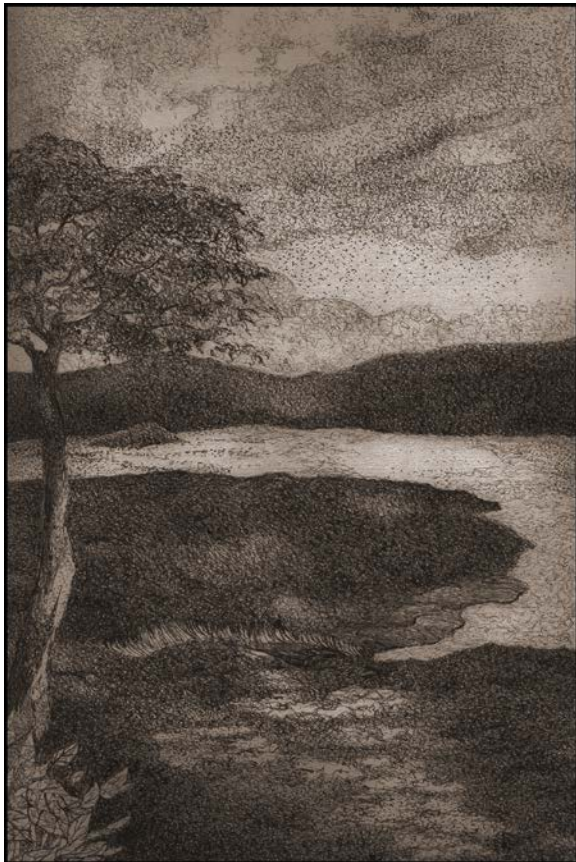


Fig. 10.3.04

A landscape created using a ball pen. Tonalities are created by using the pen very lightly and by repeatedly working over with slightly more pressure, to build the darker areas.



Fig. 10.3.05
A photograph may be used as a reference for works such as these. To get a cat to pose patiently is not easy.