Draw with Pencil on Black Paper

Reference | Worked example | A4

Original prompt

Worked example: a small comparison plate with one light mark and one mid-tone mark on black paper, plus a simple shape using both values.

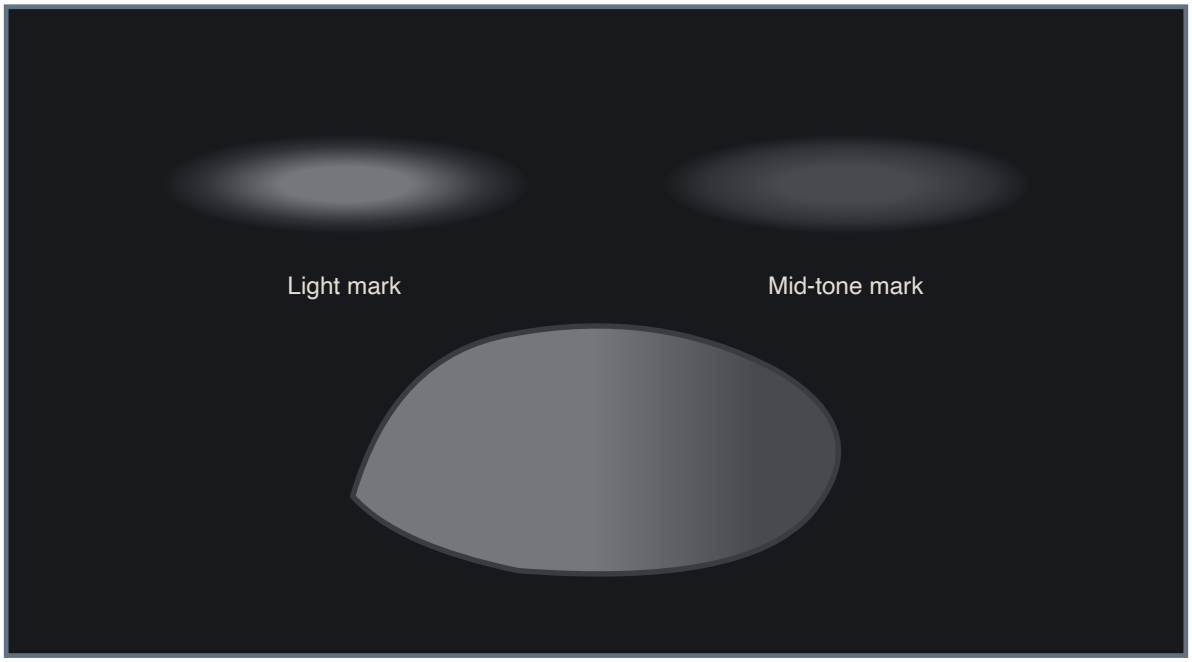

Illustration of the relative values. Test your actual materials on a scrap of the same paper.

Answer

Make two short, similar-length graphite marks with gentle overlapping passes. Compare them under steady light: choose the lighter gray as the lit value and the next darker gray as the mid-tone, with both above bare black. Draw a small rounded pebble below. Leave most of it the lighter gray and use the mid-tone on one side to suggest the soft shadow.

Reasoning

The plate isolates two observed values, then puts them on one form. Changing the angle can change graphite shine. Keeping the light and angle steady makes the comparison useful.

Check

At the same angle, confirm the patches separate into bare black, mid-tone and lighter gray. In the pebble the shadowed side uses the middle value.