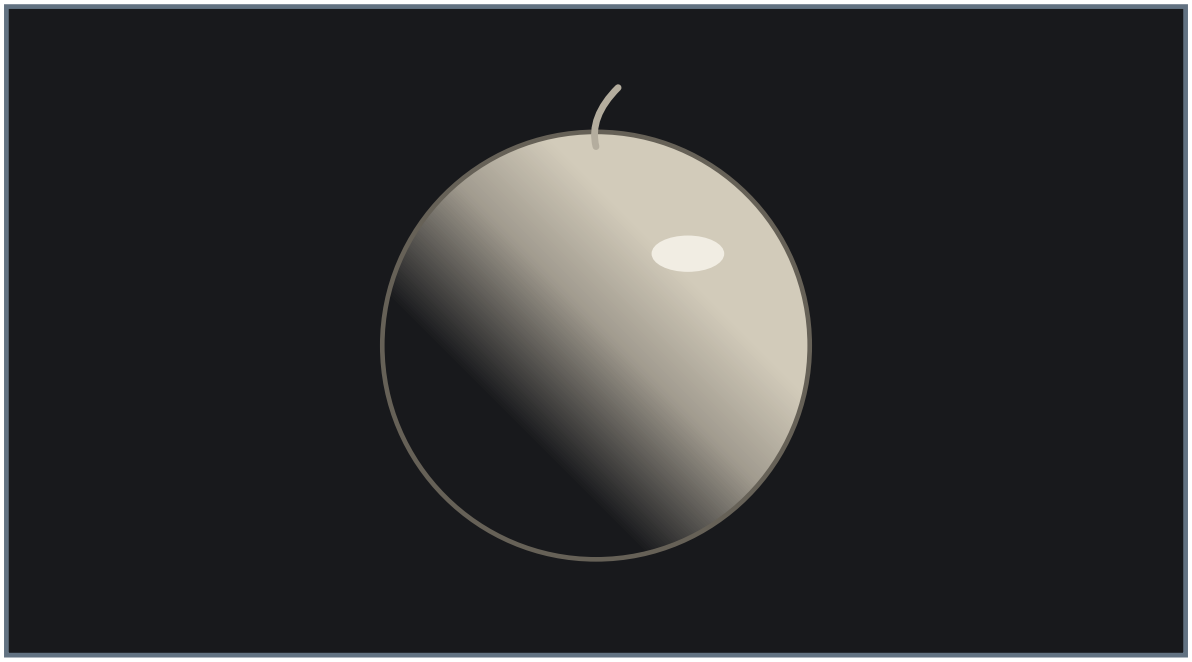
White Charcoal on Black Paper

Answer | Task 1 of 4 | LETTER

Original prompt

Task 1 — Highlight placement: draw a rounded fruit shape on black paper lit from the upper right, with one bright highlight, one mid-tone and a bare-black shadow side.



Answer

The highlight is a clean bright mark on the upper-right surface; a smudged mid-tone band wraps around it; the lower-left remains untouched black paper.

Reasoning

Placing the brightest mark first fixes the light direction; the mid-tone is thinner so it reads dimmer; the shadow side is left bare because the black ground already provides the dark.

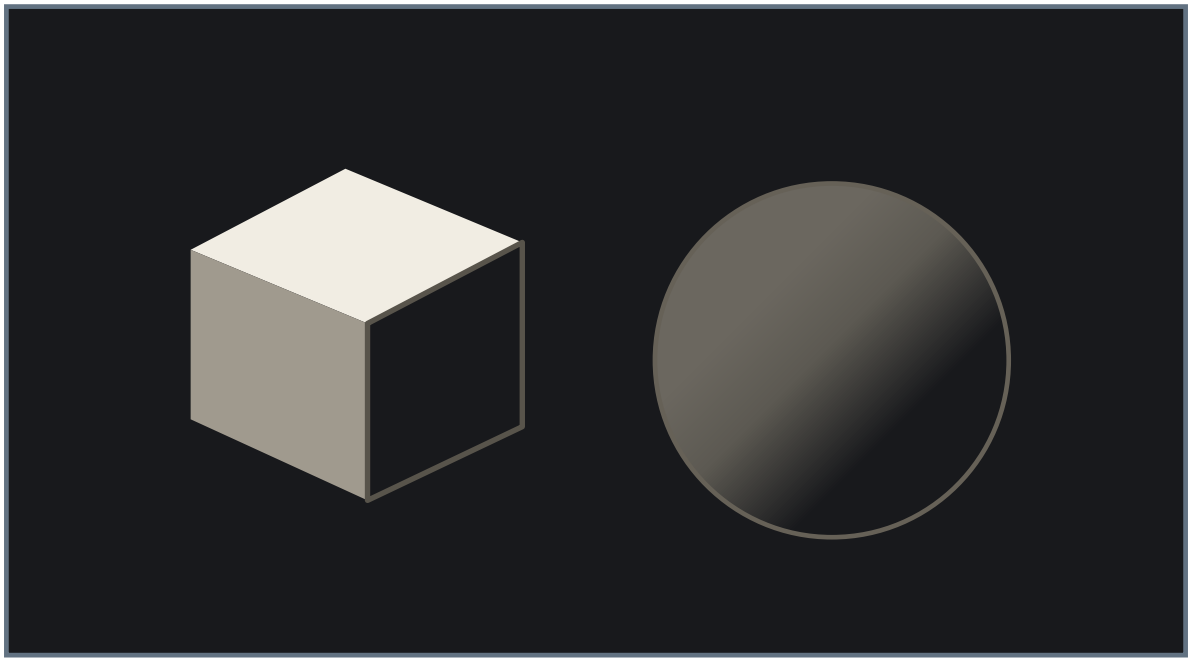
Check

Squint: the highlight should still be the brightest spot and the shadow side the darkest. If the shadow side looks grey, lift charcoal with an eraser.

White Charcoal on Black Paper

Original prompt

Task 2 — Contrast: draw two adjacent simple shapes (for example a cube and a sphere) on black paper, making one clearly brighter overall than the other while both stay readable against the black.



Answer

One shape carries a strong bright highlight and a clean mid-tone; the other carries only a faint mid-tone and a large bare-black area, so the two read as clearly different in brightness.

Reasoning

Contrast is judged by comparing marks to the black around them and to neighbouring marks; deliberately giving one shape more charcoal and the other less keeps bright, mid and dark areas separated.

Check

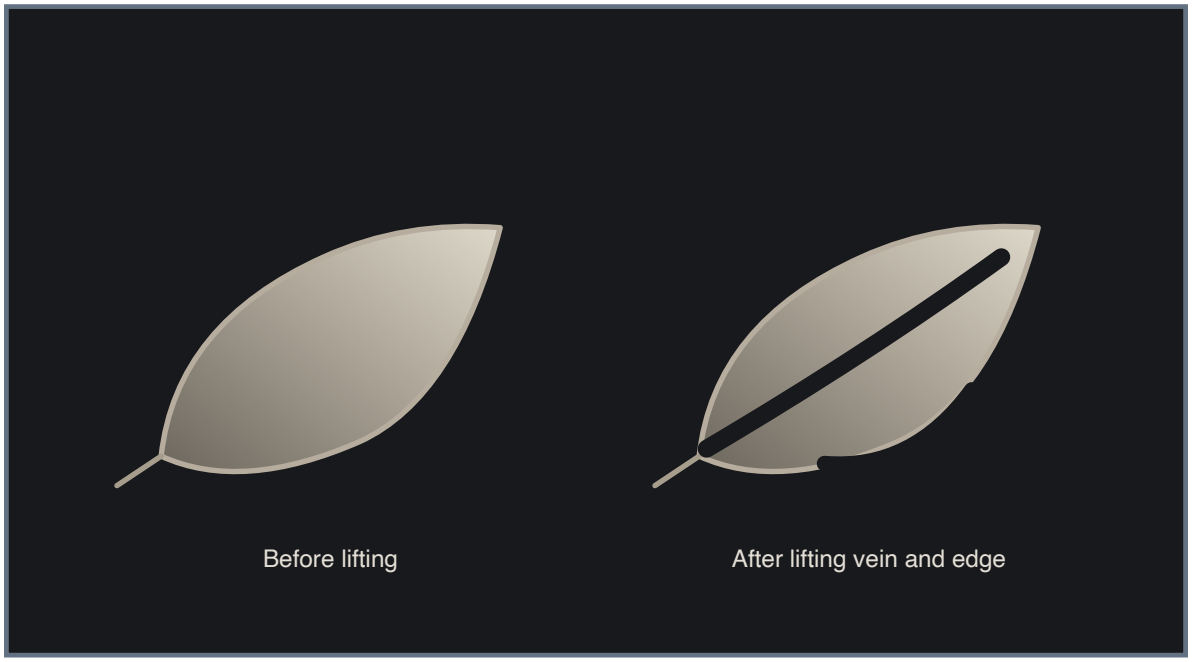
Step back: the two shapes should be distinguishable by brightness alone, and neither should dissolve into the black ground.

White Charcoal on Black Paper

Answer | Task 3 of 4 | LETTER

Original prompt

Task 3 — Lift practice: draw a simple leaf shape on black paper, then use an eraser or cloth to lift charcoal and reopen a dark vein and a dark edge.



Answer

The leaf is drawn in white charcoal, then a dark vein and a dark outer edge are carved back to bare black paper with the eraser, so the leaf reads as a lit shape with dark structure inside it.

Reasoning

Lifting removes charcoal to reveal the black support; reopening a vein and an edge shows how erasing is a drawing tool, not just a correction.

Check

Look at the lifted areas: they should be genuinely black paper, not smeared grey, and the leaf should still read as one shape.

White Charcoal on Black Paper

Answer | Task 4 of 4 | LETTER

Original prompt

Task 4 — Reference-guided redrawing: using the reference plate of a simple still-life group (a cup and a rounded fruit on a cloth), redraw the group on black paper with white charcoal, matching the highlight placement, contrast and lifted edges you observe.



Answer

A redrawing in which the cup and fruit carry highlights on the same side as in the reference, mid-tones are smudged thinner, shadow sides stay bare black, and lifted edges separate the objects from the cloth and from each other.

Reasoning

Redrawing from a reference trains observation: you compare your marks to the reference's bright, mid and dark areas and adjust charcoal amount and lifting accordingly.

Check

Place your drawing beside the reference: highlight positions should match, the brightest and darkest areas should correspond, and lifted edges should keep objects separated.