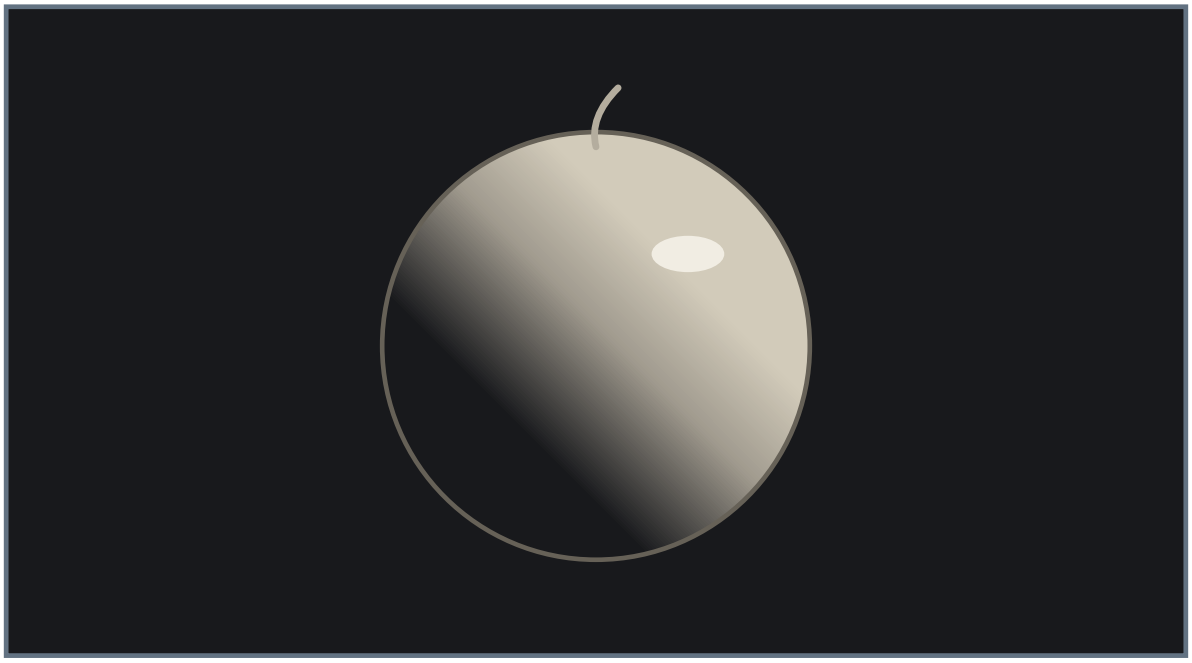
White Charcoal on Black Paper

Answer I Task 1 of 4 I A4

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.

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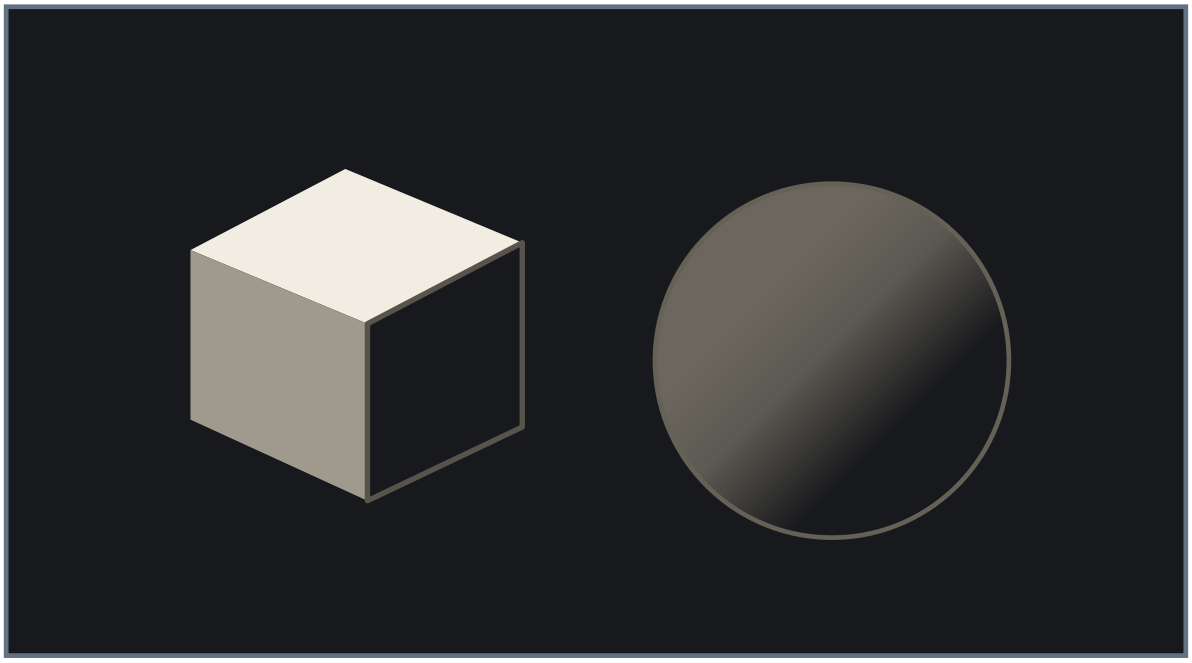
Answer | Task 2 of 4 | A4

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.

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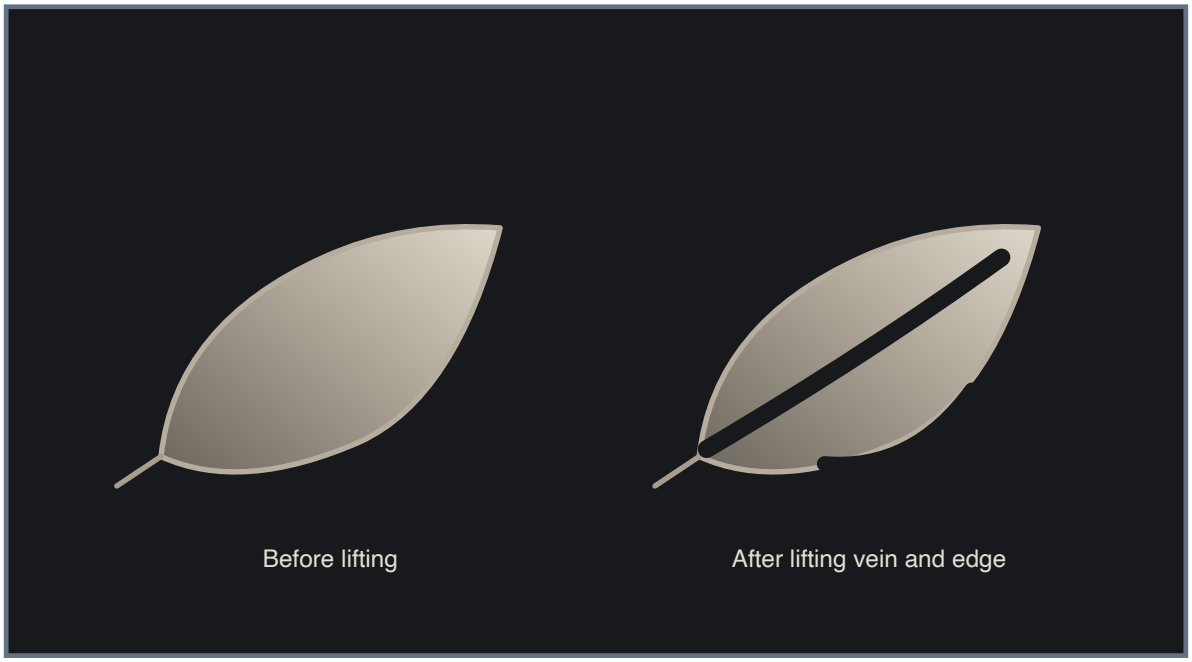
Answer | Task 3 of 4 | A4

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.

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Answer | Task 4 of 4 | A4

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.