Black-and-White Flower Drawing: Outline, Tone, and Contrast

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a four-petal flower with a square center. Use a light source from the top. Apply light tone to the top petal, mid tone to the side petals, and dark tone to the bottom petal and center. Keep the outline continuous.

Answer: A drawing with four rounded petals around a square center. The top petal is mostly light with a thin mid edge. Side petals are mid tone with dark edges where they meet the center. The bottom petal is dark with a small mid highlight. The center is dark with a light top edge. Outline is continuous and dark.

Reason: The top petal faces the light, so it is light. Side petals receive angled light, so mid tone. The bottom petal faces away, so dark. The center is deep, so dark with a light edge from the top light source.

Check: Squint at the drawing. Confirm four distinct petals, a square center, and at least one dark-next-to-light transition. Check that each petal has at least two values.

Task 2

Draw a six-petal flower with a small circular center. Use a light source from the right. Apply light tone to the right petal, mid tone to the upper and lower petals, and dark tone to the left petal and center. Add dark accents where petals overlap.

Answer: A drawing with six rounded petals around a small circle. The right petal is light with sparse mid marks. Upper and lower petals are mid tone with dark edges. The left petal is dark with a mid highlight. The center is dark with a light right edge. Overlaps show dark accents. Outline is continuous.

Reason: The right petal faces the light, so light. Upper and lower petals receive side light, so mid. The left petal faces away, so dark. Overlaps create shadows, so dark accents.

Check: View from a distance. Confirm six petals and a small center. Check that the right side is lighter than the left and that overlaps are dark. Each petal should show at least two values.

Black-and-White Flower Drawing: Outline, Tone, and Contrast

Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

Draw a five-petal flower with a large oval center. Use a light source from the lower left. Apply light tone to the lower-left petal, mid tone to the top and right petals, and dark tone to the upper-right petal and the lower half of the center. Keep the outline dark and continuous.

Answer: A drawing with five petals around a large oval center. The lower-left petal is light with a mid base. Top and right petals are mid tone with dark edges. The upper-right petal is dark with a mid highlight. The center is dark on its lower half and light on its upper half. Outline is continuous and dark.

Reason: The lower-left petal faces the light, so light. Top and right petals receive angled light, so mid. The upper-right petal faces away, so dark. The center's lower half is in shadow from the light direction, so dark.

Check: Squint and check that the lower-left area is lightest and the upper-right is darkest. Confirm the oval center shows two values. Verify the outline is continuous.

Task 4

Draw a three-petal flower with a triangular center. Use a light source from the upper right. Apply light tone to the upper-right petal, mid tone to the left petal, and dark tone to the bottom petal and the center. Add a dark accent where the left petal overlaps the bottom petal.

Answer: A drawing with three rounded petals around a triangle center. The upper-right petal is light with a mid edge. The left petal is mid tone with a dark overlap edge. The bottom petal is dark with a mid highlight. The center is dark with a light upper-right edge. Outline is continuous.

Reason: The upper-right petal faces the light, so light. The left petal receives side light, so mid. The bottom petal faces away, so dark. The overlap between left and bottom petals creates a shadow, so dark accent.

Check: Check that three petals and a triangular center are clear. Squint to confirm the upper-right is lightest and the bottom is darkest. Verify the overlap accent is dark and the outline is continuous.

Black-and-White Flower Drawing: Outline, Tone, and Contrast

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Outline is continuous and clearly defines five petals and a center.
- [ ] Three distinct tonal values are present: light, mid, and dark.
- [ ] Light direction is consistent across petals and center.
- [ ] Contrast is strong enough that petals remain distinct when squinting.
- [ ] Each petal shows at least two values to suggest form.
- [ ] Dark tone is concentrated in creases, overlaps, and center.
- [ ] Drawing is black and white only, with no color.
- [ ] Valid alternative tonal patterns are accepted if they meet the above criteria.

Reflection: What did you check, what did you change, and what will you try next?