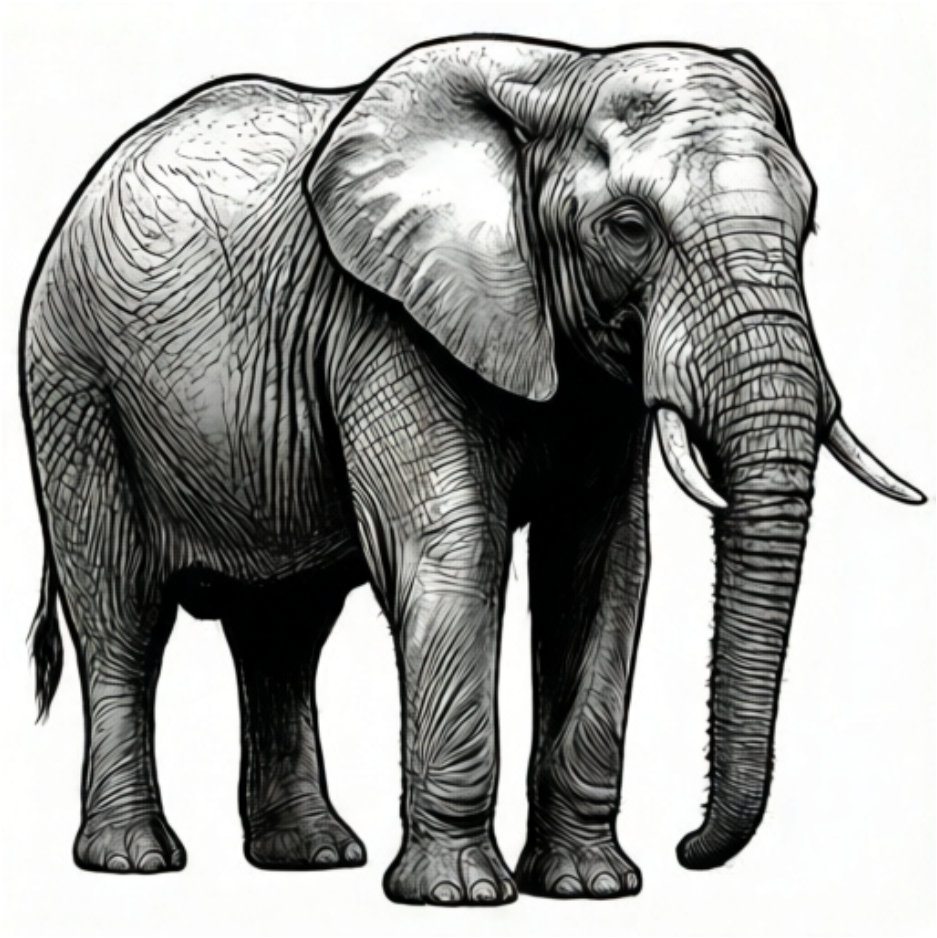
Realistic Elephant Drawing: Skin Texture, Shading and Mass

Topic reference / ordinary illustration



Ordinary topic reference. Hypothetical dimensions in the four tasks are supplied in their own text; this illustration is not their measured answer.

Realistic Elephant Drawing: Skin Texture, Shading and Mass

Worked example / complete source key

A student blocks an elephant head with a domed forehead, an ear fan, and a trunk with two converging guide lines. They shade the ear edge from tone 2 to tone 4 and the trunk shadow at tone 3, then add ring wrinkles at tone 4. The body is a large oval with sparse wide wrinkles and a ground shadow at tone 3. Check the drawing against the conventions.

Answer: The drawing passes if: the ear edge gradient uses two distinct tones from the strip; the trunk tip is visibly narrower than the base; ring wrinkles follow the taper; the body has fewer wrinkles than the trunk; and the ground shadow is tone 3. If the ear and trunk shadows are the same tone, adjust one. If the body is densely wrinkled, remove some strokes to restore mass.