Pencil Water: Ripples and Reflections

Ordinary topic reference / separately checked pixels



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Original worked example / unchanged complete key

Prompt: A still pond with one small disturbance at the center. Draw three ripple ellipses spaced by one x-height, then add a broken reflection of a vertical post on the right side. Use three tonal steps.

Answer: Lightly mark a horizon and baseline. Set one x-height unit. Draw the first ellipse around the disturbance, then two larger ellipses spaced by one and one-and-a-half x-heights. Shade light bands facing the light, mid bands on tilted surfaces, and dark troughs between ellipses. On the right, sketch a faint vertical band for the post reflection, break it with two light gaps, and soften edges. Check average spacing by dividing row length by ellipse count and comparing with the x-height unit.