Realistic Halloween Scene Drawing: Shading and Depth Cues

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.

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Worked example / complete source key

Describe how to draw a foreground pumpkin with a middle-ground tree and background fence, using upper-left light. Include shading and depth cues.

Answer: Draw a horizon line. In the foreground, sketch a large pumpkin oval with a stem, about 8 cm wide (hypothetical example). In the middle ground, draw a tree trunk overlapping the pumpkin's right side, about 5 cm wide. In the background, draw a fence with posts about 2 cm wide, spaced evenly and smaller than the pumpkin. Mark an arrow upper left for light. Shade the pumpkin's lower-right side with mid-tone, leave upper-left light, and add a dark cast shadow to the lower right on the ground. Shade the tree's right side mid-tone and cast shadow to the right. Keep fence shading light mid-tone with low contrast. Squint to check that the pumpkin has the strongest contrast and the fence recedes.