Graphite Landscape Drawing: Tonal Layering Practice

Ordinary topic reference / separately checked pixels



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Original worked example / unchanged complete key

Prompt: A student draws a landscape with sky at value 2, a distant hill at value 2, a middle tree at value 3, a foreground rock at value 4, and nearest grass at value 5. The sky and hill blend together. What is the likely issue and how can it be fixed?

Answer: The sky and distant hill share value 2, so they lack separation and blend together. Fix by building the hill to value 3 with two light HB layers, or lift the sky slightly with a kneaded eraser toward value 1. Keep the foreground at 4 and 5. Check the revised drawing against the value scale to confirm at least three distinct steps and a clear horizon separation.