Negative Space Face Drawing: Shade the Background, Not the Face

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

A face outline is drawn on paper. The gap between the eyes measures 3 cm and one eye width measures 3 cm. Shade the background around the contour using parallel strokes, leaving the face unshaded. Describe the check you would perform.

Answer: Shade the background from the paper edge toward the contour, keeping stroke ends near the line. Leave the face area unshaded. Check that the gap between the eyes (3 cm) equals one eye width (3 cm) as a hypothetical example. Verify no shading entered the face and that stroke direction is consistent.