Negative Space Still Life Drawing: Compare Object and Gap Shapes

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.

Negative Space Still Life Drawing: Compare Object and Gap Shapes

Worked example / complete source key

A still life has a bottle and a bowl. The gap between them is 4 cm wide and 8 cm tall on the plate. On your drawing, the gap is 3 cm wide and 8 cm tall. Compare the ratios and state one adjustment.

Answer: Observed ratio is 8:4, or 2:1. Drawn ratio is 8:3, or about 2.7:1. The drawn gap is too narrow relative to its height. Widen the drawn gap from 3 cm to about 4 cm, or reduce its height to about 6 cm, so the ratio is closer to 2:1. Then check the shared edge with the bottle's right side.