How to Draw Glowing Dragon Scales with Highlight Gradients

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 student draws a single scale 2 cm wide and 1.5 cm tall with light from the upper left. The bright core covers the upper third, the middle band covers the center, and the rim band covers the lower right edge. The highlight is 3 mm wide. Explain whether the glow logic is consistent and what to check.

Answer: The logic is consistent because the bright core sits toward the upper left, matching the stated light direction, and the rim band is on the opposite lower right edge. The highlight at 3 mm is smaller than one fifth of the 2 cm scale width, which is 4 mm, so it stays small enough to read as a specular spot. Check that the rim band is darker than the middle band but lighter than the separation line, and confirm the transition between bands is soft rather than a hard stripe.