



Visual Arts Virtual Learning

**High School**

**Drawing II**

**Unit: Observational**

**Perspective**

**Lesson:**

**Personal Still life**

April 22, 2020



## Drawing II

### Lesson: Personal Still Life

April 22, 2020

### **Objective/Learning Target:**

The students will be arranging, possibly photographing, and drawing their own still life. The student will identify objects that represent their interests. The student will create an original drawing that correctly shows observational skills utilizing everyday items.



## Bell Ringer:

Brainstorm a list or collect some items that are rather small in scale.

These items should represent who you are. An example: I could collect a small garden shovel, paintbrush, carving tools, and my tiny owl figurine. Each item represents something about what I do, enjoy, or have an interest in.

Your turn, collect your items and see what you can find. Arrange them in a unique way. Try using the image on the next slide as a guide.

## Bell Ringer:



## Three important parts to drawing a still life

### Hierarchy

objects that are closer to the viewer  
are lower on the paper

### Overlap

objects that are closer to the viewer  
overlap objects that are behind them

### Proportion

really look at the objects and make sure  
that they are in proportion to each other.  
is one object half as tall as another?  
is another object three times as wide?  
compare the objects to each other.



## **Activity Lesson:**

**Once you have collected items for your still life, try to get a lamp or light source nearby.**

**You should try to include 3-5 images. Carefully considered placement with overlapping. Arrange your objects rather close to overlap and to have contrast in value and scale.**

**When drawing, you should try to have your items touch or go off on three of the edges of your paper.**

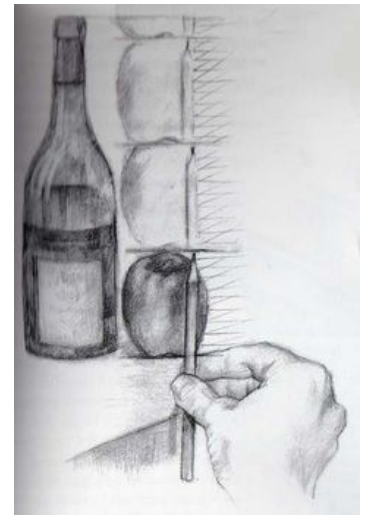
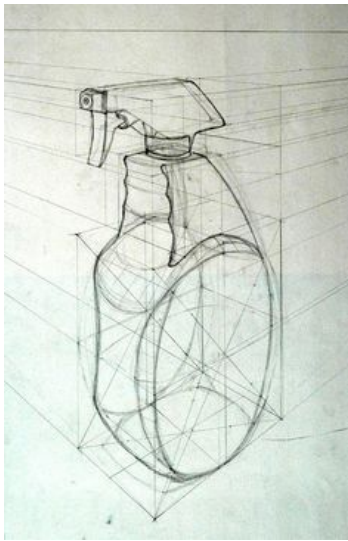
**Make sure to have a light source. Dramatic lighting is best.**

**You may want to put a sheet or set up a simple backdrop. Fabric in general is nice because you can include wrinkles to be part of your interest in your drawing.**

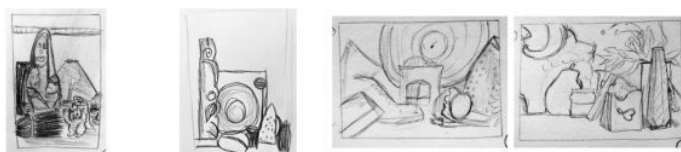
**Taking a photo either with your phone, or camera will help to see what it could look like as an artwork. It is similar to using a viewfinder.**

## Activity Lesson:

Practice the basic forms that you observe. Use perspective and observational skills to assist your proportions and composition.



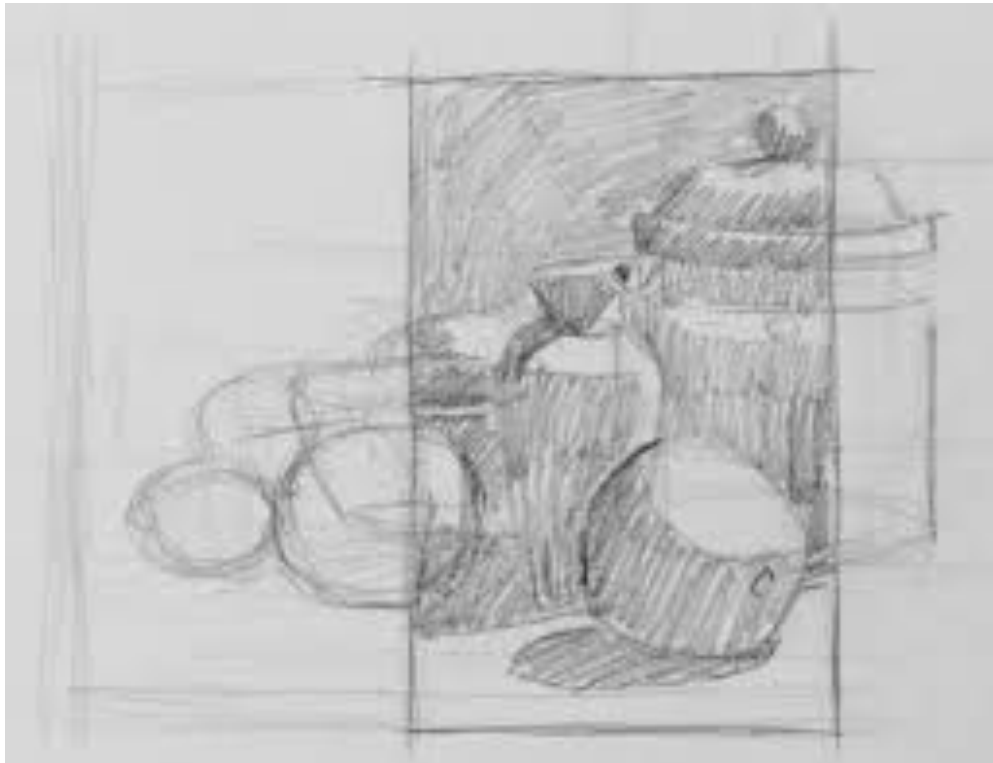
Think back to the urban sketching. The best way to start any drawing is to begin with thumbnail sketches. This allows you to see composition and overall layout of objects. It is fairly quick, and easy.



## Activity Lesson Continued:

Next go to a small sketch once you're happy with the composition and layout. In this sketch remember to block out basic shapes first. Proportion is key! It's not about details until everything looks correct in relations and proportion.

After all is blocked out, start gradually adding more specific features to each item. Do not get caught up on great detail, once again, it's about the overall picture first then independent details after.





## Activity Lesson Examples:





## Activity Lesson Examples:





## Check for Understanding:

1. What items did you pick for your still life?
2. What difficulties did you have setting up your still life?
3. How did you decide on the items in your still life? Did you use a variety of sizes and shapes?
4. Did you try to rearrange items? Instead of right side up, did you tilt it or put it laying down?
5. What type of lighting did you use? Natural or artificial?
6. Did you feel comfortable starting thumbnails and small sketches based off prior knowledge from the urban sketching perspectives?
7. What suggestions would you share if you were to direct a peer on this artwork so far?
8. What do you think your weaknesses and strengths are at this point?



## **Announcement:**

**Please post your artwork on Twitter and/or Instagram using the hashtag #isddoesart**

**All of the teachers are excited to see our students and their work!**



## Resources and Supporting Material:

[How to draw accurately](#)

[How to draw accurately- Part 2](#)

[How to draw accurately- Part 3](#)

[Cezanne- Master of Still life- Apples and Peaches](#)

[Personal still life- Paper collage approach](#)