

Greetings Art I students! We are going to pick up where we left off, practicing realistic drawing techniques. Use pencil or pen on any paper you can find, even the back of an old envelope or the inside cardboard of a cereal box...get creative with your materials if you must. Use what you have and use it well!

All of the topics below are found on the Rapid Fire Art Youtube channel that we had worked with in class. If you are online, let this channel be your guide.

Since it's been a while, practice drawing realistically, focusing on beginning with a light sketch, fixing mistakes as you work, shading smoothly using many tiny layered lines which create gradients instead of outlines. Use a full value range, from the lightest grey to the darkest black. Remember, just as with music, you want to hear deep bass and crisp treble, with everything in-between. Same goes for values in drawing, so use a full "rainbow of grays" to really develop your drawings.

Week One: Human Features

4/13-14 Review realistic eyes, building slowly, lightly, and correcting as you go. Draw as many as you can, starting with the Rapid Fire Art Youtube tutorial and advancing to drawing by looking in the mirror, taking a closeup photo of someone's eye at home, zooming in on a celebrity's eye, or taking a "selfie" of your own eye. Practice makes perfect.

4/15-17 Continue to practice your realistic drawing skills by continuing with the nose and lips, from front and side views. Remember, sketch it lightly and then fix it up as you go!

Week Two: Full Human Face

4/20-25 Now that you have the basic features down let's focus on proportion- how all of those pieces fit together in terms of scale and distance. Once again, look to Rapid Fire Art on Youtube for help and guidance. She does a great job and is very clear. If you are not online, imagine a grid in front of your face as you look in the mirror. Notice that the length of one eye fits in between both eyes. Notice that your lips are just about as wide as your pupils. Notice that the eyes are in the middle of your skull, not counting your hair. Draw the face in frontal, profile and three quarter views this week.

They say learning to draw is learning to see...noticing these distances and proportions will feel like you are truly learning to see from scratch. Realistic drawing can be broken down into three simple ideas:

- 1) Gradients instead of outlines.
- 2) Proper proportion, with all shapes correct.
- 3) A full value range with smooth shading and accurate lighting.

Next week for your final project we will move on to a realistic grid drawing.