

BASICS: PLACEMENT IN SPACE

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An Art Skills Tutorial

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at the
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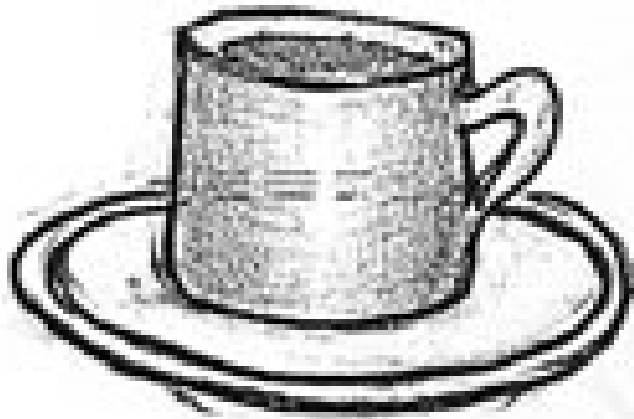
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OVERLAPPING

Overlapping is one of the simplest clues about the space relationships between objects.

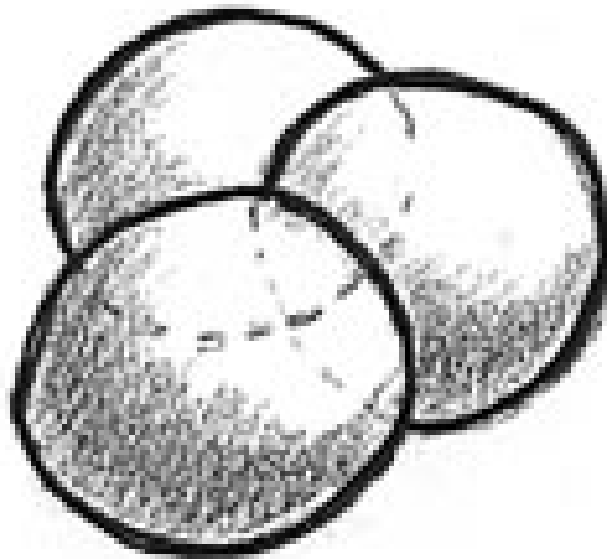
What would the world be like if everything were transparent? What a confusing world it would be!

In this picture of a cup and saucer, if the back edge of the saucer were seen through the cup, it would not be clear that it is farther away than the front edge of the saucer.



Overlapping shapes help us judge what is closer and farther away from our point of view.

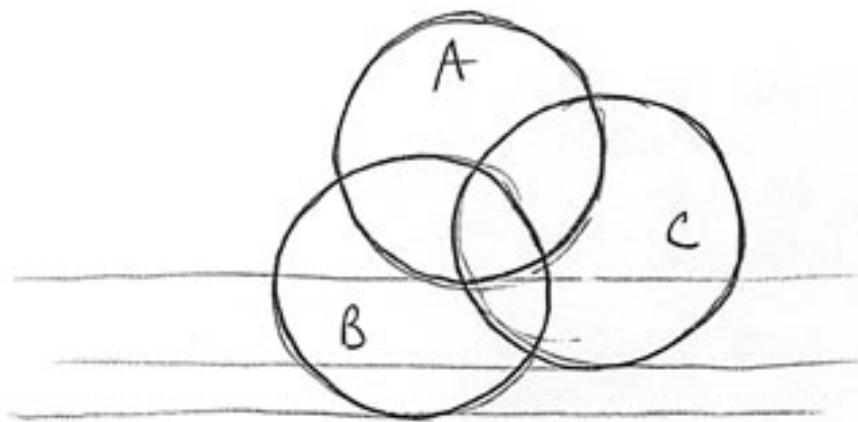
You can see here three overlapping circles, with dotted lines indicating where they overlap.



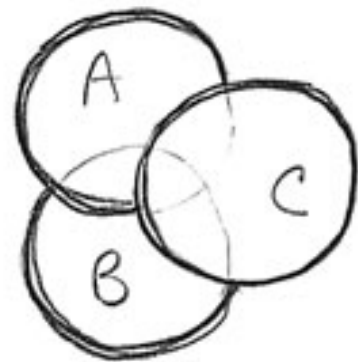
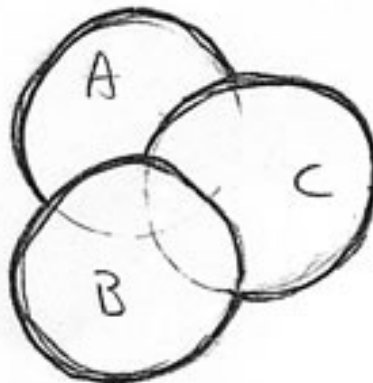
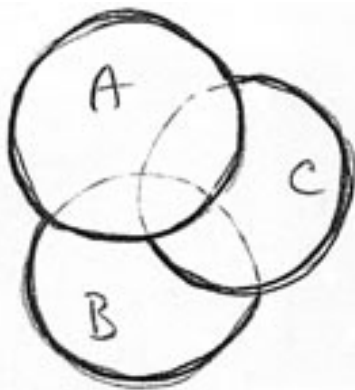
Were they to be drawn with full outlines, they would all appear on the same 2-D plane.

EXERCISE: OVERLAPPING CIRCLES

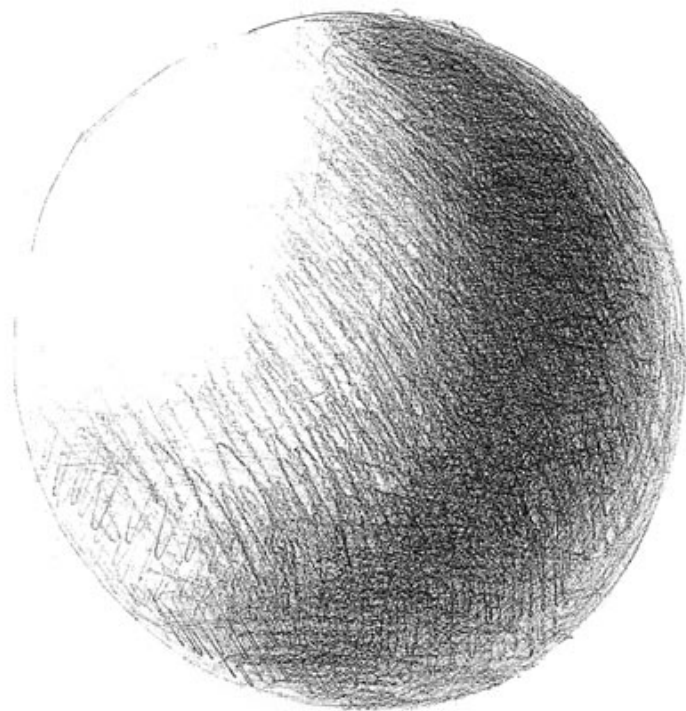
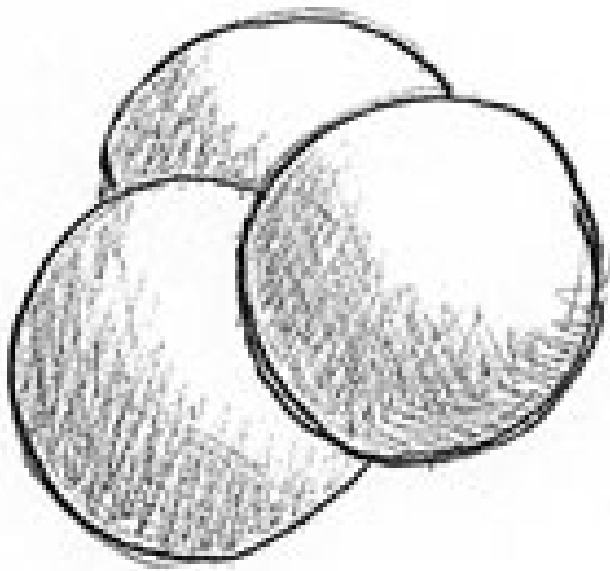
- *Draw three circles that are overlapping with full outlines.*

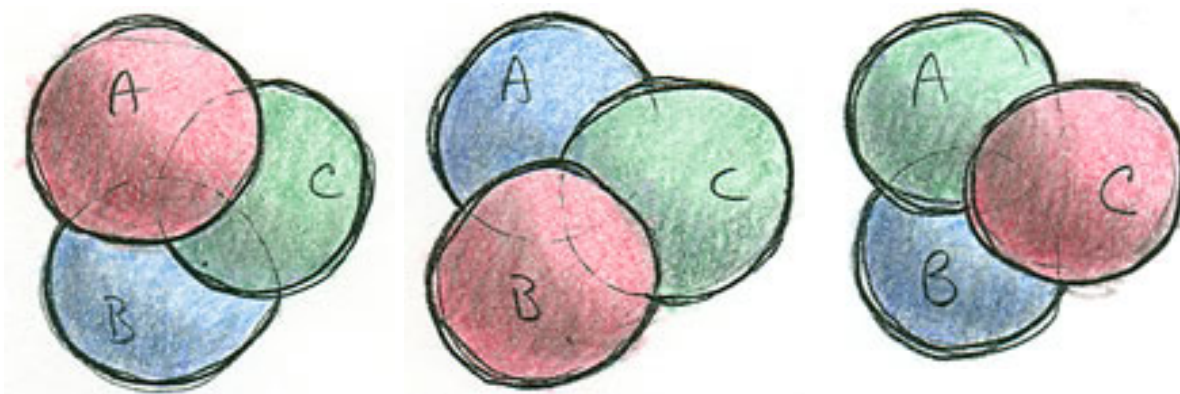


- *Redraw the same three circles, each time making A, B, or C foremost.*



Shade your circles as if they were spheres.





Coloring the most forward sphere red will make it visually come forward.

Coloring the blue sphere will push it back visually.

Green sits between red and blue for this purpose.

Which is the middle sphere in each of these?

Describe what the other two drawings might appear to represent in 3-D.

Which of these three drawings could represent three receding spheres placed on a flat plane?

RECESSION OF BASES TOWARD THE HORIZON

As objects recede in the distance on level ground in three dimensions, they appear to rise toward the horizon on your page in two dimensions.

Some examples of this are:

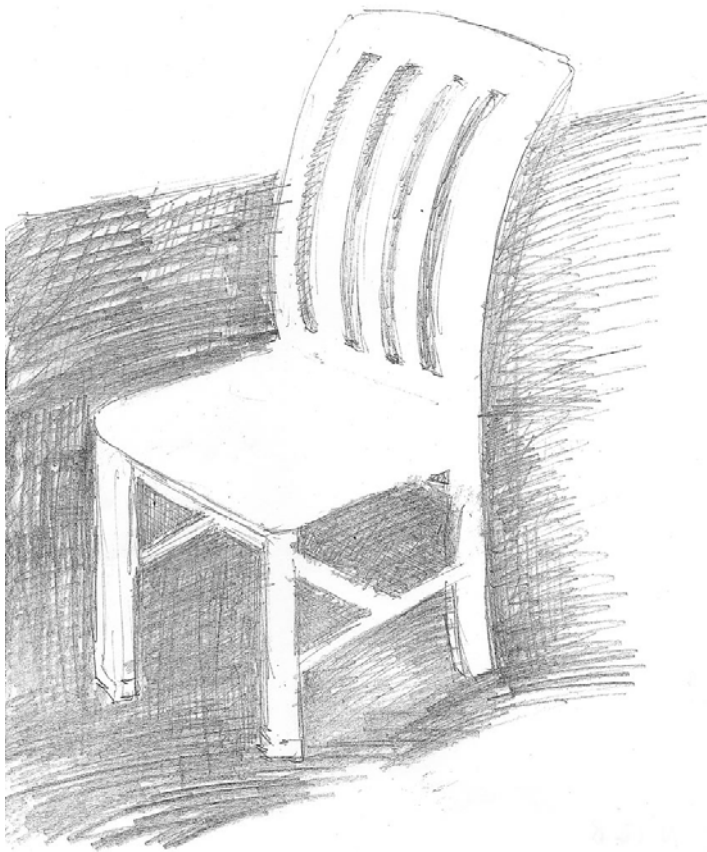
- 1. Chair legs.*
- 2. Tree trunks on flat land.*
- 3. Quadrupeds standing.*

DEMONSTRATE THIS TO YOURSELF

Find a chair or table across the room.

Hold your pencil horizontally in front of you, lining it up with the table or chair feet.

It will be easier to see this clearly if you close one eye while looking.



Compare the far feet with the closer feet.

