

2 Value and the logic of light – Part 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Vocabulary

Write each word three times.

English

Write it 3 times (English)

Value

value scale

core shadow

reflected light

Recall

- You can tell a bright, sunny photo from a dark, moody one.
- You have seen how a ball has a bright side and a shadow side.
- You know a shadow falls on the ground next to an object.

New ideas

Read these first. Each idea has a short worked example. Then do the Practice below.

■ 1 Value

Value is how light or dark a tone is – the backbone of drawing. A **value scale** runs from white through greys to black.

Worked example. Draw a strip in nine steps from white to black; most beginners stop too early and never use the darkest darks.

■ 2 The six zones of light

One light makes six zones: highlight, halftone, **core shadow** (the darkest band on the form), **reflected light**, and cast shadow.

Worked example. On an egg under a lamp, the darkest part of the egg itself is the core shadow, where it turns away from the light.

■ 3 Reflected light

Reflected light bounces back into the shadow side from the table, but it is always darker than the lit side.

Worked example. The bottom edge of a cup's shadow side glows slightly – but never make it as bright as the lit top.

Watch out: The core shadow is on the object; the cast shadow is on the ground. Do not confuse them, and never make reflected light brighter than the lit halftones.

Practice

2.1 What is a value scale? [2]

2.2 Where on a form is the core shadow? [2]

2.3 Why must reflected light stay darker than the lit side? [2]

2.4 What is the difference between a core shadow and a cast shadow? [2]

2.5 Name one common beginner mistake with value. [2]
