# 3 Depth, composition, and the figure – Part 2

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

## Vocabulary

*Write each word three times.*

| **English** | **Write it 3 times** (English) | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Atmospheric perspective | | | |
| Composition | | | |
| rule of thirds | | | |
| halfway line | | | |

## Recall

- You have seen distant hills look pale and blurry compared to nearby trees.
- You know a photo looks better when the subject is not dead-centre.
- You can see a person is several 'heads' tall.

## New ideas

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

### ■ 1 Atmospheric perspective

**Atmospheric perspective** makes distance look lighter, softer, and less detailed. Keep the darkest darks and sharpest edges in the foreground.

*Worked example.* Draw far mountains as pale flat shapes with soft edges, and the near fence dark with crisp detail.

### ■ 2 Composition

**Composition** is how things are arranged in the frame. The **rule of thirds** places the focal point off-centre, which looks stronger.

*Worked example.* Place a lone tree a third of the way across the page, not in the middle – the picture feels more designed.

### ■ 3 Figure proportion

The adult figure is about 7.5 heads tall, and the eyes sit at the **halfway line** of the skull – beginners draw them too high.

*Worked example.* Mark the halfway line down the head first, then place the eyes on it; the face instantly looks more real.

**Watch out:** Do not put one bright, sharp, black detail far in the distance – it jumps forward and destroys the illusion of depth.

## Practice

**2.1** How does atmospheric perspective make things look far away? [2]

**2.2** What is the rule of thirds? [2]

**2.3** About how many heads tall is the adult figure? [1]

**2.4** Where do the eyes sit on the head, and what is the common mistake? [2]

**2.5** Where should the darkest darks and sharpest detail go in a landscape? [3]