Space, Depth, and Proportion

AP Drawing · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
sighting /ˈsaɪtɪŋ/	**Sighting** uses a pencil held at arm's length to measure.
comparative measurement /kəmˈpærətɪv ˈmeʒəmənt/	**Comparative measurement** compares one part with another.
plumb line /plʌm laɪn/	A **plumb line** hangs straight down.
envelope /ˈenvələʊp/	Draw the **envelope**: the simple outer shape first.
linear perspective /ˈlɪnɪə pəˈspektɪv/	**Linear perspective** makes a flat painting look deep.
horizon line /həˈraɪzn laɪn/	The **horizon line** is at eye level.
vanishing point /ˈvænɪʃɪŋ pɔɪnt/	Lines meet at the **vanishing point**.
one-point perspective /wʌn pɔɪnt pəˈspektɪv/	A road going straight away uses **one-point perspective**.
overlap /ˌəʊvəˈlæp/	**Overlap** shows which object is in front.
two-point perspective /tuː pɔɪnt pəˈspektɪv/	A building corner uses **two-point perspective**.
three-point perspective /θriː pɔɪnt pəˈspektɪv/	A tall tower seen from below uses **three-point perspective**.
foreshortening /fɔːˈʃɔːtənɪŋ/	**Foreshortening** makes a near arm look shorter and wider.

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cross-sections /krɒs ˈsekʃnz/	**Cross-sections** show the shape across an object.
atmospheric perspective /ˌætməsˈferɪk pəˈspektɪv/	**Atmospheric perspective** makes distant hills paler.
composition /ˌkɒmpəˈzɪʃn/	The **composition** is how things are arranged in the picture.
picture plane /ˈpɪktʃə pleɪn/	The **picture plane** is the flat surface of the drawing.
rule of thirds /ruːl ɒv θɜːdz/	The **rule of thirds** puts key things a third of the way across.
negative space /ˈnegətɪv speɪs/	**Negative space** is the space around objects.
figure-ground relationship /ˈfɪgə graʊnd rɪˈleɪʃənʃɪp/	The **figure-ground relationship** is between the object and its background.
viewfinder /ˈvjuːfaɪndə/	A **viewfinder** helps you choose what to draw.
viewpoint /ˈvjuːpɔɪnt/	Your **viewpoint** is where you look from.
proportion /prəˈpɔːʃn/	Draw each part in the right **proportion**.
halfway line /ˈhɑːfweɪ laɪn/	The **halfway line** helps you check proportions.