

Exercise walk-through

Charcoal and Conté ■ 4.2

eXercise

You must be able to

- start in erasable **vine charcoal** 柳条木炭
- commit darks in **compressed charcoal** 压缩木炭
- use conté for crisp sanguine/sepia/white lines
- **fix** the drawing before handling

Method — Vine vs compressed

Vine charcoal is soft and dusts off (great for starts); compressed charcoal is dense and permanent (for committed darks).

Method — Trois crayons

White conté + sanguine + black on toned paper is a proven portfolio look.

Method — Fixative

Spray fixative lightly, in layers, with ventilation — and fix before photographing.

Practice 2.1 ■ 1 mark

Which charcoal dusts off most easily, best for starts?

A compressed

B vine

C conté

D graphite

Solution 2.1

Method: Vine vs compressed

A compressed

B vine



C conté

D graphite

Worked steps

B. **vine charcoal** is soft and forgiving.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Why start a charcoal drawing in vine before using compressed charcoal?

Solution 2.2

Method: Vine vs compressed

Worked steps

vine dusts off so you can adjust big shapes freely **B1**; compressed is near-permanent, so commit only once shapes are right **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 1 mark

Give two rules for using fixative safely and well.

Solution 2.3

Worked steps

any two of: spray lightly / in layers / with ventilation / before photographing **B1**.