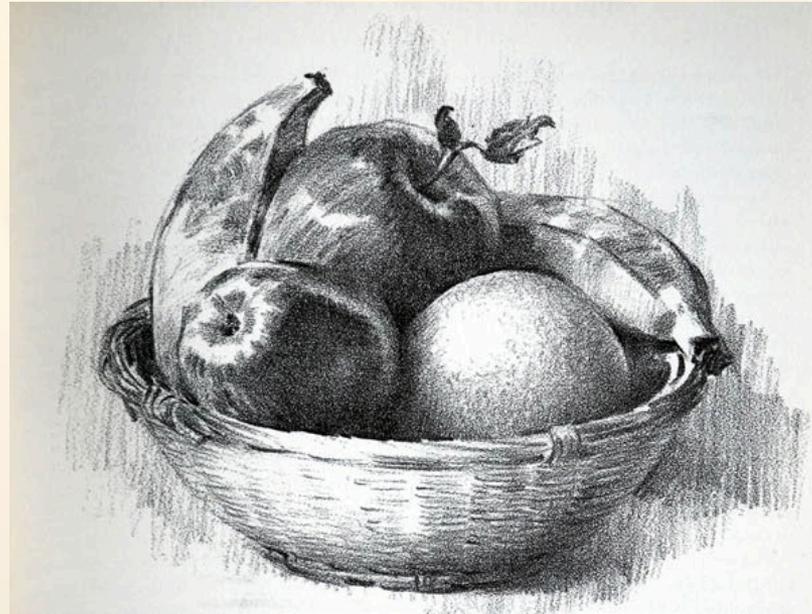# 22.02.21

T: Can I create tone using a pencil?
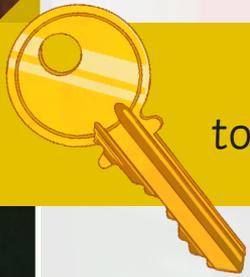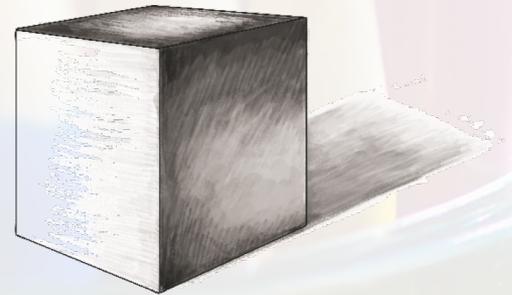
What Is Tone?

What is Tone?

- Artists use tone to create observational drawings. An observational drawing could be a portrait, architecture (buildings) or still life (bowl of fruit).

- Artists use layers of shading to achieve light, medium and dark tones. You may also use cross-hatching to achieve tone. Cross-hatching is when an artists uses layers of line to create highlights and shadows within a drawing.

- You achieve a light tone with a light pressure on the pencil, so you achieve a darker tone with a heavier pressure.

Key Terms
tone, light, medium, dark, shadow, highlight

- Artists use a variety of pencils when drawing. There are harder pencils and softer pencils, which can help you blend light, medium and dark tones.

- It is also useful to have a good quality rubber and sharpener. A rubber can be used to create highlights in a drawing.

- You should also think about the direction of your lines and draw in the same direction when using tone. When you start to draw objects, your lines should follow the shape of what you are drawing.

Tonal Shading

heavy shadow

light source

reflected light

highlight

cast shadow

light shadow

Today's task

Tonal Shading

Remember to have the following equipment ready for this task:
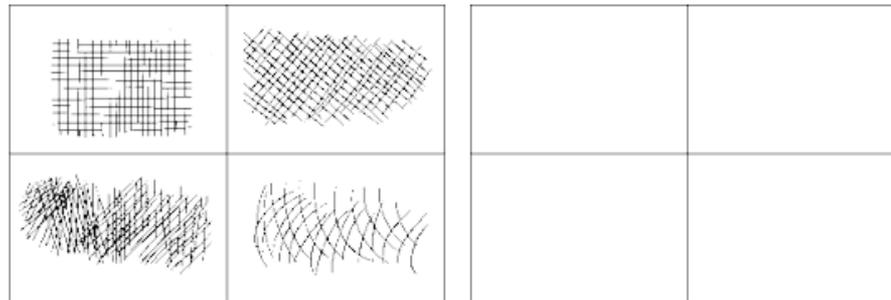
HB Pencil, Rubber and a Sharpener

Using an HB pencil, shade each box with the required tone, copying the box above.

Think about the pressure you apply with the pencil and the direction of your lines. You can also make your shading appear smoother by blending the pencil with your finger or the edge of a rubber.

Now try to use cross-hatching to achieve tone. Copy the direction of lines in each box using a pencil.

Next task

Choose an object you would like to draw. Place the object in front of you to focus on. Use the techniques you have learnt about tone to create your piece of art. Remember to use your pencil carefully to create light and dark shading. Here are some examples: