Art 14
Introduction to Drawing

Theme #2
Linear Perspective

Linear perspective is a system for creating the illusion of depth on a flat surface. It is based on the fact that parallel lines or edges appear to converge and objects appear smaller as the distance between them and the viewer increases. The point on the horizon line where parallel lines appear to converge is called the vanishing point. A work executed in one-point perspective has a single vanishing point. A work executed in two-point perspective has two vanishing points.

Project	Instructions	Supplies
Sighting		
	Practice sighting techniques using a still life composed of boxes	Butcher paper
	As you draw the arrangement, hold your pencil horizontal and find reference points that fall along a straight line	Pencils
	As you draw the arrangement, hold your pencil vertical and find reference points that fall along a straight line	
	Use your pencil to estimate relative sizes by holding it out against an object and using it as a measure	
	Use your pencil to estimate relative angles by holding it out horizontally or vertically against an object and using it as a measure	
Outdoor sketches		
	Use your sighting techniques to draw a landscape view outside the classroom	Sketchpad
	Begin with a quick underdrawing that outlines the basic shapes you are considering in your view	Pencils
	Further define your forms by adding in detail and descriptive line	
Thumbnail sketches		
	Pick an area in the room to draw	Newsprint
	Focus on defining basic shapes, important values and outstanding features rather than minute details	Pencils
	Draw a frame around the drawing, paying special attention to overall composition	

| Linear perspective drawing		
	Create an in-depth drawing that utilizes one-point and two-point perspective techniques	Drawing paper
	Make thumbnail sketches and preliminary underdrawings to work out compositional and perspective problems	Pencils
	If you are looking at a photo or a real landscape (as opposed to an imaginary scene in your mind) use sighting techniques to arrange proportions and angles	

Examples and Inspiration
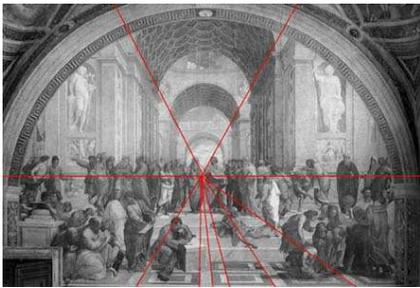
One-point perspective in Raphael's School of Athens, c. 1510 – 1511.

Clarence Carter. Siena. 1991.
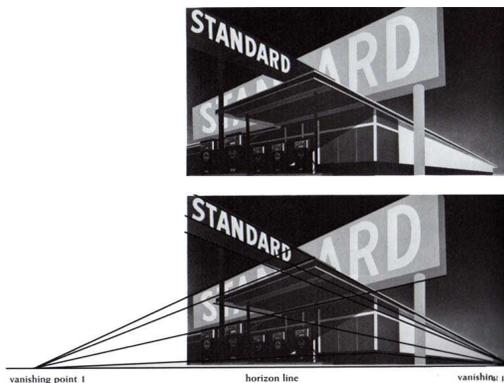
Ed Ruscha. Double Standard. 1969.
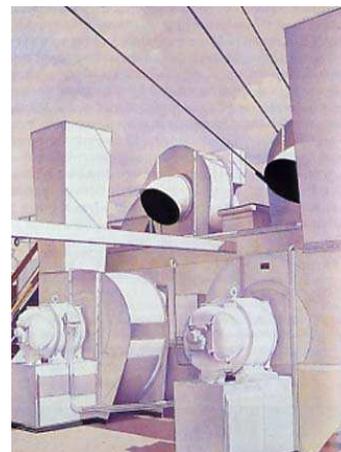
Charles Sheeler. The Upper Deck. 1929.