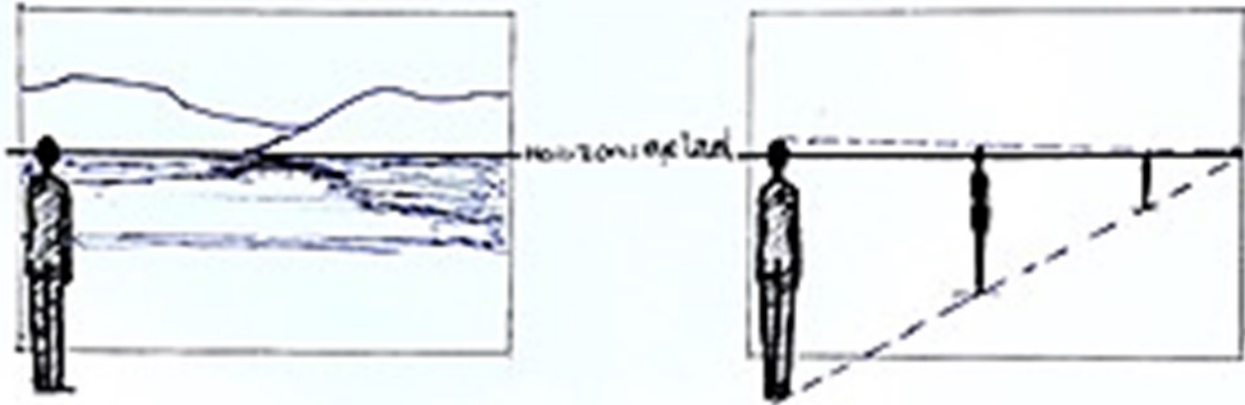


## Nature Drawing with Audrey

### Session 4 - Perspective

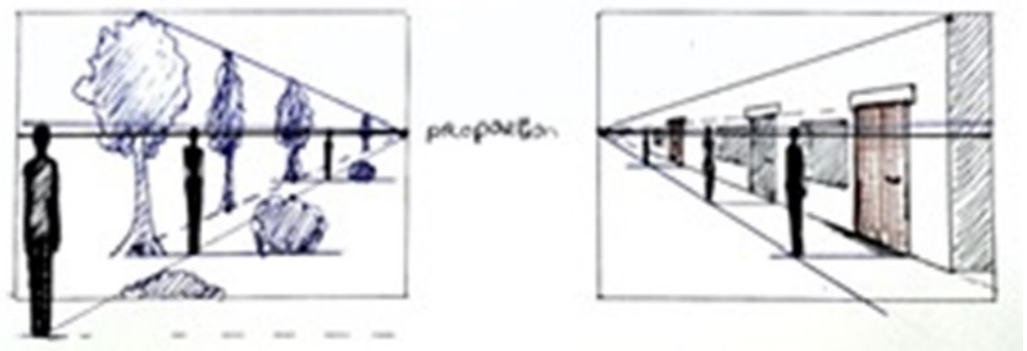


#### Horizon at eye level

First, what is a horizon? It's a theoretical line, which can only be observed when it lies on the sea surface. At other locations, the line is obscured by hills, trees, buildings etc.

The intersection of the earth and sky is called, the **visible horizon**.

A horizon line is essential in art because it allows you to control the **height** of a viewer's eye as they look at the picture. Used most often in outdoor landscapes, horizon lines control perspective and give you a reference point to control the subjects in your drawings, paintings, and other forms of art.



Above: Jeff Jordan, 'Curiosity', 2003, Acrylic on wood

#### Proportion

When you draw a tree, a bush or a building, keep in mind how much taller or smaller the object is in comparison to yourself. A tree for example, a sapling would be the same height as you, a full-grown tree would be double or triple your height. A shed or a door, would be just a bit taller than you, a house can be four times as tall.

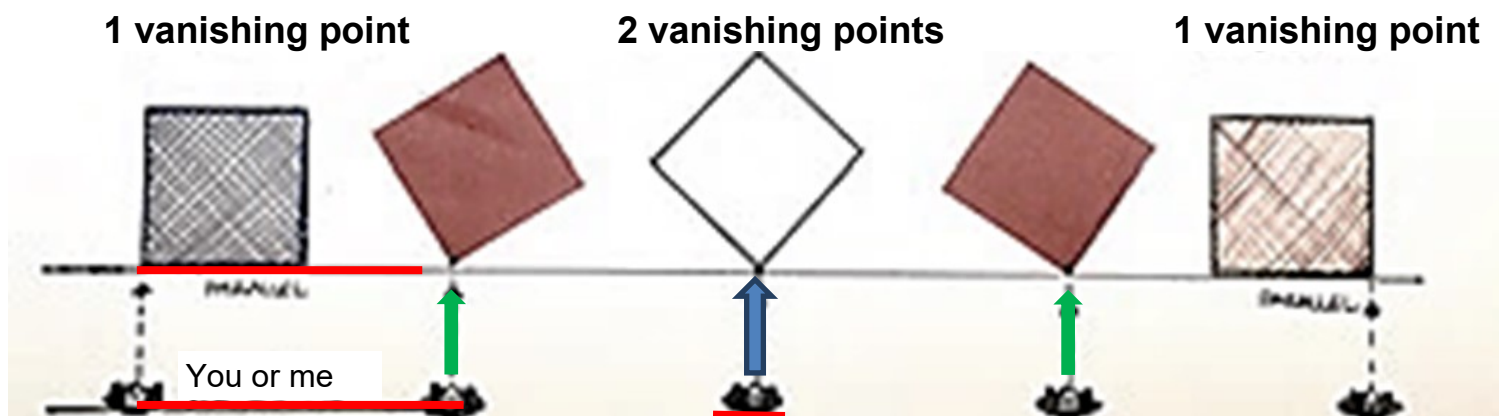
So, what does that mean for when you draw a landscape? A tall tree would be at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  above the theoretical horizon. A bush would come to hip height.

So, you draw a line parallel to the horizon from the figure to get it to the same spot in the landscape (blue line), then get the highest point of the object and draw a line from there to the vanishing point. (green lines)

The same principle you can see in the second example with the bungalow's, the door is just above the height of the person in front. Once you understand all these rules of proportion and perspective it's becomes a lot clearer how, where and how big things should be. Easy? No, but easier I hope.

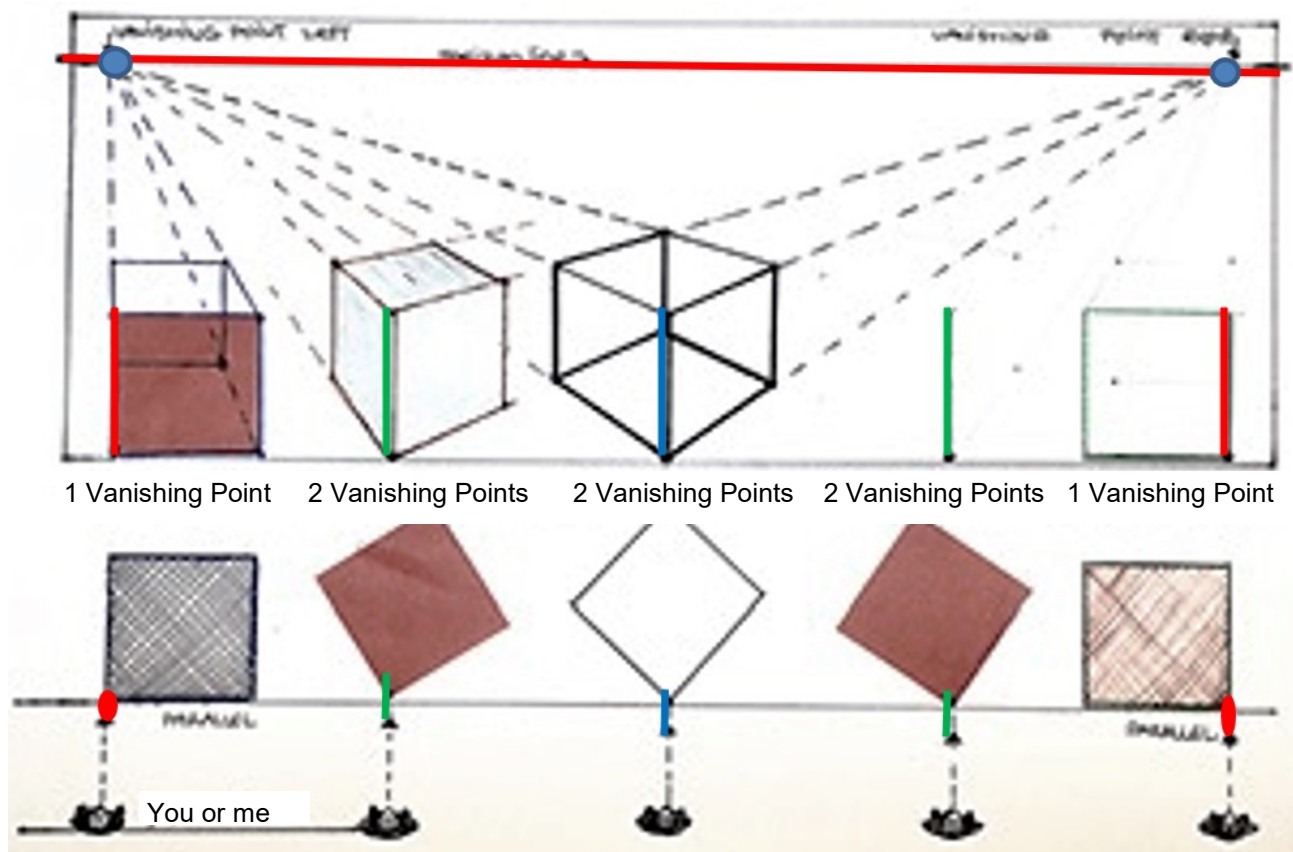
## Nature Drawing with Audrey Session 4 - Perspective

### Perspective with 1 and 2 vanishing points



You use 1 or 2 vanishing points depending on where you are in relation to the object. Have a look at the red lines — you or me as the viewer are on the bottom line looking at the object in front. The object is parallel to you; you only need 1 vanishing point because you can only see 1 side.

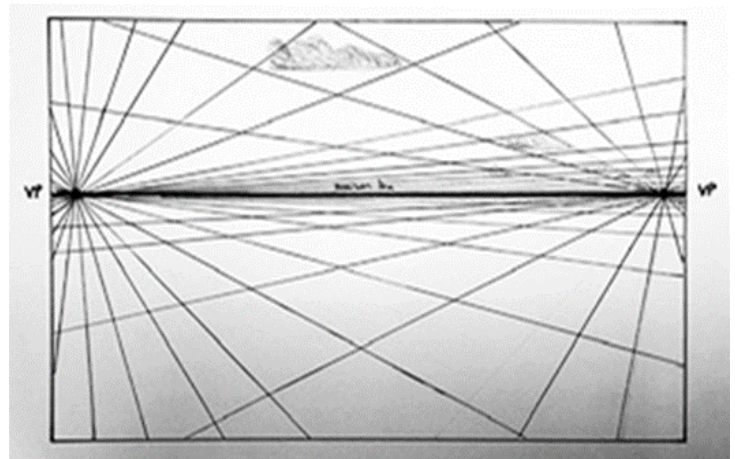
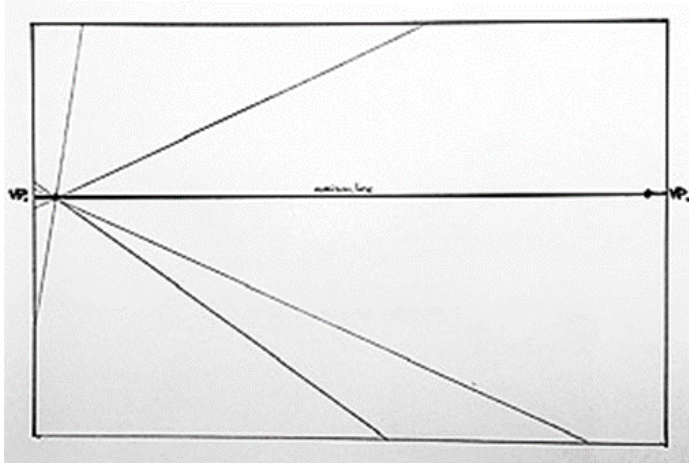
➡ This is where you're looking at two sides of the cube, 2 angles to get right, so 2 vanishing points. The same goes for the green arrow — there are 2 sides of the cube visible although 1 side is slightly more visible than the other because of the particular viewing angle.





## Nature Drawing with Audrey Session 4 - Perspective

At the bottom of the previous page you can see what happens if you draw the cubes in 3D. Draw a horizon with 2 vanishing points, draw the upright of the cube in closest to you. I have drawn in the 3 examples, have a go at drawing the 2 that are incomplete.



This is a drawing exercise with a bit of fun; draw in your horizon with the 2 vanishing points.

Through the 2 vanishing points draw as many lines as you want but draw them closer together the closer you get to the horizon.

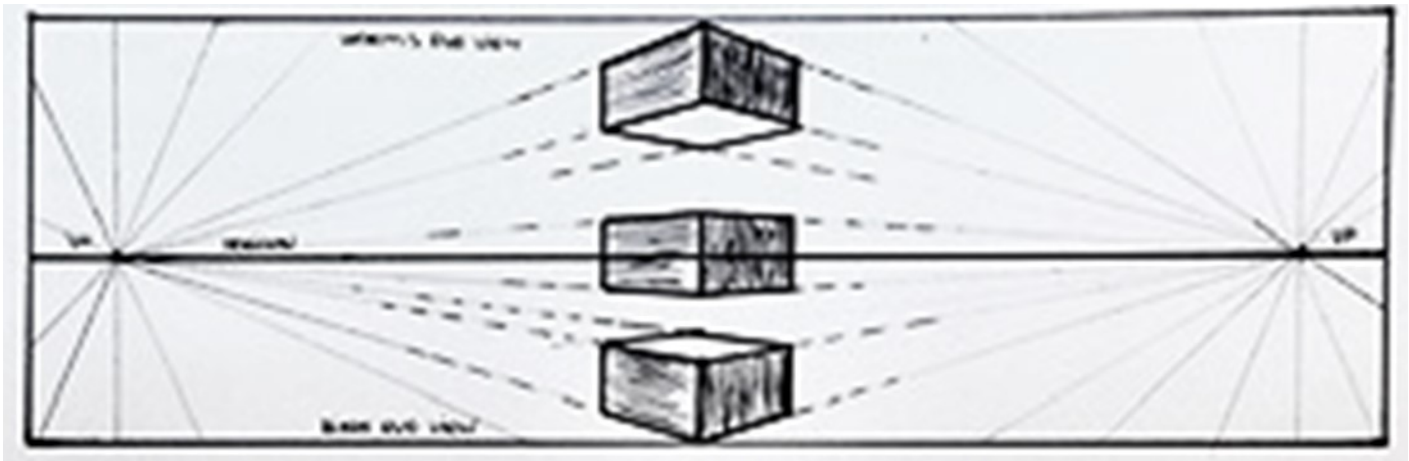
Explore all the possibilities you have.



Here is a example you may not have expected, but look at the clouds and what size they are the closer to the horizon they are.

## Nature Drawing with Audrey

### Session 4 - Perspective



A *bird's eye view* is a view of an object from above, as though you're a bird.

A *worm's eye view* is a view of an object from below, as though the observer were a worm.

Above, I've drawn a horizon with 2 vanishing points. Have a go and draw this yourself.

1 block below the horizon = a bird's eye view.

1 block is on the horizon = eye level / street view.

1 block above the horizon = worms eye view.



### What would this mean in a landscape?

In the image above: on the left you can see a river seen from sitting high in a tree, so a view looking down. The horizon is high up on your paper, the river is wide, you clearly see on top of the roof of the little building and you can see inside the little boats.

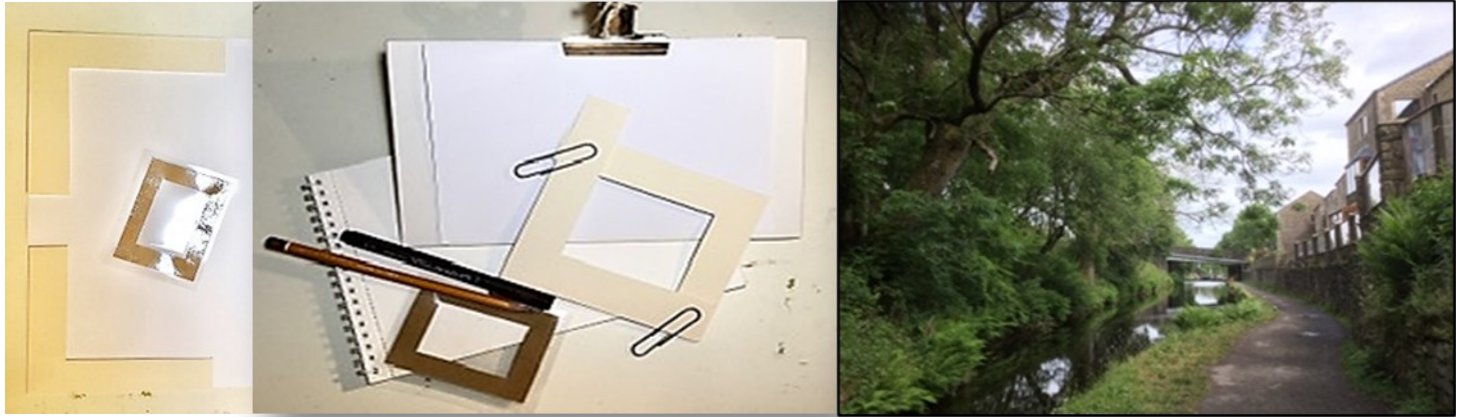
On the righthand example you see the view as if your lying down in the grass, so the view looking up. The horizon is low down on your paper, the river is very narrow, you can't see the roof of the little shed and it's only the sides you can see of the little boats.



## Nature Drawing with Audrey

### Session 4 - Perspective

#### Drawing outside with perspective in mind



#### What do you need?

A pen or pencil, a sketch block or a piece of cardboard with a clip to hold down your paper and a view finder. A view finder is a very handy tool, you can make one yourself by either cutting out a rectangle out of a piece of paper. I've laminated mine so I can draw some help lines on it. Or you can cut out two corners like you can see in the first photo. The two corners you can change in size and secure with 2 paperclips like you can see in the second photo.

#### Here is where all the theory I've been showing and telling you about comes together, what to do?

- Find a spot you like and look through your view finder to get the composition you like. Adjust your height by standing up or sitting down, see what happens to your view and to your composition.
- Make sure you look at the contrast, dark and light, in your view. What's in the shade, what are the high lights.
- Use your pencil to get the direction and size right, look through one eye and hold up your pencil to measure the length/ direction of your path, tree or whatever you have chosen to draw.

Copy that on your paper.

- Make a rough sketch to start with, don't start with the detail!

