

How?

Recreate these gradation exercises using your own color scheme. Why? Well, if you have to ask...

Cut 140# WC paper into 8 equal pieces.

Soak paper for 30 seconds.

Plan strategy

Check Suggested Solutions below.

Compare your strategy with other students.

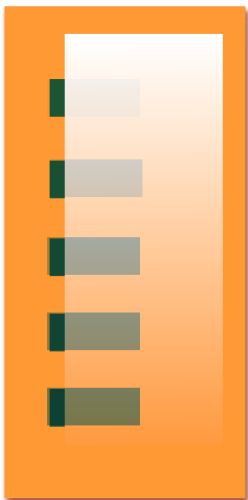
Go for it!

How and when would you apply this lesson in a painting?

1. On a very wet sheet, apply your color at one edge and gradate out to clear, white paper.
2. Apply the same gradation and allow it to dry. Re-wet the inner rectangle and apply a gradation. Be sure to have ample wetness at the bottom. This is a reverse gradation.
3. Same as #2 except both gradations in the same direction.
4. Same as #2, but inner color is not graduated.
5. Start as you did with #1. When dry, wet only the outside borders and apply the same color at full color saturation and without gradation.

Practice!
Practice!
Practice!

Paint!

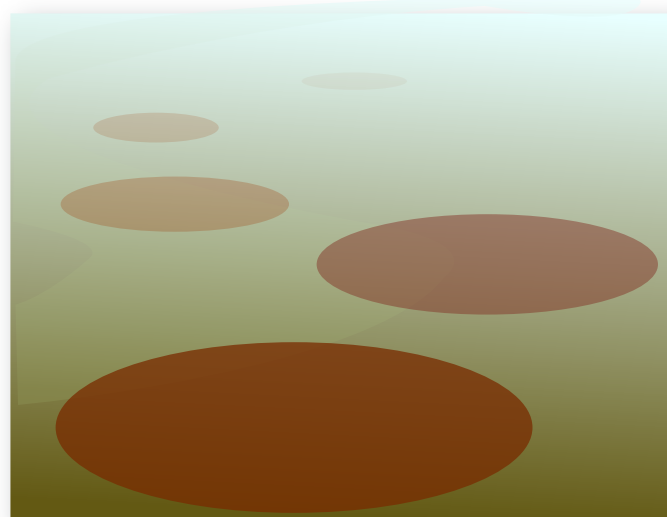


What's the illusion?

What strategy would you use to recreate it?

Where do you see this in nature?

Paint it...if you dare!



What natural phenomenon is suggested in this graphic image? What lesson does it incorporate? How would you recreate it in watercolors?

Here is one example of how gradation is used to create an illusion of distance and surface. In this illustration, the ellipses represent stones underwater.

As with glass, water appears as a window when we face it. But this same glass or water is more reflective or similar to a mirror as its surface approaches our eye level. Note how less clear the ellipses appear as the distance increases.

In the transparent foreground, there is little reflection off the water, so the contrast between the ellipse and ground is greatest. The opposite is true at the top of the picture as transparency gives way to reflection.