

METHODS OF DEVELOPING OBSERVATIONAL SKILLS IN DRAWING CLASSES

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Annotation: This article discusses the development of students' observational abilities during drawing (pencil sketching) classes. Observation is one of the fundamental qualities of an artist, allowing the correct perception of form, volume, color, proportion, and detail. The article analyzes effective methods for developing observation during practical lessons — comparison, analysis, visual observation, logical analysis, and independent exercises.

Keywords: pencil drawing, observation, fine arts, form, perception, line, methodology, analysis.

Introduction

The art of drawing develops human thinking, attention, and perception. Observation serves as the foundation of this process. A person cannot realistically depict an object or landscape without understanding its true form. Therefore, in the educational process, the teacher must direct the student's attention to the object's shape, size, direction, proportion, and changes in light and shadow to develop observational skills¹.

Main Part

The Importance of Observation: Observation is the ability to accurately perceive and express through drawing the form, color, movement, proportions, and details of the surrounding world. The student must learn to carefully observe the general appearance, structure, proportions, distribution of light and shadow, and angle of the object. This process requires active thinking, attention, analysis, and the ability to retain images in memory.

Effective Methods for Developing Observation

Visual Analysis Method: Students observe objects from several angles and analyze their structure². The teacher requires them to find new details each time, which strengthens concentration.

Comparison Method: Students compare parts of an object with each other (for example, the ratio between the head and the body, or the distance between objects). This helps in understanding correct proportions.

Practice through Sketching: Creating quick sketches is the most effective way to develop observation. Daily short sketching exercises improve students' ability to perceive and depict forms quickly³.

¹ Karimova D. History of Uzbek Fine Arts. – Tashkent: San'at, 2012.

² G'ulomov B. Uzbek Graphic Art. – Tashkent: O'qituvchi, 2009

³ Mirsoatov A. Fundamentals of Pencil Drawing and Draftsmanship. – Tashkent, 2018.

Analysis of Light and Shadow: Drawing the same object under different lighting conditions increases observation. Students learn to distinguish where shadows are stronger or softer. Attention-Enhancing Games: Exercises such as 'Find the differences', identifying missing elements in a composition, or redrawing objects from memory strengthen attention and observation.

The Role of the Teacher

During classes, the teacher should encourage analysis, evaluate the results of each drawing, and teach students to identify and correct mistakes. Each student should reach a level where they can independently monitor and improve their own observational skills.

What is Observation?

Observation is the ability to carefully and analytically see surrounding objects — to perceive their form, size, proportion, color, light, shadow, position, and interrelations accurately. In drawing, it means seeing and depicting the true shape of the object. Often, students draw what they think they know rather than what they actually see. Therefore, developing observation is one of the most important steps in learning drawing.

How Observation Appears in Drawing

An observant student correctly perceives the overall form of an object, distinguishes proportions and ratios, notices changes in light and shadow, draws details in balance without exaggeration, and can analyze and identify errors independently. For example, when drawing a cube, an observant student notices which part is lit, which is shaded, and which side appears shorter due to perspective, while an unobservant student simply draws a square.

How to Develop Observation Skills

- ✓ Train Attention: Observe one object for 10–15 minutes daily, then draw it from memory. Visual exercises like 'Find the differences' help concentration.
- ✓ Draw from Real Objects: Sketch simple items such as fruits, cups, books, or vases from life — not from photos — to train the eye.
- ✓ Use Comparison: Measure shapes relative to one another to increase accuracy.
- ✓ Light and Shadow Practice: Observe how shadows change when the light source moves; this enhances spatial understanding.
- ✓ Quick Sketches: Make 2–5 minute gesture drawings to grasp the overall form without overemphasizing details.
- ✓ Joint Analysis with the Teacher: Review drawings together and discuss questions such as 'Where is the mistake?' or 'Is the light direction correct?'

Psychological Approach to Developing Observation

Patience and attention increase observation. In each class, students should ask themselves, 'What exactly am I seeing?' The teacher should emphasize that observation is not only seeing but also understanding.

Results: Once observation is developed, students see objects with correct proportions and realistic volume, strengthen memory-based drawing ability, develop thinking, attention, and creative imagination, and produce drawings that are natural, accurate, and aesthetically appealing.

Conclusion

Developing observation in drawing classes enhances students' artistic perception, analytical thinking, and creative potential. It can be achieved through systematic exercises, visual analysis, and guided practice. As a result, students become capable of accurately perceiving form, proportion, and light to create realistic and aesthetic drawings.

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