

4.1 Graphite

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 10 marks

Objective

Control **graphite** 石墨 across its full range of grades.

You must be able to:

- choose grades from 9H (hard/light) to 9B (soft/dark)
- vary the **grip** for detail or broad shading
- build darks in layers before the final accents
- prove control with a full-value study

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ Grades

Hard H grades stay pale and hold a point; soft B grades build rich darks fast. 9B is the darkest and softest.

■ Grip

The writing grip controls detail; the overhand grip shades broadly from the arm.

■ Shine

Heavily layered graphite goes shiny —for the deepest matte black, switch to charcoal.

2 Practice

2.1 Which grade is the darkest and softest?

[1]

- A 9H
 - B HB
 - C 9B
 - D 2H
-

2.2 Why build darks in layers instead of pressing hard with 9B everywhere? [2]

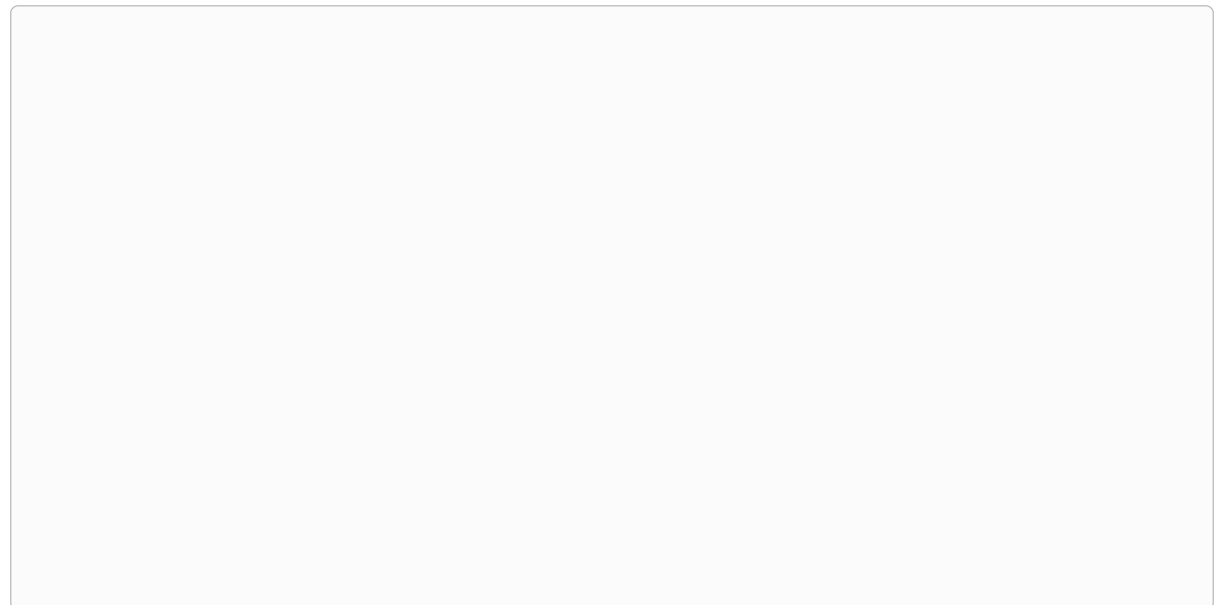
2.3 When would you switch from graphite to charcoal? [1]

3 Studio & portfolio tasks

3.1 Make a **full-value graphite study** of a metal or glossy object.

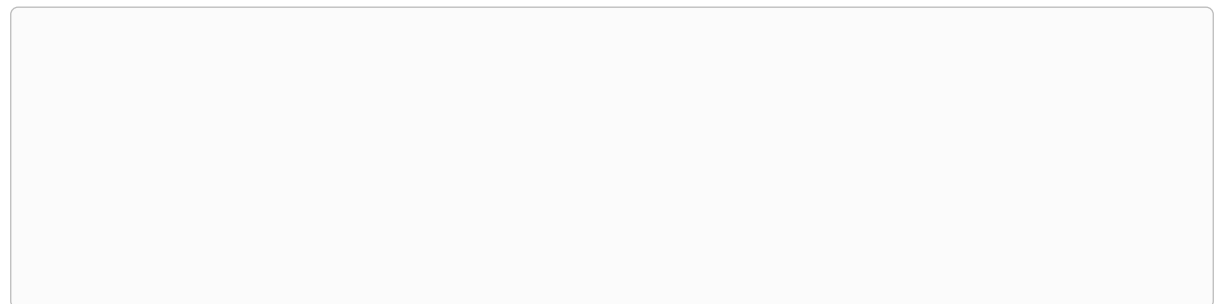
(a) Use at least three grades, matched to the values you see. [3]

(b) Snap back the highlights with a kneaded eraser. [1]



3.2

() Make a small strip showing the value each of four grades reaches at full pressure. [2]



4 Go further

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- work through the **0401 Graphite** lesson on the **Learn** page;
 - read the **Drawing Media and Processes** section of the AP Drawing handout on the **Know** page.

Solutions

2.1 C. the B scale runs to 9B.

2.2 pressing 9B everywhere goes shiny/greasy and photographs badly; layering from a mid grade builds controlled, matte darks.

2.3 when you need a deeper, matte black than graphite can reach.

3.1 full white-to-dark range; grades matched to values; crisp lifted highlights; a solid, convincing object.

3.2 four grades labelled; each reaches a different, correctly-ordered value.