

Name - \_\_\_\_\_ Section - \_\_\_\_\_  
Date - \_\_\_\_\_ Mrs. Capobianco

# Studio Habits of Mind: Artist's Observe Project

What will you observe?

In this unit you will explore observation and how it relates to art making. You will learn drawing bootcamp skills (value/shading/blending) in preparation for this project.

**Essential questions:**

**What do artists observe? Why do artists observe? How do artists use different drawing skills/techniques to create a dynamic composition?**

**You will...**Develop observational drawing skills through practice (bootcamp drawing skills)

**Types of observation:**

- Observation through photography or printed references
- Observation in real life (mirror self portrait, the inside of the art room)
- Traditional still life (objects arranged with lighting)
- Scientific observation (example: skeleton)
- Abstract observations (create a viewfinder to zoom into your subject matter and create an abstract observation drawing)

You will choose one observational method for your drawing project and decide upon the subject matter for your project. You will make your own artistic choice of medium (pencil, charcoal, colored pencil, pen or chalk pastel) to best express your vision.

See examples of different observational drawings on the next page  
(Chalk pastels and colored pencil examples are in classroom - not able to photocopy in color)

Pencil drawing using shading



Shell still life charcoal



hatching technique charcoal



pen drawing using contour lines



Scribble drawings (this can be pen or pencil)



How do I get started?

Begin by planning...

Communicate your intentions with me.

What medium (pen, pencil, charcoal, chalk pastel or colored pencil) are you using?

Do you need white paper, black paper or toned paper?

Do you need a photo reference? If you do you need to print one or find one in the room (books). You can e-mail me a photo you want printed if you have no printer at home [Capobiancoart@gmail.com](mailto:Capobiancoart@gmail.com)

How will you plan out your design (composition)? How will you manage your time?

**Project due date: January 7th 2020 - No exceptions**

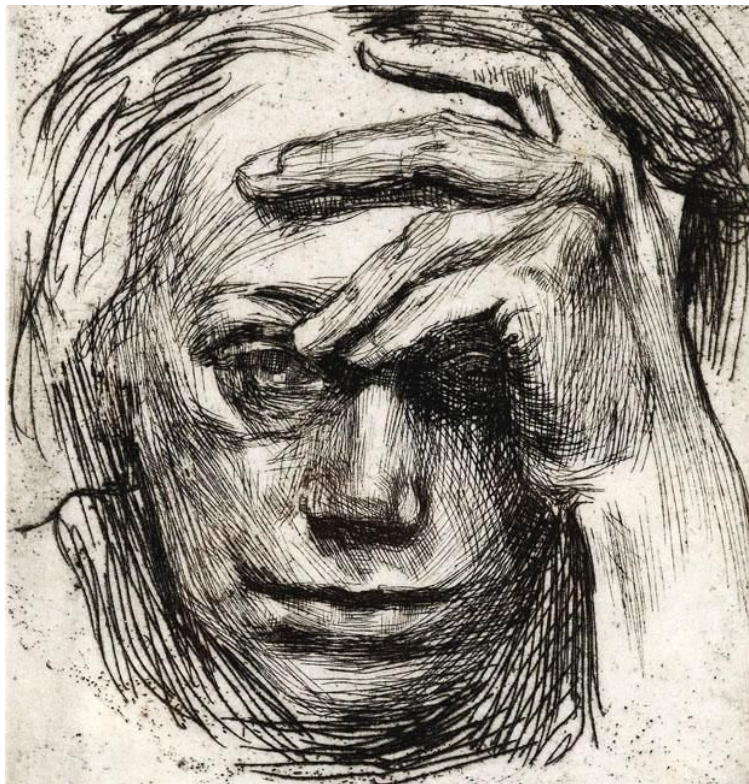
**Finished early?** Sketchbook prompts, create a series, find a book to explore how to draw different subject matter from observation, try another observation drawing using a different medium, etc.

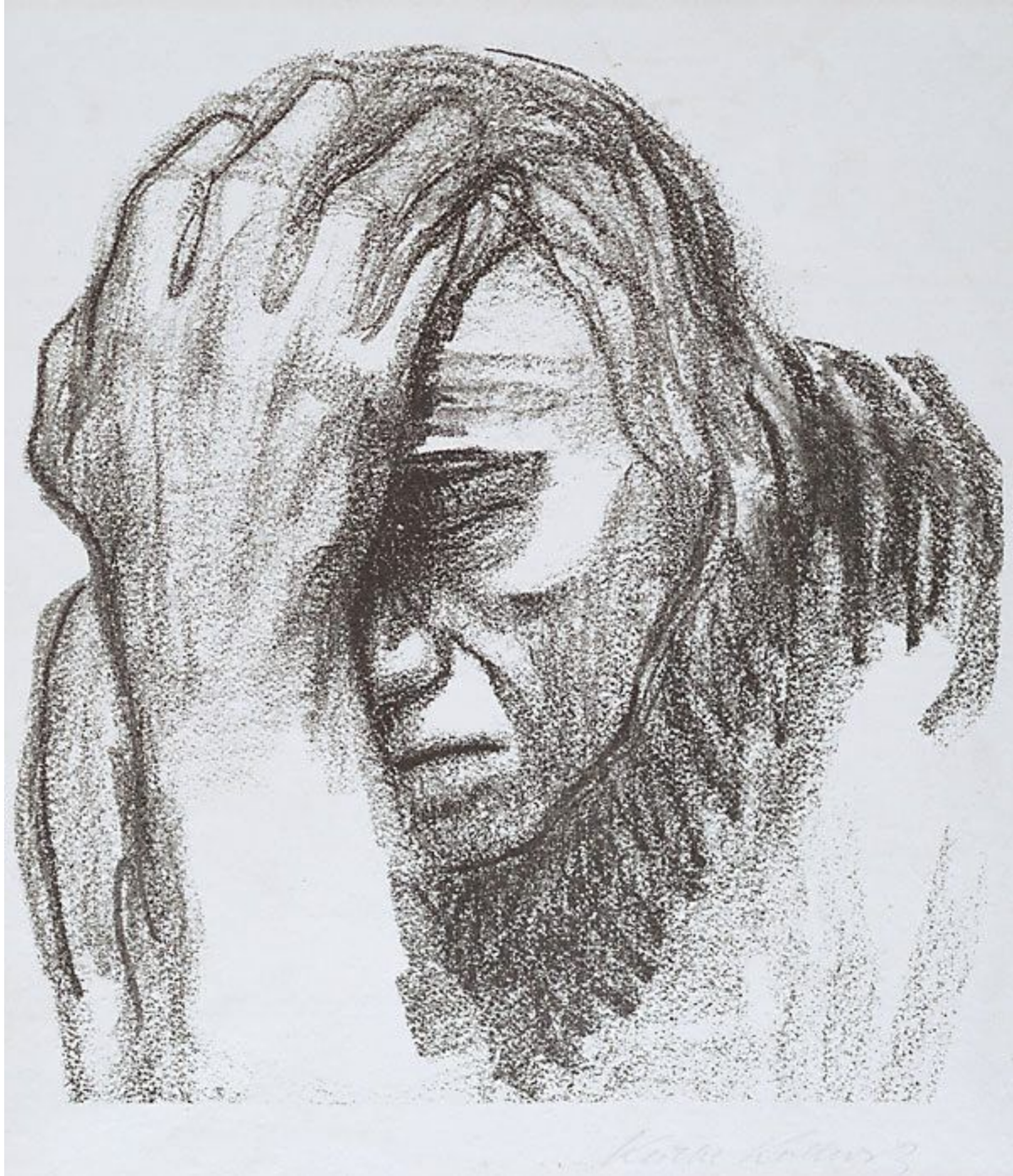
If you are **goofing off or choosing not to make art** then you will see a decrease in your grade for this project. If you are **disruptive in class** you will see a decrease in your grade for this project. Students that are excessively **absent and/or tardy** you will see a decrease in your grade if you don't make up the work. **We only meet once per week. Please make every effort to be on time and at every class.** Students that are late/absent must do **incomplete/late work** at home to get themselves caught up. Be responsible and manage your time well.

Famous artist examples:

Edgar Degas - chalk pastels or charcoal examples of ballerinas (color examples in powerpoint - do not photocopy very well.

Kathe Kollwitz - Great examples of cross hatching for a portrait study





Kathe Kollwitz - Pensive woman (1920)

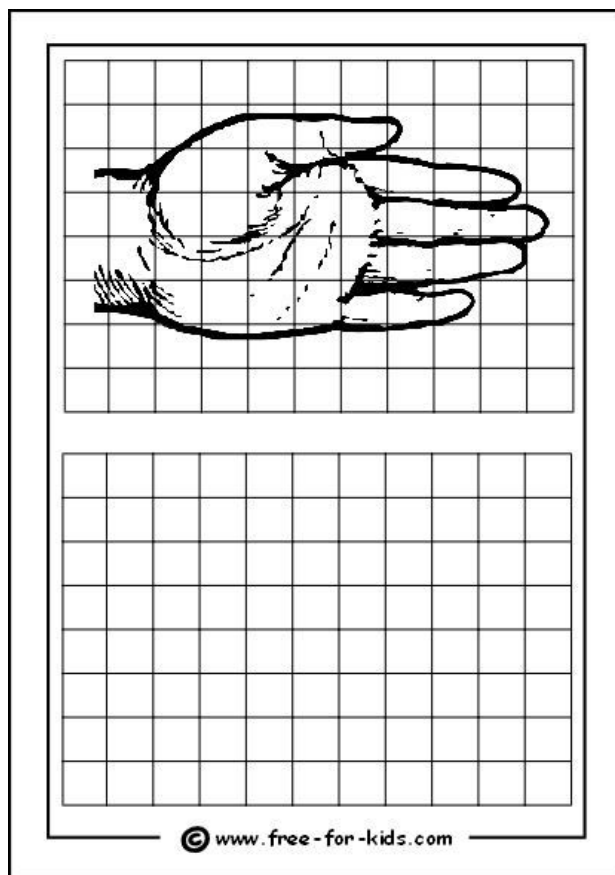
Leonardo Da Vinci - Head of a woman (1508)



Paul Cezanne - basket of apples (1895)

## Purpose of a grid drawing

- When artists need to enlarge an image they often use a grid. This grid enables the artist to identify details in a block and place them properly on the page. Once completed, all the blocks of the grid form the larger image



←----- Example of a grid



Some vocabulary words for this unity that we will be discussing:

Value/shading -  
Cross hatching -  
Scribble hatching -  
Contour lines -  
Observational drawing -  
Chiaroscuro drawing -  
Composition -  
Symmetrical balance -  
Assymetrical balance -  
Rule of thirds -  
Contrast -  
Stipling -  
Subject matter or theme -  
Proportion -  
Scale -  
Shadow -  
Highlight -  
Reflected light -  
Overlapping in drawing -  
Placement in drawing -  
Figure/ground relationships or positive/negative space -  
Perspective -  
Grid method for drawing -  
Measurement in drawing -