




TEACH YOURSELF BOOKS

Ronald Smith

DRAWING



The art of drawing for beginners.



TEACH YOURSELF BOOKS

DRAWING

Ronald Smith

A.T.D. (Lond.)

ST. PAUL'S HOUSE WARWICK LANE
LONDON EC4P 4AH

PREFACE

IN these days of widespread general education and of almost universal ability to read and write we are inclined to under-estimate the importance of drawing to the person who is not by training an artist. The average man, having a message to convey, quite naturally writes a letter; if he has a house to let he prints a notice to that effect; if a theory or teaching to study or expound, he resorts to books and pamphlets. Novels, circulars, tracts and newspapers crowd in upon our day, and we take them all very much for granted, thinking of them, if we think of them at all, as quite indispensable to us.

Not so long ago, however, things were quite different. A few highly educated men and women, chiefly priests and nobles, were able to read and write as we do but the great masses of people could be appealed to only by paintings, drawings and carvings. Even the spoken language used by the priests (Latin) was largely unintelligible to their flock, whose knowledge of the Bible story was derived almost entirely from such illustrative carvings as those on the walls and portals of Amiens cathedral. Cathedrals of this period are often referred to as the "Bible of the poor".

Many of our own mediaeval churches are full of mural paintings conveying similar messages in clear, powerful drawing which we should all find an opportunity of studying. The lurid scenes of Judgment Day which appear in some of them could scarcely have failed to convert even the most hardened sinner.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER I

	PAGE
DRAWING MATERIALS	15
The Pencil	16
The Knife	19
The Rubber	20
The Paper	20
The Drawing-board	21
Pens	22
Brushes	22

CHAPTER II

OBJECT DRAWING—BEGINNING	25
Preliminary Arrangements	25
Arranging the Group	28
The Intention of your Drawing	30
The Drawing	32

CHAPTER III

PERSPECTIVE	36
Its Origin	36
The Perspective Apparatus	37
Vanishing Points of Lines	40
Finding a Vanishing Point	42
Vanishing Point of Lines receding directly into the Picture	43
Parallel Perspective	43
Angular Perspective	43
Oblique Perspective	44
Distance Points	44



TEACH YOURSELF BOOKS

DRAWING

The aim of this book is to help the beginner to *learn* to draw, for without technique, talent is useless.

Set out clearly, with the aid of illustrations, are the various techniques the successful artist must learn. In a series of lessons, the particular aspects of Drawing are described, ranging from the elementary, choosing your materials, to the complex, the problems of perspective. Contents also include Light and Shade, Object Drawing, Drawing Outdoors, Figures and Animals, and Drawing From Memory.

Here is all the artist will need to know, not only to draw well himself but also to understand other artists' work.

Front cover drawing by William
Mulready by courtesy of the
Victoria and Albert Museum.
ISBN 0 340 05562 6

UNITED KINGDOM	50p
AUSTRALIA (recommended)	\$1.65
NEW ZEALAND	\$1.65
SOUTH AFRICA	R1.40