

The Element of Art

1.Line

2.Shape (2-D)

3.Form (3-D)

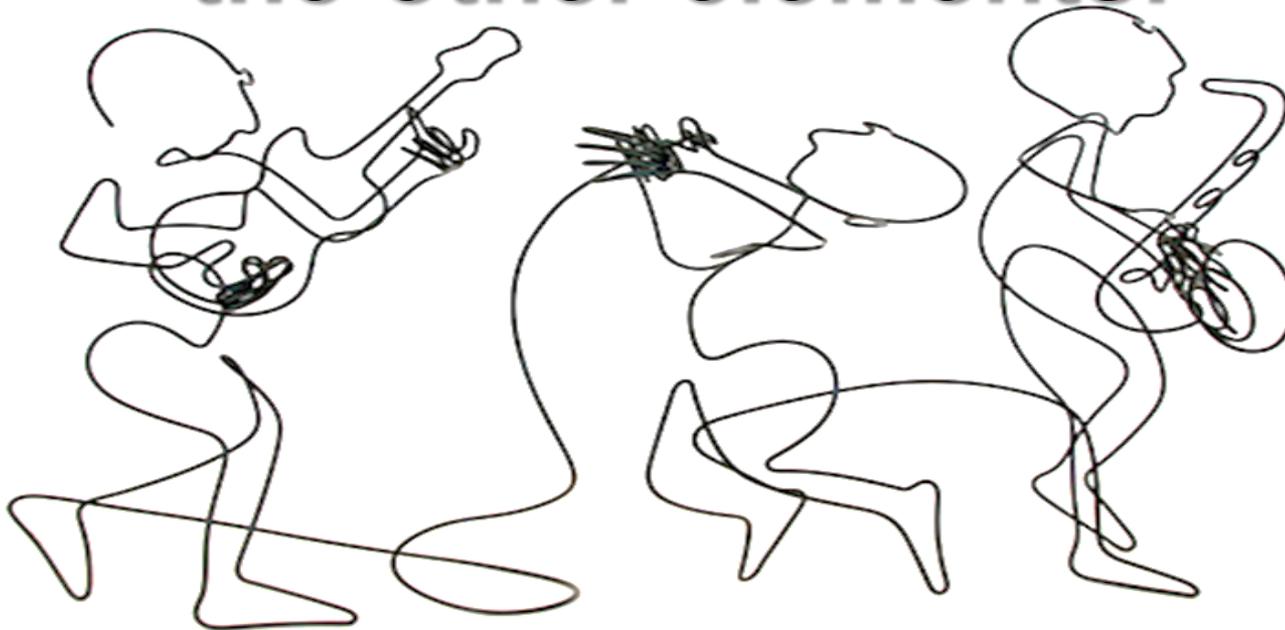
4.Space (3-D depth or distance)

5.Texture

6.Color

Line- is alive!

Line is an important element
however line can never be
entirely divorced from
the other elements.



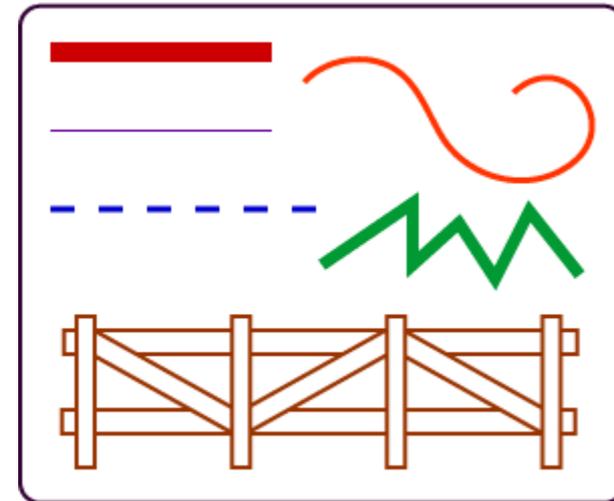
The Line

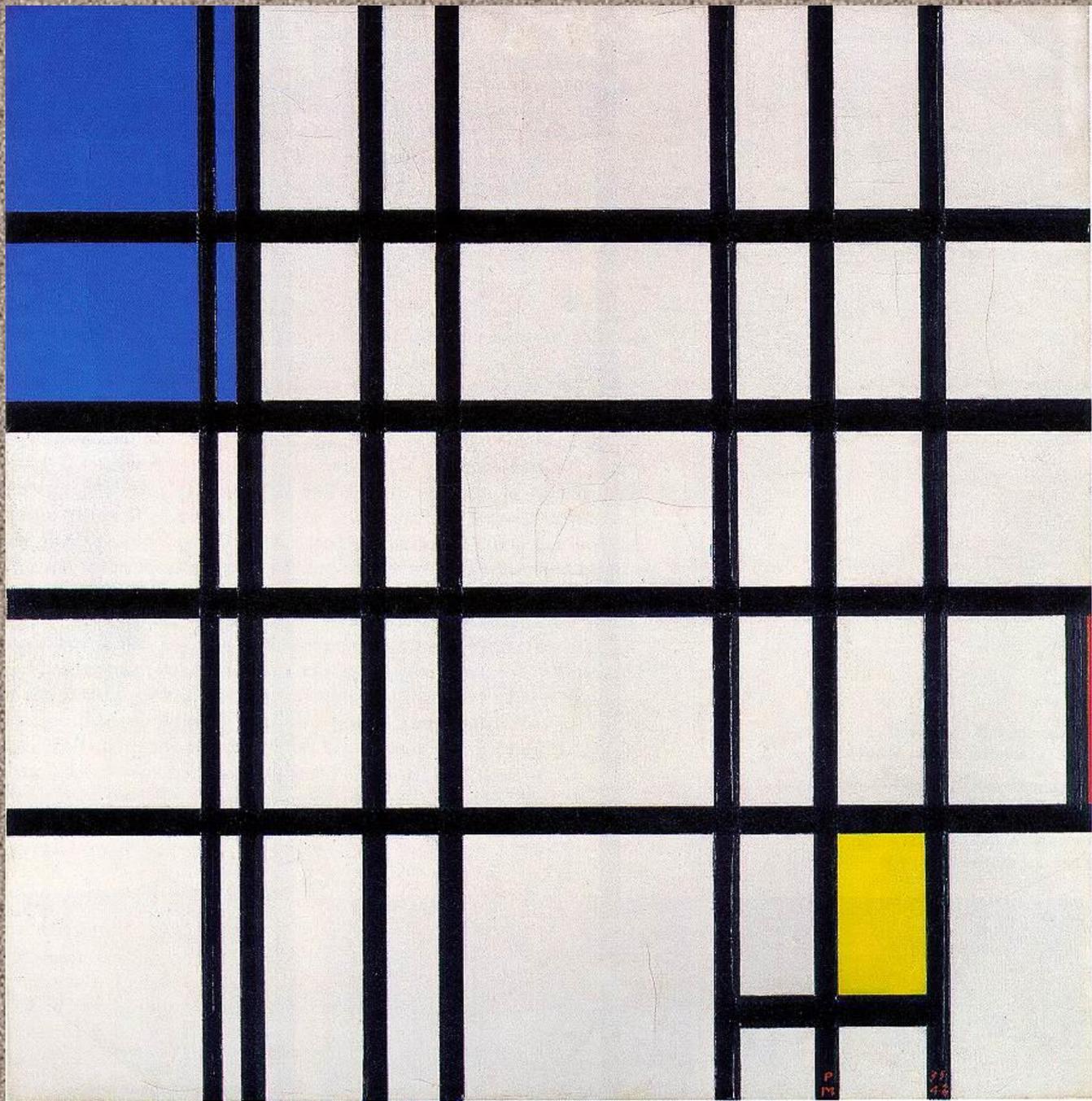
A line is an element of art that is the path of a moving point through space. In fact, a line is one-dimensional.

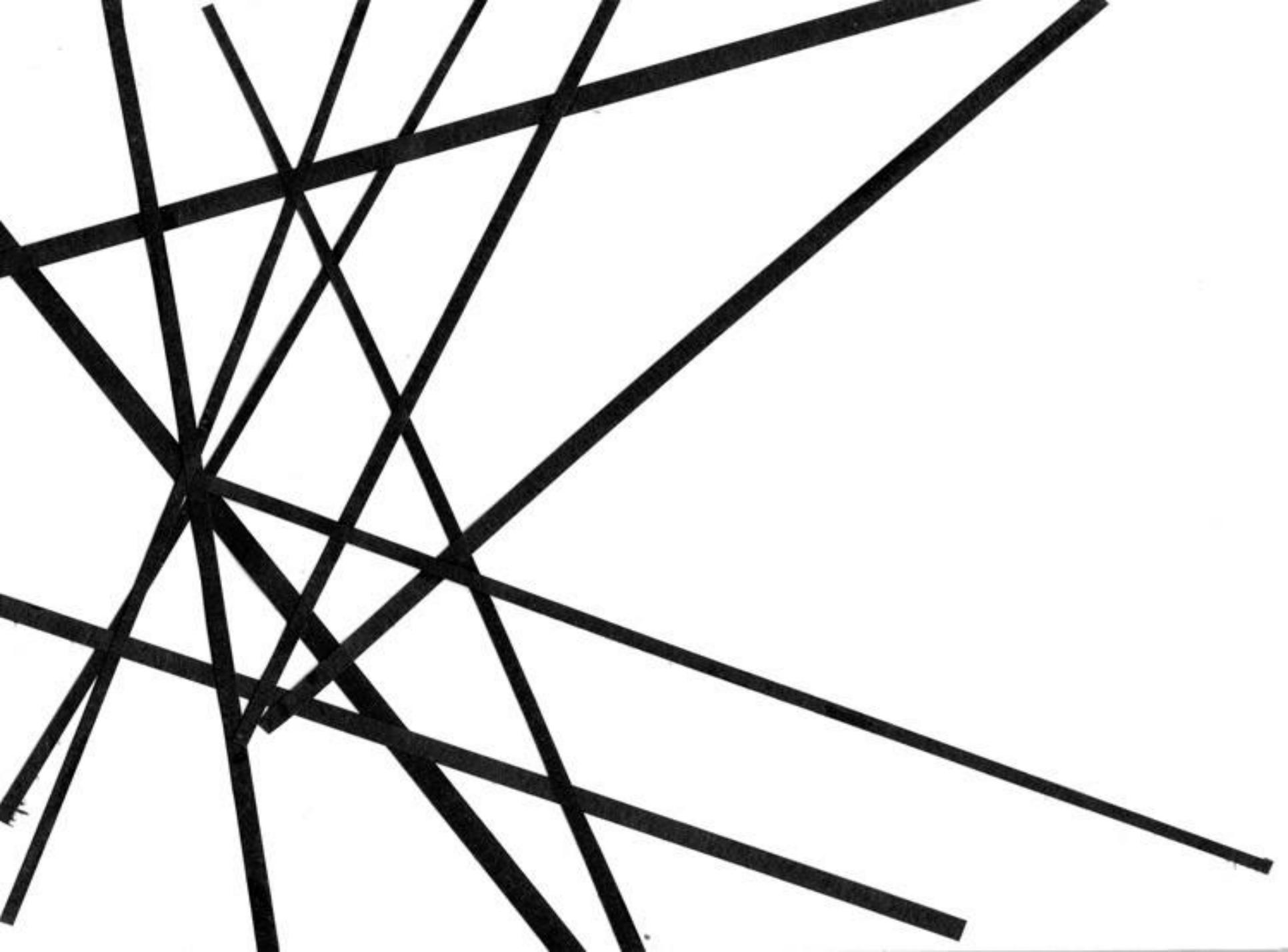
Dimension means the amount of space an object takes up in one direction. Sometimes, the edges of shapes look like lines. Artists often use outlines to define **shapes**.

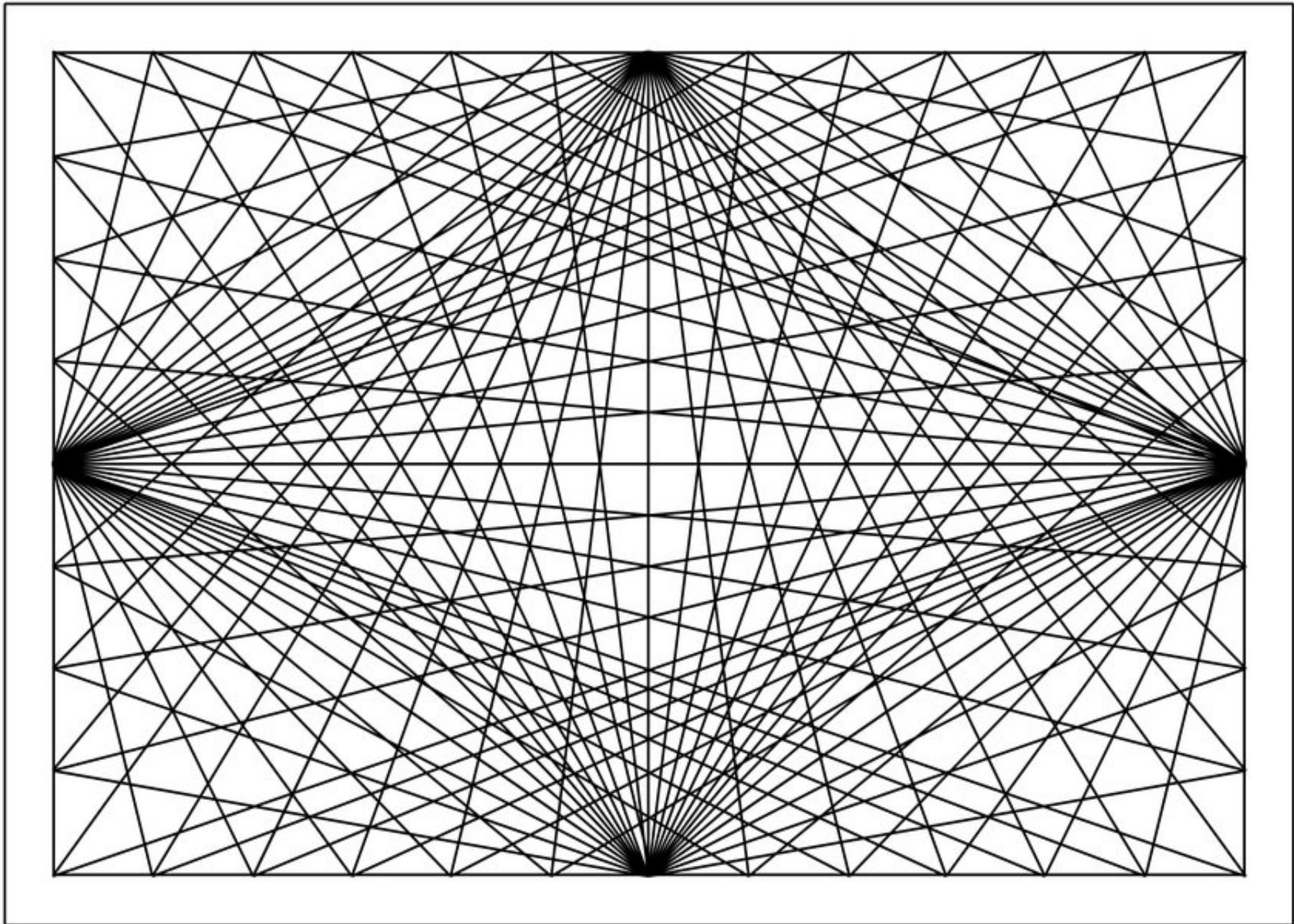
There are five basic kinds of lines:

- 1) **Vertical** lines move straight up and down.
- 2) **Horizontal** lines.
- 3) **Diagonal** lines slant.
- 4) **Zigzag** lines.
- 5) **Curved** lines change direction gradually.





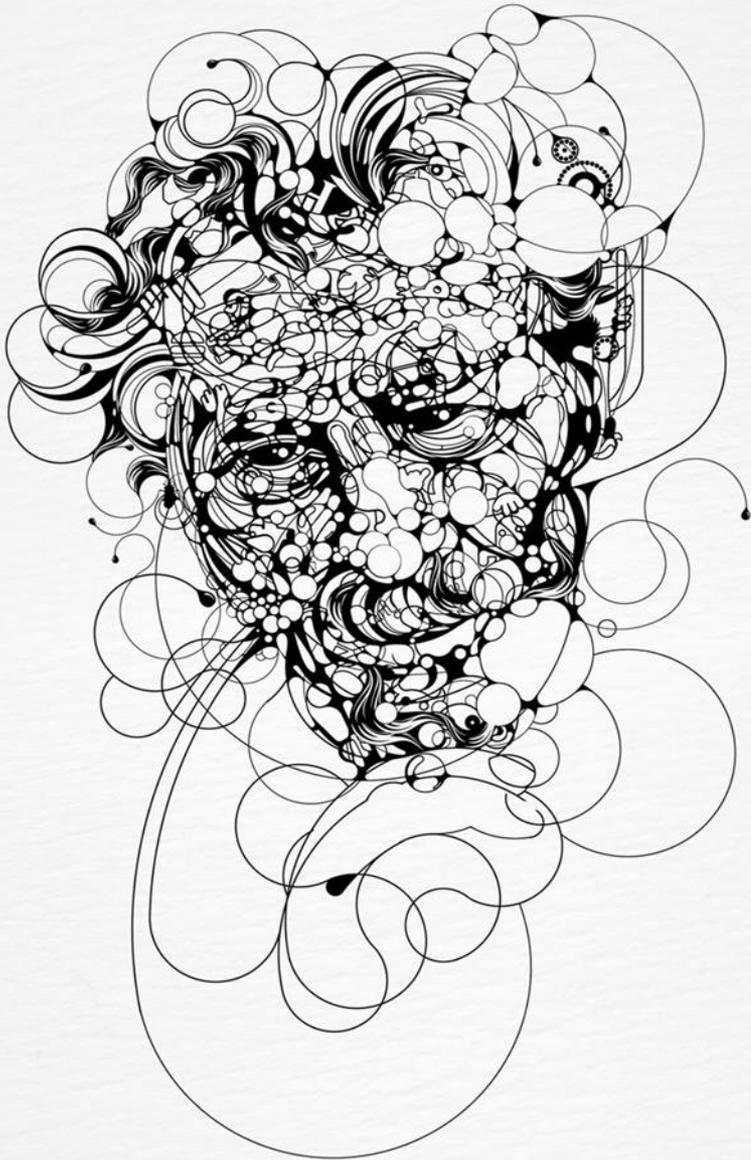




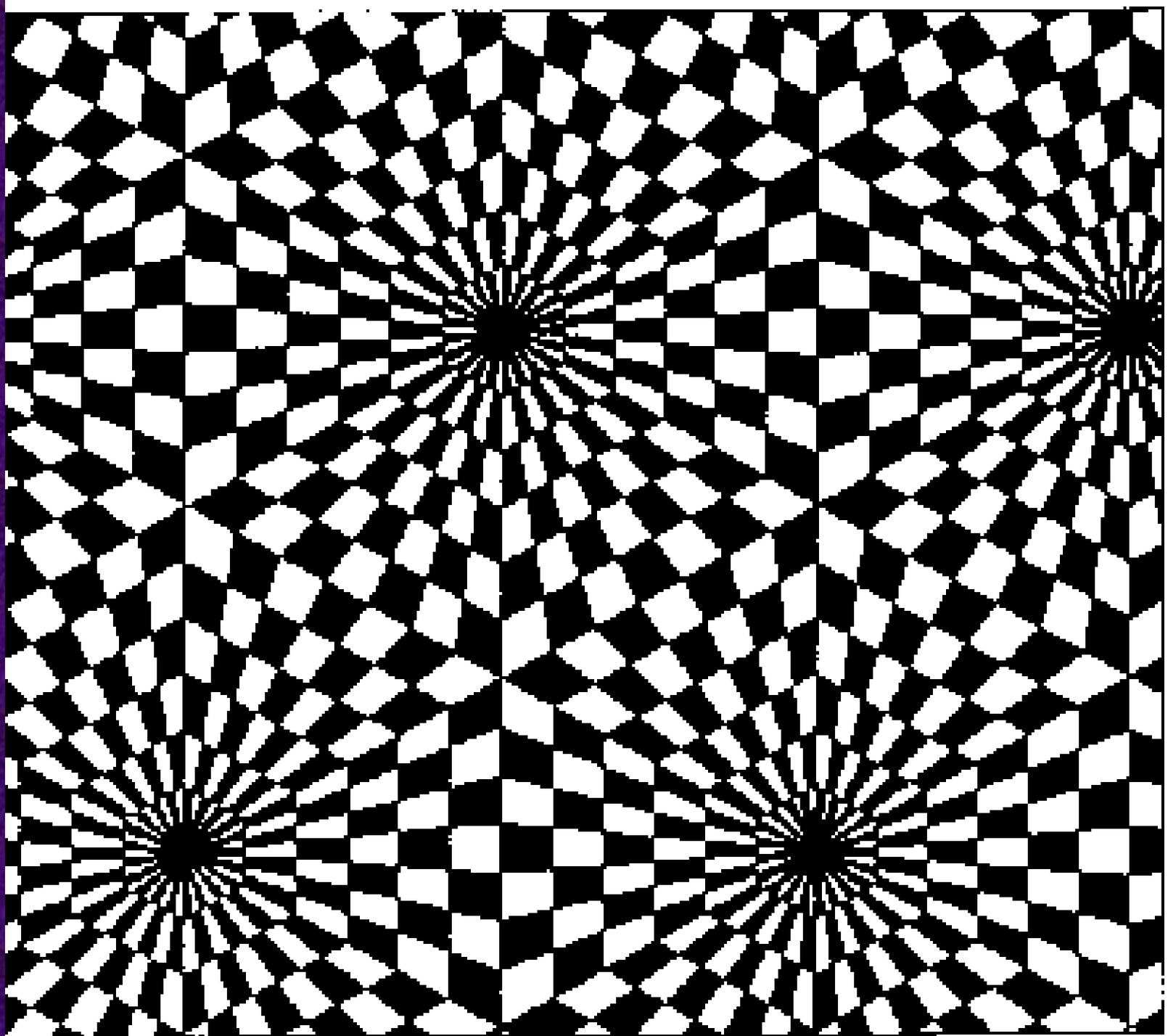




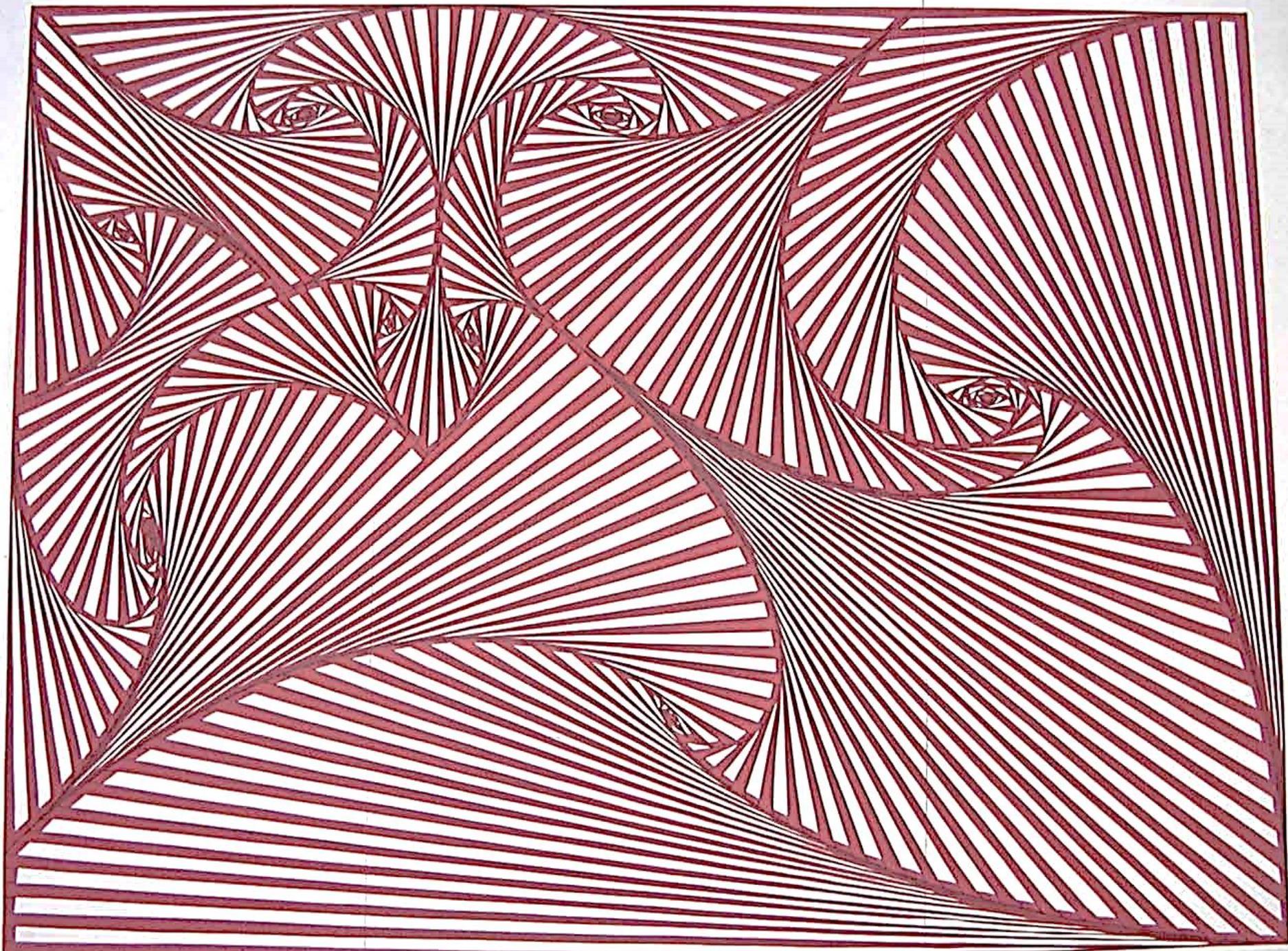
The Element of Line (cont.)



- Lines can also vary in **length, width, texture, direction, and degree of curve**. These variations are caused by differences in the media, tools, and surfaces used.
- Lines can also vary **in value**. Value is the element of art that describes the lightness or darkness of an object. Artists can vary the number of lines and the spaces between them to indicate shading.







The Expressive Qualities of Line

Line is an important element in the language of art because of its expressive capabilities. For example, **vertical lines** are static and appear to be at rest, expressing stability. **Horizontal lines** are also static, expressing feelings of peace, rest, and quiet. Since **curved lines** change direction, they express activity. **Diagonal lines** express instability, tension, and excitement while **zigzag lines** create confusion.

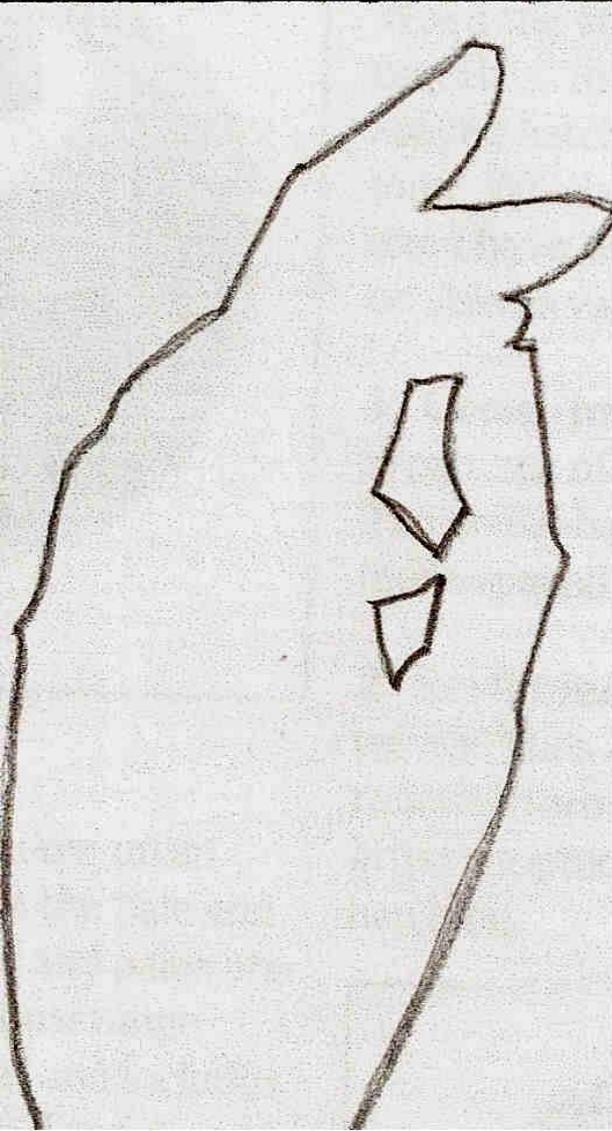
Three special types of drawing will develop your understanding of line.

- 1) **In contour drawing**, you use a continuous line to define the edges and surface ridges of an object.
- 2) **In gesture drawing**, you can draw short, loose lines to capture movement. While contour drawing captures the exterior of an object, gesture drawing represents the interior.
- 3) **Calligraphic drawing** is often associated with Asian writing and art. The word calligraphy means beautiful handwriting. In China and Japan, calligraphy is used to form characters that represent the language. You can make calligraphic lines with a paintbrush, creating brushstrokes that change from thin to thick in one stroke.

Shape – Form

- **Shape-** is a 2-D area with a recognizable boundary. There is a relationship between lines and shapes. Lines, particularly outlines, describe shapes. On the other hand the edge of a shape implies a line.
- **Form** - is a 3-D shapes. A form has *height, width and depth*. Light and shade can also be exploited in a drawing to give a sense of form to an object changing it from a flat shape into something real and solid. But remember, the areas of light and shades are not independent of the internal contours. They are directly related to them.

Compare *outline* (flat 2-D shape) and *contours* (3-D form) drawings



Shape- is a 2-D shape area with a recognizable boundary.

Form - is a 3-D shapes and has *height, width and depth*. Light and shade give a sense of form to an object changing it from a flat shape into something real and solid.



Line Personalities:

Shapes:

- **Straight lines** remind us of things like buildings that are strong or powerful.
- **Curved lines** remind us of people, animals, or plants that are soft, delicate, or graceful.
- **Jagged lines** suggest objects like broken glass, sawteeth, or lightning that are bristling, aggressive, or savage.

Movement. A line is often the record of real movement. We associate lines with the movements of *animals, people, or even our own bodies.*

- **Straight lines** may seem rigid or swift,
- **curved lines** seem relaxed or graceful, and
- **jagged lines** seem nervous or awkward.

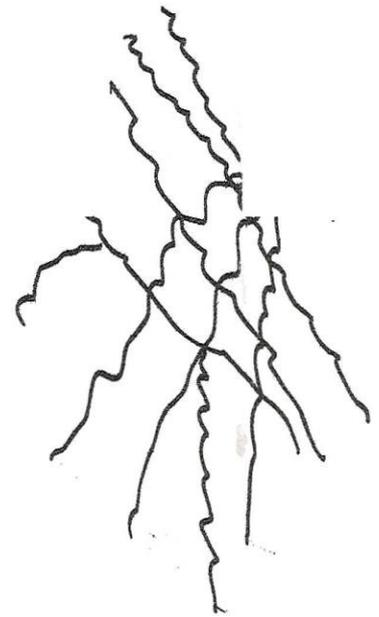
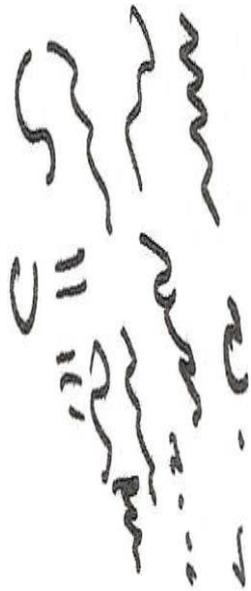
Direction. Lines that move in

- **vertical directions** seem strong;
- **horizontal lines** seem calm or stable; and
- **diagonal lines** seem unstable.

How does a line acquire a personality?

Match these words with the line drawings above:

- *timid; aggressive; strong; graceful; nervous*

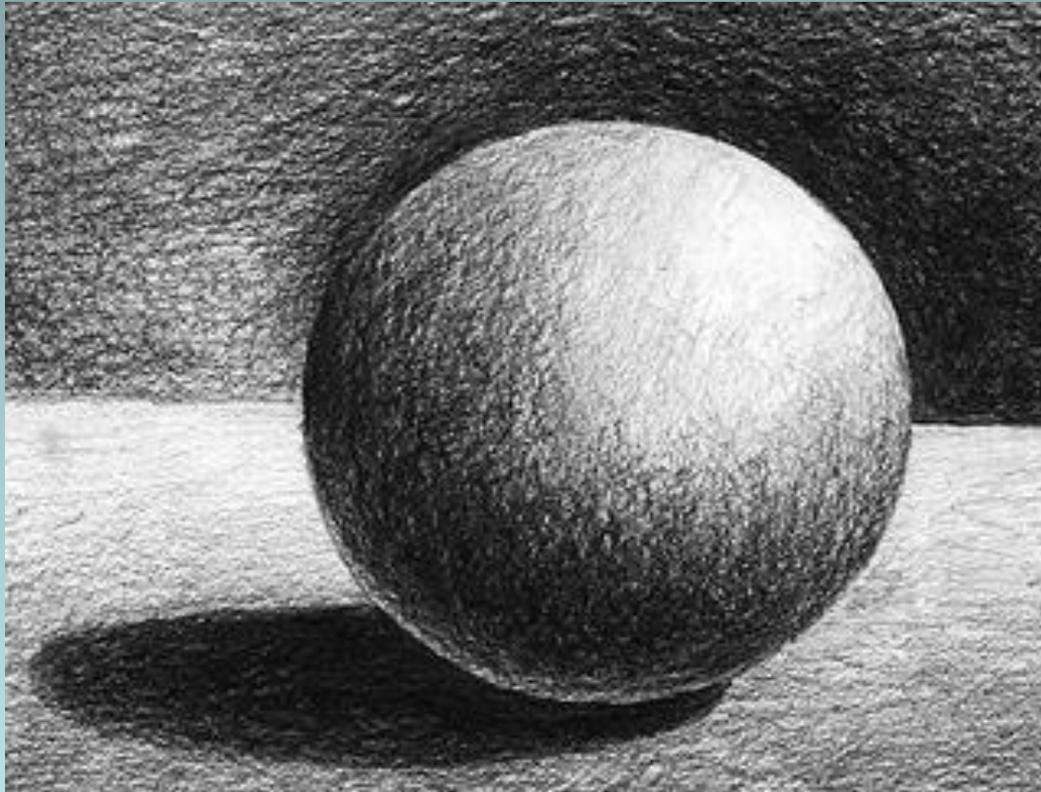






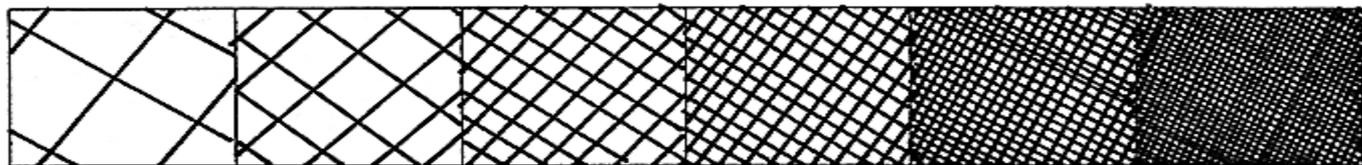
Value

- **Value** - This has to do with a range of shadows from light to dark. It provides a sense of space and depth to an object and emphasizes its tri-dimensional aspects.





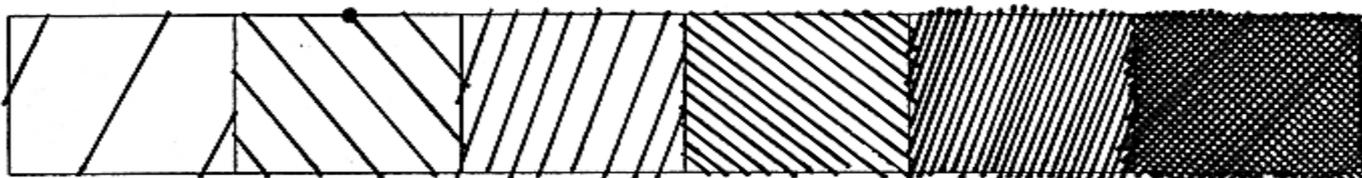
value scales using line



lightest (1)

example (cross hatching)

darkest (6)



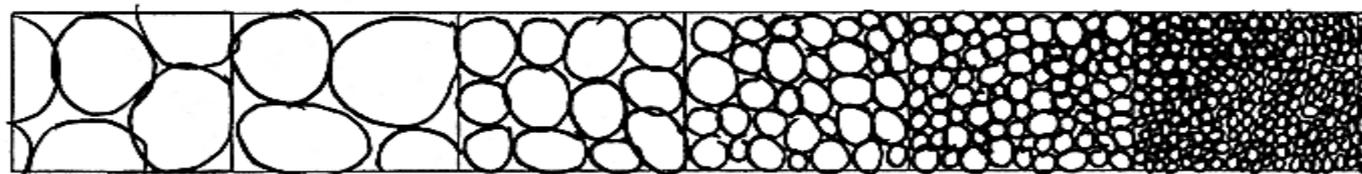
hatching



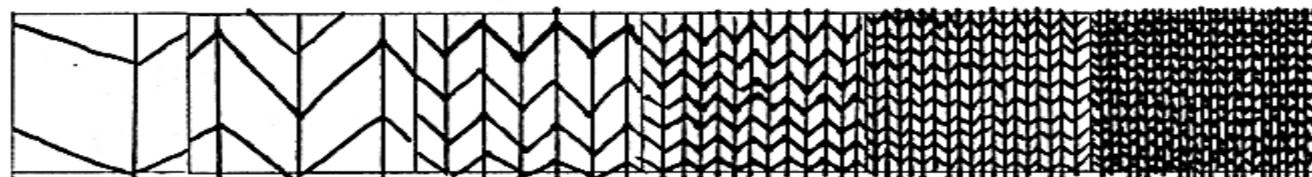
scribbles / squiggles



zig zags



invent your own technique

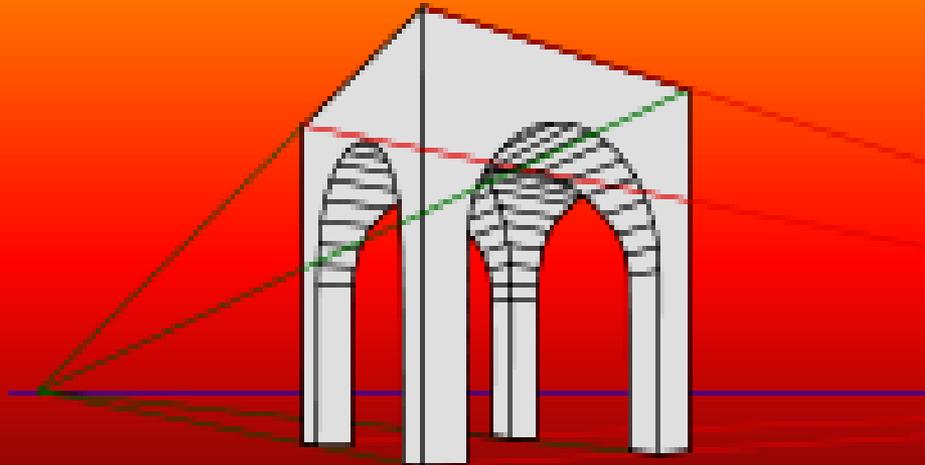


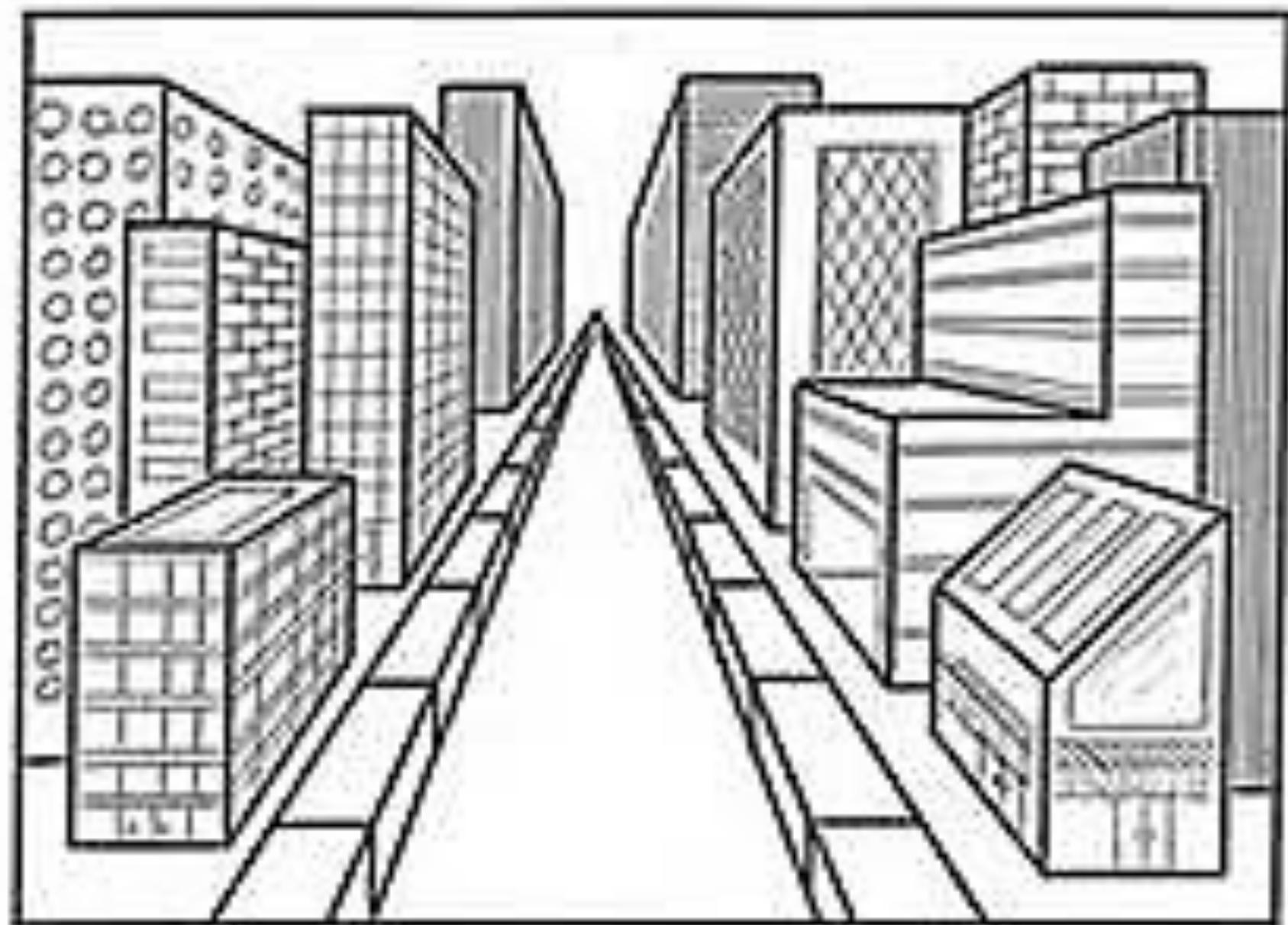
combination of 2 or more techniques (from above examples)



Space

Space- perspective or sense of 3-D (depth or distance) created on a flat surface by using lines, tones and colors. Space can be created by overlapping shapes or forms in front of each other by using holes and cavities. Space can provide the illusion of depth.



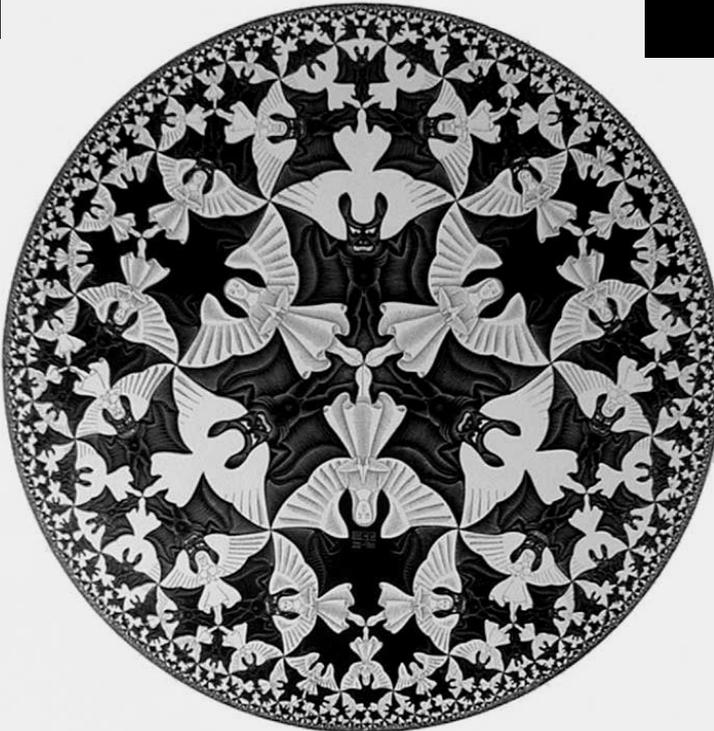
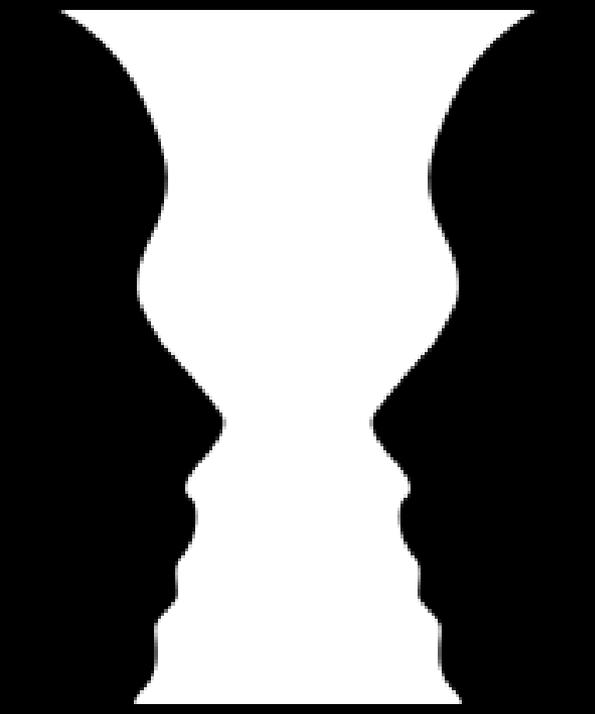




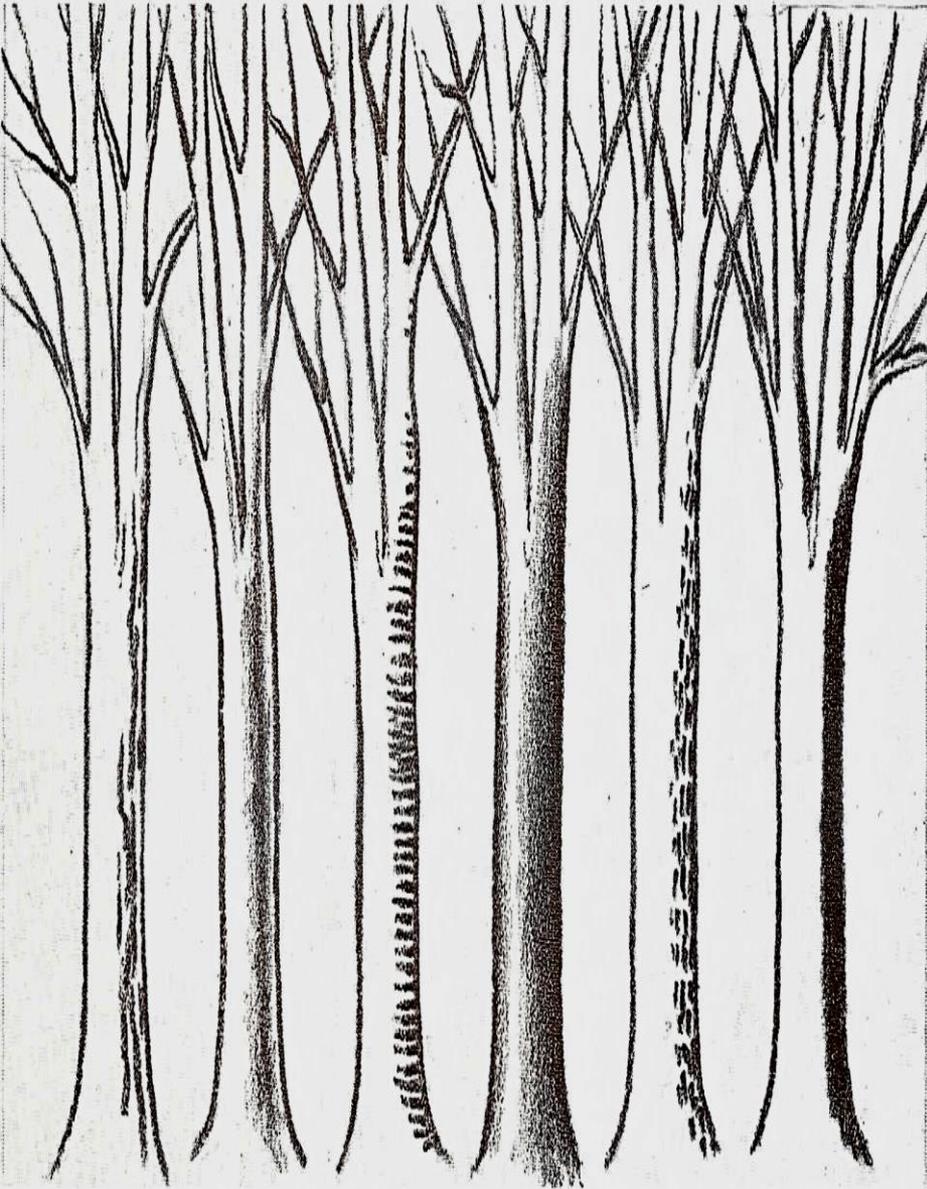




contrast

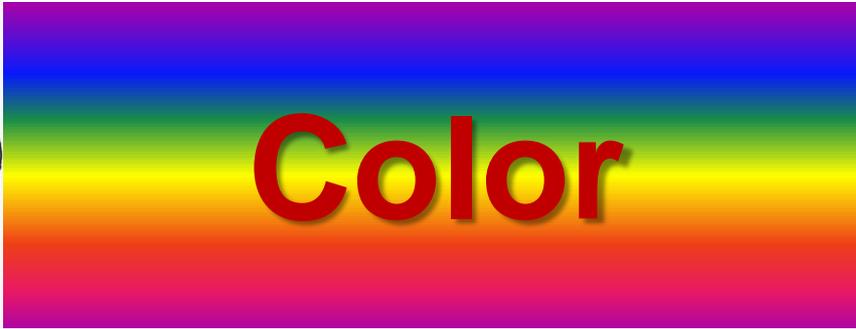
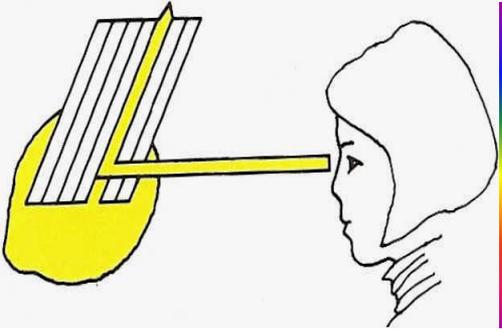


Texture

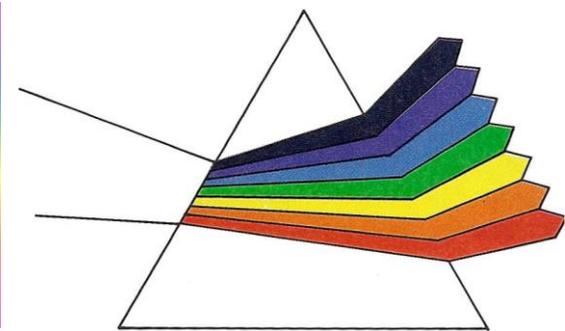


- is use to describe or express the feeling of a surface:

e.g. *smooth, prickly, shiny, etc.*



Color

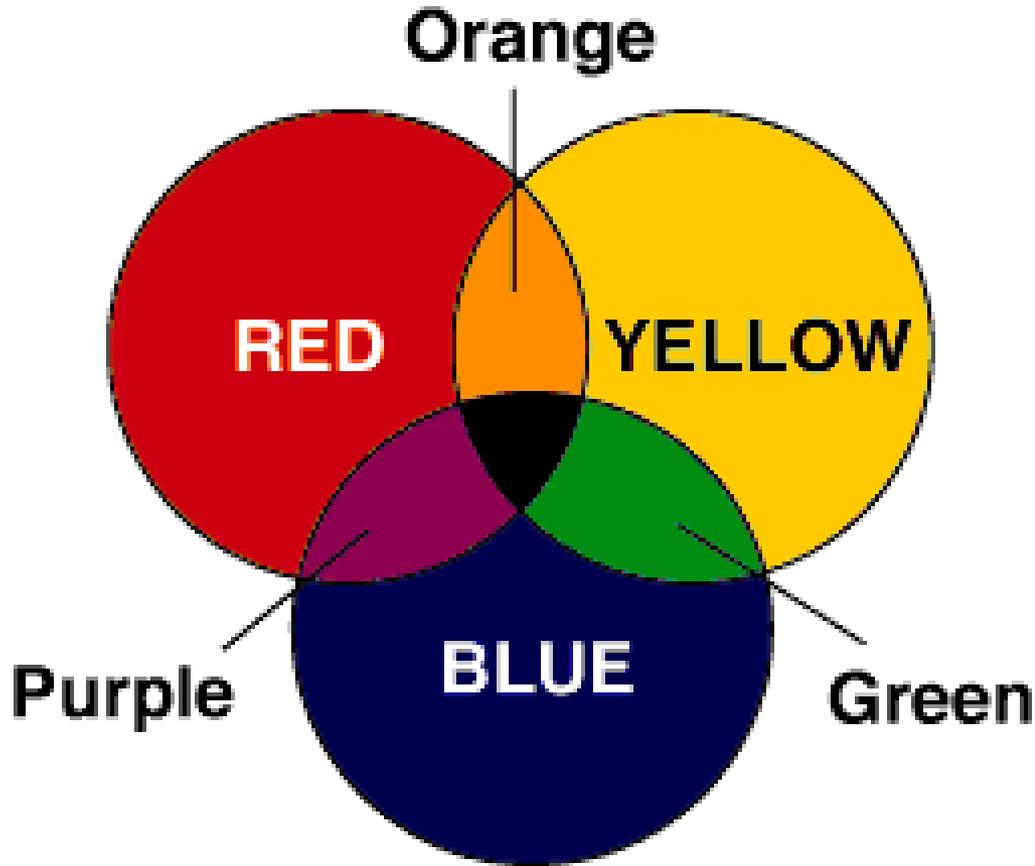


Color is magic! Color is light reflected from a surface. It can create emphasis, harmony, emotions, unity, and dimension.

Color has three distinct qualities:

- **Hue** (Hue is another name for color),
- **Value** (from light colors to dark colors),
- **Intensity** (from bright colors to dark colors).

Primary colors

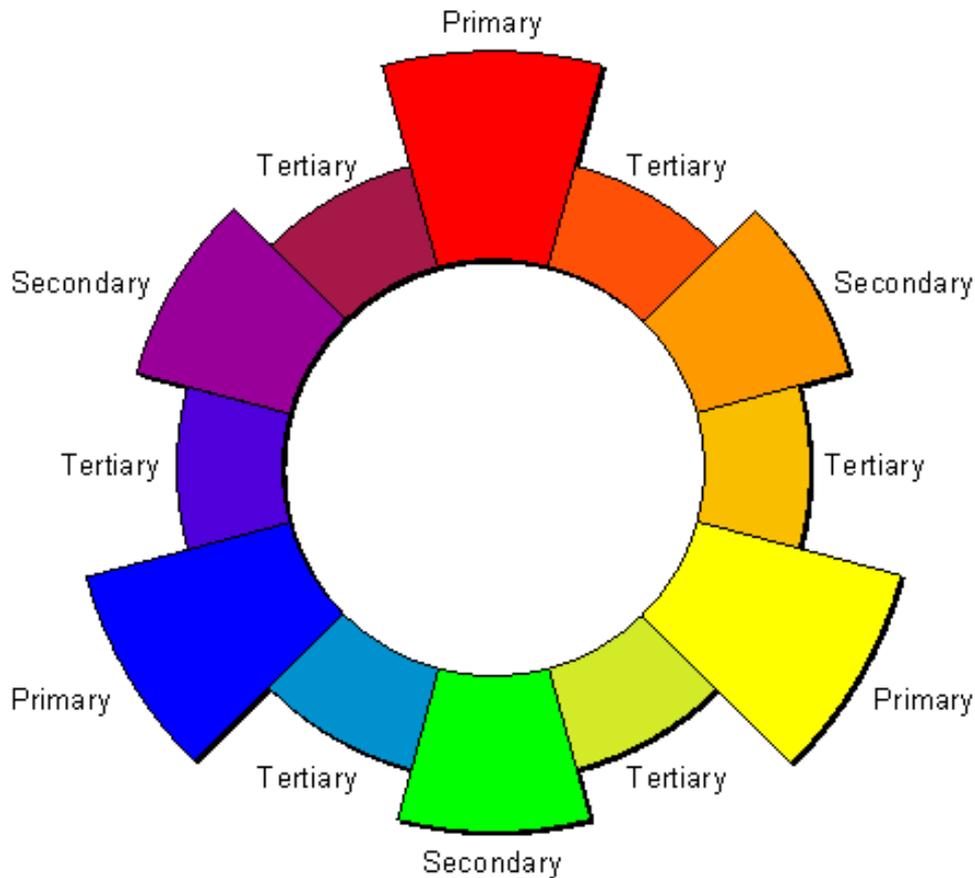


Primary colors

are hues from which all other colors can be made:

- red,
- yellow,
- blue

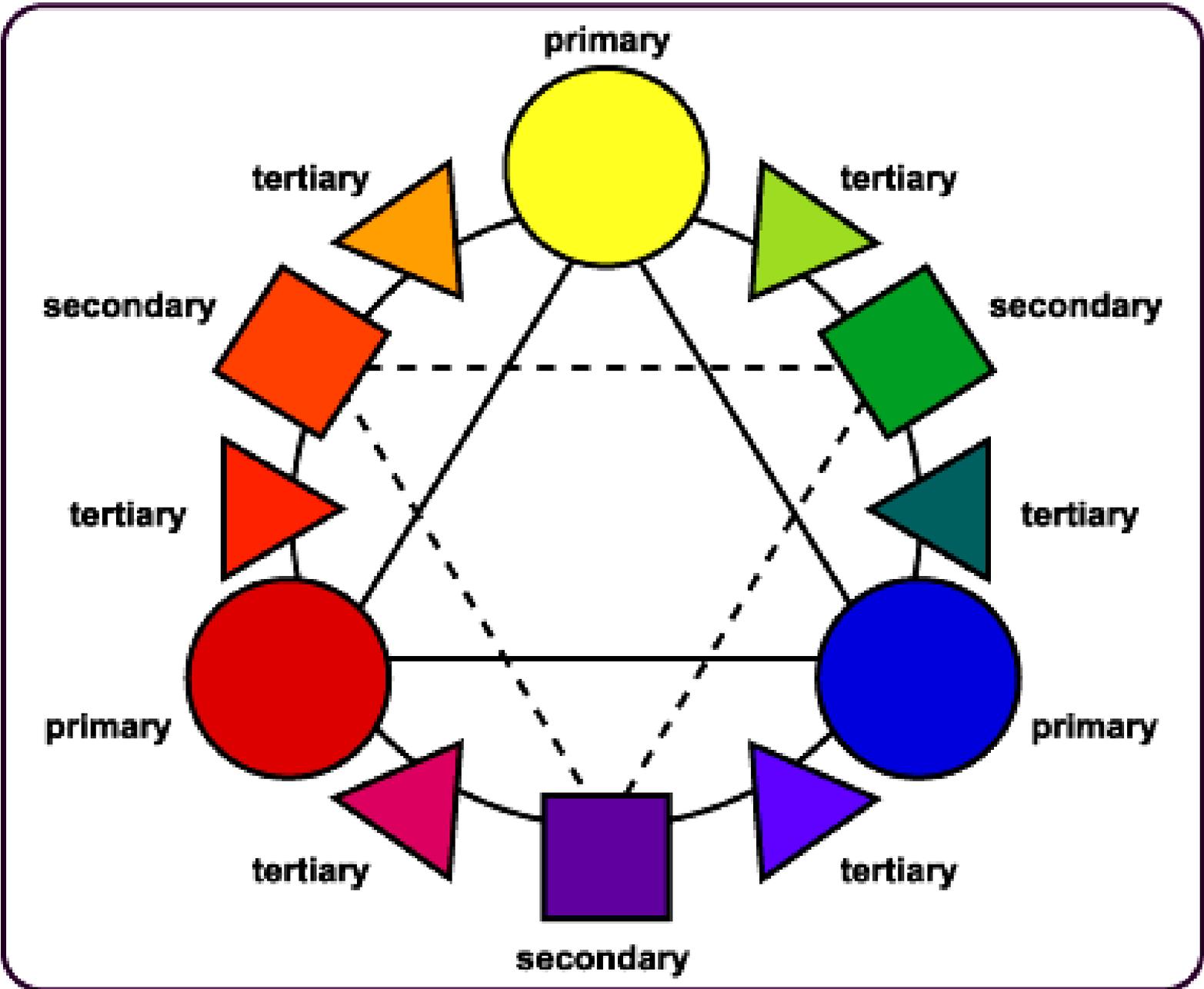
Tertiary colors



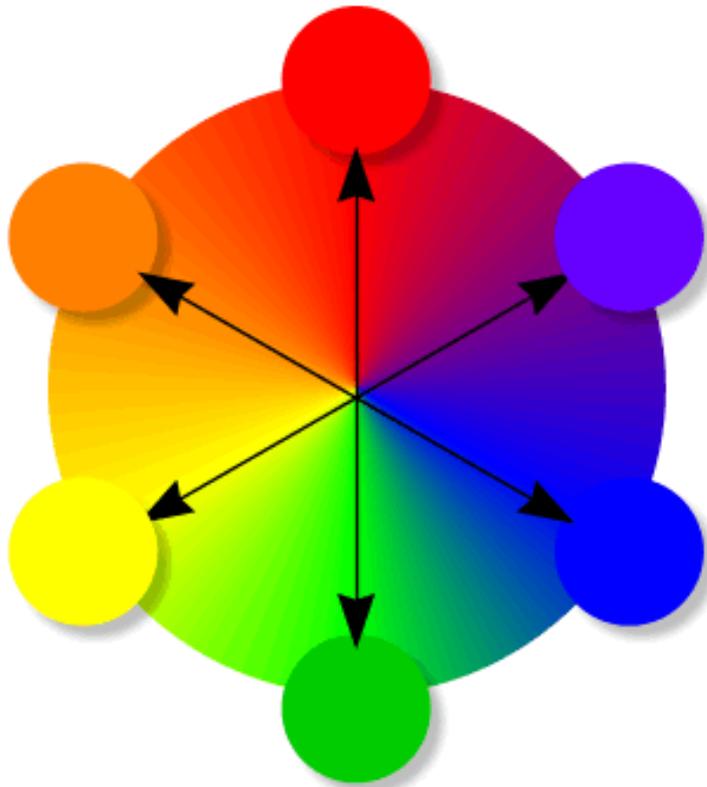
Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary colors based on Red, Yellow, and Blue (RYB) as the Primary Triad on a standard "Color Wheel"

Tertiary colors are the colors created by mixing the secondary colors.

yellow-orange,
red-orange,
red-purple,
blue-purple,
blue-green
yellow-green



Complementary colors



The Complementary Colors (opposites)

Complementary colors

are colors that are **opposite** each other on the color wheel:

Red - **Green**,

Orange - **Blue**,

Yellow - **Violet**