



## Applying Tone Teaching Ideas

**Learning Objective:** To develop your tonal shading skills.

**Success Criteria:**

- To demonstrate an ability to use light, medium and dark tones.
- To be creative in the placement of tone.
- To blend tones together successfully, achieving a smooth effect.

**Context:** This is the third lesson of the Tone project looking at the formal elements of art. Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how to use light, medium and dark tones when applying tone to basic shapes. Their aim this lesson is focused upon blending tone, achieving a smooth graduation from one tone to another.

**Resources**

[Tonal Shading Activity Sheet](#)

pencils  
rubbers  
sharpeners  
blending tools  
scrap paper  
colour pencils

### Starter

Using Slide 3, ask the class to identify the areas of light, shadow and tone on the bottle to recap their knowledge and understanding from lesson one. You might wish to use a 'no hands up' method to pick students at random and test their understanding of what they see. The answers will be revealed upon the click.

### Main Activities

#### Tonal Shading

Students complete the [Tonal Shading Activity Sheet](#), which is introduced on Slide 4. It would be helpful to demonstrate to students how to blend from light to medium to dark tone using pressure on the pencil across the paper. Explain that they should use a soft pencil to blend, such as a B pencil and maybe a 2B for darker tones. Softer pencils make it easier to blend, with a HB pencil being useful for detail.

#### Extension Activity

Students who complete the main task can move on to the extension task on the activity sheet. Students could try this task with a coloured pencil, experimenting with blending light, medium and dark tones. Students could also practise blending one colour into another; for example, blending red and yellow together to create orange.

### Plenary

From Slide 6, ask students the question 'If you were to explain what tone is to another person and how you achieve different tones, what would you say?'

Ask them to write their answer down on their activity sheet and take several answers from the class.