

# Charcoal drawing – Pop Art Characters

In this task students created a transcript of an online tonal drawing. A pop culture character was selected for its simple, rounded form and stylised features so that fine detail needed with charcoal was limited. In this case 'Mike' from the Pixar movie Monsters Incorporated has been used but other characters such as Minions or SpongeBob SquarePants may also be suitable.

## Practical knowledge:

### Developing drawing skills related to recording accurate shapes and proportions by:

- breaking complex forms into geometric shapes
- measuring size and proportion using the paper edges and drawing tools as measurement devices
- using charcoal sticks or lightly drawn construction lines as a 'protractor' to gauge angles

### Using tone to show form by:

- eliminating outlines where possible, using charcoal tone instead
- creating a range of tones (highlight, mid-tone, shadow) to indicate visually the form of the body

### Media skills with charcoal including:

- using very light construction lines to map out **initial** drawing
- creating a range of smooth tones by smudging charcoal with fingers or cotton buds
- drawing from general to fine details e.g. shading whole eyeball, before iris and then adding marks and pupil last
- creating sharp edges using charcoal and erasers to finish, 're-drawing' edges and cleaning drawing before fixing

## Knowing about art and art contexts:

- learning about career pathways in illustration, character design and digital animation
- learning about Pop Art and how this relates to imagery in popular culture at the inception and now

## Assessment:

The numbers below denote performance levels - 3 = at the expected curriculum level, 1-2 = working towards the expected curriculum level, 4-5 working beyond the expected curriculum level. Teachers then can add an overall 'grade' and comment.

### Mike Tonal Drawing Task.

Shape and proportions are measured correctly	Outlines have been eliminated and tone used instead	Light and dark clearly show the rounded body form
1-2    3    4-5	1-2    3    4-5	1-2    3    4-5
Overall grade:	Comment:	

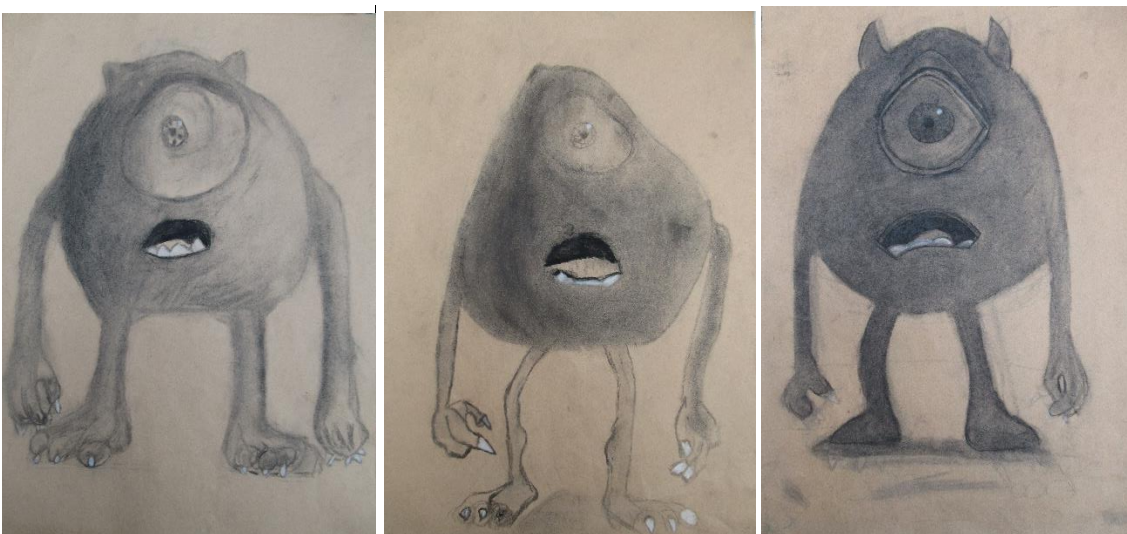
Exemplars Overleaf...

## Working towards Year 9 curriculum level for observational drawing



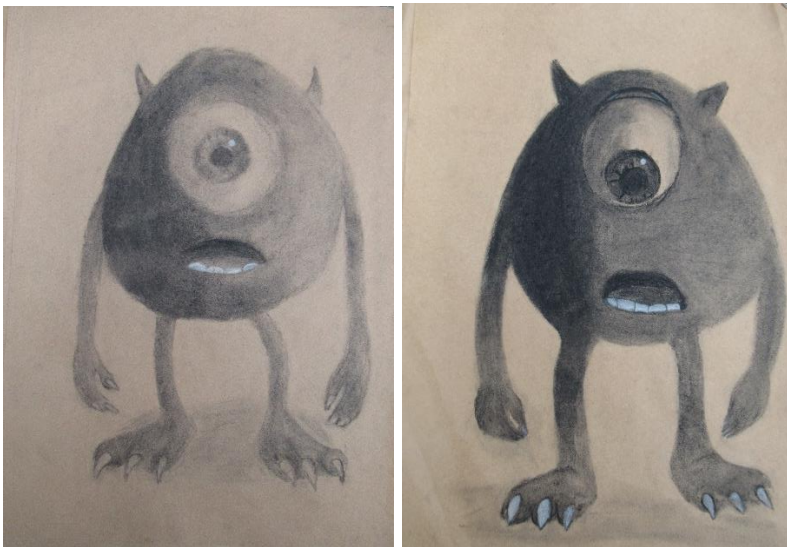
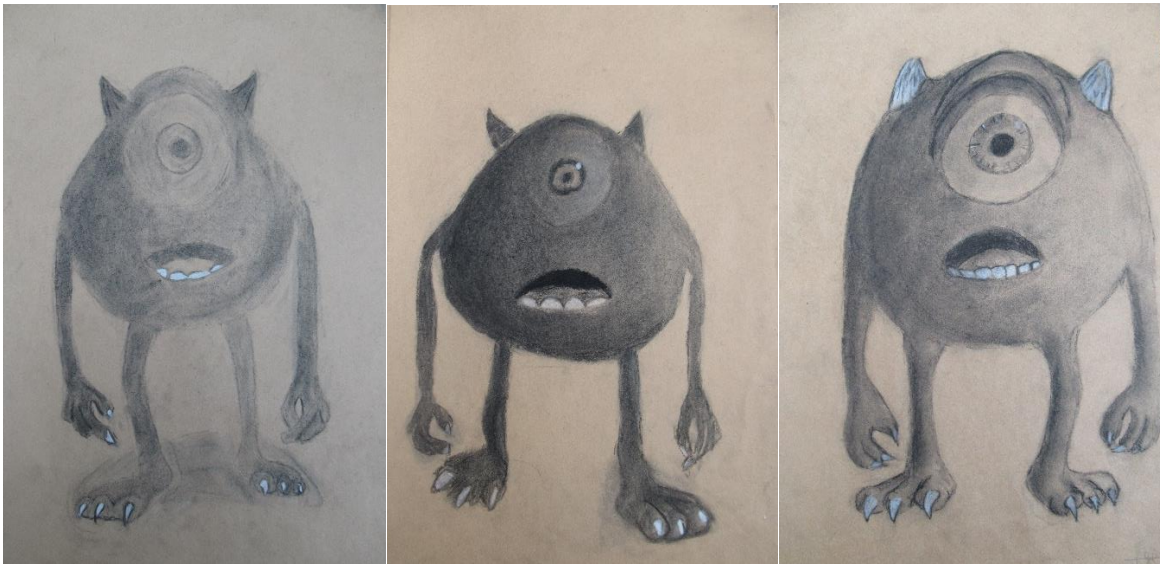
Some tone is used but mostly is not differentiated into highlight or shadows. Students draw monsters but without the proportions and shapes they see are not always recorded accurately.

## Working at expected curriculum level at Year 9



Students make attempts to record what they see accurately in terms of shapes, proportions, or details overall with some inaccuracies. Tone is used with some variation and this may begin to show form more clearly and at this level students may still need some practice blending tonal gradations.

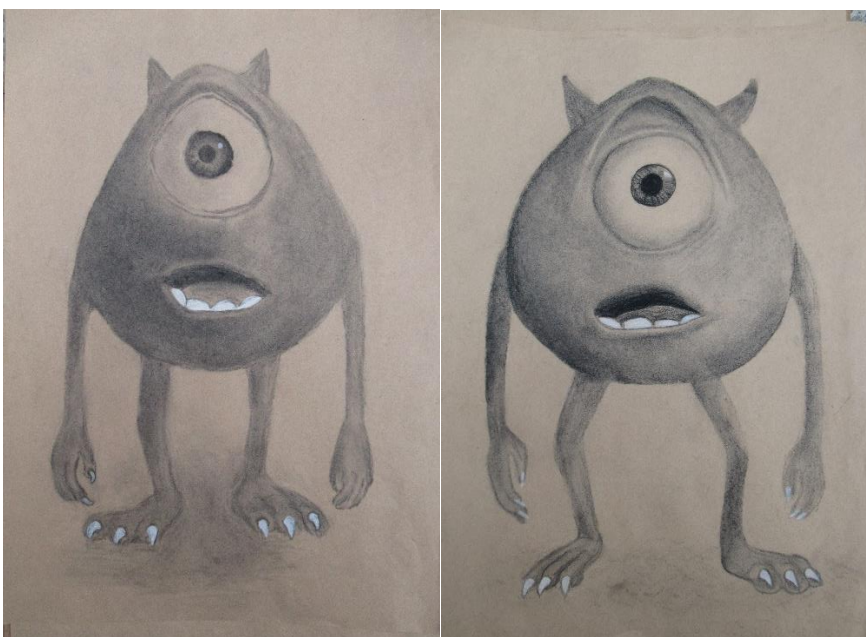
**Working at the upper end of the Year 9 curriculum level, similar to Year 10 level.**



Students are able to confidently use charcoal to render form or details.

Tonal gradations sometimes have abrupt changes and while the overall form of body is rendered details within the form such as eyeball, iris, arms / legs, and eyelids are not tonally rendered sometimes indicated with lines

**Working well above expected Year 9 curriculum level would achieve at Year 11 in terms of recording information and control of charcoal**



Students accurately record overall forms but also additional details such as folds in eyelid,

Charcoal use shows ability to manipulate tonal range with control blending tones and showing form of body as well as eyeball, edges of lips and fingers/toes with tone.