S is for SHAPE

"Where the shadows fall."

Shading shows the shape of an object or face.

🔍 Tip: When you shade, curve your pencil marks around round areas (like cheeks) and keep them more straight and angled for flat surfaces.

H is for Hardness

"How hard you press with your pencil."

Pressing lightly makes soft, pale tones. Pressing harder gives you dark, bold areas.

✏️ Tip: Don't press the same everywhere! Practice pressing gently and firmly to control the darkness of your shading.
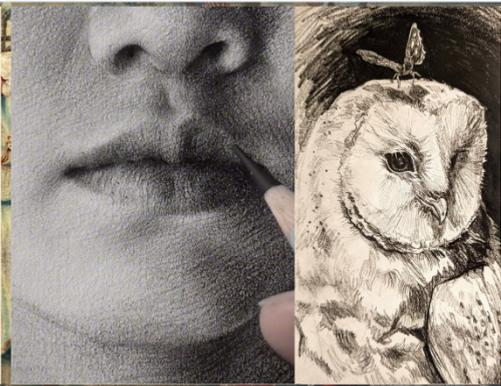
A is for Accuracy

"It's all in the details."

Shading isn't just about darkness—it's about texture and detail. Use different pencil strokes (dots, dashes, swirls) to show these differences.

◉ Tip: Look closely—what textures can you see? Try to match them with your pencil.

D is for Density

"There are many layers to this."

. You can refine your shading by layering more pencil & you can lighten other areas by removing pencil with an eraser.

🌸 Tip: Build your shading in layers—start light and gradually go darker.

E is for Edges

"Where one shade ends and another begins."

Some edges in a portrait are sharp (like the jawline), and some are soft (like the side of a nose).

✍️ Tip: You can blend soft edges gently with your pencil or finger.