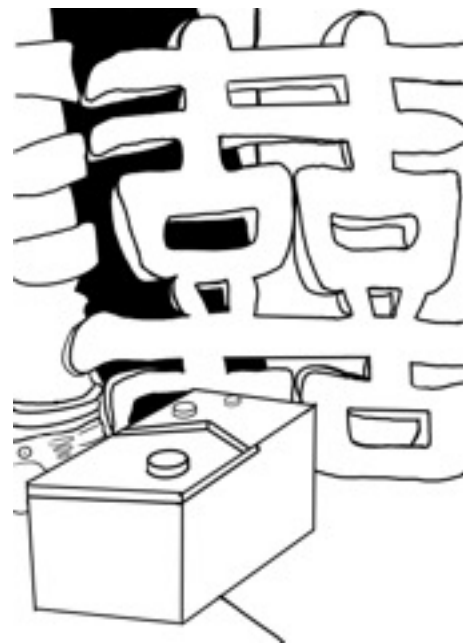## What are some of the key elements that made you decide on the chosen composition?

The key elements that made me choose this composition are the distinct shapes that can be seen in this composition. The first of these shapes is the rectangular prism that can be seen to the right with the circles on top. I wanted to incorporate this object in my drawing because it has a distinct 3D shape that I wanted to try and draw. The second biggest element was the red Chinese character "xi" (meaning double happiness). I wanted to incorporate this object in my drawing because it was another object that has a distinct shape. Along with this distinct shape the character from my angles shows the side of the of the character allowing me to make the character look 3D on paper using the lines that I could see from the left side of the character.

What is the focal point of your piece?

The focal point of my piece is the Chinese character. The Chinese character is the biggest object in my drawing and takes up majority of the space on the page. Even while being covered by the box the Chinese character is eye catching at first glance. Being the biggest object it covers majority of my piece giving it a lot of importance to the work. Along with this the Chinese character has an element of symmetry at it which very appealing to the eye. Lastly I put a black shape behind the Chinese character to show contract between the black and white and allow for the Chinese character to stand out.

What were some of the techniques you used to make the objects look 3 dimensional and how do you feel you were successful in achieving this?

I used a lot of elements of design to make my objects look 3D in my drawing. The two main elements of design I used are line and form. I used these together make all the objects I did and I think I was successful at doing so. For example for the box I used shorter and longer lines to make the edges of the box and then I used different angled line to close the box and create a form. From this I was able to define the shape of the box and give it feel of depth and volume. I did this same thing with the Chinese character because after drawing the shape I used lines and form on the sides and holes of the character to show that the character was 3D and it had depth. Overall the most important element I used is space because I used it very effectively when varying the sizes of my objects and overlapping the box on the character to effectively show distance between the and the depth of them.

What were some of the main challenges you had when working on the piece?

The main challenge I had when working on this piece was being able to accept the quality of my drawing while was drawing it. This is because I am not really the best at art and drawing, so whenever I do draw I don't like what I draw. Because of this there was a lot of times throughout the drawing process where I wanted to restart the project because I felt that it wasn't good enough. Another challenge I came across was drawing the objects that I could see in the correct size this is because when drawing I originally drew the box to big then too small then too big again causing me to use a whole class to draw a box.

How did you overcome these challenges?

I overcame my first challenge of not constantly restarting my work by always zooming in on my work allowing me to focus on lines that I was drawing for the object I was drawing. This allowed me to not get distracted or think about the other objects I had drawn. I overcame my second challenge by using the view finder to allow me to look at what I was drawing in the perspective of the paper itself and then I could see how much space each object should take up on the page.

What are your top 3 tips for next year's students doing this project?

While you may believe that you are not good at drawing remember you are using an iPad and you undo and erase if you want and try out different things. Whenever trying to draw a 3D object think perspective and just try to visualise what the object would like if it was a picture. Don't focus too much on the elements of design when drawing your contour drawing you will notice that they can be clearly seen at the end of your work.
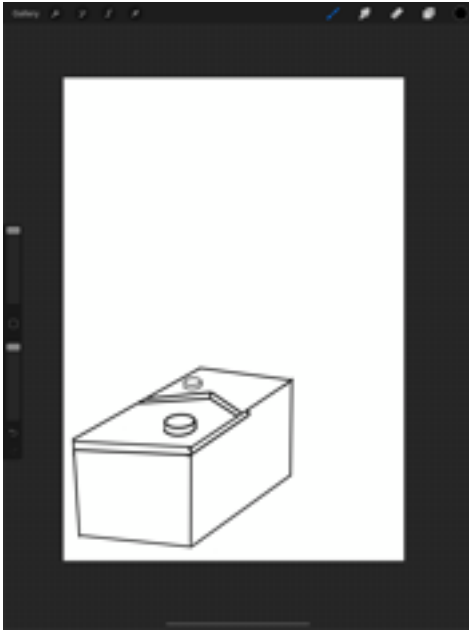
How have you grown as an artists?

Through this project I think I have really grown as an artist. I came into the class not being a very confident drawer and I was actually quite afraid when I realised were going to have to draw. But after learning different drawing techniques and skills I feel like I have learned a lot. For starters when we did some blind drawing I learned that if I just let my hand follow the lines and shape I was looking at it wasn't terrible. Then when we went into learning the principles and elements of design I really started to understand what makes drawings eye catching. From this I also learned about all the different aspects that make up a good drawing. Knowing the principles and elements of design allowed me to be quite comfortable when stepping to contour drawing with quick sketches of what was in the middle of the classroom. I knew the different things to think about when I was drawing to make my art better. For contour drawing specifically I worked hard on line, shape, form and space as to me these can all create an effective contour drawing. After a bit of practice of contour drawing when starting the summative I felt more comfortable in drawing the objects and using the elements of design. After finishing my final project I decided to experiment further with different elements of design. I experimented with texture, value and contrast, but, this being a contour drawing I stuck with just contrast for my final piece. After trying out 3 different placements of a black shape to contrast against my objects and allow them to further stand out. I decided to use this black shape behind my Chinese Character to use the contrast to give the character further importance in my piece. Overall I grew a lot as as an artist though this project especially through the learning of the elements and principles of design.
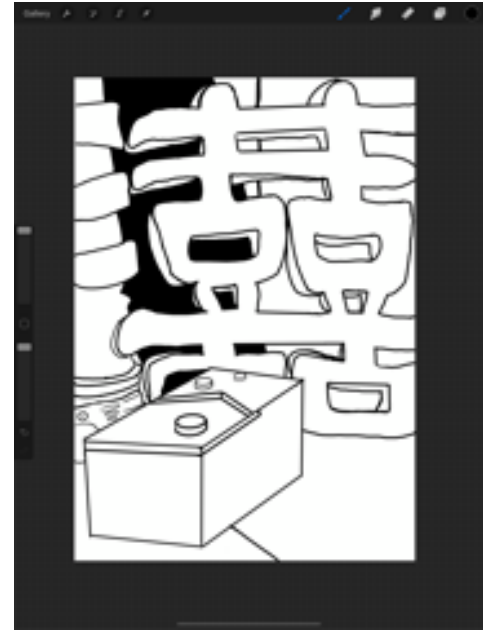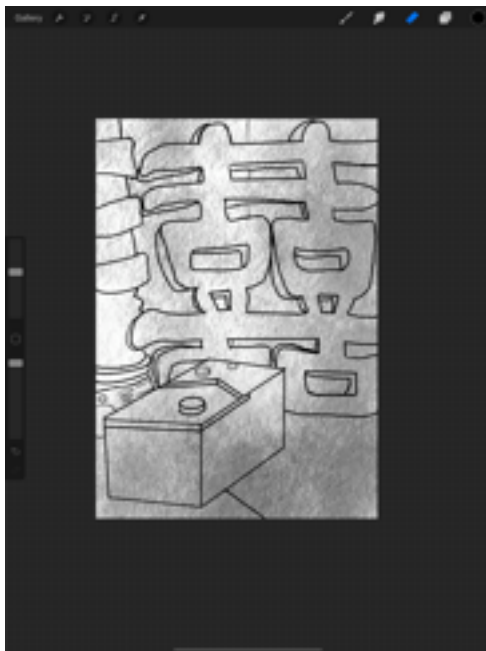
Class Progress

Class 1

Class 2

Class 3

Elements of Design experiment

Texture

I tried out texture to see what giving the paper a texture would do to my drawing. What I found is that doing this made my piece come more to life gave it more character.

Value

I tried out value by darkening the sides of my drawing but leaving the middle of the Chinese character bright to give a sense of importance to the Chinese character in my piece.

Contrast

Finally I worked with contract as it was the most relevant to contour drawing. I tried many different placements of the black shape but I found that putting it behind the Chinese character and the box allowed for the two object to stand out against black.

Final piece