

Exercise 38

Take a graphite pencil and a blue pencil. With the graphite follow the line of a tree from one of its outmost branches down through the trunk to the earth. Now travel with your pencil as if through the earth and meet the trunk of another tree, now go up this trunk along a branch out to a twig. Repeat this process at least three times so that you have the lines of six trees on your page(see illustration). Now with your blue pencil draw some lines for the sky. If there are clouds you may use them for inspiration, but if your sky is uniformly blue or gray make up the movement of your blue lines to mean “sky” to you. Now with an opaque white and very light yellow or gray medium, begin to obliterate some of the lines. Choose a few parts of the tree lines and a few parts of the sky lines to keep. Now accentuate those kept lines-the trees in brown pencil, and the sky in a different shade of blue. How much line do you absolutely need? Push away until there is almost nothing ...now accentuate just enough.

