One doorway two possibilities

How much can one line choice change the way an image is read?

Draw an imaginary scene twice, change one visual choice and separate what you can see from what you interpret.

Make | 10-20 minutes, or one small sketch | Scrap paper and a pencil or pen, The supplied original doorway example; no image search needed

Start here Draw a rectangle for a doorway, a circle for its window and a triangle above it. A rough version is enough.



Same shapes, one changed outline

1 Keep a reference

Draw the same three shapes again beside the first scene. Keep their positions and sizes similar so you can explain what changes. You can use the supplied example throughout.

2 Change one choice

Use thin outlines in version A. In version B, make only the doorway outline heavier by tracing it again. Keep the circle and triangle thin. You may choose another single change instead, such as spacing, if you name it.

3 Describe, then interpret

Write or say one visible difference: 'The doorway outline is thicker.' Then offer one possible reading: 'It draws my attention to the entrance.' Someone else may interpret it differently.

4 Choose what to keep

Keep either version, combine an idea or leave both unfinished. If you want feedback, ask a precise question such as 'What catches your eye first?' No sharing is required.

Original example an imaginary doorway

This is an invented design comparison, not a report of audience responses. A and B contain the same rectangle, circular window and triangular roof in the same positions.

• A: all three outlines are thin.

• B: only the doorway outline is heavier.

• Visible change: line weight. Possible interpretation: the doorway attracts more attention.

What this example can show A different reading is possible. These drawings do not establish how every viewer feels, or that one version is better.

A different way

Point to the changed outline in the example, describe it aloud or direct someone else to draw it. You can compare without making your own picture.

If you want to go further

Make a third version changing only spacing. Compare whether line weight and spacing guide attention in different ways; keep your claims tied to the actual drawings.

Something to notice

Which part was a visible change, and which part was my interpretation?

Read or explore more

Horizon topic Art

https://launchhorizonhq.com/learn/art/

Horizon topic Colour Contrast

https://launchhorizonhq.com/learn/colour-contrast/

Horizon topic Composition Balance

https://launchhorizonhq.com/learn/composition-balance/

National Gallery of Victoria Explore the Art Elements

https://www.ngv.vic.gov.au/learn/explore-the-art-elements/

National Gallery of Art The Elements of Art

https://www.nga.gov/educational-resources/elements-art