BUILDING BLOCKS

sketching from reference

When referencing from real life, it helps to break down the object you're looking at into its basic shapes, or "building blocks".

To practice, we are going to trace over the picture below, isolating the shapes within the image and build our sketch with those blocks.

When shading your sketch, it is easiest to block in solid colors first and then add depth with shadows. A reference photo is helpful with identifying the shapes and contours of your shadow areas, as light in real life can adjust in brightness and location; thus re-shaping your shadows as you're rendering.