

Expressions

Subtly is key in conveying emotion.

Facial expressions can change the meaning of an illustration immensely. A slight change in the mouth, a raise of an eyebrow, a squint in the eyes: the most recognizable impacts need the smallest of tweaks.

Eyes in particular can be tricky to work with. What might seem like an extremely minor positional change can greatly affect how polished a piece looks.

August! Time for some expressions. Why in August? No reason. Let's try some anyway! Focus on the **eyes** to drive the key look of your expression: we humans recognize a lot about these in art. The **mouth, body language,** and **eyebrows** can convey a lot with slight tweaks too.

If you don't have a specific **character** when mentioned in these prompts, make anything up! Expressions can look fun on any kind of character, and it can be fun to switch between a few. What happens when you make a serious character look silly?

Having trouble telling if you got an expression right? Digitally, **flip it horizontally**, or flip and hold it up to the light on paper. You'll see pretty quickly if you nailed it.


Like the prompt?
Draw it and check ☐ it off.

Not feeling it?
Draw what you want and write it in the blank space.

This calendar is yours.
Miss a day? Drew the wrong thing? That's OK! We're all human. Let yourself make mistakes.

Daily Art Calendar

August 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 <input type="checkbox"/> Freebie Friday <input type="checkbox"/> _____ On the start of the month? Sure, why not. Look ahead at other days and pick one fun!	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Warmup Practice <input type="checkbox"/> _____ You know you always forget to do these. Practice some basic warm-up exercises today.
3 <input type="checkbox"/> Calm and Content <input type="checkbox"/> _____ What does it mean to be happy, but chill? How does a character look in this state?	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Angry and Agitated <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Now it's time for some emotion. Try some angry expressions, changing the mouth & eyes a few times.	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Gesture Drill <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Bodies have expression too; practice some poses and try to capture broad shapes.	6 <input type="checkbox"/> Deeply Confused <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Comical or serious, try to depict raw confusion. Lots of opportunities for variety here.	7 <input type="checkbox"/> Elated Expressions <input type="checkbox"/> _____ They're so happy! What makes them joyful; how do they react?	8 <input type="checkbox"/> Freebie Friday <input type="checkbox"/> _____ A free day! Isn't that exciting. Want more expressions? Draw some. Want something else? Do that.	9 <input type="checkbox"/> In the Eyes <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Draw the same expression a few times, but move the pupils of the eyes around. What happens?
10 <input type="checkbox"/> Squint <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Study some expressions where a character is squinting. What parts move?	11 <input type="checkbox"/> Exaggerations <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Most expressions are subtle. But what do they look like if you greatly exaggerate them?	12 <input type="checkbox"/> JUMPSCARE! <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Surprise! What does sudden shock look like to a character?	13 <input type="checkbox"/> Body Language <input type="checkbox"/> _____ See if you can show expressions using just the body; keep the face blank!	14 <input type="checkbox"/> Head Empty <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Dazed or empty content, what does a character with nothing going on inside look like?	15 <input type="checkbox"/> Freebie Friday <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Another Friday for another free day. Draw what you're feeling.	16 <input type="checkbox"/> Comfort Character Day <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Whether they look comfy or not, spring for drawing whatever character makes *you* feel comfortable.
17 <input type="checkbox"/> Eyebrows <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Draw a neutral face a few times. Then draw different eyebrows on each, trying for different expressions.	18 <input type="checkbox"/> Sleepy yet Expressive <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Study some pictures of people and animals sleeping. Do they look grumpy, happy, crazy?	19 <input type="checkbox"/> Non-plussed <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Unexcited. Annoyed. Plainly uncaring. How does that look?	20 <input type="checkbox"/> Bravery <input type="checkbox"/> _____ A bold defender! What makes a character look brave? Can you show that fierce confidence?	21 <input type="checkbox"/> Tiny Tweaks <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Grab one of your earlier expressions from this month and make small changes. What happens to the feel?	22 <input type="checkbox"/> Freebie Friday <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Once more, a free Friday to draw anything you please, from these expressions or your own imagination.	23 <input type="checkbox"/> In Love <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Aww, they look adorable. How do you represent an expression of love on a character's face?
24 <input type="checkbox"/> Fantastic Fanart <input type="checkbox"/> _____ What's a show or movie or game where the character has a notable expression? Try it out.	25 <input type="checkbox"/> Disgusted <input type="checkbox"/> _____ That moment when a face shifts from neutral to absolute disgust. How does it appear?	26 <input type="checkbox"/> Cool as Heck <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Give your character sunglasses. Make them smug. Experiment with the mouth's expression.	27 <input type="checkbox"/> Eye Styling <input type="checkbox"/> _____ In art, eyes can have many styles. Try some you've never tried before; study some art for options.	28 <input type="checkbox"/> Anticipation <input type="checkbox"/> _____ That slight look of expectation. What makes it work? See if you can make it.	29 <input type="checkbox"/> Freebie Friday <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Any expression I left out of this calendar? Try that! Or anything at all.	30 <input type="checkbox"/> Flustered <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Caught being cute, eh? What's your character do in this situation?
31 <input type="checkbox"/> Exhaustion <input type="checkbox"/> _____ If you've kept up you might be exhausted from the practice! What's that expression look like?				