

Online Art Mentoring

Free Trial

The reference image is a simple flower by the Master Utagawa Hiroshige.

Please print it and follow the instructions thoroughly.

You could use different colours, but please keep the same proportions and details. We need to revise your work and compare it with the original image.

Only colours can be changed.

Keep the quality of your work at your best.

We believe interest and focus play a big part in achieving good quality.



You need:

- Copy of your Reference image
- White paper for your drawing
- Pencils (different hardness/softness)
- Coloured pencils (red, yellow, light orange, light green, dark green, black)
- Ruler
- Eraser

● Center of the width of the page



The Grid Method

The image you choose will be called REFERENCE IMAGE.

Take your reference image paper. Fold the paper once vertically and once horizontally and draw two lines exactly where it folded.

One at the center of the length of the page.

One at the center of the width of the page.

● Center of the length of the page



Now fold it again, only vertically.
Once on the right side
and
once on the left side.

Draw the lines where it folded.

Distance



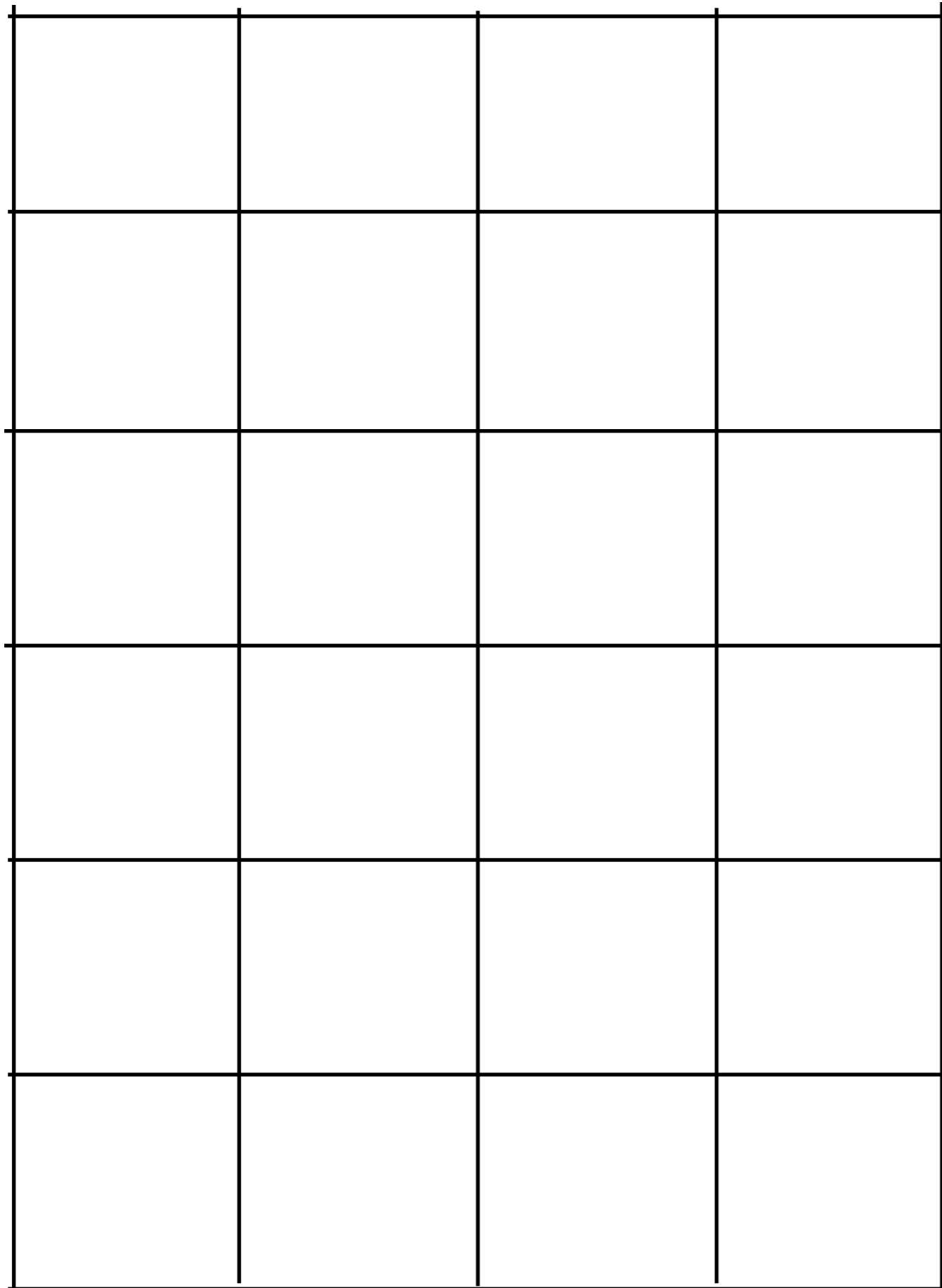
Measure the distance between the vertical lines.



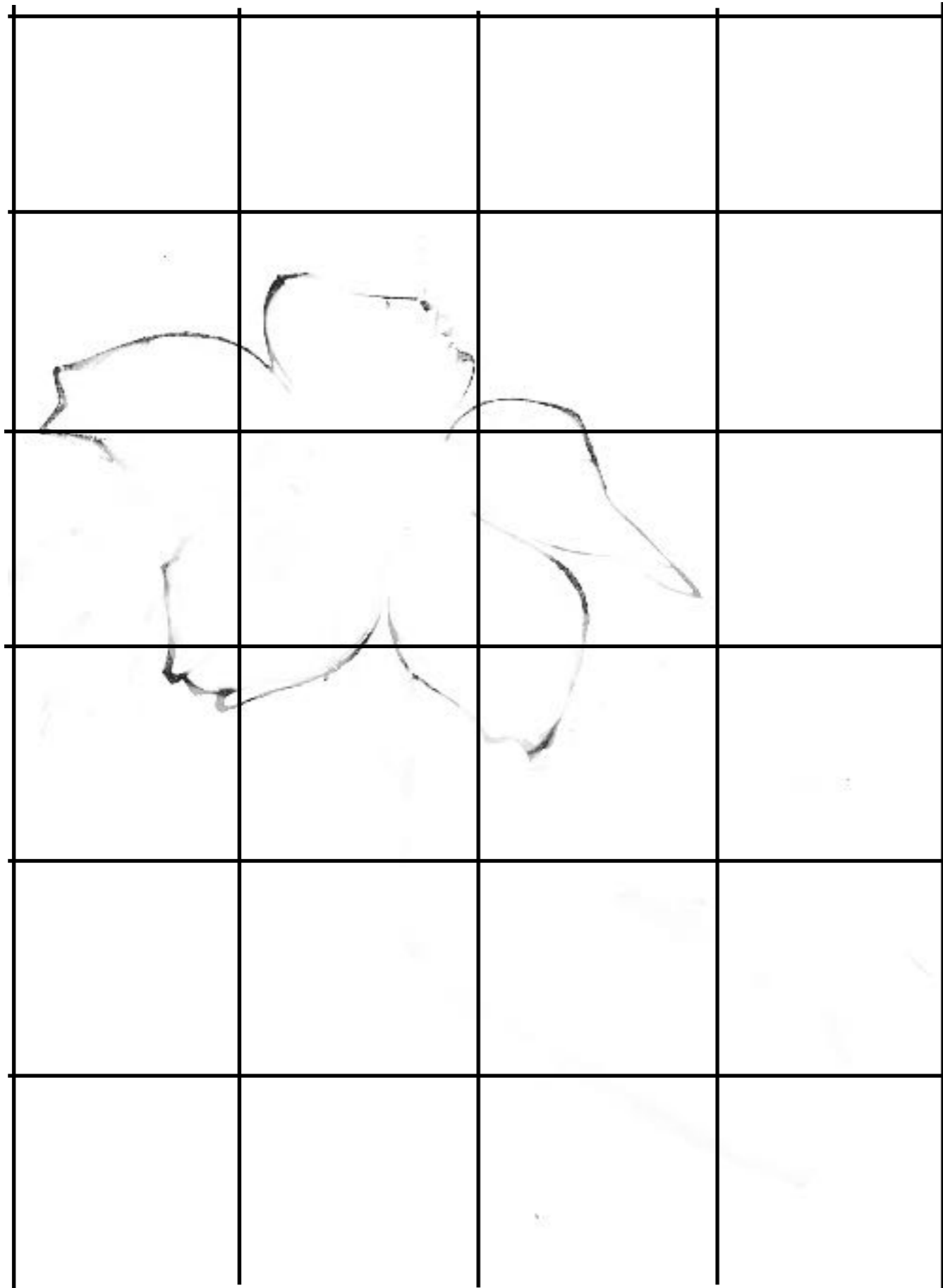
Using the same distance,
draw up the horizontal lines (the distance
between the horizontal lines needs to be
the same as the one between the vertical
lines so that you will get a grid of squares
in the end).



This is the final grid of your reference image.

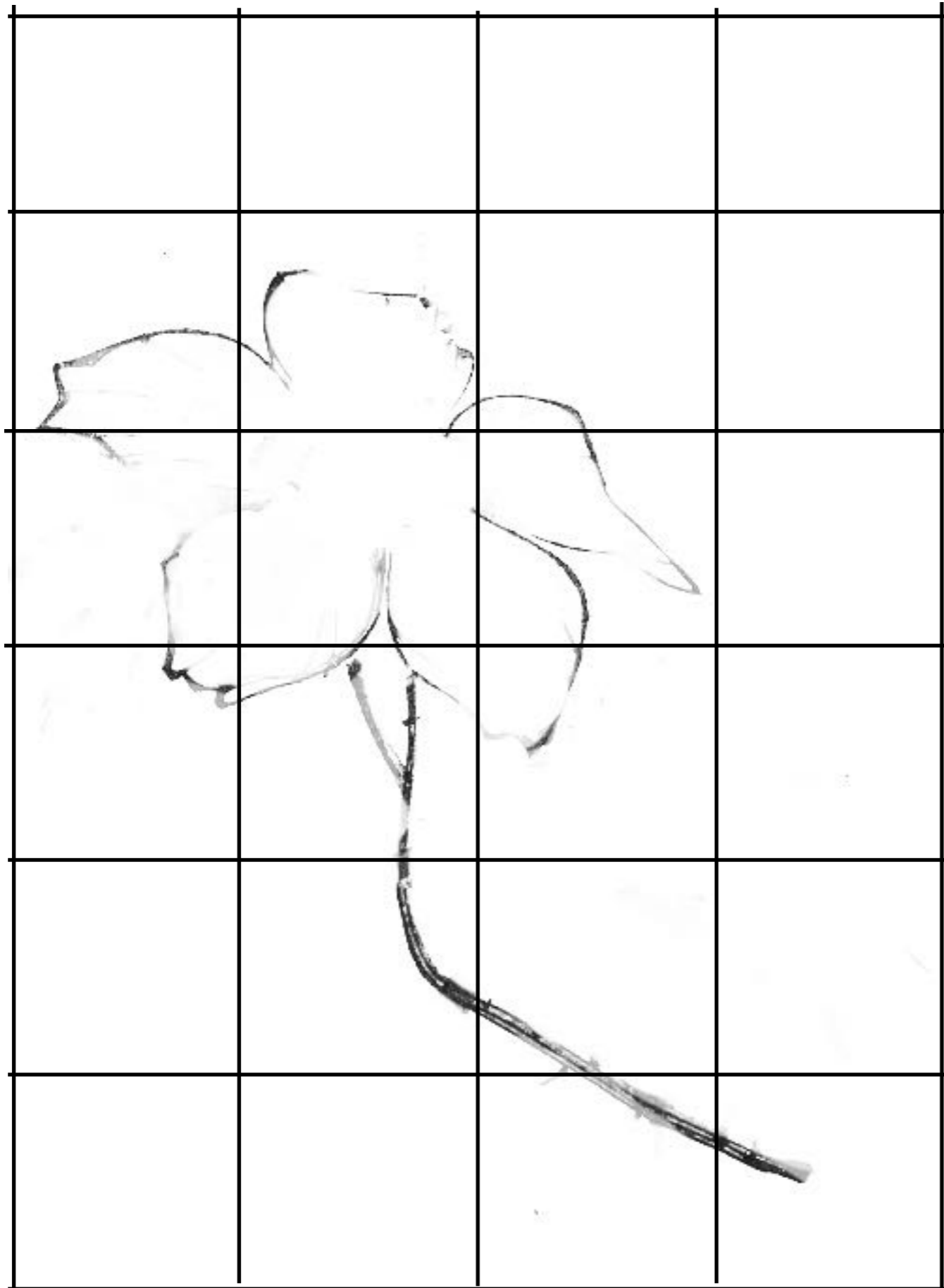


Repeat the Grid Method on the paper you will draw your image. This is what you will get at the end.

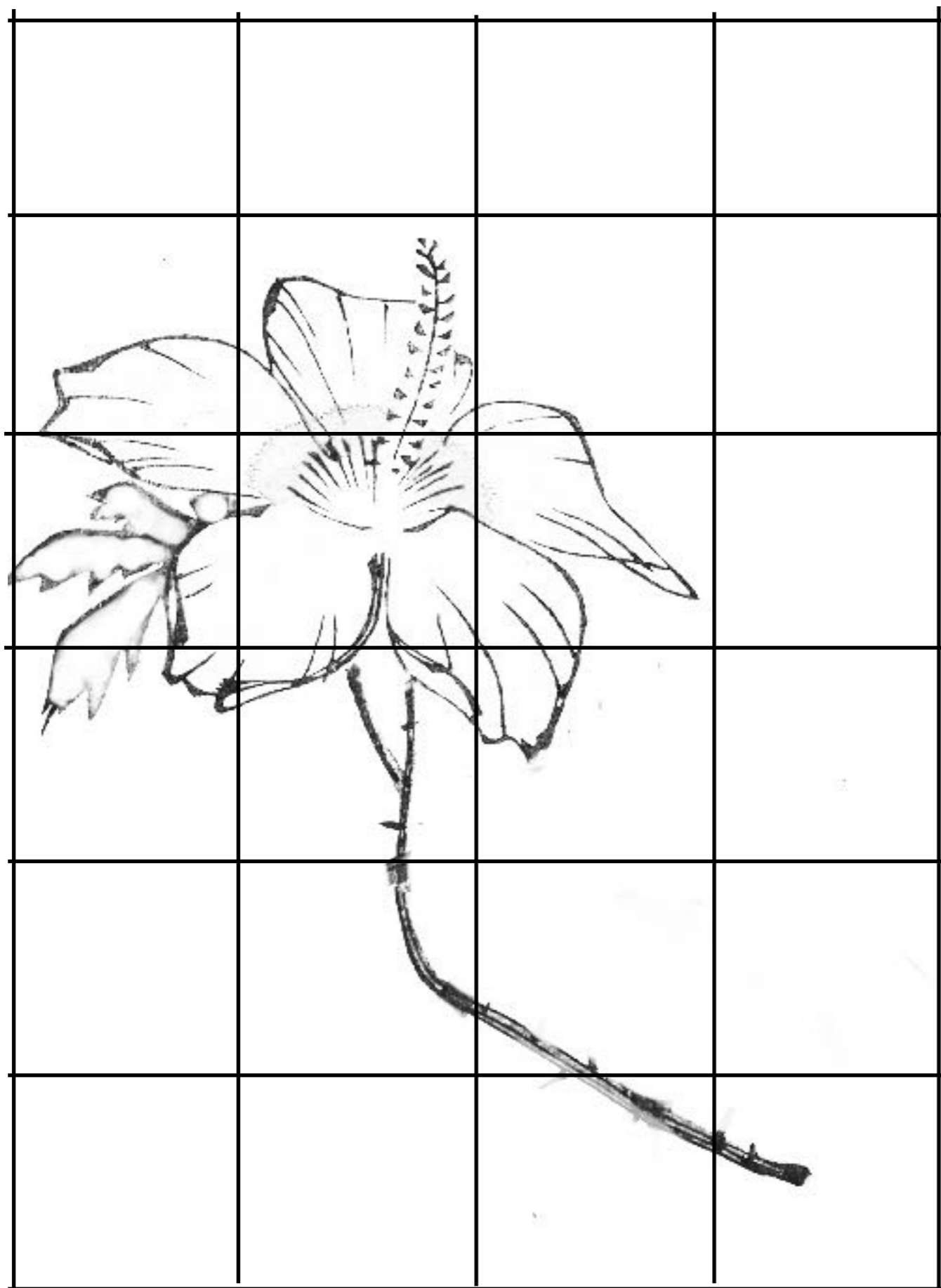


Start drawing the top of the flower with a light pencil and refine your lines when you get the proportion right. Use the squares as references for your drawing.

If needed you could mark the half of the squares on your reference image first and then on your drawing paper, to be able to understand with more precision where your lines need to be drawn.



Continue drawing the lower part of the flower. Add details once you are sure the lines are in the right place.



Continue adding details and be careful to not push your pencil too much. Use the right pencil (how soft or how hard you need it to be) and try to be light with your lines. Your marks can be more decisive when you are 100% sure your drawing is correct.

Now add all the details with the pencil and erase the squares. You are ready to start colouring!



Grab your color pencils and start colouring with a light touch first. To get an even texture change directions of your marks constantly.



Add the red parts carefully since you don't want to mix your colours. Pay more attention to the edges.





It is important to keep your marks fast and light, as much as possible, but you still need to be in control of your pencil, deciding where the colour needs to go. Slow down if it is necessary.



Complete your drawing adding color to the background. This is the most difficult part since it is a large area and you want to keep a homogeneous texture. Change the direction of your marks often (e.g. first horizontal marks, then only vertical marks, then oblique marks,...) with the lightest touch. Hold the pencil lightly so that it can travel fast and smooth. Don't worry if you don't get a great result at first. Keep trying and with practice you will definitely get good results.

Congrats!
Your drawing is completed!