

Drawing study 7

Textures of habitat

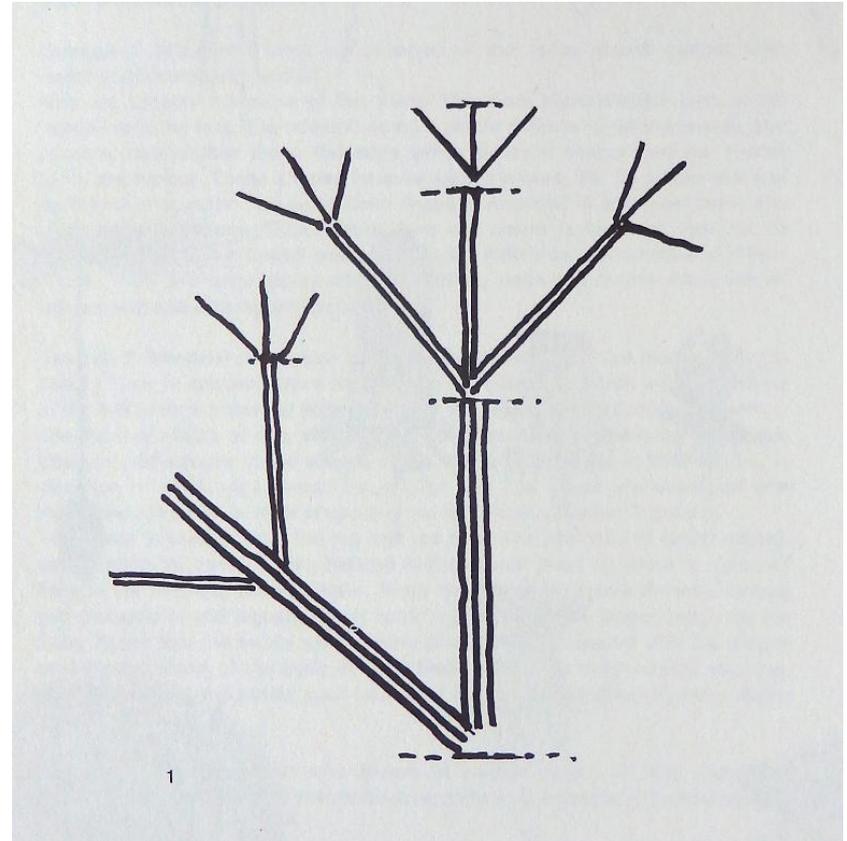


When we compare blades of grass with other plants, we notice their extraordinary length and delicate structure.

Notice also the complexity of their simple form in the arrangement of their seed cups.

Some resemble spikes or hanging fruit, some a panicle.

We can see the unit is repeated like a motif, be it the individual shape of seed in a cluster or the cluster on the stalk.



EX 1. We study and draw the individual seeds as well as the seed clusters of various types of grasses.

Use a magnifying glass to observe and draw your specimens next to each other.

Enlarge your drawings 2 to 3 times their actual size.

EX 2. We study the stalks and blades of the grass.

What is the vertical structure of the blade?

How does it taper?

What are the distances between the joints of the stalks?

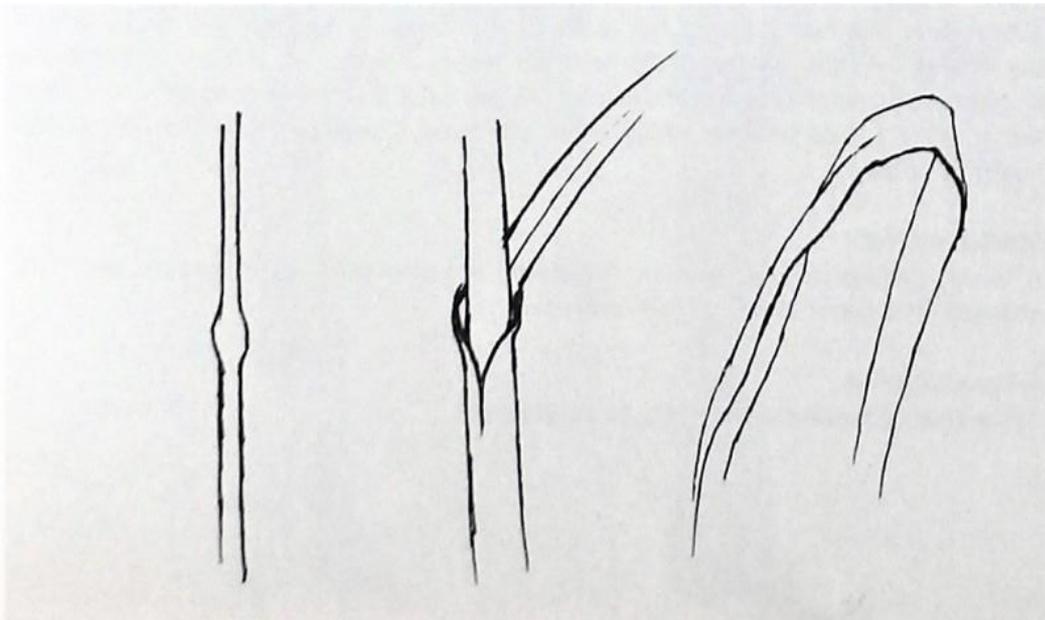
What is the function of these joints?

We analyze the long narrow amplexicaul leaves (clasping the stem).

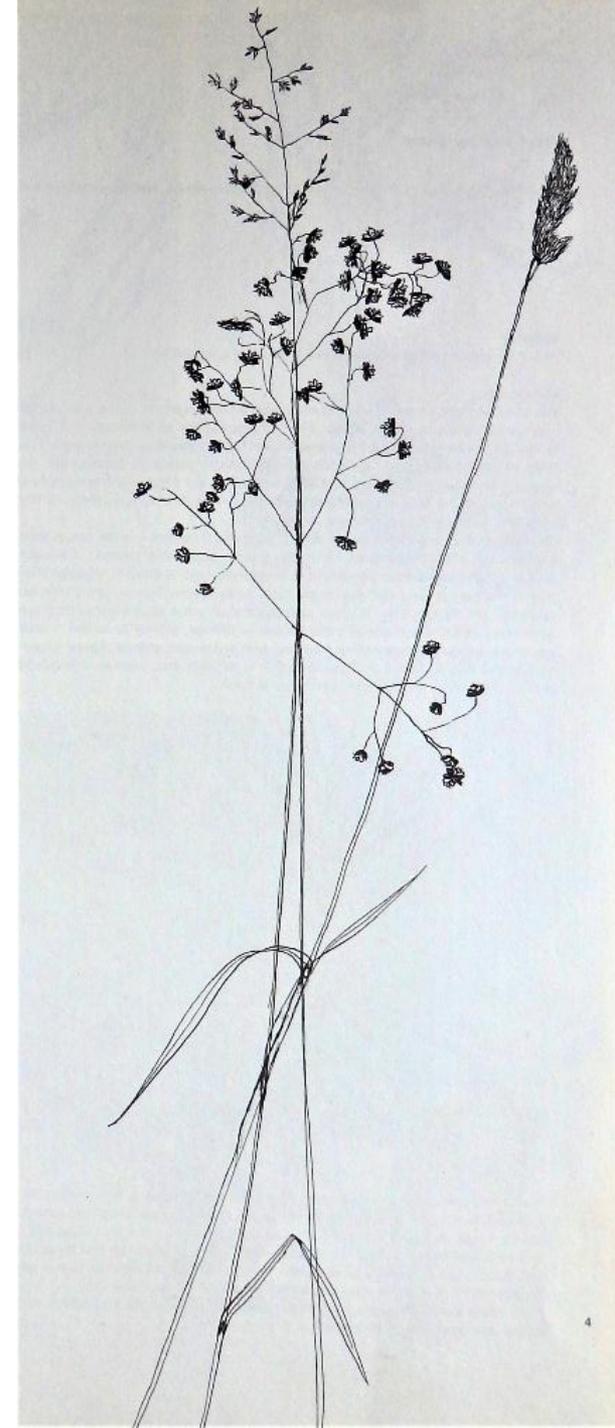


Ex 3. We draw the tuft or stalk of grass as it is found in nature.

Reproduce the individual blades of grass as accurately as possible, and select a few of the most characteristic for an effective pictorial effect.



Alternate subjects: fern, corn, pine, a section of meadow.



A tropical forest is a treasure chest of remarkable forms: giant trunks and branches, hanging and entwining vines, shrubs utilizing an opportunity in the understory, plants with various leaf shapes and sizes, bunches of grass and reeds.

It can provide a rich habitat for insects, reptiles, rodents, small and large mammals, birds, and primates.

EX 4: Find visual reference of rainforest plants, National Geographics, travel brochures, gardening or botanical photos.

If you are bold and don't outline in pencil, I suggest you start with the fore ground species.

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Plan to cover your whole page with structured forms.

Aim for a coherent composition with a rhythmic quality.

Beware of concentrating detail on all elements, this may confuse the appearance.

Some lines can be emphasized, repeated and elaborated. Areas of shade can be hatched.





Alternate subjects: Botanical garden, orchard, waterfall, meadow, fish in net, industrial factory, wharf and pilings.



Congratulations you have completed the first study in the series on natural structures.