# Drawing a self-portrait.

You may find it helpful to do this with a mirror in front of you or looking at a recent photograph of yourself (a photograph that is of your face front on (not turned to the side or up/down) would be best!

Get a piece of plain paper (A4 is fine). You will need a ruler, pencil and rubber. Don't worry if you make a mistake- rub it out and try again. I had to this a couple of times when I drew my self-portrait.

Step 1: make sure your pencil is nice and sharp. Pressing very lightly on the paper (it will be easier to rub out) draw an oval for your face. Think of the shape of an egg when drawing your oval.
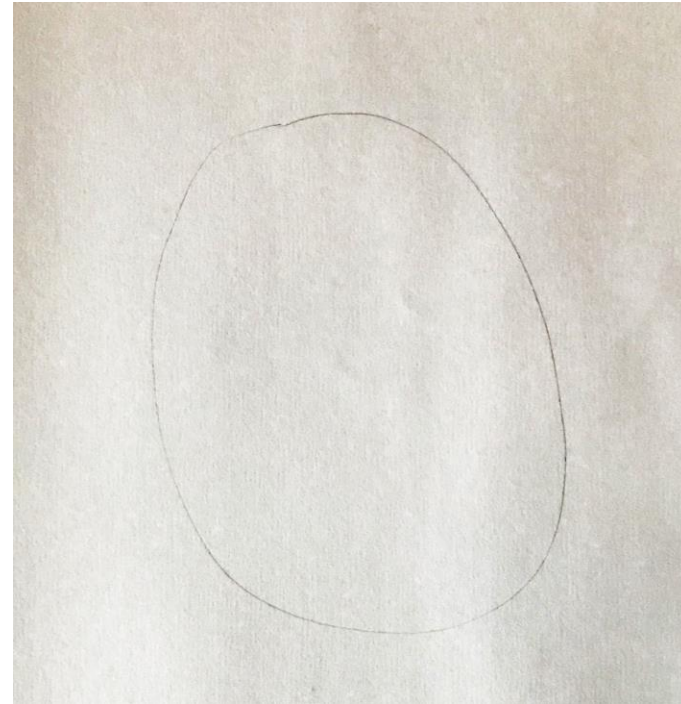
Step 2: again pressing very lightly, draw a line going from top to bottom and another left to right on your oval. You must use a ruler or something with a straight edge so that your lines are nice and neat.
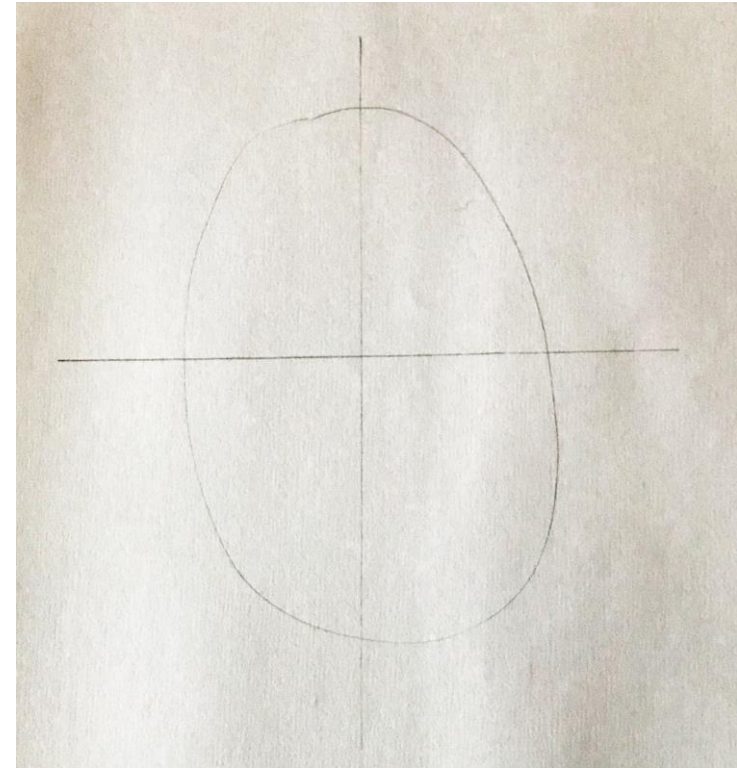
Step 3: draw the eyes, on the line going from left to right. Remember- your eyes aren't right next to each. Leave a gap between them.

First draw a lying down oval so the line you drew earlier goes through the middle.

Next, draw a small circle inside the oval you just drew, in the middle.

Now, draw a small black circle inside the circle you just drew. Colour it in with your pencil.

Lastly, draw eyelashes on the top and bottom of your eye.
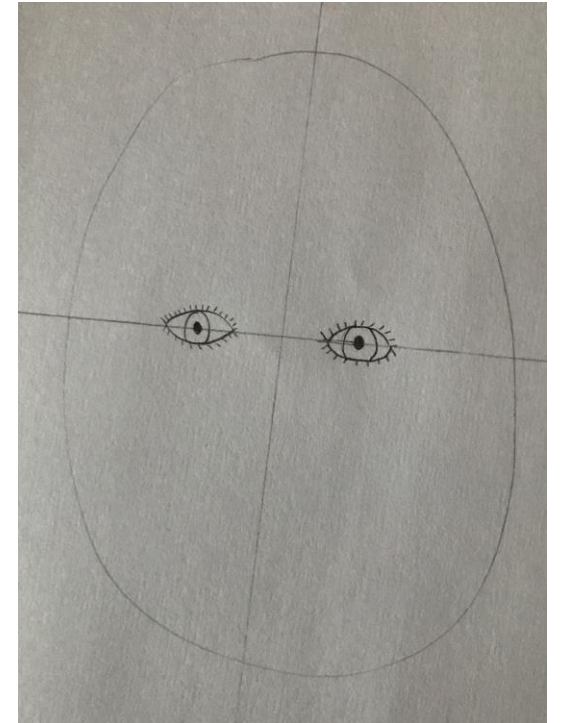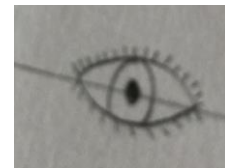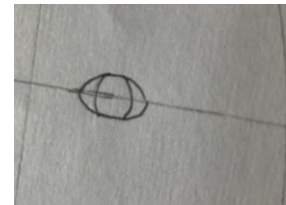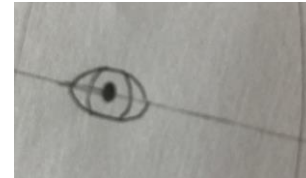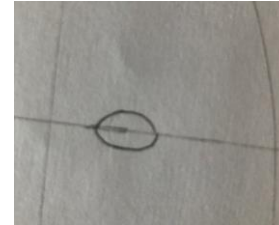
Step 4: draw the nose. The line going from top to bottom should go through the middle of your nose. Depending on what your nose is like, some of you will have your nose nearer your eyes than your chin, for some of you (like me!) it will be nearer your chin than eyes.
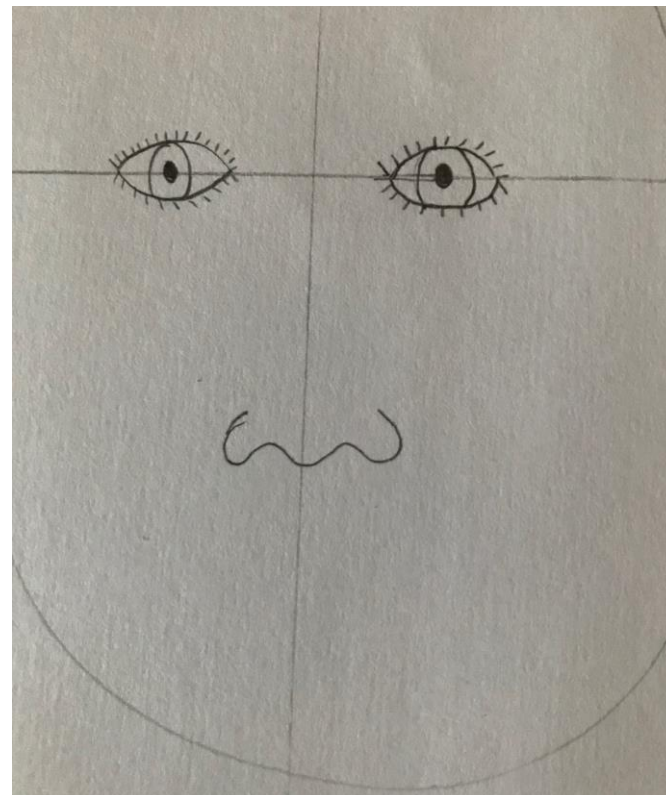
Step 5: draw the mouth. Remember that you have a top lip and a bottom lip. Draw your mouth in its normal shape (you are not smiling/pulling a face or have your mouth open). Just like the nose, the line going from top to bottom should go through the middle of your mouth.
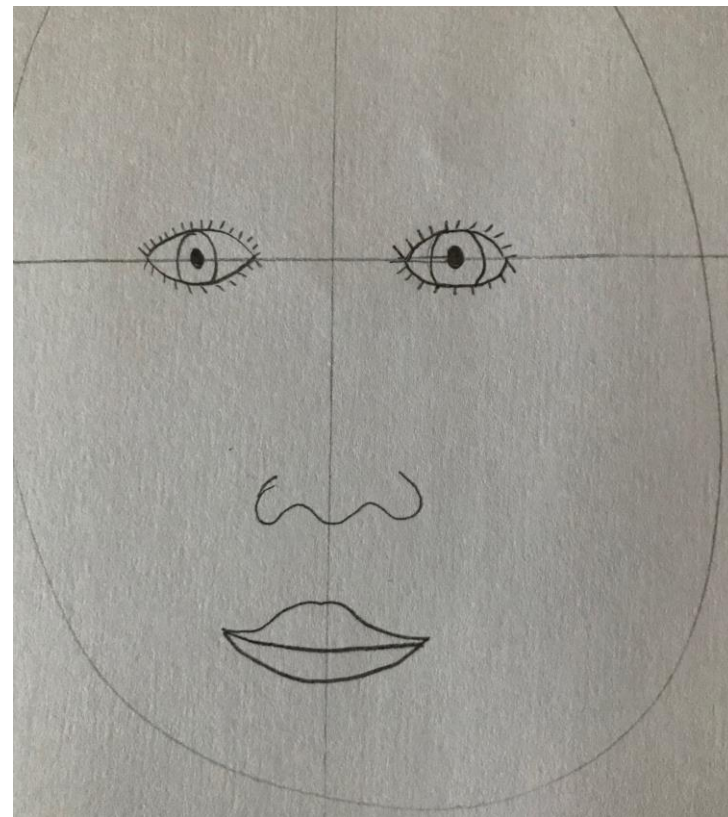
Step 6: draw the eyebrows. Look carefully to see if your eyebrows have a small or large gap between them.
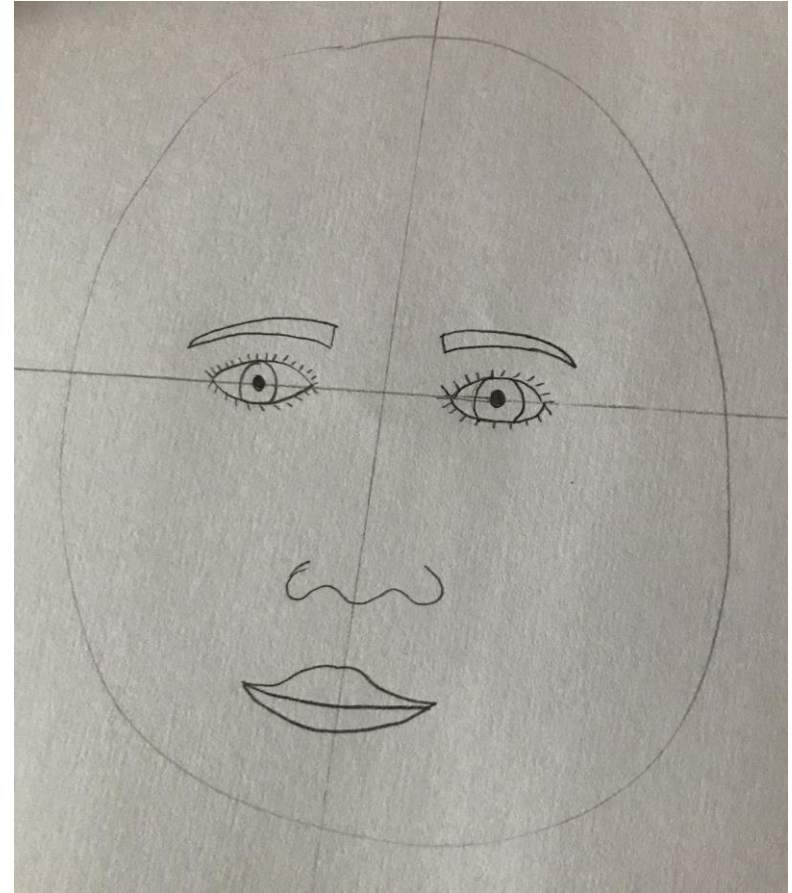
Step 7: draw the ears. The tops of your ears should touch the line that goes across your face from left to right. The inside of your ear isn't flat- look closely at the lines in your ears and add these to your drawing. The line you already have helps you to know where the tops of your ears should be. To help you make sure the ears are the same length, after drawing the first ear, place your ruler or straight edge on your page (don't draw a line!) and then when you draw the second ear you know how long to make it. This will make sure your ears match in length!
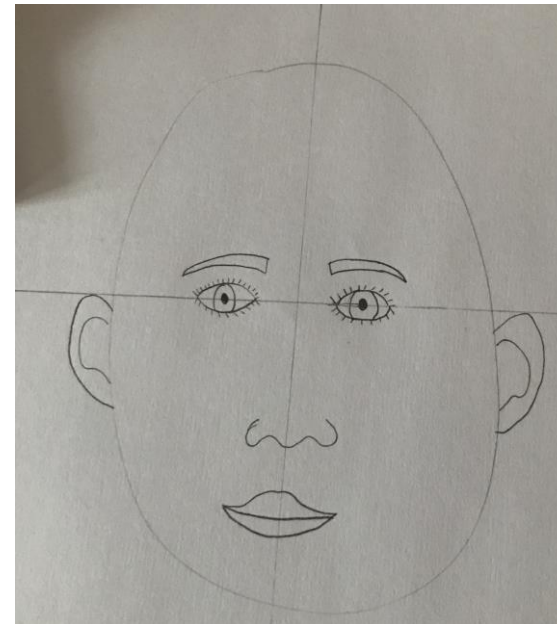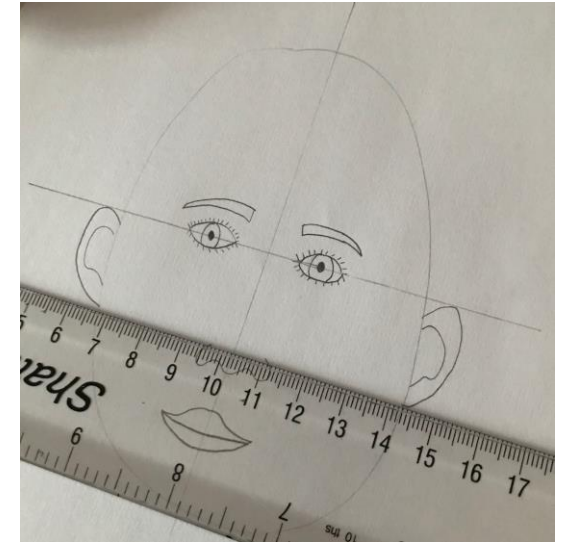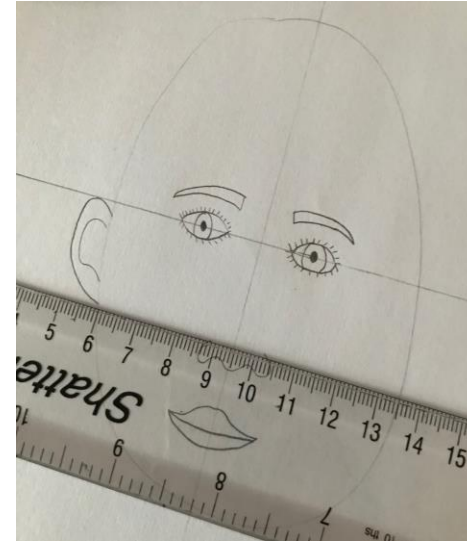
Step 8: draw the hair. Remember to do a fringe if, like me, you have one! Girls- you might find it easier to have your hair down rather than tied up. Your hair doesn't need to start above the oval you drew for your face- for a lot of you, some hair will be on/go over your forehead.

Step 9: rub out the line that you drew for the top of your head that is now in your hair. Then rub out the two lines you drew going across your face (from left to right) and going down your face (from top to bottom). You might have to draw over parts of your eyes, nose and lips again after rubbing out those faint lines (I had to!)
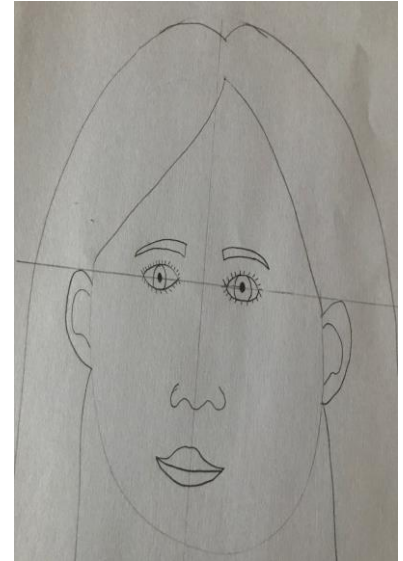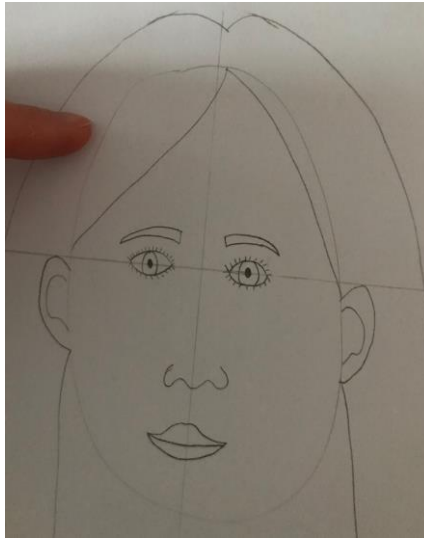
Step 10: now you can colour in your self-portrait! Colouring pencils look better but use whatever you have. If you use pencils, remember that you can change how dark or light the colour is on the paper- I pressed lightly with pink to add a bit of colour to my cheeks but I pressed hard with my brown as my hair is quite dark. Remember to add any freckles, spots or scars that you have on your face. Look carefully at the colour of your skin, eyes, lips and hair before colouring in. Your hair might not be the same colour all over. Some bits might be a bit lighter or a bit darker. Famous artists usually sign their signature on their art, so people know who produced the artwork- have a go!

Here's mine!