



# BUILDING NEW SKILLS: BASIC DRAWING EXERCISES

Practice #1

Practice will  
develop your  
drawing skills

- Think of drawing exercises as warm-ups and drills.
- Just as you get better at basketball with practice and repetition of basic skills, so too with drawing.
- The more you practice making marks, the more you will naturally understand what your hand and pencil can do.

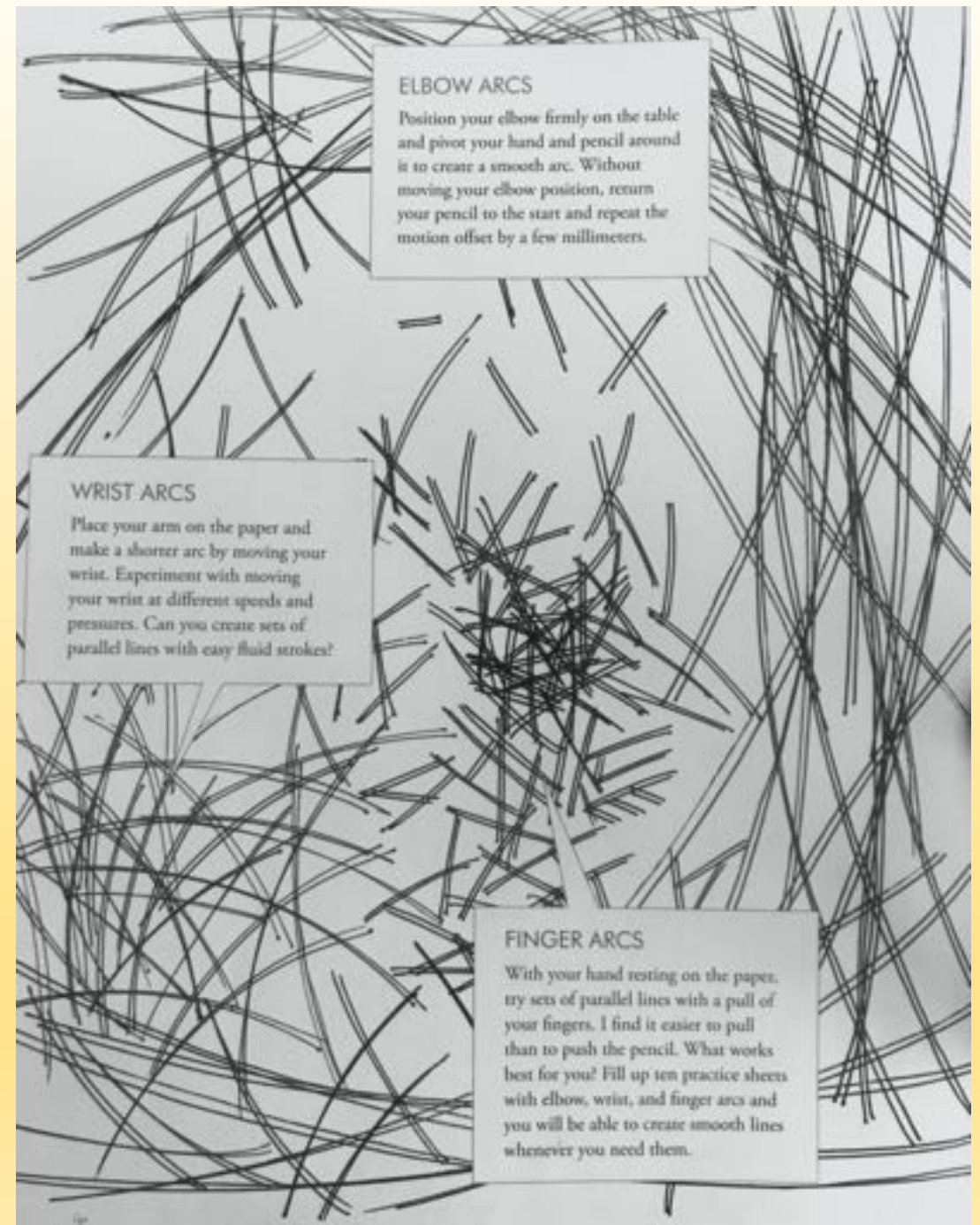
# Lesson 1: Building Eye-Hand Coordination

- Training your fingers to do what you see in your mind is one foundation of drawing.
- The more pencil miles you put in, the more you train your fingers to respond to what you see.
- We can practice drawing simple shapes (triangles, circles, squares), learning to fill areas with a solid or graded tone, and making light to bold lines.
- These are important parts of every artist's repertoire.

# Elbow Arcs

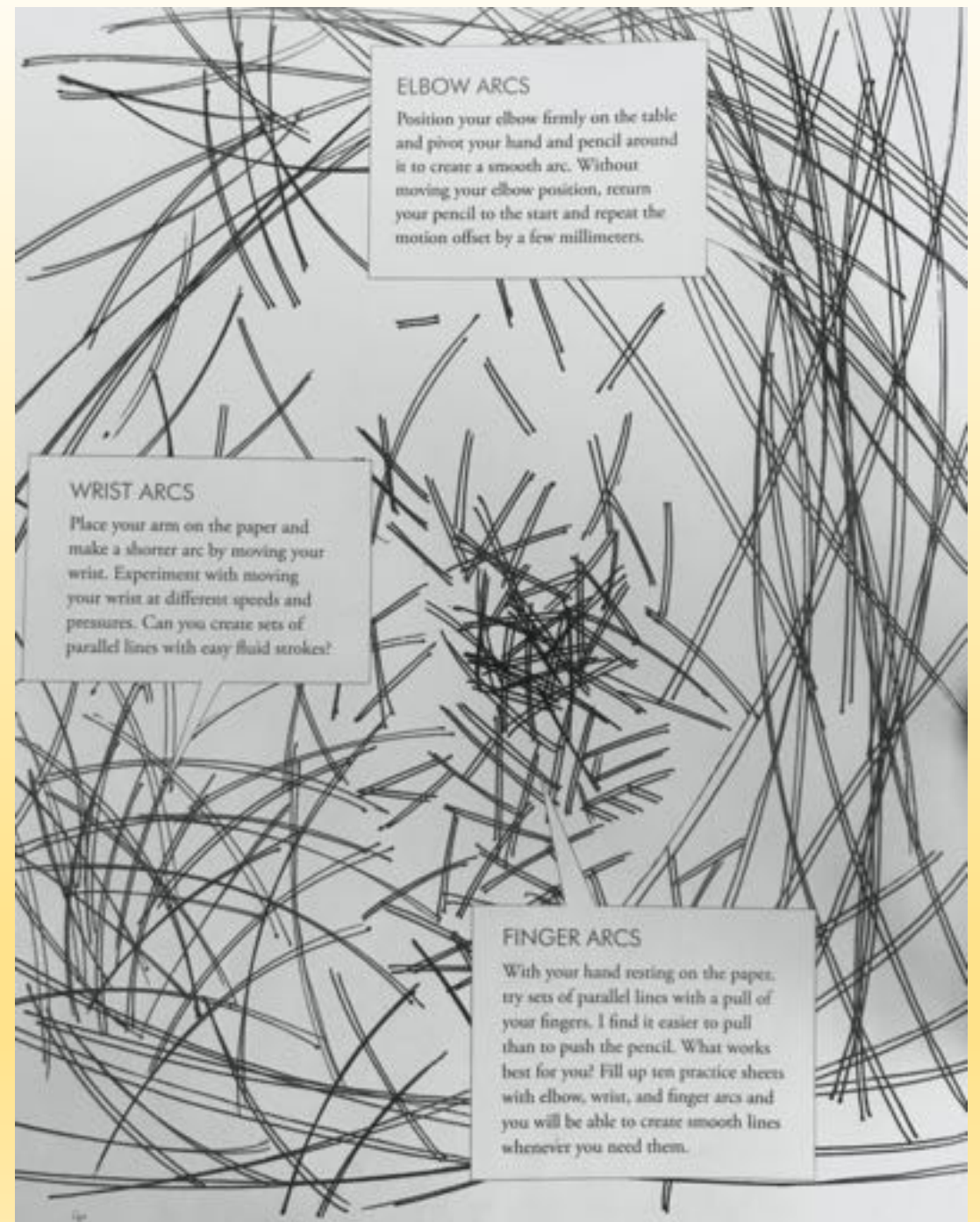
---

- Position your elbow firmly on the table and pivot your hand and pencil around it to create a smooth arc.
- Without moving your elbow position, return your pencil to the start and repeat the motion offset by a few millimeters.



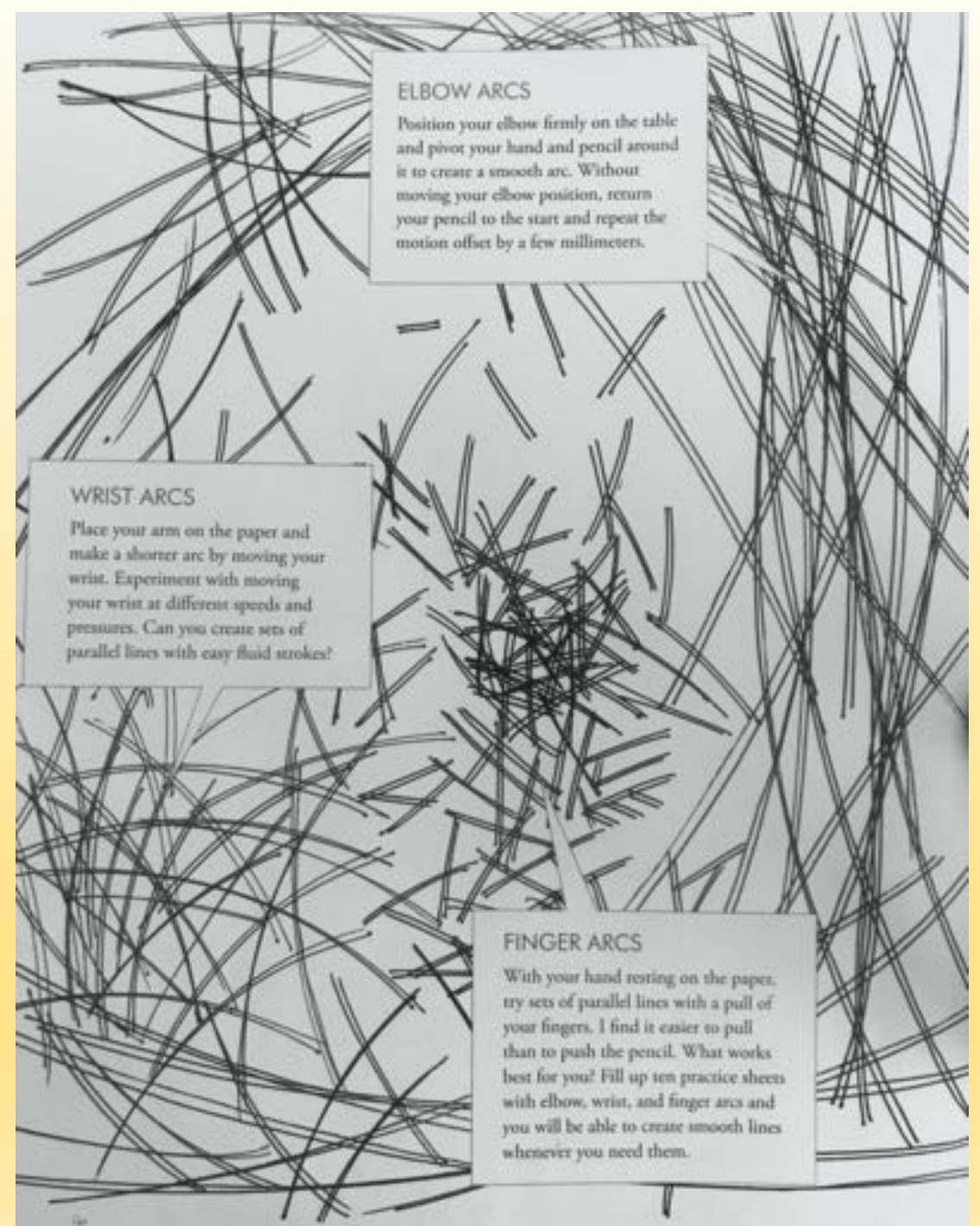
# Wrist Arcs

- Place your arm on the paper and make a shorter arc by moving your wrist.
- Experiment with moving your wrist at different speeds and pressures.
- Practice until you can create sets of parallel lines with easy fluid strokes.



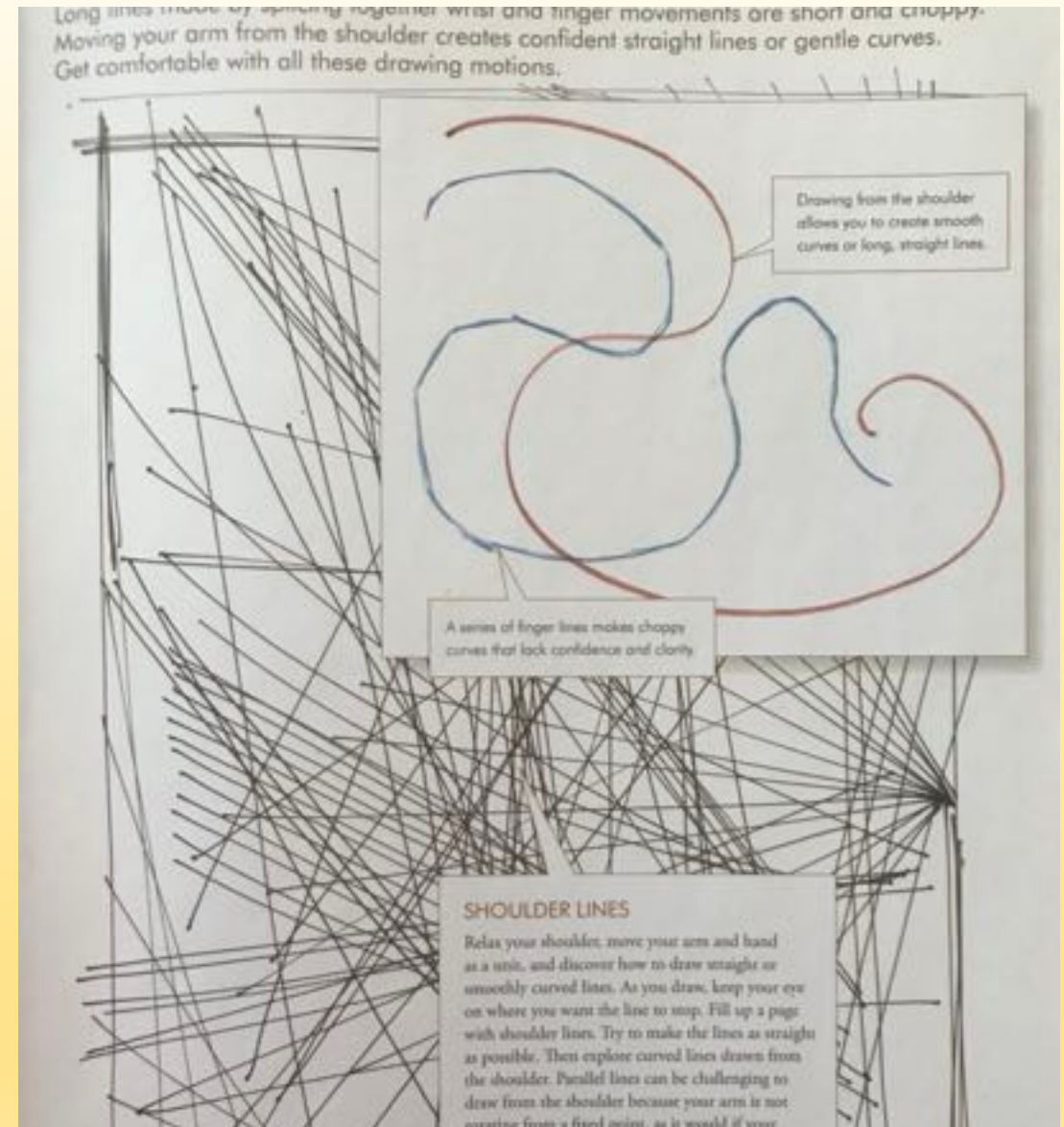
# Finger Arcs

- With your hand resting on the paper, try sets of parallel lines with a pull of your fingers.
- It is easier to pull than to push the pencil.



# Shoulder Lines

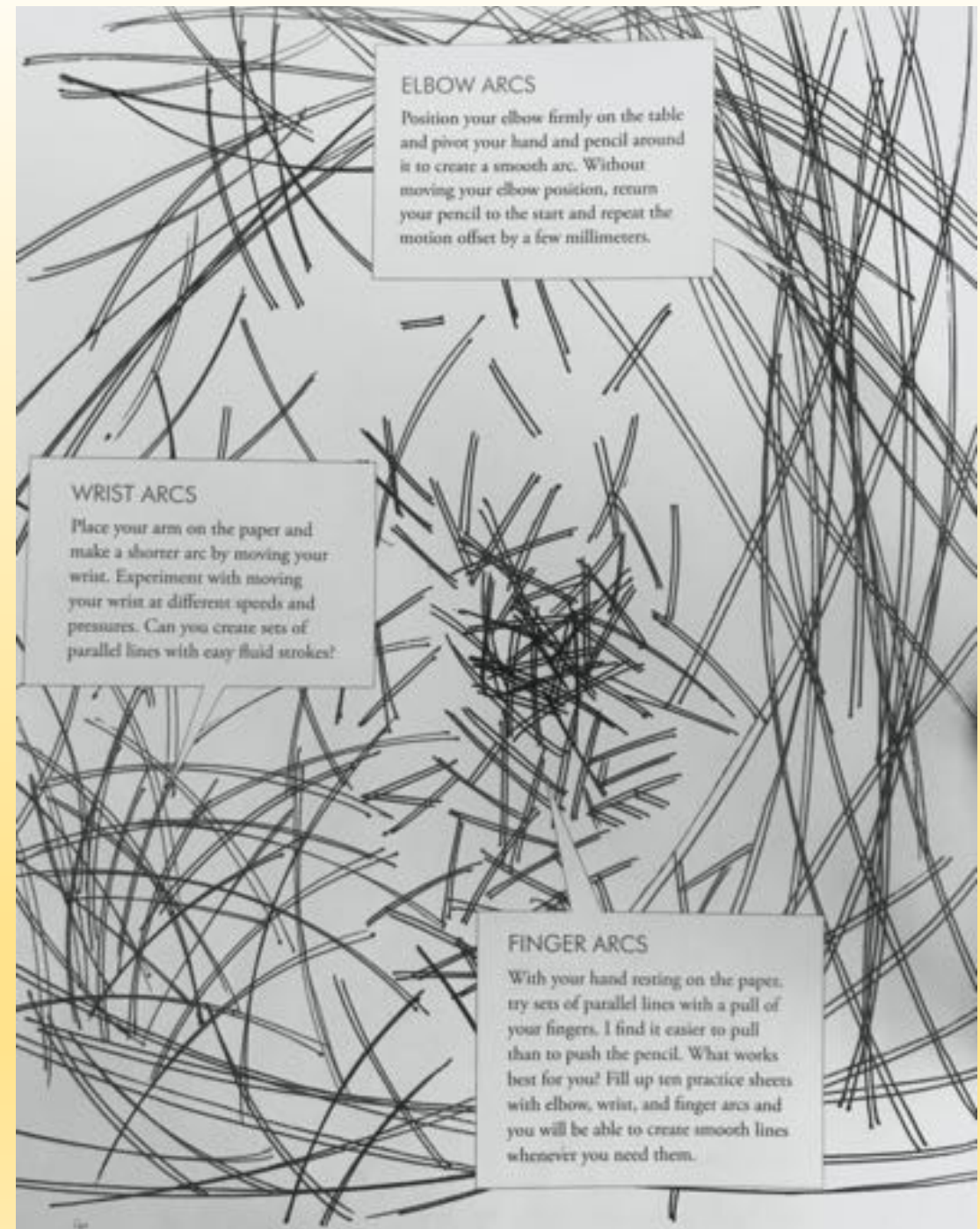
- Relax your shoulder, move your arm and hand as a unit and you will be able to draw straight or smoothly curved lines.
- As you draw, keep your eye on where you want the line to stop.
- Try to make the lines as straight as possible
- Then create a variety of curved lines drawn from the shoulder.
- Parallel lines can be challenging to draw from the shoulder because your arm is not rotating from a fixed point as it would if your elbow were locked on the paper.



# Practice #1

## Line Exercises

- On two facing journal pages, practice making elbow arcs, wrist arcs, finger arcs and shoulder lines.





Bye for Now. Thanks for Joining Me.



*Plathemis lydia* Common Whitetail adult male

