

GET CREATIVE

With Tower Bridge

WEEK 2

CONNECTING
ACROSS
GENERATIONS



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London's
Defining Landmark

#TowerBridge   

Week 2 | Connecting across generations

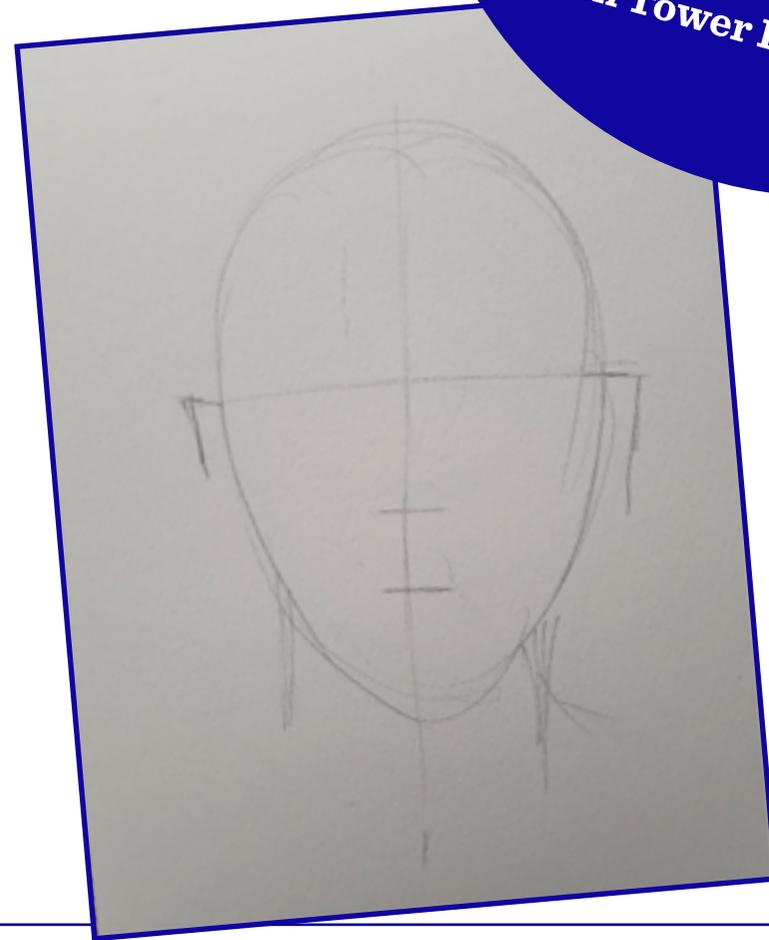
PORTRAITS

Can you draw a portrait of one of the people who have worked on Tower Bridge over the past 125 years?

Many of the jobs needed when the bridge opened are still done today... but in a bit of a different way!

If you need help, here some quick tips on drawing a portrait.

- 1** First, draw some light guidelines. Start with an egg shape for the face. Draw a line down the centre, vertically.
- 2** Then draw a horizontal line about two thirds of the way down. This line will be where the eyes will go. The eyes always sit lower than you think!
- 3** Halfway between the eye line and the chin, draw another little mark or guideline for the tip of the nose.
- 4** Halfway between the nose and chin, the last guideline will be for the mouth.



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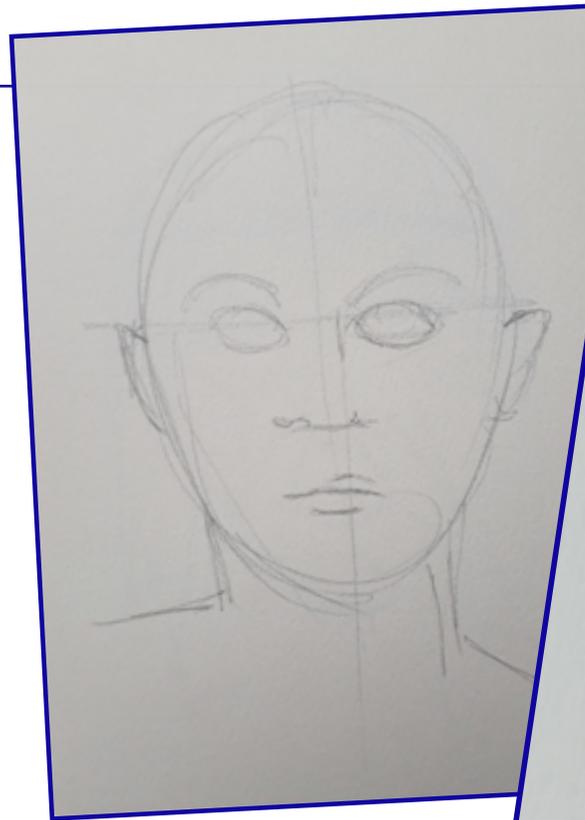


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- 5 The top of the ears should be level with the eye line you drew, and the bottom of the earlobe should be level with the tip of the nose.
- 6 Next, use your guidelines and marks to draw in the main features. The example above is unfinished, and the shoulders are not wide enough! Decide on a hairstyle, clothing and all the other features.

Read the descriptions on the next page for clues as to what the people of Tower Bridge really looked like!



TOP TIP

When drawing the neck, remember it is the same width as your head. It might be good to look at a mirror, or feel your neck to get the idea.

1 Keshavji Shamji Budhbhatti

I am from Bhuj in the province of Cutch, India, but I moved to Kentish Town in North London in 1888. I became an engineer on Tower Bridge the following year until it was completed in 1894.

As an engineer, I had a good job, which paid well, this meant always wore a smart suit to work, and I was allowed to wear a bowler hat, although sometimes I might like to wear a different style of hat – what do you think would suit me?

I have a large brown moustache, which I am proud of. I have brown eyes, and brown hair. After I finished working on Tower Bridge, I went back home to India, where I became a famous engineer, and even have a bridge named after me in Pakistan.

2 Charlotte Olive Dora Burch

My names is Charlotte Olive Dora Burch, but people call me Olive.

I was the first woman to work on Tower Bridge. I worked as a housemaid for Mr and Mrs Cator. Mr Cator was the Bridge Master, the most important job on the whole Bridge! He even lived upstairs, in one of the towers – called the South Abutment. In order to get up to the flat, there were many, many stairs to climb! It was exhausting work. Mrs Cator was very kind, and I liked working for them.

I have long dark hair and of course, I always wear it pinned back, although I like to have it loose down my back. I wear a high collared dress, it's a bit frilly, and has buttons down the front. The dress is dark, and has long sleeves all the way down to my wrists. I usually wear an apron over the dress to protect me. I was only just 19 years old when I started work at Tower Bridge, and worked there for just over 2 years.



3 Charles the stoker

My name is Charles Bull, and I'm a stoker. I started working at Tower Bridge before it was even finished!

I worked for the engineer, Mr Armstrong, but when that job was done, I began work here in the Engine Rooms. The engines that help raise the bridge are powered by steam. My job is to keep shovelling enough coal into the boilers to boil the water and make steam. You might imagine it is very hot down in the Engine Rooms, so we usually roll up our sleeves. I sometimes have to wipe my forehead or my neck with a big hanky, and at the end of the day I am usually covered in coal dust! My only uniform is a cap!

4 Friend Samuel Penney

I have an unusual name, Friend Samuel Penney

I worked on Tower Bridge while it was being built. We had to dig down into the riverbed to make the foundations strong. I am a deep sea diver, so I was put in charge of this very dangerous job! I had to wear protective gear, which was very difficult to move in, and someone on the surface had to keep my oxygen supply running. A diving suit in those days had a huge metal helmet, with a window at the front to see through – but the window was very small. It also had bars across it, for strength. The rest of the suit was made of metal and fabric, and was very heavy, especially the boots. (imagine an astronaut).

Because the work was so dangerous, I was paid an awful lot – £10 ...per minute! You have to imagine in those days this was a fortune!



5 A visitor host

My name is Laura and I'm a visitor Host at Tower Bridge. If you visit soon, you might meet me or one of my colleagues. I have a uniform, which is a bright blue shirt, and on cold days, I also wear a matching blue jacket. Both these items have the logo of Tower Bridge on them – it looks like a hexagon shape. (you can find examples of the logo on the website, if you want to try to draw it!) I also wear a name badge on a lanyard around my neck, my lanyard is bright pink.

I have red hair, blue eyes, and I always smile to welcome visitors to the bridge! I work I enjoy showing people around, giving guided tours, and answering lots of questions.

6 The Bridge Driver

My name is Dave, and I work on the bridge in 2020. My job is a very important one – I press the button which raises the bascules...meaning Tower Bridge can open. I have to be very good at timekeeping, so I rely on my watch. I also have to wear modern safety equipment, such as a hi-vis jacket. I can also get quite chilly because of the breeze on the bridge, so I usually wrap up with some warm clothes, and sometimes a hat and scarf.

