



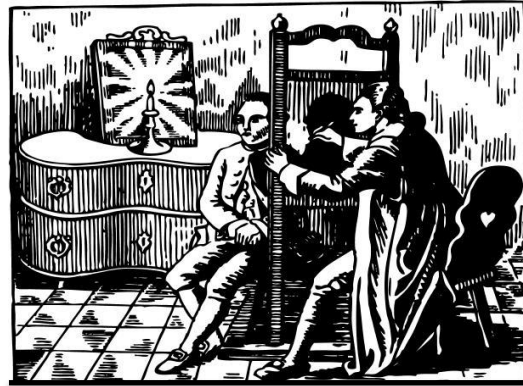
## Shadows & Art - Teacher's Notes

### Shadows & Art

Silhouettes (shadow profiles) were very popular before photographs were invented. This drawing shows a frame used by professional silhouette artists.

The head is magnified because it is some distance from the light source but close to the frame.

White paper stuck on a wall and a strong desk light or torch for illumination can produce a good silhouette. Someone else traces the



profile of the sitter in pencil. The silhouette is then cut out and placed on a backing card of a different colour. Traditionally the head is a darker tone than the background. Students can mount these as a display and challenge others to guess which silhouette represents whom.

The **Brocken specter** is caused by a climber's magnified shadow falling on low-lying clouds. It is often surrounded by a rainbow effect and is deeply scary! It only happens when the person is illuminated from behind. It appears to stalk the viewer.

**Whiteout** occurs when snowfall, dust or fog diffuses light and there are no shadows. The horizon disappears from view. Depth and distance are impossible to estimate. In Canada people have been lost in their back gardens and had to literally feel their way to their own back door. In Europe climbers have walked off cliffs. Most people settle down and wait until it passes. This has caused some traffic accidents on motorways when cars have crashed into those already halted.

In Australia this used to happen during dust storms

