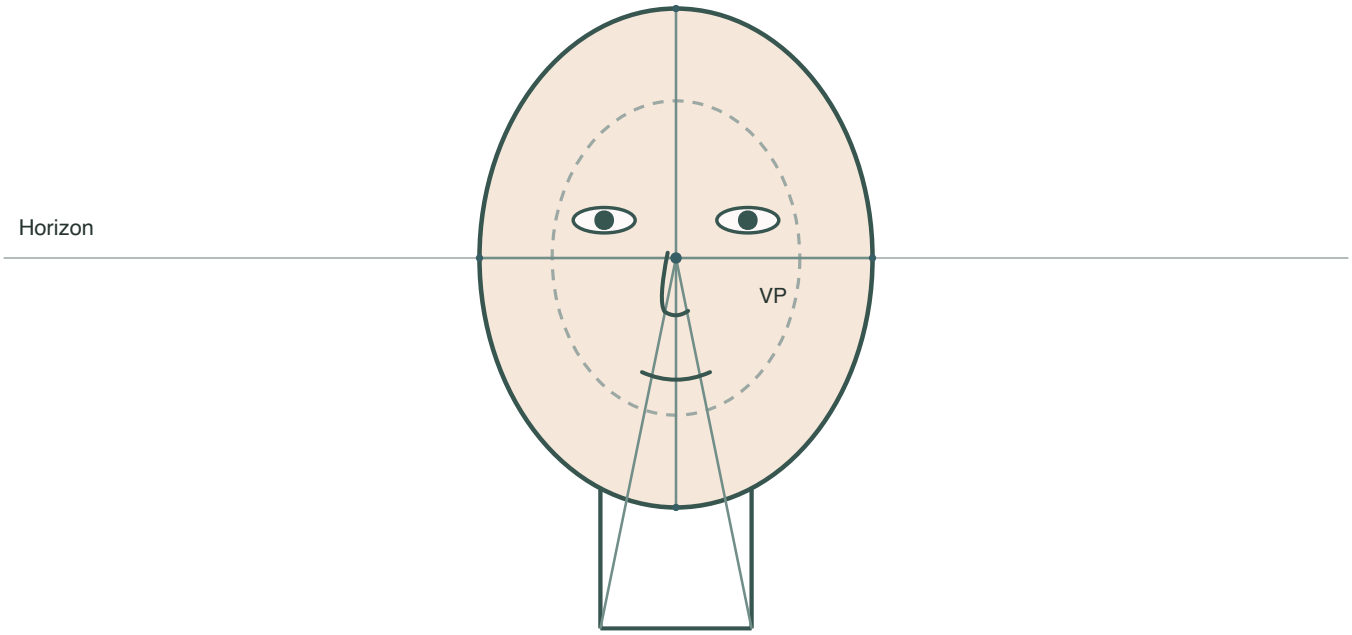
Draw a One-Point Perspective Portrait

Answer | Task 1 of 4 | LETTER

Original prompt

Task 1: Construct a front-facing head in one-point perspective with the vanishing point directly behind the head. Include the eye-level line, front oval, four depth lines, back of skull, and neck.



The dashed rear curve sits behind the center of the front oval.

Answer

Eye-level line with vanishing point centered behind the head; front oval centered on the eye-level line; four depth lines from top, bottom, and both sides of the oval meeting at the centered vanishing point; back of skull connected along the depth marks; neck drawn as two lines toward the vanishing point. Check passes because all depth lines meet at the single centered vanishing point.

Reasoning

With the vanishing point behind the head, the back of the skull projects straight back and appears centered, so the head reads as facing the viewer directly.

Check

Trace each depth line; all must meet at the centered vanishing point, and the back of the skull must sit symmetrically behind the front oval.

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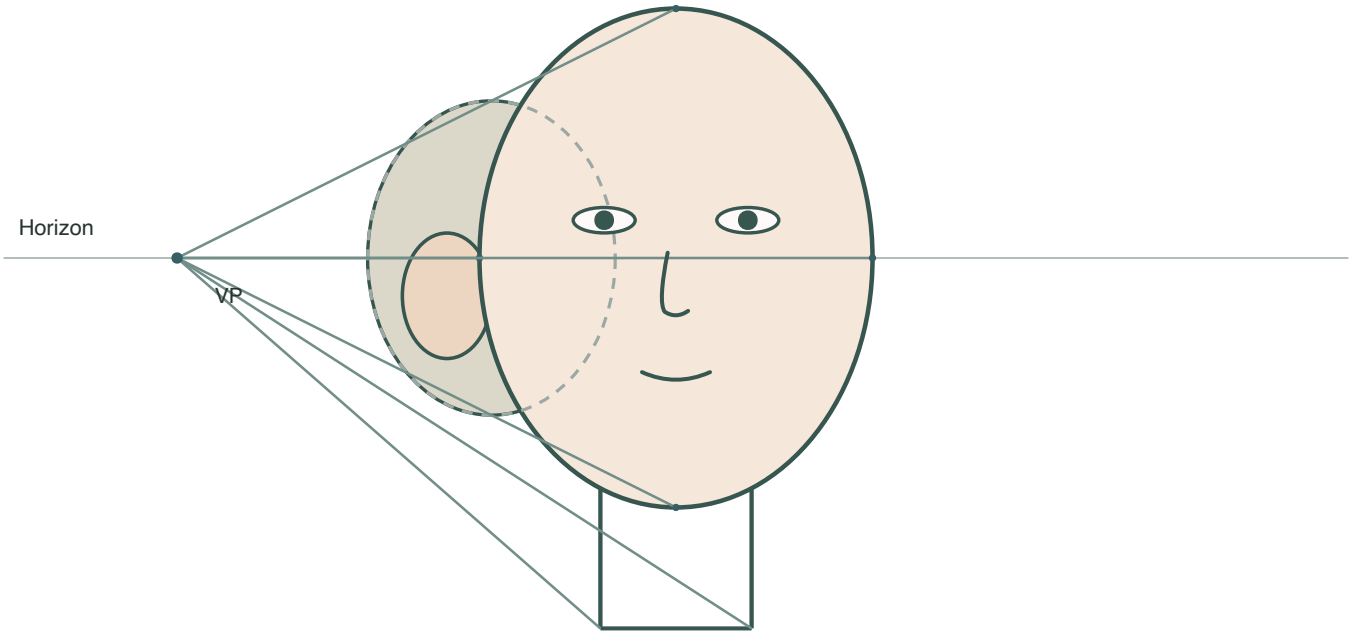
Task 2: Construct the same head with the vanishing point placed to the left of the head. Show how the back of the skull shifts toward the left vanishing point.



Answer

Eye-level line with vanishing point to the left; front oval centered on the eye-level line; four depth lines from top, bottom, and both sides of the oval meeting at the left vanishing point; back of skull connected along the depth marks and shifted left; ear placed on the left side nearest the vanishing point; neck drawn toward the vanishing point. Check passes because all depth lines meet at the left vanishing point.

Reasoning

Moving the vanishing point to the left makes the depth lines converge leftward, so the back of the skull appears shifted toward that point while the front oval stays parallel to the picture plane.

Check

Trace each depth line; all must meet at the left vanishing point, and the ear must sit on the left side nearest that point.

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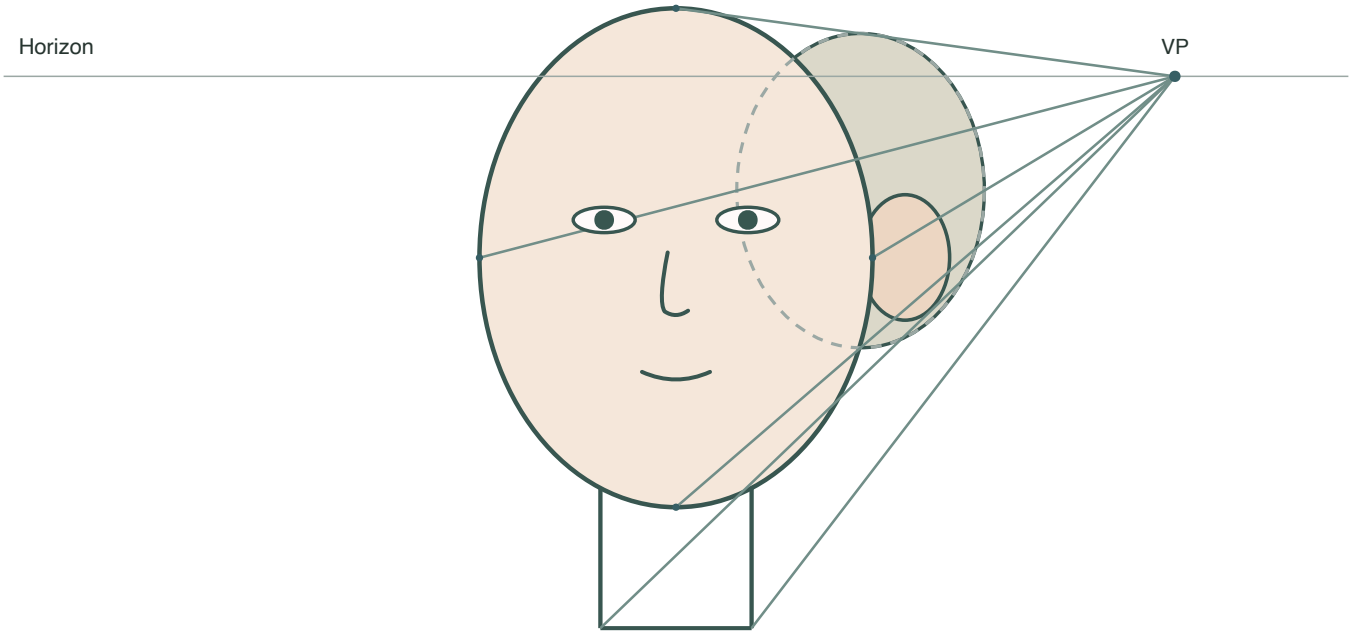
Task 3: Redraw the worked example with the whole eye-level line raised, keeping the vanishing point on it, so the viewer's eye height is higher relative to the head. Keep features on the front plane and project the back of the skull and neck toward the raised vanishing point.



The horizon is higher. The front oval and its features stay fixed.

Answer

Keep the front oval and features at their original height. Raise the entire horizon above its previous position and keep the vanishing point on it. Project the four rear-skull anchors and the neck depth guides to the raised point. The back projects higher relative to the unchanged front oval.

Reasoning

Raising the eye-level line raises the viewer's eye height, so the depth lines converge to a higher vanishing point and the back of the skull projects toward it while the front oval and features remain on the front plane.

Check

Trace each depth line; all must meet at the raised vanishing point, and the eyes, nose, and mouth must stay on the front oval.

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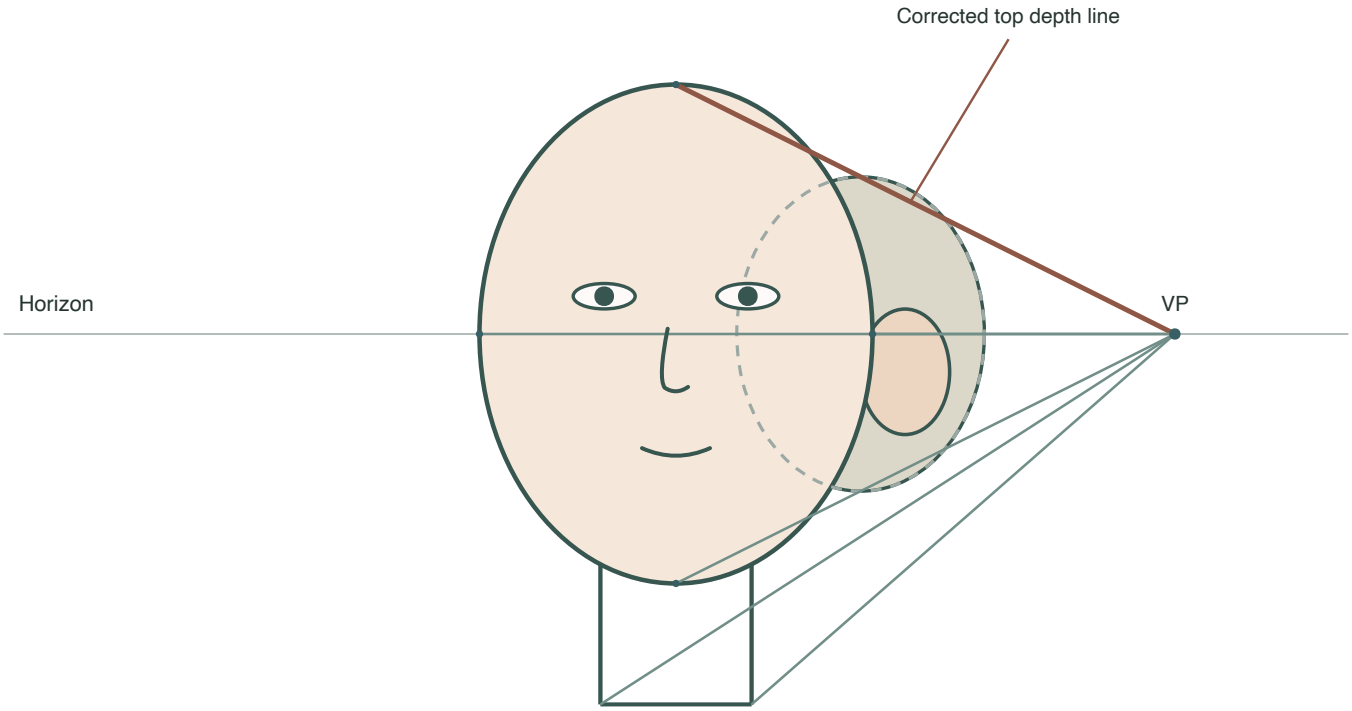
Answer | Task 4 of 4 | LETTER

Original prompt

Task 4: A finished one-point perspective head is supplied with one depth line drawn to the wrong point. Find the misplaced line, redraw it so it meets the single vanishing point, and label which line was corrected.



Answer

Identify the depth line that does not pass through the vanishing point; redraw that line so it meets the single vanishing point; keep the front oval, back of skull, ear, and neck consistent with the corrected line. Label the corrected line as the previously misplaced depth line. Check passes because all depth lines now meet at the single vanishing point.

Reasoning

A misplaced depth line breaks the one-point projection because it points to a different location than the vanishing point, so correcting it restores a single convergence point.

Check

Trace every depth line; all must meet at the same vanishing point, and the labeled line must be the one that was corrected.