Handwriting Lines Above a Blank Picture Frame: A Caption-and-Draw Page

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A page has a 12 mm top margin, three ruled lines spaced 8 mm apart, a 5 mm gap, and a frame 70 mm tall. The paper is 210 mm tall. Calculate the total height used and the remaining space.

Answer: Ruled block: 2 gaps of 8 mm = 16 mm. Total used: 12 + 16 + 5 + 70 = 103 mm. Remaining: 210 - 103 = 107 mm.

Reason: Count the gaps between lines, not the lines themselves. Add all vertical elements in the same unit, then subtract from paper height.

Check: Re-add the four values in a different order and confirm the sum is 103 mm; then subtract again to confirm 107 mm.

Task 2

A learner writes the word 'sun' on 9 mm lines. The x-height is 4 mm, the ascender of no letter is present, and the descender of no letter is present. Describe where the letters should sit and what to check.

Answer: All three letters should sit on the baseline and reach the midline, giving a 4 mm x-height. Check that the baseline is not crossed and that the tops of s, u, and n are level at the midline.

Reason: The convention defines x-height as baseline to midline. Letters without ascenders or descenders stay within that zone.

Check: Measure from baseline to midline at three points and confirm each is 4 mm; check that no letter floats above the baseline.

Task 3

A page has four ruled lines spaced 9 mm apart. A learner's caption runs onto a fifth line that overlaps the frame. Suggest one layout fix and one handwriting fix, using the same units.

Answer: Layout fix: reduce the frame height by 9 mm or remove one ruled line so the block is 27 mm instead of 36 mm. Handwriting fix: shorten the caption or reduce word spacing so it fits the existing lines.

Reason: The overlap means the writing area and frame compete for space. Adjusting one vertical measurement by one line spacing resolves the conflict.

Check: Recalculate the ruled block height after the change and confirm the caption fits without touching the frame border.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Two learners write the same sentence. Learner A has even x-height but wide word spaces; Learner B has narrow word spaces but uneven x-height. Using the rubric, which strength and next step would you give each?

Answer: Learner A: strength is even x-height; next step is to tighten word spaces to a consistent width. Learner B: strength is clear word grouping; next step is to even the x-height from baseline to midline.

Reason: The rubric separates x-height consistency from word spacing, so each learner can receive a specific, valid next step without forcing one letter style.

Check: Read the sentence aloud and mark three word gaps and three x-heights; confirm the feedback matches the rubric items.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Letters sit on the baseline with no floating or sinking.
- [ ] X-height is even across the line, measured from baseline to midline.
- [ ] Word spaces are clear and consistent enough to read easily.
- [ ] The caption is a complete sentence that relates to the drawing.
- [ ] The drawing is inside the frame and the page layout matches the top-lines, bottom-frame order.

Reflection: What did you check, what did you change, and what will you try next?