Finger-Space Ruler Strip: A Cut-Out Word-Spacing Tool

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A strip has a gauge band of 1.4 cm to 1.9 cm. A practice sentence has gaps of 1.2 cm, 1.7 cm, and 2.1 cm. Which gaps fit the band?

Answer: Only the 1.7 cm gap fits.

Reason: 1.2 cm is below 1.4 cm, so it is too narrow. 2.1 cm is above 1.9 cm, so it is too wide. 1.7 cm is inside the band.

Check: Compare each gap to both band limits and mark fit only if the gap is between them.

Task 2

A student's finger measures 1.6 cm wide. The planned gauge band is 1.5 cm to 2.0 cm. Is the band a reasonable starting range? Explain.

Answer: Yes, because 1.6 cm sits inside the 1.5 cm to 2.0 cm band.

Reason: The band should include the measured finger width so the gauge matches a comfortable gap. Since 1.6 cm is between 1.5 cm and 2.0 cm, the band is reasonable as a hypothetical example.

Check: Confirm the measured width is greater than or equal to the low limit and less than or equal to the high limit.

Task 3

A practice sentence has four words and three gaps. Two gaps fit the band and one gap is 0.8 cm when the band is 1.5 cm to 2.0 cm. What is one valid fix?

Answer: Widen the 0.8 cm gap to a value inside the band, such as 1.6 cm.

Reason: 0.8 cm is below the low limit, so the gap is too narrow. Moving the word to create a gap between 1.5 cm and 2.0 cm makes it fit.

Check: After the fix, measure the gap again and confirm it is between 1.5 cm and 2.0 cm.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A strip is bent so the gauge band measures 1.3 cm to 1.8 cm instead of the planned 1.5 cm to 2.0 cm. Should the strip be used for checking? Explain.

Answer: No. The bent strip no longer matches the planned band, so checks would be unreliable.

Reason: Bending changes the gauge length. A check must use the planned band, so the strip should be flattened or replaced before use.

Check: Measure the band at both ends and in the middle; if the measurements differ, do not use the strip for checking.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Every gap between words fits inside the gauge band.
- [ ] No gap touches a letter on either side.
- [ ] The sentence remains readable when read aloud.
- [ ] The gauge range and finger width are recorded on the strip.
- [ ] Any no-fit gap is adjusted once and rechecked.

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