First-Grade Lined Writing Paper: Layout Guide and Practice

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A printable area is 180 mm tall. The header uses 25 mm and the picture box uses 35 mm. Each writing line block uses 12 mm. How many full writing line blocks fit, and how many millimeters remain?

Answer: 10 full blocks fit, with 0 mm remaining.

Reason: Subtract header and picture box: 180 - 25 - 35 = 120 mm. Divide by 12: 120 / 12 = 10 blocks exactly.

Check: Multiply 10 by 12 to get 120 mm, then add 25 and 35 to recover 180 mm.

Task 2

A line height is 14 mm. Where should the dashed midline be placed if it is at half the line height above the baseline?

Answer: 7 mm above the baseline.

Reason: Half of 14 mm is 7 mm.

Check: Add 7 mm and 7 mm to confirm the full 14 mm line height.

Task 3

A child writes the word man on a first-grade line. Using the convention, describe where m, a, and n should sit, and state one check you would use.

Answer: All three letters should sit between the baseline and the dashed midline. Check that the tops of m, a, and n reach near the midline and the bottoms sit on the baseline.

Reason: These are x-height letters under the stated convention.

Check: Look at the baseline and midline; confirm no x-height letter extends far above the midline or below the baseline.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A sheet has 5 writing lines. Each line is 150 mm wide. A child writes 12 letters on each line. What is the average horizontal space per letter in millimeters, and what check confirms the total?

Answer: 12.5 mm per letter on average. Check by multiplying 12 letters by 12.5 mm to get 150 mm per line.

Reason: Divide line width by letters: 150 / 12 = 12.5 mm.

Check: Multiply 12 by 12.5 to recover 150 mm; repeat for all 5 lines if needed.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Header includes labeled Name and Date fields.
- [ ] Picture box is separate from the writing lines and does not overlap them.
- [ ] Writing lines include a solid baseline, a dashed midline, and a solid top line.
- [ ] Line spacing is even across the sheet.
- [ ] X-height letters sit between baseline and midline under the stated convention.
- [ ] Tall letters extend above the midline; descenders go below the baseline.
- [ ] Valid alternative letter styles are accepted if legible and vertically consistent.

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