Custom Handwriting Sentence Sheets: Ruling Controls and Practice Design

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A page has 150 mm usable height. Each block is 12 mm. How many blocks fit, and what x-height does that block height imply if block height is three times x-height?

Answer: 12 blocks fit because 150 divided by 12 is 12.5, and whole blocks are 12. The x-height is 4 mm because 12 divided by 3 is 4.

Reason: Divide usable height by block height and round down to whole blocks. Then divide block height by three to find x-height.

Check: Multiply 12 blocks by 12 mm to get 144 mm, which is less than 150 mm. Multiply 4 mm x-height by 3 to get 12 mm block height.

Task 2

A sentence has 58 characters including spaces. At 20 characters per line, how many lines are needed? If each line uses one 15 mm block, what total block height is required?

Answer: Three lines are needed because 58 divided by 20 is 2.9, which rounds up to 3. The total block height is 45 mm because 3 times 15 mm is 45 mm.

Reason: Round up the character count divided by characters per line to get whole lines. Multiply lines by block height.

Check: Two lines hold 40 characters, which is less than 58; three lines hold 60, which is enough. Three blocks at 15 mm each sum to 45 mm.

Task 3

A learner's x-height letters measure 5.8 mm on a sheet with a 5 mm convention and a 1 mm tolerance. Does the work meet the convention? Explain using the tolerance.

Answer: Yes. The measured 5.8 mm is within the allowed range of 4 mm to 6 mm (5 mm plus or minus 1 mm), so it meets the convention.

Reason: The allowed range is 4 mm to 6 mm. A measurement of 5.8 mm falls inside that range.

Check: Subtract the convention from the measurement: 5.8 minus 5 equals 0.8 mm, which is less than the 1 mm tolerance.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A sheet has 200 mm usable height and a 4 mm x-height. Block height is three times x-height. A sentence wraps to 18 lines. Does it fit on one page? Show the arithmetic.

Answer: Block height is 12 mm. Available blocks are 200 divided by 12, which is 16.6, so 16 whole blocks fit. The sentence needs 18 blocks, so it does not fit on one page.

Reason: Calculate block height, then compare whole available blocks with required lines.

Check: 16 blocks times 12 mm equals 192 mm, leaving 8 mm. 18 blocks would need 216 mm, which exceeds 200 mm.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Baseline contact is clear for all letters.
- [ ] X-height letters stay within plus or minus 1 mm of the stated convention.
- [ ] Ascenders reach the ascender line without crossing into the previous block.
- [ ] Descenders reach the descender line without crossing into the next block.
- [ ] Word spacing is visible and consistent across the sentence.
- [ ] The chosen style, upright or slanted, is applied consistently.
- [ ] The sentence is complete and no word is split without an explicit rule.

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