Coyote Drawing: Proportions for Head, Legs, and Tail

Original tasks 1, 2, 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 1

A side-view coyote has shoulder height 6 cm. The head is drawn 2.4 cm long. Is the head proportion close to the lesson target?

Answer: No, it is too long. The target is about one-third of 6 cm, or 2 cm.

Reason: Head length should be near one-third of shoulder height. 2.4 cm is noticeably above 2 cm.

Check: Divide shoulder height by 3 and compare with the head length.

Task 2

A coyote drawing has shoulder height 5 cm and front leg length 4.6 cm. Is the leg proportion acceptable?

Answer: Yes, it is close. The target is about 5 cm, and 4.6 cm is a small adjustment away.

Reason: Front leg length from shoulder to ground should be close to shoulder height.

Check: Compare the shoulder-to-ground measurement with the shoulder-height unit.

Task 3

A tail is drawn 4.5 cm long on a coyote with shoulder height 6 cm. What is the target tail length, and is the drawn tail close?

Answer: Target is about 4 cm. The drawn tail is 0.5 cm too long, so it needs a small adjustment.

Reason: Tail length should be near two-thirds of shoulder height. Two-thirds of 6 cm is 4 cm.

Check: Multiply shoulder height by 2 and divide by 3, then compare.

Task 4

A head is 3 cm long. The ears are each drawn 1.8 cm tall. Using the lesson rule, what ear height is expected, and is this close?

Answer: Expected ear height is about 1.5 cm. 1.8 cm is slightly tall but close enough for a small adjustment.

Reason: Ear height should be about half the head length. Half of 3 cm is 1.5 cm.

Check: Divide head length by 2 and compare with ear height.

Coyote Drawing: Proportions for Head, Legs, and Tail

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Body masses are built from two overlapping ovals with a clear back and belly line.
- [ ] Head is wedge-shaped and close to one-third of shoulder height.
- [ ] Front and hind legs are close to shoulder height from ground to shoulder or hip.
- [ ] Tail is attached at the hip and close to two-thirds of shoulder height.
- [ ] Ears are triangular, close at the base, and about half the head length tall.
- [ ] Construction lines are light and final contours are clear.
- [ ] Valid alternative proportions are accepted if landmark relationships remain consistent.

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