Cat Eyes Drawing: Slit Pupil, Almond Lids, and Fur Rim

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

Task 1

Draw an almond 40 mm wide and 16 mm high. Mark the center and the four boundary points. State the distance from the center to each corner.

Answer: Corners are 20 mm from the center. Top and bottom midpoints are 8 mm above and below the axis.

Reason: Half of 40 mm is 20 mm, and half of 16 mm is 8 mm. These marks set a 2.5 to 1 width-to-height ratio.

Check: Measure corner distances and midpoint distances; confirm 20 mm and 8 mm.

Task 2

Inside a 16 mm high almond, draw a slit pupil 10 mm high. Leave equal iris margins above and below. State the margin.

Answer: Each margin is 3 mm because 16 minus 10 equals 6, and 6 divided by 2 equals 3.

Reason: The pupil height plus two equal margins must equal the almond height.

Check: Measure the top and bottom margins; both should be 3 mm.

Task 3

A drawing has an almond 30 mm wide and 15 mm high. Is the width-to-height ratio greater or less than 2 to 1? Show the arithmetic.

Answer: The ratio is 2 to 1 because 30 divided by 15 equals 2.

Reason: Divide width by height to compare with the 2 to 1 benchmark.

Check: Recalculate 30 divided by 15 and confirm the result is 2.

Task 4

Sketch two comparison boxes: one with only the almond and slit pupil, one with the fur rim added. Describe one difference a viewer should notice.

Answer: The fur rim should soften the outer edge without changing the almond's tapered corners or hiding the vertical slit.

Reason: The comparison boxes test whether the fur rim supports the eye shape rather than replacing it.

Check: Place the boxes side by side and confirm the almond and slit remain readable in both.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Almond boundary is wider than tall and tapers at both corners.
- [ ] Upper lid curve is fuller than the lower lid curve.
- [ ] Slit pupil is vertical, centered, and narrower than the iris.
- [ ] Pupil leaves a visible iris margin above and below.
- [ ] Fur rim uses short, broken, directional strokes and does not hide the pupil.
- [ ] Construction lines are lightened or removed in the final drawing.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted if the almond reads clearly and the slit remains vertical.

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