Chibi Figure Drawing: Head Proportions and Body Construction

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

A chibi figure has a head height of 4 cm and a body height of 5 cm from neck to feet. Calculate the total height and the head-to-body ratio. Then state where the eye line should be if it is placed at the head's vertical midpoint.

Answer: Total height is 4 cm plus 5 cm, or 9 cm. The head-to-body ratio is 4:5, which simplifies to 0.8:1. The eye line is at 2 cm below the top of the head, because half of 4 cm is 2 cm.

Reason: Add the head and body heights to get the total. Write the ratio as head:body and simplify by dividing both terms by their common factor. The midpoint of the head is half the head height.

Check: Verify that 4 plus 5 equals 9, that 4 divided by 5 equals 0.8, and that 2 cm is half of 4 cm.

Task 2

A chibi head is 3.5 cm tall and 3.15 cm wide. Calculate the width-to-height ratio as a decimal. If the eyes are placed 1.75 cm below the top of the head, is that at the vertical midpoint? Explain.

Answer: The width-to-height ratio is 3.15 divided by 3.5, which equals 0.9. The eye line at 1.75 cm is at the vertical midpoint because half of 3.5 cm is 1.75 cm.

Reason: Divide the width by the height to get the ratio. Compare the eye line distance with half the head height to test midpoint placement.

Check: Multiply 3.5 by 0.9 to confirm 3.15, and double 1.75 to confirm 3.5.

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Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

A chibi figure uses a head height of 2.5 cm and a body height of 3 cm. The arms are drawn 2 cm long and the legs 3.5 cm long. Check whether the arm and leg lengths are consistent with a convention where arms are about one head height or less and legs are about one to one and a half head heights. State any adjustment needed.

Answer: The arm length of 2 cm is less than one head height of 2.5 cm, so it fits the convention. The leg length of 3.5 cm is between one and one and a half head heights, because one head height is 2.5 cm and 1.5 times 2.5 cm equals 3.75 cm, so 3.5 cm is less than 3.75 cm but more than 2.5 cm. It fits the one-to-one-and-a-half range. No adjustment is needed.

Reason: Compare each limb length with the head height. One head height is 2.5 cm; one and a half head heights is 3.75 cm. Check whether the arm is at or below 2.5 cm and whether the leg is between 2.5 cm and 3.75 cm.

Check: Confirm that 2 is less than or equal to 2.5, and that 3.5 is between 2.5 and 3.75.

Task 4

A practice sheet asks for three chibi figures with the same style. Figure A has a head height of 3 cm and a body height of 3.6 cm. Figure B has a head height of 3 cm and a body height of 4.5 cm. Figure C has a head height of 3 cm and a body height of 3.6 cm. Identify which figures are consistent with the 1:1.2 ratio and describe one correction for the inconsistent figure.

Answer: Figures A and C are consistent because 3:3.6 simplifies to 1:1.2. Figure B is inconsistent because 3:4.5 simplifies to 1:1.5. One correction is to shorten Figure B's body from 4.5 cm to 3.6 cm so it matches the 1:1.2 ratio.

Reason: Simplify each ratio by dividing both terms by the head height. Compare the simplified body term with 1.2. If it differs, adjust the body height to 1.2 times the head height.

Check: Multiply 3 by 1.2 to get 3.6, and confirm that 4.5 divided by 3 equals 1.5, not 1.2.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] The chosen head-to-body ratio is stated and applied consistently.
- [ ] The head width-to-height ratio is stated and applied consistently.
- [ ] The eye line is placed intentionally and the face is centered on the vertical midline.
- [ ] Shoulder, elbow, hip, and knee joints are marked before limbs are drawn.
- [ ] The figure reads clearly as a chibi style with an oversized head and small body.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted if proportions are consistent and the pose is readable.

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