Drawing Eyebrows: Arch, Taper and Hair-Stroke Construction

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A brow band is 8 cm long. The inner end is at 0 cm and the outer end at 8 cm. Mark an arch peak at 5 cm. State whether this peak is in the middle zone and explain your reasoning.

Answer: Yes, 5 cm is in the middle zone. The middle zone runs from about 2.7 cm to 5.3 cm if the band is divided into thirds, so 5 cm falls inside it.

Reason: Divide 8 cm into three equal zones of about 2.7 cm each. The middle zone is roughly 2.7 to 5.3 cm. A peak at 5 cm is within that range and is closer to the outer third, which is a common arch position.

Check: Recompute one-third of 8 cm as 2.67 cm and confirm 5 cm lies between 2.67 cm and 5.33 cm.

Task 2

A brow tapers from outer to inner. The brow is 7 cm long. At 1 cm from the inner end, strokes are 4 mm long; at 6 cm from the inner end, strokes are 9 mm long. Does the stroke length match the stated taper direction? Explain.

Answer: Yes. The brow narrows toward the inner end, so strokes should be shorter near the inner end. The 4 mm strokes at 1 cm are shorter than the 9 mm strokes at 6 cm, which matches outer-to-inner taper.

Reason: Taper direction describes where the brow narrows. Shorter strokes belong at the narrow end. Since the inner end is the narrow end here, shorter strokes near 1 cm are consistent.

Check: Compare the two stroke lengths: 4 mm is less than 9 mm, and the shorter length is at the stated narrow end.

Task 3

You draw ten hair strokes. Six start thick and end thin; four start thin and end thick. Is the brow consistent with the start-thick, end-thin convention? What simple correction would improve it?

Answer: No, it is not fully consistent. Six of ten strokes follow the convention, but four reverse it. Redraw the four reversed strokes so they start thicker and lift to a thin end.

Reason: The convention applies to the majority of strokes to create a readable direction. Four reversed strokes break the pattern and can make the brow look tangled.

Check: Count strokes that start thick and end thin. If fewer than most follow the convention, redraw the exceptions.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A brow band is 5 cm long and 1 cm wide. The arch peak is at 4.5 cm from the inner end. Identify the likely problem and give one correction using the zone method.

Answer: The peak is too close to the outer end, so the arch will look lopsided. Move the peak to about 3 cm from the inner end, inside the middle zone, and redraw the upper curve through the new peak.

Reason: One-third of 5 cm is about 1.67 cm. The middle zone runs from about 1.67 cm to 3.33 cm. A peak at 4.5 cm is in the outer zone, which breaks the arch plan.

Check: Calculate one-third of 5 cm as 1.67 cm and confirm the new peak lies between 1.67 cm and 3.33 cm.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Arch peak is placed in the middle zone and the upper curve is continuous.
- [ ] Taper direction is stated and consistent across the brow.
- [ ] Most hair strokes follow the start-thick, end-thin convention.
- [ ] Stroke angles vary in small fan groups rather than repeating uniformly.
- [ ] Gaps are left so the brow does not read as a solid block.
- [ ] Valid alternative brow shapes and taper directions are accepted if construction is consistent.

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