Neck Drawing: Contour and Proportion Landmarks

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A reference head height is 150 mm. Using the hypothetical one-third guide, calculate neck height and each of the three equal bands. State where the sternocleidomastoid crosses.

Answer: Neck height = 50 mm; each band = 16.67 mm (about 16.7 mm). The sternocleidomastoid crosses the middle band diagonally.

Reason: Divide head height by 3 to get neck height, then divide neck height by 3 for bands. The middle band is between the lower and upper thirds.

Check: Multiply 16.67 by 3 to get about 50 mm, then multiply 50 by 3 to get 150 mm.

Task 2

A side-view drawing shows a neck height of 72 mm divided into three bands. The trapezius is placed in the upper band. Identify the error and give the corrected band.

Answer: The trapezius should occupy the back half of the lower band, not the upper band.

Reason: The trapezius slopes from the skull base to the shoulder tip, so its main mass is lower on the neck.

Check: Confirm the lower band runs from the clavicle line upward by one-third of neck height (24 mm in this example).

Task 3

A front-view neck is drawn 40 mm wide at the base and 30 mm wide at mid-neck. The head height is 120 mm. Check the neck height using the hypothetical one-third guide and state whether the taper is acceptable.

Answer: Neck height guide = 40 mm. The taper from 40 mm to 30 mm is acceptable because the neck widens slightly at the base.

Reason: The one-third guide gives 120 / 3 = 40 mm. A base wider than mid-neck matches the slight taper described in the lesson.

Check: Measure the drawn neck height; it should be close to 40 mm. Compare base and mid-neck widths; base should be equal or slightly wider.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

You label three landmarks using the x-height convention. Label A has baseline-to-midline 4 mm, Label B has 6 mm, and Label C has 4 mm. State which labels are consistent and how to fix the inconsistent one.

Answer: Labels A and C are consistent at 4 mm. Label B is inconsistent; change its midline to 4 mm above the baseline or relabel it with the same x-height as A and C.

Reason: The convention requires a consistent baseline-to-midline distance across labels. Letter styles may vary, but x-height should match.

Check: Measure baseline-to-midline for each label; all should read the same value within a small margin.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Neck height and head height are measured and recorded with consistent units.
- [ ] Three proportion bands are marked and equal within a few millimeters.
- [ ] Sternocleidomastoid is drawn diagonally from ear zone to clavicle zone on both views.
- [ ] Trapezius slope is drawn from skull base to shoulder tip on the side view.
- [ ] Front and side contours align at the clavicle line and jaw-to-neck junction.
- [ ] Labels follow the x-height convention with consistent baseline and midline.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted if landmarks and bands remain consistent.

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