Flower Field Drawing: Build Depth with Foreground, Midground, and Horizon

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

On a 180 mm tall page, a student places the horizon line 50 mm from the top. They plan a horizon band 15 mm tall, a midground band 45 mm tall, and a foreground band 70 mm tall. Do the bands fit below the horizon line, and how much space remains at the bottom?

Answer: The bands total 15 + 45 + 70 = 130 mm. The space below the horizon is 180 - 50 = 130 mm. The bands exactly fill the space below the horizon, leaving 0 mm at the bottom.

Reason: Subtract the sky area above the horizon from the page height to find the ground area, then add the three band heights and compare.

Check: Re-add the band heights and subtract from the ground area; both should equal 130 mm.

Task 2

A drawing has foreground flower heads 24 mm tall, midground heads 12 mm tall, and horizon marks 5 mm tall. A second drawing has foreground heads 20 mm, midground heads 14 mm, and horizon marks 9 mm. Which drawing shows a clearer size progression, and why?

Answer: The first drawing is clearer. Its sizes halve from 24 to 12 and drop to 5, giving a strong decrease. The second drawing changes only from 20 to 14 to 9, a weaker progression.

Reason: Compare the ratios between adjacent bands. A larger relative decrease makes depth easier to read.

Check: Divide each band's head height by the next band's height and compare the ratios; the first drawing has larger ratios.

Task 3

A student draws a horizon band with marks spaced 8 mm apart and midground clusters spaced 20 mm apart. Foreground flowers are spaced 40 mm apart. Is the spacing progression correct for depth, and what change would improve it?

Answer: The progression is correct because spacing tightens from foreground to horizon: 40 mm, then 20 mm, then 8 mm. To improve it, the student could tighten the horizon spacing further, for example to 4 mm, so the band reads as continuous.

Reason: Depth is reinforced when gaps shrink toward the horizon. The current order is right, but the horizon band can be denser.

Check: Measure three gaps in each band and confirm they decrease from foreground to horizon.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A student's drawing has foreground flowers overlapping midground clusters, but the midground clusters do not touch the horizon band. The horizon marks are 6 mm tall and midground heads are 18 mm tall. Identify the layering problem and state one fix.

Answer: The missing overlap between midground and horizon weakens the depth transition. One fix is to extend one or two midground clusters downward so they overlap the top edge of the horizon band. The size progression itself is acceptable because 18 mm is larger than 6 mm.

Reason: Overlap should occur between each adjacent pair of bands. The size check passes, but the overlap check fails between midground and horizon.

Check: Trace each band edge and confirm at least one shape crosses it; measure head heights to confirm the size order.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Horizon line is present and separates ground from sky.
- [ ] Three depth bands are distinguishable: foreground, midground, horizon.
- [ ] Foreground flower heads are measurably larger than midground heads.
- [ ] Midground heads are measurably larger than horizon marks.
- [ ] At least one overlap occurs between foreground and midground.
- [ ] At least one overlap occurs between midground and horizon band.
- [ ] Horizon band reads as a continuous textured strip rather than separate plants.
- [ ] Guide lines are light and do not dominate the flower shapes.
- [ ] Different flower styles are accepted if measured size progression is consistent.

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