Straight Hair Drawing: Fall-Line Strand Construction

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a head outline and three fall lines. Section A has 6 strands, section B has 6 strands, section C has 6 strands. Each strand tapers from 2 mm to 1 mm. Check direction against arrows.

Answer: A plate with three smooth fall lines, three arrows, and 18 tapering strands total, 6 per section, all parallel to their section arrows.

Reason: Equal counts per section test consistency. Taper from 2 mm to 1 mm is a simple checkable ratio. Arrows provide direction reference.

Check: Count strands per section (should be 6 each). Measure taper at root and end with a ruler. Compare each strand to its arrow; drift more than one finger-width is a redraw.

Task 2

Section B intentionally has 4 strands while A and C have 8. Draw the plate and label why B is less dense. Use a hypothetical 10 cm panel.

Answer: A plate with A and C at 8 strands each, B at 4 strands, and a label noting B is less dense to suggest a part or tucked section.

Reason: Density variation is valid when labeled. The arithmetic check is 8, 4, 8. The label explains the choice.

Check: Count strands: A=8, B=4, C=8. Confirm label explains B. Check taper and direction as before.

Task 3

Draw a plate where two strands in section C cross near the ends only. All other strands remain parallel. Label the overlap point.

Answer: A plate with section C showing two strands crossing near the ends, a label at the overlap, and all other strands parallel to the fall line.

Reason: Natural overlaps occur near ends. Mid-section crossings are the error to avoid. Labeling makes the choice checkable.

Check: Inspect crossings: only near ends. Count strands per section. Verify arrows and taper. Confirm label is present.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Draw a plate with three fall lines that curve slightly around the skull. Keep strands parallel to the curved fall lines. Use 5 strands per section and taper each from 3 mm to 1 mm.

Answer: A plate with three gently curved fall lines, 5 tapering strands per section following the curve, and arrows at the top of each line.

Reason: Fall lines can curve around the skull. Strands must follow the curve, not a straight vertical. Taper 3 mm to 1 mm is checkable.

Check: Trace each strand against its fall line; it should follow the curve. Count 5 strands per section. Measure taper at root and end. Check arrows.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Three fall lines are smooth and evenly spaced.
- [ ] Each section has a clear downward arrow.
- [ ] Strands are parallel to their section fall line.
- [ ] Strands taper from root to end.
- [ ] No mid-section crossings except natural overlaps.
- [ ] Strand count is noted and consistent within each section.
- [ ] Labels A, B, C are present and readable.
- [ ] Valid alternatives: slight curve in fall lines, varied strand length, and different strand counts are acceptable if direction and taper are clear.

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