Draw a Mother and Son Pair: Proportion, Pose and Shared Gesture

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A father's height on your page is 180 mm from baseline to head midline. Using a ratio of 1.8, calculate the child's height and state the guide-line position.

Answer: Child height = 180 divided by 1.8 = 100 mm. Place the child's head-midline guide 100 mm above the shared baseline.

Reason: The ratio divides adult height by the chosen factor, giving a child height in the same unit. The guide line marks that height so limbs can be added afterward.

Check: Re-measure both heights with the same ruler and divide adult by child; the result should be 1.8.

Task 2

An adult shoulder is marked at 140 mm above baseline and the child height is 90 mm. Suggest a hypothetical child shoulder height that keeps the relationship readable, and explain the check.

Answer: A hypothetical child shoulder height of about 70 mm works. Check that the child shoulder is lower than the adult shoulder by roughly the same proportion as the height difference.

Reason: Shoulder height should scale with total height so the child does not look top-heavy or too tall. The exact value is a chosen example, not a fixed standard.

Check: Compare the ratio of child shoulder to child height with adult shoulder to adult height; the two ratios should be close.

Task 3

Two figures are drawn with the adult leaning 12 degrees toward the joined hands and the child leaning 5 degrees away. Describe the fix and the check.

Answer: Redraw the child's torso center line so it leans toward the same joined-hand anchor, for example 10 to 15 degrees toward it as a hypothetical choice. Check both center lines against the vertical guide and confirm they relate to the same anchor.

Reason: A shared gesture needs both bodies to relate to one anchor. Opposite leans break the link even if the hands touch.

Check: Mark the anchor, draw both center lines, and compare each angle to the vertical guide; both should point toward the anchor or in a consistent shared direction.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A drawing shows the joined hands behind the adult's torso and the child's arm crossing the adult's body. Describe a correction using landmarks and a check.

Answer: Move the shared wrist point to a visible position between the bodies, then re-dot both elbows and wrists so the child's arm reaches up and the adult's arm angles down to that point. Check that neither arm crosses behind a torso.

Reason: The hand-holding pose reads only when the shared wrist point is visible and both arms connect to it without hidden crossings.

Check: Trace each arm from shoulder to wrist and confirm both reach the same visible point without passing behind a torso outline.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Adult height and child height are measured from the same baseline to head midline with one unit.
- [ ] The chosen height ratio is stated and the division check matches the drawn heights.
- [ ] One shared wrist point links the two figures and is not hidden behind a torso.
- [ ] Both torso center lines relate consistently to the shared gesture anchor.
- [ ] Valid alternatives in head shape, arm angle or lean amount are accepted if the checks above pass.

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