Gesture Drawing from a Posed Model: Action Line and Weight Shift

Topic reference / ordinary illustration



Ordinary topic reference. Hypothetical dimensions in the four tasks are supplied in their own text; this illustration is not their measured answer.

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Worked example / complete source key

A model stands with weight on the left leg, right knee slightly bent, left arm raised forward, right arm relaxed down. Describe the gesture skeleton you would draw, including action line, pelvis tilt, weight-bearing leg, and limb angles.

Answer: Draw a light action line from the head, curving slightly left through the torso toward the left foot. Mark the pelvis as a short line tilted so the left hip is higher. Draw the left leg from hip to ankle with a firmer stroke, nearly vertical. Draw the right leg lighter, with the thigh angled slightly forward and the lower leg angled back. Mark the shoulder line tilted opposite the pelvis, so the right shoulder is slightly higher. Draw the left arm as two segments: upper arm forward and slightly up, forearm continuing forward. Draw the right arm relaxed down, close to the torso. Add a simple head oval and neck line. Check that a vertical from the pelvis center falls nearer the left foot.