Manga Head Construction: Proportion Grid and Expression Drills

Original tasks 1, 2, 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 1

A head is 10 cm tall and 6 cm wide at the midline. Using the five-unit convention, calculate one eye unit, eye width and eye gap.

Answer: Eye unit = 6 / 5 = 1.2 cm; eye width = 1.2 cm; eye gap = 1.2 cm.

Reason: Divide head width by five to get one unit, then reuse it for each eye and the gap.

Check: Multiply the unit by five and confirm it equals 6 cm; measure each eye and gap against 1.2 cm.

Task 2

A head has bands A = 2 cm, B = 2 cm and C = 2 cm. Where is the mouth if it sits one-third down band C from the nose base?

Answer: Mouth is 2 / 3 ≈ 0.67 cm below the nose base.

Reason: One-third of band C is added to the nose base line.

Check: Measure from nose base to mouth and confirm it is about 0.67 cm; confirm total band C remains 2 cm.

Task 3

In a surprise drill, the neutral brow sits on the hairline-to-brow boundary. If you raise it by half of band A (band A = 2 cm), how far above the boundary is the brow?

Answer: Half of band A = 1 cm above the boundary.

Reason: Half of 2 cm is 1 cm; add it above the neutral brow line.

Check: Measure from the boundary to the raised brow and confirm 1 cm.

Task 4

A head is 9 cm wide at the midline. You choose a four-unit eye convention instead of five. Calculate one unit, eye width and eye gap.

Answer: Unit = 9 / 4 = 2.25 cm; eye width = 2.25 cm; eye gap = 2.25 cm.

Reason: The convention is stated as four units across, so divide width by four and reuse the unit.

Check: Multiply 2.25 by four to confirm 9 cm; measure each eye and gap against 2.25 cm.

Manga Head Construction: Proportion Grid and Expression Drills

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Bands A, B and C equal within 2 mm, or deviation recorded.
- [ ] Eyes on the midline; eye width and gap equal the stated unit within 1 mm.
- [ ] Nose base at B-C boundary; mouth one-third down band C.
- [ ] Three drills use identical grids; only expression features change.
- [ ] Expression choices recorded and consistent with the stated convention.
- [ ] Valid alternatives accepted when the convention is stated and applied consistently.

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