Continuous Contour Face Drawing: One Unbroken Line

Original task 1 / complete key

Task 1

Blind contour task: place a reference face in front of you. Without looking at your paper, draw the face in one continuous line for a measured two minutes. Start at the top of the forehead and end at the outer edge of the jaw. Do not lift the pencil. Afterward, look at the paper and trace the line with your finger from start to end.

Answer: A valid result is any single unbroken line that follows visible edges and shows no deliberate lifting. Distortion is acceptable. The line should begin at the forehead and end at the jaw edge, with crossings only where features overlap.

Reason: The blind variant tests looking behaviour and continuous contact. Because the drawer cannot see the paper, resemblance is not the criterion; the check is whether the line responds to observed edges and stays unbroken.

Check: Trace the finished line with your finger from the start point to the end point. If your finger jumps a gap, the line is not continuous. Confirm you did not look at the paper during the two minutes.

Continuous Contour Face Drawing: One Unbroken Line

Original task 2 / complete key

Task 2

Observed contour task: draw a face in one continuous line, allowing brief glances at your paper. Include the outer head edge, one ear rim, the line where the lips meet, and one crossing where the nose overlaps the cheek. Keep the pencil on the paper throughout. Use a 20 cm by 25 cm sheet and aim for the face to fill at least 12 cm of the height.

Answer: A valid drawing is one unbroken line that includes the four required edges, crosses once at the nose-cheek overlap, and fills at least 12 cm of the 25 cm height. Brief glances are allowed; constant looking is not.

Reason: The observed variant permits short checks for placement while preserving the single-line rule. The required edges make the task self-contained and checkable, and the scale target is a hypothetical example measured on the stated sheet.

Check: Measure the drawn face height against 12 cm. Trace the line for gaps. Confirm the four required edges appear and that the crossing occurs at a visible overlap.

Continuous Contour Face Drawing: One Unbroken Line

Original task 3 / complete key

Task 3

Convention check: a learner draws a continuous line that follows the outer head edge, then lifts the pencil to reposition at the ear, then continues. They claim the drawing is a valid contour because the line looks connected. Decide whether it meets the lesson convention and state one fix.

Answer: It does not meet the convention because the pencil lifted between the head edge and the ear. The fix is to retrace a short segment without lifting, or to continue from the ear without repositioning, accepting the placement.

Reason: The defining rule is uninterrupted contact from start to end. A visually connected line is not enough if the pencil left the paper. The fix preserves the single-line rule rather than correcting appearance.

Check: Ask the learner to describe every point where the pencil left the paper. If any lift occurred, mark the continuous-line criterion as not met.

Continuous Contour Face Drawing: One Unbroken Line

Original task 4 / complete key

Task 4

Scale and crossing task: on a 20 cm by 25 cm sheet, draw an observed contour face in one continuous line. Make the face fill at least 12 cm of the height and include exactly one self-crossing at a visible overlap. Then measure the face height and count the crossings.

Answer: A valid result has one unbroken line, a measured face height of at least 12 cm, and exactly one crossing at a visible overlap such as the nose over the cheek. More or fewer crossings fails the stated count.

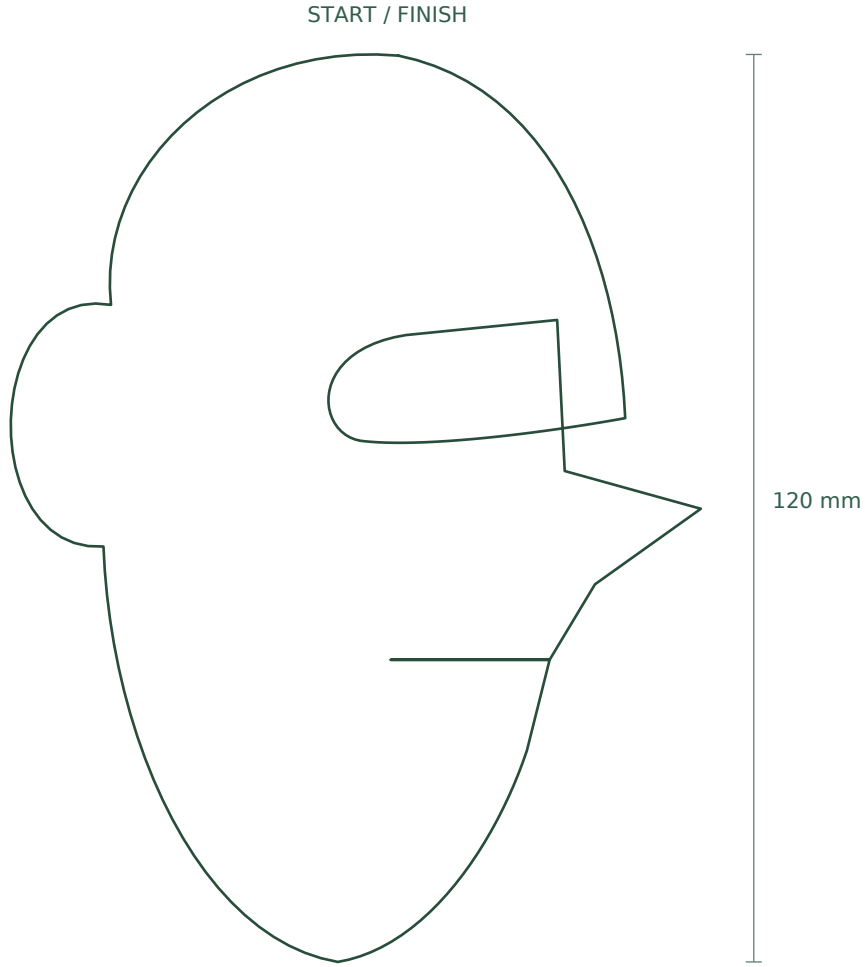
Reason: This task combines the continuous-line rule with two checkable quantities: height in centimetres and crossing count. The values are hypothetical examples tied to the stated sheet size, so they can be measured directly.

Check: Use a ruler to measure the face height in centimetres. Count self-crossings and confirm each occurs at a visible overlap. Trace the line for gaps.

Continuous Contour Face Drawing: One Unbroken Line

Task 1 / answers

One actual ordered face route / visible edges / one nose-cheek crossing / no fabricated learner outcome



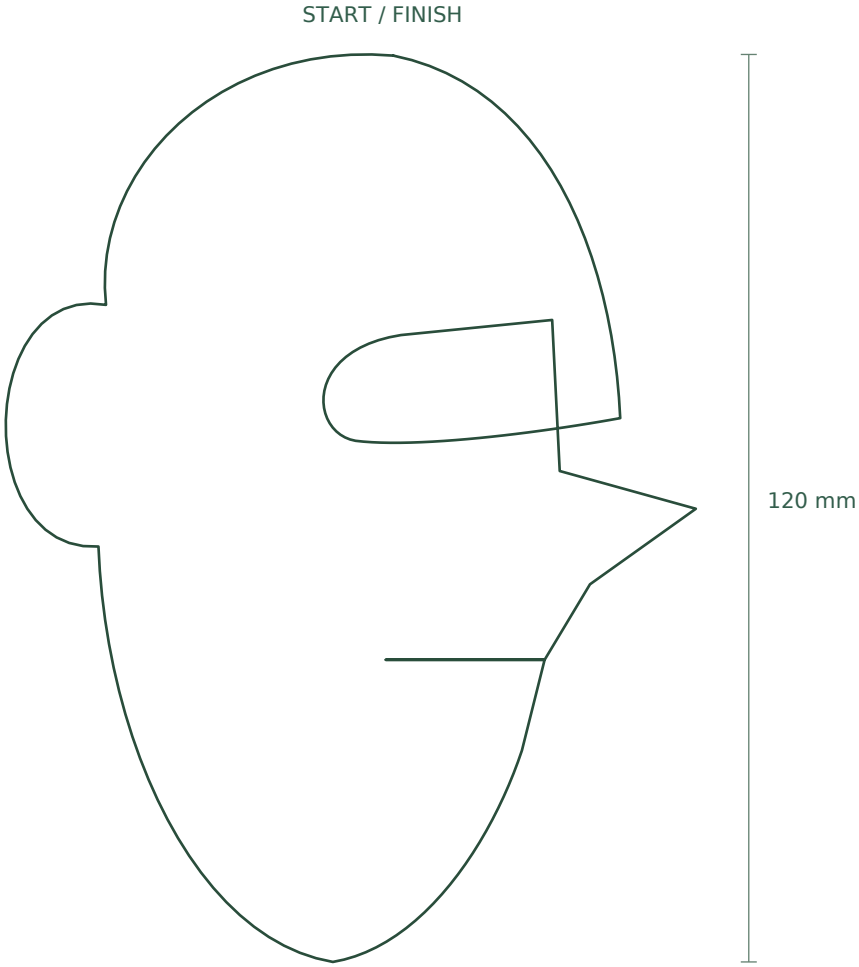
Chosen model H = 120 mm = 12 cm / print 1:1

Illustration only, not a fabricated two-minute blind drawing. A learner must look at their own reference, avoid looking at the paper, begin at forehead and finish at jaw, then record their own process and trace continuity. Distortion is acceptable; a PDF cannot verify gaze or elapsed time.

Continuous Contour Face Drawing: One Unbroken Line

Task 2 / answers

One actual ordered face route / visible edges / one nose-cheek crossing / no fabricated learner outcome



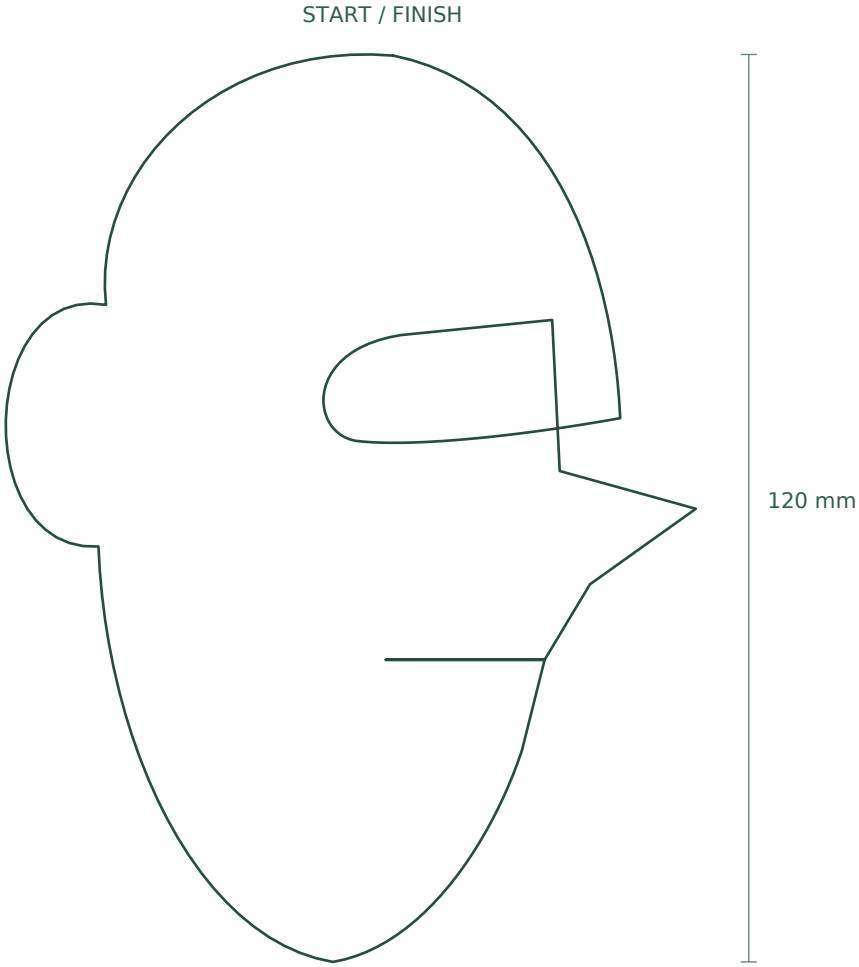
Chosen model H = 120 mm = 12 cm / print 1:1

Exactly one proper crossing is at the stylised nose-cheek overlap. The actual single PDF path has height 120 mm and includes outer head/jaw, ear rim and a briefly retraced lip-meeting edge. Use your own 20 x 25 cm sheet for the original task; no learner behaviour is claimed by this model key.

Continuous Contour Face Drawing: One Unbroken Line

Task 3 / answers

One actual ordered face route / visible edges / one nose-cheek crossing / no fabricated learner outcome



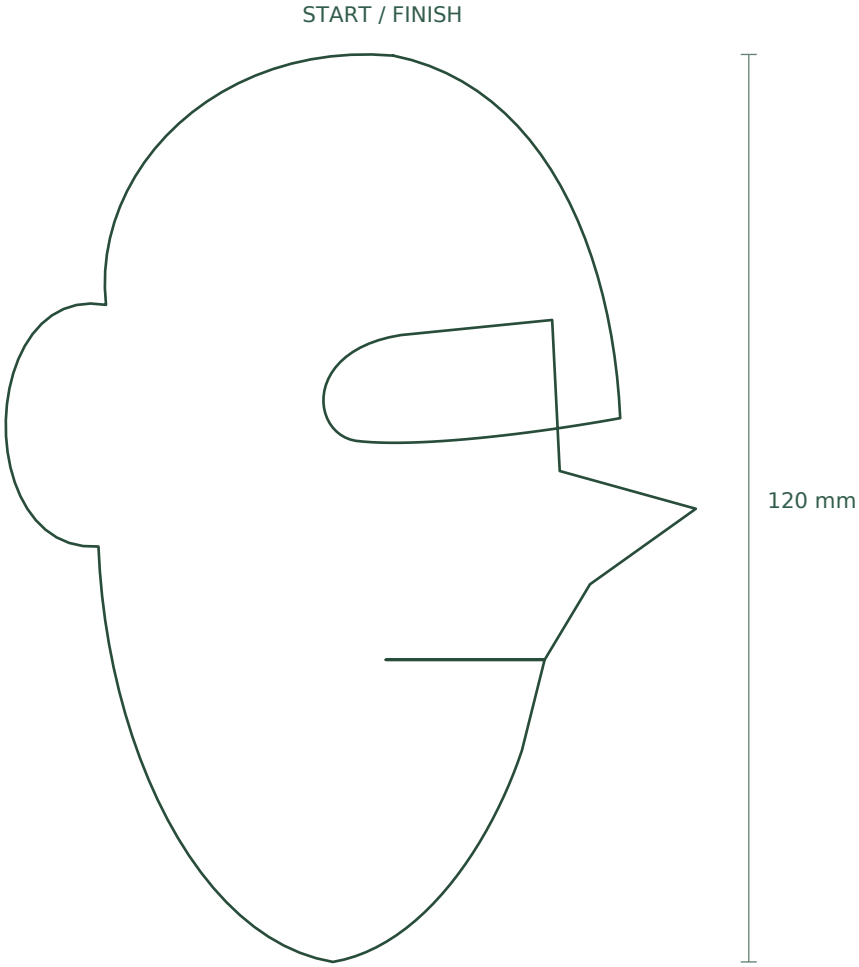
Chosen model H = 120 mm = 12 cm / print 1:1

Recorded lift means NOT valid under this lesson. A possible fix is to follow/retrace a visible edge to the ear while maintaining contact. The model route here is a separate continuous alternative; its appearance alone cannot prove a learner never lifted.

Continuous Contour Face Drawing: One Unbroken Line

Task 4 / answers

One actual ordered face route / visible edges / one nose-cheek crossing / no fabricated learner outcome



Chosen model H = 120 mm = 12 cm / print 1:1

Exactly one proper crossing is at the stylised nose-cheek overlap. The actual single PDF path has height 120 mm and includes outer head/jaw, ear rim and a briefly retraced lip-meeting edge. Use your own 20 x 25 cm sheet for the original task; no learner behaviour is claimed by this model key.

Continuous Contour Face Drawing: One Unbroken Line

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Continuous line: pencil tip stayed on the paper from start to end, with no gaps.
- [ ] Edge convention: line follows visible edges and does not invent hidden edges.
- [ ] Crossings: any self-crossing corresponds to a visible overlap.
- [ ] Variant discipline: blind variant shows no looking at paper; observed variant shows only brief glances.
- [ ] Scale: face fills at least half the drawing height, or a specific reason is noted.
- [ ] Checkability: the finished line can be traced by finger from start to end without jumping gaps.

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