Pencil Love Composition: Heart and Lettering

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A composition box is 8 cm wide. You want to letter the word LOVE (4 letters). Allow equal space per letter including spacing. How much space per letter? Describe where to place guide lines.

Answer: 8 cm divided by 4 letters equals 2 cm per letter. Place guide lines at 0, 2, 4, and 6 cm from the left edge, leaving 2 cm for the last letter. Draw a baseline and midline for x-height.

Reason: Equal spacing means dividing total width by number of letters. Guide lines mark each letter's start.

Check: Measure the distance between guide lines; each should be 2 cm. Verify total width used is 8 cm.

Task 2

You draw two circles for a heart with centers 4 cm apart on the horizontal line. Each circle has radius 3 cm. Describe how to form the lower V and check symmetry.

Answer: The circles overlap near the center line because each radius (3 cm) is larger than half the center separation (2 cm). From the outer lower sides of each circle, draw curves down to the bottom center point to form the lower V. Check symmetry by measuring from the center line to each circle center; both should be 2 cm.

Reason: The heart's widest points are the circle centers on the horizontal line; the upper outer arcs of the circles form the lobes, and curves from the outer lower sides of each circle down to the bottom center point form the lower V.

Check: Fold paper along center line or measure distances; both sides should match.

Task 3

Your composition box is 10 cm wide. You letter BE MINE (5 letters plus one space). Allow 1.5 cm per letter and 1 cm for the space. Does it fit? If not, suggest a change.

Answer: 5 letters times 1.5 cm equals 7.5 cm, plus 1 cm for the space equals 8.5 cm. This fits within the 10 cm box with 1.5 cm remaining. If it did not fit, reduce letter spacing or use a shorter phrase.

Reason: Total space is the sum of letter spaces and the word space. Compare that total to the box width.

Check: Add 7.5 cm and 1 cm to get 8.5 cm; subtract from 10 cm to confirm 1.5 cm remains.

Pencil Love Composition: Heart and Lettering

Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

You shaded the heart dark and the lettering light. A friend says the lettering is hard to read. Suggest two adjustments using pencil and eraser.

Answer: Lighten the heart shading with an eraser to increase contrast, or darken the lettering slightly with pencil. Keep guide lines erased.

Reason: Contrast between heart and lettering improves readability. Adjusting either element can help.

Check: Step back and check if lettering stands out; adjust gradually and recheck.

Pencil Love Composition: Heart and Lettering

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Heart is symmetrical and clearly constructed from circles and curves.
- [ ] Lettering uses consistent x-height between baseline and midline; capitals may extend above midline.
- [ ] Spacing between letters and words is even and readable.
- [ ] Composition is balanced with heart and lettering distinct.
- [ ] Shading is gradual and guide lines are erased.
- [ ] Valid alternative letter styles are accepted if spacing and x-height convention are followed.

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