Drawing Evergreen Trees: Conical Silhouette, Layered Boughs, Needle Clusters

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A tree is 14 cm tall with a base width of 7 cm. What should the width be at half height if the taper is consistent?

Answer: About 3.5 cm.

Reason: The base-to-height ratio is 7:14, or 1:2. At half height, the width is half the base width: 7 divided by 2 equals 3.5 cm.

Check: Measure the drawing at half height and compare to 3.5 cm; allow small variation but keep the taper visible.

Task 2

You draw three bough layers with widths 8 cm, 5 cm, and 3 cm from bottom to top. Do the widths follow the lesson's decreasing pattern?

Answer: Yes, the widths decrease from 8 cm to 5 cm to 3 cm.

Reason: Each upper layer is narrower than the one below, which supports the conical silhouette and layered depth.

Check: List the widths in order and confirm each is smaller than the previous one.

Task 3

A needle cluster convention uses three strokes. If you place 6 clusters along the bottom bough and 4 along the middle bough, how many strokes are used in total?

Answer: 30 strokes.

Reason: Six clusters times three strokes equals 18; four clusters times three equals 12; 18 plus 12 equals 30.

Check: Count clusters and multiply by three, then add the two groups.

Drawing Evergreen Trees: Conical Silhouette, Layered Boughs, Needle Clusters

Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Your conical guide is 12 cm tall and 6 cm wide at the base. You notice the middle bough is 5 cm wide. Is it too wide compared with the hypothetical two-thirds guideline?

Answer: Yes, it is wider than the guideline of about 4 cm.

Reason: Two-thirds of 6 cm is 4 cm. A 5 cm middle bough is wider than the guideline and may weaken the taper.

Check: Multiply base width by two-thirds and compare with the measured middle bough width.

Drawing Evergreen Trees: Conical Silhouette, Layered Boughs, Needle Clusters

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Conical silhouette tapers from base to tip with a measurable width-to-height ratio.
- [ ] Three bough layers are distinct, overlapping, and decrease in width from bottom to top.
- [ ] Needle clusters use a consistent three-stroke grouping and follow bough direction.
- [ ] Texture is selective rather than covering the entire cone.
- [ ] Proportions are checked with simple measurements and consistent units.
- [ ] Valid alternative stroke styles are accepted if structure and grouping remain clear.

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