Oleander Drawing: Clustered Flowers and Narrow Leaves

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw one flower cluster with five flowers. Use a base unit of 1 cm as a hypothetical example. Place centers about 1 cm apart inside an oval 5 cm wide and 3 cm tall. Draw five petals around each center.

Answer: A cluster of five five-petal flowers with centers grouped inside the oval and neighboring centers about 1 cm apart.

Reason: Five centers inside a 5 cm by 3 cm oval can be spaced about 1 cm apart without leaving the oval. Five petals per flower makes counting easy.

Check: Count the flowers and petals. Measure two neighboring center distances and confirm they are near 1 cm. Confirm all centers lie inside the oval.

Task 2

Draw a stem 10 cm long with four leaf pairs. Use attachment points 2 cm apart starting 2 cm from the bottom. Each leaf is 4 cm long and 0.8 cm wide.

Answer: A 10 cm stem with four pairs of narrow leaves attached at 2 cm, 4 cm, 6 cm, and 8 cm from the bottom.

Reason: Four attachment points spaced 2 cm apart fit along a 10 cm stem with room at top and bottom. Leaf width 0.8 cm and length 4 cm gives a one-fifth ratio.

Check: Measure stem length and attachment spacing. Measure one leaf and divide width by length; confirm the result is about 0.2.

Task 3

A drawing has a cluster 7 cm wide on a stem 15 cm long. Using the one-third check, is the cluster too wide? Show the arithmetic.

Answer: Yes, the cluster is too wide. One-third of 15 cm is 5 cm, and 7 cm is greater than 5 cm.

Reason: Divide cluster width by stem length: 7 divided by 15 is about 0.47, which is greater than 0.33. Reduce the cluster to 5 cm or less, or lengthen the stem to at least 21 cm.

Check: Compute stem length divided by three and compare with cluster width. Alternatively compute cluster width divided by stem length and compare with one-third.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Draw a complete oleander with two stems, one cluster per stem, and three leaf pairs per stem. Use a base unit of 1 cm as a hypothetical example. Keep clusters 4 cm wide and stems 12 cm long. Check the one-third rule for each stem.

Answer: Two 12 cm stems, each with a 4 cm cluster and three leaf pairs spaced about 2 cm apart. Each cluster is one-third of its stem length, so the check passes.

Reason: One-third of 12 cm is 4 cm, so a 4 cm cluster meets the limit exactly. Three leaf pairs per stem with 2 cm spacing fit along the middle and lower stem.

Check: For each stem, divide cluster width by stem length and confirm the result is at most one-third. Count leaf pairs and measure spacing on one stem.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Flower cluster contains at least three small flowers, most with five visible petals.
- [ ] Cluster centers are grouped within a defined oval area rather than scattered.
- [ ] Leaves are narrow: width is roughly one-fifth of length.
- [ ] Leaf attachment points are spaced consistently along the stem.
- [ ] Cluster and leaves do not overlap so much that leaf arrangement is hidden.
- [ ] Valid alternatives such as slightly uneven petals or alternating single leaves are accepted if spacing and grouping remain clear.

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