Poultry Drawing: Compare Chicken and Duck Outlines

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

On a page with two equal columns, draw a chicken body oval 5 cm long and a duck body oval 7 cm long. Then adjust so both are 6 cm long. Describe the two steps and the check.

Answer: First draw the chicken oval at 5 cm and the duck oval at 7 cm. Then redraw or adjust both to 6 cm. Check with a ruler that both ovals measure 6 cm.

Reason: A fair comparison requires equal body length scale. Adjusting both ovals to the same length removes the size difference.

Check: Measure each oval's longest horizontal axis with a ruler; both should read 6 cm.

Task 2

Draw a duck head oval and a chicken head circle of the same diameter. Add a broad flat bill to the duck and a small pointed bill to the chicken. Explain how the bill shapes differ.

Answer: The duck bill is wide and flat, extending forward like a rounded rectangle. The chicken bill is short and triangular. Both heads are the same size, so the bill shape is the main difference.

Reason: Bill shape is a key comparison feature. Keeping head size equal isolates the bill difference.

Check: Compare bill width and length: the duck bill should be wider and flatter than the chicken's.

Task 3

Draw two neck curves: one short and one long. Attach the short neck to a round body and the long neck to a flat body. Which bird is which, and what check confirms the pairing?

Answer: The short neck with the round body is the chicken. The long neck with the flat body is the duck. Check by comparing neck length and body shape together.

Reason: Chickens have shorter necks and rounder bodies; ducks have longer necks and flatter bodies.

Check: Measure neck length and body height-to-length ratio; the chicken's neck should be shorter and its body rounder.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Place a chicken outline and a duck outline side by side. The chicken's legs are under its center, but the duck's legs are far forward. Fix the duck's leg placement and state the check.

Answer: Move the duck's legs slightly back so they sit under the body's center of balance. Check by drawing a vertical line from the body's center; the legs should straddle it.

Reason: Legs under the center of balance keep the bird stable and match the duck's slightly rearward leg position.

Check: Draw a light vertical line through the body's center and confirm the legs are centered on or slightly behind it.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Both birds are present and clearly labeled.
- [ ] Chicken body is rounder and more upright than the duck's.
- [ ] Duck body is longer and flatter than the chicken's.
- [ ] Chicken neck is shorter than the duck's neck.
- [ ] Duck bill is broad and flat; chicken bill is small and pointed.
- [ ] Legs are placed under the body's center of balance.
- [ ] Both birds use the same body length scale.
- [ ] Final outlines are dark and construction lines are erased.

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