Drawing a Bride: Dress, Veil, and Bouquet Construction

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a standing bride with a column dress. Use eight head units, a hem about one and a half head units wide, a veil attached at the back of the head, and a bouquet at the waist about one head unit wide. Check the floor line and center line.

Answer: A line drawing shows a narrow column skirt from waist to floor, a veil falling behind the shoulders from the back of the head, and a bouquet at the waist overlapping the dress. The center line passes through the nose, sternum, and midpoint between the feet; the hem meets the floor line.

Reason: The column silhouette keeps the skirt close to the body, so the hem width is smaller than an A-line. The veil attachment at the back of the head changes the drape path but still requires logical lines to the hem. The bouquet placement and size are checked against the waist and head unit.

Check: Measure the hem width against one and a half head units, confirm the hem touches the floor line, and trace the center line through the three check points. Confirm the bouquet overlaps the dress and the hands meet the stem wrap.

Task 2

Draw a standing bride with a ball gown. Use eight head units, a hem about three head units wide, a veil attached at the crown with a scalloped hem, and a bouquet slightly below the waist about one head unit wide. Check symmetry and that the veil does not cross the face.

Answer: A line drawing shows a wide ball gown skirt expanding from the waist to a hem about three head units wide, a crown-attached veil with a scalloped hem falling behind the shoulders, and a bouquet below the waist overlapping the dress. The veil lines stay behind the face; the center line is symmetrical.

Reason: The ball gown requires a wider hem, so the skirt outline expands more than an A-line. The scalloped veil hem is a valid alternative if drawn consistently. The bouquet below the waist still connects to the hands and overlaps the dress.

Check: Measure the hem width against three head units and check symmetry on both sides of the center line. Confirm no veil line crosses the face and that the scalloped hem is consistent. Check the bouquet size and hand connection.

Drawing a Bride: Dress, Veil, and Bouquet Construction

Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

Draw a standing bride with an A-line dress and a veil attached at the crown with a straight hem. Place the bouquet at the waist but shift the figure's weight slightly to one side. Use eight head units and a hem about two head units wide. Check that the weight shift is deliberate and the bouquet still connects to the hands.

Answer: A line drawing shows an A-line skirt with a hem about two head units wide, a crown-attached veil with a straight hem, and a bouquet at the waist. The weight shift is shown by a slight hip offset while the center line through the nose and sternum remains consistent; the bouquet connects to the hands.

Reason: A deliberate weight shift changes the symmetry check: the midpoint between the feet may not align with the sternum, but the upper body center line should still read clearly. The veil and bouquet construction remain the same.

Check: Confirm the hip offset is intentional and the upper center line is clear. Measure the hem width against two head units and check the straight veil hem. Confirm the bouquet overlaps the dress and the hands meet the stem wrap.

Task 4

Draw a standing bride with a column dress and a veil attached at the back of the head with a rounded hem. Place the bouquet at the waist about one head unit wide. Use eight head units and a hem about one and a half head units wide. Check that the veil drape lines connect logically from attachment to hem and that the bouquet does not float.

Answer: A line drawing shows a column skirt with a hem about one and a half head units wide, a back-attached veil with a rounded hem and two inner drape lines connecting to the hem, and a bouquet at the waist overlapping the dress. The hands meet the stem wrap; the bouquet does not float.

Reason: The back attachment changes the veil drape path, so the inner lines must connect from the attachment point to the hem without crossing the face. The column dress keeps the hem narrow, and the bouquet placement is checked against the waist and hands.

Check: Trace each veil drape line from attachment to hem and confirm no face crossing. Measure the hem width against one and a half head units and check the floor line. Confirm the bouquet overlaps the dress and the hands meet the stem wrap.

Drawing a Bride: Dress, Veil, and Bouquet Construction

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Proportion skeleton uses a consistent head-unit system and a clear center line.
- [ ] Dress silhouette is drawn from waist to hem with a consistent shape and a hem checked against the floor line.
- [ ] Veil has a clear attachment point, logical drape lines, and a consistent hem style.
- [ ] Bouquet is placed near the waist, overlaps the dress, and connects to the hands at the stem wrap.
- [ ] Symmetry is checked against the center line unless a weight shift is deliberately shown.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted: different dress silhouettes, veil hem styles, and bouquet shapes are allowed if construction checks pass.

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