Butler Drawing: Posture, Uniform Layers, and Serving Detail

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A butler figure is drawn eight head-heights tall. The head unit measures four centimeters. What is the total figure height in centimeters?

Answer: 32 centimeters.

Reason: Multiply the head unit by the number of head-heights: 4 centimeters times 8 equals 32 centimeters.

Check: Measure the drawn head unit with a ruler and multiply by eight; compare with the measured total height.

Task 2

You draw a tray with two glasses. The tray ellipse has a major axis of twelve centimeters. If the two glass circles are evenly spaced and each has a diameter of two centimeters, what is the total width occupied by the two glasses plus one equal gap between them?

Answer: 6 centimeters.

Reason: Each glass is 2 centimeters wide, so two glasses occupy 4 centimeters. One equal gap is 2 centimeters, giving 4 plus 2 equals 6 centimeters.

Check: Measure the two glass diameters and the gap on the drawing; confirm each is 2 centimeters and the sum is 6 centimeters.

Task 3

A butler is drawn with the waist at the fourth head-height mark and the knee at the sixth head-height mark. If the head unit is three centimeters, how many centimeters apart are the waist and knee marks?

Answer: 6 centimeters.

Reason: The difference in head-height marks is 6 minus 4 equals 2. Multiply by the head unit: 2 times 3 centimeters equals 6 centimeters.

Check: Measure the distance between the waist and knee marks on the drawing and compare with 6 centimeters.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

You draw a jacket hem at mid-thigh and a waistcoat hem at the waist. The waist is at the fourth head-height mark and mid-thigh is halfway between the fourth and fifth marks. If the head unit is five centimeters, how far below the waist is the jacket hem?

Answer: 2.5 centimeters.

Reason: Mid-thigh is halfway between the fourth and fifth head-height marks, so the distance is half a head unit: 0.5 times 5 centimeters equals 2.5 centimeters.

Check: Measure the vertical distance from the waist mark to the jacket hem on the drawing and compare with 2.5 centimeters.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Balance line passes through the floor contact point and the crown point.
- [ ] Chest is offset forward by approximately one head-width to suggest a serving lean.
- [ ] Uniform layers are drawn in the fixed order and overlaps read clearly.
- [ ] Tray hand uses the flat palm convention with thumb oval and four parallel finger strips.
- [ ] Tray rests on the palm and fingers, not the wrist, and glasses are evenly spaced.
- [ ] Figure height matches the chosen head-unit multiplication (for example, eight times three centimeters equals twenty-four centimeters).
- [ ] Handwritten labels respect the x-height convention: lowercase letters between baseline and midline, with any legible style accepted.

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