Gold Crown Drawing: Metallic Shading and Highlight Placement

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a four-point gold crown with light from the upper left. Use three values and place one highlight per point. Describe your shading choices.

Answer: A valid answer shows a band with four points, left-facing surfaces light, right-facing surfaces dark, and a narrow highlight near each tip on the left side. The band's upper left edge is light and lower right edge is dark.

Reason: The light source determines which surfaces are light and dark. Four points require balanced spacing and consistent highlight placement on the lit side.

Check: Verify that every highlight is on the left side of its point and that dark values are warm. Squint to confirm the crown's silhouette and metallic contrast.

Task 2

Draw a five-point gold crown with light from directly above. Use a dot-highlight convention and state it. Describe how the band is shaded.

Answer: A valid answer shows five points with highlights as small dots on the top edges of each point. The band's top edge is light and its lower edge is dark, with mid-tone on the front face.

Reason: Overhead light means top surfaces catch light. A dot convention is valid if stated and applied consistently. The band's curve means its top edge is lit and lower edge is shadowed.

Check: Check that all dots are on top edges and that the band's top edge is lighter than its lower edge. Confirm the dot convention is stated.

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Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

Draw a three-point gold crown with light from the lower right. Add one secondary highlight. Explain where the secondary highlight goes and why.

Answer: A valid answer shows right-facing surfaces light and left-facing surfaces dark. The secondary highlight is a small, dim shape on the shadow side, suggesting reflected light. It is placed on the left face of the central point.

Reason: Lower-right light makes right-facing surfaces bright. A secondary highlight on the shadow side mimics reflected light and adds metallic realism.

Check: Verify that the main highlights are on the right side and the secondary highlight is smaller and dimmer on the left side. Check consistency across points.

Task 4

Draw a six-point gold crown with light from the upper left. Use a stroke-highlight convention. Describe how you vary highlight size across the points.

Answer: A valid answer shows six points with narrow stroke highlights on the left side of each point. The central points have slightly larger highlights than the outer points, reflecting stronger light near the center.

Reason: More points require careful spacing. Varying highlight size suggests light intensity differences while keeping the convention consistent.

Check: Check that all highlights are strokes on the left side and that outer highlights are not larger than central ones. Confirm the crown's points are evenly spaced and attached to the band.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Crown has a clear band and at least three points attached to it.
- [ ] Point geometry is balanced and no points overlap.
- [ ] Shading uses at least three values: light, mid, and dark.
- [ ] Dark values are warm, not black.
- [ ] Highlights follow a stated convention and are consistent in shape and direction.
- [ ] Light source direction is consistent across all points and the band.
- [ ] Crown reads as a single metallic object when squinting.

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