Ink Flower Drawing: Petal and Leaf Stroke Practice

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a practice panel with baseline at 0 mm and midline at 8 mm. Draw six petal strokes from one center point, alternating directions, each about 12 mm long as a hypothetical example. Check that no tips cross.

Answer: A panel with six outward strokes from one center, alternating clockwise and counterclockwise, tips separate.

Reason: Alternating directions prevents leaning; lifting at the tip keeps the taper clean.

Check: Measure x-height on the actual panel, confirm six strokes, and circle any crossing tips.

Task 2

Draw four leaf strokes from a vertical stem line. Start each at the stem and taper toward the tip. Use leaf length 18 mm as a hypothetical example. Check that each base meets the stem.

Answer: Four tapered strokes beginning at the stem line and ending at separate tips.

Reason: Starting at the stem controls the taper and keeps leaf bases attached.

Check: Confirm each stroke begins on the stem line and that tips do not overlap.

Task 3

Build one flower with a center, five outer petals, and three inner petals. Add one stem and two leaves. Use petal length 14 mm and leaf length 19 mm as hypothetical examples. Check balance by comparing left and right petal counts.

Answer: A flower with eight petals total, one stem, and two leaves, with left and right sides roughly balanced.

Reason: Layering shorter inner petals fills gaps; counting left and right checks lean.

Check: Count petals on each side of the center and confirm stem and leaf bases meet.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Draw a cluster of two flowers and three leaves in one panel. Use different petal counts for each flower, such as five and seven, as a style choice. Check that stems do not cross and that x-height is measured on the actual panel.

Answer: Two flowers with different petal counts and three leaves, stems separate, x-height noted locally.

Reason: Different petal counts are valid alternatives if stroke direction and taper remain intentional.

Check: Trace each stem to its flower, confirm no stem crossings, and record the measured x-height.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Petal strokes start near the center and lift at the tip.
- [ ] Leaf strokes start at the stem and taper toward the tip.
- [ ] Stroke directions alternate or are intentionally varied.
- [ ] X-height reference is measured on the actual panel and labeled as local.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted if stroke direction and taper are intentional.
- [ ] Self-check circles unclear tapers or crossings and redraws one stroke.

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