# Pasture Drawing: Fence Lines, Grazing Animals, and Ground Planes

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A student draws a horizon at 90 mm on a 180 mm-tall page. They place an animal's foot-mark at 70 mm from the top. Is the animal above or below the horizon, and what should change?

Answer: The foot-mark is above the horizon (70 mm is less than 90 mm), so the animal would float. Move the foot-mark below 90 mm, for example to 120 mm from the top.

Reason: Ground placement is judged by the feet relative to the horizon. Any foot-mark above the horizon reads as floating.

Check: Compare the foot-mark measurement to the horizon measurement using the same units; the foot-mark must be the larger number when measured from the top.

Task 2

Three fence posts are drawn with bases at 20 mm, 45 mm, and 70 mm along a guide line. Their heights are 40 mm, 32 mm, and 24 mm. Do the heights follow the convergence rule, and by how much does each shrink?

Answer: Yes. Each farther post is shorter: the second is 8 mm shorter than the first, and the third is 8 mm shorter than the second.

Reason: A receding fence line should show decreasing post height. Equal decrements are a simple, checkable pattern.

Check: Subtract consecutive heights: 40 minus 32 equals 8; 32 minus 24 equals 8. Both differences are positive, so the rule holds.

Task 3

On a 250 mm-wide page, the nearest post is 50 mm tall and the animal's body length is 60 mm. A second drawing uses a 30 mm post and a 36 mm animal. Do the two drawings use the same ratio of animal length to post height?

Answer: Yes. Both use a ratio of 1.2 to 1 (60 divided by 50 equals 1.2; 36 divided by 30 equals 1.2).

Reason: Scale consistency is checked by dividing animal length by post height. Equal quotients mean the same ratio.

Check: Compute 60 divided by 50 and 36 divided by 30; both equal 1.2.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A scene has the animal drawn with the darkest line weight, the nearest post with medium weight, and the distant tree line with the lightest weight. Does the layering read correctly, and what single change would improve it?

Answer: No. The nearest post should be the darkest or equal to the animal, since it is in the foreground. Darken the nearest post to match or exceed the animal's line weight.

Reason: Line weight signals depth: foreground elements should be darkest, background lightest. The animal is middle ground, so the foreground post should not be lighter than it.

Check: Rank the three elements by intended depth and confirm the line-weight order matches: foreground darkest, middle medium, background lightest.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Horizon line is present and clearly separates sky from ground.
- [ ] All fence post bases lie on a single guide line toward the vanishing point.
- [ ] Farther posts are shorter than nearer posts.
- [ ] Animal feet touch a marked ground position below the horizon.
- [ ] Animal size maintains a consistent ratio to the nearest post.
- [ ] Overlap order between fence and animal is deliberate and visible.
- [ ] Foreground, middle ground, and background are distinguishable by line weight or detail.
- [ ] Construction lines are faint or erased; final contours are darker and continuous.
- [ ] Valid alternative: a different vanishing point, post height, or animal size is acceptable if the ratio and convergence checks pass.

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