Buckeye Drawing: Nut, Pale Cap, and Shading Steps

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A buckeye nut oval is 8 cm wide and 6 cm tall. The cap band is 2 cm tall. What fraction of the nut height is the cap band? Use the lesson's one-third guideline to decide whether the cap is too tall, too short, or acceptable.

Answer: The cap band is 2 cm out of 6 cm, which is one third. This matches the guideline, so the cap is acceptable.

Reason: Divide the cap height by the nut height: 2 divided by 6 equals one third. The lesson says the cap band should be about one third of the nut height.

Check: Recheck the division: 6 divided by 3 equals 2. Confirm the cap band is 2 cm and the nut height is 6 cm.

Task 2

A student places the highlight at value 1 on the lower right and the darkest patch at value 5 on the upper left. The light source is stated as upper left. What should change, and why?

Answer: The highlight should move to the upper left and the darkest patch to the lower right. With light from the upper left, the lit side is upper left and the shadow side is lower right.

Reason: The lesson fixes a single light source at upper left. The highlight marks the lit side at value 1, and the darkest patch marks the shadow side at value 5.

Check: State the light direction, then confirm the highlight is on the same side as the light and the dark patch is on the opposite side.

Task 3

A cap is shaded with value 1 on top, value 2 under the stem, and value 4 on the lower edge. The nut body uses values 2, 3, and 5. Is the cap consistent with the lesson? Explain.

Answer: No. The cap should stay at values 1 and 2 only. Value 4 on the cap is too dark and breaks the pale-cap convention.

Reason: The lesson reserves values 3 to 5 for the nut body and keeps the cap at values 1 and 2 to preserve contrast.

Check: List every value used on the cap. If any value is 3 or darker, the cap is inconsistent.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A student draws a nut oval 7 cm wide and 7 cm tall, then adds a cap band 3 cm tall. Using the lesson's proportions, name two changes that would improve the drawing.

Answer: Widen the oval so it is wider than tall, and reduce the cap band to about one third of the nut height, which would be about 2.3 cm for a 7 cm nut. Both changes follow the lesson's proportions.

Reason: The lesson says the nut is wider than tall and the cap band is about one third of the nut height. A 7 cm tall nut with a 3 cm cap is too tall a cap, and a 7 cm by 7 cm oval is not wider than tall.

Check: Compare width to height: width should be greater. Divide nut height by 3 to estimate the cap band, then compare with the drawn cap.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Nut body is a clear oval, wider than tall, with a faint construction outline.
- [ ] Cap band sits on the upper third and is slightly flattened, with a small stem nub.
- [ ] Highlight is small and placed on the upper-left side at value 1.
- [ ] Middle tone is value 3 and the darkest patch is value 5 on the lower right.
- [ ] Cap stays at values 1 and 2, with a narrow value 2 band under the edge.
- [ ] Strokes follow the nut's curve and are consistent in direction.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted if the light direction is stated and the value plan is consistent.

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