Drawing a Magazine Cover: Masthead, Coverlines, and Focal Image

Original tasks 1 / complete keys

Task 1

A cover frame is 10 cm wide and 15 cm high. Draw a masthead band 2.5 cm high at the top. Draw a focal image boundary box from 5 cm to 12 cm from the top, centered with 1 cm margins on each side. Place one coverline box 3 cm wide by 2 cm high at the bottom left, starting 1 cm from the left edge and 1 cm from the bottom. Describe the layout and state whether the coverline box overlaps the focal image box.

Answer: The masthead band is the top 2.5 cm. The focal image box spans 5 cm to 12 cm from the top and is 8 cm wide (10 cm minus 1 cm margins on each side). The coverline box spans 1 cm to 4 cm from the left and 1 cm to 3 cm from the bottom, which is 12 cm to 14 cm from the top. The focal image box ends at 12 cm from the top, so the coverline box starts exactly at the image box bottom edge and does not overlap.

Reason: Convert bottom measurements to top measurements: 15 cm height minus 1 cm bottom margin gives 14 cm from top for the box bottom, and minus 2 cm height gives 12 cm from top for the box top. The image box ends at 12 cm, so the coverline box is below it.

Check: Measure the frame height, subtract the bottom margin and box height to find the coverline top position, and compare with the image box bottom position. Confirm no overlap by checking that the coverline top is at or below the image bottom.

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Original tasks 2 / complete keys

Task 2

A cover frame is 14 cm wide and 20 cm high. Choose a masthead band height of 4 cm. Draw a focal image boundary box from 7 cm to 17 cm from the top, with 2 cm margins on each side. Place two coverline boxes on the right side: one 3 cm wide by 4 cm high starting 7 cm from the top, and one 3 cm wide by 3 cm high starting 12 cm from the top. Describe the layout and check whether either coverline box overlaps the focal image box.

Answer: The masthead band is the top 4 cm. The focal image box spans 7 cm to 17 cm from the top and is 10 cm wide (14 cm minus 2 cm margins on each side), so it occupies from 2 cm to 12 cm from the left. The right coverline boxes start at 11 cm from the left (14 cm minus 3 cm width) and are 3 cm wide, so they occupy 11 cm to 14 cm from the left. The first coverline box spans 7 cm to 11 cm from the top and overlaps the image box vertically (7 cm to 17 cm) and horizontally (11 cm to 12 cm overlap). The second coverline box spans 12 cm to 15 cm from the top and overlaps vertically (12 cm to 15 cm is within 7 cm to 17 cm) and horizontally (11 cm to 12 cm overlap). Both overlap the image box.

Reason: The image box right edge is at 12 cm from the left. The coverline boxes start at 11 cm from the left, so they overlap the image box by 1 cm horizontally. Vertically, both coverline boxes fall within the image box range, so overlap occurs.

Check: Calculate the image box left and right edges from the margins, calculate the coverline box left and right edges from the right margin, and compare horizontal ranges. Compare vertical ranges using top measurements. Overlap exists if both horizontal and vertical ranges intersect.

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Original tasks 3 / complete keys

Task 3

A cover frame is 9 cm wide and 12 cm high. Draw a masthead band 2 cm high. Draw a focal image boundary box from 4 cm to 10 cm from the top, centered with 1.5 cm margins on each side. Place one coverline box 2 cm wide by 2 cm high at the top left, starting 0.5 cm from the left edge and 2.5 cm from the top. Describe the layout and state whether the coverline box overlaps the masthead band or the focal image box.

Answer: The masthead band is the top 2 cm. The coverline box spans 2.5 cm to 4.5 cm from the top, so it is below the masthead band and does not overlap it. The focal image box spans 4 cm to 10 cm from the top and is 6 cm wide (9 cm minus 1.5 cm margins on each side), occupying 1.5 cm to 7.5 cm from the left. The coverline box spans 0.5 cm to 2.5 cm from the left, so it overlaps the image box horizontally from 1.5 cm to 2.5 cm. Vertically, the coverline box spans 2.5 cm to 4.5 cm and the image box starts at 4 cm, so they overlap vertically from 4 cm to 4.5 cm. The coverline box overlaps the focal image box.

Reason: The coverline box bottom is at 4.5 cm from the top, which is below the masthead band bottom at 2 cm, so no masthead overlap. The image box starts at 4 cm from the top and 1.5 cm from the left; the coverline box extends to 4.5 cm from the top and 2.5 cm from the left, creating a small overlap.

Check: Compare the coverline box bottom position with the masthead band bottom to check masthead overlap. Compare horizontal and vertical ranges of the coverline box and image box to check image overlap.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A cover frame is 16 cm wide and 24 cm high. Choose a masthead band height of 5 cm. Draw a focal image boundary box from 8 cm to 20 cm from the top, with 3 cm margins on each side. Place three coverline boxes at the bottom: each 4 cm wide by 3 cm high, starting 1 cm from the left, 6 cm from the left, and 11 cm from the left, all 1 cm from the bottom. Describe the layout and check whether any coverline box overlaps the focal image box.

Answer: The masthead band is the top 5 cm. The focal image box spans 8 cm to 20 cm from the top and is 10 cm wide (16 cm minus 3 cm margins on each side), occupying 3 cm to 13 cm from the left. The bottom coverline boxes span 1 cm to 5 cm, 6 cm to 10 cm, and 11 cm to 15 cm from the left, and 20 cm to 23 cm from the top (24 cm minus 1 cm bottom margin minus 3 cm height). The image box ends at 20 cm from the top, so the coverline boxes start exactly at the image box bottom edge and do not overlap. Horizontally, the first and third coverline boxes extend beyond the image box left and right edges, but vertical separation prevents overlap.

Reason: Convert bottom measurements to top measurements: 24 cm height minus 1 cm bottom margin gives 23 cm from top for the box bottom, and minus 3 cm height gives 20 cm from top for the box top. The image box ends at 20 cm, so the coverline boxes are below it.

Check: Calculate the coverline box top position from the frame height, bottom margin, and box height. Compare with the image box bottom position. Confirm no overlap by checking that the coverline top is at or below the image bottom.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Frame is a clear rectangle with measured width and height in one unit.
- [ ] Masthead band is marked and the masthead is the largest text.
- [ ] Focal image area is bounded and the image is sketched inside or deliberately overlapping.
- [ ] Two to four coverlines are placed in boxes with letter height smaller than the masthead.
- [ ] Reading order is clear at arm's length: masthead, image, coverlines.
- [ ] Valid alternatives such as centered or left-aligned mastheads, or bottom coverlines, are accepted if hierarchy and readability are maintained.

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