Realistic Tank Drawing: Tracks, Turret, Hull and Shading

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a tank hull 9 link-units long and 3 link-units tall with a sloped front. Add two parallel track loops whose top runs each carry about 11 link marks (a hypothetical 1.2:1 ratio, since 11 ÷ 9 ≈ 1.2). Light from upper right.

Answer: Hull box 9 by 3 link-units with a sloped front; two parallel loops with about 11 top link marks each and matching bottom counts; dark shading on the left underside and inside the loops.

Reason: The 9:3 ratio is 3:1, matching the hypothetical proportion check. About 11 top link marks against a 9 link-unit hull follows the hypothetical 1.2:1 loop-to-hull ratio (11 ÷ 9 ≈ 1.2). Parallel loops and equal link counts keep the tracks believable. Light from upper right means dark areas on the left and underside.

Check: Measure hull length and height with a ruler and confirm the 3:1 ratio; count top link marks on both loops and confirm they match each other and are near 1.2 times the hull length in link-units; confirm dark areas face away from the upper-right light arrow.

Task 2

Draw a turret ring ellipse on a hull deck. Make the turret width half the hull width and place the barrel through the ring center. Add a hatch on top. Light from upper left.

Answer: Ring ellipse centered on deck; turret base inside the ellipse; turret width half hull width; barrel center through ring center; hatch on top; lower turret shaded dark.

Reason: The ring defines the turret seat. Half-width keeps the turret proportional. Barrel alignment through the ring center prevents a twisted look. Lower turret dark matches upper-left light.

Check: Check turret width against hull width with a ruler; confirm barrel center passes through ring center; confirm lower turret is darker than upper turret.

Realistic Tank Drawing: Tracks, Turret, Hull and Shading

Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

Draw a complete tank with a hull 10 link-units long, about 12 top link marks per loop (a hypothetical 1.2:1 ratio, since 12 ÷ 10 = 1.2), a 3:1 hull ratio, and one light direction. Shade the track interior dark and the front slope mid tone.

Answer: Complete tank with about 12 top link marks on both loops, hull 10 link-units long at a 3:1 ratio, light arrow marked, track interior dark, front slope mid tone, top deck light.

Reason: Equal link counts and parallel loops support realism. The 3:1 hull ratio and the 1.2:1 loop-to-hull ratio (12 ÷ 10 = 1.2) are hypothetical checks. Mid tone on the front slope and dark track interior follow one light direction.

Check: Count top link marks on both loops and confirm they match; measure the hull ratio; confirm the top-run count is near 1.2 times the hull length in link-units (12 ÷ 10 = 1.2); confirm track interior is darkest and top deck is lightest; confirm only one light arrow is present.

Task 4

Draw a tank with a turret width one-third of the hull width and a barrel that does not cross the ring ellipse. Use light from upper left and add alternating light and dark marks on the track links.

Answer: Turret width one-third hull width; barrel clear of ring ellipse; upper-left light arrow; alternating link marks; dark underside and lower turret.

Reason: A narrower turret is a valid alternative if the ring and barrel alignment checks pass. Alternating link marks suggest depth. One light direction keeps shading consistent.

Check: Measure turret width against hull width; confirm barrel does not cross the ring ellipse; check alternating link marks are present; confirm dark areas face away from the light arrow.

Realistic Tank Drawing: Tracks, Turret, Hull and Shading

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Hull has a sloped front, flat deck and rear plate with a length-to-height ratio near 3:1 (hypothetical example).
- [ ] Two parallel track loops with equal link counts and road wheels touching the ground line.
- [ ] Turret sits on the ring ellipse, width about half the hull width, barrel aligned through the ring center.
- [ ] One light direction is marked and all dark areas face away from it.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted if proportions and alignment checks pass and the convention is stated.

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