Annotated Owl Reference Plate: Pose, Proportion, and Feather Map

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

An owl plate states a body unit of 12 centimeters. The tail base is at 0, the hip line at 0.25, the shoulder line at 0.50, and the top of back at 1.00. Check whether the hip line and shoulder line are correctly placed as halfway points.

Answer: The hip line at 0.25 is halfway between 0 and 0.50, so it is correct. The shoulder line at 0.50 is halfway between 0.25 and 0.75, but the top of back is 1.00, so the shoulder line is not halfway between hip line and top of back. The shoulder line should be 0.625 if it is halfway between 0.25 and 1.00.

Reason: Halfway between two values is their average. Average of 0 and 0.50 is 0.25. Average of 0.25 and 1.00 is 0.625, not 0.50.

Check: Compute each average with simple arithmetic and compare with the stated value.

Task 2

A learner outlines three feather regions: back, breast, and tail. The flank region is missing. The back region boundary is solid, the breast boundary is dashed, and the tail boundary is dotted. State what is missing and how to fix the map.

Answer: The flank region is missing. Add a flank region with a distinct line style, such as dash-dot, label it, and note its feather direction. Check that the new boundary closes or meets another boundary.

Reason: The plate requires four broad regions: back, breast, flank, and tail. Three regions leave the map incomplete and make the blank outline unlabelable.

Check: Count the labeled regions and confirm four distinct line styles are used.

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Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

An owl plate uses centimeters for the shoulder line and body units for the hip line. The shoulder line is labeled 6 centimeters and the hip line is labeled 0.40 body units. The body unit is 10 centimeters. Convert both values to body units and state whether the labels are consistent.

Answer: The shoulder line is 6 centimeters divided by 10 centimeters per body unit, which equals 0.60 body units. The hip line is already 0.40 body units. Both values are now in body units and can be compared. The labels are consistent in unit but the plate must state the conversion.

Reason: Dividing centimeters by centimeters per body unit gives body units. Mixing units without conversion makes values uncheckable.

Check: Convert every value to the stated unit and confirm the arithmetic divides correctly.

Task 4

A blank outline shows a body axis at 45 degrees from vertical and a head arrow pointing right. The original plate states a body axis at 30 degrees from vertical and a head turned 15 degrees left. List the mismatches and the correction.

Answer: The body axis angle mismatches: 45 degrees versus 30 degrees. The head direction mismatches: right versus left. Correct the blank outline by redrawing the body axis at 30 degrees from vertical and the head arrow 15 degrees left of the body axis, then recheck all landmark values.

Reason: The pose convention must match exactly between the original plate and the blank outline. Angle and direction are measurable parts of the convention.

Check: Compare the pose sentence word by word and measure the drawn angles against the stated values.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Pose convention is stated in one sentence naming baseline, body angle, and head direction.
- [ ] One body unit is defined and used consistently for all proportion landmarks.
- [ ] Five proportion landmarks are marked and labeled with decimal values.
- [ ] Halfway landmark values average correctly from neighboring values.
- [ ] Four feather-map regions are outlined with distinct line styles.
- [ ] Each feather region is labeled with a feather-direction note.
- [ ] Blank annotated outline matches the original plate in pose, values, and labels.
- [ ] Labels are readable and placed outside the outline where possible.

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