Side-View Eye Drawing: Lid Contour, Lash Fan, and Iris Edge

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A profile eye guide has baseline at 0 mm and midline at 5 mm. The front corner is 8 mm from the face line and the back corner is 24 mm. State the x-height and describe where the iris sliver's top and bottom points sit.

Answer: X-height is 5 mm. The iris sliver's top point sits on the lid contour at the midline peak, and its bottom point sits on the baseline directly below, forming a short arc bulging toward the front corner.

Reason: X-height is midline minus baseline: 5 minus 0 equals 5 mm. The iris edge is bounded by the lid contour above and the baseline below, so its endpoints must lie on those lines.

Check: Measure the vertical distance between baseline and midline; confirm it equals 5 mm. Confirm the arc endpoints touch both lines without crossing.

Task 2

In a profile eye drawing, the lid contour runs from a front corner at 10 mm to a back corner at 28 mm. Describe the lash direction in the front, middle, and back zones, and state one check that lashes are correctly placed.

Answer: Front zone lashes angle forward and slightly down; middle zone lashes angle outward with a gentle curve; back zone lashes angle back and up. Check: every lash starts on the lid contour and none crosses into the eye opening.

Reason: Lashes follow the lid's slope, which changes from front to back. Starting on the contour and pointing away keeps them anatomically plausible.

Check: Trace each lash back to its start point on the contour; verify no stroke enters the wedge opening.

Task 3

A student draws a profile eye with x-height 6 mm but the brow gap is 1 mm. Using the hypothetical convention that the brow gap is about half the x-height, state the expected gap and one adjustment.

Answer: Expected brow gap is about 3 mm (half of 6 mm). Adjustment: move the brow upward so the gap is closer to 3 mm, then recheck against the reference.

Reason: Half of 6 mm is 3 mm. The 1 mm gap is too small under this convention, so the brow should be raised.

Check: Measure the vertical gap between brow and lid contour; compare to half the measured x-height.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A profile eye guide has baseline at 0 mm, midline at 7 mm, front corner at 12 mm, and back corner at 32 mm. The iris arc is drawn from 0 mm to 7 mm at the front corner. State whether the arc is correctly bounded and give one correction if needed.

Answer: The arc is correctly bounded vertically because it runs from baseline (0 mm) to midline (7 mm). However, it should sit at the front of the opening, not exactly on the corner; shift it slightly inward so it bulges toward the front corner while its endpoints remain on the lid contour and baseline.

Reason: The iris sliver is bounded by the lid contour and baseline, so its vertical endpoints are correct. Its horizontal placement should be at the front of the visible opening, not on the corner point itself.

Check: Confirm the arc's top endpoint lies on the lid contour and bottom endpoint on the baseline; confirm the arc is near the front corner but inside the wedge.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Lid contour is one continuous curve from front to back corner.
- [ ] Lash strokes start on the lid contour and point away from the opening.
- [ ] Lash direction varies across front, middle, and back zones.
- [ ] Iris edge is a short arc bounded by lid contour and baseline, not a full circle.
- [ ] Brow is placed above the lid with a consistent gap.
- [ ] X-height is measured and recorded for each repetition.
- [ ] Valid alternatives in lash density or iris sliver width are accepted if the checks pass.

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