Compare Tree Silhouettes and Branch Structures Across Species

Topic reference / ordinary illustration



Ordinary topic reference. Hypothetical dimensions in the four tasks are supplied in their own text; this illustration is not their measured answer.

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Worked example / complete source key

A silhouette has crown width 8 cm, crown height 10 cm, and three primary branch angles of 60, 70, and 80 degrees from vertical. Most branch tips rise above their attachment points. Classify the silhouette and justify the label.

Answer: Mean angle is (60 + 70 + 80) divided by 3, which equals 70 degrees. Width-to-height ratio is 8 divided by 10, which equals 0.8. A broad crown with a ratio near 0.8 and a mean angle near 70 degrees supports the spreading type. The upward tip direction rules out weeping. Justification: ratio 0.8 is broad, and mean angle 70 degrees is wide; both match spreading.