Phalanx Formation Drawing: Overlapping Shields and Spear Angles

Original tasks 1, 2, 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 1

On a 12 cm ground line, place four row marks evenly so they define three equal intervals. What is the spacing between adjacent marks?

Answer: 4 cm between adjacent marks.

Reason: 12 cm divided by three equal intervals gives 4 cm per interval, so marks sit at 0, 4, 8, and 12 cm.

Check: Measure each gap with a ruler; all three gaps should read 4 cm, and the marks should land at 0, 4, 8, and 12 cm.

Task 2

A shield is 3 cm wide with a 1 cm overlap. What is the visible width of each shield after overlap?

Answer: 2 cm visible width.

Reason: Subtract the overlap from the full width: 3 cm minus 1 cm equals 2 cm.

Check: Draw two adjacent shields and measure the exposed front edge; it should be 2 cm.

Task 3

A row has spears at 10 degrees forward from vertical. If you draw four spears, how many different angles should appear in that row?

Answer: One angle: 10 degrees.

Reason: The convention uses one constant angle per row.

Check: Compare each spear to the same test line; all four should match.

Task 4

You have a 20 cm ground line and want four shields per row with a 2 cm overlap. If each shield is 5 cm wide, what total ground length do the shields cover before overlap?

Answer: 20 cm before overlap.

Reason: Four shields at 5 cm each equals 20 cm total width before overlap is applied.

Check: Multiply shield count by shield width and compare to the ground line length.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Ground line is horizontal and row marks are evenly spaced.
- [ ] Shields overlap consistently in the same direction.
- [ ] Alternate rows are staggered by about half a shield width.
- [ ] Each row uses one constant spear angle measured from vertical.
- [ ] Spacing marks are present and evenly placed.
- [ ] The formation fits inside the page with clear margins.

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