Draw a Crowned Statue Face: Profile Proportions and Radial Spikes

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a face oval 10 cm tall and 7 cm wide. The baseline-to-midline x-height is 5 cm. Mark brow at one x-height above the baseline and nose base at half an x-height above the baseline. Measure brow-to-nose and nose-to-chin. Are they similar?

Answer: Brow is 5 cm above the baseline; nose base is 2.5 cm above the baseline. Brow-to-nose is 2.5 cm; nose-to-chin is 2.5 cm. They are equal.

Reason: The x-height is half the oval height, 5 cm. Brow at one x-height is 5 cm above baseline; nose base at half an x-height is 2.5 cm above baseline. The brow-to-nose segment is 5 minus 2.5 equals 2.5 cm, and nose-to-chin is 2.5 minus 0 equals 2.5 cm, so the segments match.

Check: Use a ruler to measure each segment in centimeters and compare the difference; a difference of 0.5 cm or less is acceptable for this convention.

Task 2

Place a crown center 2 cm above the top of a face oval. Draw a base circle with radius 3 cm. Mark ticks every 60 degrees and draw six spikes. What is the total angle around the center, and how many spikes result?

Answer: The total angle is 360 degrees, and six spikes result because 360 divided by 60 equals 6.

Reason: A full circle is 360 degrees. Equal spacing of 60 degrees gives 360/60 = 6 spikes.

Check: Count the spikes and multiply by 60; the product should be 360 degrees.

Task 3

In a practice box, draw three crown-spike variants: equal length, alternating long-short, and tapered with facets. For the alternating variant, if long spikes are 4 cm and short spikes are 2 cm, what is the average spike length for eight spikes with four long and four short?

Answer: The average is 3 cm.

Reason: Total length is 4 long spikes times 4 cm plus 4 short spikes times 2 cm, which is 16 cm plus 8 cm equals 24 cm. Divide by 8 spikes to get 3 cm.

Check: Add the lengths and divide by the number of spikes; confirm the result is between the short and long lengths.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Choose an upper-left light direction. Shade the cheek on the right side and add facet lines to four spikes, shading the right side of each facet. Describe one check you can use to confirm the shading is consistent.

Answer: Squint at the drawing: the right side of the cheek and the right side of each spike facet should appear darker, while the left sides remain lighter. If any shaded area is on the light side, move it to the right side.

Reason: With an upper-left light, forms are lighter on the upper left and darker on the lower right. Consistent shading follows this pattern.

Check: List the shaded areas and confirm each is on the side away from the light; squinting helps compare values quickly.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Face oval is tilted and shaped to read as near-profile, not frontal.
- [ ] Brow, nose base, and chin landmarks are placed using a consistent convention and checked with the x-height unit.
- [ ] Brow-nose-chin guide is present and smooth.
- [ ] Crown spikes radiate from a single center and follow angle ticks.
- [ ] Three crown-spike variants are tested in practice boxes.
- [ ] Cheek and crown facets are shaded consistently with one light direction.
- [ ] Valid alternatives in spike spacing and shading direction are accepted if the radial structure and proportion checks hold.

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