Graffiti on a Broken Brick Wall: Drawing Letters, Cracks, and Rubble

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A wall rectangle is 20 cm wide and 12 cm high. Horizontal course lines are spaced every 3 cm. How many horizontal course lines fit inside the wall if the top and bottom edges count as lines?

Answer: Five lines: at 0 cm, 3 cm, 6 cm, 9 cm, and 12 cm.

Reason: Divide the height by the spacing: 12 divided by 3 equals 4 intervals, which gives 5 lines including both edges.

Check: Count the lines on your drawing and confirm the spacing between each pair is 3 cm.

Task 2

A placement box is 9 cm wide and 3.5 cm high. You state an x-height of 2 cm from baseline to midline. If the baseline sits on a course line and the midline is 2 cm above it, does the tag fit inside the box height?

Answer: Yes, with 1.5 cm of space above the midline for capitals or ascenders.

Reason: The box height is 3.5 cm; the x-height uses 2 cm, leaving 1.5 cm above the midline.

Check: Measure the baseline-to-midline distance and the remaining space to the top of the box.

Task 3

A main crack starts at the top edge and changes direction at two brick joints before tapering at the base. If the wall has four horizontal course lines between top and bottom, at which lines could the crack change direction?

Answer: Any two of the interior course lines, for example the first and third interior lines.

Reason: Cracks should respond to the grid; changing direction at joints or course lines is consistent with the wall structure.

Check: Trace the crack and confirm each direction change occurs at a drawn joint or course line.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

You place seven rubble pieces along the bottom edge. Three are 1 cm wide, two are 2 cm wide, and two are 3 cm wide. What is the total width if the pieces do not overlap?

Answer: 13 cm.

Reason: Three times 1 cm is 3 cm; two times 2 cm is 4 cm; two times 3 cm is 6 cm; 3 plus 4 plus 6 equals 13 cm.

Check: Add the widths again and compare with the measured total along the base.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Brick-course grid: horizontal spacing is consistent and vertical joints offset on alternate rows.
- [ ] Lettering convention: baseline, midline, and x-height are stated and followed consistently.
- [ ] Tag placement: letters fit the placement box and the baseline aligns with a brick course.
- [ ] Crack logic: crack changes direction at joints, tapers, and has a consistent relationship to the tag.
- [ ] Rubble placement: pieces cluster at the broken base, have flat bases and broken tops, and vary in size.
- [ ] Readability: the tag is legible at arm's length and the wall reads as one surface.

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