Capybara Drawing: Body Proportion, Snout, Ear and Leg Practice

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A drawing shows a capybara body 4 units long and 2 units tall, a pointed snout, a large triangular ear and two thin legs. Identify two proportion or feature errors and state one fix for each.

Answer: The snout is pointed and should be blunt or squared; the ear is large and triangular and should be small and rounded. The body ratio 4 to 2 is acceptable, but the leg count and thickness are also wrong: there should be four thick legs.

Reason: The body ratio is 2 to 1, which matches the low body target. The errors are in feature shape and leg construction, not body proportion.

Check: Re-read the convention: blunt muzzle, small rounded ear, four thick legs. Compare each feature to those words.

Task 2

Using a hypothetical unit, a learner marks body length 3 units and body height 1 unit. Is the body too tall, too low or acceptable under the twice-as-long guideline? Show the arithmetic.

Answer: The ratio is 3 to 1, which is three times as long as tall, so the body is too low or too long for the guideline. It should be closer to 3 to 1.5.

Reason: The guideline compares length to height as roughly 2 to 1. Dividing 3 by 1 gives 3, which is greater than 2.

Check: Divide length by height and compare the result to 2.

Task 3

A learner draws four legs each 0.5 units tall and 0.2 units wide on a body 1.5 units tall. Are the legs proportionate as sturdy columns? Explain using the hypothetical example of 0.7 tall and 0.4 wide.

Answer: The legs are too thin. At 0.2 units wide they are half the example width of 0.4, while the height 0.5 is shorter than the example 0.7. They read as sticks rather than sturdy columns.

Reason: The example gives a width-to-height relationship of about 0.4 to 0.7. The learner's 0.2 to 0.5 is narrower relative to height.

Check: Compare each leg's width to the example width and confirm the leg looks thick enough to support the body.

Capybara Drawing: Body Proportion, Snout, Ear and Leg Practice

Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A learner's capybara has a blunt muzzle, a small rounded ear, a body 3 units long and 1.5 units tall, but only three legs touching the baseline. State the remaining error and one check method to catch it.

Answer: The remaining error is the leg count: a capybara drawing under this convention needs four legs touching or near the baseline. Check by counting the feet at the baseline.

Reason: Body proportion and head features pass, but the leg construction is incomplete.

Check: Count the feet on the baseline and confirm there are four separate thick legs.

Capybara Drawing: Body Proportion, Snout, Ear and Leg Practice

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Body length is about twice the body height, using the learner's own unit marks.
- [ ] The back is gently curved and the belly stays low near the baseline.
- [ ] The muzzle is blunt or softly squared, not pointed.
- [ ] The ear is small and rounded, set high and slightly back.
- [ ] Four legs are drawn as short thick columns with feet at or near the baseline.
- [ ] Valid alternatives in line style, body roundness or ear curve are accepted if the proportion and feature relationships hold.

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