Deer Mount Drawing: Head, Antlers, and Plaque Construction

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

On a 15 cm by 20 cm page, draw a deer mount with a hypothetical head height of 6 cm, neck base width of 4 cm, and a rectangular plaque 8 cm wide by 10 cm tall. Add one antler main beam of 5 cm per side with one 2 cm branch. Check the plaque margin.

Answer: The neck base is 4 cm and the plaque is 8 cm wide, so a centered base leaves 2 cm margin on each side. The antler bases sit on the skull top. The drawing passes the support check.

Reason: Subtract the neck base width from the plaque width and divide by two for the centered margin. Confirm antler bases touch the skull.

Check: Measure the margin on both sides; they should be equal within your measurement precision.

Task 2

Draw a deer mount with an asymmetric antler plan: left main beam 6 cm with two 2 cm branches, right main beam 5 cm with one 3 cm branch. Use a shield plaque 9 cm wide by 12 cm tall and a neck base of 4 cm. State one check that confirms the antlers are attached.

Answer: Both antler bases must touch the skull top. The left total branch length is 6 plus 2 plus 2 equals 10 cm; the right is 5 plus 3 equals 8 cm. The neck base fits the 9 cm plaque with 2.5 cm margin per side if centered.

Reason: Asymmetry is allowed if the convention states it. Attachment is checked by the base-to-skull contact, not by equal lengths.

Check: Place a ruler along each antler base and confirm contact with the skull line; measure margins.

Task 3

A student uses a plaque 7 cm wide and a neck base 4 cm wide, centered. They claim the margin is 1.5 cm per side. Check the arithmetic and state whether the plaque supports the base.

Answer: The margin is 7 minus 4 equals 3 cm total, so 1.5 cm per side. The claim is correct, and the plaque supports the base with a positive margin.

Reason: Subtract the base width from the plaque width, then divide by two for a centered mount.

Check: Re-measure the plaque and base widths and repeat the subtraction.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Draw a deer mount with a head height of 7 cm, eye line at 3.5 cm above the chin baseline, and ear bases 1 cm above the eye line. Add antlers with main beams of 5 cm and one 2 cm branch per side. Use a plaque 9 cm wide by 11 cm tall and a neck base of 5 cm. Check the eye line placement and plaque margin.

Answer: The eye line is halfway between chin baseline and skull top, which matches the convention. The neck base margin is 9 minus 5 equals 4 cm total, or 2 cm per side if centered. The drawing passes both checks.

Reason: Half of 7 cm is 3.5 cm, so the eye line is correctly placed. The margin calculation uses the same subtraction rule.

Check: Measure the chin-to-eye and eye-to-skull distances; they should be equal. Measure both plaque margins.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Head proportion follows the stated chin-to-skull convention.
- [ ] Eye line and ear bases are placed consistently.
- [ ] Antler bases touch the skull and branch junctions are visible.
- [ ] Plaque supports the neck base with a measurable margin.
- [ ] Measurements use one unit and are recorded.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are allowed if the convention is stated and checks pass.

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