Shad Drawing: Body Outline, Fin Placement, and Scale Detail

Ordinary topic reference / separately checked pixels



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Original worked example / unchanged complete key

Prompt: Draw a shad side view on paper 20 cm wide. Use body length 15 cm and maximum depth 5 cm. Place all five fins and add scale rows at 1 cm spacing along the lateral line.

Answer: Mark the snout at 1 cm from the left edge and the caudal peduncle (caudal fin base) at 16 cm, giving a body length of 15 cm. Place the deepest point 5 cm behind the snout (one-third of 15 cm), with maximum depth 5 cm split as 2.5 cm above and 2.5 cm below the centerline. Draw the dorsal fin base directly above the deepest point, with height 1.25 cm (one-quarter of 5 cm depth). Attach the pectoral fin base about 2 cm behind the snout, with length 3 cm (one-fifth of 15 cm). Place the pelvic fin base about 7 cm behind the snout, below the front third of the dorsal fin, with length 2 cm. Draw the anal fin on the ventral edge about 13 cm behind the snout, closer to the tail than the pelvic fins. Draw the forked caudal fin at the peduncle with length 3.75 cm (one-quarter of 15 cm), so its tips reach about 19.75 cm from the left edge, within the 20 cm paper. Begin scale rows every 1 cm along the lateral line and curve them outward toward back and belly, overlapping each scale consistently.