Spotted Owl Drawing: Mottled Feathers and Facial Disk

Original tasks 1, 2, 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 1

A body oval is 12 cm tall and 6 cm wide. A head circle 5 cm in diameter overlaps the body by 2 cm. What is the total height from the bottom of the body to the top of the head?

Answer: 15 cm.

Reason: The head adds 5 cm minus the 2 cm overlap, so it adds 3 cm above the body. 12 cm plus 3 cm equals 15 cm.

Check: Add the body height to the non-overlapping part of the head: 12 + (5 - 2) = 15 cm.

Task 2

The chest zone is 8 cm tall. You plan patch rows every 4 mm. How many rows fit vertically?

Answer: 20 rows.

Reason: 8 cm equals 80 mm; 80 divided by 4 equals 20.

Check: Convert cm to mm, divide by row spacing, and confirm the count matches your drawn rows.

Task 3

A facial disk is 4 cm wide. You draw fine speckles about 2 mm across in a single horizontal band across the disk. About how many speckles fit across the band if they touch edge to edge?

Answer: About 20 speckles.

Reason: 4 cm equals 40 mm; 40 divided by 2 equals 20. In practice, irregular spacing will reduce the count slightly.

Check: Measure the disk width in mm and divide by speckle size; compare with your drawn count.

Task 4

On a wing zone 10 cm long, you draw larger patches about 8 mm across in a single row. About how many patches fit along the row if they touch edge to edge?

Answer: About 12 patches.

Reason: 10 cm equals 100 mm; 100 divided by 8 equals 12.5, so about 12 full patches fit.

Check: Convert length to mm, divide by patch size, and round down to the nearest whole patch.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Body oval is roughly twice as tall as wide and the head circle overlaps the body.
- [ ] Facial disk occupies about two-thirds of the head width and shows a thin inner curve for depth.
- [ ] Eyes are forward-facing with small highlights; beak is small and partly hidden.
- [ ] Mottling uses irregular brown-and-white patches without stripes or checkerboard rows.
- [ ] Three pattern zones are visible: fine speckles on the disk, medium patches on the chest, larger patches on wings and back.
- [ ] Overall balance is roughly half brown and half white in the chest zone, with soft edges.
- [ ] Valid alternatives in patch shape and density are accepted if alternation and zoning are clear.

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