Draw a Layered Thundercloud with Lightning

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a thundercloud on a 15 cm wide page using a 9 cm base, 7 cm mid, and 5 cm top. State your light direction and attach one bolt of about 4 cm.

Answer: A layered cloud with three overlapping masses and one attached bolt. Exact shape varies.

Reason: The sizes are hypothetical examples that fit a 15 cm page. Overlap by about one third keeps the masses visible. The bolt must start at the lower edge.

Check: Measure the three widths, confirm overlaps, confirm the stated light direction is consistent, and confirm the bolt touches the edge.

Task 2

Draw a thundercloud with light from the upper right and two bolts that do not cross. Use any page size and state your measurements.

Answer: A layered cloud shaded on the lower left with two attached, non-crossing bolts.

Reason: Changing light direction is a valid alternative if stated and consistent. Two bolts are valid if each touches the edge and they do not cross.

Check: Check that shading is on the lower left of each mass, that both bolts touch the edge, and that the bolts do not cross.

Task 3

Draw a thundercloud where one bolt starts inside the base mass and exits through the lower edge. Explain how the exit point shows attachment.

Answer: A layered cloud with a bolt whose visible exit point is on the lower edge.

Reason: A bolt can begin inside the mass if the exit point is clear. The exit point is the anchor that shows attachment.

Check: Trace the bolt to its exit point and confirm the exit point lies on the lower edge.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Draw a thundercloud with three bolts of different lengths. Keep all bolts attached and non-crossing, and state one measurement for each bolt.

Answer: A layered cloud with three attached bolts of stated lengths.

Reason: Different lengths are valid. The check is attachment and non-crossing, not equal length.

Check: Measure each bolt, confirm each starts at an anchor point on the edge, and confirm no two bolts cross.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Silhouette reads as one cloud form: 0-2 points.
- [ ] Three masses are visible through overlap: 0-2 points.
- [ ] Seam shading is present under overlaps: 0-2 points.
- [ ] Light direction is stated and consistent: 0-2 points.
- [ ] Every bolt touches the cloud edge: 0-2 points.
- [ ] Bolt turns are sharp and bolts do not cross: 0-2 points.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted when the convention is stated and consistent.

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