Drawing Subject Ideas with Thumbnail Sketch Boxes

Topic reference / ordinary illustration



Ordinary topic reference. Hypothetical dimensions in the four tasks are supplied in their own text; this illustration is not their measured answer.

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Worked example / complete source key

Create one thumbnail box for the subject folded towel. Use a hypothetical box 60 mm wide and 65 mm tall with a baseline 10 mm above the bottom edge and a midline halfway up. Sketch the towel as a simple folded rectangle with one diagonal fold line and two value groups. Score it with the rubric.

Answer: The thumbnail shows a folded towel as a rounded rectangle occupying about two-thirds of the box width and one-third of the box height, placed slightly left of center. One diagonal line indicates the fold. Light value covers the top surface; mid value covers the shaded side. Silhouette clarity scores 2 because the folded shape reads clearly. Proportion scores 2 because the towel's width-to-height ratio is plausible. Value grouping scores 1 because the two groups are simple but could be clearer. Box use scores 2 because the subject sits comfortably without touching all edges. Total is 7, so the decision is keep.