Small Panda Drawing: Patch Placement and Proportion Steps

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A head circle is 8 cm wide. Using the hypothetical convention that each eye patch is one quarter of the head width, what is each patch width, and what is the recommended gap between patch edges?

Answer: Each patch is 2 cm wide. The recommended edge gap is about one patch-width, so about 2 cm.

Reason: One quarter of 8 cm is 2 cm. The convention sets the gap equal to one patch width, so the gap is also 2 cm.

Check: Multiply patch width by 4 to recover the head width: 2 cm times 4 equals 8 cm. Confirm the gap equals the patch width.

Task 2

On a head circle 10 cm wide, a learner places patch centers 3 cm apart. Each patch is 2 cm wide. Do the patches overlap, and by how much?

Answer: The patches do not overlap; the edge gap is 1 cm.

Reason: Center distance is 3 cm. Half of each patch is 1 cm, so the two half-widths total 2 cm. The edge gap is 3 cm minus 2 cm, which is 1 cm. A positive edge gap means the patches do not overlap.

Check: Add the two half-widths (1 cm plus 1 cm equals 2 cm) and compare with center distance (3 cm). Since 3 cm is greater than 2 cm, there is a 1 cm gap.

Task 3

A body oval is 9 cm wide and the head circle is 3 cm wide. Is the head about one third of the body width as the convention suggests?

Answer: Yes, 3 cm is one third of 9 cm.

Reason: Divide body width by 3: 9 cm divided by 3 equals 3 cm, matching the head width.

Check: Multiply head width by 3: 3 cm times 3 equals 9 cm, matching the body width.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A learner shades the eye patches but leaves the ears white. Using the contrast convention, what is the main problem and one fix?

Answer: The ears should be dark to match the black-and-white contrast convention. Fix by shading the ears with the same consistent stroke direction as the patches.

Reason: The convention assigns dark values to ears, patches, and limbs. Leaving ears white weakens the panda silhouette.

Check: Compare the ear value to the patch value on a scrap strip; both should read as dark against white paper.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Body mass is wider than tall and head-to-body width ratio is consistent with the chosen convention.
- [ ] Head circle, vertical midline, and horizontal midline are clearly established before patches.
- [ ] Ears sit on the upper sides of the head circle and overlap its edge slightly.
- [ ] Eye patches are placed symmetrically around the vertical midline, slightly below the horizontal midline, and do not touch the head outline.
- [ ] Gap between eye patches is approximately one patch-width, or a deliberate alternative is explained.
- [ ] Dark values are concentrated on ears, patches, and limbs; white areas remain light.
- [ ] Shading direction is consistent across dark areas.
- [ ] Valid style alternatives (patch shape, ear shape) are accepted if placement and contrast remain consistent.

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