Fish Contour Drawing: Single-Line Outline Practice

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

A fish reference shows a body length of 12 cm from mouth to tail base, a tail length of 4 cm, and a dorsal fin height of 3 cm. Draw a single-line contour that includes the body, tail, and dorsal fin. Use a scale of 1 cm on the reference to 1 cm on your paper.

Answer: At the stated scale of 1 cm on the reference to 1 cm on paper, the drawing should show a continuous line starting at the mouth, running along the back for 12 cm to the tail base. During the back pass, before reaching the tail base, loop up 3 cm for the dorsal fin and return to the back edge. Then loop around the tail for 4 cm and return to the tail base, then run forward along the belly 12 cm to the mouth. The dorsal fin loop touches the back edge at two attachment points. The tail loop attaches at the tail base. Under the lesson convention, shared attachment points such as the tail base and fin attachment points are not counted as crossings, so this routing has zero genuine self-crossings. No scales or shading are added.