Upside-Down Flower Drawing: Orientation Practice with Petals and Stem

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

In a 10 cm by 14 cm frame, draw an upside-down flower with four petals. Place the bloom center 3 cm below the top edge. Draw petals with tips pointing downward. Draw a straight stem from the bloom center to the bottom edge, vertical. Describe your first three steps and the final orientation check.

Answer: Step 1: mark the bloom center 3 cm below the top edge on the vertical center line. Step 2: draw four petals with narrow ends at the center and tips pointing down, spaced evenly. Step 3: draw a straight vertical stem from the center to the bottom edge. Check: all petal tips are below the bloom center and the stem reaches the bottom edge.

Reason: The bloom sits near the top, petals hang downward, and the stem rises to the bottom. A vertical stem is a valid alternative when the reference shows no lean.

Check: Rotate the paper 180 degrees; the drawing should look like an upright flower with four petals up and a stem down. Count four petals and confirm the stem touches the bottom edge.

Task 2

A reference shows an upside-down flower with five petals and a stem leaning 10 degrees right of vertical as a hypothetical example. In a 12 cm by 16 cm frame, describe where to place the bloom center and how to use an angle guide to draw the stem. Include one orientation check.

Answer: Place the bloom center about 4 cm below the top edge on the vertical center line. Draw five petals with tips pointing down. Draw a light angle guide from the bloom center to the bottom edge, leaning 10 degrees right of vertical. Draw two parallel curves along the guide for the stem. Check that every petal tip is below the bloom center.

Reason: The angle guide transfers the reference lean to the copy. The bloom stays near the top, and the stem reaches the bottom edge.

Check: Compare the stem to the vertical center line; it should lean right by about the same amount as the guide. Rotate the paper 180 degrees and confirm the shape resembles an upright flower.

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Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

You are drawing an upside-down flower with six petals in a blank frame. After drawing, you notice one petal tip points upward. Describe the correction and a check method to prevent the same error on the next petal.

Answer: Erase the upward-pointing petal and redraw it with the narrow end at the bloom center and the tip pointing downward. Before drawing each new petal, place your pencil at the bloom center and slide toward the intended tip; the motion must go downward. After redrawing, count six petals and confirm all tips are below the bloom center.

Reason: An upward tip means the original upright orientation was copied. The slide check catches direction errors before the line is drawn.

Check: Rotate the paper 180 degrees; all six petals should point up in the rotated view, meaning they pointed down in the original. Count six petals and check each tip position.

Task 4

In a 9 cm by 12 cm frame, draw an upside-down flower with five petals and a stem that curves gently to the left as it rises to the bottom edge. Use a hypothetical 8-degree left lean at the midpoint. Describe the stem construction and one rubric score you would assign for stem angle.

Answer: Draw the bloom center near the top. Draw five petals with tips pointing down. Draw a light guide from the bloom center to the bottom edge, curving left so that at the midpoint it leans about 8 degrees left of vertical. Draw two parallel curves along the guide. Assign a stem-angle score of 2 or 3 if the curve matches the guide and reaches the bottom edge.

Reason: A curved stem is a valid alternative if the reference shows a curve. The guide keeps the lean consistent, and the rubric scores visual match rather than exact degrees.

Check: Compare the stem midpoint to the vertical center line; it should lean left. Rotate the paper 180 degrees and confirm the shape resembles an upright flower with a right-leaning stem downward.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Orientation: bloom near top, petals pointing down, stem rising to bottom edge (0-3 points).
- [ ] Petal count and spacing: five petals, evenly spaced, narrow ends at bloom center (0-3 points).
- [ ] Stem angle: matches reference lean within a reasonable visual match (0-3 points).
- [ ] Line quality: light guides, clean curves, no accidental crossings (0-2 points).
- [ ] Label convention: any lettering keeps x-height between baseline and midline (0-2 points).
- [ ] Valid alternatives: petal shape and stem curve may vary; score orientation and count first (note in comments).

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