Anime Face Emotions: Mix Eyes, Brows, and Mouth on a Fixed Template

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

On a fixed template, combine narrow eyes, flat brows, and a flat mouth. State the emotion word and the x-height if the midline is 5 cm from the top and the baseline is 1.5 cm below it.

Answer: The combination reads as annoyance or boredom. The x-height is 1.5 cm.

Reason: Narrow eyes with flat brows and a flat mouth suggest low energy or irritation. The x-height is the baseline-to-midline distance: 1.5 cm.

Check: Say the emotion aloud; if it reads as annoyance or boredom, the combination is clear. Confirm the arithmetic: the midline is 5 cm from the top and the baseline is 1.5 cm below it, so the baseline sits 6.5 cm from the top and the x-height (baseline-to-midline distance) is 1.5 cm.

Task 2

Combine round eyes, raised outer brows, and an open oval mouth. Describe the emotion and explain which part you would change to make it read as fear instead.

Answer: The combination reads as surprise or excitement. To make it read as fear, change the brows to raised inner brows and keep the open oval mouth.

Reason: Raised outer brows with round eyes and an open mouth suggest surprise. Fear typically uses raised inner brows, so swapping the brow variant shifts the read.

Check: Draw both versions on fresh templates and compare aloud. The surprise version should read clearly with raised outer brows; the fear version should read clearly with raised inner brows. Keep the eye x-height identical in both so only the brow change is being judged.

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Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

Draw two different combinations that both read as happiness. List the parts for each and explain why both are valid.

Answer: Example one: round eyes, flat brows, wide smile. Example two: half-lidded eyes, raised outer brows, small smile. Both are valid because the mouth and brow choices support a positive read even with different eye shapes.

Reason: Happiness can be read through a wide smile with neutral brows or a small smile with lifted outer brows. The rubric allows valid alternatives if the combination is deliberate and readable.

Check: Say each emotion aloud; if both read as happiness, they are valid. Check that the eye x-height is consistent within each face and that the head shape, nose, and ear are unchanged between the two combinations.

Task 4

Combine angled-down brows, narrow eyes, and a wide smile. State whether the result is confusing or intentional, and give one fix if it is confusing.

Answer: The result can read as a smirk or as confusing. If confusing, change the mouth to a flat line to match the angry brows.

Reason: Angled-down brows and narrow eyes suggest anger, while a wide smile suggests happiness. The mix can be intentional (a smirk) but may be unclear. Changing one part resolves the ambiguity.

Check: Say the emotion aloud; if it is unclear, swap the mouth to a flat line and compare. Keep the fixed template and consistent x-height unchanged so only the mouth choice is being tested.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Template is fixed: head shape, nose, and ear placement are identical across combinations.
- [ ] Eye variants share a consistent baseline-to-midline x-height.
- [ ] Brow and mouth variants are drawn separately before combining.
- [ ] At least three complete combinations are drawn on fresh template copies.
- [ ] Each combination is labeled with an emotion word and a part list.
- [ ] Readability is checked by saying the emotion aloud and swapping one part if unclear.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted; no single universal face is required.

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