Blind Contour Drawing of a Palm: A Focused Exercise

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

Define the palm boundary for a blind contour exercise. List the four landmarks and the stopping point for fingers.

Answer: Landmarks: wrist crease, outer palm edge, thumb base, webbing between fingers. Stop at the first knuckle of each finger.

Reason: A clear boundary keeps the exercise focused on the palm and prevents full hand construction.

Check: Verify each landmark is named and the stopping point is the first knuckle.

Task 2

During a blind pass, you notice your tool speeding up along the outer edge. State the correction and the reason.

Answer: Slow down and match tool speed to eye speed. Speeding up reduces observation quality and records familiar shapes rather than seen edges.

Reason: Blind contour depends on continuous, slow eye-hand connection.

Check: Confirm the correction mentions slowing down and matching eye and tool speed.

Task 3

You choose a convention of dotted creases and continuous outer edges. Describe how to apply it in the redraw and what makes it valid.

Answer: Apply dotted creases as short broken marks that stop before the outer edge; keep outer edges continuous. It is valid if stated before drawing and applied consistently.

Reason: Consistency and clear explanation allow valid alternatives without a single universal style.

Check: Check that the convention is stated, applied consistently, and creases stop before the edge.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A blind drawing shows a compressed outer edge and a sharp dip at the thumb base. In the redraw, you extend the outer edge and smooth the dip. Explain how to evaluate this comparison.

Answer: Evaluate by checking specific changes: the outer edge extension and dip smoothing are deliberate adjustments based on comparison. Confirm the boundary and convention remain consistent. Do not judge by likeness.

Reason: The exercise values observation and deliberate comparison over a perfect outline.

Check: Verify the evaluation names the specific changes and checks boundary and convention consistency.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Boundary clearly defined: wrist crease, outer palm edge, thumb base, webbing, stop at first knuckles.
- [ ] Blind pass completed without looking at paper; tool kept on paper except at contour breaks.
- [ ] Convention stated and applied consistently in both passes; valid alternatives allowed if explained.
- [ ] Redraw shows deliberate comparison with specific adjustments noted.
- [ ] Palm creases recorded as shorter broken lines that stop before the outer edge, or consistent alternative.
- [ ] No full hand construction or shading; focus remains on palm contours.

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