Blind Contour Face Drawing with Color Notes

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A student draws a blind contour for 90 seconds and writes four color notes in a margin 6 cm wide. The paper is 20 cm by 25 cm (hypothetical example). The baseline-to-midline distance is 1 cm. Check whether the margin meets a hypothetical 4 cm minimum and whether four notes are present.

Answer: Margin width 6 cm is at least 4 cm. Four notes are present. The 1 cm x-height guide is stated as hypothetical. The check passes.

Reason: Compare the measured margin to the stated minimum and count the notes. Keep units in centimeters and label hypothetical values.

Check: Subtract 4 cm from 6 cm to get 2 cm of extra margin; count notes one by one.

Task 2

A blind drawing traces the jaw, hairline, and mouth edge. The student writes: jaw: soft brown; hairline: dark gray; mouth: muted rose. One note extends above midline and is labeled above midline. Check region-color pairing and convention labeling.

Answer: Three notes pair a region with a color. The exception is labeled above midline. The convention is respected. The check passes.

Reason: Each note must name a region and a color. Exceptions to the x-height guides must be labeled, not hidden.

Check: Read each note and confirm two parts: region and color; then confirm the exception label.

Task 3

A student looks at the paper twice during a blind contour and then erases one line. The margin has two notes: cheek: peach; nose: tan. Check the blind-drawing discipline and note count.

Answer: Looking at the paper and erasing break the blind-contour discipline. Two notes are present but the drawing check fails. The student should repeat without looking or erasing.

Reason: The exercise records observation; corrections after looking down defeat the purpose. Note count alone does not pass the drawing check.

Check: Count glances and erasures; count notes separately; require zero deliberate corrections for a pass.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A student measures a margin of 3.5 cm and writes five notes. The stated minimum is 4 cm (hypothetical example). The x-height guides are 0.7 cm apart. Check margin width and note count.

Answer: Margin width 3.5 cm is below the 4 cm minimum, so the margin check fails. Five notes are present. The student should widen the margin or restate the minimum as a measured choice.

Reason: Compare measured width to the stated minimum. Note count is separate from width. Label the 4 cm value as hypothetical.

Check: Subtract 3.5 cm from 4 cm to find a 0.5 cm shortfall; count five notes.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Blind drawing shows sustained looking with no deliberate correction after looking down.
- [ ] Line is continuous or clearly records intentional pen lifts.
- [ ] Main facial contours are traced and identifiable as regions.
- [ ] Color notes are legible and each names a region and a color.
- [ ] X-height convention is stated and followed, or exceptions are labeled.
- [ ] Measurements are in centimeters and hypothetical values are labeled.

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