Draw a Character from Traits: A Worksheet Guide

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

Trait list: brave, curious. You have a drawing box 12 cm wide and 18 cm tall. Describe a figure that shows both traits using one posture cue, one expression cue, and one prop cue for each. State where the props sit in the box.

Answer: Brave: feet apart at the baseline, chin level, a staff held at the right side. Curious: torso leaning forward, head tilted, one brow raised, a notebook held at waist level on the left. The staff stays outside the body outline, and the notebook does not cover the face.

Reason: Feet apart and chin level read as brave; leaning forward and a raised brow read as curious. Placing props at the side and waist keeps the face and hands visible.

Check: Measure the box on your paper. Confirm the feet reach the baseline, the staff is at the side, and the notebook is at waist level. Mark the checklist for both traits.

Task 2

Trait list: shy, curious. A hypothetical example box is 15 cm by 20 cm. Describe a figure that shows both traits. Use a posture cue, an expression cue, and a clothing or prop cue for each. Explain one change you would make if the shy cue disappeared.

Answer: Shy: shoulders turned inward, gaze lowered, bag strap clutched near the chest. Curious: head tilted to one side, one brow raised, a small notebook at waist level. If the shy cue disappeared, turn one shoulder further inward and lower the gaze slightly, then recheck the checklist.

Reason: Inward shoulders and a lowered gaze read as reserved; a head tilt and raised brow read as curious. The bag strap and notebook are placed where they do not hide the face.

Check: Check that the shoulders are angled, the gaze is lowered, and the notebook is visible at waist level. Mark the checklist and revise one cue if a trait is unchecked.

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Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

Trait list: brave, shy. Describe a figure that shows both traits without using any props. Use posture and expression only. State one valid alternative expression for the brave trait.

Answer: Brave: feet apart, chin level, level brows, forward gaze. Shy: one shoulder turned inward, gaze slightly lowered, small mouth. A valid alternative for brave is a slight smile with level brows, as long as the feet remain apart and the chin stays level.

Reason: Posture carries the main contrast: wide feet and level chin for brave, inward shoulder and lowered gaze for shy. Expression supports but does not have to be identical across valid solutions.

Check: Confirm no props are used. Check that feet are apart, one shoulder is turned inward, and the gaze is lowered. Mark posture and expression cues on the checklist.

Task 4

Trait list: curious, brave, shy. Describe a figure that shows all three traits. Use at least one cue per trait and keep the total number of cues to six or fewer. State how you would check that no trait is missing.

Answer: Curious: leaning forward, head tilted, notebook at waist level. Brave: feet apart, chin level. Shy: one shoulder turned inward, gaze lowered. That is six cues. To check, mark the checklist for each trait and confirm at least one posture, expression, or prop cue is marked for curious, brave, and shy.

Reason: Six cues keep the figure readable. Leaning and head tilt show curious; wide feet and level chin show brave; inward shoulder and lowered gaze show shy. The notebook supports curious without hiding the face.

Check: Count the cues and confirm six or fewer. Mark the checklist for all three traits. If any trait has no marked cue, add one cue and remove a less important one.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] The drawing box is measured and sized to fit a full figure.
- [ ] Each listed trait has at least one marked posture, expression, or prop cue on the checklist.
- [ ] The posture cues differ enough that the traits can be distinguished without labels.
- [ ] The expression supports the dominant trait and does not contradict the posture.
- [ ] Props or clothing reinforce cues without hiding the face or hands.
- [ ] The figure is blocked with simple shapes before details are added.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted: a brave character may smile, and a shy character may look at the viewer if posture reads as reserved.

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