Blind and Slow Contour Drawing: Everyday Objects for Kids

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A shell is 8 cm long and 5 cm wide. In the blind box, the drawn shell is 8 cm long and 3 cm wide. In the slow box, the drawn shell is 8 cm long and 5 cm wide. State the proportion drift in the blind box and one continuity check.

Answer: Blind box width-to-length ratio is 3:8 instead of 5:8, so proportion drift is 2 cm in width. Continuity check: trace the outline and note any gap longer than a pencil width.

Reason: Compare the drawn width and length with the object's actual width and length; the difference in width shows drift. Continuity is checked by tracing the drawn edge.

Check: Measure the drawn width and length with a ruler and compare the ratios; trace the outline with a finger to find gaps.

Task 2

A shoe is 20 cm long and 8 cm wide. In the slow box, the drawn shoe is 20 cm long and 10 cm wide. Is there proportion drift? Give the ratio comparison and one self-check note.

Answer: Yes. The object ratio is 8:20 and the drawing ratio is 10:20, so the drawing is 2 cm too wide. Self-check note: record the widest point where the line drifted outward.

Reason: Divide width by length for both object and drawing; a difference in the ratio indicates drift. The self-check note locates the drift.

Check: Measure both widths and lengths, write the ratios, and mark the widest point on the drawing.

Task 3

A leaf is 10 cm long and 4 cm wide. In the blind box, the outline stops 2 cm before the starting point. In the slow box, the outline closes. Describe one continuity difference and one proportion check.

Answer: The blind box has a 2 cm gap at the start, so continuity is broken; the slow box closes. Proportion check: compare the drawn width-to-length ratio with 4:10 in both boxes.

Reason: Continuity is about closing the outline and following the edge; proportion is about relative dimensions. The gap is a continuity issue, not a proportion issue.

Check: Measure the gap with a ruler and compare the width-to-length ratios of both drawings with the object.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A shell is 6 cm long and 3 cm wide. In the blind box, the drawn shell is 6 cm long and 3 cm wide but has three gaps longer than a pencil width. In the slow box, the drawn shell is 6 cm long and 2 cm wide with no gaps. Which box has proportion drift, and which has continuity issues?

Answer: The blind box has continuity issues because of the three gaps; its proportion matches. The slow box has proportion drift because the width is 2 cm instead of 3 cm; its continuity is better.

Reason: Continuity is judged by gaps and edge following; proportion is judged by width-to-length ratios. The two boxes show different problems.

Check: Count gaps longer than a pencil width and measure width-to-length ratios in both boxes.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Blind pass keeps eyes on the object for the full outline.
- [ ] Blind pass uses one continuous line without lifting the tool.
- [ ] Slow pass allows only brief glances and maintains slow line speed.
- [ ] Self-check names one continuity issue and one proportion issue.
- [ ] Both passes are kept and labeled with object name and date.
- [ ] Valid alternative letter styles are accepted; x-height is baseline to midline.

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