# Contour Drawing of a Panda Head: A Line-Only Study

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a blind contour of a panda head using only the outer head outline and the two ears. Do not look at your paper. Describe the order of edges you followed and one place where your hand slowed down.

Answer: A valid response describes starting at one ear, following its edge to the head, stopping, then drawing the outer head curve to the other ear, and finally drawing the second ear. The student notes one place where the hand slowed, such as the curve between the ear and the head.

Reason: Blind contour trains eye-hand coordination without visual correction. The order of edges is flexible as long as each edge is followed continuously until hidden.

Check: Confirm the response names at least three edges (one ear, head outline, second ear) and identifies one slowing point. The drawing itself is not judged for accuracy in blind contour.

Task 2

A slow contour drawing of a panda head has the following lines: outer head outline, left ear, right ear, left eye patch, right eye patch, and muzzle edge. The right eye patch line crosses the muzzle edge by 2 mm on the paper. Using the rubric, state whether this is a valid contour study and what the student should do next.

Answer: The study is valid because it includes all major edges and uses single lines without shading. The 2 mm crossing is a slow-contour error. The student should leave the crossing line and draw the correct right eye patch edge beside it, then compare both lines to the reference.

Reason: Slow contour allows glancing at the paper but not correcting from memory. Leaving the error shows the observation process, and redrawing beside it improves accuracy.

Check: Check that the response names all six edges, identifies the crossing as an error, and recommends leaving and redrawing rather than erasing.

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Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

You are labeling a contour study. You choose an x-height of 4 mm for your labels on your actual paper. Is this a standard measurement? Explain how to treat this value and where to place the labels.

Answer: No, 4 mm is a hypothetical example chosen for this paper, not a standard. Treat it as an approximate labeling convention. Place labels outside the contour lines so they do not interfere with the edge study.

Reason: X-height is baseline to midline and varies with letter style. Any numerical value is a local choice, not a universal standard.

Check: Confirm the response states the value is hypothetical, mentions x-height as baseline to midline, and places labels outside the contour.

Task 4

Draw a slow contour of a panda head with the muzzle edge and both eye patches. The reference shows the left eye patch partly hidden behind the muzzle edge. Describe how you handle the hidden part and how you check your drawing against the rubric.

Answer: Stop the left eye patch line where the muzzle edge hides it, then begin again at the next visible point of the eye patch. Check the drawing by confirming that each line follows a visible edge, that the hidden part is not invented, and that no shading or fur texture is used.

Reason: Hidden edges must not be invented. Stopping and restarting keeps the contour honest. The rubric checks edge focus and line continuity.

Check: Verify the response stops at the hidden edge, restarts at a visible point, and uses rubric criteria about edge focus and continuity.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Edge focus: all lines follow visible edges; no shading, fur texture, or filled areas.
- [ ] Line continuity: lines are single and clean; pencil lifts only at hidden edges.
- [ ] Blind contour attempt: at least one drawing made without looking at the paper.
- [ ] Slow contour accuracy: major edges (head outline, ears, eye patches, muzzle) are present and compared to the reference.
- [ ] Label convention: any labels use a consistent x-height convention and sit outside the contour lines.
- [ ] Valid alternatives: different line order or starting points are acceptable if edges are followed accurately.

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