# Contour Face Drawing from a Photograph: A Guided Tracing and Redraw Exercise

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A tracing box is 70 mm wide and 90 mm tall. In the tracing, chin tip to brow centre is 55 mm. In the redraw it is 52 mm. What is the difference, and is it within a hypothetical tolerance of 3 mm?

Answer: The difference is 55 minus 52 equals 3 mm, which is within the hypothetical 3 mm tolerance.

Reason: Subtract the smaller measurement from the larger to get the absolute difference, then compare to the stated tolerance.

Check: Re-measure both distances with a ruler and confirm the subtraction: 55 minus 52 equals 3.

Task 2

A tracing box is 60 mm wide and 80 mm tall. Lip corner to chin tip is 24 mm in the tracing and 28 mm in the redraw. What is the difference, and does it exceed a hypothetical tolerance of 3 mm?

Answer: The difference is 28 minus 24 equals 4 mm, which exceeds the hypothetical 3 mm tolerance.

Reason: Use absolute difference and compare to tolerance; 4 is greater than 3, so the redraw needs adjustment at that landmark.

Check: Measure both lip-to-chin distances again and confirm 28 minus 24 equals 4.

Task 3

You trace a jaw edge that is partly hidden by hair. Describe what you should draw and what you should not draw, using the contour-only boundary.

Answer: Draw only the visible jaw edge up to where the hair begins, and stop. Do not invent the hidden portion or trace the hair as if it were the jaw.

Reason: The boundary excludes invented edges; contour extraction uses only visible boundaries between face and background or between lip and skin.

Check: Compare your traced line to the photo: every part of the line should sit on a visible edge, with no segment crossing hair or shadow.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A redraw uses a label letter with a baseline at 0 mm and a midline at 4 mm. A second label uses a baseline at 10 mm and a midline at 14 mm. Are both labels consistent with the x-height convention, and what is the x-height in each?

Answer: Yes, both are consistent. The x-height is 4 mm in each label because the midline minus baseline equals 4 mm in both cases.

Reason: The convention defines x-height as baseline to midline; letter style may vary, but the measured distance must be consistent for each label.

Check: Subtract baseline from midline for each label: 4 minus 0 equals 4, and 14 minus 10 equals 4.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Contour includes jaw, brow, and lip edges only, with no shading or extra features.
- [ ] Tracing box and redraw box have identical measured dimensions recorded beside them.
- [ ] Redraw is freehand and placed in the blank box without tracing.
- [ ] Two landmark distances are measured in both drawings and differences are calculated.
- [ ] Labels, if used, follow the x-height convention with baseline and midline marked; letter style may vary.
- [ ] All numerical values are labelled as hypothetical examples or replaced by actual measurements.

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