Negative Space Ballerina: Draw the Gaps, Not the Girl

Original tasks 1, 2 / independent work

Task 1

A seated ballerina leans forward with both hands on one knee. Two enclosed gaps appear: a long sliver between the upper arm and the torso, and a rounded wedge between the forearm and the thigh. Shade both gaps using parallel strokes, then draw the arm and thigh edges from the shaded shapes. State the order you used.

Task 2

A ballerina stands with one leg raised behind her and the other straight. One enclosed gap is a narrow triangle between the raised leg and the standing leg; another is a crescent between the raised arm and the head. Shade both gaps, then draw the leg and arm edges. Explain how you decided which gap to shade first.

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Original tasks 3, 4 / independent work

Task 3

A ballerina bends one elbow so the hand rests on the opposite shoulder, creating a loop-shaped gap between the forearm and the chest. A second gap is a thin sliver between the upper arm and the side of the torso. Shade the loop first, then the sliver. Draw the chest and upper arm edges. Describe one adjustment you would make if the loop looked too round.

Task 4

A ballerina stands with both arms curved overhead, forming a large oval gap between the arms and a small triangular gap between each wrist and the head. Shade the oval first, then the two triangles. Draw the arm edges from the oval and the head edges from the triangles. State how you kept the two triangles consistent.