Practice Drawing Anime Eyes at Front, Three-Quarter, and Profile Angles

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

Front view: draw one eye on a horizontal midline. Make the eye 5 cm wide and 3 cm tall. Draw a circular iris 2 cm in diameter whose top touches the upper lid. Add three upper lash strokes.

Answer: A wide eye shape centered on the midline, with a 2 cm circle inside and its top at the upper lid. Three short lash strokes follow the upper lid curve and point outward.

Reason: Front view uses a wide eye and a near-circular iris. The iris top touching the lid is a common anime convention that keeps the eye from looking blank.

Check: Measure the eye width and height (about 5 cm by 3 cm) and the iris diameter (2 cm). Confirm the iris top touches the upper lid and the eye is centered on the midline.

Task 2

Three-quarter view: draw two eyes on one horizontal midline. The near eye is 4 cm wide; the far eye is 2 cm wide and placed closer to the center line. Draw the far iris as an ellipse 0.8 cm wide and 1.8 cm tall. Describe where the far lashes point.

Answer: The near eye is wider and farther from the center line; the far eye is half as wide and closer. The far iris is a narrow ellipse inside the far eye. Far lashes are short and angle toward the outer corner, and they do not match the near lashes in length.

Reason: Turning the head compresses the far eye horizontally. The iris becomes an ellipse because it is seen at an angle.

Check: Compare eye widths: far should be about half of near. Check that both eyes share the midline and the far iris stays inside the far eye.

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Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

Profile view: draw one eye near the front contour of a head shape, leaving a 0.5 cm gap. Draw a thin vertical iris ellipse 0.6 cm wide and 2 cm tall. Add two forward-pointing lash strokes and a short lower lid curve.

Answer: A single eye near the front edge, with a narrow vertical iris inside. Lashes point forward and slightly down; the lower lid is a short curve below the iris.

Reason: In profile the iris is seen edge-on, so it becomes a thin vertical ellipse. The eye sits near the front contour but does not touch it.

Check: Measure the gap between eye and contour; it should be about 0.5 cm. Confirm the iris is taller than wide and fully inside the lids.

Task 4

Compare all three angles on one page. Label each panel. Write one sentence explaining how the iris width changes from front to three-quarter to profile. Then check that every eye sits on its panel's midline.

Answer: The iris is widest in front, narrower in three-quarter, and thinnest in profile. Each panel has a horizontal midline, and every eye is placed on it.

Reason: The iris appears narrower as the head turns because it is foreshortened. Keeping a midline in each panel makes the angle change easy to compare.

Check: Read your sentence aloud and confirm it matches your drawings. Use a ruler to check that each eye crosses its panel's midline at the same height.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Both eyes sit on a single horizontal midline in front and three-quarter panels.
- [ ] The far eye in three-quarter view is narrower than the near eye and closer to the center line.
- [ ] The iris is circular or near-circular in front view, an ellipse in three-quarter view, and a thin vertical ellipse in profile.
- [ ] The iris stays inside the lid curves in all three angles.
- [ ] Lashes differ by angle: outward in front, shortened in three-quarter, forward in profile.
- [ ] Construction lines are light and final lines are clear.
- [ ] Any chosen measurements are labeled as examples and used consistently.

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