Anime Figure Drawing Practice: Pose and Proportion Step by Step

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A figure is drawn at a target of 6 HU. The head measures 2 cm. The shoulder line is 3 cm below the top of the head. Is the shoulder placement consistent with a 1.5 HU guide? Show the arithmetic.

Answer: 1 HU = 2 cm, so 1.5 HU = 3 cm. The shoulder line at 3 cm below the top matches the 1.5 HU guide. The placement is consistent.

Reason: Multiply the head height by the guide value: 2 cm times 1.5 equals 3 cm. Compare the result to the drawn distance.

Check: Re-measure the head height and shoulder distance with a paper strip; confirm both are 2 cm and 3 cm before accepting the result.

Task 2

A learner sets a 7 HU target with a 3 cm head. The hip line is drawn 9 cm below the top of the head. Using a 3.5 HU hip guide, calculate the expected hip distance and state whether the drawn hip is high or low.

Answer: Expected hip distance is 3.5 times 3 cm = 10.5 cm. The drawn hip at 9 cm is 1.5 cm too high. Adjustment: lower the hip line by about 1.5 cm.

Reason: Convert the guide to centimeters, then subtract the drawn value from the expected value: 10.5 minus 9 equals 1.5 cm.

Check: Measure from the top of the head to the hip line and compare to 10.5 cm; repeat after adjustment.

Task 3

In a standing pose, the hip line is at 10 cm from the top of the head and the floor is at 22 cm. The knee is drawn at 15 cm. Using the midpoint between hip and floor as the knee guide, calculate the midpoint and state the adjustment.

Answer: Midpoint = (10 + 22) divided by 2 = 16 cm. The drawn knee at 15 cm is 1 cm high. Adjustment: lower the knee by about 1 cm.

Reason: Add hip and floor distances, divide by two, then compare to the drawn knee distance.

Check: Measure hip-to-floor distance and halve it; confirm the knee sits near that midpoint after adjustment.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A figure has a supporting foot 2 cm to the right of the hip line and the head centered 2 cm to the right of the supporting foot. The learner claims the pose is balanced without a lean. Using the three-point check, state whether the claim is consistent and give one fix.

Answer: The claim is not consistent. In a balanced standing pose without a lean, the supporting foot should sit under the hip line and the head should be centered over the supporting leg. Fix: move the supporting foot under the hip line, or shift the hip and head lines to state a clear lean.

Reason: Compare the three points: hip, supporting foot, and head. A 2 cm offset at both foot and head suggests a lean that was not stated.

Check: Draw vertical guides from hip and head; confirm the supporting foot lies under the hip for a no-lean pose, or label the lean explicitly.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Pose clarity: gesture line and weight shift read clearly from the block-in.
- [ ] Head-unit consistency: total height is labeled and landmark distances match the stated target within a small adjustment.
- [ ] Limb placement: joints are marked and limb segments look balanced for the chosen style.
- [ ] Balance check: supporting foot and head position are consistent with the stated pose or lean.
- [ ] Clean finish: final contours are darkened and construction lines are removed or faint.

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