Upright vs Inverted Torso Forms: A Drawing Comparison Guide

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a simple torso outline with top width 20 mm, middle width 50 mm, bottom width 30 mm. Rotate it 180 degrees and describe how the widest point reads in each orientation.

Answer: Upright: widest point is central, reading as a broad middle. Inverted: widest point remains central but the narrow end is at the bottom, changing the mass reading. Measurements are hypothetical examples.

Reason: The middle width is unchanged by rotation, but the relative position of narrow ends shifts, altering the visual reading.

Check: Verify that both outlines are identical except rotation and that widths match the stated hypothetical values.

Task 2

Create two side-by-side panels. In the left, draw an upright outline with a narrow top and wide bottom. In the right, draw the same outline inverted. Mark the narrowest point in each panel.

Answer: Left: narrowest point near top. Right: narrowest point near bottom. The outline is identical except rotation.

Reason: Rotation moves the narrowest point from top to bottom, changing which end reads as a neck or waist.

Check: Check that the narrowest point is marked in both panels and that the outlines match except for rotation.

Task 3

Measure a torso outline you draw: top 25 mm, middle 55 mm, bottom 40 mm. Calculate middle minus top and middle minus bottom. State units and whether values are hypothetical.

Answer: Middle minus top equals 30 mm; middle minus bottom equals 15 mm. Units are millimeters; values are hypothetical examples.

Reason: Simple arithmetic shows the middle is wider than both ends by different amounts, which affects how the mass reads when inverted.

Check: Recalculate the differences and confirm units are labeled and hypothetical status is stated.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Draw an upright torso outline and its inverted version. Write one sentence per orientation describing what the outline reads as visually. Avoid anatomical terms.

Answer: Upright: reads as a form that widens from top to middle then narrows. Inverted: reads as a form with a narrow lower end and a broad middle. Sentences avoid anatomical terms.

Reason: Visual descriptions focus on shape and mass, not body parts, allowing valid alternative readings.

Check: Check that sentences describe visual form only and that both orientations are represented.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Outline is identical in both orientations except for rotation.
- [ ] Topmost, widest, and narrowest points are marked in both panels.
- [ ] Measurements include units and state whether hypothetical or measured.
- [ ] Comparison checklist is completed for both orientations.
- [ ] Descriptions focus on visual form changes, not clinical anatomy.
- [ ] Valid alternative readings are accepted if supported by measurements.

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