Corgi Anatomy Drawing Practice: Skeleton and Muscle Study

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A reference shows body length 30 units and leg length 15 units. Your drawing shows body length 27 units and leg length 18 units. Calculate both ratios and state whether the drawing is too tall, too long, or close.

Answer: Reference ratio is 30 divided by 15, which equals 2. Drawing ratio is 27 divided by 18, which equals 1.5. The drawing is too tall.

Reason: Dividing body length by leg length gives a simple check. A lower ratio means legs are long relative to the body.

Check: Recompute both divisions and confirm the drawing ratio is less than the reference ratio.

Task 2

On a blank outline, the ribcage bottom is 9 units below the spine. You place the elbow at 12 units below the spine. Is the elbow too low, and by how many units should it move?

Answer: Yes, the elbow is too low. It should move up by 3 units to sit at 9 units below the spine.

Reason: The elbow should sit at or just below the ribcage bottom. Subtracting 9 from 12 gives 3 units of excess.

Check: Subtract ribcage bottom from elbow height; a positive result means the elbow is too low.

Task 3

You draw a thigh muscle as a triangle 6 units tall and 4 units wide. For a low-stance corgi, should you make it taller and narrower or shorter and wider? Give one hypothetical adjustment.

Answer: Make it shorter and wider. One hypothetical adjustment is 4 units tall and 6 units wide.

Reason: The corgi's low stance compresses visible muscle height, so muscle masses appear shorter and wider than on a taller dog.

Check: Compare height-to-width ratio before and after; the adjusted shape should have a smaller height-to-width ratio.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A blank outline has shoulder and hip marked at equal height. The spine line runs from shoulder to tail set. You place the stifle 2 units forward of the hip and the hock 5 units below the stifle. Is the hock above the paw if the paw is 7 units below the stifle? Explain.

Answer: Yes, the hock is above the paw. The hock is 5 units below the stifle, and the paw is 7 units below the stifle, so the hock sits 2 units above the paw.

Reason: Subtracting hock depth from paw depth gives the vertical gap: 7 minus 5 equals 2 units.

Check: Subtract the hock's distance below the stifle from the paw's distance below the stifle; a positive result means the hock is above the paw.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Skeleton landmarks are placed before contour lines.
- [ ] Body length to leg length ratio is measured and compared to the reference.
- [ ] Elbow sits at or just below the ribcage bottom.
- [ ] Muscle masses are compressed vertically and follow the skeleton.
- [ ] Landmark labels are single capital letters placed at joint centers.
- [ ] Valid alternative proportions are accepted if measured and explained.

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