Contour Line Study of a Dollar Bill: Engraved Patterns and Portrait Outline

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

In a 30 mm wide band, draw four equal spaces between five contour lines. State the hypothetical spacing and describe how you would check it.

Answer: Hypothetical spacing is 30 divided by 4, which equals 7.5 mm.

Reason: Four spaces require five lines. Equal spacing means the band width is divided by the number of spaces.

Check: Measure the band with a ruler, divide by four, and compare each gap to the result.

Task 2

A portrait outline has one closed outer contour and two interior contours. One interior contour starts inside and ends inside without touching the outer line. Describe the correction using the convention.

Answer: Extend the interior contour so one endpoint meets the outer contour, or redraw it to stop at the outer line.

Reason: Interior contours should connect to the outer contour at their endpoints to describe planes clearly.

Check: Trace each interior contour and confirm at least one endpoint touches the outer line.

Task 3

You draw six engraved lines across a 24 mm band with equal spacing. Give the hypothetical spacing and one reason to label it hypothetical.

Answer: Hypothetical spacing is 24 divided by 5, which equals 4.8 mm. Label it hypothetical because the band width and line count are chosen examples, not measured standards.

Reason: Six lines create five spaces. The value depends on the chosen numbers.

Check: Count spaces, divide the measured width by the space count, and compare gaps.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A student includes lettering and measures x-height as 3 mm from baseline to midline. They then assume all letters must be 3 mm tall. State the correction and a check.

Answer: Correction: x-height is baseline to midline, not total letter height; letter styles vary. Check: measure baseline to midline on the reference and record it separately from total height.

Reason: The convention defines x-height specifically, and valid alternatives in letter style exist.

Check: Measure baseline to midline and total height separately, then confirm the recorded x-height matches the midline measurement.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Contours are single continuous lines where the reference allows.
- [ ] Line weight is even and no shading is used.
- [ ] Portrait outer contour is closed and interior contours stop at it.
- [ ] Engraved-pattern contours follow the reference direction and spacing.
- [ ] Lettering, if included, records x-height from baseline to midline.
- [ ] Valid stylistic alternatives are accepted if observation and line behavior are consistent.

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