Grandparent Portrait Drawing: Feature Placement Guide

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A front-facing face is 10 cm tall from top to chin and 7 cm wide. The student places the eye line at 5 cm from the top, the nose base at 7.5 cm from the top, and the mouth line at 8.5 cm from the top. Are these placements consistent with the lesson's conventions? Explain.

Answer: Yes. The eye line at 5 cm is halfway, the nose base at 7.5 cm is three-quarters from the top, and the mouth line at 8.5 cm is 1 cm above the chin, which is one-third of the 2.5 cm distance from nose base to chin.

Reason: The conventions use halfway for eyes, three-quarters for nose base, and one-third from nose base to chin for the mouth. Each value matches those fractions.

Check: Recompute each fraction: 10 divided by 2 is 5; 10 times three-quarters is 7.5; the nose-base-to-chin distance is 2.5, and one-third of 2.5 is about 0.83, so 8.5 cm is close enough for a light guide.

Task 2

A student draws a face 9 cm tall from top to chin. They put the eye line at 3 cm from the top and the nose base at 6 cm from the top. What is the main placement error, and how should they fix it?

Answer: The eye line is too high; it should be near 4.5 cm from the top. The nose base at 6 cm is two-thirds from the top, which is lower than the three-quarters guide, so it should move up to about 6.75 cm.

Reason: Half of 9 cm is 4.5 cm for the eye line, and three-quarters of 9 cm is 6.75 cm for the nose base. The student's values are off those guides.

Check: Measure top to chin, divide by two for the eye line, and multiply by three-quarters for the nose base; compare with the drawn lines.

Task 3

A slightly turned grandparent face is 8 cm wide. The student places the eyes with a 2 cm gap and each eye 1.2 cm wide. Is the eye spacing plausible under the lesson's convention? Suggest a small adjustment.

Answer: The gap is wider than one eye width (1.2 cm), so it is a bit wide. Reduce the gap to about 1.2 cm or widen each eye slightly, then check overall balance.

Reason: The convention uses about one eye width between eyes. A 2 cm gap with 1.2 cm eyes is noticeably wider than that guide.

Check: Compare the gap to one eye width directly on the drawing; if the gap is much larger, adjust one or both values and recheck the total face width.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A front-facing face is 11 cm tall from top to chin. The student places the nose base at 8 cm from the top and the mouth line at 9 cm from the top. Check the mouth placement using the one-third rule from nose base to chin.

Answer: The nose base at 8 cm leaves 3 cm to the chin. One-third of 3 cm is 1 cm, so the mouth line should be about 9 cm from the top. The student's 9 cm placement is consistent.

Reason: The mouth line is measured from the nose base toward the chin. With 3 cm remaining, one-third is 1 cm, giving 8 plus 1 equals 9 cm.

Check: Subtract the nose base from the chin height, divide by three, and add to the nose base; compare with the drawn mouth line.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Feature placement follows the defined proportional bands within a plausible range.
- [ ] Eyes sit on or near the eye line with spacing close to one eye width, adjusted for observation.
- [ ] Nose base sits on or near the nose base line, and mouth line sits about one-third from nose base to chin.
- [ ] Ears align between brow line and nose base line, with reasonable adjustment for head turn.
- [ ] Age cues are light and selective, supporting recognition without dominating the face.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted when the drawing shows clear observation and balanced proportions.

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