Kitchen Utensil Contour Drawing: Blind and Slow Line Exercises

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

Blind contour of a wooden spoon. The spoon is twenty centimeters long. The bowl is eight centimeters long and five centimeters wide. Draw for four minutes without looking at the paper. After finishing, note one place where your line changed direction.

Answer: A continuous line that follows the spoon edge from handle end to bowl tip and back, with no shading. The line may be wobbly or unrecognizable. One observation note is written, such as 'line jumped at the bowl shoulder.'

Reason: Blind contour requires eyes on the utensil and continuous pencil movement. The dimensions are given to anchor observation, not to demand accurate scale. The note records where attention shifted.

Check: Confirm the pencil did not lift during the outer contour, no shading is present, and one note is written. Resemblance is not checked.

Task 2

Slow contour of a whisk. The whisk is fifteen centimeters long and six centimeters wide at the loops. Mark ground reference line and midline. Draw the outer contour and add two interior loop edges. Measure the whisk width and the handle length (nine centimeters). Record the ratio of width to handle length.

Answer: A continuous outer contour around the loops and handle, with two interior lines for loop separations. Ground reference line and midline are marked. The ratio is six centimeters to nine centimeters, simplified to two to three.

Reason: Slow contour allows brief glances to confirm position. Interior edges are added only for loop separations, not shading. The ratio uses consistent units and simple arithmetic.

Check: Check that the outer contour is continuous, exactly two interior edges are present, ground reference line and midline are marked, and the ratio is written as 6 cm : 9 cm or 2 : 3.

Kitchen Utensil Contour Drawing: Blind and Slow Line Exercises

Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

Blind contour of a fork with four tines. The fork is eighteen centimeters long. The tine span is five centimeters. Draw for five minutes without looking at the paper. After finishing, mark the point where you think the first tine tip is and the point where you think the last tine tip is. Measure the distance between those two marks.

Answer: A continuous line following the fork edge, with no shading. Two marks indicate the estimated tine tips. The measured distance between marks is recorded in centimeters as a chosen example value (for example, three centimeters); the actual value depends on your drawing.

Reason: Blind contour tests observation of span without visual feedback. The measured distance between marks shows how your hand represented the tine span. The actual span is five centimeters; the difference is an observation note, not an error to erase.

Check: Confirm the pencil did not lift, no shading is present, two marks are made, and the distance between them is measured and recorded with units.

Task 4

Slow contour of a ladle. The ladle is twenty-five centimeters long. The bowl is ten centimeters deep and eight centimeters wide. The handle is fifteen centimeters long. Mark ground reference line and midline. Draw the outer contour and add one interior edge where the handle meets the bowl. Measure the bowl depth and handle length. Record the ratio.

Answer: A continuous outer contour around the bowl and handle, with one interior edge at the handle-bowl joint. Ground reference line and midline are marked. The ratio is ten centimeters to fifteen centimeters, simplified to two to three.

Reason: Slow contour uses brief checks to confirm proportions. The interior edge marks a structural joint, not shading. The ratio uses consistent units and simple arithmetic.

Check: Check that the outer contour is continuous, exactly one interior edge is present at the joint, ground reference line and midline are marked, and the ratio is written as 10 cm : 15 cm or 2 : 3.

Kitchen Utensil Contour Drawing: Blind and Slow Line Exercises

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Outer contour is a single continuous line or a deliberate set of separate interior edges.
- [ ] No shading or texture is present.
- [ ] Ground reference line and midline are marked, and any labels follow the defined convention.
- [ ] The chosen mode (blind or slow) was stated before drawing.
- [ ] One observation note or one measured ratio is recorded.

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