Manga-Style Everyday Object Drawing: Proportion Drills for Cups, Phones, and Bags

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A hypothetical phone body measures 14 cm tall and 7 cm wide. Draw a comparison box and sketch a manga-style outline that sharpens the corners and reduces button detail to one line. Keep the outline inside the box.

Answer: A box 14 units tall by 7 units wide with a sharp-cornered phone outline inside it and a single button line.

Reason: The box preserves the 2:1 height-to-width ratio. Sharpening corners and reducing buttons are two deliberate stylization choices that keep the phone recognizable.

Check: Measure the drawn box ratio and confirm it is 14:7. Confirm the outline stays inside the box and the phone is identifiable without a label.

Task 2

A hypothetical bag body measures 12 cm tall and 9 cm wide, with a handle span of 10 cm. Draw a comparison box for the body, sketch the body outline, then add a handle arc that stays within the 10 cm span. Apply one stylization choice: simplify fabric folds to two lines.

Answer: A body box 12 units tall by 9 units wide, a handle arc spanning 10 units, and two simplified fold lines.

Reason: Separate measurements for body and handle prevent the handle from drifting. Simplifying folds to two lines is a controlled stylization choice.

Check: Confirm the body box ratio is 12:9, the handle span is 10 units, and exactly two fold lines are drawn.

Task 3

A hypothetical cup measures 8 cm tall and 6 cm wide. Draw the comparison box, sketch a realistic outline, then draw a manga outline that exaggerates the taper by one unit on each side. Check whether the cup still reads clearly.

Answer: A box 8 units tall by 6 units wide with a tapered manga outline that remains inside the box and reads as a cup.

Reason: Exaggerating taper by one unit per side is a measurable stylization choice. Keeping the outline inside the box protects the proportion anchor.

Check: Measure the box ratio 8:6, confirm the taper is about one unit per side, and ask a viewer to identify the object without its label.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Choose one everyday object not used in this lesson, measure its height and width in centimeters, and draw a comparison box. Sketch a realistic outline, then apply one manga stylization choice. Label the object using a consistent x-height from baseline to midline.

Answer: A measured comparison box, a realistic outline, one stated stylization choice, and a legible label with consistent x-height.

Reason: The drill transfers the method to a new object. The label check uses the defined x-height convention and allows valid letter-style alternatives.

Check: Verify the box ratio matches your measurements, the stylization choice is written down, and the label's main lowercase letters sit between baseline and midline.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Comparison box matches the measured height-to-width ratio within one unit.
- [ ] Realistic outline stays inside the comparison box.
- [ ] Manga outline applies one or two stated stylization choices.
- [ ] Object remains identifiable without a label.
- [ ] Labels use a consistent x-height from baseline to midline and a legible letter style.
- [ ] Units are consistent across measurements and labels.
- [ ] Revision notes identify at least one proportion or readability check.

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