Goat Negative Space Drawing: Shaded Surround Study

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A goat drawing has a horn gap 1.2 cm wide, a leg gap 2.4 cm wide, and an ear gap 0.8 cm wide. You leave all gaps unshaded and shade the background. What is the combined width of the three gaps?

Answer: 1.2 + 2.4 + 0.8 = 4.4 cm.

Reason: Add the three gap widths using the same unit, centimetres. The sum gives the total width of negative-space windows preserved in the drawing.

Check: Re-add the values in a different order: 0.8 + 1.2 = 2.0, then 2.0 + 2.4 = 4.4 cm. The result matches.

Task 2

You shade a background band 6 cm wide around a goat. You leave a 2 mm unshaded margin along the goat outline. What is the shaded width of the band after subtracting the margin? Use 1 cm = 10 mm.

Answer: 6 cm = 60 mm. 60 mm - 2 mm = 58 mm, or 5.8 cm.

Reason: Convert the band width to millimetres, subtract the margin width, then convert back to centimetres. The margin is a chosen value, not a standard.

Check: Convert 5.8 cm back to millimetres: 5.8 × 10 = 58 mm. Add the 2 mm margin: 58 + 2 = 60 mm = 6 cm. The original band width is recovered.

Task 3

A goat profile is 15 cm wide. The shaded surround extends 3 cm beyond the goat on each side. What is the total width of the drawing from the left edge of the shaded surround to the right edge?

Answer: 15 + 3 + 3 = 21 cm.

Reason: The total width includes the goat width plus the shaded surround on both sides. Add the three lengths in centimetres.

Check: Subtract the goat width from the total: 21 - 15 = 6 cm. Divide by 2 to get 3 cm per side, matching the given surround width.

Goat Negative Space Drawing: Shaded Surround Study

Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

You plan to shade the background in three light layers. Each layer takes 4 minutes. You also spend 6 minutes marking the horn, leg, and ear gaps. What is the total time?

Answer: Three layers × 4 minutes = 12 minutes. 12 + 6 = 18 minutes total.

Reason: Multiply the number of layers by the time per layer, then add the gap-marking time. Keep the unit as minutes.

Check: Add the gap time first: 6 + 4 = 10, then add the remaining two layers: 10 + 4 + 4 = 18 minutes. The total matches.

Goat Negative Space Drawing: Shaded Surround Study

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] The goat silhouette is recognizable and remains unshaded.
- [ ] The background surround is shaded with consistent strokes.
- [ ] At least three negative-space gaps (horn, leg, ear) are clearly visible.
- [ ] One gap rule is applied consistently to all gaps.
- [ ] The unshaded margin along the goat is present and explained as a chosen value, not a standard.
- [ ] Valid alternative stroke styles and gap shapes are accepted if the goat reads clearly.

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