Random Object Drawing Practice: Observation Prompts and Proportion Notes

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A described setup shows a mug. Its height is measured as 10 cm and its diameter as 8 cm. Sketch a quick contour and write one proportion note in consistent units.

Answer: Contour sketch: a small cylinder with a handle loop on one side. Proportion note: height is about 1.25 times the diameter, because 10 divided by 8 equals 1.25. Both dimensions are in centimeters.

Reason: The note compares two dimensions of the same object using the same unit. Dividing the larger value by the smaller value gives a checkable ratio. The sketch should show a mug slightly taller than it is wide.

Check: Confirm the note uses centimeters for both values, divide 10 by 8 to get 1.25, and check that the sketch's height looks slightly greater than its width.

Task 2

A described setup shows a spoon. Its bowl length is 4 cm and its handle length is 12 cm. Sketch a quick contour and write one proportion note in consistent units.

Answer: Contour sketch: a small oval bowl joined to a narrow handle. Proportion note: handle length is about 3 times the bowl length, because 12 divided by 4 equals 3. Both dimensions are in centimeters.

Reason: The comparison uses two lengths from the same object in the same unit. The ratio 12 to 4 simplifies to 3, which is easy to check. The sketch should show a handle noticeably longer than the bowl.

Check: Verify both values are in centimeters, divide 12 by 4 to get 3, and confirm the drawn handle is visibly about three times the bowl length.

Task 3

A described setup shows a shoe. Its length is 28 cm and its width is 10 cm. Sketch a quick contour and write one proportion note in consistent units.

Answer: Contour sketch: a small side-view shoe shape with a rounded toe and a heel. Proportion note: length is about 2.8 times the width, because 28 divided by 10 equals 2.8. Both dimensions are in centimeters.

Reason: The note compares the longest dimension to the widest dimension in the same unit. The division gives a decimal ratio that is still checkable. The sketch should look clearly longer than it is wide.

Check: Confirm centimeters are used for both values, divide 28 by 10 to get 2.8, and check that the sketch's length is visibly greater than its width by roughly that factor.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A described setup shows a folded towel. Its longest fold is 30 cm and its shortest fold is 15 cm. Sketch a quick contour and write one proportion note in consistent units.

Answer: Contour sketch: a small rectangle with soft edges representing the folded towel. Proportion note: longest fold is about 2 times the shortest fold, because 30 divided by 15 equals 2. Both dimensions are in centimeters.

Reason: Even an irregular soft object can be compared using two clear dimensions. The ratio 30 to 15 simplifies to 2. The sketch should show a rectangle about twice as long as it is wide.

Check: Verify both values are in centimeters, divide 30 by 15 to get 2, and confirm the sketch's longer side is about twice the shorter side.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Contour sketch is present, palm-sized, and captures the object's outer shape without excessive detail.
- [ ] One proportion note is written beside the sketch and uses consistent units.
- [ ] The note states a checkable ratio or difference, not a vague impression.
- [ ] Handwriting follows the defined convention: x-height is baseline to midline for lowercase letters, or cap height is stated as the reference.
- [ ] Letter style may vary, but x-height or cap height stays consistent within the note.
- [ ] The sketch's visible proportions agree with the note within a reasonable margin.
- [ ] Any numerical values chosen by the learner are labeled as hypothetical examples for their equipment.

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