Slipper Contour Line Drawing: Blind and Observed Practice

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A slipper is 30 cm long and 10 cm high. Your observed drawing uses a bounding box 27 cm long and 9 cm high. State the length difference and height difference in centimeters.

Answer: Length difference is 3 cm; height difference is 1 cm.

Reason: Subtract the drawing measurement from the actual measurement for each dimension: 30 minus 27 equals 3; 10 minus 9 equals 1.

Check: Re-add each difference to the drawing value: 27 plus 3 equals 30; 9 plus 1 equals 10.

Task 2

You draw a blind contour of a slipper seen from the side. Describe where the sole rim line should stop and what line should begin there, using the convention in this lesson.

Answer: The sole rim stops where the upper hides it from view; the upper's outer edge begins at that visible boundary.

Reason: A contour marks where a surface turns away or two parts meet. When the upper overlaps the sole, the sole rim is no longer visible, so the next visible edge is the upper.

Check: Look at the slipper: confirm that the sole rim disappears behind the upper at the same place your drawing changes lines.

Task 3

A student's observed contour includes a dotted pattern across the upper. Using the boundary of this task, explain whether the drawing meets the brief and what to remove.

Answer: It does not meet the brief because the boundary excludes scale patterns and design detail. Remove the dotted pattern and keep only the outline and opening edge.

Reason: The task is a contour-line study of the slipper's outline only; interior surface marks are outside the defined boundary.

Check: Scan the drawing for any mark that is not an edge line; if it describes surface pattern, it should be absent.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Your slipper is 24 cm long. In a blind contour the drawn outline is 20 cm long; in an observed contour it is 23 cm long. Which drawing is closer to the actual length, and by how many centimeters?

Answer: The observed contour is closer; it differs by 1 cm, while the blind contour differs by 4 cm.

Reason: Compare absolute differences: 24 minus 20 equals 4; 24 minus 23 equals 1. The smaller difference is closer.

Check: Add each difference back to its drawing length: 20 plus 4 equals 24; 23 plus 1 equals 24.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Blind contour is labeled and shows a continuous or near-continuous outline without looking at the paper.
- [ ] Observed contour records the sole rim, upper outer edge, and opening edge where visible.
- [ ] No shading, pattern, or footwear design detail is added.
- [ ] Three check distances are compared and at least one correction is noted.
- [ ] Line quality may vary; continuous, broken, thin, or strengthened lines are all acceptable if they mark observed edges.

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