Panther Contour Drawing: Silhouette and Limb Edges

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

On a hypothetical 20 cm wide panel, plan a panther body length of 15 cm and a shoulder height of 7.5 cm. Draw the outer silhouette as one continuous line and add one visible front limb edge as a separate single line. State the planned ratio.

Answer: The planned ratio is 15 divided by 7.5, which equals 2. The silhouette should be about twice as long as it is tall at the shoulder, with one separate single line for the front limb edge.

Reason: Body length divided by shoulder height gives a simple checkable ratio. The convention requires one outer line and separate limb-edge lines.

Check: Measure the drawn body length and shoulder height in the same unit, divide, and compare with 2. Count the limb-edge lines; there should be one.

Task 2

In a 10 cm by 10 cm blind-contour practice box, draw one panther hind limb edge without looking at the paper. After looking, count the direction changes you felt and the direction changes drawn. Describe one valid alternative line style.

Answer: The felt and drawn direction changes should match in number, for example three turns at hip, knee, and paw. A valid alternative is a smoother line or a more angular line, as long as it stays single and shows the same turns.

Reason: Blind contour trains attention to edges. Counting turns is a checkable comparison that does not require exact shape.

Check: Compare the felt count with the drawn count. Confirm the line is single and unbroken within the box.

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Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

A reference panther has four visible limb edges inside the silhouette. Draw the silhouette with one continuous outer line and exactly four separate limb-edge lines. Then measure drawn body length 12 cm and shoulder height 6 cm. What is the ratio, and is it close to a planned ratio of 2?

Answer: The ratio is 12 divided by 6, which equals 2, so it matches the planned ratio. The drawing should show one outer line and four separate limb-edge lines.

Reason: The ratio check uses simple division. The line count checks the convention.

Check: Divide measured body length by measured shoulder height. Count the separate limb-edge lines and confirm there are four.

Task 4

Redraw a panther silhouette in a blank panel without tracing. Use a hypothetical panel 16 cm wide and plan body length 12 cm and shoulder height 6 cm. After drawing, measure your drawn body length as 11 cm and shoulder height as 6 cm. Is the drawn ratio within about one fifth of the planned ratio?

Answer: The planned ratio is 12 divided by 6, which equals 2. The drawn ratio is 11 divided by 6, which is about 1.83. The difference from 2 is about 0.17, which is less than one fifth of 2 (0.4), so the drawn ratio is within the allowed range.

Reason: One fifth of the planned ratio 2 is 0.4. The drawn ratio differs by about 0.17, which is smaller, so the proportion check passes.

Check: Compute planned ratio, compute drawn ratio, subtract, and compare the difference with one fifth of the planned ratio. Also confirm the outer line is continuous and limb edges are separate single lines.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Outer silhouette is drawn as one continuous line with no shading or fur strokes.
- [ ] Each visible limb edge is drawn as a separate single line inside the silhouette.
- [ ] Line weight is consistent throughout the study.
- [ ] Drawn body length and shoulder height are measured in the same unit and compared with the planned ratio.
- [ ] The number of limb edges included matches the reference count.
- [ ] Valid alternatives in line quality, smoothness, or angularity are accepted if the convention is kept.

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