Observation Figure Drawing: Proportion and Gesture Cues

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A seated person leans forward with elbows on knees. The head height in your drawing is 2.5 cm. Using hypothetical landmarks, shoulders are at 1.5 head units from the crown, waist at 3 units, and hips at 3.5 units. Calculate the vertical position of shoulders, waist, and hips in centimeters from the crown.

Answer: Shoulders: 1.5 × 2.5 = 3.75 cm. Waist: 3 × 2.5 = 7.5 cm. Hips: 3.5 × 2.5 = 8.75 cm.

Reason: Multiply each landmark's head-unit value by the measured head height of 2.5 cm. Keep units consistent in centimeters.

Check: Verify each product by dividing the result by 2.5; you should recover the head-unit value (1.5, 3, 3.5).

Task 2

A standing person has shoulder width of 4.5 cm in your drawing and head width of 2.5 cm. Calculate shoulder width in head-width units. Then state whether this is within the hypothetical range of 1.5 to 2 head widths.

Answer: 4.5 ÷ 2.5 = 1.8 head widths. Yes, 1.8 is within the hypothetical range of 1.5 to 2.

Reason: Divide the measured shoulder width by the measured head width to convert to head-width units. Compare the result to the hypothetical range.

Check: Multiply 1.8 by 2.5 cm; the result should be 4.5 cm.

Task 3

In a drawing, the crown-to-waist distance is 9 cm and the waist-to-feet distance is 13.5 cm. The head unit is 3 cm. Calculate the difference between the two distances in head units. Is the difference more than half a head unit?

Answer: Difference = 13.5 − 9 = 4.5 cm. In head units: 4.5 ÷ 3 = 1.5 head units. Yes, 1.5 is more than half a head unit (0.5), so adjust the landmark ticks.

Reason: Subtract the smaller distance from the larger, then divide by the head unit to express the difference in head units. Compare to 0.5.

Check: Add 1.5 head units (4.5 cm) to 9 cm; the result should be 13.5 cm.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A person stands with weight on the right foot. The head unit is 4 cm. Hypothetical landmarks: shoulders at 1.5 units, hips at 3.5 units, feet at 7.5 units. Calculate the vertical positions in centimeters. Then describe where the right foot should sit relative to the head in your check.

Answer: Shoulders: 1.5 × 4 = 6 cm. Hips: 3.5 × 4 = 14 cm. Feet: 7.5 × 4 = 30 cm. The weight-bearing right foot should sit roughly under the head in the check; if it is offset by more than half a head unit (2 cm), adjust the landmark ticks.

Reason: Multiply each head-unit value by 4 cm. For the check, compare the horizontal position of the right foot to the head position, using half a head unit (2 cm) as the adjustment threshold.

Check: Divide each result by 4 to recover the head-unit values (1.5, 3.5, 7.5). Measure the horizontal offset between the right foot and the head; if it exceeds 2 cm, adjust.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Gesture line is present, continuous, and summarizes the main action.
- [ ] Proportion landmarks are marked with a consistent head unit measured from the drawing.
- [ ] Contours wrap around forms and use overlapping lines rather than erasing.
- [ ] Annotation convention is applied consistently, with x-height measured from baseline to midline of actual handwritten labels.
- [ ] Check step compares crown-to-waist, waist-to-feet, shoulder angle, hip angle, and foot position.
- [ ] Valid alternatives in line style and letter style are accepted if the convention is consistent and documented.

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