Positive and Negative Space Cat Drawing: Figure-Ground Contrast Exercise

Original task 1 / independent drawing and calculation

Task 1

On a 12 cm by 16 cm panel, draw a closed cat silhouette with a curved tail. Shade the surround with horizontal strokes, leaving a 1 cm unshaded gap around the cat. State your convention.

Keep the original task measurements. Use the full drawing sheet in this PDF for a response needing more room; use the stated paper size when a task specifies larger paper.

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Original task 2 / independent drawing and calculation

Task 2

Draw a cat silhouette on a 10 cm by 10 cm panel and shade the surround right up to the cat edge with vertical strokes. The cat remains unshaded. Check that no shade enters the cat.

Keep the original task measurements. Use the full drawing sheet in this PDF for a response needing more room; use the stated paper size when a task specifies larger paper.

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Original task 3 / independent drawing and calculation

Task 3

Make a dark cat on a light surround: draw a closed cat silhouette, shade the cat evenly, and leave the surround unshaded. State the convention and check contrast from two meters.

Keep the original task measurements. Use the full drawing sheet in this PDF for a response needing more room; use the stated paper size when a task specifies larger paper.

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Original task 4 / independent drawing and calculation

Task 4

Draw a cat silhouette with a 2 cm gap on one side and no gap on the other. Explain why this is inconsistent and redraw with a consistent convention.

Keep the original task measurements. Use the full drawing sheet in this PDF for a response needing more room; use the stated paper size when a task specifies larger paper.

Full drawing sheet / reusable blank workspace

Reusable full drawing sheet for Tasks 1 to 4. Print another copy when needed. Keep all original task measurements; if a task specifies larger paper, use that paper size.