Rhinoceros Contour Drawing: Edge-Following Practice

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

On a blank panel, draw a rhinoceros contour facing right. Use a bounding box 16 cm wide and 10 cm tall (hypothetical example). Include the horn, ear, jaw, and one front-leg edge. Do not shade.

Answer: A valid answer shows a continuous outline starting at the horn tip, following the forehead, ear, neck, back, and front leg, with the jaw and one leg separation as inner edges. The drawing stays inside the 16 by 10 cm box.

Reason: The exercise checks whether you can plan a bounding box, choose a starting point, and follow edges in sequence without adding shading.

Check: Measure the drawing against the 16 by 10 cm box. Confirm one line weight, no filled areas, and all four named edges present: horn, ear, jaw, and one front-leg edge.

Task 2

Draw a blind contour of a rhinoceros head and shoulder for 45 seconds (hypothetical example) without looking at your paper. Then write one sentence describing where your pencil moved fastest.

Answer: The blind contour will be distorted. A valid answer includes a completed 45-second blind drawing and a sentence such as: my pencil moved fastest along the back line because the edge was long and gentle.

Reason: This checks whether you can maintain eye-hand connection and observe your own edge-following speed.

Check: Confirm the timer was used, the paper was not looked at during drawing, and the sentence names a specific edge.

Rhinoceros Contour Drawing: Edge-Following Practice

Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

Work from this text description of a rhinoceros facing left: the horn tip is at the upper left; the snout edge drops down and slightly right toward the mouth; the jaw runs rightward and down to the chin; the ear sits behind the eye on the right side of the head; the back rises gently rightward to the shoulder; and the front leg edge drops nearly straight. On a scrap sheet, draw five direction arrows: horn to forehead, forehead to ear, ear to neck, neck to shoulder, shoulder to front leg. Then draw the contour in a blank panel using those arrows as a plan.

Answer: A valid answer shows five arrows in the correct general directions and a contour that follows them in order. The horn-to-forehead arrow rises; the forehead-to-ear arrow moves rightward and back; the ear-to-neck arrow drops; the neck-to-shoulder arrow rises gently rightward; the shoulder-to-front-leg arrow drops nearly straight.

Reason: Arrow planning separates edge observation from line making, which reduces guessing.

Check: Count five arrows, check each arrow points along an edge described in the prompt, and confirm the final contour follows the arrow order without skipping a planned edge.

Task 4

Redraw a rhinoceros contour twice in two blank panels. In the first, include only the outer outline. In the second, add exactly two inner edges: the ear fold and the jaw line. Compare the two panels and state one difference.

Answer: A valid answer shows two contours of the same rhinoceros, the second with an ear fold and jaw line added. A difference statement could be: the second panel reads more clearly as a rhinoceros because the ear and jaw separate the head from the neck.

Reason: This exercise tests whether you can control the number of inner edges and judge their effect on readability.

Check: Confirm both panels show the same outer outline, the second has exactly two inner edges, and the stated difference refers to a visible change.

Rhinoceros Contour Drawing: Edge-Following Practice

Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] The contour uses a single line weight with no shading.
- [ ] The outline follows visible edges in a logical sequence from snout to shoulder or reverse.
- [ ] At least three inner edges are included and clearly separated from the outer outline.
- [ ] The horn, ear, and shoulder show deliberate direction changes rather than generic shapes.
- [ ] The drawing fits inside the planned bounding box without crowding the edges.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted: a different starting point, a different number of inner edges within the stated range, or a slightly different scale, provided the edge-following is clear.

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