Negative Space Rose Drawing: See and Draw the Gaps

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

A rose outline shows three petal gaps and one outer background shape. Draw the negative-space study. Count your shaded shapes and state the total.

Answer: Four shaded shapes: three petal gaps plus one outer background. The rose remains blank.

Reason: Each gap and the background are separate negative shapes. Sharing petal edges keeps them distinct. The count is simple arithmetic: 3 + 1 = 4.

Check: Count the shaded shapes in your drawing and compare with 4. Confirm no shading inside the rose.

Task 2

An outline has five petal gaps. You draw only four negative shapes. Identify the likely error and state one check to find it.

Answer: Two gaps were probably merged into one shape. Check by circling each gap on the outline and counting again; the counts should match at five.

Reason: Merging adjacent gaps reduces the count by one. A gap-by-gap count reveals the missing boundary.

Check: Circle each gap on the outline, count them, then count negative shapes in the drawing. Both should be five.

Task 3

You measure a petal gap as 6 mm on the outline and 7 mm on your drawing. Is this acceptable? State your reasoning using the convention.

Answer: Yes, if the shape reads correctly and the rose remains blank. The 1 mm difference is a valid alternative; the rubric checks shape accuracy, not exact duplication.

Reason: The convention allows valid alternatives in line style and shading. Consistent units matter more than identical measurements.

Check: Measure both gaps in millimetres and record the difference. Confirm the negative shape is distinct and the rose is unshaded.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

A drawing shows shading inside two petals and contour lines inside three others. List two fixes and one check to confirm the correction.

Answer: Erase shading inside the petals and remove interior contour lines. Then check that the rose area is blank and only negative shapes are shaded.

Reason: The boundary excludes petal shading and contour line drawing. Fixes restore the negative-space convention.

Check: Inspect the rose area for any shading or interior lines. Count shaded negative shapes and confirm they match the gap count.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] The rose area is blank and free of shading or interior contour lines.
- [ ] All petal gaps and the outer background are drawn as distinct negative shapes.
- [ ] Shared petal edges are continuous and drawn with a consistent pencil weight.
- [ ] The number of negative shapes matches the number of gaps identified on the outline.
- [ ] Shading is confined to negative shapes and is even enough to read as solid areas.
- [ ] Labels, if used, keep x-height between baseline and midline; letter styles may vary.
- [ ] Measurements use consistent units and actual equipment; numerical values are labelled hypothetical where chosen.

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