

Exercise walk-through

Drawing the Figure and Portrait ■ 3.7

eXercise

You must be able to

- use the ~7.5-head figure canon
- place the eyes at the skull's **halfway line** 中线
- build masses before features
- check likeness with landmark distances

Method — Figure canon

The classic adult figure is about 7.5 heads tall, with the body's halfway point near the hip, not the waist.

Method — Head map

The eyes sit at the halfway line of the skull — beginners place them too high.

Method — Masses first

Start with gesture and big masses (ribcage, pelvis, skull); features and fingers come last.

Practice 2.1 ■ 1 mark

The classic adult figure is about how many heads tall?

A 5

B 7.5

C 10

D 6

Solution 2.1

Method: Figure canon

A 5

B 7.5



C 10

D 6

Worked steps

B. about 7.5 heads.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Where do the eyes sit on the skull, and what is the common beginner error?

Solution 2.2

Method: Head map

Worked steps

at the halfway line of the skull **B1**; beginners place them too high, near the top **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 1 mark

What should you draw before features and fingers?

Solution 2.3

Method: Masses first

Worked steps

the gesture and big masses (ribcage, pelvis, skull) **B1**.