

3.7 Drawing the Figure and Portrait

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 11 marks**

KEY WORDS halfway line 中线 • proportion 比例

Objective

Draw the figure and head with correct **proportion** 比例.

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

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ **Figure canon**

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

■ **Head map**

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

■ **Masses first**

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

2 Practice

2.1 The classic adult figure is about how many heads tall? [1]

- **A** 5
- **B** 7.5
- **C** 10
- **D** 6

2.2 Where do the eyes sit on the skull, and what is the common beginner error? [2]

2.3 What should you draw before features and fingers? [1]

3 Studio & portfolio tasks

3.1 Make a **proportion study** of a figure and a head.

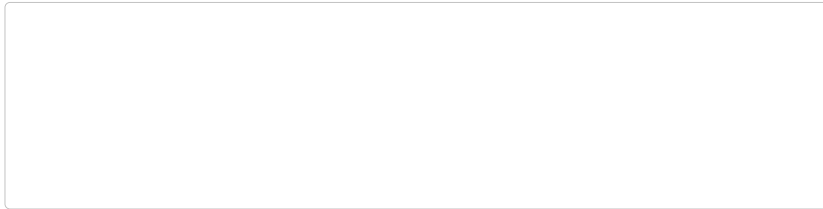
(a) Draw a standing figure ~7.5 heads tall, masses before detail. [3]

(b) Draw a head with the eye-line at the halfway point. [2]

3.2

() Draw a hand or foot as a simple geometric shape first, then divide it.

[2]



Solutions

2.1 B. about 7.5 heads.

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

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

3.1 figure ~7.5 heads with hip at halfway; masses established first; head eye-line correct; features placed on the map, not floating.

3.2 a simple mitten/wedge base shape; divided into believable parts.