

3.4 Foreshortening

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 10 marks

KEY WORDS foreshortening 透视缩短 • cross-sections 横截面 • overlap 遮挡 • sighting 目测 • proportion 比例

Objective

Draw forms pointing toward the viewer using **foreshortening** 透视缩短.

You must be able to:

- draw the apparent, compressed shape (not the known length)
- use overlap as the key depth signal
- think in **cross-sections** 横截面
- measure compressed lengths by sighting

1 Worked examples

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

■ Compression

A form pointing at you compresses dramatically — a pointing arm may appear a third of its length. Draw the apparent shape.

■ Overlap and cross-sections

Overlap (hand over forearm over upper arm) signals depth; imagining rings around the form helps you feel how it turns toward you.

■ Trust observation

Measured by sighting, foreshortened lengths look 'too short' but are right — memory lies.

2 Practice

2.1 A strongly foreshortened pointing arm may appear about [1]

- **A** nine-tenths of its length
 - **B** one-third of its length
 - **C** double its length
 - **D** exactly half, always
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2.2 Why does a correctly foreshortened form often look 'too short'? [2]

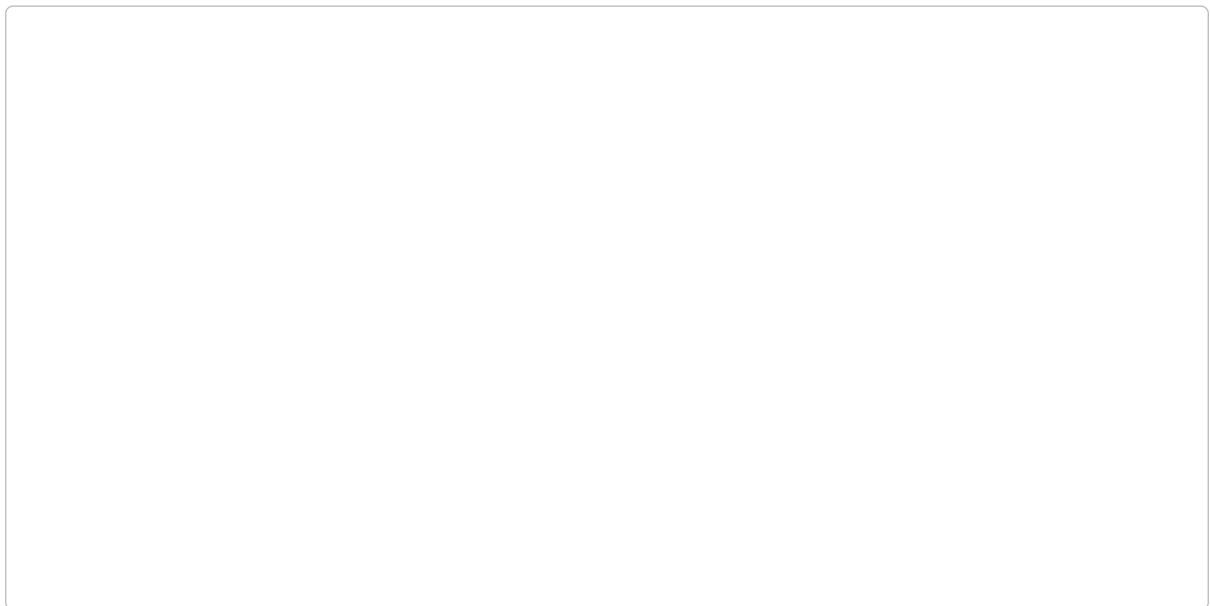
2.3 Name the key depth signal in a foreshortened limb. [1]

3 Studio & portfolio tasks

3.1 Make a **foreshortening study** of a limb or object pointing at you.

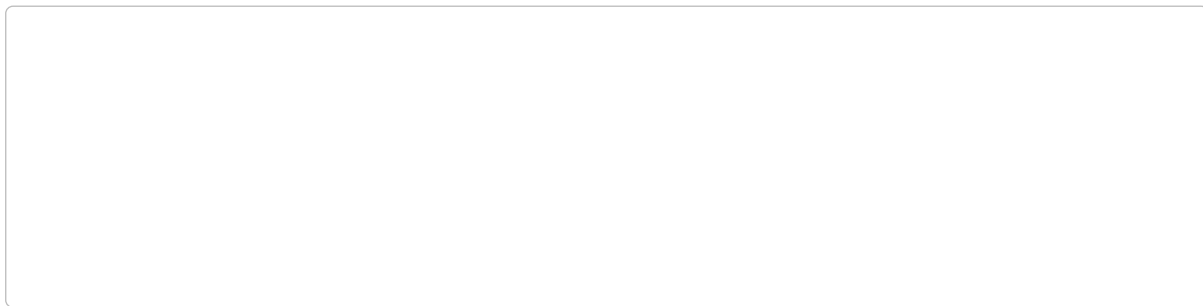
(a) Draw the apparent compressed shape, using overlaps between parts. [3]

(b) Add light cross-section rings to show how it turns toward you. [1]



3.2

() Draw a figure or object seen end-on (e.g. feet-first), measured by sighting. [2]



Solutions

2.1 B. compression is dramatic and angle-dependent.

2.2 the eye expects the known length; real compression along the view axis makes it much shorter than memory expects.

2.3 overlap between the parts.

3.1 clear compression; overlaps read as depth; cross-section rings describe the turn; the form points convincingly at the viewer.

3.2 strong end-on foreshortening; proportions measured, not guessed.