

Wesley the Very Big Whale



Riley Blake Basics by RBDDesigners



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Pattern & Tutorial by Julia @ Riley Blake Designs

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*All seam allowances are 1/4".

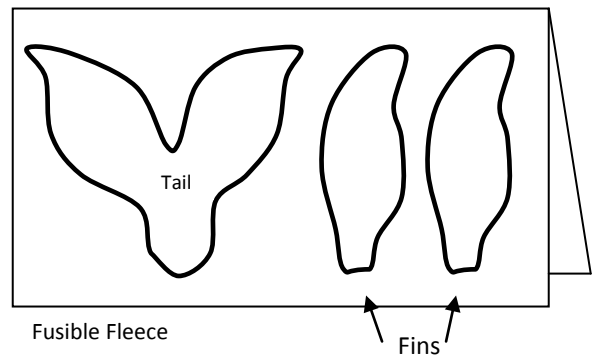
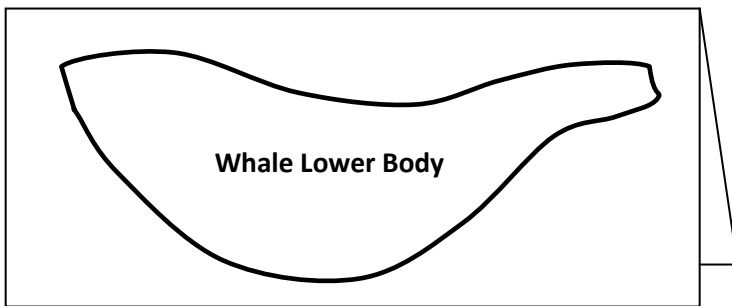
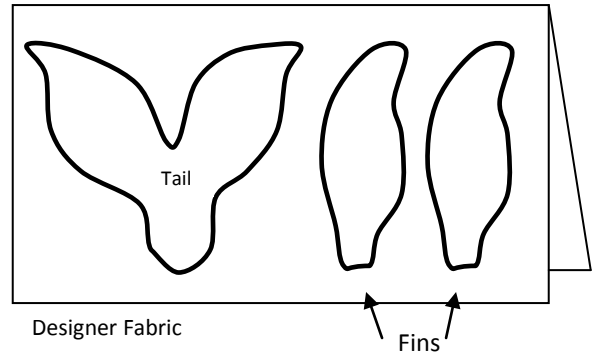
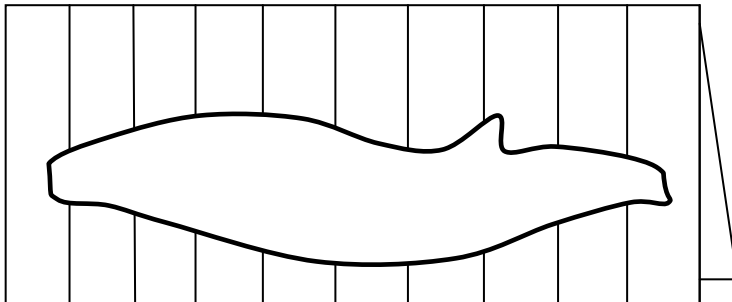
*A narrow stitch length is recommended for stuffed toys. 1.5mm is a nice tight stitch length on most machines.

Supplies:

- Template: See Below
- 11 – 5" Strips of Navy Blue (or color of your choice) fabric in various patterns for Upper Body
- 1-1/4 yard C200-10 Slate fabric for Lower Body
- 2/3 yard C200-33 Nighttime for Tail and Fin
- 2/3 yard Fusible Fleece for Tail and Fin
- (optional) 2-1/4 yard Fusible Fleece for Upper & Lower Body
- (optional) 1/2 yard Deco Bond for Tail
- 2"-3" Scrap of Aqua fabric for Eyes
- 2"-3" Scrap of Double-Sided Fusible Adhesive for Eyes
- Two 3/8" - 1" Navy or Black button for Eyes

Preparation:

1. Print out pattern pieces. Assemble Upper Body pattern pieces by aligning the dotted lines, matching lettered sides (i.e. Side A to Side A). Repeat the same process to assemble the Lower Body and Tail.
2. Right sides together, sew together the 5" strips along the long edge of the strips. You will have one large stripwork panel. Press seams. *Optional – you may also opt to create a more patchwork version as shown in main image. This can be done in a random fashion, or you can cut your stripwork panel lengthwise, again in 5" or wider strips. Then sew them together again, alternating direction, creating a patchwork appearance.



Layout:

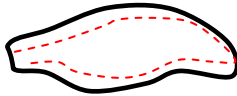
1. Fold your stripwork panel in half lengthwise, matching selvedge edges. Pin the upper body piece and cut.
2. Pin and cut out Lower Body, Tail and Fins as shown.
3. *Optional: For additional stability, you can choose to cut fusible fleece for the Upper Body piece. Do **NOT** cut out the fusible fleece for the lower body until after you complete "Assembling the Body: Step 2". Using the Upper Body pattern piece, pin to fusible fleece and cut around shape. Press fusible side to wrong side of fabric, following the manufacturer's instructions.

Assembling the Tail & Fins:

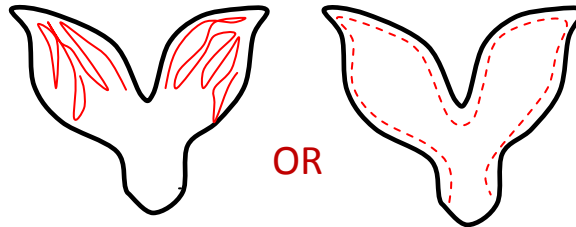
1. Press fusible fleece to each of the four fin pieces according to fusible fleece instructions. Sew fins, right sides together, leaving the small, straight end open. Repeat for 2nd fin. Clip curves.



2. Turn right side out. Top Stitch around edge of fin with contrasting thread.

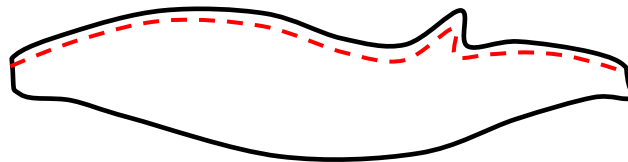


3. Repeat same steps for the tail, pressing fusible fleece on each piece, stitching RST, clipping curves and turning right side out. Top stitch along edges OR you can free form stitch along outer edge of tail as shown.

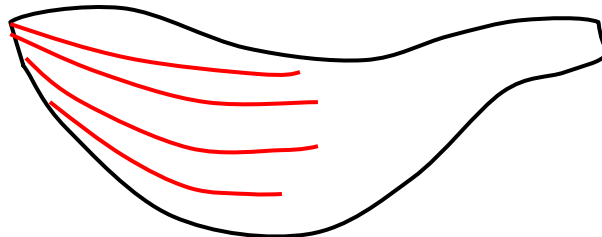


Assembling the Body:

1. With right sides together, stitch along top edge. Leave the bottom and sides open. Clip curves and corners.



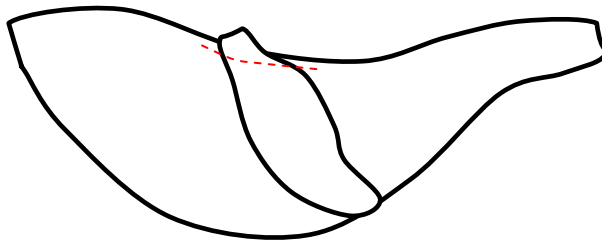
2. On the WRONG side of the lower body pieces, sketch several lines as shown. The lines do not need to be perfectly symmetrical on each side. You can create as few or as many as you wish.



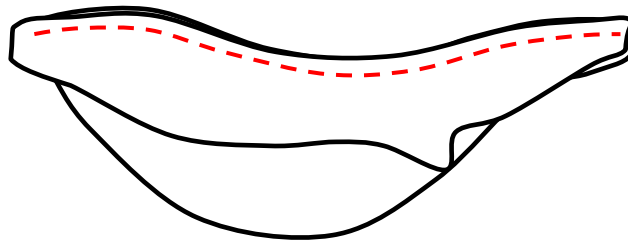
Still working on the wrong side of the fabric, take the top line that you drew and pinch it so that right sides are together. Sew along this line using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam, creating large reverse pin-tucks. Repeat for each line. Your finished tucks will look like this:



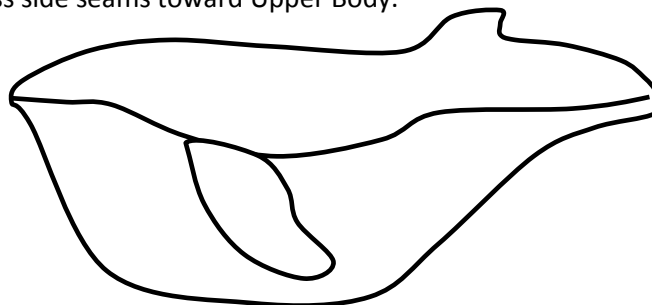
3. (Optional) For additional stability, you can opt to add fusible fleece to the Lower Body pieces. Using one of the pin-tucked Lower Body pieces as a template, lay it down on the fusible fleece and cut around the shape. Press fusible side to wrong side of fabric following the manufacturer's instructions.
4. Pin fin to Lower Body, as shown, approximately 10" from nose of the whale. Stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from edge.



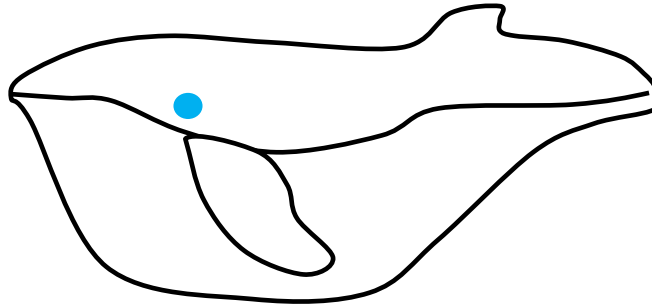
5. With right sides together, pin one Upper Body side to one Lower Body side. You may need to clip the curves (about $\frac{1}{4}$ " deep) in order to correctly align the edges. Repeat for other side.



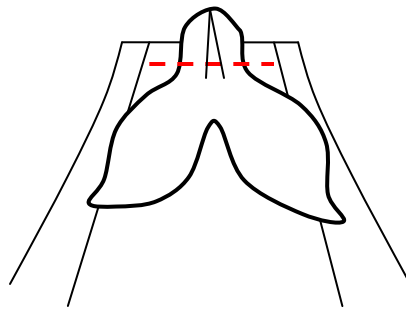
6. Open and press side seams toward Upper Body.



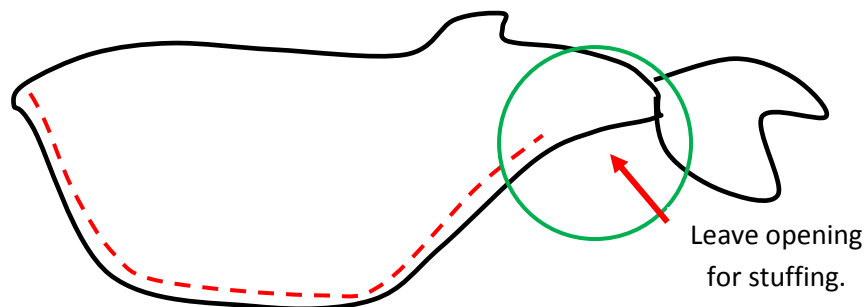
7. To add the eye, press a small 2"-3" scrap of aqua fabric to an equal size piece of double-sided fusible adhesive. Cut out a circle for the eye. You can make it as large or as small as you want. Ours measures about 1" diameter. Peel the paper backing off the fusible adhesive. Position the eye about 10" from the nose of the whale and press for about 10 seconds. Stitch in place with a narrow zig-zag stitch or blanket stitch. Sew button in place on aqua circle. Repeat for other side.



8. Open whale body and lay flat. Form a small pleat in tail and pin in place. Baste.



9. Turn whale so that right sides are together and pin along edges from nose to tail. Stitch along edges. Leaving tail portion open for stuffing. Clip curves. Turn right side out.



10. Stuff the whale through the tail opening using high quality fiberfill. When the whale is stuffed to your liking, hand stitch the opening closed using a ladder stitch or blind stitch.

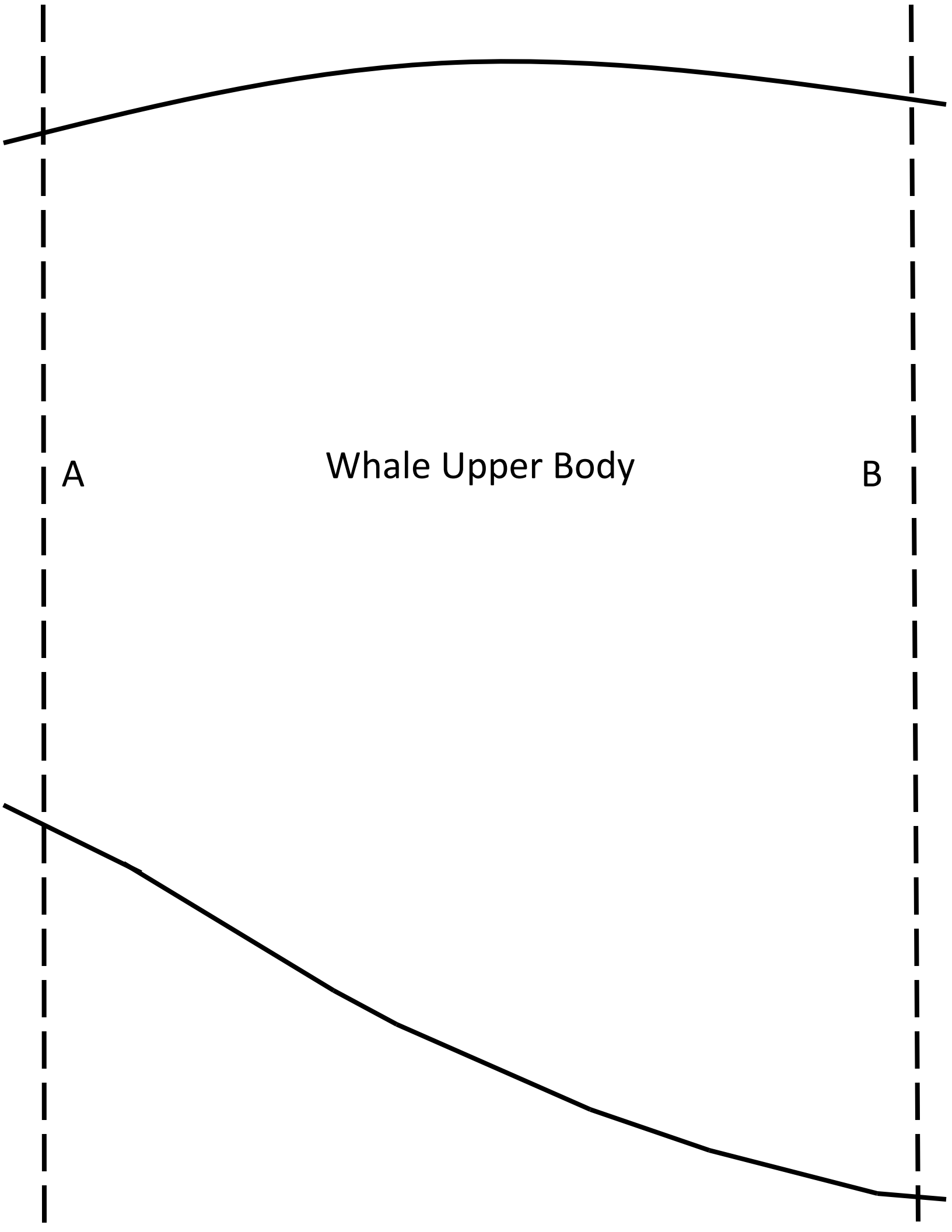
***Pattern inspired by an adorable whale tutorial found at <http://valaanvillapaita.blogspot.com/p/hi-there-i-finally-managed-to-translate.html> Be sure to visit her blog to see how she makes a cute little whale out of denim.*

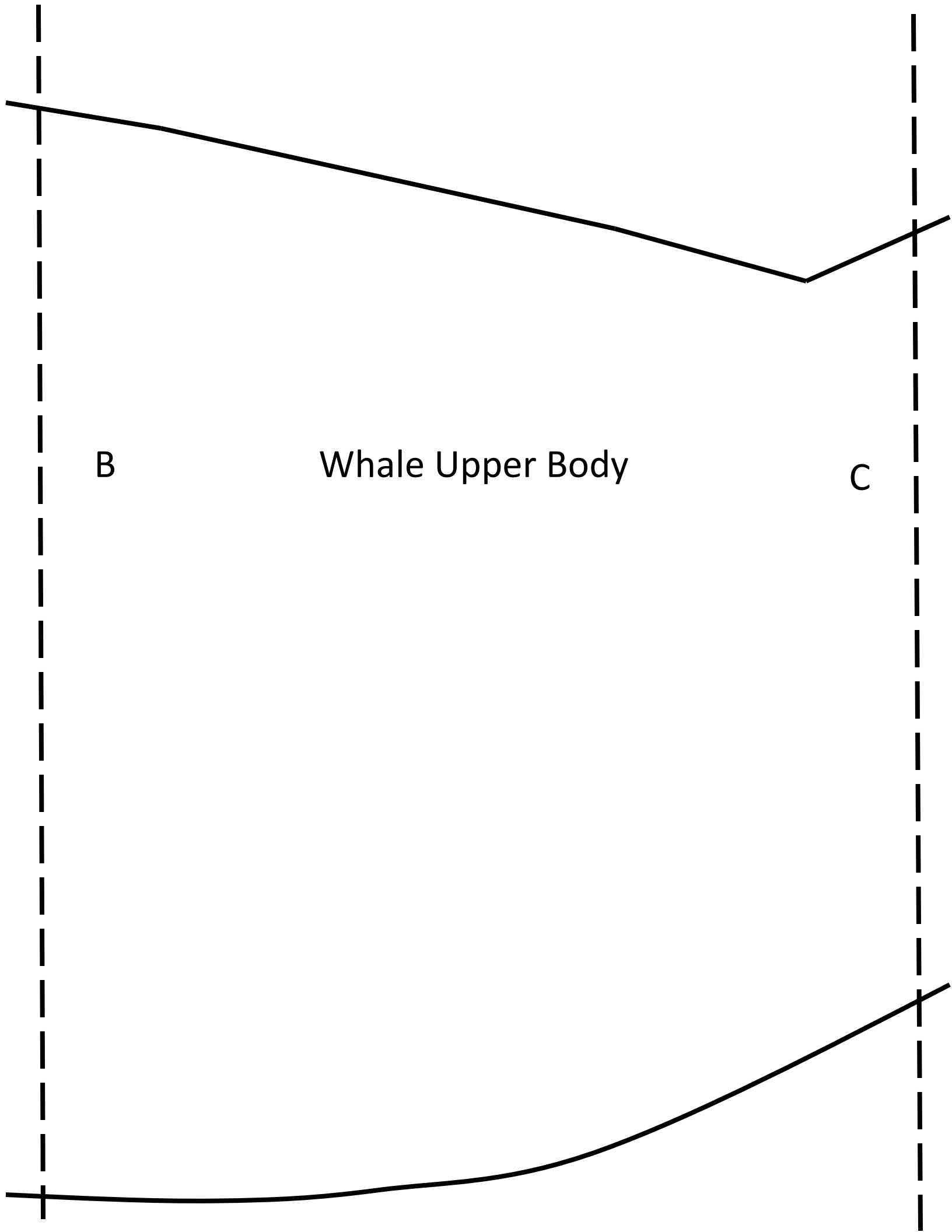


Whale Upper Body

The diagram shows a cross-section of a whale's upper body, represented by a solid black outline. The shape is roughly teardrop-shaped, tapering towards the right. A vertical dashed line, labeled 'A', is positioned on the right side of the diagram, extending from the top to the bottom of the whale's body. The text 'Whale Upper Body' is centered within the outline.

A

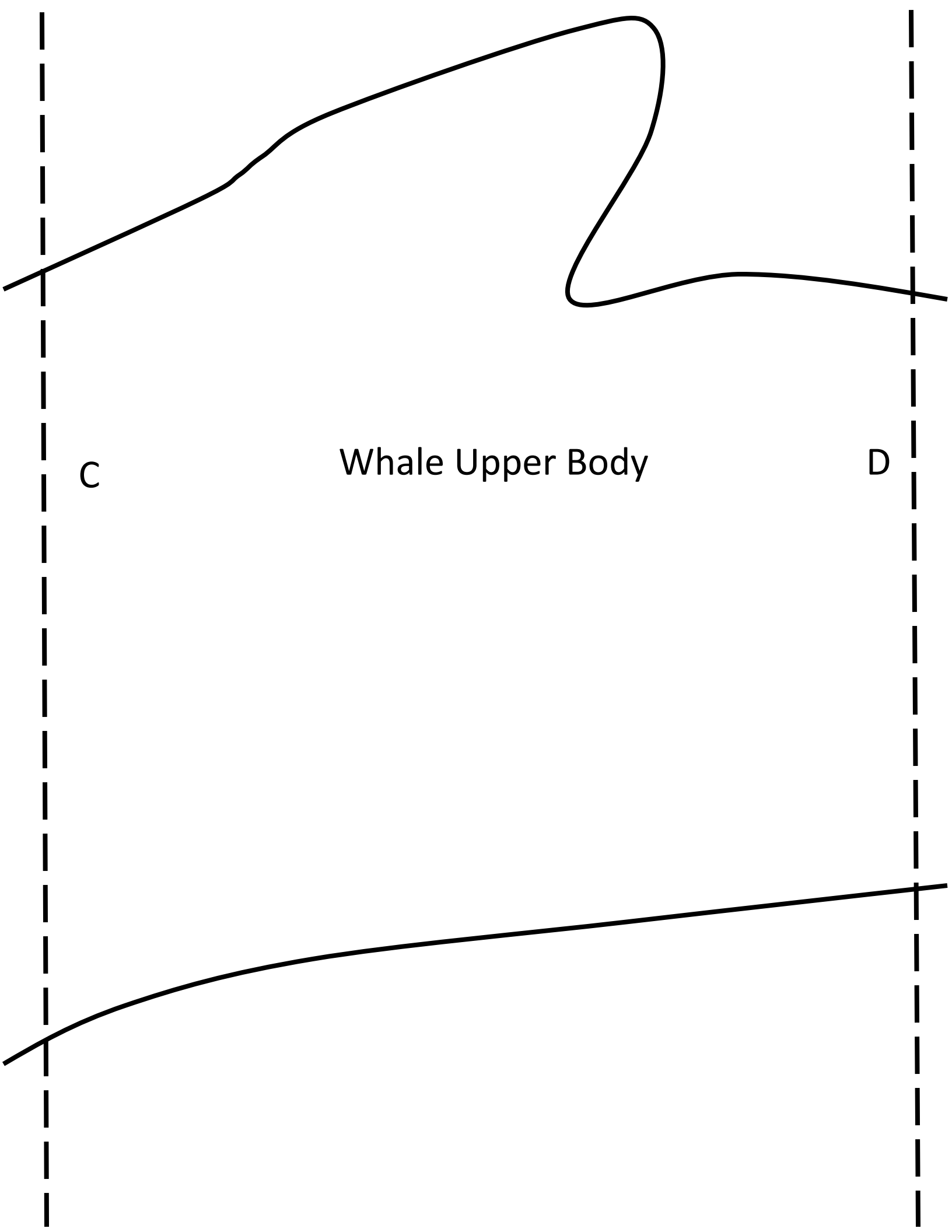




B

Whale Upper Body

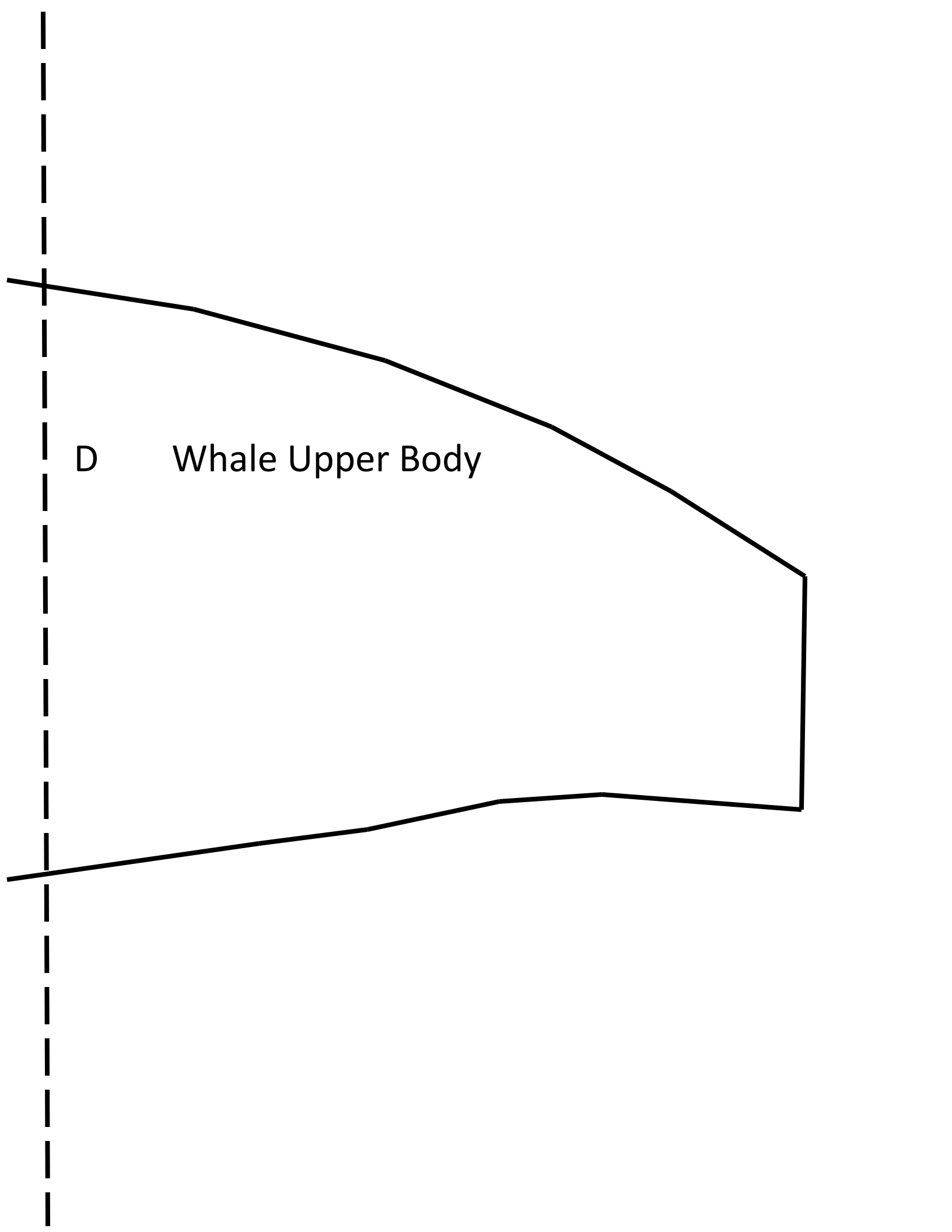
C



Whale Upper Body

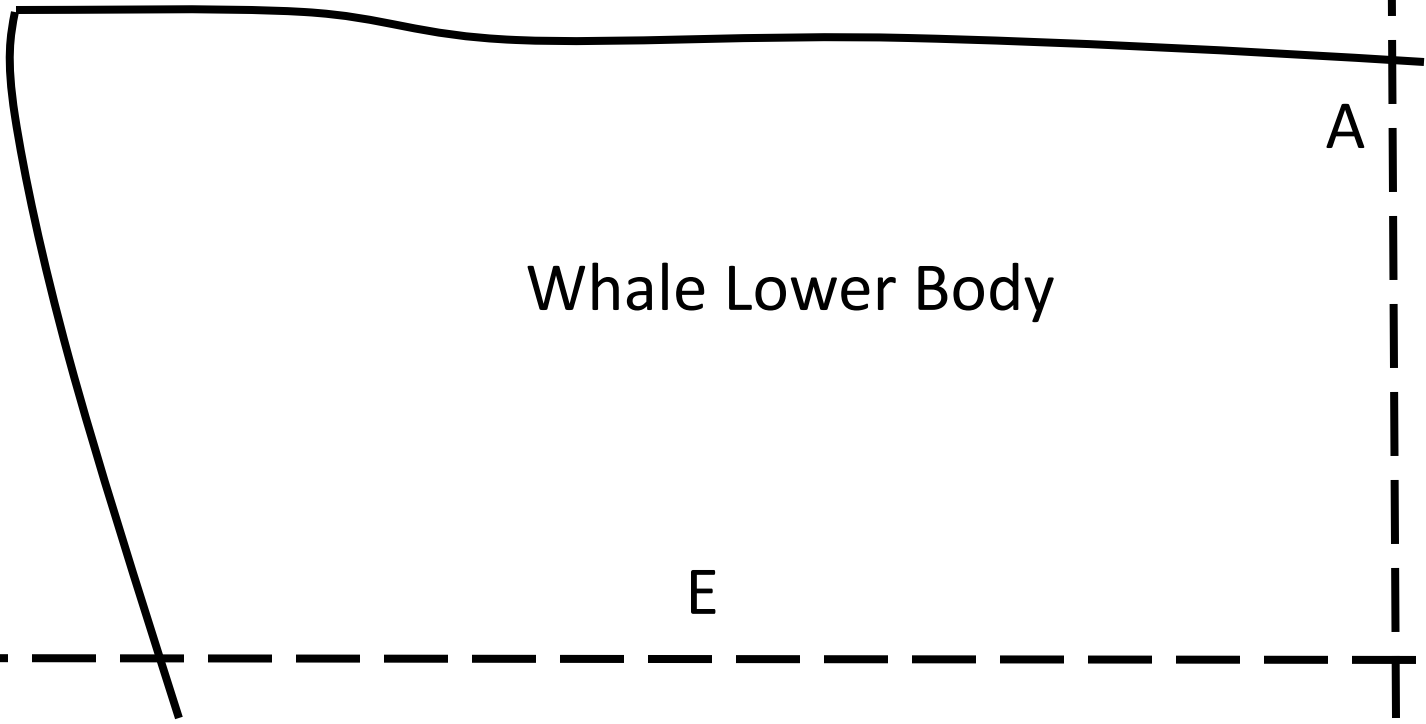
C

D



D

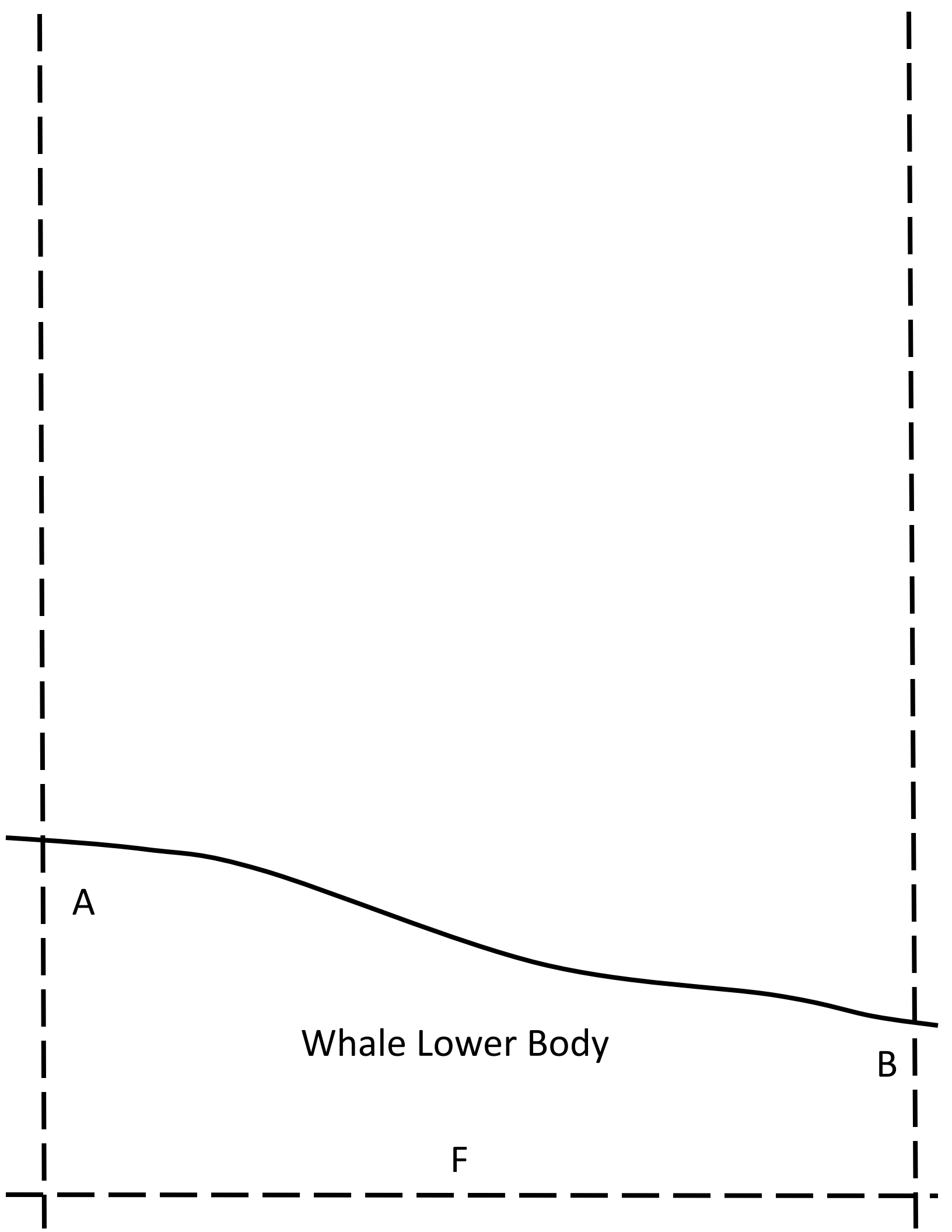
Whale Upper Body

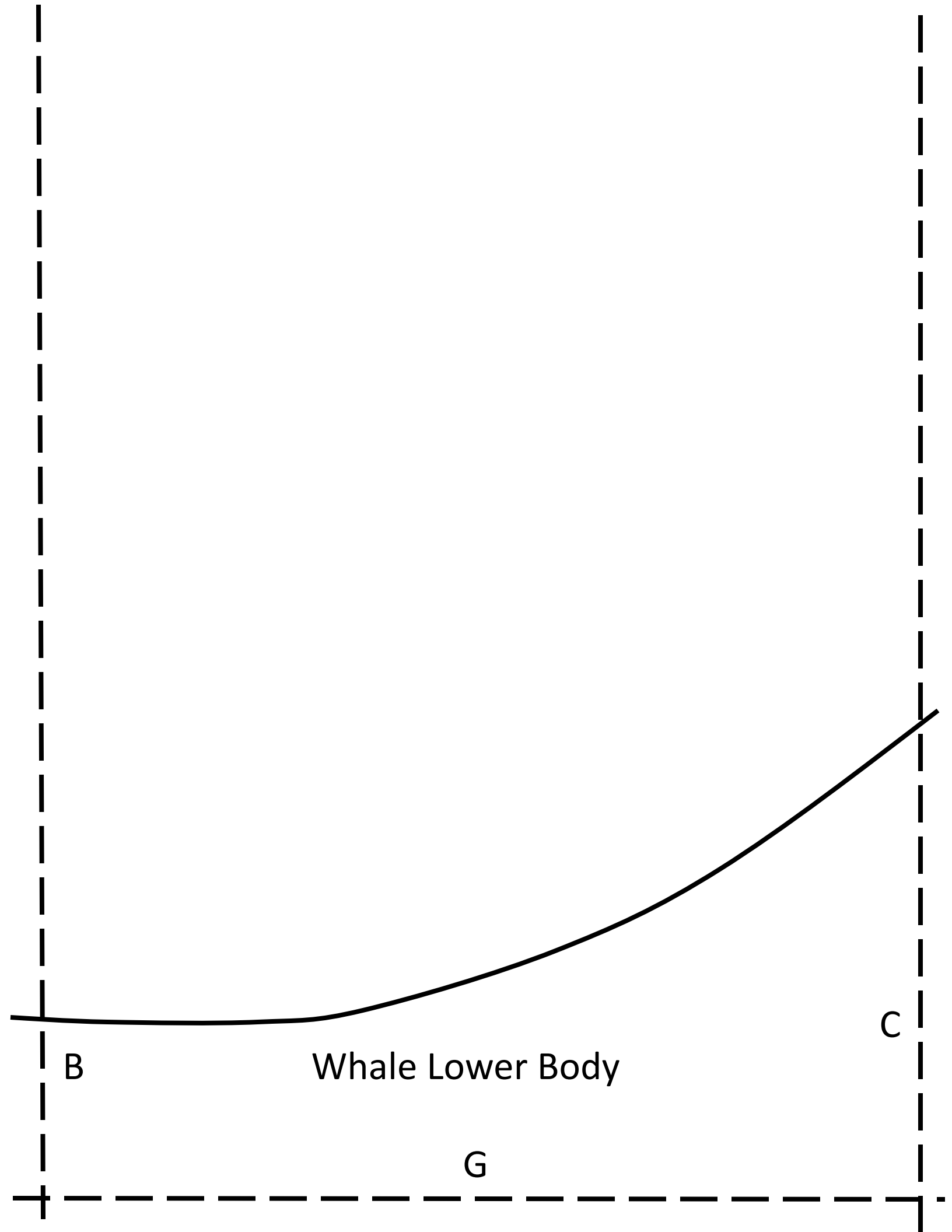


Whale Lower Body

A

E



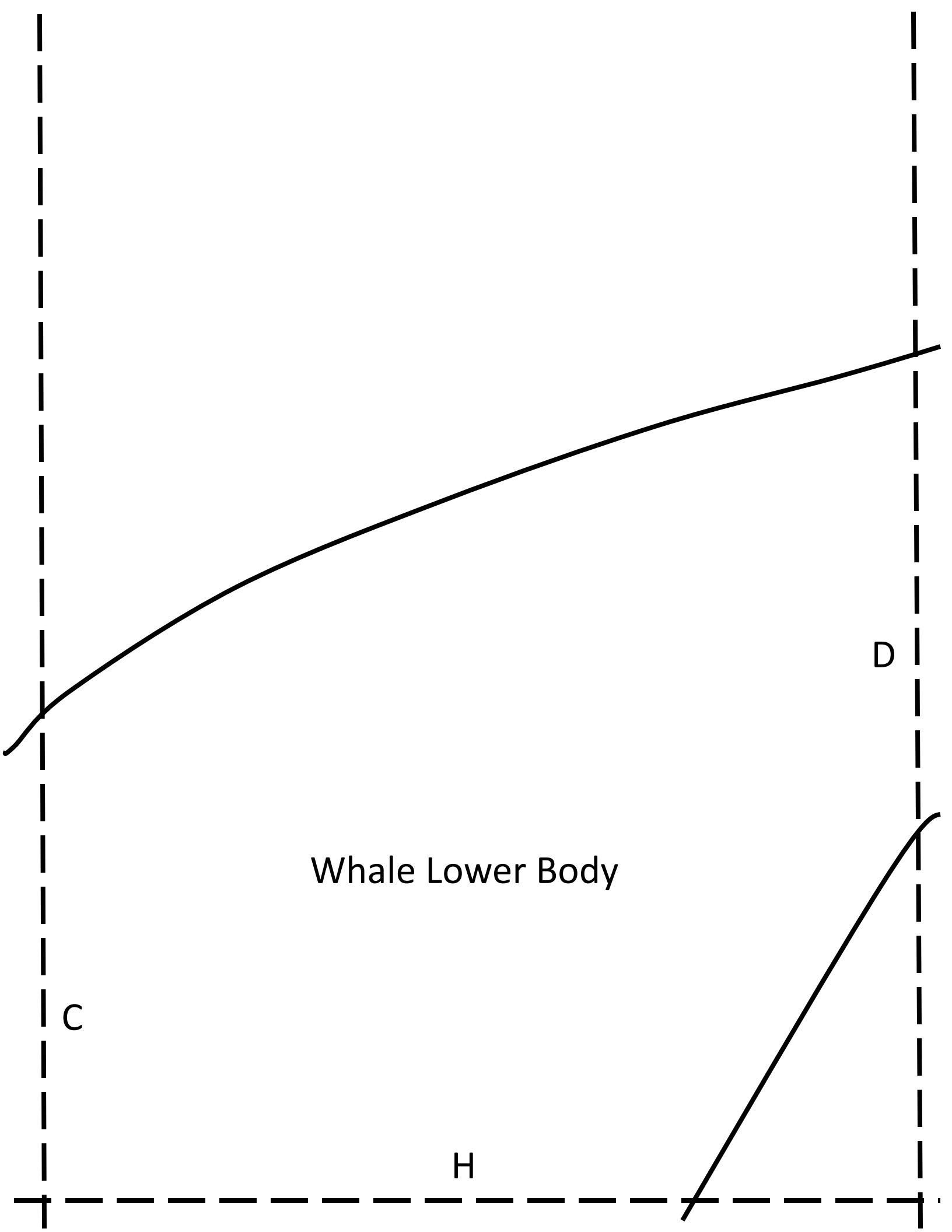


B

Whale Lower Body

C

G

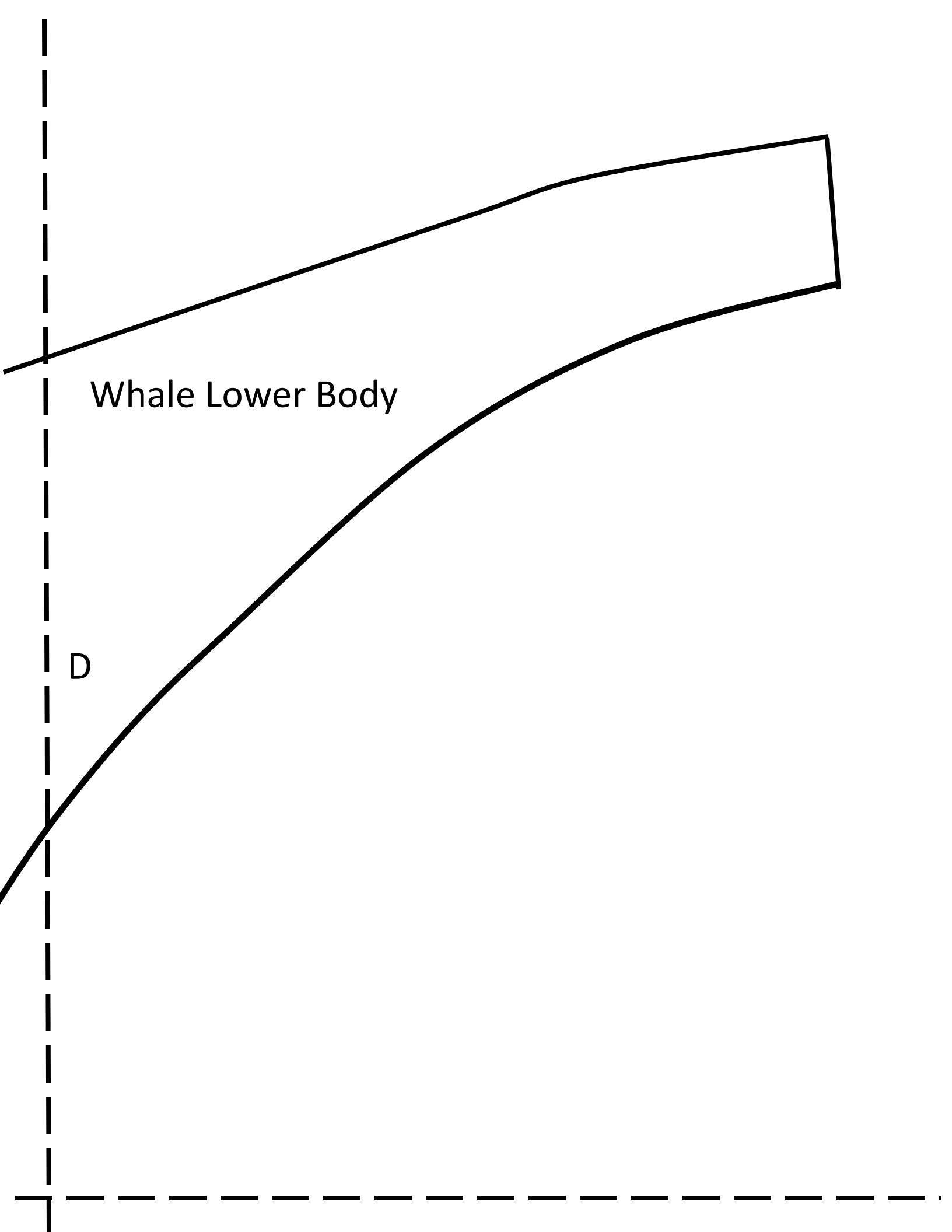


Whale Lower Body

C

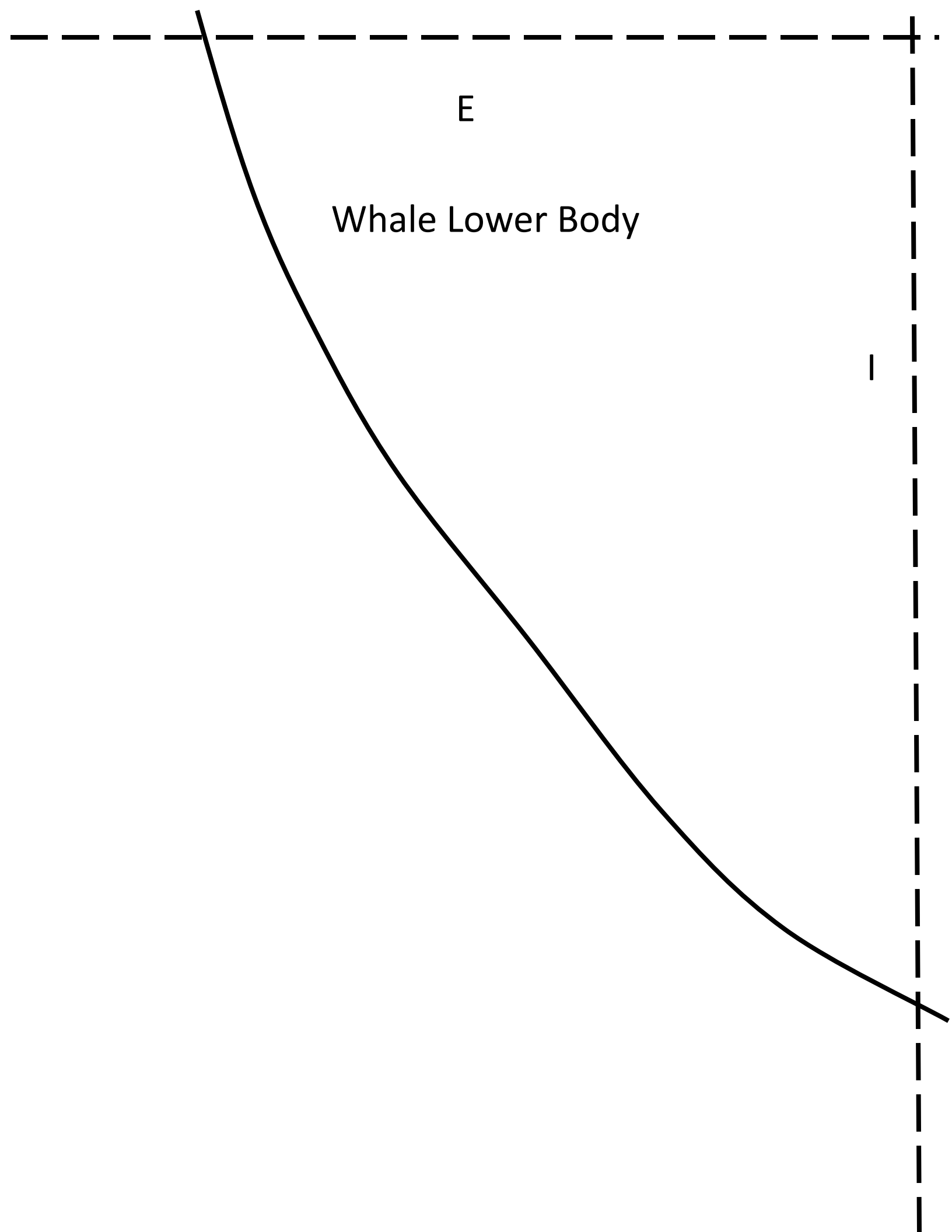
D

H



Whale Lower Body

D



E

Whale Lower Body

|

F

Whale Lower Body

I

J

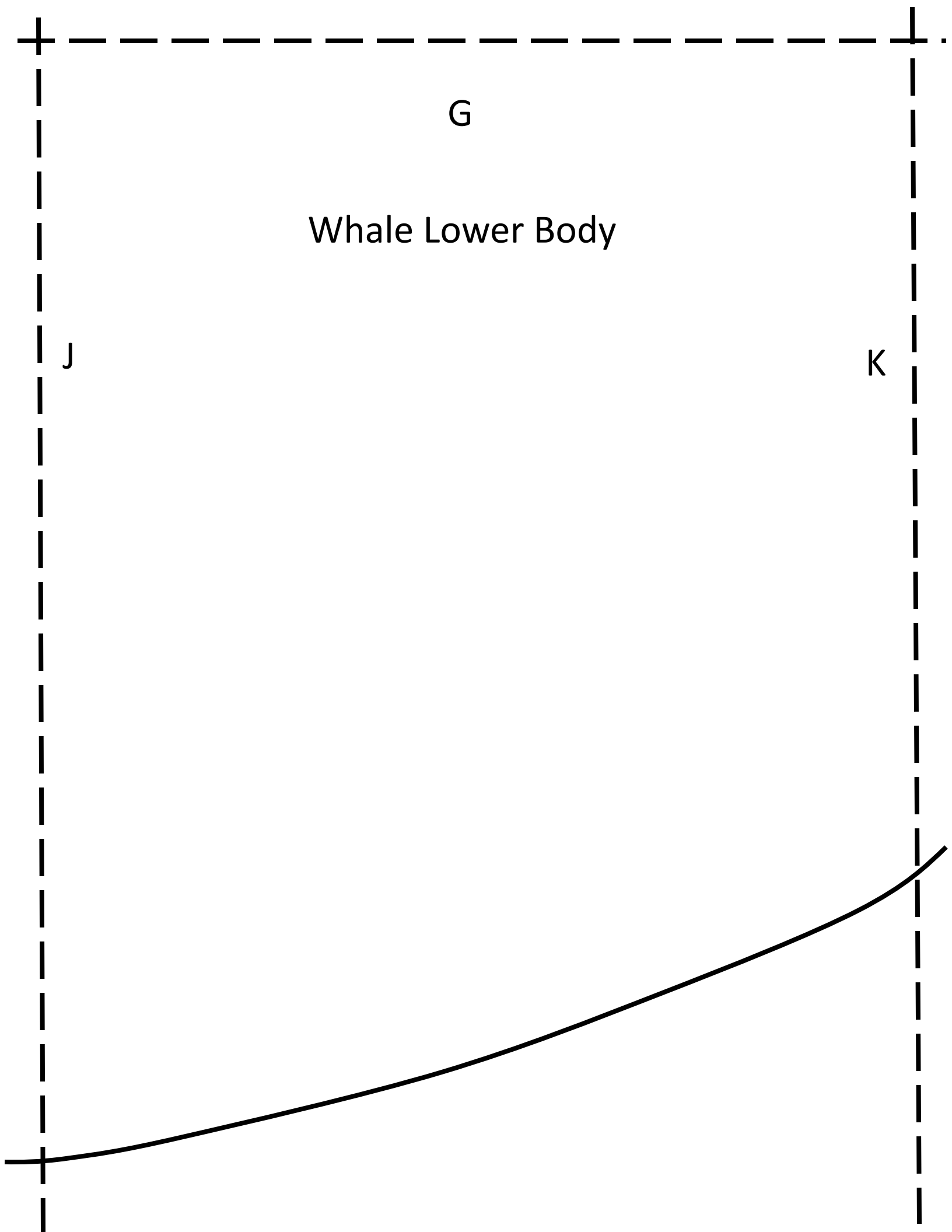


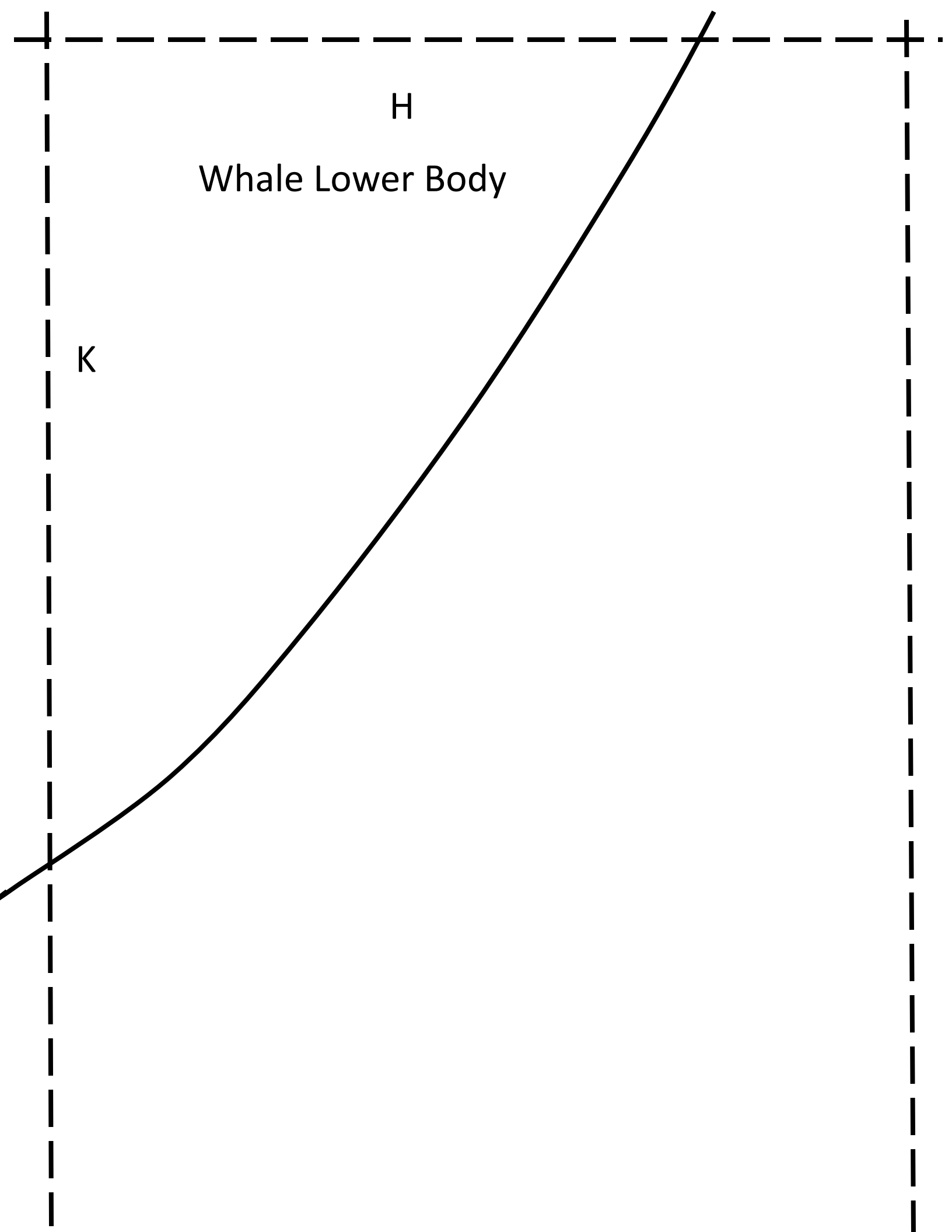
G

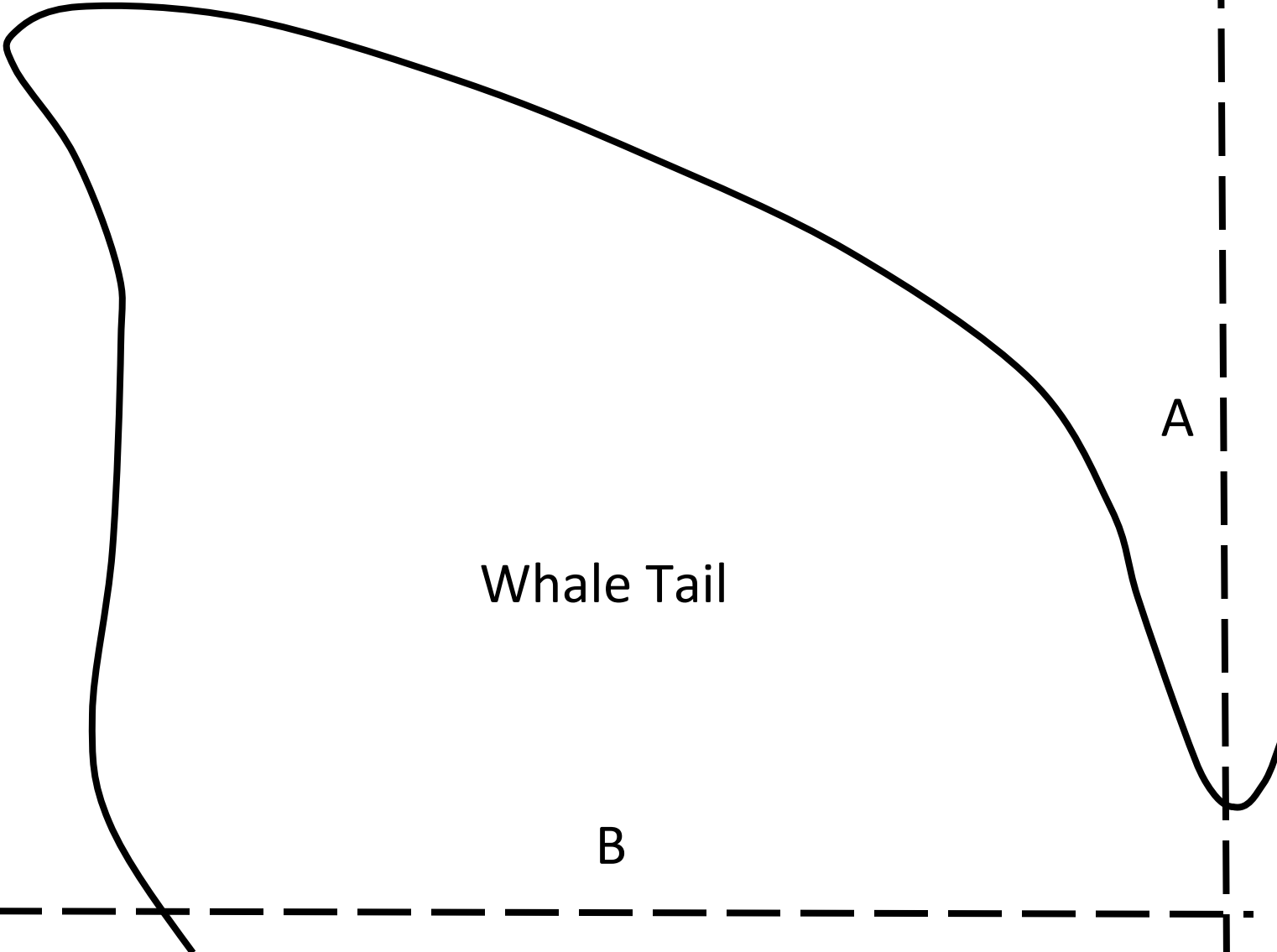
Whale Lower Body

J

K



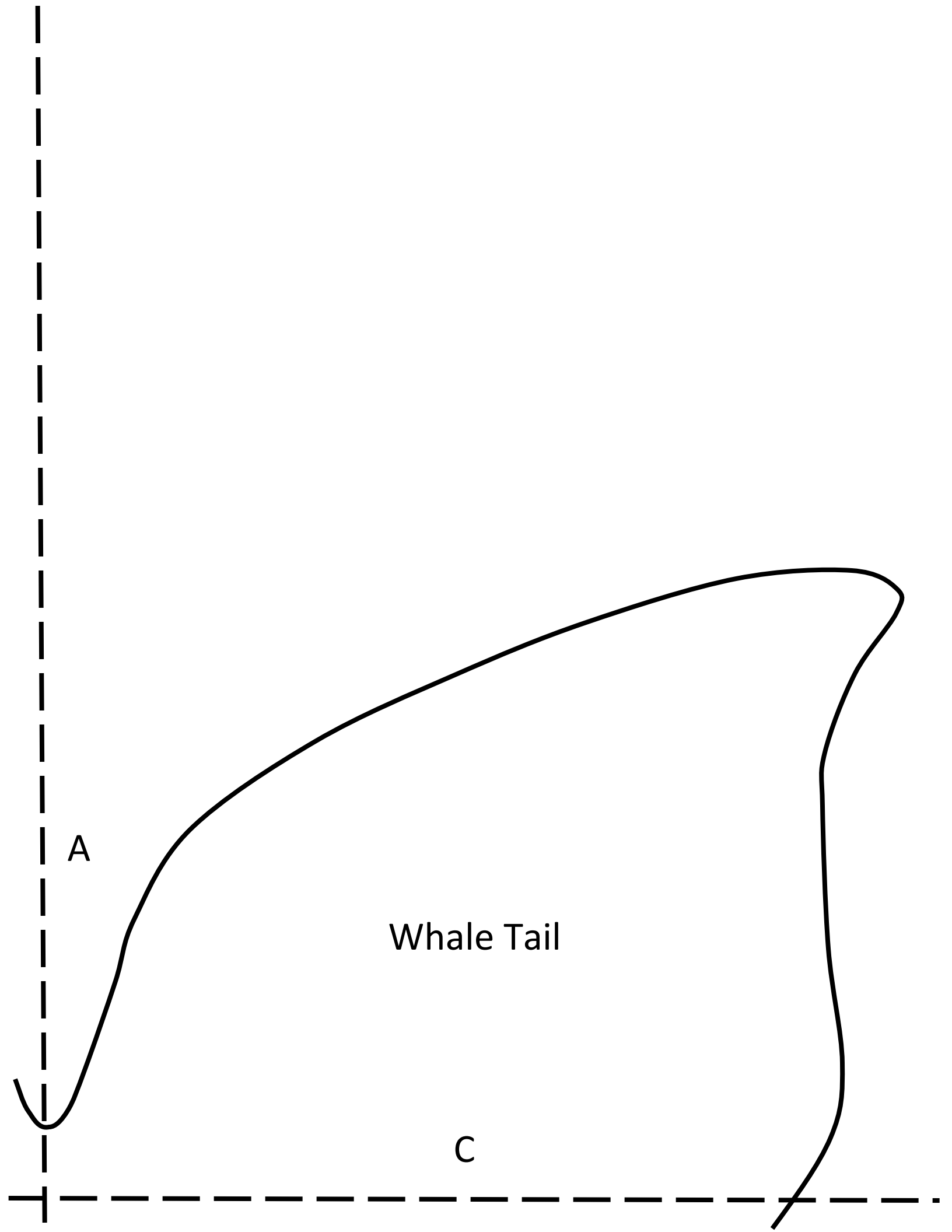




Whale Tail

A

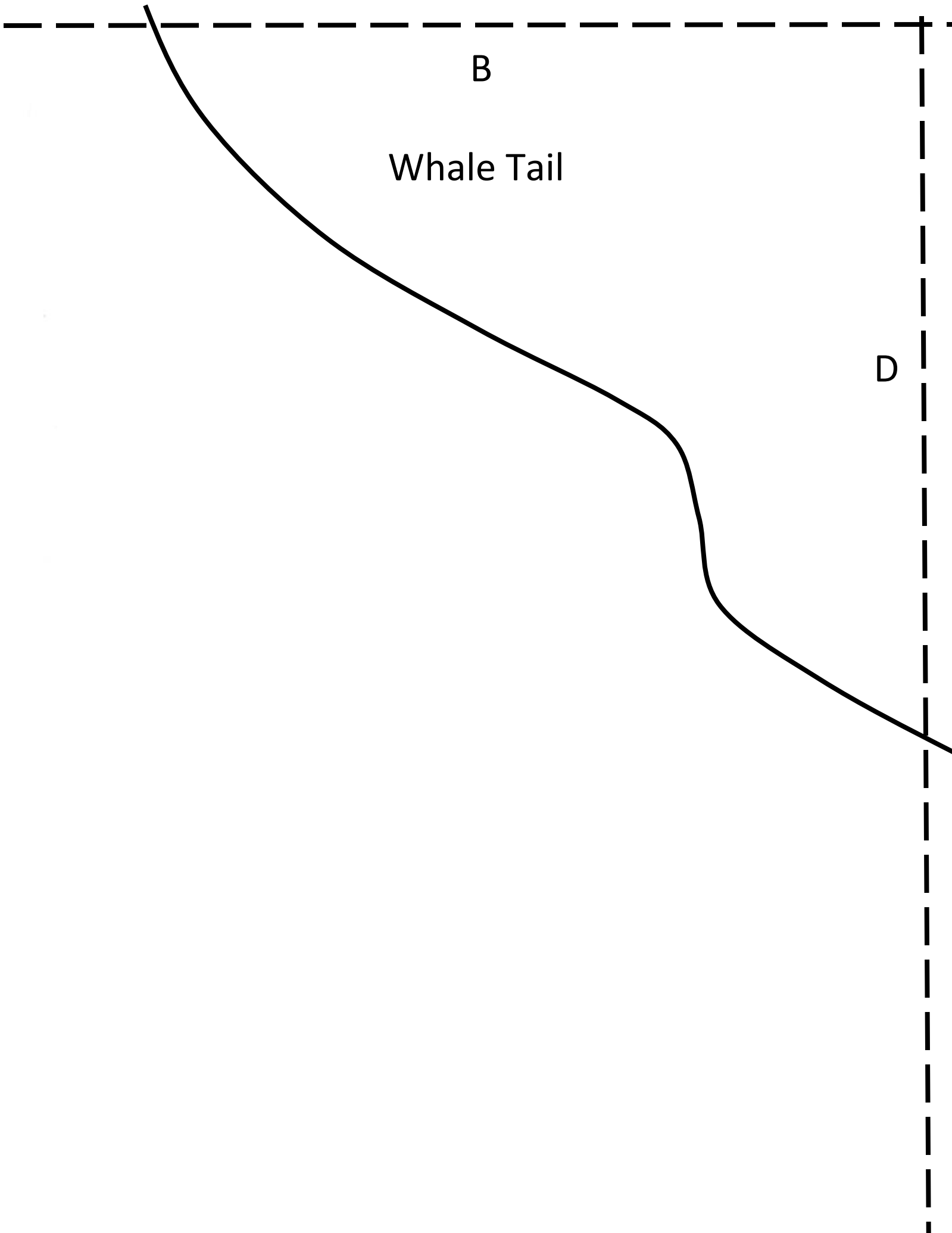
B



A

Whale Tail

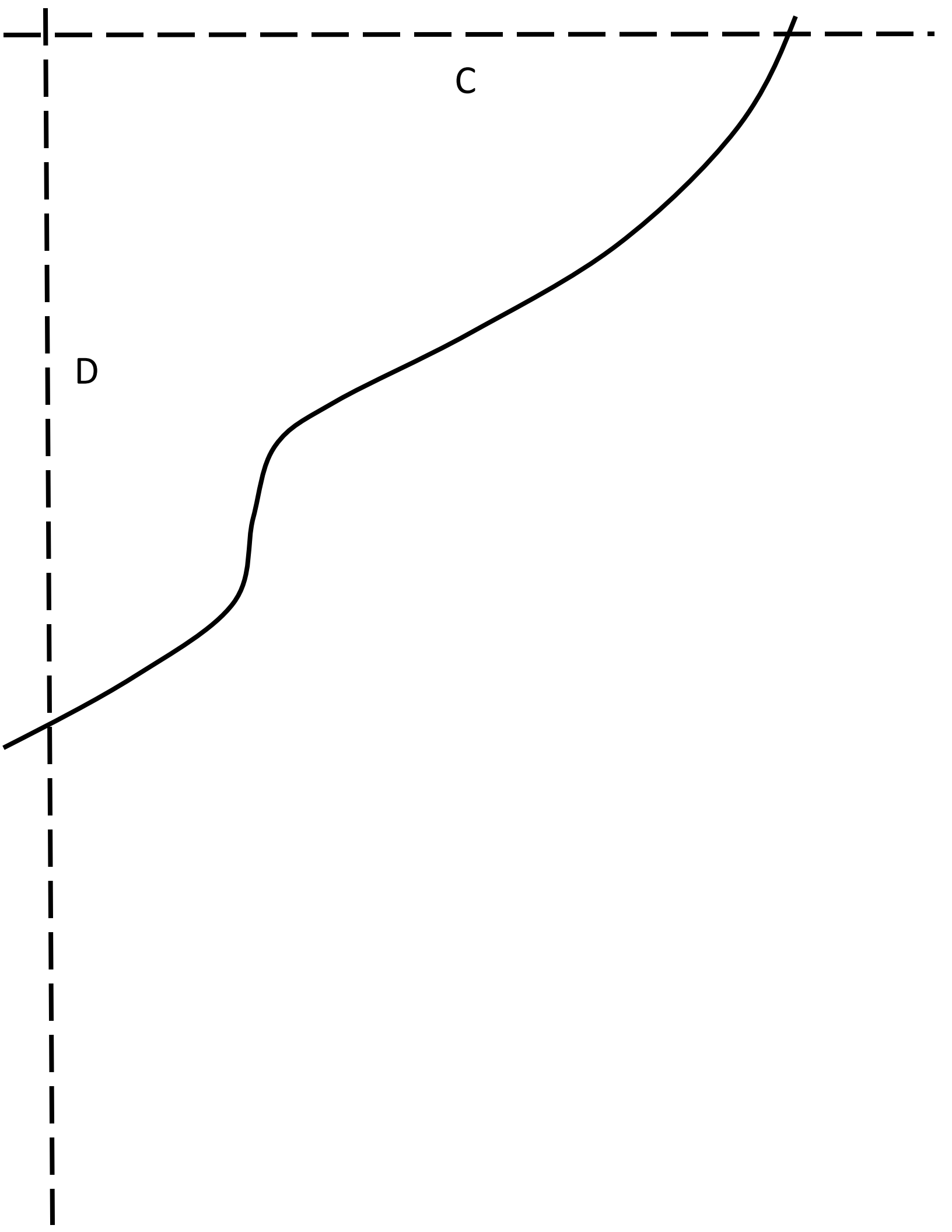
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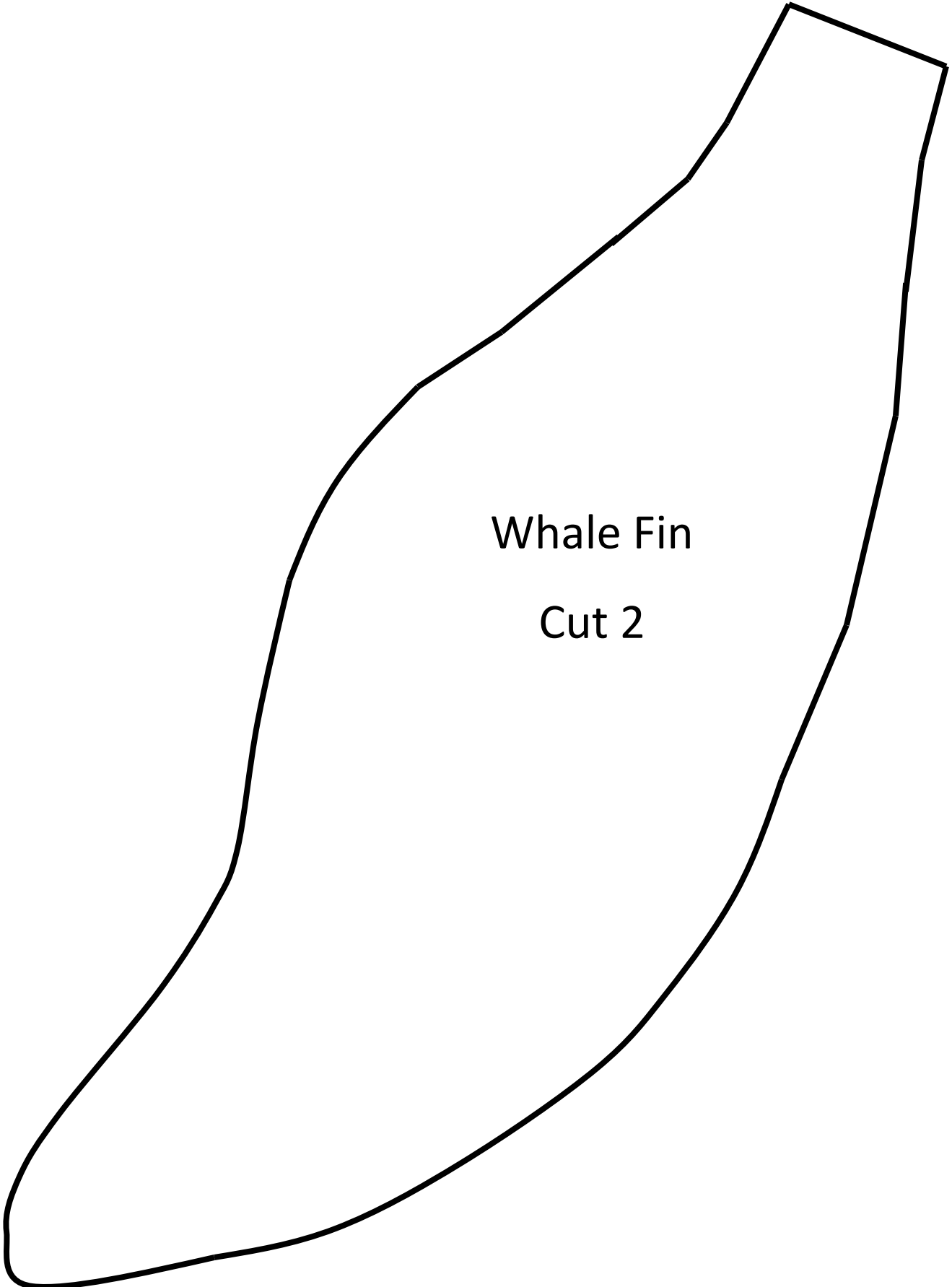


B

Whale Tail

D





Whale Fin

Cut 2