Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest

Cursive Entry Form

❐ Grade 5   ❐ Grade 6
❐ Grade 7   ❐ Grade 8

For information purposes only. Please print neatly or use editable field to populate teacher info prior to distributing to students. Submit only one entry per grade.

Teacher's First and Last Name   Telephone

School Name
                                                 ❐ Public   ❐ Private (check one)

School Address

City   State   Zip

Contact E-mail

Student's Full Name (written by student)

_____

Copy the sentence below in your best handwriting.

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.

_____

_____

_____

Using your best handwriting, answer the question below in your own words.

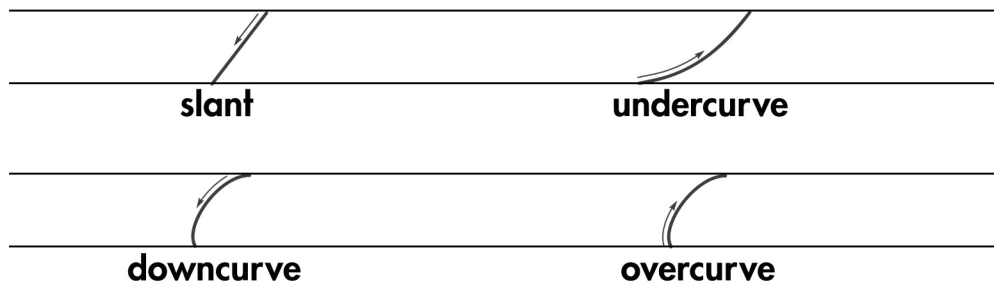How does your handwriting make you a better reader and writer, and why is this important?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Keys to Legibility
Cursive

Shape

The cursive letters are made up of four basic strokes.

slant   **undercurve**

downcurve   **overcurve**

Size

The size is correct when all letters of the same size are even in height and rest on the baseline.

tall letters

b d f h k l t

short letters

a c e g i j m

n o p q r s u

v w x y z

little
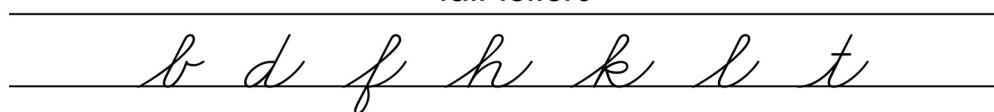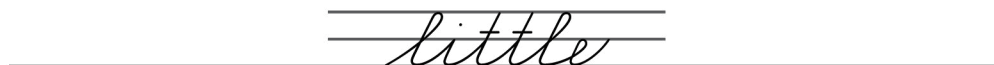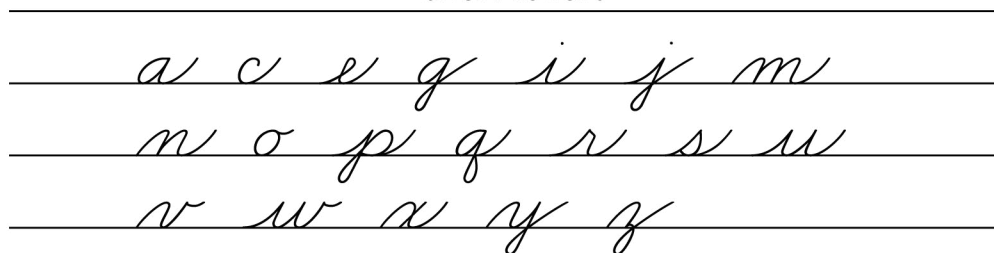
Spacing

Spacing between letters, words, and sentences should be even. Between letters in a word there should be just enough space for a minimum-sized oval. For uniform spacing between words, the beginning stroke should start near the ending stroke of the preceding word. A slanted line (45°) drawn from the endpoint of the last stroke to the baseline should touch both words. Allow enough space for an uppercase **O** between sentences and two uppercase **O**'s for the indentation of a paragraph.

is here
also. Look
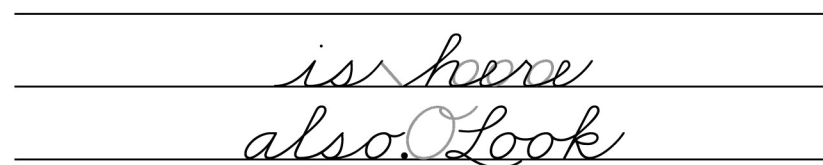
Slant

Cursive letters should have a forward slant. Correct slant is achieved by **positioning the paper correctly, pulling the downstrokes in the proper direction, and shifting the paper as the writing line fills.**

even slant

Paper Position

left hand   right hand

H3111D7 10.20