## Gumalauguir Sie Briema

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { IHODC= } \\
& \text { MIRTLIDO } \\
& \text { The ifralic aripuronen }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Gunnlaugur SE Briem




23 January is John Hancock's Birthday. It is also National Handwriting Day. To mark the occasion, Linnea Lundquist and Ward Dunham at Atelier Gargoyle in San Francisco asked me for this workshop. It was a pleasure.


First of all, remember that you have a choice. The faster you write, the worse it looks. The simplest way to make it better is to slow down.


The gurik koun tre fumper over the lary dry.
ite gurik boun fre fumpe over the lapy ery.

Ihe gurik brown fre fumper over the lary loy.

The quick brown fra jumper over the lars dry.

The gurik brown trix Jumper over phe lary drg.


She guck b own tar Jumper over the lars dry.


The gurik brown fare jumper over the lars dry.

The qurik bown fre jumpe over the larry drg.

The quick brown fro jumper over the larry dry.

The quick brown fire jumper over the lars dry.
$\qquad$

The guck brown fro jumper over the larry dry.
$\square$ Baseline
Midline
Descender lin
Ascender line

The quick brown Ire jumper over the larry dry.
$\square$ Baseline
Midline
Desconel lin
Ascender
lin

She quick brown fire jumper over the lanny drys.
$\qquad$


The quick brown fir jumper over the larry dry.
$\qquad$
tsthe guxickef burwp thr jumpro bores true lapros efog.

Hthe govickf buguph Atr jumpre pores tre lapry efog.

The quick brown fire jumper over the lars dry.



24 So we apply spacing lines


25 These letters are more evenly spaced.

The quick brown for jumper over the lazy dog.
$\qquad$

The quick biröun fox jumper over the lay dog.

The quick birourn for jumpu over the lazy dog.
$\qquad$

The quick brown for jumper over the lazy dog.
$\qquad$

The quick brown for jumpoover the lazy dog.
$\qquad$

The quick brown for jumps over the lazy dog.

The quick brown for jumps over the lazy dog.



This text was sent down a USB cable and printed out. It's a typeface that has been used to make model sheets in Iceland for over twenty years.




In the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, the ascenders were highers than the caps, and that's how they are today. And back then the letter t was only made high enough not to be mistaken for the letter c.


haecnoncoznouerum ficatoreftice ouncr deeo echaec fecern - curbaquaceratcur mento ecfurcitaure cuontertarba quid pharracier $30 \cdot d_{2 x e r}$

9th-10th century, France

38 In the fifteenth century, scholars in Florence really liked the look of some recently discovered manuscripts. Most of them were written in the Carolingian style.


1st century BC. Roman caps


ON uereor clax me de eloquer quond.am pen mam \& opern colo quend.am alıum phýfici fenthum epittola thea reanh mone Riagebut. Quod utriu udeto equo a gamulimo ret manarnimindornenf fertho

1402-3 Poggio Braccolini


1334 London


Notorduro hac bo tem. Iulzanus. fitüs duef umpone asguttac altims.f.

1423 Niccolò Niccoli

## ABCDEFGH <br> abcdecfgg IKLMNOPQ biklmnopg RSTVXYZ $r s \int t u x y y^{z}$

1522 Ludovico Vicentino degli Arrighi

"penis quas pro his mertmir č7pias.

DEns quit culpa cfficudoros pontenna placarts: pre ces pepitl tuw supplicanths pre pitus respuce:ct flageila tue' traciendic que pro jeccatio nol. tris morenuratierte.

$\square_{d}^{M}$Mmportus _cmpirrve' deus mifrorer famulatu - pape noftro. N. cr dirigecui fectundum tuam dementios in utam Jafutis eternc: ut te do. nonte thb placta cupat: cto
ta utrtute profictar.


Eus aquo fancta defut ria:resta confifia ct tu Jfafunt opcra:da ferwis turs tliam quam mundus dare no poteft pacem:ut ct corida nof: tra mandates atus dedita : et hofturm fublata formidine tr porafint tha protectione tran sulfa.

VRe ignc fanct spiritus renes noftros et cor no. frum domine: ut tibi cafto cor pore feruatames et mundo cor

## 16th century. Ludovico Vicentino degli Arrighi

## ABCDEFGHIJ abcolefghijkl KLMNOPQRS mnopqrstuvw TUVWXYZEのA $x y z \operatorname{zeq} a, .:: ?!$

1964 Bent Rhode




People are capable of extraordinary things when they don't know what they're doing. For the moment, I'd like you to cut all links to handwritten letters as best you can, and concentrate on movement

## шююшюшюя minimum minimum

##  lyuml lywi haunt lyug hand lung







$$
\text { 可 } 9
$$




Most of the o-family should fit the space between two stems in a zigzag. Another tip: one way of making a nicely balanced letter $s$ is to trace it on a letter o. The middle letter in the top line is of course the letter eth, which is the other letter you need for Icelandic.


Here's how to write the letter e, in greater detail. You start the way you write the letter o. Halfway through, you lift the pen and take it back where you began. You make a curve to the middle of the first stroke. From there you turn around and connect to the next letter.
 halves tilt slightly toward one another. The second stroke of the letter x is a diagonal down and to the left. You don't join from it.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& X X^{2} \times V \\
& \text { x\& \& \& } \\
& \times \text { XXXX }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 1234567890 \\
& 1234 \pi G \times 90 \\
& 5 \pi
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& i i n f_{f}^{f} \\
& g f
\end{aligned}
$$



## Don't keep your eye on the ball <br> Look where the thing is going




A zigzag that looks like the letter v , many times over, is a common mistake. To write it properly, you make slightly slanting stems that are connected by upstrokes with a much greater slant.

##  МММММММWMM  WMWM

the quick brown fox foe quinck/brown fox

IMWM以WWMWM
шWM Wsw WWM WWM M
WMWWMWWWW
WWM WWMWWMWMW
W WMM WWM WM WMM
WW以WWMWWM
M
М WMWMWMWM
MWWMWMMWM WWM
MWMMMWMMm
МWMWMWIMMIn


Here's the proof of the pudding. Alan was an average ten-year old pupil when I visited the Staplehurst Primary School in Kent. He had never seen this Icelandic text until he wrote it for the first time. (It means "Once upon a time ... .")





Dot exercises can be fun. With a little imagination, patterns can make pictures.





1553 Wolffgang Fugger


Chinese, classical


1547 Urban Wyss


1832 Benjamin Franklin Foster


## 1832 Benjamin Franklin Foster





You can try holding the pen in a way that makes a tight grip is less likely.


A plastic pencil grip costs 50 cents and helps a lot of people. But the best way is just to relax and remember that a tight grip doesn't improve handwriting.
 You can write a lovely italic with a pencil or a ballpoint. Raphael wrote a beautiful monoline with a quill pen.


You have plenty of choices. But sooner or later, you'll want to try a broad edge pen. The angle of the pen creates the thicks and thins.


The pen on the left is at a go degree angle to the baseline. The top of the letter a is thin. The pen in the middle is at 55 degrees, which makes a nice letter. The the pen on the right is parallel to the baseline. The top is thick and the stems are thin




## 94

175
A pointed pen can easily write three times longer than a broad edge pen between dips in the inkwell. In the days before typewriters, all business documents were handwritten. A pointed pen saved money.

upon the muscles near the elbow.

Until fountain pens came along, pen lifts wasted time and money. There was a right way and a wrong way of sliding the hand along the paper.

## antidisestablishmentarianism

 antidisestablishmentarianism proposals to remove the Church of England's position as the state church of England. It is the longest word in the English language, excluding coined and technical terms.




There are traditions and rules, especially about proportions. If you write a narrow letter O , for example, the letter H should be narrow as well.


In centuries of use and two major historical revivals, the ideal lettershapes have changed slightly. The thicks and thins are not always a logical result of the tool that makes them. You have to cheat. The letter N looks better if you change the angle of the pen.


$$
\begin{aligned}
& b b \\
& \underset{\sim}{b} F
\end{aligned}
$$

leut
 The biggest handwriting mistake in recent times is probably the print script, or manuscript writing if you prefer.


$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { ABCDEFGHIJKLM } \\
& \text { NOPQRSTUWWXYZ } \\
& \text { abcdefghijklmnopqrst } \\
& \text { uvwxyz }
\end{aligned}
$$



# ABCDEFGHIJKLM NOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz A quick brown fox jumps over a lazy dog. 

## ABCDEFGHI abodefghijklm JKLMNOPQR nopqrstuvwxyz STUVWXYZ




The first hurdle of print script is that a circle is an absolute form. It's either a circle or it isn't. Letters that are based on a circle are more difficult to write than letters based on an oval.


113 An egg shape is flexible. It doesn't have failure built into it.
175



The writing movement can go wrong, too. You can easibly begin a print script letter a at the bottom and end it at the top. The italic letter a, on the other hand, begins at the right point and ends with the pen in the proper place for a join to the next letter.


116 And the same people who like print script also have ideas about pens. Of all the writing instruments we can choose from, they make young children write with pens that feel like broomsticks.



## 6th century BC. Rome



## 23 A.D. Early Roman cursive



Ca. 552 AD, Ravenna. Late Roman Cursive

1524. Giovanantonio Tagliente, Venice


1834 United States

122 A simplified copperplate looks different, but the letter $m$ has been written the same way for fifteen centuries. Then print script came along.
 three years, and then told to learn a new, joined script.


124 Imagine, if you can, teaching a child to play the violin for three years and then say "Now it's time for you to learn diferent fingering." In 1974, Marjorie Wise rejected her efforts as "ill-advised and misused."

## The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { The guide brown } \\
& \text { fox jumps over } \\
& \text { the lacy dog }
\end{aligned}
$$

 At least five per cent of the adult population is left-handed. A 1998 study suggests seven to ten per cent. What should they do?


127 Until recently, schools had a simple approach: make them write with the right hand. Beat them if they don't. Things are more complicated now.


Where do you put the paper? If you are right-handed, the page should be on your right. Otherwise your hand gets in your line of vision and you can't see what you're doing.

 transverse, like a flute.


131 Special pen nibs with an oblique cut are available for left-handers. I'm not sure they help much. You quickly get used to writing with a broad edge pen on paper at a go-degree angle.


132 But most left-handers need to keep the pen nib farther from the fingertips that right-handers usually do.


$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { The quick brown } \\
& \text { fox jumps over } \\
& \text { the lazy dog }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { The qyick brown } \\
& \text { fox jumps over } \\
& \text { the lazy dog }
\end{aligned}
$$

The quick brown The quick brown fox jumps over fox jumps over the lazy dog the lazy dog




Who wants to write page after page of exercises and not get any better?

## The quick brown fox jumps over the lary dog

## $\rightarrow$ The quick brown fox jumps over the lary doy

 The quick brown fox jumps over the lary doyThe quick brown fox jumps over the lary dog $\rightarrow$ The quick brown fox jumps over the lary dog The quick brown fox jumps over the lary doy

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog
$\rightarrow$ The quick brown fox jumps over the larry dog
The quick brown fox jumps over the boozy dog
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog
The quick brown for jumps over the lazy dog The quick brown fox jumps over the lory dog

## 

Alice had never seen such a curious croquet-
ground in all her life, all ridges and furrows;
the croquet-balls were live hedge-
hogs, and the mallets live flamingoes


144 My experience suggests this makes sensible use of time and paper. Every page begins with a zigzag for tracing. The text is traced before it's written. The sheet can be used by left-handers and right-handers alike.
 marked with a gray bar at one end. The baseline is slightly bolder and marked with a dot.
abcdefghijklmnopgrstuvw xyz ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOP QRSTUVWXYZ 1234567890?

## abcdefghijklmnopgrstuvw xyz ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOP QRSTUVWXYZ 1234567890?

## 



## 

## The bed was already on fire!

 The bed was already on fire!

##  The bed was already on fire! Thi lui wuw whwily wn |cus! The bed was arready on fire!



耳 learn the movement for italic in twenty minutes. This sheet will take you about five. And now, please let me insult you some more.

## WM MM WM WM WM WM WM*

## Traccezigzagas three times, slowly

## The bed was already on fire!

## WM WM WM WM WM WM WM $^{* 3}$

## Trace zigzags three times, slowly

That bul wins whawnly in IMN! TM MM wM wMMMM WM |MM!

151 You write zigzags on top of the text in the second line.
175


## WM WM WM WM WM WM MM $^{* 3}$

Trace zigzags three times, slowly
The bed was already on fire!
overwrite with zigzags
Thu bul wnw wholly wM MM! trace z zigzags
The bed was already on fire!

153 You trace the zigzags in the third line.

## WM WM WM WM WM WM MM $^{* 3}$

Trace zigzags three times, slowly
The bed was already on fire! Overwrite with zigzags
The tIcal inn whmuly un |nu! Trace zigzags
The hoad wows alworely un fund! Oven write with zigzags, again


154 You write zigzags on top of the text in the fourth line.
175
hiр"lup MAPDX

## WM WM WM WM WM WM $W^{* 3}$

Trace zigzags three times, slowly
The bed was already on fire!
Overwrite with zigzags
The ITal man whmuly un |mu!
Trace zigzags
The bed was already on fire!
oremunte eth rigagas again
The bed was already on fire!
Trace text

## 干

156 After this, you trace the text in the fifth line.
175

MM MM MM MM MM MM MM $^{* 3}$ The bed was already on fire! Thu hurl wu whmuln mn |mu! The bed was already on fire! The bed was already on fire! The bed was already on fire!
$\qquad$


## 

Now is the winter of our discontent
 Now is the winter of our discontent Now is the winter of our discontent
$\qquad$ hand will know it, too. (This text is the opening soliloquy from Richard III.)



## 

## The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog


The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog




Please remember that you don't join out of a descender until you have got used to italic.

ahc |hledt ght
alsantafghï abcolefghij
$\qquad$


167 You can practice ovals instead of zigzags if you prefer, and work from the model of Austin Norman Palmer instead.
Her



170 You can hold the pen any way you like-within reason-as long as you avoid writing cramp.
175


171 You put the paper wherever you get the best result. If you're right-handed, try to have the light on your left. If your're left-handed, you want the light from the right.

tui quit brawn gat sumps no traitor dey the funk mound fore rungs one the la ry dog Tho quid brown for jumps over that lazy dog The quick brown fou jumps over the lazy dey


Tanconk












 perivo (y)



Circa 1250. Thomas Aquinas


I thank Atelier Gargoyle for inviting me here, and all of you I thank for coming.

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvw
xyz ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOP
QRSTUVWXYZ $1234567890 ?$
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvw
xyz ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOP
QRSTUVWXYZ $1234567890 ?$
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvw
xyz ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOP
QRSTUVWXYZ 1234567890?
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvw
xyz ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOP
QRSTUVWXYZ 1234567890?
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvw
xyz ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOP
QRSTUVWXYZ 1234567890?


## 

| abcdefghijklmnopgrstuVW |
| :--- |
| Xyz ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOP |
| QRSTUVWXYZ $1234567890 ?$ |

¿068L9らもをZL ZAXMANISZO

－ 75

## 

Trace zigzags three times, slowly
The bed was already on fire!
overwrite with zigzags
TM MMN WM N whMMMM WM |MM!
trace zigzags
The bed was already on fire!
overwrite with zigzags, again
The bed was already on fire!
Trace text
$\mp$
Write text

178
175

## 

Trace zigzags three times
Now is the winter of our discontent
Ovenwrite with zigzags
Nm M Ms mum wl wn Himulus
Tracez zigzags
Now is the winter of our discontent
Ovemrite with zigzags


Trace text
N
Write

## 

Trace zigzags three times
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog Overwrite with zigzags
Th r MM WMMM HN MMMH wM WM WM WM M Trace zigzags
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog Overwrite with zigzags
The quick brown fox jumps over the arr dog
Trace text


Write

The puppy rushed at
the stick, and made
believe to worry it. Alice
dodged behind a great
thistle, in order to avoid being run over.
$\qquad$
181
Eleven lines


175

 "Very important," the King said, twee-
ing to the jury. The White
 Rabbit interrupted: "Unimporthant, your Majesty."


$\square$
$\square$
185
175


175
 "Why is a raven like a Writing-desk?" asked the Hatter. "Come, we shall have some fun now!" thought Alice. $\overline{187}$


Nine lines with slants
 Around the neck of the bottle was a label with the
 words "Drink Me"






```
\(\square\)


Eight lines with slants


иии иии шии "To show I'm not proud, you may
shake hands with me!"
\(\qquad\) 193
175



175


Seven lines with slants
 The cat only циии ииии шии grinned at Alice.



\author{
175
}

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
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\hline
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