

# Writing Our Catholic Faith

Revised Edition

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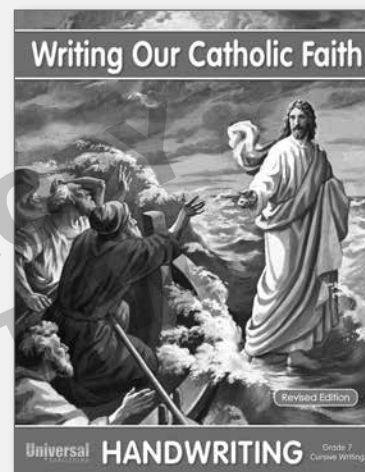
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# HAIL, HOLY QUEEN

Write the prayer.

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To you we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to you we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn, then, O most gracious Advocate, your eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

Write the response to this prayer.



**CHECK-UP**

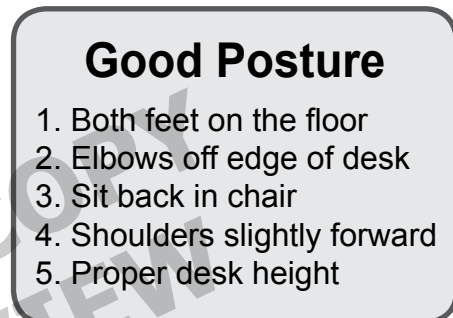
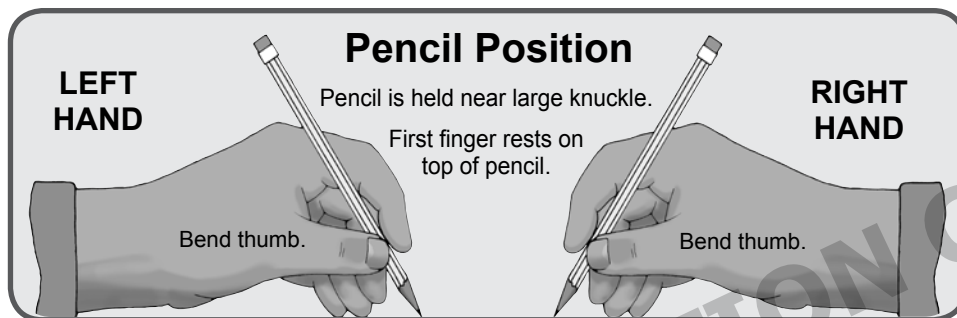
☐ LETTER SPACING

☐ JOININGS

☐ LETTER SIZE

☐ SLANT

☐ WORD SPACING



## LINE QUALITY

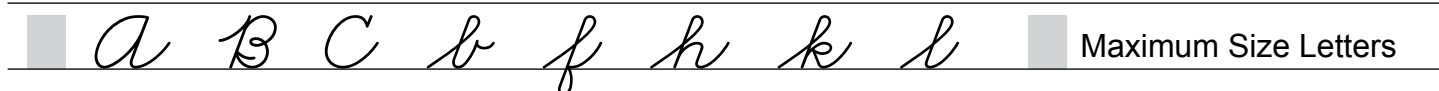
Line quality is the smoothness, evenness, color, and thickness of the pencil line.

CORRECT	TOO HEAVY	TOO LIGHT	VARYING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistent pressure on the pencil</li> <li>• Good #2 pencil lead</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Too much pressure on the pencil</li> <li>• Pencil lead too soft</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough pressure on the pencil</li> <li>• Pencil lead too hard</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varying pressure on the pencil</li> <li>• Pencil lead too soft</li> </ul>

## SIZE AND ALIGNMENT

Size and alignment refer to the evenness of the letters along the bottom line and along their tops, with all letters of the same size even in height.

Maximum letters fill almost the entire space.



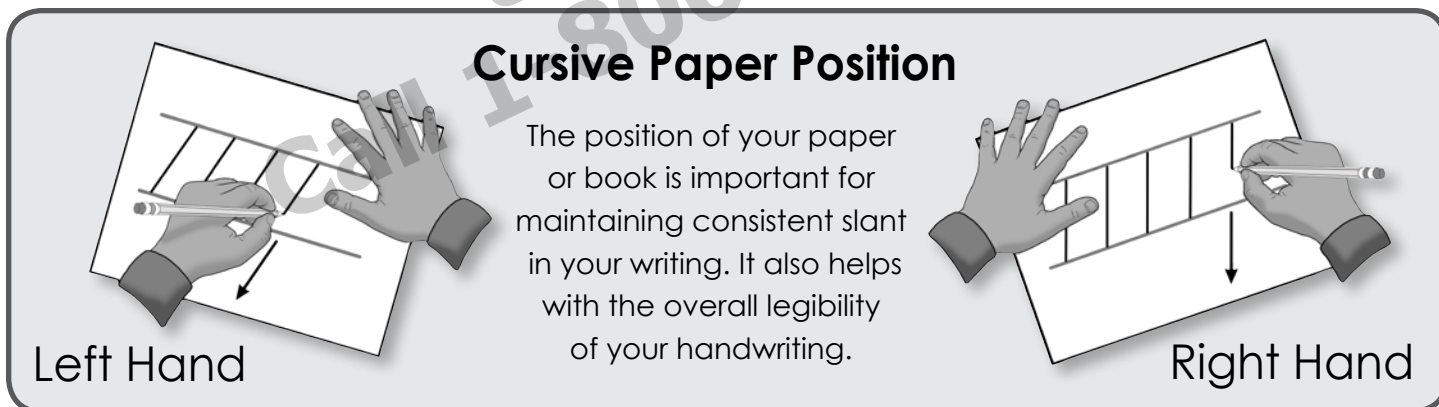
Minimum letters fill approximately one-half of the writing space.



Descenders fill approximately one-half the space below the bottom line.



Intermediate letters **d** and **t** fill approximately two-thirds of the writing space.



## MANUSCRIPT ALPHABET

A a B b C c D d E e

F f G g H h I i J j

K k L l M m N n O o

P p Q q R r S s T t

U u V v W w X x Y y Z z

.,;:'?!" " | 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

## CURSIVE ALPHABET

A a B b C c D d E e

F f G g H h I i J j

K k L l M m N n O o

P p Q q R r S s T t

U u V v W w X x Y y

Z z .,;:'?!" " | 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

# SPACING

Correct spacing between letters, words, and sentences makes your writing easy to read. Study the spacing examples below.

**Letter Spacing** The example below shows good spacing between letters.

*This shows good letter spacing.*

Write the sentence. Check your spacing between letters.

*Tess is volunteering at the hospital.*

**Word Spacing** Allow enough space between words to fit a small oval. The example below shows good spacing between words.

*This shows good word spacing.*

Write the sentence. Check your spacing between words.

*Daniel saw polar bears in Alaska.*

**Sentence Spacing** Allow enough space between sentences to fit a large oval. The example below shows good spacing between sentences.

*Noah built an ark. The animals came two by two. It rained for forty days and nights. The sun came out.*

Write the sentences. Check your spacing between sentences.

*Edward saw an eagle. It flew away.*

**New Paragraph Indent** When you indent for a new paragraph, allow enough space for two upper-case ovals. The example below shows the proper new paragraph indent.

*This shows correct indentation for a new paragraph.*

# BASIC STROKES

All letters are made from the basic strokes. If you make the basic strokes correctly, your writing will be legible.

Study the basic strokes below. As you write them, think of letters that contain each stroke.

## Slant Strokes

Practice writing the slant strokes. Be sure your book is in the correct position for cursive writing.

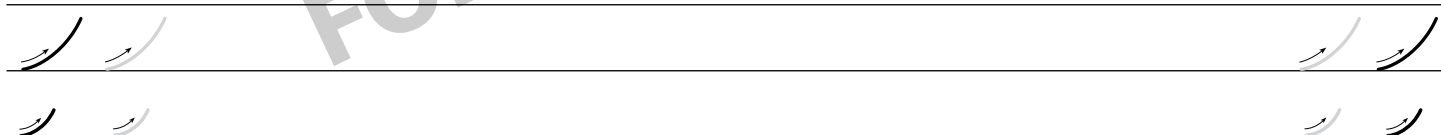


Study the slant strokes in the letters to the right.



## Undercurves

Write the tall and short undercurves. Make the undercurves wide. Do not curve up too quickly.



Study the undercurves in the letters to the right.



## Downcurves

Write the tall and short downcurves. Make the downcurves wide. Do not curve down too quickly.



Study the downcurves in the letters to the right.



## Overcurves

Write the tall and short overcurves. Make the overcurves wide. Do not curve up too quickly.



Study the overcurves in the letters to the right.



Write the sentence: **The new church was built quickly.** Check all your basic strokes.

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# LETTER FORMS

Cursive letters can be grouped in families based on stroke similarities. Study the groupings below.

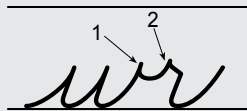
**Upper-Loop Letters** Be sure to keep the upper loop open in these letters. The undercurve leading into the upper loop of the letters must be made wide to allow room for the curve back and slant.

*b f h k l football shallow*

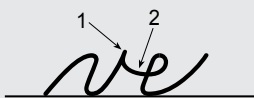
Write the sentences. Check your upper-loop letters.

**The baseball player also plays basketball and football.  
All three of these sports are physically challenging.**

**Checkstroke Letters** The lowercase letters **b**, **v**, **o**, and **w** are checkstroke-ending letters. Special attention is needed when joining these letters to another letter. Study the large examples.



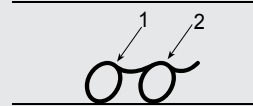
1. Pause, then retrace slightly.
2. Swing right forming the top of the letter **r**.



1. Pause, then retrace.
2. Swing low and right forming the loop of the letter **e**.



1. Pause, then retrace slightly.
2. Swing right forming the top of the letter **o**.



1. Pause, swing right wide.
2. Swing right forming the top of the second letter **o**.

Write each joining two times. Write the words.

*wr*

*write*

*wrong*

*ve*

*vest*

*love*

*bo*

*born*

*book*

*og*

*logic*

*clog*

*vi*

*divine*

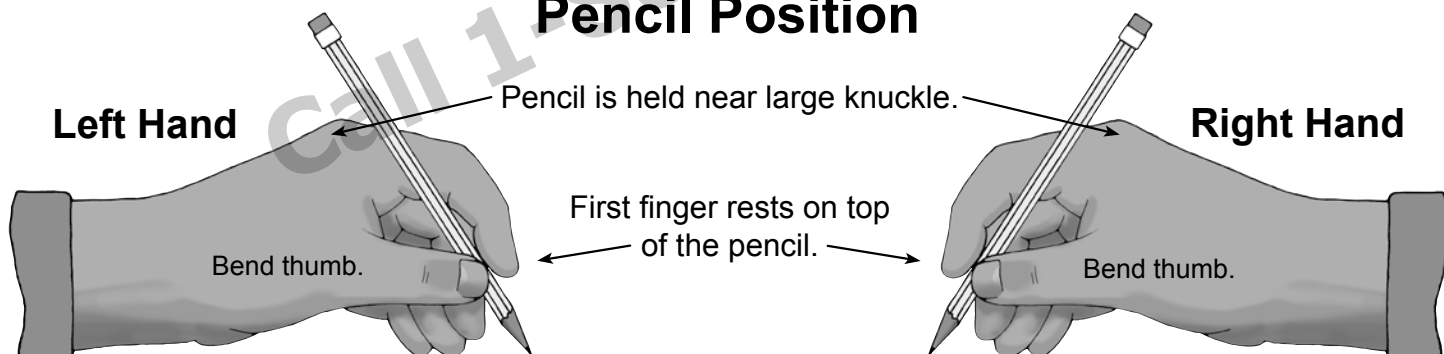
*vice*

*oo*

*moon*

*tool*

## Pencil Position







1. Downcurve
2. Undercurve
3. Slant
4. Undercurve

Trace and write the letter.

*a a a a*

Write the joinings and words.

<i>Ac</i>	<i>Acts of the Apostles</i>	<i>Ad</i>	<i>Advent</i>
<i>An</i>	<i>Annunciation</i>	<i>As</i>	<i>Ascension</i>

Write the sentences. Check your writing.

**God created us to grow and change. Adolescence is a time when we grow very quickly. We develop both physically and mentally. Our relationships with family and friends may begin to change as we become more independent. Our relationship with God also changes as we realize that he should not be taken for granted.**



**CHECK-UP**

☐ LETTER SPACING

☐ JOININGS

☐ LETTER SIZE

☐ SLANT

☐ WORD SPACING





1. Downcurve
2. Undercurve
3. Slant
4. Undercurve

Trace and write the letter.

*a a*

*a a*

*a*

*a*

*a*

*a*

*a*

*a*

Write the joinings and words.

*ab absolution ap apostolic an anoint*

*al altar ar archdiocese ad adopt*

Write the sentences. Check your writing.

*God created us in his image.*

*Although it may sometimes be difficult  
to accept ourselves during adolescence,*

*it is important to remember that God*

*loves us as we are. Growth is part*

*of God's plan, and we should try to*

*develop into the kind of people God*

*would like us to become.*



**CHECK-UP**

☐ LETTER SPACING

☐ JOININGS

☐ ALIGNMENT

☐ SLANT

☐ WORD SPACING



1. Undercurve
2. Slant
3. Retrace, curve forward and back
4. Curve forward and back
5. Swing right

Trace and write the letter.

B B

B B

B

B

B

B

B

B

Write the words.

Book of Revelation

Bethlehem

Babylon

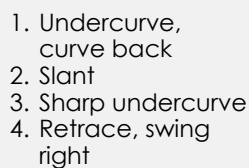
Holy Bible

Blessed Mother

Beatitudes

What are some ways in which God has been present in your life?

Handwriting practice lines for the question above.



Handwriting practice lines for the letter 'b'. Each row shows a cursive 'b' followed by a dashed 'b' for tracing, and a solid 'b' for independent writing. A large diagonal watermark 'NON COPY' is visible across the page.

ba	baptism	bo	neighbor	br	celebrate
bu	abundant	be	benediction	belief	

**God made us different from his other creations by giving us the gift of free will. As we begin to mature and approach adulthood, we learn to recognize that our actions have consequences. These consequences not only affect us, but those around us as well. We must use free will to make good choices and accept responsibility for our actions.**

Questions?  
Call 1-800-940-2270