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**Grade 5**

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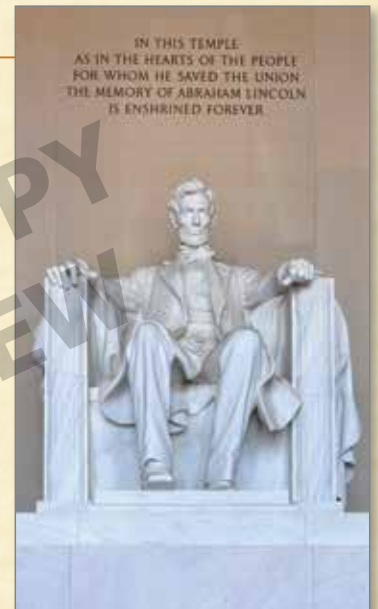
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## The Gettysburg Address

Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure.

~ Abraham Lincoln



Write the above sentences from the Gettysburg Address.

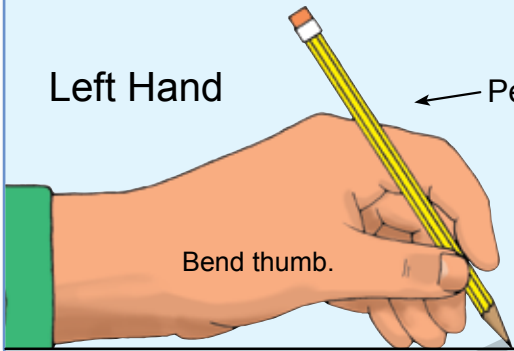
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**CHECK-UP**☐ LETTER SPACING☐ JOININGS☐ LETTER SIZE☐ SLANT☐ WORD SPACING

## Pencil Position

Left Hand

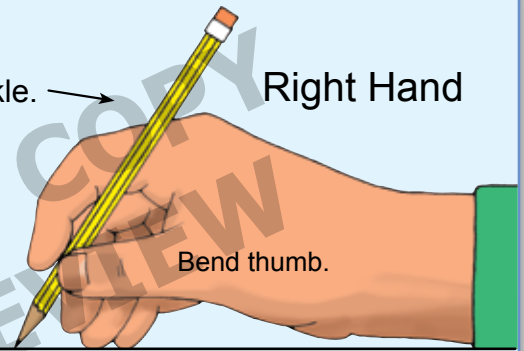


Bend thumb.

Pencil is held near large knuckle.

First finger rests on top of the pencil.

Right Hand



Bend thumb.

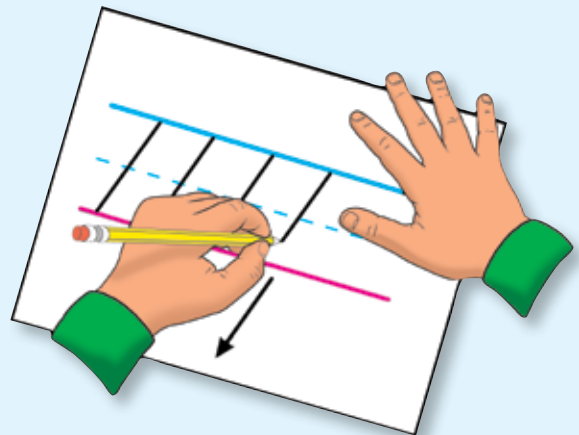
## GOOD POSTURE

1. Both feet on the floor
2. Elbows off the edge of desk
3. Sit back in chair
4. Shoulders slightly forward
5. Proper desk height

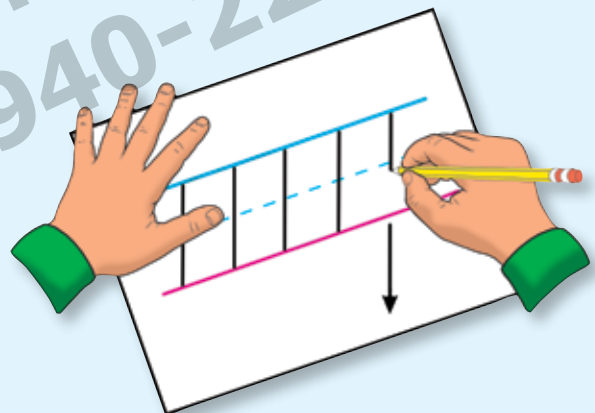


**Good Posture**  
**Good Handwriting**

## Paper Position for Cursive Writing



LEFT HAND



RIGHT HAND

## Manuscript Alphabet

Write the manuscript letters and numerals.

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

Write the cursive letters and numerals.

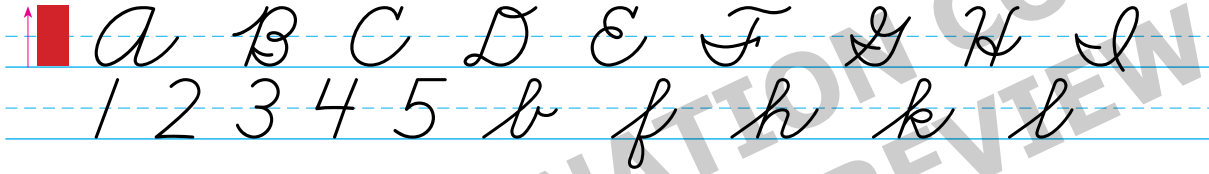
A a B b C c D d E e F f  
G g H h I i J j K k L l  
M m N n O o P p Q q R r  
S s T t U u V v W w X x  
Y y Z z . , ; : ' ! ? " " ( )  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



# Size & Alignment

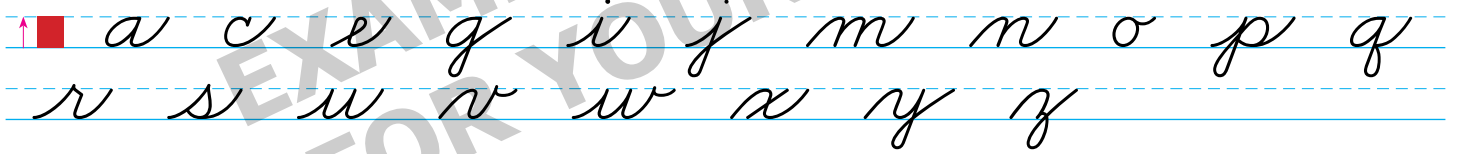
Size refers to the height of the letters above the bottom line. Alignment refers to the evenness of the letters along the bottom line and their tops with all letters of the same size even in height.

**Maximum-Size Letters** - All uppercase letters and lowercase letters **b, f, h, k,** and **l** fill almost the full writing space. Numerals are also maximum size.



Maximum  
Size  
Letters

**Minimum-Size Letters** - Letters that fill approximately one-half of the writing space.



## Descender Letters

Letters with lower loops that fill approximately one-half of the space below the bottom line.



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



Write the sentences.

Handwriting is a vehicle that carries a message to the reader. If the handwriting is illegible the message will never reach its destination. If what you write must be read by others, it must be written legibly.



## CHECK-UP

☐ LINE QUALITY

☐ JOININGS

☐ ALIGNMENT

☐ SLANT

☐ WORD SPACING

## Line Quality

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

Be sure to apply the correct amount of pressure to your pencil. Too much pressure may make your writing too dark. Not enough pressure may make your writing too light. Gripping the pencil too tightly causes a wavering line. Study the examples below.

CORRECT

blue

TOO HEAVY

blue

TOO LIGHT

blue

WAVERING

blue

## Letter Forms

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

Study the basic strokes below. Pay close attention to how they are used in the letter forms.

Make your **undercurves** wide.

b e f h i l t

Do not undercurve up too soon.

b l f h

Write the undercurve letters **i, t, u, e, l, b, f, h, and k**. Be sure your undercurves are wide.

Make the **downcurves** wide in the letters **a, d, g, and q**.

A a d g q o c

Downcurves are too sharp, should be wide.

a d g q

Make sharp downcurves in **o** and **c**.

Write the downcurve letters **a, d, g, q, A, o, and c**. Be sure your downcurves are correct.

Make your **overcurves** wide.

m n v x y z

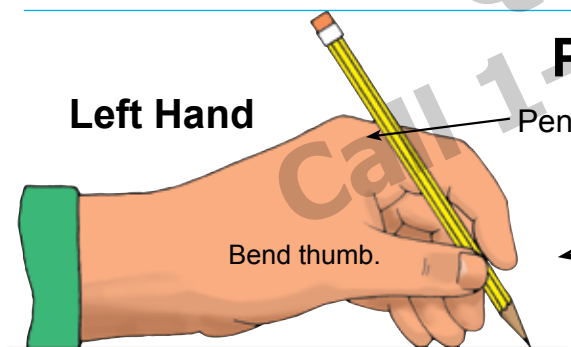
Do not overcurve up too quickly.

m n y

Write the overcurve letters **m, n, v, x, y, and z**. Be sure your overcurves are correct.

## Pencil Position

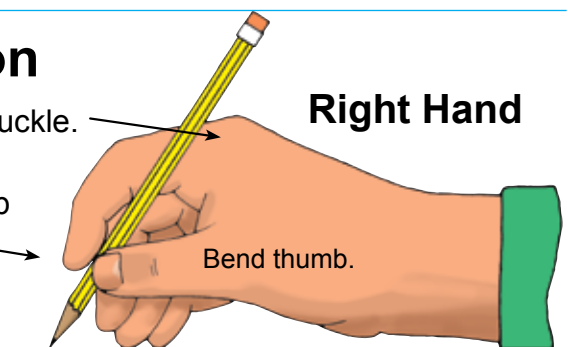
Left Hand



Pencil is held near large knuckle.

First finger rests on top of the pencil.

Right Hand



Bend thumb.



**CHECK-UP**

☐ LETTER FORMS

☐ LINE QUALITY

☐ LETTER SIZE

☐ SLANT

☐ WORD SPACING

## Letter Spacing

Letter spacing should be consistent. If letter spacing is too tight or too open your writing will be difficult to read. Study the example below. It shows correct letter spacing.

*This is good letter spacing.*

CORRECT

*letter*

TOO TIGHT

*letter*

TOO OPEN

*letter*

SPACING VARIES

*letter*

## Word Spacing

Correct word spacing makes your writing easy to read. Keep your word spacing consistent. Allow enough space between words for a small oval. Study the example below.

*This is good word spacing.*

Write the sentence: **I saw the first star tonight.** Check your word spacing.

## Spacing Between Sentences

Allow enough space between sentences for one large oval. Study the example below.

*I lost my new ring. It was gold.*

Write the sentences: **Val is my sister. She is great!** Check your spacing between sentences.

## New Paragraph Indent

When you indent for a new paragraph, allow enough space for two large ovals. Study the example below.

*This shows the correct indent for a paragraph.*



**CHECK-UP**



WORD SPACING



JOININGS



ALIGNMENT



SLANT



LETTER SPACING

# Cursive Basic Strokes

## Slant Strokes

**Slant Strokes** - The slant stroke is used in many cursive letters. Can you name the letters that contain a slant stroke?

Trace and write the slant strokes.



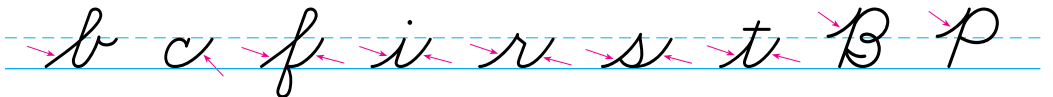
Study the slant strokes in the letters to the right.



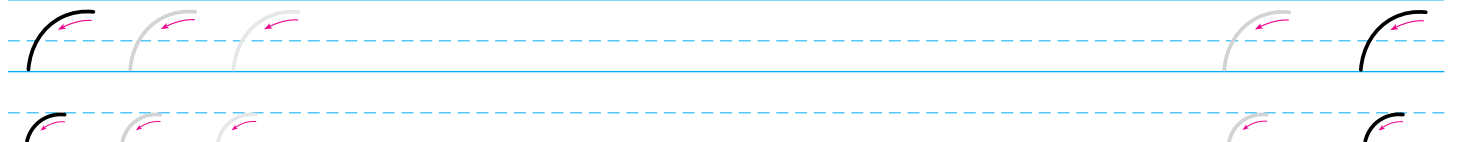
**Undercurve** - The undercurve is used to begin fourteen lowercase letters. Can you name them? Trace and write the undercurves.



Study the undercurves in the letters to the right.



**Downcurve** - The downcurve is used in six lowercase letters. Can you name them? Trace and write the downcurves.



Study the downcurves in the letters to the right.



**Overcurve** - The overcurve is used to begin six lowercase letters. Can you name them? Trace and write the overcurves.



Study the overcurves in the letters to the right.



Write the words **letter**, **added**, and **minimum**. Check your basic strokes.



# Cursive Basic Strokes

Your hand and arm should move together when doing the exercises below. Don't just use your fingers when you write.

Trace and write the **undercurve-to-undercurve** joining exercise.



Trace and write the **undercurve-to-undercurve** joining exercise.



Trace and write the **undercurve-to-downcurve** joining exercise.



Trace and write the **undercurve-to-overcurve** joining exercise.

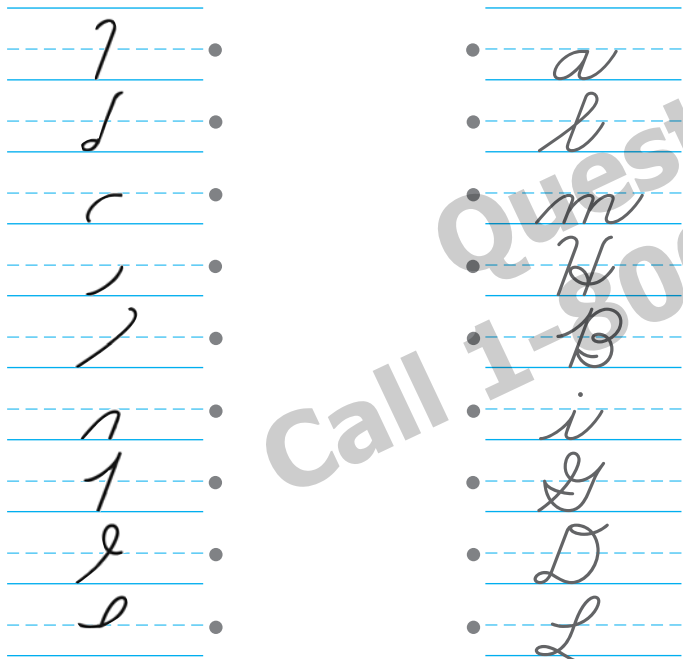


**Matching** - Draw a line from each stroke to the correct name.

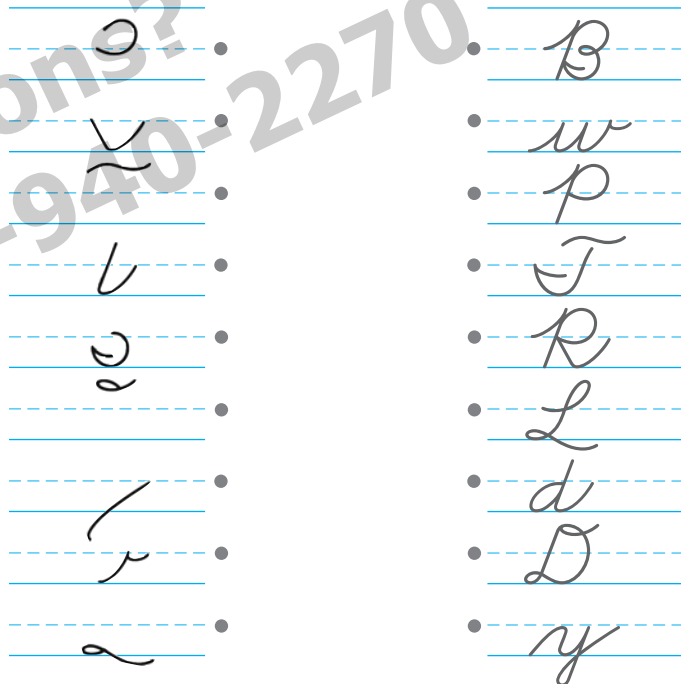


- OVERCURVE
- SLANT
- UNDERCURVE
- DOWNCURVE

Match the beginning strokes to the correct letter.



Match the ending strokes to the correct letter.

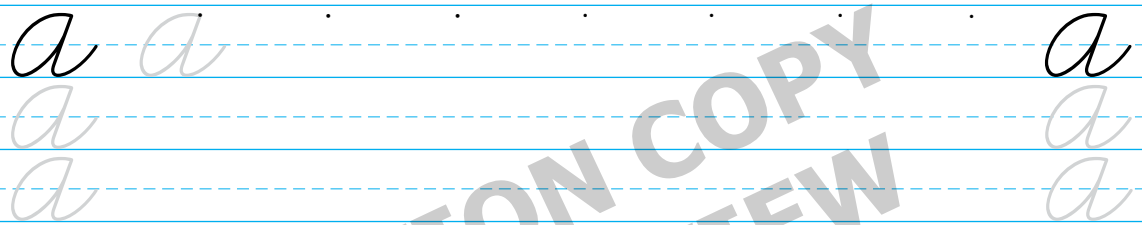


# Uppercase A



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

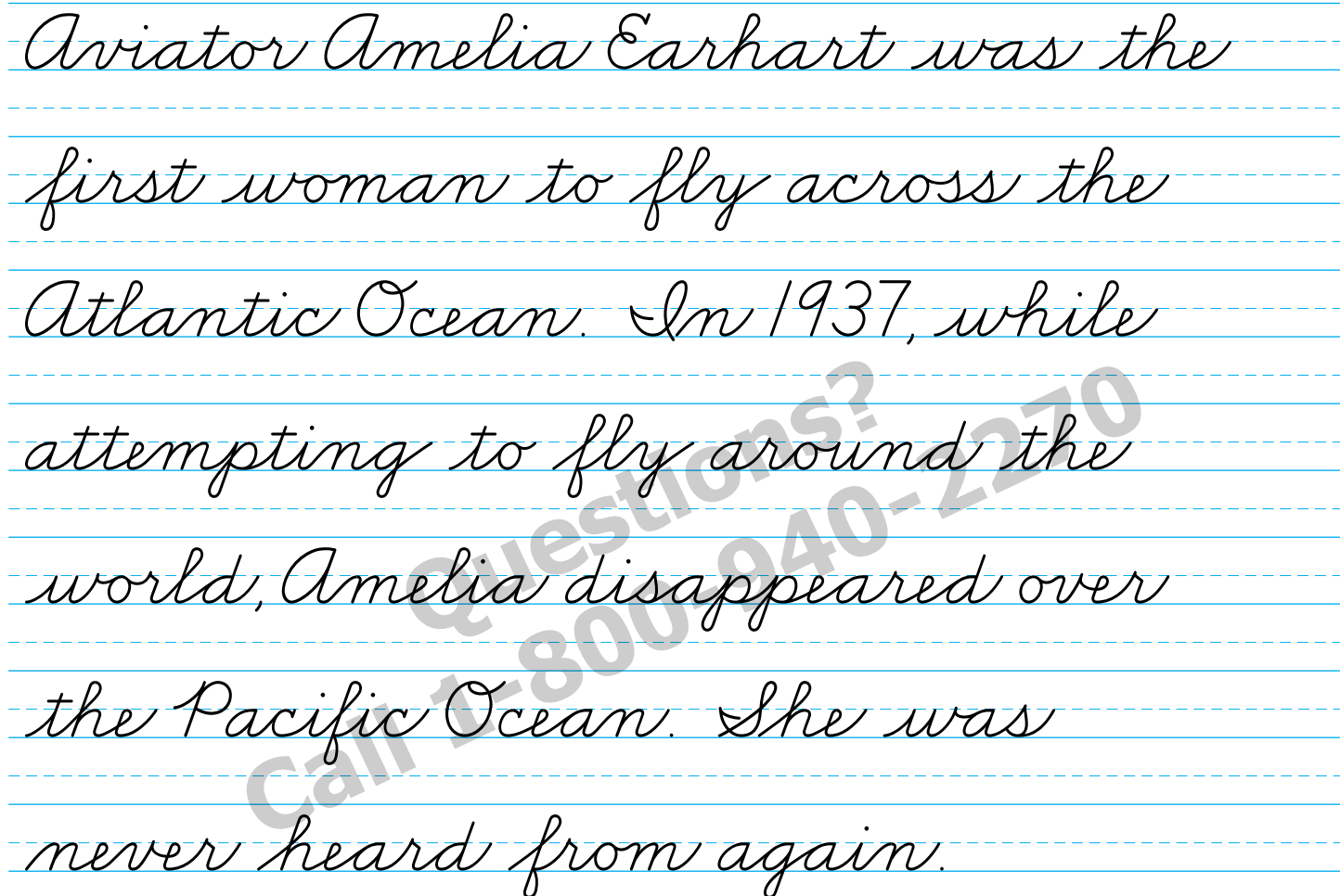
Be sure to close the downcurve-undercurve motion. Pull the slant stroke to the bottom line before you undercurve. Trace and write the letter.



Trace and write the joinings and words.



Write the sentences. Check your writing.



## CHECK-UP

☐ LETTER SPACING

☐ JOININGS

☐ LETTER SIZE

☐ SLANT

☐ WORD SPACING

# Lowercase a



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

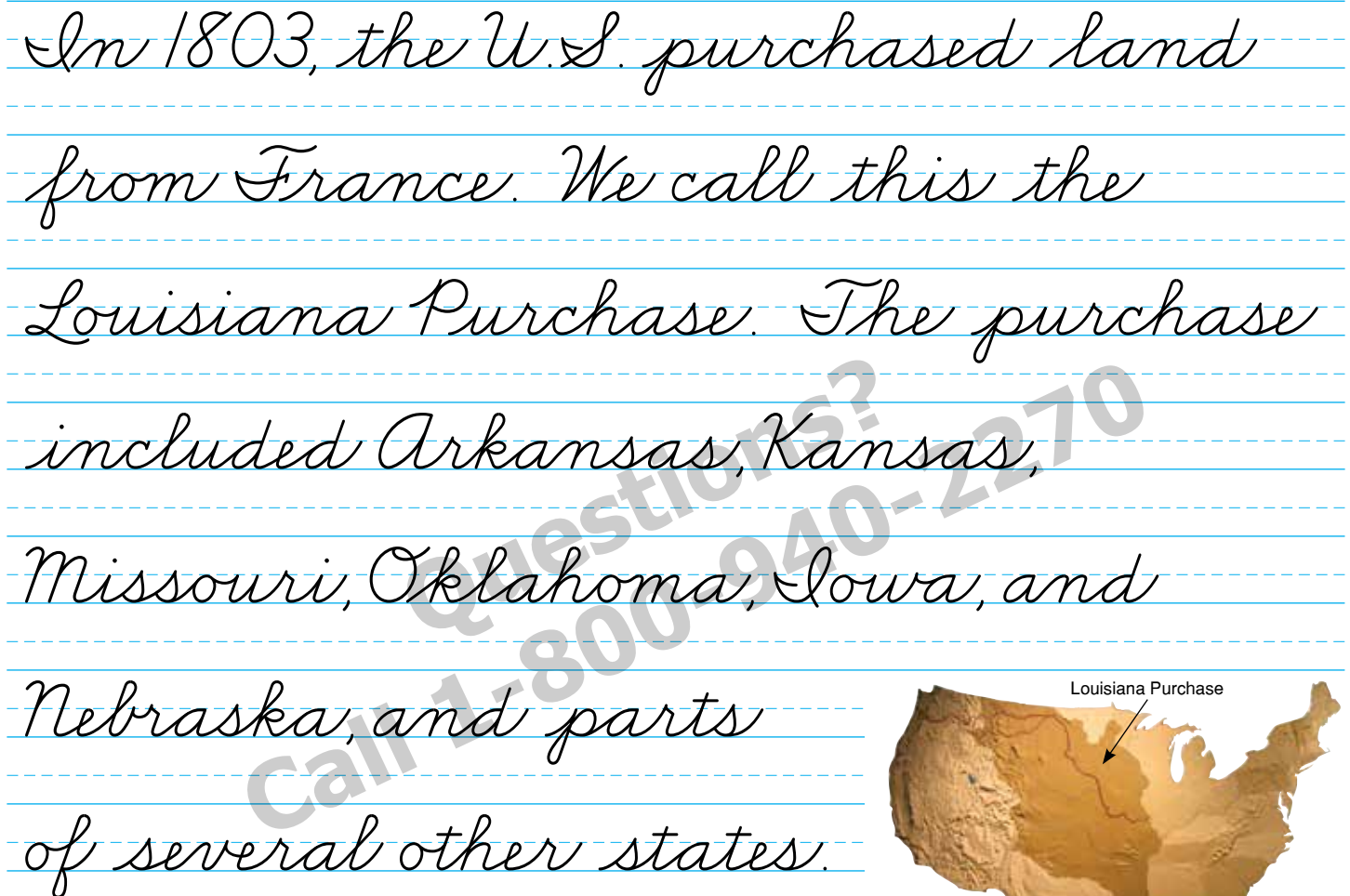
Begin this letter with a wide downcurve. Pull the slant stroke to the bottom line before you make the undercurve ending. Trace and write the letter.



Trace and write the joinings and words.



Write the sentences. Check your writing.



## CHECK-UP

- ☐ LINE QUALITY
 ☐ JOININGS
 ☐ ALIGNMENT
 ☐ SLANT
 ☐ WORD SPACING