

Mastering Handwriting with Pip

Learning objective: To understand and apply the key principles of joined-up handwriting, including letter formation, spacing, and consistency.

Read the term or question on the front of the card, then flip it over to check if your answer matches the definition provided by Pip the bookworm!

What is 'Cursive' writing?

Cursive: A style of writing where the letters are joined together to help the writer move more quickly across the page.

What is a 'Baseline'?

Baseline: The invisible line that the letters sit on so that the writing does not float or sink.

What is an 'Ascender'?

Ascender: The part of a letter that goes upwards, such as the top of a 'b', 'd', or 'k'.

What is a 'Descender'?

Descender: The part of a letter that goes below the baseline, such as the tail of a 'g', 'j', or 'p'.

What does 'Consistency' mean in handwriting?

Consistency: Ensuring that letters are all the same size and slanted in the same direction.

What is a 'Join'?

Join: The stroke that connects one letter to the next without lifting the pencil from the paper.

Why is spacing important between words?

Spacing: It ensures the reader can tell where one word ends and the next begins, making the text easy to read.

How should your paper be positioned for the best cursive flow?

Paper Position: The paper should be tilted slightly to the left (for right-handers) or right (for left-handers) to help the slant of the letters.

What is the 'x-height'?

x-height: The height of the main body of a lowercase letter, like 'a', 'e', or 'o'.

What should you do if you make a mistake while joining letters?

Mistakes: Use a ruler to draw a single neat line through the error rather than scribbling, to keep the page tidy.