

The Great Handwriting Challenge!

Learning objective: To understand the principles of legible, joined-up handwriting and the correct use of letters.

Help Pip the caterpillar tidy up his notebook! Read each question carefully and choose the correct answer or write the word requested. Good luck!

1. B, 2. True, 3. Ascender, 4. False, 5. C, 6. Descender, 7. True, 8. A, 9. Flourish, 10. False

1. Which of these is the most important reason for having neat handwriting? A) To use more ink B) To make sure others can read your work* C) To write as fast as possible D) To use a fancy pen (1 mark)

2. True or False: When we join our letters together, it is called 'cursive' writing. (1 mark)

3. What do we call the part of a letter (like 'b' or 'd') that goes upwards, above the middle of the line? (One word answer) (1 mark)

4. True or False: All letters should be exactly the same height, whether they are 'a' or 'k'. (1 mark)

5. Which of these is the best way to hold your pencil for neat writing? A) Holding it at the very top B) Squeezing it as hard as you can C) Holding it comfortably with a tripod grip* D) Holding it with your whole fist (1 mark)

6. What do we call the part of a letter (like 'g' or 'p') that dips below the line? (One word answer) (1 mark)

7. True or False: Leaving clear gaps between words helps the reader understand your writing. (1 mark)

8. When writing a sentence, which letter must always be a capital? A) The first letter of the sentence* B) Every second letter C) Only the letter 'e' D) No letters should be capitals (1 mark)

**9. What is the name for a decorative curl or stroke added to a letter to make it look fancy?
(One word answer) (1 mark)**

10. True or False: It is a good idea to slant your letters in five different directions on the same page. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a picture of Pip the caterpillar holding a giant pencil and writing his name in his best cursive handwriting!



Extension challenge: Write a short poem about your favourite animal. Try to use your neatest joined-up handwriting and make sure your ascenders and descenders are the correct size!