The terms used most frequently in calligraphy are given here - it is essential that students understand that the thick and thin strokes are governed by two things

1. The pen angle
2. The direction the pen is travelling, it has nothing to do with using more or less pressure.

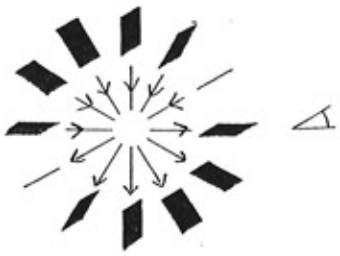


fig.3

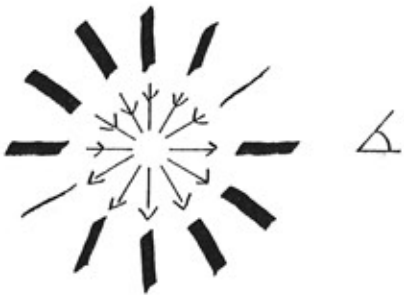


fig.4

In fig.3 the pen has been held at 30° all the time. The arrows indicate which direction the pen has been pulled. If the pen angle is increased, the thickness of the strokes is decreased fig.4. Different styles use different pen angles. The pen angle for this style is illlustrated on the top of each module sheet as a reminder.

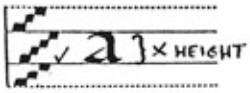
Some of the Terms used in Calligraphy

NIB WIDTH = the widest line that a nib can make
PEN ANGLE = the angle of the nib on the page to the writing line
'X' HEIGHT = the size of the body of the letter always given in nib widths
ASCENDER = the part of the letter going up - " " " " "
DESCENDER = the part of the letter going down " " " " "
COUNTER = the enclosed space within a letter
BOWL = the curved strokes which enclose a counter
MAJUSCULE & MINUSCULE = upper (capital) and lower case letters

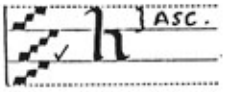
NIB WIDTH

PEN ANGLE

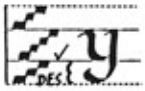
'X' HEIGHT

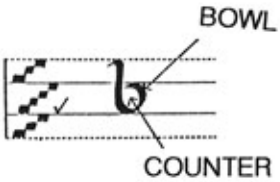


ASCENDER



DESCENDER





MAJUSCULE & MINUSCULE

All the styles in this series i.e. Roman roundhand, Italic, Gothic and Uncial, use the same straight edged nib, a Manuscript 2B (or any other 1.5mm nib). Lefthanded students will find the oblique nib helpful, they need to get their wrists well round and take care that they do not tip the nib onto the edge.

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Roman Round Hand Practice Guidelines

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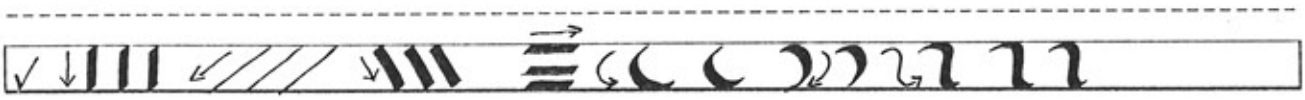

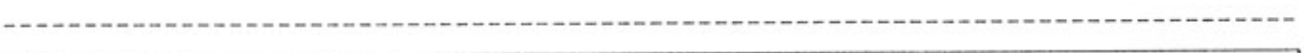

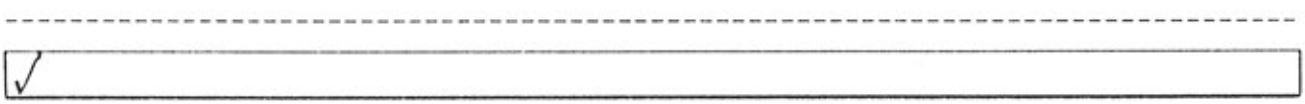

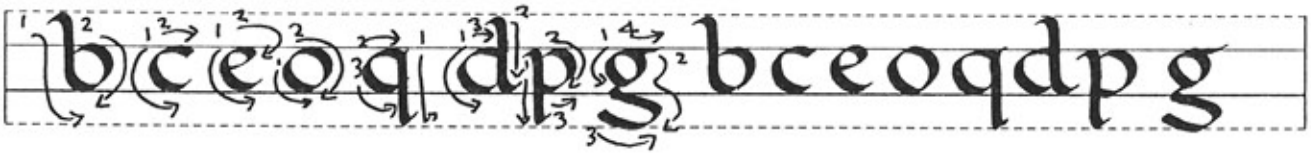

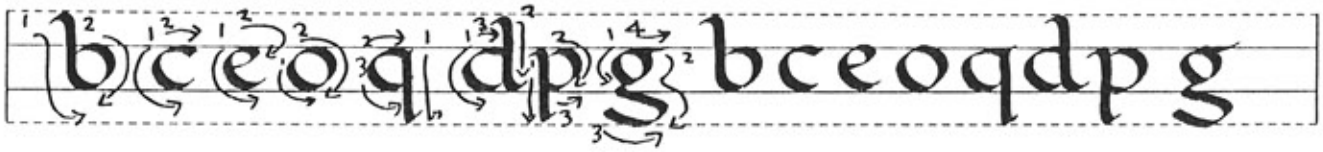

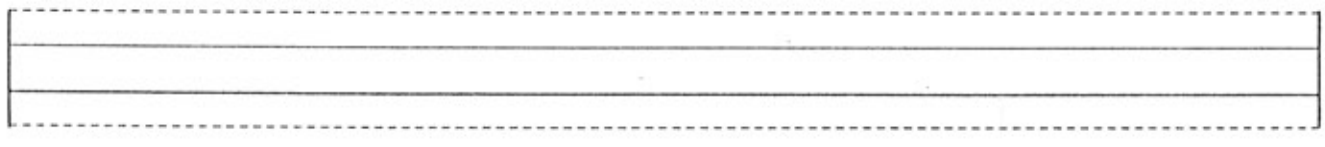

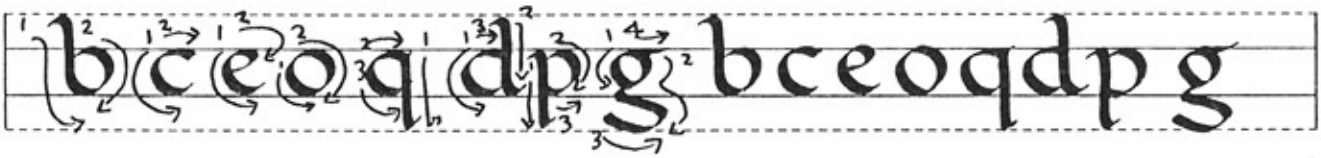

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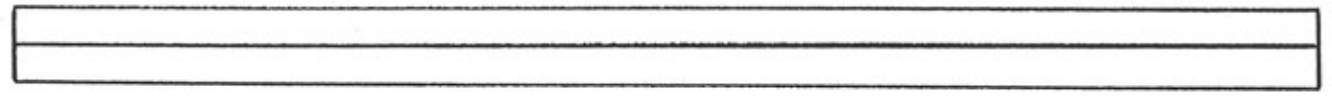

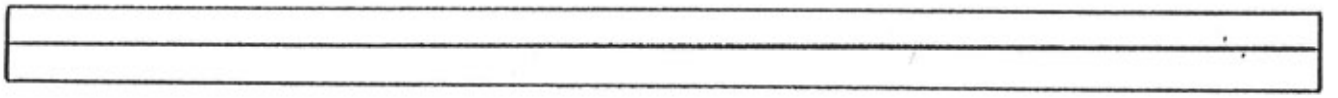

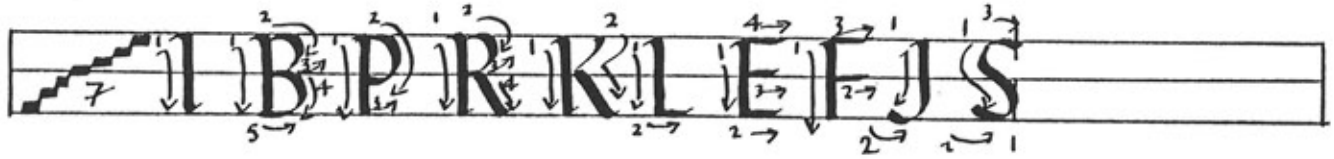

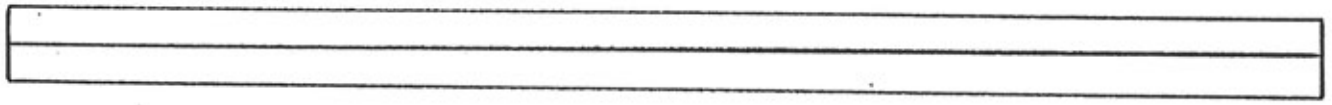

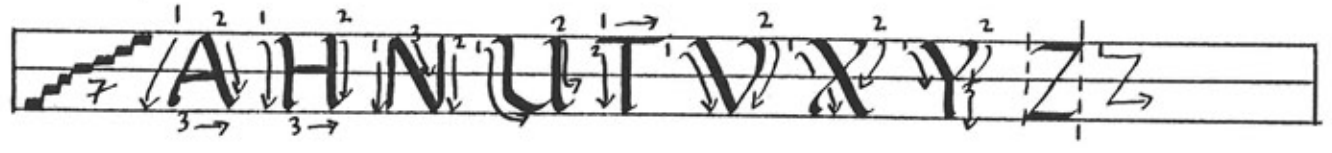

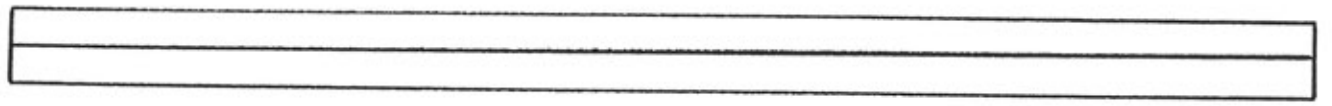

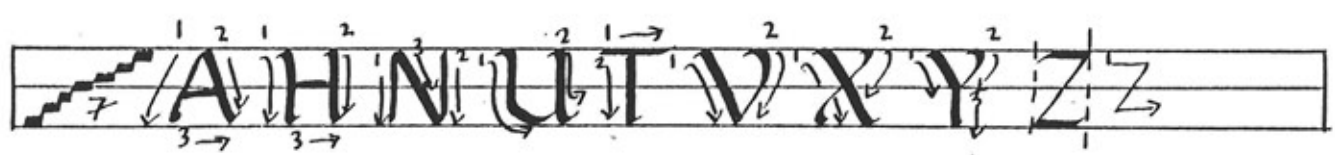

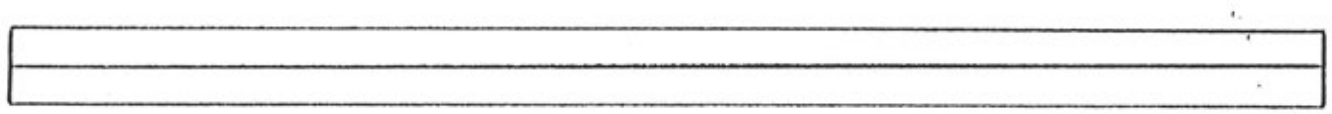

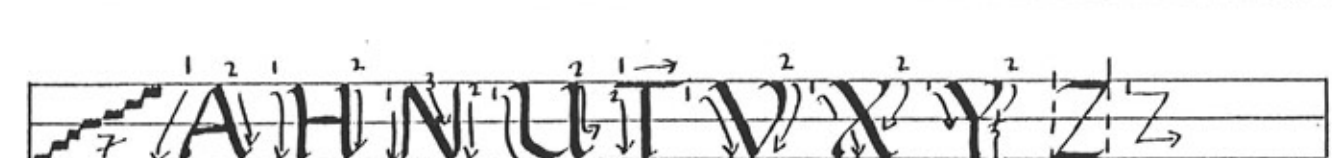

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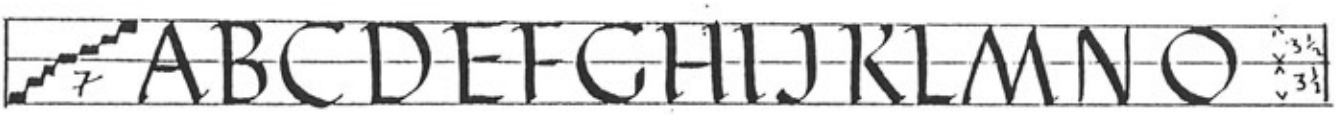

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Happy Birthday Thank You

Merry project English

beautiful great Mother

think all the while

a few words for practice only

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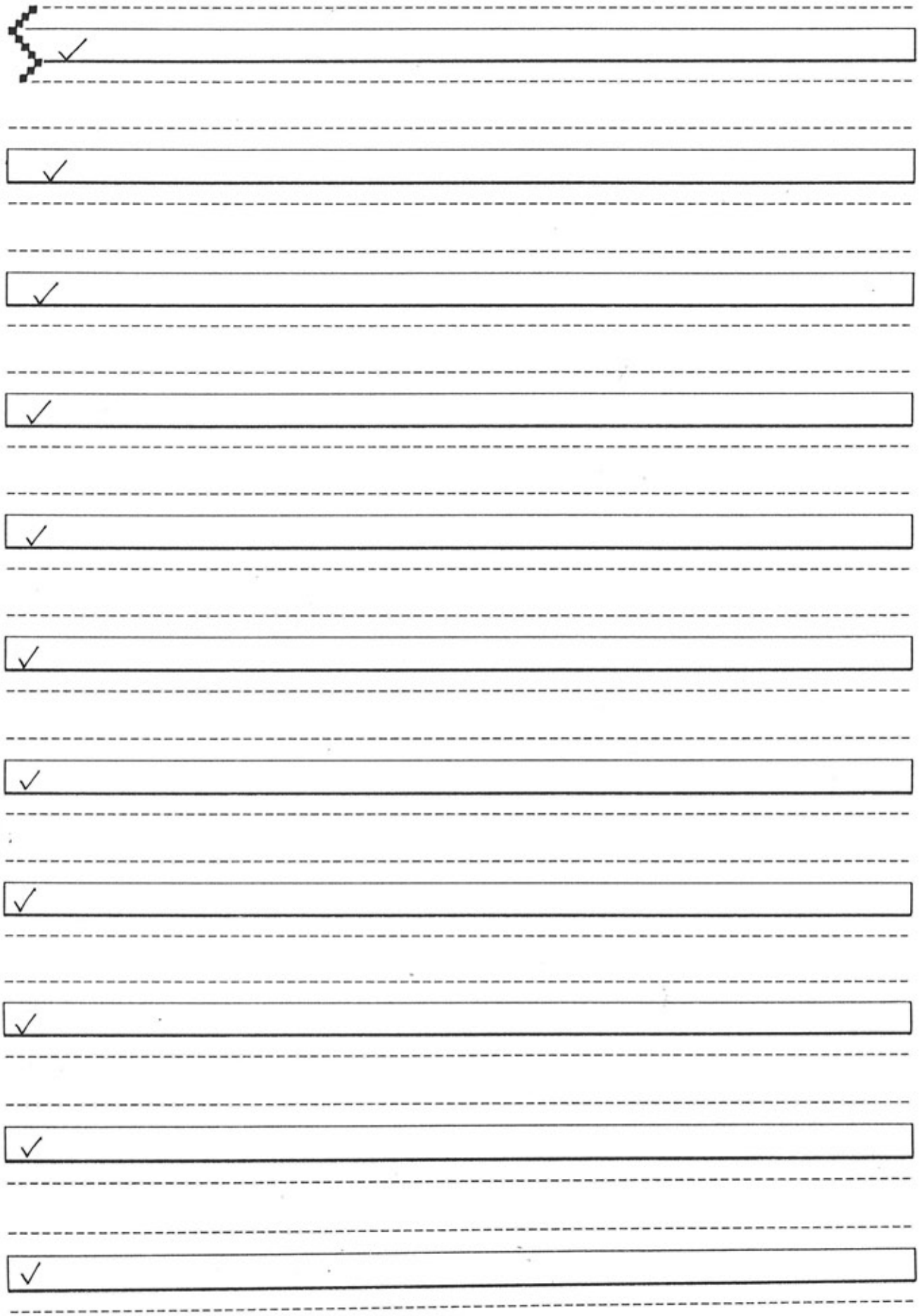
Roman Round Hand Practice Guidelines

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