Blumenfeld's Alpha-Phonics Cursive Handwriting Program

Designed to Go With Any Edition of Alpha-Phonics

Or As a Superior Stand-Alone Cursive Program

Containing

I. Blumenfield's Alpha-Phonics Cursive Sequence.

Typed Outline of the Program

5 pages

II. Introduction to Cursive Strokes

All cursive strokes presented with ample practice words

6 pages

III. Oval Terminology: Language of Movement

Detailed Breakdown of All Cursive Strokes
Presented in the Blumenfeld Alpha-Phonics Order of Presentation

6 pages

Preparation and Copyright © March 2013 by Donald L. Potter

Permission granted to reproduce for non-profit educational purposes.

Blumenfeld's Alpha-Phonics Cursive Sequence

Expanded by Donald L. Potter

February 16, 2013

Letter sequence - lowercase and uppercase – Outline

a, m, n, s, t, x, h, S, d, l, w, b, c, f, g, j, r, v, p, y, z, e, i, o, u, q, k, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z.

Cursive Instruction Letter Sequence with practice words:

(Expanded *How to Tutor* Sequence with close attention to completeness of description and inclusion of all strokes. Special attention is paid to connecting strokes. The sequence follows **Blumenfeld's Alpha-Phonics,** with reading, spelling, and cursive mutually reinforcing for maximum efficiency.)

Introduction: Language of Movement based on Oval. Code**: DC**=down-curve, **UC**=under-curve, **OC**=over-curve, **S**=slant, **CS**=connect-stroke, **LB**=loop-back, **LF**=loop-forward, **Dot**, **Cross**. Practice oval and individual strokes. Begin every lesson with a written review of Oval and Strokes.

Lesson 1: **a**. Strokes: DC, UC, S, UC. Write: *a, aa, aaaa*

Lesson 2: **m**. Strokes: OC, S, OC, S, OC, S, UC. Write: *m, mm, mmmm*,

Lesson 3: Write: *am*.

Lesson 4: **n**: Strokes: OC, S, OC, S, UC. Write: *n, nn, nnnn*.

Lesson 5: Write: *an, man*.

Lesson 6. Review. Write: *am, an, man*.

Lesson 7: **s**. Strokes: UC, Curve-Down, Connect, UC. Write: *s, ss, ssss.*

Lesson 8: Write: *as, sass, mass*

Lesson 9: **t**. Strokes: UC, S, UC, Cross. Write: *t, tt, tttt.*

Lesson 10: Write: *at*

Lesson 11: Review: Write: *as, at, am, an, am, an, mat, tan, tam, ant.*

Lesson 12: **x**. Strokes: OC, S, UC, cross. Write: *x, xx, xxxx.*

Lesson 13: Write: *ax*

Lesson 14: Write: *tax, sax, tan, mat, sat*.

Lesson 15: **h**. Strokes: UC, L, S, UC, S, UC. Write*: h, hh, hhhh*.

Lesson 16: Write: *hat, ham, has.*

Lesson 17: Upper Case **S**. Write: *S, S.*

Lesson 18: Write: *Sam sat. Sam sat?*

Lesson 19: **d**. Strokes: DC, UC, S, UC. Write: *d, dd, dddd, dad, add*, *had*.

Lesson 20: Write: *and, sand, hand.*

Lesson 21: **l**. Strokes: UC, LB, S, UC. Write: *l, ll, llll, lad, land, lass.*

Lesson 22: **w**: Strokes: UC, S, UC, S, UC, S, CS. Write: *w, ww, wwww, wax*, *wh.*

Lesson 23: **b**. Strokes: UC, L, S, UC, CS. Write: *b, bb, bbbb, bad, bat, bam, ban, bl.*

Lesson 24: **c**. Strokes: DC, UC. Write: *c, cc, cccc, cat, can, cab.*

Lesson 25: **f**. Strokes: UC, L, S, LF, UC. Write: *f, ff, ffff, fat, fan, fad, fl.*

Lesson 26: **g**. Strokes: DC, UC, S, LB, OC. Write: *g, gg, gggg, gag, gab, gas, gl.*

Lesson 27: **j**, Strokes: UC, S, LB, OC. Write: *j, jj, jjjj, jab, jam.*

Lesson 28: **r.** Strokes: UC, Slant-Right, S, UC. Write: *r, rr, rrrr, rag, ran, rat, br, fr, gr, wr, cr, tr, dr.*

Lesson 29: **v.** Strokes: OC, S, UC, CS. Write: *v, vv, vvvv, vam, van, vat, vo.*

Lesson 30**: p.** Strokes: UC, S, LB, OC, Loop-Around, UC. Write: *p, pp, pppp, pat, pan, lap, pal, pl, pr.*

Lesson 31: **y.** Strokes: OC, S, UC, S, LB, OC. Write: *y, yy, yyyy, yam, yap.*

Lesson 32: **z.** Strokes: OC, S, OC, S, LB, OC. Write: z, *zz, zzzz, zag.*

Lesson 33: **e.** Strokes: UC, LB, S, UC. Write: *e, ee, eeee, egg, bed, fed, wed, wet, vet, bet, let, met.*

Lesson 34: **i.** Strokes: UC, S, UC, Dot. Write: *i, ii, iiii, in, is, it, if, ill, bit, wit, vim*.

Lesson 35: **o.** Strokes: DC, UC, CS. Write: *o, oo, oooo, of, on, ox, dog, hot, pot, jog, job, bog,* oi, ol, ow, won, vo. boss.

Lesson 36: **u.** Strokes: UC, S, UC, S, UC. Write: *u, uu, uuuu, us, up, tub, rug, jut, gut, hut, rut, bun, bug, ui, ue, ou.*

Lesson 37: **q.** Strokes: DC, UC, S, L, OC. Write: *q, qu, ququ, quit, quill.*

Lesson 38: **k.** Strokes: UC, S, OC, Loop-Around, Slant-Right, UC. Write*: k, kk, kkkk, kick, kid, kiss, kit, kin, keg, key, quack, quick, luck, back.*

Lesson 39: **A**. Write: *Ann, Anna, Al*.

Lesson 40: **B.** Write: *Ben, Bill, Bob*.

Lesson 41: **C.** Write: *Cal, Carl, Carol.*

Lesson 42: **D.** Write: *Dan, Don, Dennis.*

Lesson 43. **E.** Write: *Ed, Elisa, Elijah.*

Lesson 44: **F.** Write: *Fred, Frank, France.*

Lesson 45: **G.** Write: *Guy, Gail, God.*

Lesson 46: **H.** Write: *Hal, Helen, Henry.*

Lesson 47: **I.** Write: *I, Ida, Inez.*

Lesson 48: **J.** Write: *Jean, John, Jim.*

Lesson 49: **K.** Write: *Ken, Kathy, Kit.*

Lesson 50: **L.** Write: *Len, Lucy, Lil, Lucky.*

Lesson 51: **M**. Write: *Max, Mike, Millie.*

Lesson 52: **N.** Write: *Nat, Nick, Neal.*

Lesson 53: **O.** Write: *Otto, Olga, Orson, Oscar.*

Lesson 54: **P.** Write: *Pete, Peg, Polly.*

Lesson 55: **Q.** Write: *Quentin, Queen, Quinn.*

Lesson 56: **R.** Write: *Ron, Rex, Ricky.*

Lesson 57: **T.** Write: *Tom, Tim, Tony.*

Lesson 58: **U.** Write: *United States. U. S. A.*

Lesson 59: **V.** Write: *Vince, Vicky, Vivian.*

Lesson 60: **W.** Write: *Wilma, Walter.*

Lesson 61: **X.** Write: *X-ray, Xavier.*

Lesson 62: **Y.** Write: *Yetta, York ,Yuma.*

Lesson 63: **Z.** Write: *Zeke, Zoe, Zachary.*

Note that the uppercase S was introduced early (Lesson 17) so the students could begin writing sentences ending with periods and question marks.

Numerals

Lesson 64: Cursive 1 & 2

Lesson 65: Cursive 3

Lesson 66: Cursive 4

Lesson 67: Cursive 5

Lesson 68: Cursive 6

Lesson 69: Cursive 7

Lesson 70: Cursive 8

Lesson 71: Cursive 9 & 0

Lesson 72: General Review of Cursive Numerals

Lesson 73: Punctuation Marks: question mark (?), comma (,), exclamation point (!), quotation marks (“/”), apostrophe (’).

Notes from Internet Publisher: Donald L. Potter

March 18, 2013

This order of lessons was first used by Mr. Potter during the 1999 – 2000 school year with a class of second-grade bilingual Spanish speaking students at the Murry Fly Elementary School in Odessa, TX. Later that year, Mr. Potter taught the course to a group of English speaking fourth graders, with assistance from his experienced second graders. The results were very satisfactory.

Years of teaching Mr. Blumenfeld's excellent, but bare-bones cursive program, indicates that more information on connecting strokes would be very beneficial. Mr. Potter has taken Mr. Blumenfeld's excellent sequence for teaching cursive and expanded it to make the program even more effective and easier to teach. The lessons follow the beginning phonics lessons in Mr. *Blumenfeld's Alpha-Phonics* reading program.

It is expected that the handwriting practice will continue as the students write all the words and sentences in Mr. Blumenfeld's reading program. This makes the program a comprehensive beginning reading, cursive handwriting, and spelling program, a multi-sensory learning system. The goal is what Mr. Raymond Laurita aptly call **Total Linguistic Function** in speaking, reading, writing, and spelling.

This method of coupling cursive handwriting with reading and spelling instruction has proven a great help for student with ADHD and dyslexia.

Mr. Potter is preparing an instructional video that he plans to publish on his Samuel L. Blumenfeld Reading Clinic page on his website. Teacher and parents will find the video very helpful. The videos will be complete enough that a student will be able to teach themselves to write fluent cursive from the videos.

The *a, c, d, g,* and *q* can begin from the baseline with an under-curve or an over-curve, or in an abbreviated format as I generally teach it, with a down-curve from the midline. Mr. Blumenfeld taught these letters with a down-curve from the midline. I generally used the down-curve because I am helping student at my school learn the A Beka letter forms. While most programs start the aforementioned letters with an under-curve, I prefer an over-curve for starting the letters from the baseline because it seems to me to be a more fluent stroke. I prefer NOT to put a loop on the *o*, but allow student to decide which they prefer. The *p,* like the *g* and *q*, uses a loop below the base-line. When I was a student, learned to retrace the line, instead of using the loop. I now use and teach the looped form, but either is acceptable. (Programs that make the loop on the lowercase *o* go to the baseline are doing the students a disservice. The *a* not the *o* reaches the baseline!). The letter *y* can begin with either an overcurve or an undercurve. I generally use the undercurve since that is how I was taught in 1953, and the A Beka cursive program begins *y* with the undercurve. Either form is aceptable.

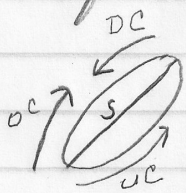
Following this typed outline are two handwritten documents illustrating the strokes for letter formatiion.

Last updated: 3/24/13. www.donpotter.net

Blumenfeld's Alpha-Phonics Cursive
by Donald L. Potter 3/21/13

Introduction to basic strokes.

Oral terminology: Language of movement.



UC = under-curve OC = over-curve
DC = down-curve S = slant
LB = loop-back LF = loop-forward
CS = connect-stroke

Lesson 1: a DC, UC, S, UC. a aa aaaa

Lesson 2: m OC, S, OC, S, OC, S, UC.
m, mm, mmm

Lesson 3: am

Lesson 4: n OC, S, OC, S, UC
n, nn, nnnn

Lesson 5: an, am

Lesson 6: am, an, man

Lesson 7: s UC, Curve-Down, Connect, UC.
s ss ssss.

Lesson 8: as, sass, mass

Lesson 9: t UC, S, UC, Cross t tt ttt

Lesson 10: at

Lesson 11: as, at, am, an,
mat, tan, tam, ants

Lesson 12: x OC, S, UC, Cross
x xx xxxx

Lesson 13: ax

Lesson 14: tax, sax, tan, mat.
sat

Lesson 15: h UC, LB, UC, S, UC.
h, hh, hhhh

Lesson 16: hat, ham, has.

Lesson 17: S

Lesson 18: Sam sat. Sam sat?

Lesson 19: d DC, UC, S, UC
d dd dddd dad, add, had

Lesson 20: and, sand, hand

Lesson 21: l UC, LB, S, UC
l ll llll lad, land, lass

Lesson 22: w UC, S, UC, S, US, CS
w, www, wwwww, wad, wk

Lesson 23: b UC, LB, S, UC, CS
b, bb, bbbb, bad, bat, bam
ban, bl

Lesson 24: C DC, UC C, cc, cccc,
cat, can, cab

Lesson 25: f UC, LB, S, LF, UC
f ff ffff fat, fan, fad, fl,

Lesson 26: g DC, UC, S, LB, OC

g, gg, gggg, gag, gab,

gas, gl

Lesson 27: j. UC, S, LB, OC

j, jj, jjjj, jab, jam

Lesson 28: r, UC, slant-right, S, UC

r, rr, rrrr, rag, ran, rat,

br, fr, gr, wr, cr, tr, dr.

Lesson 29: v OC, S, UC, CS v vv

vvvv, van, van, vat, vo.

Lesson 30: p UC, S, LB, OC, Loop-around, UC

p pp pppp, pat, pan,

lap, pal, pl, pr.

Lesson 31. y OC, S, UC, S, LB, OC

y yy, yyyy, yam, yap.

Lesson 32: y OC, S, OC, S, LB, OC

y yy yyyy, yag

Lesson 33: e UC, LB, S, uc

e, eeee, egg bed, fed, leg
wed, wet, vet, bet, let, met.

Lesson 34: i UC, S, uc, Dot i, ii, iiii

in, is, it, if, ill, bit, wit, vim.

Lesson 35: o DC, uc, cs o, oo, oooo,

of on, ox, dog, hot, pot, jog
job, bog, oi, ol, oh, ow, won,
vo, boss,

Lesson 36. u UC, S, uc, s, uc u, us, up

tub, rug, jut, gut, hut, rut
bun, bug, ui, ue, ow

Lesson 37: q DC, UC, S, LF, OC

q, qw, quqw, quit, quill.

Lesson 38: k UC, LB, S, OC, loop-around
Slant-Right, uc

k, kk, kkkk, kick
kid, kiss, kit, kin, keg.
key, quack, quick, luck,
back.

Lesson 39: A Ann, Anna, Al

Lesson 40: B Ben, Bill, Bob

Lesson 41: C Cal, Carl, Carol

Lesson 42: D Dan, Don, Dennis

Lesson 43: E Ed, Elisa, Elijah

Lesson 44: F Fred, Frank, France (-F)

Lesson 45: G Guy, Gail, God

Lesson 46: H Hal Hellen Henry

Lesson 47: I Ida Inez

Lesson 48: J Jean John Jim

Lesson 49: K Ken Kathy, Kit

Lesson 50: L Len, Lucy, Lil, Lucky.

Lesson 51: M Max, Mike, Millie

Lesson 52: N Nat, Nick, Neal

Lesson 53: O Otto, Olga, Oscar, Orson

Lesson 54: P Pete, Peg, Polly

Lesson 55: Q Quentin, Queen Quinn (Q)

Lesson 56: R Ron, Rex, Ricky

Lesson 57: T Tom, Tim, Tony (T)

Lesson 58: U United States, U.S.A.

Lesson 59: V Vince Vicky Vivian

Lesson 60: W Wilma, Walter

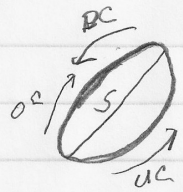
Lesson 61: X X-ray, Xavier

Lesson 62: Y Yetta, York, Yuma

Lesson 63: Z Zeke Zoe, Zackary

3/23/13

Oral Terminology: Language of Movement



Strokes

Under-Curve ↗	UC
Down-Curve ↘	DC
Over-Curve ↗	oc
Slant ↙	S
Connect-Stroke ⌣	CS
Loop Back ↩	LB
Loop Forward ↪	LF

Breakdown of Strokes in the Blumenfeld Alpha-Phonics Order of Presentation

a ↙ + ↗ + ↙ + ↗ = a

DC UC S UC

m ↗↘↗↘↗↘↗ = m

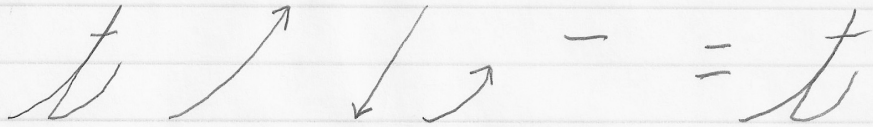
oc S oc S oc S uc

n ↗↘↗↘↗ = n

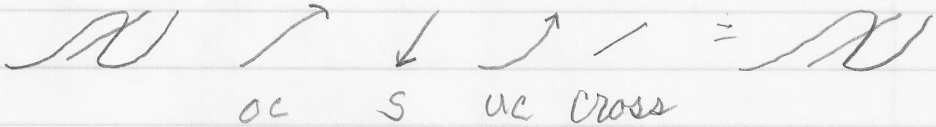
oc S oc S uc

l ↗ ↘ ↗ = l

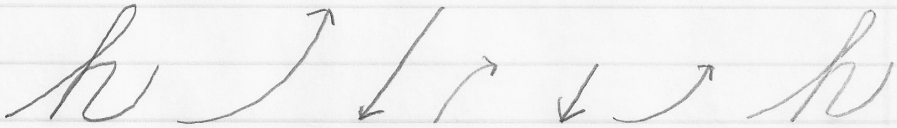
uc curve-down + connect uc



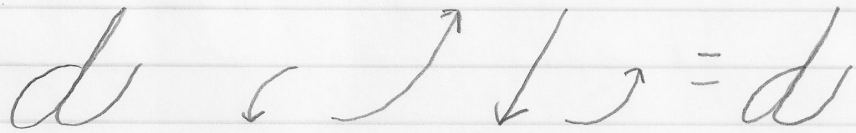
uc S uc cross



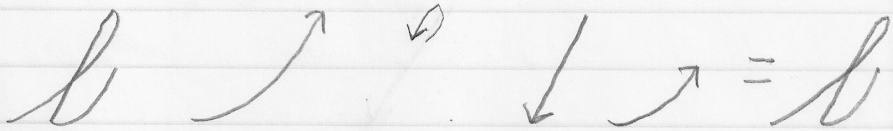
oc S uc cross



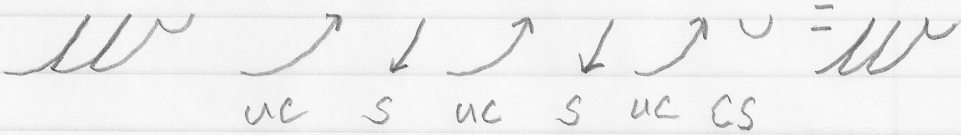
uc S oc S uc



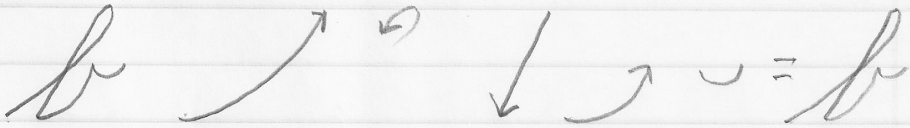
DC uc S uc.



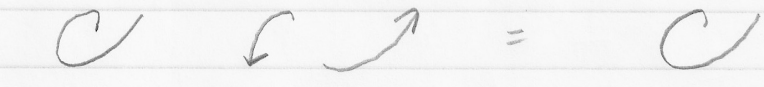
uc LB S uc

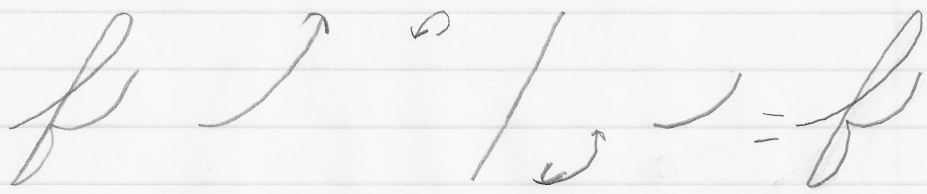


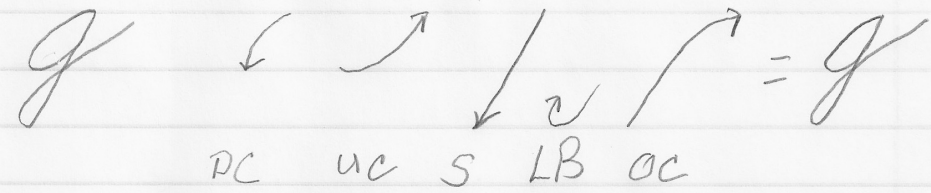
uc S uc S uc cs

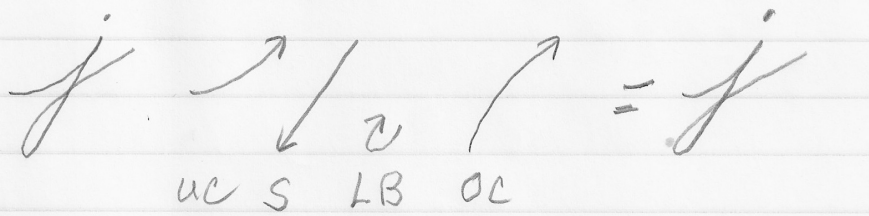


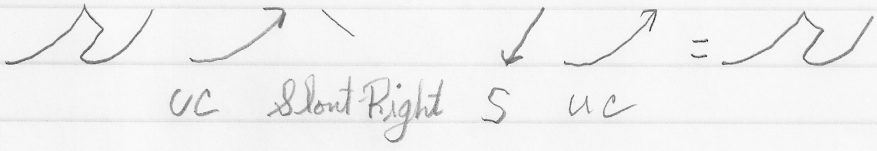
uc LB S uc cs

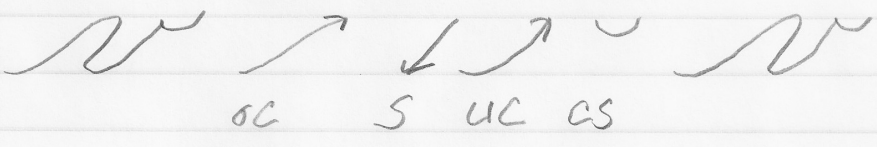

DC
UC

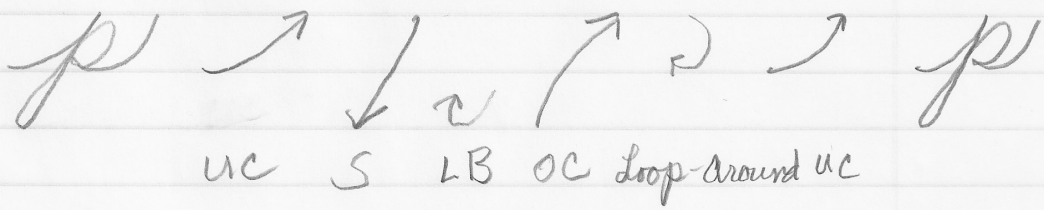

UC
LB
S
LF
UC

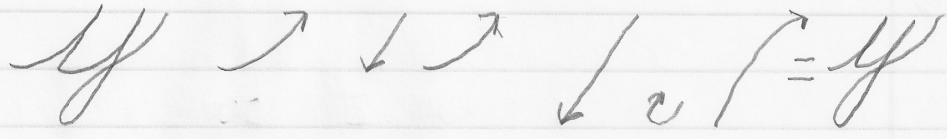

DC
UC
S
LB
OC


UC
S
LB
OC

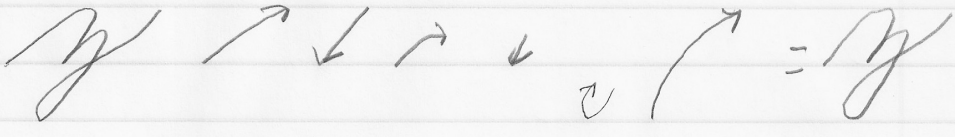

UC
Slant Right
S
UC


OC
S
UC
CS

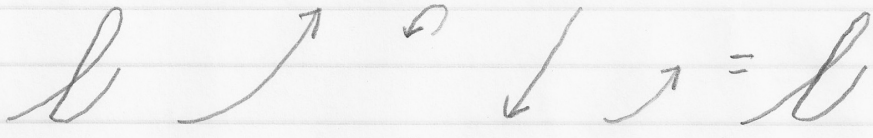

UC
S
LB
OC
Loop-around UC



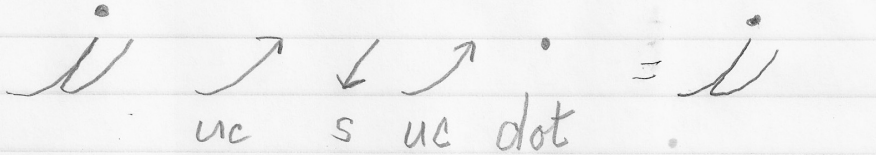
UC S UC S LB OC



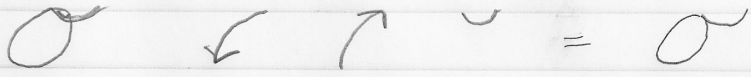
OC S OC S LB OC



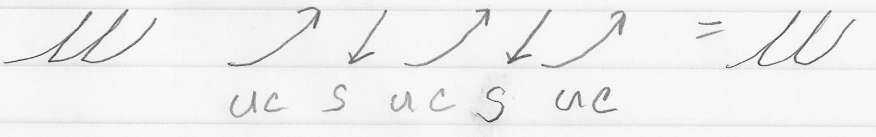
UC LB S UC



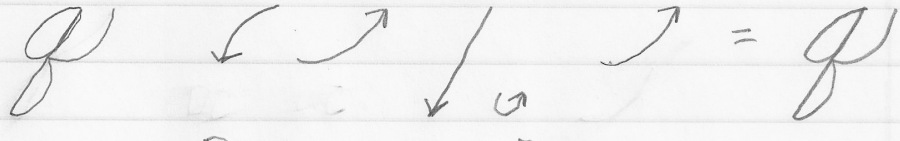
UC S UC dot



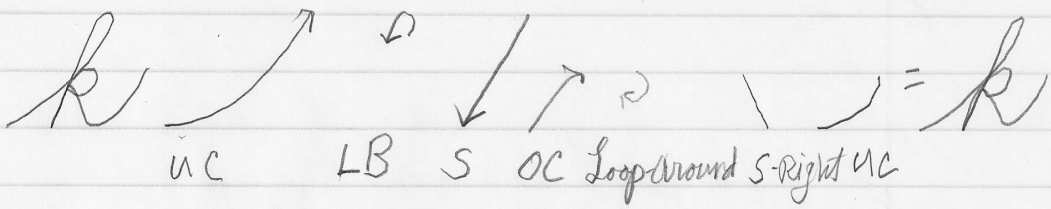
DC OC CS



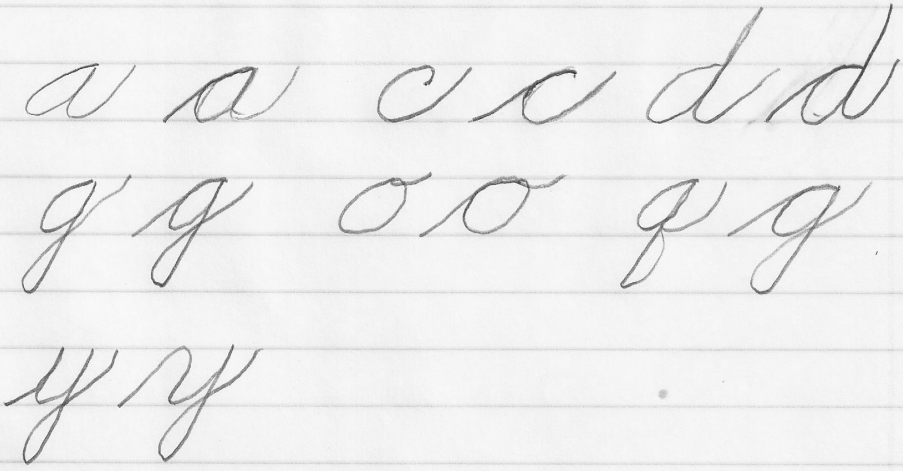
UC S UC S UC



DC UC S LF UC



alternate Forms



Connections Requiring Special Attention

a + a = aa a a ac aa

Note reversal of direction after ac of second a, requiring the student to stop and reverse direction.

ac a ac

ba b bc ba

bo b bc bo

ot ob oi ow on om

wa wo we wh

ag a ac ag

aq a ac ag