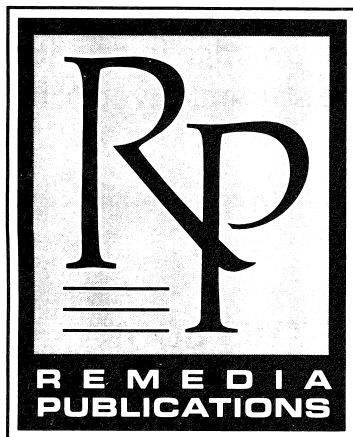


# Meaningful Handwriting

REM 1148

A TEACHING RESOURCE FROM...



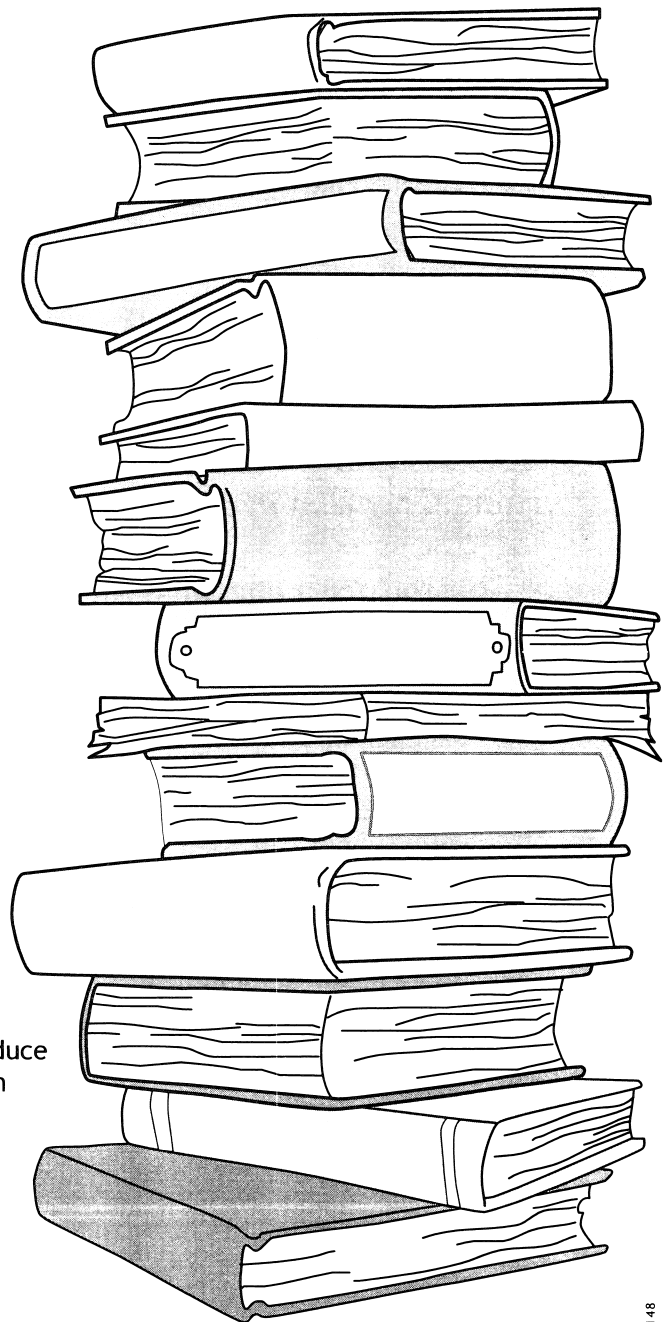
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# To the Teacher

Meaningful Handwriting was created to give students an opportunity to learn interesting and useful information while practicing good handwriting and improving near-point copying skills. Copy work becomes more meaningful when students are asked to copy pieces that are inspiring or thought-provoking.

Research suggests that writing information to be learned, in addition to reading the information, improves the chances that the information will be understood and remembered.

Pages in this book have been sequentially arranged by difficulty, beginning with one-sentence copying activities. The final writing activities involve paragraphs of approximately 50 words. There are 22 topic categories from which to choose. The topic is noted in the upper right-hand corner of each page.

If copy work is to serve a purpose, it must incorporate practice in specified announced skills. A checklist has been provided to help make the student aware of the physical aspects of handwriting.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR USE OF THIS BOOK

1. Before assigning a copy exercise, review with the student information on the Handwriting Checklist in the front of this book.
  - a. Reproduce a checklist for each student.
  - b. Post a checklist on a bulletin board.
2. After student completes the book or sections of the book, have him/her recopy selected pages in an attempt to "improve even more." Have the student compare the "first try" to the "second try" and pick the better of the two.
3. Have students trade completed copy assignments and read them to each other to test legibility.
4. Have student keep track of completed pages by using the Progress Chart on page 46.
5. Ample space for copying has been given. A selection may be copied more than once in a given space, depending on individual student writing.

# Handwriting Checklist

## Body Posture

Feet on floor, spine straight against chair back, head in comfortable position, hand and wrist relaxed

## Paper Position

For right-handed students, the paper should be tilted slightly to the left of perpendicular; reverse for left-handers.

## Consistent Letter Formations

Letters should show consistency in *size*.  
Letters should show consistency in *slant*.  
Both upper and lower case letters should have the consistency of form that makes each clearly identifiable.

## Pencil Grasp

Use an effective pencil grasp that is neither cramped nor tense.

## Legibility

- Sufficient spacing between the lines
- Uniform and adequate spacing between letters
- Uniform and adequate spacing between words
- Observing right and left margins consistently
- Observing proper paragraph indentation
- Assessing accurately the space necessary for a given quantity of writing and adjusting the size of letters and words accordingly

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Words of Wisdom

**Copy these well-known sayings in your best handwriting.**



If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.

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Do not put off until tomorrow what you can do today.

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Don't count your chickens before they hatch.

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A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

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**Now, read what you have written.**