

HOW TO ANALYSE YOUR HANDWRITING

Age: Teenager/Adult

Level: Intermediate (B1)

Time: 30 minutes

Activity: In this lesson, students will:

1. Write a short message
2. Analyse a student's handwriting

Language focus: shapes and sizes; character adjectives

Materials: one blank (unlined) piece of paper for each student; one copy of the worksheet per student

7. In turns, students read out the message they received and their analysis of the sender's handwriting and character. They then have to guess who wrote the message. If they guess incorrectly, the original sender of the message has to reveal his/her identity and say whether or not the character analysis is accurate.

PROCEDURE

1. Hand out the worksheet. Ask students to look at Exercise 1, the warmer task, and make a list of the different ways people use handwriting these days. When they have finished, go through their answers as a class (*suggested answers: birthday card, Christmas card, thank you letter, shopping list, love letter, signature, writing on the board, this worksheet!*).
2. Next, hand out the blank pieces of paper and ask students to write their names on the top. Collect the papers in then ask the students to close their eyes. Redistribute the papers so that everybody has the name of another student in the class but they don't know where the paper with their own name on is.
3. Tell each student to write an anonymous message to the person whose name is on their paper in no fewer than 10 words. Write an example on the board, such as, *I think you're the most cheerful person in the class.*
4. When they have finished, ask the students to close their eyes again while you collect the papers. Redistribute them so that everyone has their original paper with the new message that was written to them.
5. Explain that students are now going to analyse the handwriting on the message they received. Before they begin, write the following examples on the board to teach the vocabulary and phrases from the worksheet:
upright, sloping to the left/right, increasing/decreasing in size, angular, round, neat, untidy, flowery
6. Ask student to look at Exercise 2 on the handout. Students read the analysis. Ask them to look at the message they have and make notes on the character of the sender.

IMPRESSIONS SIMPLIFIED

HOW TO ANALYSE YOUR HANDWRITING



Exercise 1: Writing by hand

Nowadays the way many people interact with each other has changed because of technology. The personal touch of communication by handwritten letters is becoming a dying art. But did you know that you can tell a lot by someone by analysing their handwriting? With a partner, make a quick list of all the different ways that people might use handwriting these days.



Exercise 2: Handwriting analysis

The first thing you should do to analyse a person's handwriting is take a ruler and draw a straight line below the first six words. If the words are written in a straight line then you know that this is a very determined person. If the writing goes downwards then this person is easily distracted and often thinking about other things. If the words go upwards then you know that this person is incredibly ambitious and very talented! Now you can analyse the writing in more detail.

DIRECTION

First let's take a look at the direction the person's writing goes in.

Upright

This character is very cool and it can take a long time to get to know the real person. S/he has good business sense and can often be sarcastic. Deep down, however, this person is very romantic.

Sloping to the right

This person is very sensitive and artistic. S/he likes being with other people but can get bored very easily. This is an honest person who would make a good friend even though s/he can sometimes be temperamental.



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Sloping to the left

This is a kind person who is often very shy. This person can be a true friend. S/he is also very practical, so you always know exactly where you stand with them. This can be very important in a relationship.

Changing direction

This person has a very good brain but is somewhat undisciplined. S/he can be very nervous and temperamental, so be careful!

SIZE

Now let's look at the size of the writing.

Big

This person usually says what s/he thinks. This means that s/he can often be tactless.

Small

This is a tidy person who is somewhat introvert. Romantically, this person is very cautious. S/he is also very tidy.

Increasing in size

This is a very open and sincere person although s/he can often only think about him/herself.

Decreasing in size

Be careful because this person doesn't always mean what s/he says. This character is secretive and can be very difficult.

STYLE

Finally, some general points about the style of writing.

Angular

This person is tense and often very emotional.

Round

This person lives for the present and isn't very interested in money.

Neat

If the writing is very neat then this person is very down-to-earth, tactful and logical.

Untidy

This person doesn't have a lot of energy but does have a lot of imagination.

Flowery

Most authors and actors have flowery writing, which means they are very artistic.

Quick

If it looks as though the person has written very quickly then you know that s/he has a good imagination and an active mind. This person also has a sense of humour.