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I SPY WITH MY ^{Little} EYE

I often see a face when I look at the front of a car and objects formed by clouds. On the same note, I see letters in everyday objects and in nature. Document the letters you see the next time you're out and about.

Moderation
is for
Quitters

Carolyn Sewell

LEGS

Will it extend below the baseline? Will it be curvy?



SPINES

Will it be curvy? Will it be horizontal? Will it be vertical?



BRACKETS

Will it have a distinctive shape? Will it curve deeply? Will it taper?



BEAKS

Will it be large? Will it be dramatic? How pronounced will it be?



Next time you're out with friends, throw some type anatomy into casual conversation. You will immediately be the coolest cat in the group.

HANDWRITING SAMPLES

Using your cursive handwriting, write your uppercase and lowercase alphabet below.

WHAT DOES YOUR HANDWRITING EXPRESS?

Graphology is the study of handwriting. By studying cursive writing samples, graphologists say the way we craft our letters and words can indicate as many as 5,000 different personality traits. What does your handwriting say about you?

Using your handwriting samples on the previous page, find out what your handwriting expresses with this nifty guide.

CROSSING YOUR T'S

TOP


Top: optimistic, has great ambitions

LONG


Long cross: determined, has a hard time letting things go

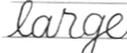
SHORT


Short cross: careless, lacks ambition

MIDDLE


In the middle: confident, comfortable in own skin

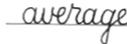
SIZE

large


Large: outgoing, big personality

small


Small: introspective, shy

average


Average: well adjusted

SLANTING

right


To the right: open, sociable

left


To the left: reserved (if you're right-handed, it shows a rebellious side)

straight


Straight: logical, practical

TITLES

CIRCLE


Circle: childish, visionary

SLASH


Slash: critical, impatient

TO THE LEFT


To the left: dilly-dallier, tends to procrastinate

TO THE RIGHT


To the right: organized, pays attention to details

LOOPS

CLOSED 'E'


Closed e: skeptical

OPEN 'E'


Open e: open-minded

CLOSED 'L'


Closed l: tense

OPEN 'L'


Open l: relaxed

SHAPING

round


Round: artistic, creative

pointed


Pointed: aggressive, curious

In cursive, write this pangram: "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog."

Fun fact: A pangram is a sentence that uses all 26 letters of the alphabet.

Although handwriting is not the same as hand-lettering, it's fun to know a little bit more about ourselves and the way we shape our letters.



Over the next week, come to this page and spend five minutes lettering the quote “practice makes perfect” each day. Watch how you improve!

Day 1

Day 2

Day 3

Day 4

Day 5

Day 6

Day 7



Back in art school, I took a portrait painting class. At the beginning of the class, our teacher noticed all of us spending too much time on the little details, leaving many of us with unfinished masterpieces. To break away from focusing on the itty-bitty details, our professor gave us big brushes and asked us to paint quick, time-limited mini sketches. The sketches were really fast—some were only 30 seconds! Although my sketches did not represent the full likeness, it taught me to think of the big picture rather than fussing over the small details.

Try timing yourself lettering this phrase by Sigmund Freud, “Time spent with cats is never wasted,” or letter a phrase of your choice. Focus on the overall layout and lettering placement. If you find yourself with leftover time, allow yourself to think about detail and stylizing your type.

	10 Minutes	5 Minutes
Day 3		
Day 4		
Day 5		
Day 6	3 Minutes	1 Minute
Day 7		