

Y5 Handwriting Speed

KS2 Y5 English · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

Work out your handwriting speed: you copied 18 words in 1 minute

Step 1 · Words written

18

Step 2 · Time taken

1 minute

Answer: 18 words per minute

Check: Speed alone isn't enough: check it is still legible.

2. Now try one with the steps

Work out your speed: 30 words in 2 minutes

Step 1 · Divide words by minutes

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. What does 'legible' mean?

2. Name two letters with ascenders.

3. Name two letters with descenders.

4. How much space should you leave between words?

5. You write 20 words in 1 minute. What is your speed?

6. You write 36 words in 2 minutes. What is your speed?

7. You write 45 words in 3 minutes. What is your speed?

8. Which tool is best for writing a final copy of a story?

9. When is it OK to write faster and less neatly?

10. Why does joined handwriting help you write faster?

11. Give one reason handwriting might be hard to read.

12. Copy this sentence in your best joined handwriting: 'Swift writers keep their letters clear.'

13. Your speed went from 14 to 20 words per minute but your writing became hard to read. What should you do?

14. Why might you choose a pencil rather than a pen for a maths diagram?

4. Before you hand it in

Rushing so much that letters lose their shape

Build speed slowly while keeping every letter legible.

Gripping the pen very tightly

Hold it lightly, about 2 cm from the tip, and relax your shoulders.

Tall and small letters all the same height

Make ascenders (b, d, h, k, l, t) clearly taller than small letters.

Using best handwriting for everything, even notes

Match your handwriting to the task: quick for notes, careful for final copies.