

# HANDWRITING

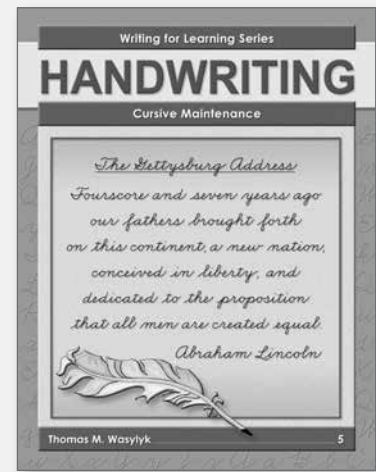
Thomas M. Wasylyk

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# Cursive Basic Strokes

Slant Strokes

*little*

**Slant Strokes** - The slant stroke is used in many cursive letters. Can you name the letters that contain a slant stroke?

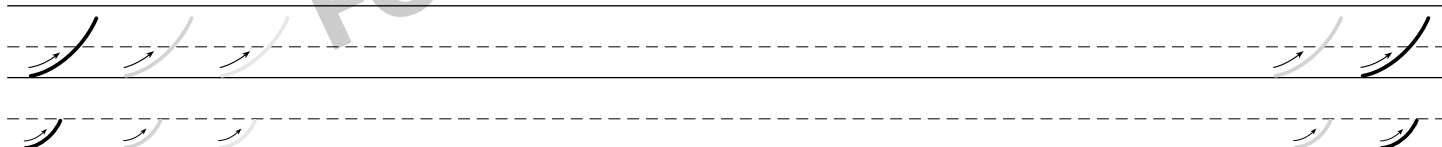
Trace and write the slant strokes.



Study the slant strokes in the letters to the right.

*h b A h i H f K*

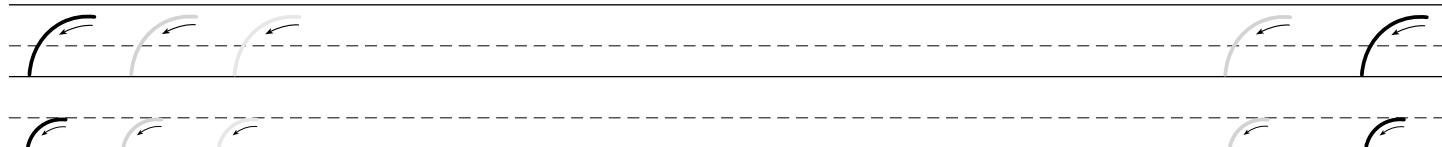
**Undercurve** - The undercurve is used to begin fourteen lowercase letters. Can you name them?  
Trace and write the undercurves.



Study the undercurves in the letters to the right.

*b c f i r s t B P*

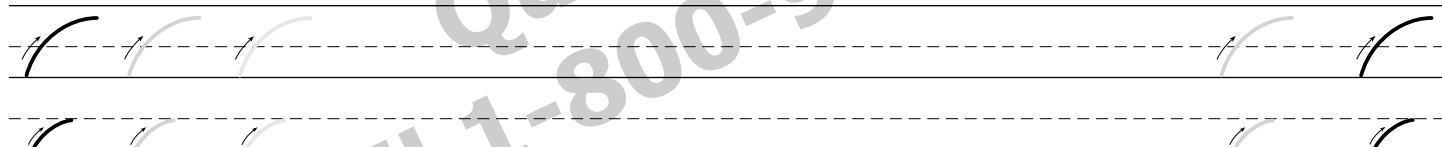
**Downcurve** - The downcurve is used in six lowercase letters. Can you name them?  
Trace and write the downcurves.



Study the downcurves in the letters to the right.

*a d g q o c A*

**Overcurve** - The overcurve is used to begin six lowercase letters. Can you name them?  
Trace and write the overcurves.



Study the overcurves in the letters to the right.

*m n v x y z y*

Write the words **letter**, **added**, and **minimum**. Check your basic strokes.

## Spacing

Correct spacing between letters, words, and sentences makes your writing easy to read. Study the spacing examples below.

**Spacing Between Letters and Words** - Allow enough space between words for a small oval. The sentence below shows correct spacing between letters and words.

*This sentence has good spacing  
between the letters and words.*

Write the sentence. Check your spacing between letters and words.

*I saw the first star tonight.*

**Spacing Between Sentences** - Allow enough space between sentences for a large oval. The example below shows correct spacing between sentences.

*Pat plays soccer. Olivia plays  
baseball. They also like to sing.*

Write the sentences. Check your spacing between sentences.

*Val is my sister. She is great!*

**New Paragraph Indent** - When you indent for a new paragraph, allow enough space for two large ovals. Study the example below.

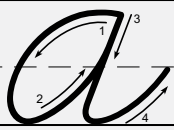
*The second week of volleyball  
practice was great. I had the...*

Write the sentences. Check your spacing between letters, words, and sentences.

**I like to play softball. I play third base. My team  
and I have fun when we practice for a big game.**

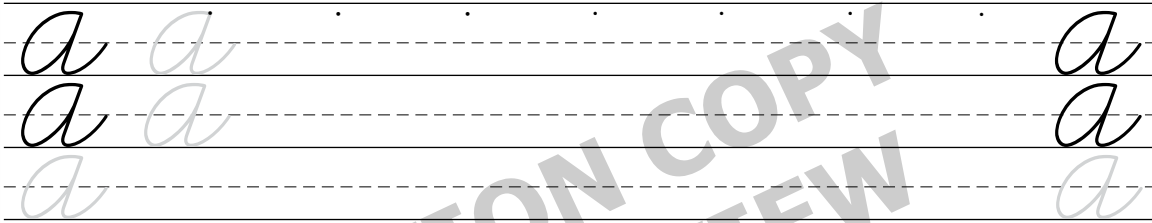
 **CHECK-UP** ☐ LETTER SPACING ☐ JOININGS ☐ ALIGNMENT ☐ SLANT ☐ WORD SPACING

# Uppercase A



1. Downcurve
2. Undercurve
3. Slant
4. Undercurve

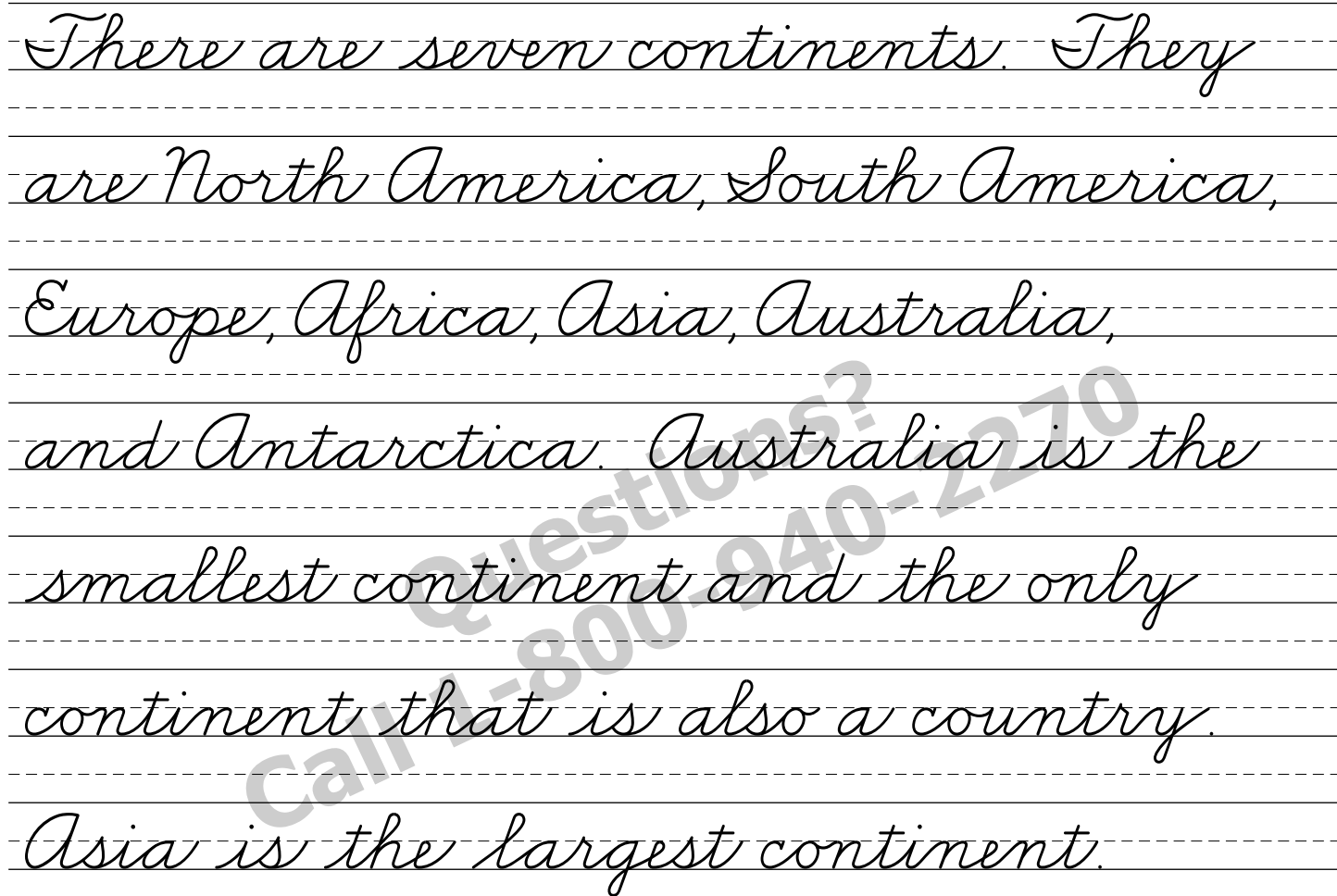
Be sure to close the downcurve-undercurve motion. Pull the slant stroke to the bottom line before you undercurve. Trace and write the letter.



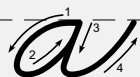
Trace and write the joinings and words.



Write the sentences. Check your writing.



# Lowercase a



1. Downcurve
2. Undercurve
3. Slant
4. Undercurve

Begin this letter with a wide downcurve. Pull the slant stroke to the bottom line before you make the undercurve ending. Trace and write the letter.

a a

a a

a

a

a

a

Trace and write the joinings and words.

ap	apple	ag	again	an	angle
ap	apple	ag	again	an	angle

Write the sentences. Check your writing.

Antarctica is the southernmost  
continent. In 1840, American  
explorer Charles Wilkes declared  
it a continent. In 1911, Norwegian  
explorer Roald Amundsen became  
the first man to reach the South  
Pole at the center of Antarctica.



## CHECK-UP

☐ LETTER SPACING

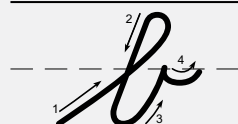
☐ JOININGS

☐ ALIGNMENT

☐ SLANT

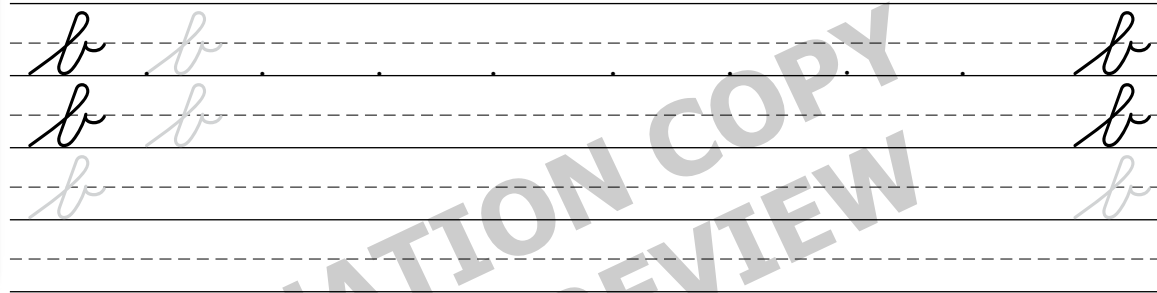
☐ WORD SPACING

# Lowercase b

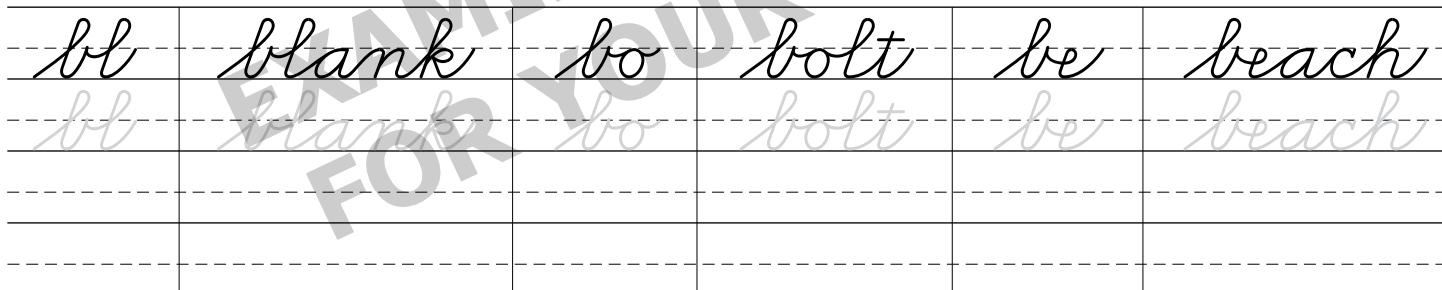


1. Undercurve, curve back
2. Slant
3. Sharp undercurve
4. Retrace, swing right

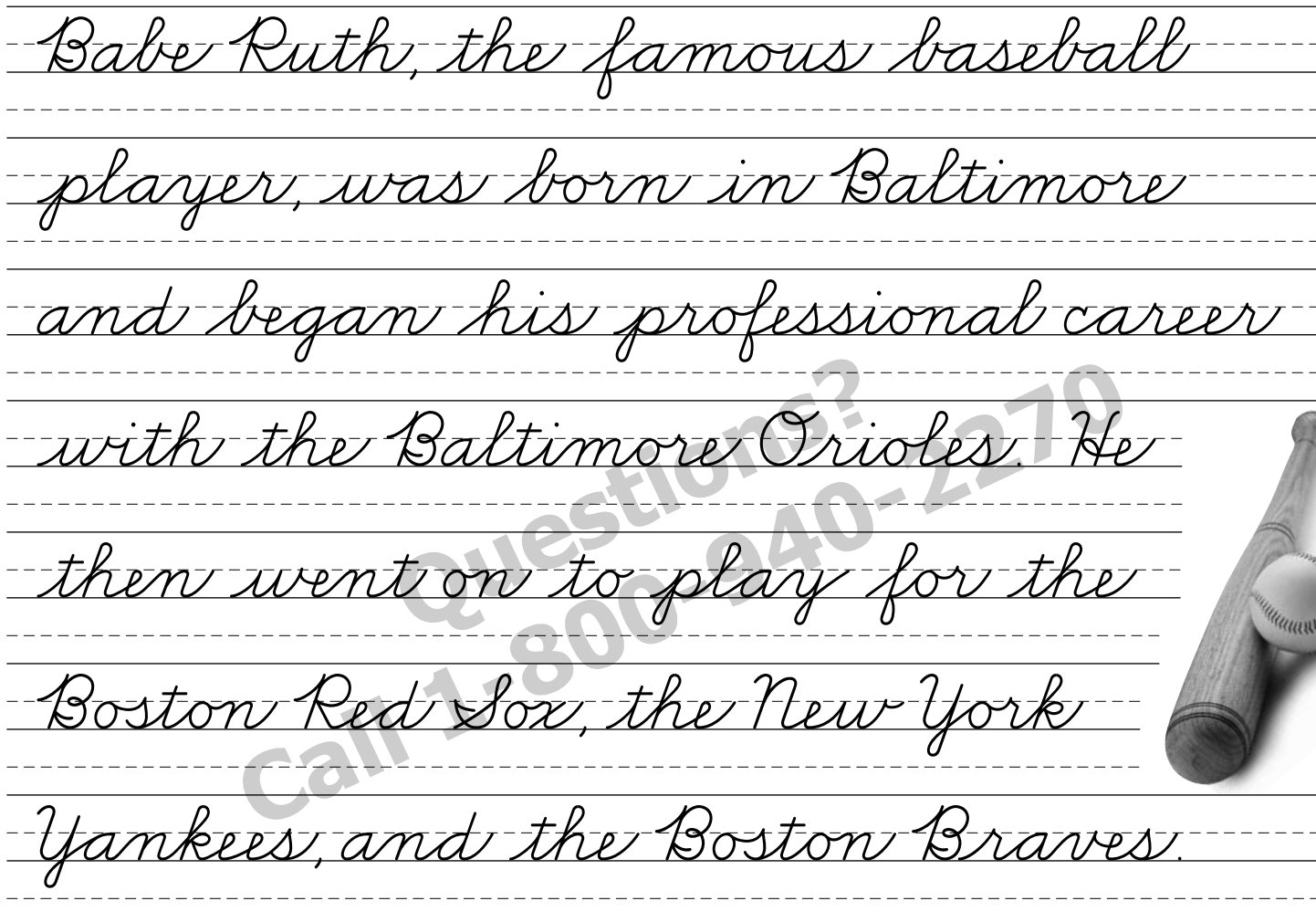
Begin with a wide undercurve. Be sure to keep the loop open. Pull the slant stroke to the bottom line, then make a sharp undercurve. Trace and write the letter.



Trace and write the joinings and words.

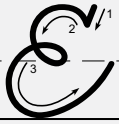


Write the sentences. Check your writing.



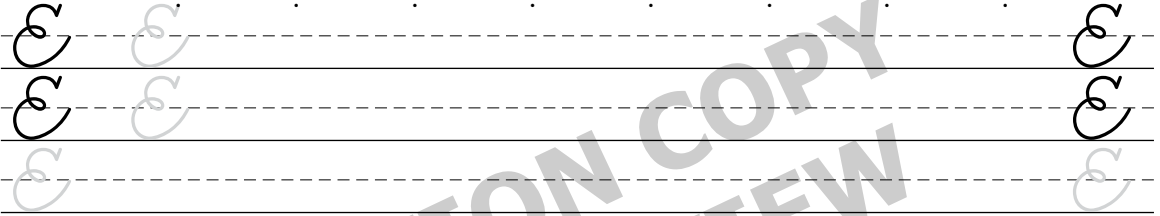


# Uppercase E

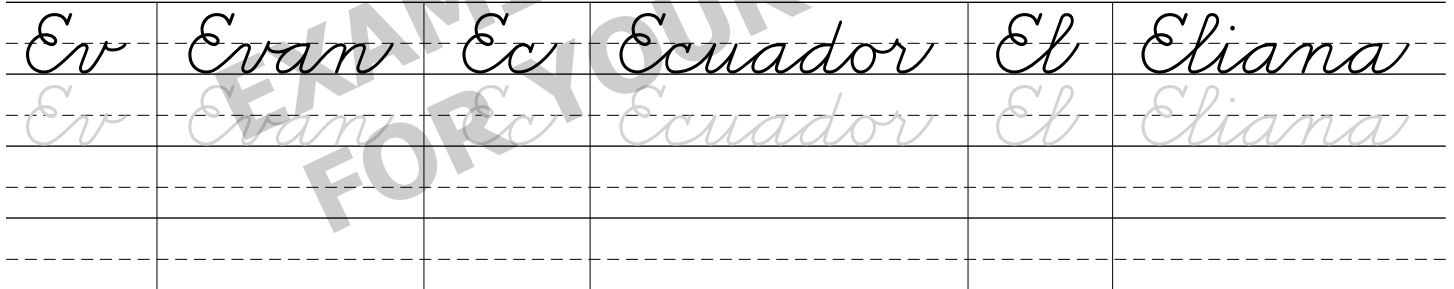


1. Short slant
2. Curve back and down
3. Curve back and down, undercurve

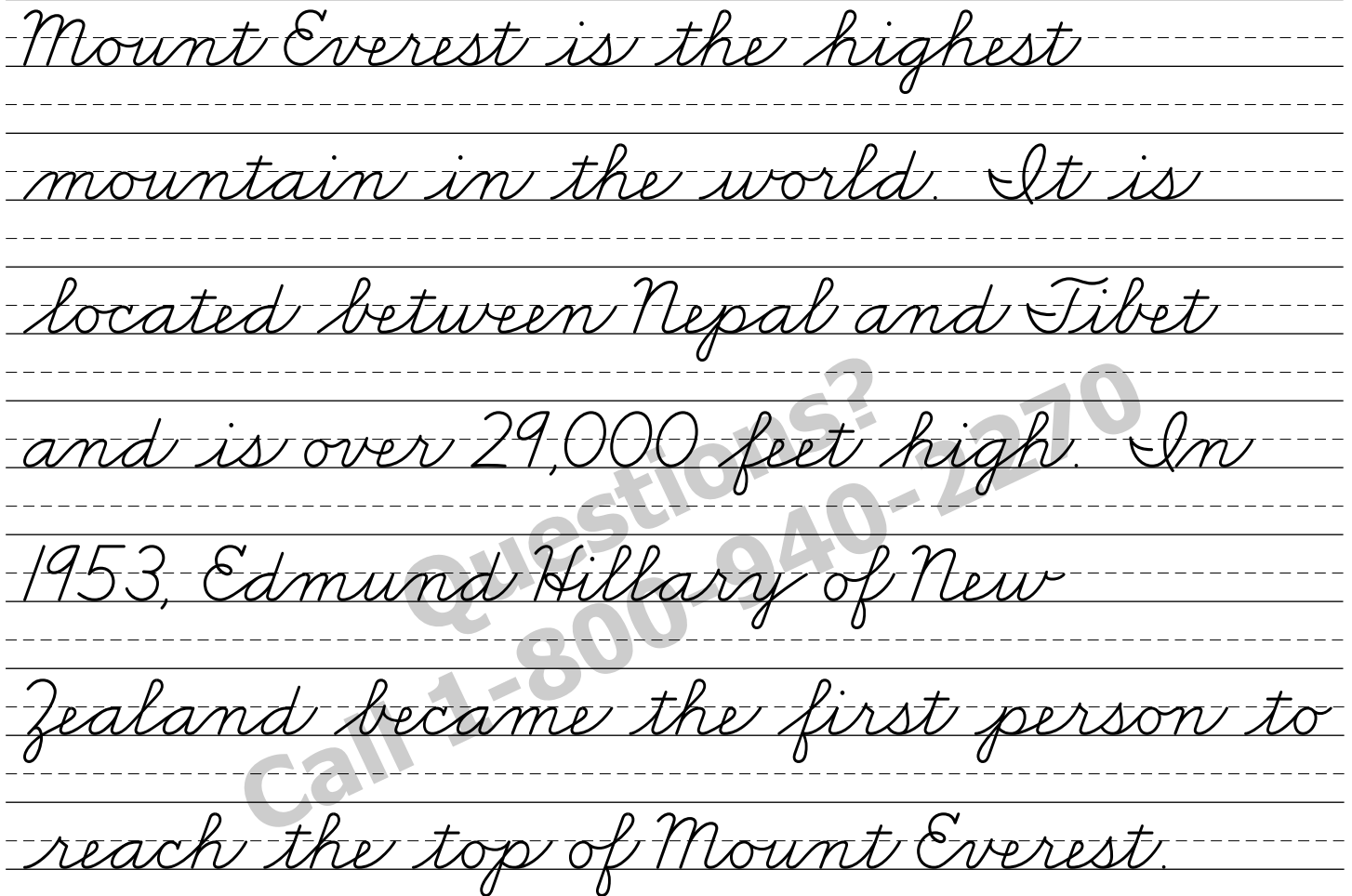
Keep the two sections of this letter well rounded. The top section is slightly smaller. The loop occurs just above the dotted line. Trace and write the letter.



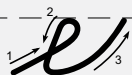
Trace and write the joinings and words.



Write the sentences. Check your writing.

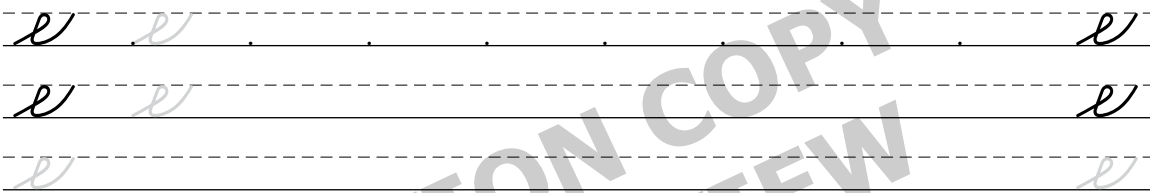


# Lowercase e

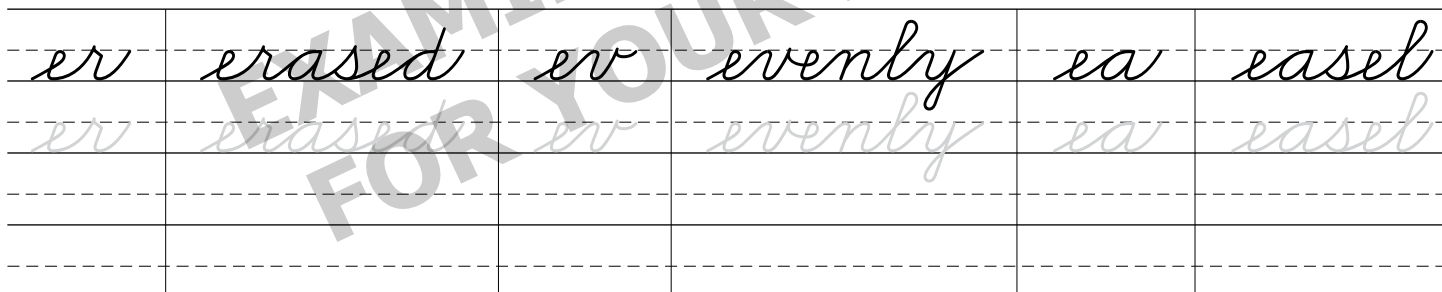


1. Undercurve, curve back
2. Slant
3. Undercurve

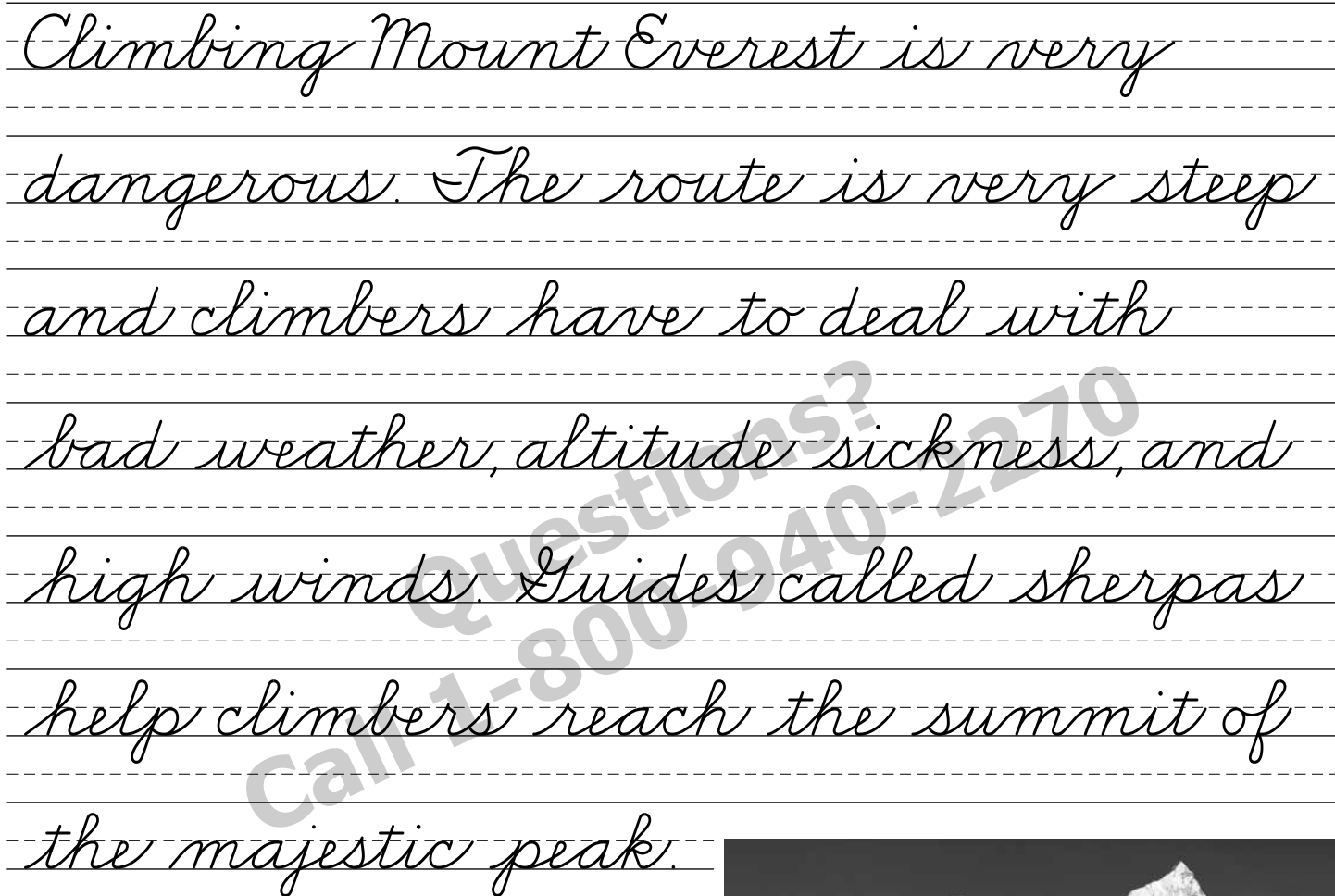
The undercurve beginning must be low and wide to allow room for the loop. Pull the slant stroke to the bottom line. Trace and write the letter.



Trace and write the joinings and words.



Write the sentences. Check your writing.



☒ **CHECK-UP** ☐ LETTER SPACING ☐ JOININGS





# Checkstroke Joining

The stroke used to join two letters greatly affects the legibility of your writing.

## Checkstroke to Undercurve

*ne bl os*

1. Pause as you complete the first letter (top arrows).
2. Retrace and swing right as needed to properly form the next letter (bottom arrows).

The checkstroke-ending letters (**b**, **v**, **o**, and **w**) join to the undercurve letters **b**, **e**, **f**, **h**, **i**, **j**, **k**, **l**, **p**, **r**, **s**, **t**, **u**, and **w** as shown in the examples in the box. Trace and write the joinings. Write the words.

*ne ve rest*  
*bl bl able*  
*os os loss*  
*wi wi with*

## Checkstroke to Downcurve

*ba vo*

1. Pause as you complete the first letter (see first arrow on each joining above).
2. Retrace and swing right forming the top part of the next letter (see second arrow on each joining above).

The checkstroke-ending letters (**b**, **v**, **o**, and **w**) join to the downcurve letters **a**, **d**, **g**, **q**, **o**, and **c** as shown in the examples in the box. Trace and write the checkstroke-to-downcurve joinings. Write the words.

*wo wo two*  
*ba ba bat*  
*vo vo vote*  
*oo oo took*

## Checkstroke to Overcurve

*oy by on*

1. Pause as you complete the first letter (see first arrow on each joining above).
2. Retrace and swing right forming the top part of the next letter (see second arrow on each joining above).

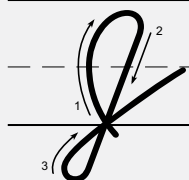
The checkstroke-ending letters (**b**, **v**, **o**, and **w**) join to the overcurve letters **m**, **n**, **v**, **x**, **y**, and **z** as shown in the examples in the box. Trace and write the checkstroke-to-overcurve joinings. Write the words.

*oy oy joy*  
*on on bone*  
*by by bye*  
*vy vy ivy*

Write the sentence.

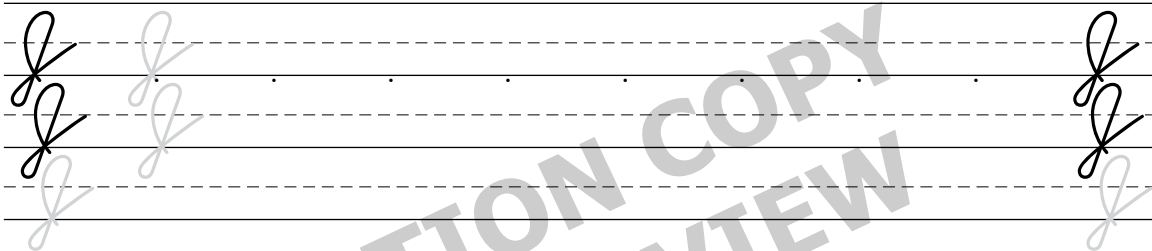
*The cursive letters b, v, o, and w*  
*are checkstroke-ending letters.*

# Uppercase J

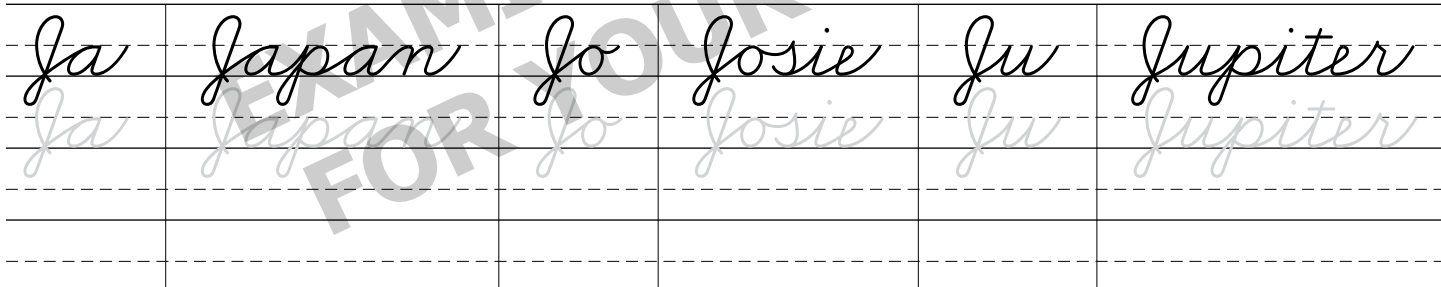


1. Curve up, forward
2. Slant, curve back
3. Overcurve

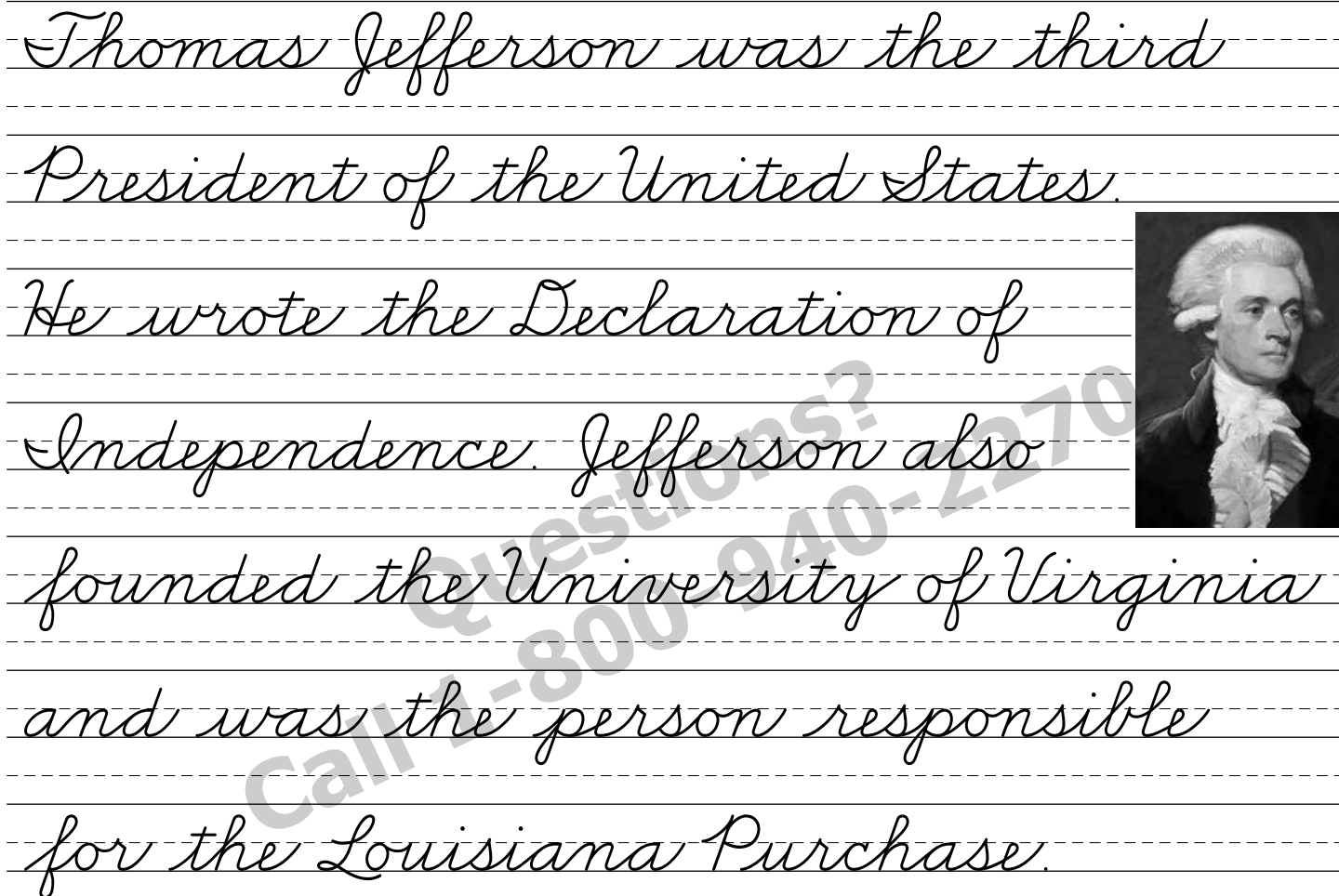
Keep both loops open in this letter. The slant stroke is pulled below the bottom line. All three strokes cross at the bottom line. Trace and write the letter.



Trace and write the joinings and words.



Write the sentences. Check your writing.



# Lowercase n

The two overcurves are wide and rounded. The two slant strokes should be parallel. The letter ends with a wide undercurve. Trace and write the letter.



1. Overcurve, slant
2. Overcurve, slant
3. Undercurve

*n n n*

*n n n*

*n n n*

Trace and write the joinings and words.

<i>no</i>	<i>notion</i>	<i>ne</i>	<i>nectar</i>	<i>network</i>
<i>no</i>	<i>notion</i>	<i>ne</i>	<i>nectar</i>	<i>network</i>

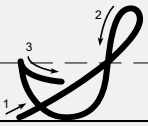
Write the sentences. Check your writing.

*The human body needs nutrients to grow and function. Nutrients are vitamins, minerals, proteins, carbohydrates, and fats. Different foods contain different nutrients, so a well-balanced diet is important to keep our bodies healthy.*



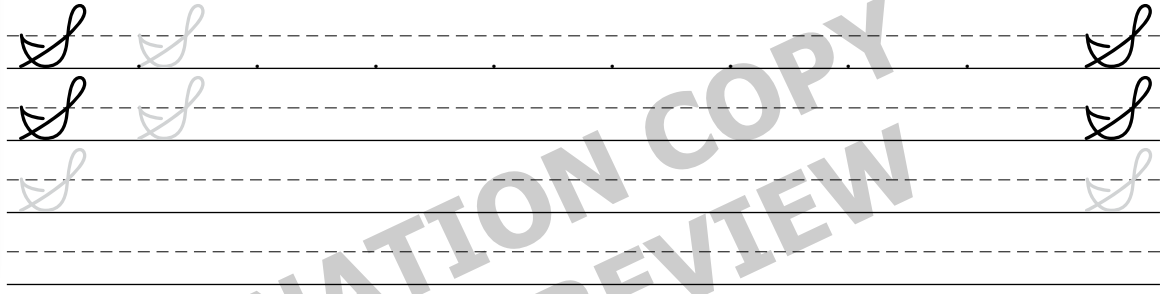
**CHECK-UP** ☐ LETTER SPACING ☐ JOININGS ☐ ALIGNMENT ☐ SLANT ☐ WORD SPACING

# Uppercase S

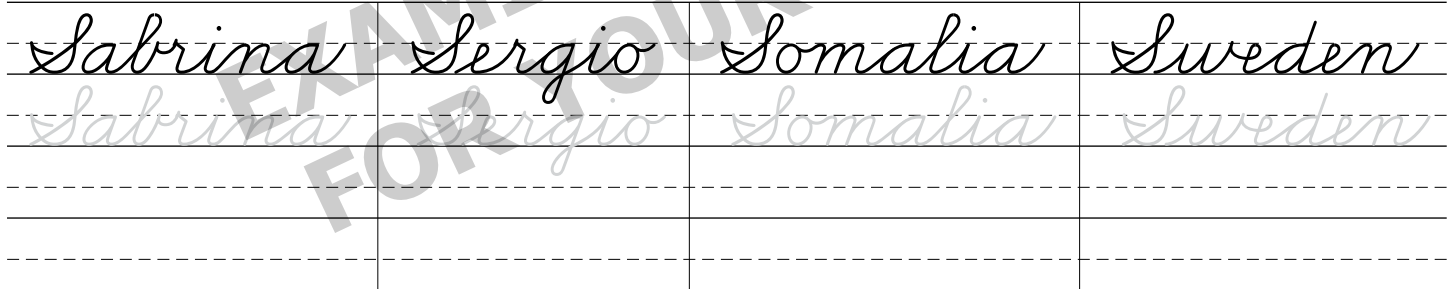


1. Undercurve, curve back
2. Curve down, curve up
3. Swing right

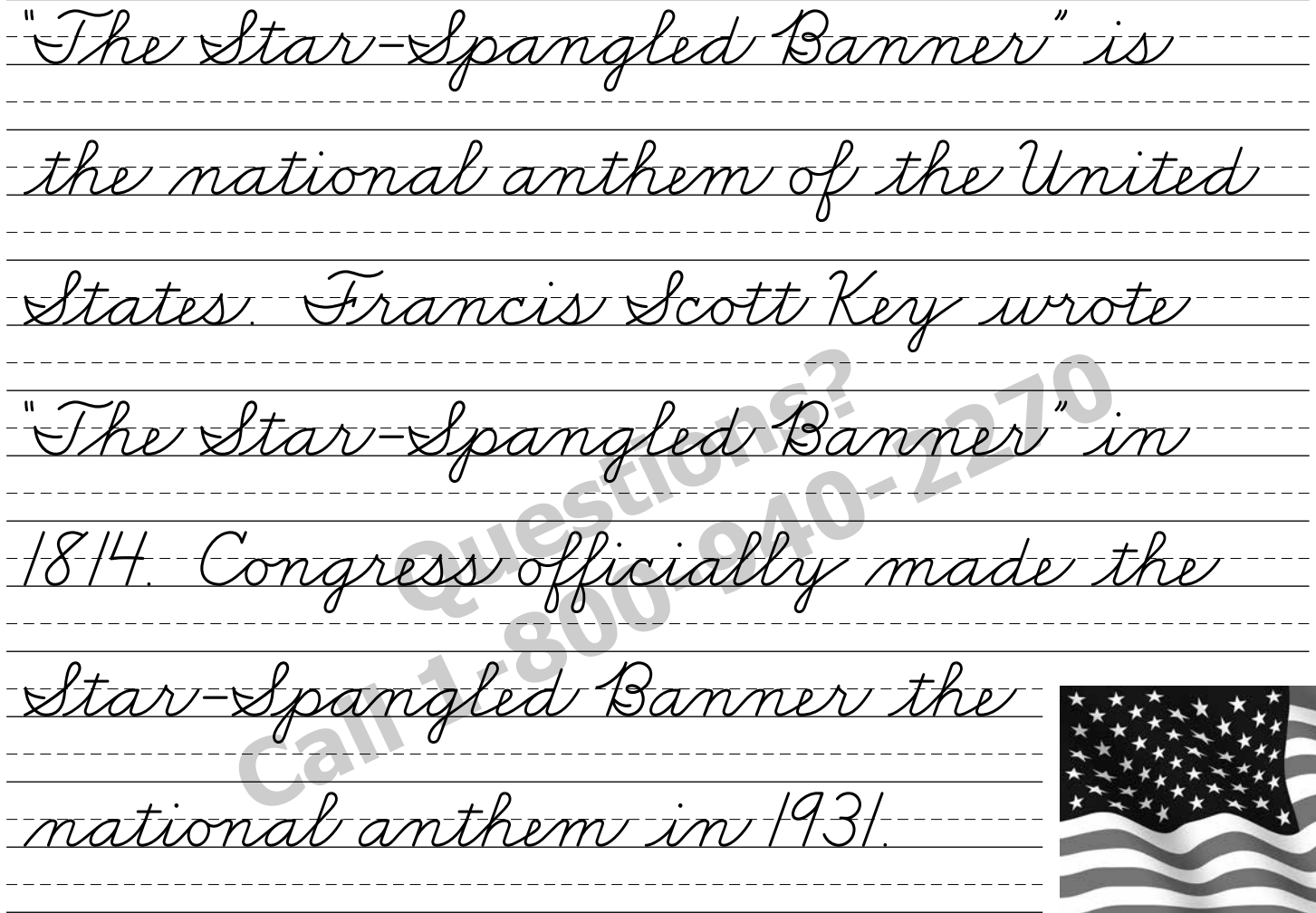
This letter begins with a very wide undercurve. Then curve back and down, crossing at the dotted line. Curve up and swing right. Trace and write the letter.



Trace and write the words.



Write the sentences. Check your writing.

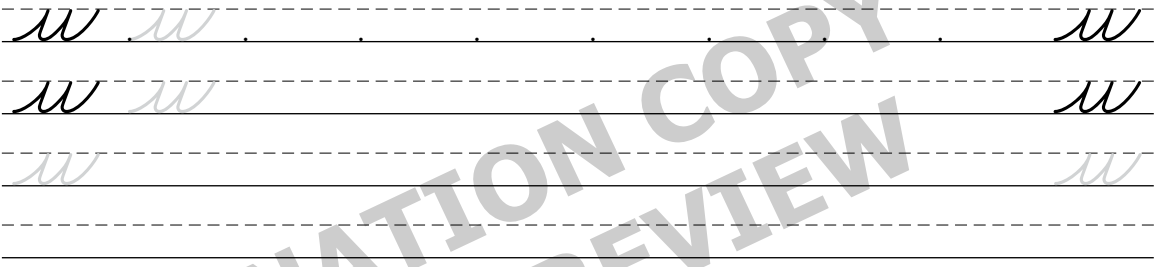


# Lowercase u

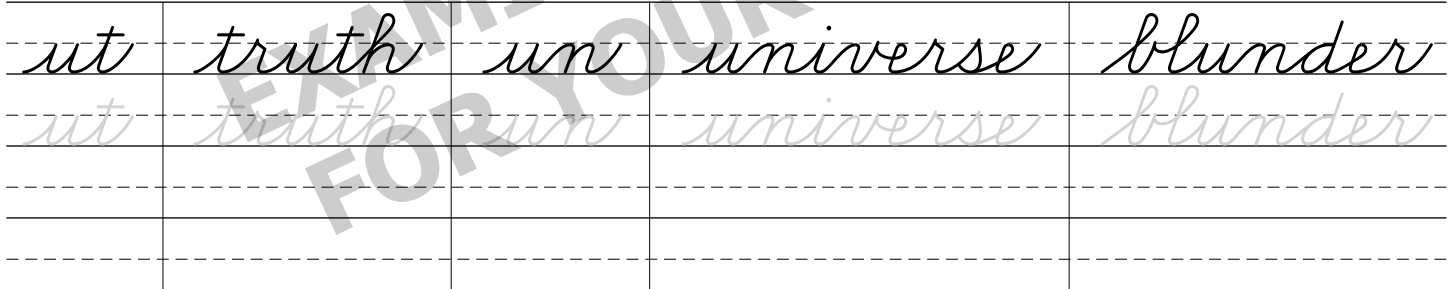
The three undercurves in this letter are very similar. The last undercurve is a bit wider. Both slant strokes should be parallel. Trace and write the letter.



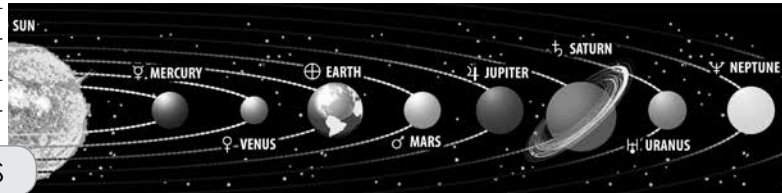
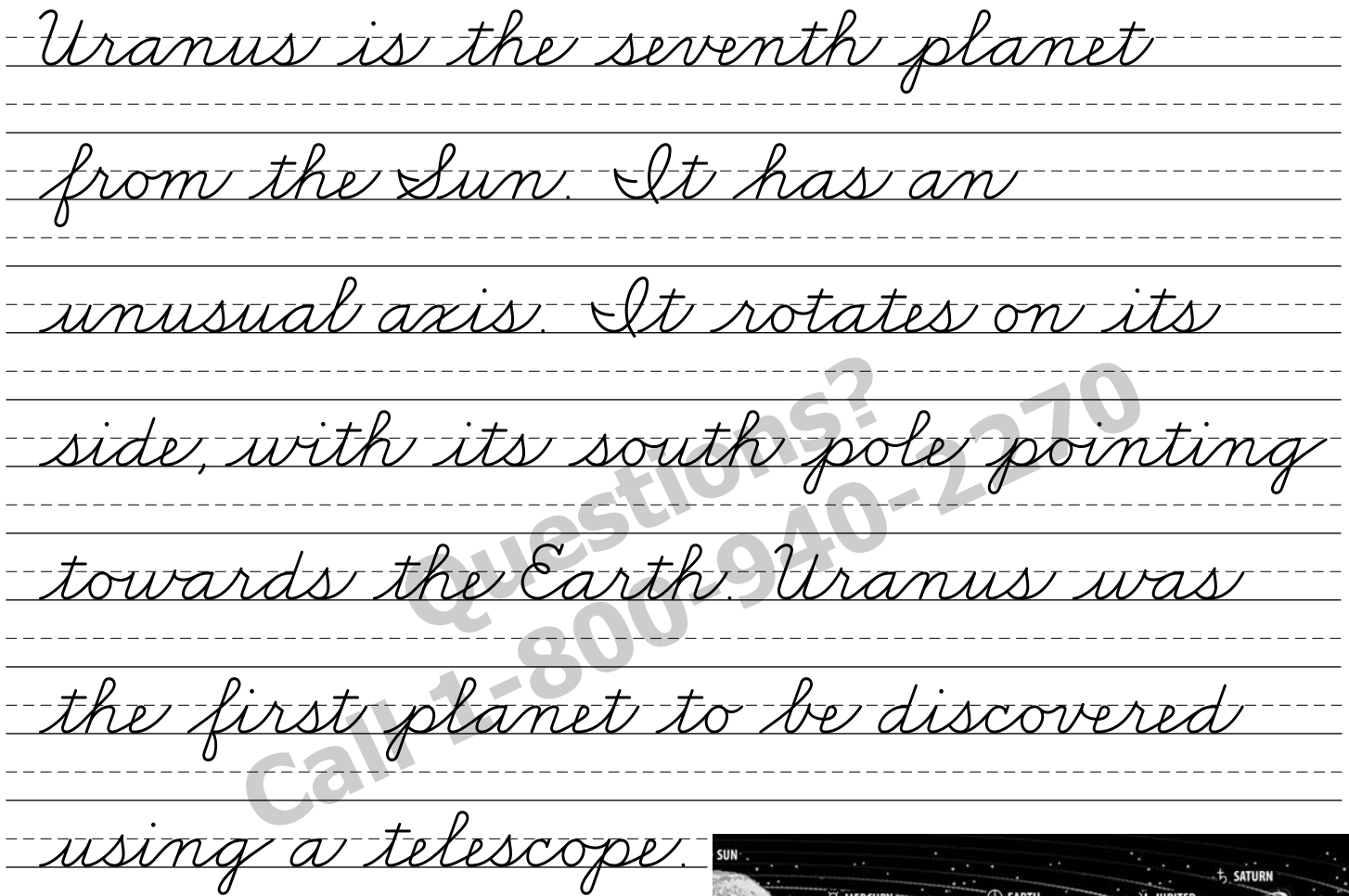
1. Undercurve
2. Slant, undercurve
3. Slant, undercurve



Trace and write the joinings and words.



Write the sentences. Check your writing.



**CHECK-UP** ☐ LETTER SPACING ☐ JOININGS