

PRIMA LATINA COPYBOOK



New American Cursive

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Line and Letter Practice

We have found that little instruction is necessary to teach basic letter strokes. Instead, it is “practice, practice, practice” on words and passages that creates neat and proficient writers. The following page, however, can be used to introduce letter formation and reinforce areas that prove problematic. You may use these exercises to learn and practice strokes and letters before beginning copywork. If your student does not need instruction on creating individual letters, you may skip this section and move straight to the first Bible verse.

Letter Practice Overview

Do not underestimate a young student’s ability to create simple strokes and stay within the lines. Always encourage straight lines, round circles, and appropriately sized letters. Once the basic strokes are mastered, your student should be able to make every letter in the alphabet.

It is not necessary to practice each letter over and over until it is perfect, just until your student has the basic ability to form the letters correctly. The purpose of copybook work is to allow your student to practice handwriting on great passages, not lists of letters. You will notice significant improvements in letter formation as the year progresses.

Remember, there are several different methods of creating letters. If your child has learned another system that works for him, skip the letter review section and move right into the copywork.

Student Guidelines

1. Students should hold pencils properly.



Left-handed



Right-handed

2. Start each line close to the left margin and don't cross the right margin.
3. Uppercase letters must touch the top and bottom lines.
4. Most lowercase letters stop at the middle, dashed line.
5. Lowercase b, d, f, h, k, and l are all tall letters that touch the top line.
6. Lowercase g, j, p, q, and y have hooks or tails that cross the bottom line.
7. All words should be one pinky space apart.
8. Letters should all stand tall and straight.
9. Erase mistakes completely and be neat.

Latin Cursive Lesson 1

Nomen:

Ambulo means I walk.

Via means road.

Deus means God.

Toga means toga.

Luna means moon.

Salve! Salvete!