

Quick Handwriting Rubric

Manual Scoring Guide

Skill Area	3 = Effective	2 = Developing	1 = Needs Support	SCORE
Letter Formation	All letters are formed correctly, with no reversals.	Minor inconsistencies; no more than 1-2 errors; no reversals.	Major inconsistencies OR any letter reversals.	
Letter Spacing	Even spacing between letters within words.	Occasional crowding or excessive gaps between letters.	Spacing errors that interfere with recognizing individual letters.	
Word Spacing	Clear and consistent spacing between words.	1-2 unclear or missing spaces between words.	Frequent missing spaces or inconsistent gaps that affect readability.	
Legibility	Easy to read the full sentence without guessing.	Some difficulty in reading parts of the writing.	Overall difficult to read; guessing needed to understand.	
TOTAL SCORE				



1" lined paper www.YourTherapySource.com

Sentence #1:
The quick brown fox jumped over the lazy dog.

Sentence #2:
Six bright frogs leap quickly across wet ponds and jump over lazy, messy bugs.

Sentence #3:
The fast boy grabs a quick lunch, jumps over a muddy dog, zips past a yellow box, and waves at his friend.

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1/2" lined paper www.YourTherapySource.com

Track student progress over time

Includes one rubric, three sample sentences to copy, and handwriting paper templates.

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Quick Handwriting Rubric

Directions: Use this scoring rubric to track a student's progress. Choose the correct line sized paper and one of the three sentences. The student copies the sentence on the lined paper. Use the provided line paper for consistency of scoring.

Student's Name: _____

Date: _____

Person Scoring Rubric: _____

Skill Area	3 = Effective	2 = Developing	1 = Needs Support	SCORE
Letter Formation	All letters are formed correctly, with no reversals.	Minor inconsistencies; no more than 1–2 errors; no reversals.	Major inconsistencies OR any letter reversals.	
Line Placement	All letters placed appropriately on the baseline and midline.	Some floating or sinking letters (1–2 noticeable errors).	Frequent floating/sinking; line placement affects readability.	
Letter Size	Consistent and proportional size to guideline lines.	Some variation in size, but does not impact legibility.	Highly inconsistent sizing that affects readability.	
Letter Spacing	Even spacing between letters within words.	Occasional crowding or excessive gaps between letters.	Crowding or gaps that interfere with recognizing individual letters.	
Word Spacing	Clear and consistent spacing between words.	1–2 unclear or missing spaces between words.	Frequent missing spaces or inconsistent gaps that affect readability.	
Legibility	Easy to read the full sentence without guessing.	Some difficulty in reading parts of the writing.	Overall difficult to read; guessing needed to understand.	
TOTAL SCORE				

Handwriting Paper Templates

Handwriting paper templates are provided on the next pages. Below you will find estimated age ranges and possible handwriting paper choices. Use your professional opinion to determine what paper size is suitable for each student.

Grade Level	Approximate Age	Recommended Line Height	Notes
Kindergarten (K)	5–6 years	1 inch (1")	Often includes a midline (dashed) for lowercase guidance. Ideal for beginner writers with developing fine motor skills.
Grade 1	6–7 years	3/4 inch (0.75")	Slightly smaller; still often includes a midline for letter alignment practice.
Grade 2	7–8 years	5/8 inch (0.625")	Midline may still be used. Fine motor skills improving, allowing for smaller spacing.
Grade 3	8–9 years	1/2 inch (0.5")	Standard "primary writing" paper size. No midline usually. Transition toward regular ruled paper.
Grades 4–5	9–11 years	3/8 inch (0.375")	Wide-ruled or standard notebook paper is often used.
Grade 6 and up	11+ years	College ruled (approx. 9/32 inch or 0.28")	Fine motor control is typically sufficient for smaller writing at this stage.

Sentence #1:

The quick brown fox jumped
over the lazy dog.

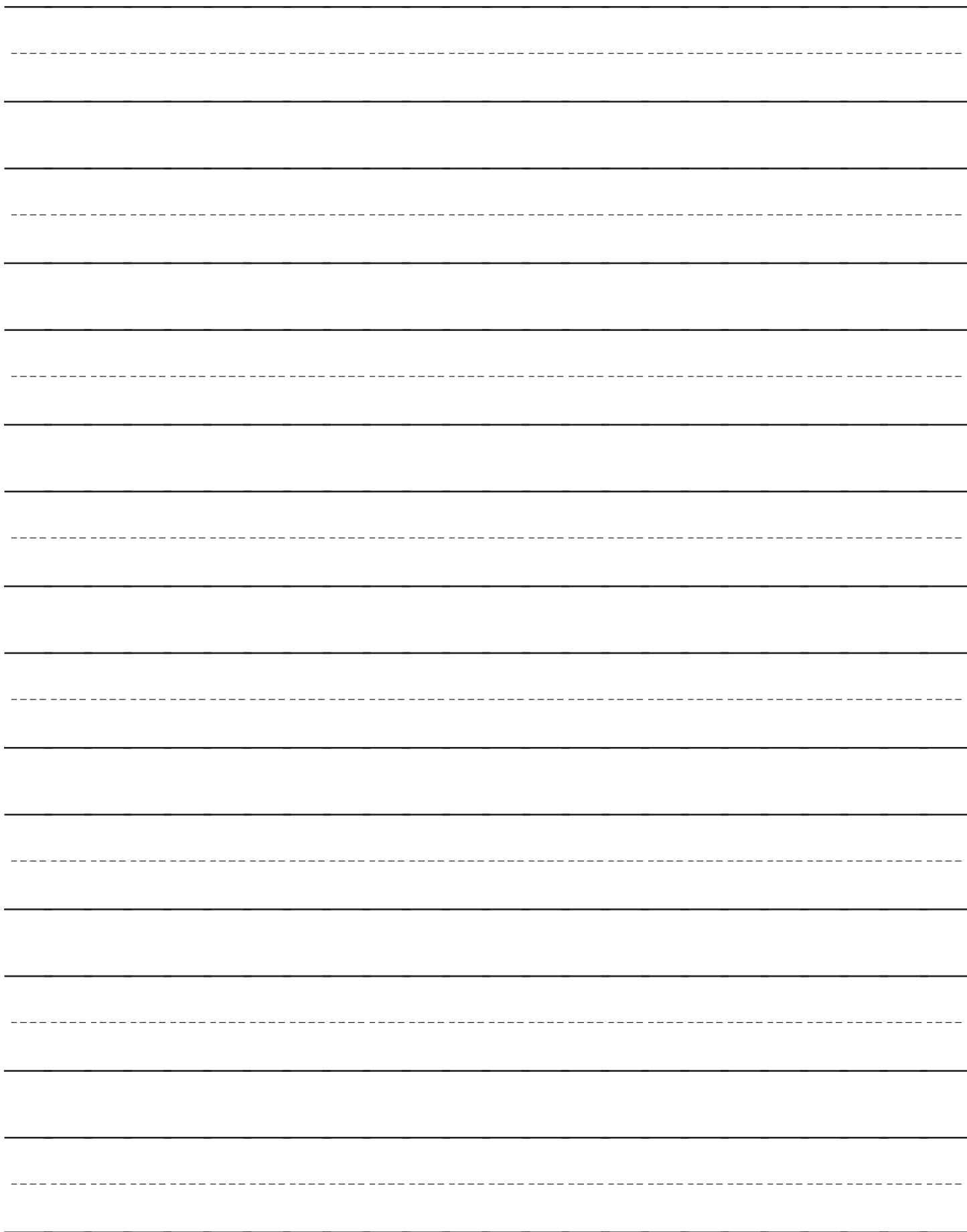
Sentence #2:

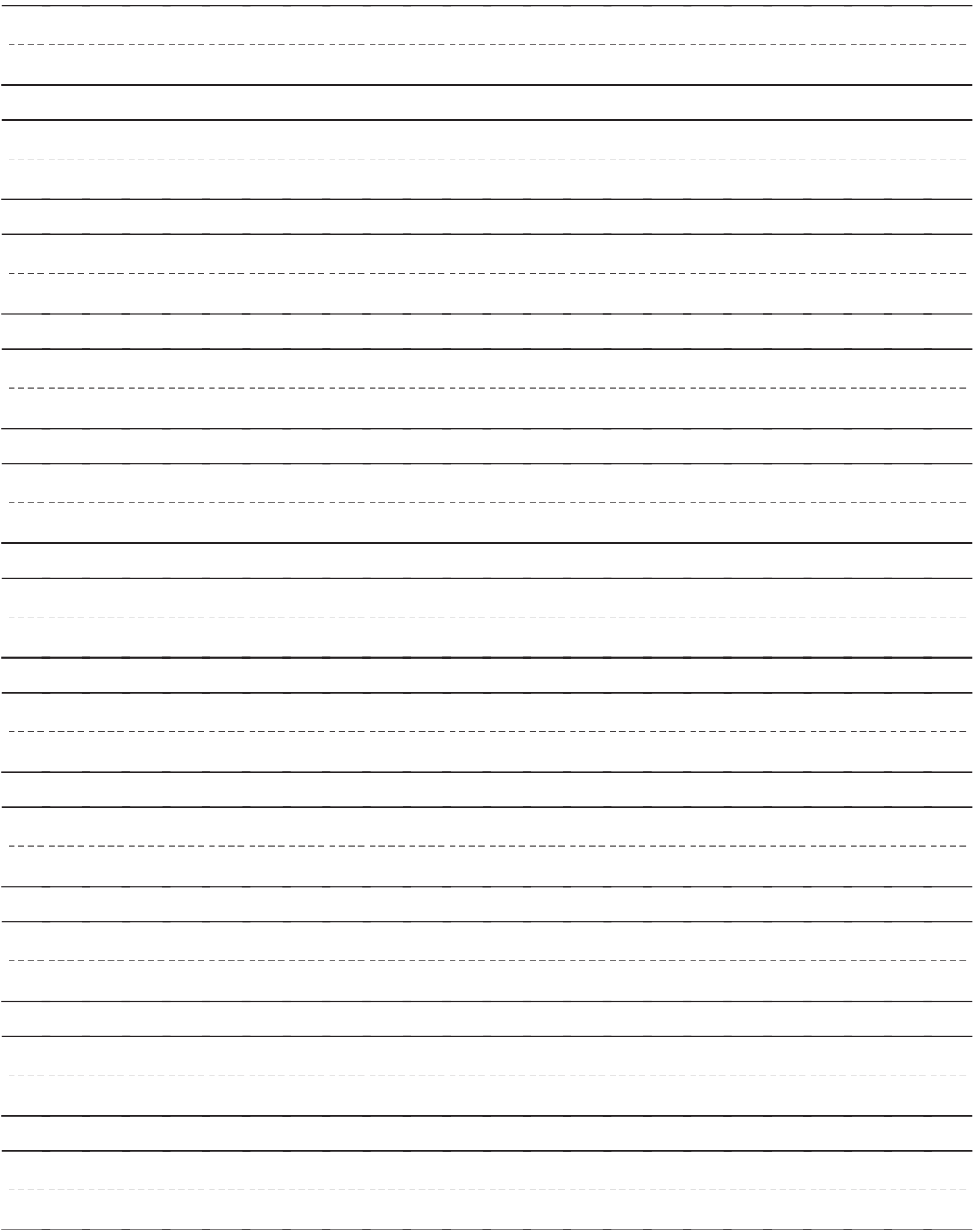
Six bright frogs leap quickly
across wet ponds and jump
over lazy, messy bugs.

Sentence #3:

The fast boy grabs a quick
lunch, jumps over a muddy
dog, zips past a yellow box,
and waves at his friend.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline, repeated across the page.









Lined paper template with 32 horizontal lines.