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Blogs - 2013 - September

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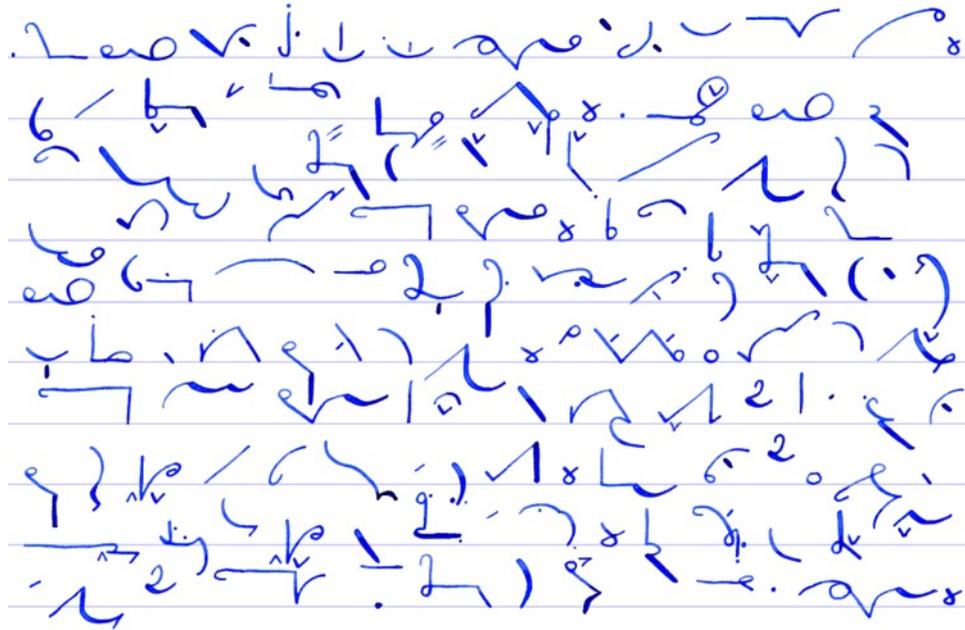
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PDF Date: 26 November 2020



Misspellings 1

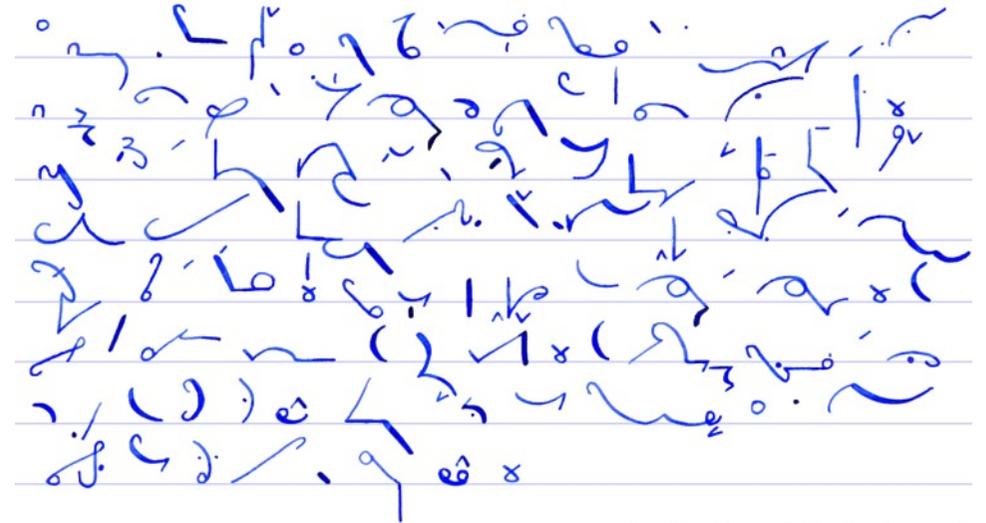
The practice sentences below contain one hundred common misspellings, all shown in capital letters. These are described on the Oxford Dictionaries website. The exercise sentences would be more beneficial if you transcribe them by typing rather than reading, so that your fingers also learn the correct spellings. It is more difficult to transcribe practice sentences than connected matter, because there is no thread of meaning running through them all and therefore no context to help speed up your reading. As the purpose is to learn or revise the correct longhand spelling, it might be helpful to write the shorthand at a

comfortable low speed, so that the outlines are well formed and easy to read. Taking slow shorthand is useful to counteract the tendency for the outlines to become straggly and messy. It would be frustrating if, despite writing and reading the shorthand correctly, the transcript was spoiled because of a misspelling.

* <http://oxforddictionaries.com/words/common-misspellings>

* "context" Always use the con dot for this outline, never use proximity, so that it cannot be misread as "text"

Blank lined area for writing practice.



Misspellings 1

As you can see, the blog title is numbered, and this ominous presence of a numeral should alert you to the fact that more lists of commonly misspelled words will be offered at some later date. You have been warned and it may be helpful not to store the English dictionary on the dusty top high shelf, where it can only be retrieved by hauling out the stepladder and moving furniture, chairs and boxes! Please note the different outlines for misspelled and misspelt. They use the large circle to make them easier to read. They reflect the fact that the prefix and main word each have their own S sound, which can be heard in

the pronunciation* as a longer hesitation over the S's, rather than two separate sounds.

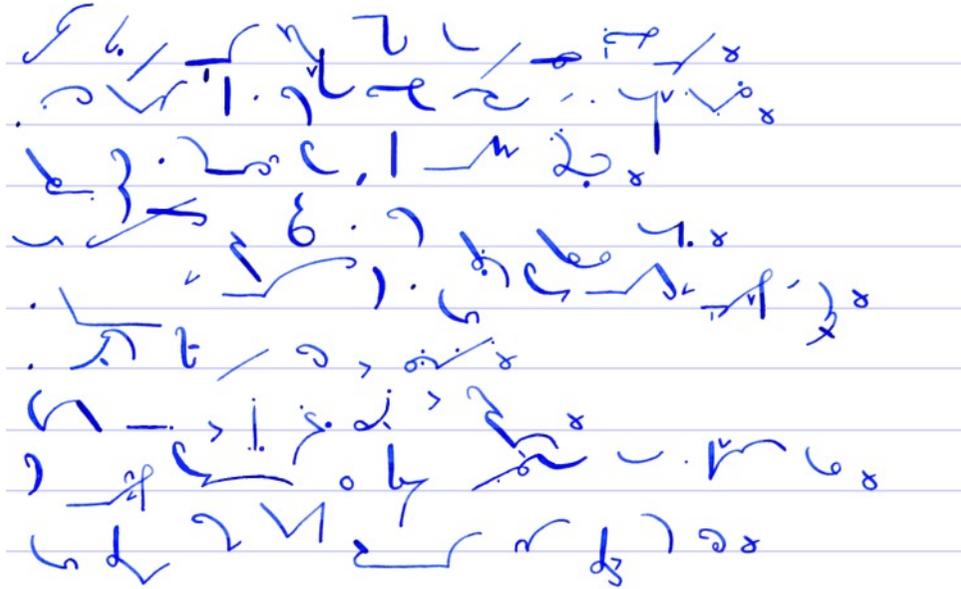
* Omission phrase "to the (f)act that" "they reflect the (f)act that the"

* "it can only" On its own, "only" is written with full N and L strokes

* "stepladder" Note that "ladder" on its own is written with L + D with hook R.

* "pronunciation" Insert the diphone sign so it does not look like "pronouncement"

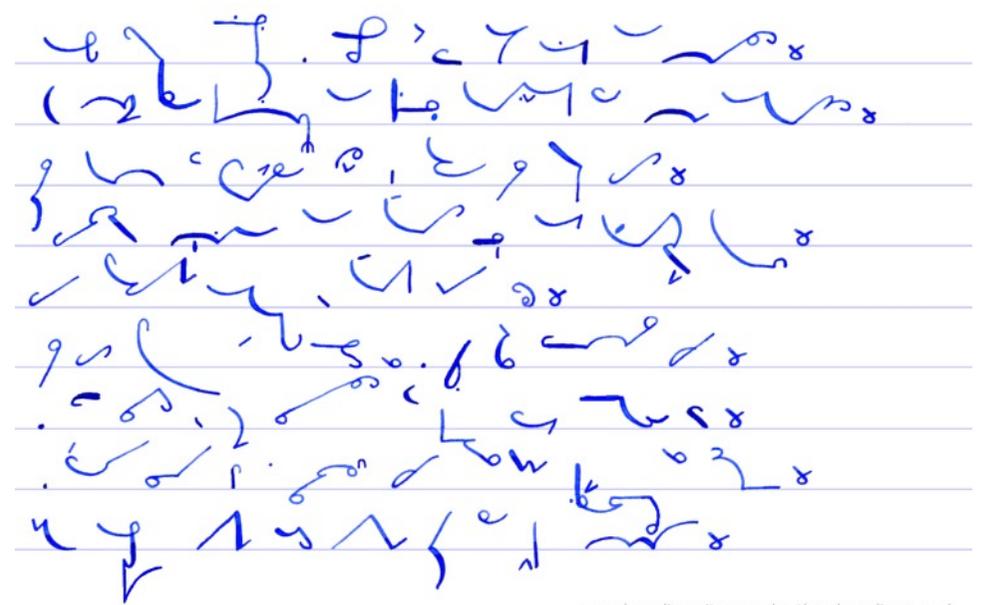
Blank lined area for writing practice.



Misspellings 1

- We will ACHIEVE our goal of providing ACCOMMODATION for our guests ACROSS the country.
- The man APPARENTLY had a very AGGRESSIVE manner and an untidy APPEARANCE.
- BASICALLY there was an ARGUMENT over who had carried out* the ASSASSINATION.
- Now we are BEGINNING to BELIEVE that this is a very BIZARRE BUSINESS indeed.
- The picture on the CALENDAR was a view over the CARIBBEAN countryside and sea-shore.
- The CHAUFFEUR drove our friend to the CEMETERY.
- They will be COMING to the COMMITTEE COMPLETELY CONSCIOUS of the problem.
- Their CURIOSITY over the matter is DEFINITELY resulting in a DILEMMA for us.
- If you DISAPPEAR from the party too quickly, you will DISAPPOINT your friends.

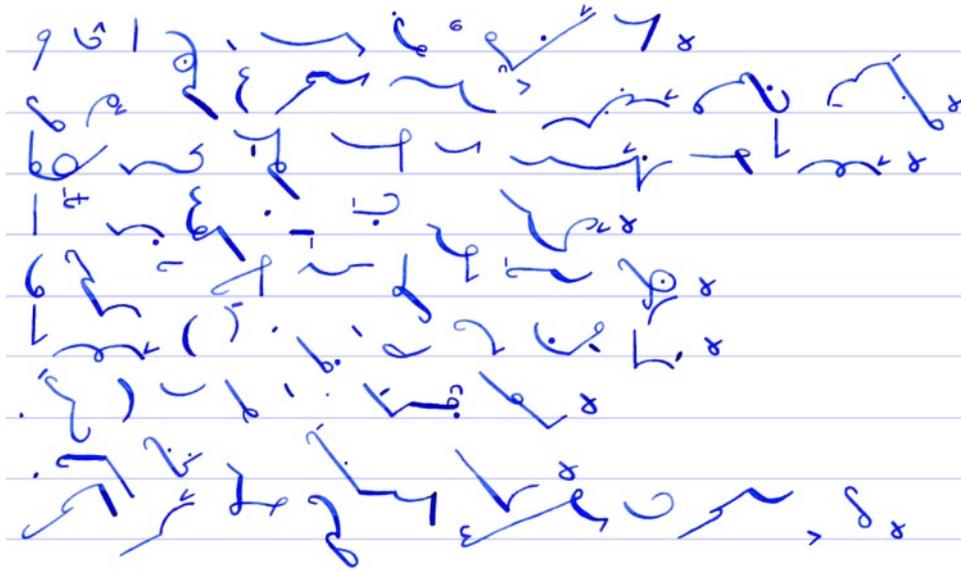
* "carried out" Halving to represent the T of "out"



Misspellings 1

- Instead of producing ECSTASY, the EXISTENCE of the gold only ended in EMBARRASSMENT.
- They measured the temperature in degrees FAHRENHEIT in order to* improve the ENVIRONMENT.
- He was not FAMILIAR with FLUORESCENT lights but FINALLY he bought one.
- We will not be importing any FOREIGN goods in the FORESEEABLE future.
- We FORWARDED the invitation to FORTY of our FRIENDS.
- He went FURTHER and explained to us the GIST of this GLAMOROUS story.
- The GUARD HAPPENED to see the HARASSMENT that took place near the GOVERNMENT building.
- The HONORARY secretary told a HUMOROUS story about the IDIOSYNCRASIES of his work.
- I have, INCIDENTALLY, read the INDEPENDENT report which was sent out IMMEDIATELY.

* Omission phrase "in ord(er to)"

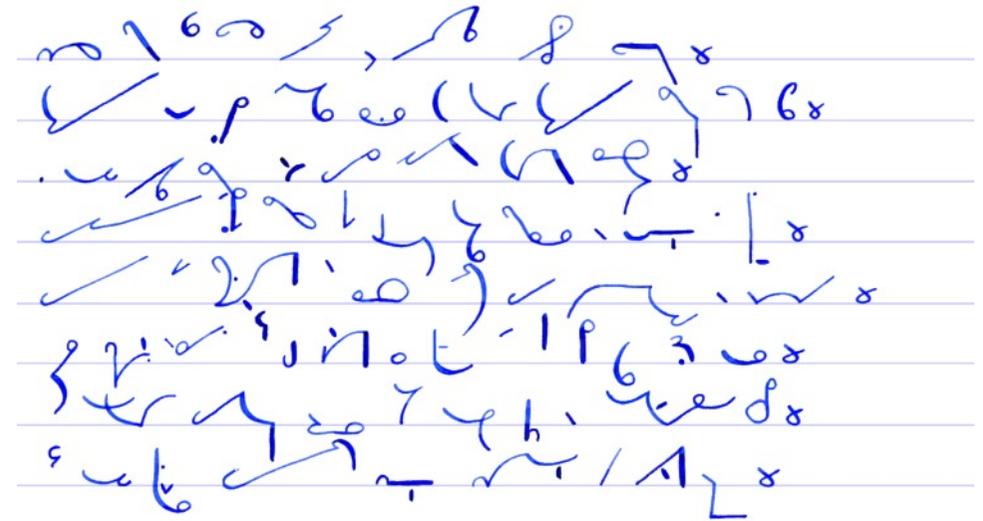


Misspellings 1

- He found it IRRESISTIBLE to INTERRUPT the conversation with his superior KNOWLEDGE.
- Please LIAISE with them regarding the manufacture of the MILLENNIUM celebration LOLLIPOPS.
- It is NECESSARY to mention the NOTICEABLE interest in the NEANDERTHAL* exhibit at the museum.
- It OCCURRED to me that this would be a good OCCASION to visit the PAVILION.
- This problem OCCURRED yesterday and in fact* it has been OCCURRING PERSISTENTLY.
- At the museum they saw a PIECE of stone from the PHARAOH'S tomb.
- The POLITICIAN was in POSSESSION of a PORTUGUESE passport.
- The group PREFERRED to discuss the PROPAGANDA PUBLICLY.
- We will be REALLY very pleased when we RECEIVE the information REFERRING to the plans.

* "Neanderthal" Full strokes are used for "neander-", rather than doubling plus N hook, so that the following stroke can be joined

* Omission phrase "and in (f)act"

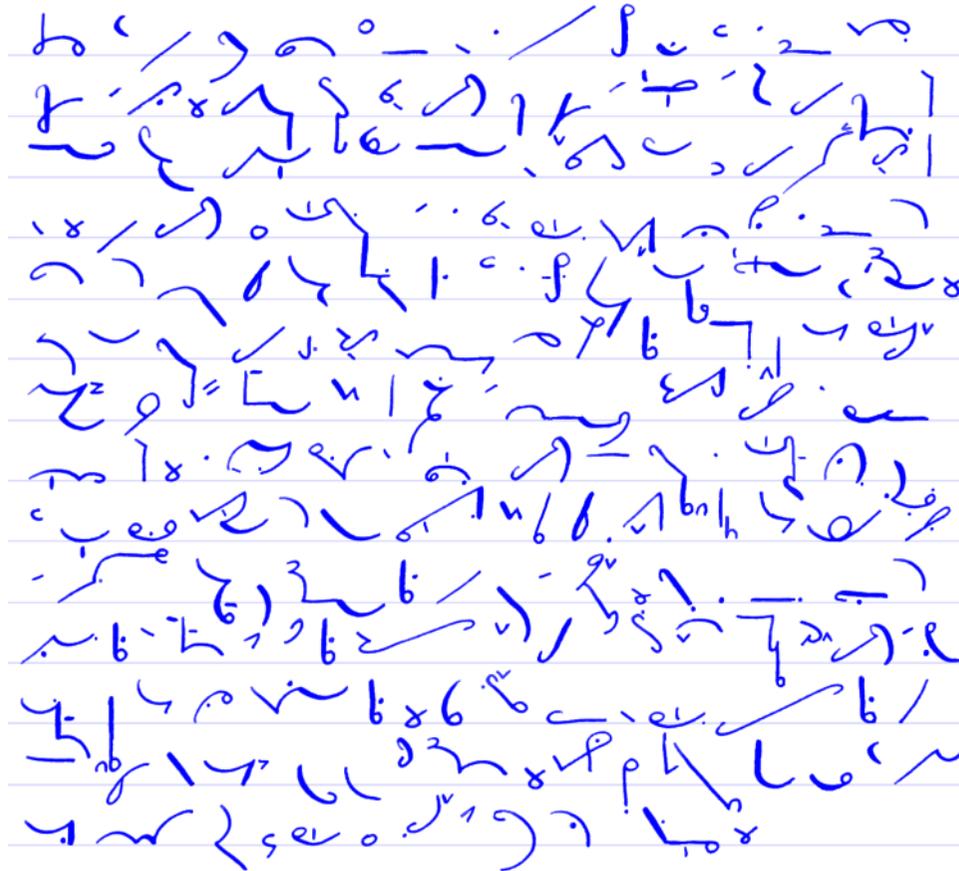


Misspellings 1

- You must REMEMBER that his remarks REFERRED to the RELIGIOUS RESISTANCE group.
- They were under SIEGE and in this SENSE they felt they were SEPARATE from others.
- The new rules SUPERSEDE the old ones and we believe they will be SUCCESSFUL.
- We were SURPRISED at the TENDENCY for these persons to undergo a TATTOO.
- We are on the THRESHOLD of success and THEREFORE we look forward* to TOMORROW.
- He was TRULY sorry that he did not hold his TONGUE and had said these WEIRD things.
- UNFORTUNATELY we have had to close UNTIL next month* due to UNFORESEEN circumstances.
- With the new device, WHEREVER you go you will know WHICH road to take. (727 words)

* Omission phrase "look fo(r)ward" "ne(k)s(t mon)th"

* "unfortunately" Optional contraction



End Of Summer

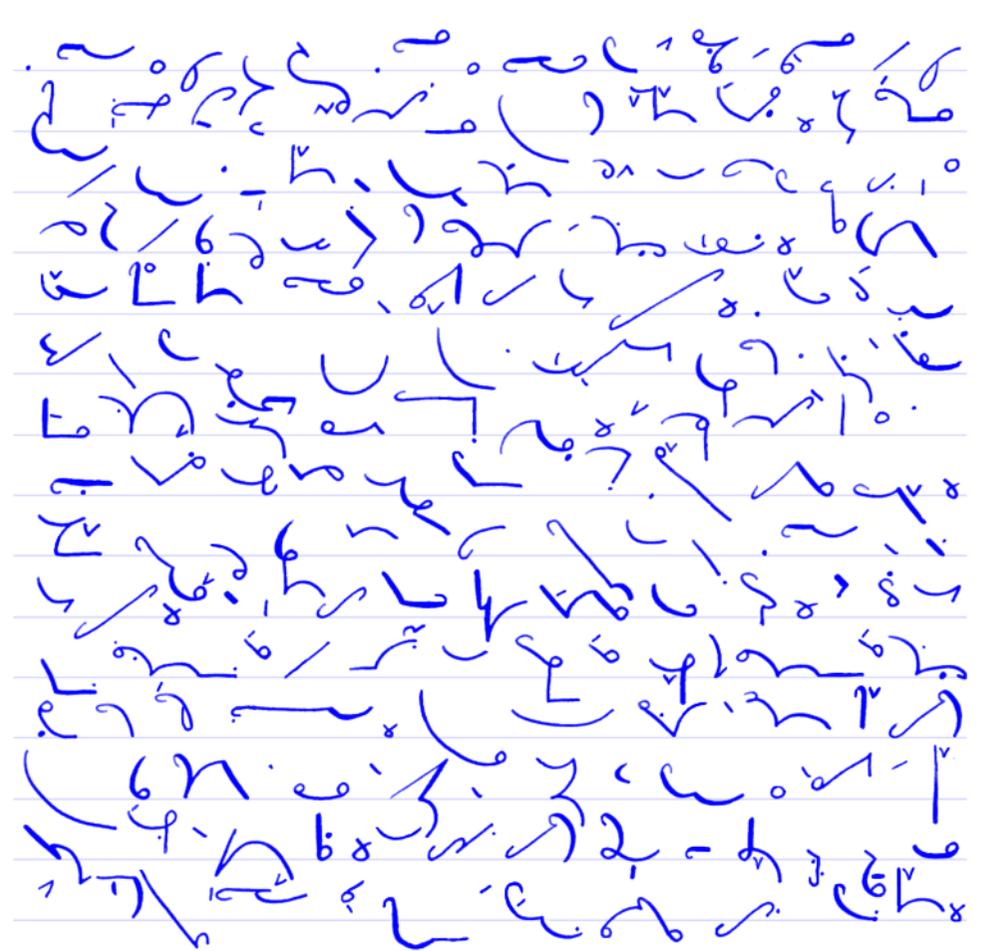
It seems that our British summer has come to a rather sudden end, with a week of mist, drizzle and rain. We have had plenty of hot weather during July and August, and although we dream of it going on forever, we know that is not going to happen, nor would we really want it to. Our weather is unpredictable and a hot sunny period may last a week or more, or maybe just for that day, with a sudden change in conditions occurring without warning. Here in Britain we tend to want to make the most of such days, getting out in the sunshine and enjoying ourselves, talking about it endlessly and making sure that we do not waste a single moment of it. A longish spell of summery weather can produce an untroubled lazy easiness with no sense of rushing or being hurried about, which is just the right attitude for the necessary rest

and relaxation for those whose working days are busy and high-pressured

. Remembering the coming grey or rainy days of autumn and the short days of winter, I generally plan my activities around the weather, and save indoor duties for the less appealing days. This applies equally to sunny winter days, which can still be enjoyed even if they are not warm. I resist sitting at the computer doing things that are not needed immediately, especially when the sun is shining and the fresh air beckons.

* "high-pressured" Ensure the Ish stroke is clearly halved, as "high pressure" could also make sense

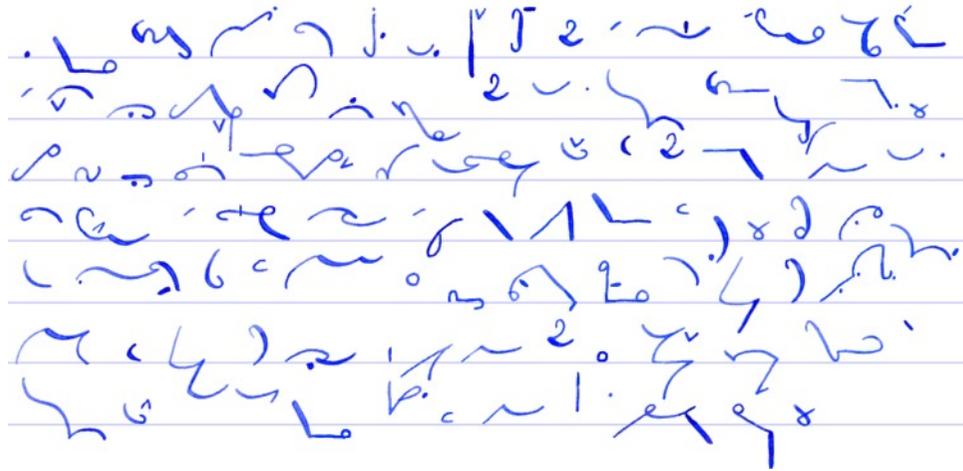
* "are not" In longer phrases, these two words do not use N Hook and halving for the "not", which would look too much like "will not" e.g. "you are not, which are not"



End Of Summer

The garden is still full of flowers, the grass is greener than ever, and the snails and slugs are still travelling across the lawn when morning comes, after their night-time forays. I think the frogs are having a good time too, being able to roam around in more comfort when it is wet, but as most of them are this year's new batch, they are very small and remain unseen. They will be finding dark damp corners to hide away for the winter. The fine pond netting that we put over to safeguard the fish, after an unwanted visit from a pair of passing ducks earlier in the year, is now collecting leaves. On the misty mornings it has a grey appearance instead of almost invisible

black, matching the spider webs nearby. Unlike previous years, this time I am well prepared for "putting the garden to bed" for the winter. All but one bag of daffodil bulbs have been planted. All the plants in the big ceramic pots are actually in plastic pots inside, so the ceramic pots remain safe from frost cracking. If there is another spell of warm dry weather after this, there will be a sense of urgency to ensure that everything is sorted and tidy before the onset of chillier days. In wintry weather there is no great desire to attend to those things, and the cosy computer corner, hot drink and fluffy slippers win every time. (482) words)



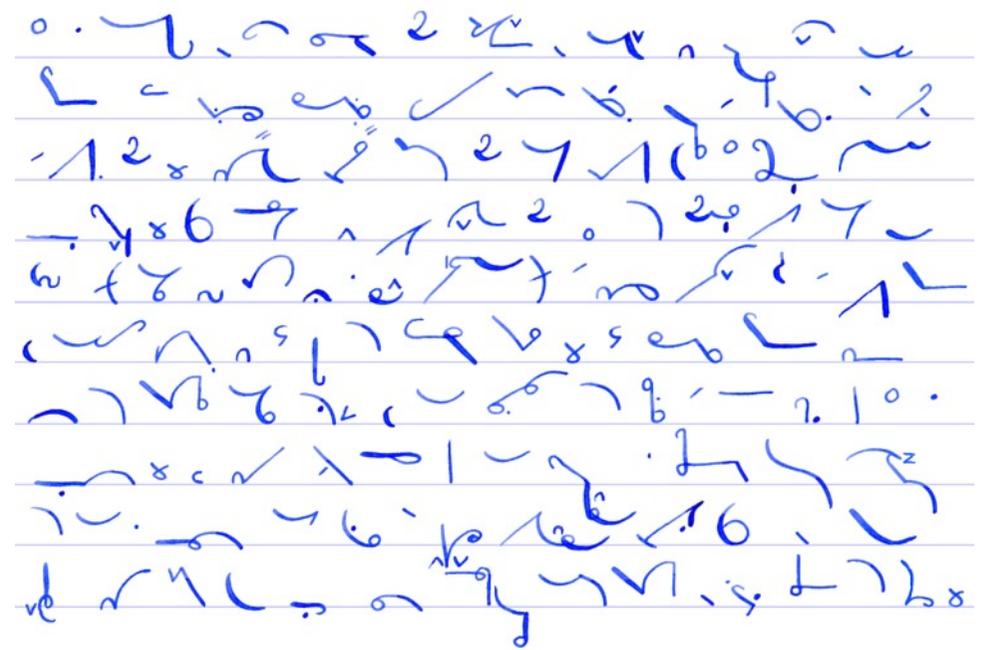
Pitman's Snippets

The books that you have been learning from contain neat, tidy, drawn shorthand, and my own offerings, in this blog and my main website, also aim to present shorthand in a form that you can confidently copy. Once you have gained some experience, you will increasingly find that shorthand can be written in a more flowing and cursive manner, and still be read back with ease. There is less room for

manoeuvre than with longhand, as you cannot slope the strokes or change their relative length without changing their meaning, but real written shorthand is unlikely to match the perfection of form found in the books, at least* when written at a reasonable speed.

* "at least" and "at last" Always insert the vowel

Blank lined area for writing practice.



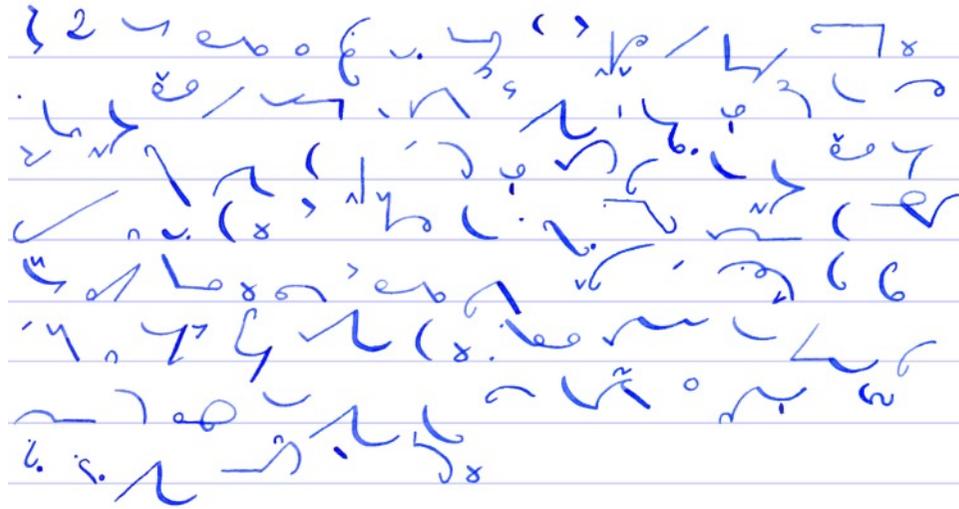
Pitman's Snippets

As an introduction to more scribbled shorthand, I would like to invite you to visit my new blog called Pitman's Snippets, where I am posting bits and pieces of rough-and-ready shorthand. You will have to use all your shorthand knowledge to read them, as there is no longhand key provided. This is exactly how real life shorthand is, your shorthand notes are the only thing that you have (unless you have also made a sound recording) and you must rely on that and read back without anyone helping you with the difficult or

questionable parts. With the snippets blog you can improve your abilities in this area, without any hassle or stress, and can treat it as a game. When you are "up against it" in producing a transcript for your employer or in an exam, in the face of outlines refusing to yield themselves to being deciphered, you will, I hope*, have gained some extra confidence in your ability to complete the task or assignment.

* Omission phrase "I (h)ope"

Blank lined area for writing practice.



Pitman's Snippets

Although the shorthand in the snippets is less than* neat, I can assure you* that all the outlines are dictionary correct. A few vowel signs are included to help with the reading but if these notes were for myself, I would probably leave them out, and your own notes also will have vowel signs only where you need them. All the items have a brief* caption, to make them accessible via the search box. Some of the snippets will be wilder and messier than others, and I hope* you enjoy the challenge of reading them. The absence of longhand for checking will make your successes in reading even more valuable, as you will

know that you have achieved complete reading accuracy all on your own. (405 words)

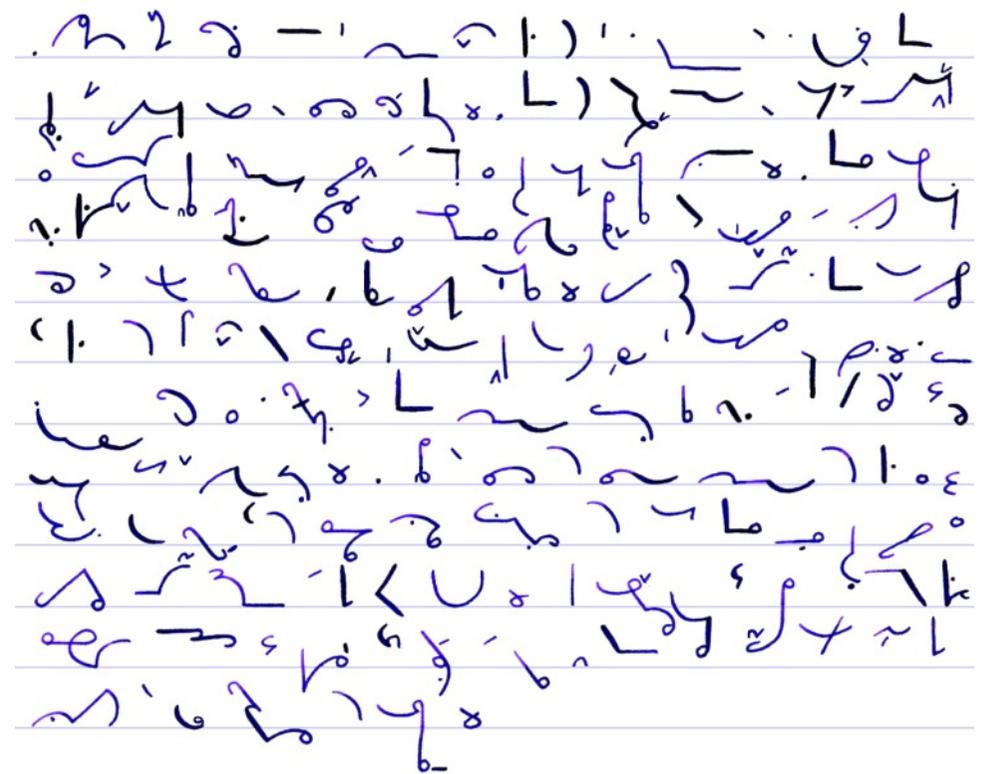
* "less than "Downward L in order to join the next stroke

* "I can assure you" Note that "assure" on its own has full strokes Ish and Ar

* "brief" Always insert the vowel, so it is not misread as "number of"

* Omission phrase "I (h)ope"

Horizontal lines for writing or reading practice.



Go On, Make My Day

The last time* I saw the phrase "Go on, make my day" was on a picture of a vicious dog, displayed on the window next to someone's front door. The dog was obviously going to enjoy carrying out his normal duties of protecting the house and getting his teeth into the intruder's leg. The dog's instinct, breeding, daily life and training, as well as the owner's expectations*, will have been satisfied by the unwise and rash actions of the unfortunate* person who does not heed* the notice. Whether there was actually a dog in residence that day, or at all, might be questioned but finding out for sure is not on anyone's to do list. An equally convincing version is a portrait of the dog, making clear its breed and large size, with the words underneath "I live here". The satisfaction of someone or something making your day is when you finally have proof that your skills, methods, equipment

or, in the dog's case, teeth used as weapons, actually work and do the job efficiently*. It inspires confidence that the situation can be dealt with successfully again and again* with the tools that you possess, and puts you back in charge, and not at the mercy of events, problems or intruders.

* Omission phrase "las(t) time"

* "unfortunate" Optional contraction

* "expectations" Optional contraction

* "heed" Keep the circle of the Hay stroke clear, as "read" would also make sense

* "efficiently" The short form does not have an Ell stroke, but you can add a disjoined Ell if necessary for clarity

* Omission phrase "again (and) again"

