

P56617312

28 Upper Gray Street

Newington Edinburgh.

2nd October 1878

My dear Papa

I am quite well and
we managed to change at In-
verness and Perth very ^{well} indeed

At Edinburgh the train was
about an hour late neither
Bell nor Willie were tired at
all. I was going about the
town

This excerpt of a letter is taken from the Davidson Collection. It was written by George Davidson while at school in Edinburgh, to his father in Caithness.



Do you notice anything unusual about the handwriting? Are any letters or words harder to read than others?

Years ago, everyone was taught to write the same way, but each person will have certain ways they form letters or words which makes their handwriting unique. There are a few letters in this document that are unique to this person. Write as many of them as you can find below.

It's very likely you also have unique ways of forming letters that no-one else you know uses. See if you can think of any and write them down – it might be only when you use your 'fancy' or 'good' handwriting, or it might be in your everyday writing.



Look at the words below, do you know what they mean? Can you read them? Remember the previous weeks' classes, and use that knowledge to help you. Write out what each word says and its meaning, if you know it.

Papa

Upper

tired

S

Does this letter  remind you of any other shapes you may know? Think about music notation if you play any instruments. Write down your thoughts below.



Now that you have looked at this letter and can read it, practice writing out the whole letter below. This process is called transcribing. Most transcriptions nowadays are typed, but it is sometimes easier to handwrite a first draft if you are unsure of any letters or words.

We've filled in the address and document code for you already. You can copy the way the original writer formed their letters if you like how they look, or use your own unique handwriting.

P566/73/2

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Try transcribing this paragraph taken from the Reay Parish Council Minutes for February 1902 (CC/7/7/1/6)

Letter from Willie Ross, Tain, dated 23rd January, 1902, enclosing the sum of £6 towards alimant for William Fraser, Halkirk, was read. The Inspector intimated that he had paid this sum into the Poor Rate Account on 28th Jany.

