

Name : _____

January

23

National Handwriting Day January 23

This Day in History

We celebrate **John Hancock** and his contribution to handwriting. He was the first to sign the **Declaration of Independence**. This is a letter sent by American colonists to the King of England in 1776. It stated that America would form its own independent government. Today, we handwrite with paper and pencil in honor of John Hancock.



Handwriting Then

In 1776, John Hancock signed the Declaration of Independence very large so that King George III of England would notice his signature.

John Hancock

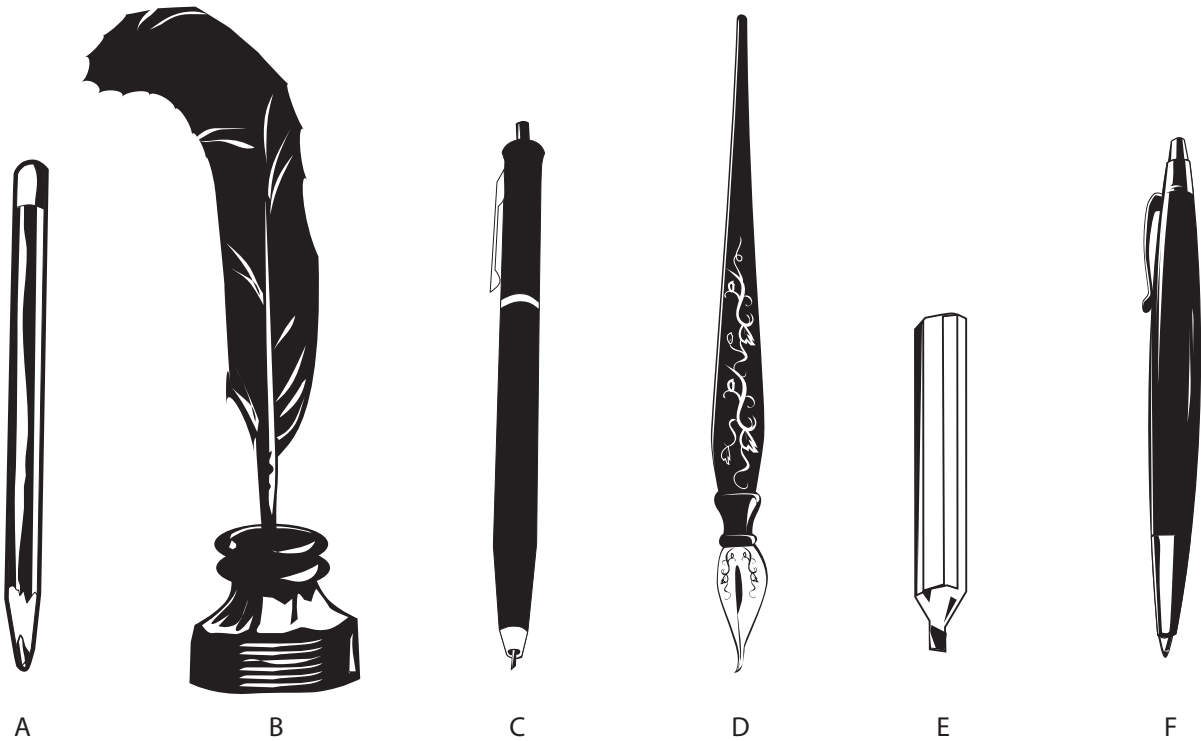
Handwriting Now

The print that we use today is easier to learn, write, and read. You can practice your printing and become very fast and neat.

Vertical cursive is easy to read and write. Your parents and grandparents probably learned to write in a slanted style with very fancy capital letters.

Writing Tools

Match the picture of each writing tool to its name on the line below. Talk about these tools with your parents or teacher. Discuss whether they are old-fashioned or modern. Finish each sentence with how each tool works.



1. C Mechanical pencils
2. Calligraphy ink pens
3. Artist's pencils
4. Quill pens
5. Lead pencils
6. Ballpoint pens