Boxed-Cell Writing Grid: Letter Placement Practice

Worked example / complete source key

A grid has cells 20 mm tall with a midline at 10 mm. Write the word 'map' in three cells and state where each letter sits.

Answer: m is an x-height letter: bottom on the baseline, top at the midline. a is x-height: same zone. p is a descender: its bowl sits between baseline and midline, and its tail crosses the baseline into the lower zone. The word uses three cells with no empty cell inside the word.

Reason: The cell height is 20 mm, so the midline is 10 mm above the baseline. m and a stay in the x-height zone. p has an x-height bowl plus a descender tail, so it crosses the baseline. Checking each letter against the midline confirms placement.

Check: Measure the distance from baseline to the top of m and a; it should equal the midline height. Check that p's tail passes below the baseline. Count three cells used.