Dual-Ruling Handwriting and Calligraphy Practice Paper: Design and Use

Worked example / complete source key

A practice sheet has a handwriting zone with a baseline at 0 mm and a midline at 5 mm. The calligraphy zone has a baseline at 0 mm, an x-height line at 4 mm, and a slant guide at 45 degrees from vertical. A learner writes a short letter in the handwriting zone and a vertical stroke in the calligraphy zone. Describe the checks for baseline contact, midline height, x-height height, and slant, using hypothetical measurements.

Answer: Handwriting check: the short letter should touch the baseline (0 mm) and reach the midline (5 mm). If the letter top is at 4 mm, it is 1 mm short of the midline. Calligraphy check: the main body should sit between 0 mm and 4 mm, so the top should be at 4 mm. Slant check: at 45 degrees, a 4 mm rise gives a 4 mm horizontal offset; measure the horizontal distance between two slant guide crossings at the baseline and compare to 4 mm. These numbers are hypothetical examples; measure your own sheet.