Lowercase Handwriting Trace-and-Copy Rows: A Practical Guide

Original tasks 1, 2 / independent work

Task 1

On paper with a baseline and a midline 8 mm apart, trace the letter o once and copy it twice. The first copy is 8 mm tall and touches both lines; the second copy is 7 mm tall. Which copy meets the height convention, and by how many millimetres does the other fall short?

Task 2

A row has three letters: m, n, and u. The gaps between letters are 4 mm, 4 mm, and 7 mm. Using the spacing check, describe the issue and state one correction for the next row.

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Original tasks 3, 4 / independent work

Task 3

A learner traces d once, then copies it. The copy's body is 8 mm tall and touches baseline and midline, but the ascender rises only 2 mm above the midline. The model's ascender rises 4 mm above the midline. What is the height issue, and what should the learner check next?

Task 4

A learner writes a single-storey a in the trace and a double-storey a in the copy. Both are legible, both sit between baseline and midline, and both start at the same dot. Using the rubric, is this automatically a mistake? Give a reason and one check.