This copybook should be used in schools together with
Handwriting – The Way to Teach it (ISBN 0 76194311 0) and
Handwriting Problems in the Secondary School (ISBN 0 76194311 0)
published by Sage

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Families of joins

These join from the base. acdehiklmntu

These join from the top. rovw fi

These join from the crossbar. ft

All these joins go over the top and back. cggadoq ss ss

These can join or not join. gyj gyj bp bp

These usually do not join. x z

Joining is only going from where you end one letter to where you start the next keeping your pen on the paper. Try it.
Try the simplest join first. All letters start at the top except e and d.

Join the letters first then go back and dot the i.
Join the whole word then go back and dot the is and cross the ts.

Join the whole word then go back and dot the is and cross the ts.
All letters must be properly formed before you join them.

Join the whole word then go back and dot the is and cross the ts.
ci

Look how the ees loop together.

ci cl ci cl ci cl ci cl ci cl ci

ci cl

ei

Look how the ees loop together.

ei eel ei eel ei eel

ei el

le

Look how the l joins half way up the letter e. Just make a loop.

le he le he le he le he le he

le he

let the tell let the tell let the

let

chill them letter either city

chill

Look how the l joins half way up the letter e and loops.
all at am aim ate all am

ki kn ki kn ki kn ki kn ki kn kn ki

kit kill knit kit kill knit

ankle alley chunk dinner

ankle alley chunk dinner
Top joins are very simple and they save a lot of time.
The top joins have to dip before some letters.

Top joins let you zoom along the top of some words.
You can use a crossbar join from the letter t if you want.

Crossbar joins often occur automatically at speed. Try them.
Joins to round letters go over the top and back.

They work better with narrow writing than with rounder writing.
lo lo to no mo
lo to no mo lo to no mo
lo
lot top love not town lot
lot top love not town lot

qu qu qu qu qu qu qu qu qu
qu qu qu qu qu qu qu qu qu
qu
quit quill quote quit quill
quit quill quote quit quill
quit
 quitting quit quill quill
quit
quit
quit
quit
quit
quit
quit
quit
quit
quit
quit

q and u always come together. You can join them or not. Try it.
When b and p are doubled they sometimes look even more muddled. Maybe it would be good for your hand to have a rest and lift the pen.

You can try bi and pi joined and unjoined. Which do you like best?

What did this all feel like in your own handwriting?
Looped descenders work well at the beginning of words.

Do not loop the final letter.

When you write gg it can look muddled.
ss so is so is
so is so is so is so is so is

s has two forms. The whole s is often used at the beginning of a word. It can join or not. ss in the middle of words can be unjoined. Try it.

his sister songs sits shirts

passes classes passes classes

izo ixo

Do not join to or from z and x. It makes an ugly join. Try it.

London Monday April Jim

Paris Thursday March Jane

Do not join from capital letters.
The following pages let you practice common letter sequences.
ice  sent  sliced  prices
choice  sent

ire  fire  entire  hires
admire  fire

ace  face  race  grace
places  face

ore  more  shores  before
forest  more
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ase</th>
<th>chase</th>
<th>phrase</th>
<th>laser</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>please</td>
<td>chase</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>ence</th>
<th>licence</th>
<th>presence</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sentence</td>
<td>licence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ank</th>
<th>ankle</th>
<th>sank</th>
<th>thanks</th>
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<tr>
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<td>ankle</td>
<td></td>
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<th>ense</th>
<th>dense</th>
<th>nonsense</th>
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<tr>
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<td>dense</td>
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You need not join every letter all the time.

Join when it is comfortable for you.
Take a pen lift in the middle of long words.

Joining is meant to help, not to make more problems for you.