

## CHAPTER 5 - LETTER SIZE & MIDDLE ZONES

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### Letter Size

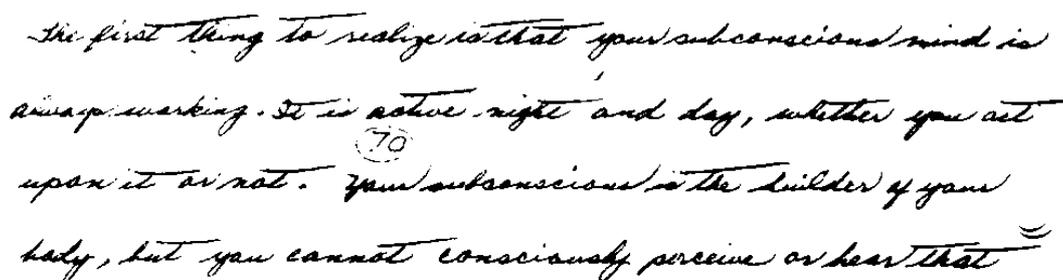
In this chapter, I'd like to start off by discussing letter size, often called the middle zone size (MZ). Here are some general rules which will help you establish the middle zone size, with some degree of scientific accuracy: Average writing is 1/16 to 3/16 of an inch high. Anything 3/16 of an inch or over would be considered larger than normal; anything under 1/16 of an inch in height, smaller than normal. Refer to your Emotional Gauge for quick and easy measuring.

You can often judge "letter size" by the size of the middle zone. In fact, the size of the middle zone is actually the key piece of the puzzle that helps you establish what is known as a person's social aptitude. Social aptitude is a person's natural disposition or capacity to interact, enjoy, and connect with others in a social manner.

The middle zone size will be very helpful in judging the person's social aptitude. This aspect of handwriting (size) is not enough to place a label of introvert or extrovert – but it is a huge clue in that direction. As you learn how to stack traits, you will find the SIZE of the writing will increase or decrease many, many of the expressions of traits you find in the individual strokes.

### Small Middle Zone Writing

A key to noticing the ability to focus and social withdrawal is tiny writing. We also find this trait intensifies and strengthens every trait in the writing. It is called **concentration or intense focus**: the ability to eliminate all outside interference, shown in legible writing that is less than 1/16 of an inch high (Figure 16).



*the first thing to realize is that your subconscious mind is always working. It is active right and day, whether you act upon it or not. your subconscious is the builder of your body, but you cannot consciously perceive or hear that*

Figure 16 - Concentration and Good Focus

**TIP:** The influence of **every trait**, whether negative or positive, will be increased in strength if there is **concentration** in the writing.

When I see concentration, I say “You have the ability to eliminate all outside noises, thoughts, interference, and the ability to concentrate fully on one subject.”

One of my favorite metaphors when I see writing this small is relating it to their automobile driving ability. I often say, “There is probably a good chance that you run stop signs or red lights when you become preoccupied while thinking, instead of paying attention to driving.” This usually gets a laugh and it illustrates a point. They are great at focusing on one thing at a time...not ten things at a time. When they concentrate, they become oblivious to everything around them. The natural born bookkeeper usually has an FA-AB slant, with strong concentration.

### **Average Size Middle Zone**

When I see an average size middle zone, I normally don't make mention of it because it neither increases nor decreases character traits which I am already learning from the person's slant and other aspects of the writing.

### **Large Middle Zone**

When I see a very large middle zone, I immediately realize this dramatically increases this person's need for social interaction. Extremely large middle zones are more common in woman than men, but that is just my personal observation, not a rule. Large middle zone writers (MZ) are usually super friendly, great at parties, have lots of friends, and can warm up a room the minute they walk in. Typically, receptionist and female teenagers have large middle zones. In teenagers, this aspect of her writing normally changes with age... but plenty of woman are still super friendly and social butterflies long after high-school. If the large middle zone writing does not include any tall upper loops, the word “immature” might apply to this person, as there isn't enough planning and too much energy focused on today in her world.

Large middle zones will profoundly affect the language you choose when describing a person's behavior based on their “slant.” You must take the

extra large MZ or extra small MZ into consideration when discussing the character traits normally associated with a person's slant. The MZ size will affect the intensity, or even negate typical traits of the FA/AB and DE/E+ slant. So be mindful that the middle zone can all aspects of a person's social aptitude.

The following is a graphic we developed to assist students in understanding the various ways the middle zone size can affect the prediction of social aptitude in an individual:

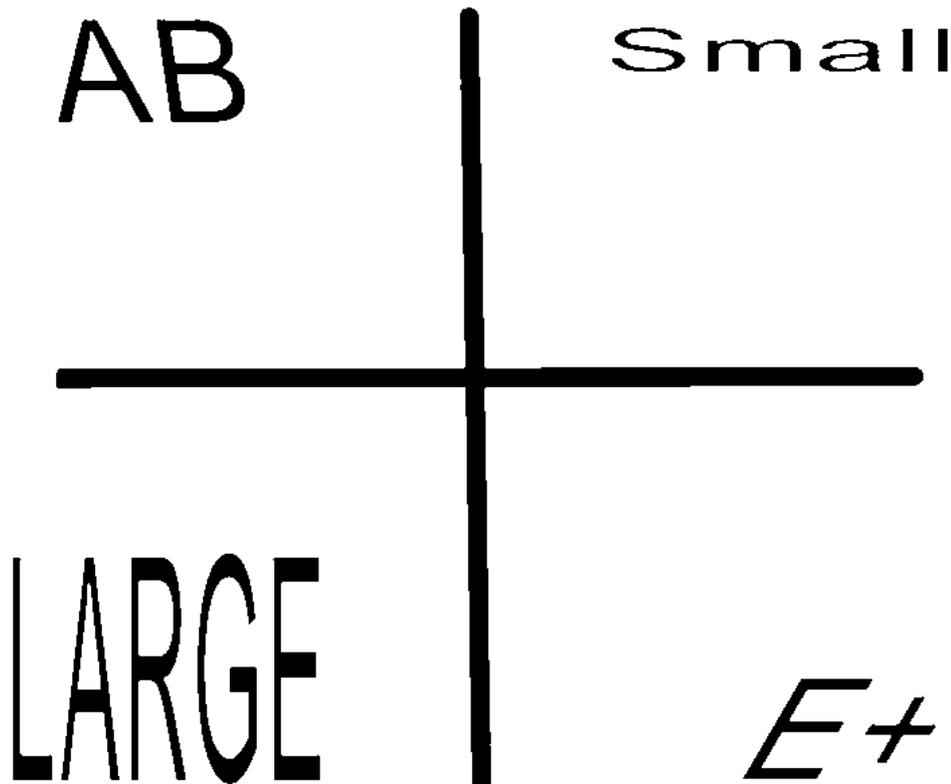


Figure 17 – 4 Cross Outlay Chart

***A childhood disaster averted by a handwriting analyst***

Early in 1970 I had a young mother consult me about her ten-year-old son. Throughout his school career, he had made straight A's. For the past quarter, her son had become a straight F student. She'd heard of our ability to help young people through handwriting therapy and hypnosis, and she told me that he was a very bright, alert boy. He had just had a complete physical checkup and the doctor could find no physical ailment.

I sat the boy at my desk and asked him to do a page of handwriting. As I watched him write I observed that he started in a normal size, but with each line the writing grew smaller until it was very, very small. Then all of a sudden, he said, “Oh, oh!” and began to write larger again. When he had finished the page, I questioned him about the small writing. He explained that he’d always written very small but that his teacher that year could not read his writing. She said it was too small for her to read and that she’d lower his grade if he didn’t write larger.

Since we understand that concentration comes from small writing, we know immediately that this well-meaning teacher eliminated this child’s ability to concentrate. In doing so, she was changing a basic pattern of his life. I could find no extreme fears in the writing. He seemed to be a very well-adjusted boy.

I had lectured at the teacher’s school about two months previously, and I asked the mother to go to the teacher and explain that I wished her to allow the boy to go back to small writing for 30 days. Within a week, his grades began to improve. By the end of the month he was again a straight A student.

This is one of the reasons I feel the day may come when all teachers will be required to understand handwriting analysis and basic grapho-therapy. I really wonder how many teachers have damaged their pupils without intending to. Remember to never “adopt” a cute or neat handwriting stroke just because you think it is pretty...without knowing it, you could be programming a very destructive trait that could take years to fix in therapy later in life.

Shown in Figure 18 is the writing of an anonymous college student which was brought to me by some of his friends. This is the most exact, smallest writing I have ever seen. The fellow students reported that he took down every lecture word for word, writing extremely rapidly in the exact size you see here. Amazing, isn’t it? This writing is so small a typical US penny would be as tall as two lines of writing.

We are impotent pieces of the game he plays  
Upon this checkered board of nights and days  
Hither and thither moves and checks and slays  
And one by one back in the closet lays

The moving finger writes and having writ moves on!

Figure 18- Example of extreme concentration ability shown through ultra tiny writing.

Have you ever noticed that most young children in the first few grades of school write very large? They also find it very difficult to maintain their attention span for any length of time. You see, they haven't yet developed the ability to concentrate. In fact, the American children's TV show Sesame Street actually developed their entire program based on the attention span of a three year old. They performed extensive research, discovering that 3-minute segments held the children's attention the best. Their pioneering research in childhood development changed the way all television programs were studied and provided a generation of better educated children. (For more information on this study, read the book The Tipping Point.) As we grow older and accept more structure, our handwriting gets smaller and more structured.

If you plan to use your new skill to consult in hiring decisions, the most important role you can plan is to assist the Human Resource Director in establishing clear job requirements and an "ideal criteria" for the "ideal employee." Is there a need for concentration or social introversion? If there is, then you'll know that you can't hire a person with larger-than-normal writing and expect him to fit the job requirements. To be a true introvert, you would have both small writing and AB/FA writing. But, small writing does indicate a desire to work alone and focus. Remember, when you see concentration, it intensifies other traits such as temper, anger, fears, perversions, etc. You will rarely see an E+ writer with ultra-tiny writing, but when you do, you have both a social introvert on your hands with a manic impulsive personality who has a strong need to "feel" situations intensely. Many professional race-car drivers and Navy fighter pilots have this combination of tiny writing and DE/E+ slants. Remember, size and slant can support or counteract many of the typical behaviors when combined in various ways.



## **BONUS ARTICLE**

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### **The Process of Delivering an Analysis Using Metaphors by Bart Baggett**

Recently, I invented a very useful visual methodology for describing the process of giving a top-notch professional analysis. I'm going to share it here, in an abbreviated format. It is explained in much more detail on the videos that accompany this course. If you understand this process and follow it, your analysis will receive a 95-100% accuracy rating from your customers.

By the way, if you are reading this book, it is assumed that you have already memorized the basic 50+ traits contained in the Grapho-Deck Flash Cards, and that you know them inside and out. If so, you are ready for this more advanced book.

Furthermore, if you do get disagreement (in other words, they say you are "wrong") you can easily discover where you erred.

In most cases, the handwriting was not incorrect, the metaphor you chose was wrong, or the customer's interpretation of the trait name is different than the actual definition really is. In most cases, the handwriting is correct, but the analyst either misses something else in the writing that 'decreases' that trait, or simply uses a poor choice of words to describe the behavior. In all cases, using the following "map" will assist you in investigating and improving your ability to accurately deliver verbal personality analyses.

#### ***The Map of Delivering An Accurate Analysis***

Specific Handwriting Stroke → Trait Name → Description of Behavior  
→ Metaphor

So, using the above "map," what would you say to a person if you looked at her handwriting and saw the simple, single stroke of a "large beginning arc on the capital M." If you've been studying for a while, you might remember that is the TRAIT NAME of "desire for responsibility." But, people relate better to metaphors, rather than scientific trait names. For many people, telling them the trait name can cause confusion. So, you might choose to skip using the TRAIT NAME and start with a description of the behavior; then, conclude with a clever metaphor.

In this case, you could say, “You tend to accept and gravitate toward positions of responsibility. In fact, I wouldn’t be surprised if you end up taking on more responsibility than you really want, even in clubs, organizations, and hobbies. This is usually a trait of a leader, although in most cases, your type tends to do more work than you get paid for in the short term; but, in the long term, it pays off. Does this sound familiar?”

The above paragraph never mentions the exact stroke nor uses the exact trait name. It does, however, paint a picture of the person’s life as one who accepts responsibility at work or at a social club, and is often burdened but rewarded by this habit.

Remember that using this “map,” you can always research and experiment with different metaphors or behavior descriptions, until you find the ones which receive the most agreement.

A great example where the trait is accurate, but where I have chosen the wrong metaphor to explain it to the person, occurred using the low crossed letter *t*-stem. The stroke is the low crossed *t*-stem. The trait name is low self-esteem. The description of the behavior could take up volumes of books, as this trait is very complicated. So, a metaphor I often use is this, “You stay in bad jobs or bad relationships too long.” And, for most people with a low self-esteem, this is typical, because it is part of the low self-esteem problem. However, if the person just got married and is very happy...they won’t relate to staying in the wrong relationship. She might say “Oh, I used to do that, but not anymore.” So, the trait is still the same, but the metaphor about relationships will not resonate as true at this time. However, she might relate to staying in a low paying job for too long. So, you have to practice using the right metaphor when you see and describe any particular trait.

For further instructions on choosing the correct metaphor, view Bart Baggett on the Members-only video inside the HandwritingUniversity.com website.

<http://www.handwritinguniversity.com/members>

<http://www.learnhandwritinganalysis.com/video/metaphor.html>