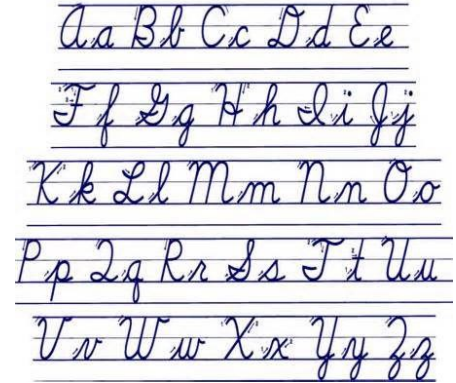


Cursive Writing

Winchester Mystery House

Directions: Copy the following passages using perfect cursive writing.

- **Shape** – letters formed according to D’Nealian standard.
- **Size** – correct height and width, staying on the line.
- **Spacing** – letters and words demonstrate clarity and flow.
- **Slant** – words slanted slightly and consistently.



In California there is an interesting house built to frighten away ghosts! The more noisy construction that went on at the house, the less the owner believed she would be bothered by spirits. Here’s Sarah Winchester’s story.

In 1862, Sarah married William Winchester, whose family invented the Winchester repeating rifle. Gun sales were very successful, and it was nicknamed the “gun that won the West.” It was also a gun that killed many people, like Indians and Civil War soldiers.

After the deaths of her husband and young daughter, Sarah was advised to move west and build a large house to satisfy the spirits. The continuous construction would keep the ghosts away and give Sarah a long life. She moved to San Jose, bought a farmhouse, and added onto it for 38 years. Sarah died in 1922 at age 83.



Mrs. Winchester had money – a lot of money. She inherited over \$20 million dollars and almost fifty percent of the Winchester Repeating Arms Company. One estimate states she earned \$2,000 per day, and that was in 1881 money! As a comparison, a 10-pound bag of potatoes back then cost \$.16, and a factory job paid \$1.50 per day.



The house has some interesting features, starting with the Queen Anne Victorian architecture. This was a popular British building style in the 1870’s. Inside the house are 2,000 doors, 160 rooms, 47 chimneys, and 3 elevators. Whether to fool ghosts or because of endless remodeling, the house has stairs that lead to the ceiling, doors that lead to nowhere, and chimneys short of the roof. This is how one person lived her life – definitely in a unique way.