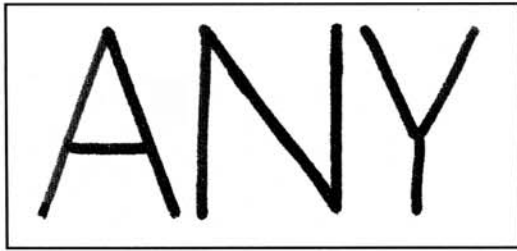


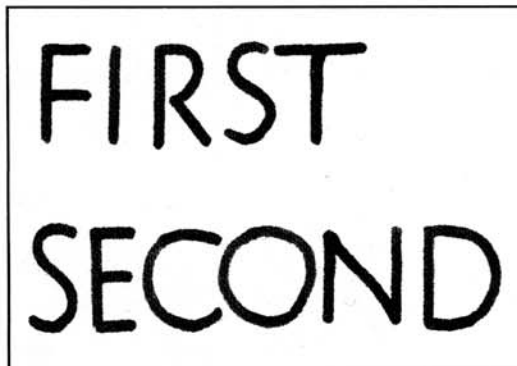
# LETTERING EXERCISES – ROMAN CAPITALS

**General Directions:** Using 18" x 24" drawing paper, use 1 sheet of paper for each of the following 4 exercises. Rule page using an Ames lettering guide or a ruler, according to directions for each individual assignment. Plan 2" margins for the top, sides and bottom of each writing sheet. If you make a mistake, DO NOT cross it out; just continue your writing.



**Exercise #1:** Rule page at alternating 1" and 1/2" intervals. Using a Number 5 Speedball nib, make letters 1" high with 1/2" between lines. Write out alphabet once using diagrams for proportions. Then write out alphabet once without diagrams. Continue to FILL the page, using alphabet sentences.

1 sheet – 18" x 24"



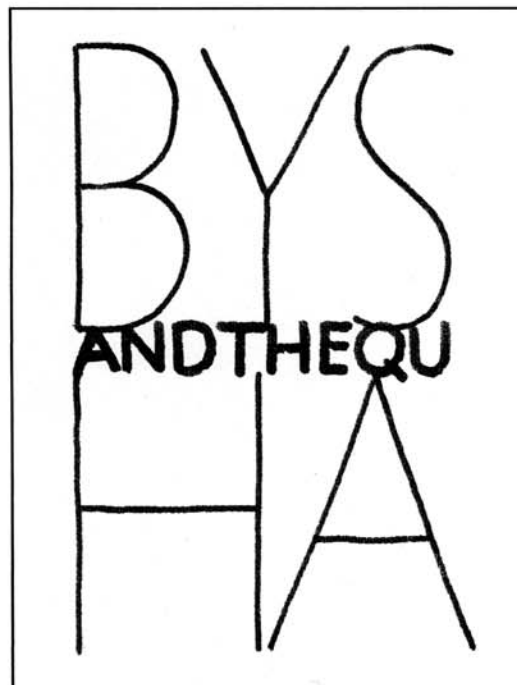
**Exercise #2:** Rule the whole page at 1/2" intervals. Using a Number 5 Speedball nib, make letters 1/2" high with 1/2" between lines. Plan margins, write out alphabet once, then move on to alphabet sentences or poetry or whatever you choose. Be sure to fill the page. Pay strict attention to letter spacing (see below under #4).

1 sheet – 18" x 24"



**Exercise #3:** Rule 3 lines at alternating 1" and 1/2" intervals. Using a Number 2 Speedball nib, make letters 1" high with 1/2" between lines (like Exercise #1, but using a larger nib). Then rule remainder of page at alternating 2" and 1/2" intervals. Make letters which are 2" high with 1/2" line spacing, and complete the page. Plan margins, choose poetry or prose.

1 sheet – 18" x 24"



**Exercise #4:** Rule page at alternating 1 1/2" and 1/2" intervals. Using a Number 6 (smallest) Speedball nib, make letters 1 1/2" high with 1/2" between lines. Then write on the lines in between using a #5 nib. The tall letter will be very light in weight (skinny); the little letters between the lines will be short and fat. There will be no space between the lines (see example at left).

1 sheet – 18" x 24"

**Spacing:** Be conscious of word and letter spacing. Try to achieve an even, consistent rhythm and flow. There should not be any obvious "holes" – letters or words too far apart, nor should there be any areas where the letters are too close together.

When vertical forms (I, N, H, etc.) occur next to one another, they should be spaced further apart. When curved forms (O, C, G, etc.) occur next to one another, they are spaced close together. When a vertical form occurs next to a curved form (NO, DI) they are spaced in a range "between" – not as far apart as 2 vertical strokes, nor as close as 2 curved strokes.

NINE DOG NORWAY ANIMALS OVAL