INTRODUCTION

- In this book we will practise cursive handwriting. The alphabet will be divided into different categories of letters. All lower-case letters will be divided into "Shorties", "Tallies" and "Lowies".
- "Shorties" refer to the short letters. These letters start on the bottom line and go half-way up the space. There are 13 "Shorties".

They are: **a,c,e,i,m,n,o,r,s,u,v,w** and **x**.

• **"Tallies**" refer to the tall letters. These letters start on the bottom line and go all the way up to the top line. There are **7** "**Tallies**".

They are: **b,d,f,h,k,l** and **t**.

(Note that "d" and "t" do **not** go all the way up to the top line.)

• "Lowies" refer to the low letters. These letters start on the bottom line and go below the line. There are **7** "Lowies".

They are: **f,g,j,p,q,y** and **z**.

(Note that "**p**" does **not** go down as far as the other "**Lowies**". Note also that "**f**" is both a "**Tallie**" and a "**Lowie**".)

• Exercises are structured and sequenced as follows:

first we practise "**Shorties**", then "**Tallies**" then "**Lowies**" and finally all **capital letters**. Exercises are varied to include single letter, single word, sentence and paragraph transcriptions. It is hoped that students would eventually make the transition from writing on manuscript paper to ordinary lined paper used in everyday copybooks.

• Remember the 3 P's of handwriting: Posture, Pen and Paper.

Posture: be sure to sit upright and close to your table having both feet securely on the ground.

Pen: have a gentle grip on your pen and make sure it is in good working order.

Paper: hold the paper with your non-writing hand. Remember, when writing, most of your forearm should be resting on the table.

• In cursive handwriting there are 2 "r's": 1/2 and π' . In this book we will be using "1/2".

ALLITERATION SENTENCES

Alliteration is where words begin with the same letter.

Each of the following sentences practises capital and lower-case letters. Trace and copy the following:

is always absent an totams lor Bill Brennan/ manas. <u>Ciara/</u> 100 ranaa Danny Ares diggers an d ----577 Now try these in your copy. 20

PARAGRAPH EXERCISE 1



Rewrite the following piece in your neatest cursive handwriting:



The Titanic

Shortly before midnight on 14th April, 1912, a terrible disaster occurred in the Atlantic. The liner *Titanic* - the largest ship then afloat - was making her maiden voyage from Liverpool to New York, when suddenly she struck the under-water part of a great iceberg. Two hours later the ship sank, and all but 706 of the 2,300 people on board were lost. The survivors were picked up from rafts and lifeboats by the *Carpathia*, which rushed to the scene of the disaster in answer to wireless calls from the doomed vessel.

As a result of this tragic disaster, the British and American Governments formed the *North Atlantic Ice Patrol*, and now coastguard ships keep careful watch on icebergs drifting towards the shipping lanes and send out warning messages by wireless. These warnings are taken very seriously and ships keep clear of these ice monsters.