

Document Analysis

- Document analysts examine and compare **questioned documents** with **known material (exemplar)**.
 - What do you think a questioned document could be?



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EXHIBIT ONE: PINK letters/letter combinations correspond with the known handwriting and print characteristics of Mauree Gingrich. The BLUE letters demonstrate similarities between entries on this page.

0. Harrison Sanders	HARRISON SANDIS
1. Betty Landis	BETTY LANDIS
2. Jeffrey Chess	JEFFREY CHESH
3. Charanne Hess	CHARANNE HESS
4. Sharon Geib	SHARON GEIB
5. Geneva Culp	GENEVA CULP
6. Anita Dye	ANITA DYER
7. Susan G. Ellis	SUSAN G. ELLIS
8. Alicia Duncop	ALICIA DUNCOP
9. Gregg Loft	GREGG LOFT
10. Jeffrey Shroyer	JEFFREY SHROYER
11. Carol A. Shroyer	CAROL A. SHROYER
12. Robin Burns	ROBIN BURNS
13. Bradley Mansouri	BRADLEY MANSOURI
14. Robert Mansouri	ROBERT MANSOURI
15. Steven Maroua	STEVEN MAROUA
16. Patrick F. Yeager	PATRICK F. YEAGER
17. Jeffrey G. Shands	JEFFREY G. SHANDS
18. James R. Weidman	JAMES R. WEIDMAN

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
Authority to Pay Certificate

RC NO: 0387 Between UNION BANK NIGERIA PLC
And
 GAYDAMASCHUK YURIY

This is to Certify on this day **28TH NOVEMBER 2003** that Union Bank (Nigeria) Plc, agrees to pay
GAYDAMASCHUK YURIY and the nature of the payment of **NEXT OF KIN/BUSINESS PARTNER**
 to the **LATE ENGR. MARK ELHOURIY** for the value of **US\$6,000,00,00 MILLION DOLLARS**

DEEDS:

- The Union Bank Nigeria Plc, through the Federal Ministry of Justice reserve the right to revoke this payment if the beneficiary fails to deliver the relevant documents when needed.
- Every tax of taxes to any ministry of corporation here in Nigeria, e.g. Central Bank, Ministry of Justice, e.t.c must be paid upfront before funds will be transferred or deposited into the beneficiary's designated foreign account.
- No. matter the fluctuation in currency, the payment value cannot be amended or changed.

Having been cautioned in English Languages as the beneficiary has agreed and been abided by the above mentioned payment deeds.

Union Bank Nigeria Plc
Federal Ministry of Justice
Beneficiary

Document Analysis

- Experts in the field investigate such things as **handwriting**, computer **printouts**, commercial printing, **paper**, and **ink**.
 - Questioned documents can include: **checks, certificates, wills, passports, licenses, money, letters, contracts, suicide notes, receipts, lottery tickets, etc.**

What is the goal of handwriting examination?

- To determine **authorship** and **authentication**.
- To identify ***forgeries***: documents created with the intention to deceive...
- Two writings are the product of one person if their similarities are **unique** and no unexplainable differences are found.

Document Experts are **NOT** graphologist!

- Graphologists analyze handwriting to detect **personality traits** (this is not a recognized part of forensic science, but is may be useful to investigations).

Charles Manson



Did you bit my belly - ?
Did you surgut Lynn Fromme?
are you gona call me a boy from
the Wash post & then come from
the Journal + ask me whete ? why
don't you start with a woman

Ted Bundy



What I intend to address in this letter are two topics: crimes commensurate with me and the contention that she patterned the worst things murderous person imprisoned in a book by Steve Weinblatt about Ted Bundy. As I understand it, you are interested in the letter crimes. I wrote me because they may bolster the Illinois book committee in any way.

Timothy McVeigh



I strongly believe in a God-given right to self-defense. Should any other person or a governing body be able to tell another person that he/she cannot save their own life, because it would be a violation of a law? In this case, which is more important: faced with a rapist/murderer, would you prefer to a.) die, a less-able citizen or b.) live, and go to jail? or

Document Analysis

What do you think experts are specifically looking for when they analyze the questioned document against a known sample?



1 Baseline Alignment
2 Connecting Stroke

3 Height Relationship
4 Structural Difference



Characteristics of Handwriting

A person's handwriting exhibits unique characteristics that make it distinguishable from other samples

Handwriting experts examine **12 major categories** of exemplars.

Document Analysis

- Changes in:
letter **size**,
shape or
appearance,
line **spacing**,
letter **slant**,
etc.

Prison letters

A letter apparently written by gang member Willie Clark indicates he shot Denver Bronco Darrent Williams. *The Rocky Mountain News* obtained a copy of the letter and hired a certified document examiner

to compare it to letters Clark wrote to Rocky reporter Sara Burnett in 2007 and to U.S. District Judge Wiley Daniel earlier this month. The same person wrote all of the letters, the expert concluded.

2007 LETTER TO THE ROCKY

DO NOT UT IT DO?

■ In the word "Do" the letter shapes are the same and the letters touch each other each time they are written.

IE BUT I S

■ In the word "But," the B touches the U and the U has no return stroke on the right side.

IE AGO, Q-SICA

■ The letter G is made in two stokes, like a C with the number 7 for the second part.

2008 LETTER TO JUDGE

Willie D. Clark

■ The K in his signature is consistently written like an R.

LETTER OBTAINED FROM SOURCE

UT IT DO?

BUT AINT

AGO, Q-SICA EOT

LETTER OBTAINED FROM SOURCE

Gregory A. Clark

Source: Document examiner Linda James

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS





Characteristics of Handwriting

- Letter form includes: letter shape, curve, slant, size, continuous stroke, and correct appearance.
- Line form includes: smoothness of letters, and darkness of lines of different strokes
- Formatting includes: spacing between letters, words, and lines, placement of words, & margins

TRAITS	KEY POINTS		
Baseline	Up <i>crime scene</i>	Down <i>crime scene</i>	Straight <i>crime scene</i>
Slant of Letters	Right <i>handwriting</i>	Left <i>handwriting</i>	Straight <i>handwriting</i>
Letter Size	Large <i>letters</i>	Medium <i>letters</i>	Small <i>letters</i>
Word Spacing	Close Together <i>key points</i>	Wide apart <i>key points</i>	Normal <i>key points</i>
Letter Formation "i"	Dots "i" <i>i</i>	Does Not Dot "i" <i>i</i>	Stylized "i" <i>i</i>
Letter formation "t"	Cross "t" <i>t</i>	Does Not Cross "t" <i>t</i>	Stylized "t" <i>t t</i>
Letter Formation "r"	Angle "r" to Point <i>r</i>	Flat-topped <i>r</i>	Stylized "r" <i>r</i>
Letter formation "e"	Looped "e" <i>e</i>	Not Looped "e" <i>e</i>	Stylized "e" <i>e</i>



Steps of handwriting analysis:

Examine the questionable document for detectable traits and record them.

1. Obtain some writing of the suspect's (an *exemplar*) and compare the **traits** found in the questionable document with it.
2. Draw conclusions about the authorship of the questionable document based on the comparison.

Known

Nov. 10, 1999

From

Jim Elder
829 Loop Street, Apt. 200
Allentown, New York 14707

To

Dr. Bob Grant
602 Queensbury Parkway
Omar, West Virginia 25638

We were referred to you by Xena Cohen at the University Medical Center. This is regarding my friend, Kate Zack.

It all started around six months ago while attending the "Ruben" Jazz Concert. Organizing such an event is no picnic, and as President of the Alumni Association, a co-sponsor of the event, Kate was overworked. But she enjoyed her job, and did what was required of her with great zeal and enthusiasm.

However, the extra hours affected her health; halfway through the show she passed out. We rushed her to the hospital, and several questions, x-rays and blood tests later, were told it was just exhaustion.

Kate's been in very bad health since. Could you kindly take a look at the results and give us your opinion?

Thank You!

Jim

Questioned

November 10, 1999

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Technology Used in Handwriting Analysis

Biometric Signature Pads

- This computerized pad “learns” to recognize how a person signs his or her name based on the **speed**, **pressure**, and **rhythm** of the signing.



Computerized Analysis of Handwriting

- Computers can make objective comparisons between handwritings.
- Suspect signatures can be compared with ones stored in databases.



Shortcomings in Handwriting Analysis

- **Quality** of standards (exemplars) obtained
- Effects of **mood, age, drugs**, fatigue and illness on a person's handwriting
- **Experience** of document examiner (were any details missed)

Are the two writing samples written
by the same person?

