

# Le Sténographe Canadien

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## SHORTHAND IN TEN EASY LESSONS

### LESSON V—Upward and Downward L and R.

As a thorough knowledge of the alphabet is essential to the student, the same should be written out from twenty-five to fifty times every day until the student is perfectly familiar with the various signs.

Concerning the upward and downward writing of *l* and *r*, we find on page 29 of the "Teacher" that "when *l* is the first or only consonant in a word, it is written downward if preceded by a vowel, and upward if not preceded by a vowel," as *all*, *lake*.

There are many hundreds of words in our language in which *l* is the first consonant, and it is either preceded or followed by a vowel. By this rule it is known by the shorthand form of a word that if it is written with *l*, there is a vowel before *l*, as *ask* or *arm*; and that if it is written with *l*, a vowel follows *l* as *lead* (past tense) or *ready*.

But there are about a dozen words, mostly of rare occurrence, in which the observance of the rule would produce inconvenient outlines. In these cases we disregard the rule, and write the word in the easiest way. Therefore in any case where the downward *l* presents an awkward or inconvenient outline or joining, substitute the upward *l*.

When *l* is the last consonant in a word it is written downward when it is the final sound, and upward if a vowel follows, as *car*,

*cars*. The upward *l* is always written after a single straight upstroke. The final *l* is also written upward, for the sake of ease in writing in such words as *answer*.

In words that contain three or more stroke consonants, and also when the use of the downward *l* would carry the hand more than one stroke below the line, the final *l* is generally written upward.

When *l* is preceded and followed by a vowel, there being no other consonant in the word you

should use the downward *l*, as *arrive*. Do not overlook the fact, however, that the circle or a loop changes this; thus, *store*.

Initial *l* before either of the horizontal consonants (*k*, *g*, *m*, *mp*, *n*, *ng*), not hooked initially, is written upward if it is the first sound in the word, and downward if a vowel precedes

as *like*, *alike*. In other cases it is generally written upward.

Final *l* is generally written upward; but after *l*, *r*, *k*, *sk*, and the upstrokes *i*, *ai*, *i*, *h*, it is written upward if followed by a vowel, and downward if it is the last sound of the word. After *n*, *ng* it is generally written downward.

Examples: *full*, *fully*, *sell*, *yellow*, *only*, *annual*.

As you are already aware, the consonant *sh* when standing alone is written downward, and when joined to another consonant is capable of being written either upward or downward. A few hints as to the proper use of this consonant may not come amiss in this lesson. You will find that *sh*, like the *shon* hook, is generally written on the opposite side to that on which a preceding circle or hook occurs; as, *plush*.

*brush* but after a horizontal character the *sh* is most conveniently written downwards; as *cash*.

After the upward *l* standing alone or preceded by a horizontal consonant *sh* is written downwards, as *flash*. When *l* is preceded by

*por* *h*, *l* is written upward. *Sh* is written upward after downward *l*; also upward initially, as *English*, *sugar*.

When *l* is written down or *sh* up, the vowels' places are reckoned accordingly.

Work for this month to end of Exercise 49.