

THE DEATH OF HANDWRITING

Handwriting has been the dominant form of communication for hundreds of thousands of years. Has handwriting become redundant? Or, is there still a place for it in modern society?

HAS HANDWRITING BECOME A LOST ART?

- Handwriting has taken a backseat to the use of keyboards in written communication over the last couple of decades
- The use of keyboards as opposed to handwriting can be seen throughout schools, the workplace and in our personal lives

SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

- Most schools in developed nations have access to computers, and student assessment frequently relies on the use of this technology
- Use of typing, as opposed to handwriting, provides bright students, whose fine motor skills may be less developed, with a chance to more accurately demonstrate their knowledge
- The time spent practising handwriting in schools has greatly diminished over the years, with greater emphasis being placed on the development of keyboard skills
- Exam based assessment in Australia still require students to write quickly and legibly



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BENEFITS OF KEYBOARD USAGE

- Good typing skills allow work, both at school and the workforce, to be completed in a shorter space of time
- Typing and the internet has made interpersonal communication easier and quicker via social networking and email
- Gives less competent handwriters an alternative way of expressing themselves.

LIMITATIONS OF KEYBOARD USAGE

- Use of a computer in some situations will provide students with more opportunity for cheating
- Not everyone has access to a computer
 - Typing and using a computer for some, is as daunting as learning to write is for others
 - Many argue that typing loses the personal touch of handwriting

