

词汇: *writing* 书写

When did you last write a letter? Properly write one – **by hand**? In a digital world, where sending a text or email is far more convenient than using **snail mail**, is **the writing on the wall** for traditional **pen and paper**? Well, some people claim that writing still has many benefits, so maybe it's not time to ditch your **ballpoint** or **fountain pen** yet.

These days, when people request things **in writing**, a typed, electronic document will be accepted. Doing this on a computer means it could be saved, edited, duplicated and sent via email. But **crafting** a **handwritten** document is unique: It requires planning and thought, and, as well as practising your **handwriting**, it helps you to remember spelling and punctuation.

Some experts believe your brain benefits from using old-fashioned pen and paper. This is particularly relevant for students, where **typing** notes into a laptop is thought to lack the 'tactile feedback' to the brain that contact between pen and paper does. BBC Worklife website quotes Hetty Roessingh from the University of Calgary, who says that "**taking notes** by hand involves **cognitive engagement** in summarising, **paraphrasing**, organising, concept and vocabulary mapping." Others agree that handwriting may boost fine **motor skills** in your hands and fingers.

There are everyday benefits to using pen and paper too. **Scribbling** notes, shopping lists or messages on the back of an envelope can still be useful, quick and portable. But putting pen to paper in a letter to a friend or loved one can probably have the most impact. **Pen pal** writer Katherine Moller told the BBC: "In a world where it is so easy to hop online to email or to send a fast text, it is so personal and so precious to know someone chose to turn off the virtual world to spend some time with you."

So, while digital skills remain important, don't **write off** your pens and pencils yet – especially if your smartphone, tablet or laptop runs out of power!

词汇表

by hand	手写
snail mail	传统信件（对应电子邮件）
the writing (is) on the wall	不祥之兆
pen and paper	笔与纸，纸笔
ballpoint	圆珠笔
fountain pen	钢笔
in writing	以书面的形式
craft	精心书写
handwritten	手写的
handwriting	习字，字迹
type	打字
take notes	记笔记
cognitive engagement	认知参与
paraphrase	改述
motor skills	动作技能
scribble	匆匆记下
pen pal	笔友
write off	使报废

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Give an example from the article of something you can write with.
2. Doing what can cause students a lack of 'tactile feedback' to the brain?
3. How do some experts think handwriting can help us?
4. True or false? *Pen pal writer Katherine Moller thinks writing a letter adds a personal touch to communication.*
5. Why might you have no choice but to use a pen or pencil to write something?

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. _____ might take longer, but I like to receive something personal through the post.

By hand	Scribbling	Snail mail	Pen pal
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2. I couldn't _____ in the lecture because my pen ran out of ink!

took notes	take notes	taking notes	take note
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3. My boyfriend left me a _____ note, saying he was leaving me.

handwritten	by hand	handwriting	paraphrasing
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4. Have you got a _____? I need to write this number down.

write off	handwriting	pen and paper	by hand
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5. I'm _____ what my boss said – but basically, we've worked very hard and he's very pleased with us!

scribbling	paraphrasing	crafting	typing
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Give an example from the article of something you can write with?

Examples mentioned included: ballpoint pen, fountain pen, pencil.

2. Doing what can cause students a lack of ‘tactile feedback’ to the brain?

Typing notes into a laptop is thought to lack the ‘tactile feedback’ to the brain.

3. How do some experts think handwriting can help us?

Handwriting may boost fine motor skills in your hands and fingers.

4. True or false? *Pen pal writer Katherine Moller thinks writing a letter adds a personal touch to communication.*

True. Pen pal writer, Katherine Moller said: “In a world where it is so easy to hop online to email or to send a fast text, it is so personal and so precious to know someone chose to turn off the virtual world to spend some time with you.”

5. Why might you have no choice but use a pen or pencil to write something?

Because your smartphone, tablet or laptop has run out of power!

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. **Snail mail** might take longer, but I like to receive something personal through the post.

2. I couldn’t **take notes** in the lecture because my pen ran out of ink!

3. My boyfriend left me a **handwritten** note, saying he was leaving me.

4. Have you got a **pen and paper**? I need to write this number down.

5. I’m **paraphrasing** what my boss said – but basically, we’ve worked very hard and he’s very pleased with us!