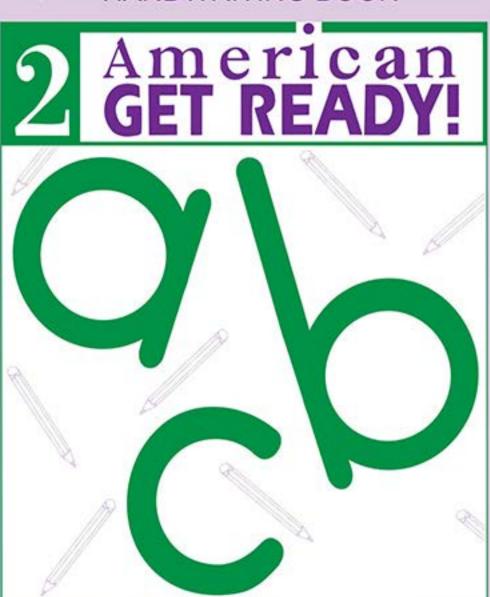


HANDWRITING BOOK





Felicity Hopkins



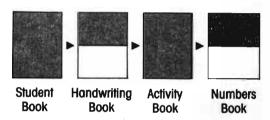
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Notes for the teacher

The course

American Get Ready! is a two-level course that aims to give students a feel for English and to establish a sound basis for later learning.

Each level of American Get Ready! is divided into 60 steps. Each step consists of one page in the Student Book, half a page in the Handwriting Book, one page in the Activity Book, and half a page in the Numbers Book. The sequence for a complete step is as follows:



The Handwriting Book should only be used when the equivalent step in the Student Book has been completed.

Handwriting

The basis of good handwriting is a knowledge of the letter shapes and the correct hand movements used to form them. This is much more important for beginners than producing neat-looking handwriting that may have been formed incorrectly.

Handwriting Book 1 teaches the small letters. These are the most difficult because most of them are formed with a single hand movement. They are presented in families according to letter shape rather than in alphabetical order. Handwriting Book 2 teaches the

capital letters. Most of these are formed with two or more separate hand movements, and they are much easier to write. They are taught in alphabetical order, alongside a review of their small letter requirements.

How to use this book

- Before asking students to write a new letter, demonstrate it on the board. Always use a grid with a baseline and three guidelines. As you write, describe exactly what you are doing for the students in their first language.
- Next, half-turn your back to the class, almost as if you were going to write on the board, and trace the letter in the air with your finger. Have the class do it with you as you describe the hand movement.
- 3. If you are teaching a new letter, the students should now use their fingers to trace the large, solid black letter in the book (headed Look). This should be done as a class with the teacher describing the hand movement. The dots show where each hand movement begins and the arrows show the directions to go in. Small numbers show the order in which the hand movements should be done. If there are no small numbers, the letter should be written with one hand movement.
- 4. Students are now ready to practice tracing in their Handwriting Books using a pen or a pencil. They trace over the gray lines, starting from the black dot. The third line of practice in each step gives the students a chance to copy the line of tracing above. The dots show students where to start each letter.
- Encourage students to work slowly and to think about their hand movements. Walk around the class and help. Be positive at all times. If necessary, demonstrate again.

Oxford University Press 200 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10016

Walton Street Oxford OX2 6DP England

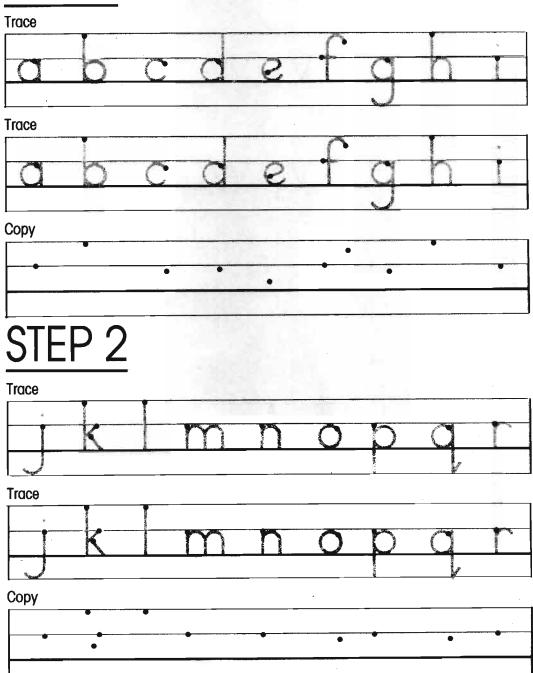
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Illustrated by Ray and Corrine Burrows. Cover design by April Okano. Printing (last digit): 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 Printed in Hong Kong.

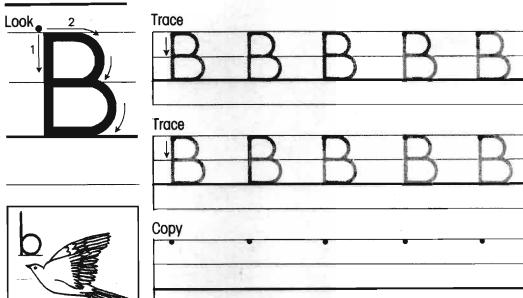


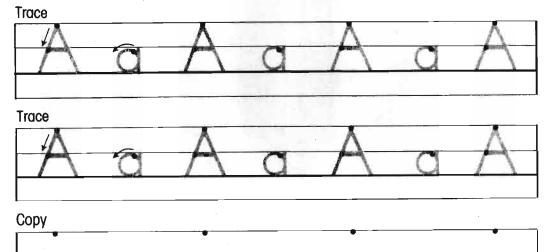




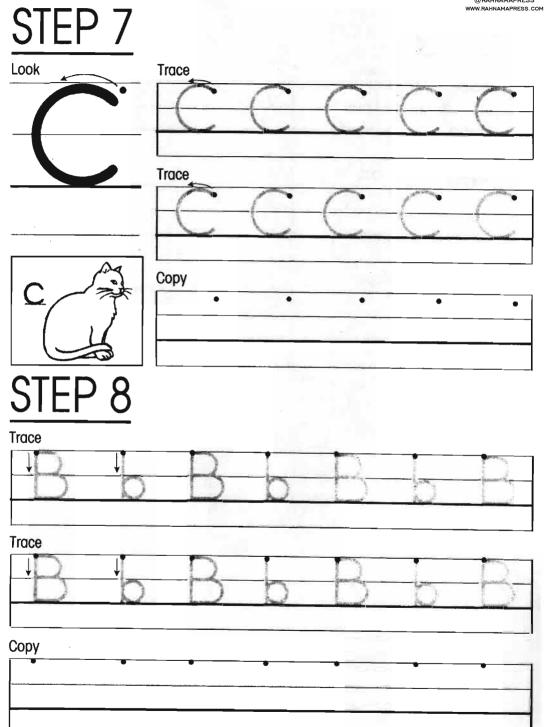
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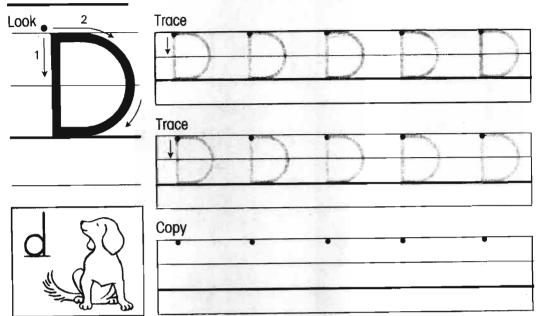


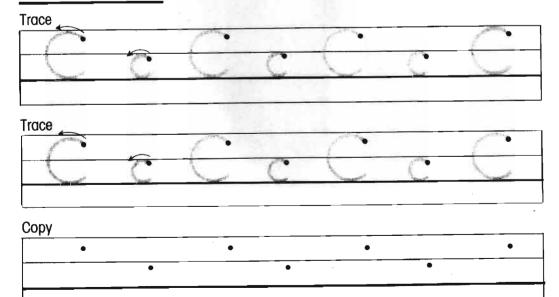




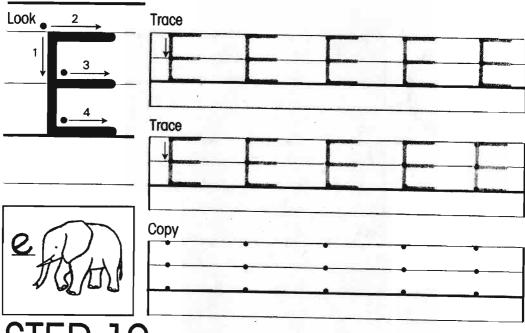






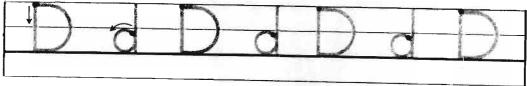




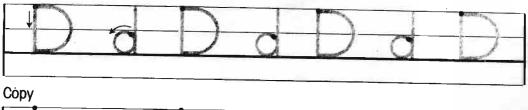


<u>STEP 12</u>

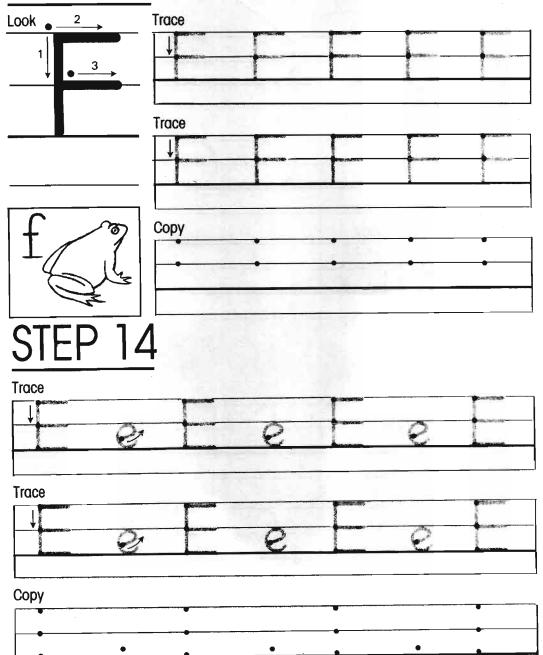
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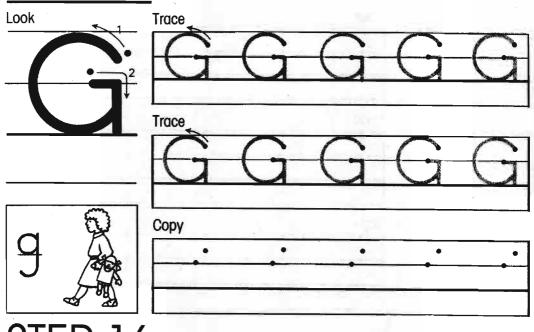


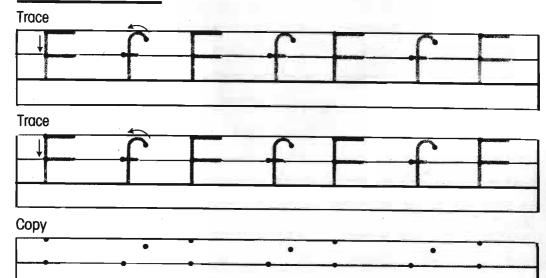




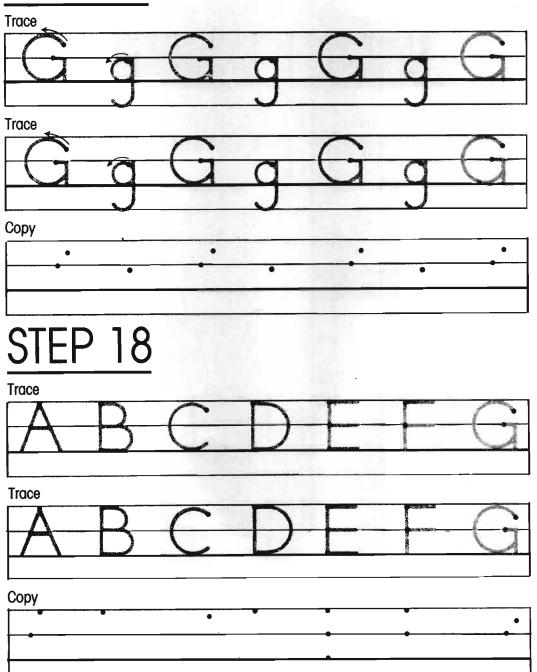
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STEP 15











American GET READY!

American Get Ready! is a lively, two-level course for children who are learning English for the first time. It is the ideal preparation for very young learners. It gives students that basic knowledge and feeling for English which is the foundation of successful learning.

The American Get Ready! Handwriting Books provide a carefully controlled introduction to English handwriting. Handwriting Book 1 begins with practice of all the hand movements that are used in English handwriting. It then systematically teaches the small letters, not in alphabetical order, but grouped according to shape and hand movement. Handwriting Book 2 deals with the capital letters. Both books have built-in review exercises.

Other materials in the American Get Ready! Course are Student Books, Activity Books, Numbers Books, and Cassettes. For each level there is a Teacher's Book that provides detailed guidance on how to use the materials.



