

Handwriting quality of teachers, doctors and students: who is better?

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The quality of handwriting of working professionals (teachers and medical workers) and students (from the Departments of Humanities and Departments of Science at the University of Dubna) was compared. The examples of handwritings «for myself» and «for others» were obtained from 111 participants. The quality of handwritings was rated by 3 «experts». The experts' ratings were also compared with the self-ratings. The intergroup comparison of the quality of handwriting was made taking into account the gender of participants. Obtained information allowed to divide participants into three significantly different quality levels: 1) high quality – teachers (women); 2) medium quality – students-humanities (male and female); 3) low quality – doctors (male and female). In general, the handwritings of all students appeared to be worse than that of teachers, and the handwritings of female students more legible than that of female doctors. However, there is no significant difference in the quality of handwriting between male students-scientists and male doctors. Although self-ratings strongly correlated with experts' ratings (about 0,6), the latter ones have higher discriminatory ability than self-ratings when dividing participants into different quality levels.

Key words and phrases: handwriting, quality of handwriting, handwriting for myself, handwriting for others, teachers, doctors (medical workers), students, gender differences.

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