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A Neuropsychological Investigation into the Validity of Handwriting Analysis

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This study is an investigation into the validity of handwriting analysis. Proponents of graphology maintain that personality traits are manifested in fine motor expression (i.e., handwriting) and this study seeks to explore the relationship between personality, cognitive functioning and handwriting. Currently, the research on handwriting as a tool for personality assessment offers mixed results, some studies support the notion that it is a valid and reliable measure of character while others claim that it lacks scientific merit and that the accuracy of the graphological evaluations is no better than chance. Despite differing opinions in the scientific community, handwriting examiners advise individual, legal and corporate clients across the country. Individuals retain their services for self-knowledge, relationship and vocational guidance, attorneys hire them as jury and trial consultants, and human resource departments hire them to assist in the selection of personnel.

In this study, we will compare scores from neuropsychological and personality tests with evaluations received from handwriting examiners from around the world. Findings from this study may provide insight into the validity of handwriting analysis while at the same time help clarify much of the existing literature. Insights into how various personality traits are manifested in fine motor expression can provide valuable information to individuals who seek to understand how handwriting reflects personality and cognitive functioning.