

There are three subclasses of cursive writing:

1. Ligature – writing the letters of words with lines connecting the letters so that the writer does not have to lift the pen or pencil from the paper between letters.

ligatures script

2. Looped – in looped cursive penmanship, some ascenders and descenders have loops that provide for joins.

3. Italic – cursive italic penmanship features non-looped joins or no joins.

looped unlooped

Cursive Italic Script

Most modern-day fountain pen nibs are shaped and fashioned to accommodate the cursive ligature, looped and italic forms but are not ideally suited for “running script”, the type of cursive used in Chinese.

The running aspect of this script has more to do with the formation and connectedness of strokes within an individual character than with connections between characters, as in Western connected cursive.

Hanzi (Chinese) and **kanji (Japanese)** are the Chinese characters that both languages make use of in their writing systems. Chinese is written entirely in hanzi, while Japanese makes heavy use of Chinese characters.

Hanzi

凌书方圆，与众不同

Kanji

違いを見せる書跡