

ANSWERING UNSEEN PASSAGES KARNATAKA EXAMINATION AUTHORITY Handbook

answering unseen passages karnataka examination authority

Understanding how to effectively answer unseen passages is a crucial skill for students appearing in various examinations conducted by the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA). Whether it's the Karnataka Secondary Education Examination Board (KSEEB) or other competitive exams under KEA, mastering the art of comprehending and responding to unseen passages can significantly boost your overall score. This article provides an in-depth guide on how to approach, analyze, and answer unseen passages in the context of KEA examinations, ensuring you are well-prepared to excel.

Introduction to Unseen Passages in KEA Exams

Unseen passages are passages or texts that candidates encounter for the first time during an exam. These passages are designed to test a student's reading comprehension, vocabulary, analytical skills, and ability to interpret information accurately within a limited timeframe. The Karnataka Examination Authority incorporates such passages in exams like the SSLC English paper, PUC exams, and competitive entrance tests to assess a candidate's language proficiency and critical thinking.

Key features of unseen passages in KEA exams include:

- **Diverse Content:** Passages may cover topics like social issues, science, history, or general knowledge.
- **Varied Formats:** They can be narrative, descriptive, argumentative, or expository.
- **Question Types:** Multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, and sometimes longer descriptive responses.

Importance of Unseen Passages in Karnataka Examination Authority

Understanding the significance of unseen passages helps students realize their role in overall exam success:

- Comprehensive Language Skill Assessment: They evaluate reading comprehension, vocabulary, grammatical understanding, and inference skills.
- Time Management: Practicing unseen passages improves speed and accuracy, crucial under exam conditions.
- Enhanced Critical Thinking: They encourage analytical thinking and the ability to interpret subtle nuances in texts.
- Scoring Opportunities: Well-answered passages can significantly boost your marks.

Effective Strategies to Answer Unseen Passages

To excel at unseen passages, candidates should adopt strategic approaches that optimize understanding and response accuracy.

1. Skim the Passage First

- Read the passage quickly to get a general idea of the topic, tone, and main idea.
- Focus on headings, subheadings, or any keywords that stand out.
- Avoid spending too much time on initial reading; the goal is to grasp the overall context.

2. Read the Questions Carefully

- Before diving into detailed reading, look at the questions.
- Understand what is being asked: is it about the main idea, details, inference, vocabulary, or author's opinion?
- This helps in identifying which parts of the passage to focus on during detailed reading.

3. Read the Passage Thoroughly and Highlight Key Points

- Now, read the passage slowly and attentively.
- Highlight or underline keywords, dates, names, or important facts.
- Note the tone and purpose of the passage (informative, persuasive, etc.).

4. Interpret and Analyze

- Think about the passage's main idea and supporting details.
- Consider the author's intent and the message conveyed.
- Look for contextual clues that help answer inference or vocabulary questions.

5. Answer Questions Systematically

- Start with the questions you find easier to build confidence.
- Use the passage to verify your answers, especially for detail-based questions.
- For inference-based questions, rely on your understanding of the passage's tone and content.

6. Manage Your Time Wisely

- Allocate specific time slots for reading, answering questions, and reviewing.
- Avoid spending too much time on a single question; move on and revisit if time permits.

Types of Questions and How to Tackle Them

Understanding the common question types helps in preparing targeted strategies.

1. Main Idea or Theme Questions

- These questions ask about the overall message or purpose of the passage.
- Solution: Summarize the passage in your own words after reading. Look for repeated ideas or key sentences.

2. Detail-Based Questions

- These require locating specific facts or information.
- Solution: Use the highlighted keywords and scan the passage efficiently.

3. Vocabulary in Context

- Questions about the meaning of words as used in the passage.
- Solution: Infer the meaning based on sentence context and surrounding words.

4. Inference or Conclusion Questions

- These ask what the author implies or what can be concluded.
- Solution: Think about the overall tone and purpose; avoid assumptions beyond the passage

content.

5. Author's Attitude or Tone

- Questions about whether the passage is optimistic, critical, neutral, etc.
- Solution: Pay attention to word choice and sentence structure.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Rushing through the passage: Leads to misunderstandings and incorrect answers.
- Ignoring questions: Skipping questions can result in lost marks.
- Overlooking details: Missing key information that can change the answer.
- Failing to manage time: Spending too long on difficult questions can jeopardize overall performance.
- Not practicing enough: Regular practice enhances speed and comprehension skills.

Practice Tips for Success in KEA Unseen Passages

- Regular Reading Practice: Read newspapers, magazines, and online articles to improve reading speed and comprehension.
- Sample Passages and Mock Tests: Practice with past question papers and sample unseen passages from KEA exam guides.
- Vocabulary Building: Enhance your vocabulary through daily word lists and contextual learning.
- Time-bound Practice: Simulate exam conditions to improve time management skills.
- Review and Learn: After practice, analyze your mistakes and focus on weak areas.

Additional Resources for Preparation

- KEA Official Syllabus and Sample Papers: Familiarize yourself with the pattern and question types.
- English Grammar and Vocabulary Books: Strengthen foundational language skills.
- Online Practice Platforms: Use educational websites offering practice passages and quizzes.
- Study Groups: Collaborate with peers to discuss and analyze passages.

Conclusion

Mastering the art of answering unseen passages is essential for success in the Karnataka

Examination Authority exams. By understanding the structure, adopting strategic reading techniques, practicing regularly, and managing your time effectively, you can enhance your comprehension skills and improve your overall exam performance. Remember, consistent practice and a calm, focused approach are key to excelling in this section. Prepare well, stay confident, and approach unseen passages with a positive mindset to achieve your academic goals.

Keywords for SEO optimization:

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Answering Unseen Passages Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA): A Comprehensive Guide

Navigating the answering unseen passages Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) can be a challenging yet rewarding experience for aspirants aiming to excel in competitive exams such as the PUC or other state-level assessments. Unseen passages test a candidate's ability to comprehend, analyze, and interpret information quickly and accurately—skills that are essential not only for exams but also for real-life situations. This article offers a detailed, step-by-step guide to mastering the art of answering unseen passages as per KEA's standards, ensuring you approach each passage with confidence and strategy.

Understanding the Importance of Unseen Passages in KEA Exams

Unseen passages are a key component of various Karnataka Examination Authority assessments, especially in language papers like Kannada, English, and other subject-specific tests. They evaluate your reading comprehension, vocabulary, and critical thinking abilities. Success in these sections can significantly influence your overall score, making it crucial to develop effective strategies for tackling them.

The Structure of Unseen Passages in KEA Exams

Before diving into strategies, it's essential to understand the typical structure:

- Length: Usually between 150-250 words.
- Content: Can be narrative, descriptive, argumentative, or expository.
- Questions: Generally 5-10 questions related to the passage, testing comprehension, vocabulary, inference, and grammatical skills.

Step-by-Step Guide to Answer Unseen Passages

- Preparation and Practice

Consistent practice is the foundation of proficiency. Regularly solving a variety of unseen passages from previous KEA papers, sample tests, or mock exams will familiarize you with different styles and topics.

Tips for effective practice:

- Read daily newspapers, magazines, or online articles to improve reading speed and vocabulary.
- Focus on understanding the main idea, tone, and purpose of passages.
- Practice summarizing passages in your own words.

- Initial Reading: Skimming for the Main Idea

When you encounter an unseen passage:

- Read the passage once quickly to grasp the overall theme and tone.
- Avoid getting stuck on difficult words or sentences during your first read.
- Focus on understanding the gist, main idea, and purpose.

Key points during initial reading:

- Identify the topic and main message.
- Note the tone: Is it formal, informal, humorous, critical, or persuasive?
- Recognize the structure: Is it chronological, cause-effect, problem-solution, etc.?

- Focused Reading: Deep Dive into Details

After the initial skim:

- Re-read the passage carefully.
- Highlight or underline key sentences, facts, and keywords.

- Pay attention to context clues around difficult words.
- Clarify any confusing parts by re-reading or inferring from context.

- Answering the Questions Strategically

Questions are designed to test different skills. Approach them systematically:

a) Main Idea/Title Questions

- Usually ask for the central theme.
- Answer based on the overall gist you identified during initial reading.

b) Specific Detail Questions

- Look back at the passage to find specific facts or statements.
- Use the highlighted parts or keywords to locate answers swiftly.

c) Inference-Based Questions

- Require logical deductions beyond explicit information.
- Think about what the author implies or suggests.

d) Vocabulary/Word Meaning Questions

- Use context clues within the sentence.
- Consider synonyms or antonyms if provided.

e) Tone and Attitude Questions

- Determine the author's attitude?positive, negative, sarcastic, neutral.
- Support your answer with evidence from the passage.

Effective Time Management

Time is a critical factor:

- Allocate around 10-15 minutes for each passage.
- Spend 2-3 minutes skimming.
- Dedicate 8-10 minutes for detailed reading and question answering.
- Leave the last 2-3 minutes for review or revisiting difficult questions.

Common Challenges and How to Overcome Them

| Challenge | Solution |

|-----|-----|

| Difficult vocabulary | Improve vocabulary through daily reading and vocabulary lists. Use context clues. |

| Losing focus | Practice active reading; avoid distractions. Break passages into sections if needed. |

| Time pressure | Practice under timed conditions; develop a pacing strategy. |

| Ambiguous questions | Read questions carefully; ensure you understand what is asked before answering. |

Tips for Success in Unseen Passages (KEA)

- Stay Calm and Confident: Anxiety hampers comprehension. Practice regularly to boost confidence.
- Read the Questions First: Sometimes reading questions before the passage can help focus your reading.
- Use the Process of Elimination: If unsure about an answer, eliminate obviously incorrect options.
- Review Your Answers: If time permits, revisit difficult questions to verify your choices.

Sample Approach to a Typical Unseen Passage

Imagine the passage discusses environmental conservation. Your steps:

- Skim for main idea: ?The importance of preserving natural resources.?
- Read carefully, noting key facts about pollution, deforestation, and conservation efforts.
- Answer questions about the author?s attitude (e.g., optimistic or pessimistic), specific conservation methods, or vocabulary words like ?sustainable? or ?degradation.?

- Cross-check your answers with the passage to ensure accuracy.

Final Words of Advice

Mastering answering unseen passages Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) demands a blend of consistent practice, strategic reading, and confident answering. Focus on improving your reading speed, expanding vocabulary, and honing inference skills. Remember, each passage is an opportunity to showcase your comprehension abilities, and with the right approach, you can turn this challenging section into one of your strongest points.

By following this comprehensive guide, you'll be well-equipped to tackle unseen passages effectively, boost your exam performance, and move closer to your academic goals. Stay disciplined, keep practicing, and approach each passage with curiosity and focus. Good luck!

QuestionAnswer What is the best strategy to approach unseen passages in the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) exams? Read the passage carefully to grasp the main idea, underline key points, and then answer the questions by referring back to the passage. Practice summarizing passages to improve speed and comprehension. How can I improve my reading speed for better performance in KEA unseen passages? Practice regular reading of diverse texts, focus on skimming and scanning techniques, and time your practice sessions to gradually increase speed without compromising understanding. What types of questions are commonly asked from unseen passages in KEA exams? Questions typically include main idea identification, inference, vocabulary in context, author's tone or attitude, and specific detail-based questions from the passage. Are there any specific tips for answering inference-based questions in unseen passages? Yes, read the passage carefully, understand the context, and look for clues that suggest implied meanings. Avoid assumptions; base your answers solely on information provided in the passage. How much time should I ideally allocate for each unseen passage in the KEA exam? Aim to spend about 8-10 minutes per passage, including reading and answering questions, to ensure ample time for all sections while maintaining accuracy. What common mistakes should I avoid while answering questions from unseen passages in KEA exams? Avoid rushing through the passage, ignoring the questions, making assumptions beyond the passage's content, and misreading questions. Focus on accurate comprehension before answering. How important is vocabulary understanding for answering unseen passages effectively in KEA exams? A good vocabulary helps in quickly understanding context and difficult words, making comprehension easier. Regular vocabulary practice can significantly improve performance in unseen passages.

Related keywords: unseen passages, Karnataka Examination Authority, KEA, answer writing, comprehension skills, exam preparation, practice passages, reading comprehension, descriptive answers, Karnataka exams

English shorthand dictation passages

English shorthand dictation passages are essential tools for students and professionals aiming to improve their speed and accuracy in shorthand writing. These passages serve as practical exercises that simulate real-world transcription tasks, helping learners develop their skills in capturing spoken language swiftly and precisely. Whether you're preparing for shorthand examinations or enhancing your note-taking efficiency, mastering the use of carefully selected dictation passages is a crucial step toward achieving proficiency.

Understanding the Importance of Shorthand Dictation Passages

Shorthand dictation passages are more than just practice material; they are foundational in developing several key skills essential for effective shorthand writing.

Why Practice with Dictation Passages?

- **Improves Speed:** Regular practice helps in increasing the speed of writing, enabling shorthand writers to keep pace with spoken words.
- **Enhances Accuracy:** Repeated transcription of passages trains the writer to capture every word correctly, reducing errors over time.
- **Builds Confidence:** Consistent practice boosts confidence, making it easier to handle real-time dictations.
- **Develops Listening Skills:** Listening carefully to passages sharpens auditory skills necessary for accurate shorthand transcription.
- **Introduces Vocabulary and Phrasing:** Exposure to diverse passages enhances vocabulary and familiarizes learners with common phrases and idiomatic expressions.

Types of English Shorthand Dictation Passages

Effective practice involves a variety of passages that challenge different aspects of shorthand skills.

1. Simple Sentences

These passages contain straightforward sentences, ideal for beginners to practice basic transcription skills.

2. Complex Paragraphs

Longer texts with intricate sentence structures help advanced learners work on speed and

comprehension.

3. Formal and Informal Styles

Practicing both styles prepares learners to transcribe speeches, meetings, or casual conversations accurately.

4. Business and Legal Passages

Specialized passages related to business and law help learners familiarize themselves with industry-specific terminology.

Creating Effective Shorthand Dictation Passages

Quality practice requires well-designed passages that mimic real-life situations, with attention to clarity, variety, and appropriateness.

Tips for Selecting or Writing Passages

- **Use Natural Language:** Passages should sound like natural speech to simulate actual dictation scenarios.
- **Include Common Phrases and Idioms:** Incorporate frequently used expressions to improve practical transcription skills.
- **Vary Vocabulary and Sentence Structure:** Mix simple and complex sentences to challenge different skill levels.
- **Maintain Clarity and Coherence:** Ensure passages are logical and easy to follow, avoiding ambiguity.
- **Introduce Technical Terms Gradually:** For advanced learners, add specialized vocabulary relevant to their field.

Sample English Shorthand Dictation Passages

Below are examples of passages suitable for different proficiency levels.

Beginner Level

"The cat sat on the mat. It looked at the dog. The sun is bright today. We like to play outside."

Intermediate Level

"The meeting started at nine o'clock. The manager discussed the quarterly sales report. Everyone listened carefully and took notes. After the presentation, questions were answered."

Advanced Level

"In today's fast-paced business environment, effective communication is crucial. Accurate shorthand transcription allows professionals to record meetings, interviews, and legal proceedings efficiently. Mastery of shorthand dictation passages enhances overall productivity and ensures no critical details are missed."

Techniques for Practicing with Shorthand Dictation Passages

Successful practice involves more than just reading and writing; it requires strategic techniques to maximize learning.

1. Regular Practice Schedule

Consistency is key. Dedicate specific times daily or weekly to practice dictations, gradually increasing difficulty and duration.

2. Use Recordings

Record passages spoken aloud and listen repeatedly to simulate real-time dictation. This improves auditory processing and speed.

3. Focus on Phrasing

Practice capturing common phrases in shorthand as units rather than separate words, which increases speed and fluency.

4. Review and Correct

Always review your transcriptions, compare them with the original passages, and correct errors to reinforce learning.

5. Gradually Increase Difficulty

Start with simple passages and progressively move to more complex texts to build confidence and skill.

Resources for English Shorthand Dictation Passages

Numerous resources are available online and offline to access high-quality dictation passages.

Online Platforms and Websites

- Shorthand Practice Websites: Offer downloadable practice passages for various levels.
- Educational Apps: Provide interactive dictation exercises with feedback.
- Youtube Channels: Feature dictation videos for listening and transcribing practice.

Books and Publications

- Shorthand Practice Books: Contain curated passages categorized by difficulty.
- Exam Preparation Guides: Include model dictation passages for exam practice.

Conclusion

Mastering **english shorthand dictation passages** is fundamental for anyone looking to excel in shorthand writing. Through consistent practice with diverse and well-structured passages, learners can significantly improve their speed, accuracy, and confidence. Incorporating effective techniques such as listening exercises, phrasing focus, and regular review ensures steady progress. Whether you're a beginner or an advanced shorthand practitioner, utilizing quality dictation passages tailored to your level will accelerate your journey toward shorthand mastery. Explore available resources, practice diligently, and watch your transcription skills reach new heights.

English Shorthand Dictation Passages: An In-Depth Exploration

Introduction

English shorthand dictation passages serve as a vital component in the realm of secretarial training, journalism, and transcription services. These passages are meticulously crafted excerpts designed to hone a student's or professional's ability to listen, comprehend, and transcribe swiftly and accurately using shorthand notation. As a skill that blends rapid listening with swift writing, shorthand dictation passages have evolved over centuries, adapting to technological advances and pedagogical shifts. This article aims to provide a comprehensive, analytical overview of these passages, highlighting their significance, structure, types, and pedagogical value, grounded in historical context and current practices.

Understanding the Concept of English Shorthand Dictation Passages

Definition and Purpose

English shorthand dictation passages are pre-selected texts or spoken excerpts used for training individuals in shorthand writing. The primary purpose of these passages is to simulate real-world dictation scenarios, enabling learners to develop speed, accuracy, and comprehension skills. They serve as standardized tools in teaching shorthand, ensuring learners become proficient in transcribing spoken language efficiently.

These passages are carefully curated to include a mix of vocabulary, sentence structures, and idiomatic expressions relevant to everyday, professional, or official contexts. The objective is to train students to quickly capture spoken words in shorthand, then transcribe them into full text with minimal errors.

Historical Significance

Shorthand, invented in the 19th century by Sir Isaac Pitman and others, revolutionized stenography and transcription practices. Early dictation passages were often lengthy, complex, and designed to test the limits of speed and comprehension. Over time, the passages have been refined to balance difficulty levels, aiming to foster gradual skill development.

In contemporary education, these passages serve not only as training tools but also as assessment instruments to evaluate progress. They bridge the gap between theoretical shorthand rules and practical application, ensuring learners can handle real dictation tasks efficiently.

Structure and Composition of Shorthand Dictation Passages

Characteristics of Effective Passages

Effective shorthand dictation passages share several key features:

- **Clarity and Coherence:** The text should be logically structured, with clear sentence flow to facilitate comprehension.
- **Varied Vocabulary:** Incorporating common words, idioms, and technical terms ensures preparedness for diverse dictation scenarios.
- **Balanced Difficulty:** Passages should progressively increase in complexity to match learner proficiency.
- **Conciseness:** While comprehensive, passages should avoid unnecessary verbosity, focusing on relevant content.
- **Inclusion of Punctuation and Pauses:** To simulate real speech, passages often include marks indicating pauses, emphasis, or intonation.

Common Components of Passages

Typical dictation passages comprise:

- Narrative or Descriptive Texts: These include stories, reports, or descriptions that mimic real-life situations.
- Dialogues or Conversations: Simulating interviews or meetings, dialogues help learners practice transcribing multiple speakers.
- Official Speeches or Addresses: These expose learners to formal language, useful for court reporting or parliamentary transcription.
- Technical or Business Content: For students specializing in specific fields, passages include industry-specific vocabulary.

Format and Length

Passages vary in length, typically ranging from 50 to 200 words for practice sessions, with longer passages used for timed assessments. The format often includes:

- Clear spacing between sentences
- Marked pauses or emphasis points
- Optional notes for punctuation or special symbols

Types of English Shorthand Dictation Passages

Based on Content and Context

- General Passages: Cover everyday topics like weather, health, or social events.
- Formal Passages: Include speeches, debates, or official reports.
- Technical Passages: Focus on scientific, medical, or legal content.
- Business and Commercial Passages: Involve banking, commerce, or administrative communication.

Based on Difficulty Level

- Beginner Level: Short, simple sentences with common vocabulary.
- Intermediate Level: Slightly complex sentences with idiomatic expressions.
- Advanced Level: Lengthy, complex, and technical passages requiring high proficiency.

Specialized Passages

Some passages are designed for specific stenography needs:

- Legal Dictation: Court proceedings, legal briefs.
- Medical Dictation: Patient reports, medical notes.
- Journalistic Passages: News reports, interviews.

Pedagogical Significance of Dictation Passages in Learning Shorthand

Skill Development

Dictation passages are instrumental in:

- Enhancing speed: Regular practice increases words per minute (WPM).
- Improving accuracy: Focus on correct transcription minimizes errors.
- Developing comprehension: Learners learn to grasp meaning quickly and accurately.
- Building confidence: Regular practice builds proficiency and reduces anxiety.

Assessment and Evaluation

Educators use dictation passages to:

- Measure progress over time.
- Identify areas needing improvement.
- Set benchmarks for professional certification.

Teaching Strategies

Effective use of dictation passages includes:

- Starting with easier passages and gradually increasing difficulty.
- Encouraging repeated practice to build muscle memory.
- Incorporating varied content to cover different vocabulary sets.
- Using recording devices for self-assessment.

Challenges and Solutions in Using Dictation Passages

Common Challenges

- Difficulty understanding fast speech: Learners may struggle to keep pace.
- Errors in transcription: Missed words or misheard phrases.
- Fatigue and concentration lapses: Long passages can cause mental fatigue.
- Limited vocabulary: Inability to transcribe technical or unfamiliar terms.

Proposed Solutions

- **Use recordings with adjustable speed to gradually increase listening pace.**
- **Practice with shorter passages before progressing to longer ones.**
- **Incorporate vocabulary building exercises alongside dictation practice.**
- **Ensure proper rest and focus during practice sessions.**
- **Use shorthand symbols and abbreviations to improve speed and accuracy.**

Modern Trends and Technological Integration

Digital Dictation and Transcription Tools

With advancements in technology, traditional shorthand dictation is increasingly supplemented by:

- Voice recognition software: Tools like Dragon NaturallySpeaking assist transcribers.
- Audio recordings: High-quality recordings enable flexible practice.
- Online platforms: Websites and apps offering interactive dictation exercises.

Impact on Traditional Practices

While technology enhances efficiency, the foundational skill of shorthand remains relevant, especially for:

- Court reporting where verbatim transcription is critical.
- Environments with limited technological access.
- Professionals seeking rapid note-taking skills.

Future Directions

Emerging trends suggest a hybrid approach, combining shorthand mastery with technological tools,

ensuring versatility and adaptability in transcription careers.

Conclusion

English shorthand dictation passages are more than mere exercises; they are fundamental stepping stones in mastering the art of rapid transcription. Their structured design, varied content, and pedagogical utility make them indispensable in training competent stenographers, secretaries, journalists, and transcriptionists. As the landscape of communication evolves, these passages continue to serve as a bridge between traditional shorthand skills and modern technological aids, ensuring practitioners are well-equipped to meet diverse transcription challenges. Embracing both their historical significance and future potential, the diligent practice of dictation passages remains a cornerstone of proficient shorthand writing.

QuestionAnswer What are the key skills required for mastering English shorthand dictation passages? Key skills include quick and accurate listening, fast writing speed, familiarity with shorthand symbols, good concentration, and the ability to comprehend context rapidly during dictation. How can I improve my accuracy while taking shorthand dictation passages in English? To improve accuracy, practice regularly with varied passages, develop a strong grasp of shorthand symbols, focus on listening carefully, and review your notes to correct errors and reinforce learning. What are some common challenges faced while transcribing English shorthand dictation passages, and how can they be overcome? Common challenges include missing words, misinterpretation of symbols, and speed issues. These can be overcome by consistent practice, enhancing listening skills, and reviewing shorthand rules thoroughly. Which shorthand systems are most popular for transcribing English dictation passages? The most popular shorthand systems include Gregg Shorthand, Pitman Shorthand, and Teeline Shorthand, each offering different methods suited for speed and accuracy in English dictation. How can I effectively practice English shorthand dictation passages for competitive exams? Effective practice involves timed dictation exercises, studying previous exam passages, working on increasing speed without sacrificing accuracy, and regularly reviewing shorthand symbols and transcription techniques.

Related keywords: English shorthand, dictation practice, shorthand passages, stenography exercises, shorthand dictation, speed building, shorthand training, shorthand passages for beginners, shorthand transcription, shorthand exercises

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