

Okay, kids. We're ready to do cursive lesson 20. This is going to be capital 'X' and 'Z'. So, grab your paper and a pencil and get ready because we're going to get started.

Alright. This is capital printed 'X.' And here's capital cursive 'X.' And it pretty much looks the same. We're just, instead of starting at the bottom like we do with the lower-case cursive 'x' and going up, we just start right under the top line and then curve over. Of course, it's going to be tilted slightly to the right because that's how cursive does. So anyway, we're going to get ready and we're going to try some of these. And I think it's going to be pretty easy for you.

Here we are with lesson 20. We've got 'X' and 'Z' right here. So, we're going to do 'X' first. So, we are starting with a similar stroke to like 'M' and 'N' and some of the other ones we've done. So, we're going over and then slanting down. And on the one that we're going to be practicing, there is no release-stroke. But this one, on the bubble one is an under-curve. Then we lift. And then we are crossing with kind of a backward slant line. So, we're starting up at the top and we're going backwards of the direction we normally write in. So, it slants down like that. Okay, so it's just like making, a lower case 'x.' We just aren't starting at the bottom. That's why that little hook is there at the top, because we're starting at the top of the letter. Okay, so we're ready to start. So, we're making our little hook and then slanting down. Lift your pencil and then cross the opposite direction. Okay, so pretty easy. I mean this is almost the same as making a printed 'x,' we're just adding this little curve at the top. Now we're going to connect it. Or we're going to write the lower case 'x.' It doesn't really connect, because this is the last stroke you make. And then you come over here to go up and make the 'X.' So, we're going down, slant, lift. And then up, down, and it's the same movement. Okay, so here we go again. Down, lift and then make a lower-case 'x.' Okay. Slant, and then lower-case. And one more time. There we go!

Okay, now there's not a lot of words that start with 'X' really. So, we're going to find a couple here. But, these both make 'z' sounds. So, 'Xylophone.' Actually is an 'X,' but it sounds like a 'z.' And that's like a little musical instrument where you hit it with little sticks with little balls on the end. You hit it and it makes little noises. So, we're going to write this word. And it's kind of a long word. So, I actually put it here, and then we're going to write it down here. And I've got the 'X' in the spot and then this one we're going to write down below it. Okay, so here we go. 'X,' cross. And then we're going into a y... l... o..., and keep it at the top to connect to the 'p.' You just go up to the line and then loop, come around, come in and connect. Make your 'h,' stop, come up and make the hump, 'o,' keep it at the top for the 'n' and go into the 'e.' Okay, now we're going to do it down here. Okay here we go. 'X' and then go into the 'y,' loop, come up for the l... o..., check-stroke, connect to the 'p,' loop, make your h... o..., make the first hump and there we go. Alright that looks pretty good! Okay, now

we're going to do this one. This one says 'Xerox.' And you probably don't know what that is, but it's like the copy. It's just a brand of copy machine. So, like the copy machine that your teacher makes copies on, it might be a Xerox machine. So, we're going to put our 'X' there. And this 'e,' yours is going to be correct. Mine should start down here. So, you're going to start at the bottom there, o... and then another 'x' right here. There we go. And then we're going to do it down here on our own. So ready? X... e... r... o..., and then we're going to connect to that 'x' at the top. There we go. Now we're going to write 'X-ray' down here. Like, if you ever injured yourself, you might have to get an x-ray to see if the bone was broken. And that is the letter 'X' and then a dash '-' and then ray. Okay we're going to write it again. X dash '-' ray. And we can do it again, 'X' slant, dash '-' ray. Okay, now look for your best 'X.' They probably all look pretty good because 'X' isn't a tricky one. Now we're going to get ready to do 'Z.'

This is capital printed 'Z' and we're going to be making capital cursive 'Z.' Here it is. It looks crazy. Just like the lowercase cursive 'z,' but you don't start at the bottom and go up. You just start about midway up and then curve around and then you add the second little hump, then you loop down below the line just like the lower case one. And it curves slightly to the right. Let's get started.

Okay, so capital 'Z' is just like lowercase 'z.' But for lowercase 'z' we start at the bottom. So, capital 'Z' we start at the top, so it makes that little hook at the top. So, this one is a little hard to see this little extra hump that comes up. This one is really showing it, but we're going to do the best we can with that, okay? So, we are hooking up and then slanting down to the baseline. And then from there we're actually doing an over-curve. It's coming all the way down below the line and then we're looping back and we're releasing with an over-curve line. So, I'm just going to do that all in pink.

Okay, we're ready to get started. We're going to practice some of these Z's several times first. Because I always think 'Z' is kind of a funny one to get used to making. So, up, slant down, make your next little hump, below the line, loop left, and release. Okay, so again. So, you can tell I'm making my release-stroke a lot bigger than that one is, but that's okay. That's just how I do it. Okay, we're going to do one on our own now. And you'll get the hang of it. It's just, thinking that you have to make the hump half the size of where the dotted line is. It seems like you come back up, but you don't want it to be too big. And then in the lower-case one it's a lot smaller. So here we go. And this one connects. So, it'll go right in to the lower-case 'c.' So, I'm going to do that one. Hump, loop. And little hump, and loop. Okay there we go; we're going to practice one more time with this one. Okay. There we go. Now on our own. Last time. Loop up to the midline, a little hump, and loop. Okay. Now we're going to write some words. 'Zebra' is our first word here. So, we've got our capital 'Z',

connect it to the 'e,' go up for the 'b' and then keep your 'b' at the top with a little check-stroke for the 'r' and 'a.' And then here we're going to do it on our own. Z... loop, go into the e... b... r... a... So, watch me do it, then pause. Then you can do it. Whatever is comfortable for you. Now we're going to write 'Zero.' Okay here we go. Z... e... r... o... And then keep it with a check-stroke there at the end. And we're going to do it again on our own. Ready? Hump, loop, going to the 'e,' the 'r,' and the 'o,' and then a check-stroke. Okay, now we're going to write 'Zip.' Z..., go into the i... p..., loop, come in, connect and release, and then dot your 'i.' And we're going to do it on our own. Z... i... p..., and release. Okay? Then we're going to write 'Zone.' Like in the end zone at a football game. o..., keep it at the top for the n... e..., and release. Okay, little hump, loop, o... n... e... Oops, my pen cut out right there. Now we're going to do 'Zany.' Zany is just kind of like crazy. Someone's acting zany; they're acting kind of silly. Okay here we go! Z... a..., two humps for the 'n,' up and over for the 'y,' and loop. Okay. Z..., hump, loop, a... n... y...

Now we're going to write, 'Zap.' 'Zap.' Sometimes if you're walking on carpet, you can zap somebody with static electricity and shock them. Okay. And then our last word, on our own, loop back, come in, connect and release. Alright, my best 'Z.' I don't know, I've got a lot of good ones. I'm going to pick this one. Okay now, highlighter, colored pencil, go back and practice. You can hold it a lot looser. You don't have to worry so much about making it perfect, because it's not going to show up as much. But it's really going to help you get your hand used to those movements. So, just go through and practice if you have time. I feel like I can do it a lot quicker because I'm not so worried about getting off of the lines or making it perfect. But it helps me get used to the movement with my hand. Alright. Lesson 21 is coming up next. I'll see you then!