Investigation of Class Characteristics in English Handwriting of the Three Main Racial Groups: Chinese, Malay and Indian in Singapore

ABSTRACT: This paper investigated the class characteristics in English handwriting of the Chinese, Malays and Indians in Singapore, many of who learned their native language as a second language. One hundred and fifty-four handwriting exemplars were collected and features such as letter designs, pen-lifts, letter spacing and embellishments were studied. A number of characteristic features peculiar to the individual racial group were identified, which confirmed the impact of their native language writing systems on English handwriting.

KEYWORDS: forensic science, questioned documents, class characteristics, handwriting, Chinese, Malay, Indian

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