

Negotiated Gestures

How Hand Movements Shift Meaning Across Tools and Time

Last week we discussed whether I should focus on writing rather than communication.
So in this test, all examples are framed as different writing systems: knot-based writing, inscription, handwriting, mechanical transcription, and digital input.

This week I developed a small publication as a testing device rather than a finished outcome.

It has two parts:

Part 1 removes tools and only shows gestures;

Part 2 uses comic-like sequences to show gestures together with writing tools across time.

Test Questions:

What do you think this project is about?

Part 1:

1. Does gesture still carry technological memory?
2. What do you think is the hidden tool beneath the gesture?

Part 2:

1. Which two groups of gestures/tools “seem” most related?

Experiment

Part1

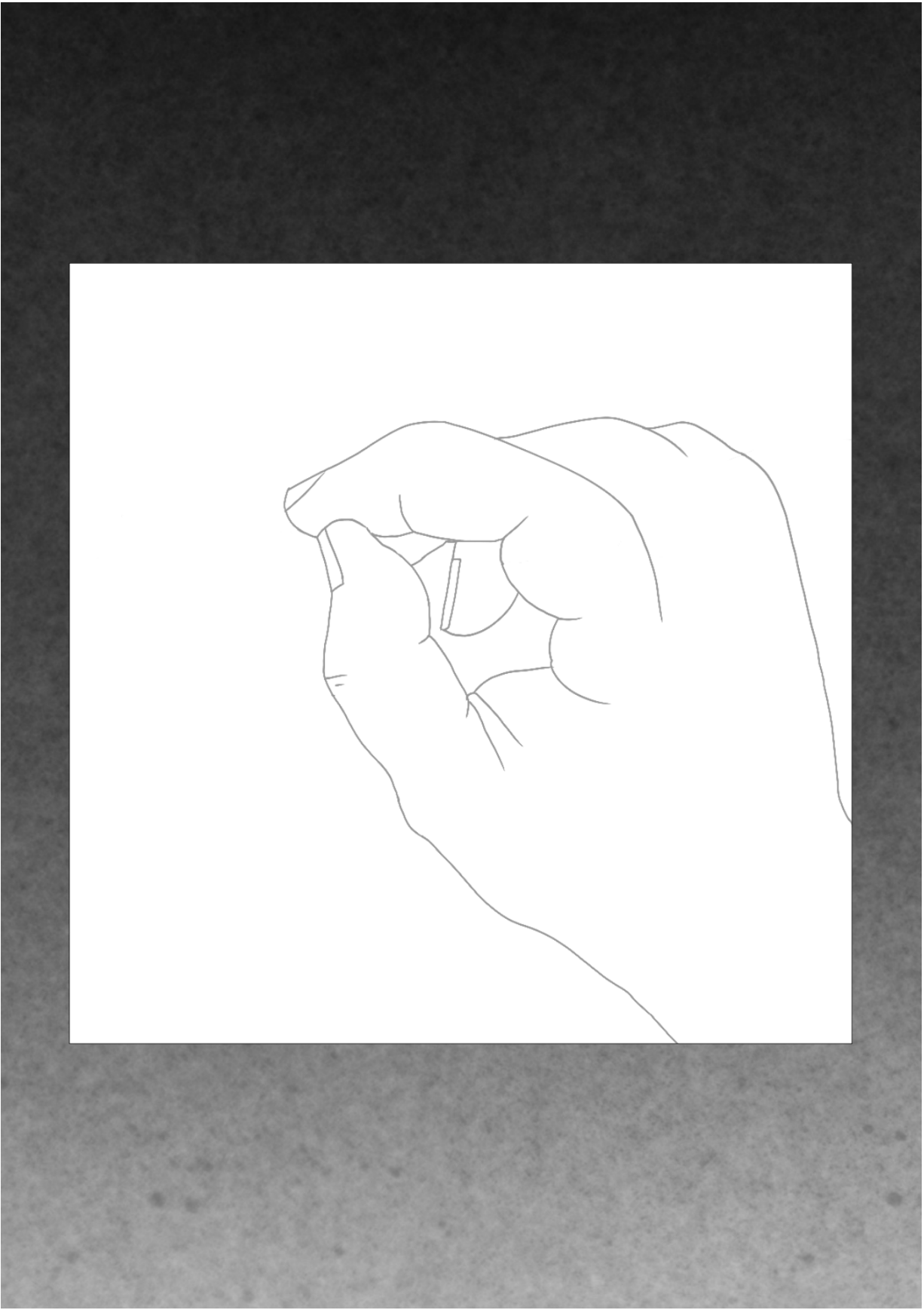
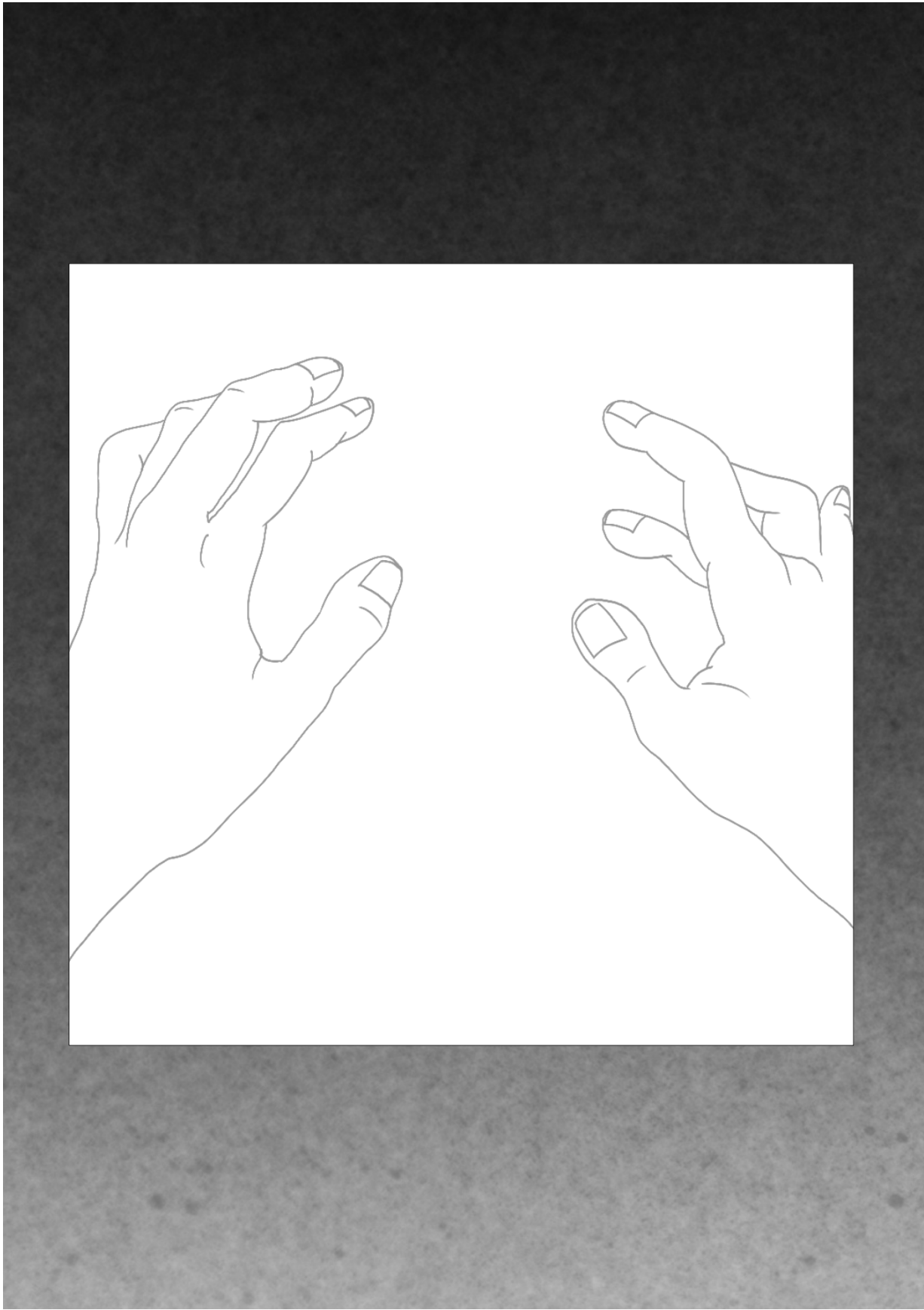
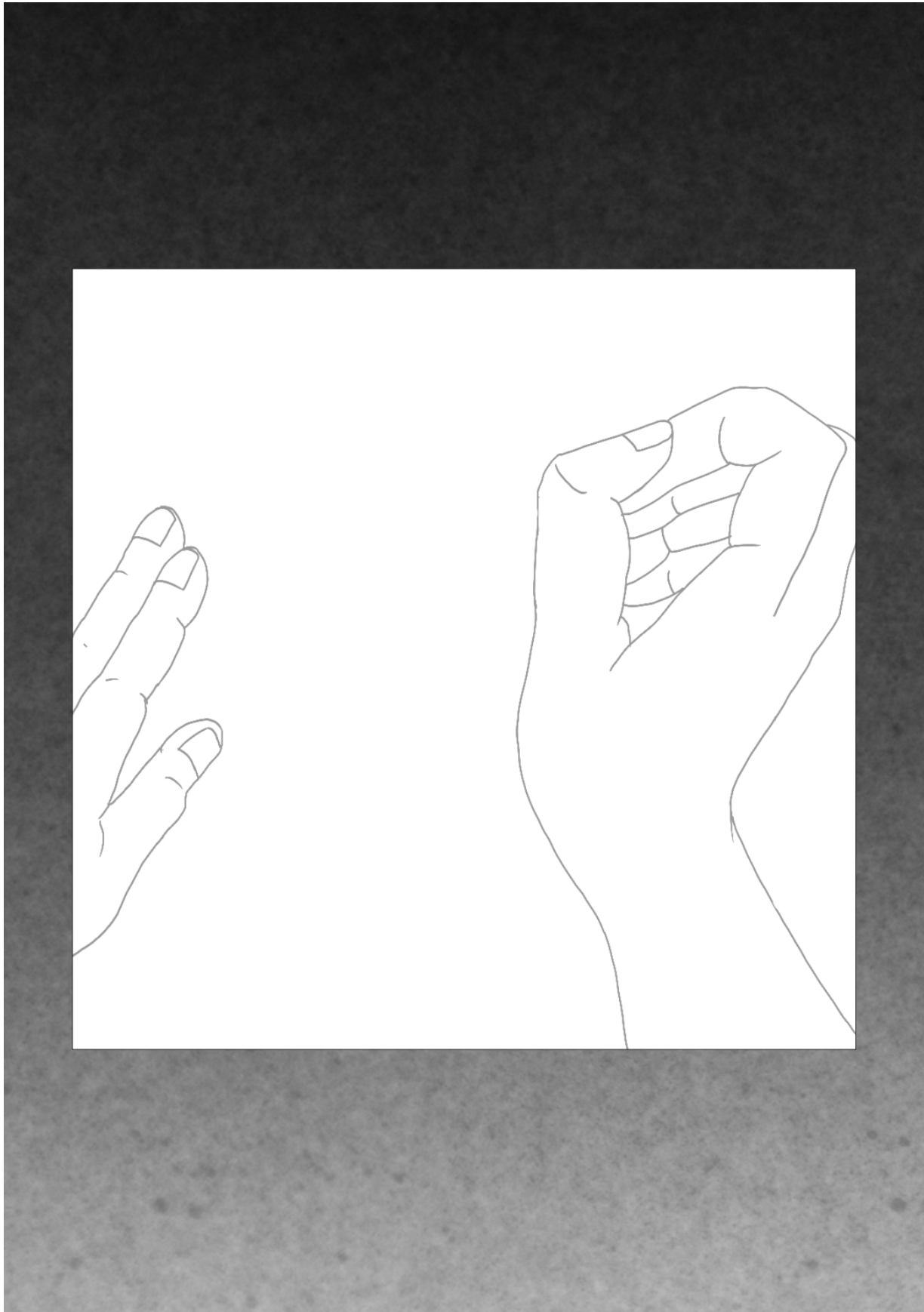
I realised that my project is not only about showing historical gestures, but about testing how meaning is read when information is removed or reorganised.

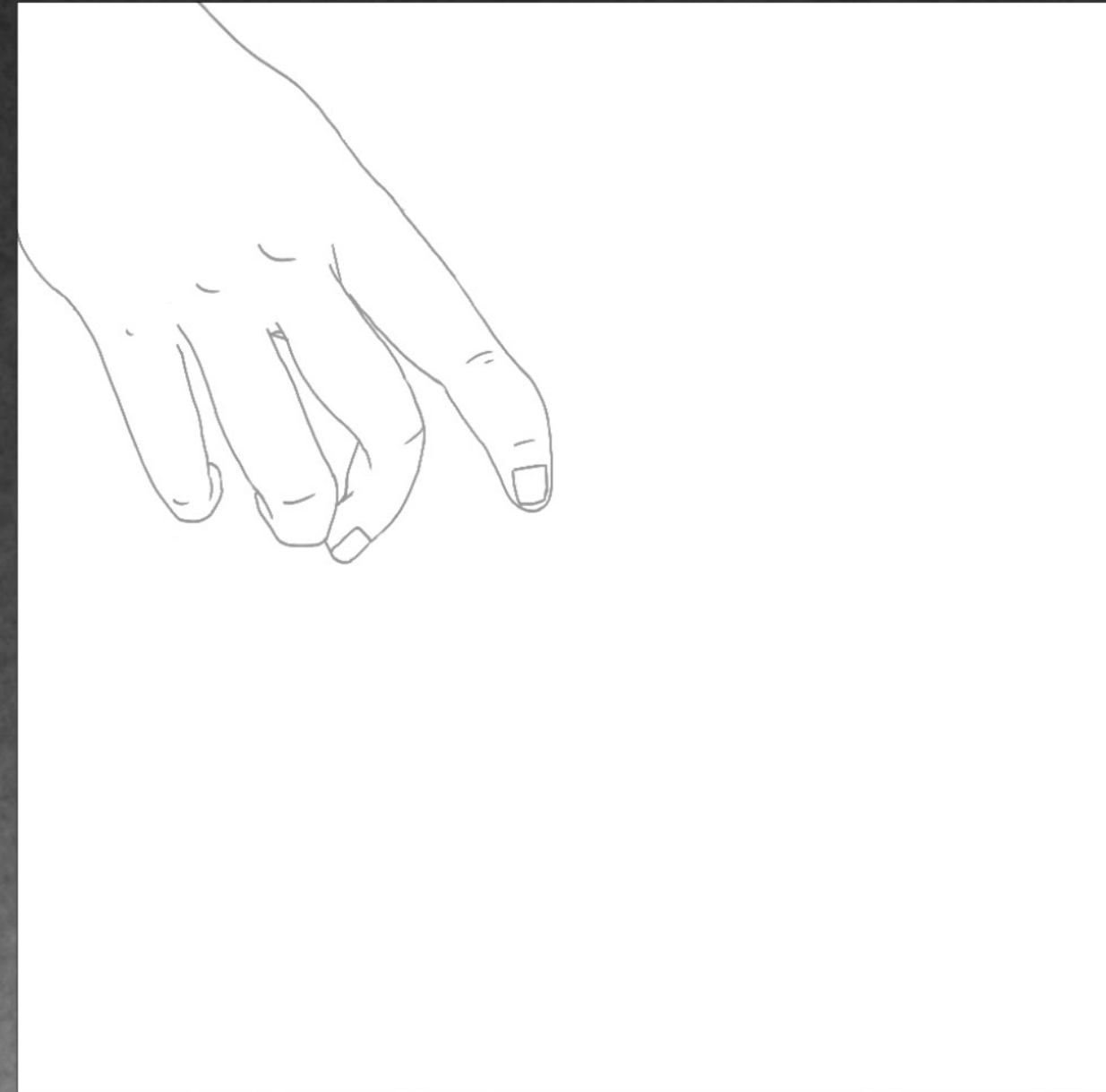
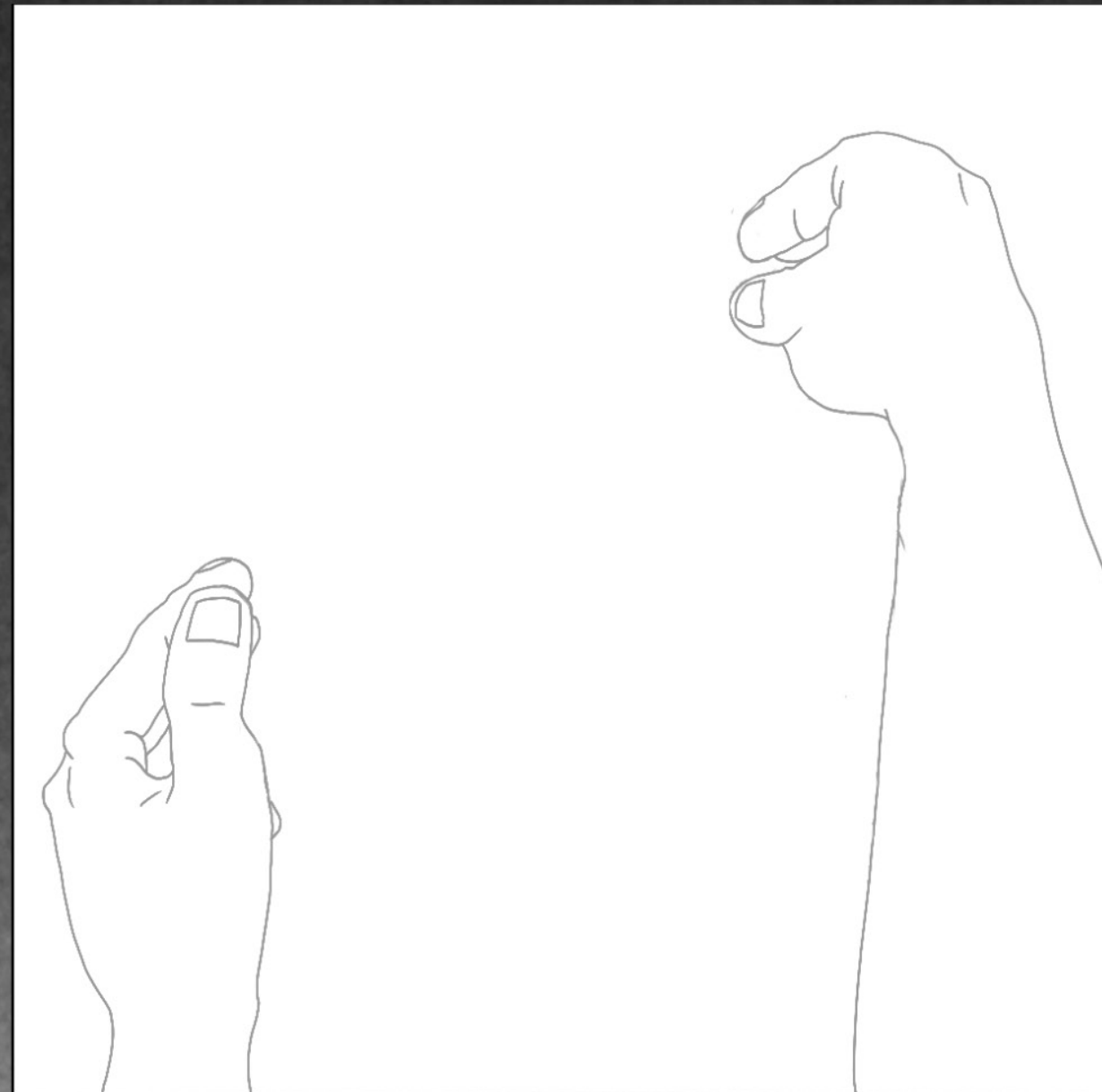
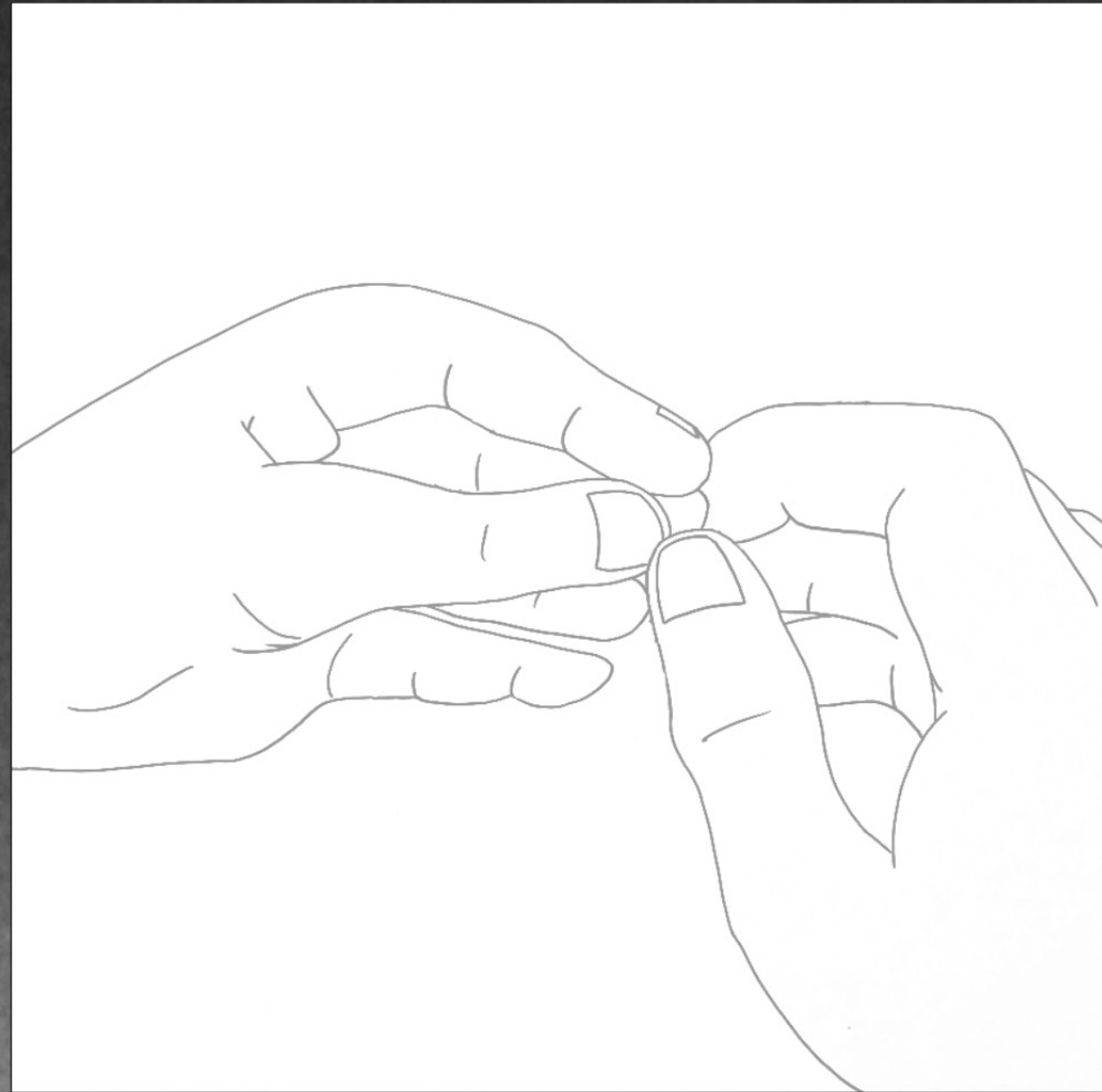
So Part 1 tests abstraction and recognition, and Part 2 tests sequencing and historical legibility.

GUESS THE TOOL

In Part 1, I'm testing whether gestures alone—without tools—can still indicate the degree of abstraction, the technological stage, and the type of writing system behind them.

- Part 1:
1. Does gesture still carry technological memory?
 2. What do you think is the hidden tool beneath the gesture?



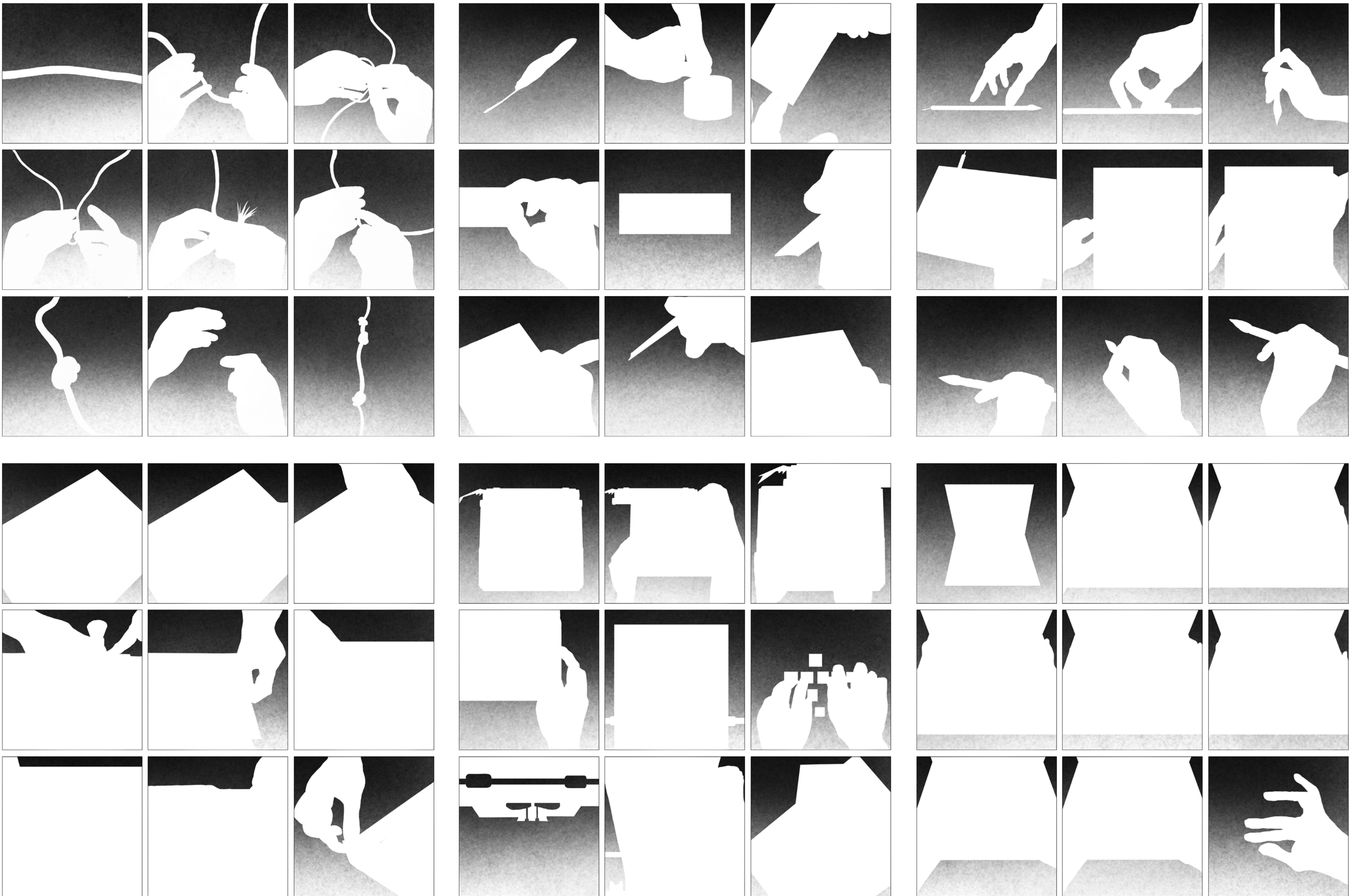


Experiment

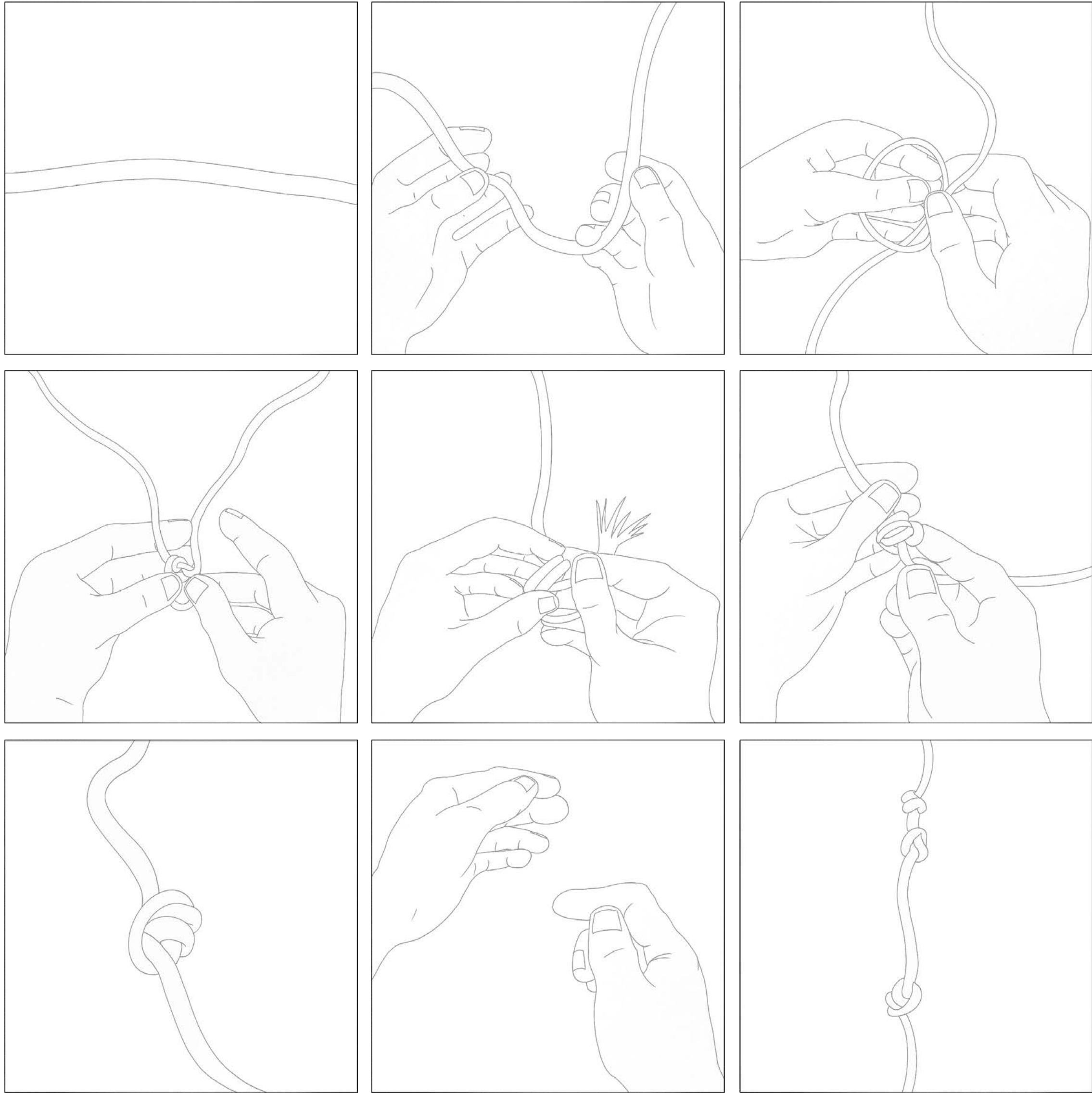
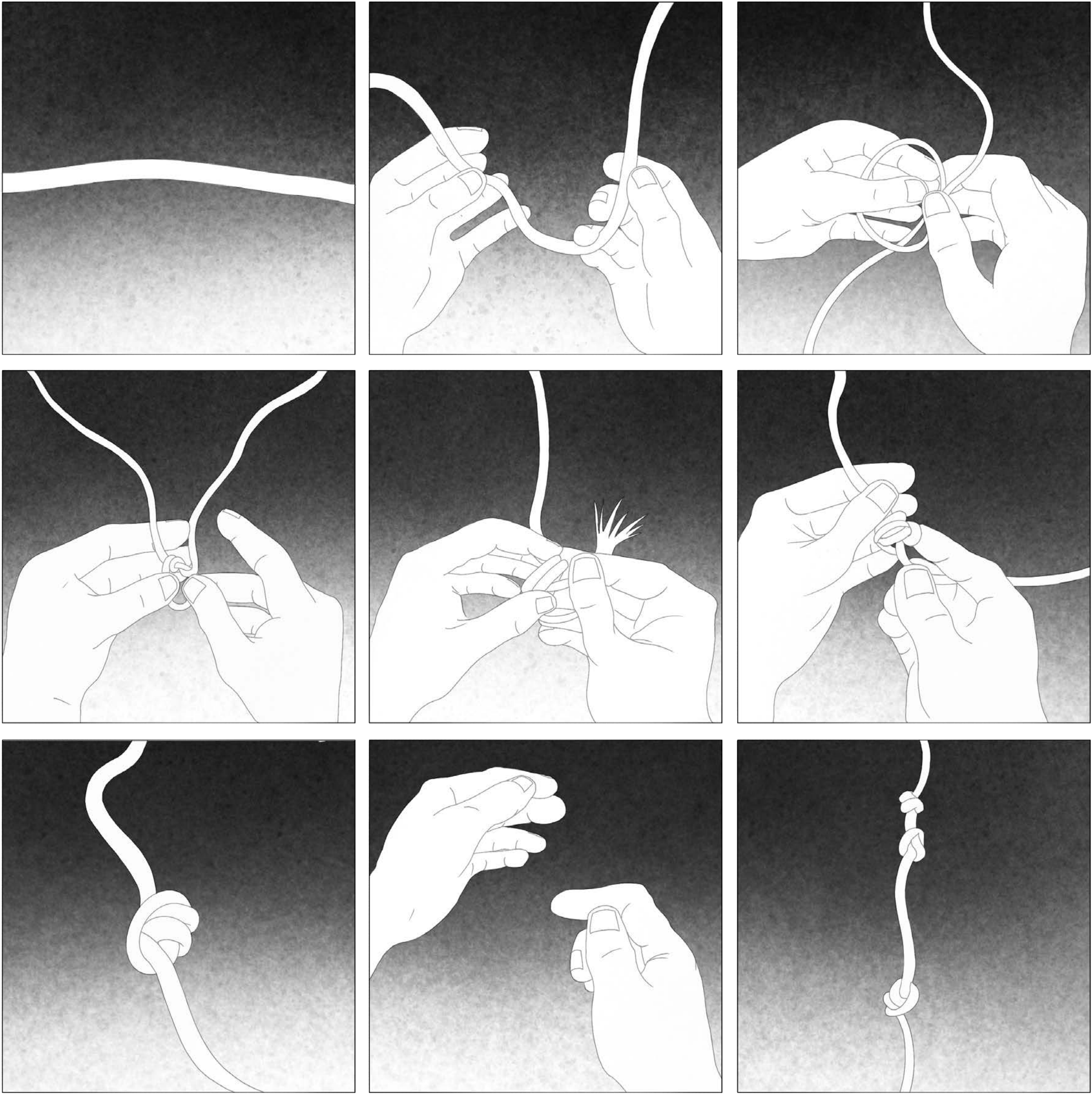
Part2

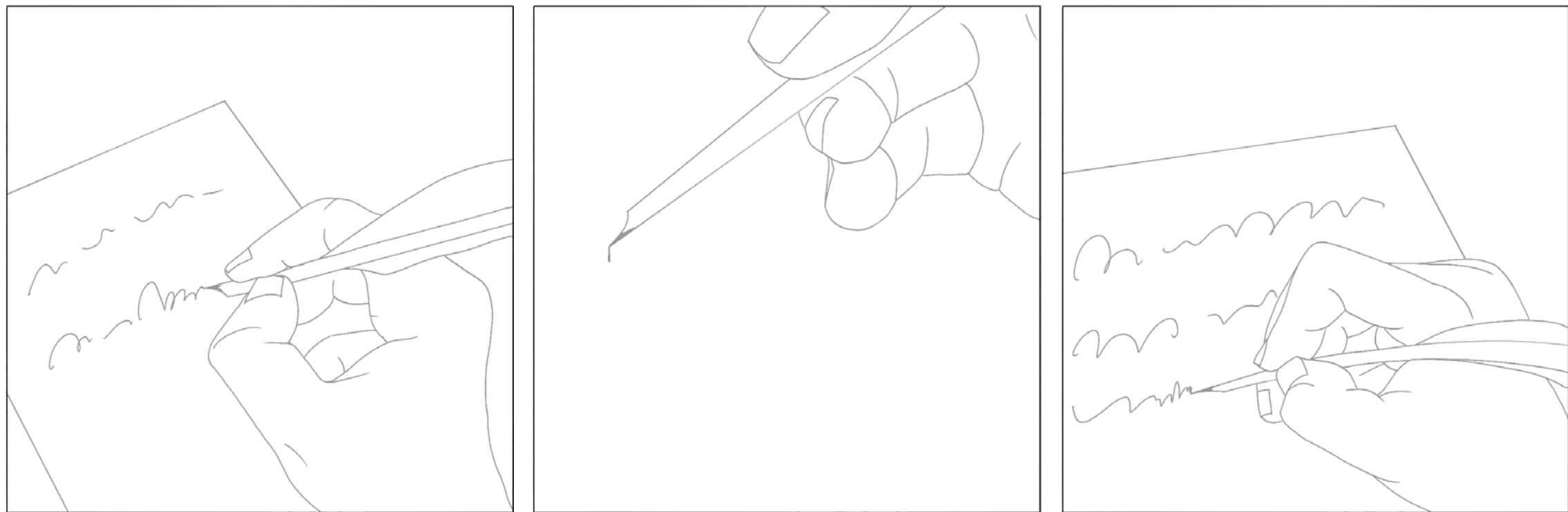
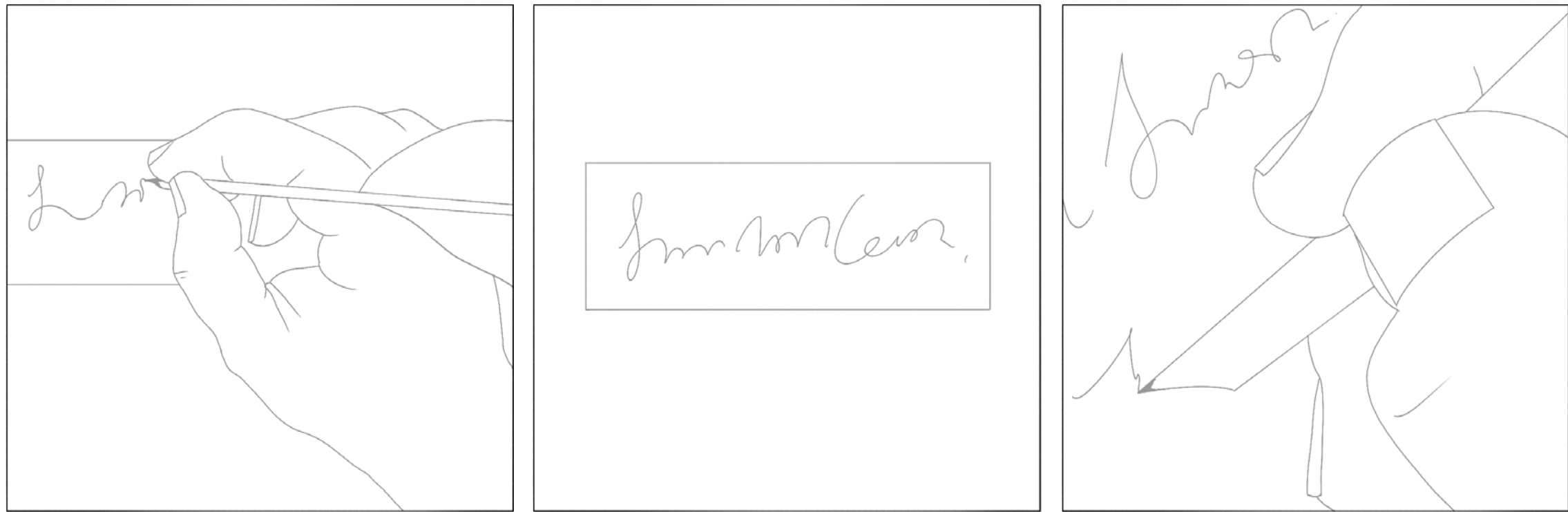
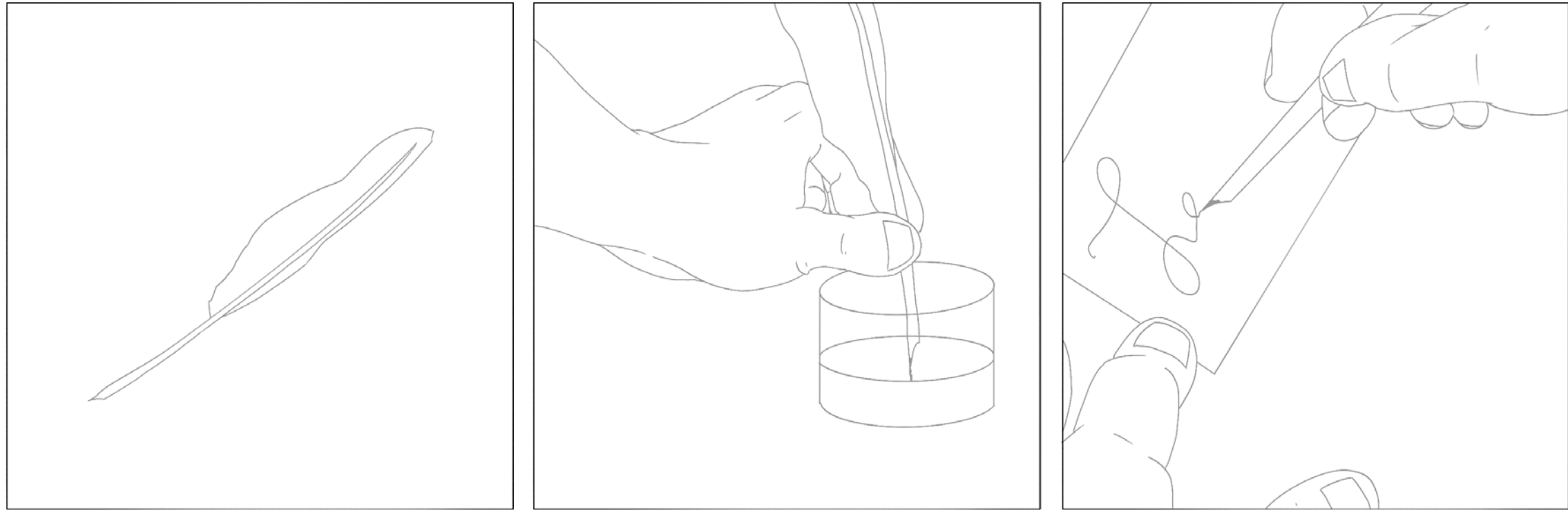
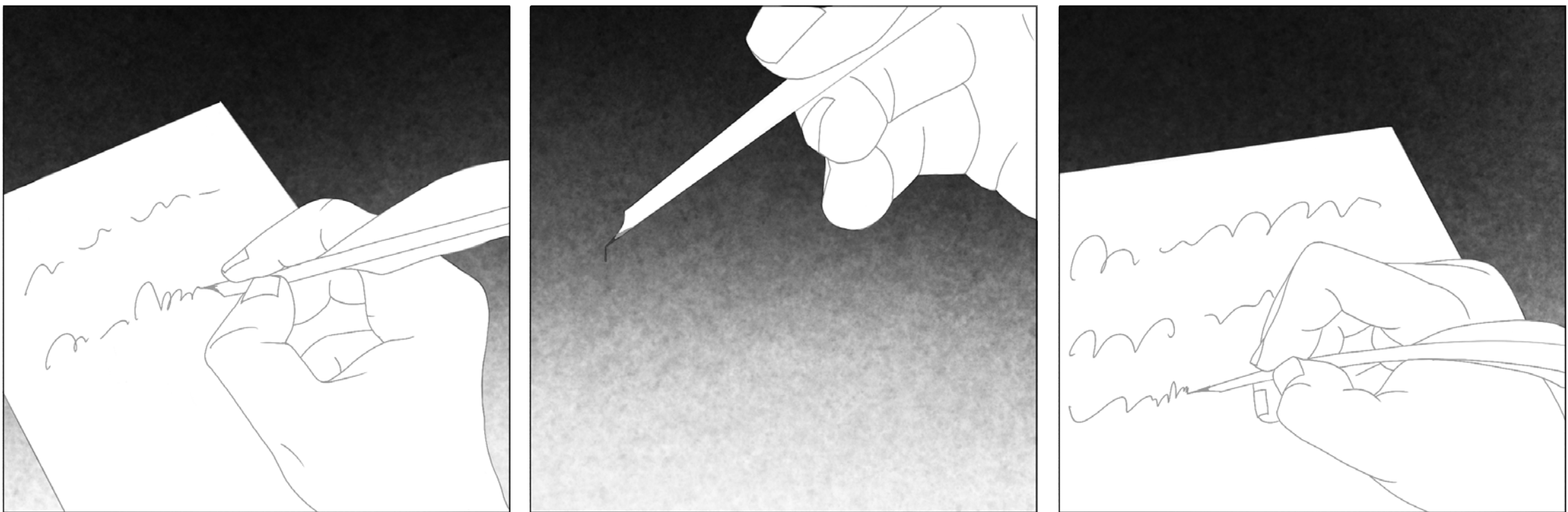
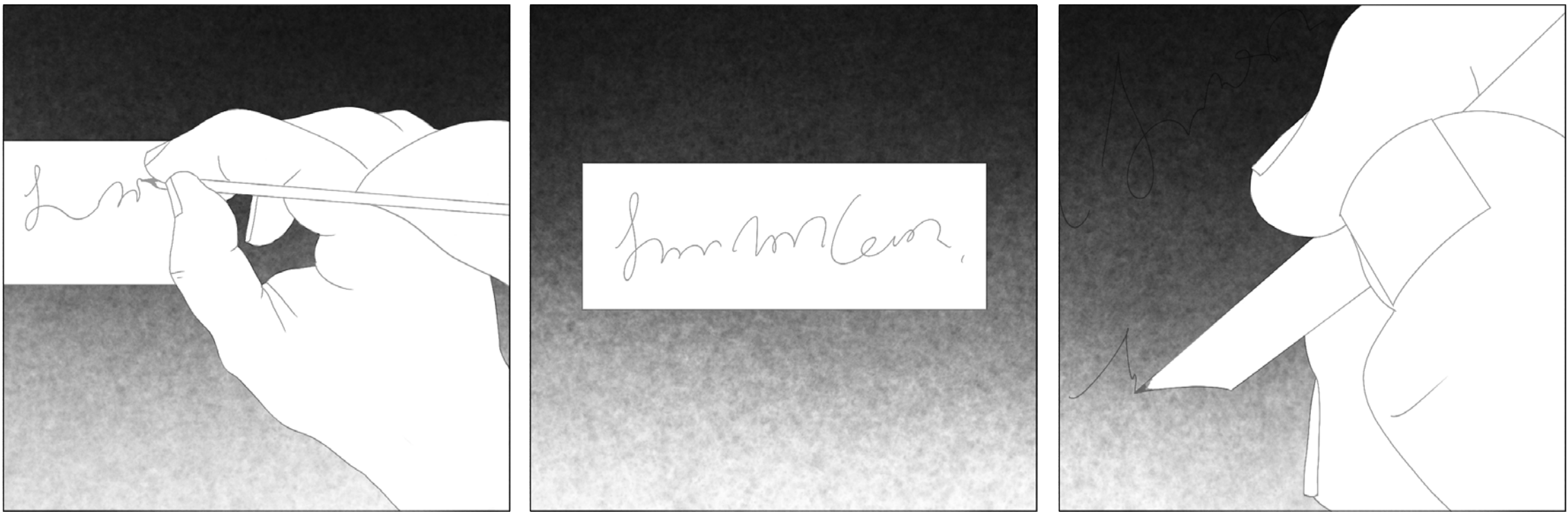
MATCHING TEST

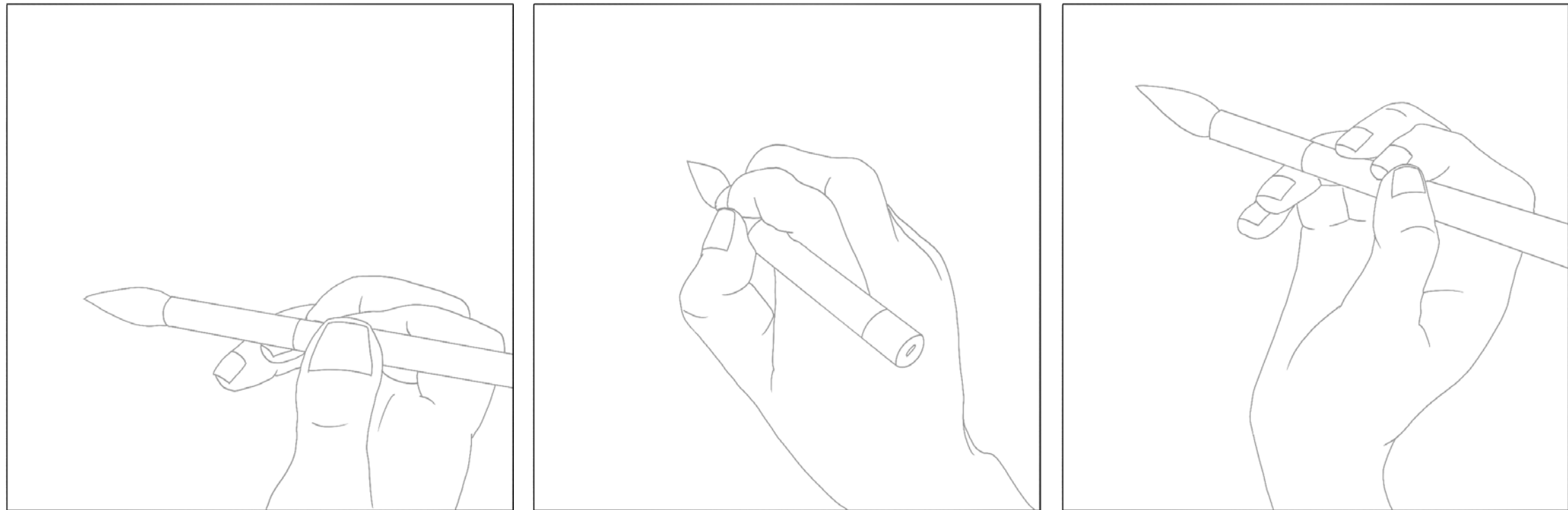
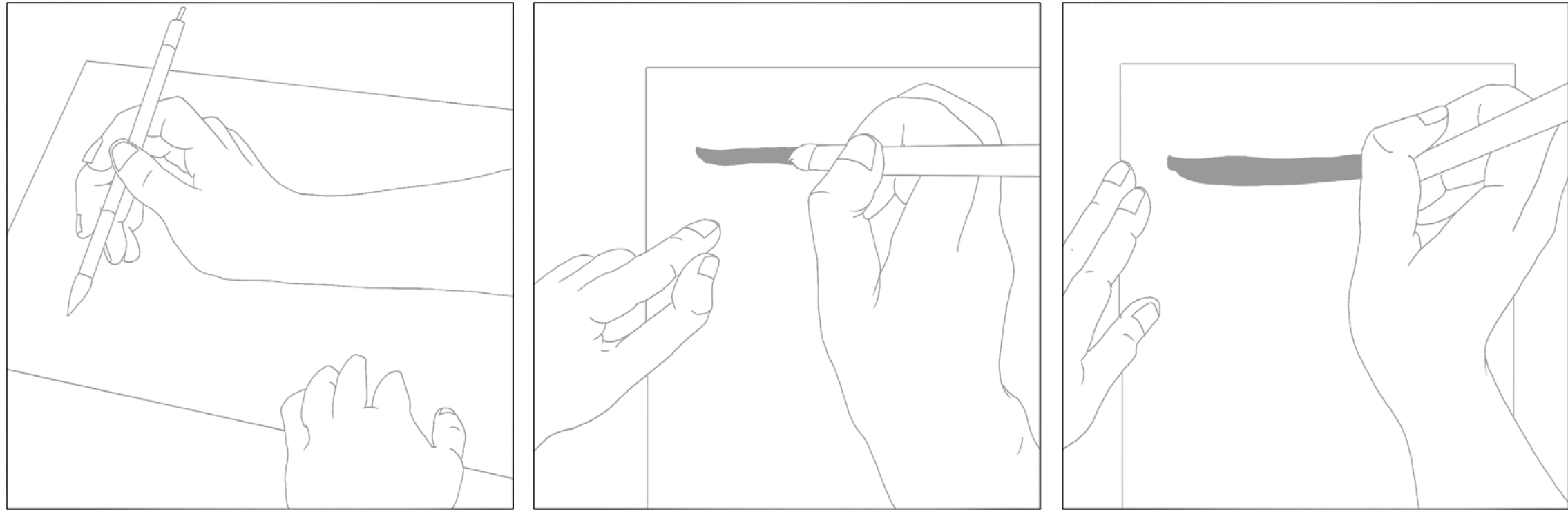
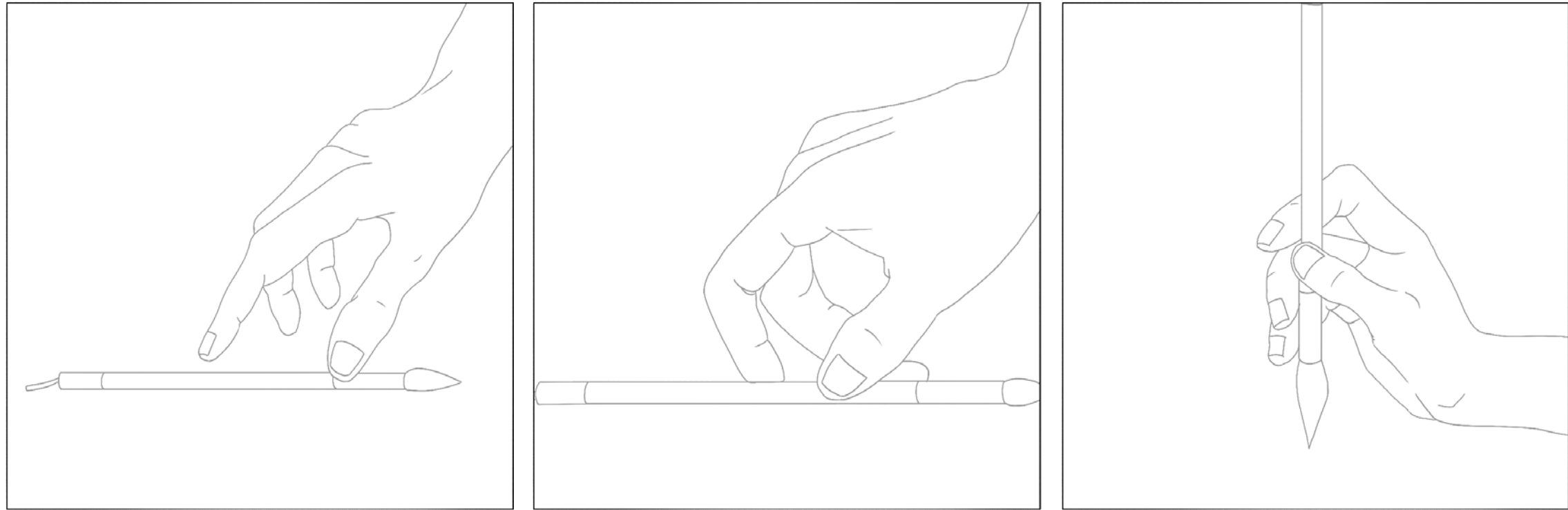
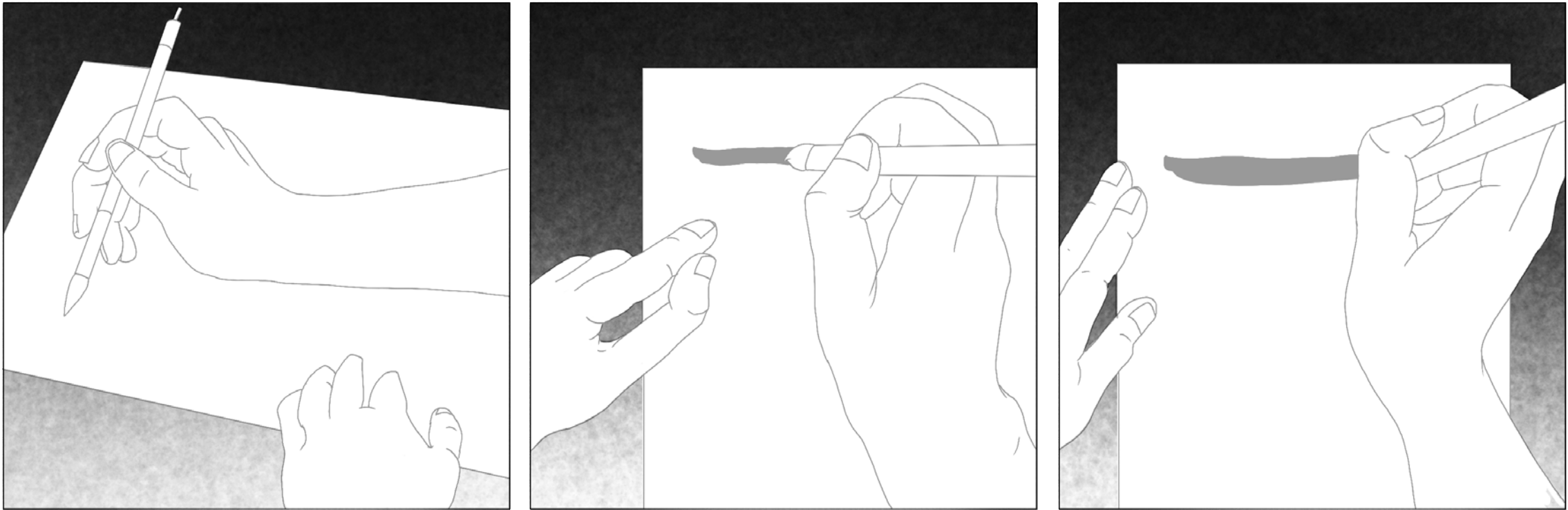
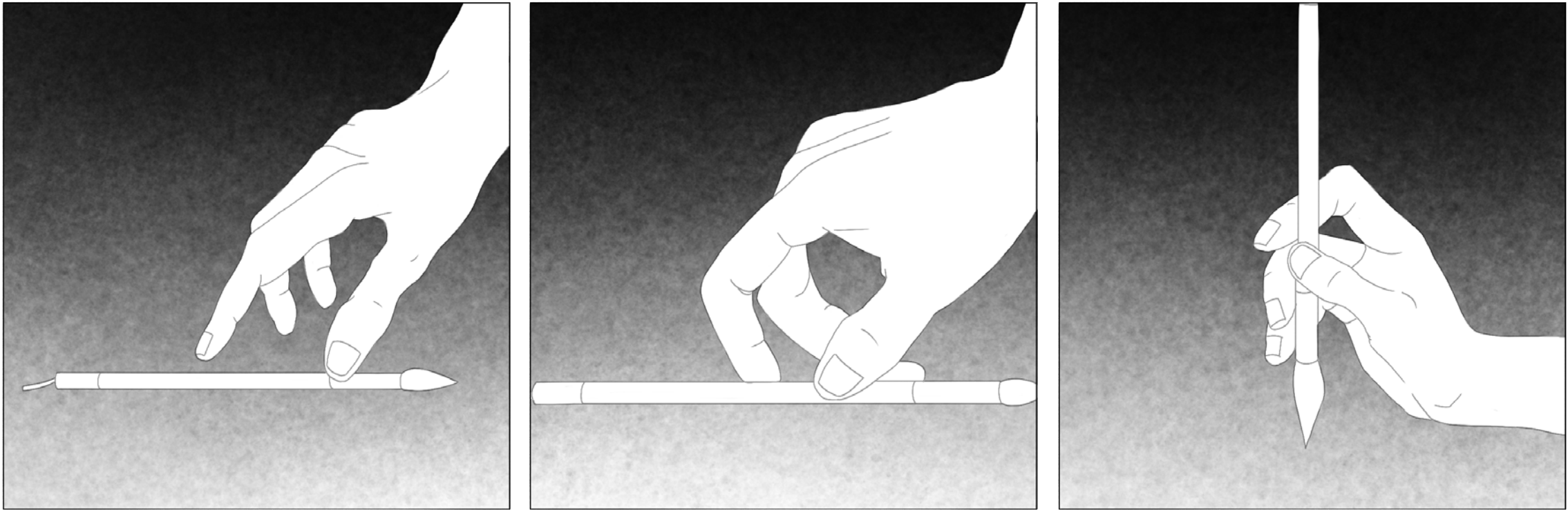
Part 2 tests whether my visual sequencing of gestures and tools communicates a readable transformation of writing systems without textual explanation.



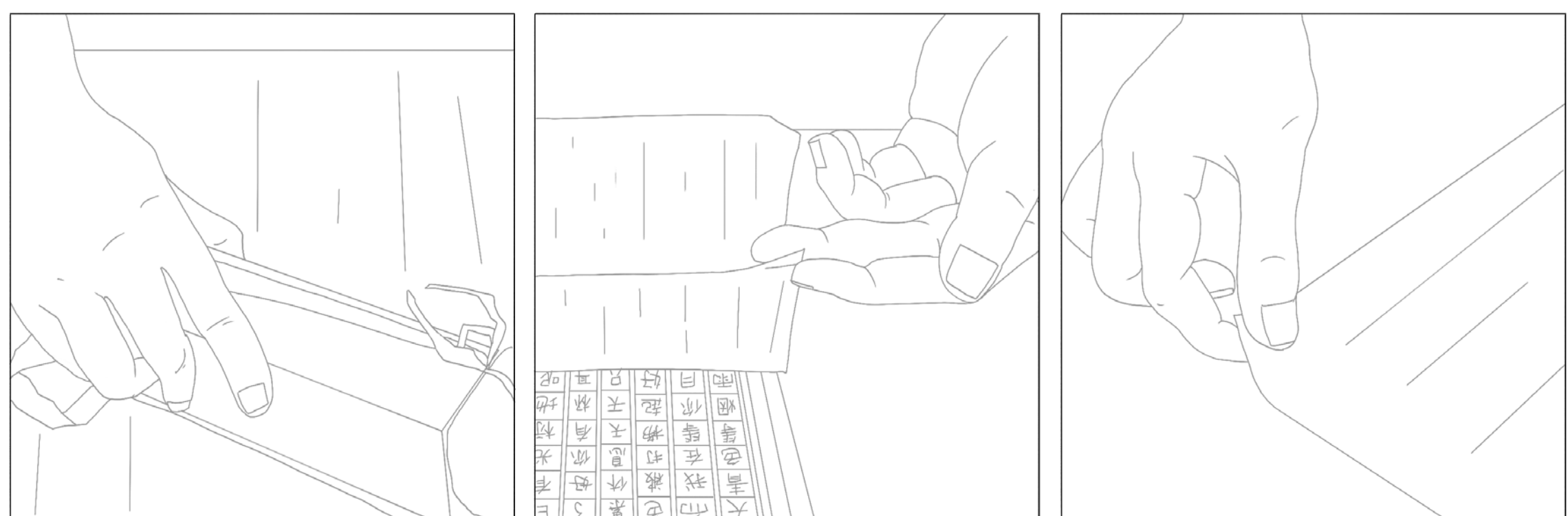
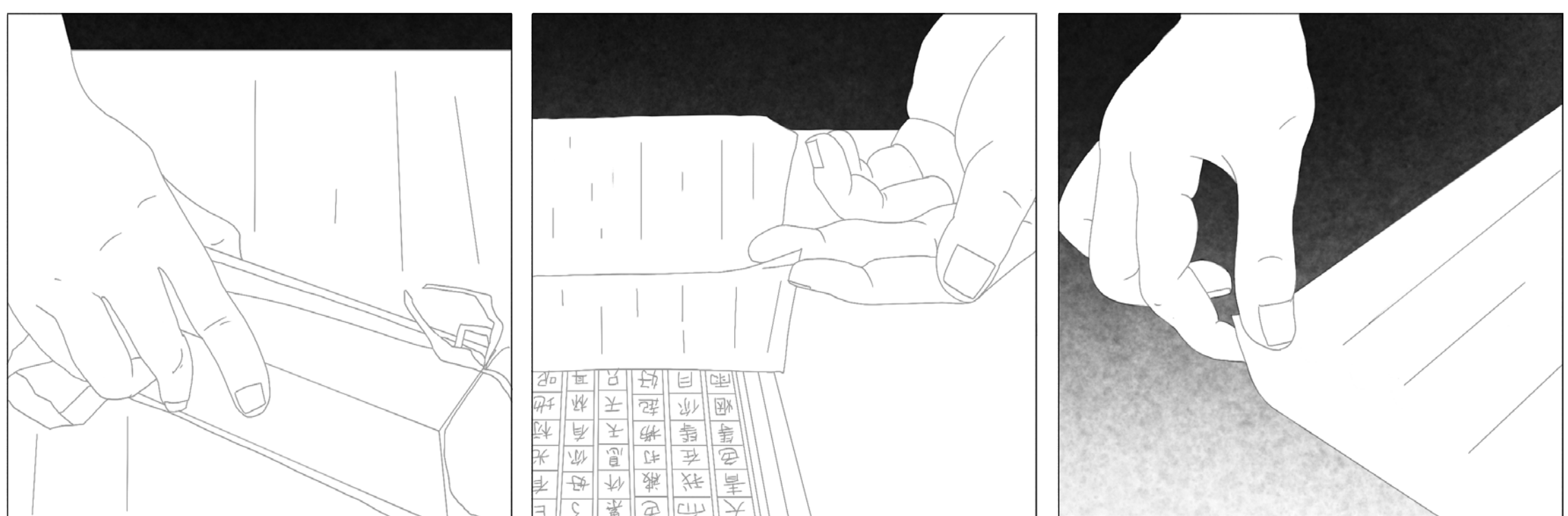
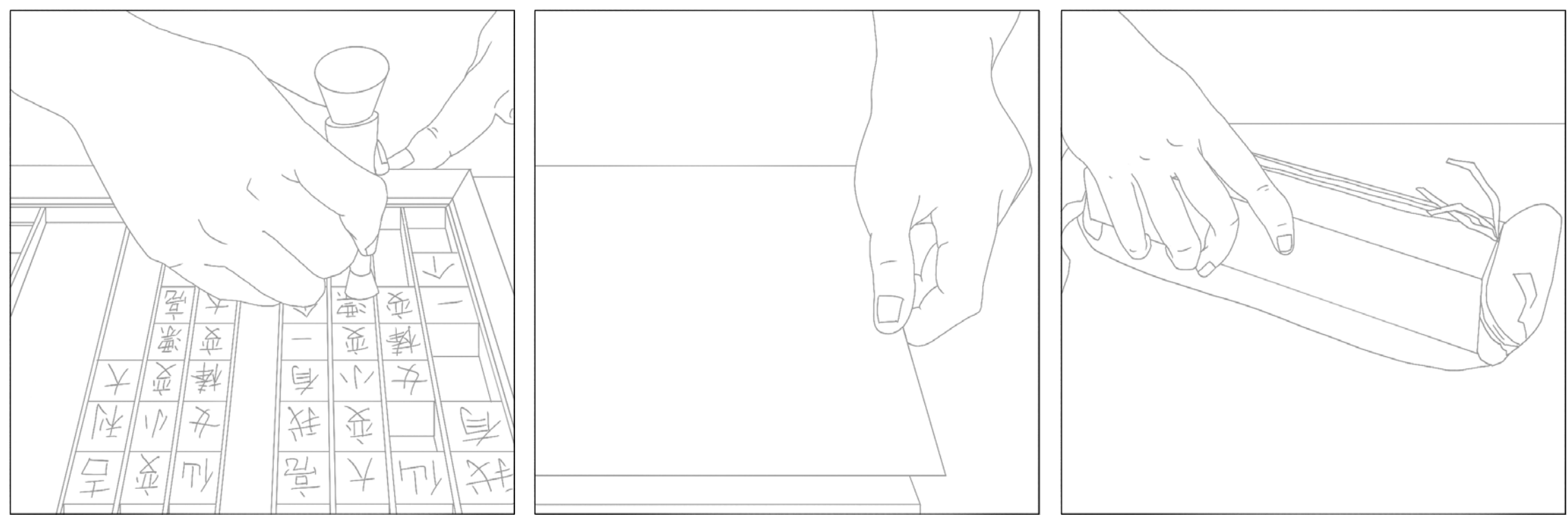
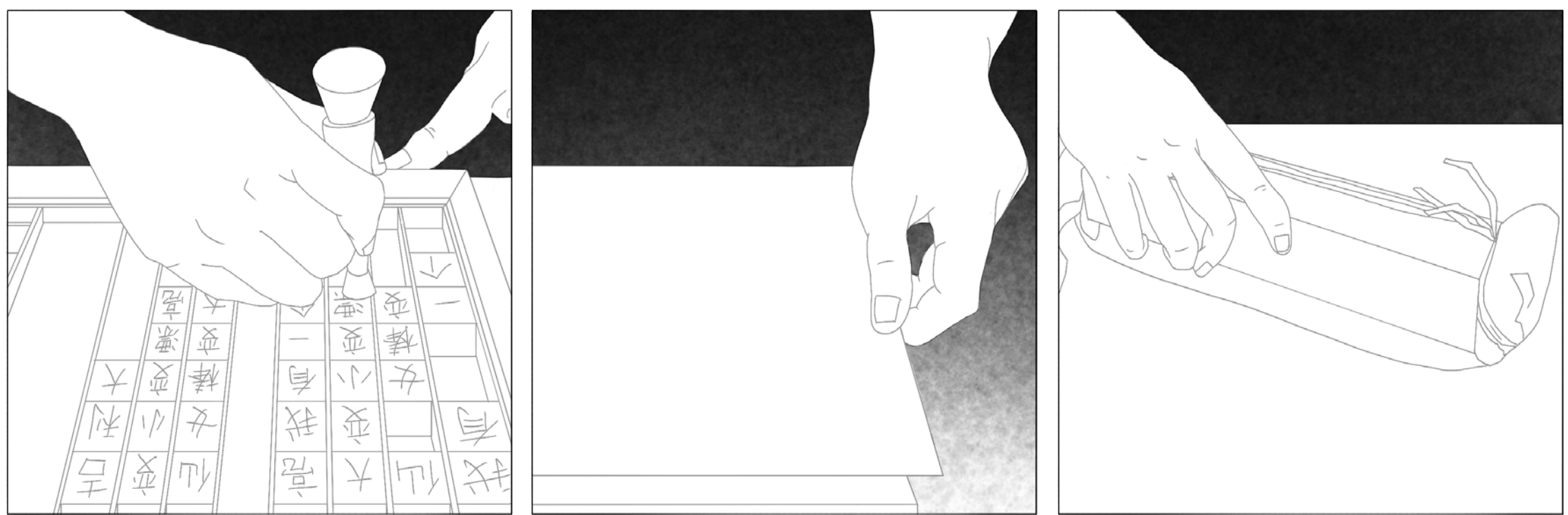
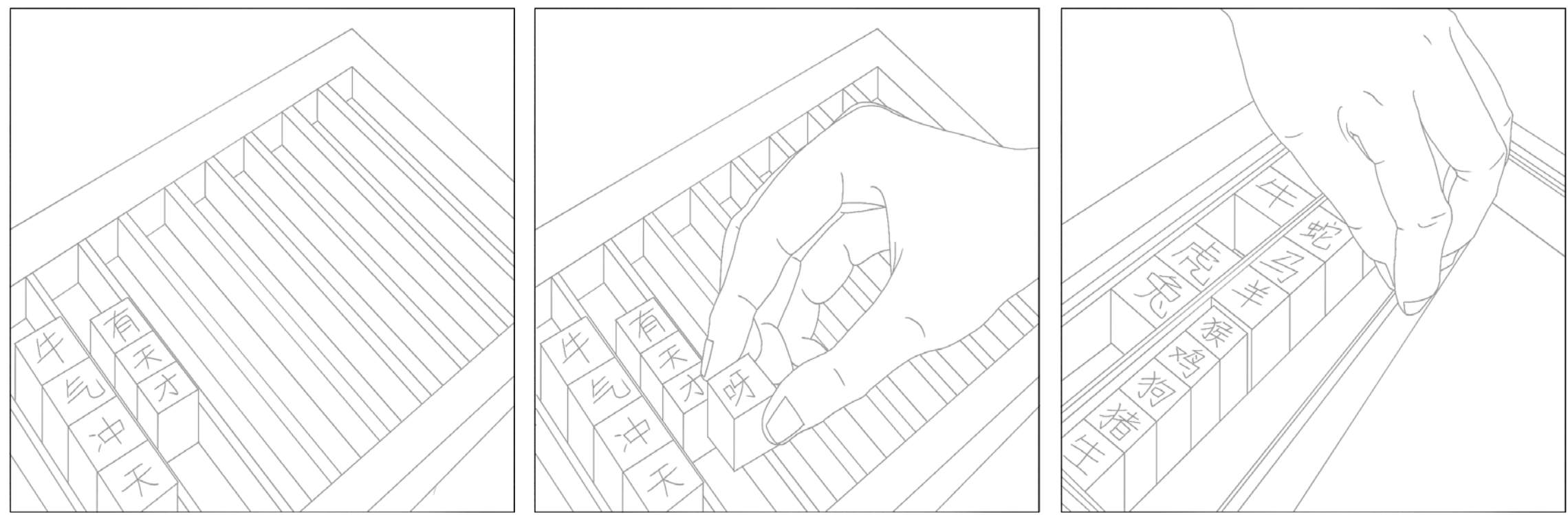
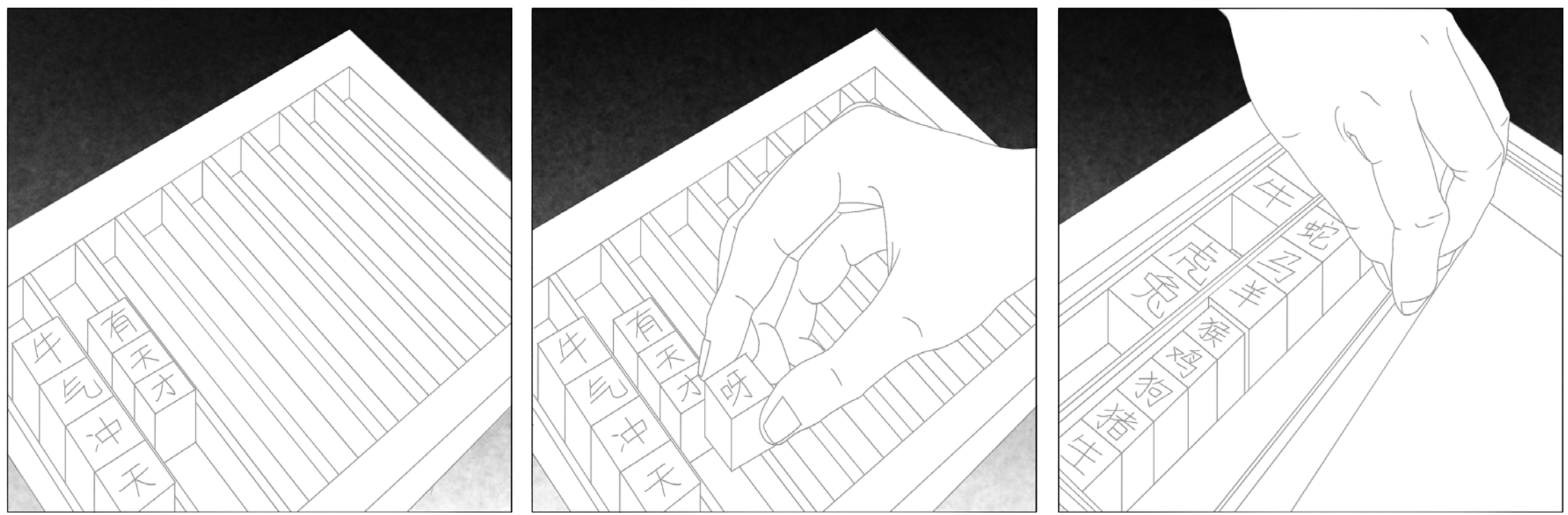
Part 2:
1. Which two groups of gestures/tools “seem” most related?







Movable type printing



Typewriter

