MY AMATEUR RADIO JOURNAL

By W3RON

WELCOME TO THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE

W3RON
AMATEUR RADIO JOURNAL!

OUR MISSION IS TO GUIDE YOU THROUGH THE EXCITING JOURNEY OF BECOMING AN AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR. WHETHER YOU'RE JUST CURIOUS OR READY TO DIVE IN, THIS JOURNAL IS YOUR GO-TO RESOURCE. WE HOPE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH THE INFORMATION, INSPIRATION, AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS YOU NEED TO SUCCEED IN THIS AMAZING HOBBY.

HAPPY READING AND 73!

Getting into the amateur radio hobby can be a rewarding experience. The specific equipment you'll need depends on your interests within the hobby, but here's a basic list to get you started:

1. **Transceiver (Radio):** This is the core piece of equipment that allows you to transmit and receive signals. Consider the frequency bands you're interested in, as different transceivers cover different bands. VHF/UHF (2m/70cm) transceivers are popular for local communication, while HF transceivers allow for longer-distance communication.

2. **Antenna:** The choice of antenna depends on the frequency bands you want to operate on and your living situation. A basic dipole antenna is a good starting point for many beginners, but other types such as vertical antennas or Yagi antennas might be appropriate depending on your needs.

3. **Power Supply:** You'll need a power supply to provide the necessary electrical power to your transceiver. Make sure it matches the power requirements of your transceiver.

4. **Coaxial Cable:** To connect your transceiver to the antenna, you'll need coaxial cable. The type and length depend on your setup.

5. **SWR Meter (Standing Wave Ratio Meter):** This tool helps you tune your antenna for optimal performance by measuring the SWR of your transmission line.

6. **Antenna Tuner (Optional):** An antenna tuner can help match the impedance of your antenna system to that of your transceiver, allowing for better performance.

7. **Headphones or External Speaker:** For comfortable listening during extended operating sessions.

8. **Microphone and/or Key (for Morse Code):** Depending on your preferred mode of communication, you'll need a microphone for voice communication or a key for Morse Code.

9. **Grounding Equipment:** A good grounding system is important for safety and can help protect your equipment from lightning strikes.

10. **License and Study Material:** Before you start transmitting, you'll need to obtain an amateur radio license. Study materials are available to help you prepare for the exam.

11. **Logbook:** Keep a logbook to record your contacts, frequencies, and other relevant information.

12. **Computer or Logging Software:** While not necessary, logging software can make it easier to keep track of your contacts and log important information.

Remember that the specific equipment you need may vary based on your interests and the type of communication you want to engage in. It's also a good idea to connect with local amateur radio clubs or communities for advice and support as you get started.

Amateur Radio Equipment Inventory

Owner/Operator: _____   Date: _____

Transceiver Information

Transceiver Model: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Purchase Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Antenna Information

Antenna Type: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Purchase Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Power Supply

Power Supply Model: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Purchase Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

SWR Meter

SWR Meter Model: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Purchase Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Antenna Tuner (if applicable)

Tuner Model: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Purchase Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Accessories

Microphone: _____
Key (for Morse Code): _____
Headphones/Speaker: _____
Other Accessories: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Computer/Logging Software

Computer Model: _____
Logging Software: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Grounding Equipment

Grounding System Type: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Installation Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Amateur Radio Equipment Inventory

Owner/Operator: _____   Date: _____

Transceiver Information

Transceiver Model: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Purchase Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Antenna Information

Antenna Type: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Purchase Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Power Supply

Power Supply Model: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Purchase Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

SWR Meter

SWR Meter Model: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Purchase Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Antenna Tuner (if applicable)

Tuner Model: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Purchase Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Accessories

Microphone: _____
Key (for Morse Code): _____
Headphones/Speaker: _____
Other Accessories: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Computer/Logging Software

Computer Model: _____
Logging Software: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Grounding Equipment

Grounding System Type: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
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Amateur Radio Equipment Inventory

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Key (for Morse Code): _____
Headphones/Speaker: _____
Other Accessories: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Computer/Logging Software

Computer Model: _____
Logging Software: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Grounding Equipment

Grounding System Type: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Installation Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Amateur Radio Equipment Inventory

Owner/Operator: _____   Date: _____

Transceiver Information

Transceiver Model: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Purchase Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Antenna Information

Antenna Type: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Purchase Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Power Supply

Power Supply Model: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Purchase Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

SWR Meter

SWR Meter Model: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Purchase Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Antenna Tuner (if applicable)

Tuner Model: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Purchase Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Accessories

Microphone: _____
Key (for Morse Code): _____
Headphones/Speaker: _____
Other Accessories: _____
Notes/Comments: _____
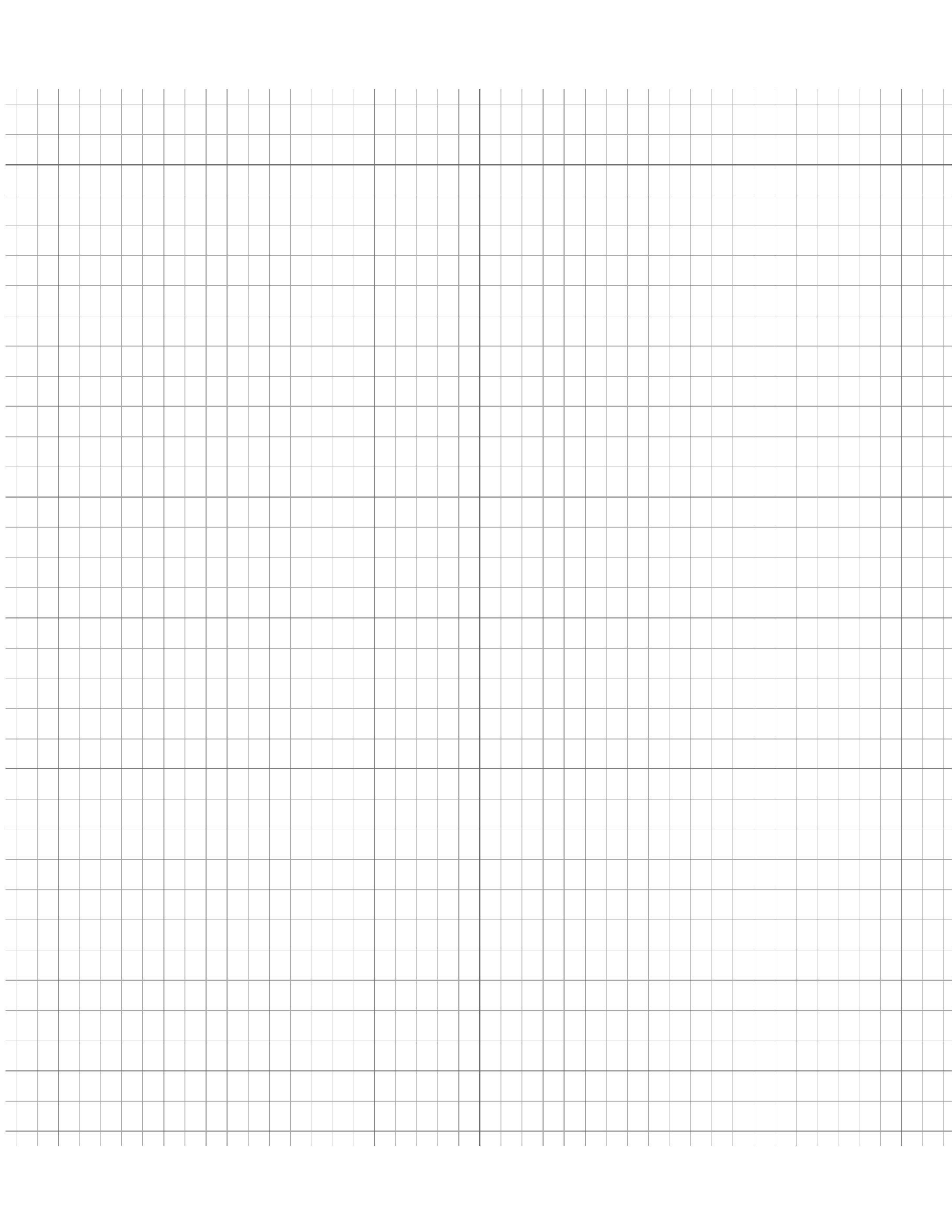
Computer/Logging Software

Computer Model: _____
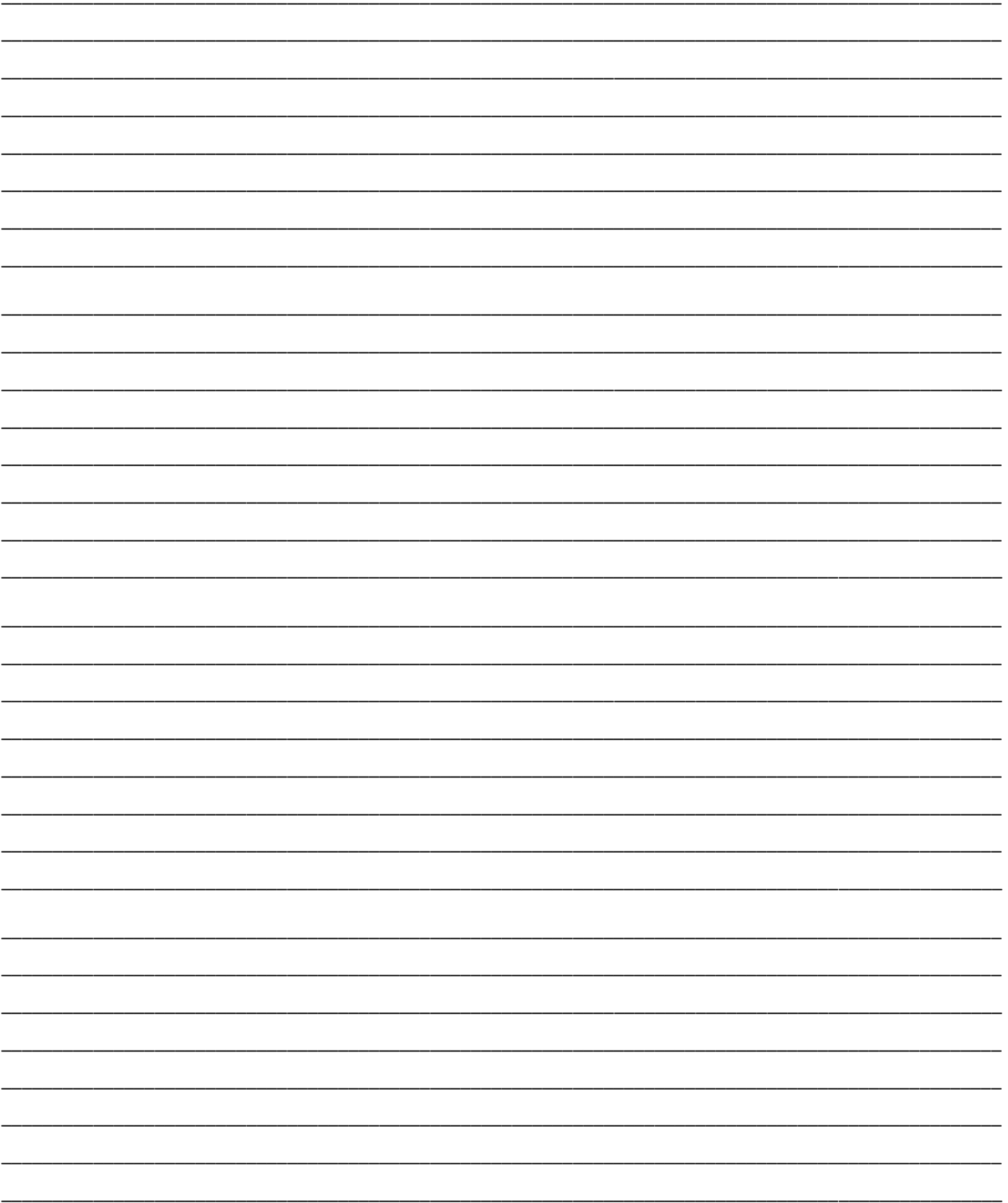Logging Software: _____
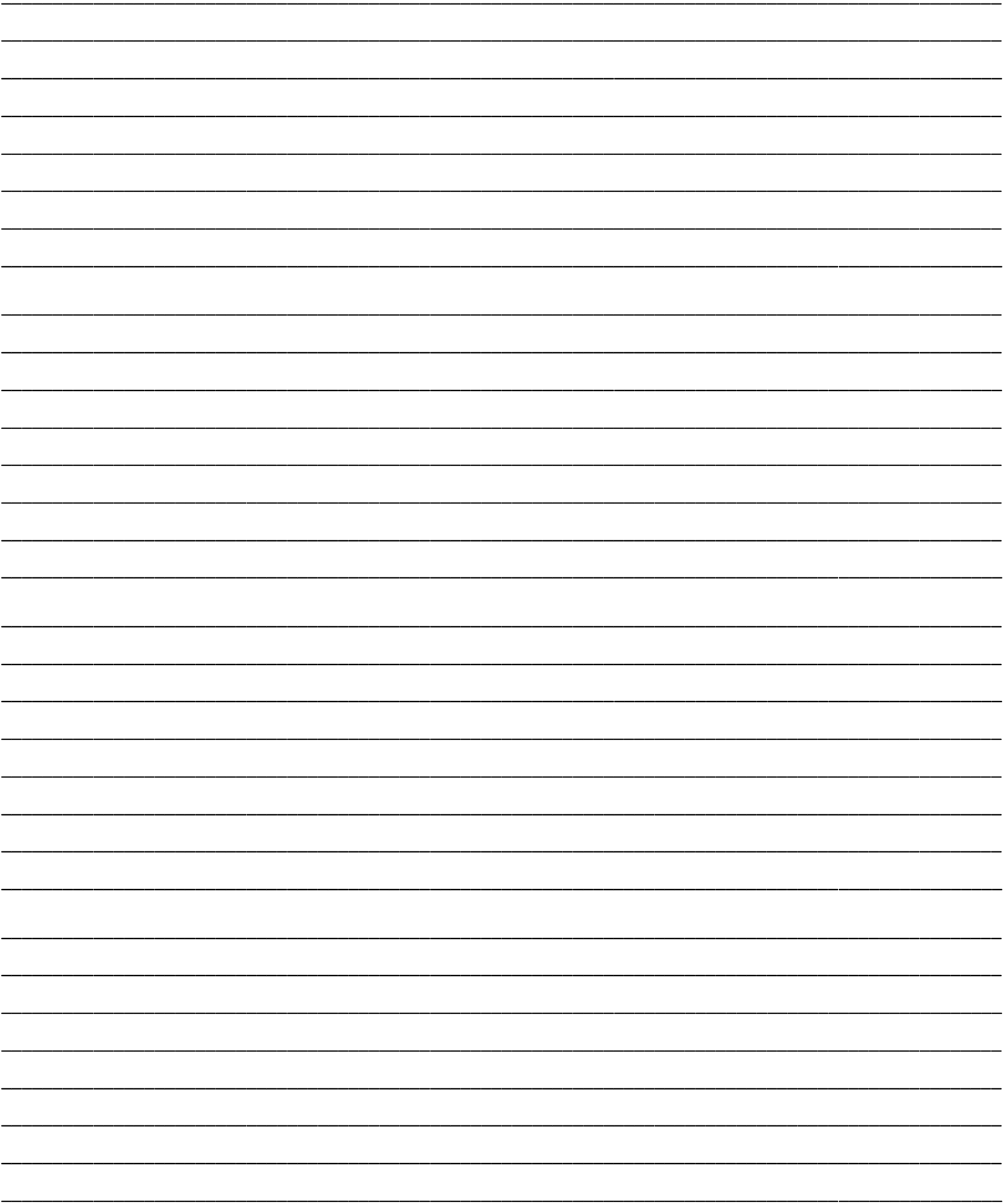Notes/Comments: _____

Grounding Equipment

Grounding System Type: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
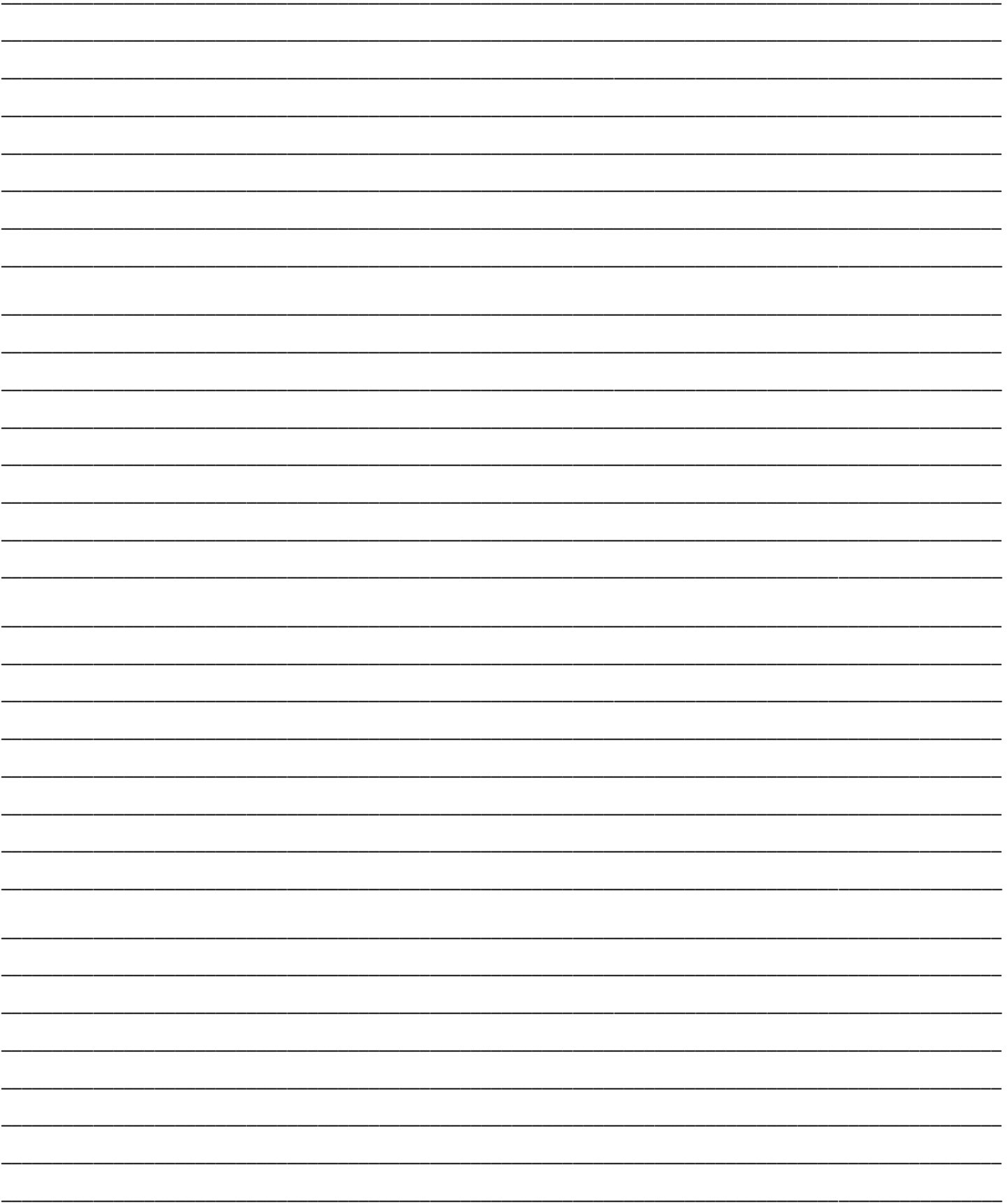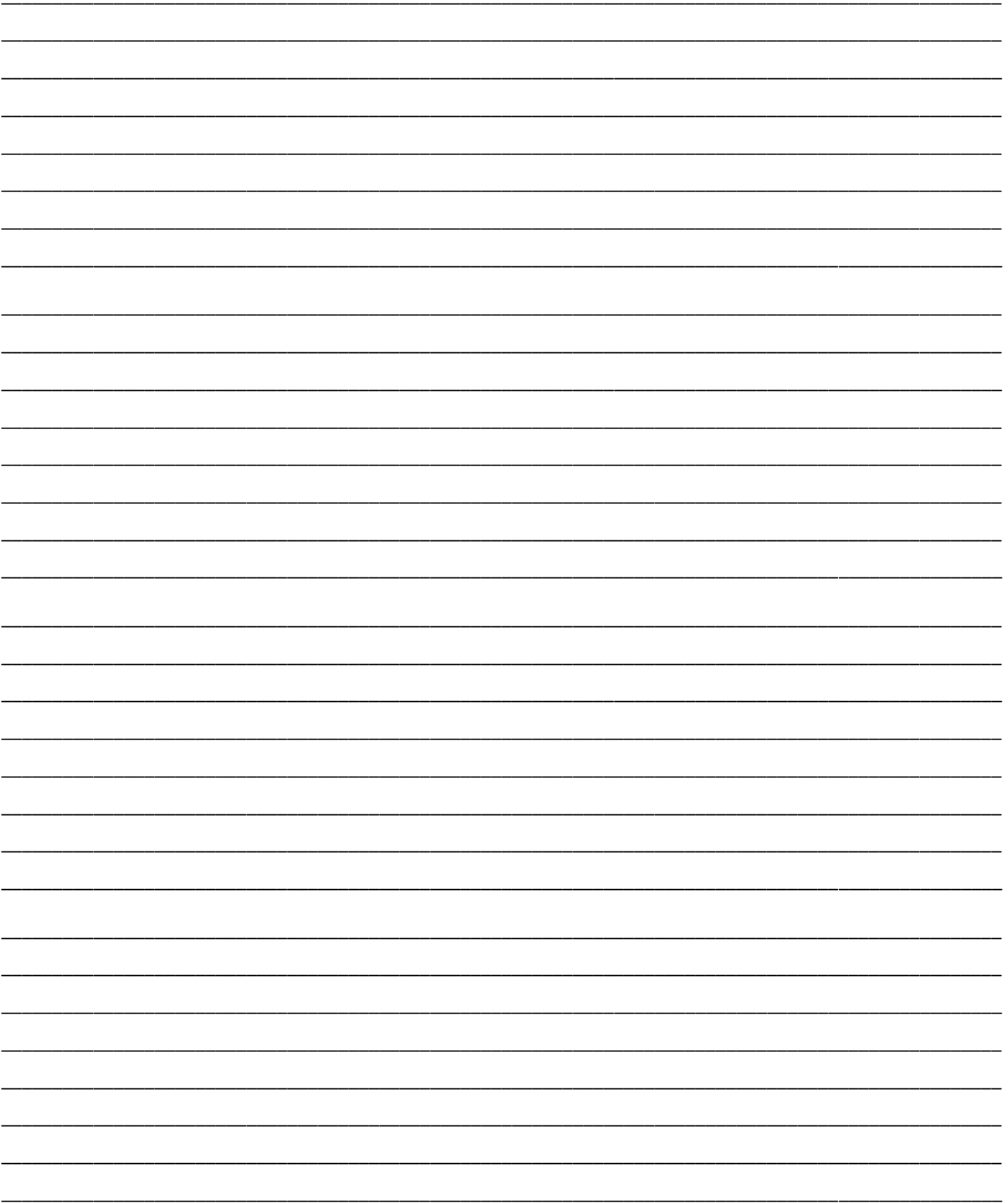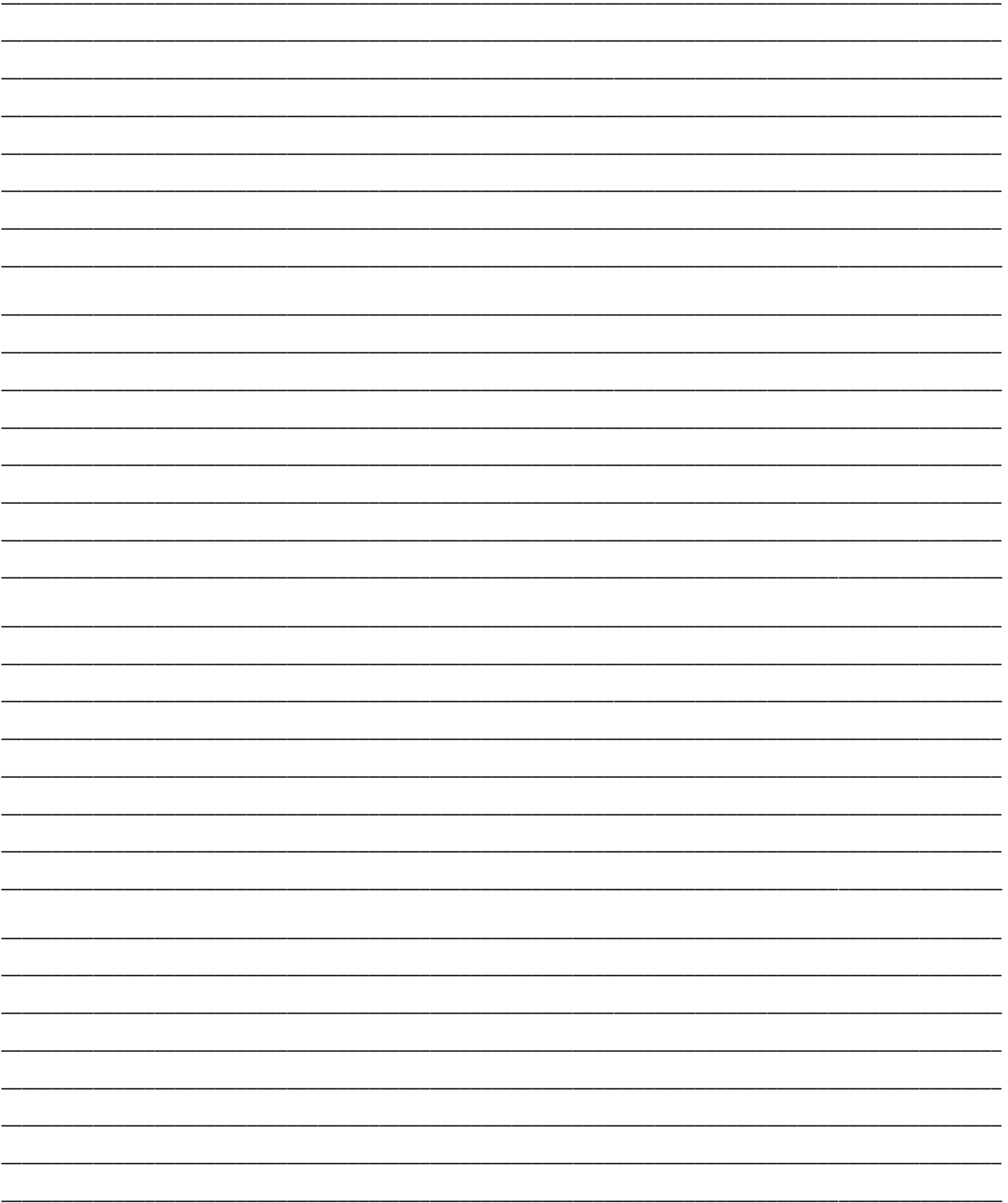Installation Date: _____
Notes/Comments: _____

Additional Notes/Comments

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_____

If you are a seasoned operator or just getting started you might be interested in contesting, of just logging your contacts, with that in mind we included an example of a simple log book for you to get started. You, like many others, will stick with a pencil and paper log book although there are numerous free computer based log book that you may choose to download and use in your shack if you desire.

STATION CALLSIGN: _____

Log Sheet

DATE	UTC		FREQ	MODE	POWER	CALLSIGN	QTH	RST		COMMENTS
	ON	OFF						SENT	RCVD	

Mode: AM, FM, LSB, USB, CW, HF etc…

STATION CALLSIGN: _____ **Log Sheet**

DATE	UTC		FREQ	MODE	POWER	CALLSIGN	QTH	RST		COMMENTS
	ON	OFF						SENT	RCVD	

Mode: AM, FM, LSB, USB, CW, HF etc…

Additional Notes/Comments

_____

_____

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_____

_____

STATION CALLSIGN: _____

Log Sheet

| DATE | UTC | | FREQ | MODE | POWER | CALLSIGN | QTH | RST | | COMMENTS |
	ON	OFF						SENT	RCVD	

Mode: AM, FM, LSB, USB, CW, HF etc…

Additional Notes/Comments

_____

_____

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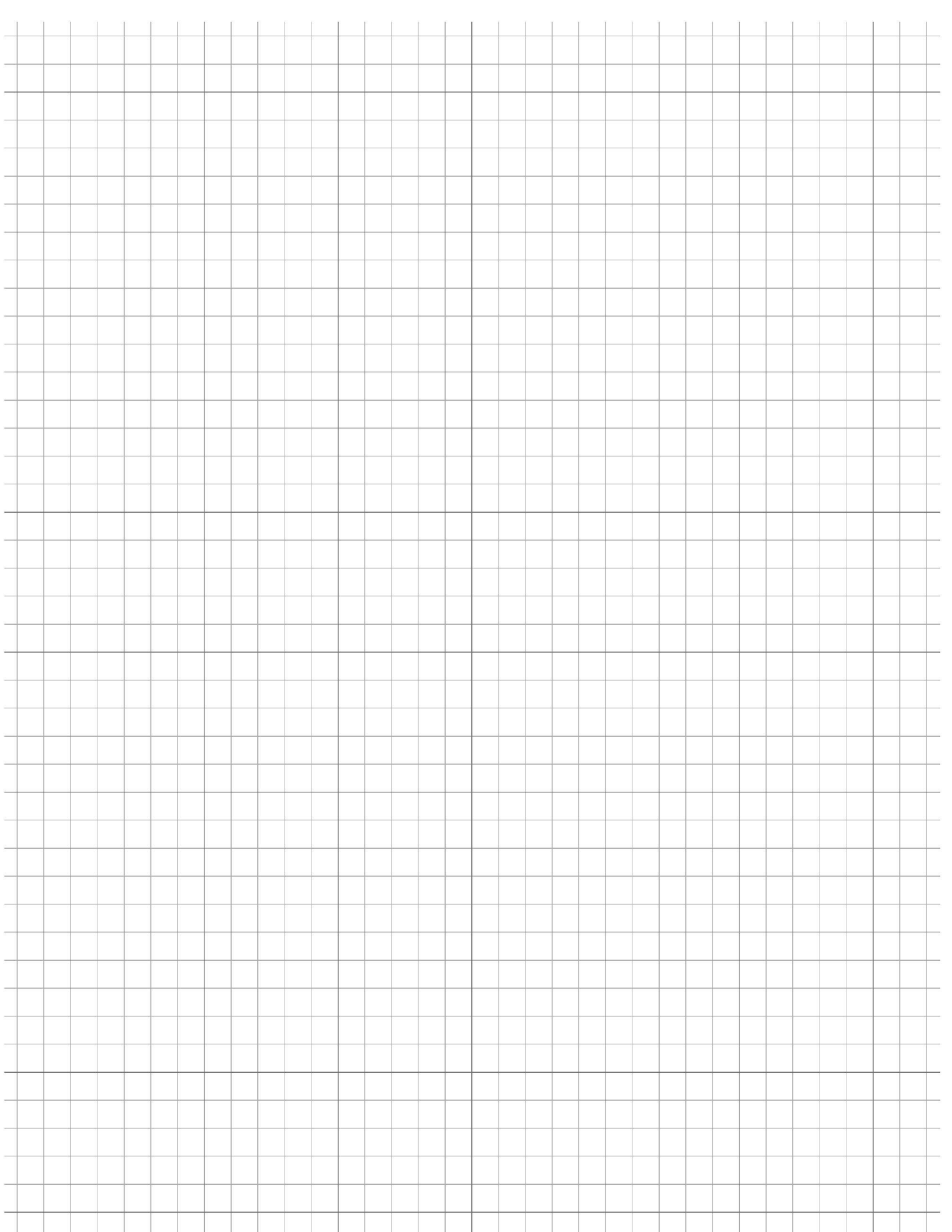_____

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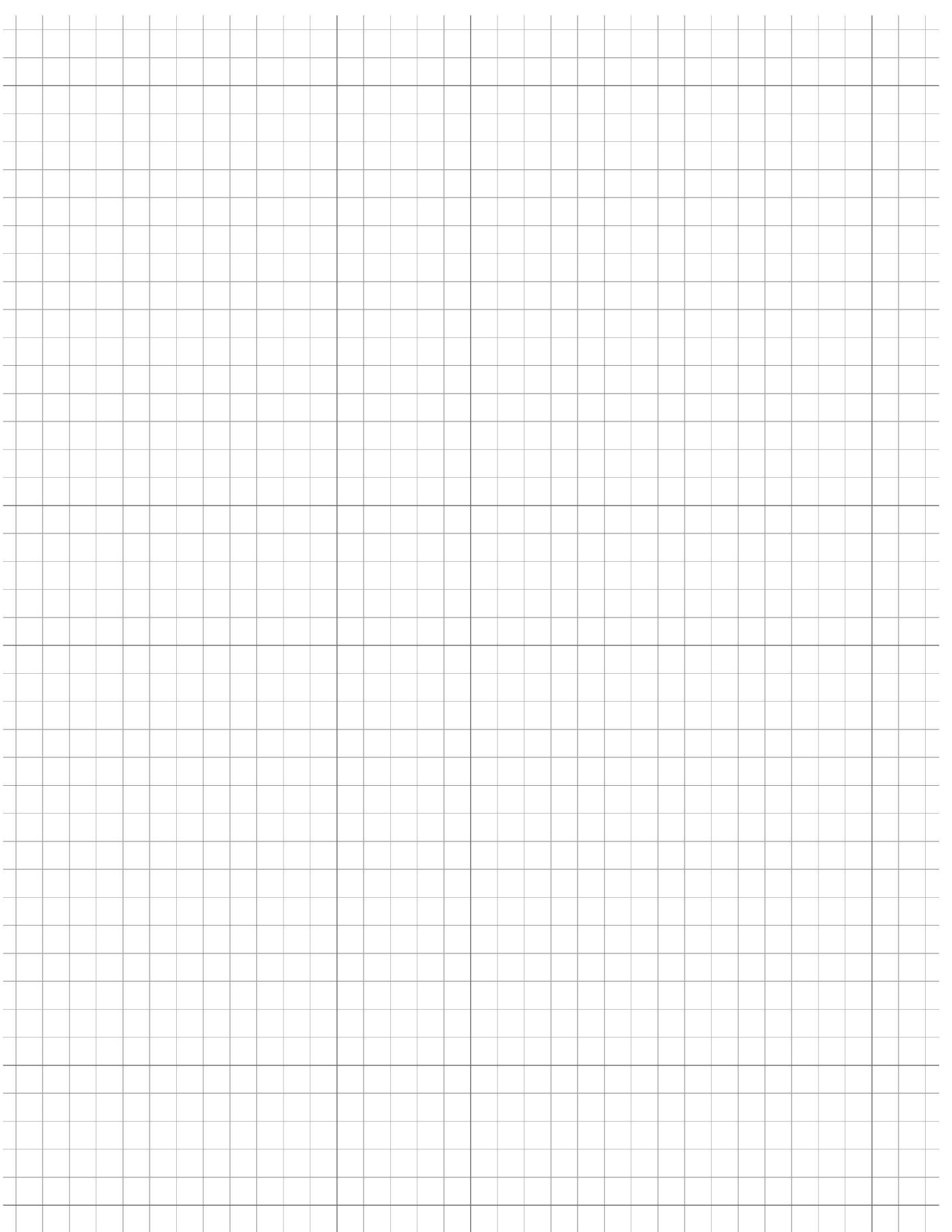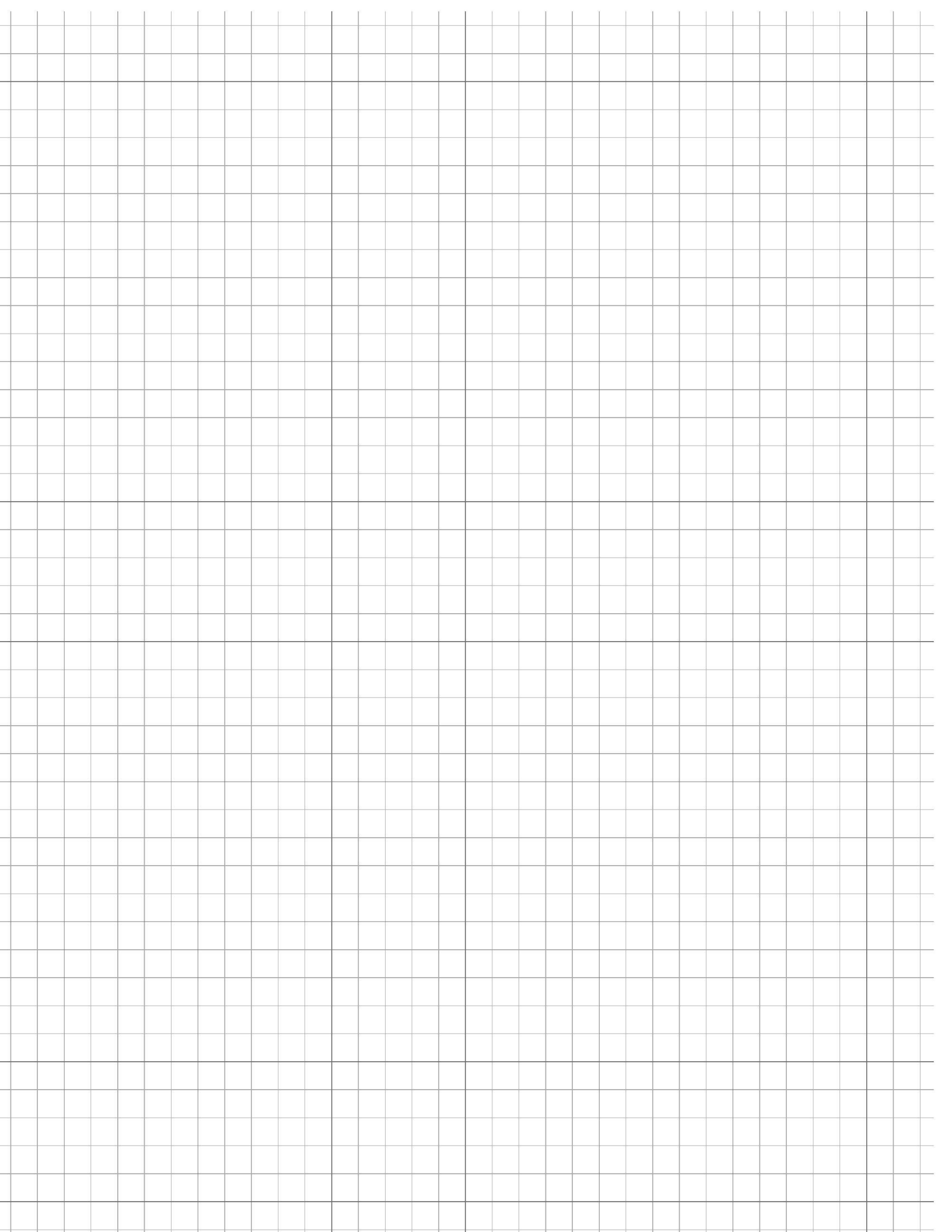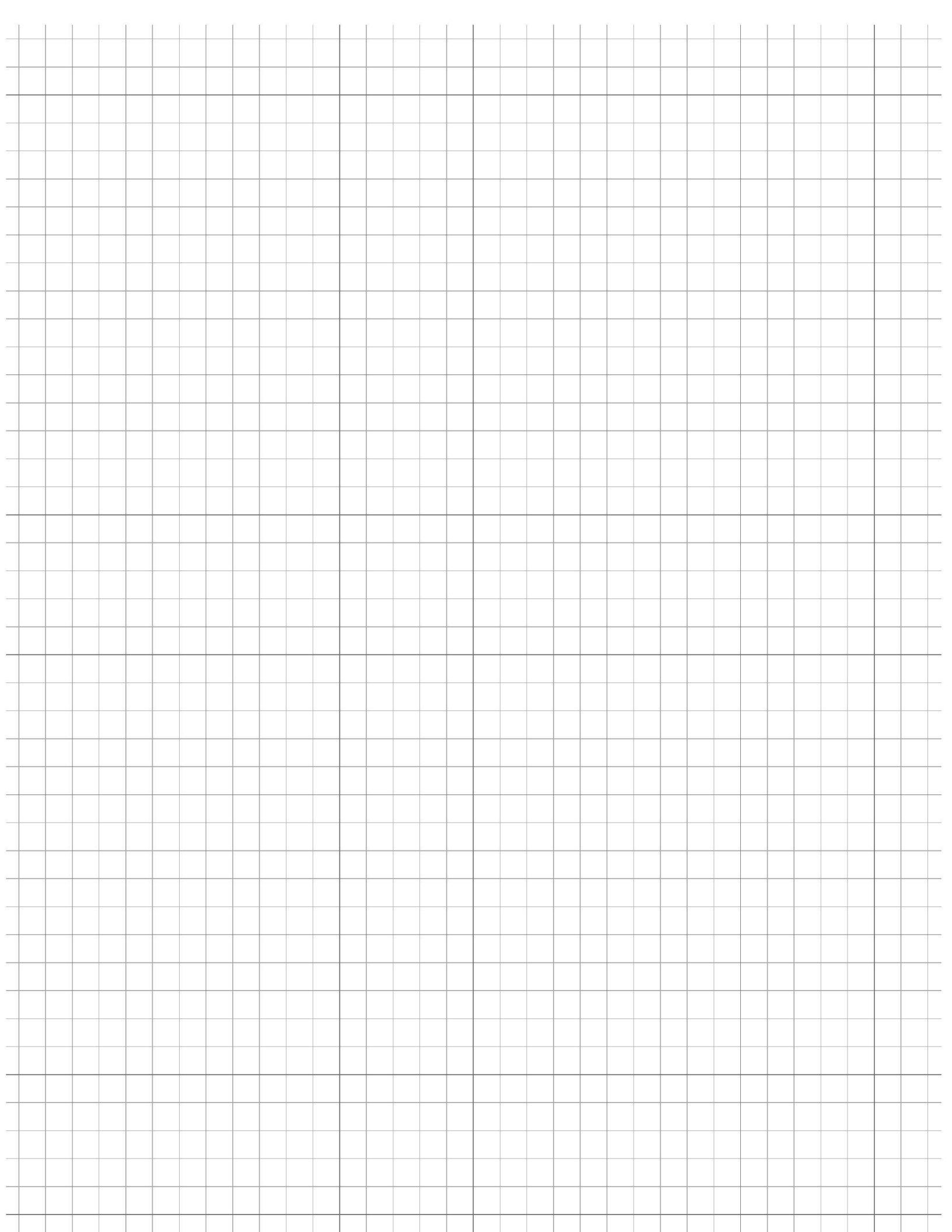**DESIGN YOUR PROJECTS USING GRAPH PAPER**
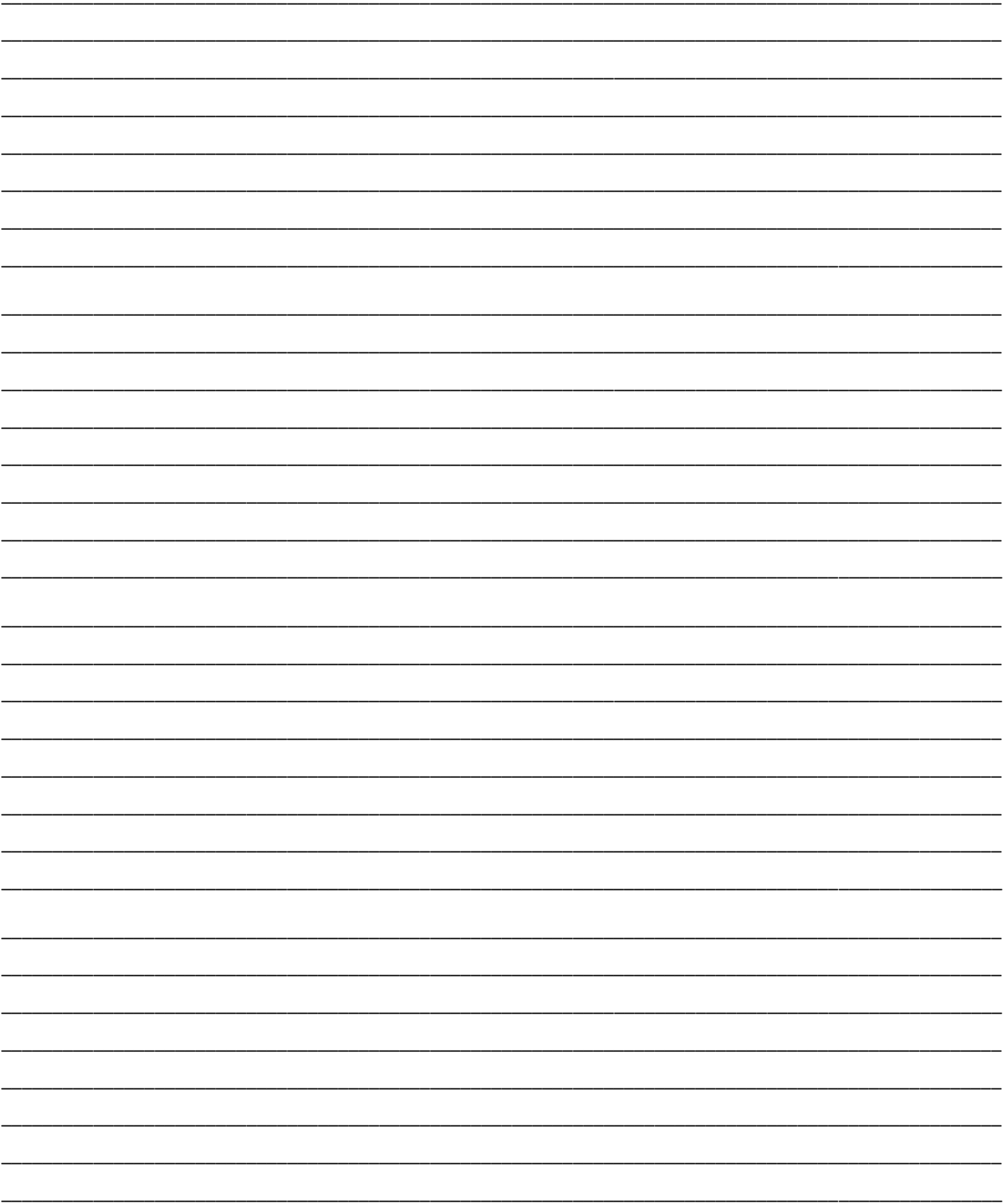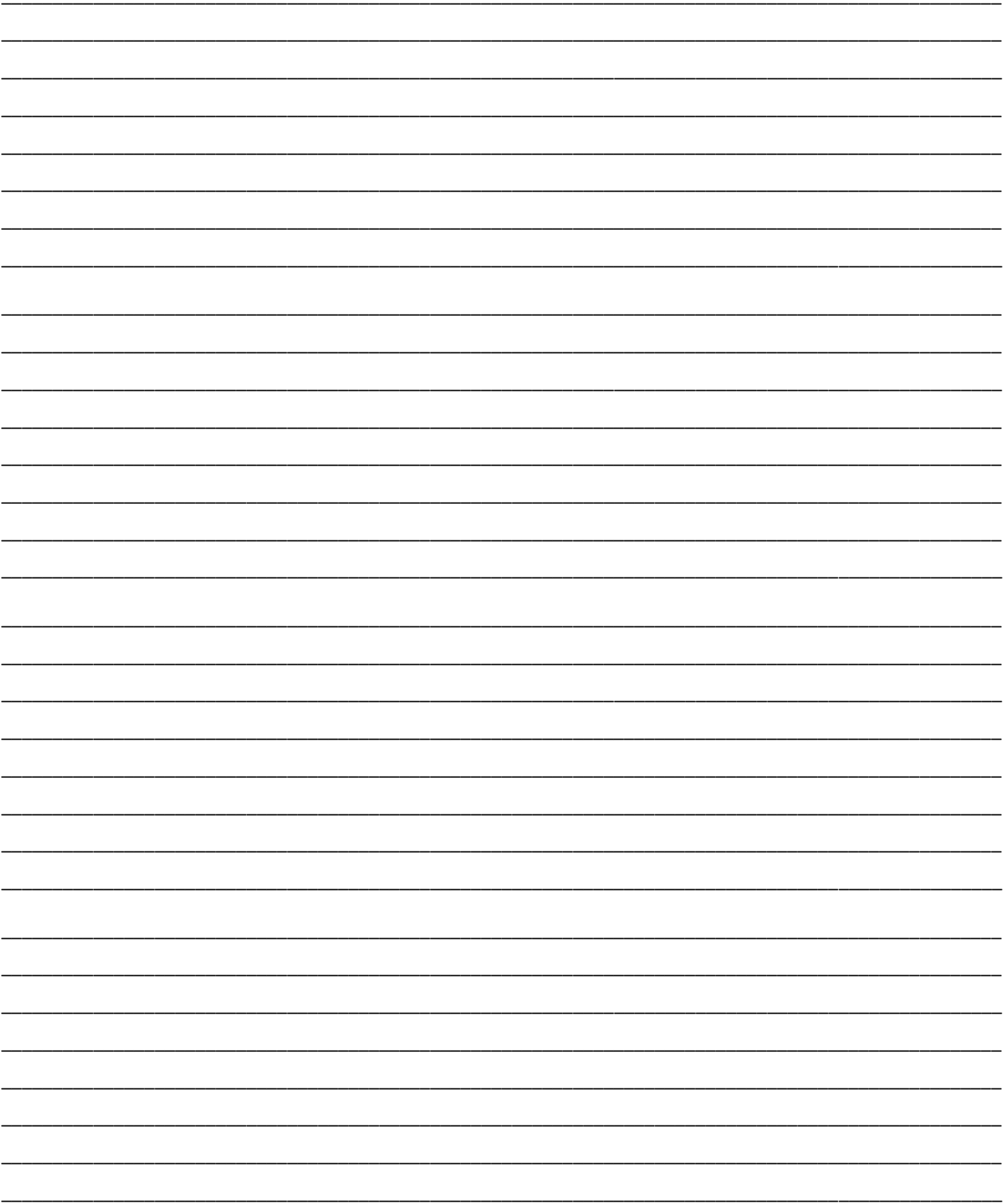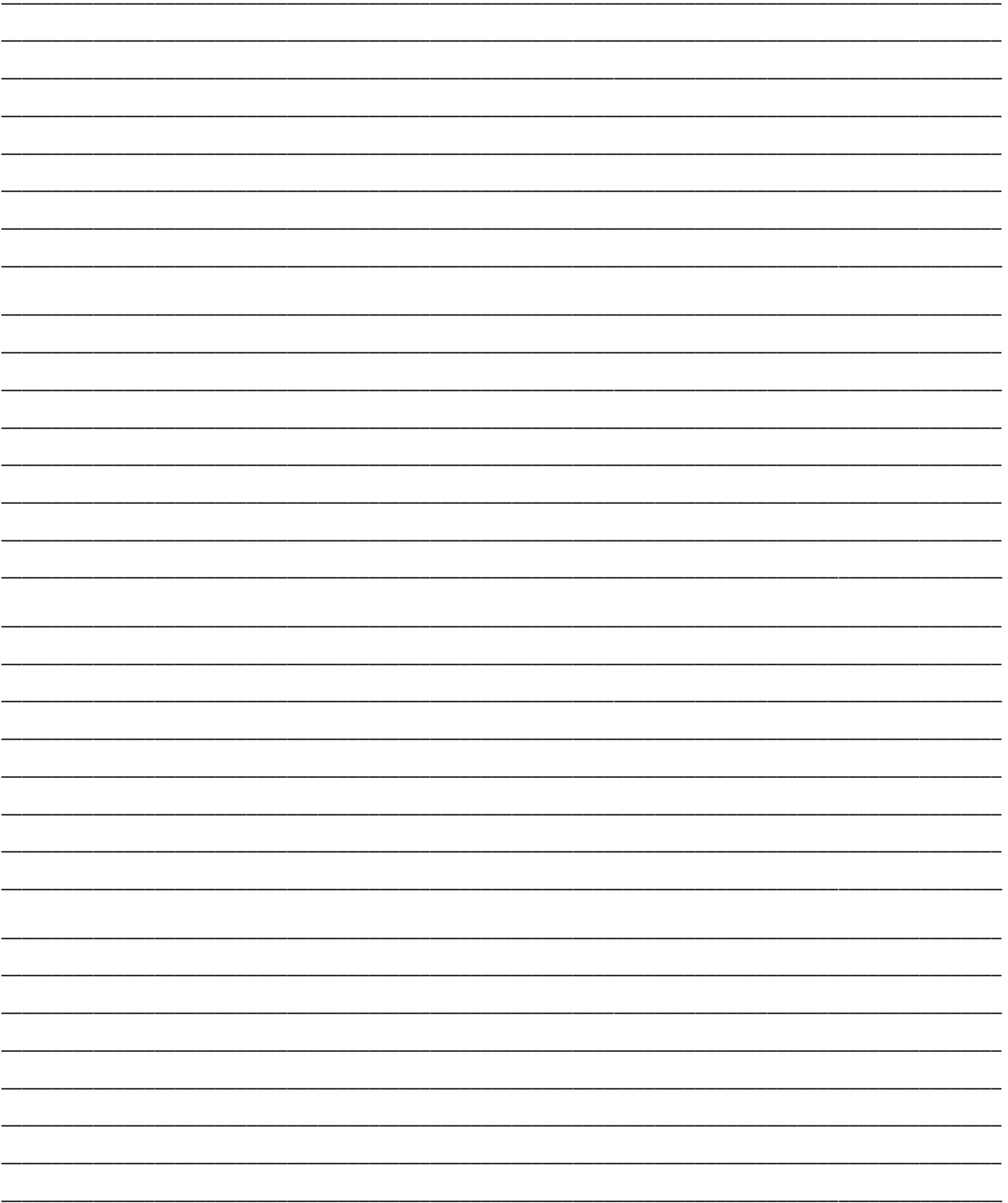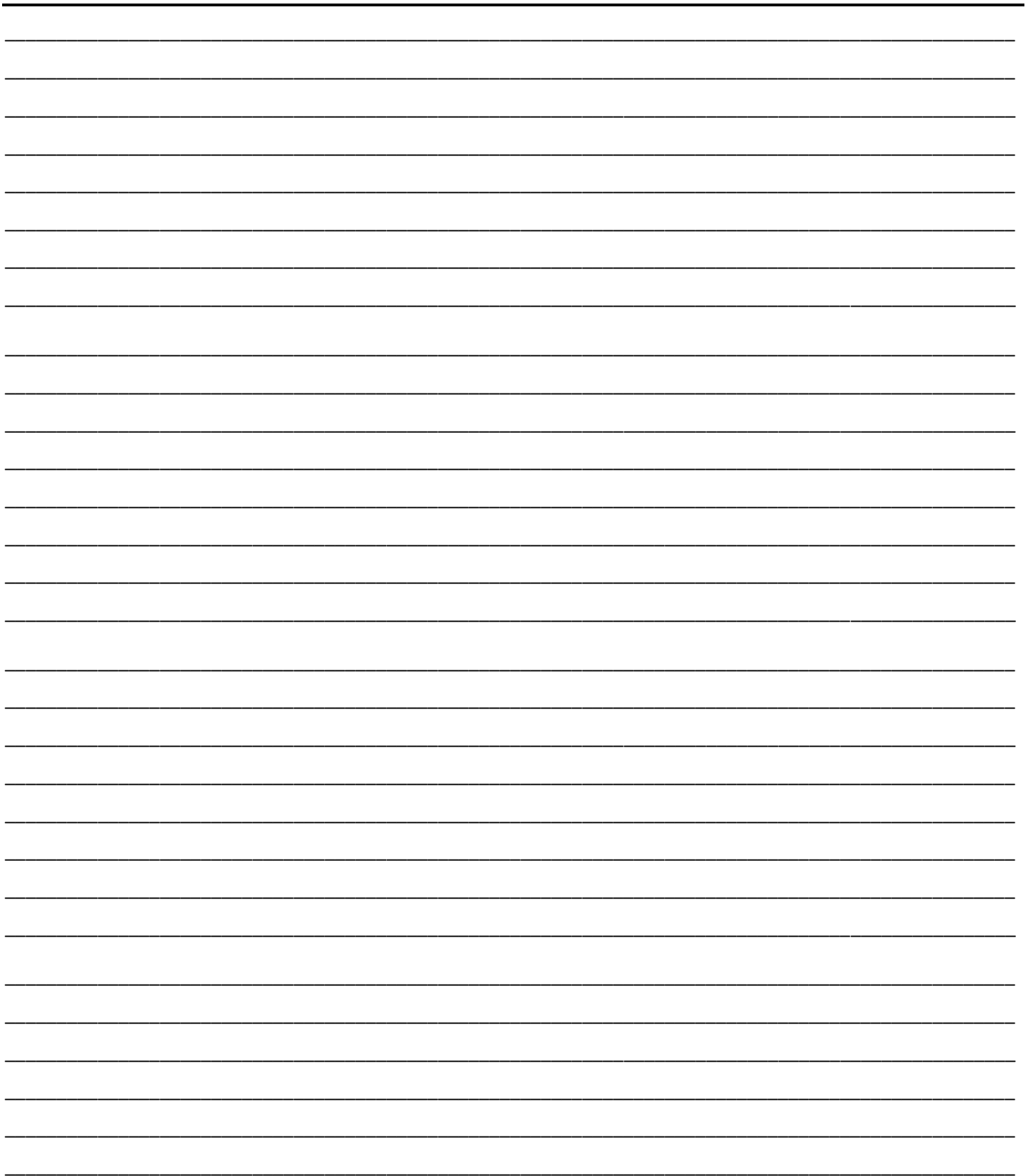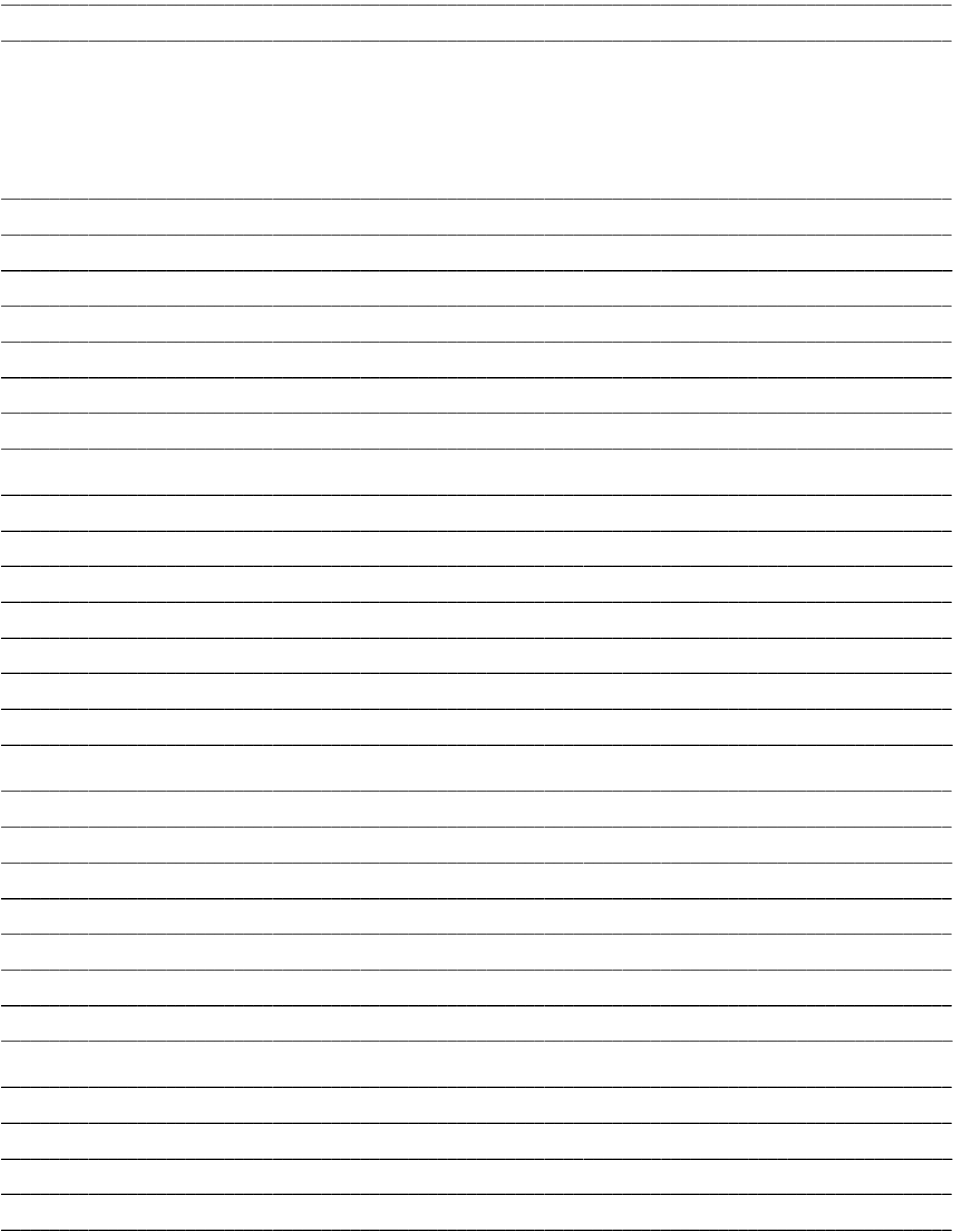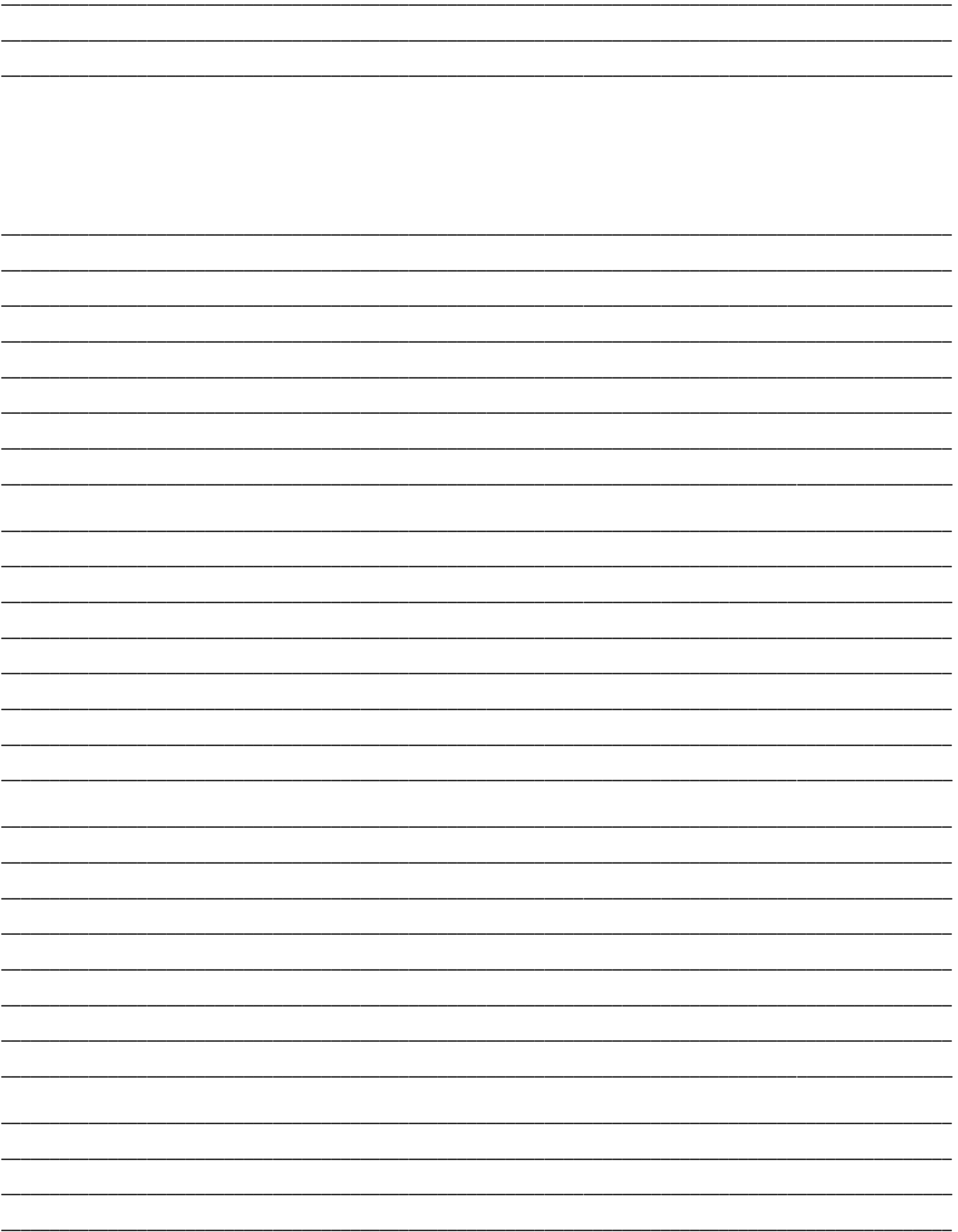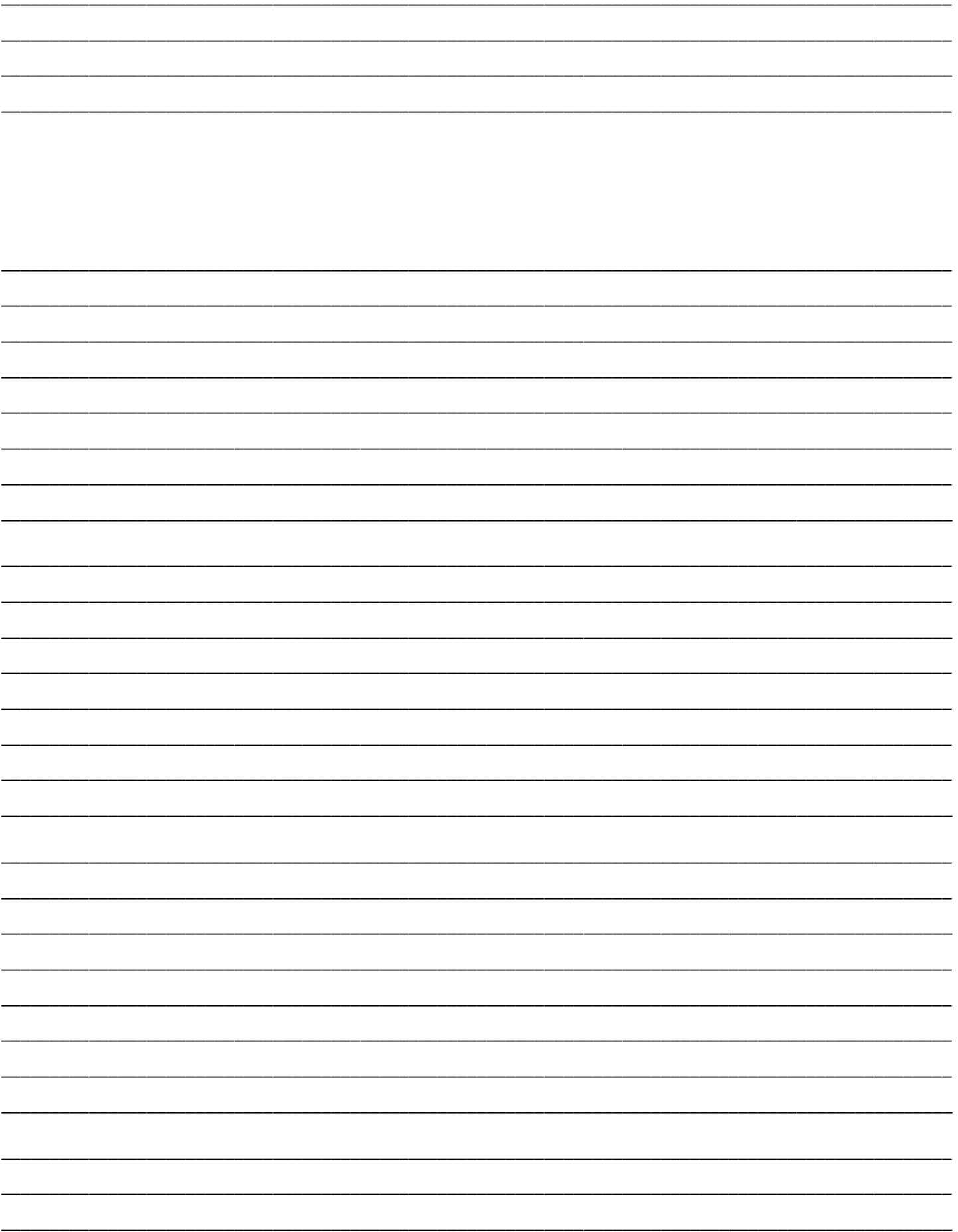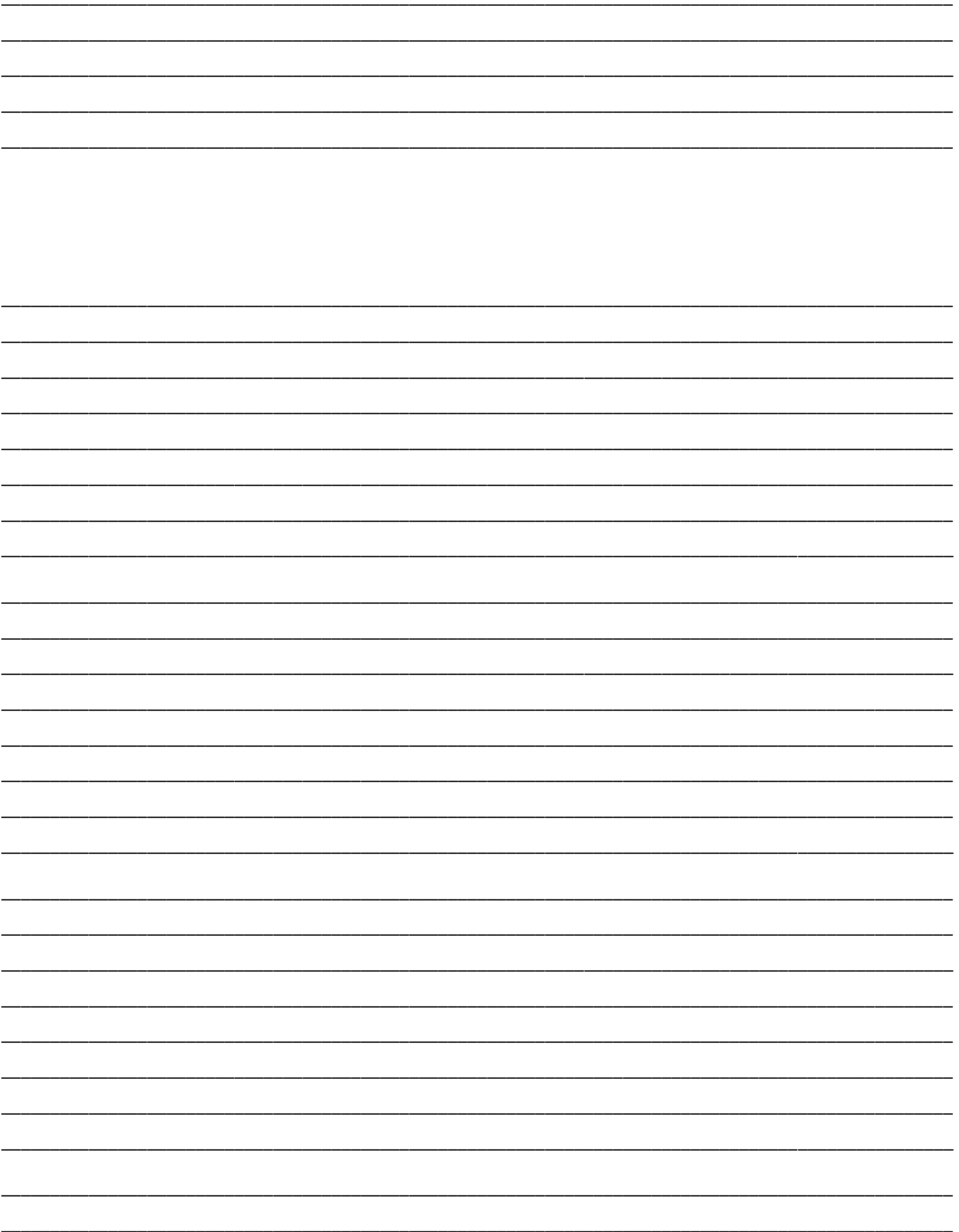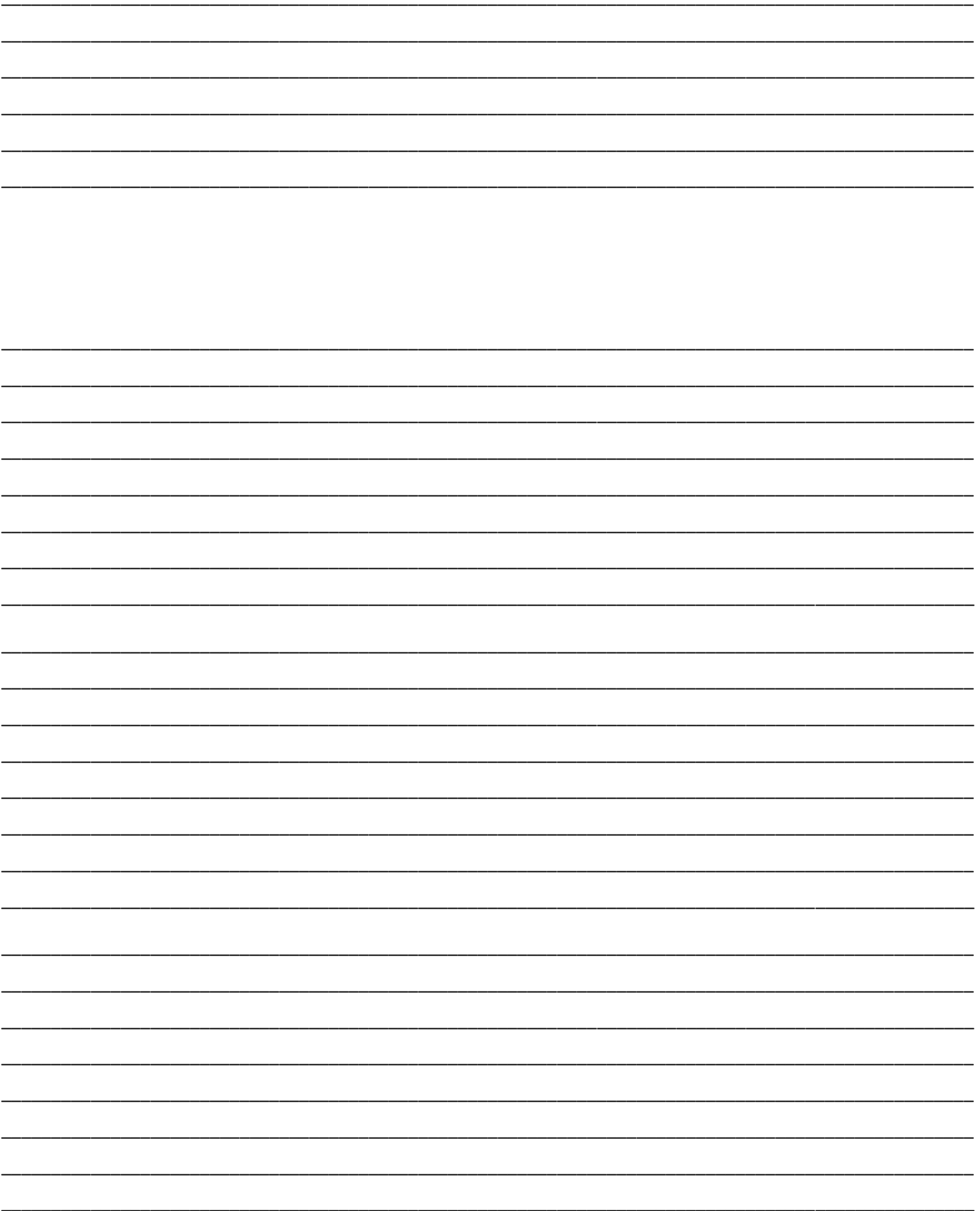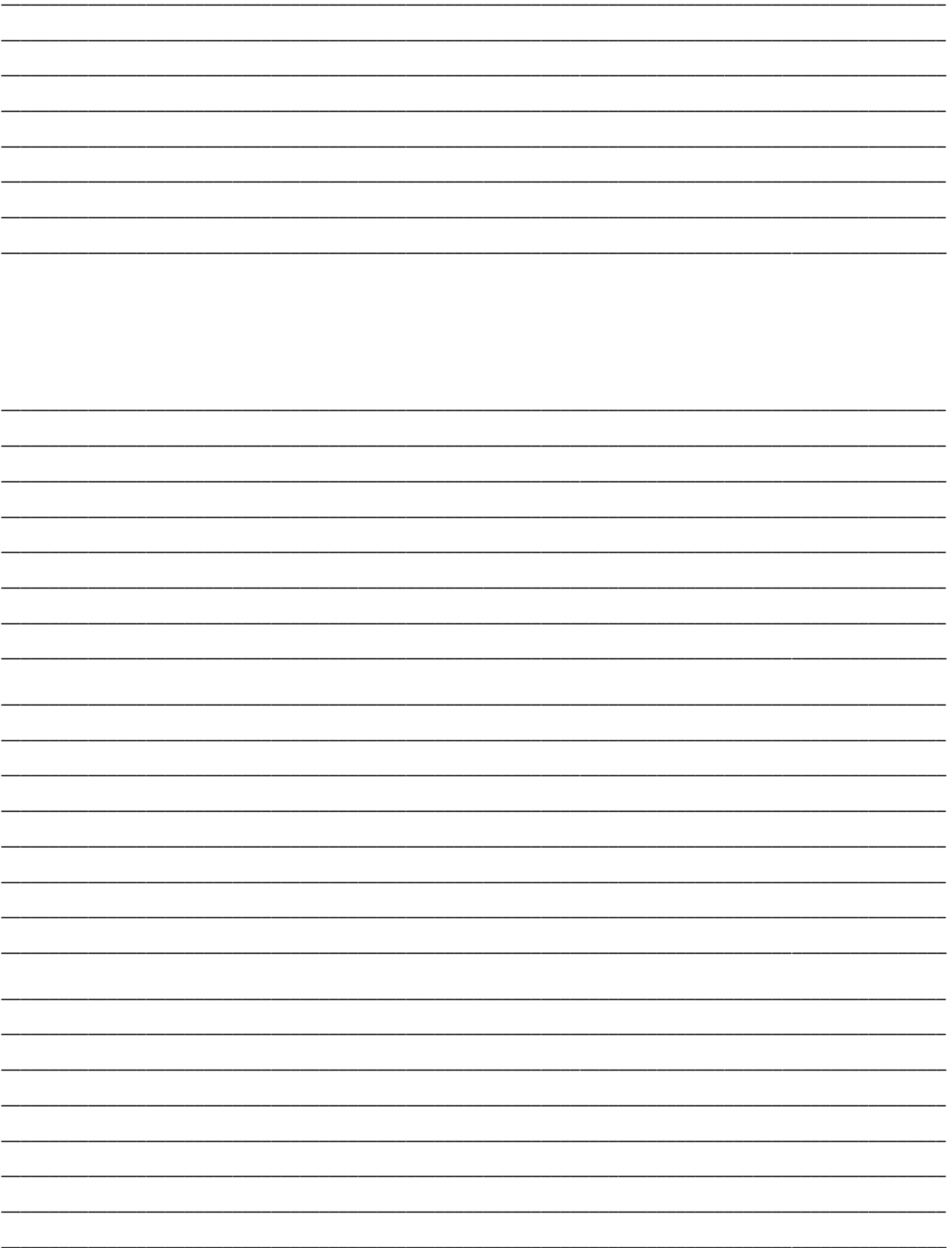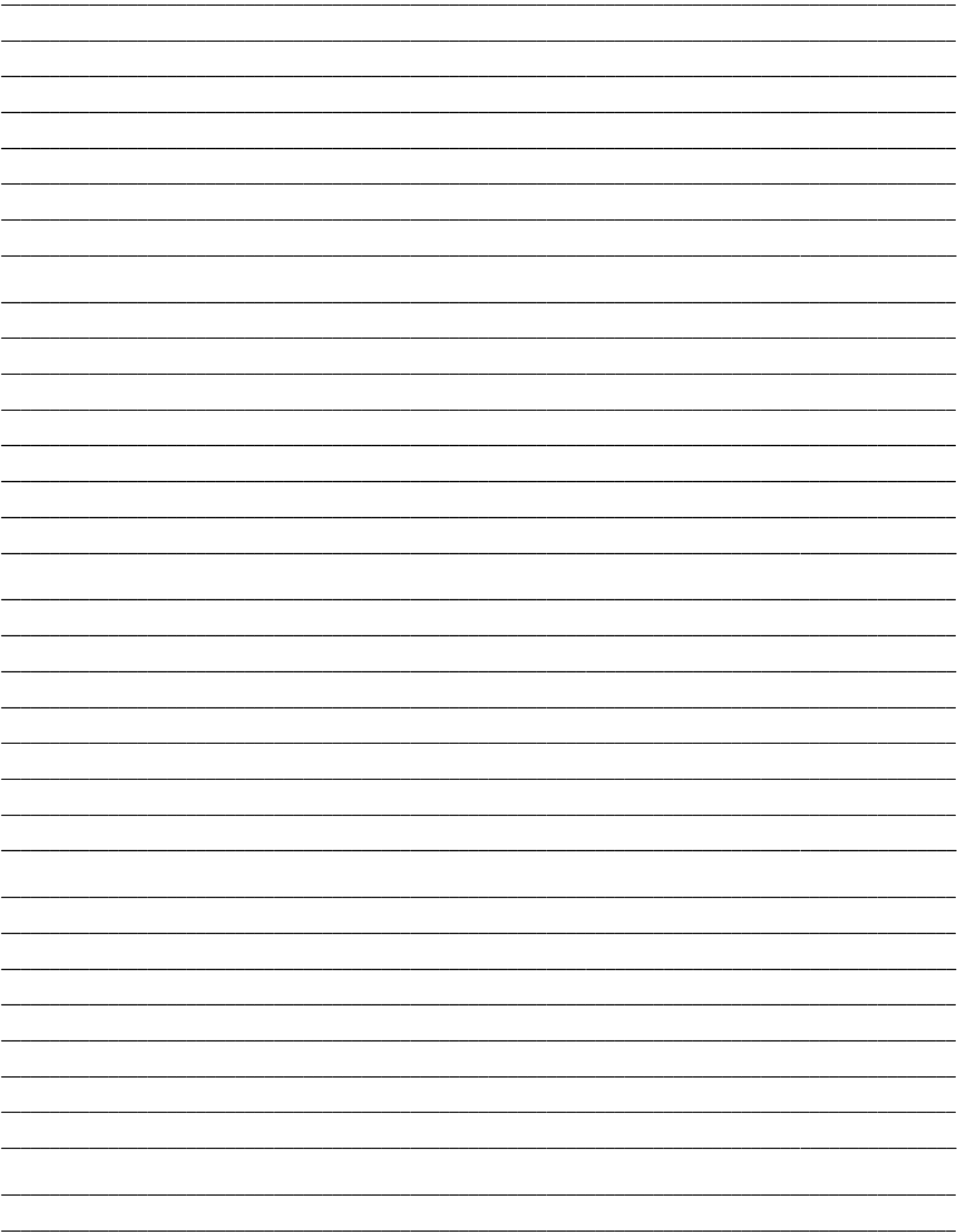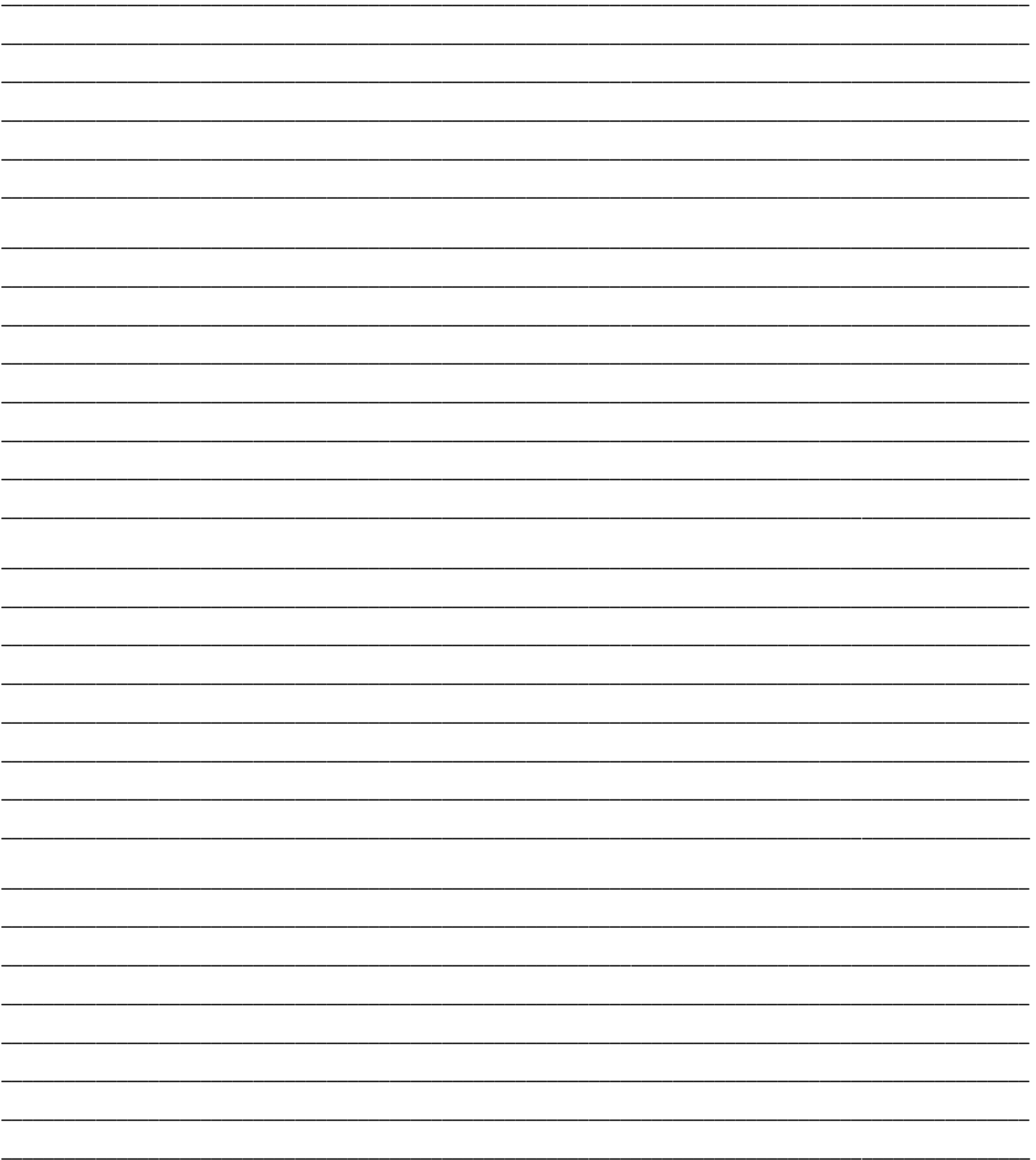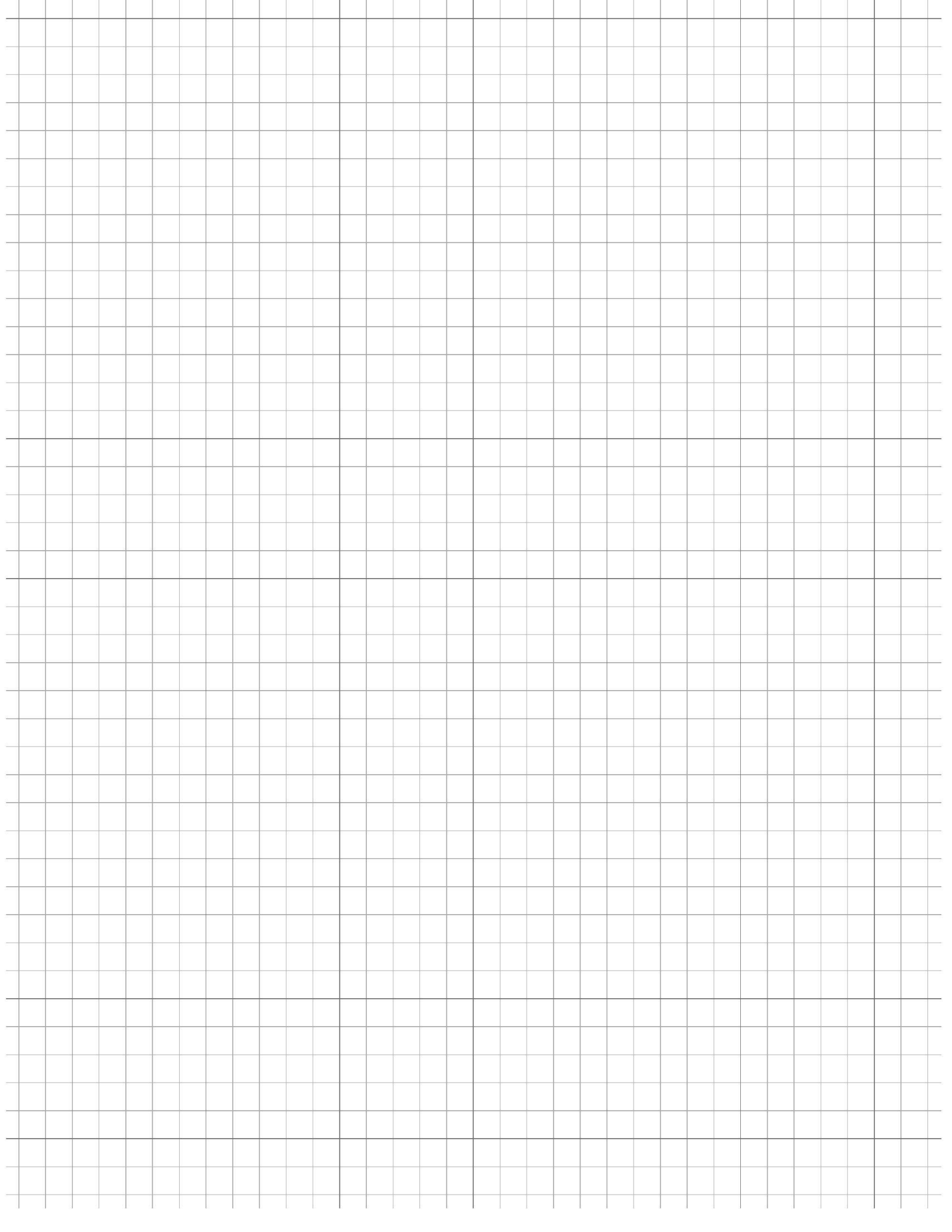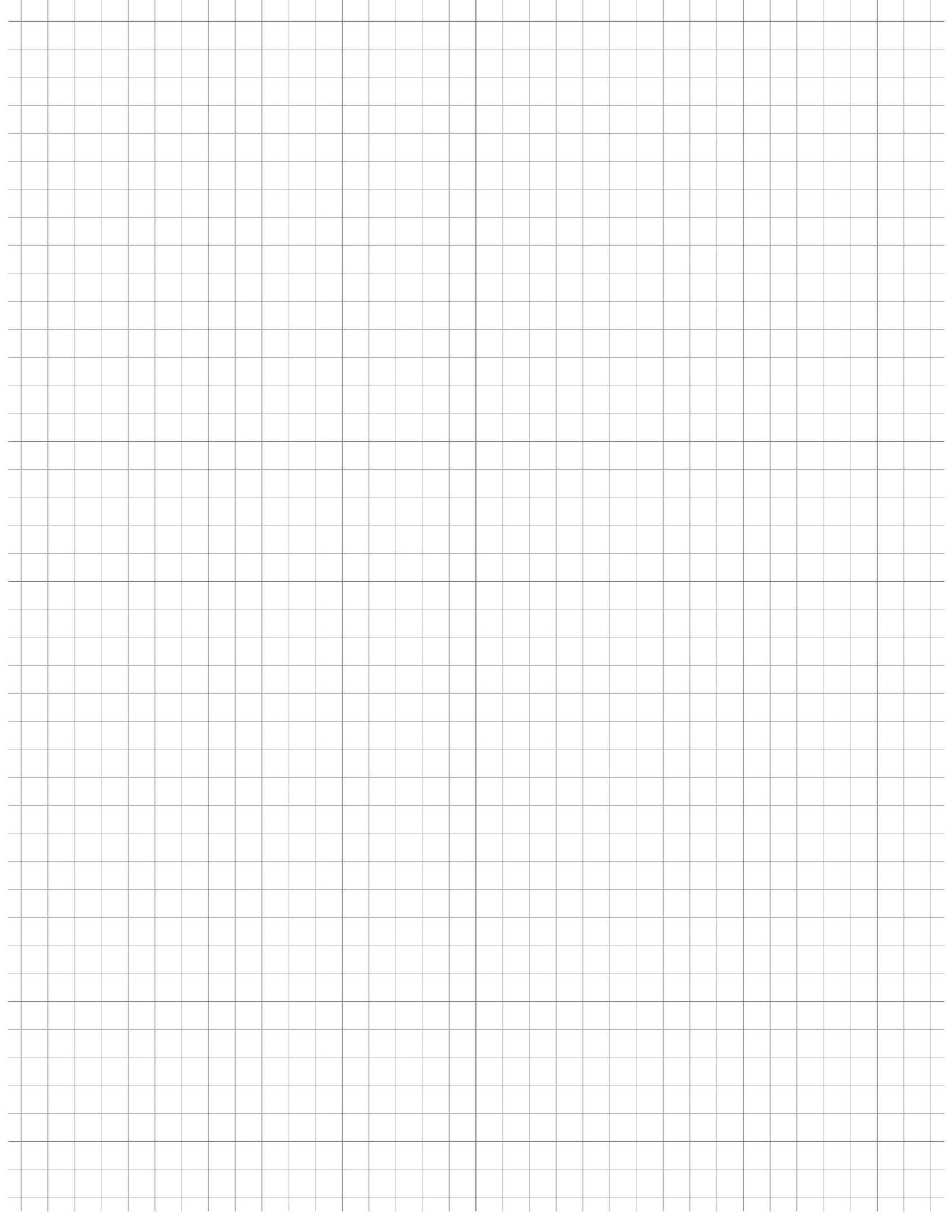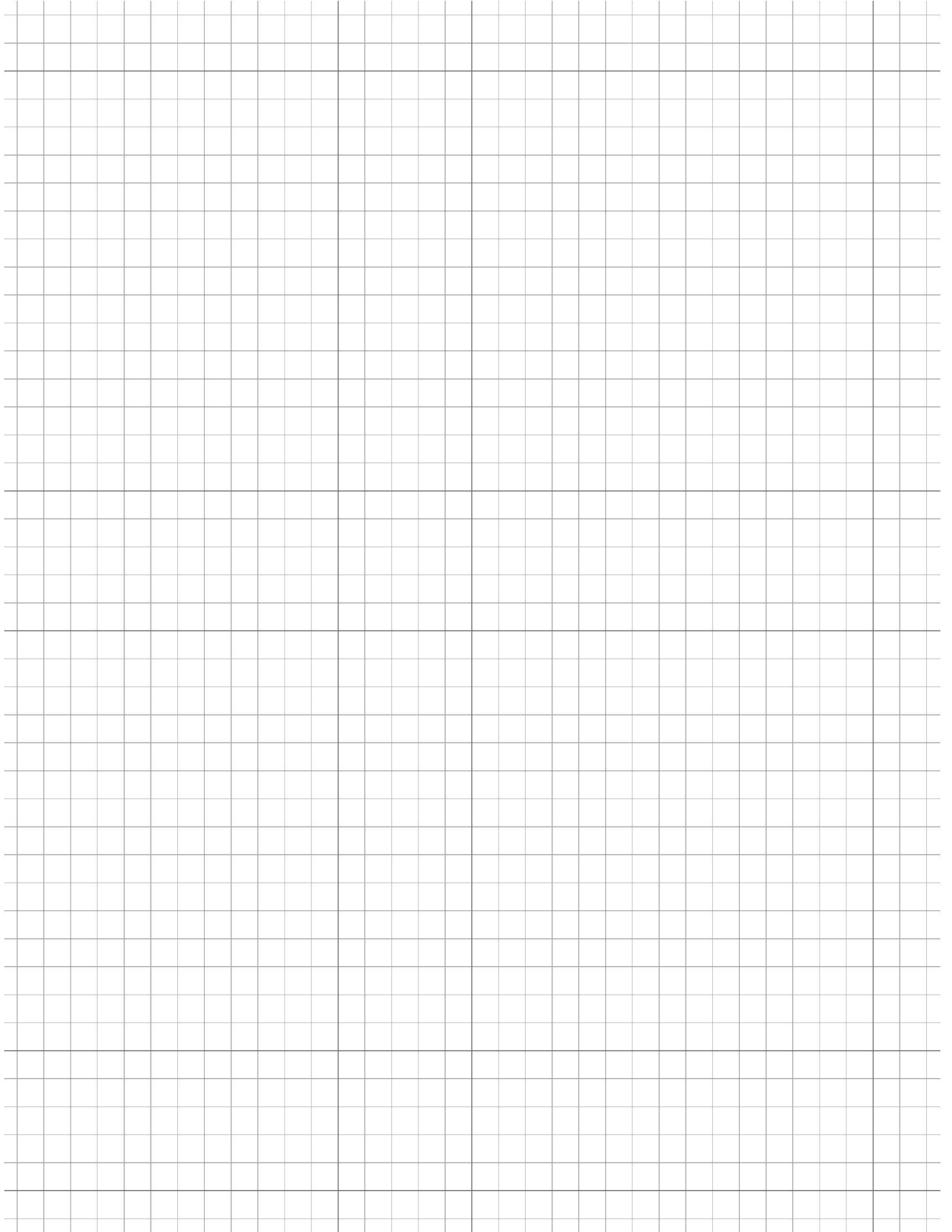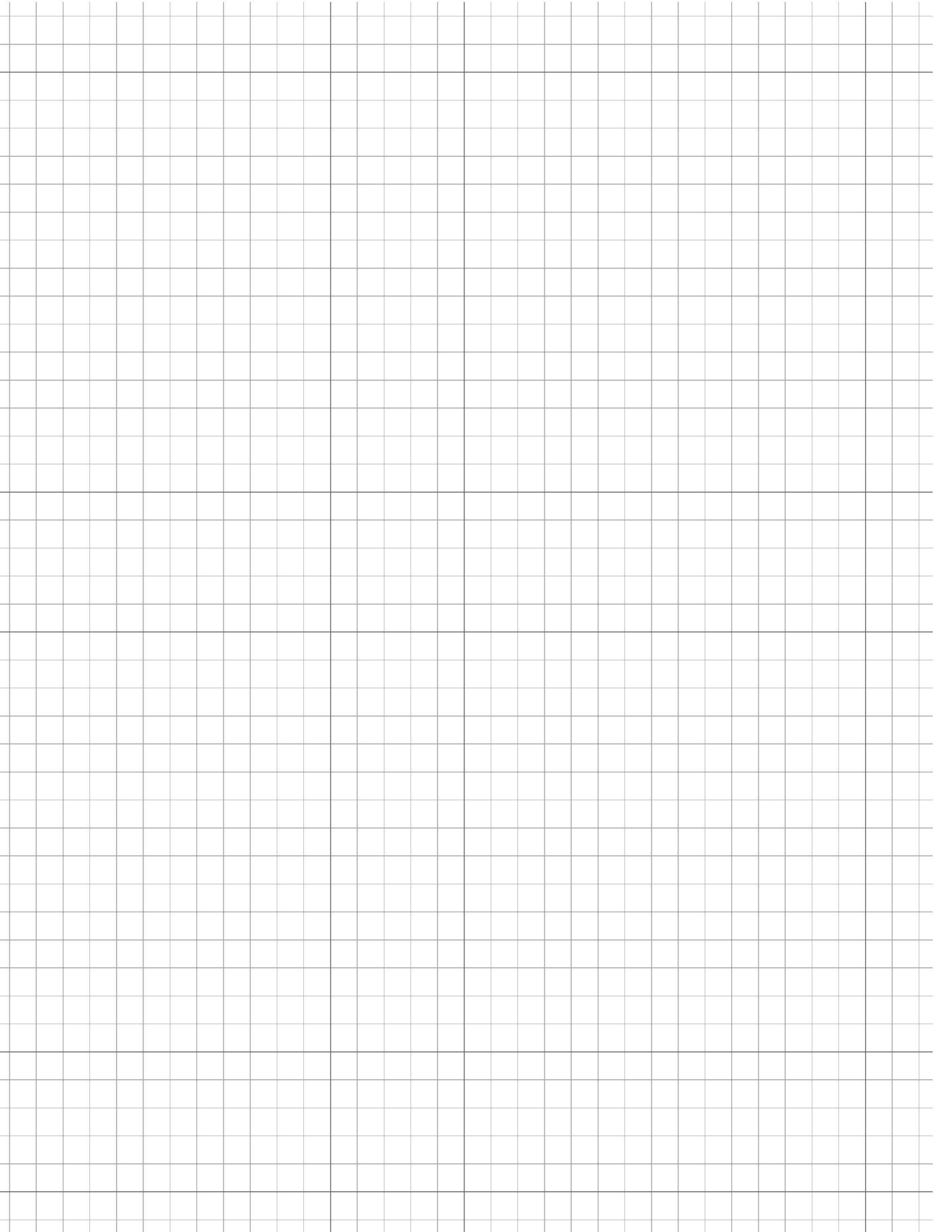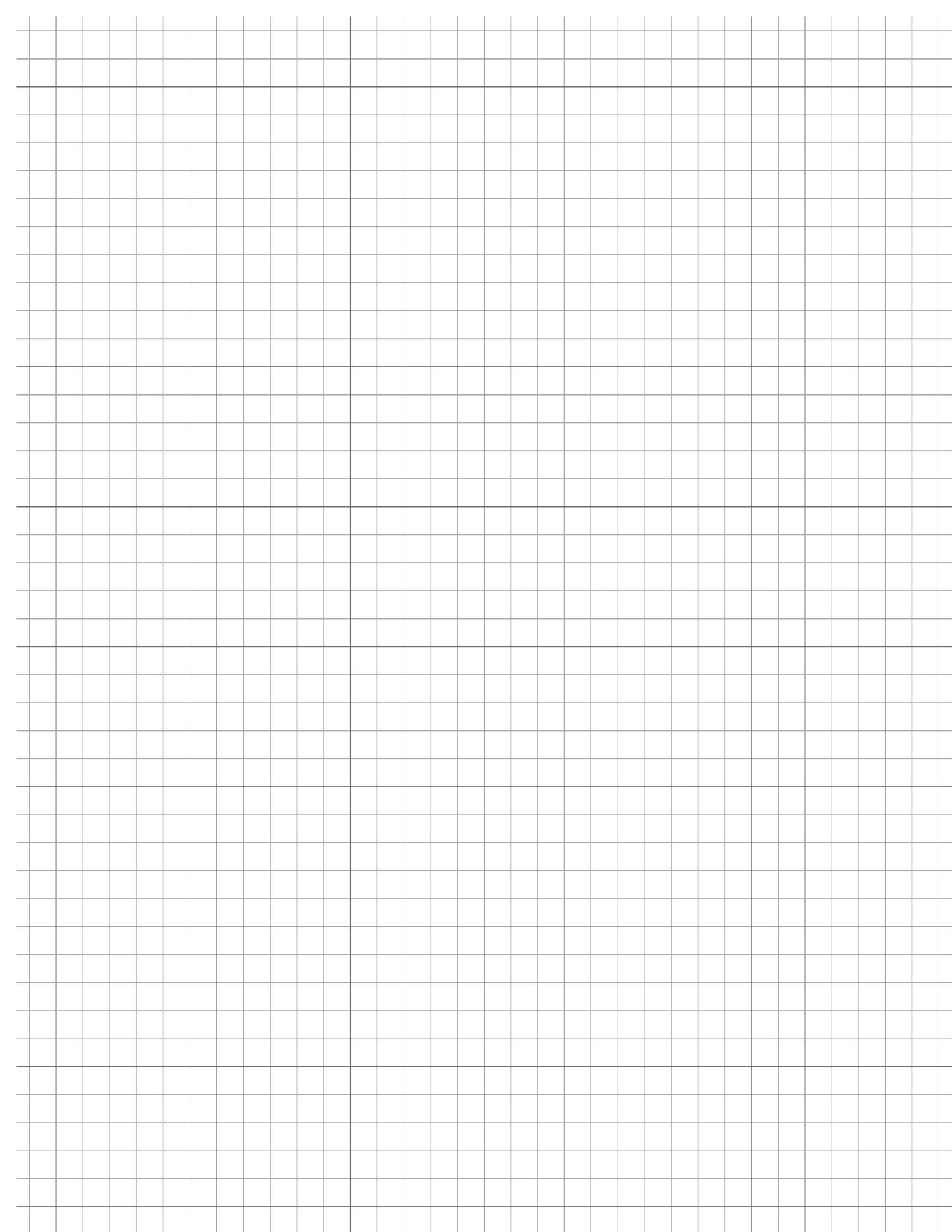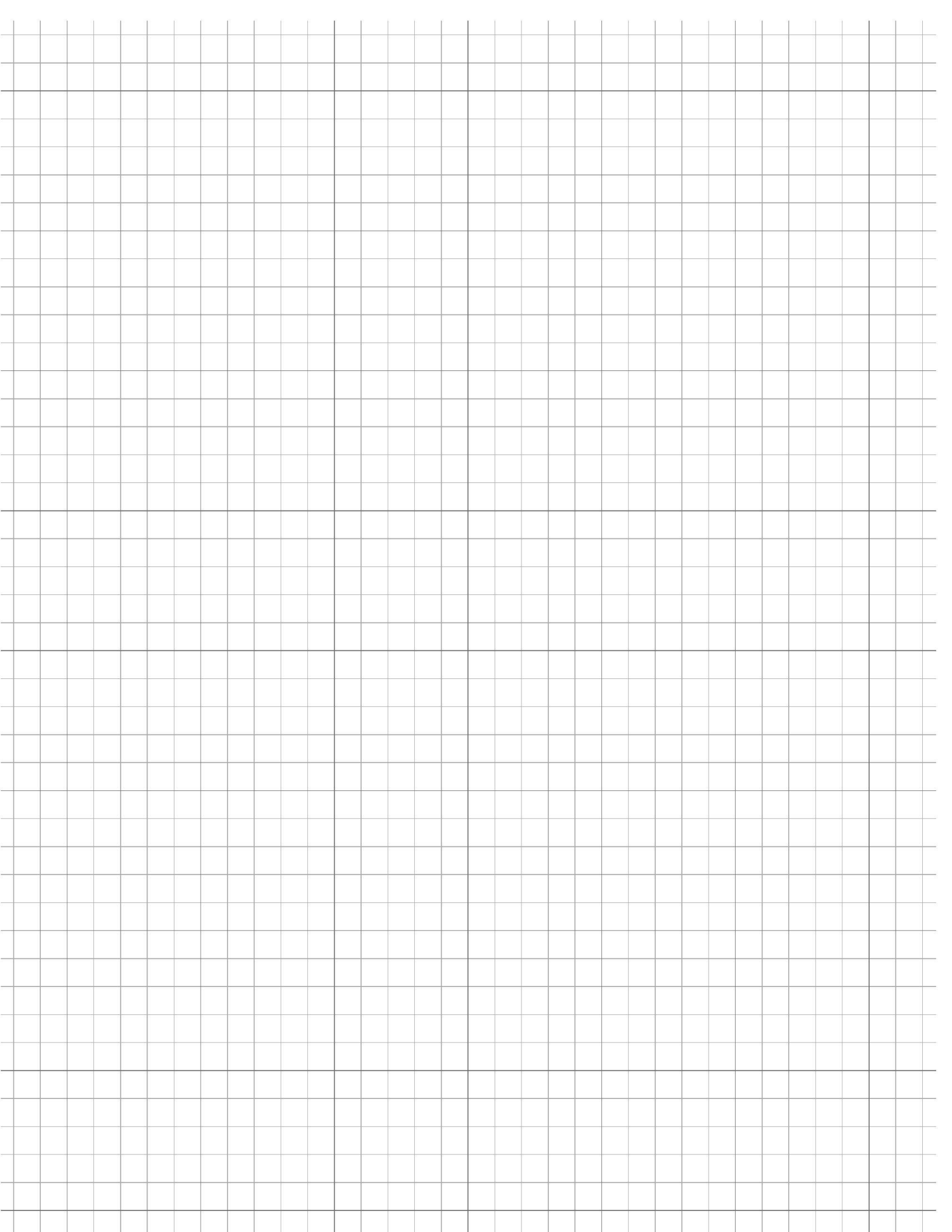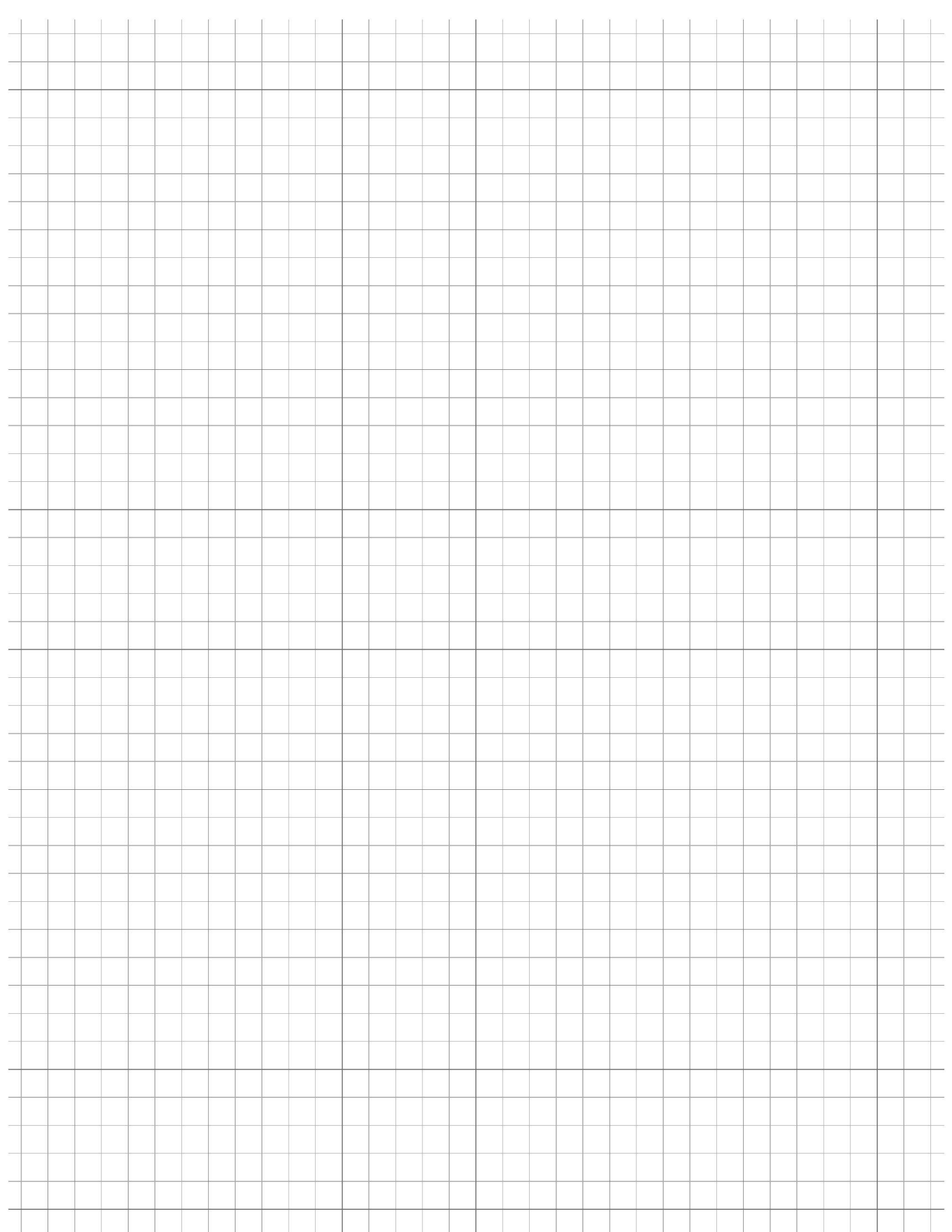
A QSL card (Below) is a written confirmation of a two-way radio communication between amateur radio operators. The term "QSL" originated from the Q code used in radiotelegraphy, and it means "I confirm receipt of your message" or "I confirm receipt of your transmission." Amateur radio operators use QSL cards to acknowledge their communication with each other.

When two amateur radio operators make contact, they may exchange information such as call signs, signal reports, and other relevant details about the communication. After the contact, one or both operators may send a QSL card to confirm the communication.

These cards often include details about the contact, such as date, time, frequency, signal strength, and any special conditions or equipment used.

QSL cards can be both functional and artistic, with many operators designing unique cards that reflect their personal interests or radio station setup. Collecting QSL cards is a popular hobby among amateur radio enthusiasts, and it serves as a tangible record of their communications with other operators around the world.

QSL CARD SAMPLE

W3RON

Your Name
P.O. Box   XXXX
Town, State xxxxx Country   Grid
Your Name@gmail.com
CONFIRMING RADIO CONTACT WITH

DATE	UTC	FREQ.	REPORT		MODE
			SENT	**RECV'D**	

COUNTY:

COMMENTS:

ANTENNA:

THX   73's /   PLS QSL