The most elementary forms of letters are a visual "code" that is recognizable only if familiar to the reader. Each of the upper and lower case letters is distinct in structure. All are built by combining vertical, horizontal, slanted, and curvilinear strokes. Letter forms derive their character from combinations of these basic strokes and not from being light or bold, wide or narrow, roman or italic, sans serif or serif.

An entire alphabet can be categorized using only six basic underlying visual combinations of strokes as the example illustrates.

<Assignment: points 10
Directions: Create a template like the illustration #2 on page 26 of your text. Scale it as instructed. Then construct the six visual combinations of strokes that represent the underlying forms of the alphabet using this template. Then based on these 6 examples, categorize all upper and lowercase letters in the Univers regular 55 font.

Create a layout using three columns on the page (see left diagram) stroke types first, then uppercase letters, then lowercase letters.

Constants:
Page size 8.5x11 (measure and reproduce format)
Typeface for alphabet- Univers regular 55, 18/66, both the upper case and lowercase letters.
Final stroke weight for six stroke categories- 1pt.

Once strokes are drawn, scale them so they are approx. the same size as the type. Use the leading amount give above to align them on the baseline of each column. Everything should be visually aligned.

It is recommended that you first trace an alphabet in the back of your book to break down the letters into underlying strokes. This will help you with the categorization.

Follow the instructor's direction for the layout. Align all elements per instructions.

Include the letter form template in the lower left corner of this page and explain what it is based on the description in the book on page 26.

For next class- Have a completed layout with categories completed. Prepare for Quiz.>