

Decorated Initial Letters



DECORATED initial capital letters were first used to make the beginning of a book, or start of a section, stand out. The decorated black and white initial letters in early printed books are called "decorated initials."

These initials add an artistic touch to the text to make the text look more attractive, and sometimes to illustrate something from the text.

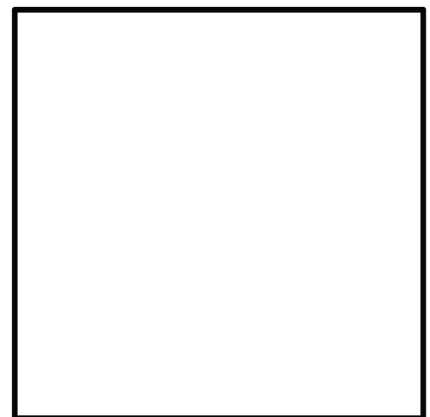
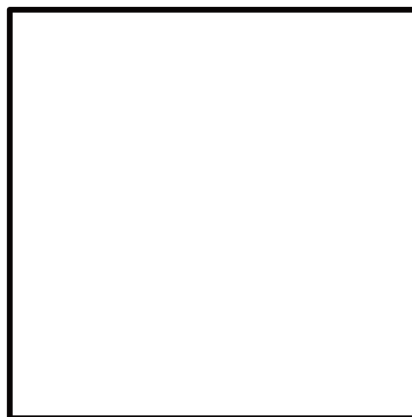
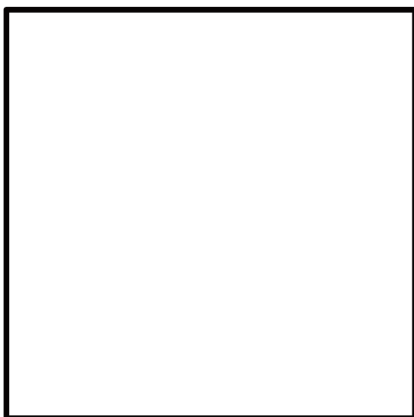
Copy the decorated letters here into the boxes below



Letters A and B here come from the Leighton Library's 1723 edition of "Novum Testamentum graecum, cum lectionibus variantibus, by Joannes Millius, Ludolf Kuster



Letter C here comes from the Leighton Library's 1637 edition of "Catena graecorum patrum in beatum Iob" by Abp of Heraclea Nicetas & Patrick Young



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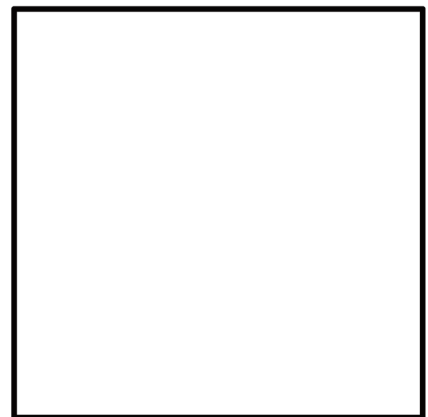
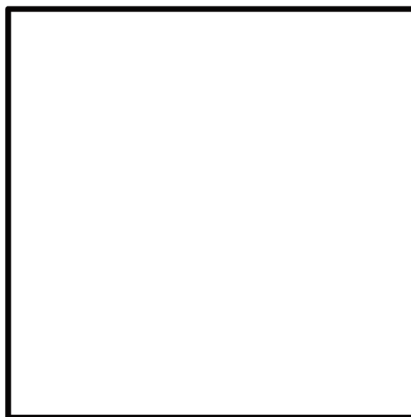
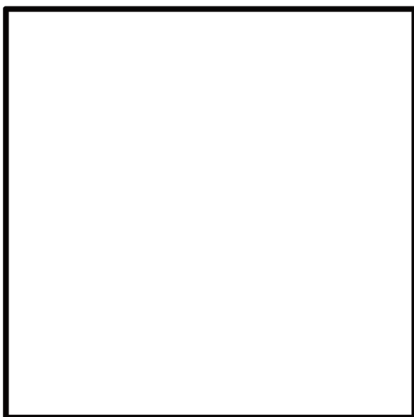
Letter D here comes from the Leighton Library's 1612 edition of "Historiae ecclesiasticae scriptores graeci" by John Christopherson



Letter E here come from the Leighton Library's 1723 edition of "Novum Testamentum graecum, cum lectionibus variantibus, by Joannes Millius, Ludolf Kuster



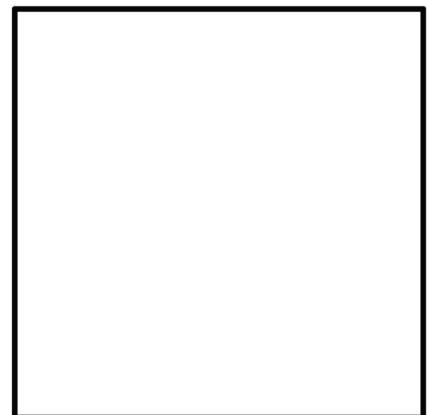
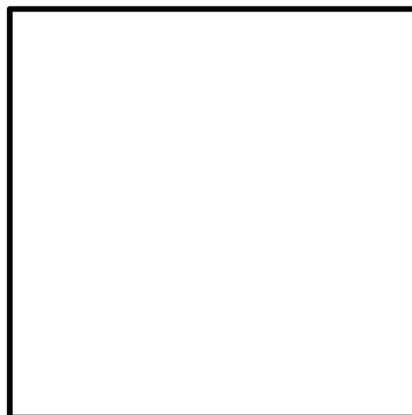
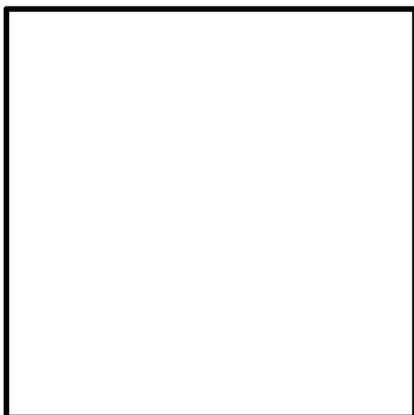
Letter F here comes from the Leighton Library's 1554 edition of "Cosmographiae uniuersalis" by Sebastian Munster



Letters G and H here come from the Leighton Library's 1554 edition of "Cosmographiae uniuersalis" by Sebastian Munster



Letter I here comes from the Leighton Library's 1685 edition of "Conversations nouvelles sur divers sujets" by Madeleine de Scudery



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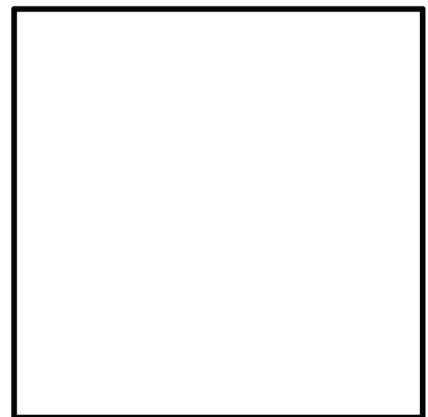
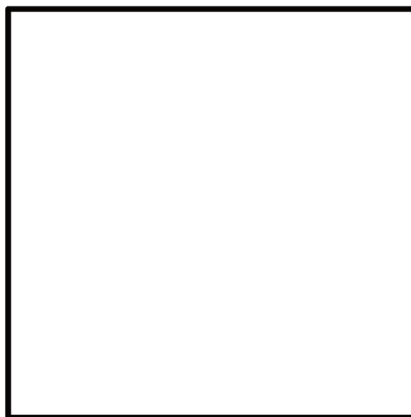
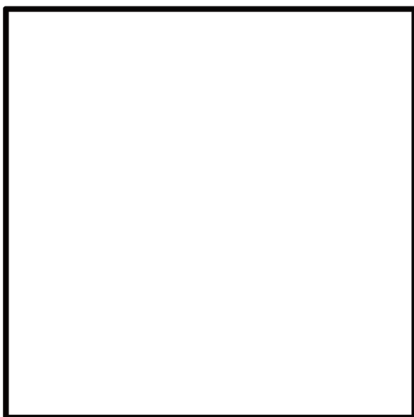
Letter J here comes from the Leighton Library's 1637 edition of "Catena graecum patrum in beatum Iob" by Abp of Heraclea Nicetas & Patrick Young



Letter K here come from the Leighton Library's 1707 edition of "Septuaginta interpretum tomus, by Johann Ernst Grabe, Francis Lee, William Wigan



Letter L here comes from the Leighton Library's 1612 edition of "Historiae ecclesiasticae scriptores graeci" by John Christopherson



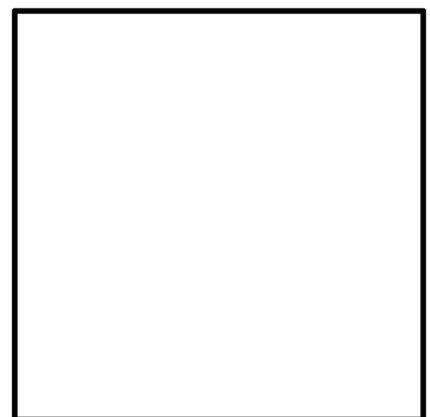
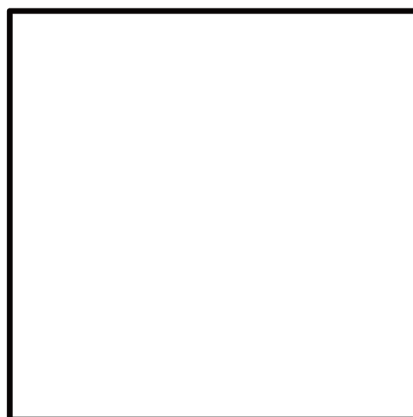
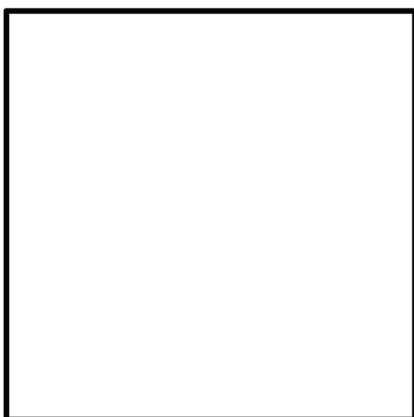
Letter M here come from the Leighton Library's 1667 edition of "Index librorum prohibitorum"



Letter N here comes from the Leighton Library's 1617 edition of "The summe of Christian religion" by Zacharas Ursinus



Letter O here comes from the Leighton Library's 1637 edition of "Catena graecum patrum in beatum Iob" by Abp of Heraclea Nicetas & Patrick Young



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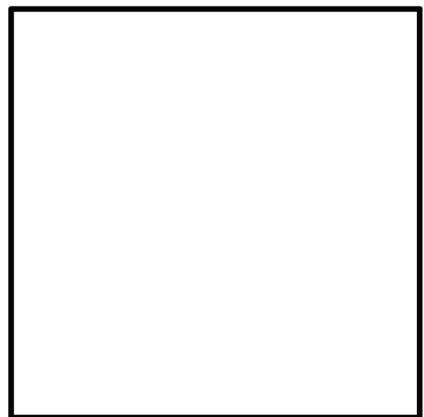
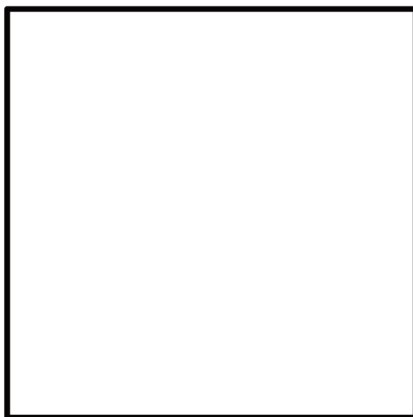
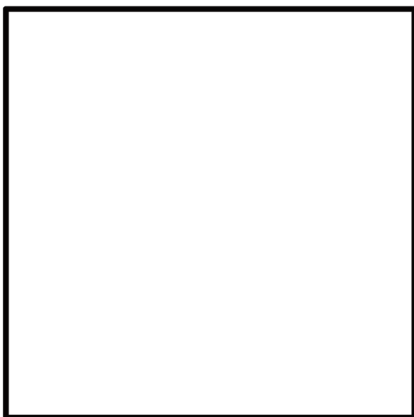
Letter P here comes from the Leighton Library's 1620 edition of "Francisci de Verulamio / summi Angliae cancellarij / Jnstauration magna" by Francis Bacon



Letter Q here come from the Leighton Library's 1612 edition of "Historiae ecclesiasticae scriptores graeci" by John Christopherson



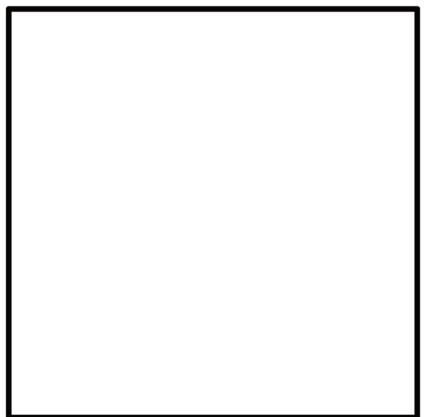
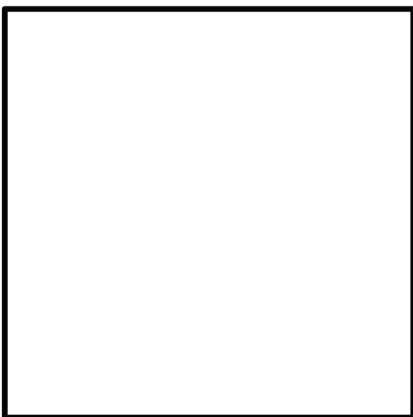
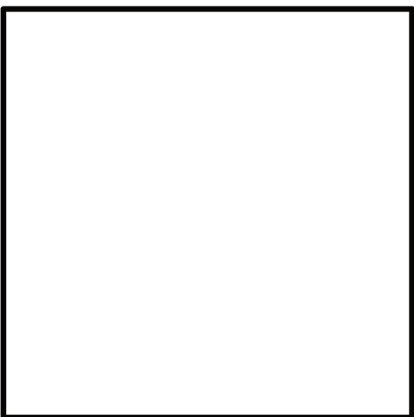
Letter R here comes from the Leighton Library's 1619 edition of "Aesopi phrygis Fabulae" by Aesop



Letters S and T here come from the Leighton Library's 1554 edition of "Cosmographiae uniuersalis" by Sebastian Munster



Letter U here comes from the Leighton Library's 1681 edition of "The book of common prayer, and administration of the sacraments, and other rites and ceremonies of the Church of England"



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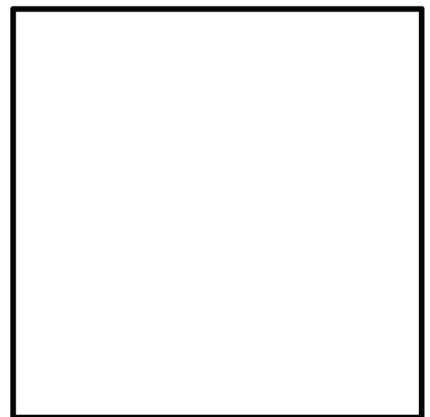
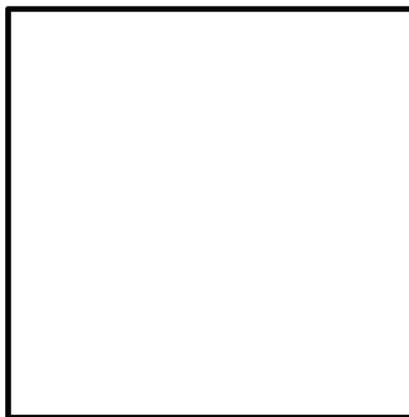
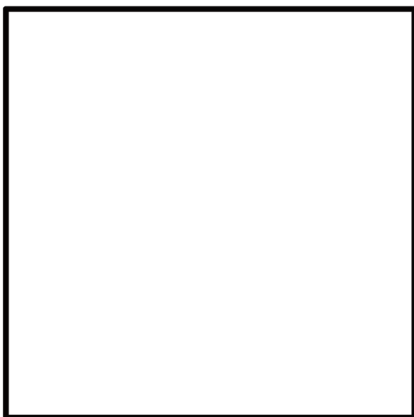
Letter V here comes from the Leighton Library's 1620 edition of "Francisci de Verulamio / summi Angliae cancellarij / Jnstauration magna" by Francis Bacon



Letter W here comes from the Leighton Library's 1617 edition of "The summe of Christian religion" by Zacharas Ursinus



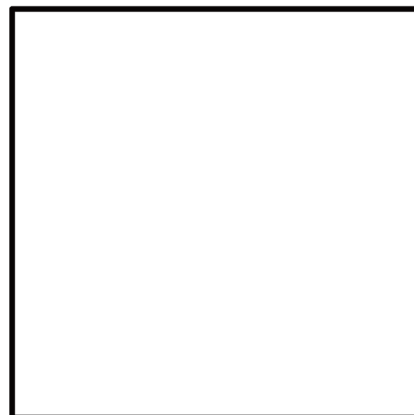
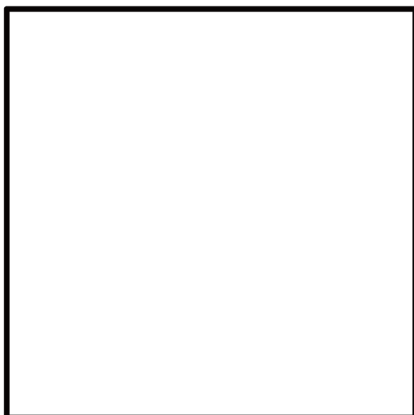
Letter X here comes from the Leighton Library's 1637 edition of "Catena graecrum patrum in beatum Iob" by Abp of Heraclea Nicetas & Patrick Young



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Letter Z here come from the Leighton Library's 1612 edition of "Historiae ecclesiasticae scriptores graeci" by John Christopherson

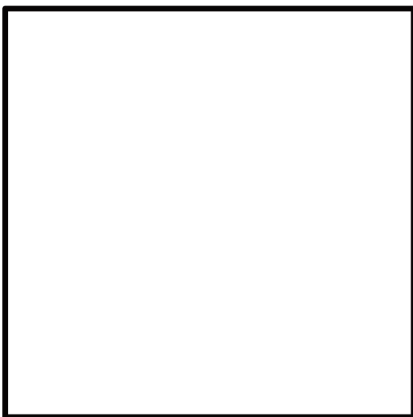


Try To Design Your Own Decorated Initial Letter



RY to design your own decorated initial letter. **First** choose a part of a book you like to read. **Then** choose one page, and decide what drawings you might include around your decorated initial letter, to illustrate something about that page or chapter of the book.

Now draw in the box below the outline of the first letter which appears on the page you have chosen. **Then** add drawings around the letter to illustrate something from that page or chapter. **Then** copy the text on the lines below from the start of the page until it wraps around the letter you have drawn



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