

Written from left to right, here is that paragraph as we would write it today:

In ancient times, some races would alternately write backwards and forwards (one line from left to right, and the next line from right to left, etc. [Boustrophon, the Greeks called it; "as the ox turns with the plow"], all the while using no paragraphs, and not even spaces between words and sentences! The result was very complicated reading, to say the least.

Written from left to right, here is how the ancients would write it—with no paragraph, sentence, or word dividers, and no punctuation:

**INANCIENTTIMESSOMERACESWOULD
ALTERNATELYWRITEBACKWARDSAND
FORWARDSONELINEFROMLEFTTORIGHT
ANDTHENEXTLINEFROMRIGHTTOLEFTETC
BOUSTROPHONTHEGREEKSCALLEDITAS
THEOXTURNSWITHTHEPLOWALLTHE
WHILEUSINGNOPARAGRAPHSANDNOT
EVENSPACESBETWEENWORDSAND
SENTENCESTHERESULTWASVERY
COMPLICATEDREADINGTOSAYTHELEAST**

Here is the same paragraph, written in Boustrophon style, with one line from right to left, and the next line from left to right.

Below that, the same Boustrophon-style para-

graph will be printed a second time, with the "backward" (right-to-left) lines in lower case to highlight them, so you can clearly see the incredible difficulty in reading your own language, without punctuation,—backward! Early man had an intelligence far greater than ours!

**INANCIENTTIMESSOMERACESWOULD
DNASDRAWKCABETIRWYLETANRETLA**

**FORWARDSONELINEFROMLEFTTORIGHT
CTETFELOTTHGIRMORFENILTXENEHTDNA**

**BOUSTROPHONTHEGREEKSCALLEDITAS
EHTLLAWOLPEHTHTIWSNRUTXOEHT**

**WHILEUSINGNOPARAGRAPHSANDNOT
DNASDROWNEEWTEBSECAPSNEVE**

**SENTENCESTHERESULTWASVERY
TSAELEHTYASOTGNIDAERDETACILPMOC**

**INANCIENTTIMESSOMERACESWOULD
dnasdrawkcabetirwyletanretla
FORWARDSONELINEFROMLEFTTORIGHT
ctetfelotthgirmorfeniltxenehtdna
BOUSTROPHONTHEGREEKSCALLEDITAS
ehtllawolpehthiwsnrutxoeh**

**WHILEUSINGNOPARAGRAPHSANDNOT
dnasdrowneewtebsecapsneve
SENTENCESTHERESULTWASVERY
tsaelehtyasotgnidaerdetacilpmoc**