Invisible writing

A message in secret ink is usually written on the back of an ordinary letter or in the blank spaces between the lines and along the sides.

You will need:
- a piece of white candle
- fine powder for wax writing – you can use powdered instant coffee, chalk scrapings or even fine soil in an emergency
- ink or paint and a brush or sponge to make the water message appear
- a potato for the potato ink well
- some paper – use thin paper for the water mark
- a toothpick

Always mark the message to show your contact how to develop it (make it appear).

Marks to use are:
- wax for a wax message
- um for a water message
- h for a message that must be heated
- x on the message side of the paper

1. POTATO INKWELL
   - Hold the potato like this and cut off both ends with a table knife, as shown.

2. WAX WRITING
   - Wax some paper by rubbing it with a white candle. Lay the waxed side on plain paper. Write firmly to print the message in wax on the paper.

3. SCRAPER
   - Now use the blade of the table knife to scrape and squeeze juice from the cut top of the potato into the hole.

4. SPY TRICK
   - BLACK HAT HAD JUST ARRIVED AT THE AIRPORT. HE WAS STOPPED AND SEARCHED, BUT WAS FOUND TO BE CARRYING ONLY A SEWING KIT...

1. WATER WRITING
   - Wet some paper thoroughly. Lay it on a smooth, hard surface. Cover it with dry paper and write firmly. The message will appear on the wet paper when held to the light.

2. WAX WRITING
   - The message will vanish when the paper dries and reappear whenever it’s wet. Your contact can brush it with watery ink or paint to make it permanent.

3. SCRAPING
   - When he or she gives the paper a gentle shake, the powder will stick to the message and slide off the rest of the paper.

4. SPY TRICK
   - THE SPY WAS ALLOWED TO GO. AFTER ALL, A FEW NEEDLES AND THREADS CAN’T BE MUCH HELP TO THE ENEMY… OR CAN THEY?

ALONE IN HIS ROOM, THE SPY DREW THE THREAD OVER A HOT LIGHT BULB, AND TINY DOTS OF INVISIBLE INK APPEARED ALONG IT. TURN THE PAGE TO SEE HOW TO USE A DOT CODE.