

# **HIRAGANA**

**the Basics of Japanese**

**Clay & Yumi Boutwell**

Published by Kotoba Books

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Japanese language learning materials.

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If you look at the chart on the front cover, you will notice the hiragana are grouped into sections by row. Most sections cover five hiragana. At the end of each section of this book, there are quizzes, games, and other exercises to aid memorization.

If you study one or two pages a day for ten to thirty minutes, you will learn hiragana in a few short weeks! AND you will begin reading Japanese—*real* Japanese—the first day!

You will have to work of course, but that's all part of the fun.

Let's begin the adventure —

## ***HIRAGANA***

Below are a few hints that will help make your learning process easier:

- Written Japanese is made of **kanji** (Chinese characters), **katakana** (Hiragana's sister which is used mainly for foreign words and names), and **hiragana**.
- Forty-six characters represent the Japanese sound system and, except for a few cases, each character's sound is unique [unlike English where five vowels (a,e,i,o, and u) represent fifteen vowel sounds!]
- A few additional sounds are made by combining two hiragana or by adding a “ or a °. [More on this later.]
- Every hiragana, katakana, or kanji has a specific stroke order. This book shows the stroke order for all hiragana. Sometimes, however, characters with one stroke are shown in this book with two strokes for ease of understanding.
- Stroke order usually **starts from the upper left** corner down to the lower right. **Vertical lines** are drawn from **top to bottom** and **horizontal lines** are **left to right**. **Knowing this, you can guess how to write most characters.**

# ABOUT THIS BOOKLET

We believe, studying regularly for fifteen minutes each day is far more effective than two hours once a week. Atop each page we have included space to record how much time you spend studying each day. Use it to encourage regular study time.

In the hiragana box to the right, we have the hiragana, its *romaji* (romanized / alphabet letters), and its approximate sound. There are also squares to practice writing. Print the downloadable PDF for more writing practice. Please follow the stroke order shown. Even if your goal is simply to read, knowing the correct stroke order will help you in other areas such as learning kanji and overall better writing.

あ
romaji - a sound - fAther

We also give memory tips for each character. Admittedly, some of them are pretty silly; but the sillier they are, the easier they stick. Give them a try, but feel free to come up with different memory tricks that work best for you.

## FREE EXTRA RESOURCES

In the back of the book, you will find a link to download sound files and PDFs for printing extra writing practice sheets. We encourage you to download that now, print a few pages, and then turn the page to get started.

ねこ&ねずみ  
Cat & Mouse



*Gambarimashou!*  
(Let's do our best!)  
Clay & Yumi Boutwell

[www.TheJapanShop.com](http://www.TheJapanShop.com)  
[www.TheJapanesePage.com](http://www.TheJapanesePage.com)

Find other resources at our store: <http://www.TheJapanShop.com>

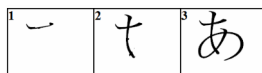
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あ

romaji - a  
sound - fAther

This is the first of the vowels.

There are only **FIVE** vowel sounds. All the other characters are made of a **consonant** + a **vowel** (except the “n” sound)



Usually, you draw horizontally and then vertically, from top to bottom.

### MEMORY HELP

A “t” with a slanted “g” makes an “ah” sound



あ

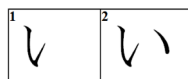
あ

い

romaji - i  
sound - fEEt

Now we come to our first real word.

Let's put あ together with い and see what happens!



あ + い = あい ai which means “love!”

Not a bad first day's work!

### MEMORY HELP

It looks like two dangling fEEt!!



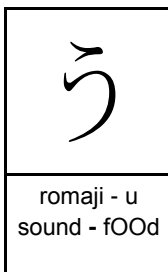
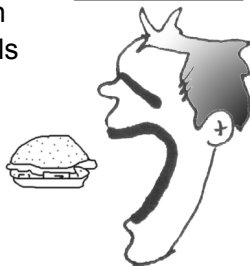
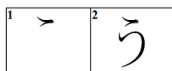
い

い

You can find FREE Japanese language resources at  
[www.thejapanesepage.com](http://www.thejapanesepage.com).

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 5 TIME SPENT: \_\_\_\_\_

This hiragana is sometimes used to make other characters longer in duration. Actually, all the vowels work in this capacity, but う is probably the most used. We will cover this later, so don't worry about it now *but don't forget it either!*

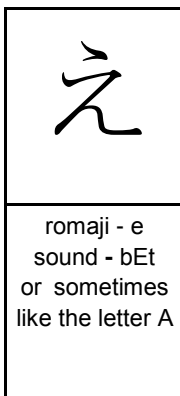
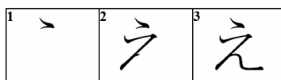


### MEMORY HELP

It looks like an open mouth looking for "fOOd"

う	う								
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

It may seem difficult at first, but learning these first few hiragana will be the base for your Japanese future! Learn these important ones well.



Also, learn these in order [a, i, u, e, o].

### MEMORY HELP

hEY, it's a man running

え	え								
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

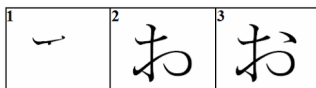
**TIP:** Hiragana and Katakana are "syllabaries" and not alphabets; the symbols represent syllables: "ma" is one character in Japanese, but two letters in English.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 6 TIME SPENT: \_\_\_\_\_

お

romaji - o  
sound - Oh nO!

Don't confuse this  
with あ!



You are on your last hiragana vowel.  
Congratulations!

### MEMORY HELP

It looks like “あ a” but **Oh!** it's different.



お

お

You are doing fine! Now write the following in romaji.

### HERE ARE SOME REAL JAPANESE WORDS

How do you pronounce them? Copy the hiragana.

あい

This means *love*

あおい

This means *blue*

え

This means *picture; painting*

いえ

This means *house*

おい

This means *a lot or much* [Long お sound]

いえ

This means *no* [Long い sound]

いう

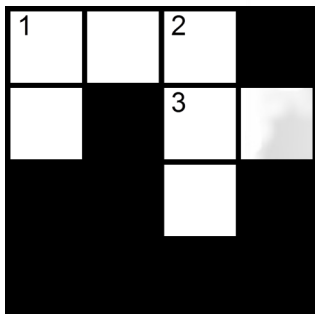
This means *to talk*

いい

This means *good* [Long い sound]

# Crossword Challenge!

*Practice writing the hiragana (not romaji)!*



## Across

1 This means “blue” (3)

3 This means “good” (2)

## Down

1 This means “love” (2)

2 This means “no” (3)



Now, try to answer the following questions from memory.  
(Of course, if you must peek, look above.)

## Q&A:

- 1) あい means \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) How do you write “blue” in Japanese? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) How would you say “blue house” in Japanese? [hint “blue” + “house”] \_\_\_\_\_

## TRUE OR FALSE: (circle one)

- 1) いえ means “no”                      T      F
- 2) あおい means “red”                      T      F

か

romaji - ka  
sound - CAR

1 っ 2 か 3 か

Now that you have learned the vowels [あいうえお],

let's build from them! The

remaining hiragana (except one) are sounds we would write with two or more letters in English.

This chapter begins the "k" row and this one [か] is "k" + "a" or "ka." (two letters but one hiragana character)

### MEMORY HELP

It looks like a "K" with the top falling off

か

か

き

romaji - ki  
sound - KEY

1 ー 2 ニ 3 キ 4 き

Continuing with the "k" section and adding the second vowel sound "i" we get "ki." The sound KI means "tree" in Japanese.

### MEMORY HELP

It looks like a skeleton **KEY**



き

き

Katakana, hiragana's sister, is used primarily to write foreign words and names. Your name would be written in katakana.



Now we have “k” and the 3rd vowel “u” to make “ku” better known as the “less than” mark. When drawing this character, start at the top (right) go down left then finally down right.



romaji - ku  
sound - COO

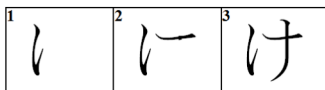
### MEMORY HELP

It looks like pa**KU** man (Pac-man™)



--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Perhaps now you can see how the rest of hiragana is constructed: a consonant + one of the five vowel sounds. No problem! The sound KE means “hair” in Japanese.



romaji - ke  
sound - Kettle



### MEMORY HELP

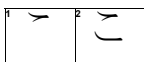
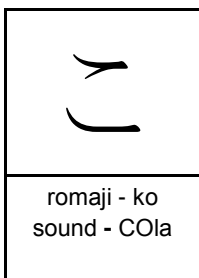
It looks like a broken old Kettle



--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

**TIP:** Practice writing & recognizing hiragana here:  
<http://thejapanesepage.com/hiragana>

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 10 TIME SPENT: \_\_\_\_\_



Now that you have learned the vowel sounds and have studied the first consonant + vowel line, you should have a basic understanding of hiragana. But don't worry if you are still a bit confused... Getting used to the pattern takes time.

### MEMORY HELP

It's obviously a "COla can" with no sides...

こ	こ								
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Let's get moving...

### HERE ARE SOME REAL JAPANESE WORDS

How do you pronounce them? Copy the hiragana.

かお

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *face*

えき

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *train station*

おおきい

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *big* [pronounce the O long]

いく

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *to go*

くうこう

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *airport* [the う makes the く and こ a longer sound. You don't pronounce it as

こい

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *love* or *carp (fish)*

かき

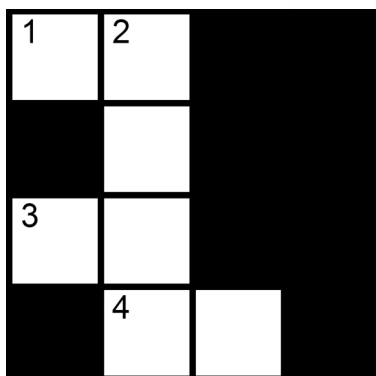
\_\_\_\_\_ This means *persimmon*

いけ

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *pond*

# Crossword Challenge!

*Practice writing the hiragana (not romaji)!*



## Across

1 This means "face" (2)

3 This means  
"persimmon" (2)

4 This means "to go" (2)

## Down

2 This means "big" (4)



Now, try to answer the following questions from memory.  
(Of course, if you must peek look on the previous page.)

## Q&A:

1) How do you write "big (train) station" [big + station]

— — — — —

2) Which writing system is used for foreign names,  
hiragana or katakana? \_\_\_\_\_ [p.8]

## TRUE OR FALSE: (circle one)

1) くうこう means "airport" T F

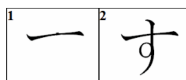
2) To make some sounds longer add an う T F

	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">1 一</td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">2 十</td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">3 ㇏</td> </tr> </table>	1 一	2 十	3 ㇏	<p>This looks similar to き [p. 8] but with one less line.</p> <p>Make drawing hiragana fun! The more you draw them the quicker you will remember them.</p>
1 一	2 十	3 ㇏			
<div style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"><b>MEMORY HELP</b></div> <div style="text-align: center; background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 5px;">It looks like a <b>SA</b>rgeant barking orders.</div>					
		<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>			

	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 100%; text-align: center;">1 し</td> </tr> </table>	1 し	<p>This is one of the least complicated to draw! Remember to always start at the top and go down when drawing Japanese characters. You may be expecting “sɪ” but it is pronounced “shi.”</p>
1 し			
<div style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"><b>MEMORY HELP</b></div> <div style="text-align: center; background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 5px;"> <b>SHE</b> has hair flowing in the wind.         </div>			
		<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	



When writing romaji, many Japanese write “sɪ” for し. However, for the non-Japanese, “shi” is much closer to the pronunciation.



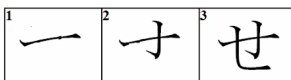
For the second stroke: Start from the top and as you go down, loop it to the left and then end with a tail.

romaji - su  
sound - SUE

### MEMORY HELP

It looks like a girl named **SUE** wearing a hat. uth.

す	す								
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



Are you writing each character many times? Try to use more than one sense: seeing, speaking, and writing the characters aid memorization more than just seeing.

romaji - se  
sound - SEt

### MEMORY HELP

An opened mouth person wearing a hat **SAY**ing something

せ	せ								
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

**TIP:** You can immediately recognize hiragana from katakana by its more fluid form.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 14 TIME SPENT: \_\_\_\_\_

<div style="font-size: 4em; margin: 0;">そ</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">romaji - so sound - SO</div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-size: 1.5em;">1</div><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-size: 1.5em;">2</div><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-size: 1.5em;">3</div></div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"><span>ー</span><span>㇏</span><span>そ</span></div>	<p>Another way to write this one is <span style="font-size: 2em; margin-left: 10px;">そ</span></p> <p>Just remember that they are the same character.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-top: 20px; text-align: center;"><b>MEMORY HELP</b> It looks <b>SO</b> abstract it could be Pica<b>SO</b></div>										
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"><tr><td style="width: 12.5%; text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"><div style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">そ</div></td><td style="width: 12.5%; text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"><div style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">そ</div></td><td style="width: 12.5%;"></td><td style="width: 12.5%;"></td><td style="width: 12.5%;"></td><td style="width: 12.5%;"></td><td style="width: 12.5%;"></td><td style="width: 12.5%;"></td><td style="width: 12.5%;"></td><td style="width: 12.5%;"></td></tr></table>			<div style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">そ</div>	<div style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">そ</div>								
<div style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">そ</div>	<div style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">そ</div>											

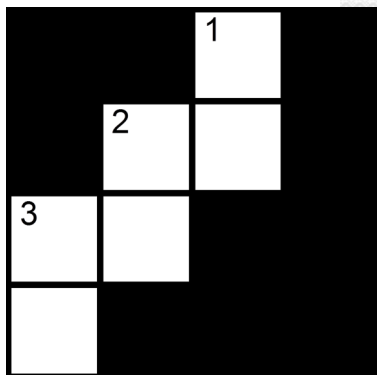
## HERE ARE SOME REAL JAPANESE WORDS

How do you pronounce them? Copy the hiragana.

- |    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| さけ |  | This means <i>Japanese alcohol</i>         |
| うし |  | This means <i>cow</i>                      |
| すし |  | This means <i>sushi</i>                    |
| あさ |  | This means <i>morning</i>                  |
| すき |  | This means <i>to like (something)</i>      |
| うそ |  | This means <i>a lie</i>                    |
| かさ |  | This means <i>umbrella</i>                 |
| せき |  | This means <i>chair</i> or <i>to cough</i> |

# Crossword Challenge!

*Practice writing the hiragana (not romaji)!*



## Across

2. This means “to like”

3. This means “cow”

## Down

1. This means “chair”

2. This means “sushi”

3. This means “a lie”



Now, try to answer the following questions from memory.

## Q&A:

1) How do you write sushi in hiragana? \_\_\_\_\_

2) How is かさ pronounced? \_\_\_\_\_

## TRUE OR FALSE: (circle one)

1) さ is “*ki*” and き is “*sa*” T F

2) There are two ways to write そ T F

た

romaji - ta  
sound - TODdler

1 2 3 4  
一 十 十 十

You are now beginning the “t” row. You will encounter two irregular pronunciations. Until now, it has been pretty easy: one consonant + one vowel with no irregularities. Here’s one more regular one.

### MEMORY HELP

It looks like a **T**ODdler reaching for a toy

た

た

一

ち

ち

romaji - chi  
sound—CHEAp

You should be congratulated! You have reached your first “irregular” hiragana pronunciation. Yeah! Ahem... This is pronounced “*chi*” and not “*ti*” as you would think.

### MEMORY HELP

A **C**HEAp version of the number 5

ち

ち

There are a few irregular pronunciations in hiragana. The front and back charts show these in red.





TSU. This one is a bit difficult to pronounce. The sound is NOT found in English. But if you say the words “cat” and “soup” fast you get a caTSOuP. This is the sound you want.

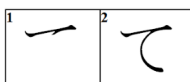
Later, we will see a small つ. This causes a short pause between syllables.



romaji - tsu  
sound - caT SOUP

### MEMORY HELP

A wave from a **TSU**nami (tidal wave)



Taking a break from the irregular, let's continue on with what you are used to. By the way, “hand” in Japanese is *te*. (KaraTE—empty hand)



romaji - te  
sound - TErrible

### MEMORY HELP

A **TE**rrible 7

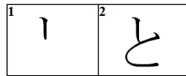


Listen to a native speaker or download the sound files from the back of the book to hear the つ *tsu* sound.

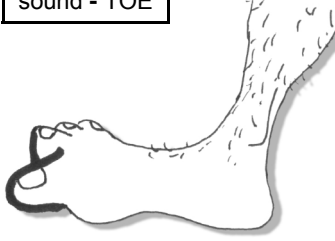
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 18 TIME SPENT: \_\_\_\_\_

と

romaji - to  
sound - TOE



You have finished the fourth row. You are getting close to the mid mark—don't give up. You are doing just fine!



### MEMORY HELP

It looks like someone's big **TOE**

と	と								
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

## HERE ARE SOME REAL JAPANESE WORDS

How do you pronounce them? Copy the hiragana.

- |     |  |   |
|-----|--|---|
| おと  |  | This means <i>sound</i>                 |
| とおい |  | This means <i>far</i>                   |
| いち  |  | This means <i>the number 1</i>          |
| ちち  |  | This means <i>father</i>                |
| すてき |  | This means <i>nice</i>                  |
| さとう |  | This means <i>sugar</i> (the う makes と) |
| くち  |  | This means <i>mouth</i>                 |
| うた  |  | This means <i>song</i>                  |



な

romaji - na  
sound - kNOt

1 ー 2 ㇏ 3 ㇏ 4 な

There are three characters that have a ㇏ part. They are all in the "n" section.



### MEMORY HELP

It looks like a rope all tangled in a k**NO**t

な

な

に

romaji - ni  
sound - k**NEE**

1 ㇏ 2 ㇏ 3 に

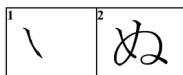
Try your best to learn to read **and** write hiragana. Even Japanese, when they forget a kanji (Chinese character) can always write the word in hiragana.

### MEMORY HELP

It looks like a person sitting on his **kNEEs** (as seen from above)

に

に



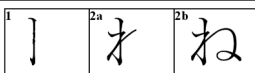
Here is the second ㇏ character. We are pointing this out because there are several characters that have a similar look.

romaji - nu  
sound - NEW

### MEMORY HELP

It looks like an あ but it has a tail and no hat—a **NEW** *nu*

ぬ	ぬ								
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



There will be two more hiragana that look similar to ね. Be sure to get straight that “*ne*” is the one with the tail—㇏

romaji - ne  
sound - NEck

### MEMORY HELP

If you look carefully you will see a “1,” “+,” and a “2,” but, **NAY**, no “3.”

ね	ね								
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

ね is also used as a sentence ending particle. It has a very versatile meaning: “isn’t it?”, “don’t you?”, and “you know...”

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 22 TIME SPENT: \_\_\_\_\_

<div style="font-size: 48px; margin: 0;">の</div>	<div style="display: inline-block; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin: 0;">1 /</div> <div style="display: inline-block; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin: 0;">1b の</div>	<p>This hiragana is used as a particle [grammatical marker] as well as a part of a word. As a particle, it is the possessive (apostrophe S)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ねこ の えさ cat 's food</p>							
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0;"><b>MEMORY HELP</b></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0; background-color: #f0f0f0;">A 9 on its side. [German for <b>NO</b> is “nein” pronounced “nine”]</div>									
の	の	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 40px; margin: 0;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 40px; margin: 0;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 40px; margin: 0;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 40px; margin: 0;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 40px; margin: 0;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 40px; margin: 0;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 40px; margin: 0;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 40px; margin: 0;"></div>

## HERE ARE SOME REAL JAPANESE WORDS

How do you pronounce them? Copy the hiragana.

ねこ

\_\_\_\_\_

This means *cat*

この

\_\_\_\_\_

This means *this*

ねっ

\_\_\_\_\_

This means *fever*

いぬ

\_\_\_\_\_

This means *dog*

にし

\_\_\_\_\_

This means *West*

なつ

\_\_\_\_\_

This means *summer*

なに

\_\_\_\_\_

This means *what*

なな

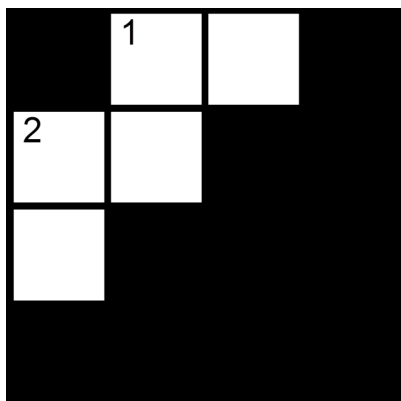
\_\_\_\_\_

This means *seven*

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 23 TIME SPENT: \_\_\_\_\_

# Crossword Challenge!

Practice writing the hiragana (not romaji)!

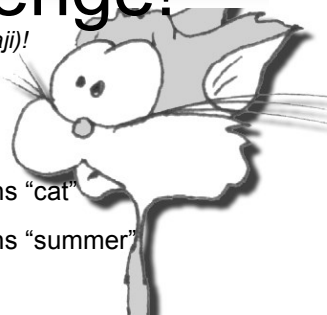


## Across

1. This means "cat"
2. This means "summer"

## Down


1. This means "fever"
2. This means "what?"



**Find home:** Follow the hiragana in order to get home and out of the maze







	い	き	し	つ	の	お	な	つ
の	と	て	に	ぬ	お	さ	あ	う
ね	な	つ	ち	い	す	こ	け	お
ぬ	に	う	た	と	ぬ	の	に	て
て	け	し	そ		う	え	お	さ
い	こ	ね	せ	あ	い	に	か	ね
ぬ	き	お	す	し	な	と	き	そ
あ	く	な	に	さ	こ	け	く	す
し	の	と	さ	す	の	と	つ	ぬ

は	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">1 は</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">2 へ</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">3 け</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">3b は</div> </div>	<p>This and “<i>he</i>” [see page 25] are the only hiragana that have two sounds for one character. When “は” is used to make up words like はし <i>hashi</i> (chopsticks) it is pronounced “<i>ha</i>.” However when used as a grammatical marker (as the topic marker), it is pronounced “<i>WA</i>.”</p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">romaji - ha sound - HA!</div>		
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #f0f0f0;"> <b>MEMORY HELP</b>              It has two parts to make memorizing <b>HA</b>rd.           </div>		
は	は	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 100%; height: 40px; border: 1px solid black;"></div> </div>

ひ	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">1 ひ</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">1b て</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">1c ひ</div> </div>	<p>Nearly every letter in the English alphabet has two or more possible sounds, but remarkably, Japanese sounds and characters are very regular.</p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">romaji - hi sound - HE</div>		
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #f0f0f0; margin-left: 20px;"> <b>MEMORY HELP</b>              It looks like a smiley face saying “<b>HEE HEE</b>”           </div> </div>		
ひ	ひ	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 100%; height: 40px; border: 1px solid black;"></div> </div>



**NOTE:** Japanese children learn hiragana before learning katakana or kanji.

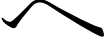





	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="display: flex; gap: 5px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">1 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">2 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">3 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">4 </div> </div> <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p>This can also be written as </p> <p>Just remember that the middle line can be drawn or not. Also the pronunciation of this is not “<i>hu</i>” as you would expect but “<i>fu</i>.” As in <i>とうふ</i> <i>toufu</i>—tofu. Although, the sound is sometimes in-between “<i>hu</i>” and “<i>fu</i>.”</p> </div> </div>
<p>romaji - fu sound - FOOD</p>	

**MEMORY HELP**



It looks like a snake looking for some **FOOD**

									
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="display: flex; gap: 5px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">1 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">1b </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">1c </div> </div> <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p>“<i>へ</i>” can be pronounced as “<i>he</i>” or “<i>e</i>.” Usually, when used as part of a word, it is pronounced as “<i>he</i>” as in <i>へそ</i> <i>heso</i> (belly button). And when used as a grammatical particle (to show direction) it is pronounced “<i>e</i>” —but not always!</p> </div> </div>
<p>romaji - he sound - [a short] HEAD</p>	

**MEMORY HELP**


**HEY!** It's an upside V (*almost*)

									
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

You may see some hiragana drawn differently. English also has this:

[**a** or a]
[**m** or M]

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 26 TIME SPENT: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>ほ</b>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">1 丨</div><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">2 丨ー</div><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">3 丨＝</div><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">4 ほ</div></div>	<p>This comes after は so it has a top bar. Notice the second bar is slightly longer than the first.</p> <div style="text-align: center;"></div>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #f0f0f0;"><b>MEMORY HELP</b> <b>HO OH!</b> It is more complicated than は <i>ha</i></div>		
<b>ほ</b>	<b>ほ</b>	

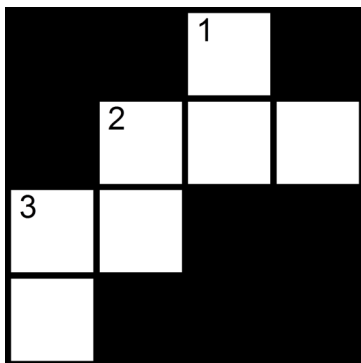
## HERE ARE SOME REAL JAPANESE WORDS

How do you pronounce them? Copy the hiragana.

- |     |  |   |
|-----|--|---|
| はこ  |  | This means <i>box</i>   |
| ひと  |  | This means <i>person</i>  |
| ふね  |  | This means <i>boat</i>  |
| へた  |  | This means <i>bad at, or unskilled</i>  |
| はと  |  | This means <i>dove</i>  |
| ひたち |  | This means <i>Hitachi</i> (the company)   |
| ほし  |  | This means a <i>star</i>  |
| とうふ |  | This means <i>tofu</i><br>[the う just makes the と longer. You don't actually pronounce the う -- but a long と] |

# Crossword Challenge!

*Practice writing the hiragana (not romaji)!*



## Across

2. This means “Hitachi”

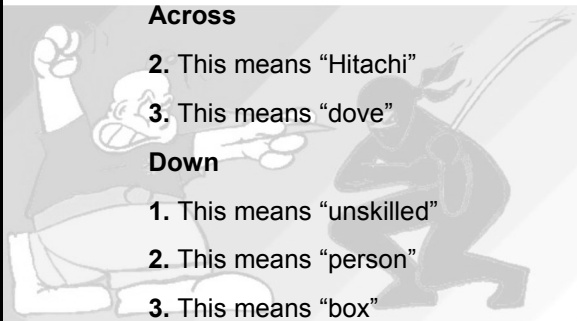
3. This means “dove”

## Down

1. This means “unskilled”

2. This means “person”

3. This means “box”



Now let's play a traditional Japanese game—Shiritori. “shiri” means “butt” and “tori” means “to catch.” Someone starts with a word and the next player says another word that begins with the last letter of the previous word. Let's play Shiritori with a few words you have studied:

“box”

は こ

[p. 26]

“love” or “carp”

こ

[p. 10]

“to go”

\_\_\_\_\_

[p. 10]

“airport”

\_\_\_\_\_

[p. 10]

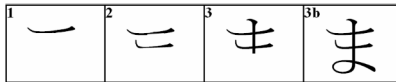
“cow”

し

[p. 14]

ま

romaji - ma  
sound - MA MA



At first you may have to think of each

memory help in order to say the pronunciation, but after a while, you will be able to simply look at the character and, *skipping the memory help*, your mind will jump right to the sound. This is real progress.

### MEMORY HELP

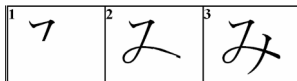
Look **MA!** I caught a dragonfly. (Imagine a dragonfly)

ま

ま

み

romaji - mi  
sound - ME



Also, there may be a few hiragana you know better than others. Don't let this worry you. In time as you read more and more, the bumps will be smoothed out.

### MEMORY HELP

It looks to **ME** like a 2 over a 4

み

み

Hiragana (and katakana) originally came from kanji (Chinese characters).

む

romaji - mu  
sound - MOvie

1 2 3  
一 ず む

Getting this far, you have accomplished quite a lot. Go on a treasure hunt on the internet. Start at a Japanese site such as [kids.yahoo.co.jp](http://kids.yahoo.co.jp). Find and sound out the hiragana you have studied.

### MEMORY HELP

It looks like an old film projector showing a **MO**vie

む

む

め

romaji - me  
sound - MEEn

1 2 3  
丩 𠂔 め

Here we have the last of the look-a-likes.

め [me] looks a lot like む [nu], の [no], and even あ [a].



### MEMORY HELP

It looks like a half closed eye. [in Japanese "eye" is "め"]

め

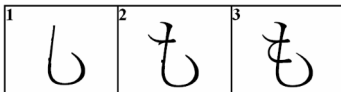
め

Also with *Yahoo Japan*, when you put your mouse over any link and look at the bottom, you will see the directory name in English!

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 30 TIME SPENT: \_\_\_\_\_

も

romaji - mo  
sound - MOWer



Now that you are finishing your seventh row, be sure to spend some time reviewing what you have studied.



### MEMORY HELP

A man with a hat resting after MOWing his yard

も

も

### HERE ARE SOME REAL JAPANESE WORDS

How do you pronounce them? Copy the hiragana.

もも

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *peach*

まめ

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *bean*

ひみつ

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *secret*

しまうま

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *zebra* [the う does NOT make

たま

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *ball*

まち

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *town*

こめ

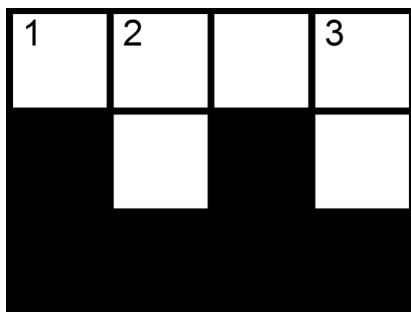
\_\_\_\_\_ This means *rice*

さめ

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *shark*

# Crossword Challenge!

*Practice writing the hiragana (not romaji)!*



## Across

1. This means “zebra”

## Down

2. This means “beans”

3. This means “town”



Now, try to answer the following questions from memory.

## Q&A:

- 1) How do you pronounce ん \_\_\_\_ & how do you pronounce め \_\_\_\_?
- 2) Write *shimauma* [zebra] in Japanese. \_\_\_\_\_

## TRUE OR FALSE: (circle one)

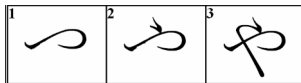
- 1) Hiragana came from kanji  
T F
- 2) The correct order for the m's is もめむみま  
T F



Answers in back



romaji - ya  
sound - YAchT



If you look at the order of hiragana on the front of this booklet, you will see that the やゆよ row is missing a few sounds.



### MEMORY HELP

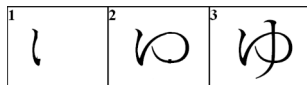
A YAchT with its sail blowing in the wind




--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



romaji - yu  
sound - YOU



There is no *yi* or *ye* sound. That is why we are on *yu* now.

### MEMORY HELP


If you look closely you may see a **y**, **o**, and a **u**




--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

The "y" row has only *ya*, *yu* and *yo*.



	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">1 一</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">2 ト</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">2b よ</td> </tr> </table>	1 一	2 ト	2b よ	<p>It may seem easier to write the down stroke first, but learn the correct order from the start. Stroke order is very important to the Japanese and, yes, it can make a difference in the appearance... sometimes.</p>							
1 一	2 ト	2b よ										
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">romaji - yo</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">sound - YO-YO</div>												
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #f0f0f0; margin-bottom: 5px;"><b>MEMORY HELP</b></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #e0e0e0;">A fancy trick on a <b>YO-yo</b></div>												
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 40px; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">よ</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">よ</td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> </tr> </table>			よ	よ								
よ	よ											

The や, ゆ, and よ can be used in two ways:

- 1) as “letters” to make words
- 2) or...

Take a look at the lower back cover where it says “plus small やゆよ.” Remember not to panic and then come back here. It looks scary but, really, it isn’t too complicated.

## ***There is a pattern.***

In every case, a consonant sound is combined with a small や *ya*, ゆ *yu*, or よ *yo*. And the consonant sound has already been decided for you! It is always those under the “i” column. Look at the chart on the front or back (left) cover. Starting with the “k” row, we see き, し, ち, に, ひ, み, and り are used. (all i’s)

Now, notice the sound changes. き *ki* + や *ya* = きゃ *kya*

Easy isn’t it? You can think of the smaller や, ゆ, or よ as taking away the “i” sound in the first character. You may be saying, “What is the difference between きゃ *kiya* and きゃ *kya*?” First, the sound is different. “KI YA” (two syllables) versus “KYA” (one syllable). Second, the meaning can be totally different.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 34 TIME SPENT: \_\_\_\_\_

## HERE ARE SOME REAL JAPANESE WORDS

How do you pronounce them?

はやい	_____	This means <i>fast</i>
いきましょう	_____	This means <i>let's go!</i>
へや	_____	This means <i>room</i>
かいしゃ	_____	This means <i>company; business</i>
おちゃ	_____	This means <i>Japanese tea</i>
きょう	_____	This means <i>today</i>
ひゃく	_____	This means <i>hundred (100)</i>

Copy the following words to make a [not so useful] sentence in Japanese:

きょう、 \_\_\_\_\_ [the 、 is a comma]

きょう、あなた \_\_\_\_\_

きょう、あなたは \_\_\_\_\_

きょう、あなたは ひゃく \_\_\_\_\_

きょう、あなたは ひゃく さい。 \_\_\_\_\_

きょう-today

あなた-you [pronoun]

は *wa*-makes the preceding word or phrase the "topic" or "main thought" [not translated] (p. 24)

ひゃく-100

さい-years old

Now use the glossary to the left to figure out the meaning in English: [add an "are" in there]

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Answer in back

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 35 TIME SPENT: \_\_\_\_\_

## Let's practice the small やゆよ

The following table shows all the hiragana you have learned with a small や, ゆ or よ. The last line [r line] will be studied next.

き+y	きや <i>kya</i>	きゆ <i>kyu</i>	きよ <i>kyo</i>
し+y	しや <i>sha</i>	しゆ <i>shu</i>	しよ <i>sho</i>
ち+y	ちや <i>cha</i>	ちゆ <i>chu</i>	ちよ <i>cho</i>
に+y	にや <i>nya</i>	にゆ <i>nyu</i>	によ <i>nyo</i>
ひ+y	ひや <i>hya</i>	ひゆ <i>hyu</i>	ひよ <i>hyo</i>
み+y	みや <i>mya</i>	みゆ <i>myu</i>	みよ <i>myo</i>
り+y	りや <i>rya</i>	りゆ <i>ryu</i>	りよ <i>ryo</i>

**NOTE:** We didn't write the し and ち rows with a "y" in the romaji. If we were to write *sya* (as many Japanese people do) the sound to the foreigner will be different. Both ways are correct—One being more "correct" to the Japanese understanding of the writing system and the other being more "correct" to the pronunciation.

### Write "190" in Japanese

To write 190 in Japanese, you need to write **100** and **9** and **10**.

100    9    10  
*hyaku kyuu juu*

[Remember to use う to make the *kyu* and *ju* longer;  
We will write "*ju*" since we haven't covered that yet.]

じゅ

\_\_\_\_\_ hya ku

\_\_\_\_\_ kyu u

\_\_\_\_\_ ju u

Answers in back

ら

romaji - ra

1

↘

2

↗

3

ら

You will notice there is no sound given for the “r” section. That is because the Japanese R sounds are different from any English sound. In this chapter, we will try to explain how to make the sounds [p 39], but be sure to listen to the sound files. [See bottom]

**MEMORY HELP**A 5 with a **R**otten top

ら

ら

り

romaji - ri

1

|

2

り

The R sound is in-between the R and L sounds in English.

Sometimes it sounds like a “D” to English ears. Pronunciation-wise this is the most difficult section, so learn it well. Once you get the hang of it, you will be understood.

**MEMORY HELP**It looks like two arms **RE**aching for something

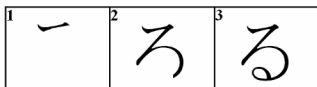
り

り

For more info on how to correctly make the “r” sounds (with sound files), please visit <http://thejapanesepage.com/beginners/pronunciation>

る

romaji - ru



If you have Japanese friends, ask them to help you with the “r” sounds. Listen carefully and mimic the sounds.

### MEMORY HELP

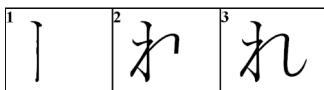
It looks like a **ROOT**

る

る

れ

romaji - re



Don't confuse this with

ね *ne* [p. 21]



### MEMORY HELP

It is a snake **RE**sting on a stick

れ

れ

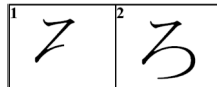
See next page for an overview on making “r” sounds.

**Congratulations!**

ろ

romaji - ro

You have survived the last of the dreaded "r's"



Spend some time listening to the sound files [see the last page for the download link] and reading page 39 to get your pronunciation down.

### MEMORY HELP

Think of a man **ROW**ing a boat

ろ

ろ

### HERE ARE SOME REAL JAPANESE WORDS

How do you pronounce them? Copy the hiragana.

りか

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *science*

らく

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *easy*

くり

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *chestnut*

りす

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *squirrel*

あり

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *ant*

あれ

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *that*

れっ

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *line*

ろうそく

\_\_\_\_\_ This means *candle*

# Overview of R sounds

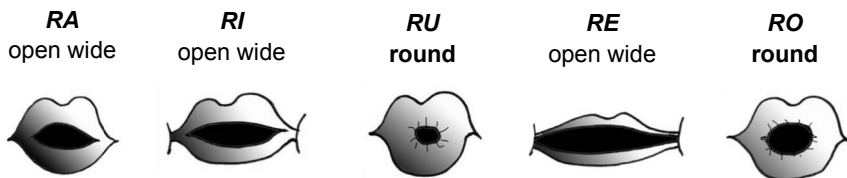
There are two considerations for mastering the R's: **Tongue** and **Mouth**

## **PART ONE: The Tongue...**

The sound is made by lightly slapping your tongue just behind your upper teeth. Think of making an L sound, like LOVE. That is the approximate place. The only difference between the Japanese R and the English L sound is how long the tongue is held there. In English the tongue is held a while so air can go around it. In Japanese, the tongue is immediately dropped. All of the R sounds are made the same way with the tongue.

## **PART TWO: The Mouth...**

The mouth takes a little practice to make it natural, but it is also easy, really. Very simply, for RA RI & RE the mouth is more open and for RU & RO the mouth is more rounded and shut. [NOTE: actually for perfect pronunciation, ALL five sounds have unique mouth positions, but remember basically for RA, RI & RE the mouth is more opened and RU & RO it is rounded and smaller.]



Again the most important thing is that RA, RI & RE have a kind of open, wide mouth and RU & RO have a more rounded, small mouth. Practice saying them in order -- (open mouth) RA RI (round mouth) RU (open mouth) RE (round mouth) RO.

Lastly, remember, slap the tongue with a wide mouth for RA, RI, RE and slap the tongue with a round mouth for RU & RO.

わ

romaji - wa  
sound - WAsh

1 2 3  
↓ 才 わ

There are only two letters under the “w” section.  
This is the only character that has a “w” sound.  
The next hiragana を is technically a “wo” but  
most of the time it is pronounced “o.”

### MEMORY HELP

It is a **W**Ashing machine

わ

わ

を

romaji - o  
sound - OH

1 2 3  
一 才 を

This character is **only** used  
as a grammatical particle. It  
will never be found as part  
of a word. You have studied the character that does  
that (お). を is placed right after the direct object.  
(see exercise at bottom of page 41)

### MEMORY HELP

It looks like a person carefully stepping into a  
cold pond—**OH!** It's cold!

を

を

を is the only hiragana that cannot be used to make words.



ん	1	1b	/	ん	<p>Finally the last one! This is the only one that has just one consonant sound—n. Also the ん <b>can-not</b> be used at the beginning of a word.</p>				
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>MEMORY HELP</b> </div> <div style="background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 10px; text-align: center; margin-top: 5px;">             It looks like a cursive “n” — <i>n</i> </div>									
ん	ん								

Copy the following words to make a sentence in Japanese:

わたし \_\_\_\_\_

わたしは \_\_\_\_\_

わたしは ほん \_\_\_\_\_

わたしは ほんを \_\_\_\_\_

わたしは ほんを よみたい。



*watashi*—I (pronoun)

は *wa*—makes the preceding word or phrase the “topic” or “main thought” [not translated] (p. 24)

*hon*—book

を *o*—marks the Direct Object of the sentence [not translated]

*yomitai*—want to read

Now use the glossary to the left to figure out the meaning in English: [verb is last]

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Answer in back

## Small やゆよ review

The “i” column [きしちにひみり] is combined with a small や, ゆ or よ to make additional sounds.

Write the hiragana for the following words:

- 1) *kyo u ri* \_\_\_\_\_ [cucumber]
- 2) *sho u ri* \_\_\_\_\_ [victory]
- 3) *o cha* \_\_\_\_\_ [Japanese tea]
- 4) *ryo u ri* \_\_\_\_\_ [cooking, food]
- 5) *kyo u* \_\_\_\_\_ [today]
- 6) *sha shi n* \_\_\_\_\_ [photo]

*Answers in back*

The small つ



Way back on page 17, we mentioned sometimes a small つ *tsu* is used to cause a short pause or break between syllables. For example, in English we have a slight pause after “black” in “black car.” Here is a good example to show how important this small つ is.

がつき *gakki* - musical instrument [with a slight pause]  
*and*

がき *gaki* - brat, annoying kid [without the pause]

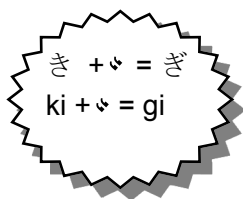
**Remember:**

The small つ is not pronounced, but causes a short hiccup  
 between sounds

Now here is what you have been waiting for. I am sure you have been wondering what those  and  things are all about. Although it isn't as easy as the little や, ゆ or よ's, again, there is a pattern that can be followed.



- “ The “ or “*ten ten*” makes a soft sound harder. For example, it makes a “k” sound a hard “g” sound (“g” as in **good**). “s” becomes “z,” “t” becomes “d,” and “h” becomes “b.”
- O The ° or “*maru*” makes the “h” become a “p” sound. The other consonant sounds are not affected by the *maru*, only the “h” group. That's all there is to it!



See how easy it is? All you have to remember is:

k “	→ g	s “	→ z	t “	→ d
h “	→ b	h °	→ p		

Before doing the practice below, look at the chart on the back cover until you understand how it works.

Let's practice writing words with the “ and the °

- ㊦ Here is き *ki*. How do you make a *gi*? \_\_\_\_\_
- ㊦ Here is ふ *fu*. How do you make a *pu*? \_\_\_\_\_
- ㊦ Here is き ゆ *kyu*. How do you make a *gyu*? \_\_\_\_\_
- ㊦ Here is し ょ *sho*. How do you make a *jo*? \_\_\_\_\_ [look at chart]
- ㊦ Now write *bi ji n*. This means “beautiful woman”: \_\_\_\_\_



When か is given a *ten ten* [が], it can be a grammatical particle. (it can also be a regular “letter” to make up words...) As a grammatical particle it marks the subject of the sentence. Very often the usage of the particles は and が are similar. は usually covers a broad topic while が is more narrow.

### Other particles:

は *wa*—topic marker [as a regular “letter” it is pronounced “*ha*”]  
 へ *he* or *e*—directional marker  
 を *o*—direct object marker  
 が *ga*—subject marker

There are two sets with the same pronunciation with the *ten ten*. じ & ぢ are both pronounced *ji* and ず & づ are both *zu*. While all four characters do appear in words (and are not interchangeable) the じ is more common than ぢ and the ず is more common than づ.

Think of *ji* as じ and *zu* as ず.

### What's this in romaji?

じ = ji

1. ぶ = \_\_\_\_\_

2. ぷ = \_\_\_\_\_

3. だ = \_\_\_\_\_

4. びゃ = \_\_\_\_\_

5. づ = \_\_\_\_\_

### What's this in hiragana?

*ji* = じ or ぢ

1. *ba* = \_\_\_\_\_

2. *do* = \_\_\_\_\_

3. *gu* = \_\_\_\_\_

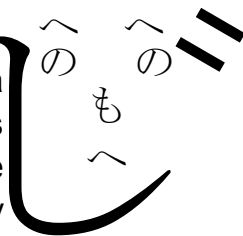
4. *cho* = \_\_\_\_\_

5. *myu* = \_\_\_\_\_

# FUN WITH HIRAGANA

I want you to meet Mr. *Henohenomoheji*

The name sounds impossible to remember, but it is simply reading the hiragana that makes the character. The eyebrow is “he.” The eye is “no.” The nose is “mo.” the mouth is “he.” And the face is made by “ji.” (*ji* = *shi* + “”) Do you see it? Try to draw it. Impress your friends.



.....



Here's another one. Can you read it? It is also *henohenomoheji* but as a cat.

**SHIRITORI** - A traditional Japanese game which you have already seen (p. 27) is called *Shiritori*. If you remember, the game starts with someone saying a word. The next player takes the last “letter” of that word and uses it to begin the next word. *Shiritori* is an excellent way to have fun while gaining a larger vocabulary.

**KAIBUN** (Japanese palindrome) - This is a word play where a sentence can be read from the left or right and still make sense.

わたしまけましたわ      *watashi makemashita wa*—

Reading from either the left or right it means “I lost.” [*watashi* = I; *makemashita* = lost; *wa* = sigh or exclamation sound] Notice this doesn't work looking at the romaji, but only with hiragana.

たけやぶやけた      *takeyabu yaketa*—Again reading from the left or the right, it means, “the bamboo grove burned.” [*takeyabu* = bamboo grove; *yaketa* = was burned]

# Yumi's challenge

Here is your chance to show off your awesome skills. Yumi has prepared a few sentences based mainly on words found in this booklet. See if you can sound out the words **and** understand them.

- ① りすは くりが すき。
- ② うしは かおが おおきい。
- ③ おおきい くうこうへ いきましょう。
- ④ しまうまは はやい です。
- ⑤ わたしは えが へた です。

## Some hints

▶ は, へ and が are used also as grammatical particles.

[p. 44]

▶ Japanese verbs are at the end of the sentence.

▶ Think of です as “to be” [is, am, are]

Here are the page numbers for each word, if you need to look them up:

1) 38, 38, 14

2) 14, 10, 10

3) 10, 10, 34

4) 30, 34, *desu*

5) 41, 6, 26, *desu*

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 47 TIME SPENT: \_\_\_\_\_

# HIRAGANA PRACTICE PAD

ひらがな

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DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 48 TIME SPENT: \_\_\_\_\_

Hiragana Practice Pad

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# Hiragana Practice Pad

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Hiragana Practice Pad

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## Hiragana Practice Pad

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# Hiragana Practice Pad

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Hiragana Practice Pad

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Hiragana Practice Pad

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Hiragana Practice Pad

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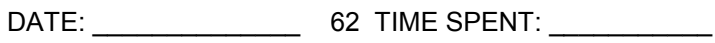
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Hiragana Practice Pad









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Hiragana Practice Pad

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Hiragana Practice Pad

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# Hiragana Practice Pad

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## Hiragana Practice Pad

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# Hiragana Practice Pad

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Hiragana Practice Pad

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## Hiragana Practice Pad

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# Hiragana Practice Pad

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## FREE PRACTICE

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DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 72 TIME SPENT: \_\_\_\_\_

## FREE PRACTICE

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## FREE PRACTICE

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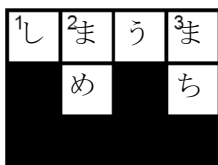
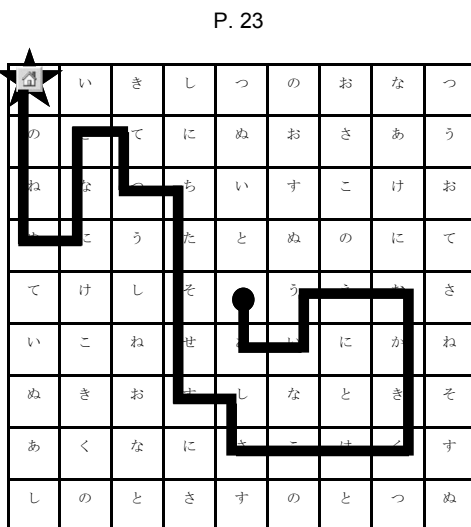
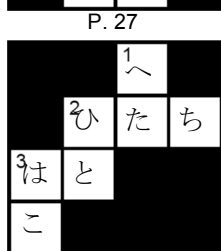
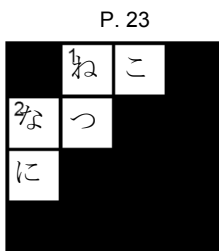
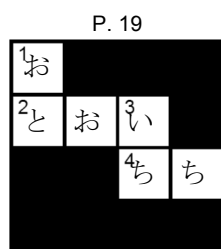
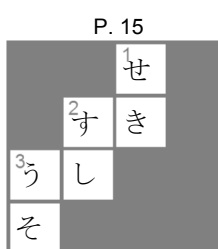
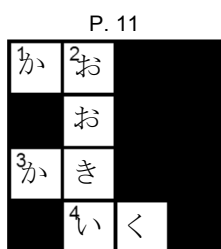
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## FREE PRACTICE

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## ANSWERS: Crosswords



## ANSWERS: Questions

- P. 7 - Q&A 1) love 2) あおい 3) あおい いえ T/F 1) F [いいえ is no] 2) F [あおい is blue]
- P. 11 - Q&A 1) おおきい えき 2) katakana T/F 1) T 2) T
- P. 15 - Q&A 1) すし 2) *ka sa* [means "umbrella"] T/F 1) F [さ is "sa"; き is "ki"] 2) T
- P. 19 - Q&A 1) ち *chi* & つ *tsu* 2) うた T/F 1) F [いち means "1"] 2) F [すてき means "nice"]
- P. 27 - box = はこ; love or carp = こい; to go = いく; airport = こうこう; cow = うし
- P. 31 - Q&A 1) ぬ *nu* め *me* 2) しまうま T/F 1) T 2) F [まみむめも]
- P. 34 - きょう、あなたはひゃくさい。means "Today, you are a hundred years old."
- P. 35 - ひゃく きゅう じゅう
- P. 41 - わたしはほんをよみたい。means "I want to read a book."
- P. 42 - 1) きゅうり 2) しょうり 3) おちゃ 4) りょうり 5) きょう 6) しゃしん
- P. 43 - 1) ぎ *gi* 2) ぷ *pu* 3) ぎゅ *gyu* 4) じょ *jo* 5) びじん *bijin*
- P. 44 - romaji 1) bu 2) pu 3) da 4) bya 5) zu hiragana 1) ば 2) ど 3) ぐ 4) ちょ 5) みゅ

## ***FREE EXTRA RESOURCES***

To get a download that includes all the Hiragana sounds and a PDF for printing extra writing practices, please type the following URL in the browser on your computer:

**<http://TheJapanesePage.com/downloads/hiraganaextras.zip>**

If you have any problems with the download or have any other questions, please email us at [help@thejapanshop.com](mailto:help@thejapanshop.com).

どうもありがとうございました！