




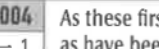






	¹ SUN ² DAY ³ JAPAN ニチ ジツ ひ -び -か	² 日々 ひび daily; days ² ひにち date; number of days (also written 日にち) ² 日に日に ひにひに day by day, every day ² ある日 あるひ one day, a certain day ³ 日ソ にっソ Japan and the Soviet Union, Japanese-Soviet
0001 日 72 2606 常 4	We begin with the most common character and the source of all life, the SUN . 日 depicts the SUN with a line drawn along its equator. It also means DAY , as well as JAPAN (as an abbreviation for 日本 [にほん]). In the didactic vocabulary, note the symbol 々, which means "repeat last character"; thus, 日々=日日.	
¹ 	ONE イチ イツ ひと ひとつ	一日 いちにち one day 0001 ついたち 1st of the month 一々 いちいち one by one; in detail 一つ ひとつ one (of something) 一つずつ ひとつずつ one at a time
0002 一 1 2850 常 1	The next three entries, representing the numbers ONE , TWO , and THREE , are classic examples of Chinese characters as ideographs—written symbols that represent abstract ideas. But one could also argue that they are in fact pictographs, representing ONE , TWO , or THREE fingers. 𠄎 𠄎 2115	
¹  ² 	TWO ニ ふた ふた(つ)	二日 ふつか two days; 2nd of the month... 0001 ニメートル にメートル 2 meters ニラウンド にラウンド two rounds, Round 2 レモン二つ レモンふたつ two lemons 一つ二つ ひとつふたつ one or two 0002
0003 二 7 1688 常 2	The first didactic vocabulary word (hereafter, "V1") is one of the many words whose pronunciation cannot be derived from the readings listed in these entries. A selection of compounds with irregular readings appears in Appendix 3. 𠄎 𠄎 0110	
¹  ²  ³ 	THREE サン み み(つ) みっ(つ)	三つだけ みっただけ just three 三日 みっか three days; 3rd (of the month) 0001 三日まで みっかまで by the 3rd 0001 二三日 にさんにち two or three days... 0003, 0001 三グラム さんグラム three grams
0004 一 1 1689 常 3	As these first four entries have made clear, the didactic compounds include only such kanji as have been introduced previously.	

	TEN ジュウ ジッ とお と	二十 にじゅう twenty 0003 はたち twenty years old 十日 とおか ten days; 10th of the month ... 0001 二十日 はつか twenty days; 20th of the month 0003, 0001 一から十まで いちからじゅうまで without exception 0002
0005 十 24 2855 常 2	We now skip forward to the kanji for TEN , so that we can start learning two-digit compounds in the didactic vocabulary. Cross your hands in the shape of 十: two hands = TEN fingers. As a component grapheme (a meaningful contrastive unit within a character), 十 can also denote <i>abundant/complete, cross shape/cross-shaped, or needle</i> .	
	FOUR シ よ よ(っ) よっ(っ) よん	四日 よっか four days; 4th of the month ... 0001 十四 じゅうし (=じゅうよん) fourteen 0005 四十四 しじゅうし (=よんじゅうよん) forty-four 0005 十四日 じゅうよっか fourteen days; 14th of the month 0005, 0001 四ミリ よんミリ 4 millimeters
0006 四 31 2620 常 5	The kanji for FOUR is based on a square, which has FOUR sides. Needless to say, you really have no need of memory aids for such elemental kanji as these numerals. But you may rest assured that this course will grow in usefulness in proportion to the number of kanji you try to learn. 𠄎 匹 1801	
	FIVE ゴ いつ 一つ(っ)	五日 いつか five days; 5th of the month 0001 四、五日 し、ごにち four or five days 0006, 0001 五十五 ごじゅうご fifty-five 0005 五つほど 一つつほど around five ダイヤの五 ダイヤのご five of diamonds
0007 五 7 2892 常 4	You can approximate this shape using FIVE fingers: first, hold out the first three fingers of your right hand, then lay the first two fingers of your left hand across them. 𠄎 丑 0590	
	SIX ロク む む(っ) むっ(っ) むい	六日 むいか six days; 6th of the month 0001 六日ぶりに むいかぶりに for the first time in six days 0001 十六 じゅうろく sixteen 0005 六つ むっつ six; six years old 六トン ろくトン 6 tons
0008 六 12 1710 常 4	To repeat, you really do not need memory aids for these most basic kanji, but if you wish to use one for 六, you might see S1 (stroke 1, as marked in the head character) as the letter "i," and S3-4 as the intersecting lines of the letter "x," spelling the "ix" of SIX . Note that the stroke-order numbers in the head character are placed at the starting point of each stroke. 𠄎 穴 0397	


	SEVEN シチ なな なな(つ) なの	七 日 のか (=なぬか) seven days; 7th of the month 0001 十七 日 じゅうしちにち (=じゅうななにち) seventeen days; 17th of the month 0005, 0001 七十五 ななじゅうご (=しちじゅうご) seventy-five 0005, 0007 七五三 しちごさん the lucky numbers; festival for children of three, five, and seven 0007, 0004
0009 一 1 2854 常 2	Write a numeral 7 European-style, with a line slicing through the middle. Then turn it upside down.	
	EIGHT ハチ や や(つ) やっ(つ) よう	八 日 ようか eight days; 8th of the month 0001 十八 日 じゅうはちにち eighteen days; 18th of the month 0005, 0001 八ユーロ はちユーロ eight euros 一か八か いちかばちか all or nothing, hit or miss 0002
0010 八 12 2536 常 2	Put your EIGHT fingers (no thumbs) together in prayer (actually, <i>almost</i> together, imitating 八). Inside other kanji, 八 will sometimes mean <i>split</i> , so the <i>split</i> between S1 and S2 deserves special attention. Note that in these annotations, <i>italics</i> indicate meanings of component graphemes, whereas CAPS indicate mnemonic keywords of whole kanji.	
	NINE キユウ ク ここの ここの(つ)	九 日 ここのか nine days; 9th of the month 0001 九十九 きゅうじゅうきゅう ninety-nine 0005 九九 くく multiplication table 九つ ここのつ nine (of something) 九日から ここのから starting on the 9th 0001
0011 乙 5 2858 常 2	The trick with this entry is distinguishing it from 力 0084 POWER. To do so, associate the wide, round hook at the end of S2 with the loop in the arabic numeral 9. ㊦ 力 0084, 丸 0012	
	ROUND ガン まる まる(い) まる(める)	一丸となって いちがんととなって as one, all together 0002 日 の丸 ひのまる Rising Sun flag 0001 丸い まるい round, spherical 丸める まるめる make round, roll up
0012 、 3 2883 常 3	Similar to 0011, so let the difference between them (S3) suggest the meaning. Because S3 curves slightly, we can see it as part of the circumference of a circle (geometrically speaking, an arc of about 20°), suggesting the meaning ROUND . Pencil 丸 into the margin of this page, then draw a dotted line to complete the imaginary circle. ㊦ 刃 0087, 丸 0011	

	¹CIRCLE ²YEN	¹ 円 い まるい circular, round ¹ 円 さ まるさ roundness ¹ 円 グラフ えん グラフ pie chart
	エン まる (い) まる	² 一円 いちえん one yen 0002 ² 十四円 じゅうよえん fourteen yen 0005, 0006

0013 □ 13*  2555 常 4	See the enclosure 匚 as a hand, wrapped in a CIRCULAR shape around two Japanese YEN coins. Kanji do not make use of true CIRCULAR shapes, so the coins are drawn square. 円 overlaps in meaning with 丸, which can also mean "spherical." Note the traditional form, shown in the reference data beneath the head character.
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	¹ZERO, placeholder ²CIRCLE MARK; "blank" レイ ぜろ まる	¹ 六五〇円 ろっぴゃくごじゅうえん 650 yen 0008, 0007, 0013 ¹ 二三〇の九四二二 にさんれいのきゅうよんにに 230-9422 [telephone number] 0003, 0004, 0011, 0006 ¹ 二〇六のロッカー にまるろくのロッカー locker number 206 0003, 0008 ² 〇をつける まるをつける mark (an answer) with a circle mark; mark as correct ² 〇〇さん まるまるさん Mr. X
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0014 □ 31 外 1	Rounding out our trio of circle characters is the non-traditional kanji 〇, long used in China but probably derived from the Indian "0." It functions as a placeholder in kanji numerals, and like the letter "O" in English expressions such as "room two-oh-six."
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	HUMAN BEING ジン ニン ひと	ロシア人 ロシアじん a Russian 一人 ひitori one person 0002 一人二人 ひitoriふたり one or two people 0002, 0003 二十人 にじゅうにん twenty people 0003, 0005 人々 ひたとびと people
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0015 人 9 2857 常 2	This minimal sketch of a HUMAN BEING is most often modified to イ when it appears as a component grapheme in other kanji (first at 休 0061). It can also be modified to へ, which usually appears at the top of other kanji, but in those cases it will be better for us to see it as a roof or other covering . 入 0039
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	HUNDRED ヒャク	百日 ひゃくにち a hundred days, a long time 0001 百人 ひゃくにん a hundred people 0015 六百円 ろっぴゃくえん 600 yen 0008, 0013 三百六十六日さんびゃくろくにち 366 days 0004, 0008, 0005, 0001
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0016 白 106 1746 常 6	See the number 100, turned sideways. A little line attaches the 1 to the place-holding zeroes.
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	THOUSAND セン ち	千人 せん にん a thousand people 0015 一千 いっせん one thousand 0002 三千 さんぜん three thousand 0004 八千円 はっせんえん 8000 yen 0010, 0013 千々に ちぢに in pieces
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0017 十 24 2881 常 3	Think of this as a stylized letter T, to represent the distinct sound "th" in "THOUSAND." Like the Greek letter for the same sound θ (theta), it has a line running across the center. Write the word "THOUSAND" a few times, replacing "th" with 千, and it should stick. 千 0408
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	TEN THOUSAND, myriad, all マン パン	万人 ばんにん (=ばんじん) all people 0015 万一 まんいち if by any chance 0002 一万 いちまん ten thousand 0002 百万 ひゃくまん one million 0016 三万円 さんまんえん 30,000 yen 0004, 0013
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0018 一 1* 萬 2542 常 3	As a temporary expedient, see 一 (one) plus an upside-down numeral 4, suggesting a 1 with four zeroes after it: TEN THOUSAND . The mnemonic should shortly become unnecessary for this frequently seen kanji. Often used generically to mean a number that is so large as to be practically countless. 万 0173
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	MOUTH コウ ク くち	人口 じんこう population 0015 一口 ひとくち a mouthful 0002 口コミ くちコミ word of mouth 口バク くちバク lip synch 口にする くちにする eat; say, speak of
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0019 口 30 2865 常 3	Depicts a MOUTH . As we saw with 円, even a round object like MOUTH is drawn as a square in the kanji. Just as the English word MOUTH can refer to the end of a river or the entrance to a cave, 口 can refer to any mouth-like opening. Thus as a grapheme, 口 will sometimes mean <i>opening or entrance</i> .
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	RICE FIELD デン た	田んぼ (田圃) たんぼ rice field ガス田 ガスでん gas field 三田 みた Mita [surname] 0004 田口 たぐち Taguchi [surname] 0019
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0020 田 102 2617 常 5	Here we look down from the sky on a RICE FIELD , divided into four equal plots. As we'll see later at 男 0092, 田 will also be able to take on the meaning <i>head</i> when it appears as a grapheme. The × appearing after 圃 in the first sample compound indicates that this kanji is not introduced in this course.
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	¹EYE ²ITEM; subdivision; order モク ボク め め ま	¹ 一目 ひとめ (いちもく) a look, a glimpse 0002 ¹ 人目 ひとめ attention, public notice 0015 ¹ 目つき めつき look, expression ² 五十人目 ごじゅうにんめ fiftieth person 0007, 0005, 0015 ² 六日目 むいかめ the sixth day 0008, 0001
0021 目 109 2619 常 5	This kanji depicts an EYE propped up sideways; the middle section represents the iris. It also has a second meaning that is more abstract, but just as easy to see: each of the three rectangles represents one ITEM in a list three items long. See <i>The Kodansha Kanji Learner's Dictionary</i> by Jack Halpern for additional nuances of this and many other important kanji. Now a word about formatting: in the didactic vocabulary section, the superscript ¹ in 一目 indicates that this example illustrates meaning ¹ EYE .	
	RIVER セン かわ	ボルガ川 ボルガわ Volga River 川べり かわべり riverbank 川口 かわぐち mouth of a river 0019 かわぐち Kawaguchi [surname] 川田 かわだ (=かわた) Kawada (=Kawata) [surname] 0020
0022 川 47 0001 常 3	Depicts a RIVER , with banks at the left and right, and water flowing through the middle. See 山 0037 and 河 0818 for sample compounds using this character's <i>on-yomi</i> (Chinese-derived reading). 河 0818	
	¹MOON ²MONTH ゲツ ガツ つき	² 一月 いちがつ January 0002 ² ひとつき (=いちげつ) one month ² 三月八日 さんがつようか March 8 0004, 0010, 0001 ² 月日 がつび date 0001 ² つきひ time, days
0023 月 74 2556 常 4	Focus on the curves of the two upright lines and let them suggest a crescent MOON : the line at left outlines the dark portion of the sphere, while the line at right outlines the bright portion. 月 will frequently be incorporated as a component grapheme in other characters, where it can also mean <i>meat, flesh, or body part</i> (see 肉 0216).	
	¹BRIGHT, cheerful ²CLEAR メイ ミョウ あ(かり) あか(るい) あか(るむ) あか(らむ) あき(らか) あ(ける) -あ(け) あ(く) あ(くる) あ(かす)	¹ 明月 めいげつ bright moon, full moon; harvest moon 0023 ¹ 明るい あかるい bright, light; clear; cheerful ² 明らかな あきらかな clear, distinct, apparent 明日 あす (=あした) tomorrow 0001 明くる日 あくるひ the following day 0001
0024 日 72 0756 常 8	This is our first two-grapheme kanji. In it we see the sun (日) shining on the moon , making it brilliantly BRIGHT and CLEAR . Notice how the two forms have been compressed; this is because all kanji must occupy a square space of regular size. In the next entry, which combines <u>three</u> graphemes, 日 will become even narrower.	

	DAY OF THE WEEK ヨウ	日曜(日) にちよう(び) Sunday 0001 月曜(日) げつよう(び) Monday 0023, 0001 曜日 ようび day of the week 0001 七曜 しちよう seven days of the week 0009
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0025 日 72 1014 常 18	佳 is a <i>small bird</i> (S11 shows its head and beak, S12 its breast, S13-18 its tucked-back wings). ヨ also looks like a pair of wings—let them suggest the bird's flapping movement. Combined with 日 <i>day</i> , the image depicts the little bird taking flight from one day to the next, to the next, as the DAYS OF THE WEEK fly by. 曜 濯 1328, 躍 1327
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	FIRE カ ひ -び ほ-	火曜(日) かよう(び) Tuesday 0025, 0001 火口 かこう crater 0019 ひぐち cause of a fire 口火 くちび fuse; pilot burner; cause (of a war) 0019 火田 かてん slash-and-burn agriculture 0020
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0026 火 86 2911 常 4	A pyramid-shaped bonfire, from which flames leap to the left and right. As a grapheme, 火 means <i>fire</i> or <i>burn</i> , and takes either the narrowed form 𤇀 or the completely different form 𤇁, resembling four fingers of flame.
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	WATER スイ みず みず-	火水 ひみず (as opposite as) fire and water 0026 水口 みずぐち spout, nozzle 0019 水田 すいでん paddy field, rice field 0020 水曜(日) すいよう(び) Wednesday 0025, 0001 月水 げつすい Mondays and Wednesdays 0023
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0027 水 85 0003 常 4	Looks roughly like 川 0022 RIVER pinched from both sides, making WATER splash out. Though it can appear in this form as a grapheme, it almost always changes to the completely different form 𣶒, easily recognizable as drops of water. 𣶒 氷 1690
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	1 TREE 2 WOOD ボク モク き こ-	木曜(日) もくよう(び) Thursday 0025, 0001 1月7日(木) いちがつなのか(もく) January 7 (Thursday) 0023, 0001 火木 かもく Tuesdays and Thursdays 0026 2 木目 きめ (=もくめ) (wood) grain 0021 2 一木 いちぼく one tree 0002
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0028 木 75 2901 常 4	Another simple pictograph. Besides TREE , 木 also means WOOD or timber . In its narrower grapheme form (𣏟) the fourth stroke is foreshortened. To make sense of V4, see the entry for 目 in Halpern (2619).
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	1 METAL 2 GOLD 3 MONEY キン コン かね かな -かね	1 口金 くちがね metal clasp, snap; metal cap... 0019 2 金メダル きんメダル gold medal 3 お金 おかね money 金曜(日) きんよう(び) Friday... 0025, 0001 月水金 げつすいきん Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays... 0023, 0027
0029 金 167 1771 常 8	In addition to GOLD , METAL , and MONEY , 金 is also the "Fri" in "Friday." Visualize it as a stack of gold bars kept under a <i>roof</i> (人) (S6-7 show the gold's glitter). The basic meaning is GOLD (hence MONEY), but 金 can also convey the more generic meaning METAL . The grapheme form (金) carries the more general meaning.	
	SOIL, land ド ト つち	土曜(日) とうよう(び) Saturday... 0025, 0001 土日 どにち Saturday and Sunday, weekend... 0001 土木 とぼく engineering works... 0028 土人 とじん aborigines... 0015 土いじり つちいじり fiddling with dirt, puttering in the garden
0030 土 32 2875 常 3	See this as a sprout coming forth from the surface of the SOIL . Its shades of meaning extend to earth, land, ground, etc. As with 金 and numerous other kanji, the <i>hen</i> (left-hand grapheme) form of 土 (土) is written with its last horizontal stroke sloping upward, to make way for the <i>tsukuri</i> (right-hand grapheme) to extend leftward (as in 場 0445). 土 0350	
	1 BASIS, origin, root 2 BOOK 3 THIS ホン もと	本土 ほんど mainland... 0030 日本 にほん (=にっぽん) Japan... 0001 あの人の本 あひとのほん that person's book... 0015 3 本人 ほんにん the person himself, the said person... 0015 本日 ほんじつ today, this day... 0001
0031 木 75 本 2937 常 5	To 木 TREE a stroke was added to indicate the tree's roots . This gradually developed into the meaning BASIS . The root or BASIS of movies, plays, and many other things is in BOOKS . The visual focus should be on S5, suggesting an origin , a source, a BASIS . Indicating the time or place in which the speaker is BASED , 本 also means THIS .	
	EAST トウ ひがし	東日本 ひがしにほん eastern Japan... 0001, 0031 東口 ひがしぐち east exit... 0019 東アジア ひがしアジア East Asia 東チモール ひがしチモール East Timor
0032 木 75 2987 常 8	This character can be broken down into two component graphemes. Visualize the sun (日) rising from behind a tree (木): EAST . An <i>on-yomi</i> compound appears in the next entry.	

大	¹ BIG	¹ 大金 たいきん large sum of money 0029
	² UNIVERSITY	¹ 大きい おおきい big, grand
	ダイ タイ おお おお(きい) おお(いに)	¹ 大いに おおいに very, highly ¹ 大人 おとな adult 0015 ² 東大 とうだい University of Tokyo (short for 東京大学) 0032

0033	Stretch out your arms, and spread out your legs: make yourself BIG . The second meaning UNIVERSITY comes from 大's use as an abbreviation for 大学 (だいがく, university or, literally, "big school"). As a grapheme, 大 can also appear as 𡗗 as in 暮 1342.
大 37	
2882	
常 3	

小	SMALL	小の月 しょうのつき month with thirty or fewer days 0023
		大小 だいしょう large and small; size 0033
	ショウ ちい(さい) こ お	小口 こぐち small lot, small sum [amount]; end, edge 0019 小川 おがわ brook, streamlet 0022 小さい ちいさい small





0034	Now bring your legs back together, and pull your arms back down: make yourself SMALL . As a grapheme, 小 can also appear as 𡗗 or 𡗘, though we'll treat those graphemes as visual elements and ignore their etymological derivation from 小.
小 42	
0002	
常 3	

中	¹ MIDDLE	¹ 中東 ちゅうとう Middle East 0032
	² IN, throughout	¹ 中ヒール ちゅうヒール medium-high heel
	³ CHINA	² 中になに in; in the middle of; between, among ² 日中 にっちゅう during the day 0001 ³ にっちゅう Japan and China, Japanese-Chinese

0035	Right down the MIDDLE . 中 also serves as an abbreviation for CHINA , the MIDDLE Kingdom. IN , the second meaning (hereafter, "M2"), is likewise related to MIDDLE . To start, then, you might simply memorize the keyword " MIDDLE ."
I 2	
2902	
常 4	

生	¹ LIFE, grow	¹ 人生 じんせい human life, life 0015
	² BE BORN, give birth to	¹ 一生 いっしょう a lifetime, all one's life 0002
	³ STUDENT	¹ 生ビール なまビール draft beer ² 生まれる うまれる be born ³ 東大生 とうだいせい student of the University of Tokyo 0032, 0033

0036	Behold a young plant springing up from the ground and growing its first leaf. See BIRTH and LIFE symbolized in this first leaf, which you should make the focal point of this character. This entry has as many readings as any character you'll find, but as explained in the Introduction, you need not trouble yourself to memorize readings for their own sake. Instead, focus on expanding your vocabulary, and let your repertoire of kanji readings grow naturally as you acquire new words. That said, for 生, I suggest you memorize セイ, ショウ, and なま from the start. Numerous examples to illustrate other readings can be found in Halpern.
生 100	
2933	
常 5	

	MOUNTAIN サン やま	火山 かざん volcano..... 0026 山水 さんすい landscape..... 0027 山川 さんせん mountains and rivers..... 0022 小山 こやま hill..... 0034 山々 やまやま mountains; very much
0037 山 46 2544 常 3	Three towering MOUNTAIN peaks. Some typefaces obscure the fact that the left and bottom lines are written in a single stroke. This is a good reminder that you should practice writing the basic forms you are learning until you can reproduce them from memory. Follow the stroke-order numbers shown in the head character.	
	¹ GO OUT ² PUT OUT シュツ スイ て(る) -て だ(す) -だ(す)	¹ 出る てる go out, depart; go to, be present ¹ 出口 てぐち exit..... 0019 ¹ 日の出 ひので sunrise..... 0001 ² 出す だす put out, produce; expose ² 出生 しゅっしょう (=しゅつせい) birth..... 0036
0038 山 17 2934 常 5	Visualize the actions GO OUT and PUT OUT right in the character, by seeing one character for <i>mountain</i> (山) rising out of another. The lower mountain PUTS OUT the upper; the upper mountain GOES OUT from the lower. Imitate this action a couple of times with three fingers from each hand, and the image should stick.	
	¹ ENTER ² PUT IN ニュウ い(る) -い(る) -い(り) い(れる) -い(れ) はい(る)	¹ 入る いる enter ¹ はいる enter; join; contain; have; begin ¹ 入口 いりぐち entrance..... 0019 ² 入れる いれる put in, let in; accommodate; accept ² 入金 にゅうきん payment, deposit..... 0029
0039 入 11 2859 常 2	The projecting line at the top (distinguishing 入 from 人 0015) indicates the onward flow of a river that has just absorbed a tributary. See one river's flow ENTER the other's. Note that the distinction between 入 and 人 is especially noticeable in the handwritten form: in 入, the right-hand stroke dominates; in 人, the left-hand stroke dominates. 人 0015	
	DOWN, lower, below カ ゲ した しも もと さ(げる) さ(がる) くだ(る) くだ(り) くだ(す) -くだ(す) くだ(さる) お(ろ)す お(り)る	下水 げすい sewerage, drainage..... 0027 目下 めした subordinate..... 0021 もっか now, at present 川下 かわしも downstream, downriver..... 0022 川田さんの下に かわださんのもとに under Ms. Kawada's supervision..... 0022, 0020
0040 一 1 2862 常 3	In 下 and 上 (the next entry), the long horizontal stroke indicates a baseline, and the short horizontal stroke (sloping downward, in 下's case) indicates the relative position either below or above that baseline. 下 means DOWN below. 上 means UP above. By now you will have noticed that capitalized words not shown in boldface indicate keywords for other entries.	