



# Mini-lesson in Japanese

Hiragana is a fundamental component of the Japanese writing system. As a syllabary, each character typically represents a single vowel or consonant-vowel combination. Let's start by learning the basic Hiragana characters, which are essential for reading and writing in Japanese.

## Hiragana Chart

	あ	い	う	え	お
	a	i	u	e	o
あ行 a-row	あ	い	う	え	お
か行 ka-row	か	き	く	け	こ
さ行 sa-row	さ	し	す	せ	そ
た行 ta-row	た	ち	つ	て	と
な行 na-row	な	に	ぬ	ね	の
は行 ha-row	は	ひ	ふ	へ	ほ
ま行 ma-row	ま	み	む	め	も
や行 ya-row	や	-	ゆ	-	よ
ら行 ra-row	ら	り	る	れ	ろ
わ行 wa-row	わ	-	-	-	を
ん n	ん	-	-	-	-

Let's practice reading some simple Japanese syllables. Try to pronounce each character out loud as you read it.

た き あ う こ え  
そ に る ね ゆ み  
わ お い ひ ら て  
す け ほ ち む ん  
は ふ な と り め

And practice reading some simple Japanese words. Try to pronounce each character out loud as you read it.

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| (1) いえ (house)      | (14) なつ (summer)    |
| (2) うみ (sea)        | (15) ねこ (cat)       |
| (3) えき (station)    | (16) のりもの (vehicle) |
| (4) おかね (money)     | (17) はな (flower)    |
| (5) かわいい (cute)     | (18) ひと (person)    |
| (6) くま (bear)       | (19) へや (room)      |
| (7) こうえん (park)     | (20) ほん (book)      |
| (8) さかな (fish)      | (21) むし (insect)    |
| (9) しま (island)     | (22) もり (forest)    |
| (10) すし (sushi)     | (23) やま (mountain)  |
| (11) せんせい (teacher) | (24) ゆき (snow)      |
| (12) そら (sky)       | (25) よる (night)     |
| (13) つき (moon)      | (26) わたし (I)        |

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