



Mini-lesson in Korean

Hangul is the Korean writing system. It was invented in the mid-15th century by King Sejong the Great and his scholars. Hangul is considered one of the most efficient and logical writing systems in the world because of its simple and unique design.

In Hangul, each block of letters represents a syllable. There are 24 letters in the Hangul alphabet: 14 consonants and 10 vowels. When combined, they form syllables and words. Today, Hangul is the sole writing system for the Korean language and is co-official in both North Korea and South Korea, each having its own standard orthography.

Consonant	IPA	Vowel	IPA
ㄱ	/k/ or /g/	ㅏ	/a/
ㄴ	/n/	ㅑ	/ja/
ㄷ	/t/ or /d/	ㅓ	/ʌ/ or /eo/
ㄹ	/r/ or /l/	ㅕ	/jʌ/ or /yeo/
ㅁ	/m/	ㅗ	/o/
ㅂ	/p/ or /b/	ㅛ	/jo/
ㅅ	/s/	ㅜ	/u/
ㅇ	silent or /ŋ/	ㅠ	/ju/
ㅈ	/t͡ɕ/ or /dz/	ㅡ	/u/
ㅊ	/t͡ɕʰ/	ㅣ	/i/
ㅋ	/kʰ/		
ㅌ	/tʰ/		
ㅍ	/pʰ/		
ㅎ	/h/		

Here are some examples of how Hangul characters are written with a combination of a consonant and a vowel symbols.

	ㄱ	ㄴ	ㄷ	ㄹ	ㅁ	ㅂ	ㅅ	ㅇ	ㅈ
ㅏ	가	나	다	라	마	바	사	아	자
ㅑ	가	냐	다	랴	마	바	샤	야	자
ㅓ	거	너	더	러	머	버	서	어	저
ㅕ	겨	녀	더	려	며	벼	셔	여	져
ㅗ	고	노	도	로	모	보	소	오	조
ㅛ	교	뇨	도	료	묘	보	쇼	요	조
ㅜ	구	누	두	루	무	부	수	우	주
ㅠ	규	뉴	두	류	뮤	뷰	슈	유	쥬
ㅡ	그	느	드	르	므	브	스	으	즈
ㅣ	기	니	디	리	미	비	시	이	지

Here are some examples of Korean words written in Hangul for you to practice:

- (1) 가수 (ga-su) - singer
- (2) 나비 (na-bi) - butterfly
- (3) 바다 (ba-da) - sea
- (4) 소리 (so-ri) - sound
- (5) 봄 (bohm) - spring
- (6) 미국 (mi-kook) - America
- (7) 과자 (gwa-ja) - snacks
- (8) 네 (ne) - Yes
- (9) 아니요 (aniyo) - No
- (10) 이름 (ireum) - Name
- (11) 학교 (hakgyo) - School
- (12) 가족 (gajok) - Family
- (13) 친구 (chingoo) - Friend
- (14) 사랑 (sarang) - Love
- (15) 안녕하세요 (annyeonghaseyo) - Hello
- (16) 감사합니다 (gamsahabnida) - Thank you

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