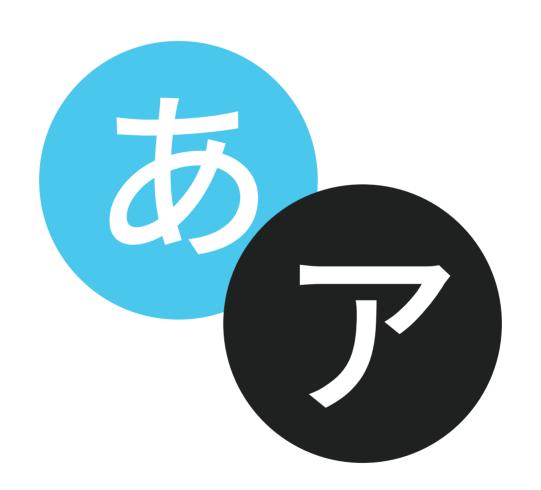
Rapid Kana Mastery

ひらがな・カタカナれんしゅうノート





INDEX

ひらがな Hiragana chart	3
カタカナ Katakana chart	4
Intro to Hiragana (ひらがな) and Katakana (カタカナ)	5
ひらがな ワークシート Hiragana worksheets	7
ひらがな Long vowels, little tsu っ	17
ひらがな Sounds composed with ya, yu, yo	19
ひらがな Particles wa, e and o	20
ひらがな Punctuation marks	21
ひらがなで かきましょう! Let's write in Hiragana!	22
やまのてせんの えきを かきましょう! Write the Yamanote stations in Hiragana!	23
かぞくの ことば Family members	24
カタカナ ワークシート Katakana worksheets	25
カタカナ Long vowels, little tsu っ	35
カタカナ Sounds composed with ya, yu, yo	36
カタカナで かきましょう!Let's write in Katakana!	37
カタカナ Other composed sounds	38
カタカナで かきましょう! Write the following words in romaji or Katakana.	39
カタカナで かきましょう!Write the country names and capitals in Katakana.	40
メニューを よみましょう! Let's read the menu!	41
ひらがなとカタカナで かきましょう!Let's write in Hiragana and Katakana!	42
ひらがなとカタカナでかきましょう! Reply using Hiragana and Katakana!	43



あ ひらがな Hiragana chart

	ā	3		i	ı	J.		9)
	あ	а	l i	i	う	u	え	е	お	О
k	か	ka	き	ki	<	ku	け	ke	(۱	ko
S	さ	sa	し	shi	す	su	せ	se	そ	so
t	た	ta	ち	chi	つ	tsu	て	te	と	to
n	な	na	に	ni	ぬ	nu	ね	ne	の	no
h	は	ha	ひ	hi	,3,	fu	^	he	ほ	ho
m	ま	ma	み	mi	む	mu	め	me	ŧ	mo
у	や	ya			ゆ	yu			ょ	yo
r	ら	ra	り	ri	る	ru	れ	re	ろ	ro
w	わ	wa							を	wo
n	6	n								

g	が	ga	ぎ	gi	ぐ	gu	げ	ge	ŤJ	go
Z	钊	za	じ	ji	ず	zu	ぜ	ze	ぞ	zo
d	だ	da	ぢ	ji	づ	zu	で	de	ど	do
b	ば	ba	び	bi	.3,"	bu	ベ	be	ぼ	bo
р	ぱ	ра	ぴ	pi	,3°	pu	~	ре	ぽ	ро

ky	きゃ	kya	きゅ	kyu	きょ	kyo
sh	しゃ	sha	しゅ	shu	しょ	sho
ch	ちゃ	cha	ちゅ	chu	ちょ	cho
ny	にゃ	nya	にゅ	nyu	にょ	nyo
hy	ひゃ	hya	ひゅ	hyu	ひょ	hyo
my	みや	mya	みゅ	myu	みょ	myo
ry	りゃ	rya	りゅ	ryu	りょ	ryo

ぎゃ	gya	ぎゅ	gyu	ぎょ	gyo
じゃ	ja	じゅ	ju	じょ	jo

びゃ	bya	びゅ	byu	びょ	byo
ぴゃ	руа	ぴゅ	pyu	ぴょ	pyo



カタカナ Katakana chart

	i	a		i		и		е	o	
	ア	а	イ	i	ウ	u	エ	е	オ	0
k	カ	ka	+	ki	ク	ku	ケ	ke	コ	ko
S	サ	sa	シ	shi	ス	su	セ	se	ソ	so
t	タ	ta	チ	chi	ツ	tsu	テ	te	٢	to
n	ナ	na	11	ni	ヌ	nu	ネ	ne	1	no
h	ハ	ha	٢	hi	フ	fu	<	he	ホ	ho
m	7	ma	nf	mi	ム	mu	メ	me	モ	mo
у	ヤ	ya			ユ	yu			3	yo
r	ラ	ra	リ	ri	ル	ru	レ	re	口	ro
w	ワ	wa							(ヲ)	wo
n	ン	n								

g	ガ	ga	ギ	gi	グ	gu	ゲ	ge	ゴ	go
Z	ザ	za	ジ	ji	ズ	zu	ゼ	ze	ゾ	ZO
d	ダ	da	ヂ	ji	ヅ	zu	デ	de	ド	do
b	バ	ba	ビ	bi	ブ	bu	ベ	be	ボ	bo
р	パ	ра	ピ	pi	プ	pu	~	ре	ポ	ро

ky	キャ	kya	キュ	kyu	キョ	kyo
sh	シャ	sha	シュ	shu	ショ	sho
ch	チャ	cha	チュ	chu	チョ	cho
ny	ニャ	nya	ニュ	nyu	ニョ	nyo
hy	ヒャ	hya	ヒュ	hyu	ヒョ	hyo
my	ミヤ	mya	ミュ	myu	11	myo
ry	リャ	rya	リュ	ryu	リョ	ryo

ギャ	gya	ギュ	gyu	ギョ	gyo
ジャ	ja	ジュ	ju	ジョ	jo

ビヤ	bya	ビュ	byu	ビョ	byo
ピャ	pya	ピュ	pyu	ピョ	pyo

Intro to Hiragana (ひらがな) and Katakana (カタカナ)

Welcome to Talk Nihongo's Rapid Kana Mastery. This worksheet has been designed to have you reading and writing Hiragana & Katakana confidently in the shortest amount of time possible.



Learn at Your Own Pace: We encourage you to go at your own speed. Take your time to master Hiragana and Katakana, as you'll use them throughout your Japanese language journey.

Why Kana is Important: Hiragana and Katakana are Japan's first two writing systems and essential components of the Japanese language. Together, they make up around 50% of all daily written communication. Here's how each is used:

Hiragana (ひらがな)

- 1 Native Japanese Words: Hiragana is primarily used for native Japanese words that do not have kanji or where the kanji is obscure or difficult.
- ② Grammatical Elements: It is used for grammatical elements such as particles (e.g., は, が, を) and verb and adjective endings (e.g., です, ます).
- 3 Furigana: Hiragana is often used as a reading aid for kanji, known as furigana, which shows the pronunciation of kanji characters.
- 4 Children's Books: Since kanji can be complex, children's books are usually written in hiragana.

Katakana (カタカナ)

- ① Loanwords and Foreign Names: Katakana is used for foreign words and names that have been incorporated into Japanese (e.g., コンピューター for "computer").
- ② Onomatopoeia: It is used to write onomatopoeic words (e.g., ピカピカ for something shiny).
- 3 Scientific and Technical Terms: Katakana is often used for scientific and technical terms, plant and animal names, and some company names.
- Emphasis: Katakana can be used for emphasis, similar to italics in English.

Each Kana (Hiragana and Katakana) represents a single syllable. If you're an English speaker, most of these syllables you use everyday already! More on that in just a moment.

As you progress through these worksheets, we encourage you to take your time and enjoy the process of practising writing. It's important not to rush. Once you spend the next 2-3 weeks learning and internalising kana, you'll be able to read and write over 50% of daily written communication in Japanese, and you'll understand a central element of expressing yourself in the language.

Understanding Kana: Each Japanese kana represents a single syllable. Let's look at an example:

Hiragana: あ (a) Katakana: ア (a)

Both the of \mathfrak{B} and \mathcal{T} above make the same sound as the letter "a" in English. Here are the vowels used in the Japanese language:

あ (a) い (i)

う (u)

え(e)

お(o)

The rest of the kana alphabet consists of one of these vowels paired with a consonant. For example:

か \rightarrow ka

き → ki

 $\langle \rightarrow ku$

け \rightarrow ke

 $Z \rightarrow ko$

Notice how we simply added the consonant "k" to the vowels? Most of the kana work similarly. Don't worry, we'll cover each one step by step.

For now, keep your Hiragana and Katakana chart close by, or hang it up near your study area for easy reference over the next couple of weeks.



ひらがな ワークシート Hiragana worksheets

а	あ	1 2 1	あ			
i	()					
u		2				
е	え	2-/	え			
0	お	1-15	お			

あい

Love



いえ

House



あおい

Blue



うえ

Up, above



1111

Good



おおい

Many



		1-1/3				
		1 13				
ku	<	1	<			
ke		1/ 2/3				
ko	()	1				
ga		がぎ				
gi	ぎ	ぎ	#"			
gu	<	<"	<"			
ge	げ	げ	げ			
go	~)	~)				

かき





Study of language



Keys

P.M. (time)



あき

Autumn



(Metal) nail

sa	さ	1 12	7			
shi		11	L			
su		1 1 2				
se		1 1 1				
	そ		7			
za	ざ	ナ	7"			
ji						
zu	ず	7	ず			
ze	ぜ	ぜ	ぜ			
ZO	ぞ	7	ぞ			



そこ

There

ぞう Elephant

さか Slope



かぜ

Wind



おさけ

Alcohol



ta	た	1 1/2 3	た			
chi	ち	1-1/2	5			
tsu	7					
te	て	1.	7			
to	ك	1\\	2			
da	だ	だ	だ			
ji	ぢ	ぢ	ぢ			
zu	づ	づ	J"			
de	て	7"	7"			
do	F,	<u>ا</u>	5"			

とち Land



あとで

Later



つくえ、 Desk



かたづけ Tyding up

	な					
ni	13	1 2	13			
nu	ぬ	11/2	ぬ			
ne	ね	1 2-7	构			
no	9	/1	9			

ねこ Cat



きのこ Mushroom



いぬ

Dog



なす

Eggplant



にく

Meat



なつ

Summer



	は					
hi	ひ		7			
fu	·?·	3 \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	~3,			
	<u> </u>					
ho	ほ	1/3 - 1/4	13			
ba	ば	ば	ば			
bi	び	び	び			
bu	^? <u>,</u>	~),	^7,			
be	~	\ <u>'</u>	\\ <u>'</u>			
bo	ぼ	ほ	ほ			
ра		は				
pi	ぴ	び。	Z [°]			
pu	^7,	^7,	^7,			
ре	~ °	\sim	√ °			
ро	ぼ	13	ほ			

ふね

Boat



ひなた

Sunny place



はな

Flower



ぼうし

Hat



かべ

Wall



かば

Hippopotamus



		1				
mi	4	7/2	4			
mu	む	1-12 3	む			
me	8	1\ /2	め			
mo	も	2-1/1	も			

みみ

Ear



もも

Peach



みず

Water



め

Eye



まち

City



くも

Cloud



ra	ら	21	6			
ri	り	1////2	U			
	る					
re	礼	2 11	机			
ro	ろ	3	3			

かえる

Frog



さら

Dish



おふろ

Bath



くり

Chestnut



くろ

Black



きれい

Beautiful



ya	や	3 1 1 2	P			
yu	ゆ	1	ゆ			
уо	4	2 1	よ			
	わ					
wo	を	1-2/3	を			
n	6	1/	7			

やま Mountain



ゆき Snow



よる Evening, night



やかん Night time



わたし I, me

ほんを よみます Read a book



Long Vowels And Introduction to the "little tsu ⊃"

There are long vowels in Japanese for when you want to stretch out a syllable.

さ (sa) with an additional あ (a) reads as さあ (saa).

ち (chi) with an additional い (i) reads as ちい (chii).

す (su) with an additional う (u) reads as すう (suu).

We have two more possible characters that we can use to stretch out a syllable. But instead, we use い in the place of an extra え and う in the place of an extra お

れ (e) is stretched out with an additional い (i) to read れい (ree)

こ (ko) is stretched out with an additional う (u) to read こう (kou)

There are some exceptions for $\bar{\lambda}$ and $\bar{\partial}$, but you don't need to worry about them for now. Once you've mastered Kana, you'll begin to intuitively understand when there's an exception. Especially as some of these words, UU meaning "yes" will be used so often throughout your journey.

These words will have very different meanings depending on if there's an extra syllable. The meanings of each word isn't important right now, you should practise making these sounds so that you get used to them and have a brief understanding of them.

The small tsu ⊃

When two consonants (except for "n") are in a row, the first consonant is represented by a little tsu \supset .

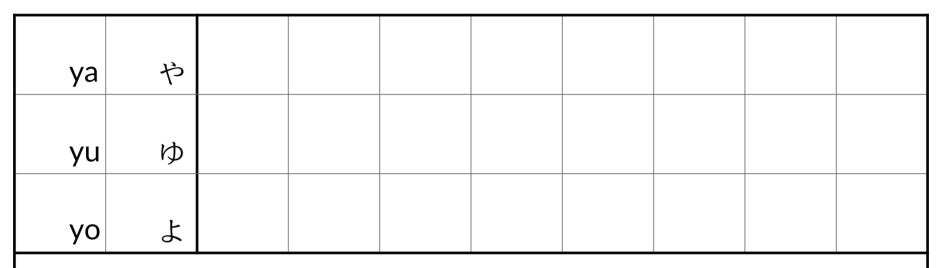
This miniature \supset that looks like this \supset signifies that a slight gap needs to be between the two syllables.

E.g:いっぱい ippai, みっつ mittsu, かった katta.

kōkō こうえん kōen いもうと imōto ぎんこう ginkō sōko ぼうし bōshi sense せんせい toke とけい gakusē がくせい えいご ēgo kippu zutto いっかい ikkai あんない annai たんにん * tannin

ひらがな Mixing ya, yu, yo with ki, shi, hi, chi

When a small "ya", "yu", "yo" is added to a syllables in the "i" column - except for vowel "i" itself we get a contracted sound. Although contracted sounds are written with two hiragana characters, they are pronounced as a single syllable. The "i" sound in the first syllable decays and the consonant is followed by the "y" sound and the vowel.



おきゃくさん

さんびゃく

しゃしん

おちゃ

びょういん

にんぎょ

しょくじ

ひゃくえん

ひらがな Particles wa, e and (w)o

The three particles (grammatical markers) in Japanese, wa (topic maker), e (direction maker), and wo (direct object maker), are represented respectively by the Hiragana characters of (4a), (4a), (4a), and (4a) (wo), due to historical circumstances.

While we write ι , \wedge and ε , the pronunciation respectively is wa, e, and o.

Therefore:

- ・o when used as a particle is written を (wo), not お (o).
- e when used as a particle is written \wedge (he), not λ (e).
- ・wa when used as a particle is written は (ha), not わ (wa).

E.g. わたし <u>は</u> ほん<u>を</u> よみます。

Watashi wa hon wo yomimasu.

とうきょうへ いきます。

T ōkyō e ikimasu.

たし wa tashi wa	にほんじん nihonjin		(I am Japanese)
かし o kashi wo	たべます。 tabemasu.		(I eat sweets)
トe ijitsu ni	shibuya e	ikimasu.(I go to Shib	

ひらがな Punctuation marks

Kutōten (puntuation marks) is a generic term that refers both to full stops (maru, 。) and commas (ten, 、)

Punctuation marks can make a huge difference in the meaning of a sentence depending on where they are placed. Just like in English, adding a punctuation mark can change the meaning of a sentence.

For example: "Eats, shoots and leaves" versus "Eats shoots and leaves." In Japanese, it is not customary to separate words with spaces, which makes it easier for misunderstandings to arise. Several punctuation marks may be used in order to prevent these

1. ここで、はきものをぬいでください。

Koko de, hakimono o nuide kudasai. (ここで履物を脱いでください)

Please take your shoes off here.

kinds of misunderstandings.

2. ここでは、きものをぬいでぐださい。

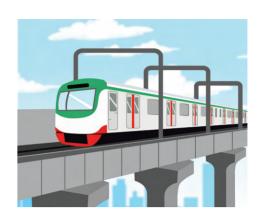
Koko de wa, kimono o nuide kudasai. (ここでは、着物を脱いでくだださい)

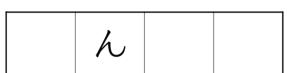
Please take your kimono (clothes) off here.

ひらがなで かきましょう! Let's write with Hiragana!













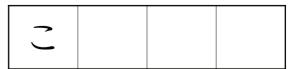










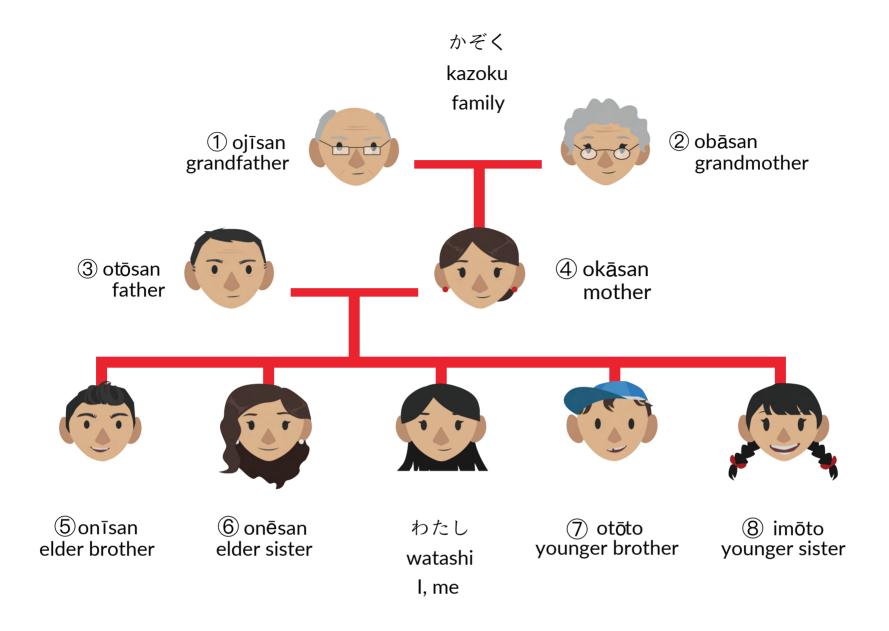


やまのてせんの えきを かきましょう! Write the Yamanote stations in Hiragana!



Tōkyō	Kanda
Yūrakuchō	Akihabara
Shimbashi	Okachimachi
Hamamatsuch ō	Ueno
Tamachi	Uguisudani
Talcanavia (Catavia)	Nippori
Takanawa (Gateway)	Nippori
Shinagawa	Nishi-Nippori
Ōsaki	Tabata
Gotanda	Komagome
Meguro	Sugamo
Ebisu	Ōtsuka
Shibuya	Ikebukuro
I Laura in dun	N 4 - "
Harajuku	Mejiro
Yoyogi	Takadanobaba
Shinjuku	Shin-Ookubo

かぞくの ことば Family members



- 1 Grandfather
- ② Grandmother
- ③ Father
- 4 Mother
- **⑤** Elder brother
- **6** Elder sister
- 7 Younger brother
- **8** Younger sister



カタカナ ワークシート Katakana worksheets

а						
i	1	1/	1			
u	ウ	2 3	ウ			
е	エ	1 -	I			
0	才	1- 2	才			

ウエア Wear

工 广 Air



		1-1/2				
	_	1-13				
ku	7	1, 2	7			
ke	ケ	1/) 2//3	ケ			
ko	コ	1 2	7			
ga	ガ	ガ	ガ			
gi	ギ	ギ	丰			
gu	グ	7"	7"			
ge	ゲ	ゲ	ゲ			
go	ゴ]]"			

カーキ

Khaki



エコ

Eco



コア

Core



ケーキ

Cake



エゴ

Ego



力一

Car



sa	サ	2 3	サ			
shi	シ	2 3	>			
	•	1 2				
se	セ	1	セ			
so	ソ	1\//2	7			
za	ザ	ザ	ザ			
ji	ジ	ジ				
zu	ズ	ズ	ズ			
ze	ゼ	ゼ	ゼ			
ZO	\textstyle{	'				

クイズ

Quiz



シーザー

Caesar

ケース

Case



ソーセージ

Sausage



サイズ

Size

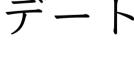


ソース

Sauce



ta	タ	1/ → 3 L	Ŋ			
chi						
		1 // 3				
te	テ	2 - /3	テ			
to	1	1 2				
da	ダ	夕"	夕"			
		ヂ				
zu	""	"	'')"			
de	デ	デ	デ			
do	7	1	F			



Date



カード

Card



ソー

Two



テスト

Test



ダーツ

Darts



チーク

Cheek



na	ナ	1 1 1 2	ナ			
ni	11	2				
nu	ヌ	2	ヌ			
ne	ネ	2-4	ネ			
no	1	1/	1			





ナイス Nice



ニーズ

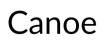
Needs



ノ つ Night



カヌー





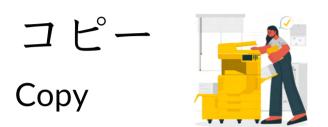
ノート

Note



ha	11	1, 2	/\			
	ヒ					
fu	フ	1	フ			
he	<u> </u>	1,				
ho	ホ	1- 2 3/ 4	ホ			
ba	バ	11	/\"			
bi	ビ	ビ	E"			
bu	ブ	7"	7"			
be	~	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	\\ <u>'</u>			
bo	ボ	术	术			
ра	15	119	119			
pi	ピ	L°	E			
pu	プ	7°	プ			
ре	~ °	\sim	√ °			
ро	ポ	术	术			













ma	マ	1 2	7			
	111					
mu	4	1/, 2	4			
me	X	2	X			
mo	モ	1 → 2 → ↓3	E			



Memo



ミニスカート

Mini skirt



マダム

Madam



ママ





ガム





モーター

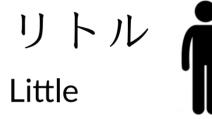
Motor



ra	ラ	1-	ラ			
ri	リ	1 2	IJ			
ru	ル	1/) 12	ル			
re	レ	1				
ro	口	1 3	П			









レモン

Lemon



カラーColor



ランプ

Lamp





ya		1-12				
yu	ユ	1	1			
yo	彐	2 3	3			
wa	ワ	1 2.	ワ			
О	ヲ	1/3	ヲ			
n	ン	1 2	>			

ジーンズ

Jeans



パン

Bread



ハワイ

Hawaii



Wine



ヨガ

Yoga



ユートピア

Utopia



Swapping the Extra Syllable for a Dash (—)

In Katakana, long vowels are simple. They are represented by drawing a dash after the syllable. For example:



キー (kii)

スー (suu)

テー (tee)

ノー (noo)



Katakana also has its own little tsu (ツ)

I know what you're thinking, and no, that isn't a "smiley face." In Katakana, the little y (tsu) has the same function as in Hiragana. When two consonants (except for "n") are in a row, the first consonant is represented by a little y (tsu).

For example:

ya	ヤ	ヤ	ヤ			
yu	ユ	ユ	ユ			
уо	3	П	3			

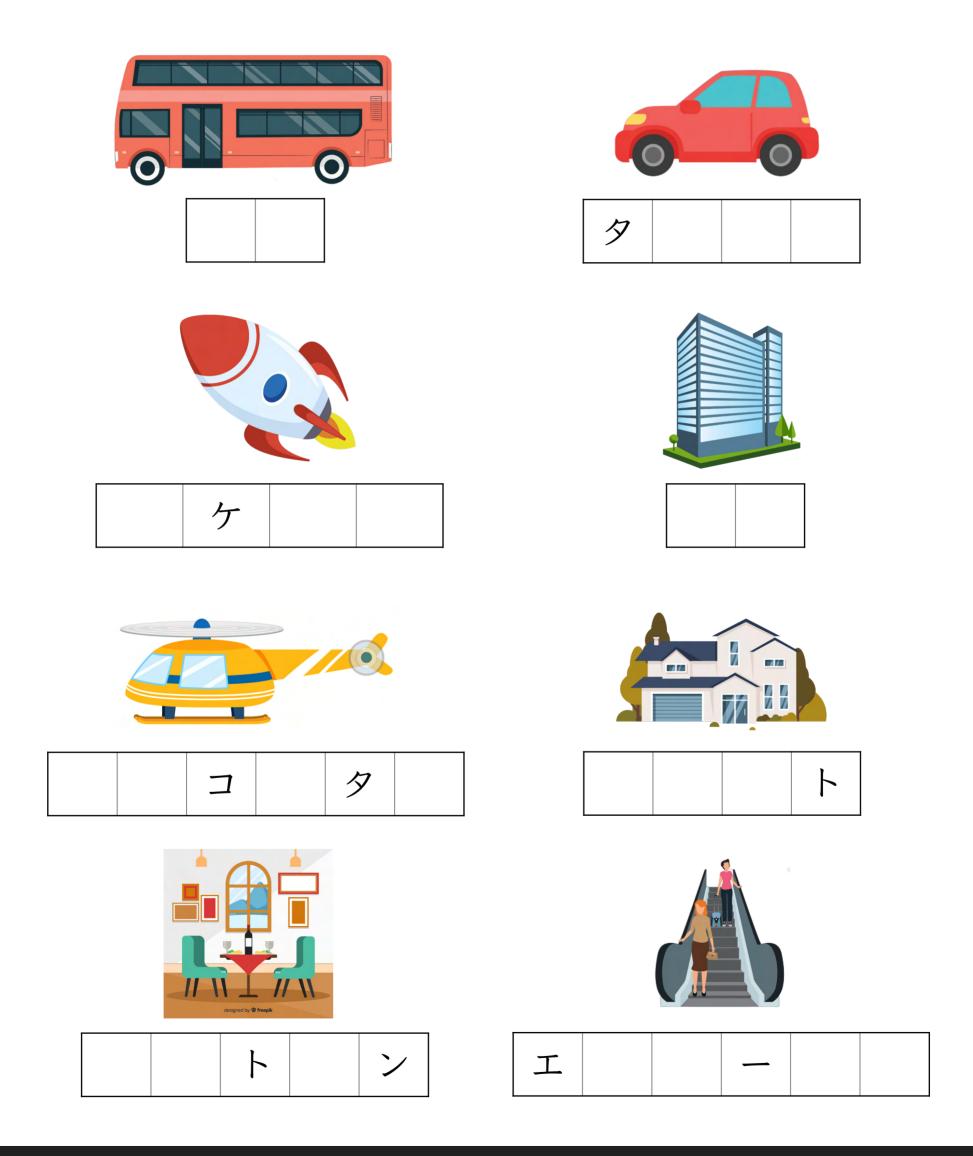
$$+(ki) + +(ya) = + +(kya)$$

$$+(ki) + 2(yu) = +2(kyu)$$

$$\pm$$
 (ki) \pm \pm (yo) \pm \pm \pm (kyo)

カタカナで かきましょう!

See if you can guess how these words are written in Katakana $\bar{\!\boldsymbol{A}}$



カタカナ Other composed sounds

						ye	イェ		
		wi	ウィ			we	ウェ	wo	ウォ
kwa	クァ	kwi	クィ			kwe	クェ	kwo	クォ
gwa	グァ								
						she	シェ		
						je	ジェ		
						che	チェ		
tsa	ツァ					tse	ツェ	tso	ツォ
		ti	ティ	tu	トゥ				
				tyu	テュ				
		di	ディ	du	ドゥ				
				dyu	デュ				
fa	ファ	fi	フィ			fe	フェ	fo	フォ
				fyu	フュ				
va	ヴァ	vi	ヴィ	vu	ヴ	ve	ヴェ	VO	ヴォ
				vyu	ヴュ				

カタカナで かきましょう!

Write the following words in romaji or katakana.

ヴァイオリン	
ディズニーランド	
シェークスピア	
キウィ	
クェート	
ウォッカ	
ヴェネツィア	
ファッション	
チュニジア	
famirī	
vanpaia	
dyuetto	
vintēji	
gōrudenwīku	
fōkusongu	

カタカナで かきましょう!

Write the country names and capitals in Katakana.



くにの なまえ (Country name)

IJ ラ 2 ス ア 3 夕 ア 4 (5) 6 才 7 8 ゼ 9 チ (10)

しゅと (Capital)

口			ン			
	リ					
		7				
モ		ク				
_			デ			
	11					
+				ラ		
		口				
	エ			ア		
	ン				ゴ	

メニューを よみましょう! Let's read the menu!



おしょくじ

① カレーライス	600
② エビピラフ	700
③ ビーフシュー	1000
(ライス または パン)	
④ スパゲティー ミートソース	700
⑤ バタートースト	500
⑥ ミックスサンドイッチ	550
⑦ ハンバーガー	350
⑧ ツナサラダ	300

のみもの

⑨ コーヒー	350
(アイス・ホット)	
⑩ カフェオレ	400
① レモンティー	350
⑫ ミルクティー	350
③ オレンジジュース	450
(4) コーラ	400
⑤ クリームソーダ	550
⑥ ビール	550



デザート



⑦ フルーツヨーグルト 450
⑧ バニラアイスクリーム 450
⑨ チョコレートパフェ 650
② ケーキセット 700

(ケーキ、コーヒー)

ひらがなとカタカナで かきましょう!

Let's write in Hiragana and Katakana!

A:	konnichiwa! kyō wa iitenki desune.
B:	sōdesune. kinō wa nani o shimashitaka.
A :	karaoke ni ikimashita. Tanoshikatta desu yo!
B:	sore wa yokatta desune. A san wa chokor ēto ga suki desuka.
A :	hai, suki desu!
B:	sō desu ka. ja, kore d ōzo tabete kudasai. oishii desuyo.

ひらがなとカタカナでかきましょう! Reply using Hiragana and Katakana!

◆ あなたの なまえ Your name
◆ あなたの くに Your Country
◆ あなたの しゅっしん Your hometown
◆ あなたの しごと Your job
◆ あなたの せんせいの なまえ Your teacher name
◆ すきな たべもの Foods you like
◆ すきな のみもの Drinks you like

