

Exercise 1 — Hiragana Recognition

Match each hiragana character to its correct romaji reading. Write the letter in the box.

あ
romaji:

き
romaji:

の
romaji:

ふ
romaji:

れ
romaji:

し
romaji:

つ
romaji:

ほ
romaji:

み
romaji:

わ
romaji:

ね
romaji:

ゆ
romaji:

が
romaji:

ぱ
romaji:

ち
romaji:

す
romaji:

け
romaji:

ろ
romaji:

に
romaji:

も
romaji:

Beginner level — Answers on last page

Exercise 2 — Katakana Recognition

Write the romaji reading for each katakana character.

ア
romaji:ケ
romaji:ソ
romaji:テ
romaji:ノ
romaji:ヒ
romaji:ム
romaji:ヨ
romaji:リ
romaji:ン
romaji:コ
romaji:シ
romaji:ツ
romaji:ネ
romaji:ホ
romaji:マ
romaji:ユ
romaji:ロ
romaji:ワ
romaji:フ
romaji:

Exercise 3 — Katakana Loanwords

These are English words written in katakana. Write what English word each one represents.

コーヒー English: _____

テレビ English: _____

バス English: _____

ホテル English: _____

アイスクリーム English: _____

レストラン English: _____

Exercise 4 — Read Hiragana Words

Write the romaji reading for each hiragana word. The English meaning is given as a hint.

ねこ

(cat)

romaji: _____

いぬ

(dog)

romaji: _____

はな

(flower)

romaji: _____

やま

(mountain)

romaji: _____

みず

(water)

romaji: _____

そら

(sky)

romaji: _____

つき

(moon)

romaji: _____

かわ

(river)

romaji: _____

さかな

(fish)

romaji: _____

くるま

(car)

romaji: _____

でんわ

(telephone)

romaji: _____

りんご

(apple)

romaji: _____

Exercise 5 — True or False

Circle TRUE or FALSE for each statement about the Japanese writing systems.

1. Hiragana has 46 basic characters.

TRUE / FALSE

2. Katakana is used for native Japanese words.

TRUE / FALSE

3. Kanji characters represent sounds only.

TRUE / FALSE

4. The long vowel in katakana is written with a dash: —

TRUE / FALSE

5. Hiragana and katakana represent the same 46 sounds.

TRUE / FALSE

6. Japanese uses spaces between every word.

TRUE / FALSE

Exercise 1 — Hiragana Recognition Answers

あ = a	き = ki	の = no	ふ = fu	れ = re
し = shi	つ = tsu	ほ = ho	み = mi	わ = wa
ね = ne	ゆ = yu	が = ga	ぱ = pa	ち = chi
す = su	け = ke	ろ = ro	に = ni	も = mo

Exercise 2 — Katakana Recognition Answers

ア = a	ケ = ke	ソ = so	テ = te	ノ = no
ヒ = hi	ム = mu	ヨ = yo	リ = ri	ン = n
コ = ko	シ = shi	ツ = tsu	ネ = ne	ホ = ho
マ = ma	ユ = yu	ロ = ro	ワ = wa	フ = fu

Exercise 3 — Loanwords Answers

コーヒー	= coffee	テレビ	= television
バス	= bus	ホテル	= hotel
アイスクリーム	= ice cream	レストラン	= restaurant

Exercise 4 — Hiragana Words Answers

ねこ = neko	いぬ = inu	はな = hana
やま = yama	みず = mizu	そら = sora
つき = tsuki	かわ = kawa	さかな = sakana
くるま = kuruma	でんわ = denwa	りんご = ringo

Exercise 5 — True or False Answers

- | | | |
|---------|----------|----------|
| 1. TRUE | 2. FALSE | 3. FALSE |
| 4. TRUE | 5. TRUE | 6. FALSE |