The River Test

A style of IQ test apparently used in some Japanese job interviews. We will use it to practice the names of family members.

**The Characters**

Mother

Father

Older Brother

Older Sister

Younger Brother

Younger Sister

Police Officer

Thief

**The Rules**

1. A maximum of two people can be on the raft at any one time.
2. Only the mother, father and police officer are able to operate the raft. The raft cannot cross the river without an operator.
3. The thief must never be left alone with any of the family members. The police officer must be present.
4. The mother must never be left with either son without the father also being present.
5. The father must never be left with either daughter without the mother being present.
6. **All passengers must get off the raft after each leg of the journey**, **even if they are just dropping off .** The rules still apply. For example, the mother cannot get off momentarily and be with a son when the father is not present, even if she is just dropping someone off and getting straight back on the raft.
7. **You must use Japanese to describe who you would like to move across the river.**

**Useful Japanese Structures**

**。** \_\_\_\_\_\_ will cross the river.

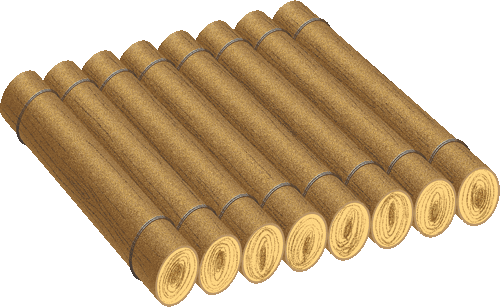
。 \_\_\_\_\_\_ will ride/go on the raft

**、**。\_\_\_\_\_\_ will ride the raft and cross the river)

\*Put the character’s name in the space provided.

Use particle to say more than one character.

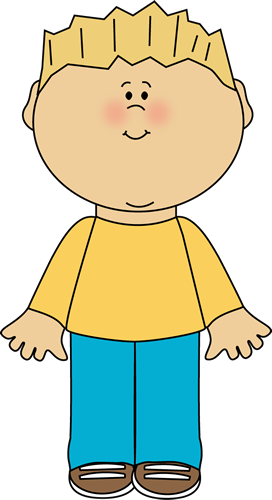
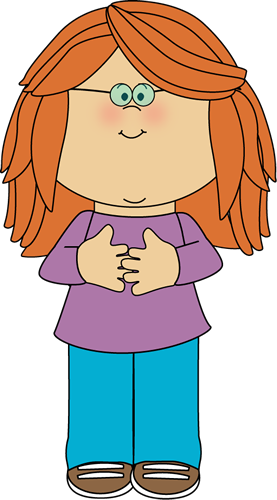
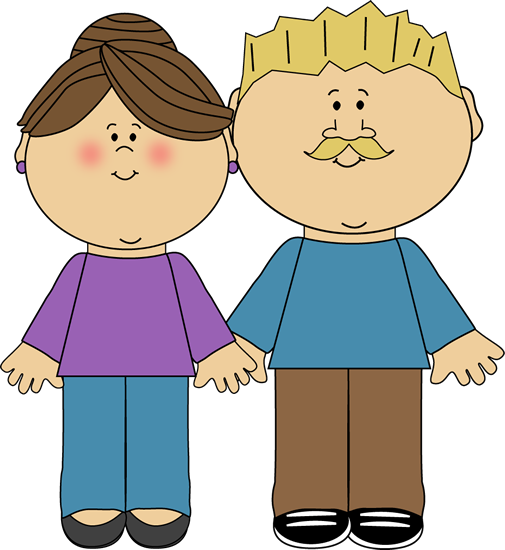
For example mother **and** father.



Images from MS Word Clip Art

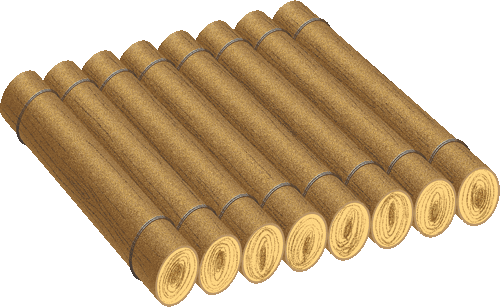
and

http://www.mycutegraphics.com



Use the cut out pictures above and a large background picture of a river and riverbanks (on butcher paper for pairs or on the whiteboard for the group).

Or you can play electronically using the online or app versions of the game. (eg. The River Test by Cramzy)



All family members, police officer and thief begin this side of the river. Follow the rules to get them safely to the other side.

**Solution Example (more than one solution possible):**

1. Move the thief and the police officer to the finishing side of the river.
2. Leave the thief alone on the finishing side (rules do not state that the thief cannot be left alone).
3. The police officer returns to the starting side, picks up a daughter and takes her to the other side.
4. After leaving the daughter alone, the officer returns to the starting side **with the thief.** Both get off.
5. The mother then takes the other daughter to the finishing side and leaves her with her sister. Mother returns to the starting side.
6. Father takes mother to the finishing side to be with the daughters, but returns to the starting side and gets off to be with his sons.
7. The officer and the thief get back on the raft, travel to the finishing side and then get off.
8. The mother takes the raft back to the starting side alone and picks up the father. Mother gets off on the finishing side.
9. Father takes the raft back to the starting side and picks up a son, leaving the other alone on the starting side. Father and son both get off the raft on the finishing side.
10. The officer and the thief get on the raft and return once again to the starting side.
11. The thief is left alone on the starting side while the officer takes the remaining son to the rest of the family on the finishing side.
12. The officer returns alone to pick up the thief from the starting side and they both return to the finishing side.