Hiragana Rules

*By adding ten ten “ or maru O you can make a range of new sounds. Just follow the rules below. Watch out for a few exceptions though!*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| K line (ka ki ku ke ko)  | + ten ten “ is | G line (ga gi gu ge go) |
| S line (sa shi su se so) | + ten ten “ is | Z line (za \*ji zu ze zo) |
| T line (ta chi tsu te to) | + ten ten “ is | D line (da \*ji \*zu de do) |
| H line (ha hi fu he ho) | + ten ten “ is | B line (ba bi bu be bo) |
| H line (ha hi fu he ho) | + maru O is | P line (pa pi pu pe po) |



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## Test yourself by writing the correct hiragana:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ga |  | Za |  | Do |  | Go |  |
| Da |  | Ji |  | Gi |  | Zo |  |
| Pa |  | De |  | Gu |  | Ba |  |
| Zu |  | Bi |  | Be |  | Po |  |
| Ze |  | Bu |  | Pu |  |  |  |
| Pe |  | Po |  | Ge |  |  |  |

## Try writing the following words in hiragana:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| dentouteki (traditional) |  |
| kaban (bag) |  |
| empitsu (pencil) |  |
| usagi (rabbit) |  |
| midori (green) |  |
| manga (Japanese comic) |  |
| hiza (knees) |  |
| dare (who) |  |
| doyoubi (Saturday) |  |
| bunpou (grammar) |  |
| Zabuton (Japanese floor cushion) |  |

Hiragana Rules

*By adding a small つ (only half the usual size) before a hiragana character, you can create a double consonant (non-vowel) letter. When reading out a word with a small つ you don’t say the つ but instead leave a small pause or gap, as if you’re taking a tiny breath.*

## Let’s look at some examples:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| が | っ | こ | う |

1. School – gakkou (pronounced ga\_kkou)

This means leave a short pause here

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| き | っ | て |

1. Stamp - kitte (pronounced ki\_tte)

Note that the small つ goes before the double letter

## Related imageNow try some yourself:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Go | itte |  | い | っ | て |
| More | motto |  |  |  |
| Husband | otto |  |  |  |
| School Term | gakki |  |  |  |
| By far | zutto |  |  |  |
| Magazine | zasshi |  |  |  |
| 4th Day | yokka |  |  |  |
| Wait | matte |  |  |  |
| Ticket | kippu |  |  |  |
| Suddenly | nutto |  |  |  |



## Now try writing the following classroom instructions:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Please sit | suwattekudasai |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Please stand | tattekudasai |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Please say | ittekudasai |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Please do your best | ganbattekudasai |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Hiragana Rules

*By adding a small や　ゆ　or よ to a character we can make a whole range of new sounds. Check out the table below.*



き　＋　ゃ　＝　きゃ

Do you notice anything about the big charcaters? If you look closely, you’ll see the are all from the ‘i’ sound line (ki, shi, ni etc.)

Note that these sounds combine a big character (e.g. ki) and a small character (e.g. ya) to make a new sound (e.g. kya)

## Now try yourself:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| びゃ |  | じょ |  |  | kya |  | sha |  | ju |  |
| きゅ |  | りゅ |  | nyu |  | hyo |  | ja |  |
| ちょ |  | みゅ |  | hyu |  | nyo |  | jo |  |
| ぴゃ |  | きょ |  | cha |  | chu |  | pya |  |
| しょ |  | にゃ |  | mya |  | gyu |  | byu |  |
| ぎゃ |  | しゅ |  | ryo |  | gyo |  | pyu |  |
| りゃ |  | ぴょ |  | myo |  | hya |  | byo |  |

Hiragana Rules

#### Try writing the following words using the special hiragana rules we have learned so far including: ten ten and maru, small つ and small や　ゆ　よ

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| English | Hiragana | Romaji |
| Fourteen | じゅうよん |  |
| Tomorrow morning | みょうちょう |  |
| Baby tooth | にゅうし |  |
| A translator | やくしゃ |  |
| To withdraw | てっきょう　する |  |
| Travel | りょこう |  |
| Cooking | りょうり |  |
| Classroom | きょうしつ |  |
| Study | べんきょう |  |
| Train | でんしゃ |  |

##### Hint: Give small size characters their own box – but make sure you still write them small!

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| English | romaji | Hiragana |
| Bike | jitensha |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Marriage | kekkon |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Phone | denwa |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Photo | shashin |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Exchange student | ryuugakusei |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Middle school | chuugakkou |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Milk | gyuunyuu |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dictionary | jisho |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Doll | ningyou |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sick | byouki |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wind | kaze |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Apple | ringo |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Child | kodomo |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

