

How to Read Hangeul

Lax (Basic) Consonants	Tense (Doubled) Consonants *	Aspirated Consonants	If at end of block or word**
ㅂ b boy	ㅃ b boy	ㅍ p pop	ㅍ top
ㄷ d dog	ㄸ d dog	ㅌ t top	t pot
ㄱ g girl	ㄲ g girl	ㅋ k kill	k pick
ㅈ(j) jail	ㅉ j jail	ㅊ(ch) cheese	t pot
ㄹ l lemon		ㅍ≡v r pero	
ㅁ m meat			
ㄴ n nail			
ㅅ s sun	ㅆ s sun	ㅅ+(l or Y-s) shee	t pot
		ㅆ+(l or Y-s) shee	(Not if followed by v)•
ㅇ no sound		ㅎ h hat	ng ring

- * **Tense (doubled) consonants** - have a "stronger" sound than their lax counterparts that cannot be represented with English sounds.
 - o The difference comes from more tension in the mouth and throat while making the sounds.
- ** Koreans do not release consonants at the end of a word, they swallow them.
- v represents any vowel
- Y-s represents any "Y series" composite vowel
- Mixed consonants** - syllable blocks that have two different consonants on the bottom.
 - o If it is followed by a vowel sound (ex. 앉으세요! "Sit down!"), both consonants are pronounced.
 - o Otherwise, only one of the consonants will be spoken, the other will be silent (ex. 닭 "chicken").

Basic Vowels	"Y series" composite vowels **	"W series" composite vowels **
ㅏ ah car	ㅑ yah yacht	ㅓ wah watt ㅓ & ㅑ
ㅓ a bat	ㅕ ya yak	
ㅗ ay* day	ㅛ yay* yay	ㅗㅑ way way ㅗ & ㅑ
ㅜ aw law	ㅠ yaw yawn	ㅜㅑ waw walk
ㅡ uh* nut	ㅠ yuh* yuck	ㅜㅑ wuh* won ㅜ & ㅑ
ㅔ eh get	ㅖ yeh yes	ㅖ weh wet ㅖ & ㅔ
ㅔ ay* day	ㅖ yay* yay	ㅖ way* way
ㅓ o go	ㅕ yo yo	
ㅜ oo food	ㅠ yoo you	
ㅡ oo (but smile!) book		ㅛ i (but smile!) light ㅛ & ㅓ
ㅣ ee feet		ㅜㅑ wee wee ㅜ & ㅑ
		ㅖ weh wet ㅖ & ㅔ
		ㅗㅑ weh way* wet way (odd)

- Vowels are always the second character in a syllable block
- * Only pronounced this way if at end of word
- ** Each composite vowel is still pronounced as only one syllable

Practice Words

The following words are English words, place names, brand names, common words and the names of foods written in 한글 to give you the chance to practice. You should know what most of these words mean if you sound them out correctly. The differences between English and Korean pronunciation schemes often mean that the Koreanized versions have extra syllables. If it doesn't make sense at first, try saying it a little faster. Have fun!

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|--------------|-------------|----------|
| 1. 뉴 질랜드 | 31. 택시 | 61. 타이어 |
| 2. 핫도그 | 32. 컴퓨터 | 62. 스페인 |
| 3. 맥도날드 | 33. 나이트클럽 | 63. 사이다 |
| 4. 스트레스 | 34. 플로피 디스크 | 64. 껌 |
| 5. 코카 콜라 | 35. 뉴욕 | 65. 삼겹살 |
| 6. 파고다 | 36. 필름 | 66. 갈비 |
| 7. 헤어 스타일 | 37. 텔레비전 | 67. 요구르트 |
| 8. 한국 | 38. 헬리콥터 | 68. 와인 |
| 9. 신촌 | 39. 김밥 | 69. 뉴스 |
| 10. 롯데리아 | 40. 프린터 | 70. 스포츠 |
| 11. 비빔밥 | 41. 레몬 | 71. 현대 |
| 12. 인터넷 | 42. 소주 | 72. 카메라 |
| 13. 업그레이드 | 43. 재즈 댄스 | 73. 인터뷰 |
| 14. 학원 | 44. 헬스 클럽 | 74. 대우 |
| 15. 선생님 | 45. 오렌지 | 75. 부산 |
| 16. 김치 | 46. 노래방 | 76. 베트남 |
| 17. 피시방 | 47. 에스켈레이터 | 77. 모니터 |
| 18. 바베큐 치킨 | 48. 버스 | 78. 스위스 |
| 19. 테킬라 선라이즈 | 49. 멕시코 | 79. 샐러드 |
| 20. 바나나 | 50. 치즈 | 80. 페인트 |
| 21. 햄버거 | 51. 홍대 | 81. 볼펜 |
| 22. 비디오 슱 | 52. 크루즈 | 82. 스타벅스 |
| 23. 아이스 크림 | 53. 캥가루 | 83. 이태원 |
| 24. 불고기 | 54. 키위 | 84. 캐나다 |
| 25. 엘리베이터 | 55. 인천 | 85. 각테일 |
| 26. 필리핀 | 56. 맥주 | 86. 팩스 |
| 27. 러시아 | 57. 위스키 | 87. 볶음밥 |
| 28. 원 샷! | 58. 슈퍼마켓 | 88. 담배 |
| 29. 테니스 | 59. 테이블 | 89. 아프리카 |
| 30. 월드컵 | 60. 쇼파 | 90. 샤워 |

1. New Zealand
2. hot dog
3. McDonald's
4. stress
5. Coca Cola
6. Pagoda
7. hairstyle
8. Korea
9. Shinchon
10. Lotteria
11. "bibimbap"
12. internet
13. upgrade
14. hogwon
15. "seonsangnim"
(teacher)
16. kimchi
17. "PC bang"
18. barbecue chicken
19. tequila sunrise
20. banana
21. hamburger
22. video shop
23. ice cream
24. "bulgogi"
25. elevator
26. the Philippines
27. Russia
28. "one shot!"
29. tennis
30. World Cup
31. taxi
32. computer
33. nightclub
34. floppy disk
35. New York
36. film
37. television
38. helicopter
39. "kim bap" (Korean
"sushi")
40. printer
41. lemon
42. soju
43. jazz dance
44. health club
45. orange
46. "noraebang" (singing
room)
47. escalator
48. bus
49. Mexico
50. cheese
51. "Hongdae"
52. cruise
53. kangaroo
54. kiwi
55. Incheon
56. "maekju" (beer)
57. whiskey
58. supermarket
59. table
60. sofa
61. tire
62. Spain
63. cider (Korean 7Up)
64. gum
65. "sam gyup sal"
(Korean bacon)
66. "kalbi" (rib meat)
67. yogurt
68. wine
69. news
70. sports
71. Hyundai
72. camera
73. interview
74. Daewoo
75. Busan
76. Vietnam
77. monitor
78. Switzerland
79. salad
80. paint
81. "ball(point) pen"
82. Starbucks
83. Itaewon
84. Canada
85. cocktail
86. fax
87. "bokkeum bap"
(fried rice)
88. "dam bae"
(cigarette)
89. Africa
90. shower