

Katakana **time**



Japanese uses 3 different scripts
(alphabets)

- The first is called **Hiragana**
- The second is called **Katakana**
- The third is called **Kanji**

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Why does Japanese have 3
different **alphabets**?

- Each alphabet is used for a **different** reason.
- Sometimes all 3 alphabets will be used to write a **sentence**!

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What is **Hiragana** used for?

Hiragana is used to write words that are from Japan. It is really round and curly.

For example:

Sushi

すし

Toyota

とよた

Ninja

にんじゃ

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What is **Katakana** used for?

Katakana is used to write words that are **NOT** from Japan. It is very sharp and pointy.

For example: **Your name.**

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What is **Kanji** used for?

Kanji can be used to write **hiragana** words. One kanji character can represent 2 or more hiragana characters so using kanji can save space.

For example:

The word for “mountain” in Japanese is “yama”. It can be written 2 different ways:

Hiragana

やま

Kanji

山

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Copy this table into your notebook and complete it with each katakana character using the example below:

Character	Pronunciation	Story
ア	a	'a' is for sticking your tongue out and saying 'ahhh'.