

Reading and Writing Practice: People

Cover the two columns on the right, and practice reading the Japanese words. Then, cover the hiragana words on the left. Using the downloadable gridded paper from this site, see if you can write the words correctly.

1. ぼく	boku	I (male)
2. あなた	anata	you (typically for anonymous person)
3. きみ	kimi	you (to male)
4. おまえ	omae	you (to person below you)
5. ~さん	X-san	Mr/Ms X
6. ~ちゃん	X-chan	friendly form of address (usually for girls)
7. ~くん	X-kun	friendly form of address (usually for boys)
8. ~さま	X-sama	polite form of address
9. ~たち	X-tachi	X and others; group including X
10. わたしたち	watashi-tachi	we
11. あのひと	ano hito	that person; he/she
12. あのかた	ano kata	that person; he/she (polite)
13. おとな	otona	adult
14. こども	kodomo	child
15. おこさん	okosan	child (polite)
16. あかちゃん	akachan	baby
17. (お) としより	(o)toshiyori	elderly
18. おとこ	otoko	man
19. おんな	onna	woman
20. みんな	minna	all; everyone
21. うち	uchi	my family; my group
22. おたく	otaku	your family
23. おかあさん	okāsan	mother
24. おとうさん	otōsan	father
25. はは	haha	my mother
26. ちち	chichi	my father
27. かない	kanai	my wife
28. しゅじん	shujin	my husband
29. おくさん	okusan	wife
30. だんなさん	dannasan	husband
31. おばあさん	obāsan	grandmother
32. おじいさん	ojīsan	grandfather
33. ばあば	bāba	my grandmother (colloquial)
34. じいじ	jīji	my grandfather (colloquial)
35. そば	sobo	my grandmother
36. そふ	sofu	my grandfather
37. おねえさん	onēsan	big sister
38. おにいさん	onīsan	big brother
39. あね	ane	my big sister
40. あに	ani	my big brother
41. いもうと	imōto	my little sister
42. おとうと	otōto	my little brother

43. めい	mei	niece
44. おい	oi	nephew
45. おば	oba	aunt
46. おじ	oji	uncle
47. むすめ	musume	daughter
48. むすこ	musuko	son
49. おや	oya	parent
50. きょうだい	kyōdai	siblings
51. かぞく	kazoku	family
52. しんせき	shinseki	relative

For each family term, there is at least one plain term and one formal term in Japanese. The plain terms are used to refer to one's own family. They are also used in legal documents. The formal terms are used to refer to other people's family. Thus *uchi no chichi* means "my father" and *otaku no otō-san* "your father."