

LESSON NOTES

Thai Alphabet Made Easy #5 Phaaw phaen, Faaw fan, Short u and Long u

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VOCABULARY

Thai	Romanization	English	Class
ฟัน	<i>fan</i>	teeth	noun
ดู	<i>duu</i>	to watch	verb
ชุด	<i>chút</i>	outfit, uniform, set	noun, classifier
มาก	<i>mâak</i>	very	adverb
พูด	<i>phûut</i>	to speak	Verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>ผู้หญิงกำลังแปรงฟัน <i>phûu-yǐng gam-lang bpraaeng fan</i></p> <p>"The woman is brushing her teeth."</p>	<p>พวกนักท่องเที่ยวดูพระอาทิตย์ตก <i>phûuak nák-thâwng-thíiao duu phrá-aa-thít dtòk</i></p> <p>"The tourists watch the sunset. "</p>
<p>เขาปรากฏตัวในชุดสีฟ้า <i>khǎo bpraa-gòt dtuua nai chút sǐi fáa</i></p> <p>"He showed up in a blue outfit."</p>	<p>ผมตื่นเต้นมากที่ได้เจอเธอเมื่อวาน <i>phǒm dtùuen-dtên mâak thǐi dâai jooe thoee mûuea-waan</i></p> <p>"I was very excited to see her yesterday."</p>
<p>ขอบคุณมากนะคะ <i>khàawp-khun mâak ná khá</i></p> <p>"Thank you very much."</p>	<p>เด็กสาวชอบสุนัขมาก <i>dèk-sǎao chāawp sù-nák mâak</i></p> <p>"The young girl really likes the puppies."</p>
<p>ช่วยพูดดังๆได้ไหมครับ <i>chûuai phûut dang-dang dâai mǎi khráp.</i></p> <p>"Could you please speak loudly?"</p>	<p>ช่วยพูดช้าๆอีกครั้งได้ไหม <i>chûuai phûut cháa-cháa iik-khráng dâai mǎi</i></p> <p>"Could you say that slowly one more time?"</p>

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is the Two Low-class Consonants ฟ and ฟ, a New Pair of Vowels and a New Tone Rule

ฟ (*phaaw phaان*)

The first new letter for this lesson is ฟ (*phaaw phaان*). The word ฟาาน (*phaan*) means a type of round tray that is used for making offerings. The sound of ฟ as the initial consonant of a syllable is "ph" like the P in "panda." This is an aspirated P, so you should feel air coming out of your mouth when you make this sound. As a final consonant, ฟ makes a dead sound as a "P stop" by closing your lips. ฟ looks much like the letter W or an upside down letter M. We write it with a clockwise head, then draw lines going down-up, down-up. The outside lines should be straight up and down, while the inside lines are slanted.

ฟ (*faaw fan*)

Next is ฟ (*faaw fan*). And As you can see, the only difference is that ฟ has the last line sticking out higher than the rest of the letter. The sound of ฟ as the initial consonant of a syllable is "f" like the F in "family." As a final consonant, ฟ also makes a dead P stopping sound.

สระ ุ (*sà-rà ù*) and สระ ู (*sà-rà uu*)

Now let's learn a new pair of vowels. These are สระ ุ (*sà-rà ù*) and สระ ู (*sà-rà uu*). They make the sound of "u" like the O-O in "boot." The difference is สระ ุ (*sà-rà ù*) is short and สระ ู (*sà-rà uu*) is long.

These two vowels are written under a consonant.

For example:

ดู (duu), which means "to watch" (ดู, สระ ู, ู) and is mid tone.

ชุด (chút), which means a "set" or "outfit." Start with ช, then สระ ุ, and ด. สระ ุ is just a little

circle with a line coming down. It's a low class consonant with a dead syllable and a short vowel. That makes it high tone.

New Tone Rule

Low class consonant + dead syllable + long vowel = falling tone

For example:

มาก (*mâak*) means "very," and it is said with a falling tone because of this rule. Falling tone begins with a relatively high pitch that drops sharply.

ม is a low class consonant. ก makes the ending dead, and ออ is a long vowel. So it requires a falling tone.

พูด (*phûut*) is the verb "to speak."

Here again, we have low class, with a dead ending, and a long vowel. So พูด is also falling tone.