

LESSON NOTES

Thai Alphabet Made Easy #6

New Lesson

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VOCABULARY

Thai	Romanization	English	Class
นึก	<i>núek</i>	to consider	verb
คืน	<i>khuen</i>	to return	Verb
พืช	<i>phúuet</i>	plants, vegetation	noun
มือ	<i>muue</i>	hand	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>ดิฉันจะคืนให้คุณภายในวันจันทร์ที่จะถึงนี้ <i>dì-chǎn ja khuen hâi khun phaai-nai wan-jan thîi jà thŭeng níi</i></p> <p>"I'll return it to you by next Monday."</p>	<p>ยาแผนปัจจุบันจำนวนมากทำมาจากพืชที่พบในป่าฝน "Many modern medicines come from plants found in the rain forest."</p>
<p>คนเราใช้มือสัมผัสสิ่งของ <i>khon-rao cháí muue sǎm-phàt sìng-khǎawng</i></p> <p>"We use hands to touch things."</p>	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson are the Consonant ค, and the Vowels สระ อี and สระ อื

ค (*khaaw khwaai*)

The new letter for this lesson is ค (*khaaw khwaai*). The word ควายน (*khwaai*) means "water buffalo" and you're sure to come across many of them in Thailand! ค makes the sound "kh" when it's the initial consonant in a syllable. It sounds like the K in "kite" or the C in "cup." As a

final consonant, ฅ makes a "K stop," which is a dead sound. This is the same sound that ฅ makes as a syllable final.

To write ฅ, start with a counterclockwise head. Then make a short line going down to the left. Then reverse the direction and draw an arch going from left to right.

Make sure you don't confuse ฅ with ๕. Can you see the difference between these two letters? It all starts with the direction of the head. ฅ has a head written counter clockwise. But ๕ has a head written clockwise. Because of this, the line that points downwards for each letter is drawn at different angles. ๕ has a wider angle at the bottom because the line comes down from the opposite side of the head.

สระ อี (sà-rà ùe) and สระ อือ (sà-rà uue).

Now let's take a look at one more pair of vowels. These vowel sounds don't exist in English, so it takes some practice for you to get them right. The sound อือ (uue) is a little bit like the sound that you get when you try to make the อู (uu) sound with the corners of your mouth spread wide to the sides.

Both of these vowels are written above a consonant. To write สระ อือ you start by making the shape of สระ อี. Then you add a tiny clockwise circle.

For สระ อี you start by writing it like the vowel สระ อี, then you add an extra vertical line to the left of the first one.

When สระ อี is not followed by a consonant, we need to write it differently. Let's use the word มือ (muue) to demonstrate this. It means "hand." We write มือ using ม, then สระ อี is above it. Then to the right we draw another letter called อ อ่าง (aaw-àang). You'll learn more about อ in another lesson. For now, all you need to remember is that if สระ อี has no consonant following it, then we need to write อ instead. It's an easy letter to write. And it looks just like a curl. And this is also a mid tone word because it's a low class consonant and a live syllable ending.