

Comparing English & Korean Phonologies

英语和韩语比较音韵

The Korean Writing System 韩语文字系统

	Aw dawn /ɔ:/	Yaw yawn /jɔ:/	Ou young /ʌ/	You young /jʌ/	Oh oh /o:/	Yoh yogurt /jo:/	Oo pool /u:/	You you /ju:/	Ou should /ʊ/	E sleep /i:/	
	ㅏ	ㅑ	ㅓ	ㅕ	ㅗ	ㅛ	ㅜ	ㅠ	ㅡ	ㅣ	
	aw	yaw	ou	you	oh	yoh	oo	you	ou	e	
G	ㄱ g	가 gaw	갸 yaw	거 gou	겨 gyou	고 goh	교 Gyoh	구 Goo	규 gyou	그 gou	기 ge
N	ㄴ n	나 naw	-	너 nou	녀 nyou	노 noh	뇨 nyoh	누 noo	뉴 nyou	누 nou	니 ne
D	ㄷ d	다 daw	-	더 dou	-	도 doh	-	두 doo	듀 dyou	드 dou	디 de
L/R	ㄹ l/r	라 law	-	러 lou	려 lyou	로 loh	료 lyoh	루 loo	-	르 lou	리 le
M	ㅁ m	마 maw	-	머 mou	며 myou	모 moh	묘 myoh	무 moo	뮤 myou	므 mou	미 me
B/P	ㅂ b/p	바 baw	-	버 bou	벼 byou	보 boh	-	부 boo	뷰 byou	브 bou	비 be
S	ㅅ s	사 saw	-	서 sou	-	소 soh	-	수 soo	슈 syou	스 sou	시 se
-ing	ㅇ ing	아 aw	야 yaw	어 ou	여 you	오 oh	요 yoh	우 oo	유 you	으 ou	이 e
J	ㅈ j	자 jaw	-	저 jou	-	조 joh	-	주 joo	쥬 jyou	즈 jou	지 je
Ch	ㅊ ch	차 chaw	-	처 chou	쳐 chyou	초 choh	-	추 choo	-	츠 chou	치 che
K	ㅋ k	카 kaw	-	커 kou	켜 kyou	코 koh	쿄 kyoh	쿠 koo	큐 kyou	크 kou	키 ke
T/D	ㅌ t/d	타 taw	-	터 tou	-	토 toh	-	투 too	-	트 tou	티 te
P	ㅍ p	파 paw	-	퍼 pou	펴 pyou	포 poh	표 pyoh	푸 poo	퓨 pyou	프 pou	피 pe
H	ㅎ h	하 haw	-	허 hou	혀 hyou	호 hoh	효 hyoh	후 hoo	휴 hyou	흐 hou	히 he

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Introduction to Korean Phonology 韩语音韵学简介

The Korean language has 24 unique symbols which are the primary building blocks of the entire written language. There are 14 consonants (G, N, D, L/R, M, B/P, S, -ing, J, Ch, K, T/D, P, & H) in Korean and unlike English there are no distinctions between the sounds for (R & L), (B & P), and (T & D). There are also 10 unique vowels (Aw, Yaw, Ou, You¹, Oh, Yoh, Oo, You², Ou, & E) in the Korean language as well. This is significantly more than English which only has 5 vowels in the written alphabet.

韩语有24个独特的符号，是整个语言体系的组成部分。韩国语共有14个辅音（G、N、D、L/R、M、B/P、S、-ing、J、Ch、K、T/D、P和H），与英语不同的是，（R&L）、（B&P）和（T&D）的发音没有区别。韩语中还有10个独特的元音（Aw、Yaw、Ou、You¹、Oh、Yoh、Oo、You²、Ou和E）。这比英语中只有5个元音要多得多。

Notice how there are 2 vowels in Korean that are spelt “YOU” when using the Latin Alphabet. Although both of these vowels are both written as “YOU” they are both produced differently. The first vowel is pronounced the same as the word “young” while the second vowel is produced like the word “you”.

注意韩语中有两个元音在使用拉丁字母时拼写为“YOU”。虽然这两个元音都写为“YOU”，但它们的发音都不同。第一个元音发音与单词“young”相同，而第二个元音发音与单词“you”相同。

In addition to 14 consonants and 10 vowels in Korean there are also a number of digraph combinations. These include 5 double consonants (ㄱk, ㄷt, ㅃpp, ㅆss, ㅈjj), 11 consonant clusters (ㄱs, ㄴj, ㄴh, ㄹl, ㄹm, ㄹb, ㄹs, ㄹt, ㄹp, ㄹh, ㅂs), 5 iodized vowel diphthongs (ㅏae, ㅑyae, ㅓe, ㅕye, ㅗui), and 6 vowels diphthongs with a “W” sound (ㅘwa, ㅙwae, ㅛoe, ㅜwo, ㅟwe, ㅠwi)

除了14个辅音和10个元音外，还有一些组合音。其中包括5个双辅音(ㄱk, ㄷt, ㅃpp, ㅆss, ㅈjj)，11个辅音群(ㄱs, ㄴj, ㄴh, ㄹl, ㄹm, ㄹb, ㄹs, ㄹt, ㄹp, ㄹh, ㅂs)，5个复杂双元音(ㅏae, ㅑyae, ㅓe, ㅕye, ㅗui)和6个“W”元音双元音(ㅘwa, ㅙwae, ㅛoe, ㅜwo, ㅟwe, ㅠwi)

Each sound and write character in Korean begins with a consonant that is followed by a vowel (ex. ㄷ “D” + ㅘ “aw” = ㅘ “Daw”). The symbols for the consonant and vowel are combined to create a new symbol that represents an entire syllable or sound in the Korean language. There are 399 basic digraph combinations that are used in the spoken Korean language although more are theoretically possible.

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韩国语中的每个发音和书写字符都以辅音开头，然后是元音（例如。ㄷ “D”+ㅏ “aw”=다 “Daw”）。辅音和元音的符号组合在一起，形成一个新的符号，代表韩语中的整个音节或声音。韩语口语中使用了399种基本的组合音，尽管理论上可能有更多的组合。

Aside: There are also numerous obsolete letters that were used for transcribing Chinese into Korean. These obsolete letters include: 13 consonants, 10 double consonants, 66 double consonants clusters, 17 triple consonant clusters, 1 vowel, & 44 diphthongs and vowel sequences. This means that there are a total of 151 obsolete letter and sound combinations which are important to know when reviewing historical Korean texts but are no longer used in the modern spoken language.

注：还有许多过时的字母被用来将中文翻译成韩文。这些过时的字母包括：13个辅音、10个双辅音、66个双辅音群、17个三辅音串、1个元音、44个双元音和元音序列。这意味着总共有151个过时的字母和声音组合，这些组合在回顾韩国历史文本时非常重要，但在现代口语中已不再使用。

Korean also has a large number of more complicated sounds in addition to the 399 digraphs combinations. These more complicated sounds are made from three parts: a consonant, a vowel, and final consonant (i.e. “달” /dal/ and “닭” /dalɡ/). There are even a few rare Korean characters that are made using 4 different parts. In total the Korean language has a total of 11,172 theoretical phonetic combinations that are possible but there are only 10,548 unicode characters available when typing Korean on a computer.

除了399个组合音外，韩语还有大量更复杂的发音。这些更复杂的声音由三个部分组成：辅音、元音和最后一个辅音(“달” /dal/和“닭” /dalɡ/)。甚至还有一些罕见的韩语字符是由4个不同的部分组成的。理论上韩语总共有11172个语音组合，但在计算机上键入韩语时，只有10548个字符可用。

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Questions about Korean Phonology 关于韩语音问题

1. How many vowels are there in the Korean language?
韩语里有多少个元音?

2. Does the pronunciations of the vowels ever change in Korean?
韩语里元音的发音改变吗?

3. How many consonants are there in the Korean language?
韩语里有多少个辅音?

4. Does the pronunciation of the consonants ever change in Korean?
韩语里辅音的发音改变吗?

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5. How many disyllabic sounds are there in Korean?
韩语里有多少个双音节?

6. How many unique sounds does the Korean language have total?
韩语里总共有多少独特的发音?

7. Which language do you think has more unique sounds, Korean or English?
哪种语言有更多的独特发音，韩语还是英语?
