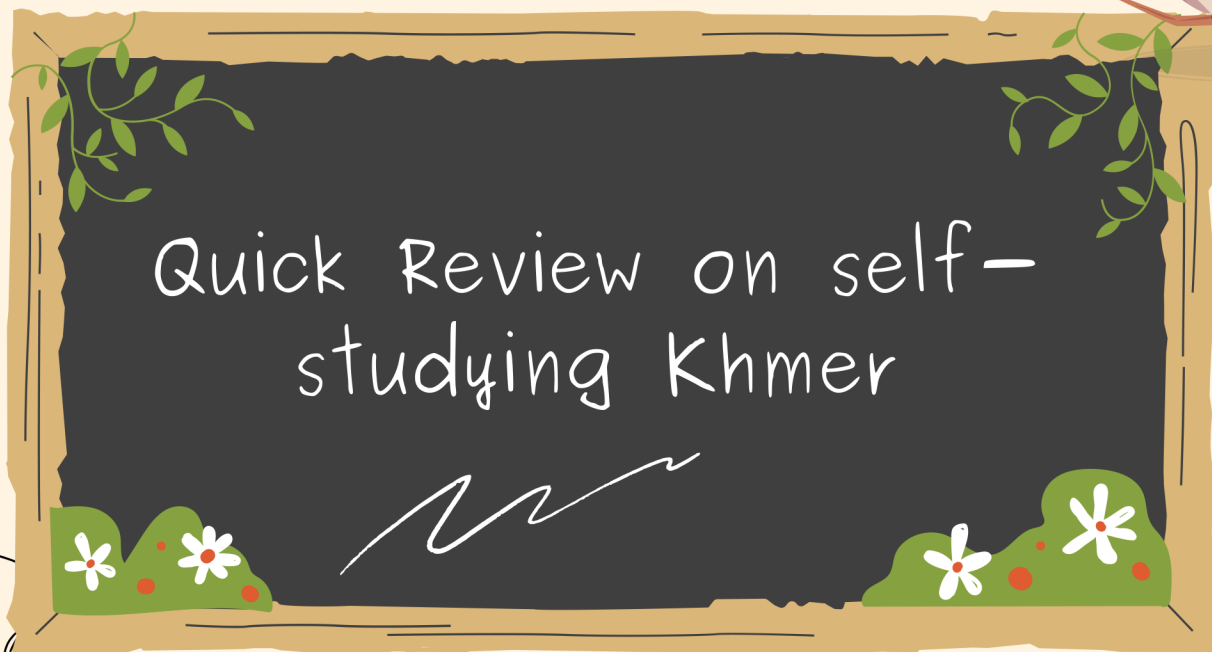


# Khmer Practice Worksheets



This workbook belongs to:



# Language tips

---

*Mind you, I already understand Khmer so that also puts me at an advantage*

Hello! My name is Ratrei but you can call me Amari. The following has been formatted based on how I personally, self-study/ied the written Khmer Language.

There are two "main" sounds that are referred to as first and second series consonants. The first series reflect the "aw" sounding consonants while the second series reflect the "oh" sounding consonants.

Your goals and learning styles may differ from mine as one of my goals was to be able to read the script and learn how to differentiate formal pronunciations. Regaining and improving my fluency and speaking skills are something that I focused later on.

The amount of time self-studying was A LOT. Give or take it, for 2.5 years, it ranged from 30minutes to 1+ hour every weekday.

# Discretion

---

*Mind you, I already understand Khmer so that also puts me at an advantage*

This is only a "basic guide" of how I self-studied the Khmer alphabet.

It does not contain an explanation about word and sentence structure of the Khmer language, punctuation, spacing, and writing format.

While I was self-studying the alphabet, I was learning how to read some words or at least pronounce Khmer words/phrases I recalled from memory.

I had to read a lot of academic studies to understand how to form a word but even that was really confusing since there isn't a standard romanization in place so you'll find that everyone uses a different romanization.

# Discretion

---

*Mind you, I already understand Khmer so that also puts me at an advantage*

The academic/research materials ended up confusing me even more LOL with all used different romanizations. I gave up on them.

In the end, it was all a guessing game on reading Khmer words and forcing my brain to recall a Khmer word based on the English definitions.

I'd look at an English definition of a word and try to see if I could recall it in Khmer.

Then would refer to my notes on the alphabet and tried to break it down.

At one point, I was like—am I doing f\*kin math ?? 🤔



# ព្យញ្ជនៈខ្មែរ ៣៣ គូ និងជើងអក្សរ

## 33 KHMER CONSONANTS AND SUBSCRIPTS

កខ័	កាខ័	កខ័	ក្យ័	កង័
kha	kha	ko	kho	ngo
ចាខ័	ចាខ័	ចាខ័	ចាខ័	ចាខ័
cha	chha	cho	chho	nho
ដាខ័	ដាខ័	ដាខ័	ដាខ័	ដាខ័
da	tha	do	tho	na
តាខ័	តាខ័	តាខ័	តាខ័	តាខ័
ta	tha	to	tho	no
បាខ័	បាខ័	បាខ័	បាខ័	បាខ័
ba	pha	po	pho	mo
យាខ័	យាខ័	យាខ័	យាខ័	យាខ័
yo	ro	lo	vo	sa
ហាខ័	ហាខ័	ហាខ័	ហាខ័	ហាខ័
ha	la	aw		



# ព្យញ្ជនៈអ

"aw" consonants

កា  
ka

កា  
kha

ចា  
cha

ចា  
chha

តា  
da

តា  
tha

នា  
na

តា  
ta

តា  
tha

បា  
ba

ផា  
pha

សា  
sa

ហា  
ha

លា  
la

អ  
aw



ah



e



ei



oe(hk)



euh



o



ou/"oh"

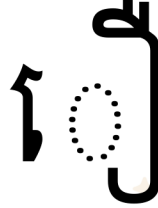


uo

first Series  
(AW) Sounds



aeu



oeau



ear



A



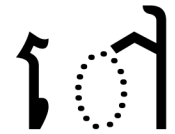
"aeh"



ai



ao



au/"ow"



"oehm"



"awm"



ahm



ah



oh



ih



eh



aoh



ah



*Let's talk about this diacritic មូសិកទន្ធឫសញ្ញាធ្មេញកណ្តុរ ( ៉ )*

When ( ៉ ) is used, it converts these following o-series consonants to a-series, ង ញ ម យ រ វ

ង + ៉ = ង៉

ញ + ៉ = ញ៉

ម + ៉ = ម៉

យ + ៉ = យ៉

រ + ៉ = រ៉

វ + ៉ = វ៉

# ព្យញ្ជនៈអី

"oh" consonants



ក

ko

កខ

kho

ង

ngo

ច

cho

ក្រ

chho

ក្ន

nho

ត

do

ត្រ

tho

ត្រ

to

ត្រ

tho

ន

no

ប

po

ក្រ

pho

ម

mo

យ

yo

រ

ro

ល

lo

វ

vo



ea



i(h)



"E"



"ooh-  
k"



ueu(dragg-  
ing the u)



ou



u/ooh

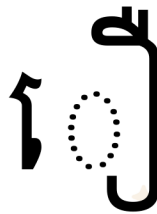


uoeu

Second Series  
(OH) Sounds



eu



oeau



ea/ie



"Aey"



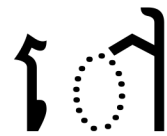
"aeh



ey/  
"eigh"



ou/"oh"



ov



oeum



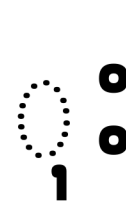
om



aomh



eah



uh



"ih"



eh



uoh



"oogh"



Let's talk about this  
diacritic ត្រីស័ព្ទ ( ̃ )

When ( ̃ ) is used, it converts these  
following a-series consonants to o-  
series, ស ហ ប អ

ស + ̃ = ស̃

ហ + ̃ = ហ̃

ប + ̃ = ប̃

អ + ̃ = អ̃



# Existing Dialects

Majority of Khmer speakers speak Central Khmer aka Standard Khmer. The following various dialects also exist:

**Northern Khmer:** After the fall of the Khmer Empire, the native Khmer of the North became under the sphere of the Kingdom of Lan Xang (Laos), then Thailand

**Western Khmer:** Spoken by an isolated population in the Cardamom mountain range (West Cambodia and East Central Thailand)

**Phnom Penh Khmer:** Spoken in the capital, the merging or elision of "R"s, etc

**Southern Khmer:** spoken by the native Khmer of Southern Vietnam and became influenced by Vietnamese, etc

**Khmer Khe:** After the fall of the Khmer Empire, they abandoned their Northern territories, the Lao ppl then settled here. The dialect is assumed to resemble pre-modern Siem Reap

# Writing Styles

## អក្សរជ្រៀង (Aksar-Chrieng)

- Novels and other publications may be printed in this, it's basically oblique lettering.

## អក្សរឈរ (Aksar Chhor) or អក្សរត្រង់ (Aksara Trang)

- Standing letters where text is italicized

## អក្សរខម (Aksar Kham)

- This is also referred to as Khom Thai script. This style is used in manuscripts. It has old school characteristics and you'll see this used for the SAK YANT tattoos, cloth writing, and engraving

## អក្សរមូល (Aksar Mul)

- calligraphy style writing. It is similar to Aksar Kham but it's a rounded script where it's bold and thick.

*Ratrei Truls*



*Ratrei Jrnl's*

## Self-learning/studying

Tips from Kundamrei/RatreiJrnl's

1. Study the 1st & 2nd series separately but along with their subscripts
2. Test your memorization of ALL the consonants
3. Test your memorization of ALL the subscripts associated with said consonants
4. Try writing out all the 1st Series [aw sounding consonants] along with their subscripts
5. Try writing out all the 2nd Series [oh sounding consonants] along with their subscripts



*Ratrei Jrnl*

## Self-learning/studying

Tips from Kundamrei/Ratrei Jrnl

6. This is dependent on your level of Khmer but I would practice pronouncing words that start out with the respective consonant/letter

7. I lookup more words via dictionary associated with said consonant/letter to expand my knowledge or to recall it from memory

# First Series

## Practice Worksheets



*Ratrei Journals*

I treated self-studying Khmer like a part-time job. It was hard without the formal breakdown of words and sentences as there is still a lack of material in English but I chose to focus on testing my memorization of the alphabet first until I could recall it from memory.

កា ខ គ ឃ ង ច ឆ ជ ញ ដ  
 ឈ ណ ឧ ញ ឝ កា រ ហ ម ឝ  
 ប ឝ ត ក ម យ រ ល រ  
 ស ហ ឡ អ

សូមយកព្យញ្ជនៈអទៅដាក់ក្នុងប្រអប់ខាងក្រោម

Please put the "aw" consonants into the box below:

កា	ខ	គ
ឆ	ជ	ញ
ឝ	កា	រ
ប	ឝ	ញ
រ	ឡ	អ

កា ខ គ ឃ ង ច ឆ ជ ឈ ញ  
 ហ ម ឃ ញ ឆ ច ខ គ ម ហ  
 ប្ប ឆ ញ ក ម យ រ ល រ  
 ស្ស ហ្គ ឡ អ

សូមយកព្យញ្ជនៈអទៅដាក់ក្នុងប្រអប់ខាងក្រោម

Please put the "aw" consonants into the box below:

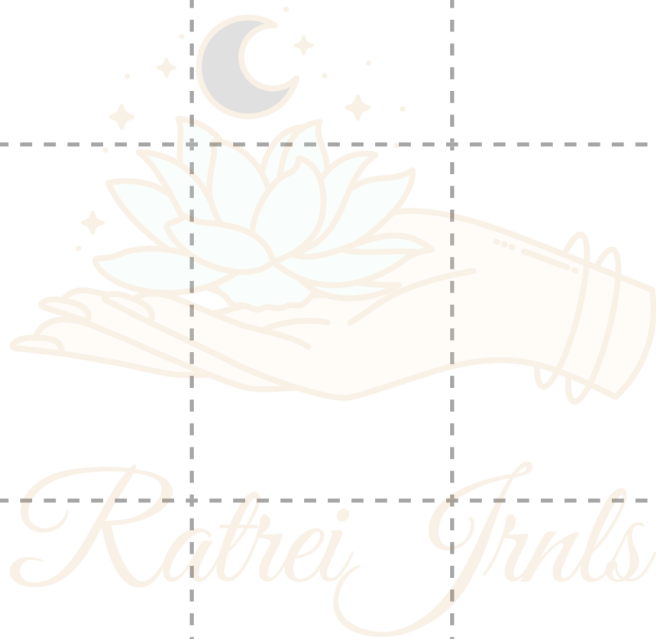
*Ratrie Truls*




សូមរៀបព្យញ្ជនៈអតាមលំដាប់ពី ក ដល់ ង។

Please arrange the "AW" consonants in order  
from ក to ង.

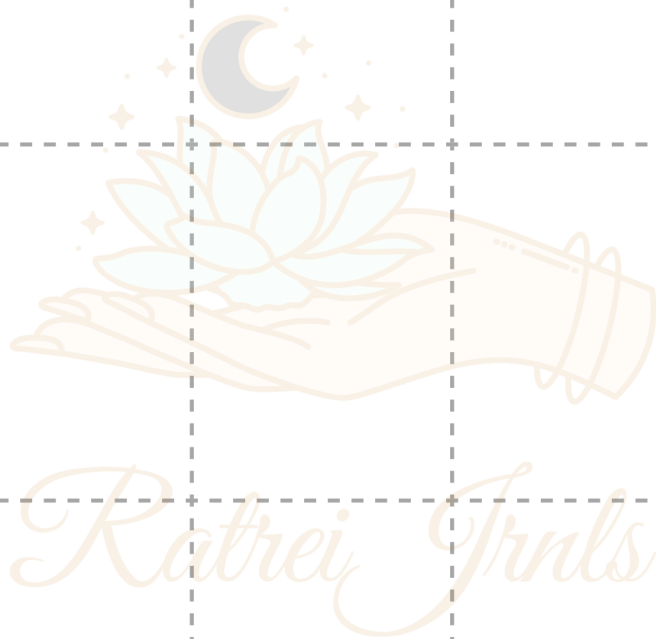
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សូមរៀបព្យញ្ជនៈអតាមលំដាប់ពី ដ ដាល់ ញ។

Please arrange the "AW" consonants in order  
from ដ to ញ.

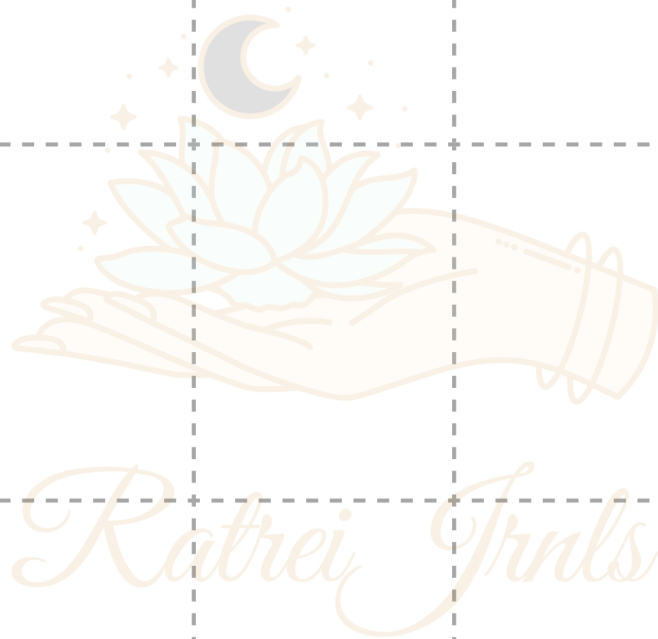
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សូមរៀបព្យញ្ជនៈអតាមលំដាប់ពី ប ដល់ ម។

Please arrange the "AW" consonants in order  
from ប to ម.

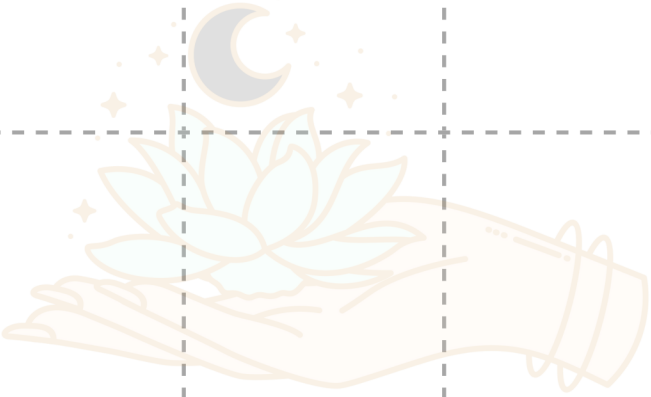
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# សូមរៀបព្យញ្ជនៈអតាមលំដាប់ពី យ ដល់ ស។

Please arrange the "AW" consonants in order  
from យ to ស.

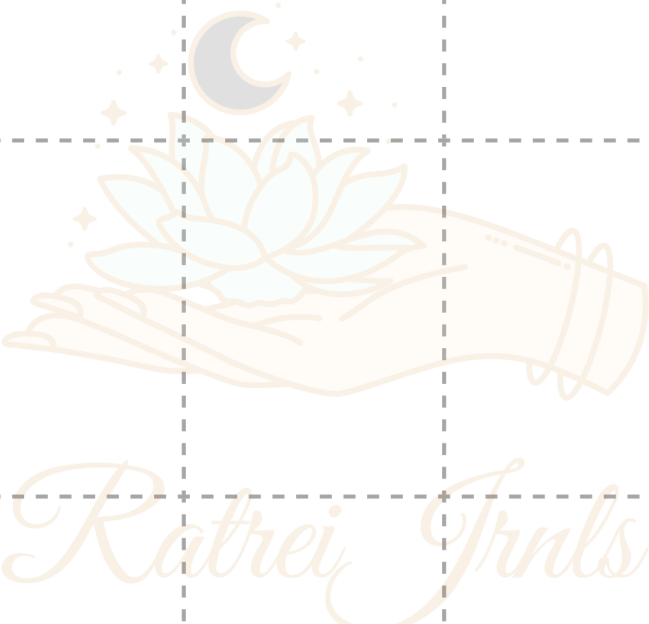
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		<i>Katrei Truls</i>		

# សូមរៀបព្យញ្ជនៈអតាមលំដាប់ពី ហា ដល់ អ។

Please arrange the "AW" consonants in order  
from ហា to អ.

---

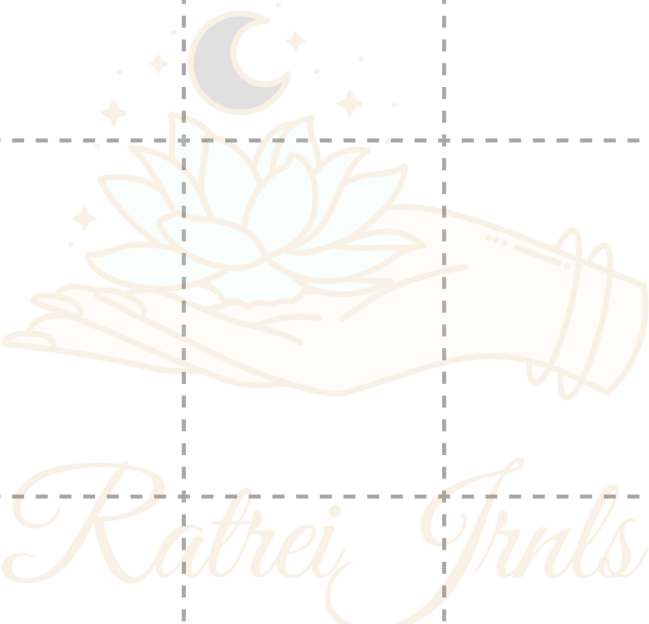
*Katrei Trnls*



សូមរៀបព្យញ្ជនៈអតាមលំដាប់ពី ក ដល់ អ។

Please arrange the "AW" consonants in order  
from ក to អ.

---



● ● ● មូសិកទន្តប្រសញ្ញាធ្មេញកណ្តុរ ( ៉ ) ប្រើជាមួយតួ  
ព្យញ្ជនៈមួយណា ?

មូសិកទន្តប្រសញ្ញាធ្មេញកណ្តុរ ( ៉ ) is used with which  
consonant ?



*Ratrei Truls*

When ( ៉ ) is used, it converts these  
following o-series consonants to a-series

# Second Series

## Practice Worksheets



*Ratri Journals*

Once I am able to recall all "AW" consonants and respective subscripts, I then get into the "OH" consonants and follow the same testing and memorization process.

កា ខ គ ឃ ង ច ឆ ជ ឈ ញ  
 ហ ម ឡ ញ ដ ត ល វ ឌ ឍ  
 ប ផ ព ភ ម យ រ ល វ  
 ស ហ ឡ អ

សូមយកព្យញ្ជនៈអីទៅដាក់ក្នុងប្រអប់ខាងក្រោម

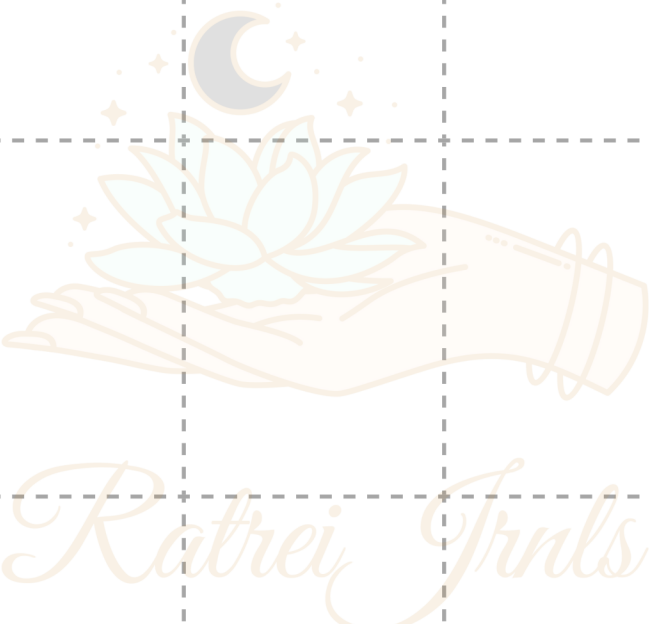
Please put the "oh" consonants into the box below:


*Katrei Trnls*

សូមរៀបព្យញ្ជនៈអ៊ីតាមលំដាប់ពី ក ដល់ ង។

Please arrange the "oh" consonants in order  
from ក to ង.

---

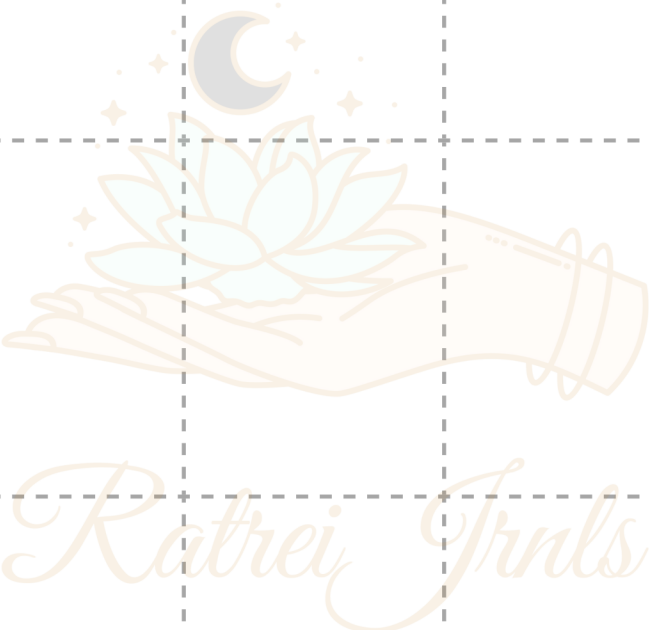
*Katrei Trnls*



# សូមរៀបព្យញ្ជនៈអ៊ីតាមលំដាប់ពី ដ ដាច់ ណ។

Please arrange the "oh" consonants in order  
from ដ to ណ.

---

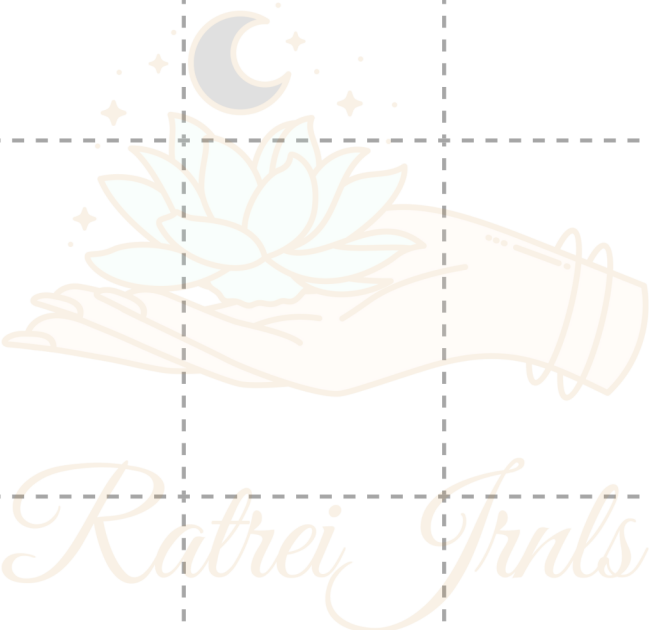



*Katrei Trnls*

# សូមរៀបព្យញ្ជនៈអ៊ីតាមលំដាប់ពី តដាច់ ទ។

Please arrange the "oh" consonants in order  
from ត to ទ.

---

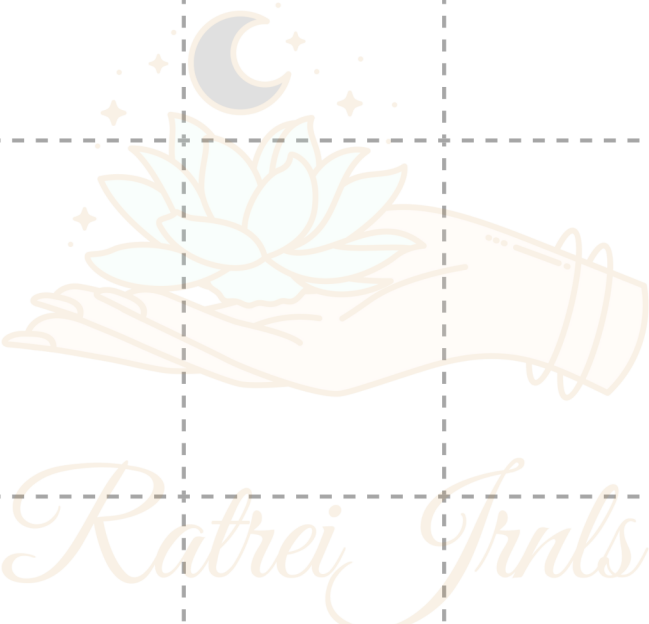
*Katrei Truls*



# សូមរៀបព្យញ្ជនៈអ៊ីតាមលំដាប់ពី បដាល់ ម។

Please arrange the "oh" consonants in order  
from ប to ម.

---

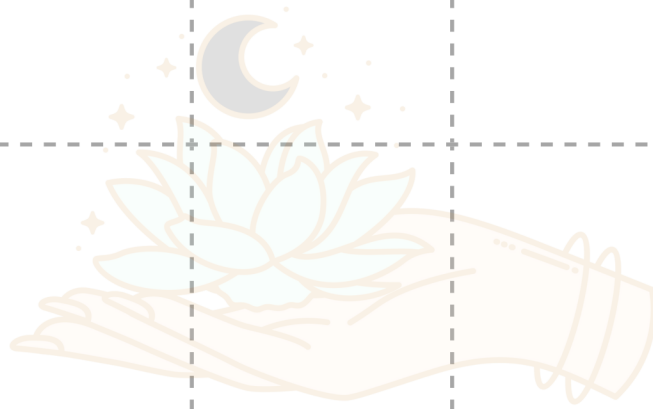



*Katrei Trnls*

# សូមរៀបព្យញ្ជនៈអ៊ីតាមលំដាប់ពី យដាច់ ស។

Please arrange the "oh" consonants in order  
from យ to ស.

---

*Katrei Trnls*

# ព្យញ្ជនៈពួកអិមាន

The "OH" consonants consist of:

-----

-----



-----

-----

*Ratrei Truls*

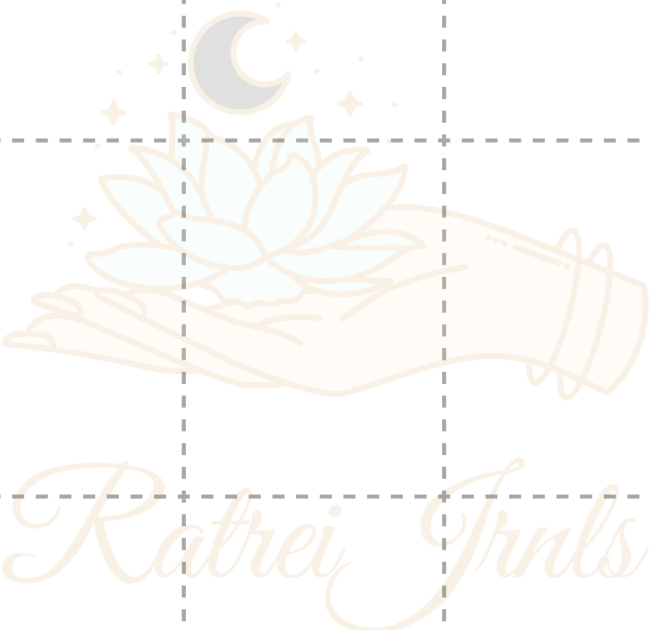
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# សូមរៀបព្យញ្ជនៈអ៊ីតាមលំដាប់ពី ក ដល់ អ។

Please arrange the "OH" consonants in order  
from ក to អ.

---

ត្រីសំព្វ ( ឺ ) ប្រើជាមួយតួព្យញ្ជនៈមួយណា ?

ត្រីសំព្វ ( ឺ ) is used with which consonant ?



*Katrei Truls*

When ( ឺ ) is used, it converts these following o-series consonants to a-series

# REVIEWING ALL THE CONSONANTS AND SUBSCRIPTS



*Ratree Jnals*

Now that I am able to recall the "OH" consonants and respective subscripts, I get into testing my abilities and memory of all the "AW" and "OH" consonants along with their respective subscripts.

# PRACTICE WORKSHEETS



*Ratri Journals*

# ផ្លូវផ្គង់តួអក្សារទៅអក្សរដើម

Match the letter to the subscript

ថ្មី

្រ

ក្រី

្រ

ឆ

្រ

បី

្រ

ណ

្រ





ផ្នែកតួអក្សរទៅអក្សរដើម

Match the letter to the subscript

ជ

្ន

ប

្រ

្រ

្រ

្រ

្រ

ស

្រ



# ផ្លូវផ្គត់ផ្គង់អក្សរទៅអក្សរដើម

Match the letter to the subscript

ណ

្ណ

អ

្ណ

ត

្ណ

ង

្ណ

ហ

្ណ



# ផ្លូវផ្គត់ផ្គង់អក្សរទៅអក្សរដើម

Match the letter to the subscript

ក

្ក

ង

្ខ

គ

្គ

ឧ

្ឃ

ឃ

្ង



# ផ្លូវផ្គត់ផ្គង់អក្សរទៅអក្សរដើម

Match the letter to the subscript

យ

្យ

គ

្ត

ង

្រ

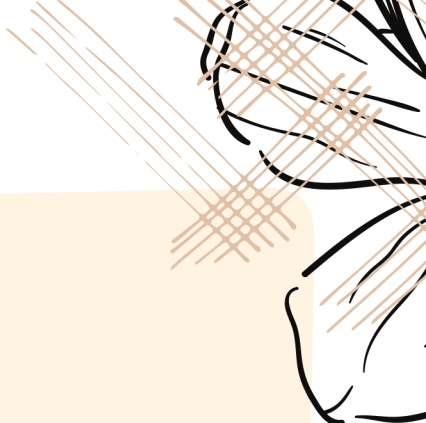

ន

្ល

ក

្ក





មូសិកទន្តឬសញ្ញាផ្ទេញកណ្តុរ (៉)  
ប្រើជាមួយតួព្យញ្ជនៈមួយណា?

Diacritic មូសិកទន្ត is used with which consonant?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....





ត្រីស័ព្ទ (៉) ប្រើជាមួយតួព្យញ្ជនៈមួយណា?

Diacritic ត្រីស័ព្ទ is used with which consonant?

.....

.....

.....

.....



# Learning about the Supplementary Consonants and Independent Vowels



*Ratri Jnals*

supplementary consonants  
(usually found in loanwords)

ហ្ក

hga

ហ្ក៉

hg'a

ហ្គ

hna

ហ្ម

pa

ហ្ម៉

hma

ហ្ស

hla

ហ្វ

hva

ហ្វ៉

hv'a

ហ្ស៉

hsa

ហ្ស៉

hs'a



# Independent Vowels

ស្រះពេញត្នី = "complete vowels"

េ

e

ឺ

ei

ោ

o

ៅ

ou

ា

au

រូ

rue

រួ

rueu

លូ

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# Learning about the វណ្ណយុត្តិ Diacritics







*Ratrei Journals*

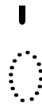

Symbol	Name	Explanation
◌◌̣	នគ្គិហិតិ	Pali niggahīta. It's a small circle written over a consonant or a following dependent vowel, it nasalizes the inherent or dependent vowel, with the addition of [m]; long vowels are also shortened
◌◌̣◌◌̣	រះមុខ	Related to visarga. Pair of small circles that's written after a consonant or dependent vowel. It modifies and adds final /h/ aspiration of the inherent or dependent vowel

Symbol	Name	Explanation
◌៖	យុគ្គលពិន្ទុ	<p>Pair of dots, it's fairly new but it is written after a consonant to represent that there's a short vowel and glottal stop.</p>
◌"◌	មូសិក្កទ្ទ	<p>Written above a consonant, it converts some o-series( ង ញ ម យ វ រ ) to a-series. Also sometimes use above ឃ (b) to a "p sound"</p>



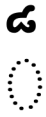



Symbol	Name	Explanation
	ត្រីសំព្វ	<p>Written above a consonant, and converts some a-series consonants (ស ហ ឋ អ) to o-series.</p>
	កៀសក្រោម	<p>AKA បុកដើង bök cheung. It's used in place of the previous 2 diacritics (  and  ) when it's impeded by a superscript vowel</p>



Symbol	Name	Explanation
	បន្តិក៍	Written over last consonant of a syllable. It indicates a short sound.
	រោទ រដ្ឋៈ	Occurs in Sanskrit loanwords. It used to represent an R sound but now it tends to be unpronounced in words.


Symbol	Name	Explanation
្ក ្ខ	ទណ្ឌយាដិ	Written over last consonant and represents that the letter is silent.
+ ្គ	កឹកីបាទ	Represents a rising intonation of an interjection or exclamation



Symbol	Name	Explanation
		<p>Used in some words to show that a consonant with no dependent vowel is pronounced with the inherent vowel, not a final consonant</p>
		<p>Used in some Pali/Sanskrit words, it indicates that the syllable is a short vowel</p>







Symbol	Name	Explanation
◌̄	វិរាម	Obsolete but suppresses a consonant's inherent vowel

NOTES:

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# THINGS YOU SHOULD NOTE?

- Multiple romanizations exist and there isn't one standard way in place so write it however lol
- Multiple spellings may exist for certain words (not all).
- On social media, you'll find that a lot of words are spelled incorrectly. Just triple check via dictionary

# THINGS YOU SHOULD NOTE?

- Learning basic Pali and Sanskrit does help ( in my opinion )
- Some word definitions and usage does require the assistance of older folks because a lot of words cannot be directly translated and will have more meaning and implications to it

# THINGS YOU SHOULD NOTE?

- Gender neutral words do exist but there are gendered terms such as the word "yes" in Khmer
- Just like other languages, there are slang words that are respective to said region, generation, or social circles
- We know the language of our elders' generation so there may be some words that are not used anymore back in the homeland and sometimes the meaning/definition of the word has changed back in the homeland.

# THINGS YOU SHOULD NOTE?

- Grammar may be simple but can be deceptive at times.
- The hard part is memorizing the entire Khmer alphabet but once you get all the vowels down, it becomes simple
- Some studies I read years ago said it's 7th/8th grade level where the majority has a proper foundation in Khmer so do what you want with that info