Anyway, here's part 2 of "Learn Japanese Hiragana" in under 1 Hour." If you've come here from Part 1, it's safe to assume that you've already got half of of the Hiragana down.

So, as mentioned previously…

This tutorial will comprise of a few steps.

1. Get a sheet that shows all the hiragana characters all at once.
2. Separate them into groups and match them with their romanized/ English versions.
3. Memorize these groups – at least the English versions.
4. Get acquainted with the stroke order or… the writing style for these funky characters.
5. Write them out.
6. Repeat steps 3 – 6 for all groups.

However, now we're doing the last 5 groups and we'll be starting from step 3.

1. HA は, HI ひ, HU ふ, HE へ, HO ほ
2. MA ま, MI み, MU む, ME め, MO も
3. YA や, YU ゆ, YO よ
4. RA ら, RI り, RU る, RE れ, RO ろ
5. WA わ, WO を, N ん

Step 3.2. Memorizing the last 5 groups.

Once again, you will memorize JUST the English/Romanized versions for each character until you can recite them out loud.

So, sit down, say them out loud. Close your eyes. Write them down. This will take you a minute or three at most.

1. HA HI HU HE HO
2. MA MI MU ME MO
3. YA YU YO
4. RA RI RU RE RO
5. WA WO N

Quick test: Can you repeat these 21 sounds without looking at this page? Yes? Good. Now, lets line them up with their Japanese Counterparts.

Step 4.2: Get acquainted with the stroke order for these characters.

Use this image below as a guide to writing the characters.

Keep it next to you as a reference as we move on to step 5.2.

n	w–	r–	y–	m–	h–	n–	t–	s–	k–	
ん	わ	ら	や	ま	は	な	た	さ	か	あ –a
N	WA	RA	YA	MA	HA	NA	TA	SA	KA	A
	を	り		み	ひ	に	ち	し	き	い –i
	WI	RI		MI	HI	NI	CHI	SHI	KI	I
		る	ゆ	む	ふ	ぬ	つ	す	く	う –u
		RU	YU	MU	FU	NU	TSU	SU	KU	U
	ゑ	れ		め	へ	ね	て	せ	け	え –e
	WE	RE		ME	HE	NE	TE	SE	KE	E
	を	ろ	よ	も	ほ	の	と	そ	こ	お –o
	WO	RO	YO	MO	HO	NO	TO	SO	KO	O

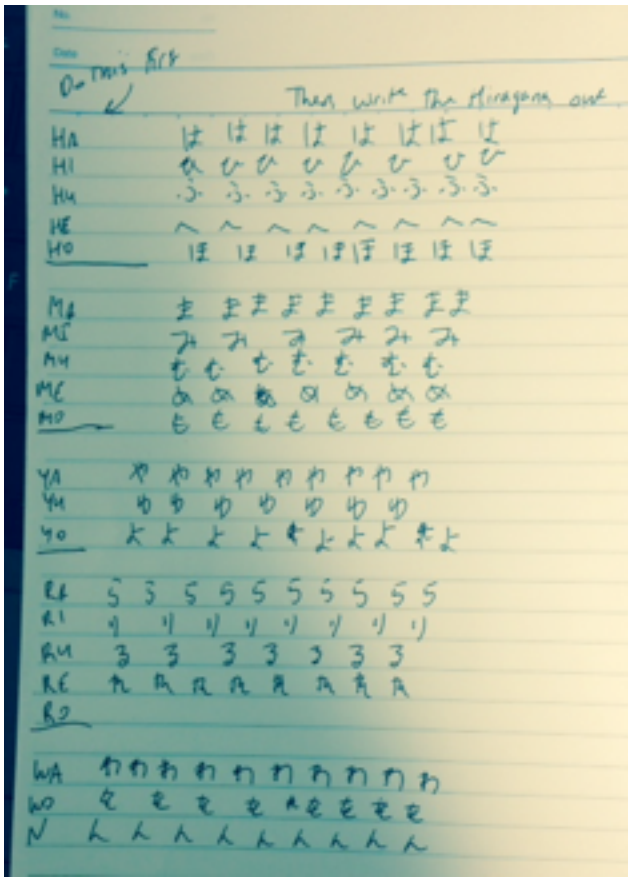
Step 5.2 Write ‘em out.

Remember those English/Romanized sounds I had you memorize for each character?

Yep. Now’s the time to write them down on the the left side of a piece of paper.

Once you’re done, begin writing out the corresponding Hiragana across the page.

It should look something like this, if not less messier.



And there you have it.

This should have taken you an hour or less. Mind you, most Japanese learners will spend a week on this which to me seems a bit slow. Now, is this perfect and does this cover the dakuten, handakuten, and the ya, yu, yo combinations? No. The important thing is to start and keep going, regardless of how perfect or imperfect it is.

But of course, you can learn all those little exceptions just as fast. I'll cover that in part 3. Til then, leave the comments below.

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