Prior to the introduction of Hangul, Koreans wrote in Chinese or Idu, Chinese characters that represented different Korean sounds. King Sejong (Chosön Dynasty) wanted to improve literacy in Korea. Therefore, he sought to develop an easy-to-learn system for writing with the help of the scholars of Jip-Hyun-Jeon.

Hun-Min-Jeong-Eum (The Correct Sounds to Instruct the People) was invented in 1443 with 11 vowels (mother-sounds) and 17 consonants (son-sounds) and was introduced to the public in 1446.

Hangul - the most recently developed letters of mankind.
- World Heritage and HMJE is one of the Memories of the World by UNESCO
- The number of Korean speakers in the world: 45M (S.Korea)+23M (N.Korea)+1.9M (China)+1.5M (USA)+0.7M (Japan)+0.45M (former Soviet Union) = 72.55M users.

Design of Hangul Alphabet
- Words are written by syllable - Beginning Sound (C)+Middle Sound (V)+Final Sound (C)
- Easy to use with Chinese letters - writing in a square: 각, 극, 께
- A vowel must be used with a consonant (Yin-yan). Ex. [a] is written ؛ (a soundless consonant with a vowel [a])
- Vowel letters are combinations of these three elements. Ex: ㅏ [a], ㅓ [a]
### Vowels

- **Simple vowels (8):**
  - [a]: as in *camera*
  - [ø]: as in * ago*
  - [œ]: as in *over*
  - [i]: as in *moon*
  - [u]: as in *moon*
  - [ï]: as in *uh*
  - [ë]: as in *bee*
  - [æ]: as in *air*
  - [e]: as in *every*

- **Diphthongs (13):**
  - [ai]: as in *camera*
  - [å]: as in *ago*
  - [o]: as in *over*
  - [u]: as in *moon*
  - [œ]: as in *moon*
  - [i]: as in *uh*
  - [æ]: as in *bee*
  - [ê]: as in *bee*
  - [ë]: as in *bee*
  - [œ]: as in *moon*
  - [i]: as in *uh*
  - [ï]: as in *uh*
  - [u]: as in *moon*

### Sounds of diphthongs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>[a]</th>
<th>[å]</th>
<th>[o]</th>
<th>[u]</th>
<th>[œ]</th>
<th>[i]</th>
<th>[æ]</th>
<th>[ê]</th>
<th>[ï]</th>
<th>[u]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ai]</td>
<td>[å]</td>
<td>[o]</td>
<td>[u]</td>
<td>[œ]</td>
<td>[i]</td>
<td>[æ]</td>
<td>[ê]</td>
<td>[ï]</td>
<td>[u]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Consonants - 5 elements of the universe (Chinese Cosmogony)

- **Wood, Fire, Earth, Metal, Water**
  - [m, n]: Molar
  - [l, r]: Tongue
  - [s, t]: Incisor
  - [Ø, ©]: Lips
  - [Δ, θ]: Throat

### Soft Consonants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nasal</th>
<th>[n, m, ng]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liquid</td>
<td>[r, l]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Hard Consonants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Velars stop</th>
<th>[k, gh, hhk]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fricative</td>
<td>[h]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alveolar dentals stop</td>
<td>[t, th, tt]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fricative</td>
<td>[s, ss]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affricate</td>
<td>[c, ch, cc]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labials stop</td>
<td>[p, ph, pp]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Consonants - m, n, r**
  - m: the shape of the tongue root
    - k/g (key/gate)
    - Add a stroke or copy letter to express different sound feature
    - ñ: aspirated (Korea)
    - ð: tensed (skip)

- **Consonants - l, c, s, ss**
  - l: the shape of the tongue body
    - n: noon
    - s: plain C, t/d (take/dog)
    - ñ: aspirated (tall)
    - ð: tensed (stop)
Consonants - ㅅ, ㅆ, ㅈ, ㅊ, ㅋ
- ㅅ: the shape of the tooth
  - ㅅ: s (smile)
  - ㅆ: tensed (sip)
  - ㅈ: j/ch (joy/champ)
  - ㅊ: aspirated (tall)
  - ㅋ: tensed (stop)

Consonants - ㅁ, ㅂ, ㅍ, ㅃ
- ㅁ: the shape of the lips
  - ㅁ: m (moon)
  - ㅂ: b/p (pole/boy)
  - ㅍ: aspirated (pin)
  - ㅃ: tensed (spy)

Consonants - ㅇ, ㅋ
- ㅇ: the shape of the glottis
  - ㅇ: [ŋ] (song)
  - ㅋ: aspirated (home)

Names of Consonants

Double consonant: ex) ssang-giyeok

Syllabic Structure 1
- CV
  1) Vertical V: CV - 가, 나, 새
  2) Horizontal V: C - 구, 모, 교
  3) Horizontal V: CV - 과, 취, 왜

Syllabic Structure 2
- CVC
  1) with horizontal vowels (ㅏ, ㅗ, ㅜ)
     국, 온, 물, 돈
  2) with vertical vowels (ㅏ, ㅓ, ㅏ, ㅐ, ㅣ, ㅔ, ㅖ, ㅒ)달, 박, 임
  3) with diphthongs such as ㅐ, ㅔ, ㅏ, ㅓ, ㅐ, ㅔ, ㅏ, ㅓ: 월, 빗, 광
Writing Exercise!

- Please write your name in Korean!
  Andy [ändi] - 엄디
  Elizabeth [èlizabeθ] - 엘리자베쓰

- Write the following words in Korean!
  UNC [juènsi]
  computer
  icecream
  Internet

Pronunciation characteristics

- Sound variations according to their positions
  1) liquid ≠: [r] in syllabic initial: 라, 리
     [l] in syllabic final: 련, 알
  2) o: [o] in syllabic initial: 아, 우
     [ng] in syllabic final: 강, 원
  3) ü, ú, = [k] in syllabic final
  4) ü, ú, = [p] in syllabic final
  5) ü, ú, =, , x, =, = [t] in syllabic final

When two consonants collide,

- Liaison ㅇ: 받이 - 바바, 꽃을 - 꽃을
- Tensing: If a syllable ends in consonants ㄱ, ㄲ, = [k], ㅃ, ㅍ [p], ㅅ, ㅅ, ㅆ, ㅅ, ㅌ [t] and the next syllable begins with ㄱ, ㄲ, the previous consonants [k] ➞ [n], [p] ➞ [m], [t] ➞ [n].

Grammatical features

- Case markers are attached to nouns.
- Basic word order: Verb is at sentence final.
  S+V (엔디가 긴다)  
  S+O+V (엔디가 사과를 먹는다)
- Category of Honorifics:
  1) Lexical items: -님, 정치 vs. 붕, 리 vs. 저
  2) Complicated verb paradigms: 14 basic verb stems of 하다 'do'

#Grammar

Differences between North and South Koreans

- Pronunciation, spelling, grammar, and vocabulary are different in N. and S.Koreas.
#Grammar

- Different language policy.

  말동보승이 [eol-eum-bo-sung-i] vs. 아이스크림 [ais krim]
  달리매 [da-ri-me] vs. 각색미 [gak-seon-mi]
  호성 [ho-sang] vs. 상호 [sang-ho]
  포락도르 [t-raek-to-r] vs. 트랙터 [t-raek-te]