

Korean Language: Key Resource Guide

COMPILED BY JIHAE (JULIA) CHUN, KOREA STUDIES LIBRARIAN

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Welcome



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This guide is intended primarily for Korean language students at the University of Toronto (U of T). This guide will help you get started in learning Korean.

Both electronic and print resources are included. The print resources are available in the [Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library](#), [Robarts Library](#) or other [University of Toronto libraries](#).

Remote Access : The U of T community can access online resources from off campus by using [my.access](#).

Ask a Librarian for Help

For further help, please contact **Jihae (Julia) Chun**, Korea Studies Librarian at the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library. You might also want to consult the [East Asian Library Web site](#).



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Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library (EAL)

<http://www.library.utoronto.ca/east/>

Located on the 8th floor of Robarts Library. Take the elevator from the 2nd floor.

The library contains over 500,000 volumes. It is one of the major research collections on East Asian studies in North America. The EAL includes vernacular Korean, Japanese and Chinese materials as well as reference titles in English and Western European languages related to East Asia.

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1. Reference Sources

Dictionaries & Encyclopedias

- **Web-based Dictionaries and Corpus**

- **NAVER 사전** = NAVER dictionary
- **Daum 사전** = Daum dictionary
- **한국어-영어 학습사전** (국립국어원) - National Institute of Korean Language's Korean-English Learner's Dictionary includes over 50,000 words in Korean and allows search by **"Theme and Situation"** such as "describing location", "ordering food", "purchasing goods" and etc.
- **Korean Picture Dictionary** – contains more than 2000 photos and illustrations assigned to English definitions and Korean translations
- **표준국어대사전** (국립국어원)– Korean dictionary built by the National Institute of Korean Language.
- **말뭉치** (국립국어원) – Corpus or a collection of electronic Korean texts built by the National Institute of Korean Language in the Republic of Korea. This is a searchable text analysis tool and is great for looking up examples of a word or a phrase usage.
- **한국속담사전 – KRpia resource**
 - Connect to **KRpia** (Log into University of Toronto Libraries Catalogue with your UTORid first to access this database)
 - In search bar, type in "한국속담사전"
 - View the dictionary

- **Korean Language Dictionaries**

- **Korean-English, English-Korean standard dictionary [English]**
Call number: PL937 .E5 L436 2009X ROBERTS LIBRARY STACKS
- **Korean conversation dictionary for foreigners: English-Korean [English]**
Call number: PL937 .E5 K68 2010 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY REFERENCE
- **韩英汉三语词典 / Han ying han san yu ci dian [Korean, English, Chinese]**
Call number: PL937 .H36 2011 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY REFERENCE
- **韓中 辭典 / Han-Chung sajön [Korean, Chinese]**
Call number: PL937 .C5 H36 2008 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY REFERENCE

- [カナ付韓日・日韓小辞典](#) = [Japanese-Korean, Korean-Japanese handy dictionary](#) / [Kanatsuki Kan-Nichi Nikkan shōjiten](#)
Call number: PL937 .J3 K29 2009 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY REFERENCE

- **Korean Dictionaries with Pictures and Illustrations**

- [Korean photo dictionary](#) = [한국어 포토 사전](#) / [Korean photo dictionary](#) = [Han'gugŏ p'ot'o sajŏn](#)
Call number: PL939 .K578 2010 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY REFERENCE
- [Korean picture dictionary](#)
Call number: PL939 .K234 2006 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS
Audio Visual: PL939 .K234 2006 v.1-2 INQUIRE AT THE EAL CIRCULATION
- [한국 복식 사전](#) = [Dictionary of Korean Costumes](#)/ [Han'guk poksik sajŏn](#)
Call number: TT503 .K36 2015 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS
- [한국 언어 문화 사전](#) = [New millenium \[i.e. millennium\] dictionary of Korean language and culture : in English with colour illustrations](#) / [Han'guk ŏnŏ munhwa sajŏn](#)
Call number: PL937 .E5 S64 2003 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY REFERENCE

- **Korean Dictionaries for Idioms, Pronunciation, etc.**

- [뜻도 모르고 자주 쓰는 우리 말 속어 1000가지](#) / [Ttŭt to morŭgo chaju ssŭnŭn uri mal sugŏ 1000-kaji](#) = [1000 Korean Idioms. \[Korean\]](#)
Call number: PL939 .Y46 2008 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY REFERENCE
- [표준 한국어 발음 사전](#) = [Korean pronouncing dictionary](#) / [P'yojun Han'gugŏ parŭm sajŏn](#) = [Korean pronouncing dictionary](#)
Call number: PL915 .P96 2008 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY REFERENCE
- [Han'gugo tongumo sajŏn \[Korean\]](#)= [Korean Homophones Dictionary](#)
Call number: PL933 .H26 2000 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY REFERENCE

- **Encyclopaedias (*Internet Explorer required to view content)**



- **KRpia [Korean]**
A large online database covering eight subject areas including large reference works in Korean studies. Students learning Korean may find the following dictionaries in KRpia helpful: “바른말글사전”, “우리말 발음사전”, “남북한말비교사전”, “한국학대백과사전”, “한국속담사전”, and “한국현대문학대사전.”
Copy and paste these titles in KRpia search box to retrieve and view dictionaries.
- **Korea A2Z [Korean]**
A collection of 125 academic contents in a variety of subjects related to Korean Studies. The databases are arranged into 7 categories and include several Korean dictionaries. Korean language students may find the following resources useful: "겨레말 용례사전Kyore mal yongnyae sajon," "국어어원사전Kugo owon sajon," "새 우리말 갈래사전Sae Uri mal kallae sajon" and "관직명사전Kwanjingmyong sajon."
- **History Culture Series [Korean]**
A multi-media content database dedicated to Korean history and culture. This database includes many downloadable images.
- **Naver 지식 백과 = Naver Encyclopedia**
<http://terms.naver.com/>
A compilation of 2,500 dictionaries.
- **Daum 백과 = Daum Encyclopedia**
<http://100.daum.net/>

Handbooks & Others

- **A reference grammar of Korean : a complete guide to the grammar and history of the Korean language**
Call number: PL911 .M37 1992 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY REFERENCE
- **Hangeul: the Korean alphabet**
Call number: PL910.5 .P37 2015 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS
- **NTC's dictionary of Korea's business and cultural code words**
Call number: DS904 .D43 1998X ROBARTS STACKS
- **외국인 을 위한 한국어 학습 사전 = Learner's dictionary of Korean / Oegugin ūl wihan Han'gugŏ haksŭp sajŏn**
Call number: PL935 .O34 2006 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY REFERENCE
- **Writing and literacy in Chinese, Korean and Japanese**
Call number: PL1171 .T37 2014 ROBARTS STACKS

- **Handbook of Korean vocabulary** : a resource for word recognition and comprehension
Call number: PL939 .C517 2002 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY REFERENCE
-

2. Books

Conversation, Phrase Books & Usage

- **한국어 슬랭 표현집= Korean slang expressions / Han'gugö süllaeng p'yohyönjip**
Call number: PL946 .H36 2015 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS
- **Colloquial Korean [electronic resource] : the complete course for beginners**
E-book: <http://go.utlib.ca/cat/8838787>
- **Korean conversation dictionary for foreigners : English-Korean**
Call number: PL937 .E5 K68 2010 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY REFERENCE

Grammar, Phonology, Pronunciation, Reading, Writing, and Orthography and Spelling

- **Korean [electronic resource] : a comprehensive grammar**
E-book: <http://go.utlib.ca/cat/8938604>
- **우리 말 문법에 대한 궁금증 115가지 / Uri mal munpöp e taehan kunggümchüng 115-kaji**
Call number: PL911 .U735 2010 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS
- **외국인을 위한 한국어 문법. 의미, 기능 편 / Oegugin ül wihan Han'gugö munpöp. Üimi, kinüng p'yön /**
Call number: PL914.4 .O44 2010 v.1-2 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS
- **Intermediate Korean [electronic resource] : a grammar & workbook**
E-book: <http://go.utlib.ca/cat/8768738>
- **한국어 발음 과 문법 = Introduction to Korean pronunciation and grammar / Han'gugö parüm kwa munpöp**
Call number: PL915.4 .C57 2015 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS
- **The Korean language [electronic resource] : structure, use and context**
E-book: <http://go.utlib.ca/cat/8127551>
- **한국어의 말소리 = Korean phonetics and phonology / Han'gugö üi mal sori**
Call number: PL915 .S55 2014 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS

- **100명 중 98명 이 틀리는 한글 맞춤법. 3 : 한국어 사용자의 필수 특강 / 100-myǒng chung 98-myǒng i t'ŭllinŭn Han'gŭl match'umpöp. 3**
Call number: PL917 .K56 2015 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS
- **오류 를 바로 잡아 주는 국어 어휘, 어법 사전 / Oryu rŭl paro chaba chunŭn Kugö öhwi, öpöp sajön**
Call number: PL917 .K486 2011 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY REFERENCE
- **Reading in Asian languages [electronic resource] : making sense of written texts in Chinese, Japanese, and Korean**
E-book: <http://go.utlib.ca/cat/8774240>
Call number: LB1050 .R4125 2012X ROBARTS STACKS
- **Selected readings in Korean**
Call number: PL913 .S64 2004 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS
- **외국인 유학생 을 위한 한국어 독해 = Reading on Korean text for international students / Oegugin yuhaksaeng ŭl wihan Han'gugö tokhae**
Call number: PL913 .C4755 2007 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS
- **경희 한국어 : 쓰기 = Get it Korean writing / Kyönghui Han'gugö : ssügi**
Call number: PL913 .K9654 2014 v.4-5 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS
- **우리 말 과 글 쓰기 / Uri mal kwa küi ssügi**
Call number: PL927 .U753 2009 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS
- **대학 글쓰기 와 말하기 / Taehak küi ssügi wa mal hagi**
Call number: PL907 .S56 2008 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS

Korean Romanization Systems

- **Korean Romanization System in Canada and U.S.A.**
 - **ALA-LC Korean Romanization [English]**
The latest guideline on Korean Romanization system used in North American research institutions.
 - **Korean Romanization & Word Division Guides**
Korean Romanization guide brought to you by the East Asian Library
 - **Korean Name Romanizer from Princeton University**
Download Korean name romanizer, convert i.e. Korean author name into Korean Romanization and search for works under his/her name in the [UTL catalogue](#).
- **Korean Romanization System in the Republic of Korea**

- **Romanization of Korean** (National Institute of Korean Language in Republic of Korea)
Note that this is South Korean convention and it differs from the revised McCune-Reischauer Romanization system (ALA-LC) widely used in North American research institutions.
- **국어의 로마자 표기법** / Kugŏ ūi romacha p'yogipŏp
This book introduces the history of Korean Romanization in South Korea and discusses the Romanization's purpose and usage.
Call number: PL915.9 .C67 2015 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS
- **국어의 로마자 표기법 (2000. 7. 7. 고시) 에 따른 로마자 표기 용례 사전.** Kugŏ ūi romacha p'yogipŏp (2000. 7. 7. kosi) e ttarŭn romacha p'yŏgi yŏngnye sajŏn.
This books includes Romanization examples for ca. **8,000 Korean terms**

Call number: PL939 .K84 2000 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY REFERENCE

Textbooks for Foreign Speakers

- **Survival Korean : basic grammar skills : basic grammar of conversation** = 서바이벌 코리아 : 처음 시작 하는 한국어 기초 문법 [Korean & English]
Call number: PL913 .C463 2015 (Books & CD-ROMs) EAL STACKS & AUDIO-VISUAL
- **함께 배워요 한국어 / Hamkke paewŏyo Han'gugŏ**
Call number: PL913 .H319 2015 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS
- **경희 한국어 : 듣기 = Get it Korean listening / Kyŏnghŭi Han'gugŏ : tŭtki**
Call number: PL913 .K9651 2014(Books & CD-ROMs) EAL STACKS & AUDIO-VISUAL
- **경희 한국어. 읽기 = Get it Korean. Reading / Kyŏnghŭi Han'gugŏ. Ilki**
Call number: PL913 .K9653 2014 (Books & CD-ROMs) EAL STACKS & AUDIO-VISUAL
- **경희 한국어 : 말 하기 = Get it Korean speaking / Kyŏnghŭi Han'gugŏ : mal hagi**
Call number: PL913 .K9652 2014 (Books & CD-ROMs) EAL STACKS & AUDIO-VISUAL
- **말이 트이는 한국어. 단어집-영어 / Mal i t'ŭinŭn Han'gugŏ. tanŏjip-Yŏngŏ**
Call number: PL913 .M259 2004 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS
- **재미 있는 한국어 = Fun! Fun! Korean / Chaemi innŭn Han'gugŏ**
Call number: PL913 .K67 2008 (Books & CD-ROMs) EAL STACKS & AUDIO-VISUAL
- **서강 한국어 / Sŏgang Han'gugŏ**
Call number: PL913 .S63 2008 (Books & CD-ROMs) EAL STACKS & AUDIO-VISUAL
- **Basic Korean [electronic resource] : a grammar and workbook**
E-book: <http://go.utlib.ca/cat/8837798>

- **TOPIK (Test of Proficiency in Korean) Books**

- **Hot TOPIK II: Writing (쓰기) : 한국어 능력 시험 한 권 으로 합격 하기 / Hot TOPIK II: Writing (ssŭgi)**
Call number: PL913.7 .H96 2016 EAST ASIAN LIBRARY STACKS
 - **Hot TOPIK : for English : [actual test] 한 권 으로 합격 하기 / Hot TOPIK : for English : [actual test] han kwŏn ũro hapkyŏk hagi**
Call number: PL913.7 .K674 2014(Books & CD-ROMs)
EAL STACKS & AUDIO-VISUAL
 - **Hot TOPIK : for Japanese : [actual test] 한 권 으로 합격 하기 / Hot TOPIK : for Japanese : [actual test] han kwŏn ũro hapkyŏk hagi**
Call number: PL913.7 .K673 2014(Books & CD-ROMs)
EAL STACKS & AUDIO-VISUAL
 - **Hot TOPIK : for Chinese : [actual test] 한 권 으로 합격 하기 / Hot TOPIK : for Chinese : [actual test] han kwŏn ũro hapkyŏk hagi**
Call number: PL913.7 .K672 2014(Books & CD-ROMs)
EAL STACKS & AUDIO-VISUAL
 - **TOPIK : 2010 한국어 능력 시험 문제 (실무) / TOPIK : 2010 Han'gugŏ nŭngnyŏk sihŏm munje (silmu)**
Call number: PL913.7 .T675 2010 (Books & CD-ROMs)
EAL STACKS & AUDIO-VISUAL
 - **TOPIK : 2010 한국어 능력 시험 문제 (중급) / TOPIK : 2010 Han'gugŏ nŭngnyŏk sihŏm munje (chunggŭp)**
Call number: PL913.7 .T673 2010 (Books & CD-ROMs)
EAL STACKS & AUDIO-VISUAL
 - **TOPIK : 2010 한국어 능력 시험 문제 (고급) / TOPIK : 2010 Han'gugŏ nŭngnyŏk sihŏm munje (kogŭp)**
Call number: PL913.7 .T674 2010 (Books & CD-ROMs)
EAL STACKS & AUDIO-VISUAL
-

3. Periodicals

Journal Databases

[Click here](#) for a full list of our article databases.

Online Journals and Magazines

IN LOVE WITH KOREA

RYAN CASSIDY

A VOICE RINGING ACROSS CULTURES

Darcy Paquet
Freelance Writer
Ahn Hong-beom
Photographer

It must be unusual to see a tall Caucasian man dressed in hanbok, performing the traditional vocal art of pansori. But Ryan Cassidy's enthusiasm for the art form is more than just a demonstration of its universal appeal; it challenges the widespread perception of this indigenous Korean vocal music as an art that has been frozen in time.

Click to read

It's never easy to step into an unfamiliar environment where you stand out from the crowd. Ryan Cassidy faced such a situation when he moved from Canada to Korea in 1997. "Back then I didn't think I'd be staying in Korea for a long time, so I decided to learn something that I wouldn't be able to do back at home," he says. After looking around, he enrolled in an ink wash painting class at the local district office. "When I arrived, I discovered that not only was I the only foreigner taking the class, but I was also the only man," he says, laughing. In the same situation many people might have dropped out, but Cassidy stayed on and learned the basics of a new hobby. It was this sort of persistence, and a natural interest in the traditional arts, that would eventually lead him to pansori.

Sometimes described as "folk opera," pansori is a form of musical storytelling performed by a solo vocalist (sorikkun) and a single drummer (gosu). Cassidy had been living in Korea for about a decade when he heard a live pansori performance for the first time. "It was amazing," he says. "It looks so simple. It's just a single voice, and a very basic-looking instrument. But the range of emotions that were expressed in that performance was astounding."

The performer was So Ji-young who, like Cassidy, lives in the city of Chuncheon. After hearing her perform a few more times, he met her in person and asked her about learning the drum (Janggu). "She told me that she didn't really teach the drum, but that if I signed up for her vocal classes, I could pick up the basics of drumming as well," he says. Cassidy had never previously given any thought to singing, and was the sort of person who avoided noraebang (karaoke rooms) when possible. But the attraction of pansori pulled him in, and he has been studying under So ever since.

Setting Down Roots in Korea

Before coming to Korea, Cassidy's passion was cooking. In the 1990s, when he was living in the ski resort town of Whistler, Canada, his original plan was to save up some money and study for a chef's certificate. But with limited prospects in Whistler, he was persuaded by a friend to come to Seoul to teach English.

"My first class the day after I arrived was with a group of seven-year olds. There was no teacher training, they just pushed me into a room and said, 'got it was only six months later, when the institute held an ESL workshop, that I realized that I actually love teaching,'" he recalls. Within a few years, he earned a CELTA certificate, and eventually an M.A.

For a self-described "small town guy," the city of Seoul was a bit of a culture shock. "In Canada, I had been living on a very small island, about 40m long, 20m wide, with a population of about 2,000 people in the offseason," he says. After meeting his wife, Kim Hyun-sook, and getting married a year later, he lived in Gangneung for a few years before relocating to Chuncheon in 2002. They now have two children: son Chan aged 11, and daughter Hannah. Cassidy currently teaches at the College of International Studies, Hallym University, focusing on academic English skills like reading and critical thinking.

Early Steps as a Pansori Enthusiast

Meanwhile, pansori has become a passionate hobby. As might be expected, learning how to perform it required some persistence. "In pansori there is no music to read. You just listen to your teacher and repeat. You start with a small section and keep practicing until you get it right, and then you go to the next part," he explains. "Remembering the lyrics is especially hard. The language is all based on hanja (Chi-

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Figure 1: Koreana, a quarterly on Korean culture and arts

- **Koreana [online resource]**
Since publishing its first English edition in 1987, Koreana journal has been recognized as a valuable resource for readers interested in Korean arts and culture.
Access here: <http://www.koreana.or.kr/#k>
- **Azalea [electronic resource]**
Published by the University of Hawaii Press, this academic journal aims to promote Korean literature among English-language readers and provides the academic community of Korean studies with well-translated texts for college classes.
Access here: <http://go.utlib.ca/cat/7912016>

Newspapers

Chosun.com [Korean/English/Japanese/Chinese]

[<http://www.chosun.com/>]

Online version of the Chosun Daily in Korea.

Donga.com [Korean/English/Japanese/Chinese]

[<http://www.donga.com/>]

Online version of the Dong-A Ilbo (The Dong-A Daily).

Han'gyorye Sinmun [Korean]

[<http://www.hani.co.kr/>]

Online version of Han'gyorye Sinmun (The Han'gyorye Daily).

Hankooki.com [English]

[<http://times.hankooki.com/>]

Online version of Hankook Ilbo (The Korea Times).

Hankooki.com [Korean]

[<http://www.hankooki.com/>]

Online version of Hankook Ilbo (The Korea Times).

Joins.com [Korean/English]

[<http://www.joins.com/>]

Online version of JoongAng Ilbo (The JoongAng Daily).

JoongAng Ilbo - Canada [Korean]

[<http://www.joongangcanada.com/>]

Online version of JoongAng Ilbo Canada (The JoongAng Daily Canada).

Korea Times - Canada [Korean]

[<http://www.koreatimes.net/>]

Online version of Hankook Ilbo (The Korea Times) in Canada.

4. Other Web Resources

Downloadable Apps

Naver Dictionary App:

- Download the dictionary onto your smartphone
 - Android users: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.nhn.android.naverdic&hl=en>
 - iPhone users: <https://itunes.apple.com/ca/app/naver-korean-dictionary-translate/id673085116?mt=8>

Daum Dictionary App:

- <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=net.daum.android.dictionar...>

Associations & Organizations

[Korean Culture Series & Quick Korean \[English\]](http://korean.cuk.edu/en/)

[<http://korean.cuk.edu/en/>]

Offers free online lectures on everything about Korea.

[TalkToMeInKorean \[English\]](https://www.youtube.com/user/talktomeinkorean/featured)

[<https://www.youtube.com/user/talktomeinkorean/featured>]

Provides YouTube video instructions for Korean language.

[SEEMILE Korean Language \[English\]](https://www.youtube.com/user/seemile/featured)

[<https://www.youtube.com/user/seemile/featured>]

More Korean language instructions on YouTube.

[Pusan National University's Urimal Paeumt'o \[Korean\]](http://urimal.cs.pusan.ac.kr/urimal_new/)

[http://urimal.cs.pusan.ac.kr/urimal_new/]

Provides helpful information on Korean language and various links to dictionaries and Romanization guides.

The Han'gul Foundation [Korean]

[<http://www.hangul.or.kr/>]

Established in 1995. The Foundation aims at supporting those who study Korean culture and language. The Web site includes an introduction to Korean language and information on Korean orthography.

The Korean Language Society = Han'gul Hakhoe [Korean]

[<http://www.hangeul.or.kr/>]

The society was founded on August 31st in 1908 by Si-gyong Chu, Chong-jin Kim and other renowned intellectuals of the day. Its achievements so far include publication of Great Dictionary, Great Dictionary of Korean Place Names, Great Dictionary of Our Language, Dictionary of Korean Studies, and The Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Korean Place Names. Currently, the society focuses on providing online information on the accurate usage of the Korean language based on its Data Bank of Korean Studies.

The Society for Korean Linguistics in Japan = Chosengo Kenkyukai [Japanese]

[http://www.aurora.dti.ne.jp/~noma/ken_index01.html]

Korean Linguistics Society in Japan.

Korean Writing [English]

[<http://www.omniglot.com/writing/korean.htm>]

Introduces the origin of writing in Korea, notable features of Han'gul and the alphabet. Plus, many useful links on Korean language.

Han'gul Munhwa Yondae's Urimal [Korean]

[<http://www.urimal.org/>]

Han'gul Munhwa Yondae is devoted to supporting Han'gul and increasing people's awareness of Korean language.