

The Sudoku kanji challenge!

The word sudoku, derives from the Japanese for ‘single’ or *doku* and ‘number’ or *su*. The recent popularity of these puzzles owes much to the fact that despite involving the manipulation of single digit numbers they are not mathematically based but use pure logic.

The basic concept is simple. Fill in the 9x9 grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column, and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating a digit.

In the following series of sudoku puzzles the principles remain the same, however, numbers have been substituted with kanji. The puzzles range from the basic concept of working with the kanji from 1 to 9 to more challenging puzzles that expand on the numeric concept further, testing both logic, vocabulary and kanji knowledge.

All kanji used in the puzzles are GCSE level unless specified otherwise.

Step 1: Introduce students to the vocabulary.

Step 2: Teach any unknown kanji.

Step 3: Start the challenge!

Sudoku Puzzle Contents

- Numbers - 1 to 9
- Numbers - Multiples of 10
- Inanimate object counter ㇿ for small things
- Number of long, thin things
- Number of times
- Numbers of floors or stories
- Numbers of nights stay
- Counting duration of time – week