

Common Korean four character idioms worksheet

Word list

#	Hangul	Romanization	Meaning
1	일석이조	ilseogijo [일써기조]	two birds with one stone
2	일거양득	ilgeoayangdeuk	two gains from one action
3	금상첨화	geumsangcheomhwa	the icing on the cake
4	백발백중	baekbalbaekjung [백발백중]	hitting the target every time
5	대동소이	daedongsoi	much the same
6	용두사미	yongdusami	a strong start and a weak finish
7	작심삼일	jaksimsamil [작심사밀]	a resolution that does not last
8	일취월장	ilchwiwoljang [일취월장]	rapid progress
9	시종일관	sijongilgwan	consistently
10	시행착오	sihaengchago	trial and error
11	과유불급	gwayubulgeup	too much is as bad as too little
12	이열치열	iyelchiyeol	fight heat with heat
13	팔방미인	palbangmiin	an all-rounder
14	외유내강	oeyunaegang	gentle outside and strong inside
15	우유부단	uyubudan	indecisive
16	죽마고우	jungmagou [죽마고우]	a childhood friend
17	유유상종	yuyusangjong	birds of a feather flock together
18	자화자찬	jahwajachan	self-praise
19	십중팔구	sipjungpalgu [십중팔구]	very likely
20	설상가상	seolsanggasang [설쌍가상]	to make matters worse
21	동문서답	dongmunseodap	an answer that misses the question
22	금시초문	geumsichomun	news to me
23	속수무책	soksumuchaek [속수무책]	helpless
24	막상막하	maksangmakha [막쌍마카]	neck and neck

More words: see the full list at learn-korean-hangul.com/vocabulary/word-types/four-character-idioms/everyday-four-character-idioms/

Common Korean four character idioms worksheet

Matching

Name: _____ Date: _____

Hangul	Meaning
1. 일석이조 _____	A. two gains from one action
2. 일거양득 _____	B. hitting the target every time
3. 금상첨화 _____	C. the icing on the cake
4. 백발백중 _____	D. too much is as bad as too little
5. 대동소이 _____	E. rapid progress
6. 용두사미 _____	F. trial and error
7. 작심삼일 _____	G. consistently
8. 일취월장 _____	H. fight heat with heat
9. 시종일관 _____	I. two birds with one stone
10. 시행착오 _____	J. a resolution that does not last
11. 과유불급 _____	K. a strong start and a weak finish
12. 이열치열 _____	L. much the same

Common Korean four character idioms worksheet

Writing practice

Name: _____ Date: _____

일	석	이	조	일	석	이	조	일	석	이	조				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--

일	거	양	득	일	거	양	득	일	거	양	득				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--

금	상	첨	화	금	상	첨	화	금	상	첨	화				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--

백	발	백	중	백	발	백	중	백	발	백	중				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--

대	동	소	이	대	동	소	이	대	동	소	이				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--

용	두	사	미	용	두	사	미	용	두	사	미				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--

작	심	삼	일	작	심	삼	일	작	심	삼	일				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--

일	취	월	장	일	취	월	장	일	취	월	장				
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--

Common Korean four character idioms worksheet

Fill in the blank

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. 자전거로 출근하면 운동도 되고 돈도 아껴요. _____예요.

Cycling to work is exercise and saves money. Two birds with one stone.

2. 한국에서 일하면서 한국어도 배워요. _____이에요.

I work in Korea and learn Korean too. It is a double gain.

3. 맛있는 음식에 멋진 경치까지 있으면 _____예요.

Delicious food and a great view as well would be the icing on the cake.

4. 그 선수는 활을 쏘면 _____이에요.

That athlete hits the target every time with a bow.

5. 두 가게의 가격은 _____해요.

The prices of the two shops are much the same.

6. 계획은 거창했지만 결과는 _____였어요.

The plan was grand, but the result was a fizzle.

7. 새해 운동 계획이 _____이었어요.

My New Year exercise plan fizzled out in three days.

8. 매일 연습해서 한국어 실력이 _____했어요.

Practising every day, my Korean has made rapid progress.

Common Korean four character idioms worksheet

Answer key

1. I — 일석이조 — two birds with one stone
2. A — 일거양득 — two gains from one action
3. C — 금상첨화 — the icing on the cake
4. B — 백발백중 — hitting the target every time
5. L — 대동소이 — much the same
6. K — 용두사미 — a strong start and a weak finish
7. J — 작심삼일 — a resolution that does not last
8. E — 일취월장 — rapid progress
9. G — 시종일관 — consistently
10. F — 시행착오 — trial and error
11. D — 과유불급 — too much is as bad as too little
12. H — 이열치열 — fight heat with heat

Fill in the blank

1. 일석이조
2. 일거양득
3. 금상첨화
4. 백발백중
5. 대동소이
6. 용두사미
7. 작심삼일
8. 일취월장