Maudric
Everyday Japanese, one walk at a time

Hiragana: the さ row

さしすせそ



さ sa

Samurai!

Sounds like the sa in samurai.

Samurai! A samurai in armour with his sword: the slanting stroke is the blade, the cross stroke is the sword guard, and the curve at the bottom is the curved scabbard.





し shi

Ship!

Sounds like shee, but shorter.

Ship! A big ship on the horizon: the long stroke is its mast and the curve at the bottom is the hull.





す su

Sumo!

Sounds like the su in sumo.

Sumo! A sumo wrestler: the cross stroke is his arms stretched out, the long stroke his body, and the loop is the knot of his belt.





せ se

Celebration!

Sounds like the se in set.

Celebration! Fireworks, and a flag flying from the top of each upright stroke. The long cross stroke is the banner joining them.





そ so

Espresso!

Sounds like the so at the end of espresso, but shorter.

Espresso! A little cup of coffee: the zigzag at the top is the steam rising, and the long curve is the side of the cup.



Writing practice: trace the grey letters, then write your own

さ さ さ

し し し

す す す

せ せ せ

そ そ そ

Stroke order, all the rows and a free weekly kana quiz:
maudric.com/kana/pictures/sa

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