

When a Picture is Worth a Thousand Words, What About a Word That is a Picture?

One of the remarkable aspects of Chinese and Japanese characters is that they are essentially images composed of various elements, each telling a story about the concept they represent.

The original Chinese character for tea is particularly vivid. It is made up of three radicals: the top represents a plant or leaves, the middle depicts a person, and the bottom signifies a tree. Together, these elements create a beautifully simple story—people gather tea leaves from trees to create a cherished drink known as tea.

tea

plant

person

tree