



Learning Hindi!

हिन्दी सीखें

The eBook

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Introduction

नमस्ते *namaste!*

Our website www.learning-hindi.com began as a tiny blog over four years ago. Since then we have now grown to become one of the biggest free online Hindi resources on the internet!

We have received several questions from our readers asking if we have a physical book available for purchase or a PDF version of the lessons - so here it is! In the following pages you will find every single one of our 130+ lessons from our website.

This ebook is neither a substitute nor a replacement for our website. The website is still where we will be focussing our attention because a website works much better for presenting this kind of interactive and multimedia information.

This ebook is designed for those who have a poor or limited internet connection, or who would prefer the content physically printed.

Please be sure to read the How To Use This eBook section on the next page because it contains all the information you need to know to make the most of this document.

Contact

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If you spot any typos, mistakes or links that don't work as expected in this document, or if you have any comments or suggestions, then please feel free to get in touch on the above email address. I would love to hear your story if we have been able to help you.

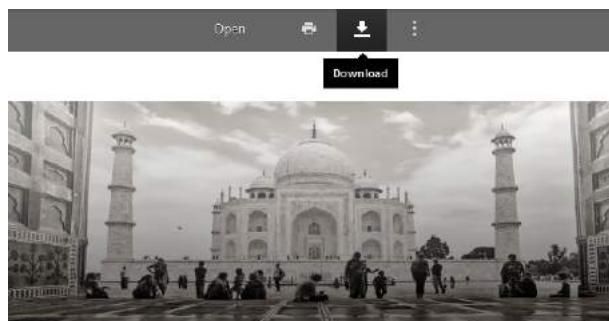
As I said above, I'm not a native Hindi speaker only a Hindi learner and so there is a good chance that there are some mistakes here. Please let me know if you spot them and I'll get it

fixed! If you're not sure if something is a mistake or not then get in touch anyway and we can discuss it!

How To Use This eBook

This book is just a collection of all the lessons on our website. When reading feel free to flick between the sections, especially the Letters and Conversations + Grammar sections - these are meant to be enjoyed together and complement each other. The book is not meant to be read as a novel. Explore it, move back and forth and be sure to take your time to take in all the information. If you are reading this on a computer then you can press **Ctrl+F** or **⌘+F** on a Mac to search the entire document for one particular phrase or word.

Think of this work **not** as a fixed printed book but of a constantly evolving document. Since I will often be making changes and edits to this document, it is best to read this ebook directly in your browser. However if you would like to download this document to your computer then simply click the download button at the top of the page as shown in this image:



Or if you like you can print directly from the browser by clicking on the printer icon next to the download button. **Before you click print be aware that this ebook is 284 pages long.** If you do download this document be sure to check back every so often and download it again to make sure you have the most up to date version.



[Audio/02 Conversational/namaste.mp3](#)

Wherever you see this speaker icon it means there is an accompanying audio file to help with pronunciation. Below the icon there will be a link to the audio file. The link will take you to the folder containing the audio file - so simply click on the right file and listen away! If you have printed this document out and want to access the audio files then please visit <http://www.learning-hindi.com/drive> and click on the folder titled Audio.

Google Drive is not able to play audio in all browsers. If the audio will not play for you, or if you would just like to download all the audio files to your computer, then

1. Open <http://www.learning-hindi.com/drive>
2. Click Sign in with Google in the top right. If you are already signed in skip to step 5
3. Sign in with your Google account or create an account
4. You should be taken back to the folder but if not click <http://www.learning-hindi.com/drive> again
5. Click Open in Drive in the top right
6. Right click on the folder called Audio and select Download.

The Audio folder is a few MB in size so it might take a moment to download. As before, be sure to download the files again every so often so that you get the most up to date version!

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Our website is very kindly supported by donations from our readers. This allows me to invest my time creating these resources and keeps the website alive for future learners. If you have learnt from our material and would like to make a small contribution then please visit www.learning-hindi.com/donate. Any donation, however small, is massively appreciated.

Thanks

बहुत धन्यवाद

George,

21/07/14

Lessons

Introduction

So do you think you are ready to begin your adventure in Learning Hindi? Excellent! Remember that although learning a language fluently may take years, it is only ever one small step at a time.



The Indian flag - Hindi is mainly spoken in the northern areas of India.

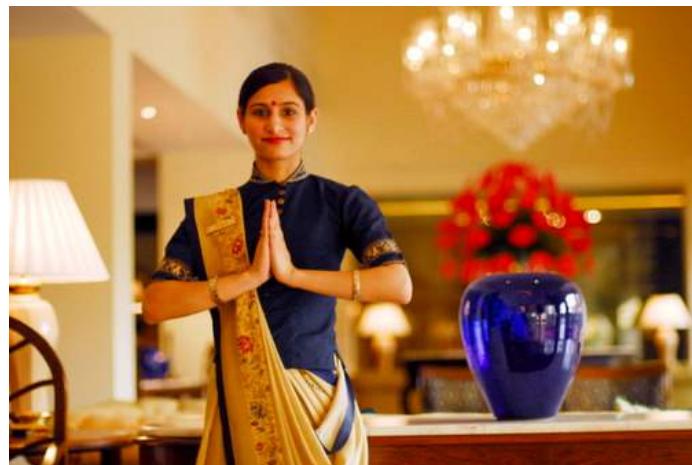
Saying Hello

So let's look at our very first word in Hindi: the word for hello which is... नमस्ते *namaste*. This can be used as a standard greeting to everyone at anytime of the day, so it is really useful to know! Say it again, नमस्ते *namaste*. Once more नमस्ते *namaste*. This may seem silly, but repetition really is key to learning! I really advise you to repeat everything you learn many times.



[Audio/02 Conversational/namaste.mp3](#)

Use the audio to hear the word नमस्ते *namaste* pronounced! You'll hear it through once first, then you'll hear it slowly and then at normal speed again! Be sure to listen through it many times, to help you remember it!



It's common to place your hands like this as you greet someone with नमस्ते namaste.

Image by [Wikipedia CC-BY](#).

Be sure to listen to the audio and repeat the word over and over again! So there we go, how easy was that! You now know how to greet someone in Hindi.

About Hindi

So before we begin to learn Hindi it's probably a good idea to learn what Hindi actually is first!

So then, what is Hindi? Well it's one of the widest spoken languages in the world with around 500 million speakers. In fact that's only outnumbered only by Mandarin Chinese, English and Spanish! It is mainly spoken in and around the areas of northern India but, of course, it is spoken by communities all over the world. Hindi is also a very powerful language in terms of global politics, with India being one of the fastest growing economies in the world. It is also the main language of [Bollywood](#), the billion dollar film industry.



A map showing the areas of Northern India where Hindi is spoken.

Image by [Wikipedia](#).

Hindi is a member of what language experts call the Indo-European language family. You may be surprised to know English is a member of this family too! This doesn't mean they're that similar though. Hindi has evolved from a language called Sanskrit, much in the same way languages like Spanish and French evolved from Latin. Hindi is very closely related to the language of Pakistan, Urdu. They're so close in fact that some linguist say they *are* the same language! You can learn all about Urdu in the special Urdu section, which you can find at the end of this book.

Hindi is written with an alphabet which is known as देवनागरी devnaagree - Devanagari. This is introduced more fully later on. Don't be put off by its 'strangeness' though, I can assure you it's easier than you think to learn!

In terms of grammar, Hindi is very regular and most of the time everything follows the rules - which makes our lives learning it a lot easier! Of course, don't be fooled, learning a language is never a walk in the park.



Don't worry if Hindi seems really confusing and scary to start with - just keep working at it and practicing and you'll soon get there!

Finally I want to say good luck to you all! And of course please feel free to always ask any questions if you ever have them by sending me an email to the address mentioned above.

Some Helpful Ideas

So clearly learning a language from complete scratch is never going to be an easy task, but hopefully I can make it as painless as possible for you. In this special introduction page I'm simply going to give you a few pointers and hints that I believe will really improve both your learning skills and your memory.



Don't worry if you think it's really hard - that's part of learning!

This first thing is practice! This may sound obvious, but it's essential you practice over and over and over again and then practice even more. It's a psychological fact that in order for information in your brain to pass from your short term memory into your permanent memory it needs to be repeated. Make sure you read over every lesson several times, then go back over it a few days later and read it again. Repeat this until you are confident you can remember it.

Something I feel is essential to you, whatever your level of Hindi, is to look over Hindi texts or watch Hindi films (ie [Bollywood](#) ones!). Try and see what words you can recognise or what phrases you know. Get a 'feel' for how the language is used. This 'real life' Hindi is going to improve your knowledge massively. Websites that will give you a feel of how real Hindi looks include [BBC Hindi](#) and [Wikipedia Hindi](#) but of course there are millions of websites you could look at.

Even if you don't understand what you're seeing it's great to familiarise yourself with Hindi so be don't afraid. Before you know it you'll be recognising words and phrases! For example, here's a print screen from a BBC Hindi article from 30/10/10:

महाराष्ट्र की आदर्श हाउसिंग सोसाइटी घोटाले पर प्रधानमंत्री मनमोहन सिंह ने किसी तरह टिप्पणी करने से इनकार किया है। जापान, मलेशिया और वियतनाम की सात दिन की यात्रा से लौटते हुए विशेष विमान में पत्रकारों से बातचीत में मनमोहन सिंह ने कहा, "मुझे अभी तथ्यों की पूरी जानकारी नहीं है। मैंने अखबारों में ही मामला देखा है। मैं भारत पर्यावरक तथ्यों को देखूँगा, उसके बाद ही किसी तरह की प्रतिक्रिया दे पाऊँगा।"

Source

Of course this won't actually make any sense yet, it's simply an example to show you what 'real life' Hindi looks like! One idea might be to try and pick out some of the symbols that you see repeating through the text and write them down. We'll be covering what they all mean very soon!

Devanagari - The Hindi Alphabet

You may remember that we briefly mentioned that Hindi is written in what's called the Devanagari script. Here I'm going to introduce you to some of the main concepts of this. Unfortunately we're not going to be able to learn to read and write overnight, but slowly, step by step we'll get there!

Devanagari, or देवनागरी, is the name of the alphabet that Hindi is written in. Devanagari is also used to write other languages, like Sanskrit, Nepali, Marathi and so on. Each language has its own slight modification to the alphabet - this is just like how the Latin alphabet (the one we're using here!) is used for other languages like Spanish and French, which have their own modifications - like the letter é in French and ñ in Spanish.



These are the [Hindi vowels](#) - do you reckon they look a little scary? Well don't be put off, we're here to teach you it all!

Now I'm going to tell you a fact you might not believe, ready? Compared to English, Hindi is *much much* easier to read! See I told you you wouldn't believe me. So let me tell you why. This about the words 'cat' and 'city', these both start with the letter 'c', but they start with different

sounds! Cat starts with a ‘k’ sound and city and ‘s’ sound. Confusing hey! In Hindi every letters *always* has the same pronunciation*.

So let’s learn a few things about Devanagari. Firstly the most distinctive look about it is the horizontal line that’s above almost all the letters, it looks like a washing line with the letters hanging from it!

नमस्ते आप कैसे हैं?

namaste aap kaise hain? - Hello, how are you?

Notice how the letters hang from the red ‘washing line’

There are no capital letters in Devanagari - which makes our life a lot easier! We use something called a transliteration to help us read the Hindi words, what does this mean? Well for example here’s a Hindi word प्यार it means ‘love’ in Hindi. A transliteration tells us how to pronounce this word by writing it in English letters, so for this word we’d write *pyaar* - that’s approximately how the word is pronounced! The transliteration will always be in *italics* - but you should not learn to rely on it.



Everyone gets confused learning new things

- but stick with it and you’ll get there!

Punctuation marks are exactly the same as English ones but sometimes you’ll see a | which means exactly the same as a full stop (period).

Hopefully this has given you enough background information for you to progress on to the Vowels sections where you start to learn the letters of Devanagari in detail!

*Ok I lied slightly, not 100% always. But the number of exceptions to the rules are microscopic especially when compared to English!

Vowels

So as we learnt in the [Introduction](#) section, Hindi words, in the exact same way as English ones, are composed of Vowels and Consonants. In Hindi all the vowels come at the start of the alphabet. We're going to begin by learning the vowels! Heres a little sneak peak of all the vowels in Hindi...



Don't you think they look really confusing and alien? Well, don't you worry, it won't stay like that for long! Work your way though all the lessons below slowly to help you remember all the information best. With each Vowel we learn I'll teach you at least one word that uses it to hopefully help your memory!

Vowels Part 1: अ a and आ aa

One big difference between Hindi and English is that Hindi vowels have two forms, one form for when they stand alone and another for when the vowel joins to a consonant. Confused? Don't worry, I'll explain everything as we go through and by the end you'll have it mastered!

Ready to get straight into it and learn your very first Hindi vowel? Excellent! So here it is:





[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/01 a.mp3](#)

Use the audio to hear the letter pronounced, be sure to listen to it many times to make sure you remember it!

This is the letter ॐ a. It looks kind of like a 3 with a capital T after it and then a little small line in the middle joining them up. Can you see? Look at it again, ॐ a. Listen to it again.

It is pronounced as 'a', like the sound at the start of the English words, alive, apply, alert. It makes a very short sound. Can you practice saying it ॐ a. Now practice writing it ॐ a. Practice saying it and writing it at the same time! Listen to it more and more ॐ a.



Don't worry if you're currently really confused with all the Hindi letters - everyone is to start with, even Mr Chimp above! With a little work you'll get there, promise.

So are you ready to learn a word that starts with ॐ a? The Hindi word ॐ acchaa means 'good'. Can you see the ॐ a in this word? Where is it? Yeah that's right, it's right at the beginning! ॐ acchaa good!



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/02 acchaa namaste.mp3](#)

Click the play button above to hear our two sample words for this letter: ॐ acchaa - Good and नमस्ते namaste - Hello.

Now આ *a* is a very special vowel because it doesn't change the consonant at all. Whenever you see a consonant with no modification at all then it should have the આ *a* sound. Can you remember this from [Saying Hello](#): we saw the letters ન *na* and મ *ma* which make up the word નમસ્તે *namaste* - Hello. Well these letters, ન *na* and મ *ma*, have no modifications so they are both pronounced with an આ *a*. Following?



Image by [Guardian.co.uk](#)

The greeting નમસ્તે *namaste* has two આ *a*'s in it! Can you remember we usually make this hand gesture when greeting someone with નમસ્તે *namaste*. Do you think you're ready for the next vowel? Well here it is:



[*Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/03 aa.mp3*](#)

This is the letter આ *aa*. What does it look like? Well it's very similar to આ *a* but આ *aa* has an extra vertical line on the right hand side. Can you see the difference? આચા *acchaa* - good!

We pronounce આ *aa* as a long 'a' sound, this is like the 'a' in father. F-aa-ther. Listen to it several times. Say it out loud a few times આ *aa*. Write it out a few times. આ *aa* Got it? આ *aa*. Are you ready to learn a word that uses આ *aa*?



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/04 aag naam.mp3](#)

What do you think आग *aag* could mean? What's in the picture? Fire! Can you see the आ at the start of आग *aag* fire? अच्छा *acchaa* - good! Use the audio above to hear two sample words with the letter आ *aa*: आग *aag* - Fire and नाम *naam* - Name.

Now when we want to add an आ to a consonant we add this symbol, ा at the end of the consonant. Remember the letter न *na* from नमस्ते *namaste* - Hello? Well when we add आ *aa* to न *na* it becomes ना *naa*. Can you see the extra line here: न *na* and ना *naa* Got it? न *na* should have a very short 'a' sound and ना *naa* has a long 'aa' sound. Great!



The word नाम *naam* means 'name' in Hindi. We learn how to ask someone their name in the lesson "What is your Name?" and this uses the word नाम *naam*. Have a quick check and see if you can recognise the word नाम *naam* there!

And that's it for today! We've learnt the first two vowels of Hindi, आ *a* and आ *aa* do you think you can remember these for next time? अच्छा *acchaa* good! Make sure you listen to the audio files over and over again to help improve your pronunciation!

Vowels Part 2: इ i and ई ee

Last lesson, [Vowels Part 1](#), we started learning about the Vowels in Hindi. We learnt our first two vowels, can you remember them? They were अ a and आ aa. We also learnt a few words that use these letters. Today we're going to continue with the vowel and learn the next two. So let's get straight into it!



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/05 i.mp3](#)

As usual click the play button above to hear the letter pronounced, be sure to keep listening to it! This is the letter इ i. What does it look like? Well it's a bit like a capital S with a line on top and a strange little tail.

इ i is pronounced just like the i in the English word pit or hit. Make sure you listen to it many times! Again, like अ a, इ i should make quite a short sound. Practice writing and saying the letter, इ i, इ i, इ i. Got it? अच्छा acchaa good! Ready to learn a word that starts with इ i?



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/06 ikkees ciriya.mp3](#)

Pretend for me that there's 21 candles on this cake because you're celebrating your 21st birthday! इक्कीस ikkees is the number Twenty One in Hindi. Can you see the letter इ i in the word? Yeah, that's right, it's right at the start. You can learn all the numbers in Hindi in the [Numbers section](#)!

Use the audio above to hear the two example words with this letter pronounced: इक्कीस ikkees- Twenty One and चिड़िया ciriya - Bird.

Now when you want to add the vowel इ i to a consonant we use the symbol ि. This can be quite confusing because it goes on the left hand side of the consonant, even though you make the vowel sound after.



The Hindi word for bird is चिड़िया ciriya - Can you see the letter इ i here? Have a look for the ि symbol. Can you see it? Yeah, that's right, there's two! We have an इ i on च ca giving चि ci (pronounced like the start of 'chick') and we also have a इ i on र ra giving रि ri! Don't worry too much if this is confusing, all it takes is practice, promise. Ready for the fourth vowel of Hindi? Here it is:



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/07 ee.mp3](#)

This is the letter ई ee. What does it look like? It's very similar to इ i but it has this flick on top, can you see the difference? इ i and ई ee. Got it? . ई ee is pronounced just like the 'ee' in the words feet or see. It's a long vowel sound. eeeeeee. Ready to learn some words using ई ee?

When we want to add इ ee to a consonant we use this symbol ई. Let's see an example:



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/08 billee saree.mp3](#)

The word बिल्ली billee means cat in Hindi. Can you see the इ ee here? Yeah that's right, it's at the end, we have ली lee. Can you also see the letter इ i in this word? Yep, it's at the start, on the बं ba giving बि bi.

Click the play button above to here the two sample words of the letter pronounced: बिल्ली billee - Cat and साड़ी saaree - Sari.

It's really important to understand the differences in the symbols for these two vowels. The short vowel इ i comes before the letter giving, for example, नि ni and the long vowel इ ee comes after, giving नी nee. Can you see the difference? Don't worry if it takes sometime getting used to.



Image by [Wikipedia](#).

Do you know what the women in the picture above are wearing? It's an Indian dress called a सारी saaree - mostly spelt Sari in English. Can you see the letter ई ee in this word? Yep, that's right it's at the end again!

So we've learnt two more vowels today, ई i and ई ee. Keep practicing them!

Vowels Part 3: ୟ u and ୟ oo

Can you remember what Vowels have we covered so far? We saw ୟ a and ୟ aa and then we saw ୟ i and ୟ ee last time. If you can't remember these go back the lessons and revise them, otherwise you'll end up getting yourself really confused! Ready for today's new vowels? Great, let's go!



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/09 u.mp3](#)

This is the letter ୟ u. What does this letter look like? This one's simple, it's just like a 3 with a line on top. Can you see? Careful not to confuse this letter with the vowel we already know, ୟ a . Can you see the difference? So how do we pronounce ୟ u? Well it sounds just like the 'oo' in the word foot or the 'u' in put. Click the audio button above to hear it pronounced!





[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/10 ulloo kuttaa.mp3](#)

What's this animal? An owl! Or in Hindi: उल्लू *ulloo*. Can you see the letter ऊ *u* at the start of the word? अच्छा *acchaa* good! When we want to add the vowel ऊ *u* to a consonant we use this symbol underneath the consonant . It's a little flick to the left. Let's see an example.

Click to hear two words with this letter pronounced, उल्लू *ulloo* - Owl and कुत्ता *kuttaa* -Dog



Can you remember the Hindi word for 'dog'? That's right, it's कुत्ता *kuttaa*. Can you see the letter ऊ *u* here? Can you see the little flick under the letter क *ka* which makes it कु *ku*. Do you think you've understood ऊ *u* now? Great! Ready for the next vowel?



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/11 oo.mp3](#)

This is the letter ऊ *oo*. What does this letter look like? It's actually very similar to ऊ *u*, just it has a small flick on the right hand side! Can you see the difference? ऊ *oo* and ऊ *u*. Got it? ऊ *oo* is pronounced just like the 'oo' in the word food or mood. Be sure to listen to it pronounced many times! It is the long vowel sound compared to the short vowel sound of ऊ *u*.

When we want to add the vowel to a consonant we add the symbol  underneath.

Remember our word for Owl? उलू *ulloo* Can you see the  *oo* here! Yeah, it's at the end with the ल *la* giving लू *loo* - which sounds just like the word loo (Toilet in UK English).



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/12 phool.mp3](#)

The word for flower in Hindi is फूल *phool* Can you see the  *oo* here? अच्छा *accha* - great!

Be sure to listen to the audio file a few times to get used to the sound of the word.

So that's two more Hindi vowels we've learnt,  *u* and  *oo*. Well done! Keep practicing them and keep listening to them to help you remember.

Vowels Part 4: *ri*

We've already covered six of the eleven Hindi Vowels and that means that we're over halfway now! Can you remember the vowel's we've seen so far? That's right, we've learnt  *a*,  *aa*,  *i*,  *ee*,  *u* and finally  *oo*. This time we're going to cover a vowel that doesn't have a partner unlike all the other ones we've seen. It's also quite rare - but we still need to learn it. Ready to get going?



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/13 ri.mp3](#)

This is the letter ऋ *ri*. What does it look like? Well this one's a little tricky, but I'd say it looks like a T with three arms, two on the left and a big evil hook in his right hand, can you see?

How do you pronounce ऋ *ri*? This is easy, it's just like the 'ri' in the English word critic or riddle! Use the audio to hear the letter pronounced! Be sure to listen to it over loads and loads to make sure you get the pronunciation perfect!

As a little side note, the letter ऋ *ri* is only ever found in words with Sanskrit origin, Sanskrit being like the Latin of Hindi. It's not a very common letter, by far the least common of all vowels! But that's no excuse to not learn it! Ready to see an example words?



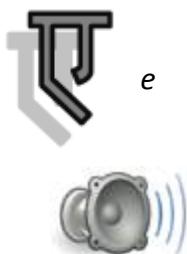
[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/14 rishi kripayaa.mp3](#)

ऋषि *rishi* is the Hindi word for the herb Sage, it is also a common males name in India! Use the audio to hear our two sample words for this vowel!

Now when we want to add the vowel ऋ *ri* to a consonant we use the symbol ॠ . For example in the Hindi word कृपया *kripayaa* which means 'Please'. Take special notice here to the 'direction' of the flick so you don't get it confused with the vowel उ *u*: ऋ *ri* in कृपया *kripayaa* - Please and... उ *u* in कुत्ता *kuttaa* - Dog. Can you see that the vowel signs flick in opposite directions? अच्छा *acchaa* - Good!

Vowels Part 5: ئ e and ئ ai

Last time we covered the vowel ئ ri. Do you think you've nailed that now? Awesome! Let's keep going. The first letter for today is:



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/15 e.mp3](#)

This is the letter ئ e. What does it look like? Well think of it as a man hopping around on one leg! The pronunciation of this vowel can be quite difficult because it's not a sound we're really used to in English, you can hear it pronounced above. All it takes is a little practice and you will get it perfect so don't worry too much to begin with. Be sure to keep listening to the audio!



The French (excuse my stereotype) should have no problem pronouncing this vowel. If you're familiar with French then ئ e is pronounced exactly like the French vowel é, like in clé - key, or like "er" at the end of a French verb like manger, aller. But if you're not familiar with French then try and say the English word 'may' really slowly. ئ e is simply the first vowel sound you make when saying 'may', after the m but before the second vowel sound.



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/16 ek kutte.mp3](#)

एक *ek* - is the number One in Hindi. Can you see the letter ए *e* at the start? Great! That was easy! Use the audio to hear the two sample words of this letter - एक *ek* and कुत्ते *kutte* pronounced!

When we want to add the letter ए *e* to a consonant we use this symbol ई. It's just a little flick at the top. Can you remember our Hindi word for dog from [last lesson](#)? It was कुत्ता *kuttaa* - Dog. The plural form ie 'dogs' is really easy, we simply drop the ा *aa* and add ई *e*:



कुत्ते *kutte* - Dogs

Can you see the vowel ए *e* at the end? Great! Remember to listen to the word pronounced a few more times using the audio file just above. So are you ready for the next Hindi vowel?



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/17 ai.mp3](#)

This is the letter ई *ai*. It is just like ए *e* but has a flick on top. It looks a little bit like a cup of drink with a straw in it. Can you see?

ऐ *ai* is pronounced just like the *e* in the English word 'hen' or 'pen'. Have a listen to it using the play button above, make sure you listen to it loads of times! Don't get confused with ए *e* though! ए *e* is written *e* but pronounced as the first vowel in 'may' and ऐ *ai* is written *ai* but

pronounced as the e in ‘hen’. Admittedly this is quite tricky to get your head around. So let’s see some example words:



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/18 ainak paisaa.mp3](#)

The Hindi word for Glasses or Spectacles is ऐनक *ainak*. Can you see the letter ऐ *ai* at the start? Listen to this word by pressing the play button just below! Now when we want to add ऐ *ai* after a consonant we use the symbol ା (Notice here how this has two flicks where the symbol for ए *e*, ଈ *ae* has just one).



पैसा *paisaa* means ‘money’ in Hindi. Can you see the vowel ऐ *ai* on the letter प *pa* at the start? अच्छा *accha* good! Make sure you listen to this word using the play button just above!

And that’s it for today! We’ve learnt two new vowels today, ए *e* and ऐ *ai*. Make sure you practice listening, speaking, reading and writing them! We have now seen 9 Hindi vowels, so there’s only 2 more left!

Vowels Part 6: ओ *o* and औ *au*

What Vowels did we cover last time? Yeah that’s right, we saw the slightly tricky vowels ए *e* and ऐ *ai*. Can you remember? Have a read over the lesson again if you’ve forgotten! Today we’re going to cover two more vowels and then that’s it, you’ll know all the vowels of Hindi, are you excited? Ready to start learning our new vowels for today? Great here goes! The first vowel for today is...



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/19 o.mp3](#)

This is the letter ओ *o*. Remember to use the audio letter pronounced! This is pronounced just like the ‘o’ in the English word domain or like the french ‘eau’ and **not** like the ‘o’ in hotel. Be sure to keep listening to the audio loads of times. What does this letter look like? It looks very similar to the vowel अा *aa* that we learnt in at the beginning it just it has a little flick on the top, can you see the difference? ओ *o* and अा *aa*, अा *aa* and ओ *o*. Got it?

When we want to add the vowel ओ *o* to a consonant we use the symbol ऋ.



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/19 o.mp3](#)

The verb ‘To Sleep’ in Hindi is सोना *sonaa*. Can you see the letter ओ *o* here? See the symbol ऋ on the letter स *sa* at the start giving us सो *so*. Remember that सो *so* **does not** sound like the English word ‘so’ as in ‘it was so difficult’. Have a listen to these sample words by clicking play just below!



दो *do* is the number ‘two’ in Hindi. The Hindi word for ‘doors’ is दरवाज़े *darvaaze*. So if we wanted to say ‘two doors’ it would simply be: दो दरवाज़े *do darvaaze* - two doors! Don’t forget to keep listening to the word by clicking the play button just next to the doors! Have you got that? Well done. So are you ready to move on to our next vowel? Great! Here goes...



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/20 au.mp3](#)

This is the vowel ॐ *au*. What does it look like? Well it’s similar to ओ *o* just ॐ *au* has two flicks on the top. ॐ *au* is the only vowel in Hindi that has two flicks at the top (when not attached to a consonant) so it’s easy to remember! How do we pronounce it then? It’s pronounced just like ‘aw’ in awesome or awful, make sure you listen to it plenty of times! Got it?

Ready to learn a few sample words using this letter? The first word is: और *aur* means ‘and’ or ‘more’ in Hindi. This word is (quite expectedly) very common, you’ll be hearing it loads so it’s a real good idea to learn it!



[Audio/01 Letters/01 Vowels/21 aur kaun.mp3](#)

When we want to add the vowel ॐ *au* to a consonant we simply use the symbol ौ. So let’s look at an example...



कौन *kaun* means ‘who?’ in Hindi. You can hear it by using the audio above! Here’s a useful little Hindi sentence you might want to know - वह कौन है? *voh kaun hai?* - Who is that?



Wow! Congratulations, we’ve not learnt every single one of these Hindi vowels. How do you feel? Hopefully you feel good! Before we finish this section there’s still a few more things to learn so let’s keep going...

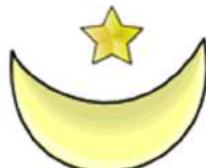
Vowels Part 7: Nasalised Vowels

Now you’ve mastered the [Hindi Vowels](#), there’s one more thing I need to tell you about - vowel nasalization! So are you ready to get going?



*We’re going to be using our noses today so if you’ve got
a massive nose like this then you’re in luck!*

Every vowel in Hindi, apart from ऋ *ri*, has a nasalized version. So what does this mean? Well the nasalized version is pronounced just like the normal version but you instead make the sound “through your nose”. Confused? Well don’t worry - be sure to use the audio in the lesson to help you!



To make a vowel into its nasalized version we use what's called a चन्द्रबिन्दु *candrabindu* literally a "moon dot". This is exactly what it says on the tin - it's a "moon-dot" that sits on top of the vowel and tells us that the vowel is nasalized! Nasalized vowels should be thought of as separate and different vowels. On this site I transliterate the nasalized vowels by adding an "n" to the end - but don't let this fool you, there's no "n" sound, it just means you make the vowel sound through your nose!

Let me show you an example using our first vowel. To make a nasalized version of अ *a* we add our chandrabindu to get अँ *an*. Can you see the moon-dot on top of the letter? Good! This is pronounced just like अ *a* but through the nose! Use the audio below to hear it. Here's an example word too...



अँ *an* as in हँसना *hansnaa* - To Laugh



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Nasalized Vowels/01 an hansnaa.mp3](#)

Can you see the chandrabindu above the ह *ha*, yeah? That means the vowel is nasalized. If you're having troubles reproducing the sound yourself then try holding your nose and saying it - and be sure to keep practising! The next vowel works in the exact same way...



आँ *aan* as in घड़ियाँ *ghariyaan* - Clocks



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Nasalized Vowels/02 aan ghariyaan.mp3](#)

This time we've used आँ *aan*. Can you see what's happened? Be sure to listen to the audio!

Now if a vowel extends above the line of the letters then the moon part of the chandrabindu disappears (to stop things getting messy!) and so we're just left with a dot. For example...



इँ *in* as in सिंचाई *sincaaee* - Irrigation



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Nasalized Vowels/03 in sincaaee.mp3](#)

Can you see that the “moon” has disappeared here? We’re left with just the “dot” because this vowel extends over the top line! With me? Here’s another example...



ईँ *een* as in नहीं *naheen* - No



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Nasalized Vowels/04 een naheen.mp3](#)

Can you see that the “moon” has disappeared here? We’re left with just the “dot” because this vowel extends over the top line! With me? Let’s keep working our way through the vowels then...



ঁ un as in মঁহ munh - Mouth

[Audio/01 Letters/02 Nasalized Vowels/05 un munh.mp3](#)



ঁ oon as in ওঁট oont - Camel



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Nasalized Vowels/06 oon oont.mp3](#)



ঁ en as in কিতাবুৰ্জ kитаaben - Books



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Nasalized Vowels/07 en kitaaben.mp3](#)

Remember that because the vowel marker here extends over the top of the line we lose the moon! Shall we keep going through the final few vowels?



ঁ ain as in মঁই main - I / Me



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Nasalized Vowels/08 ain main.mp3](#)



ओं *on* as in क्यों *kyon* - Why?



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Nasalized Vowels/09 on kyon.mp3](#)



ओं *aun* as in भाँ *bhaun* - Eyebrow



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Nasalized Vowels/10 aun bhaun.mp3](#)

Phew! Be sure to listen to all the audio files as much as you can.

PS It's common to see people always using just the dot and never the "moon and dot", for example you might see someone writing हां *haan*. This is technically incorrect and words should always be written with both the "moon and dot" if applicable - e.g. you should write हाँ *haan*.

Vowels Part 8: Similar Sounds

When learning any language one of the most challenging things can be producing the correct sounds in the correct place. What makes this even harder is that there are often words that can sound very similar to our English ears but are completely different to native speakers' ears!

Today we're going to look at some Hindi words that have very similar pronunciation and that can be confusing for learners - we'll be focussing on just the vowel sounds for now. Most of the time we are going to be looking at minimal pairs (this is just a term for two words where only one sound is different!).



Of course this lesson is going to have loads of audio that you should listen to over and over again!

First of all be sure that you've covered everything in the [Vowels Section](#) so far because we're going to be using everything we've learnt there! Ok so enough chat let's get going...



કમ *kam* - less and કામ *kaam* - work



[Audio/01 Letters/04 Similar Sounds/01 kam kaam.mp3](#)

We saw the vowels અ *a* and આ *aa* at the start. The vowel અ *a* has a very short sound and આ *aa* has a longer sound. Listen to the audio to hear the words કમ *kam* - less and કામ *kaam* - work. Can you hear the difference? Keep listening until you can and then practice speaking the words yourself. Ready to move on?



દિન *din* - day and દીન *deen* - humble



[Audio/01 Letters/04 Similar Sounds/02 din deen.mp3](#)

This time we're contrasting the short ઇ *i* and the long ઈ *ee* as we learnt in Vowels Part 2. Can you hear the difference? Don't forget to practice saying the words too. Here comes the next example...



ਚੁਰ cur - to be stolen (v. root) and ਚੂਰ coor - pounded, smashed



[Audio/01 Letters/04 Similar Sounds/03 cur coor.mp3](#)

Here it's ਤ u and ਤੂ oo. We saw these in Part 3. ਤ u is a short sound and ਤੂ oo is a much longer sound. Ready to move on?



ਮੇਲਾ melaa - fair, festival and ਮੈਲਾ mailaa - filthy



[Audio/01 Letters/04 Similar Sounds/04 melaa mailaa.mp3](#)

Here we are comparing the vowel ਏ e and the vowel ਐ ai from Part 4. These vowels have different sounds rather than just different lengths like the previous vowels we've seen, can you hear a difference? Practice saying both words.



ਮੈਂ men - in and ਮੈਂ main - I



[Audio/01 Letters/04 Similar Sounds/05 men main.mp3](#)

This time we are comparing the nasalized forms of the vowels: ਏਂ en and the vowel ਐਂ ain. Remember we covered nasalized vowels earlier. In my experience these two words can cause

a lot of problems for English speakers learning Hindi. Keep listening to the audio until you can hear a difference and then copy that difference!



ओर *or* - direction and और *aur* - and



[Audio/01 Letters/04 Similar Sounds/06 or aur.mp3](#)

Here we're comparing the vowels ओ *o* and औ *au* from Part 6. This is another one that might be difficult for English speakers. Keep listening and keep practicing!

So far then we've compared two different words with different vowels. Now we're going to compare two different words where in the first word the vowel is not nasalized and in the second word the vowel is. Remember when we nasalize a vowel we make the sound "through our nose". Here goes...



कहा *kahaa* - said (masc. sing.) and कहाँ *kahaan* - where



[Audio/01 Letters/04 Similar Sounds/07 kahaa kahaan.mp3](#)

Here we're comparing the vowel अ *aa* with its nasalized counterpart अँ *aan*. Can you hear a difference between the words? Keep listening until you can. Then try reproducing the sounds yourself. for the second word कहाँ *kahaan* make the sound through your nose! Ready to move on?

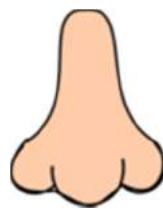


कहीं *kahee* - said (fem. sing.) and कहीं *kaheen* - wherever



[Audio/01 Letters/04 Similar Sounds/08 kahee kaheen.mp3](#)

This time it's the vowel ई *ee* and its nasalized counterpart ईं *een*. Can you hear the difference?



है *hai* - is and हैं *hain* - are



[Audio/01 Letters/04 Similar Sounds/09 hai hain.mp3](#)

Here we're comparing the vowel ऐ *ai* with its nasalized counterpart ऐं *ain*. As you'd expect these two words are some of the most common in Hindi so it's really important to get their pronunciation right! Ok then, deep breath do you think you're ready for our final pair of words for today?



चौक *cauk* - market place and चौंकना *caunknaa* - to be surprised



[Audio/01 Letters/04 Similar Sounds/10 cauk caunknaa.mp3](#)

Can you hear the difference here? The second word has an extra syllable, the ना *naa*, so just focus on the first syllable.

Ok well done for making it all the way through this lesson! It's been a tough one and we've covered a lot but hopefully you are now more confident on these similar Hindi sounds! Be sure to listen to the audio loads and loads until you can hear the difference and you can pronounce both the sounds yourself!

Consonants

So now you've completely mastered the Hindi Vowels it's time to move on to Consonants! If you feel like you've forgotten anything about the Hindi vowels then just head back and read over the lessons a few more times. Now moving on, Consonants in Hindi are 'nicely' sorted into groups of around 5. This makes lessons easy, we'll cover one group each lesson!



These are all the Hindi Consonants we'll be learning about! Wow, they look confusing don't they? Don't worry, by the end of this section I promise you'll know all of them!

I know there's a lot of consonants in Hindi and it can get quite boring just going through them so why don't you sprinkle in a few lessons from the [Conversational Hindi Section](#) as you go through. Just like with the Vowels, I'll show at least one example word for each letter.

Consonants Group 1: क ka, ख kha, ग ga, घ gha and ङ na

As we saw in the [Consonants Section](#), Hindi consonants are nicely sorted into little groups. So are you ready to learn all about our very first group of consonants? Well here they are...



This first group is called the Gutturals. What do you think? Do they look confusing? Well hopefully by the end of this lesson you'll have these five consonants mastered! So let's not hang around, let's get going with it straightaway, our first letter is...

କ
ka



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 1/01 ka.mp3](#)

This is the letter କ *ka*. What do you think it looks like? A bit like a man doing a teapot impression don't you think? Practice drawing it out. How do we pronounce କ *ka*? This is easy, it's just like the English k - like in words like 'kind', 'king' etc. Use the audio above to hear this letter and an example word pronounced - be sure to listen to it loads of times! Got it?



The Hindi word for chair is କୁରସୀ *kursee*. Can you see our new consonant କ *ka* at the start here? Remember the flick underneath it is the vowel ଅ *u*, as we learnt in the v. Listen to this word being spoken by clicking play above! Got it? Nice one! Well, that's one whole consonant learnt already, see that wasn't difficult was it? Ready for the next one? Here goes...

ଖ
kha



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 1/02 kha.mp3](#)

This is the letter ଖ *kha*. What does it look like? Well it's a funny one, I can kind of see a fat man's torso and he's wearing a tshirt with a big C on it. Be sure to practice writing it out loads!

So how do we pronounce ଖ *kha* then? Well this takes some explaining because it's probably the first letter that we're not used to in English. Firstly have a listen to the letter and an example word by using the audio just above! So how do we make this sound? Well I want you

to say the letter क *ka* just as we learnt above, just like the English k. Now I want you to say it again but with your hand over your mouth like this...



You should feel a little breathe on your hand, try it again, say क *ka*. Now to pronounce ख *kha* put your hand over your mouth again and make the same sound as क *ka*, but this time push as much air from your mouth as possible, you should really feel lots of breathe on your hand. We say that ख *kha* is the **aspirated** version of क *ka*.

So with क *ka* you should feel a little breath and ख *kha* is simply the same sound, but with lots of breath. Don't worry if it seems really confusing to start with, just keep practicing it over and over and keep listening to the letter being pronounced and you'll soon get there, promise. Ready to learn the example word?



खाना *khaanaa* is the Hindi word for food - it's also means 'To Eat'. Can you see our new letter ख *kha* here? Great! Make sure you listen to it plenty of times! Ready to move on to the next letter? Here goes...



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 1/03 ga.mp3](#)

This is the letter ग ga. What does it look like? It's a bit like a one legged man hopping around, a pirate maybe, don't you think? The pronunciation of this letter is easy, it's just like the English 'g' from the word "go" or "get", you can hear it pronounced by using the audio!



We learnt the Hindi word for fire right back at the start in Vowles Part 1. Can you remember what it was? That's right it's - आग aag - Fire. Can you spot our new letter ग ga here? अच्छा acchaa - Good! Don't forget to listen to this word loads. Ready for letter number four of this group?



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 1/04 gha.mp3](#)

This is the letter घ gha. What does this letter look like? Well I think it looks like a sideways bum but don't tell anyone I said that!

Now just like क ka and ख kha, घ gha is the **aspirated** version of ग ga. So to pronounce घ gha all we do is make the sound ग ga with lots of breath. You can hear this letter being pronounced by clicking play above! Remember to put your hand over your mouth to make sure you're expelling lots of air when you say घ gha and as little air as possible when you say ग ga. Have you got it?



Ready for an example word? The Hindi word for “house” or “home” is घर *ghar* - be sure to listen to the word above! I’m sure you can see the letter घ *gha* at the start! Phew, ok breathe in, I need your concentration for only a minute longer. Are you ready for the last letter of this group?



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 1/05 na.mp3](#)

This is the letter न *na*. This may seem like a bit of a cheat but all I’m going to tell you about this letter now is that it’s pronounced like the n in the English word ‘ink’ - and guess what, you can hear it being pronounced by using the audio! This letter is really rare so we’ll cover it in more detail later.

Wow! So that’s your first group of consonants done! How did you find it? Hopefully you now know five more Hindi letters! Be sure to keep practicing them to make sure you don’t forget them. Now if you think you’re ready go get started on the next group!

Consonants Group 2: च ca, छ cha, ज ja, झ jha and झ na

Last time we learnt all about our very first group of Hindi consonants, they were (ok deep breath) क *ka*, ख *kha*, ग *ga*, घ *gha* and finally न *na*. Can you remember them all? Head back over to [Consonants Part 1](#) to revise over them if you’ve forgotten anything! So are you ready to learn all about the second group? Well here they are...



Do they look weird and strange? Hopefully by the end of this lesson you’ll know them all! This group is called the Palatals. So let’s get straight into it. The first letter in this group is...



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 2/01 ca.mp3](#)

This is the letter च *ca*. What do you think this letter looks like? Looks a bit like an arm holding an arrow, can you see? Practicing writing it out loads of time so you don't forget. This letter is also quite easy to pronounce, it's just like the 'ch' like in 'church' or 'cheese'. Don't forget to use the audio above to hear the letter pronounced. Try not get confused with this letter, it's written 'ca' but pronounced like 'cha'! Ready for an example word?



The Hindi word for 'Key' is चाबी *caabee*. You can hear this word being pronounced by clicking play just above! Can you see our new letter च *ca* at the start here? Great! Let's keep going then, our next letter is...



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 2/02 cha.mp3](#)

This is the letter छ *cha*. What does this letter look like? Well it's like a backwards three with a big funny tail, can you see? Keep practicing writing it out.

You might have guess the pattern by now, this letter is the **aspirated** version of च *ca*. So remember just as we learnt [last time](#), this means that to pronounce this letter you just pronounce the letter च *ca* and make lots of breath, got it? As always click the audio above to hear it pronounced!



The Hindi word for “student” is छात्र chaatr, can you spot our new letter at the start here?

Don’t forget to listen to the word being spoken by clicking play above! Ready to move on to the next letter?



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 2/03 ja.mp3](#)

This is the letter ज ja. This letter looks like a little hook sticking out of the wall, can you see?

Careful not to confuse the letters च ca and ज ja because they can look quite similar! This letter ज ja is another one that’s easy to pronounce, it’s just like the English “j” in words like “jade” or “jungle”. You can hear it pronounced above. Got it? Read for an example word?



The Hindi word for “pocket” is जेब jeb. Can you see the man in the picture above has nothing in his pockets? Ready to move on to our next letter?



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 2/04 jha.mp3](#)

This is the letter ঝ jha. What does this letter look like? It’s just an S, with a little squiggle joint on with a line, can you see? Practice writing it out loads of times. So how do we pronounce

this letter? Well I'm sure you've got the pattern by now so no prizes for guessing, this letter is the aspirated version of झ ja, so to pronounce झ jha you just make the sound of झ ja with lots of air. Be sure to listen to the audio a whole bunch of times. Got it?



The Hindi word for a “lie” (as in to tell a lie) is झूठ jhoot - can you spot our new letter here?

Great! Ready to move on to our final letter for today? Well here it is..



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 2/05 na.mp3](#)

This is the letter ना na. This letter looks just like a little claw can you see? Again, just like the final letter from last lesson ना na, the letter ना na is very rare so you don't need to worry about it too much for now. Well learn more about it later. For now all you need to know is that ना na is pronounced like the n in the word ‘inch’ - as you can hear above! You might also notice that we write “na” for both ना and न. Don’t worry so much about that for now because we’ll go into more detail later.

Phew wow, that’s our second group of consonants finished. बहुत अच्छा bahut acchaa - Very good! You now know 10 Hindi consonants so well done. Remember to keep revising what you have learnt so far - and keep listening to the audio files to make sure your pronunciation is spot on.

Consonants Group 3: टा ta, ठा tha, डा da, ढा dha and ण

Do you think you're now ready to learn another group of consonants? Well here goes, here they are...



What do you think? Do they look confusing to you? Well hopefully by the end of this lesson you'll know them inside out! This group of consonants is called the Retroflex group. Are you ready to get started with the first letter then?



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 3/01 ta.mp3](#)

This is the letter ट *ta*. What does this letter look like? Easy - it's just a big hook hanging down!

So how do we pronounce this letter? Well it's a little hard to explain, but it's basically a bit fat “t” sound. Click on the the audio above to hear the letter pronounced. To make the right sound firstly say a normal English “ta”, now say it again but instead of having your tongue behind your teeth roll it back in your mouth a little - this is the sound of ट *ta*. Have you got it? Be sure to listen to it a whole bunch of times! Don't worry because it can take a little practice!



The Hindi word टूटा *tootaa* means “broken”, can you see our new letter appears twice in this word? You can head it being spoken by clicking on the audio next to the letter ट *ta* above! Have you got it? Ready to move on now?



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 3/02 tha.mp3](#)

This is the letter थ tha. So what does it look like? This one's easy - it's just a circle with a hat!

You might have guessed how we pronounce this letter already - it's the aspirated version of त ta, so roll your tongue back a little make a "t" sound and breath out loads of air at the same time, got it? Listen to the letter pronounced above! Ready for an example word?



One word you'll be hearing all the time when you listen to Hindi speakers is the word ठीक theek - it means "ok", "fine" or "good". This is a very useful word to know! Can you spot our new letter at the start here? One thing to pay special attention to is the fact that we write this letter as *tha* but it sounds **completely different** to the "tha" in the English word "that" - don't get confused! As usual you can hear this word by clicking play above! Ready for the third letter of this group? Well here goes...



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 3/03 da.mp3](#)

This is the letter ढ da. This letter, just like the first letter of this group थ ta, is a big fat 'd' sound. Make a normal English "d", like in "date", and then roll your tongue back a little and you should have the ढ da sound perfectly! You can hear it pronounced by clicking play above. So what does this letter look like? It's simple, it's just an S with a line above it. Now be careful you don't confuse ढ da with the vowel श i that we learnt in the Vowels section - they can look quite similar! Notice how श i has a little flick at the bottom and ढ da does not, can you see?



The Hindi word डोर *dor* means string, thread or even rope. Can you spot our new letter at the start here? Great!

There's one more thing you need to know about this letter - sometimes you'll see it with a little dot at the bottom like this ढ - this is actually a completely different letter which we'll learn later! Ready for letter number four?



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 3/04 dha.mp3](#)

This is the letter ଧ *dha*. This letter looks kind of like a hanging G don't you think? Can you see?

And yes, as you have guessed correctly this is the aspirated version of the letter ଦ *da*, so to pronounce it roll your tongue back, make a big fat "d" sound and let out lots of air - ଧ *dha*.

Listen to the letter being pronounced by clicking play above!



The word for "lid", "cap" (as in cap for a bottle), "cover" or "bonnet" etc in Hindi is ଧକ୍କନ *dhakkan*. Can you spot our new letter here? Great! Oh and, just like our last letter, you'll sometimes see this letter with a dot underneath it like this ଢ again this is a completely different letter that we'll see later. Ok, deep breath, ready for the last letter of this group?





[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 3/05 na.mp3](#)

This is the letter ना na. What does this letter look like? Well it's just a sign post hanging up, can you see? How do we pronounce this letter then? Well like the rest of the letters from this group, it's a big fat "n" sound! So roll your tongue back a little and say "na". It's a little tricky to listen to the audio file above until you're confident with it!

Now unlike the final letters of the last two groups, ङा na and ञा na that we've already seen, ना na does come up from time to time so you do need to know it!



The Hindi word for 'Arrow' is बाण baan. Can you see our new letter ना na at the end? Well done!

Phew wow, that's three whole groups of Consonants your now know, well done you! Make sure you keep practicing everything you're learning - otherwise you'll just forget it! If you're getting a little bored of just learning letters, or if you're finding it a little tough (and don't worry if you are -Hindi has a lot of letters and it can get a little boring!) then why not head over to Conversational Hindi and start learning a few real life conversational phrases and then just pop back here later and carry on with the letters!

Consonants Part 4: ता ta, था tha, दा da, धा dha and ना na

We've got quite a way through the Hindi Consonants now - we've learnt about a whole 15 letters! So firstly well done for getting this far! Do you think you're ready to see a new group now? Great! Let's get to it! Here's the letters we're going to be learning today...

ता था दा धा ना

This group is known as the Dentals. Hopefully they don't look too confusing! But rest assured by the end of the lesson you should have them mastered! Enough chit chat then, let's get to it. The first letter of this group is:



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 4/01 ta.mp3](#)

This is the letter त *ta*. But wait - hang on second - didn't we learn the letter ट *ta* last time? How can there be two *ta*'s? Well the bad news is there are two different *t* sounds in Hindi! But they are completely separate letters with different sounds. Last time we learnt that ट *ta* has a big fat "t" sound, well this त *ta* has a light tinny sound. Listen to it by clicking the audio above.

Put your tongue right behind your top front teeth and say "ta" - that's the sound त *ta* makes! Be sure to listen to it loads of times.



The Hindi word for "lock" is ताला *taalaa* - I hope you can spot our new letter here! You can hear this word pronounced by clicking play above. So are you ready to move on to the next letter now?



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 4/02 tha.mp3](#)

This is the letter थ *tha*. This letter looks quite like a swan to me, don't you think? And yep you might have guessed it, this is the aspirated version of the letter त *ta*. You remember what

aspirated means right? That's right, you make the sound of the letter ठ *ta* but with lots of air!

Hear the letter spoken by using the audio above. Be sure that you can distinguish ठ *tha* and ठ *tha* - they have very different sounds but can easily be confused!



Hand in Hindi is हाथ *haath* - can you spot our new letter here? Excellent! Of course you don't need me to tell you again that you can hear the word by using the audio above! Well that's two of five letters done, let's move on again then!



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 4/03 da.mp3](#)

This the letter द *da*. And yep, as well as being two t's in Hindi there's also two d's! This letter is pronounced by putting your tongue behind your top front teeth and making a light tinny 'da' sound, द *da*, द *da*, द *da* - got it? Keep listening to the letter!



One of my favourite Hindi words is the word दरवाज़ा *darvaazaa* - it means 'door'. I don't know about you but I think this is a really fun word to say... दरवाज़ा *darvaazaa*! Can you spot out new letter at the start? Good! Ok let's move on again, here goes...





[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 4/04 dha.mp3](#)

This the letter ଧ *dha*. You know what's coming now don't you? This is the Aspirated version of the letter ଦ *da*! I think this letter looks a bit like a telephone being held down by a wire - can you see? Again be careful to not confuse this letter with the letter ଧ *dha* -they're both written *dha* but they are very different letters!



ଦୂଧ *doodh* means Milk. Can you spot our new letter ଧ *dha* here? Great! This word also starts with the letter ଦ *da* we learnt earlier in the lesson - two for the price of one! Now are you ready for the final letter of this group?

ନ *na*



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 4/05 na.mp3](#)

This the letter ନ *na*. This looks a bit like a random leg sticking out form a T, yeah? The pronunciation of this letter is super easy - it's just a normal English 'n' sound, like in 'nap' or 'net'. Be sure to listen to it above. This letter is very common so we can't just brush over it like we have for the other 'n' letters!



The Hindi word for salt is नमक *namak* - a nice easy word. Can you spot our letter here? Super!

And wow that's it for another lesson. We've now covered four groups, that's a whole 20 Hindi letters. Which means we're over halfway - hopefully you haven't got too bored yet!

One really important point from this lesson is that there are two "ta", "tha", "da" and "dha" 's in Hindi - and they are completely different letters so it's really important to be able to tell them apart! You may want to head back to the last lesson to refresh your knowledge of those letters to make sure you can tell them apart!

Consonants Part 5: प pa, फ pha, ब ba, भ bha and म ma

We've only got a few more groups of letters left to learn, so do you think you're ready to get going? Well here they are...



Think they look confusing? Keep reading then and I promise by the end of this lesson they'll all make sense! This group of consonants is known as the labials. Ready to get to the first letter? Great!



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 5/01 pa.mp3](#)

This is the letter प *pa*. We pronounce this just like the English p - but be careful, this letter is not aspirated. It is like the "p" in the word "spit". Put your hand in front of your mouth and make sure no air is leaving as you say it. Click play above to hear it pronounced! This letter looks just like an English 'p' too, just back to front. What a easy letter hey!



In Hindi the word ‘bed’ is पलंग *palang*. Can you see our new letter प *pa* at the start here?

अच्छा *acchaa* - good! Ready for letter number two? Here goes,



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 5/02 pha.mp3](#)

This is the letter फ *pha*. Of course you know by now that this is the aspirated version of the letter प *pa*! So how do we pronounce it? Well just say ‘pa’ while breathing out, check by putting your hand over your mouth! Don’t forget to listen to the letter above. This letter can look a little like our very first consonant क *ka* - so be extra careful to not get them confused.



One of my favourite Hindi words is the word फुसफुसाना *phusphusaanaa* - it means ‘to whisper’. I like it so much because it’s so fun to say, and it sounds like whispering!

Be careful here, the letter फ *pha* is **not** pronounced like an English ‘f’ sound, like the ph in ‘philosophy’, it’s a very easy mistake to make! Hindi does actually have a separate letter ‘f’, and this is something we’ll cover later. Ok, ready for the next letter for today?



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 5/03 ba.mp3](#)

This is the letter ब् *ba*. The pronunciation of this letter is also really easy, it's just like the normal English 'b', like in the words 'bin' or 'bat'. It also looks a bit like a backwards b too, with a little line through the loop yeah? Another super easy letter!



A word for villain or rogue in Hindi is बदमाश *badmaash* - can you spot our new letter at the start here? Excellent! Ready for letter number four?



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 5/04 bha.mp3](#)

This is the letter भ *bha*. I'm sure you know what I'm going to tell you next! This is the aspirated version of the letter ब् *ba*, which means to pronounce it you should make the normal 'b' sound with lots and lots of air leaving your mouth! Of course don't forget to keep listening to the letter and practicing saying this letter as you hear it.



This is a word you might need to know, 'India' in Hindi is भारत *bhaarat*! As a bit of a side note, the word इंडिया *indiya* is also used to mean India - so you should be aware of both. Do you think you're ready for the last letter of this group? अच्छा *acchaa* - great!



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 5/05 ma.mp3](#)

This is the letter म *ma*. This is another easy letter because it's pronounced just like a normal English 'm', like in the word 'man' or 'mouse'. Unlike the final letter of some of the groups we've learnt already, this letter is really common so be sure to know it!



आम *aam* is the Hindi word for 'mango' (if you couldn't figure it out that is a picture of a mango!). Mangoes are loved in India. They're a lot more common than in some other countries. In fact they're so common that the word आम *aam* also means 'common' and 'ordinary'!

Phew wow! Well done for reaching the end of the lesson! That's five more letters we've learnt. Be sure to keep practicing them - and all the letters you've already learnt! We only have two more groups of consonants left now!

Consonants Part 6: य ya, र ra, ल la and व va

Last time we saw the fifth group of consonants. Can you remember them? We're nearly there now, this is the penultimate group! So are you ready to get going? Here's the letters we are going to be learning today...



There's only four consonants in this group so it's going to be a little easier! This group is called the semivowels. Are you ready to get straight into it? Here goes then...

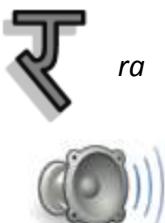


[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 6/01 ya.mp3](#)

This is the letter य ya. This letter is quite an easy one for an English speaker - it's pronounced just like a normal English "y" but slightly lighter. Use the audio above to hear it pronounced. Not only that but this letter even looks like an English Y!



The Hindi word यार yaar means "friend" or "pal" and it's a word you're going to hear all the time! Can you spot our new letter य ya here? Awesome! You can hear the word pronounced above. Ready to move on?



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 6/02 ra.mp3](#)

This is the letter र ra. This pronunciation may be a little tricky. It's pronounced as a slightly trilled "r" - like the "r" in Spanish but lighter. Use the audio above to listen to the letter. It even looks a little like an "r" too, easy!



The word for "night" in Hindi is रात् raat. Can you spot our new letter here? Nice one!

The consonant र ra is a bit special because the two vowels अ् u and ओ oo join on to it slightly differently. Here's how it works: र ra + अ् u gives us रु ru and र ra + ओ oo gives us रू roo. Can you see that these are a tiny bit different to what we might expect? Good! Let's keep going then.





[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 6/03 la.mp3](#)

This is the letter ल *la*. This letter sounds quite like a normal English “l” sound, like in the word um... “like”! The Hindi pronunciation is a little lightly than English “l”s - so use the audio above to help you.



The Hindi word for “red” is लाल *laal*. Our new letter appears twice here! Can you spot it?

Good! Are you ready for the final letter of this group then?



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 6/04 va.mp3](#)

This is the letter व *va*. This is a tricky letter so full concentration! This letter usually sounds halfway between the English letter “v”, like in “vest”, and the letter “w”, like in “west”, which you can hear in the audio above. But in some words it floats closer to a “v” or a “w” sound! It can be tricky to get right.



One example word where this letter sounds more like a “v” is हवा *havaa* which means “wind” in Hindi. Have a listen to the word above. Can you spot व *va* here? Remember that this letter usually sounds halfway between “v” and “w” but in some words sounds more like a certain one of them!

Well there we go! That's another group of consonants you've mastered. Well done! Be sure to practice writing them down and saying them out loud. There's only one more group of consonants left now!

Consonants Group 7: श sha, ष sha, स sa and ह ha

Finally then we have made it to the very last group of Hindi consonants. How are you feeling about it? Be sure to head back to the [Consonants Section](#) if you feel that you've forgotten anything. Are you ready to get going then? Here goes, here's the consonants we're going to be learning today...



The first three letter of this group are called the sibilants and the final letter is what's called an aspirate. So let's get into it. Our first letter for today is...



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 7/01 sha.mp3](#)

This is the letter श sha. This is pronounced just like the “sh” in English words like “sheep” or “ship”. Use the audio to hear it pronounced! This letter looks a bit like a 2 with a line on the side of it, can you see?



[Image by Wikicommons](#) - under a CC-BY-SA 3.0 licence.

शादी shaadee - Wedding.

Weddings are always a very big celebration in India! The Hindi word for wedding is शादी *shaadee*. Can you see our new letter here? Be sure to listen to the audio too. Let's keep going then...



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 7/02 sha.mp3](#)

This is the letter श *sha*. This letter is pronounced exactly the same as श *sha*. Historically श *sha* was pronounced as a retroflex consonant, with the tongue rolled back, but this is very rare these days.



भाषा *bhaashaa* - Language.

The word for language in Hindi is भाषा *bhaashaa*. Can you see our new letter here? As always don't forget to use the audio above. Be careful with the letters श *sha* and श *sha* - they both sound identical but there is always only one correct way to spell a word. This is just like in English how we spell "cat" with a "c" and not as "kat"! The letter श *sha* is not as common and is only found in Hindi words that come from Sanskrit. Ok, ready to move on?



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 7/03 sa.mp3](#)

This is the letter स *sa*. This letter is another one that's super easy to pronounce - it sounds exactly like the normal English "s" like in "seat" or "sing". Listen to the audio above to hear it. Here's an example word...



सूरज *sooraj* - Sun.

Can you see our new letter here? Nice one! Ok let's move on to our very last letter of the very last group then! Here goes...



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 7/04 sha.mp3](#)

This is the letter ह *ha*. This letter again sounds like the English "h", like in "hand" or "help".

The letter looks a bit like a funny claw trying to grab on to something, don't you think?



हाथ *haath* - Hand.

Can you see our new letter in the word हाथ *haath*? Excellent! Listen to the audio above to hear the word pronounced!

Now before we finish there's one more thing we need to learn. Some Hindi speakers will pronounce some words with ह *ha* differently to what we might expect. The rules for this are easy - if we have the vowel sound अ *a* both before and after the letter ह *ha* in a word then some speakers in casual conversation change both अ *a* sounds to something close to the vowel ऐ *ai*. Let me give you an example...



बहन *bahan* - Sister.

The Hindi word बहन *bahan* means sister. Click the audio above, next to the letter ह *ha*, to hear two different ways to pronounce बहन *bahan*: first in the standard *bahan* (in its technically correct form) and second as *baihain* (in its casual form used by some Hindi speakers). You can happily use either pronunciation but just be aware that some people pronounce it as *baihain*.

Phew, that's it! Wow. You've now learnt all of the Hindi consonants! How does it feel? Give your self a pat on the back. Unfortunately there's still quite a bit more we need to learn before we've mastered everything to know about Hindi consonants, so let's keep learning!

Consonants Group 8: Dotted Consonants

So far we've covered all of the main [Hindi consonants](#) but unfortunately there's still a bit more for us to learn! Today we're going to learn about some additional consonants that are mostly used to represent sounds that have come from Arabic, Persian or even English and that don't quite exist in the Hindi alphabet.



This lesson is all about what's called the *nuqtaa* or *nuktaa* in Hindi - which is just a name for a little dot that can sit under a consonant and modify its sound. As you read this lesson you will see that many of these sounds are ignored by many Hindi speakers - but make sure you pay attention to ङ and ढ which always have a distinct sound! So anyway here goes, the first letter for today is...





[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 8/01 qa.mp3](#)

This is the letter **କ୍ଷ** *qa*. As you can see here we have simply added a dot under the letter **କ** *ka*. The letter **କ୍ଷ** *qa* is pronounced like a “k” sound but it comes from much deeper down in the throat. However most Hindi speakers will pronounce it as a normal **କ** *ka* sound. The *qa* pronunciation is more common with Urdu speakers. Click the audio above to hear the two pronunciations firstly the rarer *qa* and secondly the more common *ka*.



The Hindi word for pen is **କଲମ** *qalam*. Click the audio next to the letter **କ୍ଷ** *qa* above to hear two pronunciations of the word: the rarer Urdu *qalam* and then the more common *kalam*.



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 8/02 kha.mp3](#)

This is the letter **ଖ** *kha*. This time we've added a dot to the letter **ଖ** *kha*. This letter is pronounced like the German “ch”, it sounds like you’re trying to clear your throat! Again many Hindi speakers will pronounce this as just **ଖ** while Urdu speakers will pronounce it as **ଖ୍**. As before click the audio above to hear the two different pronunciations.



The word **ଖାଲୀ** *khalee* means empty in English. Click the audio above to hear the two different pronunciations. Ready to move on?



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 8/03 ga.mp3](#)

This is the letter ग़ *ga*. Here we've added a *nuktaa* to the letter ग *ga*. The letter ग़ *ga* is pronounced a bit like the French R sound. Almost all Hindi speakers will pronounce this as a normal ग *ga* sound.



The Hindi word for wrong or mistake is ग़लत *galat*. As before click the audio above to here the two pronunciations, firstly the rare and Urdu influenced French R and secondly the normal Hindi ग *ga* sound. Let's keep moving on then...



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 8/04 za.mp3](#)

This is the letter ज़ *za*. This time it's the letter ज *ja* that takes a *nuktaa*. This letter is pronounced just like the English "z" as in "zoo" and most Hindi speakers will pronounce it as that, though some will use ज *ja* instead. As before click the audio above to hear both the pronunciations.

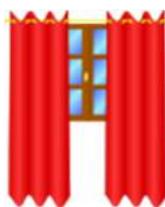


The word जमीन zameen means ground or Earth. As before click to hear the audio: firstly the more common *zameen* and then the less common *jameen*.



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 8/05 ra.mp3](#)

This is the letter रा *ra*. This is the letter रा *da* with an added *nuktaa*. To pronounce this letter we first roll our tongue backwards, as if we were going to pronounce रा *da* and then flick our tongue forward as we make the sound. It should come out as something of a mix between the English letters L,R and D. It can be a difficult sound to make so be sure to use the audio to help. All Hindi speakers will pronounce it this way so there is no alternative pronunciation.



खिरकी *khirkee* means window in Hindi. Click the audio above to hear it pronounced. Be careful not to confuse the letters रा *ra* and रा *ra*. They are both written as *ra* on this site but have very different pronunciations! Some Hindi speakers and other websites will transliterate the letter रा *ra* not as *ra* but as *da*. This because English doesn't have this sound and R and D are the closest letters that we do have. Neither *ra* nor *da* are wrong per se - the only correct way to write this letter is in Hindi: as रा!



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 8/06 rha.mp3](#)

This is the letter झ rha. Here we've added the dot to the letter ध dha. This new letter झ rha is the aspirated version of the previous letter ध ra. So to pronounce झ rha say ध ra and let out a puff of air. Like the previous letter this only has one pronunciation.



The verb पढ़ना parhnaa means to read or to study. Click the audio above to hear it pronounced. Ok so do you think you're ready for our final letter for today? Here goes...



[Audio/01 Letters/02 Consonants/Group 8/07 fa.mp3](#)

This is the letter फ fa. Here we've added the dot to the letter फ pha. The letter फ fa is usually pronounced exactly like the English f, though some Hindi speakers will pronounce it as फ pha. Click the audio above to hear both of the pronunciations.



The word फ़िल्म film comes directly into Hindi from English and means well... film obviously!

The audio gives the two pronunciation, the usual *fa* first and then the rarer *pha*.

Phew wow, that's it for today then! I know we've covered a lot in this lesson so be sure to just ask in the comments below if you have any questions. Don't forget to listen to the audio over and over! Here's a quick overview of everything we've covered in this lesson:

- क़ qa usually pronounced as a normal Hindi क ka.
- ख़ kha usually pronounced as a normal Hindi ख kha.

- ग्[ा] *ga* usually pronounced as a normal Hindi ग् *ga*.
- झ्[ा] *za* more often pronounced as a *za* but sometimes as a *ja*.
- झ्[্] *ra* always pronounced as a mix between L/R/D.
- ख्[্] *rha* always pronounced as an aspirated झ् *ra*.
- फ्[্] *fa* more often pronounced as a *fa* but sometimes as a *pha*.

P.S. in written Hindi to be technically correct you should always have the *nuktaa* where it is required however it is often dropped - apart from झ् *ra* and ख्[্] *rha* where the dot is essential.

Conjuncts Part 1

(Note: This lesson is quite old and is in serious need of an update - I hope to update it soon)

Today we'll look at consonant conjuncts. This is simply the combination of 2 or more consonant letters without the अ *a* sound in the middle. Sometimes this can change the shape of the letter and so this makes conjuncts probably the most difficult thing in learning to read Hindi. This might sound confusing, but theres really no need to worry.

You may have noticed that the स *sa* in नमस्ते *namaste* is 'missing' the vertical line on the right and if you haven't noticed it before then go look now! This is a prime example of a consonant conjunct, you do not pronounce the अ *a* that should be with the स *sa*. In Vowels Part 1 I introduced what is known as the virama (which looks like this; ्). To get this symbol when [typing in hindi](#) simply press 'd') this symbol 'cancels' out the अ *a* sound that usually follows a consonant, ie it is going to be the key to conjuncts! Let look in detail at this example:

स् *s* + त् *ta* = स्त् *sta*

All that's changed in the letter is that the right vertical line in स sa has 'disappeared'. This is actually the usual rule for all consonants with a vertical line on their right side when they are the first consonant in a conjunct (ie that's all of these; ख, ग, घ, च, ज, झ, ण, त, थ, ध, न, प, ब, भ, म, य, ल, व, श, ष, and स). Let's see a few more examples of this:

च c + छ cha = छ ccha as seen in अच्छा accha - good

ग g + य ya = या gya as seen in ग्यारह gyaarah - eleven

न n + द da = न्द nda as seen in हिन्दी hindee - Hindi

ल l + ल la = ल्ल lla as seen in दिल्ली dillee - Dehli (the city in India)

For the letters क ka and फ pha, you simply shorten the right hook when they are used as the first letter in a conjunct eg

क k + य ya = क्य kya as seen in क्या kyaa - what

Conjuncts Part 2

(Note: This lesson is quite old and is in serious need of an update - I hope to update it soon)

Today we're going to continue looking at Consonant Conjuncts and how Hindi consonants are modified when used in these conjuncts. We began in [Consonant Conjuncts Part 1](#) by explaining what a conjunct is (the 'dropping' of the अ a between two or more consonants - if you don't remember) and we saw how this is applied when the first letter has a vertical line on its right hand side. For example we saw:

च c + छ cha = छ ccha in अच्छा accha - Good.

That should just be revision for you, so now for todays new material. The consonant र *ra* has it's own special rules for conjuncts depending on whether it is the first or second consonant in the conjunct.

If र *ra* is the first consonant in the conjunct

Then it becomes a small hook on top of the letter (Don't confuse this with ए the matra for the vowel ए *e*) For example:

र r + म ma = म rma in धर्म dharm - Religion

र r + क rka = क rka in तुर्की turkee - Turkey (the country)

Note the location of the hook in the last example, it's on the right hand side of the की *kee* even though the r sound comes first!

If र *ra* is the second consonant in the conjunct

Then it becomes a small line pointing diagonally down to the left from the middle. As seen in:

प p + र ra = प्र pra in प्रेम prem - love

म m + र ra = म्र mra in उम्र umr - age

Take caution as it's quite a small line so can easily be skipped over! However when र *ra* follows a consonant from the [Retroflex group](#) it's slightly different. Like in:

ट t + र ra = ट्र tra in ट्रेन tren - Train

Next time you see these symbols you'll know what they mean!

Conjuncts Part 3

(Note: This lesson is quite old and is in serious need of an update - I hope to update it soon)

Today we're going to learn about some special characters (sometimes called ligatures) that arise from conjuncts. We'll see a few of the most common ones (there are in fact many more!).

This will really improve your reading skills. In these examples some of the characters that arise seem unrelated to the consonants it's composed from, this is just something you have to get used to! I'll introduce each conjunct and we'll see at least one word that uses it.

1. क् k + ष sha = क्ष ksha

As seen in: पक्षी pakshee Bird (masc)

लक्ष्मी lakshmee [Lakshmi](#) - A Hindu Goddess.

2. त् t + र ra = त्र tra

As seen in: सत्रह satrah 17

3. श् sh + र ra = श्र shra

As seen in: श्री shree - Mr श्रीमती shreematee - Mrs.

4. द् d + ध् dha = द्ध् ddha

As seen in: बौद्ध धर्म bauddh dharm - Buddhism.

Notice how this uses the word धर्म dharm religion which we have already learnt!

These are four of the most common conjuncts you'll see in Hindi writing. There are many more and we'll cover them as they appear in these lessons. If you are interested then Wikipedia has a table showing all possible conjuncts in Hindi [here](#), but that is quite advanced and complicated for us. Practice over these new letters so that you remember them.

Conversation + Grammar

In this section we'll be covering both basic conversational Hindi phrases that are going to be essential to, as well as beginner's grammar concepts!



Actually being able to have a conversation in Hindi is the most important thing when learning the language!

How Are You?

What are the first things you're going to want to say (in Hindi!) when you meet someone? Well, we've already covered how to say Hello. Can you remember what it is? That's right, we say **नमस्ते** *namaste!* So after you've said that, what are you going to say next? How about maybe 'How are you?'. That's what we're going to cover today!



Whenever you meet someone try and practice your Hindi, even if it's just saying something simple like Hello, How are you? So let's get straight into it! Are you ready? To ask 'How are you?' to a Male we say...

आप कैसे हैं? *aap kaise hain?*

- How are you? (To a Male)



[Audio/02 Conversational/aap kaise hain.mp3](#)

Do you recognise any of the words we have used here? The first word here is आप *aap* - this is the polite and formal way to say You. Next we have the word कैसे *kaise* this means 'like what' or 'how'. Finally, हैं *hain* - this means 'are'. If you want you can learn more about हैं *hain* in the Beginner's Grammar section.

Whew! Ok, deep breath have you got it? We say आप कैसे हैं? *aap kaise hain* - How are you? (To a Male). When asking a female what we say is very slightly different, we say...



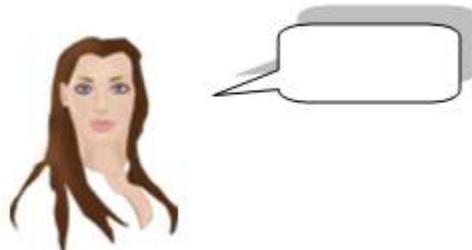
आप कैसी हैं? *aap kaisee hain?*

- How are you? (To a Female)



[Audio/02 Conversational/aap kaisee hain.mp3](#)

Can you see the difference? It's very small! कैसे *kaise* has changed to कैसी *kaisee*. It still means 'like what' or 'how', but now it agrees with the feminine subject. Don't worry about this for now though, you'll be learning plenty more about it soon!



So now you've asked, 'How are you?' you're going to want to be able to reply! Today we're just going to learn how to say 'I am ok' and 'I am good', but if you want to learn some more replies then we'll cover that later. Saying 'I am ok' is super easy! We just say...

मैं ठीक हूँ *main theek hoon*

- I am ok (Male and Female)



[Audio/02 Conversational/main theek hoon.mp3](#)

The word **ठीक** *theek* means 'ok' and it's a very, very common Hindi word! You'll be hearing it all the time, so it's a good idea to learn it! Told you it was easy! Now to say 'I am good' we say...



मैं अच्छा हूँ *main acchaa hoon*

- I am good (Said by a Male)



[Audio/02 Conversational/main acchaa hoon.mp3](#)



मैं अच्छी हूँ *main acchee hoon*

-I am good (Said by a Female)

Can you see the slight difference between them? I've been using the word **अच्छा** *acchaa* quite a lot so you should be a little familiar with it by now, it just means 'good', or even 'great'.

And that's it for today! Try and practice over what you have learnt to help you remember it. Why not practice by asking your friends 'How are you?' in Hindi and then teaching them the correct reply!

Pronouns

Pronouns! So right away our first question is: what are pronouns? Well simply pronouns are words like I, you, he, they, she, we etc. They are words that refer to people.



Learning Hindi grammar really doesn't have to be boring and dull like your old textbooks, if taught properly it can be fun, exciting and interesting!

Ok, now we know what a pronoun is the next question is why do we want to learn about them in Hindi? Well pronouns are some of the most common and most important words to know! You won't get very far if you can't refer to someone!

So are you ready to learn Hindi pronouns? तो *accha* great! We've broken them up into groups, which you'll see as you go through! Deep breath let's get to it

Key - Devanagari *Transliteration* English.

First Person Singular

मैं *main* - I



[Audio/03 Grammar/Pronouns/01 main.mp3](#)

First Person Plural

हम *ham* - We



[Audio/03 Grammar/Pronouns/02 ham.mp3](#)

Second Person Singular

तू *too* - You (Intimate)



[Audio/03 Grammar/Pronouns/03 too.mp3](#)

Second Person Plural

तूम् *tum* - You (Informal)



[Audio/03 Grammar/Pronouns/04 tum.mp3](#)

आप् *aap* - You (Formal)



[Audio/03 Grammar/Pronouns/05 aap.mp3](#)



If you look like this right now then just hold on - it will all make sense in a minute!

Woah! Hold on a second, so you're saying that Hindi has three words for "you"?! What's the difference between them then? Well I assure you it's not as complicated as you think. Each different word is used for different levels of politeness:

- Use आप् *aap* in all formal situations to show politeness, like when meeting someone for the first time, talking to someone older than you or simply to show respect.
- तूम् *tum* is most common and is used in most informal situations like when chatting with your friends.
- And तू *too* is used in very informal and intimate situations, for example when talking to your partner or to young children. तू *too* is also often used in Music and Poetry to show intimacy and closeness. It would be considered extremely rude to use तू *too* talking about someone you are not close with!

Ready to carry on learning about pronouns? Great well here goes...

Third Person Singular

यह *yah* - He / She/ It / This



[Audio/03 Grammar/Pronouns/06 yah.mp3](#)

वह *vah* - He / She/ It / That



[Audio/03 Grammar/Pronouns/07 vah.mp3](#)

In casual spoken Hindi these words are pronounced slightly differently: यह is pronounced *yeh* and वह is pronounced *voh*. You can hear these just below. This is what I will be using on the site simply because it's so much more common!



[Audio/03 Grammar/Pronouns/08 yeh.mp3](#)



[Audio/03 Grammar/Pronouns/09 voh.mp3](#)

But wait, if both these words mean he/she/it then how do we know which one to use? Easy!

- यह *yeh* is used when you're talking about someone or something close to you - in the physical distant sense of the word. So if someone's stood right next to you then you would use यह *yeh*.
- वह *voh* is used when you're talking about someone or something further away. So if the person you're talking about is the other side of the street you use वह *voh*.

This difference can be a little confusing so don't worry - If in doubt use वह *voh*.

Third Person Plural

ये ye - These / They



[Audio/03 Grammar/Pronouns/10 ye.mp3](#)

वे ve- Those / They



[Audio/03 Grammar/Pronouns/11 ve.mp3](#)

Be aware that you'll often hear वे ve being pronounced as the singular "voh"! These two follow the same rules: ये ye for people / things close to you (in the distance sense) and वे vo for people / things further away.

Another thing to notice is that both यह yeh or वह voh could mean either he or she. There's no difference for gender! So how do you know if they're talking about a "he" or a "she"? Well, you have to rely on other things in the sentence - we're going to be learning about this stuff soon!



If you've understood and can remember everything from this lesson then you should have a great big smile like this!

Phew that was quite a lot of words. Did you get them all? Don't worry if you didn't! Keep practising them as much as you can till you get them completely perfect.

What's Your Name?

Already we've learnt how to greet someone in Hindi and say [Hello](#) and [How are you?](#). So what else do you think you're going to want to say when you meet someone? What about asking; What's your name? Well that's what we're going to cover today!



नमस्ते *namaste* means 'hello'!

So are you ready to get straight into it? Great! To ask 'What's your name?' in Hindi we say...

आपका नाम क्या है?

aapkaa naam kyaa hai?

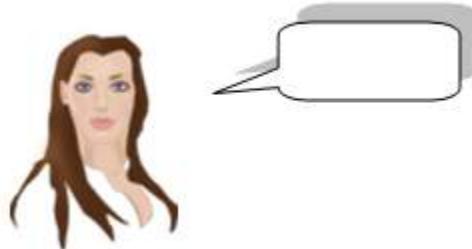
- What's your name?



[Audio/02 Conversational/aapkaa naam kyaa hai.mp3](#)

Click the audio above to hear the phrase pronounced! Be sure to listen to it loads and loads of times so you can get your pronunciation perfect.

Woah, what do all these new words mean? Well, it's probably easier if we leave that for the time being, we'll be covered all the words in detail very soon so for now all you need to remember is आपका नाम क्या है? *aapkaa naam kyaa hai?* - What's your name? Say it to yourself a few times. Got it?



If you practice saying this phrase to everyone you know you'll remember it in no time at all!

Now, of course you're going to want to know how to reply to this in Hindi! So are you ready to learn how to say 'My name is ____'. Great! All we say is...

मेरा नाम ____ है

meraa naam ____ hai

My name is ____.



[Audio/02 Conversational/meraa naam hai.mp3](#)

Again click the play button above to hear the phrase pronounced! And you obviously put your name in the blank! So for example, if your name is सुरेश Suresh you would say मेरा नाम सुरेश है *meraa naam suresh hai* - My name is Suresh. Both a male and a female say it exactly like this - there is no change for gender!

Now I want you to say it with your name, ready? मेरा नाम ____ है *meraa naam ____ hai* - My name is _____. See, it's so easy!

Again, don't worry too much about the words you don't know, we'll be covering them soon! Practice saying these two phrases as much as you can. Every time you meet one of your friends (whether they know Hindi or not!) ask them their name in Hindi and then reply!

होना honaa - To Be

Today we're going to cover probably the most common Hindi word - so that means we should all pay our best attention yeah? Well here goes! The word we're going to be learning is - होना *honaa* - it means 'to be'. In an actual sentence it usually translates to "am", "is" or "are" and we'll see this in a minute so hold tight.

Now I want you to step back from Hindi and think about English a second. If I said "I is" or "you am" you'd look at me and tell me I'm wrong, because that's not how the sentence should be. Well exactly the same concept applies for Hindi!



It's so important to have correct grammar when talking - otherwise, like this cat, no one's going to be able to understand you!

So first let's learn how होना honaa changes and then we'll see a bunch examples - does that sound like a good idea? Here we'll use what we learnt from [Pronouns](#), if you can't remember that lesson then go back to it and revise over it! So are you ready to get going? Deep breath!

मैं हूँ *main hoon* - I am

हम हैं *ham hain* - We are

तू है *too hai* - You are (Intimate)

आप हैं *aap hain* - You are (Formal)

तुम हो *tum ho* - You are (Casual)

(Remember we learnt in [Pronouns](#) that Hindi has three different word for 'you' - so if you can't remember their difference head back to that lesson!)

यह है *yeh hai* - He / She / This is (Near)

ये हैं *ye hain* - These / They are (Near)

वह है *voh hai* - He / She / That is (Far)

वे हैं *ve hain* - Those / They are (Far)

Phew! How was there? There's a lot to remember don't you think? Well actually there's just three (and a bit) rules you really need to know -

1. हूँ hoon means 'am'. So whenever you want to say 'I am' you'll say मैं हूँ main hoon.
2. है hai means 'is'. So whenever you want to say 'is' you'll say है hai
3. हैं hain means 'are'. So whenever you want to say 'are' you'll say हैं hain.

There's two exceptions to this though: We use हो *ho* for तुम *tum* and we use है *hai* for तू *too*.

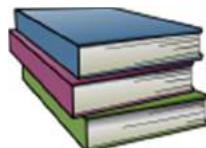
It can be tricky to remember I know so keep practicing and you'll get there!

Now do you think you're ready for a few examples? Before we start there's one thing you need to know - in Hindi the always verb comes at the end of the sentence! This means we literally say "I Nita am" or "this house is". This can be super confusing to new learners so be sure to go through the examples slowly!



मैं निता हूँ *main neetaa hoon* - I am Nita

Can you see what's happened here? If you don't know, निता *nitaa* is a common girls name in India. Remember we are literally saying "I Nita am". Ready for another example?



वे किताबें हैं *ve kitaaben hain* - They are books



यह बिल्ली है *yeh billee hai* - This is a cat



आप कैसे हैं? *aap kaise hain?* - How are you?

We've already learned this phrase a few lessons ago, so now you should be able to understand all the words in it!

Phew ok! How's that? Can you follow the examples? There might be some words you don't understand in the sentences but don't worry, just make sure you can spot the होना honaa and how and why it's changed in each sentence! Try writing your own sentences and leave them as a comment below for practice!

Yes, No and Questions

You won't get very far with a conversation in Hindi if you don't know how to say the words 'yes' or 'no' or if you don't know how to ask simple questions, so today that's what we are going to cover! So are you ready to get straight into it? अच्छा acchaa - great!



हाँ haan - Yes



नहीं naheen - No

So now, the next thing we need to learn is how to ask a question in Hindi. Today we're just going to focus on simple questions - which is where we just turn a statement into a question. Let me show you...



You should be able to say 'This is a house' in Hindi. Can you figure it out? That's right we say यह घर है yeh ghar hai - This is a house.

Now, to turn this statement into a question all we do is put the word क्या kyaa at the start!

So all we say is क्या यह घर है? kyaa yeh ghar hai? - Is this a house? Can you see? It's really easy! So how would we reply to this questions? Of course, we'd say हाँ haan - Yes! Ready for another example?



क्या यह बिल्ली है? kyaa yeh billee hai?

What does this question mean? That's right, we're asking 'Is this a cat?'. Remember यह बिल्ली है yeh billee hai - means 'This is a cat' so adding क्या kyaa to the start changes it to 'Is this a cat?'. Easy!

So can you answer this question? Easy! We can just say नहीं naheen - no. Or if you want to answer is a full sentence you could say....

नहीं, यह बिल्ली नहीं है, उल्लू है

naheen, yeh billee naheen hai, ulloo hai

- No, this is not a cat, it's a Owl.

Phew! We also have the word जी jee in Hindi, it doesn't really translate very well into English, but all you need to know is that you put जी jee before either हाँ haan - yes or नहीं naheen - no to show more respect to the person you are talking to. For example suppose your work boss asked you...



क्या यह किताब तुम्हारी है?

kyaa yeh kitaab tumhaaree hai?

- Is this book yours?

And if it was your book you would reply with जी हाँ jee haan - Yes (With respect). See, it's easy isn't it!

Practice writing your own simple little questions and reply to them! Feel free to leave a comment below if you want any help! Be sure to practice the words हाँ haan - Yes and नहीं naheen - No, because you'll be needing them a lot!

An Introduction to Hindi Verbs

Verbs, verbs, verbs. Verbs really are the most important thing when learning grammar rules. The problem though is that you probably think verbs and grammar rules are really boring and completely useless right? Well you're wrong! Verbs are simply the most important thing if you want to speak fluently.

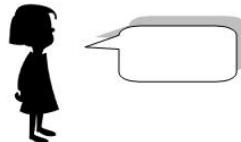
Verbs (for those of you who didn't pay attention in English lessons!) are 'doing words', words that show some action of some sort is taking place. For English, generally a word is verb if you can put '-ing' or '-ed' at the end.

The 'main' form of a verb is called the **Infinitive**. This infinitive is what you will see when you look up a verb in a Hindi dictionary. In English the infinitive of a verb is always be 'to ___', ie to read, to speak, to walk etc.

Every single Hindi verb in its infinitive form ends with ना naa. Blah blah blah, this is all very nice but when do we get to see some examples? Well right now actually!



पढ़ना *parhnaa* - To Read (or To Study)



बोलना *bolnaa* - To Speak



सोना *sonaa* - To Sleep

Are you getting the hang of this? Ready for a few more?



खाना *khaanaa* - To Eat



सीखना *seekhnaa* - To Learn



जाना *jaanaa* - To Go

Of course there are hundreds and hundreds more but hopefully you now get the idea!

Ready to learn one final thing?

The **Root** of a verb is simply its infinitive form with the ना naa at the end removed. For example, the root of सीखना seekhnaa is सीख seekh and the root of आना aanaa is आ aa. This 'root' will come in really useful when we start using verbs in sentences.

The Present Tense

Today we're going to carry on learning about verbs in Hindi; we're going to learn all about our very first tense, The Present Tense. So what is the Present Tense? It's simply sentences like 'I eat', 'He reads', 'They drink', they show a present action!



The Present Tense shows something is happening now - in the 'present' and not in the Past or in the Future!

Can you think back to our last lessons and remember what the root of a verb is? That's right, it's the verbs infinitive without the ना naa that comes at the end! So for example we have that the root of the verb चलना calnaa (to walk) is चल cal. Easy! Before you carry on, be sure that you've read that lesson first, it's going to be very important today!

Now I want you to think about English for a second, in English we say 'I walk', 'You walk' but we say 'He walks' and 'She walks'. Can you see that when we use He or She an 's' appears at the end of the verb? Hindi is very similar! But unfortunately for us learners Hindi is a little more complicated than English! But don't worry, I'll explain everything as we go through! Firstly though, I'm going to show you a few examples of the Present Tense in Hindi and then I'll teach you the rules and we'll see if you can make your own sentences! So are you ready to get straight into it?



मैं खाता हूँ *main khaataa hoon*

- I eat (said by a male)

This is one example of a Present Tense sentence in Hindi! So what have we done here? Well we have the word मैं *main* - I (as we saw in [Pronouns](#)) then we have खाता *khaataa*, this is the singular masculine Present Tense version of the verb खाना *khaanaa* - To eat (Don't worry about this bit for now, it will all be explained in a second!). Finally we have हूँ *hoon* - this means 'am' as we learnt in [Lesson #22](#). So we are literally saying 'I eat am', and it means 'I eat'.

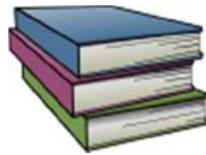
Pay special attention to the ता *taa* that we've added to the end of the verb root खा *khaa* of the verb खाना *khaanaa* - To eat, this is going to be very important in a minute!



हम पीते हैं *ham peete hain*

- We drink (Male group, or mixed gender)

This is another example of a Present Tense sentence in Hindi! So what have we got here? Well we use the word हम *ham* - which we know means 'we', then we have the word पीते *peete* - this is in fact the Masculine Plural Present Tense form of the verb पीना *peenaa* - To Drink (Notice how this time we've added ते *te* to the verb root, can you guess why? Don't worry if you have no idea, I'll explain why in a minute!), finally then we have हैं *hain* - are. So we literally have 'We drink are', and it means 'We drink'. Can you see a pattern yet? I'll show you one more example then I'll explain the rules! Ready?



वह पढ़ती है vo parhnee hai

- She reads

This time we've added ती tee to the verb root of पढ़ना parhnaa - To read! So all together we have 'she read is' - and it means 'she reads'. Notice this time how we have a girl doing the action and we are using ती tee! Do you think you've got the pattern? Keep reading to find out!

So now you've seen a few examples do you think you've ready to learn the rules so you can make your own sentences? अच्छा acchaa - great! Firstly there's one more thing I have to tell you, and that is the **Subject** of a sentence is simply the person (or the thing) doing the action. Easy! So for example, the subject in the sentence "He walks" is 'he' - that's the person doing the walking! And the subject in the sentence "They swim" is 'they' that's the people doing the swimming! Have you got it?

Now in Hindi the verb must agree with both the Gender of the subject (whether it's a male or a female) and the Number (whether there's just one person or many!). This can be a little confusing to understand because it's not something we're used to in English! So are you ready to learn the rules? Great!

- When the Subject is **Masculine Singular** (that is when it's just one person and it's a male) then we add ता taa to the verb root. (See the first example above!)
- When the Subject is **Masculine Plural** (that's when it's a group of males or a group of mixed gender) we add ते te to the verb root. (Just like our second example above!)
- Finally when the Subject is **Feminine Singular or Plural** (that is when it's just one female or a group) we add ती tee to the verb root! (See the last example!)



Read through those bullet points again, because that's the most important part of today's lesson. And again! Once more! Do you understand it?

Ok now we're going to do another example together! If we wanted to say 'I sleep' (When spoken by a female). So firstly I'll tell you that the verb To Sleep is सोना *sonaa*. So what do we need to do now? That's right, first we find the verb root - that's easy, it's just सो *so*. Now what Gender is the subject in the sentence 'I sleep' (Said by a female)? Feminine, obviously! So what do we need to add to the verb root? That's right, ती *tee*! So altogether we have the sentence...



मैं सोती हूँ *main sotee hoon*

- I Sleep (Said by a Female)

Did you follow that? Fantastic! If not, read through the above paragraph again, and feel free to leave me a comment below if you have a question.

One more example and then we'll see if you can do it yourself! This time we want to say 'They Speak'. (for a group of all males!) We know from before that the verb To Speak is बोलना *bolnaa*. So what is the subject of 'They speak'? And so what do we need to add to the verb root? Perfect! Altogether we have...



वे बोलते हैं *ve bolte hain*

- They speak

Phew, sorry that lesson was so long! Do you think you've understood everything? I want you to try and translate these five sentences for me, just to see how well you've understood!

1. I speak (said by a female)
2. He sleeps
3. They eat (All male group)
4. She drinks
5. We eat (All female group)

I Love You

So last lesson we saw how to use Hindi verbs in the present tense. Today we're going to apply that knowledge and learn how to say 'I love you' in Hindi. Now you'll be able to impress your partner by saying I love you in Hindi!



So are you ready? Here goes...

मैं तुमसे प्यार करता हूँ

main tumse pyaar kartaa hoon

- I love you (Said by a male)



मैं तुमसे प्यार करती हूँ

main tumse pyaar kartee hoon

- I love you (Said by a female)

Notice that it changes depending on whether you are a male or a female!

What's going on here then? Let's have a closer look at the sentence. The word for love in Hindi, we'll the one we're using, is प्यार *pyaar*. This is a noun, the name of the emotion. But we want to use this as a verb, so we add करना *karna* to the end, meaning 'to do'. This word is featured a lot in what is known as compound verbs, usually, as in this example, composed of a noun and then करना *karna*. So we have the verb प्यार करना *pyaar karna* - to love, whose 'root', as we learnt is; प्यार कर *pyaar kar*.

We also have the word तुमसे *tumse*. This translates as; to you, it's a 'different form' of the word तुम *tum*. The grammar rules of तुमसे *tumse* aren't really relevant here, we'll see it in detail later. Now recapping [Lesson #28](#), and putting this all together we have;



When spoken by a man;

मैं तुमसे प्यार करता हूँ
main tumse pyaar kartaa hoon

- I love you

And when spoken by a women;

मैं तुमसे प्यार करती हूँ
main tumse pyaar kartee hoon

- I love you

Word by word this literally translates to 'I (to) you love am' - this might look like gibberish but that's just what we say!

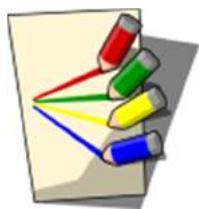
It's really important to remember that this sentence changes depending on who it is spoken *by* (and not who it is spoken *to*)! Practice saying 'I love you' in Hindi to your family and friends!

The Present Continuous Tense

Can you remember what we've learnt about Hindi verbs so far? That's right, I introduced you to them in first and then we began to learn how to create simple present tense sentences! Be sure to revise over those lessons if you've forgotten anything!

Today we're going to learn all about another tense, The Present Continuous Tense. So that's a big scary word, what does it mean? Well the Present Continuous Tense is just sentences that include '-ing' to show something is happening now! 'I am eating', 'They are running', 'Mohit is going'. Can you see each of these sentences include '-ing'?

So how do we create these sentences in Hindi? Well it's a lot easier than you think! First I'm going to show you a few example Present Continuous Tense sentences, then I'll explain everything, then it's over to you to write your own sentences! So are you ready to get straight to it? Here goes...



हम लिख रहे हैं *ham likh rahi hain* - We are writing

Let me break this sentence right down for you. We first have the word हम *ham* - we, then we have the root of the verb लिखना *likhnaa* - To write. With me so far? Now let's skip to the end, we have हैं *hain* - are. So now all we have left is the new part! We have the word रहे *rahe*, what does this mean? Well it tells us the action is happening right now, it gives the 'ing' part to our verb write - we are writing! Phew, sorry that was so long! Let's look at another example...



मैं सोच रहा हूँ *main soc raha hoon*

- I am thinking (Said by a Male)

Here we've used the verb सोचना *socnaa* - To Think. Can you see we've used the Root of this verb? But then this time we've used रहा *rahaa* and not रहे *rahe*? You'll see why that is in a few minutes! Are you ready for one more example?



वह सेब खा रही है *voh seb khaa rahee hai*

- She is eating an apple

What's happened this time? Well we've used the root of the verb खाना *khaanaa* - To Eat and the word सेब *seb* - Apple. This time though (because we're talking about a Female) we've used रही *rahee*.

Can you see in the first example we have added रहे *rahe* but रहा *rahaa* in the second and रही *rahee* in the last? Why is this? Well let me explain to you. Here comes the technical part, take a deep breath!

When we want to make Hindi sentence in the Present Continuous Tense (that's basically just adding '-ing') we use the verb root followed by either...

- रहा *rahaa* if the subject is Masculine and Singular,
- रहे *rahe* if the subject is Masculine and Plural,
- रही *rahee* if the subject is Feminine.

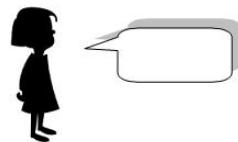
(The subject is usually just the person doing the action!). Does that make sense? Read through that paragraph above a few more times! So are you ready to see a few more examples now? अच्छा *acchaa* - great!



मैं पाकिस्तान जा रहा हूँ *main paakistaan jaa raha hoon*

- I am going to Pakistan (Said by a Male)

This time we've used the verb जाना *jaanaa* - To Go. We've also used रहा *rahaa*, can you see why? That's right, because our subject is Masculine (it's a male!) and Singular (just one person!) so as we learnt just above we must use रहा *rahaa*!



तुम हिन्दी नहीं बोल रही हो

tum hindee naheen bol rahee ho

- You are not speaking Hindi (Said to a Female)

Can you see that we use रही *rahee* here because we are talking about a female? Also don't forget that we must use the word हो *ho* with तुम *tum* as we learnt in [Lesson #22](#). This last example also shows us how to say 'not ...', you simply add the word नहीं *naheen*, literally 'no', just before the verb!

Right ok, one more example and then it's your turn! Are you ready?



भालू सो रहा है *bhaaloo so raha hai*

- The bear is sleeping

Here we've used the verb सोना *sonaa* - To sleep. Because the word भालू *bhaaloo* - Bear is Masculine we must use रहा *rahaa*.

So do you think you now know how to make a Present Continuous Tense sentence in Hindi? Please leave a comment just below if you have any questions at all and I'll be sure to help you!

Right now it's your turn! Below there are 5 English sentences, can you translate them in Hindi using what we've learnt today? Go on, give it a go. If you want my help then just leave a comment and I'll tell you how you've done!

1. I am eating (Said by a female)
2. They are going home (Mixed gender group)
3. He is not speaking
4. Sangeeta is not thinking
5. We are swimming (To Swim is तैरना *tairnaa*)

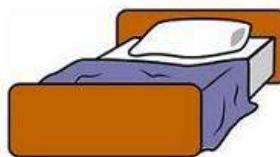
An Introduction to Hindi Nouns

Nouns, Nouns, Nouns! Do you know what nouns are? Well nouns are sometimes known as 'naming words' and that's exactly what they are, names for things! Like objects, places, emotions, animals, people etc! Today we're going to have a little introduction to Nouns in Hindi and we'll see how they work, so are you ready to get going? अच्छा *accha* - great!

So what a better way to start than me introducing you to a handful of Hindi Nouns! We've seen a few of these before but some of them are new! So here goes...



किताब *kitaab* - Book (F)



पलंग *palang* - Bed (M)



big>कुरसी kursee - Chair (F)



सेब seb - Apple (M)

That's easy enough right? Good! But Hindi nouns have a little trick hidden up their sleeve which makes them a whole lot more complicated, ready to learn what it is? Here goes...

All nouns in Hindi have a gender; every noun is either **Masculine** or **Feminine**. Read that again because it's important. Every single noun has a gender! This explains the funny (M)'s and (F)'s after each of the words above! But anyway, why does this gender of words matter? Well, let me assure you now that knowing the gender of Hindi nouns is essential for proper grammar and communication!

So here's the bad news; every time you learn a new noun in Hindi you must also learn its gender so that you can use it correctly. The good news? Well if you can master this gender issue then you'll find so much Hindi grammar a lot easier!

The gender of many Hindi words are obvious to everyone with a brain (sorry to those of you without brains!). For example we have...



लड़का larkaa - Boy (M) and लड़की larkee - Girl (F)



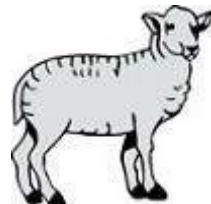
ਪਿਤਾ pitaa - Father (M) and ਮਾਤਾ maataa - Mother (F)

Can you see how words referring to female people are feminine and words referring to males are masculine? Easy hey!

Unfortunately for most other nouns their gender does seem completely random. Let's look at a few examples...



ਕੇਲਾ kelaa - Banana (M)



ਮੇਡ bher - Sheep (F)



ਮੇਜ਼ mez - Desk (F)



ਘਰ ghar - House (M)

Can you see the weird-ness here? There's nothing innately masculine about the words 'banana' or 'house', nor feminine about the words 'sheep' or 'desk' but in Hindi all these words have genders!

As a very rough and general rule, words that end with the vowel अ aa are usually Masculine and words that end with ई ee are usually feminine. But there's two problems with relying on this; one this doesn't always hold (can you spot the one exception above?) and two it tells you nothing about words that end with any other letter!

So again, I stress to you, it's really important that you do learn the gender of every noun as you go along, otherwise your sentences will not be grammatically correct!

I hope this lesson has given you a good introduction, don't forget to leave any questions in the comments section below if you have them!

Plural Nouns

Can you remember what we covered last time? That's right, we learnt a few important things about Hindi nouns. The most important of these is that every single Hindi noun is either Masculine or Feminine!

Today we're going to learn how to change Hindi nouns into their plural form. In case you don't know plural is used when we're talking about more than one thing. So for example in English, changing the word dog to dogs makes it plural.



Now before we start let me tell you a little secret, Hindi plurals are much, much easier than English plurals. Don't believe me? Well firstly think how many different ways there are in English to make a word plural, for example think about the words cat - cats, foot -feet, mouse -mice, sheep - sheep, radius - radii, lady - ladies, child - children. Phew I'll stop there but there's many many others. All of these words follow different rules and that's what makes English

plurals so hard! The great news is that Hindi has *only* 4 different rules and it's super easy to tell which rule we apply, so if you've mastered English plurals you can master Hindi ones!

So we're going to look at these four rules one by one. Remember when I said in [Lesson #38](#) that it's really important to know the gender of Hindi words? Well here's why...

Masculine Nouns

Firstly we're going to break down every single Masculine Noun into two groups, those that end with the vowel अ aa and those that end with anything else! We're going to call these Type 1 and Type 2. Each different type has a different rule, so let's get straight to it!

Type 1 Masculine Nouns (Those that end with अ aa)

For these nouns, to make them plural, we simply drop the अ aa from the end of the word and instead add an ए e. So let's see a few examples...



कुत्ता kuttaa - 'dog' is कुत्ते kutte - 'dogs'

Can you see what we've done here? Yeah see, just like I said above - we simply drop the अ aa from the end of the word and add an ए e! Here's another example;



दरवाज़ा darvaazaa - 'door' is दरवाज़े darvaaze - 'doors'

Can you see the rule being applied here? अच्छा acchaa - great! Ready for Type 2 now?

Type 2 Masculine Nouns (Those that end with anything else)

These are probably the easiest words ever to make plural! Want to know why? It's because they don't change at all! There's nothing different! So for example...



The plural of the word अख्बार *akhbaar* - 'newspaper' doesn't change at all, it's still अख्बार *akhbaar* - 'newspapers'! Easy hey?

Now you might turn round to me and say "but wait hang on, if these words are the same in singular and plural then how do we know the difference - how do we know if someone's talking about one newspaper or many?". The answer to that is that the grammar of the Hindi sentence will usually tell you, but we'll learn more about that later!

Feminine Nouns

Again, just like with Masculine nouns, we're going to break up Feminine nouns into two separate groups. So let's get to it!

Type 1 Feminine Nouns (Those that end with ई ee)

For these nouns we simply drop the ई *ee* from the end of the word and add इयाँ *iyaan* instead!

Let's see an example...



The plural of the word मछली *machlee* - 'fish' is मछलियाँ *machliyan* - 'fish' ('fishes'). Can you see what we've done? Ready for another example?



The plural of the word **سବ୍ଜୀ** *sabzee* - 'vegetable' is **ସବ୍ଜୀଆନ** *sabziyaan* - 'vegetables'. Can you see the same rule here again? Great! Ready to move on to the final group of nouns? Here goes...

Type 2 Feminine Nouns (Those that end with anything else)

In this case we simply add **ଏଣ୍** *en* to the end of the word - easy! So for example...



ମେଜ୍ *mez* - 'table' and **ମେଜେନ୍** *mezen* - 'tables'

Can you see what we've done here? Yeah that's right, all we've done is add **ଏଣ୍** *en* to the end!

One more example...



The plural of **ଆଗ** *aag* - 'fire' is **ଆଗେନ୍** *aagen* - 'fires'

Phew! That's everything! That's all 4 rules covered. I know it's been quite long so well done if you've made it all the way to the end. Can you remember all the rules? Here's a quick easy to read summary for you...

Masculine Nouns

- If the noun ends with **ାଏ** *aa* then drop the **ାଏ** *aa* and add **ୟେ** *e*.
- If not then the word doesn't change at all!

Feminine Nouns

- If the noun ends with **ୟେ** *ee* then drop the **ୟେ** *ee* and add **ିଆନ** *iyaan*.
- If not then simply add **ଏଣ୍** *en* to the end!

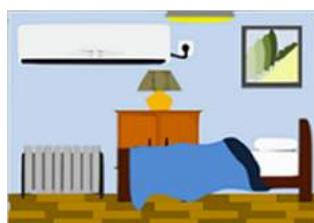
Do you think you can remember them all? Well try it, here's a little quiz - can you convert each of these words into their plural form? Here's a tip, if you get stuck look at the summary just above and figure out what rule you need to apply first!

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. लड़का <i>larkaa</i> - Boy (M) | 2. लड़की <i>larkee</i> - Girl (F) |
| 3. माता <i>maataa</i> - Mother (F) | 4. कान <i>kaan</i> - Ear (M) |
| 5. बहन <i>bahan</i> - Sister (F) | 6. कमरा <i>kamraa</i> - Room (M) |

Possessive Pronouns Part 1

Can you remember back to a few lessons ago when we learnt about pronouns? These are words like 'I', 'He', 'You', 'They', etc etc. If your memory has slipped then feel free to head back! In today's lesson we're going to learn Hindi Possessive Pronouns. These are very similar to Pronouns but they are used to show Possession - to show that someone owns something! In English Possessive Pronouns are words like 'My', 'His', 'Their', 'Your'. I'm sure you're familiar with them! Possessive Pronouns are very common so it's super important to know them! Unfortunately though, Hindi Possessive Pronouns have a little catch which we'll see next time in [Possessive Pronouns Part 2](#) (Don't worry about that for now!).

Let me show you a couple of examples first and then we'll see the whole list of Possessive Pronouns. Just try and absorb each example, they're all very straightforward! So are you ready to go?



मेरा कमरा *meraa kamraa* - My Room



आपका शब्दकोश *aapkaa shabdkosh* - Your Dictionary



उसका दरवाजा *uskaa darvaazaa* - His Door

Can you follow those examples? The Possessive Pronouns work in a very similar way to English ones! So are you ready to see the full list of Hindi Possessive Pronouns? अच्छा *acchaa* - great!
Deep breathe in, here goes...

First Person Singular

मेरा *meraa* My

First Person Plural

हमारा *hamaaraa* Our

Second Person Singular

तेरा *teraa* Your (Very Informal)

Second Person Plural

आपका *aapkaa* Your (Formal)

तुम्हारा *tumhaaraa* Your (Informal)

If you don't remember or aren't sure of the differences between the 3 different types of the word 'you' in Hindi, then head back to Prouns!

Third Person Singular

इसका *iskaa* His / Her / Its (Near)

उसका *uskaa* His / Her / Its (Far)

Third Person Plural

इनका *inkaa* Their (Near) or His / Her (Formal)

उनका *unkaa* Their (Far) or His / Her (Formal)

The difference between इसका *iskaa* and उसका *uskaa* is exactly the same as the difference between यह *yeh* and वह *voh* as we saw in [Lesson #15](#). Similarly the difference between इनका *inkaa* and उनका *unkaa* is the same as the difference between ये *ye* and वे *ve*!

Does that make sense? Let's see a few more examples for today then, this time try and understand why we're using the word we do! In our last two examples we're going to put our newly learnt Possessive Pronouns into full sentences...



उनका केला *unkaa kelaa* - Their Banana



तुम्हारा खाना गर्म है *tumhaaraa khaanaa garm hai* - Your food is hot



हमारा बगीचा बड़ा है *hamaaraa bageecaa baraa hai* - Our Garden is big

Don't worry if you're a little confused with the last two, just make sure you can spot the Possessive Pronouns!

Unfortunately though, there's a big catch with these Possessive Pronouns that I haven't told you about yet. This is what makes Possessive Pronouns a little harder than English ones! Have no fear though because we will cover this in next time.

Possessive Pronouns Part 2

Can you remember what Possessive Pronouns are? That's right, they're words like 'my', 'his', 'their' etc, they show that someone owns something! In that lesson I told you there was a little, but very important, catch to these Possessive Pronouns that makes them a bit more complicated - I'm going to tell you all about that today!

Before you carry on with this lesson though, make sure you've read [An Introduction to Hindi Nouns](#), we're going to be using a lot from that lesson today so it's very important you understand it! So let's crack on and get to work, are you ready? In [Lesson #37](#) we learnt how to say things like...



मेरा पलंग *meraa palang* - My bed

That's quite straight forward yeah? But it's not always that easy! Let me show you a few different examples, read through them slowly and see if you can notice a pattern...



मेरी किताब *meree kitaab* - My Book



उसके आलू *uske aloo* - His Potatoes



तुम्हारी बहन *tumhaaree bahan* - Your Sister



हमारे समोसे *hamaare samose* - Our Samosas

Woah, hang on! What has changed from before and why has it changed? Well let me tell you! Just like [Adjectives](#), Possessive Pronouns **must** agree with the Gender of thing they are ‘possessing’. So what on earth does that mean?

Don’t worry, it’s easier than you think. Can you remember back when we were introduced to Hindi nouns? We learnt that every Hindi noun is either Masculine or Feminine. Our Possessive Pronouns must agree with the gender of the word! Read that last sentence again, Possessive Pronouns must agree with the gender of the thing they are possessing! This is one of the reasons why it’s so important to know the gender of words.

This is why we say मेरा घर *meraa ghar* - My House because घर *ghar* - House is a Masculine word but we say मेरी किताब *meree kitaab* - My Book; because किताब *kitaab* - Book is a Feminine word! Can you see the difference? Do you understand why there is this difference? So let’s look at this in a bit more detail...

In the **Singular Masculine Case:**

This is when the thing someone is ‘owning’ is Masculine and singular! In this case we use the pronouns exactly how we learnt in [Lesson #37](#)! For example;



मेरा घर *meraa ghar* - My House



आपका बेटा *aapkaa betaa* - Your Son

For the Plural Masculine Case:

This is when the thing someone is ‘owning’ is Masculine and there’s more than one of them!

In this case we drop the ॲ -aa from the end of the Possessive Pronoun and add ॲ -e.

Remember the noun being possessed must also be in its plural case (see [Lesson #39](#)). This is like the ‘His Potatoes’ and ‘Our Samosas’ example from above! Other examples are...



उनके केले *unke kele* - Their Bananas



मेरे कुत्ते *mere kutte* - My Dogs

For the Singular and Plural Feminine Case:

This is when the thing someone is Feminine! In this case you drop the ॲ -aa from the end of the Possessive Pronoun and add ٳ-ee. This is the same in both the Singular and Plural case!

This is just like in the ‘My Book’ and ‘Your Sister’ examples above! We can also say...



उसकी सड़ी *uskee saree* - Her Sari



मेरी चीज़ें *meree ceezen* - My Things

Phew and that's the end! This is one of the reasons that learning the gender of a word in Hindi so important! This whole concept can be very confusing especially for English speakers. Read through this lesson a few times!

How Old Are You?

Today we're going to learn another great conversational phrase, we're going to see how to ask the question 'How old are you?' and obviously this is no good if we don't know how to reply so we'll also see how to reply with 'I am _____ years old' in Hindi! So are you ready to get straight into it? I'll show you it first then take you through what each of the words mean! Here goes...



आपकी उम्र क्या है? *aapkee umr kyaa hai*

-How Old are You?

This is the same when asking both males and females. Have you got it? Say it out loud. Read it again - आपकी उम्र क्या है? *aapkee umr kyaa hai* -How old are you? This you can remember it with enough practice? So what are all these words here? Well let's go through them!

Firstly we have आपकी *aapkee* - This means 'your' and we covered it back in [Lesson #37](#) can you remember? The next word is उम्र *umr* - This (perhaps you've already guessed!) means 'age' and it's feminine. So this is the reason we have to say आपकी *aapkee* and **not** आपका *aapkaa* - as we learnt in [Lesson #40](#)!



Hopefully you're not too confused about this!

The next word is क्या *kya*. Can you remember what this means? We've seen it a few times already. Remember? That's right, it means 'what?'. And then finally we have है *hai* which again, we've seen plenty of times, it means 'is' .

Have you got it? Can you understand the phrase now? आपकी उम्र क्या है? *aapkee umr kyaa hai* -How old are you? Or, literally 'Your age what is?'.

Now obviously the next this we want to know is how to reply with 'I am ___ years old'. So are you ready to learn that? अच्छा *acchaa* Great! This is where it becomes different for males and females...

If you are a male you say...



मैं ___ साल का हूँ *main ___ saal kaa hoon*

- I am ___ years old (Said by a Male)

And if you are a female you say...



मैं ___ साल की हूँ *main ___ saal kee hoon*

- I am ___ years old (Said by a Female)

Can you see the difference? A male uses the word का *kaa* and a female uses the word की *kee*! Obviously, you simply replace the gap with your age! If you're unsure of Hindi numbers then be sure to check out the [Numbers Section](#)!

So for example a 10 year old boy would say...



मैं दस साल का हूँ *main das saal kaa hoon*

- I am ten years old (Said by a Male)

And a twenty year old Woman would say...



मैं बीस साल की हूँ *main bees saal kee hoon*

-I am twenty years old (Said by a Female)

Have you got it? Leave a comment below telling me your age in Hindi! Remember to check out the Numbers section [by clicking here](#) to find out your age in Hindi, and if you can't find your age there then please feel free to ask me in a comment too!

Remember to practice this phrase as much as you can, practice the reply too. Just a bit of a warning though - it can be seen as slightly rude to ask a woman her age in India, so be warned!

Adjectives

Adjectives! So what are adjectives? Well, they are simply describing words, they describe things! Examples are Big, Small, Fat, Green, Cold etc etc. Adjectives are really important to learn because life would be so boring without them, imagine not being able to describe anything! So are you ready to get doing? अच्छा *acchaa* - great!

So first things first, in Hindi there are two different types of Adjectives; Inflecting Adjectives, and Non-Inflecting Adjectives. What does this mean? Well let me explain as we go though...

Inflecting Adjectives

Inflecting adjectives are adjectives that inflect (obviously!). What does this mean? Well basically the adjectives must change to ‘agree’ with the gender noun it describes. This can be quite confusing, especially for English speakers since adjectives in English never inflect! (But you may have met inflecting adjectives if you’ve studied another language, such as French or Arabic etc).

It’s easy to spot Inflecting Adjectives because always end with the letter ڻT *aa*!

Let me show you an example first and then I’ll explain the rules; the adjective ڇوٽا *chotaa* means small or little. But, because it is an Inflecting Adjective the word changes slightly in different situations! We say, for example...



ڇوٽا لڻکا *chotaa larkaa* - A Small Boy



ڇوٽے لڻکے *chote larke* - Small Boys



ڇوٽی لڻکنی *chotee larkee* - A Small Girl



ڇوٽی لڻکنیاں *chotee larkiyaan* - Small Girls

(Remember we learnt the Plurals for Nouns in Hindi in [Lesson #39](#)) Can you see here how the word छोटा *chotaa* changes slightly? Read through those examples again, can you see it now?

We say छोटा *chotaa* for one boy but we say छोटे *chote* for more than one boy and छोटी *chotee* for girls, whether one or many!

The rules for this are...

- The Adjective stays the same for the Masculine Singular
- For the Masculine Plural case we drop the ा aa and add ए e
- For the Feminine case (Singular and Plural) we drop the ा aa and add ई ee

Got it? It's a lot easier than you think! You just have to remember the Gender of the noun you are describing and then use the correct form of the adjective!

Some other examples of adjectives include; बड़ा *baraat* - big, लंबा *lambaa* - long/tall, अच्छा *acchaa* - good, गंदा *gandaa* - dirty and many many more! So for example we'd say...



बड़े केले *bare kele* - Big Bananas

(Since 'Bananas' is Masculine Plural!)



बड़ी बिल्ली *baree billee* - A Big Cat

(Since 'Cat' is Feminine!)

This is why it's so important to know a noun's Gender as we saw in [Lesson #38](#)! If you use the wrong inflection of the adjective then it's simply wrong! So that's Inflecting Adjectives done, ready for the other case?

Non-Inflecting Adjectives

These adjectives never change when they are used, so they are a lot easier than Inflecting Adjectives! Unfortunately they aren't as common though. So, for example one Non-Inflecting Adjective is साफ़ *saaf* - clean. We can say...



साफ़ कमरा *saaf kamaraa* - A Clean Room



साफ़ मेज़ *saaf mez* - A Clean Table

Other examples of non-Inflecting adjectives include; सुन्दर *sundar* - beautiful, गर्म *garm* - hot, कठिन *kathin* - Difficult, etc etc. For example...



आप सुन्दर हैं *aap sundar hain* - You are beautiful

(Remember the word हैं *hain* - Are from [Lesson #22](#))



हिन्दी कठिन है *hindee kathin hai* - Hindi is difficult

(I hope you don't find Hindi difficult, this is just an example!)

And you can really let your imagination run wild when creating sentences using these adjectives. So see if you can create your own long sentence in Hindi! Just be careful noting which adjective has to agree with which noun.

Where Are You From?

Today we're going to learn how to ask 'Where are You From?' in Hindi and of course we'll learn how to reply! This is yet another great phrase to use when you first meet someone to get to know them! So are you ready to get straight into it? I'll introduce you to the phrase first and then we'll learn all about it! The phrase we're going to use is...



आप कहाँ से हैं? *aap kahaan se hain*

- Where are you from?

Say it again, and again. Practice makes perfect! Now can you recognise any of these words here? Let's go through them one by one, are you ready?

You should be very familiar with आप *aap* - you, and हैं *hain* - are by now, we've seen them loads! Now the word कहाँ *kahaan* means where, we were introduced to this back in [Lesson#34](#). Finally then we have से *se*, this simply means 'from'. So literally we are saying 'you where from are' - or 'Where are you from?'. This phrase is the same for Males and for Females!

But now of course we're going to want to reply to this so let's learn how to do that. It's a lot easier than you think I assure you! We simply say...



मैं ____ से हूँ main____ se hoon -

- I am from ____.

Where you obviously replace the blank with the name of the country you are from! We are literally saying 'I from am'! This phrase is the same for both Males and Females. So are you ready to learn the names of some countries in Hindi? Great! Most country names are very similar to the names we are used to from English, but a few of them (including the most important India!) are different! So here goes...



भारत bhaarat - India



पाकिस्तान paakistaan - Pakistan



अमेरिका amerikaa - America



इंग्लैंड inglaind - England



चीन ceen - China

So for example, say you were from America then you would say...



मैं अमेरिका से हूँ

main amerikaa se hoon

- I am from America

Or if there was a group of you from India you might say...



हम भारत से हैं

ham bhaarat se hain

- We are from India

Can you see our phrase has changed slightly in the last example? That's because we are saying 'We are from India' and not 'I am from India'. Don't worry if you're a little confused!

Colours

Today we're going to learn the names of colours in Hindi! We'll then see some examples of these words in sentences, applying what we learnt in [Lesson #44: Adjectives](#). The word for colour in Hindi is **रंग** *rang*. So are you ready to learn some colour names?

काला	kaalaa	Black
लाल	laal	Red
सफेद	safed	White
पीला	peelaa	Yellow
नीला	neelaa	Blue
हरा	haraa	Green
नारंगी	naarangee	Orange

All the colours that end with ा aa are inflecting adjectives. This means they must agree with the noun they describe, this is exactly as we learnt in [Lesson #44](#). Ready to see some examples?



यह कलम लाल हैं *yeh kalam laal hai* - This pen is red.



ये कुत्ते काले हैं *ye kutte kaale hain* - These dogs are black.



किताब हरी है *kitaab haree hai* - The book is green.



यह पलंग नीला है *yeh palang neelaa hai* - This bed is blue.

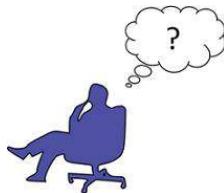
Try and think of your own sentences describing the colours of the things around you. Remember to inflect the adjectives!

Nouns in the Oblique Case

So back in [Lesson #38](#) I introduced you all to nouns in Hindi, can you remember? We learnt a few important things in that lesson - one of the most important was that all Hindi nouns are either Masculine or Feminine. Remember yeah? Then in [Lesson #39](#) we saw how to change these nouns in the plural form, so for example we saw that the plural of लड़की /arkee - girl is लड़कियाँ /arkyaan - girls!

If your memory of those lessons is a little hazy (don't worry it happens to the best of us!) then head back and read over them a few more times because we're going to be using everything we've learnt!

Anyway, enough of the old time for something new. Today we're going to learn how to change Hindi nouns into the Oblique case. Now firstly I bet you're sat there thinking "wait, what the hell is the oblique case and why do I need to know it?". Well don't you worry I'll explain all that as we go along!



Today's lesson might be a little tricky to get your head round at first but don't worry, you'll soon get there!

Let's look at English for a second and a very simple sentence like 'he is tall'. That's quite an easy sentence yeah? But what happens when we say 'give him the food'. Can you see how 'he' has changed to 'him'? The word 'him' is the oblique case of the word 'he' in English, and Hindi works in a very similar way!

Anyway, try not worry too much for now about why and how we use the oblique case, we'll learn a lot more about that in later. Today we're just going to learn how to change nouns into the oblique case. So are you ready?

We're going to break all the nouns down into 4 groups, just like we did in [Lesson #39](#). Don't worry if you've forgot what the groups are since we'll recall them as we go! For each group we just learn one simple rule and that's it! So let's get to it

Masculine Nouns

For Masculine Type 1 Nouns: (If the noun ends with ڦا -aa)

Singular Case. We simply drop the ڦا aa from the end of the noun and add an ۽ e. So for example...



لڻکا larkaa - 'Boy' in the oblique case becomes لڻکے larke.



کلڻa kelaa - 'Banana' in the oblique case becomes کلڻe kele.

Plural case. Here We simply drop the ۽ e from the end of the noun and add an ۽ون on. So for example, looking at the same words just above, we have...



لڻکے larke - 'Boys' in the oblique case becomes لڻکاون larkon.



केले *kele* - 'Bananas' in the oblique case becomes केलों *kelon*.

Phew got that so far? Can you see that in fact the oblique case of the singular form is actually the same as the plural form of the word? That can make it a little confusing so try not get mixed up! Ready to carry on?

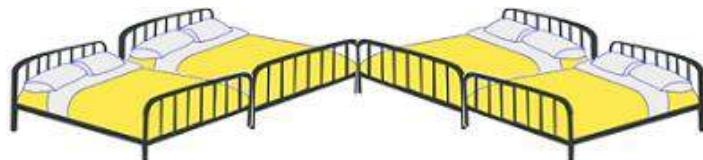
For Masculine Type 2 Nouns: (If the noun ends with anything else)

Singular Case. This one is the easiest ever - the word doesn't change at all! So for example...



पलंग *palang* - 'Bed' in the oblique case stays exactly the same!

Plural Case: This case is also quite straight forward, we simply add ओं *on* to the end of the word! So we have, for example...



पलंग *palang* - 'Beds' in the oblique case becomes पलंगों *palangon*



अनानास *anaanaas* - 'Pineapples' in the oblique case becomes अनानासों *anaanaason*

Phew are you still following? That's all Masculine nouns done so we're half way there! I know this lesson is very long but don't worry we can do it! Ready to learn about Feminine nouns? Great, here goes!

Feminine Nouns

For Feminine Type 1 Nouns: (If the noun ends with ئ -ee)

Singular Case: This is another super easy one - the word doesn't change at all! So for example...



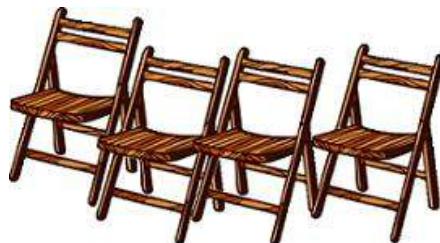
چاٻيٽي *caabee-* 'Key' in the oblique case stays exactly the same

Plural Case: In this case we drop the ئيٽاان *iyaan* from the end of the word and add ئيٽاون *iyon*.

So for example...



چاٻيٽاين *caabiyaan* - 'Keys' in the oblique becomes چاٻيٽاون *caabiyon*



کُرسيٽاين *kursiyaan* - 'Chairs' in the oblique becomes کُرسيٽاون *kursiyon*

Still with me? Good! Ok one last final section to go ready?

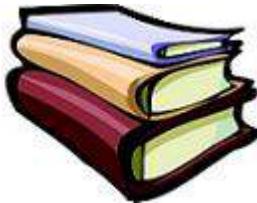
For Feminine Type 2 Nouns: (If the noun ends with anything else)

Singular Case: This is another super easy one because the word doesn't change! For example...



ڪيٽااب *kitaab* - 'Book' stays exactly the same in the oblique!

Plural Case: Here we simply drop the ئ en from the end of the word and add ئ on! So for example...



کیتابے kitaaben - 'Books' in the oblique becomes کیتابوں kitaabon



مئزے mezen - 'Tables' in the oblique becomes مئزوں mezon

Phew, have a deep deep breath! That's everything! I know this lesson has been very long but hopefully you now know how to change any Hindi noun into the oblique case, just by following these few simple rules! If you have any questions please feel free to ask in the comments section just below.

Want to test how well you know it? Try changing these 5 Hindi words into the oblique case. If you get a little stuck start by figuring out which group the noun is in!

1. لڑکی larkee - Girl (F)
2. تالے taale - Locks (M)
3. ہاتھی haathee - Elephant (M)
4. بیلیلیاں billiyaan - Cats (F)
5. جے بن jeben - Pockets (F)

Postpositions

Today we're going to learn how to use postpositions in Hindi and, of course, I'll show you a bunch of examples! So firstly then, what even are postpositions? Well, basically postposition are words like in, on, from, to etc.

In English we call them Prepositions because they come before the word (ie on the table) but in Hindi they come after the word, so we'd literally say 'table on'!



We're going to be using the Oblique case a lot in the lesson, so make sure you've read about the Oblique case in [Lesson #48](#)! So are you ready to begin? अच्छा accha - Great! Let's learn some postpositions first...

में men - In

पर par - On

से se - From

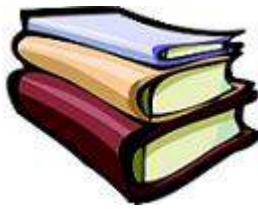
को ko - To

Of course there are many more, but this is a good start! They're all pretty straight forward, yeah? So how do we use these words? Well, it's easy! All we do is put the Noun into the Oblique case, exactly as we learnt in [Lesson #48](#), and then the Postposition comes afterwards. Simple! Let me show you some examples!



घर में ghar men - In The House

Can you see? All we do is put our new Preposition में men right after the word घर ghar - House. (This word doesn't change at all in the Oblique case). So all together we have घर में ghar men - In The House. Easy! Just remember the words go in the opposite order to English! Ready for another example?



किताबों पर *kitaabon par* - On The Books

So can you see what's happened here? There is one little tricky thing though! We've started with the word किताबें *kitaaben* - books but because there's a postposition after it, it's changed into the Oblique case (as we saw in [Lesson #48](#)) so we have किताबों *kitaabon*!



लड़के से *larke se* - From The Boy

I'm sure you get the pattern by now, it's really easy! Now we use these Postpositions to build up even more complicated sentences! Are you ready?



किताब मेज पर है *kitaab mez par hai*

- The book is on the table.

Can you see what we've done here? We start with किताब *kitaab* - book, then we have मेज़ *mez* पर *par* which means On the Table, and finally है *hai* - is. Simple!



मैं पाकिस्तान से हूँ *main paakistaan se hoon*

- I am from Pakistan

You can learn loads more about asking the question ‘Where are you from?’ as well as replying to it, in [Lesson #45](#).

How was that? We’ll see more examples as we go along, but for now this should give you a good idea! Try and think of some example sentences using the postpositions we’ve learnt yourself.

Possessive Pronouns Part 3

In today’s we’re going to learn all about the Hindi word का *kaa*. This word is super common, it comes up so, so much so this lesson is going to be important! Ready?

Ok so your first question is probably, what does का *kaa* even mean? Well, we usually translate it as either ‘s’ or ‘of’. It’s used to show ownership, to show that someone or something ‘owns’ something else.

Let me tell you one more thing and then we’ll jump straight into looking at some examples! का *kaa* is a **Postposition**, just as we learnt about in [Lesson #50](#). This means that the noun before का *kaa* must be in the oblique case, as we saw in [Lesson #48](#). I’ll explain more as about this we go though. Anyway, ready to see an example?



बिल्ली का खाना *billee kaa khaanaa* - The Cat’s food.

So what’s happened here? Well, it’s so easy, we have बिल्ली का *billee kaa* - which means “the cat’s” and then we have खाना *khaanaa* - which means food. So all together we have बिल्ली का खाना *billee kaa khaanaa* - The Cat’s food. Following? Ready for another example?



शाहिद का घर *shaahid kaa ghar* - Shahid's House

So what have we done this time? Well, just like last time we have used शाहिद का *shaahid kaa* to mean "Shahid's" (Shahid is an Indian males name if you didn't know!) and then we simply have घर *ghar* - house. So all together it's शाहिद का घर *shaahid kaa ghar* - Shahid's House.

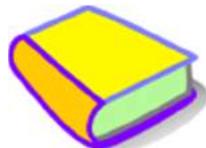
Simple!

Now, just like the Possessive Pronouns we've covered in the last few lessons, का *kaa* changes to के *ke* when what's 'owned' is Masculine Plural and it changes to की *kee* when what's owned is Feminine. Remember that it changes depending on what's owned and **not** on who is 'doing the owning'! Let me show you some more examples...



नेहा की बेटी *nehaa kee betee* - Neha's daughter

So can you see that here we use **don't** use का *kaa* and instead we use की *kee* because बेटी *betee* - daughter is a feminine noun!

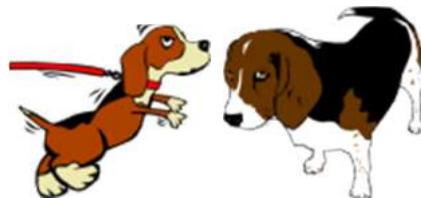


लड़के की किताब *larke kee kitaab* - The boy's book

So what's happened here? Well again we use की *kee* because किताब *kitaab* - book is feminine.

Also something else to note is that because we are using a postposition the word लड़का *larkaa* - boy goes into the Oblique case and becomes लड़के *larke*, as we learnt in [Lesson #48](#). Do you understand? This can be a little confusing so if you're lost then please leave me a comment below!

In fact you can even use का kaa more than once in a single sentence!



आदमी के बेटे के कुत्ते aadmee ke bete ke kutte

The man's son's dogs

Now this example is a little bit confusing so don't worry too much if you've got lost! Ready to look at something even more advance? It's so easy to turn what we've learnt today into fuller and complete sentences. Let me give you a few examples...



लड़की की साड़ी सुनदर है larkee ke saaree sundar hai

- The girl's Sari is beautiful



राज के कपड़े गंदे हैं raaj ke kapre gande hain

- Raj's clothes are dirty

Don't worry too much if you can't understand the last two examples, they are quite complicated! I just wanted to give you an quick look at how का kaa is used in real life sentences!

Possessive Pronouns Part 4

In today's lesson we're going to learn about the Hindi word अपना apnaa and how to use it.

As usual we'll see several examples of the word in real life setances. This word can be quite

confusing and difficult for English speakers to understand and use correctly so it's important to pay attention!

अपना *apnaa* by itself doesn't really translate very well into English, it's used to show ownership and can mean any of: my own, her own, their own etc. अपना *apnaa* replaces the usual possessive pronoun when the person 'doing the possessing' and the person who is subject of the sentence are the same.

Let me show you one example to start with.



मैं अपना पानी पीती हूँ

main apnaa paanee peetee hoon.

- I drink my water (said by a female).

Notice how we **don't** use मेरा *meraa* - my, as we learnt in [Lesson #37](#). Why is this? Well because both the subject of the sentence, मैं *main* I, and 'the person doing the possessing' are the same person. 'I' and 'my water', both refer to the same person, so मेरा *meraa* - is replaced by अपना *apnaa*. Following?

अपना *apnaa*, like all other possessive pronouns we've learnt, must agree with what's being 'possessed'; it changes to अपने *apne* for plural masculine and अपनी *apnee* for feminine singular and plural. Let's see another example,



वह अपनी किताब पढ़ रहा है

voh apnee kitaab parh raha hai.

- He is reading his (own) book.

Here we use अपनी *apnee* to agree with the feminine किताब *kitaab*- book. अपनी *apnee* replaces उसकी *uskee* (which we learnt to mean his) because 'he' and 'his book' refer to the same person. Can you see? If we were to use उसकी *uskee* instead of अपनी *apnee* the sentence would change...



वह उसकी किताब पढ़ रहा है

voh uskee kitaab parh raha hai.

- He is reading his (someone else's!) book.

I hope you can understand very small but very important difference! Let's carry on with the examples, try and notice in each example why we use अपना *apnaa* and also see if you can spot which possessive pronoun it is replacing.



आप अपने कमरे में हैं

aap apne kamre men hain

- You are in your (own) room.

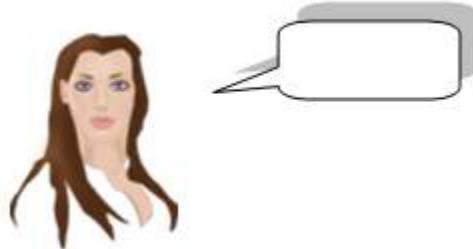
Here we've used अपने *apne* because it has to agree with कमरे में *kamre men* - 'In the room' which is Masculine and in the Oblique case. Ready for another example?



राम अपना खाना खाता है

raam apnaa khaanaa khaataa hai.

- Ram eats his (own) food.



वे अपनी भाषा बोलते हैं

ve apnee bhaasaa bolte hain.

-They speak their (own) language.



मैं अपने भाई से लंबा हूँ

main apne bhaaee se lambaa hoon.

- I am taller than my (own) brother

(This is known as Comparing Adjectives, you can learn more about this sentence structure later!).

It's really important to get the pronunciation of this word correct because in Past tense Hindi sentences we say **आपने** *aapne* to mean 'you did ...' You can learn more about this in the [Intermediate Grammar](#) section. So make sure you're pronouncing the अ *a* and आ *aa* sounds correctly, for help with this head back to our [this lessons](#) in our [Vowels Section](#).

I hope you can now understand how to correctly use अपना *apnaa* in sentences! As I said it is quite a complicated word, especially for English speakers, so make sure you practice using it.

The Future Tense

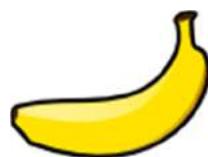
What tenses have we learnt about so far? That's right, we've seen the [Present Tense](#) (For example - I eat) and the [Present Continuous Tense](#) (For example - I am eating). Be sure to revise over those lessons if your memory has slipped!

Today we're going to learn all about the future tense in Hindi! So what is the future tense? Well it's simple talking about things that are going to happen. We use the word 'will' in English to show the future tense, for example we can say 'I will eat', 'She will walk' or 'they will write' etc.



*The future tense is going to be very important
if you ever want to make plans with someone when talking in Hindi!*

So how do we make future tense sentences in Hindi? Well it's actually quite straightforward, all we do is add 'something' to the end of the verb root. I'm going to show you a few examples first to get you into it and then I'll teach you the actual rules, so are you ready? अच्छा acchaa great!

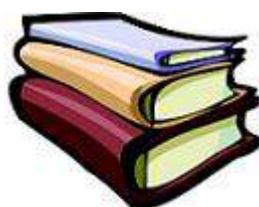


मैं केला खाऊँगा

main kelaa khaoongaa

- I will eat a banana (said by a Male)

So what have we said here? Well we've used the word मैं *main* - I, then केला *kelaa* - banana and finally we have खाऊँगा *khaoongaa* - this is the future tense Masculine form of the word खाना *khaanaa* - to eat, it shows we are talking about the future! Ready for another example?



वह किताब पढ़ेगा

voh kitaab parhegaa

- He will read a book

Here we've used the word पढ़ेगा *parhegaa* and this is the future tense Masculine form of the word पढ़ना *parhnnaa* - to read. I'll show you one more example and then we'll learn the rules, ready?



हम फ़िल्म देखेंगे

ham film dekhenge

- We will watch a film.

So finally here we've used the word देखेंगे *dekhenge* which is the future tense version of the verb देखना *dekhnaa* - To watch.

Can you see any kind of a pattern in these three examples? Don't worry if you can't because it's a little tricky at first! Are you ready to learn the proper rules the Hindi Future tense sentences now then? Great! So deep breath, here goes...

For Masculine Subjects simply add the following to the verb root;

First Person Singular

मैं -ऊँगा main -oongaa I will -

First Person Plural

हम -एँगे ham -enge We will -

Second Person Singular

तू -एगा too -egaa You will - (Very Informal)

Second Person Plural

आप -एँगे aap -enge You will - (Formal)

तुम -ओगे tum -oge You will - (Informal)

Third Person Singular

यह / वह -एगा yeh / voh -egaa He, It will -

Third Person Plural

ये / वे -एँगे ye / ve enge They will -

Phew! How was that? You don't need to memorise them just yet, try and learn them through example!

For Feminine Subjects

We simply change the last vowel to an ई ee. For example...

मैं -ऊँगी main -oongee I will -
आप -एँगी aap -engee You will - (Formal) etc.

Now we've learnt the actual rules I want you to go back through the examples at the top and see why we've used the verb the way we have! Are you ready for some more examples?

The Hindi word for the verb 'to teach' is सीखाना seekhaanaa. (Compare this to सीखना seekhnaa - to learn!). So how do you think a female would say 'I will teach Hindi'. Can you think what it would be? That's right, we say...

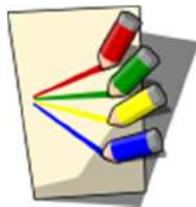


मैं हिन्दी सीखाऊँगी

main hindee seekhaaoongee

- I will teach Hindi (said by a female).

Finally (and this is the last example, I promise!) how do you think we'd say "They will write a story". The Hindi word for story is कहानी kahaanee. Thats right, we say...



वे कहानी लिखेंगे

ve kahaanee likhenge

- They will write a story.

Whew! Wow. Today's been a really long lesson so well done if you've read it all the way through. Congratulations, you now know how to speak about the future tense in Hindi! As a challenge I want you to try and write a few future tense sentences yourself!

The Future Form of होना honaa

Last time we started learning about the Future Tense in Hindi for example we learnt how to make sentences like...



मैं अखबार पढ़ूँगी *main akhbaar parhoongee*

- I will read the newspaper (said by a female)

Now in that lesson I mentioned that the verb होना honaa - 'to be' is irregular in the future tense so it doesn't follow the usual rules! So in today's lesson we're going to learn how to change this verb into the future tense!

Now let me show you a few examples first and then hopefully you'll get the idea - then we can see the rules in detail! So are you ready to get going? Let's start with something we know first...



मैं दुकान पर हूँ *main dukaan par hoon*

- I am at the shop

This is just as we learnt in [Lesson #22](#) yeah, it shouldn't be anything new! Now to change this to the future tense, that is to say "I will be at the shop" we actually say...

मैं दुकान पर हूँगा *main dukaan par hoongaa*

- I will be at the shop (said by a male)

So what's changed? Well look at the word at the end! This is where our new future form of *होना honaa* comes in! Right, one more example and then let's look at the rules in detail! So again we know how to say...



वह UK में है *voh UK men hai* - He is in the UK

Again this is just stuff we already know! So how do we change this to the future tense then? Well we actually say...

वह UK में होगा *voh UK men hogaa* - He will be in the UK

Can you see what's changed? That's right, we've just replaced *है hai*, with *होगा hogaa* which changes the meaning from "He is..." to "He will be...". Are you with me? Do you think you're ready to learn the proper rules and conjugations for the future form of *होना honaa* now then? Well here goes deep breathe...

The Masculine Forms:

मैं हूँगा *main hoongaa* I will be (by a male)

हम होंगे *ham honge* We will be

तू होगा *too hogaa* You will be (Very Informal)

आप होंगे *aap honge* You will be (Formal)

तुम होगे *tum hoge* You will be (Informal)

यह / वह होगा *yeh / voh hogaa* He / It will be

ये / वे होंगे *ye / ve honge* They will be

The Feminine Forms;

मैं हूँगी *main hoongee* I will be (by a female)

हम होंगी *ham hongee* We will be

तू होगी *too hogee* You will be (Very Informal)

आप होंगी *aap hongee* You will be (Formal)

तुम होगी *tum hogee* You will be (Informal)

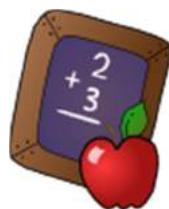
यह / वह होगी *yeh / voh hogee* She / It will be

ये / वे होंगी *ye / ve hongee* They will be

How was that? Read through it a few more times. Why not copy it out too, to make sure you remember it!

Now read back to our examples just above - can you see why we used the words that we did?

Great! Ready for just a few more examples? Here goes! In each case make sure you can understand the sentence and the conjugation we use!



वे स्कूल पर होंगे *ve skool par honge*

- They will be at school



क्या आप घर पर होंगी? *kyaa aap ghar par hongee?*

- Will you be at home? (To a female)

How was that? Does it all make sense? We're going to come back to this quite a few times more in future lessons, so it's important to learn it well!

Why not try writing your own sentences using "will be" and leave them in the comments below and i'll get back to you letting you know how well you've done!

What Time Is It? Part 1

Today we're going to focus on the phrase 'What time is it?'. This is a very important phrase to know! We'll also see how to reply with something like 'It's 10 o'clock'. This is very important to know because think about it, you'll never be able to make plans if you can't tell the time!

So are you ready to get straight into it? अच्छा acchaa - Great!



The phrase we'll be using is;

कितने बजे हैं?

kitne baje hain

- What time is it?

Do you know all the words here? Let's go through them quickly! कितने *kitne* means 'how much' or 'how many'. Next we have बजे *baje* which comes from the verb बजना *bajnaa* meaning to ring or to chime. Finally of course we have हैं *hain* - are. So literally we're asking 'How Many Rings?' or 'How Many Chimes?'.

Have you got it? कितने बजे हैं? *kitne baje hain* - What time is it?! So now obviously we need to learn how to reply to this! Now this is so easy I promise you! But before we carry on be sure to revise over the [Numbers in Hindi here](#).

To say One o'clock in Hindi we simply say एक बजा *ek bajaa* - One o'clock. So if someone asks you the time and it's One o'clock you'd say...



कितने बजे हैं? *kitne baje hain* - What time is it?

एक बजा है *ek bajaa hai* - It's one o'clock.

Can you see what we've done here? Now for any other hour we say that number and then बजे *baje*. Can you see the difference? For One o'clock it's एक बजा *ek bajaa* and for anything else it's that number then बजे *baje*! So for example we might say...



कितने बजे हैं? *kitne baje hain* - What time is it?

चार बजे हैं *caar baje hain* - It's four o'clock.

Are you following? It's a lot easier than you think hey! Ready for another example?



कितने बजे हैं? *kitne baje hain* - What time is it?

नौ बजे हैं *nau baje hain* - It's nine o'clock.

Have you got it mastered now? Great! Practice telling the time in Hindi whenever you can. Here's a tip; every time you go to say '*something o'clock*' in English, think and say what it would be Hindi.

What Time Is It? Part 2

Today we're going to learn some more about telling the time in Hindi, then at the end of the lesson we'll see some example sentences using the things we've learnt! Last time we learnt how to ask 'What time is it?' in Hindi. Can you remember what it was? That's right we say...



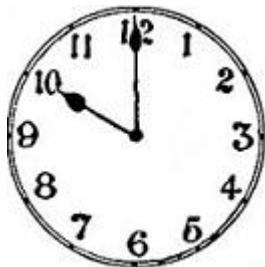
कितने बजे हैं? *kitne baje hain*

- What time is it?

Literally: How many bells?

Also last time we learnt how to reply with 'it's ___ o'clock'. Can you remember what we say?

It's easy! We just say, for example



दस बजे हैं *das baje hain* - It's ten o'clock.

That should just all be revision from [Lesson #57](#). Ready to learn something new? If you want to say 'It's half past ___' then we simply put the word सार्हे *saarhe* before the hour. For example we can say....



सार्हे चार बजे *saarhe caar baje*
Half Past 4



सार्हे नौ बजे *saarhe nau baje*
Half Past 9

But 'Half Past 1' and 'Half Past 2' do not follow this rule, they have their own special words in Hindi...



डेर्ह बजा *derh bajaa*
Half Past One



ढाई बजे *dhaaee baje*
Half Past Two

Now we can start building some simple sentences using what we know about telling the Time in Hindi! Ready?



मैं आठ बजे खाऊँगा

main aath baje khaaongaa

- I will eat at 8 o'clock.

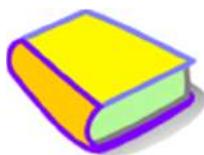
Can you see how easy it is? We just slap the time in the middle of the sentence and that's it, we don't need anything else! Ready for some other examples?



रोहित साढ़े दस बजे सो जाता है

rohit saarhe das baje so jaataa hai

- Rohit goes to sleep at half 10.



वे साढ़े सात बजे पढ़ते हैं

ve saarhe saat baje parhte hain

- They read at half past 7.

Do you get the idea? It's easy isn't it! Next time we'll learn how to say 'Quarter to' and 'Quarter past' in Hindi as well as seeing more complicated examples!

What Time Is It? Part 3

So far we've seen two lessons on telling the time in Hindi. Can you remember what we've covered? That's right, in [What Time is it? Part 1](#) we learnt the phrase कितने बजे हैं? *kitne baje hain* - What Time is it? We also learnt how to reply with 'It's ___ o'clock'! Then in [What Time is it? Part 2](#) we saw how to say 'It's half past ___' and we put together some sentences using what we've learnt! Be sure to revise over those lessons if you've forgotten anything.

Today we're going to carry on learning about how to tell the time in Hindi! So, let's not hang about are you ready to get straight into it? अच्छा *accha* - Great! To say 'quarter past' in Hindi we say, for example...



सवा ग्यारह बजे हैं *savaa gyaarah baje hain*

- It's quarter past eleven.

Can you see what we've done here? We simply put the word सवा *savaa* just before the number to mean 'quarter past'. Easy hey! Are you ready for another example?



If I asked you 'कितने बजे हैं? *kitne baje hain* - What Time is it?' and you saw this clock how would you reply? That's right, we use सवा *savaa* again! You'd say...

सवा एक बजा है *savaa ek bajaa hai*

- It's quarter past one.

Remember that because 'one o'clock' is singular we say एक बजा है *ek bajaa hai* - One o'clock.

Just adding सवा *savaa* before this changes it to quarter past! One more example and then we'll move on...



Can you figure it out this time? That's right, we say...

सवा नौ बजे हैं *savaa nau baje hain*

- It's quarter past nine.

Saying 'quarter to' in Hindi is just as easy, we say, for example...



पाँने एक बजा है *paune ek bajaa hai*

- It's quarter to one.

Can you see what we've done here? This time we use the word पाँने *paune* to mean 'quarter to' and again it's sits just before the number. Can you see how easy it is? Ready for another example?



पाँने छः बजे हैं *paune chah baje hain*

- It's quarter to six.

Again we use पौने *paune* to mean 'quarter to'. Ok let's do one more example together and then it's over to you to test your understanding!



पौने चार बजे हैं *paune caar baje hain*

- It's quarter to four.

Have you got it now? Great! So you now know how to say quarter past, सवा *savaa*, and quarter to, पौने *paune*, in Hindi!

Just to check your understanding for today can you answer to following two questions? Leave a comment below if you want, but it should be super easy for you anyway! If you need to revise over the Hindi numbers then feel free to head to the [Numbers section](#).



1. कितने बजे हैं? *kitne baje hain?*



2. कितने बजे हैं? *kitne baje hain?*

Leave a comment below if you want me to check your answers or if you have any questions at all! A great way to practice what we've learnt today and in previous lessons on telling the time in Hindi is to say the time (in Hindi obviously) to yourself every time you see a clock. Try it, you'll be amazed at how quickly it sinks in!

Where Do You Live?



Today we're going to learn how to ask the question 'Where do you live?' in Hindi and see several example responses. This, along with all the other phrases we're learning in the [Conversational Hindi](#) section, is going to mean that you have another thing to talk about whenever meeting someone in India!

The question is different when directed to males and females, so here it is:

When asking a **male**

आप कहाँ रहते हैं? *aap kahaan rahte hain*

- Where do you live?

And when asking a **female**

आप कहाँ रहती हैं? *aap kahaan rahtee hain*

- Where do you live?

We've seen some of these words many times already; आप *aap* - you, कहाँ *kahaan* - where, and then we have रहते / ती *rahte / tee*, simply the Present Tense form of the verb रहना *rahnaa* - to live / to stay.

Let's see some examples using this question; (We learnt the names of some countries in earlier!)

मैं लंदन में रहता हूँ *main landan men rahtaa hoon* - I live in London (Male).

हम दिल्ली में रहते हैं *ham dillee men rahte hain* - We live in Delhi.

क्या आप मुंबई में रहती हैं? *kyaa aap mumbaee men rahtee hain*

- Do you live in Mumbai? (Asking a female)

जी हाँ, मैं मुंबई में रहती हूँ *jee haan, main mumbaee men rahtee hoon*

- Yes (polite), I live in Mumbai (female).

गीता कहाँ रहती है? *geetaa kahaan rahtee hai* - Where does Gita live?

वह जयपुर में रहती है *voh jaypur men rahtee hai* - She lives in Jaipur.

Pronouns in the Oblique Case

Can you recall what the Oblique Case of a noun is in Hindi? Remember, it's the special case for nouns that we must use when we are using a postposition. Postpositions are words like on, in, to etc and we covered them in earlier.

In the Oblique case lesson we learnt how we change nouns into this Oblique Case, लड़के *larke*

- boys, for example, becomes लड़कों *larkon* in the oblique. So we would say; लड़कों को *larkon ko* - to the boys.

Today we're going to begin to learn how to use Pronouns in the oblique case. This is going to be really important for us because many common sentence structures use the pronoun in the oblique case! You don't really need to memorise these just yet, but try and familiarise yourself with them, so that you are ready for when we start using them in the next few lessons. Anyway here goes:

First Person Singular

मुझ *mujh* is the oblique form of मैं *main* - I

First Person Plural

हम *ham* - we, remains the same in the oblique.

Second Person Singular

तुझ *tujh* is the oblique form of तू *too* - You (Very Informal)

Second Person Plural

तुम *tum* - You (Informal), remains the same in the oblique.

आप *aap* You (Formal), remains the same in the oblique.

Third Person Singular

इस *is* is the oblique form of यह *yeh* - He / She / It / That (Close)

उस *us* is the oblique form of वह *voh* - He / She / It / That (Far)

Third Person Plural

इन *in* is the oblique form of ये *ye* - They / Those (Close)

उन *un* is the oblique form of वे *ve* - They / Those (Far)

Do you recognise these last four, the third person oblique pronouns, from anywhere? Yeah that's right, we saw them in [Lesson #37 Possessive Pronouns](#) where they were combine with का *kaa*, the postposition that shows possession.

It might seem a bit pointless learning this new oblique form of these pronouns without any examples, but don't worry I will be showing you a whole load of examples and uses in the next few lessons, you'll see how important they are and how they really expand your Hindi knowledge!

न *na* - Isn't it?

Today we're going to learn all about just one tiny but powerful Hindi word. The word is न *na*.

Can you say it? न *na*! Great. This word is very popular and it's used all the time so it's very important to know it.

So what does न *na* mean? Well it's a little tricky to put into a single English word actually but न *na* roughly translates as something like 'isn't it?' or, 'isn't that so', 'right?', 'yeah?', etc. We use न *na* at the end of sentence if we're not completely sure about something but you think it's probably true. It's a little hard to example so let me just show you some examples and I'm sure you'll get the hang of it! Are you ready to go then?



आपका नाम रीना है, न? *aapkaa naam reenaa hai na?*

- You're name is Reena isn't it?

Suppose you knew that this person's name was Reena but you hadn't actually met them, this would be a good thing to say! Another example is...



संजीव होशियार है, न? *sanjeev hoshiyaar hai na?*

- Sanjeev is clever, right?

In case you haven't figured it out the word होशियार *hoshiyaar* means Clever! So here it's like we kind of know Sanjeev is clever but we're not 100% sure of it, so we add न *na!* Do you understand? Ready to keep going?



नौ बजे है न? *nau baje hai na* - It's Nine o'clock yeah?

Here we've used what we learnt in [Lesson #57](#). You'd say this if you thought but you weren't completely sure!

One thing to notice is the difference between a question starting with क्या *kyaa* and a sentence ending with न *na*. They can be quite confusing! Have a look at the two following sentences...



क्या तुम अपने घर पर हो? *kyaa tum apne ghar par ho?*

- Are you at your house?

तुम अपने घर पर हो, न? *tum apne ghar par ho na?*

- You are at your house, right?

Can you see the difference between the two above sentences? Let me explain it, in the first sentence we really don't know if they are home or not, we're asking 'Are you at your house?', we don't know where they are! But in the second sentence we have some reason to think they might be at home so we are asking 'You're at your house right?'. Can you see the small difference? Great!

पसंद *pasand* - Likes and Dislikes

Whenever you are having a conversation in Hindi one thing you're always going to be saying are sentences of the form 'I like this' or 'someone doesn't like that'. Today we're going to learn how to create these!

The key word we'll be using is पसंद *pasand* - which translates to English as 'like' (or sometimes 'pleasing'). So how do we use it? Well, let me show you a simple example first;



मुझको हिन्दी पसंद है

mujhko hinddee pasand hai

- I like Hindi

But, you might be thinking, isn't the word for I in Hindi मैं *main*? Yes this is true, but when using पसंद *pasand* we put the pronoun in the oblique case (Remember we learnt how to do this in [Lesson #61](#)) because it is followed by the postposition को *ko* meaning 'to'. So this sentence above literally translates as; 'to me hindi pleasing is'.

Let's see some more examples;



अनिता को बिल्लियाँ पसंद हैं

anitaa ko billiyaan pasand hain

- Anita likes Cats.

Notice how we use the plural हैं *hain* here, this is because when using पसंद *pasand* the verb agrees with the **object** of the sentence and not the subject. In this case the object is 'cats' so we use the plural हैं *hain*.



क्या उसको बतख पसंद हैं?

kyaa usko batakh pasand hain?

- Does she likes Ducks?

हाँ, उसको पसंद है

haan usko pasand hai

- Yes, she does.



हमको भारत बहुत पसंद है

hamko bhaarat bahut pasand hai

- We like India very much (or We love India).

To turn this into the negative, ie to show dislikes, you simply put नहीं *naheen* before the है *hai* or हैं *hain*. For example:



अनु को पढ़ना पसंद नहीं है

anu ko parhnaa pasand naheen hai

- Anu doesn't like to study.



मुझको गाना पसंद नहीं है

mujhko gaanaa pasand naheen hai

- I don't like to sing.

Hopefully you now know and understand how to compose sentences showing likes and dislikes. Remember, the pronoun (or subject) goes into the Oblique case, it is followed by the postposition को *ko* and the verb agrees with the object.

Practice these sentences by creating writing a small paragraph talking about your own likes and dislikes and some of your friend's likes and dislikes.

सकना *saknaa* - To Be Able To

Today we're going to be covering just one word, and that's the verb - सकना *saknaa*, which translates as 'to be able to', or more often 'can'. By the end of this lesson you should be able to construct and understand sentences of the form 'I can...', 'Can you...?' etc.



Creating sentences using सकना *saknaa* is really easy; all you do is put सकना *saknaa* in it's correctly conjugated form after the root of the verb you would usually use. Remember the root of a verb is just it's infinitive form minus the ना *naa* at the end.

Let's see an example in detail. We already know how to say;



सीमा हिन्दी बोलती है *seemaa hindee boltee hai*

- Seema speaks Hindi

The verb in this sentence is बोलना *bolnaa* - to speak and we're using the [Present Tense](#) feminine form which adds ती *tee* to the verb root, giving us बोलती *boltee*. So to say 'Seema can speak Hindi' we use the root of the verb - बोल *bol* and then सकती *saktee* - the present tense feminine form of सकना *saknaa*. So we have;

सीमा हिन्दी बोल सकती है

seemaa hindee bol saktee hai

- Seema can speak Hindi

Do you understand the changes and steps here? If not, read through the explanation a few more times!

One of the uses of this is the all important question, 'Can you speak English?'. Have a think to yourself about how you would create this sentence.



क्या आप अंग्रेज़ी बोल सकते हैं?

kyaa aap angrezee bol sakte hain

- Can you speak English?

Did you get it right? See that's how easy it is! Now let's see some more examples...



मैं चीनी लिख सकता हूँ

main ceenee likh saktaa hoon

- I can write Chinese (said by a male)



क्या कल तुम जा सकते हो?

kyaa kal tum jaa sakte ho

- Can you go tomorrow?

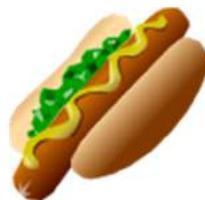
When we want to use the negative नहीं *naheen*, it appears before the verb root and the auxiliary (है *hai*, हैं *hain*, हूँ *hoon* etc) can be dropped:



मैं नहीं तैर सकता

main naheen tair saktaa

- I can't swim (said by a male).



क्या मैं यह खा सकती हूँ?

kyaa main yeh khaa saktee hoon

- Can I eat this? (said by a female)

नहीं, तुम वह नहीं खा सकती

naheen, tum voh naheen khaa saktee

No, you can't eat that.

I hope you are now confident with using the word सकना *saknaa* in sentences! We'll see many more examples and more complex sentences as time goes on. Practice writing your own examples to help you remember it.

कितना *kitnaa* - How Much, How Many?

In Hindi the word for 'how much?' or 'how many?' is कितना *kitnaa* and today we're going to learn how to use this word and, of course, we'll see many examples of it in real life sentences.

Just like many Hindi words we've learnt so far, कितना *kitnaa* changes to agree with the noun, we use कितना *kitnaa* for singular masculine, कितने *kitne* for plural masculine and कितनी *kitnee* for feminine.

Notice that in English we use 'How Much?' for non-countable nouns (ie nouns that don't have plurals) and 'how many?' for countable ones. We say 'How much water?' and 'How many dogs' because 'dog' is countable but 'water' is not. The same is true for Hindi. So let's see some examples...



कितने कुत्ते हैं? *kitne kutte hain?*

- How many dogs?

We use कितने *kitne* here because it agrees with the plural masculine कुत्ते *kutte* - dogs.



कितनी किताबें हैं? *kitnee kitaaben hain?*

- How many books?

ग्यारह किताबें हैं *gyaarah kitaaben hain*

- Eleven books.

And here कितनी *kitnee* is used to agree with the feminine किताबें *kitaaben* - Books.



कितना दूध है? *kitnaa doodh hai?*

-How much milk?

आपने कितना दूध पिया?

aapne kitnaa doodh piyaa?

- How much milk did you drink?

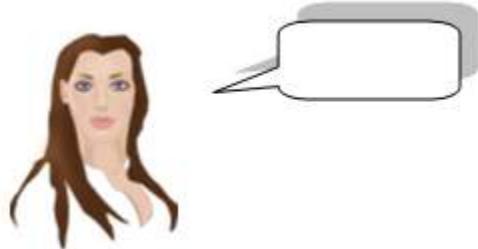
This sentences uses the past tense, which is quite advance. You can learn about thi in the Intermediate section! Now let's see some more examples:



तुम्हारे घर में कितने कमरे हैं?

tumhaare ghar men kitne kamare hain?

- How many rooms are there in your house?



निधी कितनी भाषाएँ बोल सकती है?

nidhee kitnee bhaashaaen bol saktee hai?

- How many languages can Nidhi speak?

This uses the word सकती *saktee*, it means “can” and we learnt about in [Lesson #64](#).



कितने बजे हैं? *kitne baje hain?*

- What time is it?

Literally How many bells? or How many chimes? Remember we learnt this phrases, with the response ‘it’s __ o’clock’, in [Lesson #57](#).

Do you think you now know and understand how to use the word कितना *kitnaa*? Practice writing out your own questions and then for even more extra practice try writing out their answers too!

Practise with Adjectives

A while ago we learnt about Adjectives in Hindi. Adjectives are ‘describing words’ I admit that and they can be quite difficult to use correctly since adjectives in Hindi always have to agree with the noun they describe! Today we’re going to see a whole load of examples of adjectives in sentences starting from the most basic and working our way up to more complicated examples.

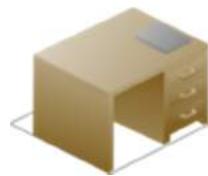
We'll first make sentences using the feminine noun किताब *kitaab* - book, then we'll use the masculine noun पलंग *palang* - Bed and then finally we'll use the feminine noun मछली *machlee* - fish. Hopefully you should see and understand how the sentences build up!



यह किताब मोटी है और... वह किताब पतली है

yeh kitaab motee hai aur... voh kitaab patlee hai

This book is fat and... that book is thin.



पतली किताब मेज पर है

patlee kitaab mez par hai

- The thin book is on the desk.

Are you ready for a even more complex sentence? Here goes

मैं अपनी मोटी हरी किताब मेज पर पढ़ रहा हूँ।

main apnee motee haree kitaab mez par parh raha hoon.

I am reading my fat green book on (or at) the desk.

(Said by a male, a female would say रही *rahee* instead of रहा *rahaa*).

Now for our next example we're going to look at the word पलंग *palang* - Bed



यह पलंग छोटा है और... वह पलंग लंबा है

yeh palang chotaa hai aur.... voh palang lambaa hai.

This bed is small and... that bed is big.

वह अपने लाल छोटे पलंग में सोती है

voh apne laal chote palang men soteet hai

- She sleeps in her own red small bed.

Notice here how we must use the oblique case of the adjectives - छोटा पलंग *chotaa palang*

- "the small bed" changes to छोटे पलंग में *chote palang men* - "in the small bed". Can you see the difference? Ready for the last example?



यह मछली नीली है और... वह मछली पीली है

yeh machlee neelee hai aur.... voh machlee peelee hai

This fish is blue and.... That fish is yellow.



नीली मछली नदी में है

neelee machlee nadee men hai

- The blue fish is in the river.

And finally one mega complex sentence...

तीन नीली मछलियाँ ठंडी नदी में तैरती हैं

teen neelee machliyaan thandee nadee men tairtee hain

Three blue fish swim in the cold river.

We've seen a lot of complicated examples in the lesson, so don't be put off if it seems difficult to you. Try and read through each example several times so that you can understand the grammar rules. Try creating your own complicated sentences in Hindi full of descriptive adjectives!

Was And Were

We've covered quite a lot about verbs and tenses in Hindi so far and we quickly revised over last time in [Lesson #68](#). Today we're going to begin to learn about the Past Tense in Hindi. Now although the past tense can be quite complex and difficult in Hindi I'm going to break it down into easy short sections and you'll pick it up in no time!

Back in [Lesson #22](#) we learnt the words; am - हूँ *hoon*, is - है *hai* and are - हैं *hain* and you should be quite familiar with these by now. For example we could ask the question;



आप कहाँ हैं? *aap kahaan hain?*

- Where are you?

Now to change this into the past tense in English we simply replace 'are' with 'were'; Where were you? And we do exactly the same in Hindi:

आप कहाँ थे? *aap kahaan the?*

- Where were you?



मैं घर पर था

main ghar par thaa

- I was at home (said by a male)

We already know how to say मैं घर पर हूँ *main ghar par hoon* - I am at home, so all we've done here is replace हूँ *hoon* - am with था *thaa* - was.

Now let's have a look in a bit more detail. Like most words in Hindi the ending changes for gender and singular or plural:

था *thaa* - was - for Singular Masculine

थे *the* - were - for Plural Masculine

थी *thee* - was - for Singular Feminine

थीं *theen* - were - for Plural Feminine

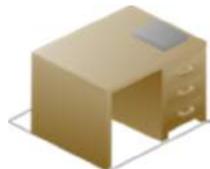
Note - the word थे the is **not** pronounced like the English word 'the'. Head back to letters section if you are confused about this. So now let's see some examples!



ये यहाँ थे ye yahaan the

- They were here (a group of all males or mixed gender)

We use थे the here to agree with Plural Masculine group. You with me? Let's look at another example



किताब मेज पर थी

kitaab mez par thee

- The book was on the table

This time we use थी thee here because agrees with the feminine word किताब kitaab book.

Yeah god it?



ओबामा भारत में थे

obaamaa bhaarat men the

- Obama was in India.

Notice here how for respect we use थे the treating Obama as plural. Ok one last example, here goes...



संगीता बीमार थी

sangeetaa beemaar thee

- Sangita was ill.

Do you think you've understood it? Excellent! Please remember to ask any questions in the comments section below if you are confused.

The Past Continuous Tense



The past tense is super important if you want to talk about things that have already happened!

Today we're going to expand on this and we're going to learn how to say sentences like 'I was reading' or 'She was walking'. This is what's known as the Past Continuous Tense and it's actually really easy so this is going to be quite a short lesson!

Do you remember The Present Continuous Tense? Well the Past Continuous works exactly the same, just we use our newly learnt words for was and were. So from before we already know how to say...



मैं चल रहा हूँ *main cal raha hoon*

- I am walking (said by a male)

Remember च *ca* is pronounce 'ch' as in church! So to changing this into the Past Continuous Tense we have...

मैं चल रहा था *main cal raha tha*

- I was walking (said by a male).

Can you see the difference? All we've done is replaced the हूँ *hoon* - am with था *tha* - was.

We use था *tha* here because it's singular (just one person) and Masculine (it's said by a male). That's how easy it is! Let's see some more examples;



यह समोसे खा रही थी *yeh samose khaa rahee thee*

- She was eating samosas.

This time we're using थी *thee* because the subject is singular and Feminine. Got it? Let's keep going..



अनिल सो रहा था *anil so raha tha*

- Anil was sleeping.



हम किताबें पढ़ रहे थे *ham kitaaben parh rahe the*

- We were reading books

Now in spoken casual language the रहा *rahaa* is often missed out just to make it easier to say. So, for example, when you hear the sentence मैं चल रहा था *main cal raha tha* - I was walking, you might hear something that sounds more like '*main cal ra tha*'. Ready for a few more examples?



तुम क्या कर रहे थे? *tum kyaa kar rahe the?*

- What were you doing?



आप कहाँ जा रही थीं? *aap kahaan jaa rahee theen?*

- Where were you going? (Said to a female).

Comparing Adjectives

We've covered quite a lot about adjectives in Hindi so far, so you should be kind of familiar with them by now. If you can't remember or you want some revise then have a quick read of [Lesson #44](#) and [Lesson #67](#).

For example we could say, मैं लम्बा हूँ *main lambaa hoon* - I am tall (said by a male). But what if you wanted to say 'I am taller than you' or 'I am the tallest'? Well that's what we're going to cover today!

In the picture below we have a very short man and quite a tall woman. So just to revise what we know already, the man would say...



मैं बहुत छोटा हूँ *main bahut chotaa hoon*

- I am very short (said by a male)

And the woman would say..

मैं काफी लम्बी हूँ *main kaafee lambee hoon*

- I am quite tall (said by a female)

That's quite straight forward, yeah? Ready for the new stuff? If the man wanted to say 'I am shorter than you' then he would say:

मैं तुम से छोटा हूँ *main tum se chotaa hoon*

- I am shorter than you (said by a male).

And if the woman wanted to say 'I am taller than you', she would say;

मैं तुम से लम्बी हूँ *main tum se lambee hoon*

- I am taller than you (said by a female).

Can you see what we've done? All we do is add तुम से *tum se* into the sentence, which is just the words तुम *tum* - You and से *se* - a [Postposition](#) meaning 'from'. Don't worry too much about the literal meaning.

Ready for another example? Here we have a skinny woman and a really big fat man. He's actually so fat the woman is feeding him cake! Can we imagine what the man and the woman would say?



मैं तुम से मोटा हूँ *main tum se motaa hoon*

- I am fatter than you (said by a male).

मैं तुम से पतली हूँ *main tum se patlee hoon*

- I am slimmer than you (said by a female).

Now suppose we give our big fat man the name राज Raj and our skinny woman the name दीपल Deepal. Saying 'Raj is fatter than Deepal' works in exactly the same way;

राज दीपल से मोटा है *raaj deepal se motaa hai*

- Raj is fatter than Deepal.

In fact राज Raj is actually so fat we might even want to say 'Raj is the fattest'! How do we do this? Well, saying 'Raj is the fattest' is really the same as saying 'Raj is fatter than everyone' and that's what we say in Hindi. The word for everyone or everything is सब sab, so we say...



राज सब से मोटा है *raaj sab se motaa hai*

- Raj is the fattest (fatter than everyone!)

You got it? And if we found the most beautiful flower in the world we could say;



ये फूल सब से सुन्दर हैं *ye phool sab se sundar hain*

- These flower are the most beautiful

(beautiful-est, beautiful-er than everything)

And finally this really tall business man could say...



मैं सब से लम्बा हूँ *main sab se lambaa hoon*

- I am the tallest (said by a male).

Phew! Hows that? Try practicing by writing your own sentences. Oh, and a word of advise; don't say 'You are the fattest' to someone unless you want a slap!

Imperatives Part 1 आप *aap*

Verbs seem to be quite a recurring theme in this book, don't they? Well, this is simply because verbs are the fundamental ingredient of grammar and that means you really need to know them well if you want to make your own sentences.



Today we'll learn how to tell people to do things, but try not get this angry!

In today's lesson we're going to begin to learn how to use verbs in their imperative form. Before you dig through your old English school books, let me tell you that the imperative form of a verb is the verb when used as a command or request. For example it would be something like 'please come here' or 'eat your food!'. Can you see we're using the verb as a request, we're telling someone to do something.

Do you remember the three words for 'you' in Hindi? We have आप *aap*, तुम *tum* and तू *too*.

We saw these all the way back in [Lesson #15](#). Let's recap them quickly:

आप *aap* - For formal situations, when talking to someone older or to so show respect.

तुम *tum* - For friends or colleagues (the most common).

तू *too* - For intimate situations or talking to young children.

Now you might be asking 'why is he going over this now?'. Well, that's because the imperative form of a verb changes depending on what version of 'you' you would use! Sound confusing? Trust me, it's not. It's no different to how in English we'd say 'Please eat' in a formal situation, 'eat' in a less formal one and 'eat now!' when yelling at your child to eat their vegetables (not that I encourage yelling).

Are you ready to learn about Hindi Imperatives then? Today we'll cover आप *aap* and the others will follow very soon!

Imperatives in Hindi work by adding something, ie some extra letters, to the verb root (which we remember is the infinitive form minus the ना *naa* at the end). As mentioned above what's added depends on what form of 'you' we would use.

For आप *aap* you simply add इए *ie* to the verb root. Let's see some examples. The verb खाना *khaanaa* - to eat becomes खाइए *khaaie* - Please eat



सेब को खाइए *seb ko khaaie*

- Please eat the apple.

And the verb लिखना *likhnaa* - to write becomes लिखिए *likhie* - Please write.



मेरा नाम लिखिए *meraa naam likhie*

- Please write my name.



सुनना *sunnaa* - to listen becomes सनिए *sunie* - Please listen.

This is great to know because it can be used like 'excuse me' is in English when you want to get someone's attention.

Note that the Hindi word for 'please' कृपया *kripayaa* is not needed! Please is implied by using the आप *aap* form of the imperative: लिखिए *likhie* means 'Please write' and you do **not** need to say कृपया लिखिए *kripayaa likhie*.

Four common verbs are **irregular** in this form! They don't follow the usual इए rule. These are

करना *karna* - to do which becomes कीजिए *keejie* - Please do

लेना *lenaa* - to take which becomes लीजिए *leejie* - Please take

देना *denaa* - to give which becomes दीजिए *deejie* - Please give

पीना *peenaa* - to drink which becomes पीजिए *peejje* - Please drink

For example...



कुछ पानी पीजिए *kuch paanee peejje*

- Please drink some water

So that's one of three forms down!

Imperatives Part 2 तुम *tum*

What did we learn last time then? Can you remember? We saw that Imperatives in Hindi follow the different words for 'you', आप *aap*, तुम *tum* and तू *too*. Have a look at [Lesson #75](#) again if you're unsure of their differences. We learnt the Imperative for आप *aap*. Can you remember what it was? That's right, we simply add इए *ie* to the verb root, for example; लिखिए *likhie* - Please write.

Today we're going to learn the तुम *tum* imperative in Hindi and trust me, it's super easy.



The तुम *tum* imperative is best used when talking with friends and colleagues. It may be considered slightly rude if used to strangers or to people older than you.

So for the तुम *tum* imperative you simply add ओ *o* to the verb root. And that's it. That is everything we need to learn today! Ready for some examples? The verb बैठना *baithnaa* - To Sit becomes बैठो *baitho*- Sit.



यहाँ बैठो *yahaan baitho* - Sit here.

Can you follow that example? For another example we might use the verb लाना *laanaa* - To Bring, it becomes लाओ *laao* - Bring



वे गंदे कपड़े लाओ *ve gande kapre laao*

- Bring those dirty clothes.

Are you understanding? Ready for some more examples?



खाना *khaanaa* - To Eat becomes खाओ *khao* - Eat, and आना *aanaa* - To Come becomes आओ *aao* - Come. So putting these together we can say...

आओ, अच्छे फल को खाओ

aao, acche phal ko khao

- Come, eat the tasty (good) fruit.

As expected there's a few irregular verbs. But don't worry there's not many! The irregular verbs are...

पीना *peenaa* - To Drink which becomes पियो *piyo* - Drink

लेना *lenaa* - To Take which becomes लो *lo* - Take

देना *denaa* - To Give which becomes दो *do* - Give



दूध को लो, चाय पियो

doodh ko lo, caay piyo

- Take the milk and drink tea!

You now know how to form Imperatives for both आप *aap*. and तुम *tum*! Practice by making your own sentences! Next time we'll look at the final imperative, the तू *too* one!

Imperatives Part 3: तू *too*



This lesson has a **very big and important warning label!** As you probably know the Hindi word तू *too* is only ever used in very intimate situations, otherwise it is considered **very** disrespectful and rude. The same applies with the तू *too* imperative, if you use this form of the imperative to someone they will most likely find it rude, blunt and disrespectful and there's a good chance you'll get a slap around the face!

So how do we form the तू *too* imperative?

This is probably the easiest imperative of them all, we simply use the verb root itself, so we *don't* add anything at all. Remember the verb root is just the infinitive form of a verb without the ना *naa* at the end. So for example खाना *khaanaa* - To Eat becomes खा *khaa* - Eat! Remember this is very blunt, as if a mother is angry and shouting at her child to eat his fruit!



इन अंगूर को खा *in aangoor ko khaa*

- Eat these grapes!



जाना *jaanaa* - To Go becomes जा *jaa* - Go!

अभी तू जा *abhee too jaa* - You go right now!

This would be considered almost swearing if you said it to someone who you weren't very close to. Basically, I don't ever want to hear you saying it!



साफ़ करना *saaf karnaa* - To Clean becomes साफ़ कर *saaf kar* - Clean!

Imagine a very angry parent walking into their young child's bedroom and seeing mess absolutely everywhere, then you might hear साफ़ कर *saaf kar* - Clean! being shouted.

That's it for today! But please take my warning very seriously guys, using the तू *too* imperative is **incredibly** blunt, rude and disrespectful, especially to anyone older than you. [Next time](#) we look at imperatives we'll learn how to say 'Don't' like saying 'Please don't eat here' or 'Dont take that' and we'll see many more examples.

Imperatives Part 4: Don't

Can you remember what Imperatives are? That's right, it's when we use a verb as an instruction or a command to basically tell someone to do something. And can you remember how we form these in Hindi? We actually have three different ways of doing it, one for each of the ways of saying 'You' - आप *aap*, तुम *tum* and तू *too*. So for example, using the verb खाना *khaanaa* - To eat, we'd say...



खाइए *khaiae* - Please eat, or खाओ *khaao* - Eat, or खा *khaa* - Eat!

This should just be revision, but if you're confused about this, or the about differences between the three words above, then be sure to read back over [Lesson #75: Imperatives Part 1](#), [Lesson #77: Imperatives Part 2](#) and [Lesson #80 Imperatives Part 3](#).

Today we're going to learn how to turn these Imperatives into the negative case. This is just adding the word 'don't'! So we'll learn how to say something like 'Don't do that', 'Don't go', 'Don't bring food' etc. So are you ready to get straight into it? अच्छा *acchaa* - great!

All you need to know is that we use the word न *na* to mean 'Don't' for the आप *aap* case and the word मत *mat* to mean 'Don't' for the तुम *tum* and तू *too* cases. Both these words usually go just behind the verb. And that's all you need to know really! How easy is that hey? Let me show you some examples...



शब्दकोश को न पढ़िए

shabdkosh ko na parhie

- Please don't read the dictionary

Can you see what we've done here? We've used the verb पढ़ना *parhnaa* in the आप *aap* imperative to give us पढ़िए *parhie* - Please read. Adding the न *na* just behind changes it to 'Please don't read'.

Here we also use the Postposition को *ko* to show that we are talking about a specific dictionary rather than just dictionaries in general! Did you follow that? Ready for another example?



प्रेम को अखबार मत दो *prem ko akhbaar mat do*

- Don't give the newspaper to Prem

This time we've just used मत दो *mat do* to mean 'Don't give'. (Remember that in the तुम *tum* case देना *denaa* is irregular and becomes दो *do*) Can you see how easy this is?



मेज पर मत बैठ *mez par mat baith*

- Don't sit on the table!

Here we're using the verb बैठना *baithnaa* in the most informal तू *too* case. Imagine a Mother shouting at her child to get off from the table! Ready for some more examples?



दरवाजे को न बन्द कीजिए

darvaaze ko na band keeje

- Please don't close the door

The word बन्द *band* means 'closed', and so बन्द करना *band karnaa* means 'to close'.

(Remember here that the verb करना *karnaa* is Irregular in the आप *aap* imperative - we say कीजिए *keeje*).



मेरा पानी मत पियो

meraa paanee mat piyo

- Don't drink my water

Remember that पीना *peenaa* - To drink becomes पियो *piyo* in the तुम *tum* imperative!



मत दौड़mat daur - Don't run!



मत बोल *mat bol* - Don't speak!

Can you follow each of the examples above? Make sure you can spot which form of the Imperative we are using each time! Be sure to ask me in a comment below if you have any questions. Are you ready for a few more final examples for today?



मेरे घर में सिगरेट न पीजिए

mere ghar men sigaret na peejie

- Please don't smoke in my house

In Hindi we literally say सिगरेट पीना *sigaret peenaa* - 'To drink a cigarette' to mean 'To smoke a cigarette'. Weird hey!



अभी दुकान मत जाओ

abhee dukaan mat jao

- Don't go to the shop now

Wow ok! That's it for now. How's that been? Can you follow each of the sentences? Have you got any questions? Leave a comment just below and let me know. Try and make so of your own sentences like this!

How's The Weather?

Today we're going to simply look at the phrase मौसम कैसा है? *mausam kaisaa hai* - this means 'What's the Weather like?' or 'Hows the Weather?' and of course we're going to learn some common replies. This is another great conversation starter when you're having real life conversations in Hindi!



Do you know the meaning of all the words in मौसम कैसा है? *mausam kaisaa hai*? We have seen most of them before! मौसम *mausam* - this means 'Weather' and is a Masculine noun. कैसा *kaisaa* - this means 'like what' or 'how'. We saw this word a long time ago in [Lesson #17](#) when we learnt आप कैसे हैं? *aap kaise hain* - How are you? है - *hai* You should be really familiar with this word by now! It simply means 'is'.

Obviously we're going to want to reply to someone when they say to us मौसम कैसा है? *mausam kaisaa hai* - 'Hows the Weather?', so are you ready to learn some common replies?



मौसम अच्छा है *mausam acchaa hai*

- The Weather is good,

धूप है *dhoop hai*

- It's sunny.



मौसम खराब है *mausam kharaab hai*

- The Weather is bad

बारिश हो रही है *baarish ho rahee hai*

- It's raining.



बहुत गरम है *bahut garam hai*

- It's very hot



बर्फ पड़ रही है *barf par rahee hai*

- It's snowing.



तेज हवा है *tej havaa hai*

- It's windy.

Hopefully you now know how to talk about the weather in Hindi! Practice this by making a sentence for the weather where you are each day!

चाहिए *caahie* - To Want/Need

In today's lesson we're just going to cover one very simple Hindi word. How easy does that sound? The word is (quite unsurprisingly!) चाहिए *caahie* and it's used to show that someone 'wants' or 'needs' something. To make our lives a whole lot easier we're going to recap something first...

Can you remember right back to [Lesson #63](#) where we learnt how to talk about Likes and Dislikes in Hindi? How would we say 'I like tea' in Hindi? That's right, we say...



मुझको चाय पसंद है *mujhko caay pasand hai*

- I like tea.

Hopefully now you remember that we use this different sentence structure, we use the [Oblique Form](#) of the pronoun with the [Postposition](#) को *ko* to mean 'to me'. So in this sentence we are literally saying "To me tea is liked (pleasing)".

Why have I brought this up now? Well saying 'I want tea' in Hindi is *very* similar to saying 'I like tea'! We actually say...

मुझको चाय चाहिए *mujhko caay caahie*

- I want tea

Literally 'to me tea is wanted / needed'. Can you see the similarities and differences here?

Note first that when using चाहिए *caahie* we **don't** use हूँ *hoon*, है *hai*, हैं *hain* etc.

Think you've understood? Ready for another example?



हमको फल चाहिए *hamko phal caahie*

- We want fruit

Can you see how easy this is? There's nothing difficult here at all! So do you want to see some more examples?



उसको क्या चाहिए *usko kyaa caahie*

- What does he want? (Or she!)

उसको दूध चाहिए *usko doodh caahie*

- He wants milk



क्या तुमको चावल चाहिए?

kyaa tumko caaval caahie

- Do you want Rice?



नजमा को किताबें चाहिए थीं

najma ko kitaaben caahie theen

- Najma needed books

(Literally this is 'To Najma books were wanted / needed'). Here we've changed need / want to the Past Tense needed / wanted by adding थीं *theen* - 'were' to the end. We use थीं *theen* because it agrees with the **Feminine Plural** word किताबें *kitaaben* - books.



मेरे भाई को केला चाहिए था

mere bhaaee ko kelaas caahie tha

- My brother wanted a banana.

And here we use था *tha* to agree with the **Masculine Singular** word केला *kela* - Banana.

Do you think you've understood this? It's been quite an easy and straight forward lesson don't you think? Hopefully now you know how to use the Hindi word चाहिए *caahie*!

Answering The Telephone

Today we're going to have a nice easy relaxing lesson after having a quite few difficult lessons recently! We're going to learn how to answer a telephone in Hindi. Why does this matter? Well, you want to be polite when you answer the phone because you never know who's calling!



So your phone's ringing, you pick it up. What's the first thing you'd say in English? Hello! And believe it or not, that's what we say in Hindi too: you pick up the phone and say - हैलो *hailo*!

We don't usually say नमस्ते *namaste* as you answer the phone which might seem a bit odd!



The word कौन *kaun* means 'who' in Hindi!

So after you've said hello you probably want to know who it is that's called right? And that's what we do! We usually ask आप कौन बोल रहे हैं? *aap kaun bol rahe hain* - and this means 'Who is speaking?' and it's very polite.

Then the person that's called you will hopefully say something like मैं राजुल हूँ *main raajul hoon* - I am Rajul. You'll probably then realise who is it and you can get straight into your conversation about the Cricket or the latest Bollywood Gossip or the financial policy of Sweden in the 1940s, whatever it is you talk about!

Ok so you've finished chatting, the conversation is over. How do you end the call? It's most common and polite to end with बाय बाय *baay baay* - Bye Bye!

Got it? Let's go through it again, it's easy! Answer the phone with हैलो, आप कौन बोल रहे हैं? *hailo, aap kaun bol rahe hain* - Hello, who is speaking? Have your conversation (whatever that is) then end with बाय बाय *baay baay* - Bye Bye!

More Replies to How Are You

We learnt how to ask 'How Are You?' in Hindi a long, long time ago, right the way back in [Lesson #17](#). Can you remember it? That's right we say आप कैसे हैं? *aap kaise hain?* to a male and आप कैसी हैं? *aap kaisee hain?* to a female.

But, you must admit, it gets a little bit boring always replying with मैं ठीक हूँ *main theek hoon* - I'm ok or मैं अच्छा हूँ *main acchaa hoon* - I'm good (said by a male). So today we're going to learn some other common replies. Many of these we've actually already seen at some point before, so it should be nice and easy! Ready to get straight into it?



मैं थक गया हूँ *main thak gayaa hoon*

- I am tired (said by a male) or...

मैं थक गई हूँ *main thak gaeet hoon*

- I am tired (said by a female).



मैं भूखा हूँ *main bhookhaa hoon*

- I am hungry (said by a male) or...

मैं भूखी हूँ *main bhookhee hoon*

- I am hungry (said by a female).

Are you starting to get the idea? Can you see how easy this is? Ready for some more?



मैं बीमार हूँ *main beemaar hoon*

- I am ill (male and female)

We can build up sentences like these to make them a little bit more complicated. And, of course, don't forget you can always use the words बहुत *bahut* - Very and थोड़ा *thoraa* - A Little before any of the adjectives.



क्या वह नाराज़ है?

kyaa voh naaraaz hai

- Is he angry?

हूँ वह बहुत नाराज़ है

haan voh bahut naaraaz hai

- Yes he is very angry!



चिराग क्यों उदास है?

ciraag kyon udaas hai?

- Why is Chirag sad?

क्योंकि वह बहुत अकेला है

kyonki voh bahut akelaa hai

- Because he is very lonely.

Can you remember we covered the word अकेला *akelaa* back in [Lesson #74](#) when we saw the joke about the lonely banana? Make sure to check it out if you haven't seen it yet! Anyway that's enough of being depressive and sad, are you ready to end on something positive?



क्यों मैं खुश हूँ

kyon main khush hoon

- Why am I happy?

क्योंकि ज़िन्दगी सुन्दर है

kyonki zindagee sundar hai

- Because life is beautiful!

We may have gone off topic a little today, so sorry about that! But hopefully you now know some much more interesting replies to आप कैसे हैं? *aap kaise hain?* - how are you? Make sure you use them next time!

Days Of The Week

Can you imagine this for me... You and your friends are sat around and you're talking (in Hindi obviously!) trying to make plans for next week - you want to go out to the cinema together. Now there's a problem, you won't get very far with this if you don't know the days of the week in Hindi! So this is what we're going to cover today, ready?

Days of the Week in Hindi is, as you might have noticed from the title, सप्ताह के दिन *saptah ke din* - Literally this is “The Week’s Days”.



सोमवार *somvaar* - Monday

मंगलवार *mangalvaar* - Tuesday

बुधवार *budhvaar* - Wednesday

गुरुवार *guruvaar* - Thursday

शुक्रवार *shukravaar* - Friday

शनिवार *shanivaar* - Saturday

रविवार *ravivaar* - Sunday

Got it? It can take a while to remember them all so try not to be put off if you can’t memorize them all straight away. Try writing out some flashcards if you’re having problems remembering them, write the English on one side and the Hindi on the other and keep testing yourself till you get it perfect!

के पास *ke paas* - To Have

In today’s lesson we’re just going to learn about the important little Hindi word के पास *ke paas* which usually translates to ‘have’. It’s actually really straightforward to use, there’s not much explaining I need to do. So let me get right into it and start off by showing you an example...



अजय के पास खाना है

ajay ke paas khaanaa hai

- Ajay has food.

Can you see what we've done? Our new word के पास *ke paas* comes before the noun खाना *khaanaa* - food to mean 'have / has food'. See I told you it was easy! Ready for another example?



प्रियंका के पास मेज़ है

priyanka ke paas mez hai

- Priyanka has a desk.

The great thing about के पास *ke paas* is that it never changes at all for masculine, feminine or plural! But there is one very important thing you need to know... के पास *ke paas* is **only** used when you 'have' small items or objects. के पास *ke paas* is **not** used for relatives (ie saying 'I have two brothers' is different) **nor** for parts of the body. I will cover this with you soon though so don't worry!

Anyway, ready for a slightly more tricky example?



मेरे पास बहुत सारा काम है

mere paas bahut saraa kaam hai

- I have lots of work

Now, you might read this and wonder where the के *ke* has disappeared to. Well the answer is that when we are using pronouns (words like I, you, he, she...) with के पास *ke paas* we use the Possessive Pronoun as covered in [Lesson #37](#). This means that sometimes the के *ke* 'disappears'. So we say मेरे पास *mere paas* to mean I have. Following?



उसके पास हरी किताब नहीं है

uske paas hari kitaab naheen hai

- He doesn't have a green book.

As you can see creating the negative is also easy, you just use नहीं *naheen* before the है *hai* to mean 'do not have' or 'does not have'. Ready for one last example? In fact you'll probably have to say this quite often...



मेरे पास समय नहीं है

mere paas samay naheen hai

- I don't have time

के पास *ke paas* is a really straightforward and easy word to master so hopefully now you know how to use it! Try making some sentences describing the things in your room, eg I have a bed, I have 10 books.

And most important, don't forget that we **don't** use के पास *ke paas* for relatives, 'really big things' like houses, or body parts!

Shopping!

Simple phrases related to shopping are going to be essential if you ever plan on visiting India! You really won't get on very well in a shop or at a market if for example you don't know how to ask for the price of something, or if you can't understand the shopkeeper when he replies!



So for that reason today we're just going to look at a simple little conversation between a shopkeeper and a customer. From this you should be able to pick up some important phrases and the structure of some really useful sentences! So are you ready to get going?

Just to make things a little more interesting, I've put the English Translation right at the end. I want you to try and read through the whole conversation once or twice in Hindi first and see how much you can pick up, then read the English and check the words or phrases that you didn't know!

Shopkeeper: नमस्ते आप कैसे हैं? *namaste aap kaise hain?*

Customer: मैं ठीक हूँ *main theek hoon*

Shopkeeper: अच्छा अच्छा *acchaa acchaa*



Customer: क्या यहाँ सेब है? *kyaa yaahan seb hai?*

Shopkeeper: जी हाँ, सेब बहुत अच्छे और सस्ते हैं *jee haan, seb bahut acche aur saste hain.*

Customer: हाँ, सेब का दाम क्या है? *haan, seb kaa daam kyaa hai?*

Shopkeeper: सेब का दाम तीन रुपये किलो है *seb kaa daam teen rupaye kilo hai*

Customer: हाँ, मुझको दो किलो सेब चाहिए *haan, mujhko do kilo seb caahie*



Customer: यह कितने का है? *yeh kitna kaa hai*

Shopkeeper: आम, पाँच रुपये किलो हैं *aam, paanch rupaye kilo hai*

Customer: अच्छा, महँगा नहीं है. एक किलो कृपया *acchaa, mahangaa naheen hai. ek kilo kripaya.*



Shopkeeper: अच्छा अच्छा, ग्यारह रुपये कृपया *acchaa acchaa, gyaarah rupaye kripayaa*

Customer: ग्यारह रुपये, धन्यवाद *gyaarah rupaye dhanyavaad.*

Shopkeeper: धन्यवाद *dhanyavaad*

How was that? How much did you understand? Read it though again! Don't look at the translation until you've tried to figure out it for yourself!

Translation

Shopkeeper: Hello, How are you?

Customer: I am ok

Shopkeeper: Good!

Customer: Are there apples here?

Shopkeeper: Yes sir, the apples are very good and cheap

Customer: Ok, how much are the apples? (Literally - apple's price what is?)

Shopkeeper: Apples are three Rupees per Kilo

Customer: Ok, I would like two Kilos.

Customer: How much is this?

Shopkeeper: Mangoes, Five Rupees per Kilo.

Customer: Good, that's not expensive. One Kilo please.

Shopkeeper: Good, good. Eleven Rupees please

Customer: Eleven Rupees, thank you.

Shopkeeper: Thank you

I hope that you've learnt some new things today that you can hopefully apply to real life situations in future!

Happy Birthday

Today (March 13th) is my birthday! So for that reason I thought it would be a great idea to go through some Hindi phrases related to Birthdays! You'll even be able to practice your newly learnt phrases straight away by wishing me a Happy Birthday (I'm only joking, you don't have to!)



Hopefully I've got some lovely birthday cake like this waiting for me somewhere!

So are you ready to begin? Great! Well first things first, the Hindi word for Birthday is जन्मदिन

janmdin. Say it again जन्मदिन *janmdin*!. This word is actually 'constructed' just like the English word Birthday, the word जन्म *janm* means birth and दिन *din* - day!

So how do we say Happy Birthday in Hindi? Well, all we say is...



[Audio/02 Conversational/aapko janmdin mubaarak ho.mp3](#)

आपको जन्मदिन मुबारक हो

aapko janmdin mubaarak ho

- Happy Birthday to you

Click the play button above to hear the phrase pronounced! Be sure to listen to it loads of times to make sure you get it perfect. This can even be shortened, exactly like English, to जन्मदिन मुबारक हो *janmdin mubaarak ho* which means - Happy Birthday!



A great question to ask all your friends is “When is your birthday?”. To say this we literally say “Your birthday when is?”. Think about the Hindi sentence for a second, what do you think it would be? That’s right, we say...

आपका जन्मदिन कब है? - When is your birthday?

If you’ve forgotten then the word **कब** *kab* means when. And to reply to this you might want to say “My birthday is today”. How would you say that? Remember that the word **आज** *aaj* means - today. So yeah that’s right, we say...



मेरा जन्मदिन आज है

meraa janmdin aaj hai

- My Birthday is today!

We haven’t covered the months of the year in Hindi yet, so for that reason I don’t want to teach you how to say sentences like “My Birthday is the 3rd of June” just quite yet. Today has been quite a relaxed and easy lesson, so hopefully you’ve enjoyed it! Try and remember the phrase **जन्मदिन मुबारक हो** *janmdin mubaarak ho* - Happy Birthday! because it will be great to say it to all your Hindi friends!

Brothers And Sisters

In today’s lesson we’re going to learn how to talk about our brothers and sisters in Hindi. However today we’re going to do things a little differently - instead of me just listing the phrases to you I’m going to show you a conversation between two people and we’ll learn by simply observing and then copying them!



The conversation is between two friends; मीना Meena and राहुल Rahul. So are you ready to begin? अच्छा acchaa - Great! Try and read through the whole conversation a few times before reading the translation below!

All I'm going to tell you to start with is that the word for Brother in Hindi is भाई bhaaee, and Sister is बहन् bahan. So here goes...

Rahul: नमस्ते मीना, तुम कैसी हो? *namaste meenaa, tum kaisee ho?*

Meena: राहुल नमस्ते मैं ठीक हूँ तुम? *raahul namaste, main theek hoon, tum?*

Rahul: मैं खराब नहीं हूँ थक गया हूँ *main kharaab naheen hoon, thak gayaa hoon.*

Meena: अच्छा. तुम्हारे कितने भाई हैं? *acchaa. tumhaare kitne bhaaee hain?*

Rahul: मेरे दो भाई हैं, रोशन और विजय *mere do bhaaee hain roshan aur vijay.*



Rahul and his brothers - Roshan and Vijay!

Meena: और बहनें? तुम्हारी कितनी बहनें हैं? *aur bahanen? tumharee kitnee bahanen hain?*

Rahul: अच्छा, मेरी कोई बहन नहीं है *acchaa, meree koee bahanen naheen hai.*

Rahul: ...और तुम? तुम्हारे कितने भाई और बहनें हैं? *aur tum? tumhare kitne bhaaee aur bahanen hain?*

Meena: मेरी सिर्फ़ एक बहन है, वह मुझसे बड़ी है *mere sirf ek bahan hai, voh mujhse baree hai.*



Meena and her only sister!

Rahul: हाँ अच्छा. नमस्ते *haan accha. namaste*

Meena: नमस्ते! *namaste!*

Ok wow! That was quite long so well done if you read it all the way though! How much did you understand? Don't worry for now if there's a few bits you found tricky, we'll soon go through it all. But for now I want you to try and read it right the way through once more, so go on go back to the top and give it another go!

How was that? Did you find it better the second time? Great! Now I'm going to show you the translation so you can check all the bits you didn't get...

Rahul: Hello Meena. How are you?

Meena: Rahul, hello! I am ok, you?

Rahul: I'm not bad, tired.

Meena: Ok. How many brothers do you have?

Rahul: I have two brothers, Roshan and Vijay.

Meena: And sisters? How many sisters do you have?

Rahul: Aah, I don't have any sisters (literally - I have some sister not)

Rahul: And you? How many brothers and sisters do you have?

Meena: I have only one sister. She is older than me (literally - bigger than me)

Rahul: Aah, ok. Goodbye

Meena: Bye!

So how was that? Do you think you've understood it all now? Keep reading through and compare with the translation to make sure you get everything right! Are you ready for the homework question? Well here it is...



आपके कितने भाई और बहनें हैं?

aapke kitne bhaaee aur bahanen hain?

Try and write in as much as detail you can, tell me everything about them. I look forward to reading your answers. You can even make it up if you like.

Future Conditional Tense

In today's lesson we're going to learn all about Future Conditional Tense in Hindi. So what is the Future Conditional Tense? Well basically it's sentences that say something 'may' or 'might' happen in the future. So we could say; I might go to India, He may eat, They may learn Hindi etc. It's sometimes referred to as the 'Subjunctive Mood'.

The sentence structure we use for this is actually really similar to the Future Tense, which we learnt about right the way back in [Lesson #53](#) (be sure to revise over that lesson if you get confused!) Can you remember how we'd say 'I will read a book' in Hindi? That's right, we say...



मैं किताब पढ़ूँगी

main kitaab parhoongee

- I will read a book (said by a Female)

So now are you ready to learn how change this sentence into the Future Conditional Tense?

Great! In the Future Conditional this becomes...

मैं किताब पढ़ूँ

main kitaab parhoon

- I may read a book

Can you see the difference here? That's right, all that's happened is that the गा gaa from the end of the verb has been dropped and the meaning has changed from 'I will' to 'I may'. See how easy it is! Are you ready to see another example?



So again, you already know how to say 'Tomorrow he will go to India'. Can you think about what it would be? That's right, we say...

कल वह भारत जाएगा

kal voh bhaarat jaaegaa

- Tomorrow he will go to India

Now turning this into the Future Conditional tense is easy, just do exactly the same as the example above, which gives...

कल वह भारत जाए

kal voh bhaarat jaae

- Tomorrow he may go to India

Can you see? We've just dropped the गे ge from the end of the verb, and it's changed from 'will' to 'may'. Easy! Something to notice is that this could also mean 'Tomorrow she will go to India', and that's true for all Future conditional sentences - they are genderless!

Do you think you're ready to see another example? Great!



Again, we know how to say 'Kajol will sleep here'. That's right, we say: काजोल यहाँ सोएगी *kaajol yahaan soegee* - Kajol will sleep here. By now you should be able to change this to the Future Conditional with your eyes closed to give...

काजोल यहाँ सोए

kaajol yahaan soe

- Kajol may sleep here.

Ok, last example! So let's jump straight to the Future Conditional tense this time, how would we say 'We might wash these dirty clothes'? (Remember that the verb to wash is धोना *dhoona!*) That's right, we say...



हम ये गंदे कपड़े धोएँ

ham ye gande kapre dhoen

- We might wash these dirty clothes.

So that's the end of the lesson! All you need to remember is that to change from the Future tense to the Future Conditional you simply drop the गा *gaa*, गे *ge* or गी *gee* from the end of the verb and the meaning becomes 'may' or 'might'!

Now do you think you're ready to answer a few quiz questions on what we've learnt today?

अच्छा *acchaa* - great! Firstly see if you can change these two sentences from the Future Tense

to the Future Conditional (from 'will' to 'may');



1. मैं हिन्दी सीखूँगी *main hindee seekhoongee*

- I will learn Hindi (said by a Female).

2. आप तीन केले खरीदेंगे *aap teen kele khareedenge*

- You will buy three bananas.

Now see if you can translate these three sentences into Hindi...



3. She may drink water
4. I might eat this pizza
5. I may write a story

कुछ *kuch* - Something and कोई *koe* - Someone

Today we're going to learn all about two very common little Hindi words! These are; कुछ *kuch* - which means Something, and कोई *koe* - Someone. They also have a few other uses that we'll see as we go through! As usual there's some questions at the end of the lesson so after you've read it see if you can answer them!

So are you ready to get straight into an example? अच्छा *accha* - great! We can use these words just like normal Pronouns in the exact same way as English...



कुछ पलंग पर है

kuch palang par hai

- Something is on the bed



कोई पलंग पर है

koe palang par hai

- Someone is on the bed

Can you see the difference between these two examples? It's easy! It's exactly like the English; we use कुछ *kuch* - Something for objects and कोई *koei* - Someone for people! Are you ready for another example?

Now if you want to say "nothing" or "nobody" then you literally say "something not", or "someone not". For example;



कमरे में कुछ नहीं है

kamre men kuch naheen hai

- Theres nothing in the room



कमरे में कोई नहीं है

kamre men koei naheen hai

&- Theres nobody in the room

Can you see? We are literally saying "In the room something not", and "In the room someone not" to mean "There is nothing in the room" and "There is nobody / no one in the room".

Another use for the word कोई *koei* is as an adjective meaning 'some', in the **singular**, as in 'a specific' or 'certain' one. For example;



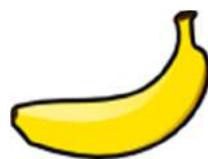
कोई लड़का अच्छा खाना खा रहा है

koeē larkaa acchaa khaanaa khaa rahaā hai

- Some boy is eating good food.

So here we use कोई लड़का *koeē larkaa* to mean ‘some boy’. This is where the phrase कोई बात नहीं *koeē baat naheen* - it’s no problem, comes from. We are literally saying - some (singular) problem not!

Similarly we use कुछ *kuch* as an adjective to mean ‘some’ in the **plural**, as in ‘a group of’. For example;



कुछ लड़के केले खाते हैं

kuch larke kele khaate hain

- Some boys eat bananas.

And here we use कुछ लड़के *kuch larke* to mean ‘some boys’. See it’s easy!

Finally for today, in the Oblique case the word कोई *koeē* becomes किसी *kisee*. So remember that we must use the Oblique case whenever a Postposition follows the word (for more info on the Oblique case have a look at the Postpositions section on the [Beginners Grammar](#) page).

For example:



किसी ने शब्दकोश खरीदा

kisee ne shabdkosh khareedaa

- Someone bought a dictionary

(This sentence uses grammar points that we’ll cover later in [Intermediate Grammar](#)).

There are in fact a few more uses of कुछ *kuch* and कोई *koeē* but we’ll learn about them another time, I don’t want to bore you to death today!

This has been a very long so sorry! Well done if you've read all the way through. Don't forget to ask me if you have any questions at all! Now for extra bonus points, do you think you can try and translate these sentences into Hindi by simply using what we've learnt today?

1. Someone is in the house
2. There's nothing on the table
3. Some girls like to sing (Hint [Lesson #63](#))
4. Someone drank water

Give it a go, even if you aren't completely sure.

भी bhee - Also, Too

In today's lesson we're going to cover just one single word (how easy can one lesson be hey!).

The word we're going to look at is भी bhee. Have you ever seen it or heard it before? It's a really common word so I bet you have! As usual there's a few questions at the end to test your knowledge from today so give them a go once you've finished!

So what does भी bhee mean and how do we use it? Well it's actually really simple, it means 'also' or 'too' and we use it just like we would in English! Let's have a look at a simple example to start with...



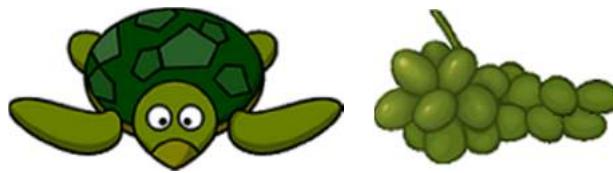
दीपा छोटी है deepaa chotee hai

- Deepa is small

अमित भी छोटा है amit bhee chotaa hai

- Amit also is small

Can you see what we've done here? We've simply put our new word भी bhee right after अमित Amit to tell us that Amit, as well as Deepa, is short. Does that make sense? Read through a few times if you're confused. Ready for another example?



यह कछुआ हरा है *yeh kachuaa haraa hai*

- This turtle is green

ये अंगूर भी हरे हैं *ye angoor bhee hare hain*

- These grapes too are green

Can you follow this example too? We first say the turtle is green. Then we put **भी bhee** right after **ये अंगूर ye angoor** - These grapes, to show that the grapes, as well as the turtle is green. It's just like the last example! Do you think you've got it now? Leave a question below if you're confused. Do you want to see one more simple example like this?



मैं अमेरिका से हूँ *main amerikaa se hoon*

- I am from America

मेरी पत्नी भी अमेरिका से है

meree patnee bhee amerikaa se hai

- My wife is also from America

Can you see what we've done this time? Great! Now **भी bhee** can also be used in a slightly different way which often confuses people! Let's look at an example of this...



शान्ति लंबी है *shaanti lambee hai*

- Shanti is tall

वह बहुत होशियार भी है

voh bahut hoshiyaar bhee hai

- She is very clever too

Can you see what we've done here? It's actually a little different from before! In the first sentence we say 'Shanti is tall'. Then in the next sentence we put **भी** *bhee* right after बहुत होशियार *bahut hosiyaar* - Very Clever to mean; 'She is very clever as well as being tall'. Putting our word **भी** *bhee* in the right place of a sentence is **very** important! Ready for one more example?



yeh tren laal hai

- This train is red

yeh kaafii puraani bhee hai

- It is also quite old

Can you see what we've done? We put **भी** *bhee* after काफ़ी *puraani* *kaafee puraane* - quite old, to mean; The train is quite old as well as being red.

Do you think you've got it now? I told you it was simple! Can you now try and translate the following few sentences using what we've just learnt? Give it a go. Remember the most important thing is to get **भी** *bhee* in the right place!

1. My room is clean. Your room is clean too.
2. This book is big. That book is also big.
3. She is from India. She is also beautiful.
4. My bed is big. It is also very comfortable (**आराम** *aaraam* - Comfortable)

More About **को** *ko*

We first met the Postposition को *ko* a long, long time ago; right back in [Lesson #50 Postposition](#). Can you remember it? It usually means ‘to’, but unfortunately sometimes it isn’t that simple. Ever since that lesson को *ko* has been cropping up all over the place, sometimes quite unexpectedly!

Today we’re going to refresh ourselves and have a short ‘whistle-stop’ tour to some of the uses of को *ko* that we’ve already seen. We’re also going to learn a few new things about it!

Are you ready to get going?

The most obvious use of को *ko* is ‘to’ when giving something to someone, just as we use it in English! For example we might say...



मैं माँ को कपड़ा देता हूँ

main maan ko kapraa detaa hoon

- I give the cloth to Mother (Said by a Male)

Can you see here we’ve used माँ को *maan ko* to mean ‘to Mother’ - because that’s who we are giving it to! See it’s easy, don’t you think? This same use comes up in a bunch of other places though, which to begin with often seems unrelated!

In Hindi when we want to say ‘I like something’ we literally say ‘To me that thing is liked’. So we have to use को *ko*! We saw this right back in [Lesson #63: Likes and Dislikes](#). It seems a little weird don’t you think? Let’s look a few examples...



मुझको अनानास पसंद है

mujhko anaanaas pasand hai

- I like Pineapple.

Can you see that we literally say ‘to me (मुझको *mujhko*) Pineapple is liked’. Let’s see another example...



क्या आपको हिन्दी पसंद है?

kyaa aapko hindee pasand hai

- Do you like Hindi?

Remeber that क्या *kyaa* at the start of a sentence turns it into a question! In this sentence we’re literally saying ‘Is to you Hindi liked?’ Remember to head to [Lesson #63](#) to revise this. Saying ‘I want something’ uses exactly the same kind of construction, you can learn more about that over in [Lesson #85](#)!

In [Imperatives](#) (remember that’s when we tell someone to do something!) को *ko* has a slight different meaning. Using it gives a specificness to an object. So what does this even mean? Well let’s see an example; have a look at the two following sentences...



पानी पियो *paanee piyo* - Drink water

पानी को पियो *paanee ko piyo*

- Drink the water

So what’s the difference between these two sentences? Well it’s easier than you think, when we use को *ko* it means we are talking about some specific water and not just water in general!

In the first sentence above it’s like we’re reminding someone to keep drinking water all

through the day, but in the second we're telling someone to drink the water right in front of them! Head over the the lessons on [Imperatives](#) to learn a bit more about this!

Ready for something new? When we add को *ko* to [Pronouns](#) some of them can change a little.

Let me show you how they change first and then I'll show you a few examples.

I'd take a bit of a deep breath first...

मुझ mujh - 'Me' plus को *ko* - 'To' becomes मुझे *mujhe* - 'To Me'

हम ham - 'Us' plus को *ko* - 'To' becomes हमें *hamen* - 'To Us'

तुझा tujh - 'You' plus को *ko* - 'To' becomes तुझे *tujhe* - 'To You' (Intimate)

आप aap - 'You' plus को *ko* - 'To' is always आपको *aapko* - 'To You' (Formal)

तुम tum - 'You' plus को *ko* - 'To' becomes तुम्हें *tumhen* - 'To You' (Informal)

इस is - 'Him / Her' plus को *ko* - 'To' becomes इसे *ise* - 'To Him / Her' (Close)

उस us - 'Him / Her' plus को *ko* - 'To' becomes उसे *use* - 'To Him / Her' (Far)

इन in - 'Them' plus को *ko* - 'To' becomes इन्हें *inhen* - 'To Them' (Close)

उन un - 'Them' plus को *ko* - 'To' becomes उन्हें *unhen* - 'To Them' (Far)

Phew! So what does this all mean then? Well, for example, whenever you want to say 'to me' you can either say मुझको *mujhko* or मुझे *mujhe*. Both are perfectly correct but the second is a lot more common in colloquial Hindi! They are completely interchangeable.
So returning to one of our sentences earlier we could say...



मुझे अनानास पसंद है

mujhe anaanaas pasand hai

- I like Pineapple.

We've simply changed मुझको *mujhko* to मुझे *mujhe* - they both mean exactly the same thing!

Or, to show you another example we might say...



उन्हें ताला दो *unhen taalaa do*

- Give them the lock

Here we're simply using उन्हें *unhen* to mean 'To Them' as we learnt above! We could just as well say उनको *unko* - 'to them', both the words mean exactly the same thing.

Phew, we'll leave it there for today. को *ko* has so many more uses, it would be impossible to cover them all at once! We'll see most of them eventually so don't worry! Today has just been basically a round up of all the places we've seen the before, I hope it's been useful.

Hindi Survival Phrases

Are you planning a trip to India in the near future? Maybe you're going site-seeing, visiting long lost family or maybe you're just off on a bit of an adventure! Whatever the reason, if you are going then as well as knowing some [Hindi Conversational Phrases](#) it's probably a good idea to know some Survival and Emergency Hindi phrases.

So that's what we're going to cover today - we're going to have a quick tour of useful phrases that will be essential in if you're in India. If there's any Hindi you learn before you go then this should be it! So are you ready? (If you've been following the lesson then you will have seen many of these before, but it's always good to have them all in one place for some revision hey?)



Greetings

नमस्ते *namaste* - Hello / Goodbye

आप कैसे हैं? *aap kaise hain* - How are you?

मैं ठीक हूँ *main theek hoon* - I am fine

धन्यवाद *dhanyavaad* - Thank you



Speaking

हाँ *haan* - Yes नहीं *naheen* - No

अच्छा *acchaa* - Good / Fine / Great

क्या आप मेरी मदद कर सकते हैं?

kyaa aap meree madad kar sakte hain

- Can you help me?

मैं समझा नहीं *main samajhaa naheen*

- I don't understand (Male)

मैं समझी नहीं *main samajhee naheen*

- I don't understand (Female)

मेरी हिन्दी अच्छी नहीं है

meree hindee acchee naheen hai

- My Hindi isn't good

क्या आप अंग्रेजी बोल सकते हैं?

kyaa aap angrezee bol sakte hain

- Can you speak English?

और धीरे बोलिए *aur dheere bolie*

- Please speak slower

हिन्दी (अंग्रेज़ी) में ____ कैसे कहते हैं?

hindee (angrezee) men ____ kaise kahte hain?

- How do you say ____ in Hindi (English)?



Shopping + Ordering

यह क्या है? *yeh kyaa hai* - What is this?

वह क्या है? *voh kyaa hai* - What is that?

इसका दाम क्या है? *iskaam daam kyaa hai*

- How much is this?

मुझे यह चाहिए *mujhe yeh caahie*

- I want / would like this

मुझे वह नहीं चाहिए *mujhe voh naheen caahie*

- I don't want that

बहुत महँगा है *bahut mahangaa hai*

- That's very expensive

माफ कीजिए *maaf keejie*

- Sorry / Excuse me



Train Station + Travel

मैं ____ जा रहा हूँ *main ____ jaa raha hoon*

- I am going to ____ (Male)

मैं ____ जा रही हूँ *main ____ jaa rahee hoon*

- I am going to ____ (Female)

मैं टिकट खरीदना चाहता हूँ

main tikat khareednaa caahtaa hoon

- I want to buy a ticket (Male)

मैं टिकट खरीदना चाहती हूँ

main tikat khareednaa caahtee hoon

- I want to buy a ticket (Female)

गाड़ी कब जाएगी? *gaaree kab jaaegee* -

When will the train go?

गाड़ी कब पहुँचेगी? *gaaree kab pahunceghee* -

When will the train arrive?

क्या दूर है? *kyaa door hai* - Is it far?

बायाँ *baayaan* - Left दायाँ *daayaan* - Right



Emergency

पुलिस बुलाइए *pulis bulaaie*

- Please call the Police

मदद *madad* - Help! आग *aag* - Fire! चोर *cor* - Thief!

मैं बीमार हूँ *main beemaar hoon*

- I am ill / unwell

मुझे चोट लगी *mujhe cot lagee*

- I am injured / hurt

अस्पताल कहाँ है? *aspataal kahaan hai*

- Where is the hospital?

टोयलेट कहाँ है? *toylet kahaan hai*

- Where is the toilet?

मैं गर्भवती हूँ *main garbhavtee hoon*

- I am Pregnant

Phew! That's it for now. Of course this is very brief and short, but it should give you a little helping hand for your travels! For more detail to some of these phrases be sure to check out the [Hindi Conversational Phrases](#) section of this site.

Oh and if you ever do find yourself in an emergency in India the emergency numbers are 100 for Police, 101 for Fire Brigade and 102 for Medical. If you speak in slow and clear English you'll find a large percentage of people will understand you, which should help if you're ever in a pickle. Don't be afraid to speak English!

The Future Continuous Tense

Right the way back in [Lesson #35](#) we learnt all about the Present Continuous Tense in Hindi, can you remember back that far? Let's have a quick refresh incase you've forgotten anything! Remember the Present Continuous Tense is sentences that say "someone is doing something" and so for example, how would we say "I am reading a book" in Hindi? That's right we'd say...



मैं किताब पढ़ रहा हूँ

main kitaab parh raha hoon

- I am reading a book (said by a male)

If you're lost, or feel like you can't remember this then simply head on back to [Lesson #35](#) and have a read through of the lesson again and then come back here!

Now today we're going to use this to learn about the Future Continuous Tense. So are you ready to get going with it? Well here goes...

Firstly then, what is the Future Continuous Tense? Well it's easier than it sounds, it's just like the Present Continuous Tense but instead of saying "someone is doing something" we say "someone *will be* doing something", can you see the difference?

Remember that we learnt how to say "will be" back in [Lesson #55](#), when we saw the future form of होना honaa. Be sure to head back to that lesson if you can't remember!

Do you think you're ready to see a few examples then? We know how to say "She is eating" in Hindi, that's right it's just...



वह खा रही है voh khaa rahee hai

- She is eating

This is just the Present Continuous Tense as we've already known. So to change this into the Future Continuous Tense, and say "she *will be* eating" we actually say...

वह खा रही होगी voh khaa rahee hogee

- She will be eating

So what's happened here? Well the only difference is that we've dropped the है hai (which means "is") and we've added होगी hogee (which means "will be" as we saw in [Lesson #55](#)), I mean how easy is that! Ready to see another example then?



मैं संगीत सुन रही हूँ

main sangeet sun rahee hoon

- I am listening to music (said by a female)

Remember that संगीत *sangeet* is “music”, and सुनना *sunnaa* is “to listen”. This above sentence you should already understand! So how would we change it into the Future Continuous Tense and say “I will be listening to music” well it’s simply...

मैं संगीत सुन रही हूँगी

main sangeet sun rahee hoongee

- I will be listening to music

Can you see what’s happened here? We’ve just added हूँगी *hoongee* - will be, as we learnt in

[Lesson #55!](#)

Do you think you’re getting the hang of how to make Future Continuous sentence now? Remember it’s just exactly the same as the Present Continuous Tense, but we drop the “is”/“are” from the end and add “will be” (as we saw in [Lesson #55](#)). Let’s see a few more examples, make sure you read through them a few times so you understand what’s happening in each sentence!



मैं कपरे धो रहा हूँगा

main kapre dho rahaa hoongaa

- I will be washing the clothes (said by a male)



वे यहाँ नहीं सो रहे होंगे

ve yahaan naheen so rahe honge

- They will not be sleeping here



क्या आप पार्टी आ रहे होंगे?

kyaa aap paartee aa rahe honge?

- Will you be coming to the party?

Remember in this last example that adding **क्या** *kyaa* to the start of the sentence turns it into a question!

Do you think you now understand the Future Continuous Tense? Hopefully you do! Try reading over the lesson once more and then translating the sentences just below to test your understanding...

1. He will be eating
2. Will you be going?
3. They will not be drinking
4. I will be reading a big old book (Remember पुराना *puraanaa* - old)
5. Will she be watching TV tomorrow?

Intermediate Grammar

In this section you'll find more complicated and advance grammar lessons! This is perfect if you already know some Hindi and you don't want to start from complete beginners! Make sure you've had a look at the [Beginner's Grammar](#) page first though because we're going to be using everything we've learnt there!



Never pile too much work on yourself! Take lessons slowly and only read one at a time, that way you'll learn and remember much much more!

Transitivity

What have we learnt so far about the past tense in Hindi? All the way back in [Lesson #69](#) we learnt the words था *thaā*, थे *the*, थी *thee* and थीं *theen* which are used for 'was' and 'were'. Then in [Lesson #70](#) we learnt how to make sentences like 'I was eating', 'We were reading', which is known as the Past Continuous Tense.

But how do we say 'I walked' or 'He read' or 'They studied' in Hindi? This is what's known as the Simple Past Tense. In English we usually just add '-ed' to the verb; walked, studied, jumped etc. But be aware, there's loads of irregular verbs; read, slept, saw and so on.

However there's a small problem, this Simple Past Tense in Hindi is a little more complicated than English because the sentence structure depends on whether the verb is **Transitive** or **Intransitive**. So today we're not actually going to learn any new Hindi we're just going to learn about **Transitivity**. This lesson is still *very* important though because we'll be using it a basis for the next few lessons!



Transitive and Intransitive probably sound like really confusing words, but don't get yourself worked up, I'll be explaining it in full using easy to understand language.

So what is **Transitivity**?

Transitivity is all to do with verbs, which if you remember are 'doing words'. Every verb is either Transitive or not-transitive, which we usually call Intransitive. With me so far? Ready for the big definition?

A verb is **Transitive** if it can have an object as well as a subject. What on earth does this mean? Basically if we can put 'something' after the verb in English and it still makes sense then it's transitive. Let's see some examples;



The verb **To Read** is transitive. Why? Because we can say 'read something' like, I read a book, I read a newspaper, I read this website.



The verb **To Eat** is transitive. Why? Again, because we can say 'eat something', I eat cake, I eat a pizza, I eat chips.



To Write is also transitive because we can say 'I write a book', 'I write an essay' etc.

What is an **Intransitive** verb then? Well it's just the opposite, a verb is intransitive if it can't have an object as well as a subject. That is if you **can't** put 'something' after the verb.



To Sleep is intransitive. Why? Because we can't say 'sleep something'. The sentence 'I sleep a bed' doesn't make any sense. You might say to me now, oh but you can say 'I sleep in a bed', indeed that's true, but this doesn't change anything, here 'in a bed' describes **where** and is not an object of the verb 'sleep'.



The verb **To Swim** is intransitive. Why? Again, because you can't say 'swim something'. 'I swim a pool' doesn't make any sense.

Do you think you've understood the difference? This is going to be very important in future so it's essential that you understand! Still confused? Read through everything above again, but as slowly as you can.

Now do you think you've understood? Test yourself by figuring out whether these verbs are Transitive or Intransitive and then for bonus points tell me why that is.

1. To Drink
2. To Go
3. To Clean
4. To Walk

I know that this lesson seems confusing, pointless and completely unrelated to Hindi but this is where you just have to trust me! Very soon we're going to learn how to create Simple Past Tense sentences in Hindi and to do that you'll need to understand transitivity!

The Past Tense For Transitive Verbs

Transitivity. This is the big word we started talking about in [Lesson #79](#). Can you remember what it means? I know it was quite a tricky concept, so read back over [Lesson #79](#) once more if you're at all confused.

I mentioned that the Past Tense (that's sentences like 'I walked', 'He ate', 'They Slept' etc) is more difficult in Hindi because the way we create a sentence is different for Transitive and Intransitive verbs. Are you following? Don't worry if it doesn't make sense yet, you'll understand everything by the end, promise.

So today we're going to learn how to create Past Tense sentences for **Intransitive Verbs**. These are verbs that do **not** have an object (Again read [Lesson #79](#) if you've forgot what this means!) and they usually show some kind of movement.

We're going to do things a bit differently today, first I'm going to show you some examples then I'll go into detail and explain why we do what you've seen.



तैरना *tairnaa* is the verb To Swim and we know it's intransitive. We already know how to say मैं तैरता हूँ *main tairtaa hoon* - I swim (said by a male). This is just the Present Tense and we learnt that all the way back in [Lesson #28](#). So how do we say 'I swam' (the Past Tense version of 'I swim')? Well it's easy, all we say is;

मैं तैरा *main tairaa*

- I swam (said by a male).

Ready for a different example? How do you say 'You walk' in Hindi? This is easy, तुम चलते हो *tum calte ho* - You walk (said to a Male, informal). So can you make a guess to how we say 'You walked'? Ready?



तुम चले *tum cale*

- You walked (said to a male, informal).

Are you starting to see a pattern? Let me show you another example. We know how to say 'She sleeps' it's just; वह सोती है *voh sotee hai* - She sleeps. How do you think we say 'She slept'? We actually say



वह सोई *voh soee* - She slept.

Have you figured the pattern now? Don't worry if you haven't, let me explain everything to you...

For the Past Tense for **Intransitive Verbs** we add to the verb root;

- आ *aa* For Masculine Singular subjects or,
- ए *e* For Masculine Plural subjects or,
- ई *ee* For Feminine Singular subjects or finally,
- ई *een* For Feminine Plural Subjects

For verb roots that end with a vowel we add या *yaa* for the Masculine Singular case but all other cases are the same. The verb आना *aanaa* - To Come (which ends with a vowel) for example is:

मैं आया *main aayaa* - I came (said by a Male)

मैं आई *main aaee* - I came (said by a Female)

आप आए *aap aae* - You came (to a Male, formal)

वे आई *ve aaeen* - They came (all Female)

The verb जाना *jaanaa* - To Go changes a little for the Past Tense (in English this is 'went') , it becomes

गया *gayaa* (Singular Masculine) गए *gaae* (Plural Masculine)

गई *gaee* (Singular Feminine) गई *gaeen* (Plural Feminine)

For example:



मैं पाकिस्तान गया *main paakistaan gayaa*

- I went to Pakistan (Said by a male).

And that's it for today! We know how to create past tense sentences for Intransitive Verbs, and remember that everything we've learnt here is **only** for Intransitive verbs. The Past Tense for Transitive verbs will be covered very soon!

I know this lesson has been very long and there's been a lot of new information, so well done for sticking with it! Make sure you read through everything several times so you remember it all. I'll be showing you many more examples soon so don't worry!

The Past Tense For Transitive Verbs

Our main topic over the last few lessons has been Transitivity. In [Lesson #79](#) we learnt what it means (please read over the lesson again if you are at all unsure!) and we learnt that in Hindi the Past Tense is different for Transitive and Intransitive verbs. Then in [Lesson #81](#) we learnt how to create Past Tense sentences for Intransitive Verbs. Can you remember?

Today we're going to learn how to create Past Tenses sentences for Transitive verbs. I admit that this does get a little trick so make sure you pay attention!

When we use Transitive Verbs in the Past Tense we must use the [Postposition](#) ने *ne* to mark the Subject. So what on earth does this mean? Well the ‘person who is doing the thing’ must have the word ने *ne* after them and since ने *ne* is a Postposition the ‘person who is doing the thing’ must also be in the Oblique case (see [Lesson #48](#) and [Lesson #61](#)). There is no translation in English for the word ने *ne*, all it does is show us who ‘did’ the action. Are you following? Read that again! And again! So let me show you an example:



लड़के ने खाया *larke ne khaayaa* - The boy ate.

So what have we done here? We’ve used the noun लड़का *larkaa* - Boy and the postposition ने *ne* to tell us that the boy ‘did something’. So लड़का *larkaa* goes into the Oblique case becoming लड़के *larke* (as seen in [Lesson #48](#)). Finally we use the verb खाया *khaayaa* - which is the Past Tense Singular Masculine form of खाना *khaanaa* - To Eat just as we learnt in [Lesson #81](#). Remember that ‘To Eat’ is transitive. Ok deep breath, did you follow that? Read it through again!

However there’s another tricky thing we need to learn! Let me show you a different example. Ready?



Image by [Wikipedia](#)

लड़के ने रोटी खाई *larke ne rotee khaaee*

- The boy ate a Roti.

So now you're probably asking why the hell have we used the Feminine Singular Past Tense खाई *khaaee*? Shouldn't the verb agree with the Masculine Singular subject, the boy? Well are you ready for the important bit?

For Past Tense sentences with **Transitive** verbs the verb agrees with the object of the sentence and **not**, as we've been used to so far, the subject. If there's no object in the sentence (like the above 'The boy ate') then the verb is Singular Masculine.

Read that paragraph again. And again. Make sure you understand it because it's very important! So how would we say 'The girl ate samosas'? Ready?



Image by [Wikipedia](#)

लड़की ने समोसे खाए *larkee ne samose khaae*

- The girl ate Samosas

Can you see what we've done? The verb is in the Past Tense Masculine Plural because it agrees with the Masculine Plural समोसे *samose* - Samosas.

Now there's an important exception; even though ने *ne* is a postposition, when we use it with मैं *main* - I it **does not** change to मुझ *mujh* - the oblique form of मैं *main*.



मैंने कहानी लिखी *mainne kahaanee likhee*

- I wrote a story.

Here we use लिखी *likhee*, the Feminine Singular Past Tense form of the verb लिखना *likhnaa*

- To Write because it agrees with the feminine word कहानी *kahaanee* - Story. Are you starting to get the hang of it now? Notice how, unlike usual, we don't know whether this was said by a man or a woman!



उसने पानी पिया *us ne paanee piyaa*

- He drank water (could also be 'she').

So we use the oblique form of वह *voh* - He, which is उस *us*, because of the postposition ने *ne*. Again here the verb agrees with the masculine पानी *paanee* - Water. In fact the verb पीना *peenaa* - To Drink is slightly irregular in the Past Tense, as you might have noticed. For the Singular Masculine we say पिया *piyaa* and **not** पीया *peeyaa*. Can you see the difference?

How well have you understood this? Don't worry because using ने *ne* correctly is one of the most difficult things to grasp in Hindi grammar. Hopefully you've understood some of it though, which is fantastic! Don't forget that all of this is only for **Transitive** verbs.

I'll be showing you plenty more examples in a different lesson soon which should help it 'sink in'. Please feel free to leave me any questions you have in a comment below!

Practice With The Past Tense

Today we're just going to practice over and revise what we've learnt recently about the Past Tense in Hindi. I'm going to be showing you a lot more examples including some more complicated sentences!

Remember in Hindi the Past Tense is different for Transitive and Intransitive Verbs. We learnt what this word ‘Transitivity’ means back in [Lesson #79](#). Understanding what Transitivity is can be quite difficult and confusing, but it’s *very important*!



Let’s start with the verb सोना sonaa - To Sleep. Is this Transitive or Intransitive? Do you know?

To Sleep is intransitive. Why is that? Because as we saw in [Lesson #79](#), we don’t ‘sleep something’. We learnt about the Past Tense for Intransitive Verbs in [Lesson #81](#). So we know how to say...

मैं सोया main soyaa - I slept (Male) &

मैं सोई main soee - I slept (Female)

But usually our sentences are going to be a bit longer than that, so are you ready to see some more complicated sentences?

तुम कहाँ सोई? tum kahaan soeen - Where did you sleep? (to a female) - Literally this is ‘You slept where’. Remember that तुम tum is always plural! And we could reply with...

मैं अपने घर पर सोई main apne ghar par soyee

- I slept at my house (Female).

Can you remember the tricky word अपना apnaa? If not head back to [Lesson #52](#)!

क्या अक्षय यहाँ सोया? kyaa akshay yahaan soyaa

- Did Akshay sleep here?

हाँ, यहीं सोया haan, yaheen soyaa

- Yes, (he) slept right here.

Ok wow. That might look like a bit of a mess but hopefully you can see how easy it is to build fuller sentences from what we already know. Ready to look at a Transitive Verb example?



The Verb ‘to buy’ in Hindi is **खरीदना** *khareednaa*. Why is this verb Transitive? Because, as we learnt in [Lesson #79](#), we can ‘buy something’ which makes it Transitive! We learnt how to make Past Tense sentences with Transitive Verbs in [Lesson #83](#). So we know how to say...

मैंने खरीदा *mainne khareedaa*

- I bought (said by either male or female!)

Do you think you could use this to say ‘What did you buy’? It’s easy...

आपने क्या खरीदा? *aap ne kyaa khareedaa*

- What did you buy?

Literally this is ‘You what bought’. Following so far? Now how would you say ‘I bought a book’? That’s right....



मैंने किताब खरीदी *mainne kitaab khareedee*

- I bought a book (said by either male or female!)

But wait, what’s happened here? Well because the word for book - **किताब** *kitaab* is feminine we use the feminine version of the verb - **खरीदी** *khareedee*. Can you remember that we learnt in [Lesson #83](#) that the verb in Transitive Past tense sentences agrees with the object and **not** the subject!



रीमा ने दो बड़े टमाटर खरीदे

reemaa ne do bare tamaatar khareede

- Rema bought two big tomatoes.

Can you see here that the verb agrees with the Plural Masculine ‘Tomatoes’ - We use खरीदे *khareede*. So how would you say ‘Did you buy three cats’? That’s right, it’s just...



क्या तुमने तीन बिल्लियाँ खरीदीं?

kyaa tumne teen billiyaan khareedeen

- Did you buy three cats?

How did you find all that? Hopefully you can understand and follow each example! The Past Tense in Hindi can be very confusing so don’t worry if it hasn’t ‘sunk in’ yet. Please head over the the [Intermediate Grammar section](#) where you can find all the lesson on Transitivity and the Past Tense if you have any difficulties!

Irregular Verbs in The Past Tense

So do you think you’re starting to get the hang of the Past Tense in Hindi now? We’ve seen quite a lot of new information so don’t worry if you’re still a little rusty, it can take some time to sink in! Remember to check out the [Intermediate Grammar Section](#) where you will find all the lessons about Past Tense Verbs. I’d also suggest reading the last lesson again, [Practice with the Past Tense](#), because practice really does make perfect!

Anyway, by now you’re probably wondering what we’re going to do today right? Well let me tell you (if you haven’t guess by the title yet!). Just like English, some verbs in Hindi are irregular the past tense. But thankfully for us, irregular verbs in Hindi are so much easier than English ones!



In English we usually add -ed for past tense but we'd never say 'I eated and drinked', we'd say 'I ate and drank' because these are irregular verbs!

Now the good news! Irregular verbs in Hindi are actually really easy because there's only really 5 common irregular verbs (compare that with English where there's so many!). One of these irregular verbs I've already told you about and the other four follow a pattern. How easy can you get! Ok, ready?

The first irregular verb for the Hindi Past tense is जाना *jaanaa* - To go, and of course it's an Intransitive Verb! I told you about this verb in the Past Tense back in [Lesson #81](#), can you remember now? That's right, we use गया *gayaa*, or गए *gae*, or गई *gaaee*, or finally गइ *gaeen* to mean 'Went'. Head back to [Lesson #81](#) (near the bottom) to refresh your memory!



So we could say; मैं बाज़ार गया *main baazaar gayaa* - I went to the Market (Said by a Male)

or for a female मैं बाज़ार गई *main baazaar gaaee* - I went to the Market (said by a Female).

That's pretty straight forward yeah?

That's one irregular verb down, ready for the other four? These four are all **Transitive!** We learnt about The Past Tense for Transitive Verbs in [Lesson #83](#) so check back to the lesson if you've forgot anything! I'll show you the verbs and then we'll see some examples...

Verb	Sing Masc	Plurl Masc	Sing Fem	Plurl Fem
करना <i>karna</i> - To Do	किया <i>kiyaa</i>	किए <i>kie</i>	की <i>kee</i>	कीं <i>keen</i>
लेना <i>lenaa</i> - To Take	लिया <i>liyaa</i>	लिए <i>lie</i>	ली <i>lee</i>	लीं <i>leen</i>

देना denaa - To Give दिया diyaa दिए die दी dee दीं deen

पीना peenaa - To Drink पिया piyaa पिए pie पी pee पीं peen

Wow, so that probably looks really complicated but don't worry. Let me show you a bunch of examples to help you understand...

Remember that all these verbs are Transitive so the verb agrees with the **object** and we have to use **ने ne** just like we learnt in [Lesson #83!](#)



मैंने मेज़ साफ़ की mainne mez saaf kee

- I cleaned the desk (Male or Female).

Can you see the verb agrees with the Singular Feminine word मेज़ mez - Desk.



क्या तुमने टमाटर लिए?

kyaa tumne taamaatar lie

- Did you take the Tomatoes?



शालिनी ने बहुत सारा पानी पिया

shaalinee ne bahut saaraa paanee piyaa

- Shalini drank lots of water.



मैंने लड़के को किताबें दीं

mainne larke ko kitaaben deen

- I gave the books to the boy.

And that's it for now, phew! The most important thing about this lesson is to remember that these five verbs are irregular and so they don't follow the usual pattern!

More On ने ne

It was quite a while ago now that I introduced you to the little confusing Hindi word ने ne.

Can you remember why we use ने ne? That's right, in Past Tense sentences for [Transitive Verbs](#) we use the word ने ne right after the 'subject' to tell us 'who did the action'. Wow, that was a mouthful. Confused? Don't worry if you are because honestly ने ne is one of the trickiest parts of Hindi grammar, you will get there eventually!

It was back in [Lesson #83](#) the we first met ने ne and I told you all about it. Then in [Lesson #87](#) we saw a load of examples. So please read back over those lessons again if you want to refresh your memory!



Unfortunately for us Hindi learners though there's one more little tiny thing we need to learn about ने ne - and that is how it changes a few of the Hindi pronouns! If you've forgotten what

pronouns are then remember they're words like I, he, she, they etc. And if you're forgot Hindi pronouns then head back to [Lesson #15](#)!

Phew! Anyway, are you ready to learn how ने ne changes pronouns? अच्छा accha - great!

Ok so firstly I have the good news! Most Hindi pronouns don't change at all when we use ने ne. In fact all of these don't change; मैं main - I, हम ham - We, तू too - You (Intimate), आप aap - You (Formal) , तुम tum - You (Informal).

So for example...



तुमने छोटी किताब पढ़ी

tumne chotee kitaab parhee

- You read a small book.

Can you see that the word तुम tum - 'You' stays exactly the same.

And the not so good news? The Hindi words for 'He', 'She' and 'They' change a little when we add ने ne. But it's so easy to understand!

यह	yeh	- He, She, It (Close)	becomes -	इसने	<i>isne</i>
ये	ye	- They (Close)	becomes -	इन्होंने	<i>inhonne</i>
वह	voh	- He, She, It (Far)	becomes -	उसने	<i>usne</i>
वे	ve	- They (Far)	becomes -	उन्होंने	<i>unhone</i>

Let me give you a few examples....



उनहोंने अच्छी फ़िल्म देखी

unhonee acchee film dekhee

- They saw a good film



इसने दो आम खाए

isne do aam khaae

- He (or she) ate two mangoes



उसने नया ताला पाया

usne nayaa taalaa paayaa

- He (or she) found a new lock

Can you see? It's really nothing too difficult! It's actually been a really easy lesson, don't you think? I just wanted to use this lesson to recap ने *ne* with you and to teach you a little something new! Try and practice by writing your own Past Tense sentences!

Compound Verbs Part 1

Today we're going to begin to learn about a fantastic feature of Hindi grammar known as Compound Verbs. So what are these 'Compound Verbs' and why do we use them? Well basically Compound Verbs are two verbs used together to create a kind of combined meaning.

They are very common in both speech and writing and are used to express the manner in which something is or was done. They can literally add a whole new dimension to the meaning of a sentence!

Let me show you with an example just how powerful these Compound Verbs can be first, then I'll teach you all about them! Are you ready? So we know how to say 'I read a book', (read - in the past tense sense of the word!) using what we learnt in [Lesson #83](#), it's just..



ਮੈਂ ਨੇ ਕਿਤਾਬ ਪਥੀ *main ne kitaab parhee*

- I read a book

But by simply using a Compound Verb we can change the meaning of this basic sentence quite drastically by saying something like...



ਮੈਂ ਨੇ ਕਿਤਾਬ ਪਥ ਲੀ

main ne kitaab parh lee

- I read a book to myself

Or we might say...



ਮੈਂ ਨੇ ਕਿਤਾਬ ਪਥ ਦੀ

main ne kitaab parh dee

- I read a book out loud

Can you see the differences between the three sentences above? We've used a different Compound Verb in the last two sentences and it's quite simply and drastically changed the meaning! The Compound Verb has told us how the action, 'the reading', was done. So let's learn a little more about Compound Verbs and see how to use them.

A Compound Verb is made up of two verbs; the first we call the Main Verb and gives the general meaning and the second is known as the Auxiliary and gives the general manner of the action. We always use the root of the Main Verb (remember that's just it's infinitive form minus the ना *naa* from the end) and the Auxiliary is conjugated as normal.

Today we're just going to look at one Auxiliary, जाना *jaanaa*. [In Part 2](#) we'll look at लेना *lenaa* and देना *denee* - which we've used in the examples above! After that we'll look at some more. So let's get straight to it!

The verb जाना *jaanaa* means 'to go', but when used as an Auxiliary in a Compound Verb gives the general meaning of a completed action. So let me show you some example Compound Verbs using जाना *jaanaa* as the Auxiliary with various Main Verbs...

आना *aanaa* - To Come - आ जाना *aa jaanaa* - To Arrive

खाना *khaanaa* - To Eat - खा जाना *khaa jaanaa* - To Eat Up

पीना *peenaa* - To Drink - पी जाना *pee jaanaa* - To Drink Up

बैठना *baithnaa* - To Sit - बैठ जाना *baith jaanaa* - To Sit Down

होना *honaa* - To Be - हो जाना *ho jaanaa* - To Become

Can you make sense of this table? We've got some Main Verbs on the left with their original meaning and then on the right hand side is their meaning when used as a Compound Verb

with जाना *jaanaa* as an Auxiliary. Can you see how in each case the new meaning is related but still slightly different to the main verb? So are you ready to see some examples? Great!



हम बगीचे में बैठ गए

ham bageeché men baith gae

- We sat down in the garden.

Remember जाना *jaanaa* is [Irregular in the Past Tense!](#) Can you follow this sentence? We're literally saying 'We garden in sat down', using our Compound Verb we've just learnt! Ready for another example?



देर हो गई है *der ho gaee hai*

- It has become late.

Here we've used the Present Perfect Tense from [Lesson #110](#). In this example we are literally saying 'Lateness has become'. The verb agrees with the Feminine word देर *der* - Lateness / Delay. Following? This phrase is great to use if you're ever with people and want to leave because it's late into night, though many Indians may still insist you stay!



प्रियंका घर आ गई है

priyankaa ghar aa gaee hai

- Priyanka has returned home

Ready for a last example with this Auxiliary?



विराट अपना खाना खा गया

viraat apnaa khaanaa khaa gayaa

- Virat ate up his food

Notice here how we haven't use ने *ne*. We only use ने when **both** the Main Verb and the Auxiliary need it. So because जाना *jaanaa* doesn't use ने *ne* we don't use it in this sentence. Something else to notice is that we usually use compound verbs in either the Imperative form or in the Past Tense. We **never** use them in the Continuous or Future Tense.

Have you followed and understood everything today? Well done for reading all the way down here, it's been quite a long lesson! Now to test your knowledge can you try and translate these three sentences? Why not give a go!

1. यहाँ बैठ जाओ *yahaan baith jao*
2. मैं चाय पी गई *main caay pee gaee*
3. वह दस बजे आ गया *voh das bajे aa gayaa* ([Lesson #57](#) may help!)

Compound Verbs Part 2

Can you remember what we covered last time in [Compound Verbs Part 1](#)? That's right, we began to discover about a great feature of Hindi known as Compound Verbs. These are simply the combination of two verbs; the first verb, which we call the Main Verb, tells us what was done and the second, the Auxiliary, tells us roughly 'how' it was done. In the last lesson we learnt our first Auxiliary verb, जाना *jaanaa* which gives the general meaning of a completeness of the action. For example we might say...



मैं बड़ा सैंडविच खा गया

main baraa saindvich khaa gayaa

- I ate up the big sandwich.

Check back to [Lesson #113](#) if you're confused! Today we're going to learn about two more Auxiliary verbs, लेना *lenaa* and देना *denaa*. Are you ready to get straight into it? अच्छा *acchaa* - Great! So here goes...

Using the verb लेना *lenaa* - literally 'To Take', as an Auxiliary Verb gives the general meaning that the Main Verb has some benefit **towards** the subject (the doer) of the sentence. So what does this mean? Well let me explain with some examples. Can you remember our example from the start of last lesson? We had...



मैं ने किताब पढ़ ली

main ne kitaab parh lee

- I read a book to myself

So the Main Verb here is पढ़ *parh* - read. Remember that लेना *lenaa* is irregular in Past Tense (see [Lesson #88](#)). Using the Auxiliary लेना *lenaa* here gives the sense that the reading benefited the subject (that is the person speaking). The reading benefited only them so they must have read to themselves!

As mentioned in [last lesson](#), we use ने *ne* here because both पढ़ना *parhnaa* - To Read and लेना *lenaa* - To Take need ने *ne*! Did you follow that? Are you ready for another example?



ऋषभ ने घर खरीद लिया

rishabh ne ghar khareed liyaa

- Rishabh brought a house (for himself).

Here we've used the Auxiliary लेना *lenaa* to show the benefit of the action 'flows' towards Rishabh. He brought the house and he is benefiting from it - he brought the house for himself! Are you following? Let's see another example...



ये चीज़ें ले लो *ye ceezen le lo*

- Take these things

So what have we done here? Well let's go through from the start of the sentence and break it down! We start with ये चीज़ें *ye ceezen* - These things. 'Thing' in Hindi is चीज़ *ceez* (F). Then we've used the Compound Verb ले लेना *le lenaa* in the तुम *tum* imperative form (see [Lesson #77](#)) to give us ले लो *le lo* - Take. The Main verb ले *le* tells us we mean 'take' and the Auxiliary tells us we mean the benefit is towards the person we're talking to. It's like we're literally saying 'Take these things and you will benefit from it somehow'. Are you following? If you have any questions please feel free to ask me in the comments section below!

Now in a very similar way, our second Auxiliary for today, देना *denaa* - literally 'To Give', gives the general meaning that the general flow of benefit of the action is **away** from the subject of

the sentence (the doer) or towards someone else. Can you remember our second example from last lesson? We had...



मैं ने किताब पढ़ दी

main ne kitaab parh dee

- I read a book out loud

So what's happened in this sentence? Well we've used **देना** *denaa* as an Auxiliary here - it's told us that the person speaking read a book and that other people benefited from it. They read it out loud for other people to hear! Ready for another example?



मुझे प्याज़ दे दो *mujhe pyaaz de do*

- Give me the onion.

So what have we done here? Well firstly we have **मुझे** *mujhe* - which is just another way to say **मुझको** *mujhko* - 'to me'. Then **प्याज़** *pyaaz* - Onion. Finally we've used the Compound Verb **दे दो** *de do* as an Imperative to mean 'give the onion to me (and away from you)'. Using the Compound Verb emphasises that the person you're talking to is giving something away from them and toward you. Does that make sense? Ready for one last example?



उस ने अपना गुर्दा बेच दिया

us ne apnaa gurdaa bec diyaa

- He sold his own kidney

This may seem a bizarre sentence but it's in fact taken from even more bizarre news story. If you're up for a challenge try and practice some Hindi and [read the story yourself here!](#) (Note please **do not** sell your own kidney!)

Here we've used the noun **गुर्दा** *gurdaa* - Kidney (M) and the Main Verb **बेच** *bec* - To Sell. The Compound Verb tells us that he sold it and this had a benefit for someone else and not for himself. Following?

And that's it for today! These Compound Verbs can be a little confusing to begin with so don't worry if it hasn't quite sunk in yet.

The Present Perfect Tense

Today we're going to cover yet another tense in Hindi; the Present Perfect Tense. So firstly, what is the Present Perfect Tense? Well I can assure it's a lot easier than it sounds! In English it's simply sentences like 'I have eaten', 'She has returned', 'They have bought', 'Ram has spoken' etc etc. They use the word 'have' or 'has' before the Past Tense form of the verb to show that something has been completed. If you're a bit confused with this then just keep going and I assure you you'll understand after some more examples!

So how do we form this Present Perfect Tense in Hindi? Well, it's a lot easier than you might think. Let me show you an example to start with, and then after I'll explain what's happened! So using the Verb **पहुँचना** *pahuncnaa* - To Arrive, we know from [Lesson #81](#) how to say 'I arrived home', that's right it's just...



मैं घर पहुँचा *main ghar pahuncaa*

- I arrived home (Said by a Male)

This is simply the standard Past Tense. In the Present Perfect Tense this sentence would be 'I have returned home'. How do we say this in Hindi? Well, it's actually really easy, it's simply...

मैं घर पहुँचा हूँ *main ghar pahuncaa hoon*

- I have arrived home (Said by a Male)

Can you see we've just added हूँ *hoon* to the end of the sentence, and it's changed the meaning from 'I arrived home' to 'I have arrived home'.

That's really all there is to it! To form the Present Perfect Tense in Hindi we simply use the Past Tense (As we saw in [Lesson #81](#) for Intransitive Verbs and [Lesson #83](#) for Transitive ones). Together with the correct form of the verb 'To Be' ([Lesson #22](#)). So let's see another example, this time we'll use the verb बैठना *baithnaa* - To Sit, so to say 'She sat' in Hindi we say...



वह बैठी *voh baithaa* - She sat

And how do we change this into the Present Perfect Tense? It's easy, we just add है *hai* this time...

वह बैठी है *voh baithaa hai* - She has sat

(Or she is seated)

Are you following so far? Don't worry, they'll be plenty more examples! Now remember that when we use the Past Tense with an Transitive Verb we have to use the word ने *ne* (As we saw in [Lesson #83](#)). So for example, we can say 'I wrote a letter'. Letter in Hindi is - खत *khat* (M). So our sentence is just...



मैंने खत लिखा *mainne khat likhaa*

- I wrote a letter

This is just the Past Tense. How do we change this to the Present Perfect tense? Well there's a slight catch here, because it's a Transitive verb we use है *hai* to agree with the object of the sentence - खत *khat* - Letter. Giving us...

मैंने खत लिखा है *mainne khat likhaa hai*

- I've written a letter

Feel free to ask a question below if you're confused! So let's see another example. We know how to say 'I bought three potatoes' it's simply...



मैंने तीन आलू खरीदे

mainne teen aaloo khareede

- I bought three potatoes

So how do we change this to the Present Perfect Tense 'I have bought three potatoes'?

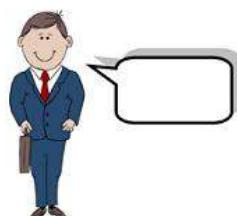
Remember that because we're using a transitive verb with ने *ne* the thing we're going to add must agree with 'Three Potatoes', so we say...

मैंने तीन आलू खरीदे हैं

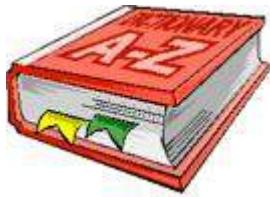
mainne teen aloo khareede hain

- I have bought three potatoes

Are you starting to get the hang of it now? अच्छा *acchaa* - Great! Let's see a few more examples. This time though, I won't give you the explanations - so be sure to read each sentence a few times and try and figure out the steps!



राम बोला है *raam bolaa hai* - Ram has spoken



उन्होंने शब्दकोश लिया है *unhone shabdkosh liyaa hai*

- They have taken the Dictionary



क्या तुमने खाया है? *kyaa tumne khaayaa hai?*

- Have you eaten?



हम सोए हैं *ham soe hain* - We have slept

Can you follow those examples? Phew that's the end of the lesson! Well done for reading all the way to the end. Now you know how to create a Hindi sentence in the Present Perfect tense! As a challenge do you think you can translate these 5 sentences below? Give it a go, ...

1. I have eaten
2. You have swam
3. She has written a story (कहानी *kahaanee* (F) - Story)
4. Have they returned?
5. I've gone to the Market (said by a female)

The Past Perfect Tense

Do you think you're ready to learn all about one more tense in Hindi? Don't worry, after this one there's only a few more to go! Today we're going to look at what we call the Past Perfect Tense. So what is the Past Perfect Tense? Well it's easy, it's just sentences that use the word

'had' like, 'I had gone', 'They had eaten', 'She had given' etc. We'll see plenty of examples as we go through so don't get confused just yet!

Can you remember back to [Lesson #110](#), when we saw what's called the Present Perfect Tense? Well the good news is that the Past Perfect Tense is very similar, so it might be a good idea to revise over that lesson first!

So are you ready to begin? Let's get straight to it then! Just like the Present Perfect Tense from [Lesson #110](#), we first start with a simple Past Tense sentence first, so for example we can say...



ਮੈਂ ਨੌ ਬਜੇ ਗਿਆ *main nau baje gayaa*

- I went at nine o'clock (said by a male)

This is just the Past Tense! So how do we change this to the Past Perfect Tense, 'I had gone at nine o'clock', then? Well it's easy than you think, we just say...

ਮੈਂ ਨੌ ਬਜੇ ਗਿਆ ਥਾ

main nau baje gayaa tha

- I had gone at nine o'clock (said by a male)

Can you see what's changed? That's right, we've added **ਥਾ** *tha* to the end, and this has changed the meaning from 'I went at nine o'clock' to 'I had gone at nine o'clock'.

So the rule is very simple, to change a Past Tense sentence to a Past Perfect Tense sentence we just add **ਥਾ** *tha*, **ਥੇ** *the*, **ਥੀ** *thee* or **ਥੀਨ** *theen* to the end, easy!

Are you following this? Great! Let's see another example then, this time we're going to say 'She had sat down'. So just like before we start with Simple Past Tense sentence, 'She sat down'...



वह बैठ गई voh baith gaee

- She sat down

And now this time we add **थी** *thee* to agree with Feminine subject, she, so our Past Perfect Tense sentence is...

वह बैठ गई थी voh baith gaee thee

- She had sat down

Can you see what we've done here? Yeah? Great! Ok now let's look at a Transitive example. So we're going to start with the Past Tense sentence 'I gave you two apples' (Using our Compound Verbs from [Lesson #114](#))...



मैंने आपको दो सेब दे दिए

mainne aapko do seb de die

- I gave you two apples.

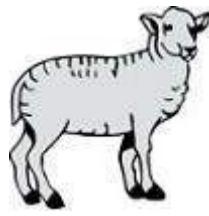
Now to change this to the Past Perfect Tense, 'I had given you two apples', we simply add **थे** *the* to the end, agreeing, like the verb, with the word **सेब** *seb* - Apples (Masculine Plural). So we say...

मैंने आपको दो सेब दे दिए थे

- *mainne aapko do seb de die the*

- I had given you two apples.

Got it? If you have any questions at all then be sure to ask me in the comments section below! Let's see another example...



भेड़ ने गंदा पानी पिया था

bher ne gandaa paanee piyaa tha

- The sheep had drunk dirty water

Can you follow this example? We use **था** *thaa* here because, like the verb, it agrees with the word **पानी** *paanee* - Water (M). See it's really quite easy! Can you manage a few final examples before you try it yourself?



उनहोंने आज के अखबार में कहानी पढ़ी थी

unhone aaj ke akhbaar men kahaanee parhee thee

- They had read a story in today's newspaper.

Phew that's quite a tricky a long example! We've met all these words before though so you should be able to follow it. We use **थी** *thee* because, like the verb, it agrees with the word **कहानी** *kahaanee* - Story (F).



मैं अपने पलंग पर सोई थी

main apne palang par soee thee

- I had slept on my bed (said by a female)



आप अमित से नहीं मिले थे

aap amit se naheen mile the

- You had not met Amit

As you can see in that last example, making the negative case is really easy, you just add **नहीं** *naheen* just before the verb!

Phew ok, did you follow of the examples in this lesson? If not then please feel free to leave me a question just below and I'll do my best to help you out! Now it's your turn! Below there's 4 English sentences, I want you to try and translate them into Hindi.

1. I had eaten.
2. They had gone
3. Prakash had spoken Urdu
4. He had taken my car (**गाड़ी** *gaaree* - Car (F))

कर *kar* - After

In today's lesson we're going to learn about an easy, but powerful, verb construction in Hindi. It's technical name is the conjunctive particle or the absolute, but don't let those scary names put you off! Do you think you're ready to get going? Great! Let's start with something we already know then; how would we say "I read the newspaper" (read as in past tense). That's right, just as we learnt in [Lesson #83](#) we'd say...



मैंने अखबार पढ़ा

mainne akhbaar parhaa

- I read the newspaper

Great! So now suppose we wanted to make this sentence a little more interesting and say "after eating I read the newspaper" - how would we do this? Well it's easier than you might

think! All we do is take the verb खाना *khaanaa* - 'to eat' and change it to खाकर *khaakar* - 'after eating', and then wack it into the start of our sentence...

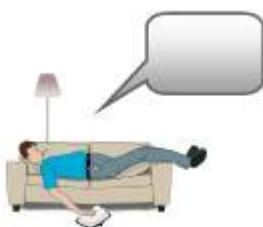
मैंने खाकर अखबार पढ़ा

mainne khaakar akhbaar parhaa

- After eating I read the newspaper

Can you see what's happened? Let's look at a few more examples to get more used to it....

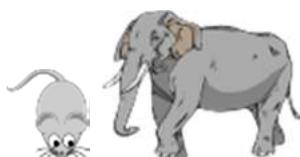
Suppose this time we wanted to say "after speaking I got up". How would we do this? Well we know how to say "I got up" - that's just मैं उठा *main uthaa*, and as we've just seen above to say "after speaking" we say बोलकर *bolkar*. With me? So all together it's...



मैं बोलकर उठा *main bolkar uthaa*

- After speaking I got up

Are you following here? Great! One thing to note is that what we add to the sentence is not effected by the grammar at all - it's completely independent. All this means is that if we take away what we've added the sentence should make perfect sense! Ready for another example?



हाथी चूहे को देखकर चिल्लाया!

haathee coohe ko dekhkar cillaaya

- After seeing the mouse the elephant screamed!

Still with me? Don't forget you can ask in the comments section just below if you have any questions! We can use this construction with other tenses, not just the past tense, so we could say...



मैं उनसे पूछकर तुम्हें बताऊँगी

main unse poochkar tumhen bataaoongee

- After asking him I will tell you (said by a female).

Often in more causal conversations we add के ke instead of कर kar to the verb, these both have the exact same meaning just के ke is less formal...



राहुल अपनी चाय पीके घर जा रहा होगा

raahul apnee caay peeke ghar jaa raha hogaa

- After drinking his tea Rahul will be going home.



सोके कुछ खाओ soke kuch khao

- After sleeping eat something!

The verb करना karna in this construction always takes के ke and never कर kar, for example...



बहस करके मैं रोया

bahas karke main royaa

- After arguing I cried.

Okay just one last thing to learn and then that's it, promise! In Hindi if we want to say "I did something and then did something else" we usually use this construction. So we might say...



निकीता ने कैक बनाके खाया

nikieeta ne kaik banaake khaaya

- Nikita made a cake and ate it.

Can you see we're literally saying "Nikita, after making a cake, ate it". With me still? One final example for today...



बैठकर मुझे दिखाइए

baithkar mujhe dikhaaie

- Please sit down and show me

Phew ok wow! Well done if you've make it all the way through today's lesson, sorry its been so long. Read through the lesson again and make sure you can understand each example - if not then please just ask in a comment below!

If you think you've understood everything then try translating these sentences into Hindi - go on, give it a go!

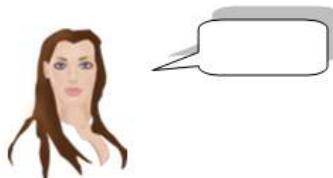
1. After swimming I will go home.
2. He came in and screamed!
3. Priti saw a dress and bought it.
4. Come home and clean your room.
5. After reading my book I went to sleep.

देना *denaa* - To Let, To Allow

We've seen the verb देना *denaa* loads of times before - it means "to give". We've also seen it in action as a Compound Verb over in [Lesson #114](#) where it gives the meaning of "flow" away from the subject. Today we're going to learn another use of the word देना *denaa* - how it can be used to mean "to let" or "to allow". Ready to get going?



So here's how it works: we take ourselves any verb we like, then change the ending to ने *ne* and add देना *denaa*. This gives us a new verb which means "to allow to...". So let's do it. If we pick the verb बोलना *bolnaa* - "to speak" we end up with बोलने देना *bolne denaa* - "to allow to speak". So using this we might say for example...



मुझे बोलने दो

mujhe bolne do

- Allow me to speak / Let me speak

Can you see what we've done here? We're using the तुम *tum imperative* of देना *denaa* - दो *do*. Notice that we start the sentence with मुझे *mujhe* - "to me". We're literally saying "to me allow to speak" - which really means "allow me to speak". Does that make sense? Do you want to see some more examples? Well here goes...



मुझे नाचने दो

mujhe naacne do

- Allow me to dance / Let me dance.

Can you see what we've done here? It's almost the same as the last example! One more then...



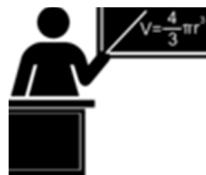
अजय को गाने दीजिए

ajay ko gaane deejie

- Please Allow Ajay to sing / Please let Ajay sing

This time we're using the **आप aap** imperative and literally saying "to Ajay allow to sing".

Following? Be sure to ask any questions in the comments below if you're a bit lost! And we don't just have to use imperatives either, we can use this construction with just about any tense we like! Here's an example...



हमारे अध्यापक हमें खेलने नहीं देते

hamaare adyaapak hamen khelne naheen dete

- Our teachers do not let us play

Here we're using the present tense - so we use the present form of **देना denaa** - **देता detaa** and we put it in the Masculine Plural, **देते dete**, to agree with the masculine plural subject "our teachers". Let's see another example...



मैं उसको अपनी साइकिल चलाने देती हूँ

main usko apnee saaikil calaane detee hoon

- I let him ride my bicycle (said by a female)

This time we're using the verb **साईकिल चलाना saaikil calaanaa** - "to ride a bicycle" and we use the feminine form of the verb **देती detee** because it is a female speaking. With me?

Now we can use the Past Tense with this as well! Any verb in this form will always take the particle ने *ne* to mark the subject in past tense sentences and देना *denaa* always agrees with the object (if there's no object it is default masculine singular). Let's see some examples...



उसने मुझे शब्दकोश खरीदने दिया

usne mujhe shabdkosh khareedne diyaa

- She let me buy a dictionary

So what's happened here? Well we're using the verb खरीदने *khareedne* *denaa* - which we've just learnt means "to allow to buy", and we've stuck it in the past tense meaning it agrees with the Masculine singular word शब्दकोश *shabdkosh*. Here's another example...



संगीता ने रोहित को गाड़ी चलाने दी

sangeetaa ne rohit ko gaaree calaane dee

- Sangeeta let Rohit drive the car

This time we're using the verb चलाने *calaaane* *denaa* - "to allow to drive" and it's Feminine because it's in the past tense so agrees with the Feminine word गाड़ी *gaaree*. Got it?

Of course we can use the future tense as well. So we could say...



क्या तुम रवि को बियर पीने दोगे?

kyaa tum rav&T ko biyaar peene doge?

- Will you let Ravi drink beer?

Can you see what we've done here? Hopefully you should be getting used to it by now! Ready for one last example?



वह उसको गिटार बजाने देगा

voh usko gitaar bajaane degaa

- He will let her play guitar.

Phew! Do you recon you've understood this lesson? Try translating the following sentences to test your understanding!

1. Let me read the book.
2. Shalini lets me live here.
3. My Father let me watch TV.
4. Will you let me come? (Asked to a female)
5. वह उसको सिगरेट पीने नहीं देती *voh usko sigaret peene naheen detee*
6. रहने दो! *rahne do!*

तो *to* - So, Then, Comparing

In today's lesson we're going to look at a very common little Hindi word, but a word that can often be quite tricky to understand and use correctly. The word is: तो *to*. Anyway hopefully by the end of this lesson you should understand this word perfectly so are you ready to get into it?

तो *to* has two general uses, so let's look at them one at a time. I mean, that would be the sensible thing right? Here's an example sentence demonstrating the first use of तो *to*. Have a read of it a few times, then after I'll explain...



तो आप संजय हैं? *to aap sanjay hain?*

- So, you're Sanjay?

That was quite straight forward yeah? Can you see what तो *to* has done to this sentence?

That's right, it's real easy; starting the sentence with तो *to* is just like starting an English sentence with 'so'. And that's the first use of तो *to*. Easy hey! Let's look at a few more examples...



तो आप शादी शुदा हैं? *to aap shaadee shudaa hain*

- So you're married then?

There's a little new vocab in this small sentence; शादी शुदा *shaadee shudaa* - Married. But can you see what we've done by starting with तो *to*? अच्छा *acchaa* - great! So one more example then...



तो तुम स्कौटलैंड से हो? *to tum skautlaind se ho?*

- Ah, so you're from scotland then?

Right ok so have you got that? Starting a sentence or phrase with तो *to* is just like starting a sentence in English with 'so' or ending with 'then'. That's the first use of तो *to*. Are you ready to learn about the second use? It's a little trickier but we can do it!

When तो *to* comes after a word or phrase it is used to compare that word to something else in the same context. So what on earth does that mean? Well let's take a look a few examples to start with....

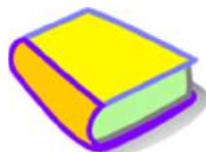


घर तो बड़ा है लेकिन बगीचा बहुत छोटा है

ghar to baraa hai lekin bageecaa bahut chotaa hai

- The house is big but the garden is very small

So what's happened here? Well we've used तो *to* after 'house' because in this sentence we are comparing the house to something else. As we read the sentence it turns out we're comparing the house to the garden and we're comparing them both in the context of size. The तो *to* simply tells us that we're going to compare the house to something! Let's look at another example...



किताब अच्छी तो थी पर काफी महँगी थी

kitaab acchee to thee par kaafee mahangee thee

- The book was good but it was quite expensive

So what's happened this time? Well we've put the तो *to* after the word अच्छी *acchee* - good, this time because we're going to compare the 'goodness' of the book. Again, as we read we see that we're comparing the fact it was good to the fact it was quite expensive.

Can you see from these last two examples that in this use of तो *to* the placement of the word in the sentence is very important!

Sometimes with this use of **तो** *to* we don't explicitly state what we are comparing the thing to. Which can make it seem a little confusing, trust me it's not though! Let's look at a example...



कल तो मैंने गोश्त खाया

kal to mainne gosht khaayaa

- Yesterday I ate meat (but as for today....?)

So can you see that we've used **तो** *to* after **कल** *kal* - yesterday. This tells us that we're going to compare the fact that something happened yesterday but then didn't happen on some other day (say for example, today). So as we read the sentence we see that we say 'I ate meat'. This, combined with what we've already seen, tells us that we may have eaten meat yesterday but on another day we didn't eat meat.

Can you see the comparison is not explicitly written in the sentence, we must implicitly use what's given to make an assumption. Are you a confused? Read through the paragraph a few more times to try and help it sink it.

Now remember how we just said that the placement of **तो** *to* is important? Let me show you why by looking at another example very similar to the last...



कल मैंने तो गोश्त खाया

kal mainne to gosht khaayaa

- Yesterday I ate meat (but as for someone else....?)

Can you see how this sentence is different to the last? Look carefully. **तो** *to* is now after the word **मैं** *main* - I. What does this mean? That's right, this means we're comparing the fact that *I* did something and whereas someone else did not. Are you with me?

If you're feeling confident you can now head back to [Lesson #124](#) and see if you can find and understand the use of **तो** *to there!*

Phew ok so that's it, well done if you've read all the way down and have understood this lesson! It has been a very long and difficult lesson.

जब... तब *jab... tab* - When... Then

In today's lesson we're going to look at two very simple, yet very common and important Hindi words. So are you ready? Great! Let's go! The words are; जब *jab* and तब *tab*.

But now what do these words mean and how to we use them? Well actually it's ever so easy!

जब *jab* means 'when' and तब *tab* means 'then' and together they are used to make sentences like 'when this happens, then that happens'. Let me show you an example to start with....



जब मैं घर आऊँगा तब खाऊँगा

jab main ghar aaoongaa tab khaaoongaa

- When I come home then (I) will eat (Said by a Male)

Phew that's quite a mouthful, but can you see what we've done? That's right, we've started by saying जब मैं घर आऊँगा *jab main ghar aaoongaa* - When I come home, and then just after we've said तब खाऊँगा *tab khaaoongaa* - Then I will eat.

We can drop the मैं *main* - I, in the second part of the sentence because it refers to the same person from the first part of the sentence. We usually drop the 'then' in English too and simply

say 'When I come home I will eat', but in Hindi we always have to use तब tab! Are you with me? Ready to see another example?

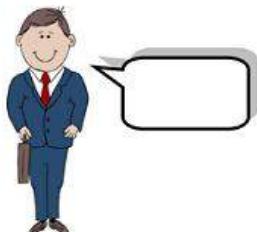


जब मैं आपको किताब दूँगी तब इसको पढ़िए

jab main aapko kitaab doongee tab isko parhie

- When I give you the book (then) please read it (Said by a Female)

This time we've used an Imperative - पढ़िए parhie - Please read, in the second part of the sentence; we're saying when I give you the book then read it. These sentences are a little tricky, so be sure to read them through many times to make sure you understand them. Don't forget you can always ask me questions in the comments section below! So let's carry on...



जब राम बोलता है तब हम सुनते हैं

jab raam boltaa hai tab ham sunte hain

- When Ram speaks (then) we listen

This time we've used the Present Tense to show it's a habitual action, it happens all the time. Every time Ram speaks we always listen! Are you starting to get the idea of this? Let's see a few final examples...



जब वह ऊपर जाएगी तब मैं सो जाऊँगा

jab voh oopar jaaegee tab main so jaaongaa

- When she goes upstairs (then) I will go to sleep



जब हम कहेंगे तब दौड़ो

jab ham kahenge tab dauro

- When we say, run!



जब रोशन बगीचे में बैठ जाता है तब कहानियाँ लिखता है

jab roshan bageece men baith jaataa hai tab kahaaniyaan likhtaa hai

- When Roshan sits down in the garden (then) he writes stories

So do you get the idea now? These sentences are all quite straight forward, the only new part is using our new words जब *jab* - When and तब *tab* - Then!

But here's a tricky part! We've already seen a word for When in Hindi - कब *kab* but it is *completely different* to जब *jab* - when! So what's the difference? Well it's easy, कब *kab* is used for a question and जब *jab* is used for a statement! Have a look at the following two sentences...



आप कब जाएँगे? *aap kab jaaengehe*

- When will you go?

जब आप जाएँगे तब मैं भी जाऊँगा

jab aap jaaenge tab main bhee jaaongaa

- When you go I will too

Can you see sentence 1 is a question, so we use कब *kab* and the sentence 2 is a statement (there's no question mark!) so we use जब *jab*! Just remember this - if you have a 'when' question use कब *kab* and if not use जब *jab*, we'll learn more about this soon don't worry.

Phew! Sorry for such a long lesson. Hopefully you now understand how to use जब *jab* and तब *tab*! Try and practice and make some of your own 'When... Then' Hindi sentences!

ही *hee* - Only Part 1

In today's lesson we're going to just look at one tiny little Hindi word - I mean how easy does that sound? The word we're going to study is; ही *hee*. Have you seen this word before? It comes up all the time so I bet you have. Hopefully by the end of today's lesson you'll understand perfectly what it means and how to use it. So are you ready to get going?

Let's look at an example of ही *hee* first, we already know how to say "They speak Hindi", that's right it's...



वे हिन्दी बोलते हैं

ve hindee bolte hain

- They speak Hindi

This should just be revision, but if you're confused head on back to [Lesson #28](#). Now by just adding the word ही *hee* into this sentence we can make quite a big difference to its meaning. So let's see what happens...

वे हिन्दी ही बोलते हैं

ve hindee hee bolte hain

- They speak only Hindi

So can you see what's changed? We've added ही *hee* and this has changed the meaning of the sentence from "They speak Hindi" to "They speak only Hindi". Are you following? So what exactly does ही *hee* mean then?

Well simply put, ही *hee* is used for emphasis. It emphasises, or restricts, the word before it in the sentence. Often (but not always) this means it can be translated as "only" or "just". So in our above sentence this means that putting ही *hee* after the word हिन्दी *hindee* tells that it is *only* Hindi that they speak!

Let's build another sentence together then, we learnt how to say "I can swim" in Hindi in [Lesson #64](#), can you remember how we say it? That's right, it's...



मैं तैर सकता हूँ *main tair saktaa hoon*

- I can swim (said by a male)

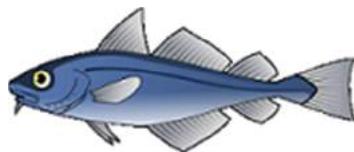
Now if we want to change this sentence to say "Only I can swim" can you guess how we'd do it? That's right we're going to use ही *hee* and it's going to come right after मैं *main* (because we want to emphasis that it's just "me" that can swim), so we'd say...

मैं ही तैर सकता हूँ

main hee tair saktaa hoon

- Only I can swim (said by a male)

With me? So let's see a few more examples, as you read through them make sure you understand them. Don't forget if you have any questions you can leave them in the comments section below.



हम मछलियाँ ही खरीदेंगे

ham machliyan hee khareedenge

- We will buy only fish



राजेश ही रसोईघर में है

rajesh hee rasoeghar men hai

- Just Rajesh is in the Kitchen



मेरे पास एक ही कुत्ता है

mere paas ek hee kuttaa hai

- I have just one dog

Are you getting the idea now? Remember that ही *hee* emphasises the word directly before it in the sentence. This means that its position is very important, and changing its position changes the meaning! For example consider the sentences...



मैंने ही दाल पकाइ

mainne hee daal pakaaee

- I cooked the daal by myself

मैंने दाल ही पकाइ

mainne daal hee pakaaee

- I cooked just daal

Can you see the differences between the two sentences above? In the first one we have the ही *hee* right after the word मैंने *mainne* which means we're emphasising that it was just "me" that did it - I cooked the daal by myself. But in the second sentence we have the ही *hee* right after the word दाल *daal* so we're emphasising that it was just daal we cooked! Does that make sense?

Do you think you now understand the word ही *hee*? Hopefully you do. If you think you've understood the whole lesson try translating the following sentences into Hindi - each one of them uses ही *hee*!

1. I will write only in Hindi
2. Rishi went to the cinema by himself
3. He is selling just one house
4. They will return with just Priti (To Return - लौटना *lautnaa*)
5. She eats just chips

ही *hee* - Only Part 2

So [last lesson](#) we looked at the Hindi word ही *hee*, can you remember what we learnt? That's right, ही *hee* is used for emphasis and it often translates as "only" or "just". For example we learnt how to say sentences like...



आमिर ही मस्जिद गया

aamir hee masjid gayaa

- Only Amir went to the mosque

If this seems new or confusing then simply head back to our [last lesson](#) and have a little revise through it! Today we're going to learn a little more about this word ही *hee*. So are you ready to get straight into it?

Sometimes ही *hee* "joins" onto words we already know and causes them to change slightly, so let's learnt these words first and then we'll see a bunch of examples! So here's the first group of these words...

मुझ mujh + ही *hee* gives मुझी mujhee - Just me

हम ham + ही *hee* gives हमी hameen - Just us

तुझ tujh + ही *hee* gives तुझी tujhee - Just you

तुम tum + ही *hee* gives तुम्ही tumheen - Just you

यह yeh + ही *hee* gives यही yahee - Just him / her / it

वह voh + ही *hee* gives वही vohee - Just him / her / it

इस is + ही *hee* gives इसी isee - Just him / her / it

उस us + ही *hee* gives उसी usee - Just him / her / it

इन in + ही *hee* gives इन्हीं inheen - Just them

उन un + ही *hee* gives उन्हीं unheen - Just them

As you can see, we've translated these as "Just ___", but often the translation depends more on the context! Let's see some example sentences then...



यही बिल्ली मेरी है

yehee billee meree hai

- This very cat is mine

Can you see what we've done here? Instead of just saying यह बिल्ली *yeh billee* - this cat, we've added our new word ही *hee* to change the meaning to "this very cat" making the sentence very precise! With me?



हाँ, मैं वही करूँगा

haan, main vohee karoongaa

- Yes, I will do exactly that

In this example we're using वही *vohee* to mean "exactly that" - just making the sentence more specific. Can you see? This is a good sentence to know when talking to your work boss!



मैं उसी से प्यार करती हूँ

main usee se pyaar kartee hoon

- I love *him* (and just him)

Got it? Now here's the second set of words we can join ही *hee* to, ready?

अब *ab* - Now + ही *hee* gives अभी *abhee* - Right now

यहाँ *yahaan* - Here + ही *hee* gives यहीं *yaheen* - Right here

वहाँ *vahaan* - There + ही *hee* gives वहीं *vaheen* - Right there

सब *sab* - All + ही *hee* gives सभी *sabhee* - Absolutely all

Ready to see a few example sentences with these? Here goes...



हम यहाँ बैठ गए

ham yaheen baith gae

- We sat down right here



अभी आइए *abhee aaie*

- Please come right now



सभी लोग खुशी होंगे

sabhee log khushee honge

- Absolutely everyone will be happy

Did you follow and understand all those sentences? They shouldn't be too complicated for you!

As a final word of warning make sure you don't confuse the words यहीं *yahee* - "just him" and यहाँ *yaheen* - "right here" or the words वहीं *vohee* - "just him" and वहाँ *voheen* - "right there"; they are very similar words, the nasalisation at the end is very important! And, phew that's it for today - that's the end of the lesson!

Why not try writing your own Hindi sentences using the words we've learnt today - give it a go!

The Verb लगना *lagnaa* Part 1

In today's lesson we're going to begin to look at the Hindi verb लगना *lagnaa*. This is one of the most common verbs in Hindi and unfortunately it can also be real tricky to understand and translate sometimes, it just has so many meanings! So let's get straight into it, are you ready?

The most literal meaning of लगना *lagnaa* is 'to be attached' or 'to be stuck', so we might say something like...



ढक्कन नहीं लगा था

dhakkan naheen lagaa tha

- The lid was not attached

That's easy enough yeah? Now you might be surprised to hear that in Hindi we can use this verb to talk about feelings. How does that work? Well let me show you an example to start with...



मुँझे ठंड लग रही है

mujhe thand lag rahee hai

- I am (feeling) cold

What's happening here? Well let's look at the sentence literally; we're saying "to me cold is attached". This may seem like a very odd way of saying "I'm cold" in Hindi but that's just how we say it, that coldness is attached to you. If it helps you remember imagine a great big cold monster attaching himself to you!

Notice as well that here we're using the feminine form of the verb to agree with the feminine word ठंड *thand*. A few other feelings like this follow the same pattern...



उसको प्यास लगी *usko pyaas lagee*

- He was (feeling) thirsty

Again we've used exactly the same construction, we're literally saying "to him thirst was attached". Strangle hey! One more then...



आदमी को राक्षस से डर लगा

aadmee ko raakshas se dar lagaa

- The man was scared of the monster

Here we're using the word डर *dar* - 'fear' to literally say "to the man by the monster fear was attached", which is quite a mouthful! Can you understand and follow the sentence? Feel free to ask in comments below if you're at all confused!

There's a few other words we can use like this including भूख *bhookh* - hunger (fem) and गरमी *garmee* - heat (fem). Another word that follows the same pattern is चोट *cot* - injury (fem). We use चोट लगना *cot lagnaa* to mean 'to be injured'. The 'thing' that gets injured or hurt is followed by a को *ko* and the verb is always feminine (since it always agrees with चोट *cot*). For example...



मदद! मुझे चोट लगती है

madad! mujhe cot lagtee hai

- Help! I am hurt

We can also use लगना *lagnaa* to mean 'seems' in sentences where we think something is true. We might say...



यह सही लगता है

yeh sahee lagtaa hai

- This seems correct



मुझे लगता है कि हिन्दी बहुत कठिन है

mujhe lagtaa hai ki hindee bahut kathin hai

- To me it seems that Hindi is very difficult

Can you follow this sentence? Don't forget that **कि** *ki* means 'that'!

Phew ok, I recon that's enough for today. Can you see already how versatile this verb लगना *lagnaa* is, it's already got so many meanings and uses! To check your understanding of the lesson today try translating these sentences into Hindi.

1. The letter is attached
2. Yesterday I was so hot
3. Are you hungry?
4. Her hand was injured
5. To me it seems that Amit is a good man

So be sure to give them a go!

The Verb लगना *lagnaa* Part 2

Last lesson we began to learn about the Hindi verb लगना *lagnaa*. Can you remember what we learnt? We saw how to say some sentences like...



मुङ्गे भूख लग रही थी

mujhe bhookh lag rahee thee

- I was (feeling) hungry

We covered quite a lot in that lesson so be sure to read back over it if you feel like you've forgot anything! Today we're going to learn two other uses for the verb लगना *lagnaa*. Do you think you're ready to get going?

If we put लगना *lagnaa* after the oblique infinitive of a verb then we create the meaning "to begin to...". What does this mean? Well it's much easier than it sounds; for example changing खाना *khaanaa* 'to eat' to खाने लगना *khaane lagnaa* changes the meaning to 'to begin to eat', or the same with रोना *ronaa* 'to cry' gives us रोने लगना *rone lagnaa* 'to begin to cry'.

Got it? Let's look at some example sentences...



वह हँसने लगा

voh hansne lagaa

- He began to laugh

Can you see what we've done here? We're using the verb हँसने लगना *hansne langaa* - to begin to laugh. Got it?



हम गाने लगे *ham gaane lage*

- We began to sing



अध्यापिका बकवास करने लगी

adhyapikaa bakvaas karne lagee

- The (female) teacher began to speak nonsense

One thing to note is that we *never* use ने *ne* in a sentence of this form, even if the verb usually

takes ने *ne*. For example...



मैं बरतन माँजने लगी

main bartan maanjne lagee

- I started to wash the dishes (said by a female)

Do you think you've got it now? Excellent! Be sure to ask in the comments section just below if you have any questions.

Another use for लगना *lagnaa* is when we want to talk about time, when we want to say how long it takes to do something. In this case लगना *lagnaa* translates as something like 'to be taken' or 'to be expended'. Let me show you an example first...



समझने में मुझे दस मिनट लगे

samajhne men mujhe das minat lage

- It took me ten minutes to understand

So what's going on here then? Well let's look at the sentence literally, we're saying "in understanding to me ten minutes were taken". This seems like a very strange thing to say but that's how we say it in Hindi! Notice we're using the masculine plural verb here; it is agreeing with the masculine plural दस मिनट *das minat* - ten minutes!

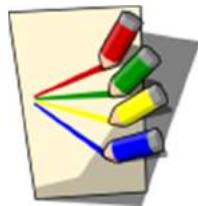


हिन्दी सीखने में बहुत साल लगते हैं

hindee seekhne men bahut saal lagte hain

- It takes many years to learn Hindi

Can you see what's happening with this second example? Literally we're saying "in learning Hindi many years (it) takes". Ready to see some more examples?



तस्वीर बनाने में उसे घंटा लगा

tasveer banaane men use gantaa lagaa

- It took him an hour to draw a picture



तुम्हें देर नहीं लगेगी

tumhen der naheen lagegeee

- It won't take you long

Notice in this last example we're using the feminine future form to agree with the feminine word देर *der* - 'a while'.

So there we go, there's two more uses for लगना *lagaa*! There are many more uses for this verb so we will cover them soon. Do you think you've understood everything in this lesson? If you think you have understood then try translating these sentences below...

1. He began to cry.
2. Tomorrow I will begin to learn English. (said by a female)
3. We began to dance. (For an extra challenge try translating "After hearing the song we began to dance" using [Lesson #133](#).)
4. It took us two hours to arrive home.
5. It takes me the whole day to clean my room.
6. It will take her five minutes to make chai.

(Hint for 5: all day in Hindi is दिन भर *din bhar*).

So go on, give it a go!

Numbers

The Numbers 1-10

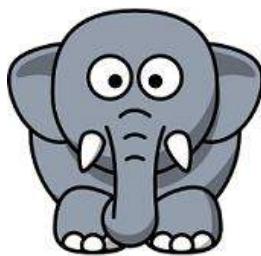
Numbers! These are pretty important Hindi words to know, don't you think? I mean imagine walking into a shop, if you don't know the numbers then how will you know how much to pay for something?! So today we're going to learn the Hindi numbers zero to ten.

You know in English we have the numerals 0,1,2... yeah? Well Hindi has it's own set of numerals too, they look a bit like funny squiggles! They are still used today so it's only right that I introduce you to them as we go through (but be aware English numerals are becoming more and more common!). So anyway here goes....



[Audio/04 Numbers/1-10.mp3](#)

Click the audio above to hear the numbers 1-10 pronounced! Be sure to listen to it loads of times to make sure you get your pronunciation perfect!



1 १ एक *ek*

एक हाथी *ek haathee* - One Elephant



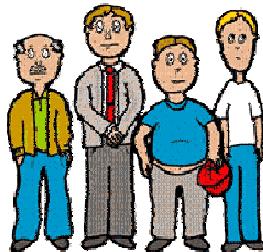
2 २ दो *do*

दो टमाटर *do tamaatar* - Two Tomatoes



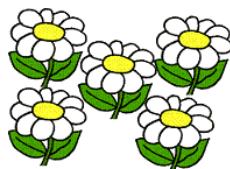
3 ३ तीन teen

तीन घर teen ghar - Three Houses



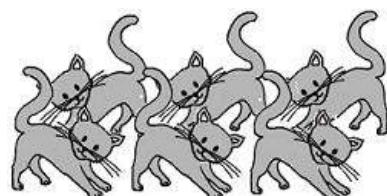
4 ४ चार caar

चार आदमी caar aadmee - Four Men



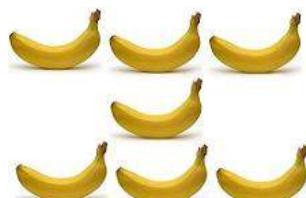
5 ५ पाँच paanc

पाँच फूल paanc phool - Five Flowers



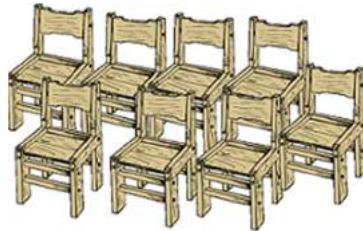
6 ६ छः chah

छः बिल्लियाँ chah billiyaan - Six Cats



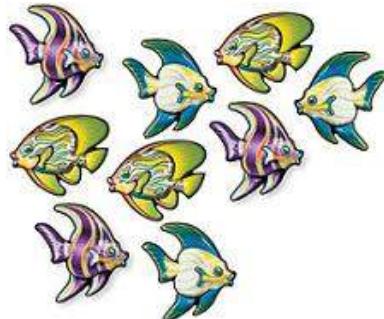
7 ७ सात saat

सात केले *saat kele* - Seven Bananas



8 ੮ आठ *aath*

आठ कुरसियाँ *aath kursiyaan* - Eight Chairs



9 ੯ नौ *nau*

नौ मछलियाँ *nau machliyaan* - Nine Fish



10 ੧੦ दस *das*

दस किताबें *das kitaaben* - Ten Books

Phew, wow! That was long, so congratulations if you've read all the way down to here! Hopefully amongst all the pictures you've picked up the words zero to ten! Try and practice them whenever you can because numbers are often tricky to remember.

Oh and just as a bonus extra point to those wondering, the number 0 in Hindi is शून्य *shoonya*!

Numbers 11 - 20

So last time we looked at numbers we covered the [Numbers 0 - 10](#). Can you remember them all? Keep practicing! Today we're going to cover the Numbers 11 to 20. So let's not hang around, are you ready to get straight into it?

Some of these items are new words too which means we'll be expanding our vocab as we go! Here's a tip before we start; with each picture count up the number of items (in Hindi obviously!) to help you remember the numbers!



[Audio/04 Numbers/11-20 Reading.mp3](#)

Click the button above to hear the numbers 11 to 20 pronounced! Make sure you keep listening to it loads and loads - till you can say the numbers before they're spoken!



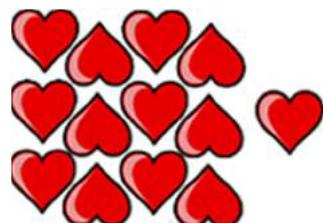
11 ११ ग्यारह gyaarah

ग्यारह चाबियाँ gyaarah caabiyaan - Eleven Keys



12 १२ बारह baarah

बारह मटर baarah matar - Twelve Peas



13 १३ तेरह terah

तेरह दिल *terah dil* - Thirteen Hearts



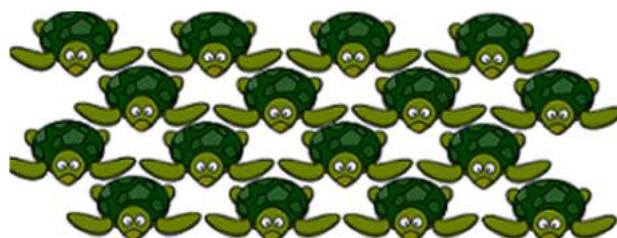
14 ੧੪ ਚੌਦਹ *caudah*

ਚੌਦਹ ਈੱਟੋਂ *caudah eenten* - Fourteen Bricks



15 ੧੫ ਪਨਦਰਾਹ *pandrah*

ਪਨਦਰਾਹ ਤੱਗਲਿਆਂ *pandrah angliyaan* - Fifteen Fingers



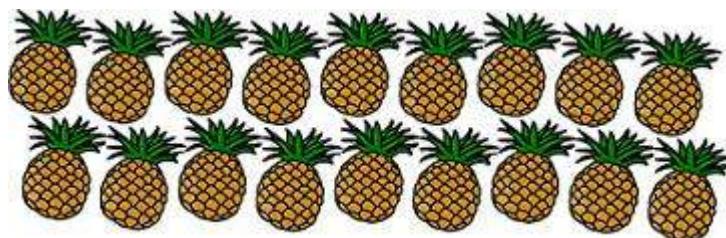
16 ੧੬ ਸੋਲਹ *solah*

ਸੋਲਹ ਕਛੂਏ *solah kachue* - Sixteen Turtles



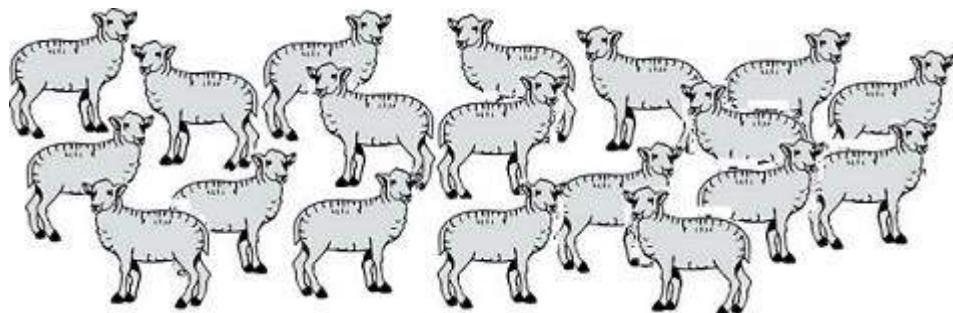
17 ੧੭ ਸਤਰਾਹ *satrah*

ਸਤਰਾਹ ਅੰਗੂਰ *satrah angoor* - Seventeen Grapes



18 ۱۸ अठारह athaarah

अठारह अनानास athaarah anaanaas - Eighteen Pineapples



19 ۱۹ उन्नीस unnees

उन्नीस भेरें unnees bheren - Nineteen Sheep

(Don't fall asleep counting them!)



20 ۲۰ बीस bees

बीस लड़के bees larke - Twenty Boys

Usually when these numbers are spoken in normal conversations, e.g. if you want to say something like “15 bananas please”, the words are slightly shortened by dropping the final “h” sound - you can hear what this sounds like by clicking the play button just below...



[Audio/04 Numbers/11-20 Spoken.mp3](#)

And that's it, woah! Numbers can be really difficult to remember so be sure to keep practicing them as much as you can. Try doing some quick mental maths in your head to keep you on the ball!

Numbers 21-30

A while ago we saw the [Numbers 0 - 10](#) and [Numbers 10 - 20](#) in Hindi, so it's about time we carried on learning the numbers! Unfortunately, when compared to English, Hindi numbers are a little bit more complicated. But this is no reason to give up, it just means that it will take a little while longer to get fluent with them! There is in fact a pattern to the numbers so see if you can spot it.

Key - English Numeral, Hindi Numeral, Devanagari, Transliteration

21	२१	इक्कीस	ikkees
22	२२	बाईस	baaees
23	२३	तेईस	te'eess
24	२४	चौबीस	caubees
25	२५	पच्चीस	paccees
26	२६	छब्बीस	chabbees
27	२७	सत्ताईस	sattaaees
28	२८	अट्ठाईस	atthaaees
29	२९	उनतीस	unatees
30	३०	तीस	tees

It's really important, when learning Numbers especially, to do activities to make sure you remember the translations. Otherwise you'll find that you won't remember what you've learnt! Heres a tip for you; every single time you see a number in English think of the Hindi and if you can't remember it then check back here until you can! One other way to help is to apply [Lesson #41: How Old are You?](#) and learn how all of your friends and relatives would say I am... and then however old they are.

Other Hindi Resources

There are many other amazing resources to learn Hindi from, both offline and online! Here I'll collect some of my favorites.

Online Resources

Hindi Script Tutor <http://www.avashy.com/hindiscripttutor.htm> - Probably the best tool to learn the Devanagari script online! I very much recommend their test feature to help you distinguish similar Hindi letters.

A Door Into Hindi <http://taj.chass.ncsu.edu/> - A great site with a selection of short Hindi videos together with their transcript and grammar explanations.

ISpeakHindi <http://www.ispeakhindi.com/> - Podcasts teaching the language of Hindi, very useful. They cover everything from the letters to grammar points!

HindiLanguage.info <http://hindilanguage.info/> - An excellent grammar resource for Hindi. Covers lots of trickier grammar points.

Duolingo <http://www.duolingo.com> - Probably the best online language website. While they don't currently have a Hindi course, they do have a English for Hindi speakers course which is incredibly useful if you have a fair grounding in Hindi already.

Memrise <http://www.memrise.com/course/257134/3000-hindi-words-with-urdu/>
- This course on Memrise helps you learn nearly 3000 Hindi words

Hindi Urdu Flagship <http://hindiurduflagship.org/> - A large collection of many many Hindi learning resources. Highly recommended.

Shabdkosh <http://www.shabdkosh.com> - The best online free Hindi-English Dictionary.

Pratham Books <http://prathambooks.org/> - A Non-Profit organisation that aims to help Indian children read. You can view all their Hindi children's books here www.learning-hindi.com/drive - some even have audio.

Offline Resources

There are several great books that I'd recommend to learn Hindi from:

Teach Yourself Hindi Conversation - Definitely recommended for all Hindi beginners, covers several conversations. A brilliant way to get into the language.

Complete Hindi - Amazing book teaching grammar, comes with audio CDs and covers a very wide range of points.

Colloquial Hindi - Another great grammar guide.

Oxford Hindi to English Dictionary - Brilliant Hindi -> English dictionary, the best available.