

The **समास (samāsa)** or compound is used to **condense, simplify**, and give **depth** to Sanskrit sentences. **basic features:** (a) only the final element of the compound is declined - other elements are treated as **undeclined** prefixes attached to this last member; (b) semantics within compounds are analyzed from **right to left**; (c) a **विग्रह ("analysis")** is used to deconstruct the compound into its (declined) elements.

**tatpuruṣa** examples of each case relationship:

- case 2. वनम् गतः -> वनगतः ("gone to the forest")
- case 3. रामेण हतः -> रामहतः ("slain by Rāma")
- case 4. सीतायै दत्तम् -> सीतादत्तम् ("given to Sītā")
- case 5. राक्षसात् भयम् -> राक्षसभयम् ("fear from [of] demons")
- case 6. अश्वस्य मेघः -> अश्वमेघः ("sacrifice of a horse")
- case 7. वने वासः -> वनवासः ("living in the forest")

तत्पुरुषः

**tatpuruṣa** - first element in compound is in a [2-7] **case relationship** with the second element; compound will be of the form (a) **noun + noun** or (b) **noun + adj**  
**tatpuruṣas** are by far the most common forms of compounds

उपपदः

**upapada** - a variety of **tat-puruṣa** compounds where the second element is a reduced nominal form of a verb.

**upapada** example:

पङ्के जायते -> पङ्कजम् ("born in the mud" = "lotus")

कर्मधारयः

**karmadhāraya** - both elements of compound have the same case - (**समानाधिकरण**) - technically this is a variety of **tatpuruṣa** compounds in which the relationship is nominative

1. **A = B** - **appositional** relationship between (a) **adj + noun**; (b) **noun + noun**
2. **A ~ B** - **comparison** between the two elements - expressed through the words **इव** ("like", simile) or **एव** ("indeed", metaphor); usually (a) **noun + noun**; (b) **noun + adj**

द्विगुः

**dvigu** ("two-cow") a variety of **karmadhārayas** in which the first element is a **number**.

**dvigu** example:

त्रयः लोकाः -> त्रिलोकाः ("the three worlds")

**karmadhāraya** examples:

- (type 1A) महान् राजा -> महाराजः ("great king")
- (type 1B) राजा ऋषिः -> राजर्षिः ("sage-king; royal sage")
- (type 2A) नरः पुंगवः (इव) -> नरपुंगवः ("bull-like man")
- (type 2B) काकः (इव) कृष्णः -> काककृष्णः ("black as a crow")

अव्ययीभावः

**avyayībhāva** - first element is an **indeclinable** or verbal

prefix (**upasarga**); second element is a **noun**; entire compound functions as an **indeclinable**, usually singular & neuter.

**avyayībhāva** examples:

1. यथा कामः तथा -> यथाकामम् ("according to one's desire")
2. दिने दिने -> प्रतिदिनम् ("every day")
3. सह आदरेण -> सादरम् ("with respect")

other types:

द्वन्द्वः

**dvandva** - pair of nouns functioning as one syntactical unit. (a) if **coordinative**: compound will take on dual or plural number; (b) if **aggregated**: compound will be singular & neuter.

एकशेष-द्वन्द्वः

**ekaśeṣa dvandva**: the first member of the pair is **dropped**, compound still expressed in **dual**.

**dvandva** examples:

- (coordinative) माता च पिता च -> मातापितरौ ("Mother and Father")
- (aggregated) सुखम् च दुःखम् च -> सुखदुःखम् ("joy and sorrow")

**ekaśeṣa-dvandva** example:

माता च पिता च -> पितरौ ("parents")