

## Hindi Language Study Guide

The Hindi language is mainly influenced by the Devnagari script.

### THE HINDI ALPHABET

On the basis of pronunciation, Hindi Alphabet has 45 letters which contains 10 vowels and 35 constants. However, on the basis of writing, there are 52 letters in which there are 13 vowels, 35 constants and 4 combined constants.

### VOWELS

On a writing basis there are 13 vowels in the Hindi language alphabet. Vowels are known as **Svara (स्वर)** in Hindi.

13 vowels – अ, आ, इ, ई, उ, ऊ, ए, ऐ, ओ, औ, ऋ, अं (Anusvara), अः (Visarg)

Vowel	Pronunciation	Use Vowel Pronunciation	Use
अ	uh	क ए ae	के
आ	aa	का ऐ ai	कै
इ	i	कि ओ o	को
ई	ee	की औ au	कौ
उ	u	कु ऋ ri	कृ
ऊ	oo	कू अः uha	कः
अं	un	कं	

- The Indian government keeps the vowels counting limited to 11 for the Hindi language. The highlighted vowels in the given table are not used in Hindi. However, they are used in Sanskrit.
- 'ऋ' is actually known as a half vowel, but the Indian government considers it as full in counting.

### CONSTANTS

- 35 constants: क, ख, ग, घ, ङ, च, छ, ज, झ, ञ, ट, ठ, ड, ढ, ण, त, थ, द, ध, न, प, फ, ब, भ, म, य, र, ल, व, श, ष, स, ह, ङ, ढ.
- 4 Combined constants – क्ष, त्र, ज्ञ, श्र

Although it may seem that a lot of these have the same pronunciation, they sound pretty different. Many of these are not used in the English language so it may be hard to pronounce these at first.

क	ka	ख	kha	ग ga	घ gha ङ	da
च	cha	छ	chha	ज ja	झ jha ञ	na
ट	ta	ठ	tha	ड da	ढ dha ण	na
त	ta	थ	tha	द da	ध dha न	na
प	pa	फ	pha	ब ba	भ bha म	ma
य	ya	र	ra	ल la	व va ङ	da
श	sha	ष	sha	स sa	ह ha ढ	da

## Combined Constants:

These are made by combining two constants or a constant and a vowel.

- क्ष= क+ श (ksha)

कक्षा (Kaksha)- classroom

- त्र= त+ र (tra)

पत्र (Patr)- letter

- ज्ञ= ग+ य (gya)

ज्ञान (Gyan)- knowledge

- श्र= श+ ऋ (shri)

श्रम (Shram)- hard word

## SYMBOLS

(ँ)- अनना ँ सिक- Anunasik

Gives a nasal sound to a word.

➤ माँ- mother

(ं)- अनस्वार- Anuswaar

Represents the constant न when its used as a sound instead of a letter.

➤ गन्दा > गंदा- Ganda(dirty)

## GRAMMAR

Adding certain alphabets at the end of a noun can define gender.

Masculine- aa

Feminine- i/ iya

There are no definite or indefinite articles in Hindi.

Singular and plural nouns aren't always distinguishable.

	Masculine Feminine
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Singular a i/ iya

Plural	e iyaan/ ein
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Examples:

	Singular	Plural
Boy	लड़का	Ladka लड़के Ladke
Girl	लड़की	Ladki लड़कियां Ladkiyaan

**Hindi verbs:** follow a subject.

have a tense.

Can either be habitual, accelerating or perfective.

To have	रखना/ होना	Hona To eat खाना	Khana
To get	पाना	Peena To drink पीना	Peena
To give	देना	Dena To come आना	Aana
To go	जाना	Jana To see देखना	Dekhna

To be	होना	Hona To want चाहना	Chahna
To change	बदलना	Badalna To sleep सोना	Sona
To call	बलाना ु	Bulana To like पसंद होना	Pasand hona
To walk	चलना	Chalna To talk बोलना Bhagna To	Bolna
To run	भागना	read पढ़ना	Padhna
To do	करना	Kar na To write लिखना	Likhna
To understand	समझना	Samajhna To teach पढ़ाना/ सिखाना	Padhana/ sikhana
To learn	सीखना	Seekhna To play खेलना	Khelna

### Persons

Me	मैं Main
You	आप, तमू Aap (formal), tum (informal)
She/ he/ they	वह Vah
Her/ him/ them	वह Vah

more	ज्यादा	zyada More than सेज्यादा	Se zyada
less	कम	cum Less than सेकम	Se cum

earlier	पहले Pehle
currently	अभी Abhi
later	बाद में Baad me

and	और	aur or या	yaa
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#### Weather

rain	बारिश	baarish fog कोहरा	kohra
snow	बर्फ	baraf cloudy धंधला ु	dhundhla
sunshine	धूप	dhoop cold ठंड	thand
warm	गरम	garam	

#### Day/ Time of Day

Yesterday and tomorrow are referred to by the same word. We can differentiate by the tense of the rest of the sentence.

yesterday	कल	kal morning सबहु	subah
today	आज	aaj afternoon दोपहर	dopahar
tomorrow	कल	kal night रात	raat

## Days Of The Week

The days of the week in Hindi are named after Hindu gods.

Monday	सोमवार somvaar
Tuesday	मंगलवार mangalvaar
Wednesday	बुधवार ु budhvaar
Thursday	भ्रस्पतिवार bhraspativaar
Friday	शक्रु वार shukravaar
Saturday	शनिवार shanivaar
Sunday	रवीवार ravivaar

## Greetings

To address someone with respect we can add certain terms before their name:

Male- श्री (shree)

Female- (shreemati)

Or, we can add (jee) after their name.

hello	नमस्ते namaste
How are you?	आप कैसेहैं? Aap kaise hain?
I'm fine, you?	मैंठीक हूं, आप? Main theek hoon, aap?

What's your name?	आपका नाम क्या है? Aapka naam kya hai?
goodbye	नमस्ते namaste
Excuse me	सुनिए suniye
See you again	फिर मिलेंगे Phir milenge
See you tomorrow	कल मिलेंगे Kal milenge
okay	ठीक है Theek hai
Let's go	चलिए chaliye

## Colors

The term 'color' is called रंग(rang) in Hindi.

Black	काला	kaala yellow पीला	peela
white	सफेद	safed green हरा bhoora orange नारंगी	hara
brown	भरा ू		naarangi
red	लाल	laal purple बगनी ैं	bengani

blue	नीला	neela	
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## NUMBERS



The numbers in Hindi can get tricky.

0	Zero	० शून्य shunya
1	One	१ एक ek
2	Two	२ दो do
3	Three	३ तीन teen
4	Four	४ चार chaar
5	Five	५ पांच paanch
6	Six	६ छह chhah
7	Seven	७ सात saat
8	Eight	८ आठ aath
9	Nine	९ नौ Nau
10	Ten	१० दस das
11	Eleven	११ ग्यारा gyaara
12	Twelve	१२ बारा baara
13	Thirteen	१३ तेरो Tera
14	Fourteen	१४ चौदा Choda
15	Fifteen	१५ पंद्रा Pandra

10	ten	१० दस das
20	twenty	२० बीस bees
30	thirty	३० तीस tees
40	forty	४० चालीस chaalis
50	fifty	५० पचास pachaas
60	sixty	६० साठ sath
70	seventy	७० सत्तर sattar
80	eighty	८० अस्सी assi
90	ninty	९० नभय nabbhay १०० सौ sau
100	hundred	

### Telling The Date

➤ Saturday, December 10th 2022

शनिवार, १० दिसम्बर २०२२

Shanivaar, 10 december 2022

In India, as in many eastern countries, the date comes before the month. Meaning:

10/12/2022

The date is in the dd/mm/yyyy format.

Whereas, the date generally is in the mm/dd/yyyy format; 12/10/2022.

### Telling The Time:

A quarter is shown with the term सवा (sawa).

A half is shown with the term साढ़े (saade).

A three quarter is shown by the term पौने (paune) with the number of the next hour after it.

10:00	Ten o'clock	१०:०० दस बजे Das baje
10:05	Five past ten	१०:०५ दस बजकर पांच मिनट paanch minute
10:10	Ten past ten	१०:१० दस बजकर दस मिनट Das bajke das minute
10:15	quarter past ten	१०:१५ सवा दस Sawa das
10:30	Half past ten	१०:३० साढ़ेदस Saade das
10:45	Quarter to eleven	१०:४५ पौनेग्यारह Paune gyara

### MAKING SENTENCES

The Hindi language generally follows the subject-object-verb pattern.

I am Ram.

मैं राम हूँ।

Main Ram hoon.

I am 15 years old.

मैं 15 साल का हूँ।

Main 15 saal ka hoon.

I like to read.

मझे पढ़ना पसंद है।

Mujhe padhna pasand hai.

I am currently learning Hindi.

मैं अभी हिंदी सीख रहा हूँ।

Main abhi Hindi seekh raha hoon.

For example, in English we would say:

She went out to play.

In Hindi:

वह बाहर खेलने गई थी।

Wah bahar khelne gayi thi.

But if we said the same in the word arrangement like in Hindi, it would be:

She out to play went.

The full stop/ period used in English is replaced by a straight line: |

The rest of the punctuations remain the same.

## PREFIX

These are called उपसर्ग (upsarg) in Hindi.

There are not many prefixes in Hindi although the ones in Sanskrit and Urdu are used commonly as well.

Hindi prefix

Prefix	Meaning	English Use Meaning
अध	आधा	Half अधजला Half burnt
उ	अभाव	Without उजड़ा Devastated
कु	बरा ु	Bad कुचाल Bad move
दु	बरा ु / हीन	Not complete दबला ु Very thin
बिन	के बिना	Without बिन्देखा Without seeing
भर	परा ू	Full भरपेट Full stomach

स/ सु अच्छा Good सपुत्रु Good son

## SUFFIX

These are called प्रत्यय (pratyay) in Hindi.

There are many suffixes in Hindi but the main ones are given below.

Suffix	Pronunciation Use Meaning
आई	Aai सिलाई To sew
आहट	Aahat घबराहट Nervousness
आवट	Aavat सजावट To decorate
आन	Aan उड़ान Fly
आव	Aav छिपाव hide
ई	Ee मजदूरी Labour