

Lesson 4.A

4.A.1 Devanāgarī Alphabet

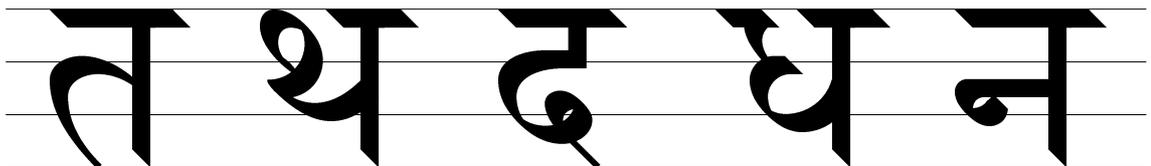
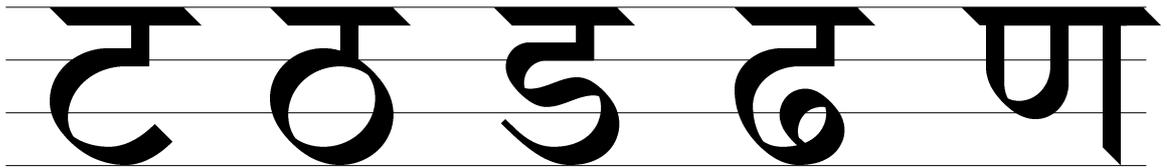
Here are the next ten consonants in **devanāgarī** script. Each symbol includes the sound **a**; for example, the first symbol is **ṭa** and not just **ṭ**.

Note the differences between **ḍa ṇa** and **i**; **gha** and **dha**; and **ḍha** and **da**.

The transliteration of the two rows of **devanāgarī** characters is:

ṭa ṭha ḍa ḍha ṇa

ta tha da dha na



Note the form of the letters in relation to the $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{2}{3}$ ruled lines. There may be a tendency to limit letters such as ण and ण to the halfway point: this is a carry over from the Roman alphabet where it is appropriate, for example with 'P' and 'h'. As we shall see later, in **devanāgarī** the top horizontal bar is extended to join the letters in a word, and this gives a bias of 'blackness' at the top of the letters: this is visually compensated for by using the $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{2}{3}$ lines to 'open' the form of the letter.

Lesson 4.B

4.B.1 Summary of Verbs

The **tiñ-vibhakti** (personal endings of verbs) are grouped into three's, which means that one **vibhakti** consists of the three **vacana** forms. Thus three **vibhakti** cover one entire **pada**. It would be useful to practise sounding the full conjugation of **dhātu nī**, with a pause between each **vibhakti** and a longer pause between each **pada**. Thus the pattern is:

nayati-nayataḥ-nayanti (pause) **nayasi-nayathaḥ-nayatha** (pause) **nayāmi-nayāvaḥ-nayāmaḥ** (longer pause) **nayate-nayete-nayante** (pause) **nayase-nayethe-nayadhve** (pause) **naye-nayāvahe-nayāmahe**.

As with practising the alphabet, it is far more effective to sound this once, ten times a day, than ten times once a day.

For your convenience a reference sheet with the full conjugation of **dhātu nī** is given below: this also has a list of all the verbs that will be used in the simple sentence exercises.

	parasmai-pada			ātmane-pada		
	eka- vacana	dvi- vacana	bahu- vacana	eka- vacana	dvi- vacana	bahu- vacana
prathama- puruṣa	nayati	nayataḥ	nayanti	nayate	nayete	nayante
madhyama- puruṣa	nayasi	nayathaḥ	nayatha	nayase	nayethe	nayadhve
uttama- puruṣa	nayāmi	nayāvaḥ	nayāmaḥ	naye	nayāvahe	nayāmahe

√gam gacchati he goes.

√nī nayate he leads.

√labh labhate he takes.

√vad vadati he speaks.

√vah vahati he carries.

√sthā tiṣṭhati he stands.

4.B.2 More on Nouns Cases

The third (**ṭṛtīyā**) case ending indicates the ‘instrument’ in relation to the verb: it is that ‘by means of which’ the action is accomplished. For example, ‘he goes home by car’, ‘he cuts the wood with an axe’: note that here ‘with’ has the sense of ‘by means of’, but in English it may also be used in the sense of accompaniment, for example, ‘he goes home with an axe’, but this does not convey the sense of instrumentality.

The fourth (**caturthī**) case ending indicates the indirect object, the recipient or beneficiary or purpose of the action. For example, ‘he gives the food to the dog’, ‘he makes a kennel for the dog’, ‘he works for money’.

The fifth (**pañcamī**) case ending indicates the place from which the action begins. For example, ‘he walks from the river’, ‘he falls from the tree’. It may also express cause or motive: ‘out of anger he strikes the boy’.

	eka-vacana	dvi-vacana	bahu-vacana
prathamā	naraḥ	narau	narāḥ
dvitīyā	naram	narau	narān
ṭṛtīyā	nareṇa*	narābhyām	naraiḥ
caturthī	narāya	narābhyām	narebhyaḥ
pañcamī	narāt	narābhyām	narebhyaḥ

* the generic ending is **-ena**, but this changes to **-eṇa** due to internal **sandhi**. This will be given more fully in a later lesson (11.A.3), but for the time being accept that this change occurs after ‘r’ or ‘ṣ’ in the same word, thus **aśvena** but **vṛkṣeṇa**.

4.B.3 Exercises

- (a) Practise sounding the alphabetical order as summarized in 3.A.5.
- (b) Practise sounding the full conjugation of **dhātu nī** as given in 4.B.1.
- (c) Practise reading and writing the next ten consonants (**vyañjana**), in Roman script and **devanāgarī**.
- (d) Translate the following sentences into English:
1. **aśvaḥ naram vṛkṣam vahati**
 2. **naraḥ vṛkṣam aśvena gacchati**
 3. **vṛkṣān aśvāt labhadhve**
 4. **aśvaḥ vṛkṣam narāya vahati**
 5. **naraḥ aśvaḥ ca vṛkṣāt gacchataḥ**
 6. **aśvam vṛkṣāt narāya nayate**
- (e) Translate the following sentences into Sanskrit:
1. He goes by horse,
 2. You (two) are leading the horse for the man,
 3. They (pl.) carry the trees (pl.) with horses,
 4. We (pl.) go from the tree to the horses,
 5. We (two) take the tree from the man by horse,
 6. The horses (pl.) carry the man from the trees (pl.).

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na d̄ha d̄a t̄ha ta

na d̄ha da t̄ha ta

