

TAMIL
Through English / Hindi
Volume I

*with my novel scientific way of **making** 'your own' Tamil sentences.*
This book walks you holding your finger

Complete in Tamil, *Transliteration* and Devanagari Scripts.
If you know Tamil, you may learn Hindi with it.

Tamil Level I

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PUSTAK BHARATI - BOOKS INDIA

Learn Tamil Through English / Hindi

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MODEL FORMAT FOR THE FIRST QUARTERLY TEST

QUESTION 1 : Read and Write the Following Tamil words five times.

1. பாரத -----
2. நணக்கம் -----
3. கடல் -----
4. மரம் -----
5. பழம் -----

QUESTION 2 : Say it in Tamil.

1. I am a student. -----
2. My name is xxxxxx. -----
3. We drink milk . -----
4. They are going. -----
5. You are speaking Tamil. -----
6. He is writing. -----

QUESTION 3 : Say and write it in Tamil.

1. She was here. -----
2. I was there. -----
3. Anita is eating a mango. -----
4. They run 10 km. -----
5. You are a teacher. -----

QUESTION 4 : Write the names of the verbs (action words) in Tamil :

1. cry -----
2. go -----
3. eat -----
4. come -----
5. say -----
6. sing -----
7. do -----
8. become -----
9. give -----
10. take -----
11. walk -----
12. see -----
13. learn -----
14. drink -----
15. read -----
16. stand -----
17. run -----
18. begin -----

QUESTION 5 : Say and write it in Tamil.

1. She is fighting. -----
2. He falls. -----
3. She is writing. -----
4. I am writing. -----
5. I am going to India. -----
6. He speaks Punjabi. -----
7. She takes flowers. -----
8. These are books. -----
9. I drink milk. -----
10. Is that a parrot? -----
11. Is that a goat? -----
12. Hello! -----
13. Is your mothertongue Tamil -----

14. Say the following numbers in Tamil : 5, 3, 100, 10, 4, 2, 7, 20, 9

MODEL FORMAT FOR THE SECOND QUARTERLY TEST

QUESTION 1 : Write all vowels of Tamil Alphabet in proper order.

QUESTION 2 : Write the Tamil names of following things :

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. boy ----- | 2. girl ----- | 3. dog ----- | 4. cat ----- | 5. letter ----- | 6. tea ----- |
| 7. ear ----- | 8. nose ----- | 9. hand ----- | 10. leg ----- | 11. egg ----- | 12. tail ----- |
| 13. mango ----- | 14. apple ----- | 15. banana ----- | 16. plate ----- | 17. car ----- | 18. knife ----- |
| 19. fan ----- | 20. book ----- | 21. ball ----- | 22. chair ----- | 23. key ----- | 24. window ----- |

QUESTION 3 : Say and write in Tamil :

1. I drank milk. -----
2. He walked 2 km. -----
3. She was reading a Hindi book. -----
4. She will take flowers. -----
5. She will go. -----

QUESTION 4 : Answer and write in Tamil :

1. What is your name? -----
2. Where do you live. -----
3. How are you? -----

QUESTION 5 : Say and write in Tamil :

1. I sleep at 10.00 O' Clock. -----
2. You (all) will give money. -----
3. I will eat fruits. -----

QUESTION 6 : Say and write in Tamil :

1. Rādhā goes to school. -----
2. Sītā will come to New York. -----
3. Rājan reads a Tamil book. -----

QUESTION 7 : Write Tamil consonants Alphabetical order.

MODEL FORMAT FOR THE THIRD QUARTERLY TEST

QUESTION 1 : Write the Tamil suffixes used for saying following expressions :

1. to ----- 2. by ----- 3. from ----- 4. for ----- 5. in -----
6. on ----- 7. near ----- 8. together with ----- 9. of -----

QUESTION 2 : Say and write in Tamil :

1. The dog will eat the bone -----
2. The bricks will fall -----
3. I am ok! -----
4. What is the news? -----
5. Don't worry! -----
6. Who is she? -----
7. Where is the dog? -----

QUESTION 3 : Find the Intransitive and Transitive actions and say them in Tamil :

1. to sing ----- 2. to fall ----- 3. to walk ----- 4. to buy -----
5. to see ----- 6. to hear ----- 7. to write ----- 8. to stand -----

QUESTION 4 : Say and write in Tamil :

1. Yesterday morning. -----
2. You are welcome. -----
3. Where are you going? -----
4. I am going to Chennai. -----

QUESTION 5 : Say and Answer in Tamil :

1. What's your native language? -----
2. How are you? -----
3. Do you want coffee? -----
4. Do you know Tamil? -----
5. What is your name? -----
6. Who is she? -----
7. Who is he? -----

MODEL FORMAT FOR THE FOURTH QUARTERLY TEST

QUESTION 1 : Say and write in Tamil :

1. Please come in. -----
2. Please excuse me. -----
3. Open the door! -----
4. Please be quite. -----
5. Hurry up! -----

QUESTION 2 : Say and write in Tamil :

- | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. to her ----- | 2. to them ----- | 3. for her ----- | 4. to us ----- |
| 5. near him ----- | 6. from you ----- | 7. by train ----- | 8. from you ----- |
| 9. for us ----- | 10. by them ----- | 11. in him ----- | 12. of our ----- |

QUESTION 3 : Say, answer and write in Tamil :

1. What is her name? -----
2. Who is he? -----
3. What is his mother tongue? -----
4. Is your mothertongue English? -----
5. -----

QUESTION 4 : Say and and write in Tamil :

1. Please have a seat. -----
2. Please listen. -----
3. Please wait. -----
4. Please come again. -----
5. Say yes! -----
6. Is your mothertongue Sanskrit? -----
7. Please close the window. -----
8. A letter to my brother -----
9. The bird on the tree. -----
10. My house. -----

LESSON 1

THE TAMIL ALPHABET

Tamil Vowels :

அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	உ	ஊ	எ	ஏ	ஐ	ஓ	ஔ	ஔள	ஃ
அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	உ	ஊ	எ	ஏ	ஐ	ஓ	ஔ	ஔ	அஃ
a	ā	i	ī	u	ū	e	ē	ai	o	ō	au	akh

In this row of 12 vowels, vowel number 2, 4, 6, 8 and 11 are extended sounds of the short vowel number 1, 3, 5, 7 and 10.

Tamil Full Consonants :

க	ங	ச	ஞ	ட	ண
க, ग	ङ	च, स	ज	ट, ड	ण
ka, ga	ṅga	cha, sa	ñya	ṭa, ḍa	ṇa

த	ந	ப	ம	ய	ர
त, द	न	प, ब	म	य	र
ta, da	na	pa, ba	ma	ya	ra

ல	வ	ழ	ள	ற	ன
ल	व	ळ	ळ	र्	न
la	va. wa	la'	ḷa	ra	na

ஷ	ஸ	ஹ	க்ஷ	ஜ	ஸ்ரீ
श, ष	स	ह	क्ष	ज	श्री
śa, ṣa	sa	ha	kṣha	ja	shrī

Tamil Half Consonants

Tamil Consonants without their inherent vowel 'a'

க்	ங்	ச்	ஞ்	ட்	ண்
क्, ग्	ङ्	च्, स्	ञ्	ट्, ड्	ण्
k, g	ṅg	ch, s	ñy	t, ḍ	ṇ

त्	न्	प्	म्	य्	र्
त्, द्	न्	प्, ब्	म्	य्	र्
t, d	n	p, b	m	y	r

ल्	व्	ळ्	ऴ्	र्	न्
ल्	व्	ळ्	ऴ्	र्	न्
l	v. w	ḷ	ḷ	r	n

श्	स्	ह्
श्, ष्	स्	ह्
ś, ṣ	s	h

Tamil and Devanagari Sanskrit Alphabet Charts

Side by Side Comparison

TABLE 1 : Tamil - Sanskrit inherent interrelationship

Tamil Vs Devanagari Sanskrit							
VOWELS							
Tamil	अ अ a	आ आ ā	इ इ i	ई ई ī	उ उ u	ऊ ऊ ū	
<i>Devnagari</i>	अ	आ	इ	ई	उ	ऊ	
Tamil	ए ए e	ऐ ऐ ē	ऐ ऐ ai	ओ ओ o	ओऽ ओ ṛ	औ औ au	अख् .: akh
<i>Devnagari</i>	ए	ऐ	ऐ	ओ	ओऽ	औ	अह् :
Tamil Vs Devanagari Sanskrit							
CONSONANTS							
Tamil	क क k	ङ ङ ng	च च ch	ञ ञ ñy	ट ट t	ण ण ṇ	
<i>Devnagari</i>	क ख ग घ	ङ	च छ ज झ	ञ	ट ठ ड ढ	ण	
Tamil	त த t	न ந n	प ப p	म ம m	ய ய y	ர ர r	
<i>Devnagari</i>	त थ द ध	न	प फ ब भ	म	य	र	
Tamil	ல ல l	வ வ v	ळ ள ḷ	ழ ழ ṣ	ர ற r	ந ன n	
<i>Devnagari</i>	ल	व	ळ *				
Tamil	श, ष ஷ sh	स ஸ s	ह ஹ h	क्ष க்ஷ kṣh	ஜ ஜ j	These five are adopted Granthaksharam characters	
<i>Devnagari</i>	श, ष	स	ह	क्ष	ज	←---	

NOTES : (i) Quite contrary to the common belief that Tamil language is totally independent and unrelated to Sanskrit, the above vowel consonant tables (as well as the following lessons and rules on Sandhi, Samasa etc. in Tamil grammar) clearly exhibit that the relationship between these two ancient languages is beyond just a coincidence. These two languages may have been developed separately, but their millenniums of common inheritance on the Indian subcontinent clearly reveals their common imprint. One language may or may not have come from or influenced the other, but there is a common thread for sure.

* (ii) Some Hindi speaking people may think that letter ळ is not a Devanagari or Sanskrit character. Even though it did not reach Hindi, the Sanskrit has it. Letter ळ appears in the very first verse of the Rigveda (अग्निमिळे पुरोहित). You can also hear their sounds in Tamil, Telugu, Kannad, Malyalam, Marathi and Gujrati languages. Same is true for the letters ऐ and औ. In Hindi, vowels ऐ and औ are used in their place. See the language charts in the Appendix.

The Tamil Compound Letters

- i. Remember that the **dots** placed above the Tamil Characters are **NOT** the **Anusvara Nasal Dots**. A dot above any Tamil letter means the letter below that dot is MUTE, half or without the inherent vowel a (அ). A Tamil letter with a dot over it is equivalent of the Sanskrit or Hindi half letter or a letter with the *Halant* slash under it e.g. **ம், த், க்** = म्, त्, क् etc. Thus, **ம் + அ = ம** (म् + अ = म) etc.
- ii. A consonant can not be pronounced without any vowel to it. Thus like Sanskrit or Hindi, vowel **அ** a is considered inherent in each full consonant. Without it, the consonant is considered mute or half.
- iii. Unlike Sanskrit or Hindi, the Tamil letters of a compound characters are written one after another. They are not written with half letter attached to full letter. e.g. **க்க, ப்ப, ப்ல** = क्क, प्प, प्ल, etc.

Thus, the Sanskrit (and Hindi) compound letters will be written in Tamil as shown below :

क्, क्र, त, ट, ऋ, ॠ, ऌ, ॡ, ए, ऐ, ओ, औ, क्ष, ज्ञ, ञ, ङ
க்த, க்ர, த்த, ட்ட, த்ர, த்ர, த்ப, த்ய, த்த, த்த, த்ம, ஶ்ர, ஶ்ர, ச்ஞ ஶம்

The Devanagari *Anusvara* and *Visarga* in Tamil

1. The Anusvara Nasal Dot :

In Tamil writing there are no *Anusvāra* Nasal dot like the Hindi writing has. But, like Sanskrit, for writing nasal pronunciations in the words, the ‘Kindred’ or Class Nasal Consonants are used. The following chart of Devanagari Class Consonants helps understanding how the Nasals work in Tamil as well as in Sanskrit, because both are exactly same (for detailed discussion on this aspect, please refer to my “*Learn Sanskrit through English Medium*” Lesson 3.2).

TABLE 2 : The Devanagari Class Consonants and Nasals in relation to the Tamil Nasals :

	Devanagari Class	Sanskrit Class Characters that may come after the Kindered Nasal Characters shown in the last column.	Equivalent Tamil Character that may come after the Kindered Nasal Characters shown in the last column.	Kindered Nasal Characters Sanskrit & Tamil
1	<i>k</i> Class क वर्गः	क (ख ग घ) <i>k (kh g gh)</i>	க k Class	க <i>ng</i> ங்
2	<i>ch</i> Class च वर्गः	च (छ ज झ) <i>c (ch j jh)</i>	ச ch Class	ச <i>ñy</i> ஞ்
3	<i>ṭ</i> Class ट वर्गः	ट (ठ ड ढ) <i>ṭ (ṭ ḍ ḍh)</i>	᳚ t Class (retroflex)	᳚ <i>ṇ</i> ண்
4	<i>t</i> Class त वर्गः	त (थ द ध) <i>t (th d dh)</i>	த th Class	த <i>n</i> ந்
5	<i>p</i> Class प वर्गः	प (फ ब भ) <i>p (ph b bh)</i>	ப p Class	ப <i>m</i> ம்
6	Non-class Characters	य र ल व श ष स ह ङ <i>y r l v śh ṣh s h</i>	ய ர ல வ ஷ ஶ ஹ	ய் <i>m̃</i> ய்

This Table is developed by Sanskrit Hindi Research Institute for “*Learn Tamil Through English/Hindi*” by Ratnakar Narale.

The above tables shows that the Tamil characters of Alphabet are in exactly same order as the Sanskrit Alphabet. The words with nasal sounds will be written in Tamil and Sanskrit as shown in the following Table :

TABLE 3 : The Devanagari - Tamil Nasals Nasals :

		Devanagari Class	Tamil words	Sanskrit	Hindi	English
1	क	k Class क वर्गः	சங்கு (चङ्कु, सङ्कु)	शङ्ख, शङ्खु	शंख	Conch
2	च	ch Class च वर्ग	பஞ்சமம் (पञ्चमम्)	पञ्चमम्	पंचम	Fifth
3	ट	t Class ट वर्गः	காண்டாமிருகம் (काण्डामिरुगम्)	गण्डकमृगम्, गण्डः	गेंडा	Rhino
4	त	t Class त वर्गः	கூன்தல் (कून्तल्)	कुन्तल	कुंतल	Hair
5	प	p Class प वर्गः	கம்பளம் (कम्बलम्)	कम्बलम्	कंबल	Blanket
6		Non-class	சிங்கம் (सिंगम्) ஸம்ஸாரம் (संसारम्)	सिंह संसार	सिंह, सिंघ संसार	Lion World

This Table is developed by Sanskrit Hindi Research Institute for "Learn Tamil Through English/Hindi" by Ratnakar Narale.

2. The Visarga Dots ஆய்தம் (आयत्तम्):

i. In Tamil, in order to write some Tamil words with visarga sound or for the Sanskrit words with Visarga (:), the (:. akh) sign is used. This :. sign is called ஆய்தம் *aytham* or முப்புள்ளி *mubbuli*.

ii. Although in Sanskrit words the visarga could come after any vowel, in Tamil words it usually comes after a short vowel and before a hard consonant. e.g. எஃகு *ehku* (Steel); அஃகம் = தானியம் (धान्यम्) grains; அஃது *ahdu* (That). நமஃ *namah* नमः (Salute).

TABLE 4 : CHARACTER PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

	Hard Character.	Nasal	Semi	Short Vowels	Long Vowels	Diphthongs
Gutturals	க ஃ	ங		அ	ஆ	எ ஏ
Palatals	ச ற	ஞ ன	ய	இ	ஈ	ஐ
Cerebrals	ட	ண	ழ ள			
Dentals	த	ந	ர ல			
Labials	ப	ம	வ	உ	ஊ	ஓ ஔ ஓள

This Table is developed by Sanskrit Hindi Research Institute for "Learn Tamil Through English/Hindi" by Ratnakar Narale.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN, PLEASE KNOW THIS

1. The Tamil alphabet is derived from the ancient Indian inscriptional *Brahmi* script and was known as *Brahmi-Tamil* script.
2. Like Sanskrit (unlike Hindi and English), the Tamil vowel letter shapes (அ, ஆ, இ, ஈ...ஔ) can come only at the beginning of a word. They never come in the middle or at the end of a word. In the middle or end they are used only in their sign (மாதிரி) forms attached to the right, left, up or below a consonant.
3. In Tamil there are 12 vowels and 18 Consonants. Like Sanskrit or Hindi (unlike English), in Tamil there are no Capital letters.
4. Tamil short vowels are pronounced more abruptly than the corresponding Hindi or English sounds.
5. When there are short and long vowels within a word, the long ones are pronounced more distinctly.
6. While learning the 18 consonants by heart, the first 10 consonants are repeated in five pairs of two consonants each, then the rest eight consonants are said singly or in pairs of two.
7. The long Tamil vowels like (ஈ, ஆ) have a drawing pronunciation (like Punjabi ए, ई in ओए! भाई!). They can not be exactly rendered in Hindi or English.
8. Please remember that English equivalent pronunciations of Tamil characters are rarely exact. If you can read Sanskrit/Hindi, you can write, read and express them quite exactly.
9. Each letter of the alphabet can be named by adding (suffixing) **கரம்** கரம் *karam* to short letters, **காரம்** காரம் *kaaram* to long letters and prefixing **இ** இ *i* to the mute Tamil letters. e.g. **அ** அ *a* = அகர *a-kar*; **ஆ** ஆ *aa* = ஆகர, **க** க் *k* = இக் *ik* etc.
10. Tamil is spoken by over 80 million people in the world. Tamil is spoken by people in almost every country in the world.

NOW YOU ARE READY TO LEARN : READING AND WRITING THE TAMIL SCRIPT.

LESSON 3

VOWEL- CONSONANT RULE : When a word ending in a vowel is followed by a word beginning with consonant क्, च्, त्, or प्, *k, ck, t, or p* that consonant is doubled.

TABLE 5 : SUMMARY OF CONSONANT MODIFICATIONS (संधि)

	க்	ச்	த்	ந்	ம்	ப்
ண்	ட்க்	ட்ச்	ண்ட்	ண்ண்		ப்ப்
ம்	ங்க்	ஞ்ச்	ந்த்	ந்	ம்	
ல்	ற்க்	ற்ச்	ற்ற், ன்ற்	ன்ன்	ன்ம்	ற்ப்
ள்	ட்க்	ட்ச்	ட்ட், ண்ட்	ண்ண்	ண்ம், ண்ண்	ட்ப்
ன்	ற்க்	ற்ச்	ன்ற், ற்ற்	ன்ன்		ற்ப்
Vowel	க்க	ச்ச	த்த			ப்ப

This Table is developed by Sanskrit Hindi Research Institute for “Learn Tamil Through English/Hindi” by Ratnakar Narale.

CHART OF ALPHABET WITH VOWEL SIGNS

<i>a</i>	<i>ā</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>ī</i>	<i>u</i>	<i>ū</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>ē</i>	<i>ai</i>	<i>o</i>	<i>ō</i>	<i>au</i>
அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	உ	ஊ	ஏ	ஈ	ஐ	ஓ	ஔ	ஔ
க	கா	கி	கீ	கு	கூ	கெ	கே	கை	கொ	கோ	கௌ
ங	ஙா	ஙி	ஙீ	ஙு	ஙூ	ஙெ	ஙே	ஙை	ஙொ	ஙோ	ஙௌ
ச	சா	சி	சீ	சு	சூ	செ	சே	சை	சொ	சோ	சௌ
ஞ	ஞா	ஞி	ஞீ	ஞு	ஞூ	ஞெ	ஞே	ஞை	ஞொ	ஞோ	ஞௌ
ட	டா	டி	டீ	டு	டூ	டெ	டே	டை	டொ	டோ	டௌ
ண	ணா	ணி	ணீ	ணு	ணூ	ணெ	ணே	ணை	ணொ	ணோ	ணௌ
த	தா	தி	தீ	து	தூ	தெ	தே	தை	தொ	தோ	தௌ
ப	பா	பி	பீ	பு	பூ	பெ	பே	பை	பொ	போ	பௌ
ம	மா	மி	மீ	மு	மூ	மெ	மே	மை	மொ	மோ	மௌ
ய	யா	யி	யீ	யு	யூ	யெ	யே	யை	யொ	யோ	யௌ
ர	ரா	ரி	ரீ	ரு	ரூ	ரெ	ரே	ரை	ரொ	ரோ	ரௌ
ல	லா	லி	லீ	லு	லூ	லெ	லே	லை	லொ	லோ	லௌ
வ	வா	வி	வீ	வு	வூ	வெ	வே	வை	வொ	வோ	வௌ
ள	ளா	ளி	ளீ	ளு	ளூ	ளெ	ளே	ளை	ளொ	ளோ	ளௌ
ற	றா	றி	றீ	று	றூ	றெ	றே	றை	றொ	றோ	றௌ
ன	னா	னி	னீ	னு	னூ	னெ	னே	னை	னொ	னோ	னௌ

BEFORE YOU PROCEED FURTHER, PLEASE KNOW THIS

1. Like Sanskrit and Hindi, the **அ, இ, உ** அ, इ, उ are Basic or Simple Vowels. The rest nine vowels **ஆ, ஈ, ஊ, எ, ஏ, ஐ, ஒ, ஔ, ஓ** आ, ई, ऊ, ए, ऐ, ऐ, ओ, औ are Compound Vowels, composed of the Basic three vowels. e.g. **ஆ = அ + அ; ஈ = இ + இ; ஊ = உ + உ; எ = அ + இ; ஏ = அ + ஈ; ஐ = அ + அ + இ; ஒ = அ + உ; ஔ = அ + ஊ; ஓ = அ + அ + உ.** आ = अ + अ; ई = इ + इ; ऊ = उ + उ; ए = अ + इ; ऐ = अ + ई; ऐ = अ + अ + इ; ओ = अ + उ; औ = अ + ऊ; औ = अ + अ + उ.
2. Like Sanskrit, and unlike Hindi and English, the last consonant (with vowel **அ** a), is pronounced with full stress (long). e.g. Tamil : **பக** (பக, **பக** depart); Sanskrit : **बक** (*baka* Stork); Hindi : **बक** (*bak* pronounced as **बक्** Stork); English : **Buck** (**बक्** *buk* Dollar).
3. While learning the 18 consonants by heart, the first 10 consonants are repeated in five pairs of two consonants each, then the rest eight consonants are said singly or in pairs of two.
4. When there are short and long vowels within a word, the long ones are pronounced more distinctly.
5. Within the above mentioned five pairs, each initial consonant is followed by its corresponding (devanagri) nasal consonant e.g. **கங், சஞ், டண், தந், பம்** कङ्, चञ्, टण्, तन्, पम्;
6. The next four consonants form two pairs like the Devanagari Alphabet. **ய ர, ல வ** य र, ल व; *y r, l v*
7. No Tamil word begins with the last four consonants **ழ், ள், ற், ன்**.
8. A Tamil mute or half consonant (with the dot over it) is named by prefixing **இ** *i* इ sound to that consonant. e.g. **க ங் ச ... ட ர்** = क ङ् च ... म र *ka, nga, cha ... ma, ra* etc.;
க் ங் ச ... ட் ர் etc. = इक् इच् इच् ... इम् इर् *ik, ing, ich ... im, ir* etc.;
9. Like Sanskrit and Hindi, when Tamil consonants are doubled they are pronounced more distinctly and strongly than they are done in English. e.g. Tamil : **பட்டணம்** (पट्टणम् *paṭṭanam* City). Sanskrit : पट्टनम् (*paṭṭanam* City); Hindi : पट्टन (*paṭṭan* City); English : **butter** (बटर).
10. When a word begins with vowel **எ** (*e* ए) or **ஏ** (*ě* ऐ), these vowels are sounded like **யே** (*ye* ये), as in Hindi, vowel **ए** (*e*) is sounded like **ये** (*ye*). e.g. Tamil : **எண்ண** (*yenna*, **येन्न** What?) **ஏண்ண** (*yen* **येन्** Why?); Hindi गए, गये (*gae, gaye* Gone); Sanskrit : **येन** (*yena* By whom).

NOW YOU ARE READY TO LEARN READING, WRITING and SPEAKING TAMIL.
























































A PRELIMINARY VOCABULARY OF KEY TAMIL WORDS

EXERCISE : Read, write, understand and remember as many Tamil words possible.

English (हिंदी)	Devnagari	Tamil	Transliteration
I (मैं)	नान्	நான்	<i>nān</i>
We (all) (हम)	नाम्	நாம்	<i>nām</i>
We (all - you)	नांगळ्	நாங்கள்	<i>nāngaḷ</i>
You (तू)	नी	நீ	<i>nī</i>
You (आप)	नीर्	நீர்	<i>nīr</i>
You (all)	नींगळ्	நீங்கங்	<i>ningaḷ</i>
He (that boy)	अवन्	அவன்	<i>avan</i>
He/she (Respect.able that)	अवर्	அவர்	<i>avar</i>
He (this boy)	इवन्	இவன்	<i>ivan</i>
He/she (Respectable. this)	इवर्	இவர்	<i>ivar</i>
She (that girl)	अवळ्	அவள்	<i>avaḷ</i>
She (this girl)	इवळ्	இவள்	<i>ivaḷ</i>
Those people	अवर्गळ्	அவர்கள்	<i>avargaḷ</i>
These people	इवर्गळ्	இவர்கள்	<i>ivargaḷ</i>
It, this thing	इदु	இது	<i>idu</i>
That thing	अदु	அது	<i>adu</i>
These things	इवै	இவை	<i>ivai</i>
Those things	अवै	அவை	<i>avai</i>
All	एल्लाम्	எல்லாம்	<i>ellām</i>
Each	ओव्वोरुवरुम्	ஒவ்வருவரும்	<i>ovvaruvarum</i>
What?	एन्न	என்ன	<i>enna</i>
Which?	एदु	எது	<i>edu</i>
Who?	यार्	யார்	<i>yār</i>
How many?	एत्तने	எத்தனை	<i>ettane</i>
How, in what manner?	एप्पडि	எப்படி	<i>eppadi</i>
How much?	एव्वळु	எவ்வளவு	<i>evvaḷavu</i>
When?	एप्पो	எப்போ	<i>eppo</i>
In this manner	इप्पडि	இப்படி	<i>ippaḷi</i>
What for?	एदरुकाह	எதற்காக	<i>ippaḷi</i>
Where?	एगे	எங்கே	<i>enge</i>
Now	इप्प	இப்ப	<i>ippa</i>
My	एन्	என்	<i>en</i>
Name	पेयर्	பெயர்	<i>peyar</i>

LESSON 5

THE BASIC TAMIL NUMERALS

0	சூன்யம்	सुन्यम्	<i>sunyam</i>																		
1	ஒன்று	ओन्ऱु	<i>onru</i>																	One book. ஒரு புத்தகம்	
2	இரண்டு	इरण्दु	<i>irandu</i>																	Two books. இரண்டு புத்தகங்கள்	
3	மூன்று	मून्ऱु	<i>mūnru</i>																	Three books. மூன்று புத்தகங்கள்	
4	நான்கு	नान्गु	<i>nāngu</i>																		
5	ஐந்து	ऐन्दु	<i>aindu</i>																		
6	ஆறு	आरु	<i>āru</i>																		
7	ஏழு	एळु	<i>eḷu</i>																		
8	எட்டு	एट्टु	<i>eṭṭu</i>																		
9	ஒன்பது	ओन्बदु	<i>onbadu</i>																		
10	பத்து	पत्तु	<i>pattu</i>																		

EXERCISE : Numerals

(1) Read the numbers in Tamil :

1 7 9 4 0 3 2 8 5 6

(2) Read the following Tamil numerals :

மூன்று எட்டு ஏழு பத்து ஒன்று ஆறு ஒன்பது நான்கு சூன்யம்
இரண்டு ஐந்து

(3) Read and Write the following Tamil numerals :

நான்கு ஒன்பது சூன்யம் இரண்டு ஐந்து எட்டு ஒன்று பத்து ஏழு
மூன்று ஆறு

LESSON 6

HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN TAMIL SENTENCES

This is the Most Important Chapter in Learning Tamil Properly

PLEASE BE REMINDED OF THE FOLLOWING BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- i. When we speak or write, we use words. We use them in meaningful groups to form sentences. Sometimes we form a compound sentence made up of two or more clauses. The order in which we arrange the words in the clauses and sentences is the Syntax.
- ii. The sentences are of four kinds :
 - (a) An Assertive sentence, that makes an Assertion, Declaration or a Statement.
 - (b) An Interrogative sentence, that asks a Question.
 - (c) An Imperative statement, that expresses a Request, an Order (request is a polite order).
 - (d) An Exclamatory sentence, that expresses a strong feeling.
- iii. When we make a sentence, we :
 - (a) Mention a Person or a Thing and say something about him/her/it.
 - (b) The person or thing about which we say something, is the subject.
 - (c) What we say about him/her/it is the predicate.
- iv. In Tamil, English, Hindi and Sanskrit sentences the Subject comes before the predicate. However, in the imperative sentences we leave the subject out and understood.
- v. Each sentence has some action. The action word is Verb. In Tamil, Hindi and Sanskrit sentences we place the verb at the end of the sentence. Whereas, in English the verb comes right after the subject.
The doer of the action is the Subject, which is normally the first word of the sentence. Therefore, Tamil, Hindi and Sanskrit are SOV (Subject-Object-Verb) languages and English is SVO language.
- vi. The thing(s) or person(s) on which the verb (action) is performed is(are) the Object(s) in the sentence.
- vii. It is often said that *“Tamil is totally independent original language and has no connection with Sanskrit language in its origin and development.”* The above study and the following research on the common fibers in these two languages, however, suggests that one language must have come from other, or, if not, influenced the other greatly, for sure. These large scale similarities and interrelationships can not just be a coincidence, or could it?
- viii. Again, please DO NOT begin this lesson without finishing previous lessons properly. Review this lesson at least twice. Here we go ...

6.1 TAMIL NOUNS

i. MASCULINE, FEMININE and NEUTER TAMIL GENDER

Like Sanskrit, the Tamil nouns are Masculine, Feminine or Neuter Gender. But, the gender classification is much more systematic in Tamil, than in Sanskrit. In Hindi is it is most erratic.

The Tamil (i) Masculine Nouns include all rational beings (actual and imaginary) such as gods, men and personified males such as the actors in the Panchatantra fables and the Fables of Aesop. Similarly, the (ii) Feminine category includes all goddesses, women and personified females such as the actresses in the fables. The third class then consists of (iii) everything else, which includes inanimate objects and living things such as stones, trees, animals, insects, birds, etc. regardless of their actually being male or female. Again, like Sanskrit, the Tamil verb agrees with its subject.

The gender of a noun is generally indicated by the m^o f^o or n^o termination suffixed to the noun, pronoun and verb. The (Nominative, Singular) Masculine terminations are **ன், அன், ஆன்** . The Feminine Terminations are **ள், இ, ஐ** . The Neuter Terminations are **து, அது** . e.g.

TABLE 8 : GENDER M. F. N. TAMIL TERMINATIONS

	Termination	MASCULINE	FEMININE	NEUTER
Noun	ன் ள் து ள், இ, ஐ து, அது	மகன் महन् <i>mahan</i> (Son) மாணவன் माणवन् <i>māṇavan</i> (Student)	மகள் महल् <i>mahal</i> (Daughter) மாணவி माणवि <i>māṇavi</i> (Student)	மற்றது मद्दु <i>matradu</i> (Not this thing) பந்து पन्दु <i>pandu</i> (Ball)
Pronoun	ன், அன், ஆன்	அவன் अवन् <i>avan</i> (He)	அவள் अवल् <i>aval</i> (She)	அது अदु <i>adu</i> (That thing)
Verb செய் செய் செய் <i>sey</i> (to do)	ன் ள் து	செய்கிறான் सेय्किरान् <i>seykiran</i> (He does)	செய்கிறாள் सेय्किराल् <i>seykiral</i> (She does)	செய்கிறது सेय्किरदु <i>seykirdu</i> (It/that does)

This Table is developed by Sanskrit Hindi Research Institute for "Learn Tamil Through English/Hindi" by Ratnakar Narale.

SOME MASCULINE - FEMININE TAMIL NOUNS

Masculine			Feminine		
English	Tamil	Hindi script	English	Tamil	Hindi script
1. Student	மாணவன்	माणवन्	Student (f)	மாணவி	माणवि
2. Son	மகன்	महन्	Daughter	மகள்	महळ्
3. Friend (m)	சிநேகிதன்	सिनेहिदन्	Friend (f)	கிநேகிதி	सिनेहिदि
4. Uncle	மாமா	मामा	Aunty	மாமி	मामी
5. Milkman	பால்காரன்	पालकारन्	Milkmaid	பால்காரி	पालकरि
6. Actor	நடிகர்	नटिकर	Actress	நடிகை	नटकै
7. Writer	லேககர்	लेककर्	Writer (f)	லேகிகை	लेकिकै
8. God	தேவன்	देवन्	Goddess	தேவி	देवि
9. Lion	சிங்கம்	सिंगम्	Lioness	பெண்சிங்கம்	पेण्सिंगम्
10. Tiger	பூலி	पूलि	Tigress	பெண்பூலி	पेण्पूलि

Let's make simplest Tamil sentences

NOTE : The English articles *a*, *an* and *the* do not get translated in Tamil (like Hindi and Sanskrit). The numbers (one, two, three etc.) do get translated.

1. A student	மாணவன்	माणवन्	<i>māṇavan</i>
2. One student	ஒரு மாணவன்	ओरु माणवन्	<i>oru māṇavan</i>
3. The tiger	பூலி	पुलि	<i>puli</i>
4. One lion	ஒரு சிங்கம்	ओरु सिंगम्	<i>oru singam</i>
5. An actor	நடிகர்	नटिकर्	<i>naṭikar</i>

ii. SINGULAR and PLURAL TAMIL NUMBER

i. Like Hindi, Tamil has two Numbers, Singular and Plural (Sanskrit has three : Singular, Dual and Plural).

ii. Plural Nominative of a Noun is always formed from a Singular Nominative Noun/pronoun.

iii. It is MOSTLY formed by adding suffix **கள்** *gaḷ* to singular nominative noun/pronoun.
e.g. Singular புஸ்தகம் *pustakam* (Book); Plural புஸ்தகங்கள் *pustakangaḷ* (Books). (Note : final **ம்** *m* is dropped before following **ங்** *ng*).

iv. In some NOUNS and in pronoun **அது** *adu* (It), the plural is formed by just changing the final letter **ன்** *n* of the nominative singular to **ர்** *r*. e.g. **மனிதன்** (Man) *manidan*

to மனிதர் (Men) मनिदर maindar

v.. Like Hindi and sometimes Sanskrit too, the Honorific Expressions also mean pluralization and vice versa (see previous section). e.g.

(a) The Second Person short pronoun நீர் நீர் *nīr* (You, तुम, आप), though plural in nature, it is used commonly as an honorific singular, The non-honorific singular being நீ *nī* (You तुम, तू). The second person long pronoun நீங்கள் நீங் *ningal* is (full form of நீர் நீர் *nīr*) is actually a plural form (आप लोग), but is often used as honorific singular pronoun (आप), more respectful than நீர் நீர் *nīr* (तुम)

(b) The Third Person plural short pronoun அவர் அவர் *avar* (They वे) is more often used as honorific singular, to imply more respect than the Third Person Singular Pronoun அவன் அவன் *avan* (He वह) or அவள் அவள் *aval* (She वह). The Third Person plural long pronoun அவர்கள் அவர் *avargal* (They वे) is (full form of அவர் அவர் *avar*) is actually a plural form (वे लोग, वे श्रीमान्), but is often used as honorific singular pronoun (वे), more respectful than அவர் அவர் *avar*.

vi. Like Sanskrit, the Tamil Subject agrees with predicate in person, number, case and gender.

SOME PLURAL TAMIL NOUNS

SINGULAR			PLURAL		
1. Student	மாணவன்	माणवन्	Students	மாணவர்கள்	माणवर्गळ् *
2. Son	மகன்	महन्	Sons	மகன்கள்	महंगळ्
3. Man	மனிதன்	मनिदन्	Men	மனிதர்கள்	मनिदर्गळ्
4. Dog	தாய்	नाय्	Dogs	தாய்கள்	नायगळ्
5. Tree	மரம்	मरम्	Trees	மரங்கள்	मरंगळ्, मरङ्गळ् **
6. Flower	பூ	पू	Flowers	பூக்கள்	पूवकळ् ***
7. Bird	பறவை	परवै	Birds	பறவைகள்	परवैगळ्
8. Cow	மாடு	माडु	Cows	மாடுகள்	माडुगळ्
9. Cat	பூனை	पूनै	Cats	பூனைகள்	पूनैगळ्
10. Basket	கூடை	कूडै	Baskets	கூடைகள்	कूडैगळ्

* See note ii. below, ** See note iii below, *** see note iv below.

IMPORTANT NOTES :

i. The most common plural suffix is கள் *gal* गळ् that is added to a singular noun to make it plural.

ii. * When a Singular Masculine/Feminine Noun ending in ன் *n* ன் is PLURALED, the ன் *n* ன் is changer to ிர் *r* ிர்

before attaching the plural suffix கள் *gal* गळ to it.

iii. ** When a word ending in ம் *m* म् is followed by a word beginning with க *k* क, the ம் *m* म् is changed to ங் *ng* ङ्

iv. *** When a word ending in a vowel is followed by a word beginning with க, ச, த, ப *k, ch, ta* or *pa*, क, च, त or प, the க, ச, த, ப is (many times) doubled.

Now let's make more simple Tamil constructions with the basics we learned so far

1. The students	மாணவர்கள்	माणवहळ्	<i>māṇavarhaḷ</i>
2. Two students	இரண்டு மாணவர்கள்	इरण्डु माणवहळ्	<i>iraṇḍu māṇavarhaḷ</i>
3. Three cats	மூன்று பூனைகள்	मून्ऱु पूनैगळ्	<i>munru pūnaigaḷ</i>
4. Four baskets	நான்கு கூடைகள்	नान्गु कूडैगळ्	<i>nāngu kūḍaigaḷ</i>
5. Five actors	ஐந்து நடிகர்கள்	ऐन्दु नटिकहळ्	<i>aindu naṭikarhaḷ</i>
6. Six birds	ஆறு பறவைகள்	आरु परवैगळ्	<i>āru paravaigaḷ</i>
7. Seven Trees	ஏழு மரங்கள்	एळु मरङ्गळ्	<i>eḷu maraṅgaḷ</i>
8. Eight cows	எட்டு பசுக்கள்	एट्टु पसुक्कळ्	<i>eṭṭu pasukkaḷ</i>
9. Nine flowers	ஒன்பது பூக்கள்	ओन्बदु पूक्कळ्	<i>Onbadu kpūkkaḷ</i>
10. Ten men	பத்து மனிதர்கள்	पत्तु मनिदहळ्	<i>pattu manidarhaḷ</i>
11. Eleven boys	பதினொன்று பையன்கள்	पदिनोन्ऱु पैयंगळ्	<i>padinonru paiyaṅgaḷ</i>
12. Twelve girls	பன்னிரண்டு பெண்கள்	पन्निरण्डु पेण्हळ्	<i>panniraṇḍu peṅgaḷ</i>
13. Thirteen horses	பதின்மூன்று குதிரைகள்	पदिन्मून्ऱु कुदिरैगळ्	<i>padinmunru kudiraigaḷ</i>
14. Fourteen houses	பதினான்கு வீடுகள்	पदिनान्गु वीडुगळ्	<i>padināngu vīḍugaḷ</i>
15. Fifteen fish	பதினைந்து மீன்கள்	पदिनैन्दु मीन्हळ्	<i>padinaindu mīnhaḷ</i>
16. Sixteen foxes	பதினாறு நரிகள்	पदिनारु नरिगळ्	<i>padināru narigaḷ</i>
17. Seventeen saints	பதினேழு சாதுக்கள்	पदिनेळु सादुक्कळ்	<i>padineḷu sādukkal</i>
18. Eighteen days	பதினெட்டு நட்கள்	पदिनेट्टु नट्हळ्	<i>padineṭṭu naṭhaḷ</i>
19. Nineteen daughters	பத்தொன்பது மகன்கள்	पत्तोन्बदु महन्हळ्	<i>pattonbadu maharhaḷ</i>
20. Twenty women	இருபது பெண்கள்	इरुबदु पेण्हळ्	<i>irubadu peṅhaḷ</i>

Now let's make our own simple Tamil sentences using Pronouns

6.2 THE BASIC TAMIL PRONOUNS

i. MASCULINE, FEMININE and NEUTER GENDER

TABLE 9 : BASIC TAMIL PRONOUNS

	Pronoun	Tamil	Devnagari	Transliteration	Oblique Case/ Possessive case *
1	I मैं (M.F.)	நான்	नान्	nān	एन् என்
2	We (हम) (M.F.)	நாங்கள்	नांगळ्	naṅgaḷ	एंगळ् எங்கள்
3	You (तू) (M.F.)	நீ	नी	nī	उन् உன்
4	You (आप) (M.F.)	நீர்	नीर्	nīr	उम् உம்
5	You (all आप लोग) (M.F.)	நீங்கள்	नींगळ्	nīngaḷ	उंगळ् உங்கள்
6	He (that boy) (M)	அவன்	अवन्		अवन्
7	He/she (Resp. That) (M.F.)	அவர்	अवर्		अवर्
8	He (this boy) (M.)	இவன்	इवन्		इवन्
9	He/she (Resp., This) (M.F.)	இவர்	इवर्		इवर्
10	She (that girl) (F.)	அவள்	अवळ्		अवळ्
11	She (this girl) (F.)	இவள்	इवळ्		इवळ्
12	Those people (M.F.)	அவர்கள்	अवर्गळ्		अवर्गळ्
13	These people (M.F.)	இவர்கள்	इवर्गळ्		इवर्गळ्
14	It, this thing (N.)	இது	इदु		इदु
15	That thing (N.)	அது	अदु		अदु
16	These things (N.)	இவை	इवै, इवैगळ्		इवै, इवैगळ्
17	Those things (N.)	அவை	अवै, अवैगळ्		अवै, अवैगळ्

* Oblique case (inflectional base) is used as possessive pronoun such as my, our, your, his, her, their etc.

Let's make simple Tamil constructions using common Personal Ponouns

1. That student	அவன் மாணவன்	अवन् माणवन्	avan māṇavarhaḷ
2. Those students	அவர்கள் மாணவர்கள்	अवर्हळ् माणवर्हळ्	avarhaḷ māṇavargaḷ
3. This is a cat	இது பூனை	इदु पूनै	idu pūnai
3a. This cat	இந்த பூனை	इन्द पूनै	inda pūnai
4. These baskets	இவை கூடைகள்	इवै कूडैगळ्	ivai kūḍaigaḷ
5. He is an actor	அவன் நடிகர்	अवन् नटिगर्	aavan naṭigar
6. Those are birds	அவை பறவைகள்	अवै परवैगळ्	avai paravaigaḷ
7. Those Trees	அவை மரங்கள்	अवै मरङ्गळ्	avai maraṅgaḷ
8. That cow	அது பசு	अदु पसु	adu pasu

9. My dog	என் நாய்	एन् नाय्	<i>en nāy *</i>
10. These men	இவர்கள் மனிதர்கள்	इवरहळ् मनिदरहळ्	<i>ivarhaḷ manidarhaḷ</i>

* NOTE Oblique cases (the inflectional base) shown in the right column of the above table is also used for Possessive Pronouns, such as : my, our, your, his, her, it's, their, etc.

TAMIL INTERROGATIVE PRONOUNS

TABLE 10 : COMMON TAMIL INTERROGATIVE PRONOUNS

	Pronoun	Tamil	Devnagari	<i>Transliteration</i>
1	What? (क्या?)	என்ன	एन्न?	<i>enna</i>
2	Who? which person (कौन?) (M.F; Sg. Pl.)	யார்	यार्?	<i>yār</i>
	Which persons? (कौनसे लोग?) (M.F.)	எவர்கள்	एवर्हळ्	
3	Who? which man (कौन?) (M.)	எவன்	एवन्?	<i>evan</i>
4	Who? which woman (कौन?) (F.)	எவள்	एवळ்?	<i>evaḷ</i>
5	Who? with respect (कौन?) (M.F.)	எவர்	एवर्?	<i>evar</i>
6	Who all? (कौन लोग?) (M.F.)	எவர்கள்	एवरहळ்?	<i>evarhaḷ</i>
7	Which thing? (कौनसी चीज़?) (N)	எது	एदु?	<i>edu</i>
	Which things? (कौनसे?) (N)	எவை, எவைகள்	एवै, एवैगळ्	
8	Which one? of many (कौनसा एक?)	எந்த	एन्द	<i>end</i>
9	Where? (कहाँ?)	எங்கே	एंगे?	<i>enge</i>
10	Why? (क्यों?)	ஏன்	एन्?	<i>en</i>
11	When? (कब?)	எப்போ	एप्पो?	<i>eppo</i>
12	What for? why (किस लिये? क्यों?)	எதனால்	एदनाल्?	<i>ednāl</i>
13	How much? (कितना?)	எவ்வளவு	इएव्वळवु?	<i>evvaḷvu</i>
14	How? (कैसे?)	எப்படி, எகை	एप्पडि	<i>eppaḍi</i>
1	Here (यहाँ)	இங்கு	इंकु	<i>iṅku</i>
2	There (वहाँ)	அங்கு	अंकु	<i>aṅku</i>
3	Somebody (कोई)	யாரோ	यारो	<i>yaro</i>
4	All (सब)	எல்லாரும்	एल्लारुम्	<i>ellarum</i>
5	Now (अब)	இப்பொழுது	इप्पोळुदु	<i>ippoludu</i>
6	When?	எப்பொழுது	एप्पोळुदु	<i>eppoludu</i>

Let's make simple Tamil constructions using Interrogative Pronouns

REMEMBER : TAMIL SYNTAX IS SAME AS HINDI SYNTAX (but not like English),

In Tamil *is, are* (है, हैं) need not get translated, like Sanskrit.
A Tamil sentence can be translated word for word in Hindi and vice versa.

VOCAB : Name = **பேர்** *per* पेर्, Place (गाँव/स्थान) = **ஊர்** *ūr* ऊर्, Mother tongue (मातृभाषा) = **தாய்மொழி** *tāymoḻi* ताय्मोळि,

Is not, Not, No = **இல்லை** *illai* इल्लै.

1. Which student? **எந்த மாணவன்** एन्द माणवन् *enda māṇvan*
- 1a. Who is the student? **யார் மாணவன்** யார் माणवन् *yār māṇvan*
2. Which students? **எந்த மாணவர்கள்** एन्द माणवर्हळ् *enda māṇavargaḷ*
3. Which book? **எது புத்தகம்** एदु पुत्तहम्? *edu puttaham*
4. Which one? This one. **எந்த? இது.** एन्द? इदु *end? idu.*
5. What is your name? **உங்க பேர் என்ன** उंग पेर् एन्न? (आपका नाम क्या है?) *uṅg per enna*
6. My name is Ratnakar **என் பேர் ரத்னாகரன்** एन् पेर् रत्नाकरन् *en per Ratnākaṛan*
7. What is your place name (Where do you live?)? **உங்க ஊர் பேர் என்ன** उंग ऊर् पेர் एन्न? (आपके गाँव का नाम क्या है?) *uṅg ūr per enna*
8. My place name is Toronto (I live in Toronto). **என் ஊர் பேர் டொராண்டொ** एन् ऊर् पेர் टोरांटो. (मेरे गाँव का नाम टोरांटो है = मैं टोरांटो में रहता हूँ) *en ūr per Toronto.*
9. Who is she? **அவள் யார்** अवळ् யார் (वह कौन है?) *avaḷ yār*
10. Who is he? **அவன் யார்** अवन् யார் (वह कौन है?) *avan yār*
11. Who is that (respectable) person? **அவர் யார்** अवर् யார் (वे कौन है?) *avar yār*
12. I am Indian. **நான் இந்தியன்** नान् इन्दियन् *nān Indian*
13. She is not Telgu. **அவள் தெலுங்கு இல்லை** अवळ् தெலுங்கு इल्लை *avaḷ Telungu illai*
14. We are Indians. **நாங்கள் இந்தியர்கள்** நாங்கळ् इन्दियर्गळ् *nāngaḷ Indiyargaḷ*
15. My mother tongue is Hindi. **என் தாய்மொழி இந்தி** एन् ताय्मोळि इन्दि *en tāymoḻi Indi*
16. What is your mother tongue? **உங்க தாய்மொழி என்ன** उंग ताय्मोळि एन्न? *uṅg tāymoḻi enna*
17. My mother tongue is Tamil. **என் தாய்மொழி தமிழ்** एन् ताय्मोळि तमिळ् *en tāymoḻi Tamil*
18. Is he* a student? அவன் மணவனா? அவன் மாணவனா? *avan māṇvanā?*

* NOTE : Suffix அ ā आ is attached to a noun to ask a question (the question that does not begin with any Interrogative adjective such as, what?, which? when? etc). The Suffix அ ā आ can be attached to any word in a sentence to make a question pointing to that word.

EXERCISE : Translate, Say and Write it in Tamil Answers are given in small font for your help, if you need.

VOCAB : Boy = **பையன்** *paiyan* पैयन्, Girl/Woman = **பெண்** *peṇ* पेण्, Man = **மனிதன்**

manidan मनिदन्, Friend (m) = **கிநேகிதன்** सिनेहिदन् *sinehidan*

1. Which boy? எந்தர் பையன் என்ட பையன்? *enda paiyan*
2. Which girl? எந்தர் பெண் என்ட பெண்? *enda peṇ*
3. Which man? எந்தர் மனிதன் என்ட மனிதன்? *enda manidan*
4. Which woman? எந்தர் பெண் என்ட பெண்? *enda peṇ*
5. What is her name? (इसका नाम क्या है?) இவள் போர் என்ன இவல் பெர் என்? *ivaḷ per enna*
6. Her name is Radha. இவள் போர் ராதா இவல் பெர் ராதா *ivaḷ per Rādā*
7. Where does she live? (her place name)? இவள் ஊர் போர் என்ன இவல் ஊர் பெர் என்? *ivaḷ ūr per enna*
8. She lives in Madurai. இவள் ஊர் போர் மதுரை இவல் ஊர் பெர் மதுரை *ivaḷ ūr per Madurai*
9. Who is he? அவன் யார் அவன் யார் *avan yār*
10. He is my friend, Mr. Singh. அவன் என் கிநேகிதன் மிஸ்டர் சிங்க அவன் என் சிநேகிதன் மிஸ்டர் சிங். *avan en sinehidan Mr. Singh*
11. Is he* Telgu? அவன் தெலுங்கா? அவன் தெலுங்கா? *avan Telunga?*
12. No. He is not Telgu. இல்லை அவன் தெலுங்கு இல்லை இல்லை. அவன் தெலுங்கு இல்லை *illai. avan Telungu illai*
13. What is his mother tongue? அவர் தாய்மொழி என்ன அவர் தாய்மொழி என்? *avar tāymolī enna*
14. His mother tongue is Punjabi. அவர் தாய்மொழி பஞ்சாபி அவன் தாய்மொழி பஞ்சாபி. *avan tāymoḷi Panjābī*

EXERCISE : Translate in English or Hindi Answers are given in small font for your help, if you need.

1. உங்க போர் என்ன உங் பெர் என்? *uṅg per enna* What is your name?
2. என் போர் ரங்கன் என் பெர் ரங்ன் *en per Raṅgan* My name is Rangan.
3. உங்க ஊர் போர் என்ன உங் ஊர் பெர் என்? *uṅg ūr per enna* Where do you live?
4. அவள் போர் என்ன அவல் பெர் என்? *ivaḷ per enna* What is her (that girl's) name?
5. அவள் யார் அவல் யார் *avaḷ yār* Who is she (that girl)?
6. இவன் ஊர் போர் என்ன இவன் ஊர் பெர் என்? *ivan ūr per enna* Where does he live?
7. இவன் ஊர் போர் மதுரை இவன் ஊர் பெர் மதுரை *ivan ūr per Madurai* He lives in Madurai
8. அவன் மாணவனா? அவன் மாணவனா? *avan māṇvanā?* Is he* a student?
- 8a. அவள் மாணவளா? அவல் மாணவளா? *avaḷ māṇvḷā?* Is she* a student?

THE 'YES/NO' TYPE OF QUESTIONS

- i. 'Yes / No' type of questions in Tamil are expressed with the use of the 'question marker' ஆ *ā* ஆ.
- ii. This question marker may be attached to any word of the a sentence, other than to the adjective of the noun. However, the interrogative suffix is attached usually to the last word.

EXAMPLES :

1. Is it a goat? இது ஆடுவா *idu āḍuvā* இது ஆடு *iduvā āḍu* இதுவா ஆடு *iduvā āḍu* இதுவா ஆடு?
2. Is that a parrot? அது கிளிவா *adu kiḷiyā* அது கிளியா? *aduvā kiḷi* அதுவா கிளி *aduvā kiḷi* அதுவா கிளி?
3. Is that a boy? அவன் பையனா *avan paiyanā* அவன் பையனா? *avanā piyan* அவனா பையன்?
4. Is it a book? இது புத்தகமா *idu puttahamā* இது புத்தகமா? *iduvā puttaham* இதுவா புத்தகம் *iduvā puttaham*

इदुवा पुत्तहम्?

5. Is that a Dollar? **அது டாலரா** *adu ḍālarā* अदु डालरा? **அதுவா டாலர்** *aduvā ḍālar* अदुवा डालर्?
6. Is she Indian? **அவள் இந்தியனா** *avaḷ indianā* अवळ् इन्दियना? **அவளா இந்தியன்** *avaḷā indian* अवळा इन्दियन्?
7. Is your mothertongue Tamil? **உன் தாய்மொழி தமிழா** *un tāymolī tamilā* उन् ताय्मोळि तमिळा?
8. How many pairs of gloves are these? (எத்தனை *ettane* एत्तने = How many? ஜோடி *joḍi* जोडी = Pair; **அத்தகோசம்** *atthakosham* अत्थकोशम् = Glove) **இது எத்தனை ஜோடி அத்தகோசம்** *idu ettane joḍi athakosham* इदु एत्तने जोडी अथकोशम्?
9. Is she your wife? (உம்முடைய *ummuḍaiya* उम्मुडैय = Wife) **அவள் உம்முடைய மனைவியா** *avaḷ ummuḍaiya maneviyā* अवळ् उम्मुडैय मनेविया?
10. Howmanieth Prime Mininster is Mr. Manmohan Singh? (திரு *thiru* तिरु = Mister; **எத்தனாவது** *ettanāvadu* एत्तनावदु = Howmanieth; பிரதம மந்திரி *piradan mandiri* पिरदम मन्दिर = Prime Minister) **திரு மந்மொஹன் ஸிங்க எத்தனாவது பிரதம மந்திரி** *thiru Manmohan Singh ettanāvadu piradan mandiri* तिरु मनमोहन सिंग एत्तनावदु पिरदम मन्दिर?
- NOTE : This was not a Yes/No type of question, therefore **அ** suffix is not used.

iii. THE POLITE / FORMAL SPEECH

- i. The Honorific Suffix **ங்க ங் ng** is added to the last word of the sentence to show politeness or respect by the speaker to the listner.

NOTE : If the word ends in **ன் ன் n** or **ம் ம் m**, the last **ன் ன் n** or **ம் ம் m** is dropped before attaching **ங்க ங் ng**

e.g. (i) நீ (You = தூ) + **ங்க ங் ng** = நீங்க (You Sir/Madam - आप) नी + **ங் ng** = நீங்க *nī + ṅg = nīṅg*

(ii) **வணக்கம்** (Hi नमस्ते) वणक्कम् *vaṇakkam* = (Respect) **வணக்கங்க** (Hello नमस्ते जी) वणक्कङ् *vaṇakkaṅg*

- ii. In Tamil, somewhat like Hindi (आप = you = with respect as well as plural), the expression of respect by adding the Honorific Suffix suffix **ங்க ங் ng** to a noun also means expression of plurality of that noun.

e.g. (i) **ஆசிரியன்** (Teacher) + **ங்க ங் ng** = **ஆசிரியங்க** (Teacher Sir or Teachers गुरुजी) आसिरियन् + **ங் ng** = आसिरियङ् *āsiriyan + ṅg = āsiriyaṅg*

(ii) மாணவன் (Student) माणवन् *māṇvana* + ங் *ṅ* = மாணவங்க (+ respect or Students
छात्र) माणवङ्ग *māṇvaṅg*

iii. Suffix आर् *ār* may be attached a Singular Noun and suffix मार *mār* to plural Nouns, to denote respect.

TERMINATIONS OF RESPECT / PLURAL FOR PRONOUNS

TABLE 11 : TERMINATIONS of RESPECT / PLURAL, for PRONOUNS

PERSON	<u>HONORIFIC / PLURAL</u> Pronoun		SINGULAR Termination	PLURAL Termination
	Singular	Plural	Honorific	Honorific
2nd (You) M.F.	நீர் नीर् <i>nīr</i> (आप)	நீங்கள் नींगळ् <i>ningaḷ</i> (आप लोग)	ஈர் ईर् <i>īr</i>	ஈர்கள் ईर्गळ् <i>irgaḷ</i>
3rd (He/She) M..F.	அவர் अवर् <i>avar</i> (वे)	அவர்கள் अवर्गळ् <i>avargaḷ</i> (वे लोग)	ஆர் आर् <i>ār</i>	ஆர்கள் आर्गळ् <i>ārgaḷ</i>
3rd (It) N.		அவைகள் अवैगळ् <i>avaigaḷ</i> (वे)		அன் अन <i>an</i>
First Person Pronoun I or We is not used in Honorific Manner in polite talk (for, one does not give respect to himself).				
This Table is developed for Sanskrit Hindi Research Institute for "Learn Tamil Through English/Hindi" by Ratnakar Narale.				

IV. MAKING OUR OWN TAMIL SENTENCES WITH ACTION WORDS

1. Speaking PRESENT events

1. I am learning Tamil / I learn Tamil. நான் தமிழ் கல்கிறேன் *nān tamīl kalkiren* (*kal + kiru + ěn = kal + kir + ěn = kalkiren*) नान् तमिळ् कल्किरेन् (कल् + किरु + ँन् = कल् + किर् + ँन् = कल्किरेन्
நான் தமிழ் கற்கிறேன் *nān tamīl karkiren* (*kar + kiru + ěn = kar + kir + ěn = karkiren*) नान् तमिळ् कर्किरेन् (कर् + किरु + ँन् = कर् + किर् + ँन् = कर्किरेन्
- NOTES : (i) Again like Sanskrit, the verb “is” (இரு *iru*, Sanskrit अस्ति, Hindi है) is actually not written. (ii) Having understood the breakdown in the above example clearly, other Pronouns in other two Tenses of any Verb can easily be figured out in same style, by attaching the Past or Future Tense Suffix to any chosen verb. (iii) Notice the rhyming between the pronoun and its verb.
2. I drink milk. நான் பால் குடிக்கிறேன் நான் பால் குடிக்கிறேன் *nān pāl kuḍikkiren* (कुडि *kuḍi* = drink)
3. She is reading a book. அவள் புத்தகம் படிக்கிறாள் அவல் புத்தஹ் படிகிராஹ் *avaḷ putthaham paḍikirāḷ*. (पडि *paḍi* = Read)
4. He walks 10 km. அவன் 10 k.m. நடக்கிறான் அவன் 10 k.m. நடக்கிரான் *avan 10 km. naḍakkirān* (नड *naḍa* = Walk)
5. You are sleeping. நீ தூங்குகிறாய் நீ தூங்குகிராய் *nī tūṅgukirāy*. (தூங் *tūṅgu* = Sleep)
6. They are. அவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள் அவர்ஹ் இருக்கிரார்ஹ் *avargal irukkirārgal*. (இரு *iru* = Be)
7. He/she goes. அவர் போகிறார் அவர் போகிரார் *avar pokirār*. (போ *po* = Go)
8. You (all) are giving money. நீங்கள் பணம் இடுகிறீர்கள் நீங்கள் பணம் இடுகிரீர்கள் *ningal paṇam idukirīrgal* (ई, इडु *ī, idu* = Give)
9. She takes flowers. அவர் பூக்கள் எடுத்தக் கொள்ளுகிறாள் அவல் பூக்கல் எடுத்தக் கொல்லுகிராஹ் *avaḷ pūkkal koḷḷukirāḷ* (कोळ् *koḷ* = Take)
10. I worship. நான் தொழுகிறேன் நான் தொழுகிரேன் *nān doḷukiren*. (दोळ् *doḷ* = Worship)

EXERCISE : Translate in Tamil (answers are given for your help, if you need)

2. I eat. நான் உண்கிறேன் நான் உண்கிரேன் *nān uṅkiren* (उण् *uṅ* = Eat)
3. She is fighting. அவள் பொருகிறாள் அவல் பொருகிராஹ் *avaḷ porukirāḷ*. (पोरु *poru* = Fight)
4. He falls. அவன் விழுகிறான் அவன் விழுகிரான் *avan viḷukirān* (विळ् *viḷu* = Fall)
5. You do / you are doing. நீ செய்கிறாய் நீ செய்கிராய் *nī seykirāy*. (सेय् *sey* = Do)
6. They die. அவர்கள் மரிகிறார்கள் அவர்ஹ் மரிகிரார்ஹ் *avargal marikirārgal*. (मरि *mari* = Die)
7. He speaks. அவர் பேசுகிறார் அவர் பேசுகிரார் *avar pesukirār*. (पेसु *pesu* = Speak)
8. You are running. நீங்கள் ஓடுகிறீர்கள் நீங்கள் ஓடுகிரீர்கள் *ningal oḍukirīrgal* (ओडु *oḍu* = Run)
9. She is writing. அவள் எழுதுகிறாள் அவல் எழுதுகிராஹ் *avaḷ eḷudukirāḷ* (एळुडु *eḷudu* = Write)
10. I trust. நான் நம்புகிறேன் நான் நம்புகிரேன் *nān nambukiren*. (नंबु *nambu* = Trust)

COMMON TAMIL VERBS, Part I

TABLE 13 : VERB LIST 1

1) Bathe	குளி	कुळि	kuḷi	29) Keep	கா	का	kā
2) Be	இரு	इरु	iru	30) Know	அறி	अरि	ari
3) Become	ஆ	आ	ā	31) Laugh	சிரி	सिरि	siri
4) Begin	ஆரம்பி	आरंभि	ārambi	32) Learn	படி	पडि	paḍi
5) Break	உடை	उडै	uḍai	33) Leave	விடு	विडु	viḍu
6) Buy	உரை	उरै	urai	34) Like	விரும்பு	विरंबु	virumbu
7) Come	வா, வரு	वा, वरु	vā, varu	35) Perish	அழி	अळि	aḷi
8) Cry	அழு	अळु	aḷu	36) Put	போடு	पोडु	poḍu
9) Desire	இச்சை	इच्चै	ichchai	37) Rain	மழை	मळै	maḷai
10) Die	சாவு	सावु	sāvu	38) Read	படி	पडि	paḍi
11) Dislike	வெறு	वेरु	veru	39) Run	ஓடு	ओडु	oḍu
12) Do	செய்	सेय्	sey	40) Say	கொல்	सोल्	sol
13) Drink	குடி	कुडि	kuḍi	41) See	காண்	काण्	kāṇ
14) Eat	உண்	उण्	uṇ	42) Sell	வில்	विल्	vil
15) Eat	சாப்பிடு	साप्पिडु	sāppiḍu	43) Sing	பாடு	पाडु	pāḍu
16) Enter	புகு	पुकु	puku	44) Sit	உட்காரு	उड्कारु	uḍkāru
17) Exist, be	ஆகு	आगु	āgu	45) Sleep	உறங்கு	उरंगु	uraṅgu
18) Exist	உறு	उरु	uru	46) Sleep	தூங்கு	तूरंगु	thuraṅgu
19) Fall	விழு	विळु	viḷu	47) Speak	பேசு	पेसु	pesu
20) Fight	பொரு	पोरु	poru	48) Stand	நில்	निल्	nil
21) Get	வாங்கு	वांगु	vāṅgu	49) Steal	திருடு	थिरुडु	thiruḍu
22) Give	இடு	इडु	iḍu	50) Stop	நிறுத்து	निरुडु	niruddu
23) Give	கொடு	कोडु	koḍu	51) Suffer	படு	पडु	paḍu
24) Give	தா	दा	dā	52) Take	கொல்	सोल्	sol
25) Give	அளி	अळि	aḷi	53) Talk	எடு	एडु	eḍu
26) Go	போ	पो	po	54) Walk	நட	नड	nad
27) Grow	வளரு	वळरु	vaḷru	55) Wash	கழுவு	कळुवु	kaḷuvu
28) Hear	கேள்	केळ्	keḷ	56) Wear	உடுத்து	उडुत्तु	uḍuddu

2. Speaking PAST events

NOTE : Like Sanskrit (लङ् Past tense), Tamil language also generally treats Past habitual and Past continuous tenses as a Simple Past Tense. The specific construction is explained later.

1. I was learning Tamil / I learned Tamil. **நான் தமிழ் கற்றேன்** *nān tamīl karren* नान् तमिळ् करेन्
(कल् + द् + एन् = कर् + र + एन् = करेन् *kal + d + ěn = kar + r + ěn = karren*)

NOTE : As said before, when a word ending in **ல்** *l* is followed by a word beginning with **த்** *t*, the final **ல்** *l* becomes **ற்** *r*. and the **த்** *t* also becomes **ற்** *r*. (See the useful Tables 5 and 16)

2. I drank milk. **நான் பால் குடித்தேன்** *nān pāl kuḍitten* (कुडि *kuḍi* = drink)

3. She was reading a book. **அவள் புத்தகம் படித்தாள்** *avaḷ putthaham paḍittāḷ*. (पडि *paḍi* = Read)

4. He walked 10 km. **அவன் பத்து k.m. நடந்தான்** *avan pattu km. naḍandān* (नड *naḍa* = Walk)

5. You were sleeping. **நீ துங்கிநாய்** *nī tuṅgināy*. (तुंगु *tungu* = Sleep) (तुंगु + इनु + आय् = तुग् + इन् + आय् = तुंगिनाय् *tuṅgu + inu + āy = tuṅg + in + āy = tuṅgināy*; see Table 15 below)

TABLE 15 : PRESENT, PAST and FUTURE Tense SUFFIXES

TENSES ↓	VERBS ENDING IN						
	आ आ <i>ā</i>	इ, ऐ, य् <i>i, ai, y</i>	उ उ <i>u</i>	ण, न् <i>ṇ, n</i>	र, ळ, ळ् <i>r, ḷ</i>	ल्, ळ्, ळ <i>l, ḷ</i>	Other
Present	க்கிறு क्किरु <i>kkiru</i>	க்கிறு क्किरु <i>kkiru</i>	i. Verbs ending in two short syllables க்கிறு क्किरु <i>kkiru</i> ii. Other verbs கிறு किरु <i>kiru</i>	கிறு किरु <i>kiru</i>	கிறு किरु <i>kiru</i>	கிறு किरु <i>kiru</i>	க்கிறு, கிறு क्किरु, किरु <i>kkiru, kiru</i>
Past	ந்த் न्द् <i>nd</i>	ந்த் न्द् <i>nd</i>	i. Verbs ending in two short syllables. ந்த் <i>nd</i> ii. Other. இன் <i>nd</i>	த், ட், ற் द्, ढ, र् <i>d, ṭ, r</i> *	ந்த் न्द् <i>nd</i>	த், ன்ற, ண்ட் द्, ढ, ण्द् <i>nd, nr, ṅṭ</i> **	ந்த் न्द् <i>nd</i>
Future	ப் <i>p</i> ***	i. Intransitive ப் <i>p</i> ii. Transitive வ் <i>v</i>	i. Intransitive ப் <i>p</i> ii. Transitive வ் <i>v</i>	ப் <i>p</i>	உ + வ் उ + व् <i>u + v</i>	வ் <i>v</i>	வ், று + வ் व्, रु + व् <i>v, ru + v</i>
* A word ending in ண் <i>ṇ</i> if followed by த் <i>d</i> , the த் <i>d</i> changes to ட் <i>ṭ</i> . See Tables 5, 16							
** ல் + த் = ன்ற் <i>l + d = nr</i> ; ள் + த் = ண்ட் <i>ḷ + d = ṅṭ</i> See Tables 5, 16							
*** When a word ending in any vowel is followed by consonant க், ச், த், or ப் , <i>k, ck, t, or p</i> that consonant is <u>double</u> d.							

6. They were. அவர்கள் இருந்தார்கள் அவர்஑் இரூந்தர்஑் *avargaḷ irundārgaḷ*. (இரூ *iru* = Be)
7. He/she went. அவர் போநர் அவர் போநர் *avar ponār*. (போ *po* = Go)
8. You (all) are giving money. நீங்கள் பணம் கொடுந்ரீர்கள் நீங்஑் பணம் கொடுந்ரீர்஑் *ningaḷ paṇam koḍutīrgaḷ* (஑், இடு *i, idu* = Give)
9. She took flowers. அவள் பூக்கள் எடுத்துக் அவ்஑் பூக்க஑் எடுதுக் *avaḷ pūkkaḷ eduttuk* (எடு *edu* = Take) See Table 16
10. I worshipped. நான் தொழுதேன் நான் தொழுதேன் *nān doḷden*. (தொழு *dofu* = Worship)

EXERCISE : Translate in Tamil (answers are given for your help, if you need)

2. I ate. நான் உண்டேன் நான் உண்டேன் *nān unḍen* (உண் *un* = Eat)
3. She was fighting. அவள் பொர்விநாள் அவ்஑் பொர்விநா஑் *avaḷ porvināḷ*. (பொர் *poru* = Fight)
4. He fell. அவன் விழுந்தான் அவன் விழுந்஑் *avan viḷundān* (விழு *vilu* = Fall)
5. You did / you were doing. நீ செய்தாய் நீ செய்தாய் *nī seyḍāy*. (செய் *sey* = Do)
6. They died. அவர்கள் மரிந்தார்கள் அவர்஑் மரிந்தர்஑் *avargaḷ marindārgaḷ*. (மரி *mari* = Die)
7. He spoke. அவர் பேசினார் அவர் பேசினார் *avar pesinār*. (பேசு *pesu* = Speak)
8. You were running. நீங்கள் ஓடுகிறீர்கள் நீங்஑் ஓடுகிறீர்஑் *ningaḷ oḍugirirgaḷ* (ஓடு *oḍu* = Run)
9. She was writing. அவள் எழுதிநாள் அவ்஑் எழுதிநா஑் *avaḷ eḷudināḷ* (எழுது *eḷudu* = Write)
10. I trusted. நான் நம்பினேன் நான் நம்பினேன் *nān nambinen*. (நம்பு *nambu* = Trust)

EXAMPLES :

NOTE : Like Sanskrit (लृट् Future tense), Tamil language also generally treats most of the future actions as Simple Future Tense, unless specifically required. Such specific actions will be explained later.

1. I will learn Tamil. நான் தமிழ் கற்பேன் நான் தமிழ் கர்பேன் $\text{कल् + प् + ऐन्} = \text{कर् + प + ऐन्} = \text{कर्पेन्}$ $\text{kal} + \text{pa} + \text{ēn} = \text{kar} + \text{p} + \text{ēn} = \text{karpen}$

NOTE : As said before, when a word ending in ல் *l* is followed by a word beginning with ப் *p*, the final ல் *l* becomes ற் *r*. (See the useful Tables 5 and 16)

2. I will drink milk. நான் பால் குடிப்பேன் நான் பால் குடிப்பேன் *nān pāl kuḍippen* (குடி *kuḍi* = drink)
3. She will read a book. அவள் புத்தகம் படிப்பாள் அவ்஑் புத்த஑் படிப்பா஑் *avaḷ putthaham paḍippāḷ*. (படி *paḍi* = Read)
4. He will walk 10 km. அவன் பத்து k.m. நடப்பான் அவன் பத்து k.m. நடப்பான் *avan pattu km. naḍappān* (நட *naḍa* = Walk)
5. You were sleeping. நீ தூங்குவாய் நீ தூங்குவாய் *nī tūṅguvāy*.

TABLE 18 : FUTURE Tense SUFFIXES

TENSES ↓	VERBS ENDING IN						
	आ	इ, ऐ, य्	उ	ण, न्	र, ङ्, लृ	ल, ल्, ळ	Other
Future Tense	प् प् p *	i. Intransitive प् प् p ii. Transitive व् व् v	i. Intransitive प् प् p ii. Transitive व् व् v	प् प् p	उ + व् उ + व् u + v	व् व् v	व्, ण् + व् व्, रु + व् v, ru + v
* When a word ending in any vowel is followed by consonant क्, च्, त्, or प्, k, ck, t, or p that consonant is <u>Doubled</u> .							

6. They will. **அவர்கள் இருப்பார்கள்** अवर्गळ् इरुप्पार्गळ् *avargaḷ iruppārgaḷ*. (इरु iru = Be)
7. He/she will go. **அவர் போவார்** अवर् पोवार् *avar povār*. (पो po = Go)
8. You (all) will give money. **நீங்கள் பணம் இடுவார்கள்** नींगळ् पणम् इडुवार्गळ् *ningaḷ paṇam iduvārgaḷ* (ई, इडु ī, idu = Give)
9. She will take flowers. **அவர் பூக்கள் எடுத்துக்கொள்வாள்** अवळ् पूककोळवाळ् एडुत्तुक୍ *avaḷ pūkkaḷ eḍuttukoḷvāḷ* (एडु eḍu = Take) See Table 16
10. I will worship. **நான் தொழுவேன்** नान् दोळवेन् *nān doḷven*. (दोळु doḷu = Worship)

EXERCISE : Translate in Tamil

(answers are given for your help, if you need)

2. I will eat. **நான் உண்பேன்** नान् उण्पेन् *nān uṇpen* (उण् uṇ = Eat)
3. She will fight. **அவள் பொருவாள்** अवळ् पोरुवाळ् *avaḷ poruvāḷ*. (पोरु poru = Fight)
4. He will fall. **அவன் விழுவான்** अवन् विळुवान् *avan viḷuvān* (विळு viḷu = Fall)
5. You will do. **நீ செய்வாய்** नी सेय्वाय् *nī seyvāy*. (सेय् sey = Do)
6. They will die. **அவர்கள் மரிப்பார்கள்** अवर्गळ् मरिप्पार्गळ् *avargaḷ marippārgaḷ*. (मरि mari = Die)
7. He will speak. **அவர் பேசுவார்** अवर् पेसुवार् *avar pesuvār*. (पेसु pesu = Speak)
8. You (all) will run. **நீங்கள் ஓடுவீர்கள்** नींगळ् ओडुवीर्गळ् *nīngaḷ oḍuvīrgaḷ* (ई, ओडु oḍu = Run)
9. She will write. **அவள் எழுதுவாள்** अवळ् एळुदुवाळ् *avaḷ eḷuduvāḷ* (एळुदु eḷudu = Write)
10. I will trust. **நான் நம்புவேன்** नान् न्बुवेन् *nān nambuven*. (ந்நு nambu = Trust)

EXAMPLES : Third Person Neuter Gender Future Tense

REMEMBER :

- (i) For Third Person Singular as well as Plural, Neuter Subjects, the Future Tense suffix is **உம்** or **க்கும்** उम्, क्कुम् *um, kkum* (see Table 14). Same suffix for singular and plural both.
- (ii) The verbs that take **கிறு** किरु *kiru* in Present tense, take **உம்** उम् *um* in Future tense

(iii) The verbs that take க்கிறு க்கிரு *kkiru* in Present tense, take க்கும் *kkum* in Furure tense

1. I will eat. நான் உண்பேன் நான் உண்பேன் *nān uṇpen* (उण् *uṇ* = Eat)
2. The dog will eat bone. நாய் எலும்பு உணும் நாய் எலும்பு உணும் *nāy elumbu uṇum*
(एलुम्बु, अस्थि *elumbu, asthi* = Bone)
3. He will fall. அவன் விழுவான் அவன் விழுவான் *avan viḷuvān* (विळु *viḷu* = Fall)
4. The bricks will fall. பாக்கள் விழும் பாக்கல் விழும் *pākkaḷ viḷum*
(पाक्कल् *pakkal* = Brick)
5. I walk. நான் நடக்கிறேன் நான் நடக்கிறேன் *nān naḍkkiren* (नड *naḍ* = Walk)
6. The elephant will walk. யானை நடக்கும் யானை நடக்கும் *yānai naḍakkum*
(यानै *yānai* = Elephant)

LESSON 7

USING PRE-MADE TAMIL SENTENCES, Part I

PLEASE BE AWARE OF THIS, BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- i. When you are able make your own sentences, your power is infinite. And, you know why each sentence is made this way. Only pre-made sentences is not the right way to learn Tamil.
- ii. If you learn Tamil (or any language) through the common practice of learning through pre-made sentences, you are learning blindly, without knowing why the sentence is made this way. It's a lame job. HOWEVER, if you first learn how to make your own sentences and then look at pre-made phrases and sentences, you polish your learning.
- iii. Therefore, please finish Lesson 6 properly, with confidence, before taking up this lesson.
- iv. So far we have learned how to make our own sentences in Simple Present, Past and Future tenses of the VERBS. Thus in this lesson we will limit our scope to what we have learned so far.
- v. In the next lesson we will learn how to use such English prepositions of the NOUNS such as : to, with, by, for, from, in, on, at ...etc. in Tamil sentences and make a better speech. In the following lesson we will first use these affixes again to make OWR OWN sentences, and then study more pre-made sentences.
- vi. In this lesson we will increase our VOCABLARY with the use of a Picture Dictionary of Nouns. We will use this knowledge in the next lesson.

vii. Those who know Hindi, please remember that Hindi uses ने *ne* suffix for Transitive actions of any Perfect tense. But THERE IS NO ने *ne* suffix (or equivalent) IN TAMIL. e.g. Hindi मैंने खाया will be in Tamil simply मैं खाया (नान् उण्डेन्).

viii. Make sure you have mastered TABLES 13 and 15. Mastering these is the key to make your own sentences in three tenses.

ix. With this book, even though you can learn Tamil without learning the Tamil script, **I highly recommend that you learn Tamil through Tamil Script only. Please use the English and Hindi script for help and verification purpose only.**

PRE-MADE ENGLISH-TAMIL SENTENCES

Part I

NOTE : At this stage you may not understand every part of all sentences given below, but as we make more of our own sentences in the following chapters, you will see them clearly if you revise this again.

1. Hi! Hello! नमस्ते = வணக்கம் வணக்கம் *vaṇakkam*.
2. How are you? आप कैसे हैं? = எப்படி இருக்கிறீர்கள் எப்படி இருக்கிரீர்ஐ *eppadi irukkirīrṅal*.
3. How are you? क्या हाल है? = நலமா நலமா? *nalmā*.
4. Good morning! Goodnight! नमस्ते = வணக்கம் வணக்கம் *vaṇakkam*.
5. I am ok! मैं ठीक हूँ! = நல்லா யிருக்கேன் நல்லா யிருக்கேன் *nallā yirukken*
6. Thanks! धन्यवाद, शुक्रिया = நன்றி நன்றி *nanri*.
7. Would you like to have tea? चाय पीएँगे? = தேநீர் குடிக்கிறீங்களா தெனீர் குடிக்கிரீர்ஐ? *thenir kuḍikkirīṅṅalā* (தேநீர் தெனீர் *thenīr* = Tea)
8. Certainly! For sure! अवश्य, बेशक = நிக்கயமாய் நிச்சயமாய் *nichchamāy* (சं. निश्चयमाय्, निश्चयम्)
9. That's all बस ठीक है = போதும் போதும் *podum*.
10. No नहीं = இல்லை இல்லை *illai*.
11. Yes हाँ = அம், ஆமாம், ஒம் அம், ஆமாம், ஆம் *ām, āmām, om*. (सं. आम्)
12. Truly सच = உண்மையாய், உள்ளபடி உண்மையாய், உட்படி *uṇmaiyaṅ, uḷḷapadi*.
13. What is the news क्या खबर है? = என்ன சமாசாரம் என்ன சமாசாரம் *enna samāchāram*
14. Don't worry कोई बात नहीं = பரவா-யில்லை பரவா இல்லை *parvā illai*
15. Please! कृपया = பிரீதியா பிரீதியா *pirīthiyā*. (सं. प्रीत्या), தயவுசெய்து தயவுசெய்து *dayavuseudu*
16. Please listen जरा सुनिये = அதைக் கேளுங்கள் இடைக் கேளுங்கள் *idaik keḷuṅṅal*. (கேள் = Listen)
17. Excuse me! क्षमा कीजिये = மன்னியுங்கள் மன்னி-யுங்கள் *manni-yuṅṅal*.
18. What is this यह क्या है = இது என்ன இது என்ன *idu enna*.

What happened? क्या हुआ = என்ன ஆயிற்று என்ன ஆயிற்று *enna āyītru*. NOTE : When two ற்ற *rr*

LESSON 9

Making Complex Tamil Sentences

We have seen how to Make our Own Basic Tamil sentences in all three tenses (lesson 6). We have seen interesting tables, basic Tamil verbs (Tables 13 & 21) and a Pictorial Tamil Dictionary (Table 19). We also briefly saw how to make imperatives, interrogatives and negative expressions, which we will use extensively in the following lessons.

Let's now see how to make a bit complex Tamil sentences with the use of several 'Postpositions' (case suffixes). Similar to the tenses (Lesson 6), this is another very important chapter. Please make sure you understand its every word properly. Again, do not start this lesson without finishing previous lessons well. Review this lesson at least twice. So we begin ...

BEFORE GOING AHEAD PLEASE UNDERSTAND THE FOLLOWING

- i. As we learned before (Lesson 6.1), the Tamil nouns are divided into three genders. (i) all human male noun words are Masculine Gender, (ii) the human female noun words are Female Gender, and (iii) all other words are Neuter Gender.
- ii. Masculine and Feminine noun words are together called the Rational Nouns. The Neuter noun words are called Irrational nouns.
- iii. In grammatical mumbo-jumbo, the 'form' taken by a noun (or pronoun) to show its 'relationship' in the sentence is called the 'case' of that word. Big deal.
- iv. The noun (or pronoun) itself (singular or plural), without any modification and without attaching any suffix to it, is called the 'Nominative' case of that noun. This case is reserved for the doer ('subject') of the action (verb) in sentence.
- v. In addition to this Nominative relationship, there are seven more relationships or 'cases' of the nouns and pronouns. As said in previous point, the Nominative nouns do not require any modification, it means the other cases do need some kind of modification before attaching the case suffix to them. This modified form of any noun (or pronoun) is called the 'Oblique' case or the 'Inflectional Base' of that noun.
- vi. The addition of any of the eight case suffixes to the oblique/inflectional base of a noun is called Declension of that noun.
- vi. The Plural Nominative is always formed by attaching the 'Plural' Tamil suffix to the Singular Nominative. Most common plural suffix is கள் ka! கல் The plural Inflectional base of a noun (but may not be of some pronoun) is always same as its Plural Nominative.
- vii. All Tamil noun end only in one of the six vowels (அ, இ, ஈ, உ, ஊ, ஐ) or in one of the eight consonants (ண், ட், ய், ற், ல், ழ், ள், ன்). Tamil nouns do not end in any other Tamil

character.

viii. Depending on which letter the noun ends, all Tamil nouns are divided into FOUR GROUPS, for the purpose of attaching corresponding case suffixes (i.e. declension). The four groups are as follows :

- (a) The First Group : masculine nouns ending in **ன்** *n n̄*.
- (b) The Second Group : (neuter) nouns ending in **ம்** *am அம்*.
- (c) The Third Group : nouns ending in **டு** or **று** *du or ru டு or ரு*
- (d) The Fourth Group : the remaining nouns.

ix. For the benefit of those who need a review, or have forgotten or have not learned the English Case prepositions (Hindi कारक, Sanskrit विभक्ति), below is a Table designed to help you with the basics of this lesson.

TABLE 26 : Case Identification

Case No.	English Inflection	Hindi Name	English prepositions	Details
1	Nominative	कर्ता	-	the <u>Doer</u> of the action (the subject)
2	Accusative	कर्म	to	the direct <u>Object</u> of the action (indirect obj. : Dative case)
3	Instrumental	करण	with/by	the <u>Instrument</u> or <u>Means</u> with/by which the action is done
4	Dative	संप्रदान	to/for	the object <u>To</u> or <u>For</u> which the indirect action is done.
5	Ablative	अपादान	from	the place <u>From</u> where the action starts
6	Possessive	अधिकरण	of	the <u>Relationship</u> of the the object in the sentence
7	Locative	सम्बन्ध	in/on/at/with	the <u>Location</u> of the object.
8	Vocative	संबोधन	Oh!	the <u>Address</u> or a Call

NOTE : These suffixes are actually pre-positions in English, but they are post-positions in Tamil, like Sanskrit.

x The case suffixes are Pre-positions in English, but they are Post-positions in Tamil (similar to Hindi and Sanskrit). In other words, in English these word particles come before the NOUN (e.g. To home), but in Tamil (Hindi and Sanskrit) they come after the Noun (e.g. Home to घर को)

xi. Any of these eight Case Suffixes are attached ONLY to nouns or pronouns. They are NEVER attached to the verbs. The verbs take only the Tense Suffixes. The tense suffixes are never attached to the nouns or pronouns. The ADVERBS take NO suffixes of any kind. Tamil Adjectives are also indeclinable and are placed (without any suffix) before the noun. Only the noun takes suffix.

LESSON 10

USING PRE-MADE TAMIL SENTENCES, Part II

PLEASE THINK THIS, BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- i. When you learn to make your own sentences, you know what you are doing. You know how each word form is made and why the word is written that way. You will recognize this reality when you try to learn Tamil through the pre-made sentences. If you learn Tamil through only pre-made sentences, as usually done, you will be stabbing in the dark. You should use the pre-made sentences only to improve your learning by studying them in the light of what you have learned.
- ii. If you know Sanskrit grammar, you may have figured out from the previous lessons that Tamil grammar is based on similar style like Sanskrit, even though it is not as vast as Sanskrit. If you want to see or learn Sanskrit grammar to any depth, you may like to use my "*Learn Sanskrit through English Medium.*"
- iii. If you know Hindi, you must have discovered by now that Tamil grammar is much more deep, logical and systematic than the Hindi Grammar you learned in schools. In Hindi grammar, the gender is single most important aspect but it is very arbitrary with no fixed rules, the use of cases is mixed up and the tenses are violated too often. If you want to learn Hindi in a systematic manner, you may like to use my book "*Learn Hindi through English Medium,*" with properly laid out rules, noble truths, grammar dissection and unique tables.
- iii. If you studied in English schools, you may have guessed that the English Grammar is too brief, simple, cut and dry, as compared to the Tamil grammar. It is systematic like Tamil.
- iv. The present book (Volume I) deals only with the very basic primary level of the vast Tamil grammar. For the use of Tamil Grammar at next level, and for the use of a fully transliterated English-Tamil Dictionary, please see Volume II of this book.
- v. Again, make sure you have studied and understood previous chapters properly, before going ahead with this and the next lessons.
- vi. The answers to the questions are provided in this book for your 'help' only. Please first see if you can answer the questions by yourself, then look at the answers just to verify your answers.
- vii. In each exercise, the English transliteration and Hindi is given for your assistance only. Please learn through the Tamil script. Use English and Hindi only when you are in doubt.

PRE-MADE ENGLISH-TAMIL SENTENCES

Part II

NOTE : You may not understand every part of all these sentences, but as we make more of our own sentences in the following chapters, you will see these sentences more clearly if you revise this over.

1. Excuse me, What time is the train for Mumbai? மன்னிக்கவும் பம்பாய் போகும் வண்டி எப்பொழுது வரும் *mannikkavum! bambāy pohum vaṇḍī eppoḷudu varum* मन्निक्कवुम्! बम्बाय पोहुम् वण्डि एप्पोळुदु वरुम्?
2. Fifty Dollars ninety cents. ஐம்பது டாலர் தோண்ணூறு சேண்ட் *aimbudu dālar toṇṇūru sent* ऐम्बुदु डालर् तोण्णूरु सेंद
3. How far is Washington from here? வாஷிங்கடண் இங்கிருந்து எவ்வளவு தூரம் *Washington iṅgirundu evvaḷavu dūram* वाशिङ्गटन इङ्गिरुन्दु एव्वळवु दूरम्?
4. About five hundred k.m. சுமார் ஐந்நூறு கிலோமீட்டர் *sumār ainnūru kilomīṭar* सुमार् एञ्जूरु किलोमिटर
5. Where is it? இது எங்கே இருக்கிறது *idu eṅge irukkirtu* इदु एङ्गे इरुक्किरदु?
6. Please give me ten tickets. எனக்கு பத்துட்டிக்கேட்கள் கொடுங்க *enakku pattuṭṭikēṭaḷ koḍuṅg* एनक्कु पतुट्टिकेटहळ् कोडुङ्ग
7. Who is there? (कौन है?) யார் இருக்கிறீர் *yār irukkiriṛ* यार् इरुक्किरीர்?
8. Who is he? அது யார் *adu yār* अदु यार्?
9. Does he know you? அவனுக்கு உன்னை தேரியுமா *avanukku unnai teriyumā* अवनुक्कु उन्नै तेरियुமா?
10. When did you (all) come? நீங்கள் எப்போது வந்தீர்கள் *niṅgaḷ eppodu vandīrgaḷ* नीङ्गळ् एप्पोदु वंदीर्गळ्?
11. What does she do? அவள் என்ன செய்கிறாள் *yār avaḷ enna seygirāḷ* अवळ् एन्न सेय्गिराळ्?
12. What happened to you? உனக்கு என்ன ஆயிற்று *unakku enna āyiṭru* उनक्कु एन्न आयिट्रु
13. Come later! பிறகு வா *piragu vā* पिरगु वा
14. Have a seat. அமருங்கள் *amaruṅgaḷ* अमरुङ्गळ्
15. Please give me the newspaper. எனக்கு செய்தி ஏடு கொடு *enakku saydi eḍu koḍu* एनक्कु सेय्दि एडु कोडु
16. Please call the doctor. டாக்டரைக்கூப்பிடு *dākṭaraikkūppiḍu* डॉक्टरैक्कूपिडु
17. What can I do for you (आपकी मैं क्या सेवा कर सकता हूँ)? உங்களுக்கு நான் என்ன சேவை செய்ய *uṅgaḷukku nān enna sevai seyya* उङ्गळुक्कु नान् एन्न सेवै सेय्य?

1. Compounding of Characters

संधि

PLEASE READ THIS BEFORE YOU BEGIN THE LESSON

- i. This lesson is a brief Tamil version of a the rules outlined in a couple chapters from my book “learn Sanskrit through English medium,” for the topics formulated in this lesson are parallel in these two languages.
- ii. Sanskrit *sandhi* is a mathematical addition of two characters, vowels or consonants. Sanskrit *samasa* is the linking of two words with a logical definition. The sandhi (கூட்டு *kūṭṭu* कूट्टु) and samasa (பற்று *paṭṭu* पट्टु) are both present in Tamil. Of course, from Sanskrit they have come into Hindi as well, directly and sometimes indirectly.

In Sanskrit, the *samasa* is a huge and one of the most beautiful linguistic aspects. However, in

Tamil, only the तत्पुषसमासः aspect is used.

- iii. This lesson is presented here in the form of sandhi and samasa rules. You will remember that most of the sandhi rules are appropriately exemplified elsewhere in the earlier lessons of this book and are summarized in Tables 5, 6 and 16.
- iv. The sandhi rules can be further subdivided in to three categories of vowel-vowel sandhi, consonant-vowel sandhi and consonant-consonant sandhi.
- v. Although the visarga (ஆய்தம் *āytham* आयत्तम्) is part of Tamil language, the interesting technique of the Sanskrit visarga sandhi has not come into in Tamil. It remains the most unique aspect of the Sanskrit language.
- vi. The following collection of rules also serves as a reference checklist of all the rules you need to know for the basic study of the Tamil language.

TAMIL SANDHI RULES

1. (a) Like Sanskrit, the அ, இ, உ அ, इ, उ are Basic or Simple Vowels.
(b) The rest nine vowels ஆ, ஈ, ஊ, எ, ஏ, ஐ, ஒ, ஓ, ஔ ஆ, ई, ऊ, ए, ऐ, ओ, औ are Compound Vowels, composed of the three Simple vowels. e.g.
ஆ = அ + அ; ஈ = இ + இ; ஊ = உ + உ; எ = அ + இ; ஏ = அ + ஈ; ஐ = அ + அ + இ; ஒ = அ + உ; ஓ = அ + ஊ; ஔ = அ + அ + உ
ஆ = அ + அ; ई = इ + इ; ऊ = उ + उ; ए = अ + इ; ऐ = अ + ई; ओ = अ + अ + इ; औ = अ + ऊ

2. Compounding of Words

समास

- i. In Tamil (तत्पुरुष) Samasa, compound words are formed by (sandhi) linking two nouns with a third noun, observing the above given sandhi rules.
- ii. Like Sanskrit samasa, the words to be joined must be first put in their Nominative Singular forms before joining them. And like the Sanskrit *tatpurusha* samasa, the first word qualifies the second word, but the last word stands for the compound word. e.g. Heartache உள்ளம்நோவு

உள்ளம்-நோவு *ullam-novu* उल्लम्-नोवु Heartache = உள்ளம் heart + நோவு ache. உள்ளம் Heart is the qualifier of the ache. Heart is the secondary word. Heart is the adjective of the word ache. **நோவு** Ache is the primary word. Ache stands for the word heartache. i.e. Ache represents the compound word and takes the gender and number suffixes. Secondary word can easily be replaced with any other suitable noun or adjective, like தலை-நோவு headache, இரைக்குடல்-நோவு stomachache, etc.