

PREFACE

A learner's dictionary is primarily a usage dictionary, a comprehensive dictionary and a productive or creative work. This last quarter of the 20th century is marked by production of a large number of such dictionaries in European languages. But, they are monolingual dictionaries. Bilingual dictionaries are few. Ours is an humble attempt in this direction, the first one in an Indian language.

The Dictionary has a special purpose : It teaches Hindi. Rather, it teaches Hindi to English-knowing readers and English to Hindi-knowing persons. Hence, there are limitations in vocables as well as their meanings. It contains about 10,500 main words of Hindi. Fortunately, some frequency lists, worked out by competent scholars, are available. We have utilized the word-counts of the following compilers—

Mission Press: Teachers' and Authors' List of 4000 Important Hindi Words, Jabalpur, 1950.

Mission Press : List of the Required Words of the Second Hindi Course, Jabalpur, 1952.

Ministry of Education : Basic Hindi Vocabulary, New Delhi, 1958.

Badri Nath Kapur : Basic Hindi, Varanasi, 1962.

A.M. Ghatage : Phonetic and Morphemic Frequencies in Hindi, Poona, 1964.

Central Hindi Institute : Hindi ki ādhārbhūt Shabdāvalī, Agra, 1967.

K.C. Bhatia : Basic Vocabulary of Hindi, Aligarh, 1968.

Taking a total stock of these lists, we could get more than ten thousand words; but we had to omit a few hundred from Dr. Ghatage's list, because, by discretion, their standard was considered to be too high. We had to add, from our own experience, several hundred words which could not be found in any of the above vocabularies and which, we thought, were basic indeed.

The arrangement of words in the Dictionary is traditional — first nasal letters—अं, कं, खं, रं, etc. —, then non-nasals in their alphabetical order. The pairs ड ड, ढ ढ, क क, ख ख, ग ग, ज ज, फ फ are treated as singles so far as order is concerned.

Meanings of a word have been arranged on the basis of their frequencies. Some words have quite a large number of meanings, but in a learner's dictionary it is neither desirable nor possible to give exhaustive significations. The standard of the learner has to be kept in mind. Meanings of a word in a general Hindi dictionary are so jumbled up that one who does not know the target language is confused and learns nothing. For example, a dictionary (quite

popular, but we need not name it) records the following meanings of **संख** (the very first word in a Hindi Dictionary) — a number, numeral, figure, digit; marks, a mark; an act (of a drama or play); lap, embrace. Now, compare the arrangement and treatment of meaning in the Dictionary in your hand. Every word has been put in its environment, situation or context. We have given adequate lexical, grammatical and derivational formations, wherever it was desirable and needful, to define the usage and scope of words. They are mostly based on the contrastive method.

In the following *Introduction*, we have explained what this Dictionary contains, and set down elaborate hints on Hindi pronunciation and writing. We have not shown stress marks in the body of the Dictionary. If the learner grasps the rules stated at p. xviii, he will face no difficulty. The rules are so simple.

We have given, at the end of several articles, antonyms and synonyms of words. We know that some of these synonymous words are distinguishable in meaning, and they should be differentiated. We could not do this. It is possible only in a dissertation or in an advanced learner's dictionary.

In the appendices are given classified lists of words relating to various spheres of life. A brief guide to names of persons, mythological and historical personages, and a gazetteer of India has also been appended. In English, a capital letter is used to signify a proper noun. There is no such device in Hindi. Foreigners do get confused for want of such an indicator. Therefore, these appendices will be of great help to them.

A learner is advised to refer frequently to the appendix entitled 'Lexical and Grammatical Formations in Hindi'. We could not exhaust all grammatical categories under words of various parts of speech. This brief but compact and practical guide will help.

The editor-author has spared no effort to make the Dictionary as useful as possible to a learner, but he is conscious of his weaknesses and limitations. Being the first work of its kind in the history of Indian lexicography, it has its own shortcomings. Coming generations and younger lexicographers will surely improve it. Minute details about Hindi language are being left out for an advanced learner's dictionary.

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Introduction

What the Dictionary Contains

Some typical and representative articles are being quoted below from the Dictionary to explain the details given therein and the methodology adopted.

1. The main word in Hindi is given in bold type.

2. It is followed by transliteration in Roman script. A key is given at p. ix.

3. Grammar is given in greater detail. We have introduced * for uncountables which do not make plural forms and ° for countables which make plurals.

4. Varied meanings have been shown by figures 1, 2, 3, ... and nuances or shades by (a), (b), (c).... In a learner's Dictionary, it is neither desirable nor possible to give all the meanings of poly-semantic words. Meanings have been arranged on the basis of frequency and sequence.

5. Collocations are given in square brackets, when the order of collocat-ed words is the same in both the languages. When collocations are extremely limited, the fact is either indicated explicitly or suggested by giving meagre examples.

6. Where necessary, the term is explained in a context.

7. The sign ~ means the main word. Here it was उन्नति. In the next article it is ओर. The sign — means the English meaning which precedes. Here it was 'promotion'; and under ओर it is 'towards'.

8. Conjunct verbs are regularly shown. Here उन्नति करना becomes a conjunct verb.

1 2 3 4

उन्नति unnati f^u |

1. development [अभूतपूर्व 5
unprecedented, स्वाभाविक
natural].

2. progress [भौतिक mate-
रिअ वैज्ञानिक scientific].

3. promotion; पिछले महीने 6
उसकी ~ हुई he/she got 7

— last month. ~ करना 8
to develop, to progress.

[ant. प्रवर्धन]

ओर or I. f^u [unchanged
in pl.] side [दाहिनी right,

बाई left, उल्टी opposite/re-
verse, दूसरी other]; एक ~

aside : वह मुझे एक ~ ले गया
he took me aside; मेरी ~

से on my behalf [m. with
collective numerals] घर 9

के चारों ~ on all sides of
the home. II. postp की ~

towards : गाँव की ~ — the
village. [syn. तरफ]

नम nam a (a) moist : 4

~ हवा — air; आँसुओं से ~
आँखें eyes — with tears.

(b) damp [जमीन ground,
कमरा room, मौसम weather].

[syn. तर]

कच्चा Kachchā a
[several meanings in

9. Sometimes the usage is very peculiar and extremely limited.

10. Sometimes a word does not have a definite meaning by itself. The vagueness is dissolved only in a context.

The richness of Hindi is evinced from several words like कच्चा or गया (below) which produce a wealth of meanings in contexts. It is a feast, indeed, to read such articles in the Dictionary.

11. In the beginning of an article, generally after giving pronunciation and grammar, square brackets enclose information about the use of a word, and also its grammatical, semantic, cultural and stylistic field.

12. At the end of an article; square brackets contain related words, such as a syn. (synonym); an ant. (antonym or opposite), dim. (diminutive form), fem. (feminine), etc. They, not only explain the meaning of a particular word, but also add to the vocabulary of the learner.

13. Compounds, with peculiar signification, are given usually as separate main words. But, sometimes, as an illustration of a particular meaning or usage, they are placed under the main word.

14. The sign Δ indicates that idioms, proverbs and other groups of words with a special meaning start from this point. Generally, idioms have been translated into idioms and proverbs into proverbs. See बात.

15. Irregular grammatical forms have been regularly given.

16. Inflections of nouns, adjectives and pronouns in number, gender and case, and of verbs

contexts] ~ आम unripe mango; ~ मांस raw meat; ~ भात undercooked rice;see inside.

काल kāl 1 *m*^o (a) period [प्राचीन ancient, मध्य medieval, आधुनिक modern]; शासन- ~ regime. (b) time; प्रातः ~ morning (time); सायं ~ evening (time). 2. *m*^u death; उसका ~ आ गया था — was hanging on him/her; ~ के गाल में जाना to go into the jaws of —; Δ काल के हाथ कमान, बूढ़ा बच्चे न जवान, or, काल न छोड़े राजा न छोड़े रक — makes no distinction. [syn. 1. समय; 2. मृत्यु, मौत]

खस्ता *khastā* I. *a* [unchanged] crisp [पापड़ papad, मिठाई sweetmeat, बिस्कुट biscuit]. Δ ~ हालत straitened condition; उसकी हालत ~ है he/she is in distress, II. *m*^u *a* crisp eatable.

गो *go* *f*^o cow [in compounds only]

गोदान gift of a —; गोमाता the mother —; गोमूत्र —'s urine; गोरक्षा — protection; गोशाला —shed; गोहत्या —slaughter; etc. [गो is more common and is also used in compounds]

जाना *jānā* *vi*. 1. to go [past and p.p. गया went, gone]; लड़की स्कूल जाती है the girl goes to school;

मैं एक पत्र लिखने जा रहा हूँ I am going to write a

letter; तुम किसके साथ गये थे with whom did you go? मैं वहाँ अकेला गया था I had gone there alone;

आगे (पीछे, तेज़, धीरे, सीधे) ~ — ahead (behind/back, quickly/fast, slowly, straight/direct);

in tenses, moods, voice, etc. are described, as here जाता, जा रहा, जाना, जाकर, गई, गये, etc. Fuller indications are given in an appendix on 'Grammatical formations'. It is never possible to give all inflections of each and every word. General rules have to be grasped.

17. Collocations of nouns and adjectives are given in square brackets (see 5 above). So the collocations of verbs are shown separately (generally in round brackets) because the order in the two languages differs.

18. Certain verbs govern specific postpositions in contexts.

19-20. Compound and conjunct verbs are a peculiarity of Indian languages. There is a section on 'Compound Verbs' at p. 755 (appendix). Effort has been made to illustrate their use in relevant contexts throughout the Dictionary.

21. Sporadic meanings of several words, especially nouns and verbs, have been listed at the end of an article, where necessary, only in contexts.

कार (गाड़ी, जहाज, समुद्र, सड़क) से ~ — by car (train, ship, sea, road); कमरे के/से बाहर (घर के भीतर, सड़क के किनारे, पुल के पार, सीढ़ियों के/से नीचे) जाओ go out of the room (into the house, along the road, across the bridge, downstairs); जाकर देखो go and see. [In compound verbs] तुम आ जाना you do come; वह चला गया है he has left (gone away); बच्चे जा चुके थे the children had already gone; जाने दो let it go, leave it; खा ~ to eat up; खो जाना to be lost; डूब जाना to be drowned/sunk; पहुँच जाना to reach; मिल जाना to meet and then go. [In conjunct verbs] जान जाना to die; ध्यान जाना to be attracted; पास ~ to approach; पैदल ~ to go on foot; बेकार ~ to go waste; चोरी ~ to be lost/stolen; वापस ~ to return. 2. to go, to extend : यह सड़क अमृतसर तक गई है this road goes/extends upto Amritsar; वह मैदान नहर के किनारे तक चला गया है this plain/ground goes/extends up, to the canal bank. 3. to leave, to depart; वह अभी-अभी गया है he has just left/departed. 4. to be lost : मेरा बैग (रुपया, सामान) गया my bag (money, luggage) is lost; उसकी नौकरी गई he/she lost his/her service; मेरा क्या जाता है what do I lose? 5. [Misc. meanings] मुन्नू अपने पिता पर गया है Munnu takes after his father, Munnu resembles his father; समय जा रहा है time is passing; उसकी बातों पर मत जाओ do not rely on what he/she says; मेरी आँखों से पानी (नाक से खून) जा रहा है tear from my eyes, (blood from my nose) is flowing out : [also see जाने] [In passive voice for English to be] खाना खाया जाता है meal is eaten/taken; पार्सल भेजा गया the parcel was sent for; देखा जाएगा it will be seen.

जीता jitā part a. 1. [from जीना to live] living, alive; ~ आदमी living person; जीती जाति living nation; वे दोनों जीते हैं both of them are alive; ~ लोहा magnet; जीते जी during life-time;

22. Here is an example of a homonym, formed grammatically. Special care has been taken to mark such homonyms, whether lexical or grammatical.

23. Prefixes and suffixes find their own place in the Dictionary. They are useful elements for word-formation. Also see the lists under noun formations, adjective formations, verb formations and adverb formations, and also the lists of prefixes in the last appendix.

24. Inflected forms of pronouns are not easily identifiable. A learner may not be able to see that तुझे is connected with तू, or इसे with वह, or किसी with कोई. Therefore, such forms (even of some other parts of speech, as गया is past tense from जाना) are treated as separate entries.

There are in Hindi several words the spelling of which have not been standardized. Such words with double spelling or phonetic variation have been shown with cross references. There is another set of words which have been standardized but the sub-standard word is still in use. The Dictionary gives meanings, shades and illustrations with the standard form and leaves the sub-standard form incomplete, referring it to the standard. Vide बचन, बसंत. Some of these have very limited use.

List of Symbols and Abbreviations

- I II III... different grammatical uses of a word follow.
 1 2 3... different meanings of a word follow.
 (a) (b) (c)... different shades of the same meaning follow.
 / alternative ; single word for a single word.
 ~ the main Hindi word in the beginning of the same paragraph.
 — the immediately last meaning in English, unnumbered in the beginning, or numbered 1 2 3 or (a) (b) (c).
 Δ followed by idioms and/or proverbs.
 () used instead of/when an alternative is not a single word but a phrase ; secondly they enclose collocations which have different syntactical order in the two languages.
 [] enclose additional information in the beginning or at the end,

~ हुआ living, alive; ~

हुआ पाया गया was found—.

2. [from जीतना to win] conquered, won; ~ 22

हुआ देश conquered country ~ हुआ इनाम the prize won. [syn. 1. जिदा, जीवित; 2. विजित]

-जीवी -jivi suff [makes 23

adjs. and nouns meaning 'one living by']

बुद्धिजीवी intellectuals;

श्रमजीवी labourer.

तुझ तुjh pron [obl. 24

form of तू thou] thee :

~ को to or for thee/

you;.....

also enclose collocations of a word when the syntactical order is identical in the two languages.

in pronunciation or transliteration shows that the inherent -a- in the consonant is not pronounced.

<i>a</i>	adjective		meaning is feminine too.
<i>adv</i>	adverb	<i>m^{u/a}</i>	masculine, usually uncountable, rarely countable.
<i>ant.</i>	antonym, opposite		
<i>attr.</i>	attributive use		
<i>card.</i>	cardinals	<i>masc.</i>	masculine form indicated by way of additional information.
<i>caus.</i>	causative		
<i>cf.</i>	compare		
<i>comb.</i>	combinations	<i>n.</i>	noun form indicated by way of additional information.
<i>conj</i>	conjunction		
<i>dim.</i>	diminutive form		
<i>emph.</i>	emphatic	<i>obl.</i>	oblique form in declension
<i>f^o</i>	feminine noun countable, <i>i.e.</i> used in <i>pl.</i> also	<i>ord.</i>	ordinals
		<i>p.</i>	past tense
<i>f^u.</i>	feminine noun, uncountable, <i>i.e.</i> not used in plural	<i>part a</i>	participle used as adjective
		<i>pl.</i>	plural
<i>f^{u/o}</i>	feminine noun, generally uncountable, rarely countable.	<i>poss.</i>	possessive case
		<i>postp.</i>	postposition.
<i>fem.</i>	feminine form indicated by way of additional information.	<i>p.p.</i>	past participle
		<i>pred.</i>	predicative use of adj.
<i>fr.</i>	(derived) from	<i>pref</i>	prefix
		<i>prep.</i>	preposition
<i>int(erj)</i>	interjection.	<i>pron.</i>	pronoun
<i>interr.</i>	interrogative	<i>q.v.</i>	quod vide, which see (in this book)
<i>m^o</i>	masculine noun countable, <i>i.e.</i> used in <i>pl.</i> also.	<i>sing.</i>	singular
		<i>smb</i>	somebody
<i>m^u</i>	masculine noun uncountable, <i>i.e.</i> not used in plural.	<i>smth</i>	something
		<i>suff</i>	suffix
<i>m(f)</i>	form is masculine, but	<i>syn</i>	synonym
		<i>usu</i>	usually
		<i>vi</i>	verb intransitive
		<i>vt</i>	verb transitive

Hints on Hindi Pronunciation and Writing

The following is the key to pronunciation which will adequately help the learner to pronounce Hindi words fairly accurately.

CONSONANTS

क ka, ख kha, ग ga, घ gha and ङ ṅa are velars, the tongue closing the soft palate (velum). क ka is voiceless, as in English but unaspirated. ग ga is voiced, as in English 'go', 'game'. ख kha is aspirated k, with louder aspiration, so also is घ gha aspirated ग. ङ ṅ is nasal, as in Eng. 'King' or 'ink'. It occurs before क ख ग घ and is often substituted by *anusvār* (ṅ), as मङ्कल ṅk (figure) शङ्ख shaṅkh (conch-shell), गङ्गा gaṅgā (the river Ganga), सङ्घ saṅgh (union), or अंक, अंख, अंगा, अंघ. We have used *anusvār* in this Dictionary and given it first place in alphabetical order under each letter.

क qa, ख kh I a ग ga are borrowed sounds from Arabic-Persian. They are post-velars, articulated further back in the mouth at the uvula. Many Hindi speakers substitute simple क, ख, ग for क, ख, ग. क qa is voiceless and unaspirated. ख kha is voiceless but aspirated. Both are fricatives. ग ga is voiced ख.

च cha, छ chha, ज ja, झ jha and ञ ṅa are alveolar stops. The glide of the tongue with tip down, closes the front part of the hard palate (alveola), and there is a slight friction on release. Thus they are semi-fricative. च cha is voiceless, unaspirated, almost similar to Eng. ch in 'much', without aspiration. ज ja is voiced as in Eng. 'jet', but palatalized. छ chha is aspirated च, and झ jha is aspirated ज. ञ ṅ is nasal, as in French or Italian, and near to the Eng. sound in 'munch' or 'ginger'. It occurs before च छ ज झ and is often substituted by *anusvār* (in writing), as चञ्चल chañchal (unsteady), मञ्जन manjan (dentifrice), or चञ्चल, मञ्ज.

ज za is voiced 's', and used in borrowed words from Arabic-Persian or English, as जमीन zamīn (earth), साइज sāiz (size). Many Hindi speakers substitute ज ja for ज za.

ट ṭa, ठ ṭha, ड ḍa, ढ ḍha and ण ṇa are retroflex, the edge of the tongue being erected vertically, touching the centre of the root of the palate, and coming down with a curl on release. ट ṭa is voiceless, like Eng. 't' in 'ticket', but without any aspiration. ड ḍa is voiced, and is similar to 'd' in 'day', but articulated somewhat back at the hard palate. ठ ṭh is aspirated ट, and ढ ḍha is aspirated ड. ण ṇa is a difficult sound even for some Hindi speakers. It is used in Sanskrit words, medially or finally, and in western dialects. ṇa is retroflexed न n. Practise with a native speaker. Before ट ठ ड ढ the ण् can be substituted by an *anusvār*, as दंड daṇḍ (punishment), टंटा ṭaṅṭā (botheration) for दण्ड, टण्टा.

ड़ ṛa and ढ़ ṛha are also difficult for foreigners. Both are flapped retroflex. You start articulation from a position a little behind that for ड ḍa, let the tongue flap forward and down. See how we pronounce आरा āra (saw), आटा āṭā (flour), आडा āḍā (meaningless)

and then ञाढ़ा āṛā (oblique). ढ ṛha is aspirated ढ.

त ta, थ tha, द da, ध dha and न na are dental stops. त ta is unaspirated voiceless soft sound, and द da is voiced त. They are easy for French, Italian and Russian speakers. They are pronounced with the flat edge of the tongue placed on the inner side of the upper teeth. थ tha is aspirated त and ध dha is aspirated द. न na is similar to English 'n' in 'near', 'man'. न before त थ द ध is also written with anusvār, as सन्त sant (saint), चन्द्रमा chandramā (moon) or संत, चंद्रमा.

प pa, फ pha, ब ba, भ bha and म ma are bilabial plosives. प pa is the same as in English 'papa', 'pot' except that there is no aspiration. फ pha is aspirated प. ब ba is voiced प, like English 'b' in 'ball', 'bet'. भ bha is aspirated ब. म ma is like Eng. 'm' in 'mama' 'month', without friction. म् before प फ ब भ is also written with anusvār, as पम्प 'pamp' (pump), कम्बल kambal (blanket) or पंप, कंबल.

फ fa is borrowed from Arabic-Persian and English, but it has less friction than English 'f' and is replaced by many Hindi speakers by फ pha, spoken as well as written.

य ya, is a palatal semi-vowel. It behaves like Eng. 'y' in 'yes', when initial. Medially and finally, it is a vowel, as in Eng. 'boy' or 'bay', or it is just a glide.

र ra is trilled 'r' of the Italians or the Scotch. The trill, as in Eng. 'raw', is important in all positions of Hindi words.

ल la, lateral palatal, is like Southern Eng. 'l' in leaf.

व va, is like Eng. 'v', but in conjunct form or in the middle of a word it is spoken with slightly rounded lips.

श sha is similar to 'sh' in 'sheep' or 'shame'. It is a voiceless, palatal fricative. श ṣa in Sanskrit words was retroflex fricative, but it is often pronounced as श sha.

स sa, a sharp sibilant, is like English 's' in 'so', 'same', but slightly thrown forward.

ह ha is the same as in English but is always, even finally, vocalized.

: ha (visarg) occurs chiefly in Sanskrit words.

VOWELS :

अ a, इ i, उ u are short; and आ ā, ई ī, ऊ ū, ए e, ऐ ai, ओ o, and औ au are long vowels. ऋ ri, found in Sanskrit words only, was once a vowel, but now it is 'ri' in Hindi speaking region. Vowels in their full form are used when initial is a syllable. After a consonant, a coalescent vowel-sign, called Mātrā, is used. The Mātrā of अ is inherent in a consonant form. All vowels, excepting ऋ which is now wrongly enumerated among vowels, have their nasalized forms, as well.

The following chart will explain all details—

Vowel	Mātrā	as in Eng.	Nasalized	Vowel	Example
अ	—	up, above	अँ, as in	हँसना	haśnā, laugh
आ	ा	father	आँ, as in	बाँस	bāś, bamboo
इ	ि	pin, it	इँ, as in	सिचाई	sīchāi, irrigation
ई	ी	eagle, seen	ईँ, as in	ईंट	īṭ, brick
उ	ु	book, put	उँ, as in	मुँह	mūh, mouth
ऊ	ू	boot, tool	ऊँ, as in	ऊँट	ūṭ, camel
ऋ	ॠ	in, skt. words	(see in the Dictionary)		
ए	े	pale, sail	एँ, as in	में	mē, in
ऐ	ै	at, batch	ऐँ, as in	भैंस	bhāīś, buffalo
ओ	ो	oat, go	ओँ, as in	दोनों	donō, both
औ	ौ	(wider)call	औँ, as in	भीह	bhīh, eyebrow.

Notes—1. We have noted above that अ has no Mātrā or coalescent sign because it is inherent in the full written form of a consonant, *i.e.*, क is ka, ग is ga and so on. The pure consonant is written as *halant* (with the mark (.) below). Thus क् k, ख् kh, ग् g, घ् gh, etc. Hindi speakers do not pronounce the inherent -a at the end of a syllable. Thus मन is man (mind), बालक is bālak (boy) and चलती is chaltī (goes). If a consonant is isolated as a syllable by itself, -a is audible, as in कमल Kamal (lotus), मकान ma kān (house). In the Dictionary, when there is -a in spelling, but not in pronunciation, we have given a isolated diacritical dot in Roman transliteration, so that it can be retranscribed into Devanagari script. At the end of a word, there is no need giving this dot as Hindi never favours -a at the end of a word except after a conjuncted consonant. Thus मरना mar'nā (to die), बात bāt (talk), but पुत्र putra (son).

2. A new vowel sign औँ has become a necessity in order to symbolize English sounds in doctor डॉक्टर, call कॉल, etc.

3. The mātrās for उ ऊ with र are written as उँ रुँ respectively.

4. The long vowels आ ā, ई ī; ऊ ū, ए e, ऐ āi, ओ o and औ āu become half long in prestressed or poststressed position. The second vowel in each of the following words is half long :—

जाता jātā (goes), पीली pīlī (yellow), ऊँहें ūhē (no), केले kele (Bananas) तोलो tolo (weigh).

5. It has been pointed out that anusvār is a sign of nasality of consonants ङ् ṅ, ञ् ṅ, ण् ṇ, न् n, म् m, as in अङ्क, अञ्जल, अङ्क, अञ्ज, अण्ण, अन्न. Similarly ँ (called anunāsik) should be superimposed to denote nasal vowel, but tradition has tended to replace it by an anusvār ँ when the vowel or mātrā has strokes over it. Note हँसना, बाँस, मुँह, ऊँट, but सिचाई, ईंट, में, भैंस, दोनों, भीह given as examples on the top of this page.

VOWEL CLUSTERS

Refer to the vowels ऐ आ, and औ आ. In Sanskrit words, these symbols are pronounced as ai and au, i.e., diphthongs. In fact, there is no आ or आ (as simple vowel) in Sanskrit. In Hindi, the number of vowel clusters is quite large. In such clusters, each vowel must be distinctly articulated. You will find many such vowel clusters in the Dictionary. Some examples are given below—

गई ai, in गई gaī (gone)	आई āi, in नाई nāi (barber)
गए ae, in गए gae (have gone)	आऊ āū, in उड़ाऊ urāū (prodigal)
आए āe, in आए (they came)	आओ āo, in जाओ jāo (go)
इए ie, in मिलिए milie (meet)	उआ uā, in हुआ huā (became)
उई uī, in हुई huī (she became)	उए ue, in हुए hue (they became)
खोई oi, in खोई khoī (lost)	ओए oe, in रोए roe (they wept)
ओओ oo, in सोओ soo (sleep)	आइए āie, please come, is a cluster of three vowels.

Some clusters have an intruded य (y- glide) in writing; thus आए āe (they came), नई nai (new), गए gae (they went), मिलिए milie (meet), बोए boe (sown) are found written as आये, नयी, गये, मिलिये, and बोये.

NUMERICAL FIGURES : Devanagari symbols for numerical figures are—१ २ ३ ४ ५ ६ ७ ८ ९ ०.

ALTERNATIVE LETTERS : Some Devanagari letters are written in two ways each. Those in the first place in each pair below are officially recognized.

अ, अ ऋ ऌ, छ छ, स ऋ, ण ण, घ घ, ष ष, श श,
a, ri, chh, jh, ṇ, dh, bh, sh.

LETTERS WITH DIACRITICAL DOT : The following letters did not exist in the Devanagari alphabet. They developed later and Hindi had to improvise dots below similar letters to mark distinction. Thus, क q, ख kh, ग G, ज z, ङ fa, ढ rha, and फ fa. [see the key to pronunciation, p.x,xi].

MORE ABOUT CONSONANTS : 1. A distinction between dental and retroflex consonants is important for non-Indian learners, who are advised to practise with the following minima! pairs—

त ta and ट ṭa—तन tan (body), टन ṭan (ton); तब tab (then), टब ṭab (tub); तमतमाना tam'tamāna (to get red), टमटमाना ṭam'ṭamāna (to flicker); तलना tal'nā (to fry), टलना ṭal'nā (to be averted); ताई tāi (aunt), टाई ṭāi (neck-tie); तीन tin (three), टिन ṭin (tin, can); तोप top (gun), टोप ṭop (hat).

थ tha and ठ ṭha—थान thān (length of cloth), ठान ṭhān (resolve); थोड़ी thoṛī (a little), ठोड़ी ṭhoṛī (chin).

द da and ढ ḍa—दंड daṇḍ (punishment), ढंड ḍaṇḍ (a physical exercise); दर dar (rate), डर ḍar (fear); दाल dāl (pulses), डाल ḍāl (branch);

दाह dāh (burning), दाह dāh (jealousy); देरी derī (delay), देरी derī (dairy).

ध dha and ढ dha—धुलाई dhulāī (washing), धुलाई dhulāī (cartage); धोना dhonā (to wash), धोना dhonā (to carry); धेला dhelā (half pice, an old coin), धेला dhelā (lump).

2 The importance of distinguishing ड ṛa, ढ ṛha and ण ṇa has already been stressed. These sounds do not occur in the initial position of a word. Some more words are being given below for practice. ड ṛa — पड़ना paṛ'nā (to lie down), दौड़ dāuṛ (race), कीड़ा kirā (insect), पेड़ per (tree), घोड़ा ghorā (horse), बड़े bare (big ones), भीड़ bhir (crowd), जड़ jar (root), कड़ी kaṛī (beam of wood).

ढ ṛha—पढ़ना paṛh'nā (to read), गाढ़ा gāṛhā (dense, thick), रीढ़ rīṛh (back-bone), सीढ़ी sīṛhī (staircase), बाढ़ bāṛh (flood), चढ़ाई chaṛhāī (ascent).

ण ṇa—ऋण riṇ (debt), उदाहरण udāharaṇ (example), कारण kāraṇ (reason), वाणी vāṇī (speech), गणना gaṇ'nā (counting), साधारण sādhāraṇ (ordinary), प्रणाम praṇām (greetings), प्रमाण praṁāṇ (proof).

3. The aspirates are not two consonants. Although we transcribe them with 'h' after the unaspirated consonants, yet they are single consonants, only aspirated forms of their counterparts. The two sets of unaspirated and aspirated consonants have to be distinguished.

	Voiceless	Voiced
Unaspirated	क च ट त प ka cha ṭa ta pa	ग ज ड द ब ढ ga ja ḍa da ba ṛa
Aspirated	ख छ ठ थ फ kha chha ṭha tha pha	घ ङ ढ घ भ ढ gha jha ḍha dha bha ṛha

The following minimal pairs of words are noticeable—

- काना Kānā (one-eyed) खाना khānā (to eat)
 माता mātā (mother) माथा māthā (forehead)
 गड़ा gaṛā (implanted) घड़ा ghaṛā (pitcher)
 चाल chāl (trick) छाल chhāl (bark)
 जलना jal'nā (to burn) झलना jhal'nā (to fan)
 काट kāṭ (cut) काठ kāṭh (wood)
 पल pal (moment) फल phal (fruit)
 गोल gol (round) घोल ghol (solution).

Eng. k p t are slightly aspirated, but all unaspirated Hindi consonants, including क प ट, should not have the slighted aspiration. The aspiration of the voiceless ख छ ठ थ फ is greater than of the voiced घ ङ ढ घ भ ढ. In all these ten consonants, aspiration is louder, *i.e.*, the puff is more voluminous than in English or German sounds.

4. In most European languages a voiced consonant becomes devoiced, especially at the end of a word. In Hindi voiced pro-

nunciation must be maintained even in final position. Compare बाद bād (after) and बात bāt (talk); सूद sūd (interest) and सूत sūt (yarn); खेद khed (regret) and खेत khet (field).

DOUBLE OR LONG CONSONANTS in Hindi have to be really lengthened and must be pronounced with longer closure and single (slightly delayed) release. Pronounce छक्का chhakkā, सुग्गा suggā, सच्चा sachchā, छज्जा chhajjā, बट्टा baṭṭā अड्डा aḍḍā, अक्षुण्ण akṣuṇṇa, पत्तल pattal, जिद्दी ziddī, सुन्न sunna, छप्पर chhappar, डब्बा ḍabbā, अम्मा ammā, तय्यार tayyār, दर्रा ḍharrā, बिल्ली billi, रस्सी rassi, दुश्शासन dushshāsan.

Doubling of ड़ ड़ and ह़ ह़ is not available. Double aspiration is not possible. Of the two consonants, the first is deaspirated. Thus मक्खन makkhan, बग्गी bagghī, अच्छा achchhā, अज्जर jhajjhar, भट्टा bhaṭṭhā, बुद्धा buddhā, उत्थान utthān, etc.

Single (short) and double (long) consonants in words make semantic difference. Compare—

पता patā, address	पत्ता pattā, leaf
बचा bachā, survived	बच्चा bachchā, child
बली bali, powerful	बल्ली balli, rafter
बुध budh, Wednesday	बुद्ध buddha, enlightened
सुन sun, listen	सुन्न sunna, benumbed

COMBINING OF CONSONANTS : Study closely how the first consonants have been truncated in doubling. Such ligatures are also effected in various consonant clusters. Clustering of consonants is very common in Sanskrit. It is less so in Hindi, much less in Hindi dialects. Every consonant of a cluster must be pronounced, of course, without an intervening -a-, as in Eng. spot, stall, brother, bulk, train, grub, grasp, fly, etc.

1. Letters having a verticle stroke at the end (*i.e.*, on the right) truncate that stroke when combining with the following consonant. Transcription and meaning of the following words may be seen in the Dictionary.

छ, र, ई, च, ज, झ, ञ, ष, ट, ड, ढ, ढ, न, ए, क, फ, म, ट, ह, व, श; as in व्याख्या, ग्वाला, कृतघ्न, अच्छा, ज्वाला, चञ्चल, दण्ड, सत्कार, पष्य, ध्यान, नन्हा, कुप्पा, घब्बा, अभ्यास, तुम्हारा, तय्यार, सिल्क, व्यापार, ईश्वर, पुष्प, रास्ता ।

2. क् and फ् omit their ending hook, as in अक्कल, हफता ।

3. ड, छ, ट, ठ, ड, ढ, द and ह retain their form : It is the following consonant which is truncated and usually put under the foot of the previous consonant. Thus

गङ्गा, उच्छ्वास, पट्टा, भट्टा, पाठ्य, बुद्धा, घनाढ्य, पद्य, विद्वान्, मध्याह्न, हास, आह्लाद.

4. The combination of य with the preceding consonant may be noted in पाठ्य and घनाढ्य above. Similar is the form in ट्य (का ट्य), थ (विधा), ह्य (बाह्य).

5. Some clusters may be written up and down, or before and

after, as कू or कक (in पक्का, पक्का), कच or क्च (in बच्चा, बच्चा), ज्ज or ज्ज (in घञ्जी, घञ्जी), च्च or च्च (in बच्चल, बच्चल), ज्ज or ज्ज (in मञ्जन, मञ्जन), प्त or प्त (in सप्ताह, सप्ताह), ल्ल or ल्ल (in बिल्ली, बिल्ली), श्र or श्र (in परिश्रम, परिश्रम), श्र or श्र (in श्वास, श्वास).

6. The र letter behaves in various ways. When it precedes a consonant, it is superimposed over the following consonant, as कं (तकं), तं (मूर्ति), ईं (अर्धं), मं (धर्म), etc. If there is a mātrā after the consonant, it is placed over that Mātrā, as in कर्ता, भर्ता, सर्वोत्तम.

When र follows a consonant it usually takes the form र as in प्रिय, क्रिया, मित्र, नम्र. It is placed under ट, ठ, ड and ढ, as in ट्रक, ड्रामा.

7. You may also come across कर, तर, प्र, and र्क, र्त. It may be informed that there is tendency, especially due to the exigencies of printing presses, to write the preceding consonant as halant (*i.e.*, with the mark (.) below), thus keeping all the consonants in their true form, as विद्वान्, अद्वा, उत्पत्ति, घञ्जी, पक्का, पद्धि etc.

8. The following ligatures are peculiar :—

क्ष Kṣa (पक्ष, क्षमा), त्र tra (पात्र, मात्रा), ज्ञ gyā (ज्ञान, प्राज्ञा), त्ता tta (पत्ता, सत्), क्त kta (भक्त, शक्ति). They can be written in ordinary way as well. Thus क्ष kṣa, त्र tra, त्ता tta, क्त kta. ज्ञ is steady.

Sandhi

There are many words in Hindi borrowed from Sanskrit which are in fact combination of two or more meaningful elements. The sounds of these elements have so coalesced by contact that it is difficult for a learner to separate them. The student will find it interesting to split such words and trace the etymologies and development in the meaning of parts vis-a-vis the whole. For instance विद्यालय vidyālay (school) is a combination of विद्या (learning) and आलय (house); it is a house of/for learning; स्वागत svāgat (welcome) is exactly सु (well) and आगत (come); उद्धृत uddhrit (quoted) originally means उत् (out) and हृत (drawn).

VOWEL SANDHI : (i) When a simple vowel, short or long, is followed by a similar vowel, short or long, the result is one long vowel. Examples—सूर्य (sun) + अस्त (set) = सूर्यास्त; देह (body) + अन्त (end) = देहान्त demise, death; हिम (snow) + आलय (home) = हिमालय the Himalayas; विद्या (learning) + अनुराग (love) = विद्यानुराग; रजनी (night) + ईश (lord) = रजनीश moon; सु (good) + उक्ति (saying) = सूक्ति maxim.

(2) अ or आ followed immediately by इ or ई results in ए for both; as in शुभ (happy) + इच्छु (wisher) = शुभेच्छु well-wisher; नर (men) + ईश (lord) = नरेश King.

(3) अ or आ followed immediately by उ or ऊ = ओ for both; as

in सूर्य (sun) + उदय (rise) = सूर्योदय; नव (new) + ऊढा (married woman) नवोढा; महा (great) + उत्सव (festivity) = महोत्सव.

(4) अ or आ followed by ए or ऐ is ऐ for both; by ओ or औ, is औ; as in मत (opinion) + ऐक्य (oneness) = मतैक्य (unanimity); सदा (always) + एष (of course) = सदैव; महा (great) + औषधि (medicine) = महौषधि.

(5) इ or ई followed by any other vowel change into ए; as in अति (very) + अल्प (little) = अत्यल्प; प्रति (each) + एक (one) = प्रत्येक; अग्नि (all round) + उदय (rise) = अग्न्युदय (prosperity).

(6) उ or ऊ followed by any other vowel changes to व्; as in सु (well) + आगत (come) = स्वागत welcome; अनु (into, after), ईक्षण (seeing) = अन्वीक्षण investigation.

CONSONANT SANDHI :

(1) Before vowels and voiced consonants other than nasals, the voiceless plosives क् च् ट् प् become voiced ग ज ड द ब respectively.

Examples—

जगत् (world) + ईश (lord) = जगदीश (God).

सत् (good) + आचार (behaviour) = सदाचार

सत् (good) + गुरु (teacher) = सद्गुरु

उत् (out) + घाटन (opening) = उद्घाटन (inauguration)

षट् (six) + आनन (faces) = षडानन (the god having six faces, Skanda)

अच् (अ आ...vowels) + अन्त (ending) = अजन्त (word ending in a vowel)

वाक् (speech) + ईश (lord) = वागीश (eloquent speaker).

(2) Before a nasal consonant a plosive becomes corresponding nasal; as

वाक् (speech) + मय (having) = वाङ्मय (literature)

जगत् (world) + नाथ (lord) = जगन्नाथ

सत् (good) + मार्ग (path) = सन्मार्ग ।

(3) त् or द् followed by च्, छ्, ज्, ल takes the form of the following consonant, thus effecting a double consonant. Examples—

सत् (good) + चरित्र (character) = सच्चरित्र (of good character)

सत् (good) + जन (person) = सज्जन (gentleman)

उत् (out) + छेदन (cutting) = उच्छेदन (uprooting).

तत् (in it) + लीन (absorbed) = तल्लीन ।

(4) Voiceless consonants can form clusters in Sandhi with voiceless consonants and voiced consonants with voiced ones only.

VISARG SANDHI :

Visarg (:) or स् undergoes the following changes in Sandhi.

अस् or अः followed by अ or voiced consonant > ओ; as मनः + अनुकूल = मनोनुकूल (congenial to mind); तेजः + मय = तेजोमय (brilliant).

अस् or अः followed by क्, ख्, प् or फ् > visarg; as अघःपतन (downfall); मनःखेद (mental grief).

स् or : followed by च or छ changes to ष् ; as तपः (penance) + चर्या (practice) = तपश्चर्या ; निस् + छल = निश्छल (without fraud).

इ/उ स् or : followed by vowel or voiced consonant changes to र् ; as निः + आशा = निराशा (hopelessness, disappointment); दुः + भाव = दुर्भाव (ill feeling) ; निस्/निः + भय = निर्भय (fearless).

इ/उ स् or : followed by क ख प or फ changes to ष् ; as निस् + काम = निष्काम (desireless) ; दुः + कर = दुष्कर (hard to be done) ; निः + फल = निष्फल (fruitless, vain).

Accent and Intonation

ACCENT :

Practically in Hindi there is no such thing as strong stress or accent with which Europeans are generally familiar. Still in a polysyllabic word some one syllable is slightly more prominent than others. No faultless rules have yet been evolved, but a rough statement is given below—

(1) When a word consists of only short* syllables, the penultimate (last but one) receives prominence; as in गति, ga' ti, समुत्ति su 'ma ti, मधु 'ma dhu, कवि 'ka vi, poet

(2) When a word consists of more than one long* syllables, then also the penultimate (last but one) syllable, if long, is accented; as in सालाना sā 'lā nā, आदमी 'ād mī, 'लिखना 'likh nā, चालाकी chā 'lā kī, कराना ka'ra'nā, टिमटिमाना tim' ti'mā nā, बिलकुल' bil 'kul.

(3) The last syllable is not accented, except in causative imperative or when ending in visarg. Compare—

लिखा 'li kha (wrote), लिखा li'khā (make me write, dictate)

चला 'cha lā (started), चला cha 'lā (make it move, start)

प्रात 'prāt (morning), प्रातः prā'tah (in the morning).

(4) If the penultimate syllable is short and the one preceding it is long, the long syllable is prominent. Examples.—बहादुरी ba' hā,- du ri, बिरादरी bi 'rā da ri.

(5) The syllable before the conjunct consonant (which gets split up) is accented; as राष्ट्र 'rāṣṭra, सार्वजनिक, 'sār va ja nik, सङ्गति 'saṅ ga ti, चन्द्रमा 'chan dra mā.

(6) In compound words, the independent elements retain their respective accent.

INTONATION :

Intonation is more important than accent in Hindi. No rules can be detailed here. One should listen carefully to a good

A short syllable ends in a short vowel. A syllable is long if it ends in a long vowel or in a consonant.

speaker or recordings, and imitate. The range of intonation in Hindi is narrower than in English. There are no abrupt ups and downs. Usually the voice falls at the end of a sentence. A questioning word क्या what, कौन who, कहाँ where, कैसे how, or a word desired to be given special significance, or the adverb ही (alone) receive stress in a sentence. In an imperative or exclamatory sentence or in an entreaty, the voice rises at the end.