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—


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


Central Hindi Institute: Hindi ki ādharbhūt Shabdāvalī, Agra, 1st ed.


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, ं, ः, etc. —, then non-nasals in their alphabetical order. The pairs दं, दं, कं, खं, गं, जं, फं 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 मर्क (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.

10, Darbhanga Castle

Allahabad

Hardev Bahri
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 " or 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 collocated 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 ऊर्जा. The sign ~ means the English meaning which precedes. Here it was ‘promotion’; and under ऊर्जा it is ‘towards’.

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

1. development [प्रौद्योगिक 5 unprecedented, स्वाभाविक natural].
2. progress [भौतिक material, वैज्ञानिक scientific].
3. promotion; पिछले महीने 6 उसकी ~ हुई he/she got 7 — last month. ~ करना 8 to develop, to progress. [ant. घमन्ति]
4. ऊर्जा or I. f"” [unchanged in pl.] side [बाएं right, बाईं left, ऊर्जा opposite/reverse, ऊर्जा other]; एक ~ aside: वह पुके एक ~ ने गया he took me aside; नेता ~ के 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]
5. nam a (a) moist: 4 ~ हवा — air; चौथों दिन ~ प्रोटिपं ओ० ~ प्रोटिपं ओ० eyes — with tears. (b) damp [ढती ground, कमरा room, प्रोटिपं weather]. [syn. तरफ]
6. Kachchh 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 कथा or ग्या (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] ~ भाम unripe mango; ~ मांस raw meat; ~ भात undercooked rice; ......see inside.

काल kāl m (a) period [पाण्डव ancient, मध्य medie-
val, शास्त्रिक modern]; शासन~ regime. (b) time; ग्राम: ~ morning (time); सायं ~ evening (time). 2. m death; उसका ~ भा गया था ~ was hanging on him/her; ~ के गाल में जाना to go into the jaws of —; Δ काल के हात मानना, बुढ़ा बच्चे न जाना, or, काल न छोड़े राजा न छोड़े रंग — makes no distinction. [syn. 1. समय; 2. मृत्यु, शोष]

खस्ता khāstā I. a [unchanged] crisp [पापड़ papad, फ़िट्सी sweetmeat, विस्कुट biscuit]. Δ ~ हालत straitened condition; उसकी हालत ~ है he/she is in distress, II. m a crisp eatable.

गो go f cow [in compounds only]

गोदान gift of a —; गोमाता the mother —; गोमुख —’s urine; गोरखा — protection; गोशाला — shed; गोबूता — 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]; नहीं राजा जाना है the girl goes to school; मैं एक पत्र लिखने आ रहा हूँ I am going to write a letter; तुम किसके साथ गये नी with whom did you go? मैं वहाँ लाग्या गया था I had gone there alone; गये (फाँचे, तेज, धीरे, शीघ्रे) ~ — ahead (behind/back, quickly/fast, slowly, straight/direct);
in tenses, moods, voice, etc. are described, as here जाना, 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.

(77)

कार (बाहर, जहाज, समुद्र, सड़क) से — by car (train, ship, sea, road); कमरे के/से बाहर (घर के चौंड, सड़क के किनारे, पुल के पार, सीडियों के/से नीचे) जाना go out of the room (into the house, along the road, across the bridge, downstairs); जाकर देखा go and see. [In compound verbs] तुम या जाना you do come; वह चला गया है he has left (gone away); बच्चे जा चुके थे the children had already gone; जाने वो let it go, leave it; खा ~ to eat up; घो जाना to be lost; झूठ जाना to be drowned/sunk; पहुँच जाना to reach; भिड़ जाना to meet and then go. [In conjunct verbs] जाना जाना to die; ध्यान जाना to be attracted; भाषा ~ to approach; पैदल ~ to go on foot; बेकार ~ to go waste; चोरी ~ to be lost/stolen; बालस ~ to return. 2. to go, to extend: यह सड़क मृदुतस तक गई है this road goes/extends upto Amritsar; वह मेदान नहर के किनारे तक बीत गया है this plain/ground goes/extends up, to the canal bank. 3. to leave, to depart; वह अभ्यास-प्रारंभी गया है he has just left/departed. 4. to be lost: नेरा बैग (शौच, सामान) गया my bag (money, luggage) is lost; उसकी नौकरी गई he/she lost his/her service; नेरा बारा जाता है what do I lose? 5. [Misc. meanings] मनुआ प्रथमी पिता पर गया है Munnu takes after his father, Munnu resembles his father; समय जा रहा है time is passing; उसकी बातों पर मत जाने do not rely on what he/she says; फूसे शब्दों से पानी (नाक से छूटने) जा रहा है tear from my eyes, (blood from my nose) is flowing out: [also see जाने] [In passive voice for English to be] ध्वनि बाया जाता है meal is eaten/taken; पासेल मेहमान गया the parcel was sent for; देखा जाएगा it will be seen.

जीता jita part a. 1. [from जीना to live] living, alive; ~ आश्चर्य living person; जीती जानत 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 तुम्हारे is connected with तु, 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, बलंत. 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,
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.

| a      | adjective                                                                 |
| adv    | adverb                                                                    |
| ant.   | antonym, opposite                                                         |
| attr.  | attributive use                                                           |
| card.  | cardinals                                                                 |
| caus.  | causative                                                                 |
| cf.    | compare                                                                   |
| comb.  | combinations                                                              |
| conj   | conjunction                                                               |
| dim.   | dimunitive form                                                           |
| emph.  | emphatic                                                                  |
| f*     | feminine noun countable, i.e. used in pl. also                            |
| f*²    | feminine noun, uncountable, i.e. not used in plural                       |
| f*¹/₂  | feminine noun, generally uncountable, rarely countable                    |
| fem.   | feminine form indicated by way of additional information                   |
| fr.    | (derived) from                                                            |
| int(ef) | interjection.                                                            |
| interv. | interrogative                                                           |
| m*     | masculine noun countable, i.e. used in pl. also                           |
| m*²    | masculine noun uncountable, i.e. not used in plural                       |
| m(f)   | form is masculine, but                                                   |

| mu/e   | masculine, usually uncountable, rarely countable.                         |
| masc.  | masculine form indicated by way of additional information.                |
| n.     | noun form indicated by way of additional information.                    |
| obl.   | oblique form in declension                                               |
| ord.   | ordinals                                                                  |
| p.     | past tense                                                                |
| part a | participle used as adjective                                              |
| pl.    | plural                                                                    |
| poss.  | possessive case                                                           |
| postp. | postposition                                                              |
| p.p.   | past participle                                                          |
| pred.  | predicative use of adj.                                                   |
| pref   | prefix                                                                    |
| prep.  | preposition                                                               |
| pron.  | pronoun                                                                   |
| q.v.   | quod vide, which see (in this book)                                       |

**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 ॠ 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’, ‘gam’. ख kha is aspirated k, with louder aspiration, so also is घ gha aspirated घ. ॠ ṅa is nasal, as in Eng. ‘King’ or ‘ink’. It occurs before क ख ग घ and is often substituted by anusvār+ (ः), as प्रेक्षा arūk (figure) प्रेक्षा arūk (conch-shell), गंगा gangā (the river Ganga), संघ saṅgh (union), or बंक bāṅk, गंगा, संघ. 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 ग.

च cha, छ chha, ज ja, झ jha and ञ ṇa 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. च in ‘much’, without aspiration. ज ja is voiced as in Eng. ‘jet’, but palatalized. छ chha is aspirated छ, and झ jha is aspirated झ. न na 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 चन्यī chaṇchal (unsteady), मन्जून manjan (dentifrice), or बंसल, मनज.

ज ja 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 ja.

ट ta, ठ thā, ड dha, ढ dhā and ॠ 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 ta is voiceless, like Eng. ‘t’ in ‘ticket’, but without any aspiration. ड dha is voiced, and is similar to ‘d’ in ‘day’, but articulated somewhat back at the hard palate. ठ th is aspirated ठ, and ढ dhā is aspirated ढ. ण na is a difficult sound even for some Hindi speakers. It is used in Sanskrit words, medially or finally, and in western dialects. ण na is retroflexed ण n. Practise with a native speaker. Before ठ ठ ड the ण can be substituted by an anusvār, as दंड dand (punishment), दंडा तांता (botheration) for दण, दण्ड.

ऋ ra and ढ ṛha are also difficult for foreigners. Both are flapped retroflex. You start articulation from a position a little behind that for ड dha, let the tongue flap forward and down. See how we pronounce ज्रा āra (saw), प्राता ātā (flour), प्राता ādā (meaningless)
and then ाः (oblique). ः र has aspirated ः.

त ta, ध th, व da, ध dha and न na are dental stops. त ta is unaspirated voiceless soft sound, and व da is voiced व. 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. ध th is aspirated ध and ध dha is aspirated ध. न na is similar to English 'n' in 'near', 'man'. न before त ध व is also written with anusvār, as सन्त sant (saint), चन्द्रमा chandramā (moon) or संत, चंद्रमा.

प pa, फ pha, ब ba, भ bha and फ 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. फ ma is like Eng. 'm' in 'mama' 'month', without friction. प before फ फ is also written with anusvār, as पम्प 'pamp' (pump), कंबल 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 sa in Sanskrit words was retroflex fricative, but it is often pronounced as श sha.

श 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:**

आ a, इ i, उ u are short; and आ ā, ई ē, उ ū, ऐ ā, ऐ ā, औ o, and औ ā are long vowels. ई 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 Māṭrā, is used. The Māṭrā of ऐ is inherent in a consonant form. All vowels, excepting ऐ which is now wrongly enumerated among vowels, have their nasalized forms, as well.
The following chart will explain all details—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vowel</th>
<th>Māṭrā</th>
<th>as in Eng.</th>
<th>Nasalized</th>
<th>Vowel Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ḍḥ</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>up, above</td>
<td>ṇ, as in</td>
<td>हँसा haṅnā, laugh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḍḥ</td>
<td>r</td>
<td>father</td>
<td>ṇ, as in</td>
<td>बांस bāns, bamboo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḍḥ</td>
<td>ṇ</td>
<td>pin, it</td>
<td>ṇ, as in</td>
<td>स्थाट sthāṭ, irrigation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḍḥ</td>
<td>ḍḥ</td>
<td>eagle, seen</td>
<td>ṇ, as in</td>
<td>टूट īṭ, brick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḍḥ</td>
<td>ṇ</td>
<td>book, put</td>
<td>ṇ, as in</td>
<td>मूढ़ mūh, mouth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḍḥ</td>
<td>ḍḥ</td>
<td>boot, tool</td>
<td>ṇ, as in</td>
<td>उट īṭ, camel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḍḥ</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>in, skt. words</td>
<td>(see in the Dictionary)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḍḥ</td>
<td>ṇ</td>
<td>pale, sail</td>
<td>ṇ, as in</td>
<td>में mē, in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḍḥ</td>
<td>ṇ</td>
<td>at, batch</td>
<td>ṇ, as in</td>
<td>बैस bhāns, buffalo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḍḥ</td>
<td>ṇ</td>
<td>oat, go</td>
<td>ṇ, as in</td>
<td>दोनों donō, both</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ḍḥ</td>
<td>ṇ</td>
<td>(wider)call</td>
<td>ṇ, as in</td>
<td>भाँठ bhāṭ, eyebrow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes—1. We have noted above that ḍḥ has no Māṭrā or coalescent sign because it is inherent in the full written form of a consonant, i.e., ḍḥ is ka, ḍ is ga and so on. The pure consonant is written as halant (with the mark ( ) below). Thus ḍ k, ḍ kh, ḍ g, ḍ 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 बलती is chaltī (goes). If a consonant is isolated as a syllable by itself, -a is audible, as in कमल Kamal (lotus), मकान maṅkān (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 मर्ना marṅā (to die), बात bāt (talk), but पुत्र putra (son).

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

3. The māṭrās for छ with ḍ are written as छ ḍḥ respectively.

4. The long vowels यँ a, ḍḥ û, ए e, ऐ ḍi, भो o and भट टा 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), अंगूठी āṅgūṭī (no), केले kele (Bananas) कोलो tolo (weigh).

5. It has been pointed out that anusvār is a sign of nasality of consonants ह, न, य, म, न, न, म, as in पंक, चंद, दंड, संत, पंप. Similarly “ (called anunasīk) should be superimposed to denote nasal vowel, but tradition has tended to replace it by an anusvār ــــ when the vowel or māṭrā has strokes over it. Note होँसा, बौंस, मूँढ़, टूट, but स्थाट, टूट, में, भांस, दोनों, भाँठ given as examples on the top of this page.
VOEAL CLUSTERS

Refer to the vowels ऐ आ, and औ त्रत. In Sanskrit words, these symbols are pronounced as ai and au, i.e., diphthongs. In fact, there is no अ य (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—

बैं आ, in गई गाई (gone)
बैं आ, in गई गाई (have gone)
बैं आ, in ब्रें (they came)
बैं आ, in मिलिते milie (meet)
बैं आ, in हुईं हुईं (she became)
बैं आ, in बोईं khot (lost)
बैं आ, in सबैं soo (sleep)

आई आ, in नई नाई (barber)
आई आ, in जड़र जड़र (prodigal)
आई आ, in जादु जादु (go)
आई आ, in हुईं हुईं (became)
आई आ, in हुईं हुईं (they became)
आई आ, in रोईं roe (they wept)
आई आ, please come, is a cluster of three vowels.

Some clusters have an intruded य (y- glide) in writing; thus बैं आ (they came), नई नाई (new), गई गाई (they went), मिलिते milie (meet), बोईं boe (sown) are found written as ब्राई, नबै, गबै, मिलिये, and बोये.

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

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

अ, आ ब, भ, ध, त, थ, ध, न, य, र, श, ठ, रि, र्ह, झ, न, ड, ढ, भ.

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, ख, ग, ज, झ, घ, घा, घ, घ, घा, and ग फा. [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 minimal pairs—

ब ता and द दा—तन tan (body), दन tan (ton); तब tab (then), दब tab (tub); तमतमा tam-tamāna (to get red), दम-दमाना (to flicker); तलनाला tal-nāla (to fry), तलनाना tal-nāna (to be averted); ताई ताई ताई ताई (aunt), ताई ताई (neck-tie); तीन तीन (three), तीन तीन (tin, can); तोप तोप (gun), तोप तोप (hat).

य था and ध ठा—यान थान (length of cloth), ठान ठान (resolve); ठोरी ठोरी (a little), ठोरी ठोरी (chin).

द दा and द दा—दंड đanda (punishment), दंड đanda (a physical exercise); दर dar (rate), दर dar (fear); दल dál (pulses), दल dál (branch);
(xiv)

शाह दाह (burning), शाह जाह (jealousy); देरे डेर (delay), देरे डेर (dairy).

ध ठा and ठ ठा—पुलाई ठुलाठ (washing), दुलाई ठुलाठ (cartage); ठोना ठोना (to wash), ठोना ठोना (to carry); ठेसा ठेला (half pice, an old coin), ठेला ठेला (lump).

2 The importance of distinguishing ठ ra, ठ ra and ठ na 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. ठ ra — पद्मा पार्णा (to lie down), दोड़ दूत (race), सीढ़ किरा (insect), पेड़ पर (tree), गोड़ा घोरा (horse), बडे बरे (big ones), भीरे भीर (crowd), जड़ जार (root), कड़ी कार (beam of wood).

ठ ra—पद्मा पार्णा (to read), गड़ा गार्हा (dense, thick), गड़ रिफ (back-bone), सीढ़ सिर (staircase), बड़ा बार्ह (flood), बड़ा चार (ascent).

ण ना—ण रिन (debt), उदाहरण udāharaṇ (example), कारण kāraṇ (reason), सापणी vāṇi (speech), गणना gaṇnā (counting), साधारण sādharan (ordinary), प्राधम prānām (greetings), प्रमाण pramāṇ (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 ठ ठ प ग ङ ज ड द ब रा
	ka cha ṭa ta pa
ga ja ḍa da ba ra
Aspirated ख छ ठ ठ ं ढ भ ध बं ह रा
kha chha ṭha tha pha
gha jha ḍha dha bha ra

The following minimal pairs of words are noticeable—
काना Kānā (one-eyed) खाना khānā (to eat)
माता mātā (mother) माया māthā (forehead)
गड़ा garā (implanted) गढ़ gharā (pitcher)
चाल chāl (trick) छाल chhāl (darn)
जलना jalnā (to burn) जलना jhalnā (to fan)
काट kāt (cut) काट kāṭh (wood)
पल pai (moment) फल phal (fruit)
गोल gol (round) गोल ghol (solution).

Eng. k p t are slightly aspirated, but all unaspirated Hindi consonants, including क प ठ, should not have the slightest aspiration. The aspiration of the voiceless ख छ ठ ठ ं ढ भ ध बं रा is greater than of the voiced प ङ ज ड द ब रा. 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 (after) and बात (talk); दू़ (interest) and दूत (yarn); भेद (regret) and भेत (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 छन्दक (chakkā), सुन्दर (suggā), सच्चा (sachchā), छाज (chhajā), बट्टा (battā) ब्रह्मा (brahmā), अक्षुण्ण (aksunna), पल्ल (pattal), बिठौ (ziddt), सुन्न (sunna), छल्ल (chhappar), बड़ा (dabbā), प्रमा (ammā), तयार (tayār), द्वार (dharrā), बिल्ली (billy), रस्ती (rassi), तुषासन (dusshāsan).

Doubling of ह and ह is not available. Double aspiration is not possible. Of the two consonants, the first is deaspirated. Thus मक्खन (makkhan), बाढ़ी (bagght), प्रज्ञा (achchhā), भज्ञ (jhajjhar), ब्रह्मा (brahthā), बुद्धा (buddhā), उत्थान (utthān), etc.

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

- पता (patā), address
- बच (bach), survived
- बली (ballī), powerful
- बुद्ध (buddh), Wednesday
- सुन (sun), listen

- पता (pattā), leaf
- बच (bachchā), child
- बली (ballī), rafter
- बुद्ध (buddha), enlightened
- सुन (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 vertical 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.

- हृ (hr), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h), ह (h)
- as in यस्तायम, ग्वाल, इत्थन, प्रज्ञा, ज्वाला, ब्रह्म, दश, तंकाय, पश्च. ध्वनि, नत्ता, कुपा, ध्वनि, ध्वनि, ध्वनि, ध्वनि, तन्माय, सित, भाव, ठेव, ठेव, पुप, रसाय.

2. क and क omit their ending hook, as in प्रकाल, हुस्ता ।

3. ह, ह, ह, ह, ह, ह, ह and ह retain their form: It is the following consonant which is truncated and usually put under the foot of the previous consonant. Thus

- श्वा, उर्वाय, पत्र, भूत, पाल, बुद्ध, धनाद्य, पष, विन्दु, मध्याल, हास, भाषाय.

4. The combination of य with the preceding consonant may be noted in पाडळ and धनाद्य above. Similar is the form in ठ (का ठच), व (विख), ए (बाहर).

5. Some clusters may be written up and down, or before and
after, as कू or कक (in पक्का, पक्का), क्व or क्स (in वचना, वचा), र्म or र्ज (in रहली, रहजी), र्न or र्प (in वनल, वनजन), र्ग or र्त (in र्गर्जन, र्गर्जन), ट्य or ट्य (in स्ताह, स्ताह), त्ल or त्ल (in बिल्ली, बिल्ली), भ्व or भ्व (in भिरास, भिरास).

6. The र letter behaves in various ways. When it precedes a consonant, it is superimposed over the following consonant, as क्त (क्तर्क), त्य (त्युत्ति), द्य (द्याय), भ्य (भ्यर्य), etc. If there is a मात्र after the consonant, it is placed over that मात्र, as in कता, सती, सवैलम.

When र follows a consonant it usually takes the form त as in नियम, निया, निच, नभम. It is placed under र, त, त्र and द्र, as in त्रूक, त्रामा.

7. You may also come across क, र, र्न and र्क, र्ल. 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 विद्वान, प्रधान, उद्यम, गझ्वी, पक्का, पह्रख etc.

8. The following ligatures are peculiar:—

क्ष (क्षा, क्षमा), त्र (त्रा, त्रात), ग्या (ग्या, ग्यान), त्ता (त्ता, त्तात), क्ता (क्ता, क्तात)

They can be written in ordinary way as well. Thus क्ष, क्षा, त्र, त्ता, क्ता. श 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 (school) is a combination of विशा (learning) and ालय (house); it is a house of/for learning; वास्प्तव स्वागत (welcome) is exactly यू (well) and ामत (come); उद्धृत उद्धृत (quoted) originally means उद्धृत (out) and इत (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)+सूर्य (set)=सूर्यसूर्य; देह (body)+देह (end)=देहाण demise, death; हिम (snow)+हिम (home)=हिमालय the Himalayas; विद्या (learning)+विद्या (love)=विद्याद्वार; रजसी (night)+ईश (lord)=रजसीईश moon; भू (good)+उद्वि (saying)=उद्वि एक्स maxim.

(ii) र or रा followed immediately by र or र = रो for both; as in पर (happy) + पर (wisher) =परपर well-wisher; तर (men) + तर (lord) =तरेंग King.

(iii) र or रा followed immediately by र or र = रो for both; as
in सूर्य (sun) + उदय (rise) = सूर्योदय; नव (new) + ऊँचा (married woman) = नवनाचा; महा (great) + उत्सव (festivity) = महाउत्सव.

(4) घ or घा followed by ए or ऐ is ए for both; by घो or घी, is घी; as is मत (opinion) + ऐण (oneness) = मतानिर्देश (unanimity); सदा (always) + ए (of course) = सद्देश; महा (great) + बोधि (medicine) = महाबोधि.

(5) र or रा followed by any other vowel change into र; as in प्रति (very) + प्रत्तिल (little) = प्रतिप्रति; प्रति (each) + एक (one) = प्रतिएक; प्रति (all round) + उदय (rise) = प्रतियुद्ध (prosperity).

(6) उ or उं followed by any other vowel changes to उ; as in उ (well) + प्रांगण (come) = प्रांगण (come); उं (into, after). ईश्वर (seeing) = ईश्वर (seeing).

**CONSONANT SANDHI:**

(1) Before vowels and voiced consonants other than nasals, the voiceless plosives क ं ट ं फ ं ह ं become voiced ङ ङ ङ ङ ङ ङ ङ respectively. Examples—
- जगत्त (world) + ईश (lord) = जगदीश (God).
- सत् (good) + प्रार्थना (behaviour) = सदाप्रार्थना.
- सत् (good) + गुः (teacher) = सदगुः.
- उत् (out) + पाठ (opening) = उद्धार (inauguration).
- षष्ट्रति (six) + प्राति (faces) = षष्ट्रक्षण (the god having six faces, Skanda).
- श्रु (listening...vowels) + प्रेतित (ending) = प्रज्ञाति (word ending in a vowel).
- वायु (speech) + ईश (lord) = वायुईश (eloquent speaker).

(2) Before a nasal consonant a plosive becomes corresponding nasal; as
- बायु (speech) + मय (having) = बायुमय (literature).
- जगत्त (world) + नाथ (lord) = जगन्नाथ.
- सत् (good) + मां (path) = समांग ल।

(3) व or वं followed by च, छ, ज, ल takes the form of the following consonant, thus effecting a double consonant. Examples—
- सत् (good) + चरित (character) = सचरित (of good character).
- सत् (good) + जन (person) = सजन (gentleman).
- उत् (out) + छेदन (cutting) = उछेदन (uprooting).
- तत् (in it) + सीन (absorbed) = तलसीन।

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

**VISARG SANDHI:**

Visarg (:i) or ख undergoes the following changes in Sandhi.
- प्रस क or घ: followed by घ or voiced consonant > घ; as मन: + प्रघुल = मनोघुल (congenial to mind); तेजः + मय = तेजोमय (brilliant).
- प्रस क or घ: followed by क, ख, प or फ > visarg; as मध्य:पति (downfall); मनःख्य (mental grief).
Accent and Intonation

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 मति ma ti, सुमरत su 'ma ti, 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, बादमी 'bad mé, 'लिख nā, चालको 'lā kī, कराना ka 'ra'nā, दिनांतिमानā tim' ti'mā nā, बिल्दूल 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)
बंगा 'cha lā (started), बंगा cha 'lā (make it move, start)
प्रात 'prāt (morning), प्रात: 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.—बहुदूर bi 'rā da rī.

5. The syllable before the conjunct consonant (which gets split up) is accented; as राधा 'rāṣṭra, सार्वजनिक, 'sār va ja nik, सत्ति 'saṅ ga ti, चन्द्रा '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
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 चया what, कौन who, कहै where, कैसे how, or a word desired to be given special significance, or the adverb ही (alone) receive stress in a sentence. In an imperitive or exclamatory sentence or in an entreaty, the voice rises at the end.