Step into Hindi

A simplified journey
for Icelandic and English Speakers

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Preface

During India's assumption of the G20 Presidency, which championed the theme of "*vasudhaiva kuṭumbakam*" - "the world is one family" - I began my appointment as the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Chair of Indian Studies at the University of Iceland. Over three years, I witnessed a remarkable embrace of Indian philosophy by Icelandic people, who found in it, powerful tools for cultivating endurance, emotional equilibrium, and mental strength. The Icelandic reverence for peace, harmony, diversity, nature, and cosmic energy aligns beautifully with Indian philosophical practices of collective chanting (*kīrtana*), meditation, community prayers, *yoga*, *āyurveda*, etc.

Cultural understanding is deeply rooted in indigenous expressions, which are best comprehended in the native languages. The Icelanders demonstrated this appreciation by steadily increasing their participation in the courses on Indian Studies at the University and at lectures in public libraries. Their curiosity extended to understanding both the sonic qualities and meanings of traditional chants. This inspired me to conduct a comparative study of Hindi (which is world's third most spoken Indian language) and Icelandic, aiming to bridge the linguistic gap between these two nations. My primary objective was to support enthusiastic learners in Iceland who, while finding inspiration in Indian philosophy, needed guidance on proper symbolism, pronunciation, and meaning. During my study, I discovered several words that showed phonetic or semantic similarities between Icelandic and Hindi. While I'm confident more examples exist, ahead is a short list randomly compiled, which reveals incredible linguistic parallels.

Table 1: Icelandic and Hindi words with similar meaning and pronunciation

Icelandic	Meaning in English	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	Meaning in English
undir	under	अंदर	*andar*	inside
amma	grandmother	अम्मा	*ammā*	grandmother/ elderly lady
ama	Disapprove and dislike	आम	*ām*	toxin
upp	up	ऊपर	*ūpar*	up
kýr	cow	खीर	*khīr*	rice pudding made with (cow) milk
tómatur	tomato	टमाटर	*ṭamāṭar*	tomato
þú	you	तू	*tū*	you
svo	so, then	तो	*to*	then
þvo	wash	धो	*dho*	wash
nei	no	नहीं	*nahī̃*	no
niður	down	नीचे	*nīce*	down
taska	bag	बस्ता	*bastā*	bag
vís	wise	वेद	*ved*	knowledge
samband	relationship	संबंध	*sambandh*	relationship
saman	together	समान	*samān*	similar
stjarna	star	सितारा	*sitārā*	star
sofa	sleep	सोना	*sonā*	sleep
svar	answer	स्वर	*svar*	sound, voice
sívalningur	cylinder	शिवलिङ्ग	*śivaliṅga*	emblem of śiva
já	yes	हाँ	*hām̐*	yes

India's linguistic landscape encompasses twenty-two official languages, with each branching into several dialects. Among these, Hindi has emerged as the most widely spoken, both within India and internationally. Its alphabet, both consonants and vowels, follows a precise phonetic arrangement, involving the manner and place of articulation, making it particularly accessible to the learners. This is why

the arrangement of the alphabet is referred to as the *varṇamālā* which when translated in English means, "a garland of letters".

Both Hindi and Icelandic belong to Indo-European languages but have different sub-families. Hindi belongs to the Indo-Aryan sub-family while Icelandic belongs to the Germanic sub-family. Hindi is scripted in *devanāgarī* while Icelandic has Latin script, though both are written from left to right. The characters in Hindi drop from or wear a horizontal line (*rekhā*) on their 'head' (*śiro*); this line is called *śirorekhā*.

This book is for the English and Icelandic speaking communities who have been so incredibly kind and warm and exhibit deep respect for India. This work is neither intended to be a scholarly work nor a book of grammar but a mere instrument to familiarize people with elementary Hindi speaking. I have consciously tried to restrict the discussion on grammar to only those essential aspects which have an impact on basic communication, including understanding, and speaking. This book is a welcome gift to all those who are charmed by the diversity, beauty, spirituality and the magnanimity of India. It is also a linguistic ticket and a kind invitation to come and explore the world's most diverse nation and its oldest continuous civilization.

To simplify the complex and multiple rules of Roman transliteration, I have consciously restricted and streamlined my approach to schwa deletion focusing on correct pronunciation, which may not fit into the generally followed orthography (spelling) format. Rather than implementing the full set of complex rules involving morphophonological factors, schwa deletion has been consciously limited to the last complete consonant in a word. The only exception to this restriction has been when the consonant just before the last is incomplete, or when the last consonant follows a vowel in its independent form, in a word. In cases of oblique pronouns, and some compound verbs and words, schwa deletion has been followed to ensure the correct pronunciation. This simplified convention will help the reader in avoiding the intricacies of traditional schwa deletion rules while maintaining consistency in transliteration.

The book begins with an introductory Chapter on the language and the alphabet with consistent Roman Transliteration throughout. Chapter 2 focuses on the structure of the word order in a sentence. It familiarizes the reader with basic courtesies, question words, and short sentences.

The morphology in Hindi is primarily affixal. Nouns modify according to gender, number, etc. and every other component in the sentence like the adjective, verb, pronoun agrees with the noun. Therefore, in Chapter 3, the reader is familiarized with phrases using nouns, adjectives and the idea of plurality. Pronouns are introduced in Chapter 4, highlighting its impact on the verb usage. Chapter 5 introduces verbs and Chapter 6 focuses on tense distinctions. Chapter 7 introduces the reader to the days of the week, months, and the Indian national calendar. It also talks about compass directions and seasons. Chapter 8 focuses on postpositions with reference to the cases in Hindi. Chapter 9 introduces numbers and time. Chapter 10 takes the learner to the field by introducing the reader to the colors, fruits, vegetables, and the unit of their measurement. It also has a corner where a hypothetical conversation has been curated between a vendor and a customer to make the reader familiar with the skill to shop for the everyday essentials/groceries in India.

In the Appendix a detailed glossary of some commonly used nouns, adjectives and verbs has been added in addition to a list of some countries, vegetables, fruits, and colours. Hypothetical contextual series of conversations have also been added to enable the reader to comprehend cultural overtones.

Acknowledgements

Chapter 1
Introduction to the language and the alphabet

Hindi is the world's third-largest spoken language with over half a billion native speakers.[1] It is India's official language and has around 50 different dialects. The dialect used in this book is such that comprehension and pronunciation is easy for speakers of foreign language.

To promote and preserve the Hindi language, January 10[2] and September 14[3] are annually recognized as significant International and National days, respectively.

About the script

Historically, like other native scripts of South Asia, *devanāgarī* derives from the Brahmi alphabet of the Ashokan inscriptions. *Devanāgarī* is one of the world's most used and adopted writing systems.

Etymologically speaking, *devanāgarī* is formed by merging the words *deva* and *nāgarī*. *Deva* means divine and *nāgarī* means "town" or "city". By extension, it is believed that *devanāgarī* is the script for the languages spoken in the town or city of the divine.

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1   http://shorturl.at/DmxSJ
2   January 10 is annually celebrated as World Hindi Diwas to promote and strengthen the global presence of Hindi.
3   On September 14, 1949, Hindi was adopted as the official language of India and annually, this day is commemorated and celebrated as Hindi Day or Hindi Diwas.

Devanāgarī is an abugida alphabet or alphasyllabary which means that each consonant-vowel sequence is written as a unit[4]. In other words, the *devanāgarī* script in general and the Hindi language in particular, is syllabic, meaning that every character represents a vowel, or a consonant followed by a vowel.

Before we begin, let us try to read, using Roman transliteration, some words associated with language learning, in the table below.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
भाषा	*bhāṣā*	language	tungumál
लिपि	*lipi*	script	ritmál
शब्द	*śabda*	word	orð
वाक्य	*vākya*	sentence	setning

Vowels[5]

There are a total of 13 vowels in the Hindi language, out of which 11 are independent (Table 2) while two are dependent (Table 4). When not followed by a consonant, such as at the beginning of a word, or after another vowel, the independent vowels are written as an alphabet.

Independent vowels

Excluding the first, the other 10 independent vowels have unique diacritic marks (*mātrā*). When attached to a consonant, *mātrā* modifies the sound of the consonant. It is used when a vowel follows a consonant. But when a vowel is followed by a vowel (or is not followed by a consonant), we use the alphabet form of the vowel.

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4   This unit is called *akṣar* or syllabic symbols, in which the vowel functions as an obligatory diacritic to the consonant.

5   स्वर (*svar*)

Table 2: Independent Vowels and their diacritic marks

Inde-pendent Vowels	अ	आ	इ	ई	उ	ऊ	ऋ	ए	ऐ	ओ	औ
Roman Translit-eration	*a*	*ā*	*i*	*ī*	*u*	*ū*	*ṛ*	*e*	*ai*	*o*	*au*
Diacritic mark (*mātrā*)	–	ा	ि	ी	ु	ू	ृ	े	ै	ो	ौ

The first vowel अ (*a*), is a short vowel and is pronounced as a default vowel, like schwa. It sounds like the English alphabet 'A' in the word 'sof<u>a</u>'. It is an implied vowel in every complete consonant (unless another *mātrā* is specified).

Note that the presence of the implied vowel is not always represented in the orthography (conventional spelling system of a language).

When the implied vowel is removed from the consonant, and there is no other vowel attached to it, the consonant becomes incomplete and is written with a downward diagonal stroke or subscript (*halant*) extending from the foot of the consonant to the right, as illustrated in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Consonant with and without the implied vowel अ (*a*)

Consonant	
Complete	Incomplete
क (*ka*)	क् (*k*)

The second vowel आ (*ā*) is a long vowel. It also sounds like the English alphabet 'A' but in the word 'f<u>a</u>ther'. Its *mātrā* is a vertical line after the consonant (ा). For instance, when applied to the first complete consonant in the Hindi alphabet, क (*ka*), it will be written as का (*kā*).

Next is the short vowel इ (*i*). It sounds like the English alphabet 'I' in the word 's<u>i</u>t'. Its *mātrā* is a looped vertical line to the left of the

consonant, with the loop touching the consonant at the top (कि). For instance, when applied to क (*ka*), it will be written as कि (*ki*).

ई (*ī*) is a long vowel and sounds like the English alphabet 'EE' in the word 'see'. Its *mātrā* is also a looped vertical line but to the right of the consonant, with the loop touching the consonant at the top (ी). For instance, की (*kī*).

उ (*u*) is a short vowel and is pronounced with lips well-rounded like the English alphabet 'U' in the word 'put'. Its *mātrā* is written below the consonant and has a rounded loop touching the bottom of the consonant, while the tail of the loop is directed upwards to the left of the consonant (ु). For instance, कु (*ku*).

ऊ (*ū*) is a long vowel and sounds like the English alphabet 'OO' in the word 'tool'. Its *mātrā* is also written below the consonant as a rounded loop touching the bottom of the consonant, but the tail of the loop is directed downwards to the right bottom of the consonant (ू). For instance, कू (*kū*).

The seventh vowel is ऋ (*r*). It is a short vowel and has been taken from the Sanskrit language, where it is heavily used. It sounds like the English alphabet 'RI' in the word 'brittle'. It is a strong rolled sound. Its *mātrā* is somewhat similar to a tiny version of the English alphabet 'c', written just below the consonant (touching the head of the 'c' with the foot of the consonant) (ृ). For instance, कृ (*kṛ*).

ए (*e*) is a long vowel and sounds like the English alphabet 'A' in the word 'may' except for the final y-glide. Its *mātrā* is written above the consonant (touching it) like a flag with a rounded loop on the top, slightly slanted to the left (े). For instance, के (*ke*).

ऐ (*ai*) is also a long vowel and is a diphthong[6]. It sounds like the English alphabet 'AY' in the word 'g<u>ay</u>'. Its *mātrā* is also written above the consonant (touching it) like two flags, with rounded loops on the top, slightly slanted to the left (ैः). For instance, कै (*kai*).

ओ (*o*) is a long vowel and sounds like the English alphabet 'O' in the word 'h<u>o</u>le'. Its *mātrā* is a vertical line to the right of the consonant with a single flag marker looped and rounded on the top, slanting to the left (ो). For instance, को (*ko*).

औ (*au*) is a long vowel and is a diphthong. It sounds like the English alphabet 'OU' in the word 'sh<u>ou</u>t'. Its *mātrā* is also a vertical line to the right of the consonant but with a double flag marker looped and rounded on the top, slanting to the left (ौ). For instance, कौ (*kau*).

Dependent vowels

Table 4: Dependent vowels and their diacritic marks

Dependent vowels	अं	अः
Roman Transliteration	(*ṃ*)/(*ṁ*)	(*ḥ*)
Diacritic mark (*mātrā*)	ंं	ःः

As mentioned earlier, in addition to the 11 independent vowels in the Hindi language, there exist two dependent vowels that appear only as a *mātrā* and always follow a consonant. These are *anusvāra* (अं) and *visarga* (अः). Both are long nasalized vowels. These are often referred to as semi-consonants because they are dependent on another alphabet (consonant) to be spoken yet have the power (like the vowels) to modify the consonants. Therefore, they neither qualify as complete consonants nor as complete vowels.

The word *anusvāra* is made up of two words '*anu*' and '*svāra*'. Its literal translation is 'after-sound'. In the Hindi alphabet, it is written

6. A diphthong is a complex speech sound that begins with one vowel sound and smoothly transitions to another within the same syllable.

as अं and its Roman transliteration is either (m̥) or (ṁ) depending whether it appears in the first four series of occlusives or otherwise. However, in this book, for the ease of readers, we shall stick to (ṁ). Vowel nasality in case of *anusvāra* is also shown with a tilde ◌̃ above the alphabet. This nasal sound is used not just in Hindi but Sanskrit language also.

It sounds like the English alphabet 'UN' in the word 'hunger' or 'NG' in the word 'long'. Its *mātrā* is a dot above the *śirorekhā* of the alphabet (◌ं). For instance, कं (kṁ), which when spoken sounds like the English alphabet '*kng*'.

Before we move to the next dependent vowel, *visarga* (अः), let us look at another dependent vowel which usually doesn't find a mention in the list of 13 vowels. It is called *anunāsika* (अँ) and is used instead of *anusvāra* in some Hindi words (details are mentioned below). Its *mātrā* is also written above the *śirorekhā* of the alphabet but as a thin crescent moon with a dot just above in the centre. This shape gives it the name, *candra-bindu* (◌ँ) (the dot and the moon).

Conventionally, in Roman transliteration, when written before the first, second, third, and fourth series of consonants, *anunāsika* is transliterated as (n̆). But before labials, sibilants, semivowels, aspirates, vowels, and in final position it is transliterated as (m̆).

However, for the sake of simplicity and to facilitate learning, this book consistently transliterates *anunāsika* as (m̆) and *anusvāra* as (ṁ) (excluding nasal consonants), aligning with the needs of beginner learners.

Anunāsika exists only in Hindi language and its sound is made using both the nose and the mouth. Unlike *anusvāra*, *anunāsika* is primarily a sound and cannot be changed into another sound or word. It is pronounced like the English alphabet 'AN' in the word 'can't'.

Usage of *anusvara* and *anunāsika* depends upon the presence or absence of a *mātrā* above the *śirorekhā*. *Anunāsika* is used only in those words where there is no preexisting *mātrā* above the *śirorekhā*, such as consonants with one of the four vowels mentioned below as *mātrā* or these four in their independent form as alphabets:

अ (*a*)	आ (*ā*)	उ (*u*)	ऊ (*ū*)

In alphabets which have vowel sounds other than those mentioned above, calling for a *mātrā* above the *śirorekhā*, we use *anusvāra* (ं) instead of *candra-bindu* (ँ).

The last dependent vowel in the Hindi alphabet is *visarga* (अः). It sounds like the English alphabet 'AH' in the exclamation 'aha'. Its Roman transliteration is (ḥ) and its *mātrā* is a colon-like sign (ः) written after the alphabet. *Visarga* never comes at the beginning of a word and is primarily used in words of Sanskrit origin, a few of which have been mentioned in Table 5 below.

Table 5: Hindi words having Sanskrit origin

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
प्रातः	*prātaḥ*	early morning	snemma morguns
पुनः	*punaḥ*	again	aftur
नमः	*namaḥ*[7]	to bow down	að beygja sig

Additional Dependent vowel: ऑ

Some of the words from the English language, including the names of the countries (Refer to the Appendix), have been accepted as they exist in the English language. To write them, a new vowel sound (ऑ) has been introduced in Hindi. Its Roman transliteration is (ŏ). For example,

English words	Adopted in Hindi	Roman Transliteration
doctor	डॉक्टर	*ḍŏkṭar*
office	ऑफिस	*aŏphis*
copy	कॉपी	*kŏpī*

Consonants[8]

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7   This word is very often used in *mantras* as a humble salutation. The literal translation of *namaḥ* is "not mine", derived from the Sanskrit negation '*na*', paired with '*ma*', meaning 'mine'. It is an expression of complete devotion or submission to the one to whom salutation is being offered.

8   व्यंजन (*vyañjan*).

Occlusives[9]

The Hindi alphabet has 39 primary consonants. Out of the 39, the first 25 are regular occlusives, arranged into groups or series (*varg*) of five according to the place of articulation of the tongue, from the back of the mouth to the front (Refer to Table 6 below). Each of the 5 series is named after the first consonant in the series.

Table 6: Occlusives

Name of the series	Place of articulation	Voiceless unaspirated	Voiceless aspirated	Voiced unaspirated	Voiced aspirated	Nasal
ka series	Velar/ Guttural	क (*ka*)	ख (*kha*)	ग (*ga*)	घ (*gha*)	ङ (*ṅa*)
ca series	Palatal	च (*ca*)	छ (*cha*)	ज (*ja*)	झ (*jha*)	ञ (*ña*)
ṭa series	Retroflex/ Cerebral	ट (*ṭa*)	ठ (*ṭha*)	ड (*ḍa*)	ढ (*ḍha*)	ण (*ṇa*)
Tongue-flip				ड़ (*ṛa*)	ढ़ (*ṛha*)	
ta series	Dental	त (*ta*)	थ (*tha*)	द (*da*)	ध (*dha*)	न (*na*)
pa series	Bilabial/ Labial	प (*pa*)	फ (*pha*)	ब (*ba*)	भ (*bha*)	म (*ma*)

As can be seen above, in the third row, two tongue flip consonants, ड़ (*ṛa*) and ढ़ (*ṛha*) were added to the existent five occlusives in the retroflex series, later in time.

Other consonants

In addition to these 27 Regular consonants, there are 4 semi-vowels, 4 fricatives, and 4 main compound or conjunct consonants (Refer to Table 7).

Table 7: Other consonants

Semi-vowels

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9   Sounds which stop air from moving out of the mouth.

य (*ya*)	<u>y</u>outh
र (*ra*)	<u>r</u>ain
ल (*la*)	<u>l</u>ake
व (*va*)	<u>v</u>an
Fricatives/sibilants	
श (*śa*)	<u>sh</u>irt
ष (*ṣa*)	found only in a few words borrowed from Sanskrit and is pronounced like the previous consonant श (*śa*)
स (*sa*)	<u>s</u>on
ह (*ha*) (aspirated)	<u>h</u>ug
Compound or conjunct consonants	
क्ष (*kṣa*) = (क्+ ष)	obno<u>x</u>ious
त्र (*tra*) = (त्+ र)	*<u>tr</u>iśūl*[10]
ज्ञ (*jña*) = (ज्+ ञ)	no word in English
श्र (*śra*) = (श्+ र)	<u>shr</u>ink

Foreign consonants

In the Hindi language, in addition to the vowel sound ऑ (*ŏ*) for English words, a few Perso-Arabic consonants have also been added to the existing consonants (Refer Table 8).

Table 8: Foreign consonants

Perso-Arabic (Fricative consonants pronounced with the friction of breath)
क़ (*qa*)
ख़ (*<u>kh</u>a*)
ग़ (*<u>gh</u>a*)
ज़ (*za*)

फ़ (*fa*)

Pronunciation

Occlusives

If we revisit the occlusives mentioned under Table 6, we will observe that they are divided into the voiceless and the voiced. These are further subdivided into aspirated voiceless, unaspirated voiceless, aspirated voiced, and unaspirated voiced. There is a fifth category in every series, called the nasalized occlusives, which shall be discussed later in this chapter, under the section on *anusvāra*.

> Note that the aspirated occlusives, mentioned in Table 6, are pronounced with a greater force, allowing an outward flow of air from the mouth, like the pronunciation of the English alphabet 'P'.

Let us practice each alphabet, in the series of occlusives.

First series (*ka* series)				
Place of articulation: guttural/velar, pronounced from the back of the throat.				
क (*ka*)	ख (*kha*)	ग (*ga*)	घ (*gha*)	ङ (*ṅa*)

क – curtain, bank
ख – khan
ग – mug
घ – ghost
ङ – sound is rarely used and has no English equivalent.

Second series (*ca* series)				
Place of articulation: palatal, pronounced with the tongue raised toward the hard palate above.				
च (*ca*)	छ (*cha*)	ज (*ja*)	झ (*jha*)	ञ (*ña*)

च – <u>ch</u>unk, ea<u>ch</u>
छ – <u>Chh</u>attisgarh (state in India)
ज – <u>j</u>unk
झ – <u>Jh</u>ansi (city in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh)
ञ – sound is rarely used and has no English equivalent.

Third series (*ṭa* series)				
Place of articulation: Retroflex, pronounced by making a hard sound, with the tip of the tongue slightly rolled back to touch the soft palate above.				
ट (*ṭa*)	ठ (*ṭha*)	ड (*ḍa*)	ढ (*ḍha*)	ण (*ṇa*)
Tongue flip consonants:		ड़ (*ṛa*)	ढ़ (*ṛha*)	

ट – ca<u>t</u>
ठ – pa<u>th</u>an
ड – da<u>d</u>
ढ – <u>Dh</u>aka
ण – no English equivalent.

Fourth series (*ta* series)				
Place of articulation: Dental, pronounced with the tip of the tongue behind or between the teeth except for the nasal consonant at the end of this series. To pronounce the nasal consonant, we touch the tip of the tongue to the palate above.				
त (*ta*)	थ (*tha*)	द (*da*)	ध (*dha*)	न (*na*)

त – <u>T</u>aiwan
थ – <u>th</u>ermal, ba<u>th</u>
द – <u>the</u>
ध – *<u>dh</u>arma*
न – ma<u>n</u>

To comprehend the difference between articulation of retroflex and dental sounds you need to remember that the dental sounds (except the nasal)

are pronounced with the tip of the tongue behind the teeth while the retroflex sounds are pronounced with the rolled back tip of the tongue touching the front roof of the mouth.

Fifth series (*pa* series)				
Place of articulation: Bilabial, pronounced by using both lips.				
प (*pa*)	फ (*pha*)	ब (*ba*)	भ (*bha*)	म (*ma*)

प – ma<u>p</u>
फ – no English equivalent.
ब – <u>b</u>us
भ – <u>*bh*</u>*akti*
म – <u>m</u>ud

Anusvāra

Anusvāra plays three significant roles in the Hindi alphabet.

1. As mentioned earlier, when the implied vowel is removed from a consonant, it becomes incomplete. When an incomplete 'nasal' consonant is written in a word, it gets transformed into *anusvāra* (a dot). Its sound and placement can be configured by looking at the consonant that follows it in the word.[11] Let us look at a few examples to understand this.

In the word गंगा[12] (*gaṅgā*) the *anusvāra* is on the first alphabet ग (*ga*). The alphabet after it is also ग (*ga*) and belongs to the first row of regular consonants (*ka* series).

The nasal consonant in the *ka* series is ङ (*ṅa*). This is the sound (in its incomplete form) that *anusvāra* takes in the word गंगा (*gaṅgā*).

Word formation and Roman Transliteration			
ग +	ङ् +	गा	= गंगा (*gaṅgā*)

Let us take few more examples. In the word कंबल (*kambal*), the *anusvāra* is on the alphabet क (*ka*). The alphabet after it is ब (*ba*) and belongs to the fifth row (*pa* series). The nasal consonant in the fifth row is म (*ma*). This is the sound (in its incomplete form) that

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11   Remember that the literal translation of *anusvāra* is 'after-sound'.
12   The national river of India.

anusvāra takes in the word कंबल (*kambal*).

Word formation and Roman Transliteration					English	Icelandic
क +	म् +	ब +	ल	= कंबल (*kambal*)	blanket	teppi

In the word बंदर (*bandar*), the *anusvāra* is on the alphabet ब (*ba*). The alphabet after it is द (*da*) and belongs to the fourth row. The nasal consonant in the fourth row is न (*na*). This is the sound (in its incomplete form) that *anusvāra* takes in the word बंदर (*bandar*).

Word formation and Roman Transliteration					English	Icelandic
ब +	न् +	द +	र	= बंदर (*bandar*)	monkey	api

In the word मंजन (*mañjan*), the *anusvāra* is on the alphabet म (*ma*). The alphabet after it is ज (*ja*) and belongs to the second row. The nasal consonant in the second row is ञ (*ña*). This is the sound (in its incomplete form) that *anusvāra* takes in the word मंजन (*mañjan*).

Word formation and Roman Transliteration					English	Icelandic
म +	ञ् +	ज +	न	= मंजन (*mañjan*)	toothpaste	tannkrem

In the word अंडा (*aṇḍā*), the *anusvāra* is on the alphabet अ (*a*). The alphabet after it is ड (*ḍa*) and belongs to the third row. The nasal consonant in the third row is ण (*ṇa*). This is the sound (in its incomplete form) that *anusvāra* takes in the word अंडा (*aṇḍā*).

Word formation and Roman Transliteration					English	Icelandic
अ+	ण्+	ड+	◌ा=	अंडा (*aṇḍā*)	egg	egg

2. When the consonant after the *anusvāra* is not an occlusive, (Refer Table 7), then, *anusvāra* does not alter its sound and is written (in this book) in Roman Transliteration either as (*ṁ*) or with a tilde above the alphabet. For example,

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
संयम (स + ◌ं + य + म)	*saṁyam/ sãyam*	restraint	aðhald

Note that if two nasal consonants are together (one incomplete, followed by the other complete), then we do not use *anusvāra*. For example,

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	Nasal Consonants	English	Icelandic
जन्म	*janma*	न्[13] and म[14]	birth	fæðing
चम्मच	*cammac*	म् and म	spoon	skeið

3. One of the most powerful roles that *anusvāra* plays in Hindi is that it's usage can change the meaning of the words. For example,

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
है	*hai*	is	er
हैं	*haĩ*	are	eru
यही	*yahī*	this	þetta
यहीं	*yahī̃*	here	hér

Incomplete consonants

Just as the incomplete nasal consonants modify their form in a word, the other consonants too, in their incomplete form, may not always use *halant* but instead modify their form a little. To understand this, let us divide the consonants into 5 groups.

Group I: Consonants with long vertical lines at the right end, drop the line and attach themselves to the next consonant. For example,

Complete consonants	Incomplete form	Hindi words with incomplete consonants along with their Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
ख *kha*	ख् *kh*	मुख्य (*mukhya*)	main	aðal-
च *ca*	च् *c*	अच्छा (*acchā*)	good	góður/gott
व *va*	व् *v*	व्याकरण (*vyākaraṇ*)	grammar	málfræði

---

13   From the fourth row of Regular consonants.
14   From the fifth row of Regular consonants.

श *śa*	श् *ś*	नाश्ता (*nāśtā*)	breakfast	morgunmatur
ष *ṣa*	ष् *ṣ*	शिष्य (*śiṣya*)	pupil	nemandi

Group II: Consonants with a curve to the right of the vertical line, partially cut their right curve and modify it to a horizontal line before attaching themselves to the next consonant. For example,

Complete consonants	Incomplete form	Hindi word with incomplete consonants along with their Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
क *ka*	क् *k*	क्या (*kyā*)	what	hvað

Group III: Consonants with a rounded bottom, in their incomplete form, may undergo either of the following two modifications when written in a word:

i.   written with a *halant* under their rounded bottom, for example,

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
पाठ्य	*pāṭhya*	text	texti

ii.   added to the next complete consonant if that is also a rounded bottom consonant belonging to the third row of the occlusives.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	Word formation			English	Icelandic
खट्टा	*khaṭṭā*	ख +	ट् +	टा	sour	súr
चिट्ठी	*ciṭṭhī*	चि +	ट् +	ठी	letter	bréf
गड्ढा	*gaḍḍhā*	ग +	ड् +	ढा	pothole	hola

Group IV: Consonant र (*ra*) deserves a special space because of, what the author perceives as its 'benevolence'. This consonant takes different forms in Hindi, depending on:

1.   When it is incomplete and is between two complete consonants/vowel in a word.
2.   When it is complete but the consonant to its left is incomplete in a word.

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This can be further subdivided into:

i.   When the incomplete consonant to the left in a word is a consonant with a vertical line[15] in its complete form.

ii.   When the incomplete consonant to the left in a word is a consonant with a rounded bottom in its complete form.

1. When र (*ra*) is incomplete, it turns into a little curl called रेफ़ (*ref*) and is written above the *śirorekhā* of the next complete consonant or vowel. For example,

Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	Incomplete र (*ra*) between two complete consonants/vowels	English	Icelandic
अर्थ	*artha*	अ + र् + थ	meaning	merking
दर्द	*darda*	द + र् + द	pain	verkur
धर्म	*dharma*	ध + र् + म	faith	trú

If there is a *mātrā* then the रेफ़ (*ref*) (curl) is written on the *mātrā*, or immediately after the *mātrā*. For example,

Hindi	Roman Translitera-tion	Incomplete र (*ra*) between two complete consonants/vowels	English	Icelandic
वर्षा	*varṣā*	व + र् + षा	rain	rigning
सर्दी	*sardī*	स + र् + दी	winter	vetur

2. Benevolence of र (*ra*) is apparent from the fact that in its complete form, it converts itself into a symbol, just to make the incomplete consonant to its left appear complete.

i. When the incomplete consonant to the left has a vertical line, र (*ra*) transforms into a diagonal line and tucks itself into the nook of the incomplete consonant to the left, making it complete enough for the *halant* to be removed. For example,

Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	Incomplete conso-nant to the left of र (*ra*)	English	Icelandic

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15   Includes all the consonants with a vertical line (with or without a curve to the right).

| ग्राहक | *grāhak* | ग् + रा = ग्रा | customer | viðskiptavinur |
| नम्र | *namra* | म् + र = म्र | humble | lítillátur |

ii. When the incomplete consonant to the left has a rounded bottom, र (*ra*) transforms into the symbol (∧) under the consonant, making it complete enough for the *halant* to be removed. For example,

Hindi	Roman Trans- literation	Incomplete consonant to the left of र (*ra*)	English	Icelandic
ट्रेन	*ṭren*	ट् + रे = ट्रे	train	lest
ड्रामा	*ḍrāmā*	ड् + रा = ड्रा	drama	leiklist

Group V: Nasal consonants, when written in a word in their incomplete form, appear as *anusvāra* (a dot), as mentioned earlier. Their sound and placement, as we have seen, can be configured by looking at the consonant that follows it in the word.

Schwa deletion

The schwa (अ) (*a*) implicit in each consonant is "obligatorily deleted" at the end of words because of the "*schwa syncope rule*" or the "*schwa deletion rule*" of Hindi. Let us look at some examples to understand it better.

Hindi word	Word formation		Roman Trans- literation **with the implied vowel** in the last consonant	Roman Trans- literation **without the implied vowel in the last consonant for correct pronunciation**[16]
राम	रा (*rā*) +	म (*ma*)	*rāma*	*rām*
वेद	वे (*ve*) +	द (*da*)	*veda*	*ved*
योग	यो (*yo*) +	ग (*ga*)	*yoga*	*yog*

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16 Conscious attempts have been made throughout this book, to stick to this pattern of transliteration to ensure correct pronunciation.

Every consonant in their complete form has the implied vowel in it. To take another vowel, the consonant will first have to give away the default vowel, and then take on another vowel sound.

In addition to the obligatory deletion of *schwa* at the end of the word, there are a few other, more complex *schwa deletion rules* especially with respect to multimorphemic words. For the ease of the learner, I have consciously not used them in this book for the beginners, as mentioned in the preface.

Chapter 2
Greetings, Question words, and Basic conversation

Just as the most common greeting in Iceland is góðan dag, in Hindi it is नमस्ते (*namaste*). But unlike góðan dag, which is a greeting restricted to the first half of the day, नमस्ते (*namaste*) can be used throughout.

Let us break down the word into alphabets to understand its correct pronunciation.

<div align="center">

न (*na*) + म (*ma*) + स् (*s*) + ते (*te*)

</div>

न (*na*) +	म (*ma*) +	स् (*s*) +	ते (*te*)
Nasal sound, from the fourth series of the occlusives, pronounced with the tip of the tongue behind the teeth.	Nasal sound, from the fifth series of occlusives, pronounced by pressing both lips together.	Dental fricative but in its incomplete form (observe the *halant*).	Voiceless, unaspirated dental sound from the fourth series of occlusives, pronounced with the tongue between the teeth and lips.

This greeting is best presented when accompanied by a gesture in which the palms are pressed together, facing each other.

For politeness, जी (*jī*) (a 'word' exhibiting respect) may be added to the greetings: नमस्ते जी (*namaste jī)*.

जी (*jī*) is derived from the palatal sound ज (*ja*) pronounced with the tongue raised toward the hard palate above. ज (*ja*) is transformed to जी (*jī*) by replacing the implicit vowel '*a*' with the *mātrā* form of the long vowel ई (*ī*).

If the name or the position or the status of the person is known, then we add जी (*jī*) after it. For example,

Use of जी (*jī*) with	Greeting
Name: अनिल (*anil*)	नमस्ते, अनिल जी (*namaste anil jī*)
Position: गुरु (*gurū*)[17]	नमस्ते, गुरु जी (*namaste gurū jī*)
Status: पिता (*pitā*)[18]	नमस्ते, पिता जी (*namaste pitā jī*)

A more formal alternative used for greeting is प्रणाम (*praṇām*) or नमस्कार (*namaskār*), spoken with a stress on the last syllables. प्रणाम (*praṇām*) or नमस्कार (*namaskār*) are greetings like 'komdu sæll/sæl' (more formal or official) instead of góðan dag/halló/hæ, in Icelandic.

Note that in the Hindi language, there are no gender variations in greetings.

India is a culture of humility and displays respect toward the seniors, in age (elders), status (parents), and position (teachers). It is not uncommon for the younger people/students to bow down and touch the feet of the elders/teachers.

In return, the elders keep their hands over the heads of those who bow down, which symbolizes something like 'blessuð/blessaður', in Icelandic.

Word order

Hindi language is a Subject–Object–Verb (SOV) language. Normally, the subject comes first, the verb last, and other items in between.

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17   Refers to the one who removes the darkness (ignorance).
18   Father.

This is unlike English and Icelandic which are Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) languages, with a fundamental V2 rule in Icelandic, at least. We shall soon understand the structure of the sentences by making short sentences using 'question words'.

Unlike English and Icelandic, the question words in Hindi, do not necessarily come at the beginning of the sentence but it is interesting to note that almost all question words, in these three languages, begin with a specific alphabet/s. All the interrogative words, in English begin with 'wh' and in Icelandic, with 'hv'; in Hindi, the question words begin with the first occlusive consonant, either in its complete form क (*ka*) or incomplete form क् (*k*). As mentioned in the previous chapter, in its incomplete form, the rounded curve towards the right of the vertical line of the consonants, in this case क (*ka*), is cut short and is written after modification as क् (*k*).

Question Words

Some of the common question words in Hindi are listed below.

Table 9: Question words

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
क्या	*kyā*	what	hvað
क्यों	*kyõ*	why	af hverju/ hvers vegna
कब	*kab*	when	hvenær
कहाँ	*kahām̐*	where	hvar
कहाँ	*kahām̐*	where to	hvert
कहाँ से	*kahām̐ se*	where from	hvaðan
कौन	*kaun*	who	hver
किस	*kis*	which	hvaða
किसको	*kisko*	to whom	til hvers

Let us use these question words and make short sentences keeping the word order (SOV) in mind. This will help us to understand the usage of the question words too.

Question words followed by Questions[19]			
Hindi	**Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
क्या	*kyā*	What	hvað
यह क्या है?	*yah kyā hai?*	What is this?	Hvað er þetta?
क्यों	*kyõ*	why	af hverju/ hvers vegna
ऐसा क्यों है?	*aisā kyõ hai?*	Why is this?	Hvers vegna er það?
कब	*kab*	when	hvenær
यह कब हुआ ?	*yah kab huā?*	When did this happen?	Hvenær gerðist þetta?
कहाँ	*kahā̃*	where	hvar
बिल्ली[20] कहाँ है ?	*billī kahā̃ hai?*	Where is the cat?	Hvar er læðan?
कहाँ	*kahā̃*	where to	hvert
आप कहाँ जा रहे हैं?	*āp kahā̃ jā rahe haĩ?*	Where are you going?	Hvert ertu að fara?
कहाँ से	*kahā̃ se*	where from	hvaðan
हमें बस कहाँ से मिलेगी?	*hamẽ bas kahā̃ se milegī?*	From where will we get the bus?	Hvaðan getum við tekið strætó?
कौन	*kaun*	who	hver
वह कौन है?	*vah kaun hai?*	Who is that?	Hver er það?
किस	*kis*	which	hvaða
आप किस देश से हैं?	*āp kis deś se haĩ?*	From which country are you?	Frá hvaða landi ertu?
किसको	*kisko*	to whom	til hvers
किसको पानी चाहिए?	*kisko pānī cāhie?*	Who wants water?	Hver vill vatn?

In Hindi, all nouns have a grammatical gender and every component in a sentence, like verb, adjective, pronoun, is influenced by the gender of the noun in the sentence. This shall be discussed in detail.

19 प्रश्न (*praśna*)
20 Female cat. Please note that in Hindi, there are separate words for male cat (बिल्ला *billā*) and female cats. Therefore the author has not used the Icelandic word, köttur,

in the next chapter. Usage of some question words also gets modified by the gender of the noun in a sentence. Few of such question words are enlisted below:

Table 10: Question words which get modified by the gender of the noun in a sentence

Gender of the noun with which it is used	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Masculine singular (m.s.)	कैसा	*kaisā*	how	hvernig
Feminine singular and plural (f.s. and pl.)	कैसी	*kaisī*		
Masculine plural and to show respect (m.pl. and respect)	कैसे	*kaise*		
Masculine singular (m.s.)	कितना	*kitnā*	how much	hversu mikið
Feminine singular and plural (f.s. and pl.)	कितनी	*kitnī*		
Masculine plural and to show respect (m.pl. and respect)	कितने	*kitne*		
Masculine singular (m.s.)	किसका	*kiskā*	whose	hvers
Feminine singular and plural (f.s. and pl.)	किसकी	*kiskī*		
Masculine plural and to show respect (m.pl. and respect)	किसके	*kiske*		

Now let us use these question words and make sentences keeping the word order in mind. The nouns have been underlined for the ease of the learner.

Question word	Question

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
कैसा	*kaisā*	यह <u>संगीत</u> (m.) कैसा है?	*yah saṅgīt kaisā hai?*	How is this <u>music</u>?	Hvernig er þessi <u>tónlist</u>?
कैसी	*kaisī*	यह <u>किताब</u> (f.) कैसी है?	*yah kitāb kaisī hai?*	How is this <u>book</u>?	Hvernig er þessi <u>bók</u>?
कैसे	*kaise*	<u>बच्चे</u> (m.pl.) कैसे हैं?	*bacce kaise haĩ?*	How are <u>children</u>?	Hvernig eru <u>börn</u>?
कितना	*kitnā*	इसमें कितना <u>समय</u> (m.) लगेगा?	*ismẽ kitnā samay lagegā?*	How much <u>time</u> will this take?	Hversu langan <u>tíma</u> mun þetta taka?
कितनी	*kitnī*	वहाँ कितनी <u>किताबें</u> (f.pl.) हैं?	*vahām̐ kitnī kitābẽ haĩ?*	How many <u>books</u> are there?	Hvað eru <u>bækurnar</u> margar?
कितने	*kitne*	टोकरी में कितने <u>सेब</u> (m.) हैं ?	*ṭokarī mẽ kitne seb haĩ?*	How many <u>apples</u> are there in the basket?	Hvað eru mörg <u>epli</u> í körfunni?
किसका	*kiskā*	यह किसका <u>घर</u> (m.) है?	*yah kiskā ghar hai?*	Whose <u>house</u> is this?	Hvers <u>hús</u> er þetta?/ Hver á þetta <u>hús</u>?
किसकी	*kiskī*	यह किसकी <u>किताब</u> (f.s.) है?	*yah kiskī kitāb hai?*	Whose <u>book</u> is this?	Hvers <u>bók</u> er þetta?/ Hver á þesa <u>bók</u>?
किसके	*kiske*	ये किसके <u>दोस्त</u> (m.) हैं ?	*ye kiske dosta haĩ?*	Whose <u>friends</u> are these?	<u>Vinir</u> hverra eru þetta?

Basic Conversation

After familiarizing ourselves with question words and basic sentence structure, let us get started with how to initiate basic conversation or respond to certain fundamental questions. Find below some situations or contexts curated for the purpose of familiarizing oneself with the locals while learning the language. To know in greater details about nouns, pronouns, and other components of the sentence, kindly refer to the respective chapters.

The sentences below, exemplify the word order and the structural changes which a sentence undergoes as it transforms from a question to an answer. Multiple responses have been cited for usage and practice.

Name

Question			
Hindi	**Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
आपका नाम क्या है?	*āpka nām kyā hai?*	What is your name?	Hvað heitir þú?

Subject		**Object/Complement**	**Verb**
Pronoun	Noun	Question word	Verb
आपका (*āpka*)	नाम (*nām*)	क्या (*kyā*)	है[21]? (*hai?*)

Answering any question, in Hindi, does not involve much structural change. Let us look at the changes, step wise:

Step 1: Change the pronoun, say for instance in this case from the second-person possessive singular to first-person possessive singular.

Second-person possessive singular pronoun	First-person possessive singular pronoun

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21   The verb, है (*hai*), is used with singular pronouns/nouns, in the present tense.

Hindi with Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic	Hindi with Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
आपका[22] (*āpkā*)	your	þinn	मेरा[23] (*merā*)	my	minn

Step 2: Replace the question word with the answer.

Question word			Answer word[24]		
Hindi with Roman Transliteration	**English**	**Icelandic**	**Hindi with Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
क्या (*kyā*)	what	hvað	राम (*rām*)	Ram	Ram

Step 3: Replace the question mark (?) with पूर्ण विराम (*pūrṇa viram*), a vertical line (।) that literally means a 'complete stop', in English and works like the 'full stop' in English language.

Keeping the above-mentioned steps in mind, (presuming that the name of the person is, Ram), the answer for the aforementioned question will be:

Answer			
Hindi	**Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
मेरा नाम राम है।	*merā nām rām hai.*	My name is Ram.	Ég heiti Ram.

Subject		Object/ Complement	Verb
Pronoun	Noun	Answer word	Verb
मेरा (*merā*)	नाम (*nām*)	राम (*rām*)	है (*hai*) ।

To carry the conversation forward, we may ask for the name of the questioner. Like in Icelandic, this question, need not be a complete sentence. The sentence fragment could be,

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22   Second-person possessive singular masculine formal pronoun.
23   First-person possessive singular masculine pronoun.
24   For example, in this context, the name, *rām*.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
और आपका?	*aur āpkā?*	and yours?	en[25] þú?

Well-being

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Question	आप कैसे हैं[26]?	*āp kaise haĩ?*	How are you?	Hvað segir þú gott? OR Hvernig hefur þú það?
Answer	मैं ठीक हूँ, धन्यवाद। और आप?	*maĩ ṭhīk hūm̐, dhanyavad. aur āp?*	I am fine, thank you. And you?	Ég segi allt gott. En þú?

As mentioned above, in an informal conversation, the response need not necessarily be a complete sentence, as can be seen from the examples below. However, please note that no matter how fragmented the response is, it must be reciprocated by either asking about the other or thanking the other for asking.

List of other probable responses			
Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
बहुत बढ़िया। आप अपना सुनाओ।	*bahut baṛhiyā. āp apanā sunāo.*	Very good. You tell yours.	Allt fínt. En þú?
बस, चल रहा है। आप अपना सुनाओ।	*bas, cal rahā hai. āp apanā sunāo.*	Getting along. You tell yours.	Allt bærilegt. En þú?

---

25   Note that unlike Icelandic, where the conjunction 'en' (meaning, 'but') is used with the Icelandic second-person pronoun (þú), in Hindi we use और (*aur*) (and/og).

26   The nasalized verb हैं (*haĩ*), is used in two contexts. Firstly, with singular pronouns/nouns, in the present tense which exemplify a formal relationship or respect. For this reason, it fits well with the second-person pronoun आप (*āp*). Secondly, with plural pronouns/nouns, in the present tense.

प्रभु की कृपा है।[27] आप अपना सुनाओ।	*prabhu kī kṛpā hai. āp apanā sunāo.*	There is God's grace. You tell yours.	Allt blessunarlega gott. En þú?

While replying to और आप (*aur āp*), the answer could either be a positive or a negative response. Positive response usually uses the adverb भी[28] (*bhī*) as can be seen below.

Positive response			
Hindi	**Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
मैं भी ठीक हूँ[29] ।	*maĩ bhī ṭhīk hūm̐.*	I am also fine.	Mér líður líka vel.

For a negative response, we add the negation, नहीं[30] (*nahĩ*) just before the linking verb, which in this case is, हूँ (*hūm̐*).

Negative response			
Hindi	**Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
मैं ठीक नहीं हूँ ।	*maĩ ṭhīk nahĩ hūm̐.*	I am not fine.	Mér líður ekki vel.

Use of Negation and conversation thereafter

If the response is negative, then it is usually followed by asking more about the respondent's well-being and maybe even offering help or support, as can be seen from the sample responses below.

	Hindi	**Roman Trans-literation**	**English**	**Icelandic**
Response 1: Asking more about their well-being	ओह! क्या हुआ?	*oh! kyā huā?*	Oh! What happened?	Ó! Hvað gerðist?

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27 This is a very common response, especially by the elders and is symbolic of inter-woven ideas of cultural and social values with faith and spirituality.

28 The adverb भी (*bhī*), when translated in English, means 'also' and in Icelandic it is 'líka'.

29 The linking verb हूँ (*hūm̐*) is used with first person subjective singular pronouns/nouns, in the present tense.

30 Note that the negation, नहीं (*nahĩ*), is always written before the verb unlike in Icelandic.

| Response 2: Offering help or support | क्या मैं आपके लिए कुछ कर सकता (m.)/ सकती (f.) हूँ? | *kyā maĩ āpke lie kuch kar saktā/saktī hū̃?* | Can I do something for you? | Get ég gert eitthvað fyrir þig? |

In Response 2 above, सकता (*saktā*) (m.), and सकती (*saktī*) (f.), are modal verbs[31] which modify according to the gender of the noun in the sentence.

If the degree of intimacy between the participants of the conversation is formal or semi-formal, the person will reciprocate by thanking and politely ending the conversation there, like in the response below.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
इलाज चल रहा है, पूछने के लिए धन्यवाद।	*elāj cal rahā hai, pūchne ke lie dhanyavād.*	Treatment is on, thank you for asking.	Meðferð er hafin, takk fyrir að spyrja.

Residence

The response to the Icelandic question, 'Hvar átt þú heima?', when translated in Hindi, shall only use the preposition में (*mẽ*) (in/í) and not the preposition[32] पर (*par*) (on/at/á).

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Question	आप कहाँ रहते (m.)/ रहती (f.) हैं?	*āp kahā̃ rahte/rahtī haĩ?*	Where do you live?	Hvar átt þú heima?
Answer	मैं भारत में रहता (m.)/ रहती (f.) हूँ।	*maĩ bhārat mẽ rahtā/ rahtī hū̃.*	I live in India.	Ég á heima á Indlandi.

Let us once again observe the 3-staged process of structural change from Question to Answer.

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31   For more about Modal Verbs, refer to Chapter 5 on Verbs.

32   We shall be learning more about prepositions and postpositions later.

Step 1: Change in the pronoun, from the second-person subjective singular to first-person subjective singular.

Second-person subjective singular pronoun				First-person subjective singular pronoun			
Hindi	**Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**	**Hindi**	**Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
आप	*āp*	you	þú	मैं	*maĩ*	I/My	ég

Step 2: Replacing the question word कहाँ (*kahām̐*) (where), with the answer, भारत में (*bhārat mẽ*) (in India).

Step 3: Replacing the question mark, with पूर्ण विराम (*pūrṇa virām*).

Let us take another similar question using the third person pronoun and note that in this case, the pronoun does not change.

	Hindi	**Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
Question	वह कहाँ रहता (m.)/ रहती (f.) है?	*vah kahām̐ rahtā/rahtī hai?*	Where does he/she live?	Hvar á hann/hún heima?
Answer	वह भारत में रहता (m.)/ रहती (f.) है ।	*vah bhārat mẽ rahtā/rahtī hai.*	He/she lives in India.	Hann/hún á heima á Indlandi.

Goodbye

In the Hindi language, we usually do not say goodbye. Instead, we say,

Hindi	**Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
फिर मिलते हैं ।	*phir milte haĩ.*	See you again.	Sjáumst.

If you are not certain of meeting again but wish to, then your response could be,

Hindi	**Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
फिर मिलेंगे/ संपर्क में रहना ।	*phir milẽge/ samparka mẽ rahnā.*	shall meet again/ stay in touch.	verum í sambandi.

When you meet someone for the first time, then the interaction could end by saying:

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
	आपसे मिलकर[33] खुशी/ ख़ुशी[34] हुई ।	*āpse milkar khuśī/ khuśī huī.*	Happy to meet you. OR Pleasure meeting you.	Gaman að hitta þig.
Response	जी हाँ, मुझे भी ।	*jī hām̐, mujhe bhī.*	Yes, likewise.	Já, sömu-leiðis.

On meeting someone again, the compound verb मिलकर (*milkar*), used in the above context is replaced by the compound verb, देखकर (*dekhkar*).

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
	आपको देखकर[35] खुशी हुई ।	*āpko dekhkar khuśī huī.*	Happy to see you.	Gaman að sjá þig.
Response	जी हाँ, मुझे भी ।	*jī hām̐, mujhe bhī.*	Yes, likewise.	Já, sömu-leiðis.

Common Phrases

Some other common phrases, which I have heard quite often in Iceland, have been put across in Hindi and English.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
धन्यवाद।	*dhanyavād.*	Thanks.	Takk.
धन्यवाद।	*dhanyavād.*	Thank you.	Takk fyrir.

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33 Root verb: मिल (*mil*) (meet) + postposition: कर (*kar*). The postposition signifies, after the action (which in this case is 'after meeting').

34 Observe the small dot to the left bottom of the consonant ख़ (*kha*). This ख़ (*kha*) is Persian-Arabic fricative consonant.

35 Root verb: देख (*dekh*) (see) + postposition: कर (*kar*). It means, 'after seeing'.

आपका स्वागत है।	*āpkā svāgat hai.*	You are welcome.	Ekkert að þakka/verði þér að góðu.
लीजिये/लीजिए[36] ।	*lījiye/lījie.*	(Please) take.	Gjörðu svo vel (to one person).
आप सभी लीजिये ।	*āp sabhī lījiye.*	All of you (please) take.	Gjörið þið svo vel (to many people).
(आपकी मदद करके) मुझे खुशी मिली ।	*(āpkī madad karke) mujhe khuśī milī.*	I felt happy helping you.	Mín var ánægjan.
ईस्टर की शुभकामनाएँ ।	*īsṭar kī śubhkāmanāeṁ.*	Happy Easter.	Gleðilega páska.
क्रिसमस की बधाई।	*krisamas kī badhāī.*	Merry Christmas.	Gleðileg jól.
नए साल की शुभकामनाएँ ।	*nae sāl kī śubh-kāmanāeṁ.*	Happy New Year.	Gleðilegt nýtt ár.
क्रिसमस की बधाई और नए साल की शुभकामनाएँ।	*krisamas kī badhāī aur nae sāl kī śubh-kāmanāeṁ.*	Merry Christmas and happy New Year.	Gleðileg jól og farsælt komandi ár.
जन्मदिन की शुभकामनाएँ ।	*janmadin kī śubhkāmanāeṁ.*	Happy birthday.	Til hamingju með afmælið.
आपका सप्ताहांत[37] सुखद हो ।[38]	*āpkā saptāhānt sukhad ho.*	Happy weekend.	Góða helgi.
आप सभी का फिर[39] से स्वागत है ।	*āp sabhī kā phir se svāgat hai.*	Welcome back again.	Velkomin aftur.

Refer to the Appendix for more conversations focusing on contexts like weather; family, marriage and children; employment; hobbies; dinning out and placing order; and other general themes.

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36 Formal imperative used with Formal second person singular pronoun. It implies respect. (Refer to Chapter 5 on Verbs).

37 Made up of two words: सप्ताह का (week's) + अंत (end).

38 In India this is not a common greeting as emphasis is on community engagements and the weekends aren't very private.

39 Meaning, 'again'.

Chapter 3
Nouns and Adjectives: Gender and Plurality

Noun[40]

As mentioned earlier, in Hindi, all nouns have a grammatical gender and every component in a sentence, like verb, adjective, pronoun, is influenced by the gender of the noun.

Generally speaking, nouns that end with the long vowel आ (ा) (*ā*) are masculine पुल्लिंग (*pulliṅg*) nouns while nouns that end with the long vowel ई (ी) (*ī*) are feminine स्त्रीलिंग (*strīliṅg*) nouns. Nouns which follow this pattern are called, "marked nouns". For example,

	Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
Masculine Nouns	लड़का	*laṛakā*	boy	strákur
	बेटा	*beṭā*	son	sonur
Feminine nouns	लड़की	*laṛakī*	girl	stelpa
	बेटी	*beṭī*	daughter	dóttir

The nouns which do not conform to the above-mentioned pattern are called "unmarked nouns". For example,

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40   संज्ञा (*sãjñā*).

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
आदमी (m.)	*ādamī*	man	maður
पुरुष (m.)	*puruṣ*		
माता (f.)	*mātā*	mother	móðir
महिला (f.)	*mahilā*	woman	kona
औरत (f.)	*aurat*		

Names of all the mountains are masculine in Hindi while the mountain ranges are feminine. Most of the trees, fruits, and flowers are masculine while the rivers and lakes are predominantly feminine. All the planets except for Earth, are masculine. Earth is seen as a mother, who sustains all the beings and is worshipped because of her benevolence.

Names of most of the continents and countries are masculine but the languages and scripts are feminine. All the months and days of the week are masculine while the dates are feminine. Names of all the metals, except silver, are masculine.

Thus, one can see a fundamental coherence across nouns, making Hindi a very systematic language.

Refer to the Appendix for a glossary of random nouns along with their respective genders, arranged according to Icelandic alphabetical order for ease of the learner.

Adjectives[41]

Hindi is a head-final language, and adjectives precede the nouns. Just as nouns are divided into marked and unmarked, so are the adjectives. Marked adjectives modify according to the gender of the noun. Marked masculine adjectives end with the long vowel आ (*ā*) and marked feminine adjectives end with the long vowel ई (*ī*). For example,

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41 विशेषण (*viśeṣaṇ*).

Table 11: Marked adjectives

Hindi with Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
अच्छा (*acchā*) (m.s.)	good	góður (m.)/ góð (f.)
अच्छा लड़का (*acchā laṛakā*) (m.s.)	good boy	góður strákur
अच्छी लड़की (*acchī laṛakī*) (f.s.)	good girl	góð stelpa
बड़ा (*baṛā*) (m.s.)	elder	eldri
बड़ा बेटा (*baṛā beṭā*) (m.s.)	elder son	eldri sonur
बड़ी बेटी (*baṛī beṭī*) (f.s.)	elder daughter	eldri dóttir
लंबा (*lambā*) (m.s.)	tall	hávaxinn
लंबा लड़का (*lambā laṛakā*) (m.s.)	tall boy	hávaxinn strákur
लंबी लड़की (*lambī laṛakī*) (f.s.)	tall girl	hávaxin stelpa
छोटा (*choṭā*) (m.s.)	small/younger	lítill
छोटा भाई (*choṭā bhāī*) (m.s.)	small[42] brother	litli bróðir
छोटी बहन (*choṭī bahan*) (f.s.)	small sister	litla systir
हरा (*harā*) (m.s.)	green	grænn
हरा कपड़ा (*harā kapaṛā*) (m.s.)	green cloth	grænn klútur
हरी पतलून (*harī patalūn*) (f.s.)	green trousers	grænar buxur

Those adjectives which do not modify or change their form in accordance with the gender of the noun are called unmarked adjectives. For example,

Table 12: Unmarked Adjectives

42   Younger.

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Adjective	शादी-शुदा	*śādī -śudā*	married	giftur/gift
Adjective with nouns	शादी-शुदा लड़का (m.)	*śādī -śudā laṛakā*	married boy	giftur strákur
	शादी-शुदा लड़की (f.)	*śādī -śudā laṛakī*	married girl	gift stelpa
Adjective	बढ़िया	*baṛhiyā*	excellent	frábær
Adjective with nouns	बढ़िया लड़का (m.)	*baṛhiyā laṛakā*	excellent boy	frábær strákur
	बढ़िया लड़की (f.)	*baṛhiyā laṛakī*	excellent girl	frábær stelpa
Adjective	ज़्यादा	*zyādā*	more	meira
Adjective with nouns	ज़्यादा पानी (m.)	*zyādā pānī*	more water	meira vatn
	ज़्यादा खुशी (f.)	*zyādā khuśī*	more happiness	meiri hamingja
Adjective	बहादुर	*bahādur*	brave	hugrakkur (m.)/hugrökk (f.)
Adjective with nouns	बहादुर लड़का (m.)	*bahādur laṛakā*	brave boy	hugrakkur strákur
	बहादुर लड़की (f.)	*bahādur laṛakī*	brave girl	hugrökk stelpa
Adjective	नाराज़	*nārāz*	angry	reiður (m.)/ reið (f.)
Adjective with nouns	नाराज़ लड़का (m.)	*nārāz laṛakā*	angry boy	reiður strákur
	नाराज़ लड़की (f.)	*nārāz laṛakī*	angry girl	reið stelpa
Adjective	खाली	*khālī*	empty	tómur (m.)/ tóm (f.)/ tómt (n.)
Adjective with nouns	खाली घर (m.)	*khālī ghar*	empty house	tómt hús
	खाली अलमारी (f.)	*khālī alamārī*	empty cupboard	tómur skápur

Refer to the Appendix for more adjectives.

Singular[43] and Plural[44]

All marked masculine singular nouns and adjectives, replace the long vowel आ (*ā*) at the end, with the vowel ए (*e*)/ े in the plural form.

Marked m.s. noun			m.pl. noun		
Hindi with Roman Transliteration	**English**	**Icelandic**	**Hindi with Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
लड़का (*laṛakā*)	boy	strákur	लड़के (*laṛake*)	boys	strákar
कमरा (*kamarā*)	room	herbergi	कमरे (*kamare*)	rooms	herbergi

Marked m.s. adjectives with noun			m.pl. adjectives with noun		
Hindi with Roman Transliteration	**English**	**Icelandic**	**Hindi with Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
लंबा लड़का (*lambā laṛakā*)	tall boy	hávaxinn strákur	लंबे लड़के (*lambe laṛake*)	tall boys	hávaxnir strákar
बड़ा कमरा (*baṛā kamarā*)	big room	stórt herbergi	बड़े कमरे (*baṛe kamare*)	big rooms	stór herbergi

All marked Feminine singular nouns, replace the long vowel ई (*ī*) at the end, with इयाँ (*iyām̐*) in the plural form.

Marked f.s. noun			f.pl. noun		
Hindi with Roman Transliteration	**English**	**Icelandic**	**Hindi with Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
लड़की (*laṛakī*)	girl	stelpa	लड़कियाँ (*laṛakiyām̐*)	girls	stelpur
खिड़की (*khiṛakī*)	window	gluggi	खिड़कियाँ (*khiṛakiyām̐*)	windows	gluggar

However, the marked feminine adjectives, do not exhibit plurality. They remain the same in plural and singular, as can be seen on the next page. In other words, only masculine adjectives mark both gender and plurality. Feminine adjectives only exhibit gender agreement.

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43   एकवचन (*ekvacan*).
44   बहुवचन (*bahuvacan*).

Marked f.s. adjectives with noun			f.pl. adjectives with noun		
Hindi with Roman Transliteration	**English**	**Icelandic**	**Hindi with Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
लंबी लड़की *(lambī laṛakī)*	tall girl	hávaxin stelpa	लंबी लड़कियाँ *(lambī laṛakiyām̐)*	tall girls	hávaxnar stelpur
बड़ी बेटी *(baṛī beṭī)*	elder daughter	eldri dóttir	बड़ी बेटियाँ *(baṛī beṭiyām̐)*	elder daughters	eldri dætur

Unmarked masculine nouns do not change their form in plural. Instead, either a numeral or an adjective showing plurality is added before the unmarked masculine noun. For example,

Unmarked m. nouns with numeral/ adjective showing singularity			Unmarked m. nouns with numeral/ adjective showing plurality		
Hindi with Roman Transliteration	**English**	**Icelandic**	**Hindi with Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
एक आदमी *(ek ādamī)*	one man	einn maður	चार आदमी *(cār ādamī)*	four men	fjórir menn
बड़ा घर *(baṛā ghar)*	big house	stórt hús	बड़े घर *(baṛe ghar)*	big houses	stór hús

Unmarked feminine singular nouns take either of the two forms in plural, depending upon the vowel with which the word ends. Those which end with the short, implied vowel अ (*a*), replace the vowel at the end, with एं (*ẽ*)/ ें° in the plural form. While those which end with the long vowel आ (*ā*) add एँ (*em̐*) to the word in the plural form.

Unmarked f.s. nouns (ending with vowel अ (*a*) or आ (*ā*))			Unmarked f.pl. noun		
Hindi with Roman Transliteration	**English**	**Icelandic**	**Hindi with Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
किताब *(kitāb)*	book	bók	किताबें *(kitābẽ)*	books	bækur
तस्वीर *(tasvīr)*	photo, picture	mynd	तस्वीरें *(tasvīrẽ)*	photos, pictures	myndir
आँख *(ām̐kh)*	eye	auga	आँखें *(ām̐khẽ)*	eyes	augu
महिला *(mahilā)*	woman	kona	महिलाएँ *(mahilāem̐)*	women	konur

If in a sentence, there are two nouns of different genders, each with an adjective with the same meaning but modified according to the gender of the respective noun, then the adjectives are merged by retaining only the plural form of the masculine adjective for both the genders. For instance,

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Sentence 1 (Nouns with their respective adjectives)	मेरा बेटा लंबा है और मेरी बेटी भी लंबी है ।	*merā beṭā lambā hai aur merī beṭī bhī lambī hai.*	My son is tall, and my daughter is also tall.	Sonur minn er hávaxinn og dóttir mín er líka hávaxin.
Sentence 2 (Nouns with m.pl. adjective)	मेरा बेटा और बेटी दोनों[45] लंबे हैं ।	*merā beṭā aur beṭī donõ lambe haĩ.*	My son and daughter, both are tall.	Sonur minn og dóttir eru bæði hávaxin.

In the example above, we observe that while converting from singular to plural, the two adjectives with similar meanings but different genders, (लंबा (*lambā*)(m.s.) and लंबी (*lambī*) (f.s. and pl.)), converge into a single form: the masculine plural form, लंबे (*lambe*).

Oblique Form

If a marked noun is followed by a postposition (refer to chapter 8 for details) in a sentence, it will invariably modify itself, even in the singular, as per the rules below:

Oblique Singular

i. Singular marked masculine nouns, ending with the long vowel आ (*ā*)/ा, always change the ending to the vowel, ए (*e*)/े. For example,

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45   Indefinite pronoun.

Hindi	English	Icelandic	Hindi	Roman Trans- literation	English	Icelandic
लड़का (*laṛakā*)	boy	strákur	लड़के ने किताब उठाई ।	*laṛake ne kitāb uṭhāī.*	The boy picked the book.[46]	Strákur- inn tók bókina upp.
कमरा (*kamarā*)	room	herbergi	कमरे में एक पंखा है ।	*kamare mẽ ek paṅkhā hai.*	There is a fan in the room.	Það er vifta í herberg- inu.

ii. Marked masculine adjectives (underlined below) ending with the long vowel आ (*ā*)/ा, change the ending to, ए (*e*)/े in both oblique singular and plural.

Hindi	English	Icelandic	Hindi	Roman Trans- literation	English	Icelandic
छोटा (m.s.) (*choṭā*)	small	lítið	छोटे कमरे में एक पंखा है ।[47] (m.s.)	*chote kamare mẽ ek paṅkhā hai.*	There is a fan in the small room.	Það er vifta í litla herberg- inu.
			छोटे कमरों में पंखे हैं ।[48] (m.pl.)	*chote kamarõ mẽ paṅkhe haĩ.*	There are fans in the small rooms.	Það eru viftur í litlu her- bergj- unum.

iii. Marked singular feminine nouns **do not** change in oblique case. For example,

Hindi	English	Icelandic	Hindi	Roman Trans- literation	English	Icelandic
लड़की (*laṛakī*)	girl	stelpa	लड़की ने किताब उठाई ।	*laṛakī ne kitāb uṭhāī.*	The girl picked the book.	Stelpan tók bókina upp.

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46   Though there are no articles in Hindi, but the demonstratives come close and so does the use of cardinal number one (एक) (*ek*).

47   Oblique singular.

48   Oblique plural.

खिड़की (khiṛakī)	window	gluggi	<u>खिड़की से</u> दूर खड़े हो जाओ ।	khiṛakī se dūr khaṛe ho jāo.	Stand away from the window.	Vertu í burtu frá glugg-anum.

Oblique Plural

All nouns, except for the marked feminine nouns (ending with the long vowel ई (ī)/ ी), change the ending to ओं (õ) in oblique plural case. For example,

Hindi	English	Icelandic	Hindi	Roman Trans-litera-tion	English	Icelandic
लड़का (s.)/ लड़के (pl.) (laṛakā/ laṛake)	boy/ boys	strákur/ strákar	<u>लड़कों</u> ने किताबें उठाईं ।	laṛakõ ne kitābẽ uṭhāī̃.	The boys picked up the books.	Strákarnir tóku bækurnar upp.
कमरा (s.)/ कमरे (pl.) (kamarā/ kamare)	room/ rooms	herbergi	<u>कमरों</u> में पंखे हैं ।	kamarõ mẽ paṅkhe haĩ.	There are fans in the rooms.	Það eru viftur í herbergj-unum.

Marked feminine nouns ending with the long vowel -ई (ī)/ ी, change to -इयों (iyõ). For example,

Hindi	English	Icelandic	Hindi	Roman Trans-litera-tion	English	Icelandic
लड़की (s.)/ लड़कियाँ (pl.) (laṛakī / laṛakiyām̐)	girl/girls	stelpa/ stelpur	<u>लड़कियों</u> ने किताबें उठाई ।	laṛakiyõ ne kitābẽ uṭhāī̃.	The girls picked up the books.	Stelpurnar tóku bækurnar upp.
खिड़की (s.)/ खिड़कियाँ (pl.) (khiṛakī / khiṛakiyām̐)	window/ windows	gluggi/ gluggar	<u>खिड़कियों</u> से दूर रहें ।	khiṛakiyõ se dūr rahẽ.	(Please) stay away from the windows.	(Vinsam-legast) vertu í burtu frá glugg-unum.

55

Did you know that in Hindi, a geographical place can be converted into an adjective by adding the long vowel ई (*ī*) or ईय (*īya*) as the suffix. For example, the state of Bengal is famous for a sweet dish called rasgullā[49] and this can be spoken as:

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English
बंगाल का रसगुल्ला	*baṅgāl kā rasgullā*	Bengal's *rasgullā*
बंगाली रसगुल्ला	*baṅgālī rasgullā*	Bengali *rasgullā*
भारत का खाना	*bhārat kā khānā*	India's food
भारतीय खाना	*bhāratīy khānā*	Indian food

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49   Ball made of curdled milk dipped in sugar syrup.

Chapter 4
Pronouns[50]

Pronouns in Hindi exist in three forms: First-person, Second person, and Third person. Each form is associated with distinct conjugations of the verb "to be" (infinitive: होना (*honā*)), derived from the root verb हो (*ho*). These conjugations or linking-verbs[51] include हूँ (*hūm̐*), हो (ho), है (*hai*), हैं (*haĩ*) in the present tense and था (*thā*), थी (*thī*), थे (*the*), थीं (*thĩ̄*) in the past sense.

The first, second, and third-person pronouns are further divided into subjective, objective, and possessive forms. Let us explore each category with examples.

First Person Pronouns
Subjective Singular

The first person subjective singular pronoun is मैं (*maĩ*) and is always used with the verb हूँ (*hūm̐*), in the present tense.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मैं… हूँ ।	*maĩ… hūm̐.*	I am…	Ég er…

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50   सर्वनाम (*sarvnām*)

51   Linking verbs connect the subject with noun and adjectives in the sentence. For details refer to Chapter 5, on 'Verbs'.

	Hindi	Roman Trans- literation	English	Icelandic
Masculine singular	मैं लड़का हूँ।	*maĩ laṛakā hūm̐.*	I am a boy.	Ég er strákur.
Feminine singular	मैं लड़की हूँ।	*maĩ laṛakī hūm̐.*	I am a girl.	Ég er stelpa.

Subjective Plural

The first person subjective plural pronoun is हम (*ham*) and is always used with the verb हैं (*haĩ*), in the present tense.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
हम... हैं।	*ham... haĩ.*	We are…	Við erum…
हम भारतीय हैं।	*ham bhāratīy haĩ.*	We are Indians.	Við erum Indverjar.

Objective Singular

When the subject becomes the object, we use the first-person objective pronoun. Its singular form is मुझे[52] (*mujhe*) which is also read as मुझको[53] (*mujhko*) (to me).

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मुझे	*mujhe*	to me…	mig/mér/mín…
मुझे मिठाई चाहिए।	*mujhe miṭhāī cāhie.*	I want sweets.	Mig langar í sælgæti.
मुझे शांति चाहिए।	*mujhe śāntī cāhie.*	I want peace.	Ég vil frið.

Observe that the conjugation or the linking verb is missing in the above example. This is because, when a pronoun is used in the

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52   In quite a few books for Hindi learners, मुझको (*mujhko*) (to me) is used. This is not the correct form of speaking.

53   Note that the pronoun and postposition are written together as one word here.

oblique form (followed by a postposition) in Hindi, the linking verb can often be dropped, particularly in sentences with certain verbs or constructions, such as चाहिए (*cāhie*) or similar expressions where the meaning remains clear without it.

Use the glossary in the Appendix for practicing new words as the object in the sentence.

Objective Plural

The first-person objective plural form is हमें (*hamẽ*).

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
हमें	*hamẽ*	to us…	til okkar…
हमें मिठाई चाहिए।	*hamẽ miṭhāī cāhie.*	We want sweets.	Okkur langar í sælgæti.
हमें शांति चाहिए।	*hamẽ śāntī cāhie.*	We want peace.	Við viljum frið.

Possessive Singular

The first-person possessive pronoun (my/mine) varies according to the grammatical gender of the noun. Its feminine singular is मेरी (*merī*/ mín) and the masculine singular is मेरा (*merā*/ minn). Both मेरा (*merā*)(m.) and मेरी (*merī*)(f.) are used with the verb है (*hai*),[54] in the present tense. In Icelandic, normally when the nouns are definite, the possessive pronouns come after the noun they modify. When they come before the noun to emphasise who or what something belongs to, then the noun is usually indefinite. In Hindi, possessive pronouns always come before the nouns they modify.

Gender is determined by the thing or person possessed, and not by the possessor.

	Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic

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54   Verbs in the past tense for the first-person possessive singular pronoun would be था (*thā*) (m.)/ थी (*thī*) (f.).

Masculine singular	मेरा नाम	*merā nām*	my name	nafn/nafnið mitt
	मेरा भाई	*merā bhāī*	my brother	bróðir minn
Feminine singular	मेरी गाड़ी	*merī gāṛī*	my car	bíllinn minn
	मेरी बहन	*merī bahan*	my sister	systir mín

When the masculine noun is plural or symbolizes a relationship of respect despite being singular, then we use the pronoun मेरे (*mere*) with the honorific plural nasal verb हैं (*haĩ*)[55] which is also the numeric plural verb.

	Hindi	**Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
Masculine (respect)	मेरे पिताजी	*mere pitājī*	my father	faðir minn
	मेरे गुरु	*mere guru*	my mentor	lærimeistari minn
Masculine (plural)	मेरे भाई	*mere bhāī*	my brothers	bræður mínir

When the feminine noun is plural or symbolizes a relationship of respect despite being singular, we continue to use the pronoun मेरी (*merī*) because in the plural form, only masculine adjectives mark both gender and plurality and not the feminine adjectives. Feminine adjectives in the Hindi language, as mentioned in the previous chapter, only exhibit gender agreement. However, the linking verb modifies and takes the honorific and numeric plural nasal, हैं (*haĩ*).[56]

	Hindi	**Roman Trans-literation**	**English**	**Icelandic**
Feminine (respect)	मेरी माताजी	*merī mātājī*	my mother	móðir mín
	मेरी अध्यापिका	*merī adhyāpikā*	my teacher	kennslu-konan mín
Feminine (plural)	मेरी बहनें	*merī bahanẽ*	my sisters	systur mínar

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55 Verb in the past tense for the first-person possessive masculine plural or honorific pronoun would be थे (*the*).

56 Verb in the past tense for the first person possessive feminine plural or honorific pronoun would be थीं (*thĩ*).

Possessive Plural

For masculine singular nouns, the first-person possessive plural pronoun is हमारा (*hamārā*) and for feminine singular nouns, the first-person possessive plural pronoun is हमारी (*hamārī*). Both हमारा (*hamārā*)(m.) and हमारी (*hamārī*)(f.) are used with the linking verb है (*hai*), in the present tense.

	Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
Masculine (singular)	हमारा नाम	*hamārā nām*	our name	nafn okkar
	हमारा भाई	*hamārā bhāī*	our brother	bróðir okkar
Feminine (singular)	हमारी गाड़ी	*hamārī gāṛī*	our car	bíllinn okkar
	हमारी बहन	*hamārī bahan*	our sister	systir okkar

When the masculine noun is plural or symbolizes a relationship of respect despite being singular, then we use the pronoun हमारे (*hamāre*) with the honorific and numeric plural nasal verb हैं (*haĩ*).

	Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
Masculine (respect)	हमारे पिताजी	*hamāre pitājī*	our father	faðir okkar
Masculine (plural)	हमारे भाई	*hamāre bhāī*	our brothers	bræður okkar

When the feminine noun is either plural or symbolizes a relationship of respect despite being singular, we continue to use the pronoun हमारी (*hamārī*) but the verb changes to the honorific and numeric plural हैं (*haĩ*).

	Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
Feminine (respect)	हमारी माताजी	*hamārī mātājī*	our mother	móðir okkar
	हमारी अध्यापिका	*hamārī adhyāpikā*	our teacher	kennslukonan okkar
Feminine (plural)	हमारी बहनें	*hamārī bahanẽ*	our sisters	systur okkar

Second Person Pronouns

Subjective Singular

In Hindi, second-person subjective pronouns have three distinct forms, and their usage depends on the social relationship between the speakers. The pronoun तू (*tū*) is used in familiar or intimate interactions, particularly when addressing someone of equal or lower social status in a hierarchical relationship.

If the relationship is familiar and informal, the subjective singular pronoun तुम (*tum*) is used. If the relationship is formal or requires respect, the pronoun आप (*āp*) is used. Culturally, it is always appreciated to use आप (*āp*) as a sign of respect. Icelandic too has a formal second-person pronoun, þér. However, this is rarely used now.

Each of these three second person subjective singular pronouns in Hindi - तू (*tū*), तुम (*tum*), and आप (*āp*) - requires different verb conjugations in a sentence.

Second person subjective singular pronouns		verb[57]
Intimate	तू (*tū*)	है (*hai*)
Informal	तुम (*tum*)	हो (*ho*)
Formal and/respect	आप (*āp*)	हैं (*haĩ*)

In one of the schools of ancient Indian philosophy, where the idea of *bhaktī* (devotion) is profoundly emphasized, the divinity is addressed as "तू (*tū*)", signifying a relationship of deep familiarity, intimate friendship, and unwavering trust.

Subjective Plural

When forming the second person plural pronouns in Hindi, you simply add the collective noun सब (*sab*) after the singular forms. However, the intimate singular pronoun तू (*tū*) has no plural counterpart.

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57   Verb in the past tense for the pronoun तू (*tū*) would be था (*tha*) (m.) and थी (*thī*) (f.). Verb in the past tense for the pronouns तुम (*tum*) and आप (*āp*) would be थे (*the*) (m.) and थीं (*thī̃*) (f.).

Second person subjective plural pronouns		verb
Intimate	-	-
Informal	तुम सब (*tum sab*)	हो (*ho*)
Formal and/respect	आप सब (*āp sab*)	हैं (*haĩ*)

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Informal plural	तुम सब बहुत अच्छे हो ।	*tum sab bahut acche ho.*	You all are very nice.	Þið eruð öll mjög fín.
Formal and/ respect plural	आप सब बहुत अच्छे हैं ।	*āp sab bahut acche haĩ.*	You all are very nice.	Þið eruð öll mjög fín.

Objective singular

The choice of objective pronoun in the second person, also depends on the relationship between the speakers. तुझे (*tujhe*) is used when speaking to someone in an intimate way or to someone lower in social hierarchy. तुम्हें (*tumhẽ*) is in casual, informal situations between equals or familiar people. आपको (*āpko*) is used to show respect or in formal situations.

Though the subjective and objective pronouns make no gender distinctions, but as mentioned earlier, some verb endings[58] might express the gender. Generally speaking, the verbs ending with the long vowel आ (ा) (*ā*) are masculine and the ones ending with the long vowel ई (ी) (*ī*) are feminine.

In the sentences (examples) on the next page, the pronouns - तुझे (*tujhe*), तुम्हें (*tumhẽ*), आपको (*āpko*) - are silent on the gender. But out of the three verbs[59] compounded together, the helping verb - रहा (m.)/रही (f.) (*rahā/rahī*) - expresses the gender.

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58   Linking verbs in the past tense always specify gender.
59   Main Verb (बुला *bulā*), Helping Verb (रहा *rahā* (m.)/रही *rahī* (f.)), and Linking Verb (है *hai*).

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
वह[60] तुझे बुला[61] रहा है ।	*vah tujhe bulā rahā hai.*	He is calling you.	Hann er að kalla á þig.
वह तुम्हें बुला रही है ।	*vah tumhẽ bulā rahī hai.*	She is calling you.	Hún er að kalla á þig.
वह आपको बुला रहा है ।	*vah āpko bulā rahā hai.*	He is calling you.	Hann er að kalla á þig.

Objective Plural

In the objective plural, as with the second-person subjective plural, the pronouns largely remain similar to their subjective singular forms, with the following exceptions:

i.   The collective noun सब (*sab*) followed by the postposition को (*ko*) is added after the corresponding subjective singular pronouns.

ii.   The intimate objective pronoun is not used in the plural form.

Second person subjective plural pronouns		Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Intimate	-	-	-	-
Informal	तुम सबको	*tum sabko*	(to) all of you	til ykkar allra
Formal and/respect	आप सबको	*āp sabko*	(to) all of you	til ykkar allra

Let us put them in a sentence.

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic

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60   When an object, being, or thing is some distance away, we use the Third person subjective singular pronoun वह (*vah*) (that). It is gender neutral and is used to refer to beings or objects, across genders. In the current case, it is being used to refer to the English pronoun, "he". Refer to the later sections on the Third Person Pronouns in this chapter for details.

61   बुला (*bulā*) is a root verb which means 'call'.

Informal plural	तुम सबको क्या चाहिए[62]?	*tum sabko kyā cāhie?*	What do you all want?	Hvað viljið þið öll?
Formal plural and/ or respect	आप सबको क्या चाहिए?	*āp sabko kyā cāhie?*	What do you all want?	Hvað viljið þið öll?

Note that just as in the First person objective singular form, when the pronoun was used in the oblique form (followed by a postposition), the linking verb was dropped in sentences with the modal verb चाहिए (*cāhie*); so is the case in the example above.

Possessive Singular

The second-person possessive pronoun ("your/yours"), like the first-person possessive pronoun, changes according to the grammatical gender of the possessed noun, not the possessor. For feminine singular nouns, the second-person possessive pronouns are तेरी (*terī*), तुम्हारी (*tumhārī*), and आपकी (*āpkī*). For masculine singular nouns, the corresponding forms are तेरा (*terā*), तुम्हारा (*tumhārā*), and आपका (*āpkā*). All these forms are used with the linking verb है (*hai*), in the present tense.

Let us look at them with respect to the degree of intimacy between interacting people.

Second Person Possessive Singular	Masculine (your/þinn)	Feminine (your/þín)

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62 चाहिए (*cāhie*) is also used as a modal verb like the English verb 'must'. But in this sentence, it is being used as an imperative, meaning 'want' or 'need'. The verb चाहिए (*cāhie*) always requires the subject to be marked with or followed by the postposition को (to). For this reason, this modal verb, does not agree with the subject. For example,

आपको क्या चाहिए? *āpko kyā cāhie?* – What do you need?

मुझे किताब चाहिए। *mujhe kitāb cāhie.* – I need book.

मेरी बहन को किताब चाहिए। *merī bahan ko kitāb cāhie.* – My sister needs book. Refer to Chapter 5, on 'Verbs', for further details.

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation
Intimate	तेरा	*terā*	तेरी	*terī*
Informal	तुम्हारा	*tumhārā*	तुम्हारी	*tumhārī*
Formal and/ respect	आपका	*āpkā*	आपकी	*āpkī*

When the masculine noun is plural or symbolizes a relationship of respect despite being singular, then, depending on the degree of intimacy, we use the following pronouns with the honorific plural nasal verb हैं (*haĩ*).

		Hindi	Roman Translit-eration	English	Icelandic
Masculine (respect)	Intimate	तेरे पिताजी	*tere pitājī*	Your father	pabbi þinn
	Informal	तुम्हारे पिताजी	*tumhāre pitājī*	Your father	pabbi þinn
	Formal and/ respect	आपके पिताजी	*āpke pitājī*	Your father	pabbi þinn
Masculine (plural)	Intimate	तेरे भाई	*tere bhāī*	Your brothers	bræður þínir
	Informal	तुम्हारे भाई	*tumhāre bhāī*	Your brothers	bræður þínir
	Formal and/ respect	आपके भाई	*āpke bhāī*	Your brothers	bræður þínir

When the feminine noun is plural or symbolizes a relationship of respect despite being singular, we continue to use the same pronouns as before (in accordance with the degree of intimacy), but with the honorific plural nasal verb हैं (*haĩ*).

		Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic

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Feminine (respect)	Intimate	तेरी माताजी	*terī mātājī*	Your mother	móðir þín
	Informal	तुम्हारी माताजी	*tumhārī mātājī*	Your mother	móðir þín
	Formal and/ respect	आपकी माताजी	*āpkī mātājī*	Your mother	móðir þín
Feminine (plural)	Intimate	तेरी बहनें	*terī bahanẽ*	Your sisters	systur þínar
	Informal	तुम्हारी बहनें	*tumhārī bahanẽ*	Your sisters	systur þínar
	Formal and/ respect	आपकी बहनें	*āpkī bahanẽ*	Your sisters	systur þínar

Possessive Plural

The second-person possessive plural remains identical to its singular form.

Third Person Pronouns/Demonstratives

Demonstratives and third-person singular pronouns in Hindi are gender-neutral. While Hindi lacks definite articles, but the demonstratives come handy, and the contextual use of indefinite articles is also possible. The indefinite article, एक (*ek*), translates to "one" in English and is typically used to refer to something specific. In Icelandic too, there are no definite articles which precede the nouns unlike English, but Icelandic attaches suffix to the nouns which make the nouns definite.

Subjective singular

When an object, being, or thing is near, we use the pronoun यह (*yah*) (this) but when distant, we use the pronoun वह (*vah*) (that). Both, these proximate and the non-proximate subjective singular pronouns

are used in conjunction with the linking verb है (*hai*)[63], in the present tense. Usage of these pronouns is irrespective of gender and are used to refer to either of the three pronouns in English – he, she, it.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
यह/ वह… है।	*yah/vah… hai.*	this/that is… OR he/she/it	Þetta er… OR hann/hún/það er…

Let us make short sentences and illustratively understand the subjective singular pronouns.

			Roman Trans- literation	English	Icelandic
Proximate	Question	यह कौन है?	*yah kaun hai?*	Who is this?	Hver er þetta?
	Answer	यह एक प्यारी बिल्ली है।	*yah ek pyārī billī hai.*	This is a cute cat.	Þetta er sæt læða.
Non-Prox- imate	Question	वह कौन है?	*vah kaun hai?*	Who is that?	Hver er þetta?
	Answer	वह एक प्यारा कुत्ता[64] है।	*vah ek pyārā kuttā hai.*	That is a cute dog.	Þetta er sætur hundur.

Now let us look at how the demonstratives (underlined below) play the role of definite articles in Hindi.

	Hindi	Roman Trans- literation	English	Icelandic
Noun	आदमी	*ādamī*	man	maður
Definite noun (m.s.)	यह आदमी	*yah ādamī*	this/the man	þessi maður/ maðurinn
Definite noun (f.s.)	वह औरत	*vah aurat*	that woman	þessi kona/ konan

There also might be contextual usage of indefinite articles like,

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63   Verbs in the past tense for the pronouns यह (*yah*) and वह (*vah*) would be था (*tha*) (m.) and थी (*thī*) (f.).

64   Marked masculine singular noun.

	Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
Noun (f.s.)	औरत	*aurat*	woman	kona
Indefinite noun	एक औरत	*ek aurat*	a woman	kona

Subjective plural

The third person subjective plural pronoun for proximate objects, beings, or things is ये (*ye*) (these), and for non-proximate objects, beings, or things is वे (*ve*) (those/they). These are used with the numeric plural linking verb हैं (*haĩ*).[65]

	Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
Proximate plural	ये लड़के	*ye laṛake*	these boys	þessir strákar
	ये बिल्लियाँ कितनी प्यारी हैं ।	*ye billiyām̐ kitnī pyārī haĩ.*	These cats are so cute.	Þessar læður eru svo sætar.
	ये मेरे पौधे[66] हैं ।	*ye mere paudhe haĩ.*	These are my plants.	Þetta eru plönturnar mínar.
Non-Proximate plural	वे लड़कियाँ	*ve laṛakiyām̐*	those girls	þessar stelpur
	वे कुत्ते बहुत प्यारे हैं ।	*ve kutte bahut pyāre haĩ.*	Those dogs are very cute.	Þessir hundar eru mjög sætir.
	वे कल आ रहे हैं ।	*ve kal ā rahe haĩ.*	They are coming tomorrow.	Þeir koma á morgun.

As mentioned earlier, when a noun symbolizes a relationship of respect despite being singular, the verb changes to honorific and numeric plural हैं (*haĩ*). Please note that in the third person, to symbolize a relationship of respect, the pronoun also changes to plural despite the noun being singular. For instance, in the sentence

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65 Verb in the past tense for the pronouns ये (*ye*) and वे (*ve*)/ वो (*vo*) would be थे (*the*) (m.) and थीं (*thĩ*) (f.).

66 पौधा *paudhā* (m.s.).

below, though the speaker is asking about a 'woman', yet she is being addressed using subjective plural pronoun ये (*ye*) (these) with the numeric plural verb हैं (*haĩ*).

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
ये महिला कौन हैं?	*ye mahilā kaun haĩ.*	Who is this woman?	Hver er þessi kona?

If we are referring to two things or two people, then the demonstrative will be used with the adverb दोनों (*donõ*).

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Proximate	ये दोनों	*ye donõ*	both (these two)	bæði
Non-proximate	वे दोनों	*ve donõ*	both (those two)	þeir báðir (m.)/ þær báðar (f.)/ þau bæði (n.)

Objective Singular

When the subject - यह (*yah*)/ वह (*vah*) - becomes the object (to him/her/it), then:

1. the proximate, यह (*yah*), is replaced by the proximate इस (*is*) followed by the postposition[67] को (*ko*). Other than इसको (*isko*), the demonstrative इसे (*ise*) can also be used.
2. the non-proximate, वह (*vah*), is replaced by the non-proximate उस (*us*) followed by the postposition को (*ko*). Other than उसको (*usko*), the demonstrative उसे (*use*) can also be used.

In English, इसको (*isko*) and उसको (*usko*), could refer to objects, beings, or things from any gender.

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67   Postpositions are discussed later in Chapter 8.

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Proximate	इसको/ इसे	*isko/ise*	To this/this	við þetta
	इसे मत खोलो[68] ।	*ise mat kholo.*	Don't open this.	Ekki opna þetta.
	इसको बाहर घुमाने ले जाओ ।	*isko bāhar ghumāne le jāo.*	Take her/him out for a walk.	Farðu með hana/hann út að ganga.
Non-proxi-mate	उसको/उसे	*usko/use*	To that/that	við þetta
	उसे सोने[69] दो ।	*use sone do.*	Let her/him sleep.	Leyfðu henni/honum að sofa.
	उसको अंदर ले आओ ।	*usko andar le āo.*	Get her/him inside.	Fáðu hana/hann inn.

Observe how the oblique pronouns, in the examples above and in the objective plural examples on the next page, inherently convey the objective case relationship without requiring a linking verb. This can also be seen in the Third person possessive pronouns. This omission, as mentioned at earlier occasions, aligns with the syntactic structure of Hindi, where the case marking is often implicit within the pronoun's form.

Objective Plural

In the third person objective plural (to them), the singular proximate pronouns इसको (*isko*)/ इसे (*ise*) becomes इन्हें (*inhẽ*) while the singular non-proximate pronoun उसको (*usko*)/उसे (*use*) becomes उन्हें (*unhẽ*).

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68 खोलो (*kholo*) is derived from the root verb खोल (*khol*) which means 'open'. It is a command verb (informal imperative).

69 सोने (*sone*) is an intransitive verb which derives from the root verb सो (*so*) meaning, 'sleep'.

	Hindi	**Roman Trans-literation**	**English**	**Icelandic**
Proximate	इन्हें	*inhẽ*	To these	til þeirra/við þessa
	इन्हें मिठाई खिलाओ[70] ।	*inhẽ miṭhāī khilāo.*	Feed them sweets.	Gefðu þeim sælgæti.
Non-proxi-mate	उन्हें	*unhẽ*	To those	til þeirra/við þessa
	उन्हें पानी दो[71] ।	*unhẽ pānī do.*	Give them water.	Gefðu þeim vatn.

Possessive Singular

The third person possessive singular pronouns are also oblique and used with the postpositions का (*ka*) (m.s.)/ की (*kī*) (f.s./pl. and respect)/ के (*ke*) (m.pl. and respect).

	Hindi	**Roman Trans-literation**	**English**	**Icelandic**
Proximate	इसका (m.)/ इसकी (f.)	*iskā/iskī*	His/her/its	hans/ hennar/þess
	यह एक बिल्ली है । इसका नाम तब्बू है ।	*yah ek billī hai. iskā nām tabbū hai.*	This is a cat. Her name is Tabu.	Þetta er læða. Hún heitir Tabu.
	इसकी बिल्ली का नाम तब्बू है ।	*iskī billī kā nām tabbū hai.*	His/her cat's name is Tabu.	Læðan hans/hennar heitir Tabu.
Non-proximate	उसका (m.)/ उसकी (f.)	*uskā/uskī*	His/her/its	hans/ hennar/þess
	वह एक कुत्ता है। उसका नाम मोती है।	*vah ek kuttā hai. uskā nām motī hai.*	That is a dog. His name is Moti.	Þetta er hundur. Hann heitir Moti.

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70 खिलाओ (*khilāo*) is the causative form of the verb खाना (*khānā*) meaning, 'to eat'. Note that it is also the causative form of the verb खेलना (*khelnā*) which means, 'to play'.

71 दो (*do*) is a modified command verb deriving from the verb देना (*denā*) meaning, 'to give'.

उसके[72] कुत्ते का नाम मोती है।	*uske kutte ka nām motī hai.*	His/her dog's name is Moti.	Hundurinn hans/hennar heitir Moti.

Relationships which deserve respect are, in the Third person possessive singular, addressed with proximate pronoun इनका (*inkā*) (m.)/ इनकी (*inkī*) (f.) and non-proximate उनका (*unkā*) (m.)/ उनकी (*unkī*) (f.).

	Casual Possessive Singular		Honorific Possessive Singular	
	Hindi	Roman Trans- literation	Hindi	Roman Trans- literation
Proximate	इसका (m.)/ इसकी (f.)	*iskā/iskī*	इनका (m.)/ इनकी (f.)	*inkā/inkī*
Non-proximate	उसका (m.)/ उसकी (f.)	*uskā/uskī*	उनका (m.)/ उनकी (f.)	*unkā/unkī*

Let us pause and use the subjective singular and possessive singular demonstratives in sentences using the following question words and nouns.

	Hindi	Roman Trans- literation	English	Icelandic
Question words	कौन, क्या	*kaun, kyā*	who, what	hver, hvað
Nouns	पुरुष/आदमी	*puruṣ/ādamī*	man	maður
	स्त्री/औरत/महिला	*strī/aurat/ mahilā*	woman	kona

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72 Even though उसके (*uske*) might seem plural in this example, but it is not. Here it is functioning as a grammatical form based on the postposition, not the number of the noun. When used in oblique case, the singular masculine noun कुत्ता (*kuttā*) changes its form to कुत्ते (*kutte*), as mentioned earlier in Chapter 3.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
यह कौन है?	*yah kaun hai?*	Who is this?	Hver er þetta?
यह महिला है।	*yah mahilā hai.*	This is a woman.	Þetta er kona.
इसका नाम क्या है ?	*iskā nām kyā hai?*	What is her name?	Hvað heitir hún?
इसका नाम सुमन है।	*iskā nām suman hai.*	Her name is Suman.	Hún heitir Suman.
यह कहाँ से है?	*yah kahām̐ se hai?*	Where is she from?	Hvaðan er hún?
यह भारत से है।	*yah bhārat se hai.*	She is from India.	Hún er frá Indlandi.
वह कौन है?	*vah kaun hai?*	Who is that?	Hver er þetta?
वह आदमी है।	*vah ādamī hai.*	That is a man.	Þetta er maður.
उसका नाम राम है।	*uskā nām rām hai.*	His name is Ram.	Hann heitir Ram.
वह आइसलैंड से है।	*vah āislaiṇḍ se hai.*	He is from Iceland.	Hann er frá Íslandi.
यह क्या है?	*yah kyā hai?*	What is this?	Hvað er þetta?
यह कुर्सी है।	*yah kursī hai.*	This is a chair.	Þetta er stóll.
वह क्या है?	*vah kyā hai?*	What is that?	Hvað er þetta?
वह पुस्तकालय है।	*vah pustakālay hai.*	That is a library.	Þetta er bókasafn.

Possessive plural

The third-person possessive plural pronouns are used to indicate possession by a third person plural subject ('their'). These pronouns agree with the gender and number of the possessed object, not the possessor and are oblique.

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Proximate	इनका (m.s.), इनकी (f.s. and pl.), इनके (m.pl.)	*inkā, inkī, inke*	their	þeirra
Non-proxi-mate	उनका (m.s.), उनकी (f.s. and pl.), उनके (m.pl.)	*unkā, unkī, unke*	their	þeirra

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
इनका/ उनका घर बड़ा है।	*inkā/ unkā ghar baṛā hai.*	Their house is big.	Húsið þeirra er stórt.
इनकी/ उनकी गाड़ी खराब है।	*inkī/ unkī gaṛī kharāb hai.*	Their car is not working.	Bíllinn þeirra virkar ekki.
इनके/ उनके दोस्त आज आ रहे हैं।	*inke/ unke dosta āj ā rahe haĩ.*	Their friends are coming today.	Vinir þeirra koma í dag.

Emphatic Pronoun

In Hindi, demonstrative or third-person emphatic pronouns are commonly used to place an emphasis on an object, being, or thing. If reference is being made to something or someone near, then the subjective form is यही (*yahī*), while the objective form is इसी (*isī*). If reference is being made to something or someone far, then the subjective form is वही (*vahī*), while the objective form is उसी (*usī*). These are gender neutral.

Emphatic Pronoun			Sentences with third person Emphatic Singular pronoun			
	Hindi with Roman Transliteration	English	Hindi sentence	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
Proximate pronoun	यही (*yahī*)	This only	मुझे यही चाहिए[73] था।	*mujhe yahī cāhie thā.*	This is what I wanted.	Þetta er það sem ég vildi.
	इसी (*isī*)	This	हम पच्चीस साल पहले इसी जगह पर मिले[74] थे।	*ham paccīs sāl pahale isī jagah par mile the.*	We met at this very place twenty-five years ago.	Við hittumst einmitt á þessum stað fyrir tuttugu og fimm árum.
Non-Proximate	वही (*vahī*)	That only	वही पुरानी बातचीत।	*vahī purānī bātcīt.*	(That) same old conversation.	Sama gamla samtalið.
	उसी (*usī*)	That	हमने उसी दिन पूरा कर लिया[75] था।	*hamne usī din pūrā kar liyā thā.*	We completed (it) the same day.	Við kláruðum (það) samdægurs.

Family Members

Family, marriage, and kinship hold significant importance as social institutions in India. Before proceeding to the next chapter, let us take a moment to explore the possessive pronouns used for addressing family members. It is important to note that in Hindi, the use of first- and second-person possessive pronouns for relatives and friends varies based on their gender and number, as illustrated on the next page.

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73 'चाहिए' (*cāhie*) is derived from the root verb 'चाह' (*cāh*) meaning, 'want'/ 'desire'.

74 'मिले' (*mile*) is derived from the root verb 'मिल' (*mil*) meaning, 'meet'.

75 'लिया' (*liyā*) meaning, 'taken', is the inflection of the verb 'लेना' (*lenā*) meaning, 'to take'.

	First person possessive pronoun (my)	Icelandic	Second person possessive pronouns (your)	Icelandic
Female relatives across age and across degree of intimacy	मेरी (*merī*)	mín/ mínar	आपकी (*āpkī*)	þín/þínar
Male relatives (pl.)/respect	मेरे (*mere*)	mínir	आपके (*āpke*)	þínir
Male relatives (s.)/ informal	मेरा (*merā*)	minn	आपका (*āpkā*)	þinn

Refer to the Appendix for a list of terms used for close family members in Northern Indian kinship.

Chapter 5
Verb[76]

In Hindi grammar, other than the popular categorization of verbs into Intransitive and Transitive; from the perspective of usage, verbs can be categorized into five types. However, at the beginners' level, we will simplify this classification by dividing verbs into - main verbs and auxiliaries. Auxiliaries, for the ease of comprehension, include both helping verbs and linking verbs, in this book.

Linking and Helping verbs: Auxiliaries
Linking Verbs

We have been observing in the previous chapters as to how the linking verbs connect the subject with noun and adjective in the sentence. In Hindi, the linking verb derives itself from the 'to be' verb होना (*honā*) which takes several forms depending on the tense. Enlisted in Table 13 are some of its tense auxiliary forms in the present and the past, usages.

Please note that a verb gets inflected not just for tense but also for aspect, mood, gender, and number. We shall soon observe this with examples.

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76   क्रिया (*kriyā*).

Table 13: Tense auxiliary form of Linking Verb, होना (*honā*)

Present tense			Past tense		
Hindi with Roman Transliteration	**English**	**Icelandic**	**Hindi with Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
है (*hai*) (m.s. and f.s.)	is	er	था (*thā*) (m.s.) थी (*thī*) (f.s.)	was	var
हैं (*haĩ*) (m.pl. and respect) (f.pl. and respect)	are	eru	थे (*the*) (m.pl. /respect) थीं (*thĩ*) (f. pl./respect)	were	voru
हो[77] (*ho*) (m.s. and f.s.)	are	eru	थे (*the*) (m.pl. /respect) थीं (*thĩ*) (f. pl./respect)	were	voru
हूँ (*hūm̐*) (m.s. and f.s.)	am	er	था (*thā*) (m.s.) थी (*thī*) (f.s.)	was	var

Helping verbs: Modal verbs

In Hindi, there are some helping verbs which are used after the main action verb, providing additional information such as a wish, desire, permission, advise, responsibility, ability, etc. These helping verbs - चाहिए[78] (*cāhie*), सकना[79] (*saknā*), etc. - play a role similar to the modal verbs in English.

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77 Used with the second person informal pronoun तुम (*tum*).
78 This form of the verb should not be confused with the third person imperative of the infinitive verb चाहना (*cāhnā*), derived from the root verb चाह (*cāh*), which means 'want', as mentioned earlier. Depending upon the gender and the number of the noun, the imperative चाहना (*cāhnā*) takes the following forms: चाहता *cāhtā* (m.s.), चाहती *cāhtī* (f.s./pl./respect), चाहते *cāhte* (m.pl. /respect).
79 Infinitive form. Its imperative forms will be: सकता *saktā* (m.s.), सकती *saktī* (f.s./pl./respect), सकते *sakte* (m.pl. /respect).

	Hindi	**Roman Translitera-tion**	**English**	**Icelandic**
Helping/ Modal verb	चाहिए	*cāhie*	Should, must, ought to	Ætti að/ verður að
Sentence	हमें मदद करनी चाहिए ।	*hamẽ madad karnī cāhie.*	We must help.	Við verðum að hjálpa.
Helping/ Modal verb	सकना	*saknā*	Can, may	Get/má
Sentence	मैं आपकी क्या मदद कर सकती हूँ ?	*maĩ āpkī kyā madad kar saktī hūm̃?*	How can I help you?	Hvernig get ég hjálpað þér?

The word मदद (*madad*) means 'help' when translated in English and 'hjálp' in Icelandic.

Infinitives

The dictionary form of verb is the infinitive which, in Hindi, is formed by adding the suffix ना (*nā*) to the root verb. Listed below are some of the verbs in their root/stem form followed by their respective infinitive form.

Table 14: Infinitives

Root verbs			**Infinitive**			
Hindi	**Roman Trans-literation**	**English**	**Hindi**	**Roman Trans-literation**	**English**	**Icelandic**
हो	*ho*	be	होना	*honā*	to be	að vera
पढ़[80]	*paṛh*	study (read/ learn)	पढ़ना	*paṛhnā*	to study (to read/ to learn)	að lesa/að læra
खा	*khā*	eat	खाना	*khānā*	to eat	að borða

Refer to the Appendix for some more infinitives.

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80   It can be translated into both, 'learn' (læra) or 'read' (lesa).

In a sentence, it is not unusual to see compound verbs consisting of a main verb followed by either a modal verb, a linking verb, or sometimes both. For example,

	Hindi	**Roman Trans-literation**	**English**	**Icelandic**
Infinitive followed by a linking verb	मुझे पढ़ना है ।	*mujhe paṛhnā hai.*	I have to study (learn/read).	Ég þarf að læra/lesa.
Infinitive followed by a modal and a linking verb	मुझे पढ़ना चाहिए था ।	*mujhe paṛhnā cāhie thā.*	I should have studied (learnt/read).	Ég hefði átt að læra/lesa.

Use of negation

Negation is expressed using the adverb नहीं (*nahī̃*), which can appear either before or after the infinitive. However, it is always placed before auxiliaries, including both linking and helping verbs. For example,

	Hindi	**Roman Trans-literation**	**English**	**Icelandic**
Infinitive	पढ़ना	*paṛhnā*	to study (read/learn).	að lesa/ læra
Affirmative sentence	मैं पढ़ना चाहता (m.)/ चाहती (f.) हूँ ।	*maĩ paṛhnā cāhtā/cāhtī hū̃.*	I want to study (read/learn).	Ég vil lesa/ læra.
Use of negation after the infinitive	मैं पढ़ना नहीं चाहता (m.)/ चाहती (f.) हूँ ।	*maĩ paṛhnā nahī̃ cāhtā/ cāhtī hū̃.*	I don't want to study (read/learn).	Ég vil ekki lesa/læra.
Use of negation before the infinitive	मैं नहीं पढ़ना चाहता (m.)/ चाहती (f.) हूँ ।	*maĩ nahī̃ paṛhnā cāhtā/cāhtī hū̃.*		
Infinitive	बोलना	*bolnā*	to speak	að tala

Affirmative sentence	मैं बोलना चाहता (m.)/ चाहती (f.) हूँ ।	*maĩ bolnā cāhtā/cāhtī hū̃.*	I want to speak.	Ég vil tala.
Use of negation after the infinitive	मैं बोलना नहीं चाहता (m.)/ चाहती (f.) हूँ ।	*maĩ bolnā nahī̃ cāhtā/ cāhtī hū̃.*	I don't want to speak.	Ég vil ekki tala.
Use of negation before the infinitive	मैं नहीं बोलना चाहता (m.)/ चाहती (f.) हूँ ।	*maĩ nahī̃ bolnā cāhtā/ cāhtī hū̃.*		

In formal expressions, like announcements, we find the usage of the adjective, मना (*manā*) to express negation. It means 'prohibited'. For instance,

Infinitive with Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
बैठना (*baiṭhnā*)	to sit	að sitja	यहाँ बैठना मना है ।	*yahā̃ baiṭhnā manā hai.*	Sitting here is prohib-ited.	Það er bannað að sitja hér.
करना (*karnā*)	to do	að gera	धूम्रपान करना मना है ।	*dhūmrapān karnā manā hai.*	Smoking is prohib-ited.	Reykingar eru bannaðar.

Signboards are displayed in quite a few public places in India, prohibiting smoking. https://protectorfiresafety.com/safety-sign/11490-no-smoking-english-and-hindi-prohibition-sign.html

With the negation नहीं (*nahī̃*), the use of the present tense auxiliary forms of the 'to be' verb होना (*honā*)[81], is optional. So, the above sentences could also be written or spoken as:

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81   है (*hai*), हैं (*haĩ*), हूँ (*hū̃*), हो (*ho*)

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Use of negation after the infinitive	मैं पढ़ना नहीं चाहता (m.)/ चाहती (f.) ।	*maĩ paṛhnā nahī̃ cāhtā/ cāhtī.*	I don't want to read/ study.	Ég vil ekki lesa/ læra.
Use of negation before the infinitive	मैं नहीं पढ़ना चाहता (m.)/ चाहती (f.) ।	*maĩ nahī̃ paṛhnā cāhtā/cāhtī.*		
Use of negation after the infinitive	मैं बोलना नहीं चाहता (m.)/ चाहती (f.) ।	*maĩ bolnā nahī̃ cāhtā/ cāhtī.*	I don't want to speak.	Ég vil ekki tala.
Use of negation before the infinitive	मैं नहीं बोलना चाहता (m.)/ चाहती (f.) ।	*maĩ nahī̃ bolnā cāhtā/cāhtī.*		

However, please note that if the tense auxiliary form is in the past,[82] then the use of the linking verbs (even with the negation) is mandatory.

Imperatives

Verbs that are used to give instructions, directions, requests, etc are called imperatives. There are four types of imperatives in Hindi. Let us look at each one of them using the root verb, पढ़ (*paṛh*) which when translated in English means, 'study (read/learn)'.

1. Formal imperatives: These are used to make requests and usually are paired with the formal second person pronoun, आप (*āp*). Suffix -इए (*ie*)/इये (*iye*) is added to the stem verb to create formal imperatives. For example, पढ़िए (*paṛhie*)/ पढ़िये (*paṛhiye*), which implies, 'please study'. Refer Table 15, for examples. There are some Irregular verbs[83] which in their

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82   था (*thā*), थी (*thī*), थे (*the*), थीं (*thī̃*).

83   In Hindi, most verbs are regular and follow a predictable conjugation pattern for all tenses and forms. However, there are a handful of Irregular verbs in Hindi, which do not follow consistent conjugation patterns. Their forms can change completely, especially in the past tense or imperative mood. This would become coherent in Chapter 6, on 'Tenses'.

formal imperative form end with the suffix ईजिए (*ījie*)/ईजिये (*ījiye*), instead of suffix -इए (*ie*)/इये (*iye*).[84] Refer to Table 16, for examples.

2. Informal imperatives: These are used as commands which are firm but not blunt and are usually paired with the informal second person pronoun, तुम (*tum*). Suffix -ओ (*o*) is added to the stem verb to create informal imperatives. For example, पढ़ो (*paṛho*).

3 Intimate imperatives: These are also used as commands but unlike the informal imperatives, intimate imperatives appear as sharp and blunt commands. They are usually paired with the intimate second person pronoun तू (*tū*) though the usage of the pronoun while commanding, is optional. Intimate imperatives retain the stem or the root form of the verb, as can be observed in Tables 15 and 16. For example, पढ़ (*paṛh*), which is a blunt and sharp command, almost compelling someone 'to study'.

4 Neutral imperatives: In construction, these are no different from the infinitives but there is a difference in usage between the infinitives and neutral imperatives.[85] For example, पढ़ना (*paṛhnā*).

Tonality in Hindi, especially in imperatives, is very important because it can drastically change the meaning and the social dynamics of a conversation. A slight change in tone can turn a command into a request, soften a direct statement, or convey urgency or politeness. It influences how the speaker is perceived and how the message is understood, making it crucial in maintaining the right level of respect, formality, or intimacy in various situations.

In many Indian contexts, the tone reflects respect for hierarchy, age, and social status. Imperatives spoken in an authoritative tone

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84 Except the irregular verbs जा (*jā*) which follow the pattern of regular verbs, इए (*ie*)/इये (*iye*).

85 Unlike neutral imperatives which are always used to tell someone to do something, infinitives can also be used as nouns.

without the appropriate respect markers can be perceived as rude or disrespectful.

Infinitives can also be used to give a command; however, such commands are meant to be always followed in future or at all times. In other words, infinitives cannot be used as commands for immediate compliance. Look at the illustration below for clarity.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
योग रोज़ करना।	*yog roz karnā.*	Do yoga daily.	Farðu í jóga daglega.
अपना ख्याल रखना।	*apanā khyāl rakhnā.*	Take care of yourself.	Farðu vel með þig.

Table 15: Imperatives (Regular)

Stem verb			Formal Imperative (-इए (*ie*)/ -इये (*iye*))	Informal imperative (-ओ (*o*))	Intimate imperative	Neutral Imperative
Hindi with Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic	Hindi with Roman Transliteration	Hindi with Roman Transliteration	Hindi with Roman Transliteration	Hindi with Roman Transliteration
पढ़ (*paṛh*)	study (read/ learn)	lesa/læra	पढ़िए (*paṛhie*)/ पढ़िये (*paṛhiye*)	पढ़ो (*paṛho*)	पढ़ (*paṛh*)	पढ़ना (*paṛhnā*)
खा (*khā*)	eat	borða	खाइए[86] (*khāie*)/ खाइये (*khāiye*)	खाओ (*khāo*)	खा (*khā*)	खाना (*khānā*)

Refer to the Appendix for more examples

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[86] Note that since two *mātrā* cannot be used together therefore after the long vowel *mātrā* आ (*ā*) in the root verb खा (*khā*), the short vowel इ (*i*) is used in its independent form and not as a *mātrā*.

Table 16: Imperatives (Irregular)

Stem verb			Formal Imperative (ईजिए (*ījie*)/ ईजिये (*ījiye*))	Informal imperative	Intimate imperative	Neutral Imperative
Hindi with Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic	Hindi with Roman Trans-literation	Hindi with Roman Trans-literation	Hindi with Roman Trans-literation	Hindi with Roman Trans-literation
ले (*le*)	take	taka	लीजिए (*lījie*)/ लीजिये (*lījiye*)	लो (*lo*)	ले (*le*)	लेना (*lenā*)
दे (*de*)	give	gefa	दीजिए (*dījie*)/ दीजिये (*dījiye*)	दो (*do*)	दे (*de*)	देना (*denā*)
पी (*pī*)	drink	drekka	पीजिए (*pījie*)/ पीजिये (*pījiye*)	पियो[87] (*piyo*)	पी (*pī*)	पीना (*pīnā*)
कर (*kar*)	do	gera	कीजिए (*kījie*)/ कीजिये (*kījiye*)	करो (*karo*)	कर (*kar*)	करना (*karnā*)

Two other irregular verbs are: हो (*ho*), जा (*jā*).

Use of negation

Negation in the case of an imperative is also expressed using the adverb नहीं (*nahī̃*).[88] Another adverb used with the imperative to express negation is मत (*mat*). Both these adverbs appear before the imperative in a sentence, for example,

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87   If the root verb ends with long vowels -ई (*ī*) then in the perfective form, the long vowel is first shortened and then we add -या (*yā*) (m.)/ यी (*yī*) (f.) as the suffix.

88   Sometimes just the consonant न (*na*) is used before the imperative, to express negation.

Hindi with Roman Transliteration				English	Icelandic
Formal	**Informal**	**Intimate**	**Neutral**		
मत पढ़िए (*mat paṛhie*)	मत पढ़ो (*mat paṛho*)	मत पढ़ (*mat paṛh*)	मत पढ़ना (*mat paṛhnā*)	Don't read	Ekki lesa
नहीं बोलिए (*nahī̃ bolie*)	नहीं बोलो (*nahī̃ bolo*)	नहीं बोल (*nahī̃ bol*)	नहीं बोलना (*nahī̃ bolnā*)	Don't speak	Ekki tala

Let us observe their usage in a sentence.

	Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
Formal imperative	यहाँ नहीं बैठिए ।	*yahā̃ nahī̃ baiṭhie.*	(Please) don't sit here.	(Vinsamlegast) ekki sitja hér.
Informal imperative	यहाँ नहीं बैठो ।	*yahā̃ nahī̃ baiṭho.*	Don't sit here.	Ekki sitja hér.
Intimate imperative	यहाँ नहीं बैठ ।	*yahā̃ nahī̃ baiṭh.*	Don't sit here.	Ekki sitja hér.

In the sentences above, we can observe that neither the pronoun nor the auxiliaries are needed to complete the sentence when imperatives are used with negation. However, please note that when *anusvāra* (the nasal dot) is used on the auxiliary linking verb with an imperative like while referring to a female with respect in the present tense, for example,

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मेरी माताजी मीठा <u>खाती</u> हैं ।	*merī mātājī mīṭhā khātī haī̃.*	My mother <u>eats</u> sweets.	Mamma mín <u>borðar</u> sælgæti.

slight caution must be exercised, while converting the statement to negative. While converting, the *anusvāra* (the nasal dot) of the linking verb हैं (*haī̃*), is moved onto the imperative before dropping the linking verb. For instance,

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मेरी माताजी मीठा नहीं खातीं ।	*merī mātājī mīṭhā nahī̃ khātī̃.*	My mother, <u>does not eat</u> sweet/s.	Mamma mín <u>borðar ekki</u> sælgæti.

Always remember that just as the second person pronoun, आप (*āp*), implies respect, so does the tone of formal imperatives.

Usage of verbs in a sentence

In Hindi, verb agreement in a sentence is governed by two main rules:

1.   Preference for Subject Agreement: The verb typically agrees with the subject (intransitive verb) unless the subject is followed by a postposition. If the subject is followed by a postposition, the verb instead agrees with the object (transitive verb). This phenomenon, where the verb aligns with the object instead of the subject, is known as ergativity.

Before we move on to the second rule, observe the example below to see how the infinitive form of a verb, such as खाना (*khānā*), changes into its transitive or intransitive form based on these rules.

Transitive Verb Agreement

In the examples below, the subject, सीता (*sītā*), is followed by the postposition ने (*ne*). Consequently, the verb becomes transitive and agrees with their respective object - फल (*phal*), सब्ज़ी (*sabzī*) - in both the sentences below.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
सीता ने फल खाया ।	*sītā ne phal khāyā.*	Sita ate fruit.	Sita borðaði ávexti.

In the sentence above, since the object फल (*phal*) is masculine singular, so the verb takes the masculine singular form, खाया

(*khāyā*). But in the sentence below, since the object सब्ज़ी (*sabzī*) is feminine singular, the verb changes to the feminine singular form, खायी (*khāyī*).

सीता ने सब्ज़ी खायी ।	*sītā ne sabzī khāyī.*	Sita ate vege-table.	Sita borðaði grænmeti.

Intransitive Verb Agreement

In the sentence below, the subject is not followed by any postposition. Therefore, the verb takes an intransitive form and agrees with the subject, which in the first sentence below is feminine (सीता *sītā*), while in the second is masculine (राम *rām*).

	Hindi	**Roman Trans-literation**	**English**	**Icelandic**
First sentence	सीता फल खाती है ।	*sītā phal khātī hai.*	Sita eats fruit.	Sita borðar ávexti.
Second sentence	राम फल खाता है ।	*rām phal khātā hai.*	Ram eats fruit.	Ram borðar ávexti.

Refer to the Appendix for examples of Transitive and Intransitive verbs.

2.   If both the subject and the object are followed by postpositions, the verb does not agree with either of them. Instead, it takes its default masculine singular form, regardless of the gender or number of the subject or object. This is because postpositions block agreement with the verb. This can be observed in the sentence below where the main verb सजा (*sajā*) takes masculine singular form though the subject सीता (*sītā*) is f.s. and the object मंदिरों (*mandirõ*) is m.pl.

Hindi	**Roman Trans-literation**	**English**	**Icelandic**
सीता फूलों से मंदिरों को सजा रही है ।	*sītā phūlõ se mandirõ ko sajā rahī hai.*	Sita is decorating the temples with flowers.	Sita er að skreyta musterin með blómum.

Causative verbs

Causative verbs indicate that one person or thing causes another person or thing to do something or to be in a certain state. It is used to express actions where the subject causes someone else to perform the action. In other words, the causer acts indirectly, using an intermediary. The causative verb is formed by adding the suffix, -वाना (-*vānā*) to the root or stem verb.

Stem verb	English	Icelandic	Causative verb	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
कर (*kar*)	do	gera	करवाना	*karvānā*	Get it done.	Að fá einhvern til að gera/klára eitthvað.
पढ़ (*paṛh*)	learn/read	læra/lesa	पढ़वाना	*paṛhvānā*	To cause to teach (learn/read).	Að fá einhvern að kenna.

Use of conjunctive participle

If a sentence has two verbs, with the first verb followed by the conjunctive participle कर (*kar*) or करके (*karke*) as its suffix, then one should treat the second verb as the main verb. For example,

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मैं दूध पीकर सोता हूँ।	*maĩ dūdh pīkar sotā hū̃.*	I sleep after drinking milk.	Ég sef eftir að hafa drukkið mjólk.

In the above sentence, the main verb is सोता (*sotā*). The action which occurs before it – पी (*pī*) – is expressed using the conjunctive participle, कर (*kar*). Though 'कर (*kar*)' in construction looks like a postposition but its usage in this context is as a conjunctive participle which is used to connect two actions and is written together with the first verb. Thus, पीकर (*pīkar*) must be considered as a single word.

Chapter 6
Tenses[89]

Tenses: Regular verbs

In most languages, time which reflects the tense, mirrors an inflection on the action verb. As mentioned in the previous chapter, verbs are categorized into regular and irregular based on how they conjugate across various tenses, aspects, and moods. Regular verbs follow predictable conjugation patterns for all tenses and forms. Their base forms remain consistent, and endings change systematically based on tense, gender, number, and person. Irregular verbs do not follow consistent conjugation patterns. Their forms can change completely, especially in the past tense or imperative mood. However, there are very few irregular verbs in Hindi. The verbs, in Hindi, typically follow consistent conjugation patterns based on their verb root and the tense/aspect being used.

Tenses can be broadly divided into the Present, the Past, and the Future. Each of these are further subdivided.

Present Tense

In Hindi grammar, actions taking place in the present are primarily subdivided into four: Present Indefinite, Present Continuous, Present Perfect, and Present Doubtful.

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89   काल (*kāl*).

1. **Present Indefinite:** When an action is repetitive or is a part of a routine schedule, the verb takes imperfective habitual form. Habitual aspect is also used to express universal actions. While expressing the action in the Present Indefinite Form, we use the following sentence pattern:

Subject +	Root form of the verb followed by suffix[90]: - ता (*tā*) (m.s.), - ती (*tī*) (f.s.), - ते (*te*) (m.pl.) +	appropriate form of the linking 'to be' verb होना (*honā*): हूँ (*hūm̐*), है (*hai*), हो (*ho*), हैं (*haĩ*).

Let us take the root verb पढ़ (*paṛh*) (study/read) and observe the inflections it undergoes in terms of gender and number, in the present indefinite form.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मैं पढ़ता (m.s.) हूँ ।	*maĩ paṛhtā hūm̐.*	I study (read/ learn).	Ég les/læri.
तुम पढ़ते (m.s.)/ पढ़ती (f.s.) हो ।	*tum paṛhte/ paṛhtī ho.*	You study (read/ learn).	Þú lest/lærir.
वह पढ़ता (m.s.)/ पढ़ती (f.s.) है ।	*vah paṛhtā/ paṛhtī hai.*	He/she studies (reads/learns).	Hann/Hún les/lærir.
लड़के पढ़ते हैं । (m.pl.)	*laṛake paṛhte haĩ.*	Boys study (read/ learn).	Strákar lesa/læra.
लड़कियाँ पढ़ती हैं । (f.pl.)	*laṛakiyām̐ paṛhtī haĩ.*	Girls study (read/ learn).	Stúlkur lesa/læra.

2. **Present Continuous:** This form of present tense is used to communicate an ongoing action. In other words, action which has begun and continues to happen (at the moment) uses the Present Continuous form. It is expressed using the following sentence pattern:

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90   Depending upon the gender and the number.

	Root form of the verb +	appropriate form of the auxiliary verb[91]: रहा (rahā)(m.s.), रही (rahī)(f.s.), रहे (rahe)(m.pl.) +	appropriate form of the linking verb: हूँ (hū̃), है (hai), हो (ho), हैं (haĩ)
Subject+			

Let us continue with the root verb पढ़ (paṛh) and observe the inflections it undergoes in terms of gender and number.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मैं पढ़ रहा (m.s.) हूँ ।	maĩ paṛh rahā hū̃.	I am studying.	Ég er að læra.
तुम पढ़ रहे (m.s.)/ रही (f.s.) हो ।	tum paṛh rahe/ rahī ho.	You (he/she) are studying.	Þú ert (hann/hún er) að læra.
वह पढ़ रहा (m.s.)/ रही (f.s.) है ।	vah paṛh rahā/ rahī hai.	He/she is studying.	Hann/hún er að læra.
लड़के पढ़ रहे हैं । (m.pl.)	laṛake paṛh rahe haĩ.	Boys are studying.	Strákar eru að læra.
लड़कियाँ पढ़ रही हैं । (f.pl.)	laṛakiyā̃ paṛh rahī haĩ.	Girls are studying.	Stúlkur eru að læra.

3.   **Present Perfect:** This form of tense is used to communicate an action which has recently been completed. It is expressed in the following sentence pattern:

Subject followed by the postposition ने (ne) +	Object +	Root verb followed by suffix: - या (ya) (m.s.), - यी (yī)/ई (ī) (f.s.), - ये (ye)/ए (e) (m.pl.), - यीं (yĩ)/ ईं (ĩ) (f.pl.) +	appropriate form of the linking verb[92]: है (hai), हैं (haĩ)

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91   Depending upon the gender and the number.
92   Linking verbs are in the present tense and can be dropped.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मैंने खाना खाया है ।	*maĩne khānā khāyā hai.*	I have eaten food.	Ég er búinn að borða mat.
मैंने रोटी खाई है ।	*maĩne roṭī khāī hai.*	I have eaten chapati.	Ég er búinn að borða chapati.
हमने रोटियाँ खाई हैं ।	*hamne roṭiyāṁ khāī haĩ.*	We have eaten chapatis.	Við erum búin að borða chapati.
हमने फल खाए हैं ।	*hamne phal khāe haĩ.*	We have eaten fruits.	Við erum búin að borða ávexti.

4. **Present Doubtful:** This form of tense is used to convey an action which might be taking place in the present. It is expressed using the following sentence pattern:

Subject+	Root form of the verb followed by suffix: - ता (*tā*) (m.s.), - ती (*tī*) (f.s.), - ते (*te*) (m.pl.) +	appropriate modal auxiliary form of the 'to be' Verb: होगा (*hogā*), होगी (*hogī*), होंगे (*hoṅge*), होंगी (*hoṅgī*)

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
वह पढ़ता होगा (m.s.)/ पढ़ती होगी (f.s.) ।	*vah paṛhtā hogā/ paṛhtī hogī.*	He/she must be studying.	Hann/ hún hlýtur að vera að læra.
वे पढ़ते होंगे (m.pl.)/ पढ़ती होंगी (f.pl.) ।	*ve paṛhte hoṅge/ paṛhtī hoṅgī.*	They must be studying.	Þeir hljóta að vera að læra.

Please note that the Present Doubtful form is used only with Demonstratives (Third person pronouns) and neither with the First nor the Second person pronouns.

Past Tense

Actions which have taken place in the past are, in Hindi grammar, primarily subdivided into five tenses: Past indefinite, Past Continuous, Past Perfect, Doubtful past, and Conditional past.

Before we go ahead, it is important to recollect that the linking verbs in the past tense (Refer to Table 13 in the previous chapter), show both gender and number inflections unlike the linking verbs in present tense which only show number inflections.

1. **Past Indefinite:** To communicate an action which happened in the past, with not much emphasis on its completion, the verb takes the Past Indefinite form and is expressed in the following sentence pattern:

Subject followed by the postposition ने (ne)+	Object+	Root verb followed by suffix: - या (ya) (m.s.), - यी (yī)/ई (ī) (f.s.), - ये (ye)/ए (e) (m.pl.), - यीं (yī̃)/ ईं (ī̃) (f.pl.)

Whenever the subject is followed by a postposition, the verb falls in agreement with the object instead of the subject.

Let us take the root verb खा (khā) (eat) and observe the inflections it undergoes in terms of gender and number.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मैंने खाना खाया (m.s.) I	maĩne khānā khāyā.	I ate food.	Ég borðaði mat.
मैंने रोटी खाई/खायी (f.s.) I	maĩne roṭī khāī/ khāyī.	I ate chapati.	Ég borðaði chapati.
हमने रोटियाँ खाईं (f.pl.) I	hamne roṭiyām̐ khāī̃.	We ate chapatis.	Við borðuðum chapati.
मैंने फल खाए (m.pl.) I	maĩne phal khāe.	I ate fruits.	Ég borðaði ávexti.

2. **Past Continuous:** It denotes an action which took place in the past but was not completed. It is expressed in the following sentence pattern:

Subject +	Root verb +	appropriate form of the auxiliary verb: रहा (*rahā*) (m.s.), रही (*rahī*) (f.s.), रहे (*rahe*) (m.pl. /respect)	appropriate form of the linking verb: था (*thā*) (m.s.), थी (*thī*) (f.s.), थे (*the*) (m.pl. /respect), थीं (*thī̃*) (f. pl./respect)

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मैं खाना खा रहा था ।	*maĩ khānā khā rahā thā.*	I was eating food.	Ég var að borða mat.
मैं रोटी खा रही थी ।	*maĩ roṭī khā rahī thī.*	I was eating chapati.	Ég var að borða chapati.
हम रोटियाँ खा रहे थे ।	*ham roṭiyām̐ khā rahe the.*	We were eating chapatis.	Við vorum að borða chapati.
हम फल खा रहे थे ।	*ham phal khā rahe the.*	We were eating fruits.	Við vorum að borða ávexti.

3. **Past Perfect:** To communicate an action which was completed in the distant past, we use the past perfect tense. It is expressed in the following sentence pattern:

Subject followed by the postposition ने (*ne*) +	Object+	Root verb followed by suffix: - या (*ya*) (m.s.), - यी (*yī*)/ई (*ī*) (f.s.), - ये (ye)/ए (e) (m.pl.) +	appropriate form of the linking verb in the past tense: था (*thā*) (m.s.), थी (*thī*) (f.s.), थे (*the*) (m.pl. /respect), थीं (*thī̃*) (f. pl./respect)

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मैंने खाना खाया था ।	*maĩne khānā khāyā thā.*	I had eaten food.	Ég hafði borðað mat.
मैंने रोटी खाई थी ।	*maĩne roṭī khāī thī.*	I had eaten chapati.	Ég hafði borðað chapati.
हमने रोटियाँ खाई थीं ।	*hamne roṭiyām̐ khāī thī̃.*	We had eaten chapatis.	Við höfðum borðað chapati.

| मैंने फल खाए थे। | *maĩne phal khāe the.* | I had eaten fruits. | Ég hafði borðað ávexti. |

4. **Doubtful Past:** When there is a doubt about, an action or occurrence of an action in the past, we use the doubtful past tense. It is expressed in the following sentence pattern:

| Subject + | Object+ | Root verb followed by suffix:
- या (*ya*) (m.s.),
- यी (*yī*)/ई (*ī*) (f.s.),
- ये (*ye*)/ए (*e*) (m.pl.)
+ | appropriate modal auxiliary form of linking Verb:
होगा (*hogā*) (m.s.),
होगी (*hogī*) (f.s.),
होंगे (*hoṅge*) (m.pl.),
होंगी (*hoṅgī*) (f.pl.) |

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
आपने खाना खाया होगा।	*āpne khānā khāyā hogā.*	You must have eaten food.	Þú hlýtur að hafa borðað mat.
आपने रोटी खाई होगी।	*āpne roṭī khāī hogī.*	You must have eaten chapati.	Þú hlýtur að hafa borðað chapati.
आपने रोटियाँ खाई होंगी।	*āpne roṭiyām̐ khāī hoṅgī.*	You must have eaten chapatis.	Þú hlýtur að hafa borðað chapati.
उसने फल खाए होंगे।	*usne phal khāe hoṅge.*	He/she may have eaten fruits.	Hann/hún gæti hafa borðað ávexti.

This form can also be used to express if you are uncertain of an action done by self. For example,

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मैंने कागज़ कहीं रखा होगा लेकिन अब मुझे याद नहीं है।	*maĩne kagaz kahī̃ rakhā hogā lekin ab mujhe yād nahī̃ hai.*	I must have kept the paper somewhere but now I don't remember.	Ég hlýt að hafa geymt blaðið einhvers staðar en núna man ég það ekki.

5. **Conditional past:** When the occurrence or non-occurrence of an action in the past is dependent upon the occurrence or non-occurrence of another action, we use the conditional past tense. For example,

97

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
अगर भूख लगती, तो मैं खाना खाता ।	*agar bhūkh lagtī, to maĩ khānā khātā.*	If I would have felt hungry, then I would have eaten food.	Ef ég hefði verið svangur, þá hefði ég borðað mat.

Keeping in mind that this book is for the beginners, we shall not delve much deeper, in the conditional past tense.

Future Tense

Actions which will or might take place in the future are, in Hindi, primarily subdivided into two: Future Indefinite and Doubtful future, tense.

1. **Future Indefinite:** The form of verb from which we know that the action will take place in the near future, is the Future Indefinite Tense. It is expressed in the following sentence pattern:

Subject +	Object+	Root verb followed by suffix:
		- ऊँगा (*ūm̐gā*) (m.s.)/ ऊँगी (*ūm̐gī*) (f.s.),
		- येंगे (*yeṅge*)/ एँगे (*em̐ge*) (m.pl. and respect),
		- येंगी (*yeṅgī*) / एँगी (*em̐gī*) (f.pl. and respect)

Let us take the root verb जा (*jā*) (go) and observe the inflections it undergoes in terms of gender and number, in the future indefinite form.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मैं स्कूल जाऊँगा (m.)/ जाऊँगी (f.) ।	*maĩ skūl jāūm̐gā/jāūm̐gī.*	I will go to the school.	Ég mun fara í skólann.
वह स्कूल जायेगा/ जाएगा (m.) । वह स्कूल जायेगी/ जाएगी (f.) ।	*vah skūl jāyegā/ jāegā.* *vah skūl jāyegī/ jāegī.*	He will go to the school. She will go to the school.	Hann mun fara í skólann. Hún mun fara í skólann.

| हम स्कूल जायेंगे/ जाएँगे (m.) । हम स्कूल जायेंगी/ जाएँगी (f.) । | *ham skūl jāyeṅge/jāem̐ge. ham skūl jāyeṅgī/ jāem̐gī.* | We (he/she) will go to the school. | Við (hann/hún) munum fara í skólann. |

2. **Doubtful future:** To communicate the probability of an action in the future, we use the doubtful future tense. This form of tense uses subjunctives[93] to express the probability of an action. In the example below, the subjunctive has been underlined.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
कल शायद बारिश होगी ।	*kal śāyad bāriś hogī.*	It will probably rain tomorrow.	Það mun líklega rigna á morgun.

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93 Verbs which express probability of an action or its uncertainty, or even might suggest an action, are called subjunctive verbs. Refer to the Appendix for details.

Chapter 7:
Days[94] of the Week[95] and Months[96]

In the Hindi language, all the days of the week, are named after celestial objects like the Sun, Moon, and some of the planets. This naming system is a little different from the Icelandic where except for Sunday and Monday, the days are named either according to their placement like fimmtudagur (fifth day of the week), or an assigned weekly activity like föstudagur (day to fast).

The Hindi naming system has roots in ancient Indian astronomy and astrology, where the celestial bodies are considered significant in determining time and influencing human affairs.

Did you know that the Sun and the Moon have many names in Hindi? Some of these are mentioned just below.

चंद्रमा (*candramā*),
चाँद (*cām̐d*),
शशि (*śaśi*),
सोम (*som*)

सूरज (*sūraj*),
दिनकर (*dinakar*),
आदित्य (*āditya*),
रवि (*ravi*)

Days of the week

Just as all the days of the week have a common suffix 'dagur' in Icelandic, in Hindi, the suffix is वार (*vār*). Let us look at the table

94 दिन (*din*). This is an unmarked masculine noun.
95 सप्ताह (*saptāh*). This is also an unmarked masculine noun.
96 महीने (*mahine*) m:pl. Its singular form is महीना (*mahina*).

below and learn the days of the week as spoken in Hindi.

Table 17: Days of the week

Hindi with Roman transliteration and meaning		English	Icelandic
रविवार (*ravivār*)	रवि (*ravi*) + वार (*vār*) = Sun + day	Sunday	sunnudagur
सोमवार (*somvār*)	सोम (*som*) + वार (*vār*) = Moon + day	Monday	mánudagur
मंगलवार (*maṅgalvā*r)	मंगल (*maṅgal*) + वार (*vār*) = Mars + day	Tuesday	þriðjudagur
बुधवार (*budhvār*)	बुध (*budh*) + वार (*vār*) = Mercury + day	Wednesday	miðvikudagur
गुरुवार[97] (*guruvār*) OR बृहस्पतिवार[98] (*bṛhaspativār*)	गुरु (*guru*) /बृहस्पति (*bṛhaspati*) + वार (*vār*) = Jupiter + day	Thursday	fimmtudagur
शुक्रवार[99] (*śukravār*)	शुक्र (*śukra*) + वार (*vār*) = Venus + day	Friday	föstudagur
शनिवार (*śanivār*)	शनि (*śani*) + वार (*vār*) = Saturn + day	Saturday	laugardagur

Common words associated with the day

Some of the common words associated with day are:

Table 18: Words associated with Day

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97   When the vowels उ (*u*) or ऊ (*ū*) combine with the fricative र (*ra*), their diacritic mark is worn like a tail by the consonant unlike in the other consonants, where it comes at their foot. If we break the word गुरु (*guru*), we shall see this: ग् + (ु) + रु् + (ु) = गुरु (*guru*) (tail without a curve). If it would have been the long vowel ऊ (*ū*), then र + (ू) = रू

98   ब् + ऋ = बृ

99   When र (*ra*) is complete but the consonant to its left in the word is incomplete, र (*ra*) transforms into a slanting line, and tucks itself into the nook of the incomplete consonant like क्र = क् + र.

Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
दिन (m.)	*din*	day	dagur
सुबह (f.)	*subah*	morning	morgunn[100]
दोपहर (f.)	*dopahar*	afternoon	síðdegi
शाम (f.)	*śām*	evening	kvöld
रात (f.)	*rāt*	night	nótt
भोर (f.)	*bhor*	dawn	dögun
संध्या (f.)	*sandhyā*	dusk	rökkur
कल (m.)	*kal*	tomorrow	á morgun
कल (m.)	*kal*	yesterday	í gær
आज (m.)	*āj*	today	í dag
आज सुबह	*āj subah*	today morning	í morgun
आज शाम	*āj śām*	today evening	í kvöld
परसों (m.)	*parasõ*	day before yesterday	í fyrradag
परसों (m.)	*parasõ*	day after tomorrow	hinn daginn
कल सुबह	*kal subah*	tomorrow morning	í fyrramálið
हर सोमवार	*har somvār*	on Mondays (repetitive)	á mánudögum
आजकल	*āj kal*	now a days	nú til dags
वर्ष/ साल (m.)	*varṣa/ sāl*	year	ár
महीना (m.)	*mahīnā*	month	mánuður
सप्ताह (m.)	*saptāh*	week	vika
घंटा (m.)	*ghaṇṭā*	hour	klukkustund
तारीख (f.)	*tārīkh*	date	dagsetning

Pause to revise

Let us use these words in sentences to practice and understand their

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100   Morgunn /nominative - morgun/accusative.

us...

	Hindi	Roman Trans- literation	English	Icelandic
Question	आज कौन-सा दिन है?	*āj kaun-sā din hai?*	What day is it today?	Hvaða dagur er í dag?
Answer	आज मंगलवार है।	*āj maṅgalvār hai.*	Today is Tuesday.	Í dag er þriðjudagur.
Question	कल कौन-सा दिन था[101]?	*kal kaun-sā din thā?*	What day was yesterday?	Hvaða dagur var í gær?
Answer	कल सोमवार था।	*kal somvār thā.*	Yesterday was Monday.	Í gær var mánudagur.
Question	कल कौन-सा दिन है?	*kal kaun-sā din hai?*	What day is tomorrow?	Hvaða dagur er á morgun?
Answer	कल बुधवार है।	*kal budhvār hai.*	Tomorrow is Wednesday.	Á morgun er miðvikudagur.

The Calendar

In India, though for quite a few purposes (like government offices, schools, universities, etc.) the Gregorian Calendar is followed, but the Indian National Calendar is the *śak* calendar. It was adopted in 1957 and is used for special occasions like festivals, sacred ceremonies, marriage, etc.

Let us begin by reading the Gregorian calendar in Hindi. As noted earlier, foreign words have been more or less, seamlessly incorporated into Hindi in their original form. This is evident from Table 19.

Gregorian Calendar
Table 19: Gregorian Calendar

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic

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101 Note the change in the verb from present tense है (*hai*) to past tense था (*thā*).

जनवरी	*janvarī*	January	Janúar
फ़रवरी	*farvarī*	February	Febrúar
मार्च	*mārca*	March	Mars
अप्रैल	*aprail*	April	Apríl
मई	*maī*	May	Maí
जून	*jūn*	June	Júní
जुलाई	*julāī*	July	Júlí
अगस्त	*agasta*	August	Ágúst
सितम्बर	*sitambar*	September	September
अक्टूबर	*akṭūbar*	October	Október
नवंबर	*navambar*	November	Nóvember
दिसंबर	*disambar*	December	Desember

śak Calendar

Based on the Sun's movement during the solstice, the calendrical year, in the *śak* tradition is divided into the northern and southern course of the Sun. The northern course of the Sun is called *uttarāyan* and the southern course of the Sun is called *dakṣiṇāyan*. The first month of *śak* calendar begins with the March equinox. In a leap year, when February has 29 days, the *śak* calendar begins on March 21st; otherwise, the first day of the *śak* calendar is March 22nd.

> **Did you know that late March marks a time of widespread celebration across India, as the nation observes various harvest festivals? Agriculture, being a cornerstone of life in the country, is deeply intertwined with these festivities. Accordingly, the New Year in the *śak* calendar begins with the joyous celebration of the harvest season.**

The first five months of the *śak* calendar, starting with March, have 31 days each, while the subsequent six months have 30 days each. Below is a list of months and their starting date in a non-leap, regular

year. In a leap year, the months, begin a day before and end a day after.

Table 20: *śak* Calendar

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
चैत्र	*caitra*	March 22 – April 20 (Normal year) March 21 – April 20 (Leap year)	22./21. mars
वैशाख	*vaiśākh*	April 21	21. apríl
ज्येष्ठ	*jyeṣṭha*	May 22	22. maí
आषाढ़	*āṣāṛh*	June 22	22. júní
श्रावण	*śrāvaṇ*	July 23	23. júlí
भाद्रपद	*bhādrapad*	August 22	23. ágúst
आश्विन	*āśrvin*	September 23	23. september
कार्तिक	*kārtik*	October 23	23. október
आग्रहायण	*āgrahāyaṇ*	November 22	22. nóvember
पौष	*pauṣ*	December 22	22. desember
माघ	*māgh*	January 21	21. janúar
फाल्गुन	*phālgun*	February 20-March 21/22	20. febrúar - 21./22. mars

Fun Fact! To calculate the *śak* calendrical year we just have to subtract 78 from the Gregorian Calendrical year because the *śak* Calendar started in 78 A.D.

Gregorian Calendrical year	*śak* calendrical year (Gregorian Calendrical year-78)
2025	2025-78=1947

Compass directions

A common concern for a tourist is finding the correct direction or route to their destination. In such a situation, the question to be asked is:

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
हमें किस दिशा में जाना चाहिए?	*hamẽ kis diśā mẽ jānā cāhie?*	In which direction should we go?	Í hvaða átt eigum við að fara?

उत्तर (*uttar*)

पश्चिम (*paścim*)　　　　पूरब (*pūrab*)
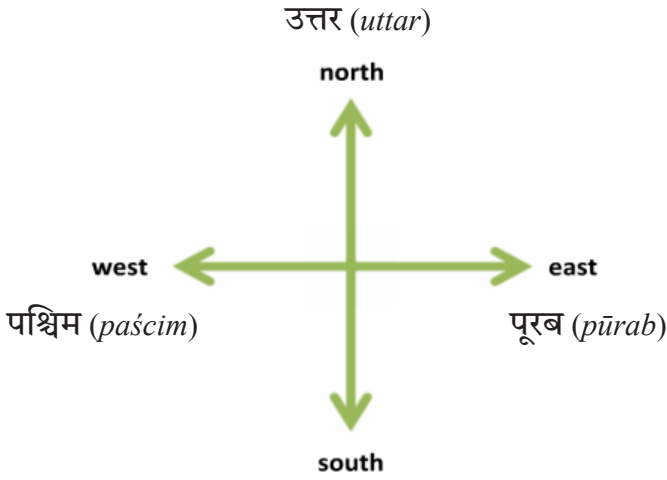
दक्षिण (*dakṣiṇ*)

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
उत्तर[102]	*uttar*	North	norður
दक्षिण	*dakṣiṇ*	South	suður
पूरब	*pūrab*	East	austur
पश्चिम	*paścim*	West	vestur

Seasons[103]

India primarily has a tropical climate with a diverse physiography.

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102   Apart from meaning, 'north' it also means, 'answer' or 'reply'.

103   ऋतु (*rtu*).

This makes it a ground for experiencing a mosaic of seasons. The five main seasons in India are:

Hindi with Roman Trans-literation		Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
वसंत ऋतु (*vasant ṛtu*)	OR	बसंत (m.)	*basant*	Spring Season	vor
ग्रीष्म ऋतु (*grīṣma ṛtu*)	OR	गर्मी (f.)	*garmī*	Summer Season	sumar
वर्षा ऋतु (*varṣā ṛtu*)	OR	बरसात (f.)	*barasāt*	Rainy Season	regntímabil
शरद ऋतु (*śarad ṛtu*)	OR	पतझड़[104] (m.)	*patjhaṛ*	Autumn Season	haust
शीत ऋतु (*śīt ṛtu*)	OR	सर्दी (f.)/ जाड़ा (m.)	*sardī/jāṛā*	Winter season	vetur

India's diverse climatic conditions create distinct seasonal transitions, each with unique characteristics. Spring (*basant*) is marked by pleasant weather and vibrant, colourful blooms, that extends until the *śak* calendar New Year. This season bridges the gap between winter (*sardī*) and summer (*garmī*), offering moderate temperatures and an overall refreshing ambiance. Following spring (*basant*), summer (*garmī*) ushers in hot and dry weather, with temperatures soaring high, especially in inland regions. Global warming has intensified this heat in recent years.

Arriving in late July, the monsoon season (*varṣā ṛtu*) is driven by the southwest winds, bringing heavy rainfall. This rainfall is vital for agriculture but poses challenges like flooding in many regions. The landscape rejuvenates with lush greenery, providing a respite from the preceding heat.

Post-monsoon, the air clears, and temperatures moderate. The rejuvenated landscape and cooler weather make autumn (*patjhaṛ*) a favoured period for outdoor activities and festivities. Characterized

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104 Literally means, falling of leaves.

by cooler temperatures, winter (*sardī*) is more intense in northern India, where it can drop below freezing, accompanied by frost and occasional snow in mountainous regions. Southern parts experience milder, more pleasant winters (*sardī*).

This seasonal cycle reflects India's intricate interplay of geography and climate, shaping its cultural and agricultural practices.

Chapter 8
Postpositions[105] and Cases[106]

Just as in English we have prepositions which precede the noun or pronoun and establish a relationship between a noun (or pronoun) and other words in a sentence, in Hindi, we have postpositions which come after the noun or pronoun. The postpositions could be simple one-word or compound sets of words. Some of them can be understood in terms of cases which in Hindi are categorized into 8 - Nominative, Objective, Instrumental, Dative, Ablative, Possessive, Locative and Vocative.

1.   **Nominative case:** In such a sentence, the postposition ने (*ne*) comes after the subject (doer of the action).

> ने (*ne*) is also the agent marker for transitive verbs in its perfective form as mentioned in the Chapter 5 on Verbs.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
राम ने खाना खाया ।	*rām ne khānā khāyā.*	Ram ate food.	Ram fékk sér að borða (borðaði mat).
मैंने खाना बनाया/ पकाया ।	*maĩne khānā banāyā/pakāyā.*	I made/cooked food.	Ég eldaði (mat).

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105   परसर्ग (*parasarga*).
106   कारक (*kārak*).

109

हमने काम किया ।	*hamne kām kiyā.*	We did the work.	Við unnum verkið.
क्या आपने खाना खाया?	*kyā āpne khānā khāyā?*	Did you eat the food?	Borðaðir þú matinn?

Let us look at the usages of the postposition ने (*ne*) with different forms of pronouns.

	Singular	**Plural**
First-person	मैंने (*maĩne*) (I have)	हमने (*hamne*) (We have)
		सबने (*sabne*) (All have)
Second person	(You have)	(You all have)
Intimate	तूने (*tūne*)	- -
Informal	तुमने (*tumne*)	तुम सबने (*tum sabne*)
Formal	आपने (*āpne*)	आप सबने (*āp sabne*)
Third person/ demonstrative	(He/she/it have/has)	(They all have)
Proximate	इसने (*isne*)	इन्होंने (*inhõne*)
Non-proximate	उसने (*usne*)	उन्होंने (*unhõne*)

2.   **Objective case:** In such a sentence, the postposition को (*ko*) is used just after the word on which the influence of verb/ action is taking place. It is required with indirect objects in di-transitive verbs and certain specific direct objects in transi- tive verbs. When translated to English, को (*ko*) comes closest to the word 'to'.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
राम मोहन को पढ़ाता है।	*rām mohan ko paṛhātā hai.*	Ram teaches Mohan.	Ram kennir Mohan.
सुनील को बुलाइये।	*sunīl ko bulāiye.*	(Please) call Sunil.	(Vinsamlegast) kallaðu í/á Sunil.
मोहन ने चोर को पकड़ा।	*mohan ne cor ko pakaṛa.*	Mohan caught the thief.	Mohan náði þjófnum.

If there are two objects in a sentence, then the postposition comes after the secondary object. For example,

राम मोहन को पाठ पढ़ाता है।	*rām mohan ko pāṭh paṛhātā hai.*	Ram teaches a lesson to Mohan.	Ram kennir Mohan lexíu.

Hint: To identify the main object, we can use the question word क्या (*kyā*) with the verb, and ask:

राम क्या पढ़ाता है?	*rām kyā paṛhātā hai?*	What does Ram teach?	Hvað kennir Ram?

The reply to this will be, पाठ (*pāṭh*). And if we ask the question,

राम किसको पढ़ाता है?	*rām kisko paṛhātā hai?*	To whom does Ram teach?	Hverjum kennir Ram?

The reply will be the noun or pronoun on whom the consequence of the action takes place in the sentence, which in the current example is,

मोहन को।	*mohan ko.*	to Mohan.	Mohan (til Mohans).

3. **Instrumental case:** In such a sentence, the postposition से (*se*), comes after the noun or pronoun through which the action is done. When translated to English, this postposition comes closest to the word 'with' or 'by'. Postpositions such as के द्वारा (*ke dvārā*) and के साथ (*ke sāth*) are also used in this case.

111

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मैं चम्मच से खाना खाता हूँ।	*maĩ cammac se khānā khātā hūm̐.*	I eat food with a spoon.	Ég borða (mat) með skeið.
रहीम गेंद से खेलता है।	*rahīm gend se kheltā hai.*	Rahim plays with a ball.	Rahim leikur sér með bolta.
राम से कहना कि दूध खत्म है ।	*rām se kahnā ki dūdh khatma hai.*	Tell (to) Ram that the milk is finished.	Segðu Ram að mjólkin sé búin.
मैंने बोतल से पानी पिया।	*maĩne botal se pānī piyā.*	I drank water from the bottle.	Ég drakk vatn úr flöskunni.

4.   **Dative case:** In such a sentence, the postposition के लिए/लिये (*ke lie/liye*), comes after the noun or pronoun which tells why or for whom the action is taking place. When translated in English, this postposition comes closest to the word, 'for'.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
आपके समय के लिए धन्यवाद।	*āpke samay ke lie dhanyavād.*	Thank you for your time.	Þakka þér fyrir að gefa þér tíma.
उपहार के लिए बहुत धन्यवाद।	*upahār ke lie bahut dhanyavād.*	Thanks a lot for the gift.	Kærar þakkir fyrir gjöfina.
राम मोहन के लिए किताब लाया ।	*rām mohan ke lie kitāb lāyā.*	Ram got a book for Mohan.	Ram fékk bók handa/fyrir Mohan.

Hint: To confirm the noun or pronoun after which we use the dative postposition, we can ask the question phrase किसके लिए (*kiske lie*). For instance, if we take the last sentence in the above set of examples, our question would be,

राम किसके लिए किताब लाया ?	*rām kiske lie kitāb lāyā?*	For whom did Ram get a book?	Fyrir hvern/Handa hverjum fékk Ram bók?

The reply will give us the desired noun or pronoun,

मोहन के लिए ।	*mohan ke lie.*	for Mohan.	fyrir/handa Mohan.

5. **Ablative case:** In such a sentence, the postposition से (*se*), comes after the noun or pronoun from which the subject is being separated, originating, is being compared with, or when distance is being expressed. When translated to English, this postposition comes closest to the word, 'from'. Please note that the usage of this से (*se*) is different from the से (*se*) used in the instrumental case where the focus is on the object or person through which an action is being completed.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
पेड़ से पत्ते गिरते हैं।	*peṛ se patte girte haĩ.*	Leaves fall from the tree.	Lauf falla af trénu.
मैं भारत से हूँ।	*maĩ bhārat se hũm̆.*	I am from India.	Ég er frá Indlandi.
हिमालय से गंगा निकलती है।	*himālay se gaṅgā nikaltī hai.*	Ganges originates from the Himalayas.	Ganges á upptök sín í Himalaja-fjöllum.
राम, मोहन से लंबा है।	*rām, mohan se lambā hai.*	Ram is taller than Mohan.	Ram er hávaxn-ari en Mohan.
गेहूँ, चावल से बेहतर है।	*gehũm̆, cāval se behatar hai.*	Wheat is better than rice.	Hveiti er betra en hrísgrjón.
मेरा घर यहाँ से दूर है।	*merā ghar yahām̆ se dūr hai.*	My house is far from here.	Húsið mitt er langt héðan.
कल से बारिश हो रही है।	*kal se bāriś ho rahī hai.*	It has been raining since yesterday.	Það hefur rignt frá því í gær.

6. **Possessive case:** To establish a connection, relationship, possession between two nouns or pronouns, we use postposition का (*kā*) (m.s.), के (*ke*) (m. pl./respect), की (*kī*) (f.s./pl.) as a suffix to the subject in a sentence, depending on the gender and number of the noun that follows. For example,

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
आपका घर[107] सुंदर है ।	*āpkā ghar sundar hai.*	Your house is beautiful.	Húsið þitt er fallegt.
आपकी किताब[108] कहाँ है?	*āpkī kitāb kahām̐ hai?*	Where is your book?	Hvar er bókin þín?
आपके कितने भाई है?	*āpke kitne bhāi haĩ?*	How many brothers[109] do you have?	Hvað áttu marga bræður?

You may recollect that when a masculine singular noun, like लड़का (*laṛakā*), is used in oblique case i.e. followed by a postposition, say का (*kā*), the noun undergoes modification depending upon the gender of the object. So, if the object is feminine like, किताब (*kitab*), then the oblique case would modify and become लड़के की किताब (*laṛake kī kitab*) but if the object is masculine like, घर (*ghar*), then the oblique case would modify and become लड़के का घर (*laṛake kā ghar*).

In first-person possessive form and in second-person intimate and familiar forms, the postpositions, का (*kā*) (m.s.), के (*ke*) (m.pl. and respect), and की (*kī*) (f.s. and pl.) are transformed into रा (*rā*), रे (*re*), and री (*rī*). For example,

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मेरा नाम मोहन है।	*merā nām mohan hai.*	My name is Mohan.	Ég heiti Mohan.
तुम्हारी किताब कहाँ है?	*tumhārī kitāb kahām̐ hai?*	Where is your book?	Hvar er bókin þín?
मेरे दो भाई हैं।	*mere do bhāi haĩ.*	I have two brothers.	Ég á tvo bræður.

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107 Masculine noun.

108 Feminine noun.

109 Remember that the usage of plural form of a pronoun may either show respect or numeric plurality. In this case, it is showing plurality.

7. **Locative case:** In such a sentence, postpositions में (*mẽ*) and पर (*par*), are used after the noun or pronoun which reveals the basis of the verb. When translated in English, the postposition में (*mẽ*) comes closest to the English prepositions 'in'/ 'among'; while the postposition पर (*par*) comes closest to the English prepositions 'on'/ 'at'.

	Hindi	Roman Trans- literation	English	Icelandic
Usage of में (*mẽ*) as 'in'	मेरी बहन दिल्ली में रहती है।	*merī bahan dillī mẽ rahtī hai.*	My sister lives in Delhi.	Systir mín býr í Delhi.
	मैं बाज़ार में हूँ।	*maĩ bāzār mẽ hūm̃.*	I am in the market.	Ég er á markaðnum.
Usage of में (*mẽ*) as 'among'	पक्षियों में मुझे मोर सबसे अधिक पसंद है।	*pakṣiyõ mẽ mujhe mor sabse adhik pasand hai.*	Among the birds, I like peacock the most.	Af fugl- unum kann ég best við páfuglinn.

पर (*par*)

	Hindi	Roman Trans- literation	English	Icelandic
Usage of पर (*par*) as 'on'	किताब मेज़ पर है।	*kitāb mez par hai.*	The book is on the table.	Bókin er á borðinu.
Usage of पर (*par*) as 'at'	राम काम पर है।	*rām kām par hai.*	Ram is at work.	Ram er í vinnunni.

Adverbs which indicate the place of an object, thing or person also fall under the Locative case, such as the following:

के ऊपर (*ke ūpar*) (above/up/top)

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
चादरों के ऊपर कंबल रखे हैं ।	*cādarõ ke ūpar kambal rakhe haĩ.*	Blankets are kept above/on the top of the sheets.	Teppi eru geymd fyrir ofan lökin/ ofan á lökunum.

के नीचे (*ke nīce*) (below/down/under)

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
प्याज़ को टमाटर के नीचे रखो ।	*pyāz ko ṭamāṭar ke nīce rakho.*	Place the onions under the tomatoes.	Leggið laukinn undir tómatana.

के बाद (*ke bād*) (after)

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
सोमवार के बाद मंगलवार आता है।	*somvār ke bād maṅgalvār ātā hai.*	Tuesday comes after Monday.	Þriðjudagur kemur á eftir mánudegi.

के पहले (*ke pahale*)/ से पहले (*se pahale*) (before)

Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
खाने से पहले अपने हाथ धो।	*khāne se pahale apane hāth dho.*	Wash your hands before eating.	Þvoðu þér um hendurnar áður en þú borðar.

के सामने (*ke sāmane*) (in front of)

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
उनके घर के सामने एक सुंदर बगीचा है ।	*unke ghar ke sāmane ek sundar bagīcā hai.*	There is a beautiful garden in front of their house.	Framan við húsið þeirra er fallegur garður.

के पीछे (*ke pīche*) (behind)

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
बच्चा अपनी माँ के पीछे छिपा था ।	*baccā apanī mām̐ ke pīche chipā thā.*	The child was hiding behind his mother.	Barnið faldi sig á bak við móður sína.

के अन्दर (*ke andar*) (inside/in)

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
घर के अन्दर आजाओ ।	*ghar ke andar ājāo.*	Come inside the house.	Komdu inn í húsið.

के बाहर (*ke bāhar*) (outside/out)

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
घर के बाहर बर्फ़ है।	*ghar ke bāhar barfa hai.*	There is snow/ice outside the house.	Það er snjór/ís fyrir utan húsið.

के बीच (*ke bīc*) (between)

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
घर दो पेड़ों के बीच में है।	*ghar do peṛõ ke bīc mẽ hai.*	The house is between two trees.	Húsið er á milli tveggja trjáa.

के पास (*ke pās*) (near (to)). It can also be used to exhibit ownership (to have).

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
रिमोट टीवी के पास है।	*rimoṭ ṭīvī ke pās hai.*	The remote is near (to) the T.V.	Fjarstýringin er hjá sjónvarpinu.

Please note that when the postposition, के पास (*ke pās*), is used with possessive plural pronouns like मेरे (*mere*), हमारे (*hamāre*), and तुम्हारे (*tumhāre*), the prefix के (*ke*) is dropped and only पास (*pās*) is retained. For instance,

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मेरे पास रिमोट है।	*mere pās rimoṭ hai.*	I have the remote.	Ég er með fjarstýringuna.

से दूर (*se dūr*) (far from)

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
स्कूल हमारे घर से दूर है।	*skūl hamāre ghar se dūr hai.*	The school is far from our house.	Skólinn er langt frá húsinu okkar.

की तरफ़ (*kī taraf*) (towards)

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
पहाड़ी की तरफ़ जाने वाला रास्ता बंद है।	*pahāṛī kī taraf jāne vālā rāstā band hai.*	The road going towards the hill is closed.	Vegurinn sem liggur upp að hæðinni er lokaður.

Please note that when phases of the day[110] like दोपहर (*dopahar*), शाम् (*śām*), and रात (*rāt*) are used as the adverb of time, the postposition को (*ko*) is added, in the locative case. For example,

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
वह शाम को आएगा ।	*vah śām ko āegā.*	He will come in the evening.	Hann kemur um kvöldið.
वह रात को घर जाएगी ।	*vah rāt ko ghar jāegī.*	She will go home at night.	Hún fer heim á kvöldin.

8. **Vocative case:** In such a sentence, the exclamations अरे (*are*), हे (*he*), etc. are used primarily before a proper noun to either call out or caution someone. These are not postpositions. For example,

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
अरे भाई! ध्यान से चलाओ ।	*are bhāī! dhyān se calāo.*	Hey brother! Drive carefully	Heyrðu bróðir! Aktu varlega.
हे भगवान! मेरी मदद करो ।	*he bhagvān! merī madad karo.*	Oh God! Help me.	Ó Guð! Hjálpaðu mér.

Some other postpositions used in Hindi are:

तक (*tak*): It indicates the extent of an object in space and time. When translated, तक (*tak*) comes closest to the English preposition 'till'.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
दो जनवरी तक छुट्टियाँ हैं ।	*do janvarī tak chuṭṭiyām̐ haĩ.*	Holidays are till 2nd January.	Það er frí fram til 2. janúar.
आप कब तक आओगे ?	*āp kab tak āoge?*	Till when will you come?	Hvenær kemurðu?/ Hvenær verðurðu kominn?

Now let us look at some postpositional phrases.

के बारे में (*ke bāre mẽ*) (about)

110   Except for सुबह (*subah*) (morning).

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
उसने मुझे भारत के बारे में बताया ।	*usne mujhe bhārat ke bāre mẽ batāyā.*	She/he told me about India.	Hann/hún sagði mér frá Indlandi.

की वजह से (*kī vajah se*) (because of). This is a conjunctive phrase showing cause and effect.
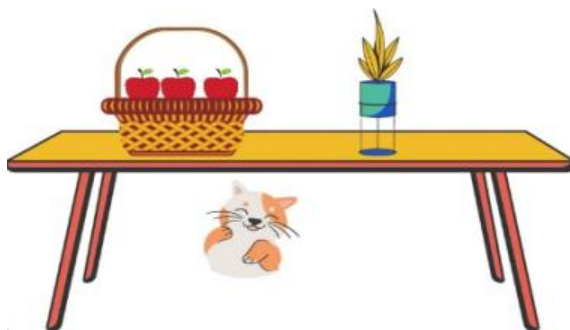
Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मौसम की वजह से हम बाहर नहीं जा पाए ।	*mausam kī vajah se ham bāhar nahĩ jā pāe.*	Because of the weather we could not go out.	Við gátum ekki farið út vegna veðurs.

Pause and revise

Let us, using the hints and the appropriate postpositions, try to answer some questions looking at the picture below.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic

मेज़	*mez*	table	borð
टोकरी	*ṭokarī*	basket	karfa
सेब	*seb*	apple	epli
बिल्ली	*billī*	cat	læða
पौधा	*paudhā*	plant	planta

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Question	बिल्ली कहाँ है?	*billī kahām̐ hai?*	Where is the cat?	Hvar er læðan?

Answer	बिल्ली मेज़ के नीचे है।	*billī mez ke nīce hai.*	The cat is under the table.	Læðan er undir borðinu.
Question	पौधा कहाँ है?	*paudhā kahām̐ hai?*	Where is the plant?	Hvar er plantan?
Answer	पौधा मेज़ पर है।	*paudhā mez par hai.*	The plant is on the table.	Plantan er á borðinu.
Question	टोकरी कहाँ है?	*ṭokarī kahām̐ hai?*	Where is the basket?	Hvar er karfan?
Answer	टोकरी मेज़ पर है।	*ṭokarī mez par hai.*	The basket is on the table.	Karfan er á borðinu.
Question	टोकरी में क्या है?	*ṭokarī mẽ kyā hai?*	What's in the basket?	Hvað er í körfunni?
Answer	टोकरी में सेब हैं।	*ṭokarī mẽ seb haĩ.*	There are apples in the basket.	Það eru epli í körfunni.

Now look at the pictures below and try to answer the question.

	Hindi	**Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
Question	कुत्ता कहाँ है?	*kuttā kahām̐ hai?*	Where is the dog?	Hvar er hundurinn?
	कुत्ता घर के सामने है।	*kuttā ghar ke sāmane hai.*	The dog is in front of the house.	Hundurinn er framan við kofann.
	कुत्ता घर में है। OR कुत्ता घर के अंदर है।	*kuttā ghar mẽ hai.* OR *kuttā ghar ke andar hai.*	The dog is in the house. OR The dog is inside the house.	Hundurinn er í kofanum. OR Hundurinn er inni í kofanum.
	कुत्ता घर के पीछे है।	*kuttā ghar ke pīche hai.*	The dog is behind the house.	Hundurinn er á bak við kofann.

| | कुत्ता घर के पास है। | *kuttā ghar ke pās hai.* | The dog is near the house. | Hundurinn er hjá/við hliðina á kofanum. |
| | कुत्ता घर के ऊपर है। | *kuttā ghar ke ūpar hai.* | The dog is on top of the house. | Hundurinn er ofan á kofanum. |

	Hindi	**Roman Transliteration**	**English**	**Icelandic**
Question	गेंद कहाँ है?	*gend kahā̃ hai?*	Where is the ball?	Hvar er boltinn?
	गेंद डिब्बों के बीच में है।	*gend ḍibbõ ke bīc mẽ hai.*	The ball is between the boxes.	Boltinn er á milli kassanna.

Numbers and Time

In the Early Vedic period (1200–600 BC), a decimal system of numbers was already established in India, together with rules for arithmetical operations (gaṇit) and geometry (rekhā-gaṇit). These were encoded in a complex system of chants, prayers, hymns, curses, charms and other religious rituals. Cryptic phrases called sutras contained arithmetical rules for activities such as laying out a temple or arranging a sequence of sacrificial fires.
Source: https://www.nature.com/articles/459646a

Indian Numeral System

In Hindi language, numerals are called संख्या (*saṅkhyā*). The contemporary Indian Numeral System is different from the International Numeral System in terms of the place value of the digits. These have been underlined below.

Indian Numeral System	One	Tens	Hundreds	Thousands	Ten Thousand	Lakh	Ten Lakh	Crore
International Numeral System	One	Tens	Hundreds	Thousands	Ten Thousand	Hundred Thousand	Million	Ten Million

In the ancient Indian texts called ved, numbers up to 10^{12} are spoken about and the *upaniṣad* talk about zero (*śūnya*) (शून्य) and infinity (*pūrṇa*) (पूर्ण).

In Hindi, there are distinct names for numbers from one to twenty while numbers beyond twenty are composed from them. Refer Table 20 for some cardinal numbers in numeric and word form.

In an ancient Sanskrit work, Amalasiddhi[111], the counting is available till 10^{96}.

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111   https://www.isical.ac.in/~amartya/decimalsystem_springeronline%20(1).pdf

Cardinal Numbers

Please note that there is no declension in numbers in Hindi language (unlike Icelandic).

Table 21: Cardinal Numbers

Numeric Hindi	Word Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	Numeric English	Word English	Icelandic
0	शून्य	*śūnya*	0	Zero	Núll
१	एक	*ek*	1	One	Einn
२	दो	*do*	2	Two	Tveir
३	तीन	*tīn*	3	Three	Þrír
४	चार	*cār*	4	Four	Fjórir
५	पाँच	*pām̐c*	5	Five	Fimm
६	छ:	*chḥ*	6	Six	Sex
७	सात	*sāt*	7	Seven	Sjö
८	आठ	*āṭh*	8	Eight	Átta
९	नौ	*nau*	9	Nine	Níu
१०	दस	*das*	10	Ten	Tíu
११	ग्यारह	*gyārah*	11	Eleven	Ellefu
१२	बारह	*bārah*	12	Twelve	Tólf
१३	तेरह	*terah*	13	Thirteen	Þrettán
१४	चौदह	*caudah*	14	Fourteen	Fjórtán
१५	पंद्रह	*pandrah*	15	Fifteen	Fimmtán
१६	सोलह	*solah*	16	Sixteen	Sextán
१७	सत्रह	*satrah*	17	Seventeen	Sautján
१८	अठारह	*aṭhārah*	18	Eighteen	Átján
१९	उन्नीस	*unnīs*	19	Nineteen	Nítján
२०	बीस	*bīs*	20	Twenty	Tuttugu
२१	इक्कीस	*ikkīs*	21	Twenty-one	Tuttugu og einn

२२	बाईस	*bāīs*	22	Twenty-two	Tuttugu og tveir
२३	तेईस	*teīs*	23	Twenty-three	Tuttugu og þrír
२४	चौबीस	*caubīs*	24	Twenty-four	Tuttugu og fjórir
२५	पच्चीस	*paccīs*	25	Twenty-five	Tuttugu og fimm
२६	छब्बीस	*chabbīs*	26	Twenty-six	Tuttugu og sex
२७	सत्ताईस	*sattāīs*	27	Twenty-seven	Tuttugu og sjö
२८	अट्ठाईस	*aṭṭhāīs*	28	Twenty-eight	Tuttugu og átta
२६	उनतीस	*unatīs*	29	Twenty-nine	Tuttugu og níu
३0	तीस	*tīs*	30	Thirty	Þrjátíu
४0	चालीस	*cālīs*	40	Forty	Fjörutíu
५0	पचास	*pacās*	50	Fifty	Fimmtíu
६	साठ	*sāṭh*	60	Sixty	Sextíu
७0	सत्तर	*sattar*	70	Seventy	Sjötíu
८0	अस्सी	*assī*	80	Eighty	Áttatíu
६0	नब्बे	*nabbe*	90	Ninety	Níutíu
१00	सौ/एक सौ	*sau/ek sau*	100	Hundred	Hundrað
१५0	एक सौ पचास/डेढ़ सौ	*ek sau pacās/ ḍeṛh sau*	150	Hundred and fifty	Hundrað og fimmtíu
२५0	दो सौ पचास/ ढाई सौ	*do sau pacās/ ḍhāī sau*	250	Two hundred and fifty	Tvö hundruð og fimmtíu
१,000	हज़ार/एक हज़ार	*hazār/ek hazār*	1,000	One thousand	Þúsund
१,५00	एक हज़ार पाँच सौ/ डेढ़ हज़ार	*ek hazār pām̐c sau/ḍeṛh hazār*	1,500	One thousand and five hundred	Eitt þúsund og fimm-hundruð

२,५००	दो हज़ार पाँच सौ/ ढाई हज़ार	*do hazār pāṁc sau/ḍhāī hazār*	2,500	Two thousand and five hundred	Tvö þúsund og fimm-hundruð
९०,000	दस हज़ार	*das hazār*	10,000	Ten thousand	Tíu þúsund
९,00,000	एक लाख	*ek lākh*	1,00,000	One lakh	Hundrað þúsund
९,५0,000	एक लाख पचास हज़ार/डेढ़ लाख	*ek lākh pacās hazār/ ḍerh lākh*	150,000	One lakh and fifty thousand	Hundrað og fimmtíu þúsund
२,५0,000	दो लाख पचास हज़ार/ढाई लाख	*do lākh pacās hazār/ ḍhāī lākh*	250,000	Two lakhs and fifty thousand	Tvö-hundruð og fimmtíu þúsund
९,00,00,000	एक करोड़	*ek karoṛ*	1,00,00,000	One crore	Tíu milljónir

Unlike Icelandic, in Hindi, no matter what the gender of the noun, the form in which number/s are written, remains the same. For instance,

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
एक आदमी	*ek ādamī*	one man	einn maður
एक औरत	*ek aurat*	one woman	ein kona
एक घर	*ek ghar*	one house	eitt hús

Clock

Now let us understand how to read time in Hindi. To ask the time,

the question is

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
कितने बजे हैं?	*kitne baje haĩ?*	What is the time?	Hvað er klukkan[112]?

There is an interesting observation to make before we go further. Both Hindi and Icelandic, use the word 'vakt' though with different meanings. '*Vakt*' in Hindi (वक़्त) means "time" while in Icelandic, it means "watch". "Time" is also called, *samay* (समय)(m.) while the clock is called घड़ी (*gharī*), which, as can be seen from the suffix, is a feminine singular marked noun. Now let us learn how to read a clock.

To read time in Hindi we use cardinal numbers, while in Icelandic the neuter set of numbers is used.

Cardinal numbers in Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Neuter set of numbers in Icelandic
एक	*ek*	One	Eitt
दो	*do*	Two	Tvö
तीन	*tīn*	Three	Þrjú
चार	*cār*	Four	Fjögur
पाँच	*pām̐c*	Five	Fimm
छ:	*chḥ*	Six	Sex
सात	*sāt*	Seven	Sjö
आठ	*āṭh*	Eight	Átta
नौ	*nau*	Nine	Níu
दस	*das*	Ten	Tíu
ग्यारह	*gyārah*	Eleven	Ellefu
बारह	*bārah*	Twelve	Tólf

Now let us look at the question:

कितने बजे हैं?	*kitne baje haĩ?*	What is the time?	Hvað er klukkan?

The answer in Icelandic and English, for the above question, would be:

English	Icelandic
The time is…	Klukkan er/ Hún er…

In Hindi, however, we first mention the number (time) followed by the word (object) बजे (*baje*), which when translated in English comes close to, 'o'clock'. If the number (time) is greater than one, then we use the plural nasal linking verb हैं (*haĩ*), if not then we use the verb है (*hai*). Let us understand this by looking at some examples below.
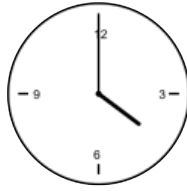
चार बजे हैं ।	*cār baje haĩ.*	It is four o'clock.	Klukkan er fjögur.

To differentiate between A.M. and P.M., words for:
morning, 'सुबह' (*subah*),
afternoon, 'दोपहर' (*dopahar*), and
night, 'रात' (*rāt*) are used.

For example, "सुबह के चार बजे हैं" (*subah ke cār baje haĩ*) which in English means, "it is four in the morning".

	Hindi	Roman Trans- literation	English	Icelandic
	बारह बजे हैं ।	*bārah baje haĩ.*	It is twelve o'clock.	Klukkan er tólf.
	दोपहर के बारह बजे हैं ।	*dopahar ke bārah baje haĩ.*	It is twelve o'clock in the after- noon.	Klukkan er tólf á hádegi.
	दस बजे हैं ।	*das baje haĩ.*	It is ten o'clock.	Klukkan er tíu.
	रात के दस बजे हैं ।	*rāt ke das baje haĩ.*	It is ten o'clock at night.	Klukkan er tíu að kvöldi.

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
	एक बजा है।	*ek bajā hai.*	It is one o'clock.	Klukkan er eitt.

In Hindi, the minutes before and after an hour are expressed using postpositions.

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Minutes before the hour	बजने में	*bajne mẽ*	to	Fyrir/vantar…í
Minutes after the hour	बजकर	*bajkar*	past	yfir

Let us look at some examples below to understand this better.

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
	पाँच बजकर बीस मिनट।	*pā̃c bajkar bīs minaṭ.*	20 minutes past five/ five twenty.	Tuttugu mínútur yfir fimm.
	आठ बजने में बीस मिनट/ सात बजकर चालीस मिनट।	*āṭh bajne mẽ bīs minaṭ/ sāt bajkar cālīs minaṭ.*	20 minutes to eight/ seven forty.	Vantar tuttugu mínútur í átta/ Tuttugu mínútur fyrir átta.
	छ: बजकर पंद्रह मिनट।	*chh bajkar pandrah minaṭ.*	15 minutes past six.	Kortér yfir sex.
	नौ बजने में पंद्रह मिनट।	*nau bajne mẽ pandrah minaṭ.*	15 minutes to nine.	Vantar kortér í níu/Kortér fyrir níu.
	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic

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	सात बजकर पंद्रह मिनट।	*sāt bajkar pandrah minaṭ.*	15 minutes past seven.	Kortér yfir sjö.
	एक बजकर तीस मिनट। (which is better spoken as डेढ़)	*ek bajkar tīs minaṭ.* OR *ḍeṛh.*	Half past one.	Hálf tvö.
	दो बजकर तीस मिनट। (which is better spoken as ढाई)	*do bajkar tīs minaṭ* OR *ḍhāī.*	Half past two.	Hálf þrjú.
	चार बजकर तीस मिनट। (which is better spoken as साढ़े चार)	*cār bajkar tīs minaṭ* OR *sāṛhe cār.*	Half past four.	Hálf fimm.

Chapter 10
Fruits, Vegetables, and Colors[113]

India has the world's second largest arable land. The freshness and the diversity of flavors in vegetables and fruits is worth experiencing. In this chapter we shall look at some of the nouns and adjectives associated with fruits and vegetables but before that let us understand how vegetables and fruits are weighed.

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Singular	सब्ज़ी	*sabzī*	vegetable	grænmeti
	फल	*phal*	fruit	ávöxtur
Plural	सब्ज़ियाँ	*sabziyām̐*	vegetables	grænmeti
	फल	*phal*	fruits	ávextir

Measurement and Weight

Vegetables and fruits are weighed in kilograms (kgs) in India. Some of the units popularly used in Hindi are mentioned in the table on the next page.

1 kilogram is equivalent to almost 2.2 pounds.

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic

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113   रंग (*raṅg*).

एक किलो	*ek kilo*	One kilo	Eitt kíló
आधा किलो	*ādhā kilo*	Half kilo	Hálft kíló
ढाई सौ ग्राम	*ḍhāī sau grām*	Two hundred and fifty grams	Tvö hundruð og fimmtíu grömm
सवा किलो	*savā kilo*	One kilo and two hundred fifty grams	Eitt kíló tvö hundruð og fimmtíu grömm
डेढ़ किलो	*ḍerh kilo*	One kilo and five hundred grams	Eitt og hálft kíló
दो किलो	*do kilo*	Two kilos	Tvö kíló
ढाई किलो	*ḍhāī kilo*	Two kilos and five hundred grams	Tvö og hálft kíló
तीन किलो	*tīn kilo*	Three kilos	Þrjú kíló
साढ़े तीन किलो	*sāṛhe tīn kilo*	Three kilos and five hundred grams	Þrjú og hálft kíló

Refer to the Appendix for a list of some common vegetables and fruits.

Conversation while shopping for fruits and vegetables

Let us look at a hypothetical conversation between a vendor and a customer.

> In India, fruits and vegetables, are conveniently available on street carts or in open markets as well as in shopping malls. In the malls, these are relatively expensive, may not be so fresh, and devoid of fun bargaining.

To address the vendor, the most common noun used is "भैया जी" (*bhaiyā jī*) (m.) or "अम्मा जी" (*ammā jī*) (f. elderly) or "बहन जी" (*bahan jī*) (f. similar age as the buyer). You will observe in the conversation ahead, that the sentences appear as fragments in a continuous conversation.

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Customer	भैया जी, हरा प्याज़ है?	*bhaiyā jī, harā pyāz hai?*	Brother, do you have green onions (spring onions)?	Áttu vorlauk félagi?
Vendor	जी है। कितना दूँ ?	*jī hai. kitnā dū̃?*	Yes. How much should I give?	Já. Hversu mikið þarftu?
Customer	कितने का है?	*kitne kā hai?*	How much is it for? OR How much are you giving it for?	Hvað viltu fá fyrir hann?
Vendor	आपको कितना चाहिए?	*āpko kitnā cāhie?*	How much do you want?	Hversu mikið viltu borga?
Customer	पहले आप सही दाम बताओ।	*pahale āp sahī dām batāo.*	First you tell the right price.	Fyrst gefurðu mér upp rétta verðið.
Vendor	सौ रुपये किलो।	*sau rupaye kilo.*	Hundred rupees per kilo.	Hundrað rúpíur á kílóið.
Customer	देना कितने का है?	*denā kitne kā hai?*	For how much you would like to give?	Hversu mikið viltu fá fyrir hann?
Vendor	आपके लिए अस्सी रुपये।	*āpke lie assī rupaye.*	Eighty rupees for you.	Áttatíu rúpíur fyrir þig.
Customer	आधा किलो दे दीजिए।	*ādhā kilo de dījie.*	(Please) give half a kilo.	Láttu mig hafa hálft kíló.
Vendor	और कुछ?	*aur kuch?*	Anything else?	Eitthvað fleira?
Customer	हाँ, एक किलो लाल टमाटर। थोड़े सख्त होने चाहिए, मुलायम नहीं।	*hā̃, ek kilo lāl ṭamāṭar. thoṛe sakht hone cāhie, mulāyam nahī̃.*	Yes, one kilo red tomatoes. Should be a little hard, not soft.	Já, kíló af rauðum tómötum. Mættu vera dálítið stinnir, ekki linir.
Customer	कितना हुआ?	*kitnā huā.*	How much (is the total)?	Hversu mikið er þetta í heildina?

| Vendor | डेढ़ सौ । | *ḍeṛh sau.* | Hundred and fifty.[114] | Hundrað og fimmtíu. |
| Customer | थोड़ा हरा धनिया और हरी मिर्च भी डाल दीजिये । | *thoṛā harā dhaniyā aur harī mircha bhī ḍāl dījie.* | (Please) put some coriander and green chilies. | Bættu líka við smá kóríander og grænum chilli. |

Note that the vegetables which come in more than one colour, like tomatoes, onions, carrots, paprika, etc. are identified by their respective colours. The colour works as an adjective for the noun (vegetable). If the vegetable is masculine, the colour shall appear in its masculine form, like हरा प्याज़ (*harā pyāz*) in the first part of the conversation above. But if the vegetable is feminine, then the colour shall appear in its feminine form, like हरी मिर्च (*harī mircha*) in the last part of the conversation above. One could always insist on buying ताज़ी सब्ज़ी (*tāzī sabzī*) (fresh vegetable).

Currency Symbol

In India the currency is Rupee (₹). Its sign has cultural overtones with a blend of consonant र (*ra*) from the *devanāgarī* script and the Roman Capital "R". This is decorated with two parallel horizontal stripes running at the top representing the national flag and the "equal to" sign signifies a balanced economy. By now you must have understood that the line at the top is the *śirorekhā*. This symbol of the currency was adopted by the Government of India on 15th July 2010.

Colors

Let's now move on to colors, which, as we saw earlier, are also used to identify specific types of vegetables. While color is a noun, it functions as an adjective when describing the attribute of another noun. For example, in the phrase, हरी मेज़ *harī mez* (green table), the color हरी *harī* (green) agrees with the gender of मेज़ *mez* (table) which is feminine.

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114   As mentioned in the previous chapter, 'hundred and fifty' is better spoken as डेढ़ सौ (*ḍeṛh sau*) rather than एक सौ पचास (*ek sau pacās*).

Some colors receive their identity from a specific object. For example,

Eggaldin, aubergine or brinjal is called बैंगन (*baiṅgan*) in Hindi. In India we predominantly have purple-coloured brinjals. The colour purple in Hindi, derives its identity from the brinjal and is therefore called बैंगनी (*baiṅganī*) (colour of the brinjal)/fjólublár/purple.

Similarly, java plum or Indian blackberry is called जामुन (*jāmun*). These are violet in colour and in Hindi, violet colour is called, जामुनी (*jāmunī*).

Appelsína/Orange is called नारंगी (*nāraṅgī*)/संतरा (*santarā*) in Hindi. Appelsínugulur, the orange colour, like in Icelandic, derives its identity from the fruit and is referred to as संतरी (*santarī*). Another shade of orange is saffron, derived from the saffron flower.

Saffron flower is known as केसर (*kesar*) in Hindi, and the colour saffron is known as केसरी (*kesarī*). This colour holds a great symbolic significance as it is associated with the courage and sacrifices through which India attained its independence in 1947. This colour is also symbolic of salvation and spirituality.

Rose flower is called गुलाब (*gulāb*) in Hindi. Though there is a variety of colours of roses in India, but the flower is generically called गुलाब (*gulāb*). The colour pink derives its identity from this flower and is called गुलाबी (*gulābī*). Other coloured roses are identified with their respective colours as adjectives before the noun गुलाब (*gulāb*). For example,

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
लाल गुलाब	*lāl gulāb*	Red rose	Rauð rós
पीला गुलाब	*pīlā gulāb*	Yellow rose	Gul rós
सफ़ेद गुलाब	*safed gulāb*	White rose	Hvít rós

The blue sky is called आसमान (*āsamān*) in Hindi. In addition to the usage of colours नीला *nīlā* (m.)/नीली *nīlī* (f.) (subject to the gender of the noun), the colour blár/blue is also called आसमानी (*āsamānī*).

Refer to the Appendix for a list of colors.

Appendix

Glossary

Nouns

Icelandic	Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English
afi	दादाजी (m.)	*dādājī*	Father's father
	नानाजी (m.)	*nānājī*	Mother's father
agúrka	खीरा (m.)	*khīrā*	cucumber
amma	दादीजी (f.)	*dādījī*	Father's mother
	नानीजी (f.)	*nānījī*	Mother's mother
appelsína	संतरा (m.)/नारंगी (f.)	*santarā/nāraṅgī*	orange
auga	आँख (f.)	*ām̐kh*	eye
á	नदी (f.)	*nadī*	river
ávöxtur	फल (m.)	*phal*	fruit
banani	केला (m.)	*kelā*	banana
barn	बच्चा (m.)/ बच्ची (f.)	*baccā/baccī*	child
barnabarn	पोता (m.)/पोती (f.)	*potā/potī*	Son's son/ daughter
	नातिन (m.)/नाती (f.)	*nātin/nātī*	Daughter's son/daughter
bátur	नाव (f.)	*nāv*	boat
bein	हड्डी (f.)	*haḍḍī*	bone
bensín/ bensínstöð	पेट्रोल/ पेट्रोल स्टेशन (m.)	*peṭrol/ peṭrol sṭeśan*	petrol/petrol station
bíll	गाड़ी/कार (f.)	*gāṛī/kār*	car
bílastæði	पार्किंग (f.)	*pārkiṅg*	parking
bílstjóri	चालक/ड्राइवर (m.)	*cālak/ ḍrāivar*	driver
bjalla	घंटी (f.)	*ghaṇṭī*	bell

bíómynd	फ़िल्म (f.)	*film*	film
blað	कागज़ (m.)	*kāgaz*	paper
blóm	फूल (m.)	*phūl*	flower
blýantur	पेंसिल (f.)	*pẽsil*	pencil
bolli	कप (m.)	*kap*	cup
bolti	गेंद (f.)	*gend*	ball
borð	मेज़ (f.)	*mez*	table
bók	किताब (f.)	*kitāb*	book
bóndabær	खेत (m.)	*khet*	farm
brauð	ब्रेड/रोटी (f.)	*breḍ/roṭī*	bread
bróðir	भाई (m.)	*bhāī*	brother
brúður	दुल्हन (f.)	*dulhan*	bride
búð	दुकान (f.)	*dukān*	shop
bygging	इमारत (f.)	*imārat*	building
dóttir	बेटी (f.)	*beṭī*	daughter
drengur/ strákur	लड़का (m.)	*laṛakā*	boy
dýr	जानवर (m.)	*jānavar*	animal
egg	अंडा (m.)	*aṇḍā*	egg
eiginmaður	पति (m.)	*pati*	husband
eldhús	रसोई घर (m.)/ रसोई (f.)	*rasoī ghar/ rasoī*	kitchen
epli	सेब (m.)	*seb*	apple
eyra	कान (m.)	*kān*	ear
faðir/pabbi	पिता/पिताजी (m.)	*pitā/ pitājī*	father
farangur	सामान (m.)	*sāmān*	luggage
fé/kindur	भेड़ (m.)	*bheṛ*	sheep
fé/peningar	रुपया/धन/पैसा (m.)	*rupayā/dhan/ paisā*	money

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fiskur	मछली (f.)	*machalī*	fish
fjall	पर्वत (m.)/ पहाड़ (m.)/ पहाड़ी[115] (f.)	*parvat/pahāṛ/ pahāṛī*	mountain
fjölskylda	परिवार (m.)	*parivār*	family
flugvél	हवाई जहाज़/विमान (m.)	*havāī jahāz/ vimān*	airplane
flugvöllur	एयरपोर्ट (m.)	*eyarporṭa*	airport
foss	झरना (m.)	*jharanā*	waterfall
fólk	लोग (m.)	*log*	people
fótur	पैर (m.)	*pair*	foot
fótleggur	टाँग (f.)	*ṭām̐g*	leg
frí	छुट्टी (f.)	*chuṭṭī*	holiday
frændi	तायाजी (m.) (father's elder brother)	*tāyājī*	uncle
	चाचाजी (m.) (father's younger brother)	*cācājī*	
	मामाजी (m.) (mother's brother)	*māmājī*	
frænka	बुआजी (f.) (father's sister)	*buājī*	aunt
	मासीजी (f.) (mother's sister)	*māsījī*	
	ताईजी (f.) (father's elder brother's wife)	*tāyījī*	
	चाचीजी (f.) (father's younger brother's wife)	*cācījī*	

115 Refers to a smaller mountain than its masculine, पहाड़ (*pahāṛ*) or पर्वत (*parvat*).

fugl	चिड़िया (f.)	*ciṛiyā*	bird
gaffall	काँटा (m.)	*kām̐ṭā*	fork
gestur	अतिथि/मेहमान (m.)	*atithi/mehamān*	guest
gluggi	खिड़की (f.)	*khiṛakī*	window
gólf	ज़मीन (f.)	*zamīn*	floor
grautur	दलिया (m.)	*daliyā*	porridge
grænmeti	सब्ज़ी (f.)	*sabzī*	vegetable
guð	ईश्वर/भगवान (m.)	*īśvar /bhagvān*	god
gulrót	गाजर (f.)	*gājar*	carrot
gull	सोना (m.)	*sonā*	gold
haf	महासागर (m.)	*mahāsāgar*	ocean
handleggur	हाथ (m.)	*hāth*	arm
háskóli	विश्व विद्यालय/ महाविद्यालय (m.)	*viśva vidyālay/ mahā vidyālay*	university
höfuð	सिर (m.)	*sir*	head
heimili	घर (m.)	*ghar*	home
heimur	दुनिया (f.)	*duniyā*	world
heiti/nafn	नाम (m.)	*nām*	name
helgi	सप्ताह का अंत/ सप्ताहांत (m.)	*saptāh kā ant/ saptāhānt*	weekend
herbergi	कमरा (m.)	*kamarā*	room
hestur	घोड़ा (m.)	*ghoṛā*	horse
hetja	नायक/हीरो (m.)	*nāyak/hīro*	hero
hilla	शेल्फ (m.)	*śelpha*	shelf
himinn	आकाश (m.)	*ākāś*	sky
	स्वर्ग (m.)	*svarga*	heaven
hjarta	दिल (m.)	*dil*	heart

hjól	साइकिल (f.)	*sāikil*	cycle
	पहिया/चक्र (m.)	*pahiyā/cakra*	wheel
hné/kné	घुटना (m.)	*ghuṭanā*	knee
hnífur	चाकू (m.)	*cākū*	knife
hótel	होटल (m.)	*hoṭal*	hotel
hugur	दिमाग (m.)	*dimāg*	mind
hundur	कुत्ता (m.)/ कुत्तिया (f.)	*kuttā/kuttiyā*	dog
hurð	दरवाज़ा (m.)	*darvāzā*	door
húfa	टोपी (f.)	*ṭopī*	cap
hús	घर (m.)	*ghar*	house
hönd	हाथ (m.)	*hāth*	hand
ís	आइसक्रीम (f.)	*āiskrīm*	ice-cream
íslenska	आइसलैंडिक (f.)	*āislaiṇḍik*	Icelandic
jarðarber	स्ट्रॉबेरी (f.)	*sṭrŏberī*	strawberry
jógúrt	दही (f.)	*dahī*	yogurt
jól	क्रिसमस (m.)	*krisamas*	Christmas
jökull	हिमनद (m.)	*himnad*	glacier
kaffi	कॉफी (f.)	*kŏphī*	coffee
karl	आदमी (m.)	*ādamī*	man
	बूढ़ा आदमी (m.)	*būṛhā ādamī*	old man
kartafla	आलू (m.)	*ālū*	potato
kál	पत्तागोभी (f.)	*pattāgobhī*	cabbage
kápa	कोट (m.)	*koṭ*	coat
kennari	अध्यापक (m.)/ अध्यापिका (f.)	*adhyāpak/ adhyāpikā*	teacher
kerling	बुज़ुर्ग (n.)/ बूढ़ी महिला (f.)/ बुढ़िया (f.)	*buzurga/būṛhī mahilā /buṛhiyā*	old woman

kerti	मोमबत्ती (f.)	*mombattī*	candle
kex	बिस्कुट (m.)	*biskuṭ*	biscuit
kirkja	चर्च/ गिरजा/ गिरजाघर (m.)	*carca/girajā/ girajāghar*	church
kettlingur	बिल्ली का बच्चा (m.)/ बच्ची (f.)	*billī ka baccā/ baccī*	kitten
kjóll	पोशाक (f.)	*pośāk*	dress
kjúklingur	मुर्गा (m.)/ मुर्गी (f.)	*murgā/murgī*	chicken
kjöt	मांस (m.)	*mā̃s*	meat
klaustur	मठ (m.)	*maṭh*	monastery
klukka	घड़ी (f.)	*ghaṛī*	clock
klútur	दुपट्टा (m.)	*dupaṭṭā*	scarf
kona	महिला/ औरत (f.)	*mahilā/aurat*	woman
kort	नक्शा (m.)	*nakśā*	map
krakki/barn	बच्चा (m.)/ बच्ची (f.)	*baccā/baccī*	child
krydd	मसाला (m.)	*masālā*	spice
kvöldmatur	रात का खाना (m.)	*rāt kā khānā*	dinner
kýr	गाय (f.)	*gāy*	cow
köttur/ (læða/ högni)	बिल्ली (f.)/ बिल्ला (m.)	*billī/billā*	cat
lambakjöt	मेमने का मांस (m.)	*memane kā mā̃s*	lamb meat
land	ज़मीन (f.)	*zamīn*	land
laukur	प्याज़ (m.)	*pyāz*	onion
leigubíll	टैक्सी (f.)	*ṭaiksī*	taxi
lykill	चाबी (f.)	*cābī*	key

læknir	डाक्टर/वैद्य/चिकित्सक (m.)	*ḍŏkṭar/vaidya/ cikitsak*	doctor
lás	ताला (m.)	*tālā*	lock
lögregla	पुलिस (f.)	*pulis*	police
maður	आदमी (m.)	*ādamī*	man
magi	पेट (m.)	*peṭ*	stomach
mangó	आम (m.)	*ām*	mango
markaður	बाज़ार (m.)	*bāzār*	market
matur	खाना/ भोजन (m.)	*khānā/bhojan*	food
miði	टिकट (f.)	*ṭikaṭ*	ticket
mjólk	दूध (m.)	*dūdh*	milk
mold	मिट्टी (f.)	*miṭṭī*	soil
móðir	माँ/ माताजी (f.)	*mām̐/mātājī*	mother
mynd	तस्वीर (f.)	*tasvīr*	photo
nammi/ sælgæti	मिठाई (f.)	*miṭhāī*	sweet
nemandi	विद्यार्थी (m.)	*vidyārthī*	student
nýra	किडनी (f.)	*kiḍanī*	kidney
ostur	पनीर (m.)	*panīr*	cheese
pabbi	पिता/ पिताजी (m.)	*pitā/ pitājī*	daddy
pakki	पैकेट (m.)	*paikeṭ*	packet
panna	कड़ाही (f.)	*kṛāhī*	pan
peningar/fé	धन/ पैसा/ रुपया (m.)	*dhan/paisā/ rupayā*	money
penni	कलम (m.)	*kalam*	pen
pera	नाशपाती (f.)	*nāśapātī*	pear

peysa	स्वेटर/ जैकेट (m.)	*sveṭar/jaikeṭ*	sweater/jacket
pils	स्कर्ट (f.)	*skarṭa*	skirt
prestur	पुजारी (m.)	*pujārī*	priest
rafmagn	बिजली (f.)	*bijalī*	electricity
rigning	बारिश (f.)	*bāriśa*	rain
rúm	बिस्तर (m.)	*bistar*	bed
rúta	बस (f.)	*bas*	bus
salat	सलाद (m.)	*salād*	salad
samloka	सैंडविच (m.)	*saiṇḍvic*	sandwich
sár	घाव (f.)	*ghāv*	wound
silfur	चाँदी (f.)	*cāṁdī*	silver
sítróna	नींबू (m.)	*nīmbū*	lemon
sjónvarp	टेलीविज़न (m.)	*ṭelīvizan*	television
sjór	समुद्र (m.)	*samudra*	sea
	सागर (m.)	*sāgar*	ocean
skáld	कवि (m.)	*kavi*	poet
skápur	अलमारी (f.)	*alamārī*	cupboard
skip	जहाज़ (m.)	*jahāz*	ship
skógur	लकड़ी (f.)	*lakaṛī*	wood
	जंगल (m.)	*jaṅgal*	forest
skóli	विद्यालय (m.)	*vidyālay*	school
skór	जूता (m.)	*jūtā*	shoe
skyrta	कमीज़ (f.)	*kamīz*	shirt
sokkur	जुर्राब (f.)	*jurāb*	sock
sófi	सोफ़ा (m.)	*sofā*	sofa
sól	सूरज/सूर्य (m.)	*sūraj/sūrya*	sun
sósa	चटनी (f.)	*caṭanī*	sauce
staður	जगह (f.)	*jagah*	place

steinn	पत्थर (m.)	*patthar*	stone
stelpa	लड़की (f.)	*laṛakī*	girl
stóll	कुर्सी (f.)	*kursī*	chair
strákur/drengur	लड़का (m.)	*laṛakā*	boy
strætisvagn/strætó	बस (f.)	*bas*	bus
stöð	स्टेशन (m.)	*sṭeśan*	station
stöðuvatn	झील (f.)	*jhīl*	lake
súpa	शोरबा (m.)	*śorabā*	soup
svefnherbergi	सोने का कमरा (m.)	*sone kā kamrā*	bedroom
sykur	चीनी (f.)	*cīnī*	sugar
systir	बहन (f.)	*bahan*	sister
systkini	भाई-बहन (m.)	*bhāī-bahan*	siblings
sæti	सीट (f.)	*sīṭ*	seat
taska	थैला (m.)	*thailā*	bag
te	चाय (f.)	*cāy*	tea
tengdadóttir	बहू (f.)	*bahū*	daughter-in-law
tengdafaðir	ससुर (m.)	*sasur*	father-in-law
tengdamóðir	सास (f.)	*sās*	mother-in-law
tengdasonur	दामाद (m.)	*dāmād*	son-in-law
tómatur	टमाटर (m.)	*ṭamāṭar*	tomato
trefill	दुपट्टा (m.)	*dupaṭṭā*	scarf
tunga	जीभ (f.)	*jībh*	tongue
tölva	कंप्यूटर (m.)	*kaṃpyūṭar*	computer
tönn	दाँत (m.)	*dāṁt*	tooth
umferð	ट्रैफ़िक (m.)	*ṭraifik*	traffic

vatn	पानी (m.)	*pānī*	water[116]
vatns-melóna	तरबूज (m.)	*tarabūj*	watermelon
veður	मौसम (m.)	*mausam*	weather
veggur	दीवार (f.)	*dīvār*	wall
vegur	सड़क (f.)	*saṛak*	road
veitingahús	भोजनालय/रेस्टोरेंट (m.)	*bhojanālay/ resṭoreṇṭ*	restaurant
verð	कीमत (f.)	*kīmat*	price
verkstæði	गेराज/ कार्यशाला (f.)	*gerāj/kāryaśālā*	garage, work-shop
veski	बटुआ (m.)	*baṭuā*	wallet, purse
vifta	पंखा (m.)	*paṅkhā*	fan
vindur	हवा (f.)	*havā*	wind
vinkona	सहेली (f.)/ (महिला) दोस्त (n.)	*sahelī/(mahilā) dosta*	(female) friend
vinna	काम (m.)	*kām*	work
vinur	दोस्त (m.)	*dosta*	friend
þjóð	राष्ट्र (m.)	*rāṣṭra*	nation
	लोग (m.)	*log*	people
þjófur	चोर (m.)	*cor*	thief
þorp	नगर (m.)	*nagar*	town
þvottur	धोने लायक कपड़े/ गंदे कपड़े (m.)	*dhone lāyak kapaṛe/gande kapaṛe*	laundry/dirty clothes
þyrla	हेलीकॉप्टर (m.)	*helīkŏpṭar*	helicopter

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116 Not all waters across the globe are potable or for drinking. Drinking water is, पीने के लिए पानी (*pīne ke lie pānī*) (water for drinking).

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Adjectives

Marked Adjectives

Icelandic	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English
slæmur/slæm/ slæmt	बुरा (m.)/ बुरी (f.)	*burā/burī*	bad
stór/stór/stórt	बड़ा (m.)/ बड़ी (f.)	*baṛā/baṛī*	big
grænn/græn/ grænt	हरा (m.)/हरी (f.)	*harā/harī*	green
opinn/opin/ opið	खुला (m.)/ खुली (f.)	*khulā/khulī*	open
gamall/gömul/ gamalt	बूढ़ा (m.)/ बूढ़ी (f.)	*būṛhā/ būṛhī*	old, used, ancient
	पुराना (m.)/ पुरानी (f.)	*purānā/purānī*	
	प्राचीन (n.)	*prācīn*	
sætur/sæt/sætt	अच्छा (m.)/ अच्छी (f.)	*acchā/acchī*	sweet, nice, cute
	प्यारा (m.)/ प्यारी (f.)	*pyārā/ pyārī*	
hægur/hæg/ hægt	धीमा (m.)/ धीमी (f.)	*dhīmā/dhīmī*	slow
óhreinn/óhrein/ óhreint	गंदा (m.)/ गंदी (f.)	*gandā/gandī*	dirty
ódýr/ódýr/ ódýrt	सस्ता (m.)/ सस्ती (f.)	*sastā/sastī*	inexpensive
dýr/dýr/dýrt	महँगा (m.)/ महँगी (f.)	*mahaṁgā/ mahaṁgī*	expensive
lítill/lítil/lítið	थोड़ा (m.)/ थोड़ी (f.)	*thoṛā/ thoṛī*	little

Unmarked Gender-Neutral Adjectives

Icelandic	Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English
fullkominn/ fullkomin/ fullkomið	उत्तम	*uttam*	perfect
giftur/ gift/gift	शादी-शुदा	*śādī -śudā*	married

glaður/glöð/glatt	खुश, ख़ुश, प्रसन्न	khuśa, khuśa, prasanna	glad
hissa/hissa/hissa	हैरान	hairān	surprised
klár/klár/klárt	चतुर, बुद्धिमान	catur, buddhimān	clever
laus/laus/laust	आज़ाद, मुक्त, स्वतंत्र	āzād, mukt, svatãtra	free
meira	ज़्यादा	zyādā	more
mjög	बहुत	bahut	very
reiður/reið/reitt	नाराज़, अप्रसन्न	nārāz, aprasanna	angry
sæll/sæl/sælt	खुश, प्रसन्न	khuśa, prasanna	happy
veikur (m.)/ veik (f.)/ veikt (n.)	कमज़ोर	kamzor	weak
vinsæll/vinsæl/ vinsælt	प्रसिद्ध, लोक-प्रिय	prasiddha, lok-priy	popular
vitlaus/vitlaus/ vitlaust	बेवकूफ, मूर्ख	bevakūph, mūrkh	stupid
vitlaus/vitlaus/ vitlaust	गलत	galat	wrong
frábær/frábær/ frábært	महान	mahān	great
fínn (m.)/ fín (f.)/fínt (n.)	ठीक, अच्छा, बढ़िया, सुंदर	ṭhīk, acchā, baṛhiyā, sundar	fine/ok, good, great, beautiful
fátækur (m.)/ fátæk(f.)/ fátækt (n.)	गरीब	garīb	poor
allur(m.)/ öll(f.)/ allt(n.)	सब कुछ	sab kuch	everything
nokkur	कोई, किसी	koī, kisī	any
nokkur	कुछ	kuch	some
margir	कई	kaī	many

Verbs

Transitive verbs

Icelandic	Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English
að borða	खाना	*khānā*	to eat
að drekka	पीना	*pīnā*	to drink
að gefa	देना	*denā*	to give
að gera	करना	*karnā*	to do
að halda	रखना	*rakhnā*	to keep
að hlusta	सुनना	*sunnā*	to listen
að læra	सीखना	*sīkhnā*	to learn (to study)
að lesa	पढ़ना	*paṛhnā*	to read (to study)
að segja	कहना	*kahnā*	to say
að sjá	देखना	*dekhnā*	to see
að skrifa	लिखना	*likhnā*	to write
að taka	लेना	*lenā*	to take
að tala	बोलना	*bolnā*	to speak
að vilja	चाहना	*cāhnā*	to want

Intransitive verbs

Icelandic	Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English
að fara	जाना	*jānā*	to go
að gráta	रोना	*ronā*	to cry
að hlæja	हँसना	*haṁsnā*	to laugh
að hlaupa	दौड़ना	*dauṛnā*	to run
að koma	आना	*ānā*	to come
að ná	पहुँचना	*pahuṁcnā*	to reach
að sitja	बैठना	*baiṭhnā*	to sit
að skila	लौटना	*lauṭnā*	to return
að sofa	सोना	*sonā*	to sleep

Infinitives

Root verbs			Infinitive			
Hindi	**Roman Trans-litera-tion**	**English**	**Hindi**	**Roman Trans-literation**	**English**	**Icelandic**
चल	*cal*	walk	चलना	*calnā*	to walk	að ganga
बैठ	*baiṭh*	sit	बैठना	*baiṭhnā*	to sit	að sitja
कह	*kah*	say	कहना	*kahnā*	to say	að segja
बोल	*bol*	speak	बोलना	*bolnā*	to speak	að tala
कर	*kar*	do	करना	*karnā*	to do	að gera
पूछ	*pūch*	ask	पूछना	*pūchnā*	to ask	að spyrja
देख	*dekh*	see	देखना	*dekhnā*	to see	að sjá
खेल	*khel*	play	खेलना	*khelnā*	to play	að spila
नाच	*nāc*	dance	नाचना	*nācnā*	to dance	að dansa
सीख	*sīkh*	learn	सीखना	*sīkhnā*	to learn	að læra
चाह	*cāh*	want	चाहना	*cāhnā*	to want	að vilja
जा	*jā*	go	जाना	*jānā*	to go	að fara
आ	*ā*	come	आना	*ānā*	to come	að koma
गा	*gā*	sing	गाना	*gānā*	to sing	að syngja
चला	*calā*	drive	चलाना	*calānā*	to drive	að keyra
ले	*le*	take	लेना	*lenā*	to take	að taka
दे	*de*	give	देना	*denā*	to give	að gefa
पी	*pī*	drink	पीना	*pīnā*	to drink	að drekka

Appendix

Imperatives

Stem Verb			Formal Imperative (-इए (*ie*)/ -इये (*iye*))	Informal imperative (-ओ (*o*))	Intimate imperative	Neutral Imperative
Hindi with Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic	Hindi with Roman Transliteration	Hindi with Roman Transliteration	Hindi with Roman Transliteration	Hindi with Roman Transliteration
चल (*cal*)	walk	ganga	चलिए (*calie*)/ चलिये (*caliye*)	चलो (*calo*)	चल (*cal*)	चलना (*calnā*)
बैठ (*baiṭh*)	sit	sitja	बैठिए (*baiṭhie*)/ बैठिये (*baiṭhiye*)	बैठो (*baiṭho*)	बैठ (*baiṭh*)	बैठना (*baiṭhnā*)
कह (*kah*)	say	segja	कहिए (*kahie*)/ कहिये (*kahiye*)	कहो (*kaho*)	कह (*kah*)	कहना (*kahnā*)
बोल (*bol*)	speak	tala	बोलिए (*bolie*)/ बोलिये (*boliye*)	बोलो (*bolo*)	बोल (*bol*)	बोलना (*bolnā*)
पूछ (*pūch*)	ask	spyrja	पूछिए (*pūchie*)/ पूछिये (*pūchiye*)	पूछो (*pūcho*)	पूछ (*pūch*)	पूछना (*pūchnā*)
आ (*ā*)	come	koma	आइए (*āie*)/ आइये (*āiye*)	आओ (*āo*)	आ (*ā*)	आना (*ānā*)
जा (*jā*)	go	fara	जाइए (*jāie*)/ जाइये (*jāiye*)	जाओ (*jāo*)	जा (*jā*)	जाना (*jānā*)

Subjunctives

Verbs which express probability of an action or its uncertainty, or even might suggest an action, are called subjunctive verbs. These are used with conjunctions which act as critical modifiers, adding conditions or consequences to the statement. Some of these modifying conjunctions are:

Modifying conjunctions in Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
ज़रूर	*zarūr*	definitely	örugglega
अगर	*agar*	if	ef
शायद	*śāyad*	maybe	kannski
कृपया	*kripayā*	please	vinsamlegast
कि	*ki*	that	það
ताकि	*tāki*	so that	þannig að

Look at the table below and observe the difference between the first sentence which is a statement and the second which is seeking permission.

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	Meaning in English	Icelandic
Future tense	मैं जाऊँगा ।	*maĩ jāūm̐gā.*	I will go.	Ég mun fara.
Subjunctive	मैं जाऊँ?	*maĩ jāūm̐?*	Should I go?	Ætti ég að fara?

As can be seen from the example, the subjunctive is formed by removing the last syllable from the verb in the future tense. By doing so, we have also blurred the gender of the subject, which in the future tense was masculine. Now let us use the modifying conjunction, कृपया (*kripayā*). Though this means 'please' in English but the boundary between request and command is very blur when used for announcements, like on Delhi Metro (a very popular rapid transit system in India).

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
कृपया दरवाज़े से हटकर खड़े हों ।	*kripayā daravāze se haṭkar khaṛe hõ.*	Please stand way from the door.	Vinsamlegast standið langt frá dyrunum.

Some other examples of subjunctives which blur the distinction between command and respect are:

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
कृपया शान्त रहें ।	*kripayā śānt rahẽ.*	Please keep quiet.	Vinsamlegast hafðu hljótt.
मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप आराम करें ।	*maĩ cāhtā hūm̐ ki āp ārām karẽ.*	I want that you take rest.	Ég vil að þú hvílir þig.
अपना काम समय पर खत्म करें ताकि आप खेलने जा सकें ।	*apanā kām samay par khatma karẽ tāki āp khelne jā sakẽ.*	Complete your work on time so that you can go to play.	Ljúktu verkinu þínu á réttum tíma svo þú getir farið að leika.

Basic conversation

Weather

	Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
Question	मौसम कैसा है?	*mausam kaisā hai?*	How is the weather?	Hvernig er veðrið?

There can be a wide range of probable fragmented responses to the aforementioned question on weather. Some of the sample responses include:

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
मौसम अच्छा है।	*mausam acchā hai.*	Weather is good.	Það er gott veður.
धूप निकली हुई है।	*dhūp nikalī huī hai.*	It is sunny.	Það er sólskin.
गर्मी है।	*garmī hai.*	It is hot.	Það er heitt.

बहुत गर्मी है।	*bahut garmī hai.*	It is very hot.	Það er mjög heitt.
सर्दी है।	*sardī hai.*	It is cold.	Það er kalt.
कोहरा/धूम-कोहरा है।	*koharā/dhūm-koharā hai.*	There is fog/smog.	Það er þoka.
बारिश हो रही है।	*bāriś ho rahī hai.*	It is raining.	Það rignir.
बर्फ़ गिर रही है।	*barfa gir rahī hai.*	It is snowing.	Það snjóar.
तेज़ हवा चल रही है।	*tez havā cal rahī hai.*	Strong wind is blowing.	Það er rok. OR Það er hvasst.
खिड़की से देखने लायक मौसम है।	*khiṛakī se dekhne lāyak mausam hai.*	Weather looks good from the window.	Það er gluggaveður.

Family, Marriage, Children

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Question	क्या आप शादीशुदा हैं?	*kyā āp śādīśudā haĩ?*	Are you married?	Ert þú giftur/gift?
Answer (Affirmative)	जी हाँ, मैं शादीशुदा हूँ।	*jī hāм̃, maĩ śādīśudā hūм̃.*	Yes, I am married.	Já, ég er giftur/gift.
Question	आपके पति/ आपकी पत्नी का नाम क्या है?[117]	*āpke pati/ āpkī patnī kā nām kyā hai ?*	What is your husband's/ wife's name?	Hvað heitir maðurinn þinn/konan þín?
Answer (if the respondent is the husband)	मेरी पत्नी का नाम सोनम है ।	*merī patnī kā nām sonam hai.*	My wife's name is Sonam.	Konan mín heitir Sonam.
Answer (if the respondent is the wife)	मेरे पति का नाम मोहन है ।	*mere pati kā nām mohan hai.*	My husband's name is Mohan.	Maðurinn minn heitir Mohan.

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117   Observe that the pronouns change according to the gender of the noun.

Alternate responses (Negation)	जी नहीं, मैं शादीशुदा नहीं हूँ ।	*jī nahī̃, maĩ śādīśudā nahī̃ hūm̐.*	No, I am not married.	Nei, ég er ekki giftur/ gift.
Question	(क्या)[118] आपके बच्चे हैं?	*(kyā) āpke bacche haĩ?*	(Do) you have children?	Átt þú börn?
Answer (Affirmative)	जी हाँ, मेरे बच्चे हैं ।	*jī hām̐, mere bacche haĩ.*	Yes, I have children.	Já, ég á börn.
Answer (Negation)	जी नहीं, मेरे बच्चे नहीं हैं ।	*jī nahī̃, mere bacche nahī̃ haĩ.*	No, I don't have children.	Nei, ég á ekki börn.
Question	आपके कितने बच्चे हैं?	*āpke kitne bacche haĩ?*	How many children do you have?	Hvað átt þú mörg börn?
Probable sample responses	मेरा एक बच्चा है ।	*merā ek bacchā hai.*	I have one child.	Ég á eitt barn.
	मेरे दो/तीन बच्चे हैं ।	*mere do/tīn bacche haĩ.*	I have two/three children.	Ég á tvö/ þrjú börn.
	मेरा एक बेटा और एक बेटी है ।	*merā ek betā aur ek betī hai.*	I have one son and one daughter.	Ég á einn son og eina dóttur.

Employment

	Hindi	Roman Trans- literation	English	Icelandic
Question	क्या आप नौकरी [119] करते (m.respect)/ करती (f.) हैं?	*kyā āp naukarī karte/kartī haĩ?*	Are you working?	Ert þú að vinna.
Answer (Affirma- tive)	जी हाँ, मैं नौकरी करता (m.)/ करती (f.) हूँ ।	*jī hām̐, maĩ naukarī kartā/kartī hūm̐.*	Yes, I am working.	Já, ég er að vinna.

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118 Question word could be avoided if an interrogative tone (rises at the end), is used.

119 नौकरी (*naukarī*) means to work for someone else while काम (*kām*) means 'work', which need not necessary mean for someone else. These words are quite often used interchangeably, overlooking or blurring the difference.

Probable sample responses (Negation)	जी नहीं, मैं नौकरी नहीं करता (m.)/ करती (f.) हूँ।	*jī nahī̃, maĩ naukarī nahī̃ kartā/kartī hū̃.*	No, I am not working.	Nei, ég er ekki að vinna.
	जी नहीं, लेकिन मैं नौकरी ढूँढ रहा (m.)/ रही (f.) हूँ।	*jī nahī̃, lekin maĩ naukarī ḍhū̃ḍh rahā/rahī hū̃.*	No, but I am looking for job.	Nei, en ég er að leita að vinnu.
Question	आप कहाँ नौकरी करते (m. respect)/ करती (f.) हैं?	*āp kahā̃ naukarī karte/kartī haĩ?*	Where do you work?	Hvar vinnur þú?
Probable sample responses	मैं अस्पताल में नौकरी करता (m.)/ करती (f.) हूँ।	*maĩ aspatāl mẽ naukarī kartā/kartī hū̃.*	I work at the hospital.	Ég vinn á spítala.
	मैं विश्वविद्यालय में नौकरी करता (m.)/ करती (f.) हूँ।	*maĩ viśvavidyālay mẽ naukarī kartā/kartī hū̃.*	I work at a university/ the university.	Ég vinn í háskóla/ háskólanum.
Question	आप काम पर कैसे जाते (m.)/ जाती (f.) हैं?	*āp kām par kaise jāte/jātī haĩ?*	How do you go to work?	Hvernig ferð þú í vinnuna?
Probable sample responses	मैं काम पर पैदल जाता (m.)/ जाती (f.) हूँ।	*maĩ kām par paidal jātā/ jātī hū̃.*	I walk to work.	Ég geng í vinnuna.
	मैं काम पर बस से जाता (m.)/ जाती (f.) हूँ।	*maĩ kām par bas se jātā/ jātī hū̃.*	I go by bus to work.	Ég tek strætó í vinnuna.
	मैं काम पर साइकिल से जाता (m.)/ जाती (f.) हूँ।	*maĩ kām par sāikil se jātā/ jātī hū̃.*	I go work by bicycle.	Ég hjóla í vinnuna.
	मैं काम पर गाड़ी से जाता (m.)/ जाती (f.) हूँ।	*maĩ kām par gaṛī se jātā/ jātī hū̃.*	I go to work by car.	Ég keyri í vinnuna.

Hobbies

	Hindi	Roman Trans-literation	English	Icelandic
Question	क्या आपको तैराकी करना पसंद है?	*kyā āpko tairākī karnā pasanda hai?*	Do you like swimming?	Finnst þér gaman að fara í sund?
Answer (Affirmative)	जी हाँ, मुझे तैराकी करना बहुत पसंद है ।	*jī hā̃, mujhe tairākī karnā bahut pasanda hai.*	Yes, I like swimming very much.	Já mér finnst mjög gaman í sundi.
Answer (Negation)	जी नहीं, मुझे तैराकी करना पसंद नहीं है ।	*jī nahī̃, mujhe tairākī karnā pasanda nahĩ hai.*	No, I don't like swim-ming.	Nei mér finnst ekki gaman í sundi.
Question	क्या आप क्रिकेट खेल सकते (m.)/ सकती (f.) हैं?	*kyā āp krikeṭ khel sakte/ saktī haĩ?*	Can you play cricket?	Kannt þú að spila krikket?

Dinning out and placing order

In India, we never use the first names unless the relationship is intimate or informal. In that case too, the person must be younger to self. In case you want to ask something from an unknown person, you can address them in either of the following ways, depending on their age and gender:

Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
भाई साहब/ भैया जी	*bhāī sāhab/ bhaiyā jī*	elder brother	eldri bróðir
बहन जी	*bahan jī*	sister	systir
बेटा	*beṭā*	son	sonur
बच्ची	*baccī*	young girl	ung stúlka

	Hindi	Roman Transliteration	English	Icelandic
Question	क्या दो लोगों के लिए जगह होगी?	*kyā do logõ ke lie jagah hogī?*	Will there be place for twopeople?[120]	Væri laust borð fyrir tvo?
Question	क्या मेनू मिल सकता है?	*kyā menū mil saktā hai?*	Could I get the menu (please)?	Gæti ég fengið matseðilinn?
Question	यह/वह कितने का है? OR ये/वे कितने के हैं?	*yah/vah kitne kā hai?* OR *ye/ve kitne ke haĩ?*	How much does this/ that cost? OR How much do these/ those cost?	Hversu mikið kostar þetta?
Question	खाना/भोजन कैसा था?	*khānā/bhojan kaisā thā?*	How was the food?	Hvernig bragðaðist maturinn?
Probable sample responses	बहुत बढ़िया ।	*bahut baṛhiyā.*	Very good.	Hann var mjög góður/ gómsætur.
	बढ़िया नहीं था ।	*baṛhiyā nahī̃ thā.*	It was not good.	Hann var ekki góður.
	बहुत तीखा था ।	*bahut tīkhā thā.*	It was very spicy.	Hann var mjög sterkur.
Probable Requests	क्या हमें बिल मिल सकता है?	*kyā hamẽ bil mil saktā hai?*	May we have the bill?	Gætum við fengið reikninginn?
	क्या हमें रसीद मिल सकती है?	*kyā hamẽ rasīd mil saktī hai?*	May we have the receipt?	Gætum við fengið kvittunina?
Question	क्या पास में कोई किराने की दुकान है?	*kyā pās mẽ koī kirāne kī dukān hai?*	Is there any grocery store nearby?	Er matvörubúð í nágrenninu?
Question	निकटतम औषधालय कहाँ है?	*nikaṭṭam auṣadhālay kahā̃ hai?*	Where is the nearest pharmacy?	Hvar er næsta apótek?

120   Should be read as, 'Table for two, please'.

| Question | क्या मुझे टैक्सी मिल सकती है? | *kyā mujhe ṭaiksī mil saktī hai?* | Can I get a taxi? | Gæti ég fengið leigubíl? |
| Question | क्या आप समझा सकते हैं? | *kyā āp samajhā sakte hai?* | Can you (please) explain? | Gætirðu útskýrt? |

General

	Hindi	**Roman Trans-literation**	**English**	**Icelandic**
Question	आप क्या कर रहे हैं?	*āp kyā kar rahe hai͂ ?*	What are you doing?	Hvað ert þú að gera?
Question	आप कल सुबह क्या कर रहे (m.)/ रही (f.) हैं?	*āp kal subah kyā kar rahe/ rahī hai͂ ?*	What will you do tomorrow morning?	Hvað ætlar þú að gera á morgun?
Answer	मुझे कल सुबह स्कूल जाना है। OR मैं कल सुबह स्कूल जाऊँगा[121](m.)/ जाऊँगी (f.) ।	*mujhe kal subah skūl jānā hai.* OR *mai͂ kal subah skūl jāūm̐gā/ jāūm̐gī.*	I have to go to school tomorrow morning. OR I will go to the school tomorrow morning.	Ég þarf að mæta í skólann í fyrramálið.
Question	तुम/ आप कल कहाँ थे? OR[122] कल तुम/ आप कहाँ थे?	*tum/āp kal kahām̐ the?* OR *kal tum/āp kahām̐ the?*	Where were you yesterday?	Hvar varst þú í gær?
Answer	मैं कल घर पर था (m.)/ थी (f.) । OR कल मैं घर पर था (m.)/ थी (f.) ।	*mai͂ kal ghar par thā/thī.* OR *kal mai͂ ghar par thā/thī.*	I was at home yesterday.	Ég var heima í gær.

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121 This form of verb (in future tense) is derived from root verb: जा (jā) meaning, 'go'.

122 Sentence formation in Hindi is quite flexible, till the time the word order is followed.

Question	आप कौन-सी भाषा (f.s.)/ भाषाएँ (f.pl.) बोलते (m.)/ बोलती(f.) हैं? OR आप कौन-सी भाषा (f.s.)/ भाषाएँ (f.pl.) बोल सकते (m.)/ सकती(f.) हैं?	*āp kaun-sī bhāṣā/ bhāṣāeṁ bolte/boltī haĩ ? OR āp kaun-sī bhāṣā/ bhāṣāeṁ bol sakte/saktī haĩ ?*	What language/ languages do you speak? OR What language/ languages can you speak?	Hvaða tungumál talar þú?
Answer	मैं आइसलैंडिक, अंग्रेज़ी, और थोड़ी हिंदी बोलती (f.)/ बोलता (m.) हूँ। OR मैं आइसलैंडिक, अंग्रेज़ी, और थोड़ी हिंदी बोल सकता (m.)/ सकती(f.) हूँ।	*maĩ āislaiṇḍik, aṅgrezī, aur thoṛī hindī boltī/boltā hūṁ. OR maĩ āislaiṇḍik, aṅgrezī, aur thoṛī hindī bol saktā/ saktī hūṁ.*	I speak Icelandic, English and a little Hindi. OR I can speak Icelandic, English and a little Hindi.	Ég tala íslensku, ensku, og smá hindí.
Question	क्या आप मुझे समझते हैं?	*kyā āp mujhe samajhte haĩ?*	Do you understand me?	Skilur þú mig?
Question	क्या आप अंग्रेज़ी बोलते हैं?	*kyā āp aṅgrezī bolte haĩ?*	Do you speak English?	Talar þú ensku?
Question	क्या आप हिंदी बोल सकते (m.)/ सकती (f.) हैं?	*kyā āp hindī bol sakte/ saktī haĩ?*	Can you speak Hindi?	Kannt þú að tala hindí?
Probable sample responses	मैं हिंदी सीख रहा (m.)/ रही (f.) हूँ।	*maĩ hindī sīkh rahā/ rahī hūṁ.*	I am learning Hindi.	Ég er að læra hindí.
	मैं हिंदी समझ सकता (m.)/ सकती (f.) हूँ , लेकिन ठीक-से बोल नहीं सकता (m.)/ सकती (f.) हूँ।	*maĩ hindī samajh saktā/saktī hūṁ, lekin ṭhīk-se bol nahĩ saktā/ saktī hūṁ.*	I can understand Hindi but cannot speak properly.	Ég skil hindí en get ekki talað almenni- lega.

List of few countries

Names in Hindi	Names in Hind	Roman Transliteration
Belgium	बेल्जियम	*beljiyam*
Bosnia and Herzegovina	बॉस्निया और हर्ज़ेगोविना	*bŏsniyā aur harzegovinā*
Bulgaria	बुल्गारिया	*bulgāriyā*
Croatia	क्रोएशिया	*kroeśiyā*
Czech Republic	चेक गणराज्य	*cek gaṇarājya*
Denmark	डेनमार्क	*denamārk*
Estonia	एस्टोनिया	*esṭoniyā*
Finland	फ़िनलैंड	*finlaiṇḍ*
France	फ्रांस	*frãs*
Germany	जर्मनी	*jarmanī*
Greece	ग्रीस/यूनान	*grīs/yūnān*
Hungary	हंगरी	*haṅgarī*
Iceland	आइसलैंड	*āislaiṇḍ*
Ireland	आयरलैंड	*āyarlaiṇḍ*
Italy	इटली	*italī*
Latvia	लातविया	*lātaviyā*
Liechtenstein	लिकटेंस्टाइन	*likatẽsṭāina*
Lithuania	लिथुआनिया	*lithuāniyā*
Luxembourg	लक्ज़मबर्ग	*lakzambarga*
Montenegro	मोंटेनेग्रो	*moṇṭenegro*
Netherlands	नीदरलैंड	*nīdarlaiṇḍ*
Norway	नॉर्वे	*nŏrve*
Poland	पोलैंड	*polaiṇḍa*
Portugal	पुर्तगाल	*purtagāl*
Romania	रोमानिया	*romāniyā*
Russia	रूस	*rūs*
Serbia	सर्बिया	*sarbiyā*

Slovakia	स्लोवाकिया	*slovākiyā*
Slovenia	स्लोवेनिया	*sloveniyā*
Spain	स्पेन	*spen*
Sweden	स्वीडन	*svīḍan*
Switzerland	स्विट्ज़रलैंड	*sviṭzarlaiṇḍ*
Ukraine	यूक्रेन	*yūkren*
United Kingdom	यूनाइटेड किंगडम	*yūnāiṭeḍ kiṅgḍam*

List of vegetables and fruits

Vegetables

	Icelandic	Hindi with Roman Transliteration	English
	agúrka (s.)/ agúrkur (pl.)	खीरा *khīrā* (m.)	cucumber
	arum	अरबी *arabī* (f.)	arum
	beiskt grasker	करेला *karelā* (m.)	bitter gourd
	blómkál	फूल गोभी *phūl gobhī* (f.)	cauliflower
	eggaldin	बैंगन *baiṅgan* (m.)	brinjal/eggplant

	engifer	अदरक *adarak* (m.)	ginger
	ertur/baunir	मटर *maṭar* (m.)	peas
	grasker	कद्दू *kaddū* (m.)	pumpkin
	grikkjasmári	मेथी *methī* (f.)	fenugreek
	grænn chilipipar	हरी मिर्च *harī mirca* (f.)	green chilly
	gulrót (s.)/ gulrætur (pl.)	गाजर *gājar* (f.)	carrot
	grasker (flöskuker)	लौकी *laukī* (f.)	gourd
	hvítkál	पत्ता गोभी *pattā gobhī* (f.)	cabbage
	hvítlaukur	लहसुन *lahasun* (m.)	garlic

	kartafla (s.)/ kartöflur (pl.)	आलू *ālū* (m.)	potato
	karrílauf	करी पत्ता *karī pattā* (m.)	curry leaves
	kóríander	धनिया *dhaniyā* (m.)	coriander
	kúrbítur (s.)/ kúrbítar (pl.)	तुरई *turaī* (f.)	zucchini
	laukur (s.)/ laukar (pl.)	प्याज़ *pyāz* (m.)	onion/s
	mynta	पुदीना *pudīnā* (m.)	mint
	næpa (s.)/ næpur (pl.)	शलजम *śalajam* (m.)	turnip
	okra	भिंडी *bhiṇḍī* (f.)	lady finger
	paprika	शिमला मिर्च *śimalā mirca* (f.)	capsicum

	radísa (s.)/ radísur (pl.)	मूली _mūlī_ (f.)	radish
	rauðrófa (s.)/ rauðrófur (pl.)	चुकुंदर _cukundar_ (m.)	beetroot
	rauður chilipipar	लाल मिर्च _lāl mirca_ (f.)	red chilly
	saðningaraldin	कटहल _kaṭahal_ (m.)	jackfruit
	spínat	पालक _palak_ (f.)	spinach
	strengjabaunir	सेम _sem_ (f.)	beans
	sveppir	मशरूम _maśarūm_ (m.)	mushroom
	sætar kartöflur	शकरकंदी _śakarkandī_ (f.)	sweet potato
	tómatur (s.)/ tómatar (pl.)	टमाटर _ṭamāṭar_ (m.)	tomato

	vorlaukur (s.)/ vorlaukar (pl.)	हरा प्याज़ *harā pyāz* (m.s)/ हरे प्याज़ *hare pyāz* (m.pl.)	spring onions

Fruits

	Icelandic	Hindi with Roman Transliteration	English
	ananas	अनानास *anānās* (m.)	pineapple
	appelsína	नारंगी *nāraṅgī* (f.)/ संतरा *santarā* (m.)[123]	orange
	banani (s.)/ bananar (pl.)	केला *kelā* (m.)	banana
	epli	सेब *seb* (m.)	apple
	granatepli	अनार *anār* (m.)	pomegranate

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123 Bigger and sweeter version is संतरा (*santarā*) (m.) while the smaller one is called नारंगी (*narangī*) (f.)

	gúava	अमरूद *amrūd* (m.)	guava
	jarðarber	स्ट्रॉबेरी *sṭroberī* (f.)	strawberry
	javaplómur	जामुन *jāmun* (m.)	java plum or Indian blackberry
	litkaaldin	लीची *līcī* (f.)	lychee
	mangó	आम *ām* (m.)	mango
	melóna (s.)/ melónur (pl.)	खरबूजा *kharbūjā* (m.)	muskmelon
	papaya	पपीता *papītā* (m.)	papaya
	pera (s.)/ perur (pl.)	नाशपाती *nāśapātī* (f.)	pear

	sapódilla	चीकू *cīkū* (m.)	sapodilla
	sítróna (s.)/ sítrónur (pl.)	नींबू *nīmbū* (m.)	lime
	vatnsmelóna (s.)/ vatnsmelónur (pl.)	तरबूज *tarbūj* (m.)	watermelon
	vínber	अंगूर *aṅgūr* (m.)	grapes

Colours

	Icelandic	Hindi with Roman Transliteration	English
	Appelsínugulur	संतरी *santarī*	Orange
	Blár	नीला *nīlā* (m.)/ नीली *nīlī* (f.)	Blue
	Bleikur	गुलाबी *gulābī*	Pink
	Brúnn	भूरा *bhūrā* (m.)/ भूरी *bhūrī* (f.)	Brown
	Grænn	हरा *harā* (m.)/ हरी *harī* (f.)	Green
	Gulur	पीला *pīlā* (m.)/ पीली *nīlī* (f.)	Yellow
	Hvítur	सफ़ेद *safed* (m.)	White
	Rauður	लाल *lāl*	Red
	Saffran	केसरी *kesarī*	Saffron
	Svartur	काला *kālā* (m.)/ काली *kālī* (f.)	Black

नमस्ते! (*namaste!*)

आपका जीवन शांतिपूर्ण और उत्पादक हो ।
(May you have a peaceful and
productive life.)

Śānti mantra from Kaṭhopaniṣad and Taittirīyopaniṣad

ॐ सह नाववतु ।
सह नौ भुनक्तु।
सह वीर्यं करवावहै ।
तेजस्वि नावधीतमस्तु मा विद्विषावहै ।
ॐ शान्तिः शान्तिः शान्तिः ॥

oṃ saha nāv avatu.
saha nau bhunaktu.
saha vīryaṃ karavāvahai.
tejasvi nāv adhītam astu mā vidviṣāvahai.
oṃ śāntiḥ śāntiḥ śāntiḥ

May both of us be protected.
May both of us be nourished together.
Let us generate energy (physical, emotional, intellectual, spiritual) together.
May what we attain be bright and brilliant.
May we not have a conflict among both of us.