Sanskrit Coursebooks
from the beginning to IGCSE

St James Schools, London, Sanskrit course books are published by Motilal Banarsidass Publishing House, Delhi. Search for: Sanskrit is Fun at https://www.mlbd.in

Aims

* **Intellectual**: systematic, intelligent training for the mind
* **Artistic:** exposure to great literature; beautiful script
* **Speech:** good linguistic training
* **Expansion of understanding:** a unique and refreshing view of human nature and purpose

Beginners books –
Sanskrit is Fun, Parts 1, 2, 3

* Students learn to read the script in three stages:
* 1) Alphabet (Sanskrit is Fun 1)
* 2) Consonants + Vowels (Sanskrit is Fun 2)
* 3) Conjunct Consonants and Words (Sanskrit is Fun 3)
* More advanced recitation and conversational Sanskrit

Audio files are available to accompany these books.

Sanskrit is Fun

PART I

A Sanskrit Coursebook for Beginners
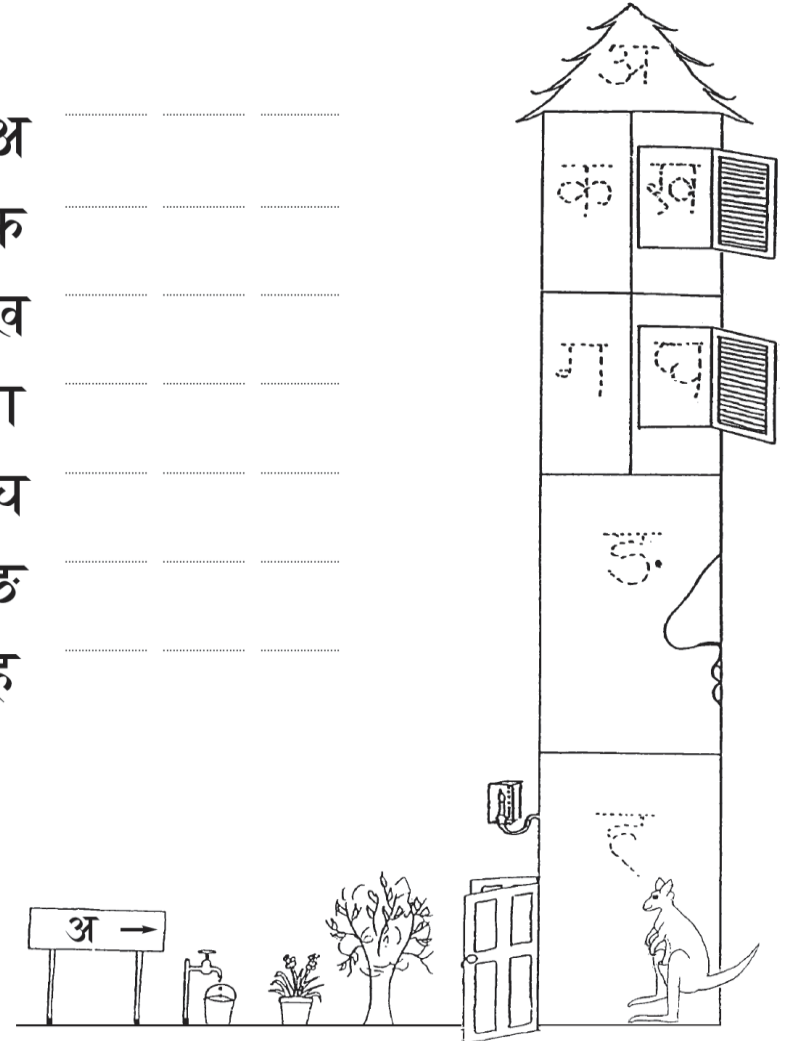
Book I

Edited by Warwick & Elena Jessup

The अ Family

Practise the अ family. Then try to write the family from memory in your exercise book.

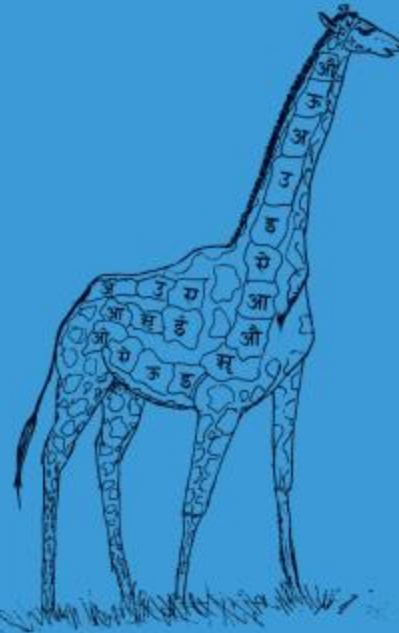| अ					
क					
ख					
ग					
च					
ङ					
ह					

This is where the अ family lives. Copy each letter three times. Then, fill in the house and colour it in.

अ

क

ख

ग

च

ङ

ह

Sanskrit is Fun

PART II

A Sanskrit Coursebook for Beginners

Book II

Edited by Warwick & Elena Jessup

Left page

Add an इ and an उ to the following letters.
The first one is done for you.
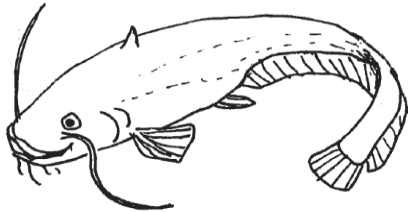
क

कि   कृ

ग

ब

ल

प

न

8

Right page

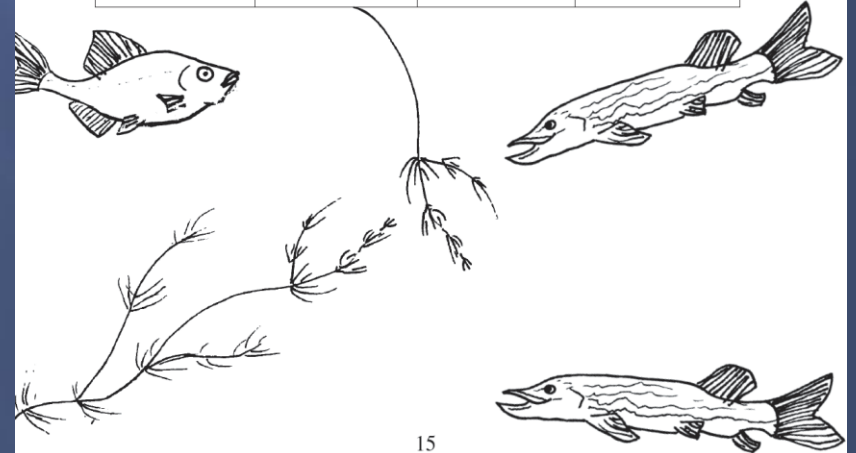# Consonants with Vowels

Sound and copy these letters. Now see if you can write them all from memory in your exercise book.

क	कि	कु	कृ

15

Reading Practice

Read the following across. When you see two dots (:) after a word, this means breathe out. This is called a visarga.

अ	अप	अपि	
अ	अम	अमि	
इ	इत	इति	
प	पु	पुन	पुनः
त	तु		
क	कु	कुत	कुतः
म	मृ	मृग	मृगः
म	मृ	मृत	

Sanskrit is Fun

PART III

A Sanskrit Coursebook for Beginners

BOOK III

EDITED BY WARWICK & ELENA JESSUP

Reading and Writing Practice

Read the following words and then copy them:

तम्	
कम्	
तत्	
यत्	
वाच्	
विश्	
ऋक्	
यजुम्	

संयोग

Now we add another letter to our halanta letters.   This is called a संयोग.

Read the following examples:

प्	with	ळ	becomes	प्ळ
त्	with	म	becomes	त्म
च्	with	छ	becomes	च्छ
म्	with	भ	becomes	म्भ
ष्	with	ण	becomes	ष्ण

The Millipede

Read the following संयोगs on the millipede's back:

त्म	ष्ण	छ	व्य	न्त
ष्प				न्त
प्ल		END		म्य
म्भ		त्य		श्य
श्व		छ		ष्ण
START		म्त	न्त	व्य

15
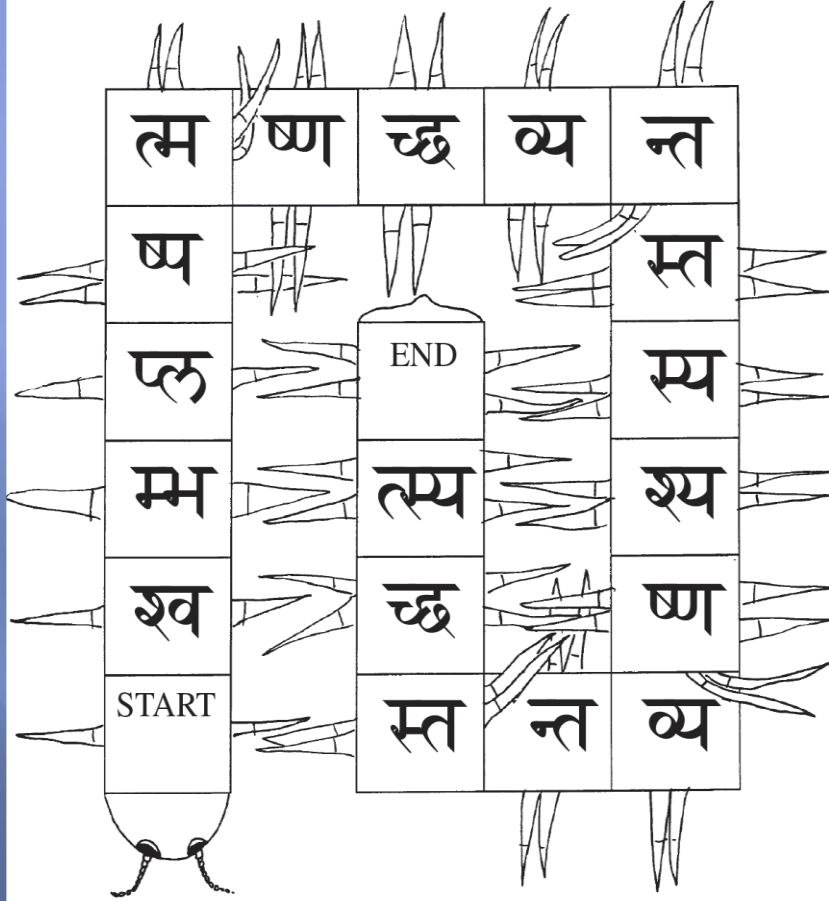
Reading Practice

Read the following across:

| ह	हस्	हस्त	हस्तः
श	शम्	शम्भ	शम्भुः
प	पश्	पश्य	पश्यति
ट	प्ल	प्लव	प्लवनम्
ग	राम	रामस्	रामस्य
म	मत्	मत्स्	मत्स्यः
अ	अस्	अस्त	अस्ति

16

The Stories of Krishna Parts 1 & 2

* Basic vocabulary
* Basic noun paradigms (masculine, feminine, neuter)
* Basic verb paradigms (past, present, future), e.g. *bhavati*)
* Translation skills
* All of these elements develop the understanding of sentence structure

The Stories of Krishna

A Sanskrit Coursebook for Beginners
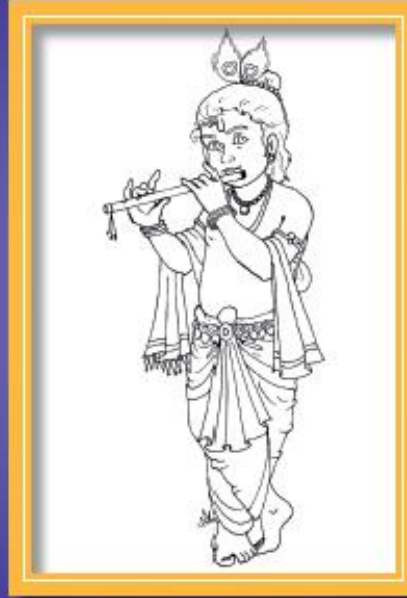
PART ONE

Edited by
WARWICK & ELENA JESSUP

Exercise 2

	पुस्तकम् book	
	पुष्पम् flower	
	गृहम् home	
	नगरम् town	
	वनम् forest	

GAME: THE CHARIOT WHEEL
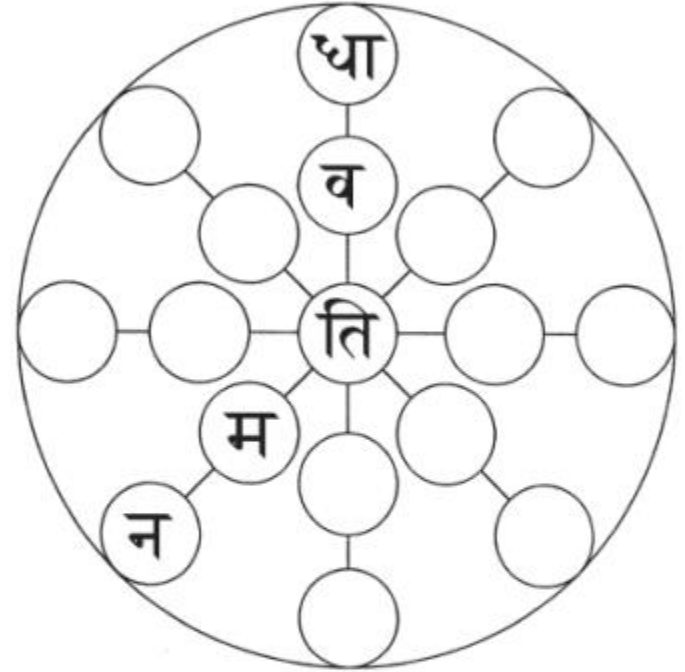
Two of the spokes of the chariot wheel have been filled in with धावति ('runs') and नमति ('bows'). Fill in the other six spokes with the Sanskrit verbs for:

speaks	eats	falls
laughs	walks	drinks

Exercise 26

Here again are some words with First Endings.
Now fill in the spaces with the same words but with
Second Endings.

FIRST	SECOND
रामः	रामम्
सिंहः	....
गजः	....
वृक्षः	....
कुक्कुरः	....

S T O R Y   1

Kṛṣṇa's Mother, Yaśodā, Sees All Things in His Mouth

NEW WORDS:

गच्छति	goes	तस्य	his
तत्र	there	सर्वम्	everything

1. यशोदा कृष्णम् गच्छति।

   ....

   ....

2. कृष्णः हसति।

   ....

   ....

The Stories of Krishna

A Sanskrit Coursebook for Beginners

PART TWO

Edited by
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THE FORMS OF राम

Practise reciting the following forms of राम before moving on to Exercise 6. The form रामम् should be translated as 'Rāma (2nd)' in order to distinguish it from that of रामः.

❈

So far we have learnt these six:

रामः	Rāma
हे राम	O Rāma
रामम्	Rāma (2nd)
रामेण	by Rāma
रामाय	for Rāma
रामात्	from Rāma

❈

[Once the new words are well known, the students should, without looking at the text, repeat each sentence after the teacher and then volunteer a translation. This should be repeated over several lessons. See the Notes for Teachers/Students on page xii. Students working alone should adapt these practices according to their available resources.]

S T O R Y 1

Kṛṣṇa Overcomes the Serpent Demon

NEW WORDS:

नदी	river	कालियः	Kāliya,
आरोहति	climbs		the serpent demon
तत्र	there	तुदति	hits
प्रविशति	enters	जयति	conquers
विषम्	poison		

1. कृष्णः गृहात् नदीम् गच्छति।

2. जलात् विषम् आगच्छति।

3. कृष्णः वृक्षम् आरोहति।

Exercise 36

For each of the following sentences:

    (a) Copy it beautifully into your exercise book.

    (b) Write a translation below each word.

    (c) Give a full translation of the sentence.

For example:

फलम्   हरितात्   वृक्षात् पतति।

fruit   from green   from the tree   falls

The fruit falls from the green tree.

1. सः राक्षसस्य रूपम् धारयति।
2. राक्षसी विशालाम् गुहाम् प्रविशति।
3. अयः दीर्घः सर्पः भवति।
4. कुक्कुरः वृक्षात् प्लवनम् करोति।
5. नरः सीतायै नमति।

Exercise 56

Copy the following table into your exercise book, filling in the gaps.

SINGULAR	DUAL	PLURAL
भवति he, she or it becomes	भवतः they two become	भवन्ति they many become
चरति he, she or it walks		
खादति he, she or it eats		
गच्छति he, she or it goes		
पश्यति he, she or it sees		
प्रविशति he, she or it enters		

Adding more detail –
The Story of Rāma Parts 1 and 2

* Skills from previous books are expanded
* Transliteration
* Gerunds
* Demonstrative pronouns
* Some idioms

The Story of
Rāma

A Sanskrit Coursebook for Beginners

PART ONE

Edited by
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Exercise 1

In your exercise book, translate the following into English.

1. रामे
2. गजम्य
3. खगात्
4. हे अर्जुन

5. कुक्कुराय
6. केशम्
7. राक्षमः
8. सिंहे

Exercise 2

In your exercise book, translate the following into Sanskrit.

1. lion (2nd)
2. from a man
3. for a king
4. in Rāma

5. by a dog
6. in the moon
7. O king
8. a hand

Chapter Two

STORY

Rāma and Lakṣmaṇa Kill the Demoness Tāṭakā

Vālmīki says:

"King Daśaratha's sons, Rāma and Lakṣmaṇa, go off to the forest with their teacher, Viśvāmitra. They meet a demoness called Tāṭakā. Lakṣmaṇa cuts off Tāṭakā's nose and ears, and Rāma finally kills her with an arrow. The forest people are happy."

The story in Sanskrit:

1. दशरथस्य पुत्रः रामः नाम।
2. रामस्य सोदरः लक्ष्मणः नाम।
3. रामस्य आचार्यः विश्वामित्रः नाम।

4. सीतायाः स्वरम् श्रुत्वा हे रावण सीताम् त्यज
   इति सः अक्रोशत्।

5. रावणः न अशृणोत्।

6. जटायुः रावणेन सह युद्धम् अकरोत्।

7. युद्धम् दीर्घम् घोरम् च।

Jaṭāyu challenges Rāvaṇa.

The Feminine Forms of तत्

Note that मा means 'she'. It can also be used as 'that' with feminine nouns.

SINGULAR	DUAL	PLURAL
मा she	ते those two	ताः those many
ताम् her (2nd)	ते those two (2nd)	ताः those many (2nd)
तया by her	ताभ्याम् by those two	ताभिः by those many
तस्यै for her	ताभ्याम् for those two	ताभ्यः for those many
तस्याः from her	ताभ्याम् from those two	ताभ्यः from those many
तस्याः of her	तयोः of those two	तासाम् of those many
तस्याम् in her	तयोः in those two	तासु in those many

Note to teacher/student: In the dual and plural, 2nd Ending onwards, sometimes तत् is translated as 'them'.

The Story of Rāma

A Sanskrit Coursebook for Beginners

PART TWO

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Chapter Ten

STORY

Rāvaṇa Threatens to Eat Sītā for Breakfast

Vālmīki says:

"Rāvaṇa takes Sītā to Laṅkā, but Sītā refuses to become his wife. He threatens to eat her, and places her amidst demonesses who torment her, but Sītā still remains faithful to Rāma."

The story in Sanskrit:

1. वृद्धम् खगम् हत्वा रावणः सीतया सह लङ्काम् अगच्छत्।

2. लङ्कायाम् रावणः सीताम् पुनः अवदत् हे सीते मम भार्या भव इति।

Chapter Twelve

STORY

Lakṣmaṇa Breaks Up Sugrīva's Wild Party

Vālmīki says:

"Sugrīva celebrates the regaining of his kingdom with a wild party. Lakṣmaṇa breaks up the party, reminding Sugrīva of his promise to Rāma. Sugrīva musters a monkey army to find Sītā. Hanumān is instructed to give Rāma's ring to Sītā, if he finds her."

The story in Sanskrit:

1. पुनः नृपः भूत्वा सुग्रीवः कपिभिः सह अग्मत्।

2. कपयः अगायन् मद्यम् अपिबन् च।

3. रमणीयानाम् नारीणाम् मध्ये सुग्रीवेण सुखम् अनुभूतम्।

Exercise 100

The adjectives माधु॰ ('good') and बहु॰ ('many') have forms like गुरुः. In your exercise book, translate the following into English. Give all possible translations.

1. बहवः गुरवः
2. बहवः कपयः
3. बहून् गुरून्
4. माधुम् गुरूम्
5. बहुभ्यः गुरुभ्यः

6. माधू नगै
7. बहुषु गुरुषु
8. माधुभ्यः कपिभ्यः
9. बहुभिः बालकैः
10. बहूनाम् राक्षमानाम्

Note to Teacher/Student: The following exercise is for faster pupils.

Exercise 101

In your exercise book, translate the following into Sanskrit. Use बहु॰ to translate the word 'many'.

1. from a good teacher
2. by two good men
3. many teachers (2nd)
4. in many demons
5. many monkeys

6. many teachers
7. by a good boy
8. many demons
9. for a good monkey
10. of many men

Here are some Sanskrit prefixes:

1.	अव down	+	गच्छति goes	=	अवगच्छति goes down
2.	प्र forward	+	गच्छति goes	=	प्रगच्छति goes forward
3.	आ *(this changes the direction of the action)*	+	गच्छति goes	=	आगच्छति comes

Exercise 103

Translate into English or Sanskrit:

1. सूर्यः अवगच्छति।
2. नरः प्रगच्छति।
3. रामः आगच्छति।
4. कपयः प्रगच्छन्ति।
5. गुरवः आगच्छन्ति।

6. The moon goes down.
7. The lion goes forward.
8. Sītā comes.
9. The teachers go forward.
10. The monkeys come.

Sanskrit: An Introductory Course

For students starting Sanskrit at a later stage and wanting to prepare quite swiftly for study of the 'Stories from the Mahābhārata' series.

Includes:

- The alphabet and the combination of letters
- Noun and verb construction and simple sentence construction
- Captivating stories
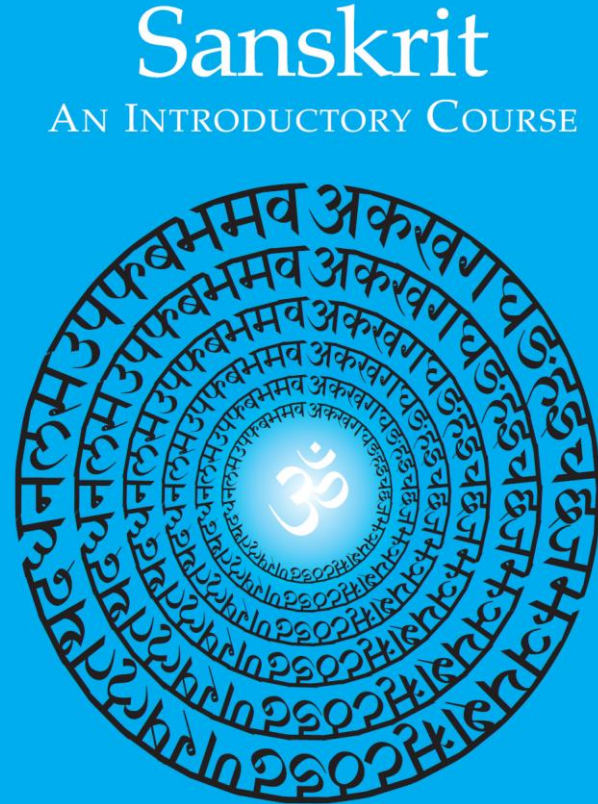
Building on the basics – Stories from the Mahābhārata 1, 2, 3

* Expansion and consolidation of topics covered already
* Sandhi
* Compound words
* English into Sanskrit translation
* Expanding knowledge of nouns and verbs
* Using the imperative and passive
* Prefixes
* Personal pronouns
* Indefinites
* Interrogative pronouns
* Past passive participles
* More sophisticated stories

Stories From
The Mahābhārata

A Sanskrit Coursebook for Intermediate Level
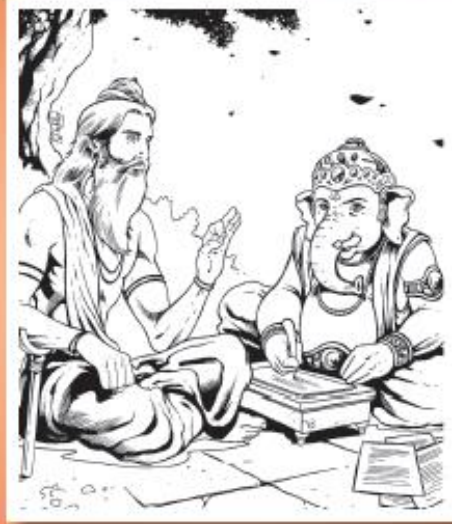
PART ONE

Edited by
WARWICK & ELENA JESSUP

Free DVDs accompany these course books when Parts 1, 2 & 3 are purchased together.

3.4 Words ending in -त

A -त ending word has the sense of a completed action. Like an adjective, its ending is modified in case, number and gender so that it agrees with the noun it describes. In English grammar we call a -त ending word a 'past passive participle' (ppp). For example, रामः गतः । 'Rāma (has) gone.' Here is a list of some -त words:

DHĀTUS	-त ENDING WORDS	MEANING
कृ	*कृत॰	made / done
गम्	*गत॰	gone
आ + गम्	आगत॰	come
मृ	*मृत॰	dead
हन्	*हत॰	killed / struck
श्रु	श्रुत॰	heard / listened to
दृश् [1]	*दृष्ट॰	seen
खाद्	खादित॰	eaten
अप + हृ	अपहृत॰	carried off
ग्रह् [1]	*गृहीत॰	grabbed / seized
वच् [1]	उक्त॰	said / spoken
पत्	पतित॰	fallen

[1] Has irregular forms.

6.5 Special Use of the Sixth Case Ending

In Sanskrit, the verb 'to have' does not exist. Instead, we use the Sixth Case Ending. For example:

Sixth Case Ending

नृपस्य   कामः   आसीत् ।
of the king   desire   there was

Literally: 'Of the king there was a desire.'

We would say: 'The king had a desire.'

Sixth Case Ending

गङ्गायाः   पुत्राः   सन्ति ।
of Gaṅgā   sons   there are

Literally: 'Of Gaṅgā there are sons.'

We would say: 'Gaṅgā has sons.'

EXERCISE 47

Translate into English:

1. नरस्य पुत्रः आसीत् ।
2. पुत्रस्य जनकः अस्ति ।
3. कन्यायाः मोदकः आसन् ।
4. गृहस्य द्वारे न स्तः ।
5. नृपाणाम् राज्यानि सन्ति ।

Stories From
The Mahābhārata

A Sanskrit Coursebook for Intermediate Level

PART TWO

Edited by
WARWICK & ELENA JESSUP

Bhīma is Poisoned

Some years have passed, and the Pāṇḍavas and Kauravas are now boys. The evil Duryodhana, who is the eldest Kaurava, has ambitions for the throne and wishes to eliminate his rivals, the Pāṇḍavas.

He lures the Pāṇḍavas to the river Gaṅgā, and there gives Bhīma poison in his food. Bhīma falls into a deep sleep, and Duryodhana throws him into the river.

1. पाण्डवाः कौरवाः च बालकाः।

2. अमाधुः दुर्योधनः अचिन्तयत् कः नृपः भविष्यति।

3. यदि पाण्डवान् <u>जेष्यामि</u> तर्हि अहम् एव नृपः भविष्यामि इति।

4. एकदा पाण्डवाः कौरवाः च नदीम् अगच्छन्।

5. तत्र आगम्य जलम् प्रविश्य ते अहमन् अक्रीडन् च।

6. बलिष्ठः पाण्डवः भीमः नाम।

जेष्यति   will conquer

The 'Disappearing' process has 3 rules.

(**V** = vowels; हश् = soft consonants;   **C** = any consonant)

For this process the विसर्ग simply disappears!

The first Rule says:

अः before **V** (except अ) > अ **V** (not joined)

For example:

रामः इच्छति   >   राम इच्छति

The second Rule says:

आः before **V** or हश् > आ **V** or हश् (not joined)

For example:

रामाः अभवत्   >   रामा अभवत्
रामाः भवति   >   रामा भवति

The third Rule says:

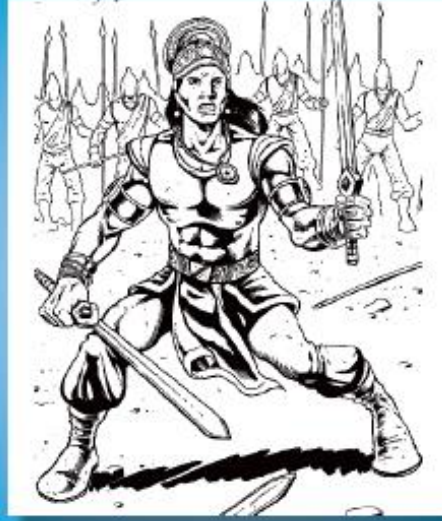मः or ष्षः before **C** > म/ष्ष **C** (not joined)

For example:

मः भवति   >   म भवति
ष्षः खादति   >   ष्ष खादति

Stories From
The Mahābhārata

A Sanskrit Coursebook for Intermediate Level

PART THREE

Edited by
WARWICK & ELENA JESSUP

17.2 IGCSE Vocabulary 1 — Animals

From this point in the course, vocabulary for IGCSE Sanskrit is being introduced gradually in special 'IGCSE Vocabulary' tables, beginning with this one.

अश्वः (m)	horse
ऋषभः (m)	bull
कपिः (m)	monkey
काकः (m)	crow
कुक्कुरः (m)	dog
खगः (m)	bird
गजः (m)	elephant
गर्दभः (m)	donkey
गृध्रः (m)	vulture
बिडालः (m)	cat
मत्स्यः (m)	fish
मूषिकः (m)	mouse
मृगः (m)	forest animal, deer
व्याघ्रः (m)	tiger
शशकः (m)	rabbit
सर्पः (m)	snake
सिंहः (m)	lion

22.4 Tatpuruṣa

Perhaps the most common compound is *tatpuruṣa*.

There are five main types of

तत्पुरुष

(1) STANDARD — **noun + noun**

(translate backwards using to, by, for, from, of or in between the two words)

e.g. वनखगः   'forest-bird (bird **in** the forest)'

noun + ppp

e.g. नगरगत°   'town-gone (gone **to** the town)'

(2) KARMADHĀRAYA — **adjective + noun**

e.g. दीर्घनासिका   'long-nose (a nose **which is** long)'

(3) UPAMĀNA — **noun + adjective**   *(a comparison)*

e.g. गगननील°   'sky-blue (blue **like** the sky)'

(4) NAÑ — अ / अन् + **noun or adjective**

e.g. अधर्मः   'injustice'

(5) DVIGU — **number + noun**

e.g. त्रिलोकम्   'the three worlds'

(At present we shall only consider a neuter singular dvigu, showing a grouping.)

Helpful for study of original texts -IGCSE Parts 1 and 2

* IGCSE vocabulary
* Infinitives
* Present Participles
* Locative Absolute
* Gerundives
* Pronouns
* More noun paradigms
* Direct / indirect speech
* Perfect Tense
* 10 families of verbs
* Indeclinables

IGCSE SANSKRIT (Part 1)

Note: IGCSE Parts 1 and 2 are free to download from ISER website

CHAPTER 1

1.1 IGCSE Vocabulary 1

In the verb column, those marked with an asterisk (*) need to be known from Sanskrit to English and vice versa. Words without an asterisk need only be known from Sanskrit to English.

Dhātu		Verb	-त्वा ending
इष्	want	* इच्छति	इष्ट्वा
कृ	do, make	* करोति	कृत्वा
खाद्	eat	* खादति	खादित्वा
गम्	go	* गच्छति	गत्वा
चर्	walk	* चरति	चरित्वा
ज्ञा	know	जानाति	ज्ञात्वा
दा	give	* ददाति	दत्वा
धाव्	run	* धावति	धावित्वा
पश्	see	* पश्यति	दृष्ट्वा
पा	drink	* पिबति	पीत्वा
प्रछ्	ask	पृच्छति	पृष्ट्वा
भाष्	say	भाषते	भाषित्वा
मन्	think	मन्यते	मत्वा
मृ	die	म्रियते	मृत्वा
लभ्	find	* लभते	लब्ध्वा
वद्	speak	* वदति	उदित्वा
वृध्	grow	* वर्धते	वर्धित्वा
शक्	is able	शक्नोति	शक्त्वा
श्रु	hear	शृणोति	श्रुत्वा
हन्	kill	हन्ति	हत्वा

EXERCISE 46

Translate the following sentences into English:

1. तत्सरो विशाल समुद्र इव।
2. भृत्यो नमांसि नृपायाकरोत्।
3. हृद्येन मनसा चोपायः कृतः।
4. मत्स्याः सरसि अवसन्।
5. मृगौ सरसोऽचलं गच्छतः।

6.3 The Forms of सुमनम्

When the word मनम् is used at the end of a bahuvrīhi compound, it will take an ending depending on the word that it goes with. When this happens, the endings change. Here is the word सुमनम् ('having a good mind; friendly') to demonstrate the masculine endings:

सुमनम्

सुमनाः friendly	सुमनसौ friendly (dual)	सुमनसः friendly (plural)
हे सुमनः O friendly (voc.)	हे सुमनसौ O friendly (voc. dual)	हे सुमनसः O friendly (voc. plural)
सुमनसम् friendly (2nd)	सुमनसौ friendly (dual 2nd)	सुमनसः friendly (plural 2nd)
सुमनसा by friendly	सुमनोभ्याम् by friendly (dual)	सुमनोभिः by friendly (plural)
सुमनसे for friendly	सुमनोभ्याम् for friendly (dual)	सुमनोभ्यः for friendly (plural)
सुमनसः from friendly	सुमनोभ्याम् from friendly (dual)	सुमनोभ्यः from friendly (plural)
सुमनसः of friendly	सुमनसोः of friendly (dual)	सुमनसाम् of friendly (plural)
सुमनसि in friendly	सुमनसोः in friendly (dual)	सुमनःसु in friendly (plural)

The feminine forms go like नदी. e.g. सुमनमी, सुमनम्यौ, सुमनम्यः and so on.

IGCSE SANSKRIT (Part 2)

Exercise 61

Fill in the missing endings. In your exercise book write the stems in one colour and the endings in another.

बभूव＿＿＿　　बभूव＿＿＿　　बभूव＿＿＿

बभाष＿＿＿　　बभाष＿＿＿　　बभाष＿＿＿

9.2.3 Other Verbs in the Perfect Tense

Here is a list of some other verbs in the perfect tense, which for now only need to be recognised in the 'he/she/it' form:

Dhātu	Present	Perfect
कृ	करोति makes, does	चकार made, did
गम्	गच्छति goes	जगाम went
दृश्	पश्यति sees	ददर्श saw
पत्	पतति falls	पपात fell
वच्	वक्ति says	उवाच said
शुच्	शोचति grieves	शुशोच grieved
श्रु	शृणोति hears	शुश्राव heard
हन्	हन्ति kills	जघान killed
लभ्	लभते finds	लुलभे found

Exercise 62

Choose a present form ending in ति from the above table and conjugate it in the perfect tense. Then choose a present form ending in ते and do the same.

10.2.2 More 1st Family Verbs and their Principal Parts

Root (dhatu)	Present Active & Passive	Future	Past Perfect	Gerundive	Infinitive	त and –त्वा
गम् 'go'	गच्छति / गम्यते	गमिष्यति	जगाम	गन्तव्य	गन्तुम्	गत / गत्वा
त्यज् 'abandon'	त्यजति / त्यज्यते	त्यक्ष्यति	तत्याज	त्यक्तव्य	त्यक्तुम्	त्यक्त / त्यक्त्वा
दृश् 'see'	पश्यति / दृश्यते	द्रक्ष्यति	ददर्श	द्रष्टव्य	द्रष्टुम्	दृष्ट / दृष्ट्वा
नी 'lead'	नयति / नीयते	नेष्यति	निनाय	नेतव्य	नेतुम्	नीत / नीत्वा
भू 'become'	भवति / भूयते	भविष्यति	बभूव	भवनीय	भवितुम्	भूत / भूत्वा
वद् 'speak'	वदति / उद्यते	वदिष्यति	उवाच	वदितव्य	वदितुम्	उदित / उदित्वा
वस् 'dwell'	वसति / उष्यते	वत्स्यति	उवास	उषितव्य	वसितुम्	उषित / उषित्वा
स्था 'stay still'	तिष्ठति / स्थीयते	स्थास्यति	तस्थौ	स्थेय	स्थातुम्	स्थित / स्थित्वा
स्वद् 'eat'	स्वादति / स्वाद्यते	स्वादिष्यति	चस्वाद	स्वादनीय	स्वादितुम्	स्वादित / स्वादित्वा
चर् 'walk'	चरति / चर्यते	चरिष्यति	चचार	चरणीय	चरितुम्	चरित / चरित्वा
रक्ष् 'protect'	रक्षति / रक्ष्यते	रक्षिष्यति	ररक्ष	रक्षणीय	रक्षितुम्	रक्षित / रक्षित्वा
वृध् 'grow'	वर्धति / वृध्यते	वर्धिष्यते	ववर्ध	वर्धनीय	वर्धितुम्	वर्धित / वर्धित्वा

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IGCSE – Some Basic Facts

* IGCSE - International General Certificate of Education
* Accredited by CIE (Cambridge International Examinations)
* Exams must be taken at a Cambridge International Centre
* IGCSE Sanskrit is usually taken in May

IGCSE study resources

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