Learning Language: Basic Modern Hindi -101

Required texts
*Teach Yourself Beginner’s Hindi Script* (2nd edition), by Rupert Snell and Simon Weightman (with or without audio CD)

Required Subscription
http://lilappp.cdac.in/lilaprabodh/newhome.asp

Optional texts
*The Oxford Hindi-English Dictionary*, ed. by R. S. McGregor

Course
Basic Modern Hindi - 101 is the first step in the direction of learning Hindi and about Hindi speech community. It has been conceived and designed as a part of a larger goal of understanding India and its diversity for native speakers of English targeting to achieve native Hindi speaker’s proficiency. This course in particular, the first in that series, would prove to be a milestone in that regard. It requires 60 hrs in the class-room set-up and language lab set-up altogether.

Method
Learning through years of language learning and teaching, it has been established how Learner-Centered Approach encouraging moderate amount of interaction, discussion, peer/group work etc. woven into syllabus-design trains language learners in achieving the target in 2nd language learning. The course derives its teaching methodologies from the same set of principles already tested in class-room set-ups. It can easily be modified to float a virtual class-room set-up. Moving every step forward in the course would indicate the performance level of learners through continuous evaluation.

Basic Modern Hindi – 101
It will introduce learners to the Sound System using Audio-Visual cues besides Phonetic Descriptions; to the Script with sufficient practice necessary to inculcate the art of writing; Basic Vocabulary – I necessary to identify simple actions & processes, objects of daily use necessary to express about routine actions and concrete reality besides basic structure words; and will also be instructed how to produce spoken and written versions of the same. Learners will also be trained in Transliteration.

Besides exposing learners to the Basic Sentence Structures through regular informal conversations based on topics of day to day interest, it will also train them in reading selected short stories – thus, giving them a feel of native culture of Hindi speech community. There will be a set of audio-visual tapes through regular calendar exercises in the class room (either in regular or virtual) as well as in the language lab to support their learning.

Course requirements

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(If failure to complete one or more of the course requirements may be grounds for failing the course.)

**Home Work**

Learning about anything new is substantiated largely by individual’s inner urge. To feed this inner urge and make learners reach their goal-set, it is requisite that they routinely practice the intended skills (through HW, & CW or @online tests and assignments) on their own and get supervisor’s comments and suggestions on time. Home Works are equally distributed to cover all the language skills in the entire course duration. A separate calendar is provided to address this issue and catch up with the evaluation. However, the following details are must to note:

- ASSIGNED HW MUST BE SUBMITTED BEFORE THE CLASS BEGINS.
- NO LATE HOMEWORKS WOULD BE ACCEPTED FOR GRADING.
- USE ONLY PENCILS TO DO HOMEWORKS.
- PLAGIARISM WOULD BE STERNLY ADDRESSED.
- AVOID SEXIST, AGEIST, RACIST, AND CASTIST TONES.

One page length of handwritten text based on script-learning must be turned in EVERYDAY. Exercises in *Teach Yourself Hindi* are supposed to be corrected by learners themselves (using a different ink color/pencil) and then turned in on the due date. Questions based on video clips or reading sections are supposed to be answered in complete sentences. Dialogue Writing must run between 12-15 dialogues altogether. All the compositions in the later half of the course should be in 1-2 pages.

**Quizzes**

Vocabulary and Grammar Quizzes are planned in the same spirit. They are important not only to know the performance level contributing to the final score but are parts of learning exercise. Better DO NOT MISS them.

**Projects/Presentations**

Keeping in view the time, money, and mind learners are investing; they must carry home something for their future pursuit – to help themselves rise higher up on the ladder and to support others as well do the same. Learners are required to produce a course/class project. They must buy a four-ring binder file and start working on it right from the commencement of the program. TALK TO THE COURSE INSTRUCTOR FOR THIS IN THE FIRST CLASS.

**Final Paper**

The final exam (See the exam format) will evaluate all the four skills you are supposed to develop through the course. Written exam will cover Reading and Writing skills and an Oral exam will cover Listening and Speaking skills. **Meet individually with the instructor for an oral exam, immediately after the written test.**
Participation
Preparation before attending the class shall contribute to the participation grade reflected through learners’ active involvement (asking relevant questions and promoting use of Hindi) in the class room activities. Arriving late in the regular class-room will cost you .5 point.

Policy on Attendance
It depends on what kind of course, you are enrolled in. For the learners enrolled in online course, their attendance on the day of presentation at the allotted time is MANDATORY; and for learners enrolled in regular course, for every absence .5 point would be subtracted from the participation score. A total absence of ten classes would lead to failure in the course saving that there is some genuine EMERGENCY. Only 4 absences will be counted for emergencies.

Language Lab
Language Lab will be available only for the learners enrolled in regular course. The lab is equipped with digital facilities to train in speaking and listening skills, and also to test these skills. Learners enrolled in the online courses are required to subscribe to the online lessons and tests offered by the institutions and/or other ancillary institutions collaborating with the institution.

Good Luck!