

HINDI LANGUAGE COURSE

COMPLETE SYLLABUS

A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2



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CLASSES
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Hindi is one of the most spoken languages in the world, with over 600 million speakers globally. It serves as an official language of India and is widely understood across South Asia. Rooted in the Devanagari script, Hindi opens doors to a rich cultural, literary, and economic landscape. Below is a detailed, step-by-step syllabus for Hindi from absolute beginner (A1) to mastery (C2), based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). This structure aligns with university-level Hindi programs and official language learning standards.

PART 1: UNDERSTANDING THE HINDI LANGUAGE & CEFR LEVELS

Before diving into the syllabus, it is essential to understand the unique characteristics that define the Hindi language journey.

Aspect	Description & Syllabus Relevance
Script Direction	Left-to-Right (Devanagari). The script is phonetic and highly scientific. Syllabus Focus: Mastering 11 vowels and 33 consonants (A1).
Grammar Core	SOV (Subject-Object-Verb) structure, similar to Japanese and Korean. Postpositions (not prepositions). Syllabus Focus: Sentence construction hierarchy (A1-B1).
Vocabulary	High levels of Sanskrit-derived vocabulary (Tatsam/Tadbhav) for formal contexts, versus Persian/Arabic influences (via Urdu) for daily speech. Syllabus Focus: "Diglossia" management (A2-B2).
Phonetics	Distinction between aspirated (ख, घ) and unaspirated (क, ग) sounds; dental (त) vs retroflex (ड़) consonants. Syllabus Focus: Mouth positioning mastery (A1-A2).

CEFR Alignment for Hindi (Global Standard)

The course structure strictly follows the "Can Do" statements developed by the Council of Europe, adapted for the specific requirements of Hindi. The progression is based on the Guide for the Use of CEFR in Learning, Teaching and Assessment, which maps specific linguistic content to each level.

Level	Global Descriptor for Hindi	Syllabus Focus Area	Approx. Study Hours
A1	Breakthrough	Mastering the Devanagari script . Overcoming pronunciation hurdles. Survival phrases for travel in Delhi, Mumbai, or Varanasi.	80-150 hours
A2	Waystage	Functional Hindi . Reading basic signs & menus. Describing your family routine in simple past /present/future tenses.	150-300 hours
B1	Threshold	Conversational Flow . Understanding the gist of news headlines and discussing hobbies. Handling routine tasks (post office, doctor).	300-500 hours
B2	Vantage	Abstract Expression . Reading short stories by Premchand or Mahadevi Varma . Expressing opinions on social issues.	500-750 hours
C1	Effective Proficiency	Formal & Literary . Analyzing prose/poetry structures. Professional correspondence, business Hindi, and nuanced cultural references.	750-1000 hours
C2	Mastery	Near-Native . Producing literary criticism. Understanding regional varieties (Braj, Awadhi influence). Mastery of formal/informal registers.	1000+ hours

PART 2: DETAILED TOPIC-WISE SYLLABUS (A1 TO C2)

STAGE 1: BASIC USER (A1 - BREAKTHROUGH)

Goal: To recognize the Devanagari script, introduce yourself, and manage very simple daily interactions.

University Standard: Completing this level aligns with the first year of university Hindi courses

Week	Topic & Communication Goals	Lexical & Topical Syllabus	Grammatical & Structural Syllabus	Cultural Component
1-2	The Script & Sound System	Introduction to vowels (अ-ऌ) and consonants (क-ञ्). Learning Barakhadi (Combinations of consonants with vowels).	Distinguishing aspirated vs unaspirated (क vs ख). Dental vs retroflex (त vs ट). No capital letters; conjunct consonants (क्ष, त्र, ज्ञ) .	The significance of Devanagari (Language of the Gods). Calligraphy basics.
3-4	Introductions & Greetings	Greetings: "Namaste", "Namaskar". Vocabulary: Family (माता, पिता, भाई). Asking "Aap kaise hain?"	Gender agreement (अच्छा/अच्छी). The verb "Hona" (to be). Sentence structure: SOV (Subject-Object-Verb) .	The etiquette of "Adaab" (hand to heart). Gender in Urdu grammar.
5-6	Daily Routine & Pronouns	Pronouns (Main, Tum, Aap). Vocabulary: Common verbs (जाना - to go, खाना - to eat, पीना - to drink). Numbers 1-20.	Present Habitual Tense (-ता/-ती हूँ). Possessives with "Ka/Ke/Ki" (का/के/की).	Social hierarchy of pronouns: Tum (familiar) vs Aap (formal) .
7-8	Places & Directions	Vocabulary: Market (बाजार), Home (घर), School (स्कूल). Colors (रंग). Days of the week.	Postpositions (में - in, पर - on). The oblique case (required before postpositions)	Holy sites: Varanasi (Kashi), Haridwar.

STAGE 2: ELEMENTARY (A2 - WAYSTAGE)

Goal: To handle simple transactions, describe past actions, and express future plans. University courses typically target this level after 1-2 semesters.

University Standard: A2 is the typical outcome of a first-year university Hindi program.

Unit	Topic & Communication Goals	Lexical & Topical Syllabus	Grammatical & Structural Syllabus	Intercultural Focus
1	Shopping & Transactions	Vocabulary: Clothes, grocery items. Bargaining phrases ("Kitne kaa?"). Currency (Rupee).	Imperative mood (करो, जाओ, बैठो) - formal vs informal commands. Use of "ko" as direct object marker.	The art of bargaining in Chandni Chowk (Delhi) or Crawford Market (Mumbai).

2	The Past Tense	Describing a trip or a holiday. "Main kal Agra gaya."	Perfective Tense (-आ/-ई/-ए). Distinguishing Transitive vs Intransitive verbs (Ergativity). "Usne khana khaya" (The "ne" construction).	The Taj Mahal. The concept of "Kal" (yesterday/tomorrow) context usage.
3	The Future & Plans	Expressing intentions. "Main kal dilli jaunga."	Future tense (-गा/-गी). The conjunction "Aur" (and). Use of "Wala" (the one associated with) .	The significance of time in Indian culture ("Indian Stretchable Time").
4	Describing Emotions	Vocabulary: Khushi (happiness), Gussa (anger), Dard (pain).	Compound verbs (Ho Jana - to become). Use of "Bahut" (very) and "Thoda" (a little) .	Expressing emotions in Bollywood songs.
5	House & Location	Vocabulary: Rooms of the house (कमरा). Family relations extended (चाचा, मामा, बुआ).	Locative postpositions (के ऊपर - above, के नीचे - under). "Rakhna" (to keep/place) .	The concept of "Puja Ghar" (Prayer room) in Indian homes.

STAGE 3: INTERMEDIATE (B1 - THRESHOLD)

Goal: To navigate travel, work, and social situations with relative ease. You can now read simple newspaper headlines.

Unit	Topic & Communication Goals	Lexical & Topical Syllabus	Grammatical & Structural Syllabus	Text & Media
1	Work & Education	Describing your profession. Vocabulary: Office (कार्यालय), Interview, University.	Subjunctive mood (चाहिए - should/want). Obligation expressions. Relative sentences (जो...वह) .	Reading classified ads from Dainik Jagran or Hindustan Times (Hindi).
2	Travel & Bureaucracy	Booking a hotel. Handling a lost passport.	Compound postpositions. Use of "Ke liye" (for). Introduction to Passive voice .	Dealing with Police/ Consulate scenarios (Role Play).
3	Media & News	Discussing current events. Vocabulary: Politics (राजनीति), Economy (अर्थव्यवस्था).	Complex sentence structures using "Kyunki" (because), "Agar...to" (if...then), and "Halanki" (although) .	Listening to BBC Hindi or DD News.

4	Opinions & Feelings	Expressing agreement /disagreement. "Mere khayal se..." (In my opinion).	Conjunct verbs: "Mahsoos karna" (to feel), "Shuru karna" (to start). Nominal derivation (prefixes /suffixes) .	The art of "Baat-cheet" (Small talk) vs formal discussion.
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STAGE 4: UPPER INTERMEDIATE (B2 - VANTAGE)

Goal: To understand abstract topics and produce structured arguments. You can read short stories and watch movies without constant subtitles.

Unit	Topic & Communication Goals	Lexical & Topical Syllabus	Grammatical & Structural Syllabus	Cultural Outcome
1	Social Issues	Topics: Environment (प्रदूषण), Women's Education (नारी शिक्षा), Corruption (भ्रष्टाचार).	Complex clauses using "Baavjood" (despite). Expressing regret "Kaash..." Subordinate clauses .	Reading editorials in Navbharat Times or Amar Ujala.
2	Formal Writing	Writing a formal letter to the editor or a job application.	Literary register. Using Sanskritized vocabulary (Tatsam) in writing. Nominal composition .	The "Aavedan Patra" (Application) culture.
3	Short Stories	Plot summary of Godaan (Premchand) or Meri Jaan (Mohan Rakesh).	Discourse markers (फिर भी - despite that, वैसे - by the way). Past participle usage.	Premchand and the "Progressive Writers' Movement."
4	Cinema & Arts	Reviewing a film (Bollywood/Parallel Cinema). Discussing music (Classical, Ghazal).	Expressing hypotheticals (Past Conditional). "Agar main wahan hota..." (If I had been there).	Impact of Satyajit Ray (Pathar Panchali) and Gulzar on literary filmmaking.

STAGE 5: ADVANCED (C1 - EFFECTIVE OPERATIONAL PROFICIENCY)

Goal: To master nuance, humor, and formal rhetoric. At this level, you can teach Hindi or use it professionally in journalism or academia.

Module	Topic & Communication Focus	Lexical & Stylistic Syllabus	Rhetorical & Structural Syllabus	Mastery Task
1	Advanced Prosody (Poetry)	Reciting a Doha (couplet) by Kabir or Rahim. Understanding "Chhand" (meter).	Formal honorifics. Literary terms: "Alankar" (figures of speech), "Ras" (aesthetics).	Task: Translate a Kabir doha into English while preserving the 24-syllable meter.

2-3	Political Discourse	Understanding speeches from the Indian Parliament or interviews with politicians.	Socio-political jargon (जनपद, लोकसभा, राज्यसभा). Formal Urdu-derived vocabulary.	Subtle passive constructions used in legislation.
4	Literary Criticism	Analyzing the "Chhayavaad" (Romantic) era of Mahadevi Varma and Jaishankar Prasad.	Critical terms: "Prayojanmulak" (utilitarian), "Sakaratakmak" (positive).	Crafting a critical apparatus (Introduction-Thesis -Conclusion) in Hindi.

STAGE 6: MASTERY (C2 - PROFICIENCY)

Goal: Near-native competence. You can read classical texts, draft legal documents, and perform professionally in Hindi.

Competency	Description & Syllabus Focus	Evidence of Mastery
Summation	Can summarize information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments and accounts coherently.	Listening to a lecture on Indian philosophy and reconstructing the arguments in a coherent written summary without notes.
Fluency	Can express themselves spontaneously, very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of meaning even in complex situations.	Taking a phone call regarding a complex banking issue or legal matter without hesitation.
Nuance	Can understand the difference between Kranti (Revolution), Andolan (Movement), and Vidroh (Rebellion) in a political context.	Reading a Mithileshwar (contemporary poet) poem and explaining the multiple layers of social satire.
Dialectal Variation	Understands regional variations and historical texts.	Recognizing Brij Bhasha (Krishna poetry) features vs Awadhi (Tulsidas' Ramcharitmanas).

PART 3: IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING HINDI (BY LEVEL)

Hindi is not merely a language; it is a strategic asset for business and employment in one of the world's fastest-growing economies.

Level-Based Professional & Social Importance

Level	Professional Importance	Social & Cultural Impact
A1-A2	Tourism & Survival: Navigating the historic bylanes of Old Delhi, Jaipur, or Varanasi. Basic customer service for BPOs targeting domestic markets.	Breaking the ice. Being greeted with "Bahut accha! Aap Hindi seekh rahe hain!" (Very good! You are learning Hindi!) by native speakers.
B1-B2	Business & Education: Eligibility for entry-level jobs in Indian startups and MNCs. Zoho CEO Sridhar Vembu recently emphasized that not knowing Hindi is a "serious handicap for business in Tamil Nadu" regarding access to Northern markets	Reading restaurant menus beyond the English page. Enjoying Bollywood songs without looking up the lyrics. Discussing cricket or politics with taxi drivers.

C1	High-Level Careers: Journalism (NDTV, Zee News). Corporate: Regional Manager for MNCs wanting to access 500M+ Hindi speakers. Diplomacy: Roles in the Indian Foreign Services.	Reading the poetry of Harivansh Rai Bachchan (Madhushala) or Gulzar in the original script, where the wordplay and double meanings are lost in translation.
C2	Academia & Research: Professor of Hindi Literature (requires UGC-NET in India). AI & Linguistics: Language model trainer for voice assistants (Siri/Alexa) in Hindi. Intelligence/Cryptology .	Attending a "Kavi Sammelan" (Poetry symposium) and judging the quality of the sher (couplet) against masters. Writing your own Doha.

PART 4: RECOMMENDED RESOURCES & STUDY TIPS

Essential Syllabus Resources

- ◆ **The "Bible" for A1-B2:** Learning Hindi: Speak, Read and Write Hindi with Manga Comics! by Brajesh Samarth (Tuttle Publishing). This book is explicitly structured for CEFR-aligned self-study and includes free online audio and flashcards . A more concise option is Easy Hindi by the same author .
- ◆ **For Dictionary:** Oxford Hindi-English Dictionary by R.S. McGregor (Crucial for checking grammatical genders which are often unreliable in Google Translate).
- ◆ **For Digital Practice:** Duolingo (Good for script practice), HelloTalk (Language exchange with native speakers), and Rekhta.org (for advanced Urdu-derived vocabulary).
- ◆ **For Listening:** BBC Hindi (Clear, slow, standard Hindi) and The Hindi Pod (YouTube channels focusing on history/documentaries).

The "Akhbaar" Method (Reading Practice)

For B1 level and above, try the "Newspaper Three-Pass" method using Dainik Jagran or Navbharat Times:

- ◆ **Scan:** Look at the headlines to get the gist.
- ◆ Read the first paragraph of an article (usually contains the 5 W's).
- ◆ **Guess:** Try to guess the meaning of "Pradushan" (Pollution) or "Neta" (Leader) before looking it up.

The "Aap Tum Tu" Strategy (Pragmatics)

For B1 level and above, try the "Newspaper Three-Pass" method using Dainik Jagran or Navbharat Times:

- ◆ **A1-A2:** Use only "Aap" (formal you) for everyone. It keeps you safe from offending elders.
- ◆ **B1+:** Learn to switch between "Tum" (informal/friendly) and "Aap" (respectful). Overusing "Aap" with close friends sounds cold; using "Tum" with elders is rude.



