LEARN TELUGU IN 30 DAYS THROUGH ENGLISH
The book primarily attempts to introduce those whose mother tongue is not Telugu to learning of Telugu by the most natural and the simplest method. It adopts the scientific approach, introducing alphabets, words, sentences in that order and application of these in the most common situations of daily life. Situational sentences and conversational sentences selected for the book reflect the maximum possible commonness of Indian languages and Indian culture.
LEARN TELUGU IN 30 DAYS THROUGH ENGLISH

Chief Editor
Krishna Gopal Vikal

Editor : Telug Edition
Gouripati Rao & C. Chethuna

DIAMOND BOOKS
Learn Telugu in 30 Days Through English


Rs.60/-
Dedicated to

Dr. Ashok Ramchandra Kelkar
Renowned Philologist of India
whose advice was the source of inspiration
A WORD FROM
THE PUBLISHER

We are glad to announce that with a view to strengthening the unity of our country, we shall be publishing the book-series ‘LEARN THE NATIONAL LANGUAGES’ to enable people of this country to learn any Indian language other than his mother tongue, through the medium of English.

Each book of the series will be divided in five parts. The first two parts will cover the basic knowledge about the language concerned and the rest will be devoted to conversational aspects and practical application of the language.

The books will be prepared under the able guidance of the well-known author and editor of several books, Shri Krishna Gopal Vikal, who is the chief editor of this book and he will be assisted by Shri Amitabh Dhingra. Format and scheme of all books will be the same as that of this book and each book will be prepared in close consultation with the topmost linguists of the language concerned.

We hope this series will bring together the people of various parts of our country promoting mutual understanding and fostering national unity. We hereby present the first book ‘Diamond Telugu Learning and Speaking Course’.

Publisher
FORWORD

The greatest sensation of life is to learn a language. One has to closely watch a child going through this experience, to be convinced of this. Every time he learn a new word or construction from mother, father or other relatives, his heart is filled with wonder, excitement, thrill and creative urge and he toys with its various forms and tones bringing into play all the creative forces within him.

To learn a new language is to re-enter this wonderful experience of life, opening infinite opportunities for creative action. Besides, in a fast expanding world transcending all barriers of colour, caste, religion and language, a new language is an essential tool of life.

The book primarily attempts to introduce those whose mother tongue is not Telugu to learning of Telugu by the most natural and the simplest method. It adopts the scientific approach, introducing alphabets, words, sentences in that order and application of these in the most common situations of daily life. Situational sentences and conversational sentences selected for the book reflect the maximum possible commonness of Indian languages and Indian culture. The purpose is that the learner during the process of learning should be sufficiently equipped to converse and transact with a very vast section of Telugu speaking people throughout India and abroad.

The book can also be helpful to foreigners who are on visit to India as tourists, scholars, diplomats and businessmen as it would enable them to move about in different parts of the country transcending the language barriers.
We hope the book will serve the purpose. It will be popular among the youngsters as well as the serious language learner. We are grateful to Shri Narendra Kumar, Director of Diamond Pocket Books, who has wisely taken special initiative to bring out this very useful series. We also express out gratitude to the persons concerned with proof-reading, printing and production of the book.

— Krishna Gopal Vikal
Amitabh Dhingra
Gouripati Rao & C. Chethuna
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PART 1
ALPHABET
1ST STEP ప్రియదార్శిన్యం

WELCOME YOU ALL
ప్రియదార్శిన్యం

This book is in your hands. It means that you intend to learn Telugu. It is a matter of pleasure to us.

Of all the languages of India, Telugu is one of the most popular South Indian languages. It is one of the Dravidian languages. It has a vast and rich literature. It is a phonetic language. Telugu has a special place in the family of Indian languages. It is the language in which most of the Carnatic lyrics are composed.

We welcome you all for your praiseworthy enthusiasm and fully assure you of success. You will move on continually—step by step until you reach your destination. Let us start our journey.

Sentences of Greetings in Conversation

In Telugu, there are no separate clauses for timely salutations as in English, like ‘Good morning’, ‘Good evening’, ‘Good night’ etc. We say every time we meet నామకరణం (Namaskaram) or నామస్తు (Namaste), etc.

While meeting నామకరణం నామస్తు

Good morning, Sir! నామకరణంచేయు నామకరణం నామకరణం
Good morning నామకరణంచేయు నామకరణం నామకరణం
Madam! నామకరణంచేయు నామకరణం నామకరణం
Good afternoon, my నామకరణం నామకరణం నామకరణం
friend! నామకరణం నామకరణం నామకరణం
Good afternoon, నామకరణం నామకరణం నామకరణం
brother! నామకరణం నామకరణం నామకరణం
Good evening, boss! నామకరణం నామకరణం నామకరణం
Good evening, my నామకరణం నామకరణం నామకరణం
comrade! నామకరణం నామకరణం నామకరణం
Good night, నామకరణం నామకరణం నామకరణం
sister!

Learn Telugu in 30 days Through English
**While departing**

**Goodbye, my child!**  
Vaṣṭānu ammāyī/  
abbaīyi

**Bye bye!**  
Veḷḷī Rāṇḍī

**Ta-Ta!**  
ṛta ṭa!

**Good bye!**  
Guḍ bai!

**Good wishes**

**Happy Diwali!**  
Dīpāvalī  
Subhāṅkāṃśalu

**Happy Pongal**  
Saṅkrānti  
Subhāṅkāṃśalu

**Happy Ugadi!**  
Yugādi  
Subhāṅkāṃśalu

**Happy X-mas!**  
Krismas  
Subhāṅkāṃśalu

---

**REMARKS**

In Telugu, all can say नमस्कार (Namaskāraṁ) or नमस्ते (Namastē) in salutation. There are no specific terms in Indian languages which are similar to English terms like 'good morning, good afternoon and good night etc.'
ALPHABET

Telugu language is based on the Bhrami script and shares similarity with Kannada script.

Telugu alphabets consist of vowels and consonants which are 17 and 35 respectively. The vowels have Anuswara and Visarga as ḷo and ḷı:

Here we are going to deal with vowels.

VOWELS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a</th>
<th>ā</th>
<th>i</th>
<th>ī</th>
<th>u</th>
<th>ū</th>
<th>ō</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ē</td>
<td>ë</td>
<td>ə</td>
<td>ai</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>ō</td>
<td>au</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recognise and pronounce—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ə</th>
<th>ē</th>
<th>ī</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ū</td>
<td>ō</td>
<td>ë</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ã</td>
<td>āḥ</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. In Telugu, there are two classes of vowels:
   (i) Short (Hrasva ए ऐ उ ओ औ) and (ii) long (Sandhi एँ ऐँ उँ ओँ औँ) vowels
(i) **Short vowels** (దృష్టికార్థాలు)

\[
\begin{array}{cccc}
\hat{a} & \hat{e} & \hat{i} & \hat{o} \\
\hat{a} & \hat{e} & \hat{i} & \hat{o} \\
\end{array}
\]

(ai) (ou)

3. Short vowels are to be pronounced short and long vowels, long.
Let us learn how to pronounce the vowels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( \hat{a} )</td>
<td>(Short) ( \hat{a} )</td>
<td>sounds like short 'a' as in sub.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \hat{e} )</td>
<td>(long) ( \hat{e} )</td>
<td>sounds like long 'a' as in far.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \hat{i} )</td>
<td>(short) ( \hat{i} )</td>
<td>sounds like short 'i' as in is.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \hat{\text{i}} )</td>
<td>(long) ( \hat{\text{i}} )</td>
<td>sounds like long 'i' as in meet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \hat{u} )</td>
<td>(short) ( \hat{u} )</td>
<td>sounds like long 'u' as in put.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \hat{\text{u}} )</td>
<td>(long) ( \hat{\text{u}} )</td>
<td>sounds like long 'u' as in wool.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \hat{\text{e}} )</td>
<td>(short) ( \hat{\text{e}} )</td>
<td>sounds like 'ie', as in say.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \hat{\text{e}} )</td>
<td>(long) ( \hat{\text{e}} )</td>
<td>sounds like 'ei', as in saying.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \hat{\text{ai}} )</td>
<td>(diphthong) ( \hat{\text{ai}} )</td>
<td>sounds like 'ai' as in aim.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \hat{o} )</td>
<td>(short) ( \hat{o} )</td>
<td>sounds like 'o' as in word.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \hat{\text{o}} )</td>
<td>(long) ( \hat{\text{o}} )</td>
<td>sounds like 'o' as in Note.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \hat{\text{au}} )</td>
<td>(diphthong) ( \hat{\text{au}} )</td>
<td>sounds like 'au' as in shout.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \hat{\text{au}} )</td>
<td>(long) ( \hat{\text{au}} )</td>
<td>sounds like 'u' as in hunger.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \hat{\text{ah}} )</td>
<td>(long) ( \hat{\text{ah}} )</td>
<td>sounds like 'h' as in ah.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REMARKS**

* \( \hat{a} \) is different from ə in pronunciation. Actually \( \hat{a} \) is used in writing only Sanskrit words.
* \( \hat{\text{a}} \) and \( \hat{u} \) are not vowels, but semi-consonants. For the sake of convenience, these are replaced among vowels.
CONSONANTS

There are 35 consonants in Telugu some are peculiar to Telugu, and they have no equivalents in English.

The consonants reproduced below are in the manner in which they are generally found in Telugu books.

1. జు (f) has its lengthened form జు (fu) but it rarely occurs either in spoken or written Telugu.

2. The consonants as shown above have the inherent sound of "ə" blended with them for the convenience of pronunciation. To write pure consonants, a pure consonant marker " " is added.
$5+0 = 5$  $5+0 = 5$  $5+0 = 5$  $5+0 = 5$  etc.

4. The letters similar in shape and which have resemblance are given below:

Identify and pronounce—

Pronunciation of consonants

6. Let us learn how to pronounce consonants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\delta$</td>
<td>ka</td>
<td>k, as in <em>king</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\phi$</td>
<td>kha</td>
<td>ck-h, as in <em>black-hole</em> (but as a single sound).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\gamma$</td>
<td>ga</td>
<td>g, as in <em>govern</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\varphi$</td>
<td>gha</td>
<td>gh, as in <em>ghost</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\eta$</td>
<td>ṇa</td>
<td>ng, as in <em>long</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\chi$</td>
<td>cha</td>
<td>ch, as in <em>such</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\chi$</td>
<td>chha</td>
<td>ch-h, as in <em>church-hill</em> (as a single sound).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\varepsilon$</td>
<td>ja</td>
<td>j, as in <em>jug</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\xi$</td>
<td>jha</td>
<td>ge-h, as in <em>large-hill</em> (as a single sound).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\epsilon$</td>
<td>ŋa</td>
<td>nya, as in <em>lanyard</em> (as a single sound).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\epsilon$</td>
<td>ta</td>
<td>t, as in <em>tank</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\epsilon$</td>
<td>ṭha</td>
<td>t-h, as in <em>short-hand</em> (as a single sound). As in Telugu word <em>shresta</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sound</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ड</td>
<td>d, as in day.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ढ</td>
<td>d-h, as in sand-hill (as a single sound).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ण</td>
<td>n, as in band.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>त</td>
<td>t (softer than English t: similar to Italian pronunciation) As in Telugu word Thatta</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>थ</td>
<td>th, as in thumb.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>द</td>
<td>id, as in thus.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ध</td>
<td>aspirated (not found in English. As in Telugu word Dharma.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>न</td>
<td>n, as in nut.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>प</td>
<td>p, as in panditt.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>फ</td>
<td>ph, as a loop hole (as a single sound).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ब</td>
<td>b, as in bat.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>भ</td>
<td>bh, as in sub-house (as a single sound).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>म</td>
<td>m, as in man.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>य</td>
<td>y, as in young.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>र</td>
<td>r, nearly as in rate.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ल</td>
<td>l, as in love.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>व</td>
<td>v or w, as in vote or wine.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>श</td>
<td>sh, as in shut.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ष</td>
<td>not found in English. Telugu word Harsha</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>स</td>
<td>s, as in some.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ह</td>
<td>h, as in has.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ळ</td>
<td>as in Telugu word Kalyani</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>क्ष</td>
<td>as in Telugu word Kalyani. It is not found in English.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some important points to be remembered

1. ఈ, ఈ, ఈ never come at the beginning of a word.

2. The use of ఈ, ఈ are called Ayogavakas in Telugu.
   - Anuswara and Visarga

3. ఎమ్మ, ఎమ్మన ఎమ్మన ఎమ్మన and ఎమ్మన are consonants, which are peculiar to Telugu, and in fact, they have no equivalents in English. The accurate pronunciation of the above letters can only be mastered through practice.
HOW TO WRITE ALPHABETS

Telugu script is written from left to right just like the roman script. Let us begin to write the vowels and consonants.

VOWELS అ ఒ ఆ

ఇ ఔ ఎ

ఒ ఔ ఒ

ః ఔ ః
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>క్రివేడి క్రివేడి</th>
<th>క్రివేడి క్రివేడి</th>
<th>క్రివేడి క్రివేడి</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>క్రివేడి క్రివేడి</td>
<td>క్రివేడి క్రివేడి</td>
<td>క్రివేడి క్రివేడి</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>క్రివేడి క్రివేడి</td>
<td>క్రివేడి క్రివేడి</td>
<td>క్రివేడి క్రివేడి</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>క్రివేడి క్రివేడి</td>
<td>క్రివేడి క్రివేడి</td>
<td>క్రివేడి క్రివేడి</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>క్రివేడి క్రివేడి</td>
<td>క్రివేడి క్రివేడి</td>
<td>క్రివేడి క్రివేడి</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REMARKS**

1. In this chapter, these are all the standardized Telugu letters. These must be compulsorily learnt.
2. Telugu script is written from left to right.
3. ముందు ముందు are not consonants; these are conjuncts.