

EXERCISE

1. Transliterate the following words into devanāgarī.

a) *Rādhā* Kṛṣṇa's beloved

b) *mātā* 'mother'

c) *Kurukṣetram* 'the Kuru Field', where the central battle of the Mahābhārata takes place

d) *mokṣaḥ* 'release, liberation'

e) *maitrī* 'friendship'

f) *Samjayaḥ* the narrator of the Bhagavad-Gītā

g) *svayaṃvaraḥ* 'self-choice', a ceremony at which a woman may choose her husband

h) *vyāghraḥ* 'tiger'

i) your name

3. Read and transliterate the following.

अर्जुनः उवाच

चञ्चलम् हि मनः कृष्ण प्रमाथि बलवत् दृढम् ।

तस्य अहम् निग्रहम् मन्ये वायोः इव सुदुष्करम् ॥

2. Some reading: the Mahābhārata (by far the longer of the two great Indian epics) describes itself:

यत् इह अस्ति तत् अन्यत्र यत् न इह अस्ति न तत् क्वचित्
what here is that elsewhere what not here is not that anywhere
yat iha asti tat anyatra yat na iha asti na tat kvacit

'What is here, that (may also be) elsewhere. What is not here, that (also is) not anywhere else.' (Mahābhārata 1.56.34)

Combining the words according to the rules of sandhi, one arrives at the normally quoted form of this sentence:

यदिहास्ति तदन्यत्र यन्नेहास्ति न तत्क्वचित्

yadihāsti tadanyatra yannohāsti na tatkvacit

SANDHI TABLES

FINAL VOWELS								INITIAL VOWELS	
ă	ĩ	ũ	ṛ	e	ai	o	au		
ā	ya	va	ra	e'	ā a	o'	āva		a
ā	yā	vā	rā	a ā	ā ā	a ā	āvā		ā
e	ī	vī	rī	a ĩ	ā ĩ	a ĩ	āvī		ĩ
o	yũ	ũ	rũ	a ũ	ā ũ	a ũ	āvũ		ũ
ar	yṛ	vṛ	ṛ	a ṛ	ā ṛ	a ṛ	āvṛ		ṛ
ai	ye	ve	re	a e	ā e	a e	āve		e
ai	yai	vai	rai	a ai	ā ai	a ai	āvai		ai
au	yo	vo	ro	a o	ā o	a o	āvo	o	
au	yau	vau	rau	a au	ā au	a au	āvau	au	

āīũṛ indicate that the short and long vowels (e.g. short ă and long ā) behave in the same way here. Shaded columns: complex vowels whose original second element is dropped before a following vowel.

FINAL SOUND										INITIAL SOUND OF FOLLOWING	
k	ṭ	t	p	ṅ	n	m	ḥ	āḥ	aḥ		
k	ṭ	t	p	ṅ	n	m	ḥ	āḥ	aḥ		zero vowels
g	ḍ	d	b	ṅ/ṅṅ ¹	n/nn ¹	m	r	ā	a ²		k/kh
k	ṭ	t	p	ṅ	n	ṃ	ḥ	āḥ	aḥ		g/gh
g	ḍ	d	b	ṅ	n	ṃ	r	ā	o		c/ch
k	ṭ	c	p	ṅ	ṃś ³	ṃ	ś	ās	as		j/jh
g	ḍ	j	b	ṅ	ñ	ṃ	r	ā	o		t/ṭh
k	ṭ	ṭ	p	ṅ	ṃṣ ³	ṃ	ṣ	ās	aṣ		ḍ/ḍh
g	ḍ	ḍ	b	ṅ	ṇ	ṃ	r	ā	o		t/th
k	ṭ	t	p	ṅ	ṃs ³	ṃ	s	ās	as		d/dh
g	ḍ	d	b	ṅ	n	ṃ	r	ā	o		p/ph
k	ṭ	t	p	ṅ	n	ṃ	ḥ	āḥ	aḥ		b/bh
g	ḍ	d	b	ṅ	n	ṃ	r	ā	o		n/m
ṅ	ṇ	n	m	ṅ	n	ṃ	r	ā	o		y/v
g	ḍ	d	b	ṅ	n	ṃ	r	ā	o		r
g	ḍ	d	b	ṅ	n	ṃ	ø ⁶	ā	o		l
g	ḍ	l	b	ṅ	l̄ ⁷	ṃ	r	ā	o	ś	
k	ṭ	c(ch) ⁴	p	ṅ	ñ(ś/ch) ⁴	ṃ	ḥ	āḥ	aḥ	ṣ/s	
k	ṭ	t	p	ṅ	n	ṃ	ḥ	āḥ	aḥ	h	
g(gh) ⁴	ḍ(ḍh) ⁴	d(dh) ⁴	b(bh) ⁴	ṅ	n	ṃ	r	ā	o		