

SOAS Language Centre

Tamil Beginners 1

| <i>Overview of course contents</i> | <i>Synopsis</i> |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learning Tamil - History• Tamil Letter Formation- Soul Letters• Listening to a song• Tamil Greetings Sounds, words, and meanings• Some simple objects• Learning Tamil- Contemporary• Tamil letter formation- Body letters• Tamil sounds and intonation (listening)• Transliteration and script• More objects• Soul- Body letters• Some Simple Phrases• Words formation• Parts of the body• Letter formation (writing)• More General Phrases• Pronouns (personal, possessive)• Days of the weeks• My Self and Family• Listening to BBC Tamil News• Demonstrative pronouns• Numbers 1-100• Picture Charts; letter cards• Making up words• Listening to a conversation• Verbs introduction• Colours• Map and Restaurants• Listening to an ancient poem• Question words• Places World• Writing my family members names• Listening to a contemporary poem• Questions and Answer formation• Countries and languages• Listening to a story | <p>This course puts the emphasis on establishing a good foundation in the language in the four key skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing. Letters are gradually introduced at the beginning of the course in order to get students to develop this crucial skill when leaning Tamil. In the first four weeks, students learn how to greet, introduces themselves, ask and answer simple questions regarding name, nationality, occupation, place of residence.</p> <p>Along with acquiring knowledge on Tamil grammatical structure, students also gain knowledge on how to form sentences and use polite particles according to a different degree of politeness which is an important aspect of Tamil culture. Even though transliteration is employed as a tool to facilitate access to Tamil, Tamil consonants and vowels (Soul and Body letters) are gradually introduced in order to get the learner to read and write. By doing so, students acquire skills in producing accurate sounds and tones according to the Tamil Language.</p> <p>There is a midway revision and practice test, where students have an opportunity to polish their language skills and to practice what they have learned. By being able to produce the language through dialogues with a teacher and with classmates, students become more confident in the language.</p> <p>In the second half of the course, phrases and expressions for travel, restaurant transactions and shopping, fruits and vegetables are introduced, along with basic vocabulary necessary to daily life. By the end of the course, students are able to read and write short sentences in Tamil.</p> |