

**TAMIL SCRIPT BOOK
LEARNERS MANUAL**



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Dedicated to:
My Parents,
Professor Norman Cutler, University of Chicago, and
Professor E. Annamalai, India.

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Introduction

There are a number of language families in the world. Tamil belongs to the Dravidian language family. Classical Tamil is considered the earliest Dravidian language, and more than eighty million people worldwide speak modern Tamil. Tamil is regarded as one of the four major literary languages of the Dravidian family and, in spoken form, is the predominant form of communication in Tamil Nadu in south India. The literary heritage of this South Asian language is very rich. The Sangam literary classics that were written between 300 BCE and 500 CE are masterpieces. This literary tradition embodies the richness and beauty of the Tamil language. A grammatical tradition dates to the third century BCE and is considered one of two grammatical traditions that arose concomitantly, the other being Sanskrit.

The Tamil language is tied to the cultural traditions in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu has an area of 50,193 sq. miles and has a population of over forty-three million people. This southern state is situated at the southeastern tip of the Indian peninsula. Tamil Nadu has been referred to as a temple state because the area is rich with temples. The architecture of the temples and the sculptures that adorn their walls are both magnificent. This is a land of art, music, and dance as well as rich language. The language is also the medium of instruction at different levels of education. At the higher level of education it is used along with English. Tamil is widely used in mass media, the judicial system, sciences and areas of technology. Tamil is the language of the state administration and is recognized as one of the official languages of India.

Tamil is also spoken in other parts of the world. It is spoken in Sri Lanka and the East Asian states of Singapore and Malaysia. Furthermore, a sizable population speaks Tamil in the Fiji Islands, Mauritius, Trinidad, Madagascar, and South Africa.

There are thirty characters in the Tamil writing system. They are twelve vowels and eighteen consonants. The Tamil alphabet is syllabic, in that each letter denotes a syllable. A syllable may be formed by a vowel or by a consonant followed by a vowel. Vowel letters occur only in the initial position as it is. When a vowel occurs after a consonant in the middle or at the end of a word, the vowel and consonant are expressed as one letter. For example, in the case of short vowel that follows a consonant, the symbol for 'a' is not expressed in writing because all consonants, unless designated, have an inherent 'a'. The remaining eleven vowels are written as characters when following a consonant. A consonant without a short vowel 'a' is denoted by a corresponding letter with a dot above (pure consonant). The three dotted sign (ூ) is called 'aayudam' in Tamil and denotes that velar sound /x/ precedes a consonant. However, this sign is not generally used in the modern Tamil. In addition to the traditional alphabet, there are five sounds borrowed from other languages. These sounds, which have a representation in the Tamil script, are known as Grantha letters. These Grantha letters are used in Tamil predominantly when writing the name of a person or of a place. The letters also appear in borrowed words.

The Tamil numerical system is written with the Tamil alphabet, but this is not the only means by which numbers are conveyed. The Arabic numerals and Roman figures are widely used, though; one may come across the use of Tamil numerals in older Tamil print. In modern Tamil, the numerals of the earlier forms of Tamil are no longer in use.

The Tamil numerals and their Arabic equivalencies are given here for an easier understanding:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	100	1000
௧	௨	௩	௪	௫	௬	௭	௮	௯	௩(௧௦)	௩	௪

This manual is an introduction to reading and writing the Tamil script. The manual employs the strategy of heightening pattern perception and contrastive observation. This manual is partially self-instructional in the sense that the manual will enable one to read and write the Tamil script. The sound values of the Tamil letters are explained through a phonetic comparison with Roman script. In all cases, the points of articulation in the oral cavity and the manner of articulation are detailed.

This manual introduces the Tamil characters based on shape similarity. This makes learning the script fluid and easy. While learning to write the script, the learner will also begin to acquire vocabulary. This will make the process of learning Tamil easier. In order to gain the maximum benefit from the manual, the learner is advised to practice writing the letters and the words.

This manual emerged from the author's personal experience as a Tamil instructor. The setting for the instruction was primarily the classrooms of the university system in the United States, with students who wanted to learn Tamil as a second language. This manual has been written for the heritage and no-heritage Tamil students alike, all those who wish to learn this beautiful language.

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Sankaran Radhakrishnan

TRANSLITERATION CHART

VOWELS

அ	a	எ	e
ஆ	aa	ஏ	ee
இ	i	ஐ	ai
ஈ	ii	ஓ	o
உ	u	ஔ	oo
ஊ	uu	ஔ	au

CONSONANTS

க	ka/ga/ha	க்	k
ங	ṅa	ங்	ṅ
ச	ca/sa/ja	ச்	c
ஞ	ñā	ஞ்	ñ
ட	ṭa/ḍa	ட்	ṭ
ண	ṇa	ண்	ṇ
த	ta/da	த்	t
ந	ṇa	ந்	ṇ
ப	pa/ba	ப்	p
ம	ma	ம்	m
ய	ya	ய்	y
ர	ra	ர்	r
ல	la	ல்	l

வ	va	வ்	v
ழ	ḷa	ழ்	ḷ
ள	ḷa	ள்	ḷ
ற	ra	ற்	r
ன	na	ன்	n

GRANTHA LETTERS

ஸ	sa
ஜ	ja
ஷ	sha
ஹ	ha
க்ஷ	ksha
ஸ்ரீ	sri
ஸ்	s
ஜ்	j
ஷ்	sh
ஹ்	h
க்ஷ்	ksh

People,
Language, Literature, Culture, etc.

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PEOPLE AND LANGUAGE

The land of Tamil speech and people was in ancient times ruled by three famous lines of king, the Chera, Chola, and Pandiya. . The land ruled by them was called Chera Nadu (Chera country), Chola Nadu (Chola country), and Pandiya Nadu (Pandiya country) respectively.

The landmass covered by the present-day Kerala State in the South India formed a major part of Chera Nadu, the Central and Northern parts of present Tamil Nadu were the then Chola Nadu and the Southern part of Tamil Nadu was the Pandiya Nadu.

Tamils are of Dravidian origin. Many historians claim that the Dravidians, before the dawn of the history of the Tamils, were spread all over India. For various reason they split into small groups. Consequently, the original language also split into different languages. Tamil is found to have retained about 80 per cent of the features of the original Dravidian language.

There are three major sub-groups in the Dravidian family of language, namely, South Dravidian, Central Dravidian, and North Dravidian.

The languages of the South Dravidian sub-group is mainly,

1. Tamil
2. Malayalam
3. Kodagu
4. Kota
5. Toda
6. Kannada
7. Tulu

The languages of the Central Dravidian sub-group are mainly:

1. Telugu
2. Gondi
3. Konda
4. Pengo
5. Manda
6. Kui
7. Kuvi
8. Kolami
9. Nayki
10. Parji
11. Gadba

The languages of the North Dravidian sub-group are mainly:

1. Kurukh
2. Malto
3. Brahui

Tamil is spoken predominantly in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu. It is spoken also in several other Indian states. In addition, Tamil speaking populations are found in Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Singapore, Mauritius, Fiji Islands and South Africa. Recent Tamil immigrants are found all over the world. The distribution of Tamil-speaking population found in the States of India according to the book 'Distribution of Languages in India in States and Union Territories', 1971, is given below:

State/Union Territory	Tamil-Speaking Population	Percentage
Andhra Pradesh	552,42	1.27
Assam & Meghalaya	2992	0.02
Bihar	15,167	0.03
Gujarat	15,995	0.06
Jammu & Kashmir	823	0.02
Kerala	505,340	2.37
Madhya Pradesh	28,735	0.07
Tamil Nadu	34,817,421	84.51
Maharashtra	233,988	0.46
Karnataka	990,409	3.38
Orissa	9160	0.04
Punjab and Himachal Pradesh.	6128	0.02
Rajasthan	3564	0.01
Uttar Pradesh	9222	0.01
West Bengal	21,454	0.05
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	14,518	12.62
Delhi	37,343	0.92
Lackshadeep, and Minicoy Islands	113	0.35
Manipur	834	0.08
Tripura	82	-----
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	11	0.01
Goa, Daman, and D	3347	0.39
Pondicherry	419,830	88.95
Nagaland	469	0.09
Arunachal Pradesh	638	0.14

TAMIL LITERATURE

The recorded history of the Tamil literature can be grouped broadly into seven periods. They are:

1. Sangam Period - 3rd Century BCE-2nd Century CE
2. Later Sangam Period - 2nd Century CE- 6th Century CE
3. Pallava Period - 6th Century CE-9th Century CE
4. Chola Period - 9th Century CE-12th Century CE
5. Nayak Period - 3rd Century CE-17th Century CE
6. European Period - 17th Century CE-19th Century CE
7. Present Period - 20th Century CE onwards

For our purposes, the Tamil literature may broadly be classified into:

- (i) Sangam Classics
- (ii) Bhakthi or Devotional Literature
- (iii) Ethics, and
- (iv) Modern Literature

- (i) Sangam Classics

The early Tamil literatures are called Sangam Classics. Though there are controversies over the time of the Classics, generally the period between 200 BCE and 500 CE is considered the period of Sangam. Sangam Classics are mostly descriptive. They describe nature, human feelings, love, lovers, husband-wife relations, war, etc. *Pathuppattu*, an anthology of ten poems, and *Ettuthokai*, a collection of eight anthologies, are two major Sangam Classics.

The following are known as *Pathuppattu*.

1. Thirumurukarruppadai
2. Porunararruppadai
3. Perumpanarruppadai
4. Sirupanarruppadai
5. Mullaippattu
6. Maduraikanchi
7. Nedunalvadai
8. Kurinchipattu

9. Pattinappalai
10. Malaipadukadam

The following are known as *Ettuthokai*.

1. Narrinai
2. Kurunthokai
3. Aynkurunuru
4. Pathirruppathu
5. Paripadal
6. Kalithokai
7. Agananuru
8. Purananuru

In addition to these, there is another set of poems known as *Pathinenkizhkankku* that includes the following:

1. Naladiar
2. Nanmanikkadikai
3. Iniyavai Narpathu
4. Inna Narpathu
5. Kar Narpathu
6. Kalavazhi Narpathu
7. Thinaimozhi Aymathu
8. Thinaimalai Nurrayamathu
9. Aynthinai Aymathu
10. Aynthinai Ezhu pthu
11. Thirikadugam
12. Thirukkural
13. Asarkkovai
14. Pazhamozhi Nanuru
15. Sirupanjamulam
16. Mudumozhikkanci
17. Elathi
18. Kaynnilai

Many of the poems in this collection seem to belong to the post-Sangham Age. It is widely accepted that among these, *Thirukkural* was composed before the second century CE. The *Thirukkural* consists of 1330 Kural, which are short verses of seven words. Thiruvalluvar is the author of this book. This book consists of three major divisions, namely, Arathuppal, Porutpal and Inbathupal.

Arathupal deals with family life and ascetic life, which are called Illaram and Turavaram respectively. Perhaps this could be somewhat equated with the Sanskrit division Dharma (virtue). Porutpal deals with the rulers and the ruled and all the other aspects relevant to them. Perhaps this could be equated with the Sanskrit division Artha (meaning). Inbathuppal deals with love both premarital and extramarital. This could be somewhat equated with Kama (marital love). In short, *Thirukkural* is a very good guide for life and an excellent literary work to enjoy. This book has been translated into many Indian and foreign languages.

The famous Tamil work *Silappathikaram* belongs to the later Sangam period. Saint Ilango, a Chera prince, wrote this epic. *Silappathikaram* is the story of a chaste woman, Kannaki. All Tamil people know the story of Kannaki. The author, Ilango, says in the prologue that the work is based on the truth that (i) a chaste woman is worthy of worship even by great people, (ii) the Aram (Dharma) becomes the destroyer of the kings who do injustice and (iii) the fate inevitably makes one to suffer the effect of one's own actions. There is another epic known as *Manimekalai* by Sathnar, a contemporary of Saint Ilango. These two epics are known together as 'Twin Epics'.

(ii) Bhakthi or Devotional Literature

Bhakthi literature deals with religious philosophy, the history of saints, etc. Most of these are devotional poems. Religious teaching entered Tamil literature for the first time in *Manimekalai*. Sathanar the author of this book believed in Buddhism. The philosophy of Buddha is extensively discussed in *Manimekalai*.

After the 7th century CE, there was an acute fight between Saivites and Jainas as well as Saivites and Buddhists. The Nayanmars, the saints of Saivism, took many pains to spread and establish their religion all over Tamil Nadu. They were, to a great extent, successful in their attempt. Saivism as well as Vaishnavism clashed with Jainism and Buddhism. Consequently Jainism and Buddhism lost their ground in Tamil Nadu. Jains, Saivites, and Vaishnavites extensively used the medium of literature for the propagation of their religions. *Sivagasinthamani* is the outstanding work of Jains. *Kambaramayanam* is the most celebrated work of the Vaishnavites. *Thiruvacakam* is one of the most popular Saiva Bhakthi songs. Apart from these, there are many works for various religious groups.

(iii) Ethics

The major part of Thirukkural deals with morals. Literature was chosen as the best instrument to teach morals. The poetic works Naladiar, Nanmanikkadikai, Elathi, Sirupancamulam, Athiccudi, Konraiventhan, etc., are very popular in Tamil Nadu. Many memorize the verses of these works.

(iv) Modern Literature

Modern literature must be dealt with under two sub-headings:

(1) Prose and (2) Poetry.

It may be noted that prose writings have gained more popularity in this century. Prose style is chosen as a better medium for novels, short stories, essays, etc.

1. Prose: Prose literature may be generally classified into two components: (a) Novels and (b) Short stories.

a. Novels

The first novel published in Tamil was *Prathaba Mudaliar Sarithiram*.

Vedanayagam Pillai who lived in the 19th century wrote this novel. Now there are a number of novels in Tamil. Among the recent novelists Akilan, N. Parthasarathi, Jayagandhan, Sandilyan Ashoka Mitram and others are eminent writers.

Mu. Varadarajan's *Kallo Kaviyamo*, *Nencil Oru Mul and Akal Vilakku*,

Akilan's *Pavvai Vilakku* and *Nencin Alikal*,

Parthasarathy's *Kurincimalar* and *Ponvilangu*,

Sandilyan's *Yavana Rani*, *Kadal Pura*, and *Raja Muthirai*, etc, are excellent works in the sphere of Tamil novels. Also Akilan received the 'Gnana Peeth Award' for his novel, *Cithirappavai*.

b. Short Stories

Puthumaippithan was considered as an outstanding short story writer and paved the way for the future field of short story in Tamil. He was considered as king of short stories in Tamil. Jayakantan is one of the eminent and popular storywriters in Tamil. He is not only a storywriter, but also a novelist. His novels *Parisukkupo*, *Vazhkai Azhaikkiratu*, etc., are worth reading. Among his novels, *Akkinippiravesam* is extremely good. Another storywriter who deserves our appreciation is R. Sutamani. She has written many stories among which *Unam* stands unique. Jayasirpiyan, Sundara Ramasamy, A. Madhavan, Ashoka Mithiran, Nava Bharathi P. Pukazhenthii, Puvai S. Arumugam and others are well known writers in the field of Tamil short story writing.

Apart from these stories, there are a number of stories published in several weekly and monthly magazines. *Kumudam, Anandha Vikadan, Kalaimagal, Kalki, Tiipam, Kungumam, Taay, Minnambalam* and several others are the journals that give primary importance to stories.

2. Poetry

The late poet Subramanya Bharathi popularly known as 'Bharathi' started a new era in the history of poetry. He used poetry as an instrument to arouse patriotism, and was successful to a great extent. His poetry went not only to the hands of scholars but also to the hands of common people. The complete works of Bharathi were published under the title *Bharathiyar Kavithaikal*. Among his works *Kannan Pattu, Kuyil Pattu* and *Panchali Sabadham* are outstanding.

Another poet the late Bharathidhasan, the beloved follower of Bharathi, is the most celebrated and outstanding poet in Tamil Nadu. He followed Bharathi in making Tamil poetry very popular and in using it as the best instrument to inspire people. But he deviated from Bharathi in many respects. Bharathi believed in God but Bharathidhasan did not. While Bharathi was preoccupied by the problems of the freedom struggle and other national interests, Bharathidhasan was particular in the development of the Tamil Nadu, Tamil language, Tamil people, and Tamil culture. Among his literary works, *Pandiyar Parisu, Kudumba Vilakku, Tamil Ilakkam* and *Azhakin Sirippu* are highly valuable.

Besides these two poets, Kannadhasan, Abddul Rahuman, Vairamuthu, Mudiyyarasan, Surada, Tamizh Azhagan, K. C. S. Arunachalam, Ponnadiyan, and Mu. Metha and others enrich the field of Tamil poetry. Kannadhasan's *Attanathi Athimanthi* and *Mangani* and Mudiyyarasan's *Pungodi* are excellent works. Sudhanantha Bharathi is a living poet in Tamil Nadu. Sri Aurobindo influences him. His work *Bharatha Sakthi* is very famous. This book won the Raja Rajan Award of 100,000 rupees.

Besides these works, there are a number of anthologies of poems published in this century. Several poems are being published in weekly and monthly magazines. *Mullaicaram, Kavidhai* and a few other journals give primary importance to poetry.

In this connection, mention should be made about the new or modern poetry. The modern poets, Pichaimurthi, Mani Vaidheswaran and others are interested in modern poetries. They are of the opinion that the Tamil literary field needs new experiments and new developments and they believe that their attempt may contribute something to the Tamil literature.

TAMIL GRAMMATICAL TRADITION

In general, grammar includes phonology, morphology and syntax. But Classical Tamil tradition seems to differ from this. The earliest grammar *Tholkappiyam* deals not only with phonology, morphology and syntax but also with personal and impersonal, internal and external aspects of life, beauty of literature, behavioral aspects of human life, Tamil linguistic traditions, etc., and this portion is termed Porulathikaram.

According to the tradition that Tholkappiyar followed a grammar is three fold:

- (1) Ezhuthu (sounds and letters),
- (2) (2) Col (words),
- (3) (3) Porul (meaning).

Later it was five fold:

- (1) Ezhuthu,
- (2) (2) Col,
- (3) (3) Porul,
- (4) Yappu (versification), and
- (5) Ani (beauty of literature).

Tholkappiyam:

Tholkappiyam, the earliest grammar available in Tamil, deals with phonology and morphophonemics in the first part known as Ezuttatikaaram. It deals with morphology and syntax in the second part known as Collatikaaram. In the third part known as Porulatikaaram, it deals with the subject matter of literature, some literary and linguistic traditions, etc. This grammar is considered to have been written in the early pre-Christian era.

Nannul: Next to *Tholkappiyam*, *Nannul* is the outstanding work in the field of Tamil grammars. Saint Pavananti who lived around the 13th century CE wrote this grammar. This grammar contains only Ezhuthu and Col. The first chapter Ezhuthu deals with phonology and morphophonemic, and the second chapter Col deals with morphology and syntax.

ARTS, ARCHITECTURE, etc.,

Art of Music

The ancient Tamils possessed a highly developed system of music and musical instruments. Their musical culture was at a high level. Works dealing exclusively with the science of music were written during the Sangam period, but were lost long ago. The *Silappthikaram* of the second century A. D. throws flood

of light on the music of the Tamils. Music in Tamil nomenclature is *isai*. They had five kinds of *Pans* (specific melody type), namely Mullai, Kurinji, Marudham, Neythal and Palai. Apart from this, they had seven musical notes, viz., Kural, Thuttam, Kaykkilai, Uzhai, Ili, Vilari and Tharam. These seven notes might be roughly equated with the seven modern musical notes *sa, ri, ga, ma, pa, dha, and ni* (*saptha svaras* 'seven notes'). Tamil books associate the following animals and birds with the *saptha svaras*: *sa* with beetle, *ri* with parrot, *ga* with horse, *ma* with elephant, *pa* with cuckoo, *dha* with cow, and *ni* with goat. Whereas the Sanskrit tradition of Bharata compare *saptha svaras* with the cries of animals and birds, viz., *sa* with peacock, *ri* with cow, *ga* with goat, *ma* with heron, *pa* with Indian nightingale, *dha* with horse, and *ni* with elephant. Through the Sangam works one can learn that the Tamils had many musical instruments. They had their famous yazhs (kind of harps). Sagotta yazh, Peri yazh, Siri yazh, Mahara yazh, Sengattu yazh, and are the names denoting different kinds of yazhs. Sagotta yazh was a stage instrument. Peri yazh was a large harp consisting of twenty-one strings while Siri yazh with seven strings. Among all yazhs, Peri yazh and Siri yazh seems to be very ancient. Music was always associated with dancing in ancient times. The treatment of music as an independent of its relation to dancing is found only in later works after *Silappathikaram*.

It appears that in the period of Nayanmars and Alwars, the native system of music was retained with some deviations. Some of the pans are still used in the recitals of the Devaram hymns. In the year 1943 the patron of Tamil language, literature and arts, Dr. Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiar started the Tamil Music Academy at Chennai and thereby he attempted to restore and enrich the Tamil music.

Dance

Tamil is broadly classified into Iyal 'prose', Isai 'poetry' and Nadakam 'drama'. Nattiyam or Kuthu is mainly concerned with dance. The ancient Tamils had two kinds of Kuthu: (1) Vethiyal and (2) Podhuviyal. Vethiyal is especially meant for royal families and Podhuviyal is meant for the public. Later on this convention had disappeared. Since the kings had slowly lost their power the arts patronized by them also gradually lost their glamour. Thus the Vethiyal type of drama became extinct. The Silappathikaram furnishes the legendary origin of dancing. The ancient Tamil country is the home of the classical dance known as Bharata Natyam. Drama and dance gradually emerged as two different branches. In 1960s and 1970s cinema overshadowed drama.

Drawing and Painting:

The kings also patronized the art of drawing and painting. All over Tamil Nadu one can see temples, small and big, and almost all the temples are decorated by drawings and paintings. The paintings at Cithannavasal near Pudhukkottai in Tanjavur district are worth seeing.

Architecture and Scripture

Tamil Nadu is famous for huge temples and marvelous Gopurams (temple towers). Raja Rajan, the Chola king (11 A.D.), constructed a temple in Tanjavur. This temple Gopuram is very tall and it is called Thanjaipperiya Koil, the big temple of Tanjavur. His son Rajendra Chola, who subdued the rulers of the region up to the river Ganges, constructed another big temple in Gangai Konda Cholapuram. Except that the Thanjai periya Koil is bigger in size than the temple in Gangai Konda Cholapuram, they are exactly similar. The former was named as Rajarajeswaram and the latter was named as Gangai Kondacholeswaram. These temples are famous for the huge Nandis 'bulls' and Lingams. The temples of Madurai Meenakshi Amman, Kanchipuram Varadharajapperumal, and Chidambaram Natarajar are worth seeing. The skill of Tamils in architecture and sculpture can be seen in these temples. The five Rathams (cars) carved in rocks at Mahabalipuram are extremely beautiful. There are also other works that show the skill of Tamils in sculpture. The Collections of Vighras 'icons,' statues, drawings and paintings, etc., found in the museums of Madras, Tanjavur, Pattiswaram and Kaverippumattinam deserve special mention.

SOCIO-CULTURE

Day-to-Day Life

The Tamils are mainly rice-eaters. Sambar, Rasam, and Thayir 'curd' or Mor 'buttermilk' is mixed along with rice. Potato, beans, carrots, cabbage, eggplant, okra, and other vegetables are the side dishes. The majority of the Tamils are non-vegetarians, though their intake is mainly vegetarian food. On special occasions a kind of sweet dish known as Payasam is served. After taking meals, they occasionally chew betel leaf and areca nut.

In urban areas, people favor the eatables (tiffin), Iddli, Dhosai, Puri, etc., and they drink coffee, tea or milk. In rural areas people take rice. Nowadays almost all the villages are being urbanized in this respect. Especially youngsters are fond of Tiffin in the morning times. It may also be mentioned that there are people in villages who usually take Kanchi (rice porridge) in the morning. Iddli, Vadai, Pongal, Upuma, Puri, Chappathi, Dhosai, etc., are the tiffin items. Iddli, Chatini and Sambar are more common items.

As far as clothing is concerned, Tamil men wear Veshti (worn in the so-called lungi fashion) and Sattai 'shirt' and women wear Pudavai 'sari', and Ravikkai 'blouse'. Men wear pants and shirts, too, though it's not very common. Boys wear Kal sattai 'half-pant' and shirt. Young girls wear Dhavani 'half-sari', Pavadai 'petty-coat', and Ravikkai. Some orthodox men adorn themselves with turbans.

Silk saris, namely, Kanchipattu pudavai woven in the town of Kanchipuram in Tami Nadu are famous for their durability and worn by ladies on special occasions. Ladies also wear a variety of ornaments. A few of them are, Modhiram 'ring', Valayal, 'bangle', Mukkuthi 'nose ornament', Thodu 'ear ornament', necklace 'neck ornament', Kolusi 'leg ornament', etc. Married women wear Tali 'mangala sutra' as the symbol for marriage. Generally men wear wristwatch, rings, etc. All these ornaments are made out of gold. In rural areas some people wear earrings, wrist-chains, etc. Almost all the people in the rural areas are agriculturists and agricultural laborers. The office-going people, daily wagers, business people and other laborers inhabit the urban areas.

When known persons meet, they exchange respect and affection by the Tamil phrase **vaanga vanakkam**. This **vaanga vanakkam** (please do come/welcome/greeting) is similar to namasthe or namaskar, the greetings words used widely in the North India. At the time of departure **pooy varukireen** or simply **varukireen** is used. Though this means in the Tamil society literally come but implies now I go and will be back to meet you again.

Festivals

There are a number of festivals observed in Tamil Nadu. Very famous festivals are Pongal, Deepavali and Karthikai. Among them Pongal is considered to be the special festival of Tamil Nadu and it is called Tamizhar Thirunal, the festival of harvest celebrated for four days in mid-January. . Pongal festival takes place towards the final stage of harvest.

The first day of Pongal is known as Bogi or Bogi pandikai. On that day people worship the Rain God. Also, all the old and unusable articles are burnt in bonfires. The second day of Pongal is the Pongal proper. On this day people worship the Sun God. The third day is Mattu Pongal. On this day they bathe the cattle and worship them, as they are the mainstay of farm life. The fourth day is known as Karinal or Kanum Pongal or Kanni Pongal. On this day villages assemble at a public place and many native games. They meet with their friends and relatives on this day. The young virgins pray to the god to get good partners and happy life

Deepavali is enthusiastically celebrated in both urban and rural areas of Tamil Nadu. It is believed that Deepavali is celebrated in memory of the demon Narakasuran who was killed by Lord Vishnu on the day of Deepavali. Symbolically this means god destroys evil.

Karthikai is commonly celebrated by all Tamils putting Diibam (lights) out every night throughout the Tamil month Karthikai. During this period people worship Lord Murugan also called Kartikeyan or Subramanyan son of Lord Siva.

Apart from these popular festivals, there are several other festivals such as car festivals in many villages and towns. Tamil Nadu is full of fairs and festivals in particular, car festivals.

There are also a number of folk deities who are worshipped with equal if not more fervor all over Tamil Nadu. Also the rituals and ceremonies that take place at birth, naming, ear boring, puberty, marriage and death differ from region to region, from caste to caste, and from religion to religion.

UNIVERSITIES IN TAMIL NADU

There are fifteen universities in Tamil Nadu engaged in the development of the Tamil language, literature, culture, etc. They are namely, Annamalai University at Annamalainagar, established 75 years ago; Madras University, which was established over 150 years ago; Madurai Kamaraj University at Madurai; Tami University at Tanjavur; Bharathiyar University at Coimbatore and Bharatidasan University at Tiruchirappalli and like. Apart from these universities, the International Institute of Tamil Studies functioning at Madras also works for the development of Tamil studies. There is also a technological university in Madras named Anna University. Mother Theresa Woman's University at Kodaikkanal and Gandhigram Deemed University are the other universities in Tamil Nadu.

Tamils have made significant contributions to Indian culture and the Independence struggle. People like V. O. Chidambaram Pillai and Poet Subramania Bharati are notable among them. In the sciences, Sir C. V. Raman and Professor Chandrasekhar received the Nobel Prize from Tamil Nadu. There are many novelists who have received the prestigious Sahitya Academy awards and Gnana Peeth Awards for their outstanding literary works.

Tamil Diglossia: Spoken and Written

There is a wide gap between spoken and written Tamil. Spoken Tamil is used for face-to-face communication or in informal occasions whereas written Tamil is used during official speeches and other formal occasions. Spoken Tamil is not generally written; thus, while writing, the written form is invariably used. While there is a wide gap between the two forms of Tamil, there are certain rules the use of that help the learner to derive one form of language from another.

Tamil studies in India and Srilanka

There are number of universities in India and Sri Lanka which have facilities for Tamil Studies. In India (excepting Tamil Nadu) and Sri Lanka the following institutions have programs for Tamil studies:

1. Punjab University, Chandigarh
2. Punjab University, Patiala

3. Delhi University, Delhi
4. Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh
5. Agra University, Agra
6. Lucknow University, Lucknow
7. Allahabad University, Allahabad
8. Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
9. Calcutta University, Calcutta
10. Osmania University, Hyderabad
11. Sri Krishna Devaraya University, Anantapur
12. Sri Venkateswara University, Thirupati
13. Karnataka University, Dharwad
14. Mysore University, Mysore
15. Calicut University, Chittoor
16. University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram

In Sri Lanka:

17. University of Jaffna
18. University of Colombo
19. Peradeniya University

In the US there are about ten universities that have programs for Tamil language and literatures, and culture etc.

FEED BACK

There are twenty-five questions for the learners to check their understanding of the above description. Check the correct answer for the question.

1. What is the name of the temple conducted by **Raja Rajan** in Tanjavur?
 - (a) Natarajar temple
 - (b) Kankai Konda coolapuram
 - (c) Tancaip periya kooyil
2. Which is the earliest grammar in Tamil?
 - (a) Thirukkural
 - (b) Tholkappiyam
 - (c) Nannul
3. Which of the following is correct?
 - (a) Spoken Tamil differs from written Tamil and vice-versa
 - (b) Spoken Tamil and written Tamil are one and the same
4. Which is the Tamil novel that won the Gnana Peeth Award?
 - (a) Pavai vilakku
 - (b) Unam
 - (c) Cittirappavai
5. **Arattupal** in Thirukkural could be somewhat equated with:
 - (a) Dharma
 - (b) Artha
 - (c) Saivism
6. What is the equivalent expression in Tamil for 'Good morning' in English?
 - (a) Vanakkam
 - (b) Varukiren
 - (c) Siva Siva

7. What is **Nannul**?

- (a) It is a drama
- (b) It is a novel
- (c) It is a grammar book

8. Which of the following is correct?

- (a) Spoken Tamil can be derived from written and vice-versa
- (b) Spoken Tamil cannot be derived from written Tamil
- (c) Written Tamil cannot be derived from spoken Tamil

9. **Natakam** or **Kuthu** is mainly concerned with:

- (a) Dance
- (b) Musical Instruments
- (c) Musical Notes

10. A celebrated work of Buddhism is:

- (a) Manimekalai
- (b) Thiruvacakam
- (c) Sivakacintamani

11. **Pancali Sapatam** was written by:

- (a) Bharathi
- (b) Ilango
- (c) Akilan

12. The **Raja Rajan** award was given to Suthananta Bharati for his work:

- (a) Chittirappavai
- (b) Bhartha Sakthi
- (c) Kannan Pattu

13. **Kancippattu sarees** are produced from the town called:

- (a) Tanjavur
- (b) Kanchipuram
- (c) Madras

14. The very first novel published in Tamil was:

- (a) Pirathapa Muthaliar Sarithiram
- (b) Kallo Kaviyamo
- (c) Pavai Vilakku

15. The saint **Ilango** wrote the epic:

- (a) Silappathikaram
- (b) Manimekalai
- (c) Kambaramayanam

16. The Tamil language belongs to the:

- (a) Central Dravidian sub-group
- (b) North Dravidian sub-group
- (c) South Dravidian sub-group

17. The recorded history of the Tamil literature can be broadly grouped under:

- (a) Five periods
- (b) Seven periods
- (c) Four periods

18. The author of **Thirukkural** is:

- (a) Tholkappiyar
- (b) Thirumular
- (c) Thiruvalluvar

19. The **Nayanmars** are the saints of:

- (a) Saivism
- (b) Jainism
- (c) Vaishnavism

20. A collection of eight anthologies of the Sangam classics is called:

- (a) Pathuppattu
- (b) Ettuthokai
- (c) Kalithokai

21. The Tamil festival connected with the harvest is:

- (a) Deepavali
- (b) Pongal
- (c) Karthikai

22. Ancient Tamil Nadu was divided into three major regions called:

- (a) Cheranadu, Cholanadu, Pandiyanadu
- (b) Cholanadu, Ramnadu, Pandiyanadu
- (c) Cheranadu, Ramnadu, Pandiyanadu

23. The phrase, **Pooy vaikireen** is used:

- (a) at the time of meeting
- (b) at the time of eating
- (c) at the time of departure

24. An anthology of ten poems in Sangam Classics is named:

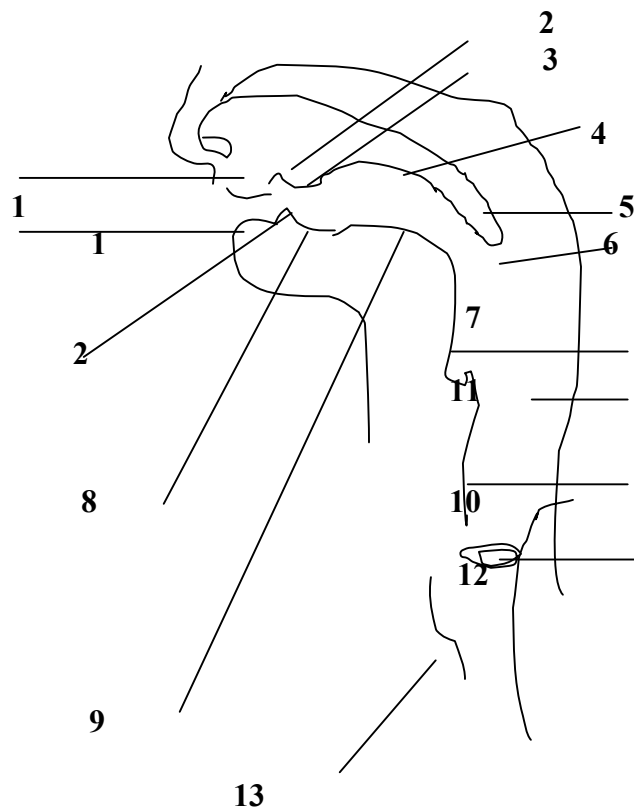
- (a) Pathuppattu
- (b) Mullaippattu
- (c) Pathirruppathu

25. Married women in Tamil Nadu wear:

- (a) **Valayal** as the symbol for marriage
- (b) **Tali** as the symbol for marriage
- (c) **Mukkuthi** as the symbol for marriage

SPEECH ORGANS:

Knowledge of the speech organs and their descriptions will make Tamil learning easy. This will also help to understand sound values of Tamil letters, their writing, and reading. It is necessary that the learners of Tamil are familiar with some basic understanding of terminology used for the description of Tamil sounds. It is suggested to the learners to go through the profile given here for the organs of speech before beginning to learn Tamil.



1. Lips

2. Teeth

The roof of the mouth: The roof of the mouth is divided into teeth ridge, hard palate and soft palate.

3. Teeth ridge: It is a convex part of the roof of the mouth. It is immediately behind the teeth.





4. Hard palate: It is a concave part of the roof of the mouth. It is in the central part of the roof of the mouth.
5. Soft palate: This is situated in the back part of the roof of the mouth. It can be lowered or raised. When it is lowered, the air stream from the lungs has access to the nasal cavity. When it is raised the passage to the nasal cavity is closed.
6. Uvula: It is the ending part of the soft palate.
7. Pharynx: It is situated in the throat. The surface of the tongue is divided into three parts namely the blade of the tongue, the front of the tongue, and the back of the tongue.
8. Blade of the tongue: it lies opposite to the teeth ridge. It includes the tip of the tongue.
9. Front of the tongue: It lies opposite to the hard palate.
10. Back of the tongue: It lies opposite to the palate.
11. Epiglottis: This is drawn over the windpipe when swallowing.
12. Vocal cords: The larynx contains two lip-like elastic membranes that are physiologically called vocal cords. When these two are brought close together during the sound production, they vibrate and produce a buzzing noise. This is called voice and the particular sound produced at this time is termed voiced sound or soft sound. A sound produced without such vibrations in the vocal cords is a voiceless sound or simply hard sound.
13. Larynx: It is the upper part of the windpipe. It protects the vocal cords. The speech sounds are produced mainly based on articulators and points of articulation. The articulators are movable and points of articulation are stationary. The articulators are lower lip, tip of the tongue, and blade of the tongue, front of the tongue and back of the tongue. The points of articulation are upper lip, teeth, teeth ridge, hard palate and soft palate.





Tamil speech sounds are generally divided into vowels and consonants. Vowels are voiced sounds. In their production the air passes through the mouth in a continuous stream without any obstruction in the mouth. In the production process of the vowels, the soft palate is in its raised position and vocal cords are in vibration. The consonants are produced with obstructions and are many. These details are found in the place where they are introduced in the following Frames.

It is to be observed here the difference between the letters and their sound values. In Tamil some letters are used for different sound values. That is, one particular letter will be used for different sounds. The different sound values of some consonants and their distributions are given as and when they are introduced. The

production of particular sound is given in each Frame and the script or letter introduced there represents the respective sound. The exercise part following the introduction of the sound and letter, allows the learners to practice the introduced sound and letter in each Frame.

F R A M E 1

 ta/da	 pa/ba	 ma	 ya
--	--	---	---

 ʈ	 p	 m	 y
--	--	--	--

𑌤 (t) is produced by the tip of the tongue curved towards the back and making contact at the roof of the mouth. When the contact is released the air escapes through the mouth. It occurs initially only in borrowed words. This occurs in a word as the first member of a consonant cluster, as the second member of a consonant cluster and in an identical consonant cluster.

The 𑌤 has two sound values. One is voiceless and another is voiced. The one that described above is voiceless. The voiced one is produced in the same manner except for the vibration in the vocal cords. This voiced sound (ḍ) is used between two vowels.

𑌖 (p): In its production the lips are closed and the soft palate is raised to close the nasal passage. When the lips are opened the air suddenly comes out with explosion. There is no vibration in the vocal cords. This sound is described a voiceless bilabial stop. This occurs in the word initial and medial positions. It occurs medially as the first member of a consonant cluster, as the second member of a consonant cluster and in an identical consonant cluster.

The usual hand movement in writing Tamil letters is from the left to the right and from the top to the bottom. Note the strokes of the letter 𑌤 (ta) and 𑌖 (pa) as given below. Copy them three times each (see Appendix I for hand-movements). Your letter should be similar to the one on the extreme right side.

𑌤 _____ _____ _____ 𑌤

𑌖 _____ _____ _____ 𑌖

Lips are closed when \dot{m} (m) is produced. The soft palate is lowered and the air stream comes freely through the nasal cavity. The vocal cords are vibrated in its production. This is a voiced bilabial nasal. This occurs in the word initial, meddle, and final positions.

Compare the letters for (pa) and (ma). Note the similarity and the difference between them. Copy them three times each. Your letter should be similar to the one given at the extreme right.

□ _____ □

◡ _____ ◡

\dot{y} (y): In its production the lips are spread. The front of the tongue is raised towards the hard plate. The soft palate is raised. The air stream passes through the stricture and the vocal cords are made to vibrate. This is a voiced palatal frictionless continuant. This occurs in all positions.

Compare the letter for (pa) with that for (ya) and note the difference. Copy them three times each. Your letter should be similar to the one given at extreme right.

□ _____ □

◡ _____ ◡

The letters with a dot above like \dot{t} , \dot{p} , \dot{m} , \dot{y} etc., are pure consonants in Tamil. The letter without a dot represents the corresponding consonant + the vowel.

Example: \dot{t} = t̄, t = ta, \dot{p} = p̄, p = pa.

◡ is (ṭa) whereas $\dot{\text{◡}}$ is usually uttered (iṭ)

□ is (pa) whereas $\dot{\text{□}}$ is usually uttered (ip)

◡ is (ma) whereas $\dot{\text{◡}}$ is usually uttered (im)

ய is (ya) whereas ய̇ is usually uttered (iy)

Read the following words.

படம்	paḍam
பட்டம்	paṭṭam
படபட	paḍapaḍa
மடம்	maḍam
மட்டம்	maṭṭam
மடமட	maḍamaḍa
பப்படம்	pappaḍam
பயம்	payam

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row, which is found in the first row.

ட	ப	ம	ய
ட	ய	ம	ய

2. Encircle ட̇ and check ட in the following words.

பட்டம் படம்

மட்டம் மடம்

3. Encircle ப̇ and check ப in the following words.

பப்படம்

படம்

4. Encircle ம̇ and check ம in the following words.

மட்டம்

மடம்

5. Encircle ய and check ப in the following words.

பயம்

புலி

6. Write the following letters five times.

௞ _____

௟ _____

௠ _____

௡ _____

7. Write the following words from 2 looking at 1 till you are able to write like the one in bold.

புலி

புலி

புலி

புலி

புலி

5. _____

4. _____

3. _____

2. _____

1. **புலி** புலி புலி புலி புலி

8. Write Tamil words four times for the words given in Roman script.

paḍam _____

maḍam _____

payam _____

paṭṭam _____

maṭṭam _____

9. Recognize and read the following words.

பயம்

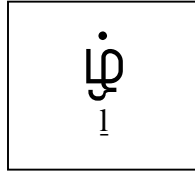
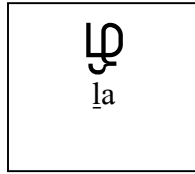
மடம்

டம்பம்

பட்டம்

பப்படம்

F R A M E 2



The sound for ல் is special for Tamil. This is represented by (l̥). In its production the tongue is curled back and the tip of the tongue is placed very near the roof of the mouth but not touching it. The air stream passes through the sides of the tongue as well as in between the tip of the tongue and the roof of the mouth. The vocal cords are vibrated. The soft palate is raised. This is a voiced retroflex palatal lateral. This occurs in the word medial and final positions. Medially it occurs as a single consonant between two vowels as in the word லுலு, as the first member of a consonant cluster (ல்-), and as the first member of a three consonant cluster (ல்- -).

Compare the letter for (ma) with that for (la). Copy each of the letters four times. Note the similarity and difference between them (see Appendix I for hand-movements). Your letter should be similar to the one given at extreme right.

ல _____ ல

ல் _____ ல்

ல is (la) where as ல் is usually uttered (il).

Read the following words.

படிம் paḷam

பிடம் paḍam

மடம் maḍam

பட்டம் paṭṭam

மட்டம் maṭṭam

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

ட	
ட	டி

டி	
டி	டி

டி	
ப	டி

2. Encircle டி and check டி in the following words.

படிம் மடம்

பட்டம் பிடம்

3. Write five times the following letter.

டி _____

4. Write the following words.

படிம்

பிடம்

5. _____
4. _____
3. _____
2. _____

1. படிவ் புலவ்
5. Tamil words are given in Roman script. Write them in Tamil.

paḷam _____

paḍam _____

payam _____

6. Recognize and read the following words.

படிவ்

புலவ்

படிபடி

புலபுல

F R A M E 3

ஈ ii	ர ra	ச ca/sa/ja	க ka/ga/ha	த ta/da
---------	---------	---------------	---------------	------------

ற r	ஶ c	஑ k	ஒ t
--------	--------	--------	--------

ஈ (ii): In its production the lips are spread and the front of the tongue is raised as high as possible towards the hard palate without making any constriction. The tip of the tongue touches the lower part of the teeth. The vocal cords are vibrated during its production. The soft palate is raised. This is a high front un-rounded long vowel. This occurs in all positions in a word.

ற (r): The air escapes between the tip of the tongue and palate in its production. The soft palate is raised and the vocal cords are vibrated. This sound is described as the voiced alveolar flap. This occurs in all the positions in a word.

Compare the letters ஈ (ii) and ர (ra). ஈ is formed by putting two dots on both sides of the third stroke whereas ர (ra) is formed by adding a slightly angular short stroke as shown below. While writing ற, it is written with a dot over ர; in print it will be ற. But both are correct.

Compare the letters and copy three times (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

ஈ _____

ர _____

We have seen earlier about ற and its production. As we have seen earlier this occurs in the word initial and medial positions. There are two sound values for this letter, namely voiced and voiceless. The one seen earlier described as voiceless (hard). The other one is voiced (soft). The movements of the speech organs are exactly the same as voiceless except for vibration in the vocal cords. It occurs initially in some of the borrowed words and medially after nasal as in பம்பரம்

(pambaram). This may be described as a voiced bilabial stop sound.

Read the following words.

ஈ	ii
ஈயம்	iiyam
ஈரம்	iiram
மரம்	maram
ரம்பம்	rambam
பம்பரம்	pambaram

சீ (c): In its production the blade of the tongue touches the back portion of the alveolar ridge and the soft palate is raised. The blade of the tongue moves away from its position slowly. There is no vibration in the vocal cords. This is described as the voiceless palatal affricate. It occurs medially in modern Tamil as identical consonant cluster.

கீ (k): The back of the tongue blocks the air stream while it is in firm contact with the soft palate in its production. The soft palate is in raised position so that no air escapes through the nasal cavity. The air comes out of the mouth with explosion when the back of the tongue is released suddenly. There is no vibration of the vocal cords during this production. This is voiceless velar stop. This occurs in the word initial and medial positions.

தீ (t): It is produced when the tip of the tongue touches the upper teeth. Here the soft palate is also raised so that the air can not escape through the nasal cavity. When the tip of the tongue is released from the upper teeth the air suddenly escapes through the mouth. There is no vibration in the vocal cords. This is a voiceless dental stop. It occurs initially and medially.

Write the letters for (ca), (ka) and (ta) (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

சீ _____ சீ
கீ _____ கீ
தீ _____ தீ

In Tamil, each of the letter கீ, சீ, டீ, தீ and பீ, with or without secondary symbols for other vowels, have different pronunciation values depending upon the position in which they occur, or on the basis of letters with which they co-occur in a word.

There are secondary symbols for each vowel (see Appendix II). The vowel letters as such can be used in the word initial position. In other places in a word corresponding secondary symbols are used. The secondary symbols may be added to the consonant either over the letter or before the primary letter or after the primary letter or both, before and after etc. The secondary symbols are introduced wherever the vowels are introduced. There are number of examples of vowel, consonant combinations are given for easy understanding of this concept.

Secondary symbol for ஈ is added to ழ and this is written as ழீ.

Note the addition to ழ. When the secondary symbol is added to a pure consonant, the dot over the letter that represents the pure consonant is not used.

In Tamil, no word will begin with a pure consonant. However, this may happen when borrowed words from other languages are used in Tamil.

Look at the symbol ீ for the vowel ஈ when combined with the consonants.

ழ	+	ஈ	=	ழீ
த	+	ஈ	=	தீ
ழ	+	ஈ	=	ழீ
ப	+	ஈ	=	பீ
ம	+	ஈ	=	மீ
ய	+	ஈ	=	யீ
ல	+	ஈ	=	லீ
ர	+	ஈ	=	ரீ
ச	+	ஈ	=	சீ
க	+	ஈ	=	கீ
த	+	ஈ	=	தீ

Read the following words.

டீ	ṭii
பீடம்	piidam
தழீ	talii
கரீம்	kariim

(i) The letters **ட**, **ப** are pronounced with the sound value of (ta), (pa) respectively when they occur in the beginning of a word or in doubling. Elsewhere **ட** and **ப** are pronounced as (da) and (ba). When **ட** is pronounced as (da), the movements of the speech organs are exactly the same as those of (ta) except for the vibration in the vocal cords. This is voiced dental stop.

(ii) The letter **க** is pronounced as (ga) after nasal. The movements of the speech organs are same as those for (ka) except for the vibration in the vocal cords. This is voiced velar stop. When it occurs medially as a single consonant between two vowels it is pronounced as (ha).

(iii) The letter **ச** has the sound value of (ca) only in doubling. Between two vowels or in the beginning of a word it has the sound value, (sa). It is pronounced as (ja) after nasal. This will be explained in details in Frame 8.

(iv) In Frame 1, the letter **ட** is introduced as voiceless (ṭa) in doubling and elsewhere it is voiced (da). However, in the borrowed words this is voiced in the word initial position.

Read the following words.

மர்மம்	marmam
மரம்	maram
ஈரம்	iiram
கரம்	karam
ஈயம்	iiyam
ரம்பம்	rambam
சரம்	saram
சர்ப்பம்	sarppam
மச்சம்	maccam

கடம்	kadam
கட்டம்	kaṭṭam
பக்கம்	pakkam
சக்கரம்	sakkaram
ரசம்	rasam
தரம்	taram
பதம்	padam
மதம்	madam
தகரம்	taharam
பதக்கம்	padakkam
ஈச்சம்பழம்	iiccambalam

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

ஈ	
ர	ஈ

ஈ	
ஈ	ர

2. Check the letter ஈ in the following words.

ஈரம் ஈச்சம்

ஈழம் ஈட்டம்

3. Copy the following letter.

ஈ _____

4. Copy the following words.

ஈழம்	ஈரம்	ஈட்டம்
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

5. Tamil words are given in Roman script. Write them in Tamil.

iiccambalam	_____
iilam	_____
iiṭṭam	_____
iiram	_____

6. Encircle the letter in the second row, which is found in the first row.

ர	ச	த	க
ர ர	க ச	த க	ச க

7. Encircle க and tick ச in the following words.

கதம்பம்	சகடம்	மச்சம்
மகம்	ரசம்	கரம்

8. Encircle the word in the second row that is found in the first row.

ரசம்	கம்பம்
சரம் ரசம்	ரம்பம் கம்பம்

கதம்பம்	
கடம்பம்	கதம்பம்

தரம்	
ரதம்	தரம்

9. Copy the following letters.

ஈ _____

ச _____

ர _____

க _____

த _____

10. Copy the following words four times each.

ரதம்

சரம்

கரம்

தடம்

11. Tamil words are given in Roman script. Write them in Tamil script.

padakkam _____

sakkaram _____

pakkam _____

taharam _____

maccam _____

taḍam _____

12. Recognize and read the following words.




சத்தம் தீரம்

மச்சம் கரீம்

டீ தீ

பதக்கம்

F R A M E 4

 a	 aa	 i
--	---	--

The vowel sound, அ (a) in its production the lips are kept in neutral positions. The tongue is kept as it is in the normal position and the vocal cords are vibrated. The soft palate is raised. This is called low, central, un-rounded short vowel.

In a word this sound occurs in all positions.

The vowel sound, ஆ (aa) in its production is the same as that of அ (a) except for the length. This is described as a low, central, un-rounded, long vowel. This sound occurs in all positions in a word.

The vowel sound, இ (i) in its production the lips are spread and the front of the tongue is raised as high as possible towards the hard palate without making any sort of constriction. The tip of the tongue touches the lower part of the teeth. The vocal cords are vibrated during its production. The soft palate is raised. This sound is described as a high, front, un-rounded, short vowel. This sound occurs in all positions in a word.

The sounds (a), (aa) and (i) are represented by the letters அ, ஆ, இ respectively. As stated earlier for the presence of any vowel sound in a word, the vowel is used as it is in the word initial position and elsewhere the corresponding secondary symbols are used with consonants.

Look at the letters carefully and copy three times each (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

அ _____

ஆ _____

இ _____

Copy the letters yourself.

அ _____
ஆ _____
இ _____

Read the following words.

அகம் aham
அரம் aram
ஆரம் aaram
ஆட்டம் aattam
ஆக்கம் aakkam
இடம் idam
இதம் idam

EXERCISE-I

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

அ	ஆ	இ
அ	ஆ	இ
அ	ஆ	இ

2. Encircle அ and check ஆ in the following words.

அரம்
ஆரம்
அகரம்
ஆட்டம்
ஆப்பம்

3. Encircle இ and check அ in the following words.

இடம் அப்பம்

அகம் இதம்

4. Copy the following letters five times each.

அ _____

ஆ _____

இ _____

5. Copy the following words.

அரம் _____

ஆரம் _____

இடம் _____

In the Frame 3, for the long vowel ஈ (ii), a secondary symbol was added to the pure consonant to represent the presence of the vowel. Likewise for every vowel there is a secondary symbol to represent.

The vowel can occur as it is only in the word initial position. Elsewhere the vowel will go with consonants and secondary symbols are used to mark their presence. Hence it is to be understood that in Tamil vowels, pure consonants, and vowel + consonant are used. You have noticed in the Frame 3 that whenever a vowel is added to a pure consonant (a consonant with a dot over the letter), the dot is replaced by the secondary symbol.

Consonants with vowel அ are represented as follows.

ட	+	அ	=	ட
t	+	a	=	ta
ப	+	அ	=	ப
p	+	a	=	pa
ம	+	அ	=	ம
m	+	a	=	ma
ய	+	அ	=	ய
y	+	a	=	ya
ழ	+	அ	=	ழ
l	+	a	=	la
ர	+	அ	=	ர
r	+	a	=	ra
ச	+	அ	=	ச
c	+	a	=	ca
க	+	அ	=	க
k	+	a	=	ka
த	+	அ	=	த
t	+	a	=	ta

Secondary Symbol for the vowel ஆ is ற which is placed after the consonant letters (see Appendix I & II for hand-movements).

ற _____ _____ _____ ற

Combination of the secondary symbol ற for the long vowel ஆ with consonants are given below.

ர் + ஆ = ரா r + aa = raa
ச் + ஆ = சா c + aa = caa
க் + ஆ = கா k + aa = kaa
த் + ஆ = தா t + aa = taa
ட் + ஆ = டா ṭ + aa = ṭaa
ப் + ஆ = பா p + aa = paa
ம் + ஆ = மா m + aa = maa
ய் + ஆ = யா y + aa = yaa
ழ் + ஆ = ழா ḷ + aa = ḷaa

6. Read the following words.

தடாகம் taḍaaham

பாடம் paadam

அபாரம் abaaram

அப்பா appaa

மாதம் maadam

அம்மா ammaa

யாகம் yaaham

தராதரம் taraadaram

சாகரம் saaharam

காரம் kaaram

தாகம் taaham

7. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

டா		பா		மா		யா	
டா	யா	பா	மா	மா	ய	இ	யா

ழா		ரா		சா	
ஆ	ழா	ரா	அ	க	சா

கா		தா	
கா	சா	த	தா

8. Encircle பா and check டா in the following words.

தடாகம்

பாரம்

படார்

அப்பா

9. Encircle ரா and check சா in the following words.

தராதரம்

சாகரம்

10. Encircle **மா** and check **யா** in the following words.

மாதம்

யாகம்

மாயா

அம்மா

11. Encircle **கா** and check **தா** in the following words.

காரம்

தாகம்

காகம்

தாரம்

12. Copy the following five times.

டா _____

பா _____

யா _____

மா _____

ழா _____

ரா _____

சா _____

13. Copy the following words.

தடாகம் _____

பாரம் _____

மாயம் _____

யாகம் _____

தராதரம் _____

சாகரம் _____

காயம் _____

தாய் _____

14. Write in Tamil script for the words given in Roman script.

maḍaar _____

maadam _____

yaaham _____

taaraa _____

saayaa _____

kaaham _____

taaham _____

15. Split into letters and write them in the box.

Model: தடாகம்

த	ட	க	ம்
---	---	---	----

பாடம்

--	--	--

மாதம்

--	--	--

யாகம்

--	--	--

ராகம்			
சாகரம்			
காயம்			
தாகம்			

16. Secondary symbol for the vowel இ when added to pure consonant, ட் looks like டி. Similarly with other consonants as given below (see Appendix I & II for hand-movements).

ட் + இ = டி	ரீ + இ = ரி
த் + i = தி	r + i = ri
ப் + இ = பி	சீ + இ = சி
p + i = pi	c + i = ci
ம் + இ = மி	கீ + இ = கி
m + i = mi	k + i = ki
ய் + இ = யி	தீ + இ = தி
y + i = yi	t + i = ti
ழ் + இ = ழி	
l + i = li	

17. Read the following words.

இடி	idi
பாதி	paadi
பிடி	pidi
தமிழ்	tamil
பழி	pai
கரி	kari
சிதம்பரம்	sidambaram
காகிதம்	kaahidam

18. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

டி		பி		மி		யி	
டி	ட	ப	பி	மி	ம	இ	யி

ழி		ரி		சி	
ழ	ழி	ரி	ரா	சி	கி

கி		தி	
சி	கி	தி	கி

19. Encircle the letter டி and check பி in the following words.

படி
கடிதம்
பிம்பம்
காபி

20. Encircle the letter மி and check ழி in the following words.

தமிழ்

சாமி

பழி

கழி

21. Encircle the letter ரி and check the letter சி in the following words.

கரி

மாரி

சிதம்பரம்

22. Encircle கி and check தி in the following words.

காகிதம்

திரி

EXERCISE II

1. Copy five times the following letters.

டி _____

பி _____

மி _____

யி _____

ழி _____

ரி _____

சி _____

கி _____

தி _____

2. Copy three times the following words.

கடி _____

காபி _____

தமிழ் _____

பழி _____

சரி _____

சிரம் _____

காகிதம் _____

பாதி _____

3. Compare and read the following.

மிதி

சிரி

பிடி

கிரி

4. Read the sentences and then copy them one by one.

பாப்பா! படம் பார்.

அப்பா படம் பார்த்தார்.

அக்கா பாடம் படித்தார்.

தம்பி! படம் பார்.

அக்கா! தமிழ்ப் பாடம் படி.

பாப்பா பழம் தா.

F R A M E 5

ன <u>na</u>	ன் ña
----------------	----------

ன் <u>n</u>	ன் ñ
----------------	---------

When the tip of the tongue is raised against the upper teeth ன் (n) is produced. The soft palate is lowered and the air escapes freely through the nasal cavity. There is vibration in the vocal cords. It is to be recollected here that the sound value of ட் (t) seen in Frame 1. The movements of the speech organs are the same as that of (d), the voiced one except that the air stream passes through the nasal cavity in the case of ன் (n). This is described as voiced dental nasal. It occurs medially as in the words, அந்த, இந்த etc. and elsewhere it is pronounced as alveolar as in the English words name, invitation etc. and in Tamil words like நகம், நகரம் etc.

Observe how the letter for the sound (na) is written and copy three times (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

ன _____

The letter ன may also be written, deleting the extended curve line at the end.

Write the letter three times and practice.

ன _____

Observe how the secondary symbols for the vowels ஆ, இ and ஈ are added to ந (see Appendix I & II for hand-movements).

ந்	+	அ	=	நா
<u>ந</u>	+	a	=	<u>ந</u> a
ந்	+	ஆ	=	நாா
<u>ந</u>	+	aa	=	<u>ந</u> aa
ந்	+	இ	=	நி
<u>ந</u>	+	i	=	<u>ந</u> i
ந்	+	ஈ	=	நீ
<u>ந</u>	+	ii	=	<u>ந</u> ii

The letters நா, நாா, நி, நீ cannot occur in the middle or end of a word. However, ந் can occur medially before த், த, தி etc. This can be seen in the words, அந்த 'that', இந்த 'this' etc.

Read the words and write them three times each.

நம் _____

நாம் _____

நகம் _____

நாகம் _____

பந்தி _____

சந்தி _____

ந் (ña): In its production the air stream is blocked by the back of the tongue while it is in firm contact with the soft palate as in the production of (g). The soft palate is lowered and the air passes through the nasal passage. The vocal cords are vibrated. This is described as a voiced velar nasal. It occurs only in the medial position with its corresponding voiced velar stop, **க்** (k).

Observe how letter for **ந்** (ña) is written and write it four times. Your letter should be like the one given at extreme right.

ந் _____ **ந்**

Compare the letter for (na) with the letter for (ñ)a. Write them four times each:

ந _____

ந் _____

Secondary symbols for vowels **ஆ**, **இ** and **ஈ** are added to the nasal consonant **ந்**.

ந்	+	அ	=	ந்
ṇ	+	a	=	ṇ̃a
ந்	+	ஆ	=	ந்
ṇ	+	aa	=	ṇ̃aa
ந்	+	இ	=	ந்
ṇ	+	i	=	ṇ̃i
ந்	+	ஈ	=	ந்
ṇ	+	ii	=	ṇ̃ii

It is already pointed out that the letter ற usually occurs only in its pure consonantal form, namely ற், immediately followed by letters of க series, such as க, கா, கி, etc. That is, க series letters after ற் are pronounced as soft sounds (voiced sounds) like, ga, gaa, gi etc.

Read the words aloud and write them three times each.

சங்கம் _____
தங்கம் _____
அங்கம் _____

Read the following words.

நட	naḍa
நாகம்	naaham
நிதி	niidi
நீதி	niidi
பந்தம்	pandam
சந்தம்	sandam
தந்தம்	tandam
பங்கம்	paṅgam
சங்கம்	saṅgam
தங்கம்	taṅgam

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

ந	
ந	த

ற	
ற	ற்

2. Encircle the word in the second row that is similar to the word in the first row.

நகம்			நகரம்		
நகம்	நயம்	கடம்	தகரம்	நரகம்	நகரம்

சங்கம்		
தங்கம்	சங்கம்	பங்கம்

3. Encircle the letters **ந்** , **ந** , **நா** , **நி** and **நீ** in the following words.

அந்த	நகம்
நாம்	நாகம்
நீதி	நிதி
பந்தம்	நீர்

4. Copy the following letters five times.

ந _____

ந் _____

5. Write the equivalent Tamil letter and copy three times each.

na _____

ña _____

6. Copy four times the following words.

நயம் _____
பந்தம் _____
நிதி _____
நீர் _____
தங்கம் _____
பங்கம் _____

7. Fill in the blanks with the Tamil letters equivalent to the Roman letters given within the brackets.

ப__தம் (n)
__கம் (na)
__கம் (naa)
__தி (ni)
__ர் (nii)
ச__கம் (ñ)
அ__கம் (ñ)
த__கம் (ñ)

8. Write in Tamil using the forms given in Roman script.

naham _____
naam _____
nii _____
tandam _____
angam _____
tangam _____
sangam _____

9. Recognize and read the following words.

பீதி

தீபம்

பங்கம்

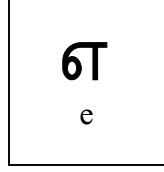
நாட்டம்

திட்டம்

தந்தம்

தங்கம்

FRAME 6



In Tamil there are separate scripts for short (e) and long (ee). The letter given above is short one and pronounced as in the word, egg.

எ(e), the short vowel in its production the lips are slightly spread. The front of the tongue is slightly raised towards the hard palate but not as high as in the case of இ (i) seen in the Frame 4. In this case the vocal cords are vibrated during its production. The soft palate is raised. This sound is mid, front, un-rounded, short vowel. This will not occur in the word final position.

Write five times the letter (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

எ _____ எ

Read the following words.

எரி	eri
எச்சம்	eccam
எட்டடி	ettadi
எந்த	enda
எப்படி	eppadi
எந்திரம்	endiram
எம்	em

Secondary symbol for the vowel எ is ெ which is always placed before the primary letter (see Appendix I & II for hand-movements).

Copy the secondary symbol five times.

ௌ _____

Look at the vowel, consonant combinations.

ட	+	எ	=	டெ
t	+	e	=	te
ப	+	எ	=	பெ
p	+	e	=	pe
ர	+	எ	=	ரெ
r	+	e	=	re
ம்	+	எ	=	மெ
m	+	e	=	me
ய்	+	எ	=	யெ
y	+	e	=	ye
ழ்	+	எ	=	ழெ
l	+	e	=	le
ச்	+	எ	=	செ
c	+	e	=	ce
க்	+	எ	=	கெ
k	+	e	=	ke
த்	+	எ	=	தெ
t	+	e	=	te
ந்	+	எ	=	நெ
n	+	e	=	ne
ங்	+	எ	=	ஙெ
ñ	+	e	=	ñe

Read and write them.

பெட்டி _____

மெட்டி _____

கெட்டி _____

பெரிய பெட்டி _____

செந்தமிழ் _____

பெரிய பாடம் _____

நீ கெட்டிக்காரியா?

இந்தப் பெட்டி யார் பெட்டி?

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

எ			எ		
எ	ந	ழ	ங	எ	ட

2. Encircle the letter எ found in the following words.

எந்த

எப்படி

எந்திரம்

3. Copy the letter five times.

எ _____

4. Copy the following five times.

எப்படி

எட்டடி

எந்த

5. _____

4. _____

3. _____

2. _____

1. எப்படி எட்டடி எந்த

5. Write the following in Tamil.

eppadi _____

endiram _____

enda _____

6. Read the following words with the help of Roman script.

பெரிய periya

மெட்டி metti

செடி sedi

கெட்ட ketta

தெப்பம் teppam

நெடிய nediya

7. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

டெ		பெ		மெ		யெ	
டெ	ட	பெ	டெ	மெ	ம	யெ	பெ

ழெ		ரெ		செ	
மெ	ழெ	ரெ	யெ	ரெ	செ

கெ		தெ	
கெ	க	கெ	தெ

நெ	
நெ	தெ

8. Read the following words given in Roman script and write in Tamil.

metti _____

netti _____

seppam _____

ketṭi _____

ney _____

pey _____

9. Copy each for five times and practice writing.

டெ _____

பெ _____

மெ _____

யெ _____

ழெ _____

ரெ _____

செ _____

கெ _____

தெ _____

நெ _____

10. Copy the following words three times.

தெப்பம் மெச்சி பெரிய கெட்டி

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

11. Split the words into letters and write them in the boxes.

Model : மெட்டி

மெ	ட்	டி
----	----	----

பெட்டகம்

--	--	--	--	--

செடி

--	--

தெப்பம்

--	--	--	--

செப்பம்

--	--	--	--

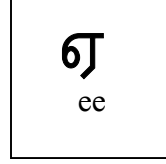
மெய்

--	--

12. Recognize and read the following.

தெப்பம் எந்திரம்
எந்த சந்திரா
பெட்டகம் இந்திரா
தமிழகம் பெயர்

FRAME 7



ஏ (ee): In its production similar to எ (e) except for the length of duration. This sound is known as the mid, un-rounded, long vowel. That is எ (e) is a short vowel and that ஏ (ee) is the long counterpart of (e) just as ஆ (aa) is the long counterpart of அ (a). It occurs in all the positions in a word.

Look at the letter and copy them on the line (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

ஏ _____ ஏ

Read the following words.

ஏர் eer

ஏமம் eemam

ஏக்கம் eekkam

ஏப்பம் eppam

ஏரி eeri

The secondary symbol for ஏ is also written before we write the primary consonant. The secondary symbol for ஏ is ே (see Appendix I & II for hand-movements).

Write the secondary symbol on the lines,

ே _____

Look at the combinations carefully.

ட ṭ	+	ஏ ee	=	டே ṭee
ப p	+	ஏ ee	=	பே pee
ம் m	+	ஏ ee	=	மே mee
ய y	+	ஏ ee	=	யே yee
ழ ḷ	+	ஏ ee	=	ழே ḷee
ர் r	+	ஏ ee	=	ரே ree
ச் c	+	ஏ ee	=	சே cee
க் k	+	ஏ ee	=	கே kee
த் t	+	ஏ ee	=	தே tee
ந் ṅ	+	ஏ ee	=	நே ṅee

Write them two times each:

பேட்டி _____

மேகம் _____

தேகம் _____

நேரம் _____

பேத்தி _____

அங்கே _____

இங்கே _____

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

ஏ		
ர	எ	ஏ

ஏ		
எ	ஏ	ஈ

2. Encircle the word in the second row that is found in the first row.

ஏரி	
ஏரி	ரதி

ஏப்பம்	
ஏக்கம்	ஏப்பம்

3. Encircle the letter ஏ in the following words.

ஏரி

ஏப்பம்

ஏர்

ஏக்கம்

ஏமம்

4. Copy the following five times.

ஏ _____

5. Write the Tamil letter for the given Roman letter.

e _____

ee _____

6. Copy the following words.

	ஏக்கம்	ஏரி	ஏமம்
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	ஏக்கம்	ஏரி	ஏமம்

7. Write in Tamil script the words given in Roman script.

eeri

eeppam

eemam

eekkam

8. Read the following words.

பேர் peer

மேய் meey

சேர் seer

கேசம்	keesam
தேய்	teey
நேரம்	neeram
அங்கே	aṅgee
இங்கே	iṅgee
எங்கே	eṅgee

9. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

பே		மே		ரே	
டே	பே	டே	மே	ரே	பே

ழே		சே		கே	
ழே	மே	சே	செ	ழே	கே

10. Encircle the word in the second row that is found in the first row.

பேய்		மேய்		சேர்	
பேய்	மேய்	தேய்	மேய்	தேர்	சேர்

கேசம்		தேர்	
கேசம்	தேசம்	சேர்	தேர்

நேரம்	
நேரம்	நே

11. Encircle பே, மே, சே, கே, தே and நே in the following words.

பேர்

மேயர்

சேர்

கேசம்

தேசம்

நேரம்

12. Write following the model.

Model: ட் + ஏ = டே

ப் + ஏ =

ம் + ஏ =

ய் + ஏ =

ழ் + ஏ =

ர் + ஏ =

ச் + ஏ =

க் + ஏ =

த் + ஏ =

ந் + ஏ =

13. Copy the following five times.

டே _____

பே _____

மே _____

யே _____

ழே _____

ரே _____

சே _____

கே _____

தே _____

நே _____

14. Look at the following and write equivalent Tamil letters.

pee
mee
yee
lee
ree
cee
nee
ñee

15. Write in Tamil script, the words given in Roman script.

neeram
teer
peer
teeham
keesam

16. Recognize and read the following words.

நேசம்
செரி
சேரி
கச்சேரி
தேர்
பேதம்
தேகம்
தேங்காய்

Now look at the secondary symbols for the vowels already introduced.

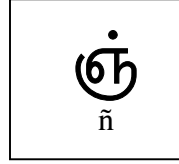
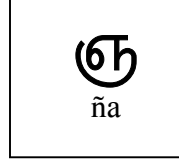
The vowels introduced so far are: அ, ஆ, இ, ஈ, எ, ஏ

Corresponding secondary

symbols for the vowels are: ா, ி, ீ, ூ, ௃

As described before in the previous Frames, when any vowel is added to any pure consonant, the dot over the pure consonant that is a marker for the pure consonant and is not used to show the presence of the vowel.

FRAME 8



நீ (ñ): In its production the front of the tongue touches the hard palate and the soft palate is lowered. The air escapes freely through the nasal passage as in the production of other nasal sounds. The vocal cords are vibrated. It occurs in the word initial and medial positions. When it occurs before ங, like -நீங்- as in the word பநீசம், the ங is always pronounced as **ja, jaa, ji, jii, je, jee etc.** Hence, it is to be noted that the letter நீ occurs only in its pure consonant form namely நீ in the middle of a word. Wherever நீ occurs it is immediately followed by ங, with or without secondary symbols for other vowels. In all these cases, ங has the sound value of j.

Compare the letters ன and ஞ with the letter for (ñ) and write them three times each. Your letter should be similar to the one given at the extreme right (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

ன _____ ன

ஞ _____ ஞ

Observe and write the three times. Your letter should be similar to the one given at the extreme right (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

நீ _____ நீ

Read the following words.

நாயம்	ñayam
இஞ்சி	iñji
மாஞ்சம்	mañjam
தஞ்சம்	tañjam
கஞ்சி	kañji
நாபகம்	ñaabaham
பஞ்சம்	pañjam

Observe how the secondary symbols for the vowels அ, ஆ, இ, ஈ, எ and ஏ are added with ஞ.

ஞ்	+	அ	=	ஞா
ñ	+	a	=	ña
ஞ்	+	ஆ	=	ஞா
ñ	+	aa	=	ña
ஞ்	+	இ	=	ஞி
ñ	+	i	=	ñi
ஞ்	+	ஈ	=	ஞீ
ñ	+	ii	=	ñii
ஞ்	+	எ	=	ஞெ
ñ	+	e	=	ñe
ஞ்	+	ஏ	=	ஞே
ñ	+	ee	=	ñee

Remember again that the letter ஞ, with or without secondary symbols for other vowels, written immediately after ஞ, is always pronounced as j.

Read the following words and copy.

நாபகம் _____

பஞ்சம் _____
தஞ்சம் _____
கஞ்சம் _____
நெஞ்சம் _____
கஞ்சி _____
இஞ்சி _____

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

ஞ	
ஞ	ஏ

ஞ	
ஞ	எ

2. Encircle the word in the second row that is found in the first row.

கஞ்சி	
கஞ்சி	இஞ்சி

ஞயம்	
பயம்	ஞயம்

3. Encircle the letters ஞ, ஞா and ஞ in the following words.

கஞ்சி

ஞயம்

மஞ்சம்

ஞாபகம்

தஞ்சம்

4. Copy the following five times.

ஞ _____

5. Copy the following words.

	இஞ்சி	ஞயம்	ஞாபகம்
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	இஞ்சி	ஞயம்	ஞாபகம்

6. Write in Tamil script the words given in Roman script.

ñayam	.....
pañjam	.....
iñji	.....
kañji	.....
ñaabaham	.....

7. Recognize and read the following.

தஞ்சம்
நெஞ்சம்
யக்ஞம்
மஞ்சம்
சங்கீதம்
ஞாபகம்
ராஞ்சி
மரகதம்

F R A M E 9

வ va	ல la
----------------	----------------

வ் v	ல் l
----------------	----------------

வ் (v): In its production the lower lip is very close to the upper front teeth. The soft palate is raised. The air stream passes through the stricture without audible friction. The vocal cords are vibrated. This may be described as a voiced labia-dental frictionless continuant. It occurs in word initial and medial positions. It occurs medially as a single consonant between the vowels, as the second member of a consonant cluster and in an identical consonant cluster.

ல் (l): In the production of this sound, the tip of the tongue has contact with alveolar ridge in such a way that there is complete blockade of air in the middle of the mouth. The soft palate is raised so that the air cannot get through since they are not in contact with the sides of the palate. The vocal cords are vibrated during its production. This sound is described as a voiced alveolar lateral. It occurs in the word initial, medial, and final positions. In medial position it occurs as a single consonant in the intervocalic position, as the first member of a consonant cluster and in an identical consonant cluster.

Compare the letter **ள** with the letters **வ** (va) and **ல** (la) and note the difference. Write them three times each (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

ள ___ ___ ___ **ள**
வ ___ ___ ___ **வ**
ல ___ ___ ___ **ல**

Observe how the secondary symbols of the vowels அ, ஆ, இ, ஈ, எ and ஏ go with the consonants வ் and ல்.

வ்	+	அ	=	வ
ல்	+	அ	=	ல
வ்	+	ஆ	=	வா
ல்	+	ஆ	=	லா
வ்	+	இ	=	வி
ல்	+	இ	=	லி
வ்	+	ஈ	=	வீ
ல்	+	ஈ	=	லி
வ்	+	எ	=	வெ
ல்	+	எ	=	லெ
வ்	+	ஏ	=	வே
ல்	+	ஏ	=	லே

Read the following words.

அவர்	avar
சிவா	sivaa
வாய்	vaay
விமலா	vimalaa
கவிதா	kavidaa
காவி	kaavi
வீதி	viidi
வெப்பம்	veppam
வேடம்	veedam
லஞ்சம்	lanjam
பலம்	palam
பால்	paal
லாபம்	laabam
வேலி	veeli

கலீர்	kaliir
செவ்வாய்	sevvaay
அல்லி	alli

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

வ	
வ	ல

ல	
ல	வ

2. Encircle the letter வ and check the letter ல in the following words.

வடிவம்	கலம்
வசி	பலம்

3. Encircle the letters வ், வி, வீ, வெ, வே and check the letters ல், லி, லீ, லெ in the following words.

செவ்வாய்	விரல்
கால்	பலி
தவம்	வீரம்
கலம்	கலீர்
வேல்	வெப்பம்
வாய்	லாபம்

4. Encircle the word in the second row that is found in the first row.

தவம்	
சவம்	தவம்

பால்	
பால்	பல்

5. Copy the following letters three times.

வ _____

ல _____

வா _____

லா _____

வி _____

லி _____

வீ _____

லீ _____

வெ _____

லெ _____

லே _____

6. Copy the following words five times.

a.

	செவ்வாய்	கால்வாய்	வட்டம்
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	செவ்வாய்	கால்வாய்	வட்டம்

b.

	பாலம்	லாபம்	விரல்
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	பாலம்	லாபம்	விரல்

c.

	பல்லி	கலீர்	வீரம்
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	பல்லி	கலீர்	வீரம்

d.

	வெப்பம்	வேப்பம்
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	வெப்பம்	வேப்பம்

7. Write the letters using secondary symbols with the primary letters following the model.

Model: வ் + அ = வ

ல் + அ =

வ் + ஆ =

ல் + ஆ =

வ் + இ =

ல் + இ =

வ் + ஈ =

ல் + ஈ =
வ் + எ =
ல் + எ =
வ் + ஏ =
ல் + ஏ =

8. Write in Tamil for the words given in Roman script.

sevvaay _____

tavam _____

viral _____

viiram _____

veppam _____

veedam _____

palli _____

palam _____

laabam _____

vali _____

kaliir _____

9. Recognize and read the following words.

லீலா

வேலி

தவசி

மகாபலி

காவேரி

டில்லி

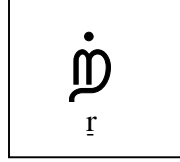
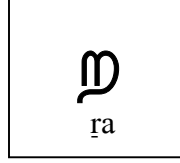
கல்கத்தா

லவங்கம்

Read the sentences.

அங்கே பார்.
இங்கே பார்.
மேலே பார்.
கீழே பார்.

F R A M E 10



ரீ (rī): This is produced by the rapid vibrations of the tip of the tongue against the middle of the alveolar ridge. The soft palate is raised to close the nasal passage. The vocal cords are vibrated. This may be described as a voiced alveolar trill. This will not occur in the word initial position. This occurs in the word medial position as a single consonant between two vowels as in the word, மறீம் and as the first member of a consonant cluster.

It is to be recollected that we have seen ரீ (rī) in Frame 3. It is very essential to know the difference between ரீ (rī) and ரீ (rī) while pronouncing and writing. The difference should be maintained, because in similar context these two sounds bring change in meaning. The ரீ occurs in a word in all positions. It occurs medially as a single consonant between two vowels, as in மறீம், as the first member of a consonant cluster, as the second member of a consonant cluster and as the first member of a three consonant cluster.

Write three times the letter (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

ரீ _____

The vowels, அ, ஆ, இ, ஈ, எ, ஏ are added to this consonant. Note how they are written with their respective secondary symbols (see Appendix I & II for hand-movements). For the vowel, ஆ the secondary symbol for ரீ was different not the same as the one in use in the modern Tamil (the old secondary symbol is no longer in use). For the difference between the old Tamil and modern Tamil symbols consult Chart III.

ற்	+	அ	=	ற
ற்	+	ஆ	=	றா
ற்	+	இ	=	றி
ற்	+	ஈ	=	றீ
ற்	+	எ	=	றெ
ற்	+	ஏ	=	றே

It is to be noted that ற் (r) cannot occur in double but ற் (r) can. ற் the pure consonant, occurs with a consonant + vowel letters (ற, ப, ச, க,), as a clusters like -ற்ற-, -ற்ப-, -ற்ச-, -ற்க- ... Of course, this trill simply occurs as -ற- as in the words, மறம், நிறம், அறம் etc.

The cluster, -ற்ற- as found in the word மற்ற and in similar position in the other words. While reading the first letter ற் in such a cluster it is always pronounced like ற் (t) and the following ற as such, that is trill. Here -ற்ற- is pronounced as (tr) as in the English word, 'attraction'. This is an important one to be noted by the learners of Tamil with respect to reading/speaking and writing.

Read the following words.

மறம்	maram
மரம்	maram
பயிற்சி	payirci
பறி	pari
கற்றார்	karraar
கற்பகம்	karpaham
கற்க	kar̥ka

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

ற	
ற	ர

ற	
ற	ற்

2. Encircle the letter ற and check the letter ற் in the following words.

வற்றல் நிறம்
பயிற்சி பற

3. Write the following five times.

ற் _____

ற _____

4. Copy the following words five times.

	அறம்	அரம்	பயிற்சி	சிற்பம்
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	அறம்	அரம்	பயிற்சி	சிற்பம்

5. Write in Tamil script the words given in Roman script.

aram

aram

kari

karral.....

kari

maram

maram

virra

karra

naarkaali.....

6. Recognize and read the following words.

வற்றல்

கறார்

பற்றி

சற்றே

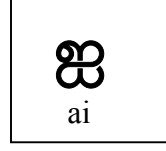
தறி

மறியல்

நெறி

சிற்றப்பா

F R A M E 11



ஐ (ai): The two elements namely, **a** and **i** and their combination form **ai**. In ai, **a** is a front vowel and **i** is a front closed vowel. This in its production resembles **y** as in the English word **my**. This sound occurs in a word initial, medial, and final positions. This vowel represented by the letter ஐ and used as it is in the word initial position and elsewhere the secondary symbol is used with other consonants. This may be considered as a long vowel.

Copy the letter three times (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

ஐ _____

Read the following words.

ஐயம் aiyam

ஐயா aiyaa

ஐவர் aivar

The secondary symbol for ஐ is ஐ. Note that the secondary symbol is first written and then the primary consonant is written (see Appendix I & II for hand-movements).

The secondary symbol for ஐ was not the same as the one in use in the modern Tamil for few consonants (see Chart III for the difference).

ட + ஐ = டை ṭ + ai = ṭai	த + ஐ = தை t + ai = tai
ப + ஐ = பை p + ai = pai	ந + ஐ = நை ṇ + ai = ṇai
ம + ஐ = மை m + ai = mai	ங + ஐ = ஙை ṅ + ai = ṅai
ய + ஐ = யை y + ai = yai	ள + ஐ = ளை ḷ + ai = ḷai
ர + ஐ = ரை r + ai = rai	வ + ஐ = வை v + ai = vai
ச + ஐ = சை c + ai = cai	ல் + ஐ = லை* l + ai = lai
க + ஐ = கை k + ai = kai	ற + ஐ = றை ṟ + ai = ṟai

*The secondary symbol for ஐ was different in old Tamil for the consonant, ல் (consult Chart III).

Read the following words.

படை paḍai

பை pai

சபை	sabai
மை	mai
ஆமை	aamai
தாமரை	taamarai
தசை	tasai
பாவை	paavai
மலை	malai
கறை	karai

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

ஐ		ஐ	
ற	ஐ	ஐ	ல

2. Encircle the letter ஐ in the following words.

ஐயம் ஐவர்
ஐயா ஐவகை

3. Copy the following five times.

ஐ _____

4. Copy the following words five times.

a.

ஐ வர் படை சபை ஆமை

5. _____

4. _____

3. _____

2. _____

1. ஐ வர் படை சபை ஆமை

b.

கரை தசை வைகை தையல்

5. _____

4. _____

3. _____

2. _____

1. கரை தசை வைகை தையல்

c.

தலை கறை

5. _____

4. _____

3. _____

2. _____

1. தலை கறை

5. Write the equivalent Tamil form for the given in Roman words.

kaḍai saḍai

pai nail

aamai paavai

tarai kaalai

tasai piṛai

vahai

6. Recognize and read the following words.

ஐயர்	வைகை
ஐயப்பா	மைதிலி
தலைவர்	கைலாசம்
கலைஞர்	தைலம்

Note that the following vowels and the corresponding secondary symbols are introduced so far.

Vowels: அ ஆ இ ஈ எ ஏ ஐ

Secondary Symbols: ா ி ீ ு ூ ௃

F R A M E 12

<p>ள</p> <p>la</p>

<p>ள்</p> <p>!</p>

ள் (!): In its production the dip of the tongue is slightly curved and made to contact the middle of the palate, that is hard palate. This air stream is completely blocked in the middle of the mouth. The soft palate is in raised position so that no air escapes through the nasal cavity. The air is allowed to pass by the sides of the tongue since they are not in contact with sides of the palate. The vocal cords are vibrated in this case. This sound is described as retroflex lateral.

This occurs medially and finally. Medially it occurs as a single consonant in the intervocalic position, as the first member of consonant cluster and in an identical consonant cluster.

Familiarity with ல (la) that is introduced in Frame 9 is to be compared here. This is pronounced by touching alveolar region with the tip of the tongue. But ள (la) is pronounced by taking back the tip of the tongue to hard palate. This ல (la) occurs word initial position whereas ள (la) is not.

Copy the letter five times (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

ள _____ ள

Observe how the secondary symbols for the vowels
(see Chart II & Appendix II).

ள்	+	அ	=	ள
ḷ	+	a	=	la
ள்	+	ஆ	=	ளா
ḷ	+	aa	=	laa
ள்	+	இ	=	ளி
ḷ	+	i	=	li
ள்	+	ஈ	=	ளி
ḷ	+	ii	=	lii
ள்	+	எ	=	ளெ
ḷ	+	e	=	le
ள்	+	ஏ	=	ளே
ḷ	+	ee	=	lee
ள்	+	ஐ	=	ளை*
ḷ	+	ai	=	lai

*In old Tamil secondary symbol for ஐ was different from that of the present one for the consonant, ள் (see Chart III).

Read the following words.

தாள்	taaḷ
பள்ளம்	paḷḷam
வெள்ளம்	veḷḷam
கேளாய்	keḷḷaay
களி	kaḷi
கேளிர்	keḷir
வெள்ளெலி	veḷḷeli
வெள்ளை	veḷḷai

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

ள		ல		எ		ள்	
வ	ள	ள	ல	எ	ள	ல்	ள்

2. Encircle the letter ள் and check the letter ள in the following words.

வாள்

களம்

கேள்வி

பவளம்

3. Copy the following five times.

ள் _____
ள _____

4. Copy the following words.

a.

கேள்வி கவளம் கேளாய் காளி

5. _____

4. _____

3. _____

2. _____

1. கேள்வி கவளம் கேளாய் காளி

b.

	கேளீர்	வெள்ளெலி	வளை
5.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
1.	கேளீர்	வெள்ளெலி	வளை

5. Fill in the blanks with the Tamil equivalents to the letters given in the brackets.

ப.....ளம் (l)

கவ.....ம் (la)

த.....ர் (li)

கே.....ர் (lii)

வெள்.....லி (le)

க..... (lai)

ப..... (lli)

6. Write in Tamil script the words given in Roman script.

taal

valam

kaḷi

paḷiir

veḷḷeli

vaḷai

7. Split the following words into letters and put them in the boxes.

வளம்	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		
களாக்காய்	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
வளி	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>			
பளீர்	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		
வெள்ளெலி	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
தவளை	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		

8. Recognize and read the following words.

தளபதி	வேளை
மத்தளம்	எள்
காளி	வராளி
காளிந்தி	கேளீர்

F R A M E 13

ன	ண
na	ṇa

ன்	ண்
n	n̄

In its production the tip of the tongue is made to contact the alveolar ridge. The soft palate is lowered and the air stream is pushed through the nasal cavity. The vocal cords are vibrated. The articulator's movements are exactly the same as those for the alveolar voiced stop (d). The only difference is in the case of the above sound represented by the letter ன் (n), the air is emitted through the nasal cavity. This is a voiced alveolar nasal. It occurs medially and finally.

The letters ன் and ண் are different in pronunciation (Frame 5). The letters ன், ன, னி etc., are always pronounced alveolar as in the English words, name, invitation etc. ன, னி, னி, னீ etc. can never occur in the beginning of a word. Only ண and its series can occur in the word initial position. This is an important contrast between ண and ன.

Copy the letter for three times (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

ன _____ ன

Read the words.

மான்
வான்
மனம்
நான்
மன்னன்
கன்னம்
கள்ளன்
அன்னம்

There is one more nasal with three loops shape ண்(ṇ). In its production the tip of the tongue is curled and made to contact the roof of the mouth. The soft palate is lowered as in the production of other nasal and the air stream escapes freely through the nasal cavity. The vocal cords are vibration. This similar in production with ட̣ (ḍ) except that the air stream is emitted through the nasal cavity. This may be described as a voiced retroflex nasal.

This never occurs in the word initial position. Medially it occurs as a single consonant between vowels, as the first member of a consonant cluster, as the second member of a consonant cluster and in an identical consonant cluster.

Compare the letter for (na) with the letter for (ṇa) and write them three times each. Your letters should be similar to the ones at the extreme right (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

ன _____ ன

ண் _____ ண

Observe how the secondary symbols for the vowels.

ன் + அ = ன
n + a = na

ண் + அ = ண
ṇ + a = ṇa

ன் + ஆ = னா*
n + aa = naa

ண் + ஆ = ணா*
ṇ + aa = ṇaa

ன் + இ = னி
n + i = ni

ண் + இ = ணி
ṇ + i = ṇi

ன் + ஈ = நீ
n + ii = nii

ண் + ஈ = ணீ
ṇ + ii = ṇii

ன் + எ = நெ
n + e = ne

ண் + எ = ணெ
ṇ + e = ṇe

ன் + ஏ = நே
n + ee = nee

ண் + ஏ = ணே
ṇ + ee = ṇee

ன் + ஐ = நை*
n + ai = nai

ண் + ஐ = ணை*
ṇ + ai = ṇai

*The secondary symbol for the vowel, ஐ, used in old Tamil is different from the modern Tamil for the consonants, ன் and ண் (see Chart III). Also note the different secondary symbol for the vowel, ஆ, used for these two consonants (Chart III).

Read the following words.

அன்னம் annam

பன்னாடை pannaadai

பனி pani

பன்னீர் panniir

யானை yaanai

கண்ணாடி kannaadi

பணம் paṇam

ஏணி	eeni
கண்ணீர்	kaṇṇiir
திண்ணை	tiṇṇai

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

ன்	ண்
ள் ன்	ண் ன

ன	ண
ன ன்	ண் ண

2. Encircle the letters ன், ண் and check the letters ன, ண in the following words.

கன்னம்	மணம்
கண்டம்	பன்னீர்
மனம்	தண்ணீர்

3. Copy the following letters five times.

ன் _____
ண் _____
ன _____
ண _____

னா _____

ணா _____

4. Write two times the equivalent Tamil letters.

na

na

n

n

5. Copy the following words.

a.

	கன்னம்	வண்ணம்	கனி	மணி
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	கன்னம்	வண்ணம்	கனி	மணி

b.

	பன்னாடை	கண்ணாடி	பன்னீர்	கண்ணீர்
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	பன்னாடை	கண்ணாடி	பன்னீர்	கண்ணீர்

c.

	யானை	திண்ணை
4.	.....	.....
3.	.....	.....
2.	.....	.....
1.	யானை	திண்ணை

6. Fill in the blanks with Tamil letters equivalent to the letters given in the brackets.

ம__ம் (na)

ம__ம் (ṇa)

அண்ண__ (n)

கிண்__ம் (ṇa)

ப__டம் (ṇ)

ப__னீர் (n)

7. Write in Tamil script the words given in Roman script.

kanam

paṇam

kannam

kiṇṇam

panniir

kaṇṇiir

paanai

ninai

8. Recognize and read the following words.

மணி

அன்னம்

அண்ணி

ஆனை

யானை

சின்னம்

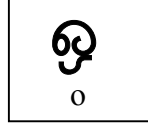
சிவராமன்

மனிதன்

இனாம்

மன்மதன்

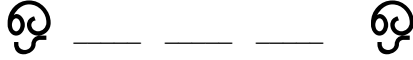
F R A M E 14



ஓ (o): In its production the lips are rounded with considerable protrusion. The back of the tongue is raised towards the soft palate. This is described as a mid, back, rounded, short vowel. It occurs initially and medially only.

In Tamil there are separate scripts for short (o) and long (oo). The letter given above is short one and pronounced as in the English word **pollution**.

Copy the letter three times (see Appendix I for hand-movements).



Read the following words.

ஓடி	oḍi
ஓப்பி	oppi
ஓழி	oḷi
ஓலி	oli
ஓளி	oḷi
ஓட்டகம்	oṭṭaham

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

ஓ		
ல	ஓ	எ

2. Copy the following five times.

ஓ _____

Secondary symbol for the vowel ஓ is ற--ஈ. The secondary symbol for the vowel ஓ consists of two parts and the consonant letter is placed in the middle. Recollect the secondary symbol for the vowel எ that is, ற and the secondary symbol for the vowel ஆ that is ஈ. These together serve as secondary symbol for the vowel ஓ (see Appendix I & II for hand-movements). Also look at the Chart III for secondary symbol for ஓ used in old Tamil for the consonants, ற், ண், and ண்.

Look at the following and see how the secondary symbol for ஓ is added to the consonants.

ட்	+	ஓ	=	டொ
ப்	+	ஓ	=	பொ
ம்	+	ஓ	=	மொ
ய்	+	ஓ	=	யொ
ழ்	+	ஓ	=	ழொ
ர்	+	ஓ	=	ரொ
சு	+	ஓ	=	சொ
க்	+	ஓ	=	கொ
த்	+	ஓ	=	தொ
ந்	+	ஓ	=	நொ
ங்	+	ஓ	=	ஙொ
ஞ்	+	ஓ	=	ஞொ
வ்	+	ஓ	=	வொ
ல்	+	ஓ	=	லொ
ற்	+	ஓ	=	ரொ
ள்	+	ஓ	=	ளொ
ன்	+	ஓ	=	னொ

3. Read the following words.

பொம்மை	pomma
மொட்டை	mottai
கையொப்பம்	kaiyoppam
ரொட்டி	rotti
சொல்	col
கொண்டை	konḍai
தொட்டி	totti
நொண்டி	nonḍi
கண்ணொளி	kaṇṇoḷi

4. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

பொ		மொ		யொ		ரொ	
பெ	பொ	மொ	பொ	யெ	யெ	ரே	ரொ

சொ		கொ		தொ	
சீ	சொ	கொ	கெ	கொ	தொ

நொ		வொ	
நொ	நே	வெ	வொ

5. Encircle the letters பொ, மொ, யொ, ரொ, சொ, கொ, தொ, நொ in the following words.

பொடி	சொல்
மொட்டை	கொடு
கையொப்பம்	தொட்டி

ரொட்டி

நொய்யல்

6. Write the secondary symbols with the primary letters as directed.

Model: ட் + ஓ = டொ

ப் + ஓ =

ம் + ஓ =

ய் + ஓ =

ழ் + ஓ =

ர் + ஓ =

ச் + ஓ =

க் + ஓ =

த் + ஓ =

ந் + ஓ =

ங் + ஓ =

ஞ் + ஓ =

வ் + ஓ =

ல் + ஓ =

ள் + ஓ =

ற் + ஓ =

ன் + ஓ =

ண் + ஓ =

7. Copy the following letters five times.

டொ _____

பொ _____

மொ _____

யொ _____

ரொ _____

சொ _____

கொ _____

தொ _____

நொ _____

வொ _____

லொ _____

றொ _____

ளொ _____

னொ _____

ணொ _____

8. Copy the following words five times.

a.

பொடி மொட்டை கையொப்பம்

5.

4.

3.

2.

1. பொடி மொட்டை கையொப்பம்

b.

ரொட்டி சொல் கொடி தொட்டி

5.

4.

3.

2.

1. ரொட்டி சொல் கொடி தொட்டி

c.

	நொண்டி	வெள்ளொலி
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	நொண்டி	வெள்ளொலி

9. Write in Tamil script the words given in Roman script.

podì

moṭṭai

kaiyoppam

roṭṭi

col

koṇḍai

toṇḍai

noṇḍi

velloli

10. Copy the following words.

	ஒலி	ஒட்டகம்
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	ஒலி	ஒட்டகம்

11. Write in Tamil script the words given in Roman script.

oli

oli

oli

ottaham

12. Recognize and read the following.

ஒயில்

கொடி

கொட்டி

மொச்சை



கொத்தளம்

கொட்டகை

பட்டொளி

தொடக்க விழா

FRAME 15

 oo	 au
---	---

The case of the long vowel, (oo) ஓ, the movements of the speech organs are about the same as those for its corresponding short vowel (o) ஔ except for the length of duration. This sound is described as mid back, rounded long vowel. It occurs in all the positions in a word.

The sound, (au) is represented by the letter ஔ. This sound occurs in the word initial, medial, and final positions. This is considered as a long vowel. Like other vowels, ஔ is used as it is in the word initial position and elsewhere the presents of this vowel is represented by the secondary symbol.

Copy the letter three times (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

ஓ _____ _____ _____ ஓ

Read the following words.

ஓர்

ஓரி

ஓடம்

ஓநாய்

Compare the letter ஓ with the letter for (au) (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

Write the letters three times each. Your letters should be similar to the one given at the extreme right.

ஓ _____ _____ _____ ஓ

ஔ _____ _____ _____ ஔ

Read the words.

ஒளவை

ஒளவியம்

ஒளடதம்

Secondary symbol for ஓ is ஓ-ா (see Appendix I & II for hand-movements, also look at Chart III for old and modern Tamil use of secondary symbol). Thus the secondary symbol for the vowel ஓ consists of two parts and the consonant letter is placed in middle. The secondary symbol for the vowel ஏ (Frame 7) and the secondary symbol for the vowel ஆ (Frame 4) together serve as secondary symbol for the vowel ஓ. The primary consonant letter is in between. Look at the vowel consonant combinations below.

ட்	+	ஓ	=	டோ
ப்	+	ஓ	=	போ
ம்	+	ஓ	=	மோ
ய்	+	ஓ	=	யோ
ழ்	+	ஓ	=	ழோ
ர்	+	ஓ	=	ரோ
ச்	+	ஓ	=	சோ
க்	+	ஓ	=	கோ
த்	+	ஓ	=	தோ
ந்	+	ஓ	=	நோ
ங்	+	ஓ	=	ஙோ
ஞ்	+	ஓ	=	ஞோ
வ்	+	ஓ	=	வோ
ல்	+	ஓ	=	லோ
ற்	+	ஓ	=	றோ
ள்	+	ஓ	=	ளோ
ன்	+	ஓ	=	னோ
ண்	+	ஓ	=	ணோ

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

ஓ	
ஓ	ஓ

ஒள	
ௌ	ஒள

2. Encircle the letter ஓ and check the letter ஒள in the following words.

ஓமம் ஒளவை
ஓதல் ஒளவியம்

3. Copy the following five times.

ஓ _____
ஒள _____

4. Copy the following words.

	ஓமம்	ஓட்டம்	ஒளவை	ஒளவியம்
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	ஓமம்	ஓட்டம்	ஒளவை	ஒளவியம்

5. Split the words into letters and put them in the boxes.

ஓநாய்

--	--	--

ஒவியம்

--	--	--	--

ஒளவை

--	--

6. Write in Tamil script the words given in Roman script.

oor
ooviyam

auvai
ouviyam

7. Read the following words.

நாடோடி	naaḍoodi
போ	poo
மோர்	moor
யோகம்	yooham
ரோகிணி	roohini
சோலை	soolai
கோவில்	koovil
தோழன்	toolan
நோய்	nooy
வோட்டு	voottu
லோகம்	looham

8. Encircle the letters டோ, போ, மோ, யோ, ரோ, சோ, கோ, தோ, நோ, வோ, லோ, ணோ, ணோ in the following words.

பட்டோவியம்	கோவை
போட்டி	தோட்டம்
மோகன்	நோட்டம்
யோகம்	லோகம்
ரோட்டில்	மின்னோட்டம்
சோழன்	கண்ணோட்டம்

9. Copy the following letters three times.

டோ _____
போ _____
மோ _____
யோ _____
ரோ _____
சோ _____
கோ _____
தோ _____
நோ _____
லோ _____
றோ _____
ளோ _____
னோ _____
ணோ _____

10. Copy the following words five times.

a.

	போட்டி	மோகம்	யோகி	ரோகிணி	சோலை
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	போட்டி	மோகம்	யோகி	ரோகிணி	சோலை

b.

	கோபம்	தோள்	நோய்	காற்றோட்டம்
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	கோபம்	தோள்	நோய்	காற்றோட்டம்

11. Write the following using secondary symbols as directed.

பு + ஓ = போ

ட + ஓ =

ம் + ஓ =

ய் + ஓ =

ழ் + ஓ =

ர் + ஓ =

ச் + ஓ =

க் + ஓ =

த் + ஓ =

ந் + ஓ =

ங் + ஓ =

ஞ் + ஓ =

வ் + ஓ =

ல் + ஓ =

ற் + ஓ =

ள் + ஓ =

ன் + ஓ =

ண் + ஓ =

12. Split the words into letters and create boxes and put them in the boxes.

போர்

மோர்

சிவயோகி

தேரோட்டம்

சோலை

கோவில்

தோழன்

நோட்டம்

லோகம்

காற்றோட்டம்

கண்ணோட்டம்

மின்னோட்டம்

13. Write in Tamil script the words given in Roman script.

pootti

mooan

yoohan

kaarroottam

soolai

koovil

tooli

noottam

looham

minnooṭṭam

kaṇṇooṭṭam

Secondary symbol for ஓள is ெ -- ள. The secondary symbols for the vowel ள (Frame 6) and the consonant ள (Frame 12) are used for this purpose (see Appendix I & II for hand-movements).

Look at these combinations:

ட̣	+	ஓள	=	டெள
ṭ	+	au	=	ṭau
ப̣	+	ஓள	=	பெள
p	+	au	=	pau
ம்	+	ஓள	=	மெள
m	+	au	=	mau
ய̣	+	ஓள	=	யெள
y	+	au	=	yau
ழ̣	+	ஓள	=	ழெள
ḷ	+	au	=	ḷau
ர்	+	ஓள	=	ரெள
r	+	au	=	rau
ச்	+	ஓள	=	செள
c	+	au	=	cau
க்	+	ஓள	=	கெள
k	+	au	=	kau
த்	+	ஓள	=	தெள
t	+	au	=	tau
ந̣	+	ஓள	=	நெள
ṅ	+	au	=	ṅau
ங்	+	ஓள	=	ஙெள
ṅ	+	au	=	ṅau

ஞ் + ஓள = ஞௌ
ñ + au = ñau

வ் + ஓள = வெள
v + au = vau

ல் + ஓள = லௌ
l + au = lau

ற் + ஓள = றௌ
r + au = rau

ள் + ஓள = ளௌ
l + au = ļau

ன் + ஓள = னௌ
n + au = nau

ண் + ஓள = ணௌ
ṇ + au = ṇau

14. Read the following words.

ஓளவை
ஓளடதம்
வௌவால்
கௌரவம்
மௌனம்
யௌவனம்
பௌர்ணமி

15. Encircle the letters பெள, மௌ, யௌ, ரௌ, செள, கௌ, தெள, வெள and லௌ in the following words.

பௌத்திரன்

சௌக்கியம்

மௌலி

கௌரி

யௌவனம்

வௌவால்

ரௌத்திரம்

லௌகீகம்

16. Copy the following five times.

பௌ _____

மௌ _____

யௌ _____
ரௌ _____
சௌ _____
கௌ _____
தௌ _____
வௌ _____
லௌ _____

17. Write the letters using the secondary symbols as found in the model.

Model: ப் + ஓள = யௌ
ம் + ஓள = மௌ
ய் + ஓள = யௌ
ர் + ஓள = ரௌ
ச் + ஓள = சௌ
க் + ஓள = கௌ
த் + ஓள = தௌ
வ் + ஓள = வௌ
ல் + ஓள = லௌ

18. Copy the following words.

a.

	பெளவம்	மௌனம்	யௌவனம்
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	பெளவம்	மௌனம்	யௌவனம்

b.

	சௌக்கியம்	கௌரி	ஔவை
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	சௌக்கியம்	கௌரி	ஔவை

19. Split the following words into letters. Draw boxes and put them in the boxes.

பெளவம்

மௌனம்

யௌவனம்

ரௌத்திரம்

சௌத்திரி

கௌதமி

சௌரி

வௌவால்

லௌகீகம்

20. Write two times the Tamil words for the following forms in Roman.

pauttiram

maunam

yauvanam

vauvaal

rauttiram

saukkiyam

kaudami

kaur

lauhiham

21. Recognize and read the following words.

ஓட்டம்

மோகினி

தோரணம்

கோபாலன்

ஒளடதம்

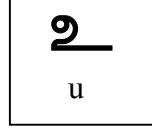
கௌரி

மௌரியா

மண்டோதரி

லம்போதர

F R A M E 16



The sound (u) is produced with close lip rounding. The back of the tongue is raised as high as possible towards the soft palate but not to the extent of causing any constriction. The sides of the tongue are in contact with the teeth and the tip of the tongue is somewhat retracted from the lower part of the teeth. The vocal cords vibrated. The soft palate is raised. This is a high, back, rounded, short vowel. It occurs in words initially and medially.

The letter **உ** represents the sound.

In spoken Tamil this sound is pronounced with spread lips in the middle and final positions other than in the initial syllable. This is high back un-rounded short vowel. Look at the vowel and write three times (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

உ _____ _____ _____ **உ**

Read the following words.

உழவன்	ulavan
உரம்	uram
உடை	udai
உமி	umi
உண்மை	unmai

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letters in the second row that is found in the first row.

உ	வ				
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">உ</td> <td style="width: 50%; border: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">வி</td> </tr> </table>	உ	வி	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">உ</td> <td style="width: 50%; border: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">வ</td> </tr> </table>	உ	வ
உ	வி				
உ	வ				

2. Encircle the letter **உ** in the following words.

உதவி உலை

3. Encircle the word in the second row that is found in the first row.

உரல்		உறி	
உரல்	உடல்	உறி	உரி

4. Copy the following five times.

உ _____

5. Copy the following words.

உரல் உழவன் உண்மை உவமை

5.

4.

3.

2.

1. உரல் உழவன் உண்மை உவமை

6. Write in Tamil for the words given in Roman.

udai

umi

uram

uppalam

ulaham

There are three secondary symbols used for the vowel, உ. Each secondary symbol will be added to a particular group of consonants (see Appendix II for hand-movements).

The three groups of consonants are:

Group one: ப், ய், ச், ங், வ்

Group two: ட், ம், ழ், ற், க், ள்

Group three: த், ந், ஞ், ல், ற், ன், ண்

1. A little line stroke extended downward to the primary letter as given () indicates the presence of the vowel உ. Compare 'Group one' primary letters ச், ப், ய், ங், வ், that are added to the vowel உ. They look like சு, பு, யு, வு, னு after the secondary symbol is added (see Chart II, Appendix II, and Table I).

Note that the secondary symbol for the vowel உ in this case is an extension of the last stroke of the primary consonant.

ப் + உ = பு
p + u = pu

ய் + உ = யு
y + u = yu

ச் + உ = சு
c + u = cu

வ் + உ = வு
v + u = vu

ங் + உ = னு
ñ + u = ñu

Copy the letters.

சு பு யு வு

7. Read the following words.

புயல்	puyal
கசப்பு	kasappu
யுக்தி	yukti
காயும்	kaayum
அபிமன்யு	abimanyu
சுவர்	suvar
காசுகள்	kaasuhai
மாசு	maasu
கவுதமர்	kavudamar
சாவு	saavu

8. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the row.

பு		யு	
பு	ப	யு	பு

சு		வு	
சு	ச	பு	வு

9. Encircle the letters பு, யு, சு, வு, in the following words.

பசுமை

தாவு

யுத்தி

படிப்பு

10. Encircle the word in the second row that is similar to word in the first row.

புல்			யுகம்		
புல்	பல்	சொல்	காயும்	யுக்தி	யுகம்

காசு			சாவு		
காசு	பல்	சொல்	சாவு	தாவு	மாவு

11. Copy the following five times.

பு _____
 யு _____
 சு _____
 வு _____

12. Write the letters using secondary symbols as directed.

Model: ப் + ஁ = பு

ய் + ஁ =

சு் + ஁ =

வ் + ஁ =

ங் + ஁ =

13. Copy the following words.

a.

புடவை

பாம்பு

உப்பு

5.

4.

3.

2.

1. புடவை பாம்பு உப்பு

b.

பாயும் அபிமன்யு சுவர்

5.

4.

3.

2.

1. பாயும் அபிமன்யு சுவர்

c.

மாசு கதவு

4.

3.

2.

1. மாசு கதவு

14. Write in Tamil script the words given in Roman script.

puyal

uppu

kasappu

yuham

kaayum

abimanyu

suvai

kaasuhai

saavu

maavu

15. Recognize and read the following words.

உத்தரா

சுத்தம்

உமாபதி

நோவு

புத்திரன்

அப்பு

யுவதி

வாயு

2. The secondary symbol for the vowel **உ** is added to the 'Group two' consonants look like the below one (see Appendix I for hand-movements). Note the secondary symbol for the vowel **உ** that is extended in the following consonants: **ட, ம, ழ, ர, க், ள** (see Chart II, Appendix II, and Table I).

After added with the secondary symbol they look like:

கு டு மு ரு ழு ளு

Practice three times.

கு _____

டு _____

மு _____

ரு _____

ழு _____

ளு _____

Look at the combinations.

ட	+	உ	=	டு
t	+	u	=	tu
ம்	+	உ	=	மு
m	+	u	=	mu
ழ்	+	உ	=	ழு
l	+	u	=	lu
ர்	+	உ	=	ரு
r	+	u	=	ru
க்	+	உ	=	கு
k	+	u	=	ku
ள்	+	உ	=	ளு
l	+	u	=	lu

Read the following words.

தடுப்பு	taḍuppu
காடு	kaadu
முகம்	muham
கழுகு	kaḷuhu
உறுமு	uṛumu
இழு	ilu
கருப்பு	karuppu
பரு	paru
குடம்	kuḍam
பகுதி	pahudi
பாக்கு	paakku
வெளுப்பு	veḷuppu
பளு	paḷu

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

டு	மு	ழ்
டு து	ம மு	ழ் மு

ரு	கு	ளு
ரு டு	ரு கு	ளு ரு

2. Encircle the letters டு, மு, ழு, ரு, கு, ளு in the following words.

நடு

முதலை

அழுக்கு

நெருப்பு

குறைவு

தள்ளு

3. Encircle the word in the second row that is found in the first row.

தடுப்பு			முகம்		
வடு	தடுப்பு	கடுப்பு	மகம்	முகம்	யுகம்

புழு		
புழு	விழு	வடு

நெருப்பு		
நெருப்பு	கருப்பு	பருப்பு

குடம்		
குடம்	குடம்	வடம்

சுளுக்கு		
தள்ளு	சுளுக்கு	பளு

4. Copy the following letters.

டு _____
 மு _____
 டு _____
 ரு _____
 கு _____
 ளு _____

5. Write the letters using secondary symbols following the model.

Model: ட் + உ = டு

ம் + உ =

ழ் + உ =

ர் + உ =

க் + உ =

ள் + உ =

6. Copy the following words.

a.

தடுப்பு மாடு முயல் சமுத்திரம்

5.

4.

3.

2.

1. தடுப்பு மாடு முயல் சமுத்திரம்

b.

கழுகு விழு நெருப்பு கருப்பு குழந்தை

5.

4.

3.

2.

1. கழுகு விழு நெருப்பு கருப்பு குழந்தை

c.

வகுப்பு பாகு தள்ளு பளு

5.

4.

3.

2.

1. வகுப்பு பாகு தள்ளு பளு

7. Write in Tamil script the words given in Roman script.

muṭṭum

koḍu

muḍi

samuttiram

paḷu

paruppu

3. Another secondary symbol used for the vowel, **உ** is a combination of a horizontal line and upward strokes. This secondary symbol is added to 'Group three' consonants (see Appendix I for hand-movements). They are **த், ந், ஞ், ல், ற், ன், ண்** (see Chart II, Appendix II, and Table I).

After the secondary symbol is added to them, they look like:

து, நு, ஞு, லு, று, னு, ணு

Look at the hand movements and practice three times.

து _____

நு _____

ஞு _____

லு _____

று _____

னு _____

ஊ _____

Note the difference between the pure consonants and after the secondary symbol is added to them.

த்	ந்	ஞ்	ல்	ற்	ன்	ண்
து	நு	னு	லு	று	னு	ணு

The consonant and vowel combinations are:

த்	+	உ	=	து
ந்	+	உ	=	நு
ல்	+	உ	=	லு
ற்	+	உ	=	று
ன்	+	உ	=	னு
ண்	+	உ	=	ணு
ஞ்	+	உ	=	னு

Read the following words.

துணி	tuni
சத்துகள்	sattuhai
நுழை	nulai
செலுத்து	seluttu
என்றும்	enrum

காற்று	kaar <u>ru</u>
அணு	a <u>ṇu</u>
கணு	ka <u>ṇu</u>

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

து	நு	லு
த து	நு து	லு ல்
று	னு	ணு
று து	னு லு	ணு னு

2. Encircle the letters து, நு, லு, று, னு and ணு in the following words.

தும்பி
செலுத்து
வயிறு
நுந்தை
மனு
கணு
நுகம்

3. Encircle the word in the second row that is found in the first row.

பத்து	நுரை
கத்து சொத்து பத்து	நுரை நரை தரை

கருத்து			கயிறு		
செலுத்து	கருத்து	பத்து	பயிறு	கயிறு	வயிறு

மனு			கணு		
யானை	அனு	மனு	தணு	கவி	கணு

4. Copy the following

து _____
நு _____
லு _____
று _____
னு _____
ணு _____

5. Copy the following words.

a.

தும்பி நுட்பம் செலுத்து கயிறு

5.
4.
3.
2.

1. தும்பி நுட்பம் செலுத்து கயிறு

b.

மனு

கணு

4.

3.

2.

1. மனு

கணு

14. Write in Tamil forms the words given Roman script.

tun̄i

nuṭpam

seluttu

payiru

manu

kaṇu

6. Recognize and read the following words.

முறுக்கு

கடுகு

உளுந்து

கொலுசு

முசுகுந்தன்

குடமுக்கு

அணு குண்டு

குரு பக்தி

மனு தர்மம்

7. Read the words for numerals from one to ten in Tamil

ஒன்று

இரண்டு

மூன்று

நான்கு

ஐந்து

ஆறு

ஏழு

எட்டு

ஒன்பது

பத்து

F R A M E 17



(uu): This is a long counter part of the short vowel **உ** (u). In its production the manner of articulation and point of articulation are same as that of short except for the length of duration. It is a high, back, rounded, long vowel. It occurs initially, medially, and finally. This long vowel is represented by **உள**. The letter, **உள** is combination of two letters that are familiar to you (Frames 16 and 12). It is written in the following manner.

- (i) First **உ** is written.
- (ii) Then **ள** is written over **உ** and that looks like: **உள**.

Write five times the letter (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

உள _____

Read the following words.

உளர்	uur
உளசி	uusi
உளதல்	uudal
உளர்தி	uurdi
உளட்டி	uutti
உளக்கம்	uukkam

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

உள		ஒள	
உ	உள	உள	ஒள

2. Encircle the letter **உள** and check the letter **ள்** in the following words.

உளதல்	உள்ளம்
உளமை	பள்ளம்
உள்ளே	உளஞ்சல்

3. Encircle the word in the second row that is found in the first row.

உளதல்		உளக்கம்	
உடல்	உளதல்	ஆக்கம்	உளக்கம்

4. Copy the following words.

உளதா	உளட்டி	உளஞ்சல்
5. ....	.....	.....
4. ....	.....	.....
3. ....	.....	.....
2. ....	.....	.....
1. உளதா	உளட்டி	உளஞ்சல்

5. Write in Tamil script the words given in Roman script.

uusi

uunam

uur

uñjal

6. Recognize and read the following words.

ஊர்வசி	ஊத்தப்பம்
ஊனம்	ஊழல்
ஊர்மிளா	ஊட்டி
ஊர்வலம்	ஊஞ்சல்

Recollect the groups of consonants those are added to the secondary symbols of the short vowel **உ** now.

Group one: ச், ப், ய், ங், வ் - ச, பு, யு, ஙு, வு

Group two: ட், ம், ழ், ற், க், ள் - டு, மு, ழு, று, கு, ளு

Group three: த், ந், ஞ், ல், ற், ண், ண் - து, நு, ஞு, லு, று, ணு, ணு

There are four secondary symbols used for the long vowel **ஊ** (see Appendix I & II for hand-movements and Table I).

1. The secondary symbol for the vowel **ஊ** is an extended curve attached to the secondary symbol for the vowel **உ** as shown below. This secondary symbol is added to the 'Group two' consonants listed above except for the consonant, **க்**.

Look at the combinations:

ட்	+	ஊ	=	டு
ம்	+	ஊ	=	மு
ழ்	+	ஊ	=	ழு
ள்	+	ஊ	=	ளு
ர்	+	ஊ	=	ரு

Note the difference between the short and long.

Short →	டு	மு	மு	நு	கு	ளு
Long →	டு	மு	மு	நு	*	ளு

* for க் another symbol is added to indicate the presence of the long (uu).
This is discussed later.

Copy the letters three times

டு	மு	நு	மு	ளு
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Read the following words.

ஆடுர்	aaḍuur
கொடுரம்	koḍuuram
முக்கு	muukku
முலை	muulai
பேருர்	peeruur
கீழூர்	kiiḷuur

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first.

டு		மு	
டு	டு	மு	டு

ஊ		ஔ	
ஊ	ஊ	ஔ	ஔ

2. Encircle the letters றீ, ழு, ஊ, ஔ in the following words.

கொறீரம்

ழுக்கு

ஔுஊர்

ஔுஔர்

3. Copy the following.

றீ _____

ழு _____

ஊ _____

ஔு _____

ஔு _____

4. Write the letters using the secondary symbol, as in model.

Model: ட் + ஊ = டு

ம் + ஊ =

ள் + ஊ =

ழ் + ஊ =

ர் + ஊ =

5. Copy the following.

	மூட்டை	ஆரீர்	போரூர்	போரூர்	கீழூர்
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	மூட்டை	ஆரீர்	போரூர்	போரூர்	கீழூர்

Recollect the groups of consonants that are added to the short vowel **உ** (u).

Group one: ச், ப், ய், ங், வ் - சூ, பூ, யூ, ஙூ, வூ

2. The next secondary symbol for the long vowel (uu) is an extended curve with a circle at the end (ூ) is attached to the consonant that has the secondary symbol for **உ**. This symbol is added to the 'Group one' consonants. In the case of ச், the secondary symbol is slightly different (that looks like சூ).

Compare the secondary symbols for the short and long vowel (u) of the consonants ப், ய், ச், ங், and வ் those take the same secondary symbol of **ஊ** (See Appendix I and II for hand-movements).

Short →	பு	பூ	சூ	நூ	வூ
Long →	பூ	யூ	சூ	நூ	வூ

Look at the combinations:

பு	+	ஊ	is	பூ
சு	+	ஊ	is	சூ
நு	+	ஊ	is	நூ
யு	+	ஊ	is	யூ
வ்	+	ஊ	is	வூ

Read the following words.

பூ	puu
யூகம்	yuuham
சூரியன்	suuriyan
கோவூர்	koovuur

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

பூ			யூ		
பூ	பு	யூ	யூ	பூ	ய்
சூ			வூ		
சூ	சூ	சூ	வூ	பூ	வ்

2. Copy the following five times.

பூ _____
யூ _____

சூ _____
வூ _____

Combine the letters using secondary symbol as in the model

Model: ப் + ஊ = பூ

ய் + ஊ =

ச் + ஊ =

வ் + ஊ =

ங் + ஊ =

4. Copy the following.

பூமி பூகம் சூரன் கோவூர்

5.

4.

3.

2.

1. பூமி பூகம் சூரன் கோவூர்

5. Write in Tamil script the words given in Roman script.

roojaapuu

yuuham

suuriyan

koovuur

3. The third secondary symbol for the long vowel **ஊ** is slightly extended (**᳚**) as shown below. This is an extension added to the secondary symbol for the short vowel **உ**. (See Appendix I and II for hand-movements). This secondary symbol is added to the 'Group three' consonants (**த், ந், ஞ், ல், ற், ன், ண்**) and they look like:

தூ (து᳚), **நூ** (நு᳚), **னூ** (ஞு᳚), **லூ** (லு᳚), **றூ** (று᳚),
ஊ (ஊ᳚), **ஊ** (ஊ᳚)

Look at the consonants belong to the Group three added with short **உ** and long **ஊ** .

த் ந் ஞ் ல் ற் ன் ண்

து நு ஞு லு று னு ணு

தூ நூ னூ லூ றூ ஊ ஊ

Look at the combinations:

ஞ்	+	ஊ	=	னூ
ன்	+	ஊ	=	நூ
ண்	+	ஊ	=	ஊ
ல்	+	ஊ	=	லூ
த்	+	ஊ	=	தூ
ந்	+	ஊ	=	நூ
ற்	+	ஊ	=	றூ

Copy the following three times.

ஊ தூ நூ லூ ஊ

Read the following words.

நூல்	nuul
நூலகம்	nuulaham
தூண்	tuun
எண்ணூர்	enṇuur
மானூர்	maanuur
வேலூர்	veeluur
சிற்றூர்	sirruur

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

ஊ	ஊ	லூ
ஊ	ஹ	லூ
ஊ	ஹ	லூ
ஊ	ஹ	லூ
தூ	நூ	றூ
தூ	நூ	றூ
தூ	நூ	றூ
தூ	நூ	றூ

2. Encircle the letters ஊ, ஊ, லூ, தூ, நூ, றூ in the following words.

தூண்	வேலூர்
தூசி	காவலூர்
நன்னூல்	நூறு
மானூர்	நூலகம்
பூணூல்	சிற்றூர்
எண்ணூர்	

3. Copy the following.

ஹா _____
ஹா _____
லா _____
தா _____
நா _____
றா _____

4. Copy the following.

	நாறு	தூண்	வேலூர்	மாளூர்
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.	நாறு	தூண்	வேலூர்	மாளூர்

5. Write in Tamil script the words given in Roman script.

en̄nuur

n̄annuul

n̄uul

tuuṅgu

4. The fourth secondary symbol used for the vowel ஊ is (உ) which is attached to the only consonant letter க் and it looks like கூ (see Chart II & Appendix II). That is, க்+ஊ =கூ

Copy the letter five times.

கூ _____

Read the following words.

கூடு	kuudu
கூரை	kuurai
கூளம்	kuulam
கூடம்	kuudam

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in the second row that is found in the first row.

கூ		கு	
கு	கூ	கு	நு

2. Encircle the word in the second row that is found in the first row.

கூட்டு			கூடு		
கூட்டு	குலம்	தூலம்	கூரை	கூடு	கூடம்

3. Copy the following.

	கூரை	கூடு	கூடம்
5.	.....	.....	.....
4.	.....	.....	.....

3.
2.
1. கூரை கூடு கூடம்

4. Write in Tamil script the words given in Roman script.

pallikkuḍam

kuuḍu

kuulam

kuuru

5. Recognize and read the following words.

யூசுப்

மாமூல்

தாலுத்

காவலூர்

மண்டீகம்

ரூபா

பூரி

லார்துசாமி

திரிசூலம்

நூறு

தஞ்சாவூர்

கண்ணூர்

6. Read numerals in tens.

இருபது

முப்பது

நாற்பது

ஐம்பது

அறுபது

எழுபது

எண்பது

தொண்ணூறு

Numerals in hundreds:

நூறு

இருநூறு

முந்நூறு

நானூறு

ஐந்நூறு

அறுநூறு

எழுநூறு

எண்ணூறு

தொள்ளாயிரம்

Thousand:

ஆயிரம்

ஃ AYUDAM (ஆயுதம்)

The letter represented by three dots (ஃ) represented for a velar sound. This sound in its production the tongue is brought into the position for க் (k) sound with vibration. One can find the use of **aydam** in old Tamil especially in poetry between a vowel and a following hard consonant.

The letter, ஃ is not generally used in the modern Tamil.

Read the words.

அஃது means 'that'

இஃது means 'this'

எஃகு means 'steel'

It is interesting to note that this symbol is nowadays also used mostly in the borrowed words to represent foreign sounds like ph, f, etc., for transliteration purposes. For example, words for photo, fan, film, coffee, French are written in Tamil transliteration as ஃபோட்டோ, ஃபேன், ஃபிலிம், ஃபிரெஞ்ச், காஃபி respectively. The letter ஃ is now used to soften the letter that follows in borrowings.

Or simply even with out this symbol Tamil transliterations for those words like போட்டோ, பேன், பிலிம், பிரெஞ்ச், காப்பி are used on signboards for business purpose.

F R A M E 18

As the time passed socio-cultural changes affected languages. Tamil is not exceptional to this. The language development occurred along with the changes from time to time. The industrialization and science and technology development influenced the language use and language underwent a lot of changes. Due to this, borrowing into Tamil was inevitable at all levels namely phonological, morphological, syntactic and semantic levels. Though Sanskrit influence through borrowings was found in Tamil from early times, in the modern times the above said reasons attributed to this borrowing and made the language users adopt borrowings. Words used in the religious spheres and personal and place names necessitated the Tamils adopting sounds as such and used special characters for them known as Grantha letters. Six such borrowings are used in modern Tamil widely for the sounds **s**, **j**, **sh**, **h**, **ksh**, and **sri** (see the Table below). They are mainly used for writing proper names, place names and scientific terms to retain the original pronunciation. They take vowel symbols (secondary symbols) in the same way as pure Tamil consonants of similar form except the vowels, **உ** and **ஊ**. Only one secondary symbol is used for each. The secondary symbols for **உ** and **ஊ** vowels for the Grantha letters (**s**, **j**, **sh**, **h**, **ksh**) are **ஸ** and **ஸ்** respectively (see Exercise-item 8 in F-18, Chart-1, and see Appendix I & II for hand-movements, and a Table at the end of this Frame). The last one, **sri** is treated like a word. This is used as a respect form before male names like Mister (Mr.) in English. Also sri is found as part of names.. **ksh** is combination of **k** and **sh**.

ஸ sa	ஜ ja	ஷ sha	ஹ ha	க்ஷ ksha	ஸ்ரீ sri
ஸ் s	ஜ் j	ஷ் sh	ஹ் h	க்ஷ் ksh	-

ஸ் (s): In its production the blade of the tongue is positioned very closely to the alveolar ridge. The air squeezes out with friction through a narrow passage between the alveolar ridge and the tip of the tongue. The vocal cords

do not vibrate. The soft palate is raised. This sound may be described as a voiceless alveolar fricative. It occurs initially and medially. Medially it occurs as a single consonant (pure consonant with a dot- ஸ்) between two vowels and as the second member of a consonant cluster.

Observe the hand movements and copy three times (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

ஸ் _____ ஸ்

ஜ் (j): The movements of the speech organs are the same as those for (c) except for the vibration in the vocal cords during its production. This is described as a voiced palatal. This sound occurs in the word initial positions, medially as a pure consonant between vowels, as the second member of a consonant cluster and an identical consonant cluster.

Observe the hand movements and copy three times (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

ஜ் _____ ஜ்

ஷ் (sh): This sound is produced when the tip of the tongue is curved slightly towards the hard palate. But this curving does not make a complete closure. The air stream passes through the narrow passage between the hard palate and the tip of the tongue. The vocal cords do not vibrate. The soft palate is raised. This sound is voiceless retroflex fricative. It occurs medially as a pure consonant between vowels and as the first member of a consonant cluster.

Observe the hand movements and copy three times (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

ஹ _____ ஹ

ஹ (h): In its production the mouth is kept as in the production of vowels. The air stream passes through the wide-open glottis with week friction. The soft palate is raised. This is a glottal fricative. This occurs word initial and medial positions.

Observe the hand movements and copy three times (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

ஹ _____ ஹ

கஷ் (ksh) is combination of (k) and (sh). The production processes of these sounds are discussed in Frames 3 and 18.

Observe the hand movements and copy three times (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

கஷ் _____ கஷ்

Observe the hand movements and copy three times (see Appendix I for hand-movements).

யா _____ யா

Read the following words.

ஜலம்

jalam

கஜம்	kajam
ஸ்வரம்	swaram
சரஸ்வதி	sarasvadi
பஸ்	bas
ஷவர்	shavar
விஷம்	visham
வேஷம்	veesham
ரோஷம்	roosham
ஹனுமான்	hanumaan
ஹரி	hari
க்ஷணம்	kshanam
க்ஷயரோகம்	kshayarooam
ஸ்ரீமான்	sriimaan
ஸ்ரீமதி	srimadi
ஸ்ரீதேவி	srideevi
மாலாஸ்ரீ	maalaasri

EXERCISE

1. Encircle the letter in second row that is found in the first row.

ஐ			ஸ			ஷ		
ஐ	ற	ஐ	ஸ	ஹ	ஹ	டி	வி	ஷ
ஹ			கூழ்			ஸ்ரீ		
உ	ஹ	ற	க	டி	கூழ்	றீ	நீ	ஸ்ரீ

2. Encircle occurrence of the letters that given in A that found in B and C.

A	B	C
ஐ	பஐனை	ஐாதி
ஸ்	ஸ்வரம்	பஸ்
ஷ	துவேஷம்	ஷண்முகம்
ஷ்	புஷ்பா	கோஷ்
ஹ	ஹர்த்தால்	ஐவஹர்லால்
கூழ்	கூழ்ணம்	லகூழ்மி

3. Copy three times.

ஐ _____

ஸ _____

ஹ _____

ஷ _____

கூழ் _____

ஸ்ரீ _____

4. Rewrite the following words five times.

a.

ஐலம்

பஸ்

5.

4.

3.

2.

1. ஐலம் பஸ்

b.

ஹனுமான்

விஷம்

5.

4.

3.

2.

1. ஹனுமான் விஷம்

c.

லக்ஷ்மி

ஸ்ரீமான்

5.

4.

3.

2.

1. லக்ஷ்மி ஸ்ரீமான்

5. Write the equivalent Grantha letters.

ja _____

sri _____

j _____

ha _____

sh _____

sa _____

sha _____

s _____

6. Write words using Tamil and Grantha letters for the words given in Roman,

raajyam

jaṭkaa

veesham

birash

paas

hari

kshayam

7. Encircle the letter in second row that is found in the first row.

ஜி			ஜு		
ஜி	ஹ	ளி	ஜு	ஐ	ஹி
ஸு			ஸி		
ஹு	ஸு	ஹி	றி	ஸி	ஹி
ஹு			ஹை		
ஸி	றி	ஹு	ஹை	னெ	ஸெ
ஷெ			ஷோ		
ஷெ	வெ	பெ	போ	ஷோ	மோ
கூடி			கைடி		
கூடி	கி	வி	கை	கைடி	கைடி

8. Write the following letters three times each.

ஐு _____

ஐு _____

ஸு _____

ஸு _____

ஹு _____

ஹூ _____
 ஷூ _____
 கூடி _____

9. Encircle all occurrences of the letters in column A those found in the words in columns B and C.

A	B	C
ஜி	பஜ்ஜி	ராஜி
ஜா	ஜாடி	ராஜா
ஹே	ஹேமா	ஹேஷ்யம்
ஸூ	பஸ்ஸூம்	குஸூம்
ஷே	ஷேக்	அபிஷேகம்
ஜோ	ஜோடி	ஜோலி
ஹி	ஹிந்தி	ஹிப்பி
ஹீ	அங்கஹீனம்	ஹீனயானம்

10. Rewrite the following words five times.

a.

ஜூன்	ஜொலி
5.
4.
3.
2.
1. ஜூன்	ஜொலி

b.

ஹேமா ஹிந்து

hiiliyam.....

hoomam

bassaa

kshaṇam

srimadi

13. Read the following words.

ஐடம்	jaḍam
ஐாதி	jaadi
பஐஐி	bajji
ஐீரணம்	jiiraṇam
ராஐு	raaju
ஐுலை	juulai
ஐெயா	jeyaa
ஐே	jee
ஐொலி	joli
ஐோர்	joor
ஐைனம்	jainam
பஸ்	bas
பஸ்ஸா	bassaa
பஸ்ஸில்	bassil
பஸ்ஸும்	bassum
பஸ்ஸே	bassee
பஸ்ஸை	bassai
ஹனுமான்	hanumaan

ஹால்	haal
ஹிந்தி	hindi
ஹீனயானம்	hiinayaanam
ஹுமாயூன்	humaayun
ஹுக்ளி	hugli
ஹெக்டே	hegde
ஹேமா	heema
ஹைஸ்கூல்	haikuul
ஹோமம்	hoomam
உஷா	ushaa
ஷில்லாங்	shillaan
ஷீட்	shiiṭ
ஷூ	shuu
ஷெனாய்	shenaay
ஷேக்	sheek
ஷைலஜா	shailajaa
ஷோபா	shooba
ஜீவா	jiivaa
ராஜீவ் காந்தி	raajiv gaandi
ஹைரோடு	hairoodu
ஷோரூம்	shooruum
தக்ஷிணேஸ்வர்	takshineesvar
ராஜாஜி	raajaaji
ஷாஜஹான்	shaajahaan
பாதுஷா	paadushaa

ஜோதி	joodi
ஸ்ரீதரன்	sridaran
ஹர்ஷவர்த்தனன்	harshavarttan
ஜைன மதம்	jaina madam
அல்லாஹு	allaahu
குஷ்பூ	kushpuu
சுபாஷினி	subashini
மாஹி	maahi
ஹைதராபாத்	haidaraabaat
ஜெயஸ்ரீ	jayasri

Grantha letters with secondary symbols:

Vowels	அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	உ	ஊ	எ	ஏ	ஐ	ஓ	ஔ	ஒள
Secondary symbols	-	ா	ி	ீ	ு	ூ	ெ	ே	ை	ொ	ோ	ொள
ஜ்	ஜ	ஜா	ஜி	ஜீ	ஜு	ஜூ	ஜெ	ஜே	ஜை	ஜொ	ஜோ	ஜொள
ஜ்	ja	jaa	ji	jii	ju	juu	je	jee	jai	jo	joo	jau
ஸ்	ஸ	ஸா	ஸி	ஸீ	ஸு	ஸூ	ஸெ	ஸே	ஸை	ஸொ	ஸோ	ஸொள
ஸ்	sa	saa	si	sii	su	suu	se	see	sai	so	soo	sau
ஷ்	ஷ	ஷா	ஷி	ஷீ	ஷு	ஷூ	ஷெ	ஷே	ஷை	ஷொ	ஷோ	ஷொள
ஷ்	sha	shaa	shi	shii	shu	shuu	she	shee	shai	sho	shoo	shau
ஹ்	ஹ	ஹா	ஹி	ஹீ	ஹு	ஹூ	ஹெ	ஹே	ஹை	ஹொ	ஹோ	ஹொள
ஹ்	ha	haa	hi	hii	hu	huu	he	hee	hai	ho	hoo	hau
க்ஷ்	க்ஷ	க்ஷா	க்ஷி	க்ஷீ	க்ஷு	க்ஷூ	க்ஷெ	க்ஷே	க்ஷை	க்ஷொ	க்ஷோ	க்ஷொள
க்ஷ்	ksha	kshaa	kshi	kshii	kshu	kshuu	kshe	kshee	kshai	ksho	kshoo	kshau

Chart III: Comparison: Secondary Symbols Used in Old Tamil and Modern Tamil

Use of secondary symbols of some vowels (ஆ ஐ ஒ ஓ) for few consonants (ல் ற் ள் ன் ண்) in Old and modern printed and hand- written Tamil texts are different. The differences are given here for the learners to understand both. This should help the learners of Tamil when they work with Old Tamil texts.

Vowels	Old Tamil	Modern Tamil
ஆ	ற	றா
	ன	னா
	ண	ணா
ஐ	லை	லை
	ள	ள
	ன	ன
	ண	ண
ஒ	ற	றா
	ன	னா
	ண	ணா
ஓ	ற	றா
	ன	னா
	ண	ணா

Table 1: Alphabets: Tamil and Grantha

Vowels	அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	உ*	ஊ*	எ	ஏ	ஐ	ஓ	ஔ	ஔள
Secondary symbols	-	ா	ி	ஃ	*(see Chart II)	஄	அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	ஊ	஋
க்	க	கா	கி	கீ	கு	கூ	கெ	கே	கை	கொ	கோ	கௌ
ங்	ங	ஙா	ஙி	ஙீ	ஙு	ஙூ	ஙெ	ஙே	ஙை	ஙொ	ஙோ	ஙௌ
ச்	ச	சா	சி	சீ	சு	சூ	செ	சே	சை	சொ	சோ	சௌ
ஞ்	ஞ	ஞா	ஞி	ஞீ	ஞு	ஞூ	ஞெ	ஞே	ஞை	ஞொ	ஞோ	ஞௌ
ட்	ட	டா	டி	டீ	டு	டூ	டெ	டே	டை	டொ	டோ	டௌ
ண்	ண	ணா	ணி	ணீ	ணு	ணூ	ணெ	ணே	ணை	ணொ	ணோ	ணௌ
த்	த	தா	தி	தீ	து	தூ	தெ	தே	தை	தொ	தோ	தௌ
ந்	ந	நா	நி	நீ	நு	நூ	நெ	நே	நை	நொ	நோ	நௌ
ப்	ப	பா	பி	பீ	பு	பூ	பெ	பே	பை	பொ	போ	பௌ
ம்	ம	மா	மி	மீ	மு	மூ	மெ	மே	மை	மொ	மோ	மௌ
ய்	ய	யா	யி	யீ	யு	யூ	யெ	யே	யை	யொ	யோ	யௌ
ர்	ர	ரா	ரி	ரீ	ரு	ரூ	ரெ	ரே	ரை	ரொ	ரோ	ரௌ
ல்	ல	லா	லி	லீ	லு	லூ	லெ	லே	லை	லொ	லோ	லௌ
வ்	வ	வா	வி	வீ	வு	வூ	வெ	வே	வை	வொ	வோ	வௌ
ழ்	ழ	ழா	ழி	ழீ	ழு	ழூ	ழெ	ழே	ழை	ழொ	ழோ	ழௌ
ள்	ள	ளா	ளி	ளீ	ளு	ளூ	ளெ	ளே	ளை	ளொ	ளோ	ளௌ
ற்	ற	றா	றி	றீ	று	றூ	றெ	றே	றை	றொ	றோ	றௌ
ன்	ன	னா	னி	னீ	னு	னூ	னெ	னே	னை	னொ	னோ	னௌ
Grantha	-	ா	ி	ஃ	஄	அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	ஊ	஋	஌
ஜ்	ஜ	ஜா	ஜி	ஜீ	ஜு	ஜூ	ஜெ	ஜே	ஜை	ஜொ	ஜோ	ஜௌ
ஷ்	ஷ	ஷா	ஷி	ஷீ	ஷு	ஷூ	ஷெ	ஷே	ஷை	ஷொ	ஷோ	ஷௌ
ஸ்	ஸ	ஸா	ஸி	ஸீ	ஸு	ஸூ	ஸெ	ஸே	ஸை	ஸொ	ஸோ	ஸௌ
ஹ்	ஹ	ஹா	ஹி	ஹீ	ஹு	ஹூ	ஹெ	ஹே	ஹை	ஹொ	ஹோ	ஹௌ
க்ஷ	க்ஷ	க்ஷா	க்ஷி	க்ஷீ	க்ஷு	க்ஷூ	க்ஷெ	க்ஷே	க்ஷை	க்ஷொ	க்ஷோ	க்ஷௌ

TAMIL ALPHABETS ARE GIVEN IN CHART-2 AS USED IN TAMIL DICTIONARIES.

Note: *The secondary symbols for the உ and ஊ, in the case of Grantha letters are different (Frames 16 and 17).

MAKE YOUR HANDWRITING PERFECT: COPY WRITING

A

அ அ அ	ஆ ஆ ஆ
அ அ அ	ஆ ஆ ஆ

இ இ இ	ஈ ஈ ஈ
இ இ இ	ஈ ஈ ஈ

உ உ உ	ஊ ஊ ஊ
உ உ உ	ஊ ஊ ஊ

எ	எ	எ	ஏ	ஏ	ஏ
எ	எ	எ	ஏ	ஏ	ஏ

ஐ	ஐ	ஐ	ஒ	ஒ	ஒ
ஐ	ஐ	ஐ	ஒ	ஒ	ஒ

ஓ	ஓ	ஓ	ஓள	ஓள	ஓள
ஓ	ஓ	ஓ	ஓள	ஓள	ஓள

ஃ	அஃது	இஃது	எஃகு
ஃ	அஃது	இஃது	எஃகு

க	ங	ச	ஞ	ட	ண
க	ங	ச	ஞ	ட	ண

த	ந	ப	ம	ய	ர
த	ந	ப	ம	ய	ர

ல	வ	ழ	ள	ற	ன
ல	வ	ழ	ள	ற	ன

ஐ	ஸ	ஷ	ஹ	க்ஷ
ஐ	ஸ	ஷ	ஹ	க்ஷ

B.

Read the sentences three times before copying. Your handwriting should resemble the sentences given below the line.

காலையில் எழு கடவுளை வணங்கு

காலையில் எழு கடவுளை வணங்கு

அன்பே கடவுள். ஆசையைக் குறை.

அன்பே கடவுள். ஆசையைக் குறை.

இன்சொல் இயம்பு. ஈவது நல்லது

இன்சொல் இயம்பு. ஈவது நல்லது

உண்மையே பேசு. ஊக்கமே உயர்வு.

உண்மையே பேசு. ஊக்கமே உயர்வு.

எளிமையாய் வாழ். ஏற்பது இகழ்ச்சி.

எளிமையாய் வாழ். ஏற்பது இகழ்ச்சி.

ஐம்புலன் அடக்கு. ஒழுக்கமாய் இரு.

ஐம்புலன் அடக்கு. ஒழுக்கமாய் இரு.

ஓய்வின்றி உழை.

ஓய்வின்றி உழை.

புலி பசித்தாலும் புல்லைத் தின்னாது.

புலி பசித்தாலும் புல்லைத் தின்னாது.

முயற்சி நன்மை தரும்.

முயற்சி நன்மை தரும்.

கல்வியே சிறந்த செல்வம்.

கல்வியே சிறந்த செல்வம்.

இளமையில் கல். நன்றி செய்.

இளமையில் கல். நன்றி செய்.

இந்தியாவின் தலைநகரம் டில்லி.

இந்தியாவின் தலைநகரம் டில்லி.

ஊருடன் வாழ்.

ஊருடன் வாழ்.

அடாது செய்பவர் படாது படுவர்.

அடாது செய்பவர் படாது படுவர்.

கீழோர் ஆயினும் தாழ உரை.

கீழோர் ஆயினும் தாழ உரை.

கந்தையானாலும் கசக்கிக் கட்டு.

கந்தையானாலும் கசக்கிக்கட்டு.

C.

COPY THE FOLLOWING

மயில் அகவும். குயில் கூவும்.

யானை பிளிறும். நரி ஊளையிடும்.

சித்திரமும் கைப்பழக்கம்.

செந்தமிழும் நாப்பழக்கம்.

போதும் என்ற மனமே பொன் செய்யும்
மருந்து.

பல துளி பெரு வெள்ளம்.

செய்வன திருந்தச் செய்.

ஆற்றில் போட்டாலும் அளந்து போடு.

அளவுக்கு மிஞ்சினால் அமுதமும் விஷம்.

இக்கரைக்கு அக்கரைப் பச்சை.

கூடி வாழ்ந்தால் கோடி நன்மை.

வல்லவனுக்குப் புல்லும் ஆயுதம்.

தீராக்கோபம் போராய் முடியும்.

அடுப்பில் எரிவது கரி.

அம்மா சமைப்பது கறி.

ஆற்றின் ஓரம் கரை.

ஆடையில் படிவது கறை.

ஆற்றில் வருவது வெள்ளம்.

ஆசையாய் தின்பது வெல்லம்.

சுவரில் ஊர்வது பல்லி.

சிறுவர் படிப்பது பள்ளி.

குரங்கு பந்தை எறிந்தது.

குடிசை தீயால் எரிந்தது.

மாட்டுக்கு இருப்பது வால்.

மரத்தை அறுப்பது வாள்.

யாதும் ஊரே யாவரும் கேளிர்.

தீதும் நன்றும் பிறர் தர வாரா.

மின்னுவது எல்லாம் பொன் அல்ல.

அகத்தின் அழகு முகத்தில் தெரியும்.

முயற்சி உடையார் இகழ்ச்சி அடையார்.

முற்பகல் செய்யின் பிற்பகல் விளையும்.

நோயற்ற வாழ்வே குறைவற்ற
செல்வம்.

ஏட்டுச் சுரைக்காய் கறிக்கு உதவாது.

காற்றுள்ள போதே தூற்றிக்கொள்.

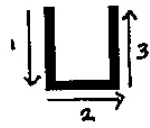
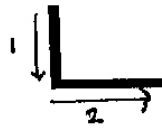
கெடுவான் கேடு நினைப்பான்.

பொழுது விடிந்ததும் காலை.

வண்டி இழுப்பது காளை.

Appendix I: Hand-movements: Tamil and Grantha

FRAME-1



FRAME-2



.....

FRAME-3



.....



.....



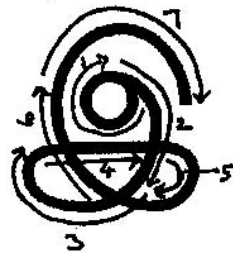
.....



.....



FRAME-4



FRAME-5



FRAME-6



FRAME-7



FRAME-8



FRAME-9



FRAME-10



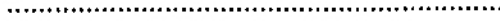
FRAME-11



FRAME-12



FRAME-13



FRAME-14



FRAME-15



FRAME-16



FRAME-17



FRAME-18 (GRANTHA LETTERS)





.....



.....



.....



.....



.....

Appendix II: Hand-movements: Secondary Symbols

Vowels

Secondary symbols

அ

No dot over the pure consonant

ஆ



[placed after the primary letter]

இ



[placed over the primary letter]

ஈ



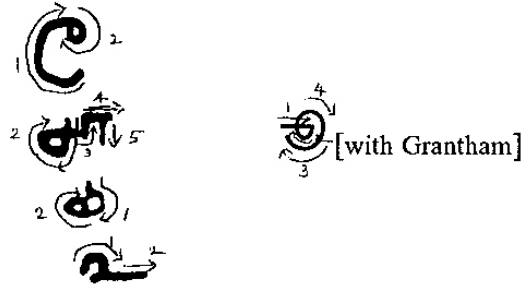
[placed over the primary letter]

உ

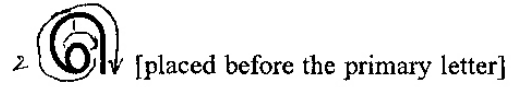


[with Grantham]

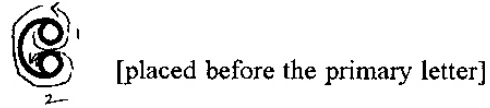
உள



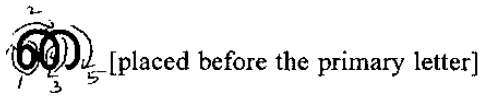
எ



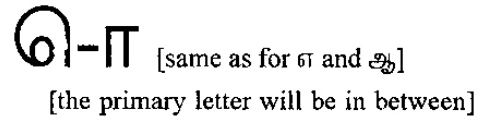
ஏ



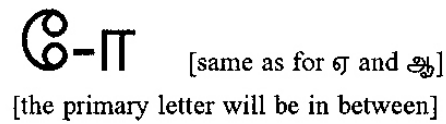
ஐ



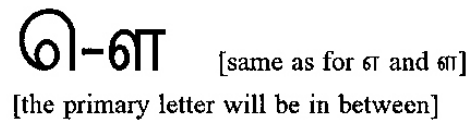
ஓ



ஔ



ஔள



APPENDIX III Development of Tamil Script

The development and reformation of Tamil alphabets were widely discussed by scholars. Old inscriptions on stones were written using Brahmi, Grantham, and Vattezuthu (cursive script; name for Tamil alphabets). This motivated them to get views to say wrongly that Tamil scripts are evolved from Brahmi scripts. Use of inscription mode did not constitute solid evidence to the shape of early Tamil script. The present day Tamil scripts in use were used in inscriptions after seventh century AD. There are references found in the earliest Tamil grammar, Tholkappiyam that belongs to 3 BC about the shape of Tamil characters and pave the way to say that Tamil language had a unique and distinct script for its own from early time, even before Brahmi. Tamil script development and script reformation was inevitable from time to time due to social, political, cultural changes and technological development. This brought changes to current alphabets from Vattezuthu. The development of Tamil alphabets (vowels and consonants) from 3 BC to 19 AD is given in Appendix III. This gives an idea about the remarkable changes that took place in Tamil writing system from time to time.

APPENDIX III

(a)
Development of Tamil Script
VOWELS 3 BC to 19 AD

		அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	உ	ஊ	எ	ஏ	ஐ	ஓ	ஔ
3 BC	கி. மு. 3	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉	𑌊
2 AD	கி. பி. 2	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉	𑌊
	கி. பி. 3	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉	𑌊
	கி. பி. 4	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉	𑌊
	கி. பி. 5	𑌀				2						
	கி. பி. 6	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	2	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉
	கி. பி. 7	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	2	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉
	கி. பி. 8	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	2	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉
	கி. பி. 9	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	2	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉
	கி. பி. 10	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	2	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉
	கி. பி. 11	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	2	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉
	கி. பி. 12	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	2	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉
	கி. பி. 13	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	2	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉
	கி. பி. 14	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	2	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉
	கி. பி. 15	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	2	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉
	கி. பி. 16	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	2	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉
	கி. பி. 17	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	2	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉
	கி. பி. 18	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	2	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉
19 AD	கி. பி. 19	𑌀	𑌁	𑌂	𑌃	2	𑌄	𑌅	𑌆	𑌇	𑌈	𑌉

▲ a aa i ii u uu e ee ai o oo

Source: Tanjavur Sarasvati Mahal. Reorganized by Sankaran Radhakrishnan

APPENDIX III

(b)
Development of Tamil Script
CONSONANTS 3 BC to 19 AD

		நூற்றாண்டு	க	ங	ச	ஞ	ட	ண	த	ந	ப்	ம்	ப்	ர்	ல்	வ	ழ	ள	ந்	ன்
3 BC	கி.மு.	3	+	[	d	h	c	l	h	u	u	u	+	v	o	o	u	u	u	u
2 AD	கி.மு.	2	+	[	d	h	c	l	h	u	u	u	+	v	o	o	u	u	u	u
	கி.மு.	3	+	d				z	h	h	u	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u	u
	கி.மு.	4	+	v				u	l	u	o	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u	u
	கி.மு.	5	+	l	v			[	3	3	h	u	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u
	கி.மு.	6	+	z	h	h	u	u	u	u	u	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u	u
	கி.மு.	7	+	z	h	h	u	u	u	u	u	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u	u
	கி.மு.	8	+	z	h	h	u	u	u	u	u	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u	u
	கி.மு.	9	+	z	h	h	u	u	u	u	u	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u	u
	கி.மு.	10	+	z	h	h	u	u	u	u	u	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u	u
	கி.மு.	11	+	z	h	h	u	u	u	u	u	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u	u
	கி.மு.	12	+	z	h	h	u	u	u	u	u	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u	u
	கி.மு.	13	+	z	h	h	u	u	u	u	u	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u	u
	கி.மு.	14	+	z	h	h	u	u	u	u	u	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u	u
	கி.மு.	15	+	z	h	h	u	u	u	u	u	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u	u
	கி.மு.	16	+	z	h	h	u	u	u	u	u	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u	u
	கி.மு.	17	+	z	h	h	u	u	u	u	u	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u	u
	கி.மு.	18	+	z	h	h	u	u	u	u	u	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u	u
19 AD	கி.மு.	19	+	z	h	h	u	u	u	u	u	u	+	o	o	u	u	u	u	u

▲ka na ca ña ta ña ta na pa ma ya ra la va la la ra na

Source: Tanjavur Sarasvati Mahal. Reorganized by Sankaran Radhakrishnan

APPENDIX IV

WORD LIST:

The lists of words in the order in which they occur in Frames are given with English meaning.

FRAME 1 [ட, ப, ம, ய]

படம் picture
பட்டம் kite
பட்பட fast (speech)
மடம் community center
மடமட fast (drinking sound)
பப்படம் tortilla (dried)
பயம் fear
டம்பம் being showy

FRAME 2 [டி]

படிம் fruit
மடிமடி smooth feeling (touch)

FRAME 3 [ஈ, ர, ச, க, த]

டீ tea
பீடம் seat
கரீம் Kareem (name-male)
மர்மம் secret
ஈரம் wet
கரம் hand
ஈயம் lead (metal)
ரம்பம் saw
சரம் strung
சர்ப்பம் serpent
மச்சம் mole
கடம் a musical instrument
கட்டம் square
பக்கம் page, side
சக்கரம் wheel
ரசம் a dish
தரம் quality
பதம் fit condition (for specific purpose), term, and word
மதம் religion
தகரம் tin
பதக்கம் medal
ஈச்சம்பழம்/ஈச்சம் date fruit
ஈழம் part in Sri Lanka
ஈட்டம் earning
ஈ fly, donate
பம்பரம் top (toy)
கதம்பம் mixture, flowers of different kinds
சகடம் without discretion
மகம் a star name (the ten of the twenty-seven stars)
கரம் hand
ரதம் chariot
தடம் route
கம்பம் a place name
கடம்பம் name of a tree
சத்தம் sound
தீ fire

தீரம் banks (of a river)

FRAME 4 [அ, ஆ, இ]

அகம் inside
அரம் saw
ஆரம் garland
ஆட்டம் game
ஆக்கம் progress, prosperity
இடம் place
இதம் suitable
அகரம் a hamlet
ஆப்பம் pan cake
அப்பம் pan cake
தடாகம் pond
அபாரம் wonderful
அப்பா father
மாதம் month
அம்மி mother
யாகம் sacrifices
தராதரம் quality
சாகரம் dam
காரம் hot (taste)
தாகம் thirsty
பாரம் load
படார் falling sound
மாயா illusion
காகம் crow
தாரம் wife
மாயம் magic
காயம் wound
திய் mother
ராகம் note (musical)
இடி Thunder
பிதி half
பிடி hold
தமிழ் Tamil
பழி slander, abuse
கரி coal
சிதம்பரம் Chidambaram (place name)
காகிதம் paper
படி read
கடிதம் letter
காபி coffee
சிமி god
கழி subtract
திரி wick
கடி bite
சரி ok, alright
சிரம் head
பிதி half
மிதி step on
சிரி laugh
கிரி hill
பாப்பா baby
பார் see, look
பார்த்தார் saw-he
படித்தார் read-he
படி read
தா give

FRAME 5 [ந, ங]

அந்த that
இந்த this
நம் our
நாம் we
நகம் nail
நாகம் copra
பந்தி an arrangement during feast in which the invited guests are seated in rows
சந்தி meet
சங்கம் association
தங்கம் gold
அங்கம் body part
நட walk
நிதி wealth
நீதி justice
பந்தம் relationship
பங்கம் fault
நயம் suitable
நகரம் town
நரகம் hell
நீ you
பீதி fear
தீபம் light
நாட்டம் involvement
திட்டம் plan
தந்தம் ivory

FRAME 6 [எ]

எரி burn
எச்சம் droppings (of birds which can fly or house lizards)
எட்டடி eight feet
எந்த which
எப்படி how
எந்திரம் machine
எம் my (old Tamil form)
பெட்டி box
மெட்டி leg finger ornaments
கெட்டி strong
பெரிய big
செந்தமிழ் classical Tamil
கெட்டிக்காரியா? (is she) smart girl?
யார் who
செடி plant
கெட்ட bad
தெப்பம் a kind of float (a decorated float that carries the deity and is floated during temple festival in the temple tank)
நெடிய long
மெச்சி having praised
செப்பம் set-right
மெய் true, body
பெட்டகம் chest, strong box (to keep valuables)
தமிழகம் Tamil Nadu (old name for Tamil Nadu)
சந்திரா Chandra (name-female)
இந்திரா Indira (name-female)
பெயர் name

FRAME 7 [ஏ]

ஏர் plough
ஏமம் a particular time (old Tamil form)
ஏக்கம் longing (arising out of one's wish)
ஏப்பம் belch
ஏரி lake
பேட்டி interview
மேகம் cloud
தேகம் body
நேரம் time
பேத்தி grand-daughter
அங்கே there
இங்கே here
ரதி beautiful lady, Rathi (name-female)
பேர் person
மேய் grace
சேர் reach
கேசம் hair
தேய் rube
எங்கே whrere
பேய் ghost
தேசம் country
தேர் temple car or chariot (of a king)
நேசம் affection, friendship
மேயர் Mayor
செரி Cherry
கச்சேரி concert (music),
பேதம் difference
தேங்கிய் coconut

FRAME 8 [ஞ]

பஞ்சம் scarcity
இஞ்சி ginger
மஞ்சம் bed
தஞ்சம் surrender
கஞ்சி gruel
ஞாபகம் memory
பஞ்சம் scarcity, dearth, famine
தஞ்சம் surrender
கஞ்சம் a place name
நெஞ்சம் heart (considered being the seat of memory, feeling...)
யக்ஞம் worship performed with sacrificial fire
சங்கீதம் music
ராஞ்சி a place name
மரகதம் emerald

FRAME 9 [வ, ல]

அவர் he (that)
சிவா Lord Shiva
வாய் mouth
விமலா pure, Vimala (name-female)
கவிதா poetry, Kavitha (name-female)
காவி suffron (yellowish brown)
வீதி street
வெப்பம் heat
வேடம் make-up, costume due to a part in a drama, role (in movie, drama.)
லஞ்சம் bribe
பலம் strength

பால் milk
லாபம் profit, gain, advantage
வேலி fence
கலீர் a sound (of leg ornaments)
செவ்வாய் planet-Mars, Tuesday
அல்லி lotus
வடிவம் figure, image
கலம் ship
வசி live
விரல் finger
கால் leg
பலி offering lives (as sacrifice)
தவம் austerities, penance
வீரம் bravery, heroism
வேல் a kind of spear
வெப்பம் heat
சவம் corpse, dead body
பல் tooth (of human and animal), tooth (of comb, gear, etc.), tooth like segment (of garlic)
கால்வாய் canal
வட்டம் circle
பாலம் bridge
பல்லி lizard
வேப்பம் Margo
லீலா sports, Leela (name-female)
தவசி ascetic
மகாபலி name of a king
காவேரி name of a river
டில்லி Delhi (capital of India: place name)
கல்கத்தா Calcutta (place name)
லவங்கம் cinnamon (used in cooking)
மேலே up
கீழே down

FRAME 10 [ற]

மறம் bravery
நிறம் color
அறம் ethical or religious code of conduct or simply Daharma
பயிற்சி exercise
பறி pluck (flowers), snatch
கற்றார் learned people
கற்பகம் Karpakam (name-female)
கற்க learn(imperative)
வற்றல் dried rice paste or dried vegetable
பற fly
சிற்பம் sculpture
கறார் strict, straight forward
பற்றி about
சற்றே for a few moments
தறி country weaving machine
மறியல் picketing, protest
நெறி principle, doctrine, the code (of conduct), crack (the fingers)
சிறற்பா father's little brother

FRAME 11 [ஐ]

ஐயம் doubt
ஐயா sir
ஐவர் five person
படை army
பை bag

சபை court (king's), assembly
மை ink
ஆமை turtle, tortoise
தாமரை lotus
தசை muscle, reigning period of a planet
பாவை puppet, doll, charming girl
மலை mountain
கறை stain
ஐவகை five kind of
கரை bank
வைகை Vaigai (name of a river)
தையல் stitching, woman
தலை head
ஐயர் Iyer (caste name)
ஐயப்பா name of a god (male)
தலைவர் leader
கலைஞர் artist

FRAME 12 [ள்]

தாள் paper, stubble, feet, latch, bolt
பள்ளம் pit
வெள்ளம் flood
கேளாய் listen (old Tamil form)
களி a dish made with millet flour thickened to the consistency of a pudding,
enjoy (by listening, seeing, etc.,)
கேளிர் listen (poetic form)
வெள்ளெலி white rat
வெள்ளை white, pure
வாள் sword
களம் field
கேள்வி question
பவளம் pearl
கவளம் handful of food
காளி Kali (goddess)
கேளிர் listen (old Tamil form)
வளை bend, curve, (rat) hole
வளம் resource, richness, abundance, fertility (land)
களாக்காய் a vegetable (for pickle making)
வளி wind, air
பளிர் with a sharp sound/sudden and severe, openly(said)
தவளை frog

FRAME 13 [ன, ண]

மான் deer
வான் sky
மனம் mind
நான் I
மன்னன் king
கன்னம் cheek
கள்ளன் thief
அன்னம் swan
பன்னாடை fiber (like a net) around the bottom of the stalk of palmary or coconut tree
பனி mist
பன்னீர் fragrant extract(from rose flower), rose water
யானை elephant
கண்ணாடி mirror
பணம் currency, money, wealth
கண்ணீர் tears
திண்ணை pial, raised platform at the entrance of a house at village for the purpose of resting

கன்னடம் the language, Kannada
மணம் fragrance, smell, marriage
கண்டம் continent
தண்ணீர் cold water
வண்ணம் color
கனி fruit
மணி bell, bead, a general term for all precious stones
அண்ணி older brother's wife
ஆனை elephant
சின்னம் symbol
சிவராமன் Sivaraman(name-male)
மனிதன் human being; especially for man
இனாம் free
மன்மதன் Manmathan : god of love (male)

FRAME 14 [ஓ]

ஒடி break
ஒப்பி repeat exactly (from memory)
ஒழி get lost, disappear, and be wiped out
ஒலி sound
ஒளி light
ஒட்டகம் camel
பொம்மை doll
மொட்டை clean shaved head
கையொப்பம் signature
ரொட்டி bread
சொல் tell, word
கொண்டை hair-do (in coil or any other fashion, crest(of birds), head(of a nail, top...)
தொட்டி tub
நொண்டி lame (person or animal), crippled condition
கண்ணொளி power of eye, light of eye
பொடி powder
கொடு give
நொய்யல் act of making broken grain
கொடி flag
வெள்ளொலி perfect sound
ஒயில் stylish elegance
கொட்டி having clapped (hands), having beaten(drum)
மொச்சை hyacinth bean
கொத்தளம் elevated place in fort
கொட்டகை theater (for film or play), temporary thatched shed(to conduct rituals), shed(for cattle)
பட்டொளி sheen of silk
தொடக்க விழா inaugural function

FRAME 15 [ஓ, ஓள]

ஒளவை Auvai(name of a Tamilpoetess)
ஒளடதம் medicine
ஓமம் sison or Bishop's weed
ஓதல் recite; chant (Vedas)
ஓட்டம் run
ஓநாய் wolf
ஓவியம் painting
நாடோடி vagabond, wanderer
போ go
மோர் butter-milk
யோகம் deep meditation, good-luck
ரோகிணி Rohini (name-female), the fourth of the twenty-seven stars
சோலை grove

கோவில் temple
தோழன் friend; companion (male)
நோய் disease
வோட்டு vote (in election)
லோகம் world
பட்டோவியம் painting in silk cloth
கோவை a town name
போட்டி Competition
தோட்டம் garden
மோகன் Mohan (name-male)
நோட்டம் (searching) glance
ரோட்டில் in the road
மின்னோட்டம் flow of electricity
சோழன் Chola (king Chola)
கண்ணோட்டம் perspective, point of view, viewpoint
மோகம் sexual desire, infatuation (for a woman), craze
யோகி an ascetic (one who acquired extraordinary powers through Yoga practices)
கோபம் anger
தோள் shoulder
காற்றோட்டம் wind flow
போர் war
சிவயோகி an ascetic worships Lord Shiva
தேரோட்டம் running of temple car
வெளவால் bat
கௌரவம் prestige
மௌனம் silence
யௌவனம் foreign
பௌர்ணமி full-moon
பௌத்திரன் grandson (son's son)
சௌக்கியம் state of being well
மௌலி Mauli (name-male)
கௌரி Gauri (name-female)
ரௌத்திரம் fury
லௌகீகம் worldly wisdom, prudence
சௌத்திரி a caste name
கௌதமி Gauthami (name-female)
சௌரி false hair
மோகினி enchanting lady
தோரணம் festoon of mango leaves (tied during ritual times)
கோபாலன் Gopalan (name-male)
மௌரியா Mauriya (Indian dynasty)
மண்டோதரி Mandothari (name-wife of Ravana in Ramayana)
லம்போதரன் Laboathan (Lord Ganesh name)

FRAME 16 [௨]

உழவன் farmer
உரம் enriching stuff (for land), strength (of body)
உடை dress
உமி husk (of rice)
உண்மை truth
உதவி help
உலை smithy, vessel with water kept on oven to cook rice
உரல் mortar (either in wood or stone-used in rural areas)
உடல் body
உறி a conical network of rope(suspended from roof in villages) to keep ghee, milk, etc., suck in
உரி peel
உவமை simile (in literatures)
புயல் hurricane
கசப்பு bitterness
யுக்தி technique

காயும் will dry
அபிமன்யு Abimanyu (male name in Mahabharat)
சுவர் wall
காசுகள் coins
மிசு dirt, pollution, blemish (in character)
கவுதமர் Gauthamar (name-Bhuddah)
சிவு death
பசுமை greenish, freshness
திவு jump
படிப்பு education
புல் grass
சொல் word
யுகம் age, long period, aeon
காசு coin
மாவு flour (of grain)
புடவை saree
பாம்பு snake
உப்பு salt
பாயும் will jump, will flow, will bounce
கதவு door
உத்தரா Uthara (name-female)
சுத்தம் neatness
உமாபதி Umapathi (name-male)
நோவு disease
புத்திரன் son
அப்ப then
யுவதி young woman
வாயு gas
தடுப்பு prevention
காடு forest
முகம் face
கழுகு eagle
உறுமு roar (of tiger, lion), growl (of dog, monkey)
இழு pull
கருப்பு black
பரு pimple
குடம் pot
பகுதி part
பாக்கு areca nut
வெளுப்பு whiteness
பளு load
நடு center
முதலை crocodile, alligator
அழுக்கு dirt
நெருப்பு fire
குறைவு less
தள்ளு push
வடு scar
கடுப்பு anger,
புழு worm
விழு fall
பருப்பு grams (food)
இடம் place
வடம் rope (for temple car to pull)
சுளுக்கு sprain
மாடு cattle
முயல் rabbit
சமுத்திரம் ocean
விழு fall
குழந்தை child
வகுப்பு class

பாகு molasses
துணி clothe
சத்துக்கள் nutrients
நுழை enter
செலுத்து deposit
எலறும் always
காற்று breeze
அணு atom
கணு joint, node
தும்பி dragonfly
வயிறு stomach
நுந்தை your father (poetic usage)
மனு appeal, application
நுகம் yoke
பத்து ten
சொத்து property, wealth
நுரை foam
நரை gray hair
தரை floor
கருத்து opinion
பயிறு gram (any gram)
கயிறு rope
தணு bow
கவி poet, poem
நுட்பம் minuteness
முறுக்கு a kind of snack fried in oil
கடுகு mustard (seed)
உளுந்து black-gram
கொலுசு an leg ornament worn around ankle (by women)
முசுகுந்தன் Musukundhan (name-male)
குடமுழுக்கு pouring the sanctified water over the temple structure at the time of installation
அணுகுண்டு atom bomb
குருபக்தி devotion towards teacher
மனுதர்மம் Hindu's code of conduct
இரண்டு two
மூன்று three
நான்கு four
ஐந்து five
ஆறு six
ஏழு seven
எட்டு eight
ஒன்பது nine
பத்து ten

FRAME 17 [ஊ]

ஊர் native place, village
ஊசி needle
ஊதல் whistle, coldwind
ஊர்தி vehicle (transport)
ஊட்டி a place name
ஊக்கம் encouragement
உள்ளம் mind
ஊமை dumb person, latent; without any outward sign
உள்ளே inside
ஊஞ்சல் swing
ஊதா violet, purple
ஊர்வசி a celestial dancer, Urvashi (name-female)
ஊத்தப்பம் a kind of thick thosai (pan cake like)
ஊனம் deformity, handicap (physically)
ஊழல் corruption

ஊர்மிளா Urmila (name-female)
ஊர்வலம் procession, rally
ஆரூர் a place name
கொடூர்ம் horrible
மூக்கு nose
மூலை corner
பேரூர் a place name
கீழூர் a place name
போரூர் a place name
போரூர் a place name
மூட்டை bundle
பூ flower
யூகம் guess
சூரியன் sun
கோவூர் Koovur (place name)
பூமி earth
சூரன் able man, expert (male)
நூல் book
நூலகம் library
தூண் pillar
எண்ணூர் Ennur (place name)
மானூர் Manur (place name)
வேலூர் Vealore (place name)
சிறூர் small village
தூசி dust
காவலூர் Kavalur (place name)
நன்னூல் Nannul (Tamil grammar book)
நூறு hundred
பூணூல் sacred thread (worn by men of few castes)
கூடு nest, assemble
கூரை roof
கூளம் waste
கூடம் hall
கூட்டு add, vegetable dish, sweep
குலம் community, general class (social)
தூலம் large in size (body)
யூசுப் Yusuf (name male)
மீழல் as usual
தாவூத் Dhavood (name-male)
மண்டூகம் dull-witted person
ரூபா beautiful shape, Roopa (name-female), Indian currency (spoken form)
பூரி a food item made out of wheat flour (fried in oil), a place name, became stout
லூர்துசாமி Lurthusamy (name-male)
திரிகூலம் trident
தஞ்சாவூர் Thanjavur (place name)
கண்ணூர் Kannur (place name)
இருபது twenty
முப்பது thirty
நாற்பது forty
ஐம்பது fifty
அறுபது sixty
எழுபது seventy
எண்பது eighty
தொண்ணூறு ninty
இருநூறு two hundred
முந்நூறு three hundred
நானூறு four hundred
ஐந்நூறு five hundred
அறுநூறு six hundred
எழுநூறு seven hundred
எண்ணூறு eight hundred

தொள்ளாயிரம் nine hundred
ஆயிரம் thousand
அஃது it-that
இஃது it-this
எஃகு steel
ஃபோட்டோ (போட்டோ) photo
ஃபேன் (பேன்) fan
ஃபிலிம் (பிலிம்) film
ஃபிரெஞ்சு (பிரஞ்சு) French
காஃபி (காப்பி) coffee

FRAME 18 [ஸ, ஜ, ஷ, ஹ, கஷ, ஸ்ரீ]

ஜலம் water
கஜம் yard(measure-36 inches)
ஸ்வரம் note of musical scale
சரஸ்வதி Saraswathi (name of knowledge goddess)
பஸ் bus
ஷவர் shower
விஷம் poison
வேஷம் role, costume
ரோஷம் sensitivity
ஹனுமான் Hanuman (monkey god in Ramayana)
ஹரி Hari (Lord Vishnu)
கூடிணம் moment
கூடியரோகம் tuberculosis
ஸ்ரீமான் respectful (man) like Mr.
ஸ்ரீமதி respectful (woman) like Mrs.
ஸ்ரீதேவி Sridevi (name-female)
மாலாஸ்ரீ Malasri (name-female)
பஜனை choral rendering of devotional songs
ஜாதி caste
துவேஷம் enmity, dislike
ஷண்முகம் Shanmugam (name-male)
புஷ்பா Pushpa (name-female)
கோஷ Ghosh (caste name)
ஹர்த்தால் closure of shops etc., (as a protest)
ஜவஹர்லால் Jawaharlal (name-male)
லக்ஷ்மி, Lakshmi (name of wealth goddess)
பஜ்ஜி snack (fried in oil with potato, plantain, onion, green pepper dipped in flour-paste)
ராஜி Raji (name-female)
ஜாடி jar
ராஜா king
ஹேமா Hema (name-female)
ஹேஷ்யம் a rough estimate, conjecture
பஸ்ஸும் bus also
குஸும் Kusum (name-female)
ஷேக் Shek (a title)
அபிஷேகம் pouring holly liquid substances (like rose water, honey,
milk, sandal paste, sacred ash, curd, etc..) over the idols at temples.
ஜோடி pair
ஜோலி work, job
ஹிந்தி Hindi (Hindi language)
ஹிப்பி Hippie
அங்கஹீனம் physical deformity, handicap
ஹீனயானம் Hinayanam (a division in Bhuddism)
ஹிந்து a person (of Hindu religion)
ஜூன் June
ஜொலி shine, glitter
ஷோபா Shoba (name-female)
சூபா Sheeba (name-female)

ஐடம் lifeless matter
ஜீரணம் digestion
ராஜு Raju (name-male), a caste name
ஜூலை July
ஜெயா Jeya (name-female)
ஜோர் that which is fantastic, impressive
ஜைனம் Jainism (religion)
பஸ்ஸா (is it) bus?
பஸ்ஸில் in the bus
பஸ்ஸும் also bus
பஸ்ஸே only bus
பஸ்ஸை bus (as object)
ஹால் hall
ஹுமாயூன் Humayun (ruler-Humayun)
ஹூக்ளி Hoogli (river name)
ஹெக்டே Hegde (caste name)
ஹைஸ்கூல் high school
ஹோமம் sacrificial fire (religious)
உஷா Usha (name-female)
ஷில்லாங் Shilong (palce name)
ஷீட் sheet
ஷூ shoe
ஷெனாய் Shenoy (caste name)
ஷைலஜா Shylaja (name-female)
ஜீவா Jeeva (name-male)
ராஜீவ்காந்தி Rajiv Gandhi (name-male)
ஹைரோடு high road
ஷோரூம் show-room
தக்ஷிணேஸ்வர் Dhakshineswar (place name)
ராஜாஜி Rajaji (name-male)
ஷாஜஹான் Shajahan (ruler-Shajahan)
பாதுஷா Bhadusha (ruler-Bhadusha)
ஜோதி light, Jothi (name female)
ஸ்ரீதரன் Sridharan (name male)
ஹர்ஷவர்த்தனன் Harshavardhan (ruler- Harshavardhan)
ஜைனமதம் Jain religion
அல்லாஹு Allah (prophit Allah)
குஷ்பு pleasant fragrent, Kusboo (name-female)
ஹைதராபாத் Hyderabad (place name)
ஜெயஸ்ரீ Jayashree (name-female)