Urdu Study Guide 17

Five College Center for World Languages

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# Materials for this Study Guide

* *Beginning Urdu: A Complete Course* (and [accompanying audio recordings under "Additional Resources"](https://press.georgetown.edu/Book/Beginning-Urdu)
  + Unit II: Chapter 11: Making Comparisons: Comparative Constructions, Oblique Pronoun Forms, The Superlative Constructions.
* [*Language Learning Strategies and Tools on LangMedia*](http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu/strategies)

# Assignments for Independent Study:

## Comparative Constructions

* Step 1: Read the section Comparative Constructions, pg. 180.
* Step 2: Comparatives allow us to express adjectives in three degrees: positive, comparative, and superlative. We can say something is big (positive), bigger (comparative) and biggest (superlative). Practice the comparative and superlative sentences included in the section.
* Step 3: What are the two types of comparison constructions Urdu? When do you use *zyāda* and when do you use X *se* Y?
* Step 4: Read the subsection Additional Points. What are other ways that *zyāda* may be used in comparison constructions?

## Oblique Pronoun Forms

* Step 1: Read the section Oblique Pronoun Forms, pg. 182.
* Step 2: Study the chart “Oblique Forms of Personal Pronouns.”
  + Note especially which pronouns change forms in the oblique and which don’t. Make flashcards for the ones that do change.
* Step 3: Consider: When do personal pronouns take their oblique forms?
  + These only occur before simple postpositions. Make sure not to use these forms with compound postpositions like *ke upar*, because with those you need to use the possessive pronoun form from a few chapters back. “Above me” is *mere upar*, not *mujh ke upar*.
  + **HAND IN:** Complete Exercise 1.
  + **HAND IN:** Write an at least 15-sentence paragraph in which you compare yourself with several other people. These can be friends, family, or made up people.

## The Superlative Construction

* Step 1: Read the section The Superlative Construction, pg. 184-185.
* Step 2: You have just learned how to compare using sentences that are the equivalent of the English “She is taller than John.” Now, you are learning sentences the equivalent of “She is the tallest.” These superlative phrases in Urdu use the word *sab se*. *Sab* means “all”, so we are essentially saying someone or something is more *adjective* than all other things or people.
* Step 3: Practice saying the different superlative sentences included in the section. Do you understand how the sentences are put together? Try writing a superlative sentence of your own using one of your family members and saying it out loud.
* Step 4: Study the words in Vocabulary 1 and make flashcards for them.
  + **HAND IN:** Complete Exercise 5, listening to the audio and answering the questions. You can also see the questions written out on pg. 187.
  + **HAND IN:** Complete Exercise 6, Part B.
  + **HAND IN:** Write an at least 15-line dialogue in which two friends compare their favorite celebrities. Feel free to be a bit silly and creative.

# Conversation Session Preparation

* Be prepared to complete the oral portion of Exercise 2 in Oblique Plural Forms with your conversation partner.
* Be prepared to look at an image of a family and describe each of the family members and compare them.
* Be prepared to look at an image of different students from a classroom. Be prepared to use the superlative construction to describe the students as well as give physical descriptions of each one.
* Be prepared to look around the room with your conversation partner and say how many of each object is present. Afterwards, you will talk about which objects belong to you and which objects belong to your partner.
* Be prepared to role-play a conversation between two friends. You have invited your friend from the United States to come visit you in Pakistan but you are unable to pick him/her up from the airport. You have asked a friend of yours in Pakistan to pick up your friend. You will receive a photo from your conversation partner that shows the friend travelling from the United States. Be prepared to describe how your American friend looks so that your friend from Pakistan knows who to look for.
* You will see a series of pictures depicting famous people and their ages next to the image. Be prepared to use full sentences to say their age.

# Homework for Tutorial

* **HAND IN:** Complete Exercise 1.
* **HAND IN:** Write an at least 15-sentence paragraph in which you compare yourself with several other people. These can be friends, family, or made up people.
* **HAND IN:** Complete Exercise 5, listening to the audio and answering the questions. You can also see the questions written out on pg. 187.
* **HAND IN:** Complete Exercise 6, Part B.
* **HAND IN:** Write an at least 15-line dialogue in which two friends compare their favorite celebrities. Feel free to be a bit silly and creative.