Urdu Study Guide 4

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))
  + Part I: The Sound System of Urdu: Dental and Retroflex Consonants; The Consonants *ṛ* and *ṛh* and the vowels *ai* and *au*.
  + Part II: The Urdu Script: Lesson 14: *mīm, choṭī, he, do caśmī he,* and *nūn ghunna*; Lesson 15: The *to* and *ain* Series
  + Unit I: Chapter 1 - Introductions: Asking Yes-or-No Questions; Greeting an Acquaintance
* *LangMedia:* [Useful Expressions*: Urdu in Pakistan*](https://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu/lbc-subtopic/124309)
* [*Language Learning Strategies and Tools* on LangMedia](http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu/strategies)

# Assignments for Independent Study

## Learning the Sounds of Urdu: Lesson 4: Dental and Retroflex Consonants.

* Step 1: Read the section Lesson 4: Dental Consonants, pg. 6. Follow the pronunciation instructions in Dental Consonants. Practice pronouncing the Urdu *d* sound as explained in the pronunciation directions. Practice this pronunciation five times.
* Step 2: Complete Exercise 1. Listen to the audio recording once. Listen to it a second time saying each word after the speaker and trying replicate his/her pronunciation. Now, look at the words yourself without the audio recording and practice their pronunciation. Repeat this process 3 times.
* Step 3: Read the section Retroflex Consonants, pg. 7. Follow the pronunciation instructions for the retroflex *ḍ* in Urdu. Practice this pronunciation five times.
* Step 4: Complete Exercise 2. Listen to the audio recording once. Listen to it a second time saying each word after the speaker and trying replicate his/her pronunciation. Now, look at the words yourself without the audio recording and practice their pronunciation. Repeat this process 3 times.
* Step 5: Listen to the audio recording in Exercise 3. Listen to them a second time. After each word, pause the recording and pronounce the word slowly as you write out its transcription.
  + **HAND IN:** Written task from Exercise 3 in Dental and Retroflex Consonants.

## *Learning the Sounds of Urdu:* Lesson 5: The Consonants *ṛ* and *ṛh* and the vowels *ai* and *au*

* Step 1: Read The Consonants *ṛ* and *ṛh,* pg. 7. Read carefully the explanation regarding retroflex flaps and how to produce the sounds associated with the Urdu *ṛ* and *ṛh*. Practice the pronunciation instructions in The Consonants *ṛ* and *ṛh* by saying the nonsense syllable “urda.” Do these five times by following the instructions given.
* Step 2: Listen to the audio recording in Exercise 1 once. Listen to it a second time saying each word after the speaker and trying to replicate his/her pronunciation. Now, look at the words yourself without the audio recording and practice their pronunciation. Repeat this process 3 times.
* Step 3: Read The Vowels *ai* and *au*, pg. 8. Read the instructions given on the pronunciation of the vowels *ai* and *au.*
* Step 4: Listen to the Urdu speaker in the audio recording from Exercise 2. Listen to the audio recording once. Listen to it a second time saying each word after the speaker and trying replicate his/her pronunciation. Now, look at the words yourself without the audio recording and practice their pronunciation. Repeat this process 3 times.
* Step 5: Listen to the words in Exercise 3. Listen to them a second time. After each word, pause the recording and pronounce the word slowly as you write out its transcription.
  + **HAND IN:** Written task from Exercise 3 in The Consonants *ṛ* and *ṛh* and the Vowels *ai* and *au*.

## Learning to Write in Urdu

* Step 1: Read and study Lesson 14: *mīm, choṭī, he, do caśmī he,* and *nūn ghunna*, pg. 30. On a separate piece of paper, practice writing out the letters and pronouncing their sound as you write them.
* Step 2: Complete Exercise 1 in Lesson 14: *mīm, choṭī, he, do caśmī he,* and *nūn ghunna*.
* Step 3: Listen to the audio recording in Exercise 2. On a separate piece of paper write down the letters as you hear their names pronounced.
* Step 4: Read the words in Exercise 3 from *mīm, choṭī, he, do caśmī he,* and *nūn ghunna*. These words have been written in connected form. These are words and connected forms you are familiar with. Read the words aloud slowly, then, listen to the audio recording. Did your pronunciation sound similar to that of the speaker’s? After listening to the speaker in the recording, practice saying the words aloud 5 times each.
* Step 6: Read Connected Forms of *mīm, choṭī, he, do caśmī he,* and *nūn ghunna*, pg. 32. Study the table well and practice writing the forms of the letters in Urdu.
  + **HAND IN:** Written task from Exercise 1, 5, and 6 in *mīm, choṭī, he, do caśmī he,* and *nūn ghunna*.
* Step 10: Repeat all the prior steps for Lesson 15: The *to* and *ain* Series, pg. 34.
  + **HAND IN:** Written task from Exercise 1, 5, and 6 in Lesson 15: The *to* and *ain* Series.

## *Learning to Speak in Urdu:* Asking Yes-or-No Questions; Greeting an acquaintance

* Step 1: Review the words from Unit 1, Vocabulary 1.
* Step 2: Review the words from Unit 1, Vocabulary 2.
* Step 3: Read Asking Yes-or-No Questions, pg. 56. Study the various yes or no questions and responses. Practice saying each one 5 times with an appropriate response until you can say them without looking at the book. Take the time to create flashcards and learn these expressions by memory.
* Step 4: Look at the objects around your study space. Remember the vocabulary from Vocabulary 1? As you walk around the space, point to the different objects and say out loud “*kyā ye…hai?*” and “*kyā vo…hai?*” Answer your own question out loud using the Urdu equivalent of “This is not…” and “No it’s a….”
* Step 5: Review the words in Vocabulary 3 and repeat Step 4 including positive responses. For example, “Is this a book?” “Yes it’s a book.” Be sure to note the different ways to say “yes” in order to express different degrees of politeness.
* Step 6: Listen to [Useful Expressions from *LangMedia: Urdu in Pakistan*](https://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu/lbc-subtopic/124309). Practice each expression paying close attention to formal and informal usage.
  + **HAND IN:** A list of five useful expressions you found on Useful Expressions from *LangMedia:* [*Urdu in Pakistan*](http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu/lm_collection.html).
* Step 7: Look at Greeting an Acquaintance, pg. 57. Listen to the dialogue from Exercise 7 and study the words from Vocabulary 4. Note the expressions for asking how someone is doing.
* Step 8: Create different characters for yourself. Some characters that require formal address and others that require informal address. Write down these character names on index cards and place them face down so that you can’t see the names. In front of the mirror, pick one card up and address that person while looking at yourself in the mirror. Be sure to use the appropriate expressions. Practice saying hello and asking/responding to questions such as “how are you?” “where are you from.” Try to use all of the expressions from Vocabulary 4.
* Step 9: Listen to the dialogue from Exercise 8 in Greeting an Acquaintance and review the words from Vocabulary 5. Follow Step 8 utilizing the useful greetings and dialogue from Exercise 8.
* Step 10: Review and study Vocabulary 6.
  + **HAND IN:** Write two dialogues with at least 6 lines each, in which two people who know one another ask how the other is doing. Make use of the various words and expressions you’ve studied in this guide.

# Conversation Session Preparation

* Be prepared to complete a game in which you close your eyes and your conversation partner gives you an object. You have to guess what the object is by asking “Is this…?” Be prepared to also do the reverse and give your conversation partner objects to guess and respond yes or no.
* Be prepared to practice formal and informal greetings and conversations. You should be able to address a person formally/informally and have a brief conversation asking basic questions such as “How are you?” “Where are you from.” You should be able to use different responses to questions such as “How are you?”
* Be prepared to complete Exercise 10 and 11 from Greeting an Acquaintance with your Conversation Partner.
* Be prepared to practice a dictation exercise in which your conversation partner reads and you write down what s/he reads. You will be asked to pronounce the words s/he asks you to write down.

# Homework for Tutorial

* **HAND IN:** Written task from Exercise 3 in Dental and Retroflex Consonants.
* **HAND IN:** Written task from Exercise 3 in The Consonants *ṛ* and *ṛh* and the Vowels *ai* and *au*.
* **HAND IN:** Written task from Exercise 1, 5, and 6 in *mīm, choṭī, he, do caśmī he,* and *nūn ghunna*.
* **HAND IN:** Written task from Exercise 1, 5, and 6 in Lesson 15: The *to* and *ain* Series.
* **HAND IN:** A list of five useful expressions you found on Useful Expressions from *LangMedia:* [*Urdu in Pakistan*](http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu/lm_collection.html).
* **HAND IN:** Write two dialogues with at least 6 lines each, in which two people who know one another ask how the other is doing. Make use of the various words and expressions you’ve studied in this guide.