

HINDI GRAMMAR CHECKER

– ten steps to accuracy and happiness –

- 1 Identify the subject and the verb: they *must* agree in number and gender. Remember that the subject of the English sentence may not be the subject of the Hindi sentence. Compare the following, in which the subject is in *italics* in both languages, and note the verb agreement:

सीता बीमार थी । *Sita* was ill. (feminine Hindi verb)
सीता को *जुकाम* था । *Sita* had a cold. (masculine Hindi verb)

- 2 Ensure that the subject of the verb is in the direct case. A verb subject cannot take a postposition, and cannot therefore be in the oblique.
- 3 Check that all plural nouns are pluralised correctly: आदमी → आदमी, कमरा → कमरे, पिता → पिता, मेज़ → मेज़ें, लड़की → लड़कियाँ etc.
- 4 Check each noun and pronoun: ensure that any words qualifying it are in grammatical agreement (in number, gender, case).

इस बड़े कमरे में कमरा is oblique before the postposition में; यह and बड़ा both qualify कमरा and must be oblique too.

- 5 Check each postposition; ensure that the nouns/pronouns they govern are in the oblique. No other words should be oblique except adverbs such as इन दिनों .
- 6 Check all possessive pronouns. Does the pronoun refer to the clause subject, as in “I read my book” (“my” referring to the same person as subject “I”) ? If so, use अपना and not मेरा/उसका etc.
- 7 Check all spellings. Don’t leave off any necessary dots: especially, check है / हैं distinctions. Don’t forget punctuation.
- 8 Is the emphatic word भी in the right place? It must follow the word it qualifies (but it will not usually intrude between a noun/pronoun and its postposition, hence राम को भी “to Ram also”, मुझसे भी “from me also” etc.). Similiar issues apply with the emphatic ही .
- 9 Check honorific levels. Adjectives must be plural for both numerical *and* honorific plurals: वे बड़े आदमी हैं can mean “they are big men” or “he is a big man”.
- 10 Ensure that similar characters are clearly distinguished: त / न, द / ढ, ध / घ / च, भ / श, म / भ etc.