

TEACH YOURSELF

Beginner's URDU script

an introduction to
reading and writing
the Urdu script

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INTRODUCTION

The Urdu script

The Urdu language is written in a modified form of the Persian script which is in turn a modified form of the Arabic script. This modification takes the form of the addition of characters to represent sounds that occur in Urdu but are not found in Arabic or Persian. In addition to Urdu, Persian and Arabic, the same script is used to write several other languages in India, Pakistan and Afghanistan, including Kashmiri, Punjabi and Pashto. There are two styles of this script: *nasta'liq* and *naskh*. The basic difference between these styles is minor. Whereas in *naskh* words tend to run along the bottom line, in the more cursive *nasta'liq* style they tend to slant diagonally from the top line to the bottom line.

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nasta'liq

naskh

While the *naskh* style of writing lends itself to type printing, texts written in the *nasta'liq* style are still mostly prepared by a calligrapher and then printed using a technique called lithography. Both *naskh* and *nasta'liq* fonts have been developed for use in computer software programs. The *nasta'liq* style is conventionally employed in most Urdu texts, although the *naskh* style, which is used to write both Arabic and Persian, is occasionally used in some scholarly publications and reference books. Because of the continued predominance of *nasta'liq* to write Urdu, it is this style with which the student will have to become most familiar and which is, therefore, treated in this book.

The Urdu script runs from right to left except for numerals, which are written from left to right. The alphabet contains thirty-five characters, each of which possesses a name. For example, the first character in the alphabet is called **alif** and is used to represent several vowel sounds in Urdu.

ا
alif

The script is cursive, in that the characters are joined together to form words. There are no capital letters. Most characters are made up of a basic linear portion and one, two, or three dots or another symbol that resembles a 'flat' symbol in music. These are written either above or below the linear portion of the character. The basic shape of some of the characters is the same and, for this reason, the alphabet is traditionally arranged in series of characters that have a similar basic form but are differentiated by the number or position of accompanying dots etc. For example, the second series of the alphabet comprises five characters, all of which have the same shape but a different number of dots or the symbol that resembles a flat sign in music.

ث	ذ	ظ	ز	ب
5	4	3	2	1
se	te	te	pe	be

While all characters join to the preceding character in a word, not all join to the character that follows. Therefore, characters are conventionally considered to be of two types: those that join to characters on both sides and those that join only to the preceding character. Characters that join on both sides are called **connectors** while those that join only to the

preceding character are called **non-connectors**. The shape of connecting characters also varies more or less depending on whether they occur at the beginning, in the middle or at the end of a word. There is also an independent form of characters, which occurs at the end of a word following a non-connector. It is the independent form that appears in the alphabet. Characters that do not connect to the following character have essentially only two forms, an initial and a final form. The initial form is the same as the independent form because it does not join to the following character and the final form is the same as the medial form for the same reason.

Another important feature of this script is that there are no characters to represent the three short vowels in Urdu. This makes learning how to pronounce new words difficult. There are, however, three symbols that may be employed to indicate which of these short vowels is present. There is also a symbol that is used to indicate when no vowel is pronounced with a character. These four symbols are rarely provided by writers because Urdu readers simply know the pronunciation of many of the words they read. However, they are always included in the Holy Quran to guarantee accurate pronunciation as well as in children's primers and dictionaries. They have also been used throughout this book with new words wherever they appear. Other features of the Urdu script include both the existence of several characters that represent more or less the same sound for Urdu speakers and also characters that may represent more than one sound. For example, there are four characters that represent the sound **z** and two characters that may each represent three vowels and a semi-vowel. There also exist some characters, the pronunciation of which is almost silent in particular words.

Some of these unique features can be explained by the fact that the Arabic script came to be used to write a language that evolved in the

subcontinent, a long distance from where the script originated in the Middle East. How this came about is in turn related to the history of Muslim influence in the subcontinent and the evolution of languages and literary traditions in the places where Muslims settled in India and ruled from around the 14th until the 18th century. For Indian Muslims, Arabic maintained its importance as the sacred language of the Holy Quran and Persian continued to be an important spoken language as well as the language of administration and literary expression for much of this time. Over time a new language began to evolve, however, which was based on the dialect spoken in the north around Delhi but greatly influenced by the Persian and Arabic. This influence came mostly in the form of the adoption of Arabic and Persian words and, eventually, the use of a modified form of the Persian script for writing purposes. In particular, new characters were added to this script to represent sounds that did not exist in Persian and Arabic and some of the distinctly Arabic and Persian sounds represented by particular characters were gradually diluted over time by speakers of this new language. The spellings of Persian and Arabic words have, however, remained faithful to the original. Hence the existence of different letters in the script representing the same sounds. The language that evolved, based on the dialect spoken in and around Delhi and enhanced by literary traditions in places such as Hyderabad in the south, came to be known as *rekhtā* ('mixed speech') as well as *zabān-e-urdu-e-mu'alla* ('the speech of the royal camps'). It was this second term which was finally abbreviated to provide Urdu with its modern name.

Many of the features of the Arabic script, and the anomalies that exist on account of its being applied to write Urdu, make learning to read and write this script a challenging task. It is for this reason that this book has been prepared. It is devoted entirely to the Urdu script rather than to the actual language, to give the student the opportunity to focus on learning to recognise the characters, both independently and when they occur in

words. It is aimed at those with no previous knowledge of Urdu as well as those who can speak Urdu but cannot read or write it. The thirty-five characters are introduced gradually throughout the book and in an order that highlights those aspects of the script that are most likely to cause problems. Characters have not been introduced in the order in which they appear in the alphabet or in the conventional order in which they are taught. Rather, characters that are similar in shape have been deliberately spread over the chapters to focus attention on their differences rather than on their similarities. Because the book is also designed to help the student learn to write the characters, their formation is clearly detailed. There are also instructions on how to form whole words. These are designed to give the student a sense of the correct proportion of characters in relation to each other in a word and a feel for the flow of words when writing in Urdu. As far as possible, the words included in this book are generally common and it is hoped that this may assist the student in developing a reasonable vocabulary. This will be of use when he or she goes on to learn the language proper. Finally, a modified form of the Roman script has been used to indicate the pronunciation of particular sounds in Urdu. This means that some of the letters included are marked by macrons (¯) or tildes (~), e.g. ā, ē, ẓ, or dots underneath. A macron indicates a long vowel, a tilde indicates that a vowel is pronounced through the nose and a dot under a consonant indicates that it is pronounced by placing the tip of the tongue on the roof of the mouth (e.g. ḍ, ṭ, ṛ). At the end of this introduction, all of the characters in the Urdu alphabet are provided, both in the order used in this book as well as their dictionary order. This will be a useful guide for quick reference while working through the chapters. Also included is a chart showing all of the other symbols that are explained and the chapter in which they first appear. There is also a reference section in which other useful materials for the study of Urdu are listed.

Several people have contributed to the production of this book and I

would like to thank them for their time and efforts. I am particularly indebted to Jeannine Webber who read through the entire manuscript with great attention to detail; Rashid Sultan Sahib provided valuable comments and criticisms concerning the structure and content of the book; Belinda Greenwood-Smith, Ralph Saubern, John Robinson, Novi Djenaar, Lidia Tanaka and Sudha Joshi all commented on various parts of the text and the Department of Asian Studies, La Trobe University, Bundoora, provided me with the facilities to complete this manuscript. I am also thankful to the students who have tested out these materials in various forms. I am solely responsible for all errors and inaccuracies.

Characters of the Urdu alphabet

Order used in this book

Unit	Name of character	Final form (unjoined)	Final form (joined)	Medial form	Initial form	Transliteration
1	be	ب	ب	ب	ب	b
	kāf	ک	ک	ک	ک	k
	lām	ل	ل	ل	ل	l
	mīm	م	م	م	م	m
2	alif	ا	ا	ا	ا	a, i, u, ā
3	pe	پ	پ	پ	پ	p
	jīm	چ	چ	چ	چ	j
	gāf	گ	گ	گ	گ	g
	chofi he	ہ	ہ	ہ	ہ	h

4	ye	ی	ے	یہ	یہ	i, e, ai, y
5	te	ت	ت	تہ	تہ	t
	cīm	چ	چ	چہ	چہ	c
	sīm	س	س	سہ	سہ	s
	nūn	ن	ن	نہ	نہ	n
6	vāo	و	و	وہ	وہ	ū, o, au, v
7	dāl	د	د	دہ	دہ	d
	re	ر	ر	رہ	رہ	r
	bari he	ع	ع	عہ	عہ	h
	shīn	ش	ش	شہ	شہ	sh
	svād	ص	ص	صہ	صہ	s
8	zāl	ز	ز	زہ	زہ	z
	ze	ز	ز	زہ	زہ	z
	khe	خ	خ	خہ	خہ	kh
	zād	ض	ض	ضہ	ضہ	z
	fe	ف	ف	فہ	فہ	f
9	fe	ٹ	ٹ	ٹہ	ٹہ	t
	dāl	ڈ	ڈ	ڈہ	ڈہ	d
	re	ڑ	ڑ	ڑہ	ڑہ	r
	ghain	غ	غ	غہ	غہ	gh

	qāf	ق	ق	ق	ق	q
10	se	ش	ش	س	س	s
	zhe	ز	ز	ز	ز	z
	to'e	ط	ط	ط	ط	t
	zo'e	ظ	ظ	ظ	ظ	z
	'ain	ع	ع	ع	ع	,

Other symbols

Unit	Symbol	Name	Description
1, 4	ا	zabar	indicates a short a vowel as well as the vowels ai and au when used with the characters ا alif, ع ye and و vāo.
1, 4	آ	zer	denotes a short i vowel and is also used with the character ع ye to denote a long i vowel. It is positioned under the character.
1, 5	ا	pesh	denotes a short u vowel and is also used with the character و vāo to indicate a long ū vowel. It is positioned above the character.
1	آ	jasin	indicates that a short vowel is not pronounced with a character. It is positioned above the character.
1	ء	tashdid	indicates that a character is repeated without an intervening

2	ا	madd	vowel sound. It is positioned above the character. placed above ا alif when in an initial position to represent the long vowel ā.
2	ا		irregular initial and medial forms of the character ا kāf with ا alif and ا lām.
3	ا	do cashmī he	denotes that a character is aspirated (i.e. produced with a breath of air).
4	ا		irregular initial and medial forms of the character ا gāf with ا alif and ا lām.
11	ا	hamzā	indicates that one syllable in a word ends with a vowel and the next begins with one.

(m) or (f) after a noun indicates that it is respectively masculine or feminine.

Urdu alphabet in dictionary order

ا	ب	پ	ت	ث	ج
alif	be	pe	te	fe	se
د	ڈ	ڍ	ڊ	ڌ	ڏ
jīm	cīm	barī he	khe		

ا	آ	آ	ا	ا	ا	ا
dal	dāl	zāl	re	re	ze	zhe
س	shīn	svād	zād	to'e	zo'e	'ain
ف	qāf	kāf	gāf	lām	mīm	nūn
و	choī	he	ye			

Vowel sounds in Urdu

There are ten vowel sounds in Urdu, three short and seven long vowels. The following chart shows the characters that are used to represent these sounds in particular positions in a word.

Vowel sound	Initial	Medial	Final
a (in ago)	ا	ا	ا
	alif	zabar	
i (in bit)	ی	ی	ی
	alif + zer	zer	
u (in pu)	و	و	و
	alif + pesh	pesh	
ī (in beet)	ئی	ئی	ئی
	alif + ye + zer	ye + zer	ye

e (bet)	ای	ای	ای
	alif + ye	ye	ye
ai (in hay)	ای	ای	ای
	alif + ye + zabar	ye + zabar	ye
ū (in food)	وو	وو	وو
	alif + vāo + pesh	vāo + pesh	vāo + pesh
o (in go)	وو	وو	وو
	alif + vāo	vāo	vāo
au (in lord)	وو	وو	وو
	alif + vāo + zabar	vāo + zabar	vāo + zabar

Useful reference materials

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UNIT 1

In the introduction we saw that the Urdu alphabet contains thirty-five characters, each of which has a name. When these characters are joined together to create words, the form of many changes depending on whether they appear at the beginning, in the middle or at the end of a word. The majority of characters join to both the preceding and the following character and, as a result, are known as **connecting characters**. Those that only join to the preceding character (but not to the following character) are called **non-connectors**. The four characters introduced in this unit are all connecting characters.

ب	ک	ل	م
be	kāf	lām	mīm

Pronunciation

These four characters represent consonant sounds.

Character	Name	Transliteration	Pronunciation
ب	be	b	b in bin
ک	kāf	k	k in skip
ل	lām	l	l in long
م	mīm	m	m in man

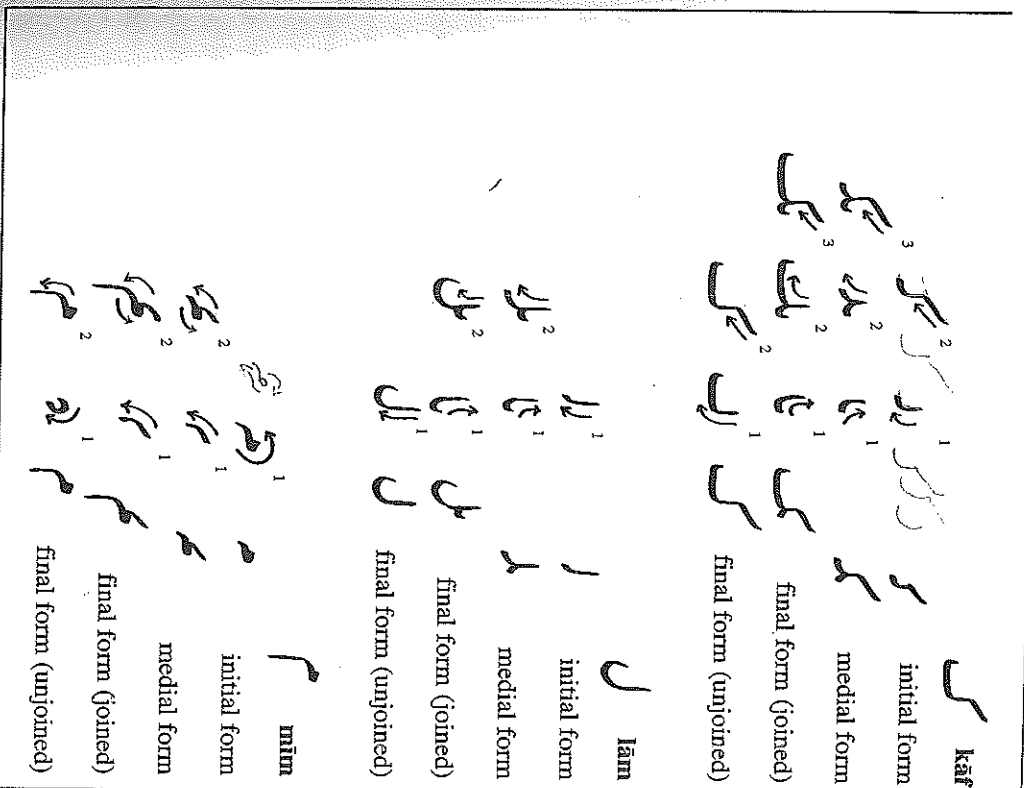
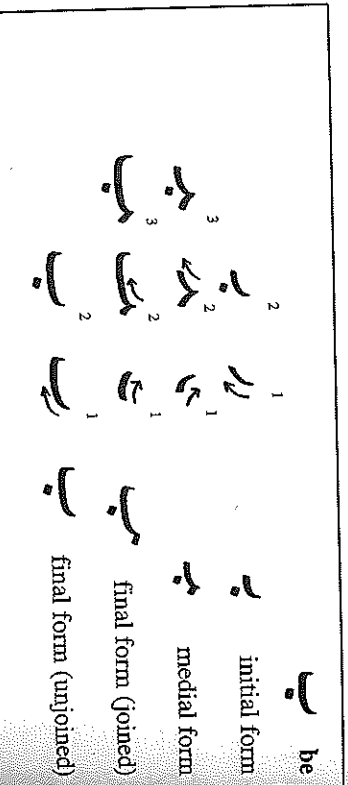
Positional forms

The shapes of each of these characters vary in four ways depending on their position in a word. Remember that the following table should be read from right to left.

Name	Final form (unjoined)	Final form (joined)	Medial form	Initial form	Transliteration
be	ب	ب	ب	ب	b
kāf	ک	ک	ک	ک	k
lām	ل	ل	ل	ل	l
mīm	م	م	م	م	m

Writing practice

Each of the characters in the Urdu alphabet is formed in a precise manner and it is important to copy this exactly. Practise drawing the various forms of these four characters, following closely the guidelines given.



Representation of short vowels

There are no characters in the Urdu script representing the three short vowels in the language. These vowels are:

a in ago*
i in hit
u in put

*It is important to remember that while the Roman letter **a** may represent several different sounds in English (e.g. in the words **ago**, **ate**, **arson**, **authority** and **ban**), it is used in this book to represent a single sound in Urdu.

These short vowels can be pronounced with all of the characters in the alphabet appearing anywhere in a word, except at the end. Two characters can also occur anywhere in a word without an intervening vowel sound.

Because there are no characters to represent the short vowels, it is difficult to tell which short vowel, if any, should be pronounced with a consonant character. There are, however, symbols that are employed, chiefly in dictionaries and children's primers, to clarify the pronunciation of words. These symbols represent the three short vowels and the omission of a vowel. These four symbols, written above and below characters, also possess names. They are:

✓ **zabar** (written above the character) = **a**
 ˇ **zer** (written below the character) = **i**
 ˆ **pesh** (written above the character) = **u**
 ˘ **jazm** (written above the character) = no vowel*

*In some texts **jazm** appears as ˘ or ˙.

These symbols, however, are not used in most Urdu texts except where the pronunciation of a word needs clarification. In this book only the symbols ˇ **zer**, ˆ **pesh**, indicating the short **i** and **u**, and ˘ **jazm** are provided. **jazm** is, however, never written above the final character in a word because, as a rule, a short vowel cannot be pronounced in this position. Where ˇ **zer** or ˆ **pesh** are not provided in a word, it is to be assumed that the character is followed by a short **a** vowel. For example, the pronunciation of three words made up of the initial form of the character ب be and the final form of the character ک **kāf** is clarified in the following manner:

ب (ب) (ک) (ط)
bāk bāik bāk
nonsense (f) stem of the verb 'to be sold' book (f)

Reading and writing practice

1. Read the following words in Urdu and write them in Roman script. Remember that the short vowels **i** and **u** are marked by ˇ **zer** and ˆ **pesh**, that the absence of a vowel symbol indicates the presence of a short **a** vowel and that a short vowel is not pronounced at the end of a word.

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
strength (m)		ب (a)
lip (m)		ب (b)
mill (m)		ب (c)
less		ب (d)

when	کب	(e)
book (f)	کتاب	(f)

2. Practise forming these words according to the guidelines given.

Meaning				
strength (m)	٣	٢	١	(a)
lip (m)	٣	٢	١	(b)
mill (m)	٣	٢	١	(c)
less	٣	٢	١	(d)
when	٣	٢	١	(e)
book (f)	٣	٢	١	(f)

3. Connect the appropriate forms of the following characters to form the words. Remember to write in the short vowel symbols - **zer** and **esh** and the symbol **jasm**, used to denote the omission of a vowel, where necessary.

Roman	Meaning
mulk	country (m) (a)
kamal	lotus (m) (b)
kambal	blanket (m) (c)
bulbul	nightingale (m) (d)

Summary

- The forms of most characters vary depending on whether they occur at the beginning, in the middle, at the end of a word or at the end after a non-connector.
- Each character has a name as well as a basic pronunciation.
- There are no characters to represent the three short vowels (a, i, u) in Urdu.
- There are four symbols occasionally employed to indicate the presence of a short vowel or the omission of a vowel (**zer**, **esh**, **jasm** and **jasm**).
- Only the symbols **zer** and **esh** are used in this book to represent short vowels.

Answers to practices

1. a) bal b) lab c) mil d) kam e) kab f) buk

3. a) ملک b) گل c) کبلی d) بکلی

2 UNIT 2

In this chapter the first non-connecting character is introduced. It is also the first character in the Urdu alphabet and represents four vowel sounds.

ا
alif

Positional forms

Non-connecting characters such as ا alif have only two forms, both of which are easy to recognise and draw.

Name	Final (joined) and medial form	Initial and final form (unjoined)	Transliteration
ا alif	ا	ا	ā, a, i, u

Pronunciation

The pronunciation of ا alif depends on its position in a word.

Initial ا alif

In the absence of characters to represent the three short vowels in Urdu, ا alif is employed at the beginning of a word to indicate that it begins with one of these vowels. Occasionally the vowel symbols introduced in Unit 1 (ز zabar, ز zer and ے pesh) are used to clarify which of these vowels is present. In this book only the symbols for the short vowel i

UNIT 2

9

(ز zer) and u (ے pesh) are written in. An initial short a vowel is thus indicated by ا alif without a vowel symbol.

For example:

ا	ا	ا
ab	ib	ub

Initial ا alif with the symbol ~ madd

ا alif also represents a long ā vowel at the beginning of a word. When it does, the symbol ~ madd is written (from right to left) above it.

Character	Name	Transliteration	Pronunciation
آ	alif and madd	ā*	a in father

*The line above this letter in the Roman is used to distinguish this vowel sound from the short a (in ago) vowel introduced in Unit 1.

Medial ا alif

In the middle of a word ا alif represents a long ā vowel.

Character	Name	Transliteration	Pronunciation
ا	alif	ā	a in father

For example:

ا	ا	ا	ا	ا
ab	ib	ub	āb	hā

Modified form of ک kāf

The initial and medial forms of ک kāf are written in a modified form when they are followed by either ا alif or ل lām.

For example:

ک =	ا +	ک	ک =	ل +	ک
kā	alif	kāf	kal	lām	kāf
's			yesterday/tomorrow		

ﺕ tashdīd

The symbol ﺕ tashdīd, which looks very much like the letter w, represents the doubling of a character without an intervening vowel sound. It is written above the character that is repeated.

For example:

ﻳﻜﻜﺎ
ikkā
a one-horse vehicle (m)

ﻧ Reading and writing practice

1. Practise forming the following words according to the guidelines given.

Roman	Meaning
kal	yesterday/tomorrow (a)
kām	work (m) (b)
mukkā	fist, punch (m) (c)

2. Join the appropriate forms of the following characters.

Roman	Urdu
bā	ب = ا + (a)
kā	ک = ا + (b)
lā	ل = ا + (c)
mā	م = ا + (d)

3. Read the following words and write them in Roman script.

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
lotus (m)		لٹل (a)
hair (m)		بال (b)
red		لال (c)
tall, long		نہال (d)
Muslim spiritual guide (m)		امام (e)
black		کال (f)
collection of poetry (m)		کلام (g)
bomb (m)		بم (h)
mango (m)		آم (i)
goods (m)		مال (j)

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
maternal uncle (m)		اما (k)
a woman's name (f)		کنالا (l)
complete		مکمل (m)

4. Join the appropriate forms of the following characters to form the words given. Also write in the words any necessary short vowels symbols and **jāz** (omission of vowel).

	Roman	Meaning
=	ب + آ āb	water (m) (a)
=	ب + ا ab	now (b)
=	آ + ا + ل lām	name of a character (c)
=	آ + ا + ک kām	work (m) (d)
=	ا + ل + ب balā	calamity (f) (e)
=	ا + ل + ک kalā	art (f) (f)
=	ا + ل + ا + ب bālā	high, above (g)
=	ا + ل + ا + ا + آ mālā	necklace (f) (h)

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
	ا + ل + ا + ل lālā	honorific title (i)
=	ا + ل + آ + ک kamāl	miracle (m) (j)
=	ا + ل + ل + ک klāk	clock (m) (k)
=	ا + ب + ا abbā	father (m) (l)

5. Read the following phrases in Urdu and then write them in Roman script.

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
black blanket (m)		کارا کتبلی (a)
red lotus (m)		لال کس (b)
complete work (m)		مکمل کام (c)
less work (m)		کم کام (d)
a long hair (m)		تنبی بال (e)
yesterday/ tomorrow's work (m)		کل کا کام (f)
uncle's miracle (m)		اما کا کمال (g)

the Imam's work (m)

اِمَام کا کام (h)

father's mango (m)

اپنے کا کام (i)

Summary

- / alif is a non-connector (i.e. does not join to the following character).
- / alif is used to indicate a short vowel (a, i, u) at the beginning of a word.
- / alif with ~ madd at the beginning of a word represent the long vowel ā.
- / alif in the middle of a word also represents the long vowel ā.
- The form of the character ک kâf is modified when followed by / alif or ۛ hām.
- The doubling of a character without an intervening vowel is represented by the symbol ۛ tashdīd, written above the character.

Answers to practices

2. a) با b) کا c) لا d) ل

3. a) kamāl b) bāl c) lāl d) lambā e) imām f) kalā g) kalām h) bam
i) ām j) māl k) māmā l) kamlā m) mukammāl

4. a) آب b) اب c) ۛ ل d) کام e) بلا f) کل

g) با h) با i) لا j) کال k) کالک l) تبا

5. a) kalā kambāl b) lāl kamāl c) mukammāl kām d) kam kām
e) lambā bāl f) kal kā kām g) māmā kā kamāl h) imām kā kām
i) abhā kā ām

3 UNIT 3

The four characters introduced in this unit are all connecting characters representing consonant sounds. In addition to these, the symbol that represents aspiration (i.e. a breath of air expelled with a character) is described. The four characters are:

پ	ج	گ	ہ
pe	jīm	gāf	chofī he

Pronunciation

Character	Name	Transliteration	Pronunciation
پ	pe	p	p in spin
ج	jīm	j	j in jump
گ	gāf	g	g in gun (never as in gin)
ہ	chofī he	h	h in hut

In some words a short a vowel followed by ہ chofī he at the end of a word are pronounced together as a long ā vowel. They are also occasionally pronounced as a short i or e vowel. Where such words are introduced in this book, first the Roman transliteration is given and then the pronunciation in parentheses.

Modified form of گ gāf

As with ک kāf, the initial and medial forms of the character گ gāf also appear in a modified form when followed by either ا alif or ل lām.

For example:

گ = ا + گ	گل = ل + گ
gā alif gāf	gul lām gāf
stem of the verb to sing	flower (m)

Reading and writing practice

1. Read the following words and then write them in Roman script.

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
you (polite)		آپ (a)
today		آج (b)
fire (f)		آگ (c)
a sigh (f)		آہ (d)

2. Practise forming the following words according to the guidelines and then write them in Roman script. Note that any dots are added to a portion of a word after writing a non-connecting character. For example, in the first word the three dots that complete the character پ pe are added after drawing ا alif but before beginning the character ک kāf. If more than one character with dots occurs in a word, the dots are completed from right to left.

Roman	Meaning
پاک	pure (a)
پاک	drinking vessel (m) (b)
چہا	cheek (m) (c)
گال	hall (m) (d)

3. Join the appropriate forms of the following characters to form the words given.

Roman	Meaning
ک + پ + ل	leap (f) (a)
ا + ج + ب	chimed (b)
ا + گ + ل	attached (c)
ا + ہ + ک	said (d)

4. Write out the full (unjoined final) forms of the characters that make up the following words and then provide their Roman equivalents.

Roman	Meaning
+ = گپ	gossip (f) (a)
+ = نج	judge (m) (b)
+ = جگ	world (m) (c)
+ = جگہ	place (f) (d)

5. Select the appropriate forms of the characters provided and then join them to make the following words.

Roman	Meaning
= ا + ل + ر + گ	gamlā flower pot (m) (a)
= ل + گ + ا + پ	pāgal crazy (b)
= ر + ا + گ + ل	lagām reins (f) (c)
= ک + ل + ب + پ	pablik public (d)
= ج + ا + ج + ب	bajāj brand name of a scooter (e)
= پ + ا + پ	pāp sin (m) (f)

Roman	Meaning
= ا + ک + ل + ہ	halkā light (g)
= ک + ا + ل + ہ	halāk killed (h)
= ا + ل + گ	galā throat (m) (i)
= ا + ل + ک	kalā art (f) (j)

Aspiration

A particular form of the character **h** **chofi** he is also employed to indicate that a consonant character is pronounced with a breath of air (i.e. aspiration). An example of an aspirated consonant in English is the initial **p** in the word **pit**. Place your open palm approximately ten centimetres from your mouth and pronounce both **pit** and **spit**. Can you feel the breath of air which is expelled with the first **p**? The form of **h** **chofi** he that indicates aspiration is called **do cashmi** he.

Pronunciation

Character	Name	Transliteration	Pronunciation
د	do cashmī	h	a breath of air expelled with a consonant

Writing practice

Practise forming the character **do cashmī he** according to the guidelines given.

do cashmī he

Reading and writing practice

6. Write the following forms in Roman script.

گ (e) ک (d) ج (c) پ (b) ل (a)

Roman

گ (e) ک (d) ج (c) پ (b) ل (a)

Roman

7. Practise forming the following words according to the guidelines given.

Roman	Meaning
bhagā	fled (a)
jhalak	glimpse (f) (b)

Roman	Meaning
phal	fruit (m) (c)
khāl	skin (f) (d)

Summary

- The characters **پ** pe and **گ** gāf have the same basic form as the characters **ب** be and **ک** kāf, introduced in Unit 1.
- Dots are added last or after a non-connecting character. If there is more than one character with dots in a word, they are added from right to left.
- There are two forms of the character **ب** choḥī he in an initial position: **ب** choḥī he with / alif and **ب** choḥī he with any other character.
- The character **گ** gāf has a modified form before / alif or / lām.
- A particular form of **ب** choḥī he called **do cashmī he** is used to indicate that a consonant character is aspirated (i.e. produced with a breath of air).
- Occasionally a short a vowel followed by **ب** choḥī he in a word final position is pronounced as a long ā vowel.

Answers to practices

1. a) āp b) āj c) āg d) āh

2. a) pāk b) jān c) gāl d) hāl

3. a) لپ b) حبا c) گا d) کہا

4. a) گپ gap b) جاج jaj

c) جگ jag d) جگہ jagah

5. a) گلہ b) پاگل c) گام d) چیلک

e) جاج f) پاپ g) گاہ h) ہلاک

i) گلا j) کلا

6. a) bā b) pā c) jā d) kā e) gā f) bhā g) phā h) jhā i) khā j) ghā

4 | UNIT 4

Only one character is introduced in this unit. It is a connector and represents three long vowels and the semi-vowel y.

ی

ye

Positional forms

The basic shape of the initial and medial forms of the character ی ye is the same as that of ب be and پ pe, introduced in early units. This character also has two final forms, both of which represent separate vowel sounds.

Name	Final form (unjoined)	Final form (joined)	Medial form	Initial form	Transliteration
ye	ے	ے	یہ	ی	i, e, ai, y

Writing practice

Practise drawing the various forms of this character according to the guidelines given.

			ی	ye
			ی	initial form
			ی	medial form
			ی	final form (joined) (ī)
			ی	final form (joined) (e, ai)
			ی	final form (unjoined) (ī)
			ی	final form (unjoined) (e, ai)

Pronunciation

The character ی represents three long vowels and the semi-vowel y.

Character	Name	Transliteration	Pronunciation
ی	ye	y ī e ai	y in yes ī in beet e in play ai in had

Word-initial ی ye

At the beginning of a word, ی represents the semi-vowel y.

For example:

یا	یہ
yā	yah
or	(ye)*
	this, he, she, it, they

*The pronunciation of this word is exceptional. See the explanation of the pronunciation of **ہ** *choī* **he** at the end of a word in Unit 3 (p.15).

Initial ī, e, ai vowels

When a long ī, e, or ai vowel occurs at the beginning of a word, it is represented by ی ye, preceded by the character ا *alif*. Occasionally the vowel symbol **ز** *zabar* is employed to indicate that it represents **ai** and **ز** to indicate that it represents **ī**. The absence of these two vowel-markers thus indicates the presence of the vowel e.

ایکھ	ایک	ایا
ikh	ek	aisā*
sugarcane (f)	one	such/thus(f)

* **ز** is the medial form of the character ی *sīn*, which represents the consonant s. This is introduced in Unit 5.

Medial ی ye

In the middle of a word ی ye may represent any one of the three long vowels and the semi-vowel y. Once again the vowel symbols **zabar** and **zer** are occasionally used to indicate which of these sounds is present. When ی ye is followed by **alif**, it frequently represents the semi-vowel y or iy or even iy.

پیل	کیلا	بیل	بیہ	کئی	کیا	ایام
pilā	kelā	bail	byāh	kyā	kiyā	ayyām
yellow	banana (m)	ox (m)	marriage (m)	what	did	days (m)

Word-final ی ye

There are two forms of ی ye when it occurs at the end of a word: ی (i) and ے (e, ai).

For example:

ہے	ہے	جی
he	hai	jī
without	is/are	heart/mind
(prefix)		(also a polite suffix)

Reading and writing practice

1. Follow the steps to form the following words and then write them out in Roman script.

Roman	Meaning
جلیبی	jalebi (m) (a)
جلیبی	(an Indian sweet)
یک	suddenly (b)
یک	accents (m) (c)

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
even, also		(a)
drunk, drink		(b)
take		(c)
is/are		(d)
ghee (m) (clarified butter)		(e)
's		(f)

2. Read the following words and write them in Roman script.

3. Write the following words employing the appropriate forms of the characters supplied.

Roman	Meaning
= ا + ل + ی + پ + پīlā	yellow (a)
= ی + ہ + ب + ک kabhī	sometimes (b)
= ا + ی + ا + ہ + ک khāyā	eaten (c)
= ک + ی + ا + ک ek	one (d)

4. Read the following words quickly, focusing on the differences that separate them, and then write them in Roman script.

جھلا	بلا	بالا	بال	بل	(a)
good	calamity (f)	above	hair (m)	strength (m)	
پھل	ڈالا	پالا	پال	پہلی	(b)
fruit (m)	reared	nurtured	a sail (m)	bridge (m)	
جھل جھل	جلا	جالا	جال	جل	(c)
shining	burnt	cobweb (m)	net (m)	water (m)	
کھال	کلا	کالا	کال	کل	(d)
skin (f)	art (f)	black	period (m)	yesterday	

گلا	گالا	گال	گلی	(e)
throat (m)	cotton ball (m)	cheek (m)	flower (m)	
گلیا	چپلا	جیل	کھیل	(f)
wet	yellow	jail (m/f)	game (m)	
		lamp (m)	banana (m)	

Punctuation

The most important punctuation marks used in Urdu sentences are as follows:

؟	=	؟
—	=	.
,	=	,
؛	=	;

Other punctuation marks are the same as the English.

Reading and writing practice

5. It is now possible to read one or two sentences using some of the words you have learnt already. Try and read the following sentences and write them out in Roman script. It will help to know that the verb generally comes at the end of the sentence in Urdu. (The words in parentheses show the Urdu word order.)

یہ کیا ہے؟

(a)

Roman

(is what this)

What is this?

یہ ایک پھل ہے۔

(b)

Roman

(is fruit one this)

This is a fruit.

یہ آپ کی جلیبی ہے؟

(c)

Roman

(is jalebi your this)

Is this your jalebi?

یہ پیالا پیلا ہے۔

(d)

Roman

(is yellow cup this)

This cup is yellow.

یہ آپ کی گلی ہے؟

(e)

Roman

(is alley your this)

Is this your alley?

آپ کا پیالا پیلا ہے۔

(f)

Roman

(is yellow cup your)

Your cup is yellow.

Summary

- The character **ی** ye represents three long vowels (ī, e, ai) and the semi-vowel y.
- **ی** ye has two final forms **ی** (ī) and **ے** (e, ai).
- At the beginning of a word the long vowels ī, e and ai are represented by **ا** alif and **ی** ye.
- The vowel symbol **ز** zer is employed to mark that the character **ی** ye represents the vowel ī while the vowel symbol **ز** zabar is employed to mark that it represents ai.
- The pronunciation of the pronoun **وہ** yah (ye) (he, she, it, this, they) is irregular.
- ؟ = ?
- ۔ = .
- ، = ,
- ؛ = ;

Answers to practices

1. a) jalebī b) yakāyak c) lahje (lehje)
2. a) bhī b) pī c) le d) hai e) ghī f) ke
3. a)  b)  c)  d) 
4. a) bal, bāl, bālā, balā, bhalā b) pul, pāl, pālā, palā, phal c) jal, jāl, jālā, jalā, jhalā jhal d) kal, kāl, kālā, kalā, khāl e) gul, gāl, gālā, galā f) kelā, laimp, khel, jel, pīlā, gīlā
5. a) yah (ye) kyā hai? b) yah (ye) ek phal hai c) kyā yah (ye) āp kī jalebī hai? d) yah (ye) pyālā pīlā hai e) kyā yah (ye) āp kī galī hai? f) āp kā pyālā pīlā hai

5 UNIT 5

In this unit four connecting characters are introduced, one of which is also used to represent the nasalisation of a vowel. These characters are:

			
te	cīm	sīm	nūn

Pronunciation

All four of these characters represent consonant sounds.

Character	Name	Transliteration	Pronunciation
	te	t	t in ton (the tip of the tongue touches the back of the top teeth)
	cīm	c	ch in church (never the c in cat)*
	sīm	s	s in sun
	nūn	n	n in nut

*Note that the sound **ch** is represented in the Roman by the letter **c** in this book. This is because there is an aspirated form of  cīm, which is represented in Roman script by **ch**.

Roman	Meaning
kuch	some, something (c)
samajhnā	to understand (d)

2. Read the following words and write them in Roman script.

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
hand (m)		ہاتھ (a)
conversation (f)		بات چیت (b)
smile (f)		ہنسان (c)
from		سے (d)
settlement (f)		بستی (e)

3. Join the appropriate forms of the following characters to form the words given.

Roman	Meaning
tel	oil (m) (a)
nām	name (m) (b)
canak	shine (f) (c)
sāl	year (m) (d)

4. Complete the following words by placing the correct number of dots above or below the appropriate character.

bhī	nāk	thā	yā
also/even	nose (f)	was	or
cipkali	ghalak	cālāk	pās
lizard (f)	glimpse (f)	shrewd	near

5. Read the following words and write them in Roman script.

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
statement (m)		بیان (a)
to tell		بتانا (b)
to save		بچانا (c)
to ring, strike		بجانا (d)
heard		سنا (e)
assembly (f)		سبھا (f)
Tuesday (m)		منگل (g)
jungle (m)		جنگل (h)
such		ایسا (i)
how		کیسا (j)

Nasalisation

The character ن *nūn* is also used to represent nasalisation (the pronunciation of a vowel sound partly through the nose) in Urdu. In the middle of a word the medial form of ن *nūn* is employed (گ) while at the end of a word the final form of ن *nūn* is written without the dot

when it represents a nasalised vowel, i.e. ں. This particular final form of ن *nūn* is called *nūn ghunnā* (lit: 'talking through the nose'). In this book, the nasalisation of vowel is represented in Roman script by a tilde (~) written above a vowel, e.g. ā. When trying to determine whether the character ن *nūn* in a medial position represents the nasalisation of a vowel or the consonant n, it may help to remember that long vowels are often nasalised.

For example:

انسان	آنکھ
insān	ākḥ
human being (m)	eye (f)
مان	مال
mān	māl
honour/respect (m)	mother (f)

Occasionally the final form of ن *nūn* without the dot, representing nasalisation, is found in the middle of a word.

For example:

لکھئے	or	لکھیں گے
likhēge		likhēngē
he/they (m) will write		

Nasalisation is a very common feature in Urdu. Two commonly used words that are nasalised are the words for **yes** and **no**:

جی ہاں
jī hā
yes

جی نہیں
jī nahī*
no

*The word جی jī literally means heart or mind but is used here to soften the words and to add a degree of respect. It is also commonly used after people's names as a sign of respect.

Reading and writing practice

6. Choose the appropriate forms of the following characters and form the words given.

Roman	Meaning
= ۛ + ی + ۛ mē	in (a)
= ۛ + ا + ہ + ی yahā	here (b)
samjhege will understand (c)	
= ی + گ + ۛ + ی + ہ + ج + ۛ + ۛ + ۛ	

7. Read the following words and write them in Roman script.

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
where (?)		کہاں (a)
(to) us		ہمیں (b)
I		میں (c)
(to) him/her/them		انہیں (d)
books (f)		کتابیں (e)

8. Read the following words quickly and then write them in Roman script.

کتنّا	کیاں	تھکا	(a)
how much (?)	similar	to become tired	
تیس	کیتلی	کیلا	
thirty-two	kettle (f)	banana (n)	
بانا	کبل	کنگال	(b)
to make	blanket (m)	destitute	
نتیجہ	بتلاتا	نبی	
conclusion (m)	to tell	prophet (m)	

جس	جانی	جانی	(c)
party (f)	Japanese	key (f)	
تج	سجاء	مچلی	
really	to decorate	fish (f)	

Summary

- The character ج cīm is represented by the letter c in Roman script. This is pronounced as ch in the word church.
- The basic form of ت te is the same as that of ب be and پ pe.
- The tip of the tongue touches the back of the top teeth when pronouncing ت te.
- The form of ج cīm is the same as that of ج jīm.
- The initial and medial forms of ن nūn have the same basic shapes as those of the characters in the ب be series.
- The character ن nūn is also used to represent nasalisation in Urdu. In the middle of a word the medial form of ن nūn is employed (ن) while at the end of a word the final form of ن nūn is written without the dot when it represents a nasalised vowel (ن).

Answers to practices

- a) hāth b) bāt cīt c) muskān d) se e) bastī
- a) تیل b) مٹا c) چمک d) سال
- a) یا b) تھا c) ٹاک d) بھی
- a) پاس b) چالاک c) جھلک d) پتھوکی
- a) bayān b) batānā c) bacānā d) bajānā e) sunā f) sabhā
- a) mangal b) jangal c) aīsā d) kaisā
- a) میں b) مہال c) سمجھنے
- a) kahā b) hamē c) māī d) unhē e) kitābē
- a) thaknā, yaksā, kitnā, kelā, ketī, batīs b) kangāl, kambal, banānā, nabī, batānā, natījah (natīz) c) cābī, jāpanī, majlīs, machlī, sajānā, sacmuc

UNIT 6

In this unit the character ㄩ̂ *vão*, a non-connector that represents three long vowels and a semi-vowel, is introduced.

9
V20

Positional forms

Because it does not connect to the following character in a word, **ŷ** **vão**, like **!** **alif**, has only two forms, both of which are almost identical in appearance and easily recognisable.

Name	Medial and final form (joined)	Initial and final form (unjoined)	Transliteration
vāo	و	و	ū, ō, au, v

Writing practice

Practise writing the two forms of the character 杳 vāo following the guidelines.

			
initial and final form (unjoined)	initial and final form (unjoined)	initial and final form (unjoined)	initial and final form (unjoined)
			
medial and final form (joined)	medial and final form (joined)	medial and final form (joined)	medial and final form (joined)

Pronunciation

The character **9** **vão** may represent three vowel sounds and the semi-vowel **v**.

Character	Name	Transliteration	Pronunciation
ɿ	vāo	v	somewhere between the English v and w. The upper teeth make slight contact with the back of the lower lip ū in food o in go (without the w sound at the end) au in lord
		au	

Word-initial, and não

At the beginning of a word, *y* vāo represents the semi-vowel *v*.

For example:

وَجَاهٍ	vajāh	reason
وَهُنَا	vahā	there

Initial $\bar{u}$, o , and vowels

The presence of one of the long vowels **ū**, **o**, **au** at the beginning of a word is marked by **ا** **alif** followed by **و** **vāo**. This combination of characters may, however, also represent a short vowel and the semi-vowel **v**. The vowels **ū** and **au** are occasionally distinguished using the short vowel-markers **ز** **zabar** (**au**) and **پ** **pesh** (**ū**). This practice has been followed in this book.

For example:

اُون	اَوَل	اُور	اَوَّل
ūn	ole	aur*	avval
wool (n)	hallstones (n)	and	first, chief, best

*The final character in this word is the independent form of the character / re, which represents the consonant r.

Medial ۉ vāo

In the middle of a word ۉ vāo generally represents one of the three long vowels just described. Again, the short vowel signs may be employed to clarify which vowel is present. When ۉ vāo is followed by either / alif or ۏ ye, it often represents the semi-vowel v.

For example:

تُو	تَو	تَو	سَوَال	فَوَیْس
tū	to	san	savāl	navīs
you	then	one hundred	question (n)	writer/scribe

Reading and writing practice

1. Following the guidelines given, write out these words. After you have done this, write their Roman equivalents.

Roman		Meaning
	جوبلی	jubilee (f) (a)

Roman		Meaning
	چوک	spy (m) (b)
	اوپا	wife (f) (c)
	موت	heavy (d)
	سو تیل	

2. Read the following words and write them out in Roman script.

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
square (m)		چوک (a)
high		اوپا (b)
death (f)		موت (c)
step-, half-*		سو تیل (d)

*as in step-sister

3. Join the appropriate forms of the following characters to make the words given.

کتاب کا نام the name of the book	ہسپتال کا نام the name of the hospital	ہسپتال کا کام hospital(s) work	(f)
کتنا پیسہ how much money?	کتنا کام how much work?	پینک کا نام the name of the bank	(g)
بہت پاکستانی لوگ many Pakistani people	بہت لوگ many people	بہت پیسہ much money	(h)
مولوی کا کام the mauvi's work	کچھ مسلمان some Muslims	مسلمان لوگ Muslim people	(i)
بچپن کی بات a childhood(s) matter	آپ کا بچپن your childhood	مولوی کا سامان the mauvi's goods	(j)
		Roman	Roman

6. Read the following graffiti and translate it into English.

وہ بھی پاکستانی ہے۔

(a)

آپ بھی پاکستانی ہیں۔	(b)
ہم سب پاکستانی ہیں۔	(c)
ہم سب کا ملک ہے پاکستان۔	(d)

Glossary

he/she/it/that (pronounced irregularly as vo)	وہ
also	بھی
is	ہے
you (polite)	آپ
are	ہیں
we	ہم
all	سب
country (m)	ملک

Summary

- ʒ vāo represents three long vowel sounds and the semi-vowel v.
- At the beginning of a word, ʒ vāo represents v.
- The three long vowels ū, o, and au are represented at the beginning of a word by / alif and ʒ vāo.
- When ʒ vāo is followed by either / alif or ʒ ye in the middle of a word, it often represents the semi-vowel v.
- The pronunciation of the pronoun o ʒ vah (vo) (he, she, it, that) is irregular.

Answers to practices

1. a) jūbh b) jāśūs c) bīvī d) bojhal

2. a) cauk b) ūcā c) maut d) sautelā

3. a) جوان b) چاول c) سموسا

d) موسم e) سونگھا f) گیوں

4. a) مسلمان muslimān

b) موی maulvī

c) پینسل pensil

d) نوجوان nau javān

e) ہسپتال haspītal

5. a) āp kī kitāb, hai kitāb b) naujavān kī kitāb, naujavān kā sāmān
c) pākistānī log, pākistānī khānā d) kuch log, kuch kitābē, kuch
panjābī log e) panjābī naujavān, panjāb kā baink, baink kā kān
f) haspatāl kā kān, haspatāl kā nām, kitāb kā nām g) baink kā nām,
kīnā kān, kīnā paisah (paisā) h) bahut paisah (paisā), bahut log,
bahut pākistānī log i) musalmān log, kuch musalmān, maulvī kā kān
j) maulvī kā sāmān, āp kā bacpan, bacpan kī bāt

6. a) vah (vo) bhī pākistānī hai he/she also is Pakistani b) āp bhī
pākistānī hai You also are Pakistani c) ham sab pākistānī hai we are
all Pakistani d) ham sab kā mulk hai pākistān Pakistan belongs to us all
(we all's country is Pakistan)

7 UNIT 7

Five characters are introduced in this unit. This brings the total number of characters thus far to twenty. All five of these characters represent consonant sounds in Urdu. Three of these are connectors and two are non-connectors.

د	dāl	non-connector
ر	re	non-connector
ح	barī he	connector
ش	shīn	connector
ص	svād	connector

Pronunciation

For most Urdu speakers the pronunciation of the characters د barī he and ر svād is almost exactly the same as that of د chofī he and ر sin, introduced in earlier units. This is because the sounds that these characters represent in Arabic were gradually diluted in Urdu but the original spellings of words in which they occur have been maintained. For this reason, they are represented in Roman script in this book by the same letters (h and s). It is important to remember that the letter h is also used to represent the aspiration of a consonant.

Character	Name	Transliteration	Pronunciation
د	dāl	d	d in done (the tip of the tongue touches the back of the top teeth)
ر	re	r	r in run
ح	barī he	h	h in hut
ش	shīn	sh	sh in shun
ص	svād	s	s in sun

Positional forms

It is often difficult for the beginner to distinguish between the non-connecting characters د dāl and ر re because of their similar shape. It will help to remember that د dāl joins to the preceding character at the middle whereas ر re joins at the top. These characters are also often confused with the character ز vāo.

Name	Final form (unjoined)	Final form (joined)	Medial form	Initial form	Transliteration
dāl	د	د	د	د	d
re	ر	ر	ر	ر	r
barī he	ح	ح	ح	ح	h
shīn	ش	ش	ش	ش	sh
svād	ص	ص	ص	ص	s

Writing practice

Practise forming these characters according to the guidelines given.

دāl	دāl	دāl	دāl	دāl
initial and final (unjoined) form	initial and final (unjoined) form	initial and final (unjoined) form	initial and final (unjoined) form	initial and final (unjoined) form
medial and final (joined) form	medial and final (joined) form	medial and final (joined) form	medial and final (joined) form	medial and final (joined) form
re	re	re	re	re
initial and final (unjoined) form	initial and final (unjoined) form	initial and final (unjoined) form	initial and final (unjoined) form	initial and final (unjoined) form
medial and final (joined) form	medial and final (joined) form	medial and final (joined) form	medial and final (joined) form	medial and final (joined) form
barī he	barī he	barī he	barī he	barī he

For a description of how to draw the forms of the character **barī** he, see the formation of **jin** on p.17.

For a description of how to draw the forms of the character **shin**, see the formation of **sin** on p.37.

svād	svād	svād	svād	svād
initial form	initial form	initial form	initial form	initial form
medial form	medial form	medial form	medial form	medial form
final form (joined)	final form (joined)	final form (joined)	final form (joined)	final form (joined)
final form (unjoined)	final form (unjoined)	final form (unjoined)	final form (unjoined)	final form (unjoined)

Reading and writing practice

1. Write the following words according to the guidelines given and then provide their Roman equivalents.

hashish (f) (a)	hashish (f) (a)	hashish (f) (a)	hashish (f) (a)	hashish (f) (a)
chairman (m) (b)	chairman (m) (b)	chairman (m) (b)	chairman (m) (b)	chairman (m) (b)
thank you (m) (c)	thank you (m) (c)	thank you (m) (c)	thank you (m) (c)	thank you (m) (c)
Muslim wedding ceremony (m) (d)	Muslim wedding ceremony (m) (d)	Muslim wedding ceremony (m) (d)	Muslim wedding ceremony (m) (d)	Muslim wedding ceremony (m) (d)
picture (f) (e)	picture (f) (e)	picture (f) (e)	picture (f) (e)	picture (f) (e)
health (f) (f)	health (f) (f)	health (f) (f)	health (f) (f)	health (f) (f)

2. Read the following words and write them in Roman script.

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
dhal (f)	dhal (f)	دھال (f)
night (f)	night (f)	رات (f)
soap (m)	soap (m)	صابون (m)
ruler, governor (m)	ruler, governor (m)	حاکم (m)
splendour, lustre (f)	splendour, lustre (f)	شان (f)
washerman (m)	washerman (m)	دھوئی (m)
rail (f)	rail (f)	ریل (f)

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
province (m)		صوبہ (h)
life, existence (f)		حیات (i)
grandeur, dignity (f)		شوکت (j)

3. Join the appropriate forms of the characters supplied to form the following words.

	Roman	Meaning
= و + ا + ب + آ	ābād	populated (a)
= آ + ا + ر + آ	ārām	rest/respite (m) (b)
= ی + آ + د + آ	ādmi	man (m) (c)
= ر + ر + گ + ا	agar	if (d)
= و + ح + ر + س	sarhad	border (f) (e)
= و + و + ر + ا	urdū	Urdu (f) (f)
= ش + ش + و + ک	koshish	effort/endeavour (f) (g)

4. Read the following words quickly, focusing on the characters that are similar in shape, and then write them in Roman script.

رونا	دو	دائرہ	درد
to cry	two	medicine (f)	pain (m)
دور	دونوں	دوسرا	اُردو
tour (m)	both	second/other	Urdu (f)

بدتر	ارادہ	دھولی	دودھ
worse	intention (m)	washerman (m)	milk (m)
سانپ	شاہ	سب	شب
snake (m)	ruler (m)	all	night (f)
رشتہ	دشمن	راستہ	دست
relation (m)	enemy (m)	way/path (m)	hand (m)
زنج	حرام	حد	ج
damage/loss (m)	inclination (m)	forbidden	extreme/limit (f) pilgrimage (m)

5. Read the following advertisement and translate it into English. A glossary of unfamiliar words can be found on page 62.

پنجاب	پینک
پیشل	لاہور
آپ کا پینک	آپ کے ساتھ
آج بھی کل بھی	ہمیشہ
مہر دے گا نشان	

Glossary

Punjab	پنجاب
national	نیشنل
bank (m)	بینک
Lahore	لاہور
you	آپ
with	کے ساتھ
today	آج
tomorrow	کل
forever	ہمیشہ
reliance/trust (m)	بھروسہ
sign (m)	نشان
even/also	بھی

Summary

- The tip of the tongue touches the top of the back teeth in the pronunciation of دāl.
- The characters د choḥī he and ج barī he represent the same sound for most speakers and are both represented in Roman script by the letter h in this book.
- ں sīn and ے svād also represent the same sound and are both represented by s in Roman script in this book.
- د dāl and ے re are most easily distinguished by focusing on the point at which the preceding character joins them.

- ش shin has the same basic shape as ں sīn.
- The shape of ج barī he is the same as that of ج jīm. Therefore, they are grouped together in the alphabet.

Answers to practices

1. a) hashīsh b) sadar c) shukriyāh (shukriyā) d) nikāh e) tasvīr f) sahat (sehat)
2. a) dāl b) rāt c) sābun d) hākim e) shān f) dhobī g) rel h) sūbah (sūbā) i) hayāt j) shaukat
3. a) آباد b) آرام c) آغی d) اگر e) غرہ f) اُڑو g) کوشش
- 4 a) dard, dārī, do, ronā b) urdū, dūstra, donō, daurrah (daurā) c) dūdh, dhobī, irādah (irādā), badtar d) shah, sab, shāh, sāp e) dast, rāstah (rāsta), dushman, rishrah (rishrā) f) haj, had, harām, rujhān, harj
5. a) panjāb nestanal baink Punjab National Bank b) lahair Lahore c) āp kā baink your bank d) āp ke sāth with you e) āj bhī kal bhī today also tomorrow also f) hameshah (hameshā) forever g) bharose kā nishān the sign of reliance

8 UNIT 8

The five characters introduced in this unit occur mainly in words that have come into Urdu from Persian, Arabic and English. Three are connectors and two are non-connectors. They are:

کھ	<u>kh</u> e	connector
ز	zāl	non-connector
ز	ze	non-connector
ز	zād	connector
ف	fe	connector

Pronunciation

Three of these five characters represent the same sound for most speakers of Urdu. As with the characters ج baṛi he and ص svād in Unit 7, the reason for this is that the Arabic phonetic values of the characters have been lost in Urdu but the original spellings of the words in which they occur have been retained.

Character	Name	Transliteration	Pronunciation
کھ	<u>kh</u> e	<u>kh</u>	similar to <u>ch</u> in the Scottish word <u>loch</u>
ز	zāl		
ز	ze	z	z in zebra
ز	zād		
ف	fe	f	f in fun

Positional forms

The basic shape of the character ک khe is the same as that of ج jīm and with the introduction of ک khe this series of characters is now complete (ج jīm, ج cīm, ج baṛi he, and ک khe). The basic shapes of the characters ز zāl and ز ze are the same as those of د dāl and ر re. For this reason they too belong to the same series. ج zvād is identical in shape to ج svād. Finally the linear portion of the character ف fe is also similar to the basic shape of the be series of characters although it is not included with them in that series. The line under the Roman representation of the character ک khe is used to distinguish it from the aspirated form of the character ک kāf (ک kh).

Name	Final form (unjoined)	Final form (joined)	Medial form	Initial form	Transliteration
<u>kh</u> e	کھ	کھ	کھ	کھ	<u>kh</u>
zāl	ز	ز	ز	ز	z
ze	ز	ز	ز	ز	z
zād	ز	ز	ز	ز	z
fe	ف	ف	ف	ف	f

Writing practice

Practise writing the various forms of these characters.

کِ khe

For a description of how to draw the forms of the character کِ khe, see the formation of جِ jin on p.17.

زِ zāl

For a description of how to draw the forms of the character زِ zāl, see the formation of دِ dāl on p.58.

زِ ze

For a description of how to draw the forms of the character زِ ze, see the formation of رِ re on p.58.

ضِ zād

For a description of how to draw the forms of the character ضِ zād, see the formation of صِ svād on p.58.

فِ fe

initial form

medial form

final form (joined)

final form (unjoined)

Reading and writing practice

1. Following the guidelines given, write these words in Urdu and then provide their Roman equivalents.

Meaning	Urdu
ostentation (m) (a)	فاخر
fat (b)	چاق
duty (m) (c)	فرائض
beautiful (also a name) (d)	فرخنده

2. Read the following words and write them in Roman script.

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
special		خاص
fever (m)		بخار
direction (m)		رخ
a little		ذرا
religion (m)		مذہب
tasty		لذیذ
a cold (m)		زکام
elderly		بزرگ
thing (f)		چیز

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
certainly		ج ضرور (j)
Sir!		ک حضور (k)
a (water) tank (n)		ل خوض (l)
worry (f)		م فکر (m)
journey (m)		ن سفر (n)
clean		و صاف (o)

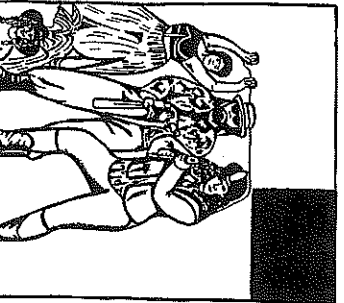
3. Join the appropriate forms of the characters supplied to write the following words.

Roman	Meaning
= ر + ب + خ + ت khabar	news (f) (a)
= ت + خ + ت takht	board, seat (m) (b)
= خ + ح + ن naskh	Arabic script (m) (c)
= ن + ه + ز zahan (zehn)	mind (m) (d)
= ه + ب + ز + ج jazbah (jazbā)	emotion (m) (e)
= ن + ا + ب + ز zabān	tongue/language (f) (f)
= ی + گ + د + ن + ز zindagī	life (f) (g)
= ر + ا + ز + ا + ب bāzār	market (m) (h)
= ی + ز + ب + ح sabzi	vegetable (f) (i)
= ل + ح + ف fazl	grace, mercy, (m) (j)
= ه + ت + ف + ه haftah (haftā)	week (m) (k)
= و + ی + ف + ح safed	white (l)

4. Read the following groups of words, focusing on those characters that look similar in form, then write them in Roman script.

درزی (drazī)	دروازه (drazāh)	روز (roz)	زرد (zard)
tailor (m)	door (m)	daily	pale
ب (b)	راز (raz)	دکان دار (dakan dār)	مزہ دار (mazh dār)
responsible	secret (m)	shopkeeper (m)	enjoyable
جبر (jabr)	حل (hal)	چست (chast)	جلن (jallan)
news (f)	solution (m)	agile	envy (f)
سجانا (sajana)	صاحب (sahib)	بخش (bakhsh)	لا لچی (lalchi)
to decorate	sahib (m)	giving/granting	greedy
د (d)			

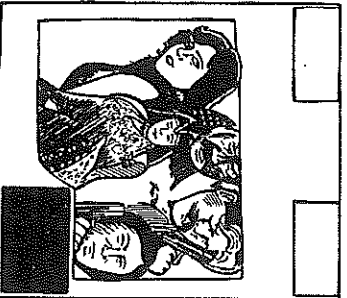
5. Read the titles of the following films showing at the Jubilee Cinema. Write them in Roman script and then translate them into English.



(a) جوبلی سینما کراچی

(b) روزانہ چار شو
بارہ تین چھ نوے

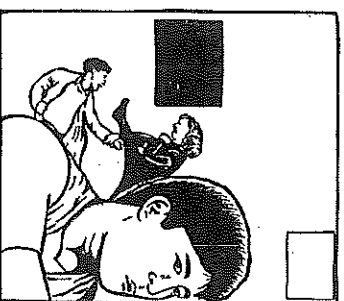
(c) آئری سفر



(d) زندگی اور موت



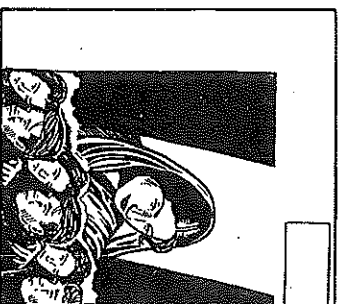
(e) خبردار!



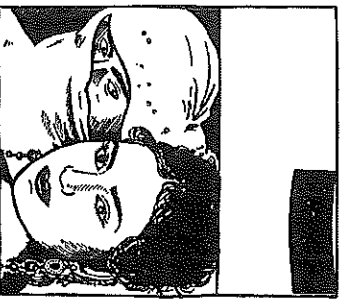
(f) بے انصافی



(g) مغرل ابھی دور ہے



(h) مجرم اور سزا



Glossary

The following words appear in the film titles.

jubilee	جوبلی
cinema (m)	سینما
four	چار
daily	روزانہ
shows (m)	شو
twelve	بارہ
three	تین
six	چھ
nine	نہ
o'clock	بچے
final	آخری
journey	سفر
and	اور
beware!	خبردار
destination (f)	میزل

still	ابھی
far	دور
is	ہے
injustice (f)	بی انصافی
crime (m)	جرم
punishment (f)	سزا
life (f)	زندگی
death (f)	موت

Summary

- The characters ز zāl, ز ze, and ض zād all represent the same sound (z) for most Urdu speakers.
- The character ک khe completes the series of four characters that have an identical shape to that of ج jīm, ح hīm, ع cīm, ہ barī he, خ khe).
- ز zāl and ز ze have the same basic shape as د dāl and ر re.
- The basic shape of ف fe is the same as that of ب be.

Answers to practices

- a) fakhriyah (fakhriyā) b) zakhīm c) farz d) farrukh
- a) khās b) bukhār c) rukh d) zarā e) mazhab f) laziz g) zukām h) buzurg i) ciz j) zarūr k) huzūr l) haуз m) fikr n) safar o) sāf

زندگی (g) زبان (f) جذبہ (e) زمین (d) شیخ (c) تخت (b) جبر (a) 3.

سفید (d) ہفتہ (k) فضل (j) بھڑکی (i) بازار (h)

4. a) zard, roz, darvāzah (darvāzā), darzā b) mazahdār (mazedār), dukāndār, rāz, zimmahdār (zimmehdār) c) jalan, cust, hal, khabar d) lālci, bakhsh, sāhab, sajanā

5. a) jūbhi sinemā karāci Jubilee Cinema Karachi b) rozānah (rozānā) cār sho, bārah, tīn, cha (cha), nau baje four shows daily, twelve, three, six, nine o'clock c) ākhiri safar, 'The Final Journey' d) zindagi aur mauṭ, 'Life and Death' e) khabardār, 'Beware!' f) beinsāfi, 'Injustice' g) manzil abhi dūr hai, 'The Destination is Still Far' h) jurm aur sazaḥ (sazā), 'Crime and Punishment'

9 UNIT 9

In this unit three connectors and two non-connectors are introduced. The first three characters were added to the alphabet to represent sounds that occur in Urdu but not in Arabic or Persian.

ٹ	ṭe	connector
ڈ	ḍāl	non-connector
ڑ	re	non-connector
غ	ghain	connector
ق	qāf	connector

Pronunciation

The first three characters represent the retroflex sounds in Urdu. A dot is placed under the letter in the Roman script to distinguish these characters from the dental sounds ٽ *te* and ڍ *ḍāl*, and the voiced alveolar ڙ *re*, introduced in Units 5 and 7. The retroflex sounds are produced by placing the tip of the tongue on the roof of the mouth while the dental sounds are produced by placing the tip of the tongue up against the back of the top teeth. The final two characters in this unit, غ *ghain* and ق *qāf*, occur in words that have come into Urdu from Arabic and Persian.

Character	Name	Transliteration	Pronunciation
ٹ	te	t	the underside of the tip of the tongue touches the roof of the mouth
ڈ	dāl	d	as above but this sound is voiced
ڑ	re	r	the underside of the tip of the tongue touches the roof of the mouth and, without resting there, is flapped downwards
ڄ	ghain	gh	voiced velar or post-velar fricative, similar to the sound made when gargling; this is the voiced counterpart of ڃ khe
ق	qāf	q	a k sound made as far back in the throat as possible

Positional forms

The basic shape of **ٹ** te is the same as that of **ب** be, **پ** pe and **ت** te. There is only one more character (introduced in Unit 10) to complete this, the second series. **ڈ** dāl and **ڑ** re are part of the same series as **ڈ** dāl, **ڑ** re and **ڄ** ze. On account of its shape, the character **ڄ** qāf is conventionally grouped together with the character **ڄ** fe although the loop is the same shape as that of **ن** nūn, whereas the bottom of **ڄ** fe is the same as the linear portion of the characters in the **ب** be series.

Name	Final form (unjoined)	Final form (joined)	Medial form	Initial form	Transliteration
te	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	t
dāl	ڈ	ڈ	ڈ	ڈ	d
re	ڑ	ڑ	ڑ	ڑ	r*
ghain	ڄ	ڄ	ڄ	ڄ	gh
qāf	ق	ق	ق	ق	q

*The character **ڑ** re never occurs at the beginning of a word but this initial form does appear after a non-connector.

Writing practice

Practise drawing the various forms of the characters according to the guidelines given.

ٹ te For a description of how to draw the four basic shapes of ٹ te, see the formation of ب be on p.2. For a description of how to draw the four basic shapes of ڈ dāl, see the formation of ڈ dāl on p.58. For a description of how to draw the four basic shapes of ڑ re, see the formation of ڑ re on p.58.	ڈ dāl ڑ re
---	--

غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)

Reading and writing practice

1. Practise forming the following words according to the directions and then write the Roman equivalents.

غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)

غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)
غ	initial form	غ	medial form	غ	final form (joined)	غ	final form (unjoined)

2. Read the following words in Urdu and transliterate them into Roman script.

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
post (f)		ڈاک (a)
stamp/ticket (m)		ٹکٹ (b)
doctor (m)		ڈاکٹر (c)
to read/study		پڑھنا (d)
mountain (m)		پہاڑ (e)
slave (m)		غلام (f)
Mughal		مغل (g)
chicken (m)		منگ (h)
able/capable		قابل (i)
time (m)		وقت (j)
difference (m)		فرق (k)

3. Using the appropriate forms of the characters given write the following words.

Roman	Meaning
derh	1 1/2 (a)
haqiqat	reality (f) (b)
larḡā	boy (m) (c)
dāroghāh (dāroghā)	police
	inspector (m) (d)
yūn'varsitī	university (f) (e)

4. Read the following phrases, paying close attention to the pronunciation of words that are repeated but for which vowel-markers are provided only the first time the word appears. Note that the order of the words in Urdu is, in most cases, exactly the same as in English, except that they run from right to left.

ایک چھوٹی لڑکی (a) A (one) small girl

دو ذہین لڑکیاں (b) two intelligent girls

تین لڑکوں کے نام (c) the names of three boys

چار قومی زبانیں (d) four national languages

پانچ قومی اخباروں میں (e) in five national newspapers

آزاد زبان (f) Urdu language

۵۹ (۱) روبرو اخبار

Urdu('s) newspaper

(h) مخفی رہا ہے

six local languages

(۱) سہ ماہی لوگوں کے نام

seven local people's names

۵۰۰

the washerman's house

١٠٠

the colour of the flowers

۱) د پوهنې د نوي لارښوونې په څلورم ټولګي کې د ښوونکي دنده

the price of eight flowers

(m)

nine weeks' time

(II) 

the cold(s) weather

5. Read the following advertisement and determine what is being sold. Write out the advertisement in Roman script.

(a) اشتہار
میل میل میل
میرانی گاڑیاں
(b)
(c)

(d)	اچھی کوالٹی بہت کم قیمت میں	(d)
(e)	مڑدا سوڑو کی نشان ٹویٹا	(e)
(f)	دیر مت کرو	(f)

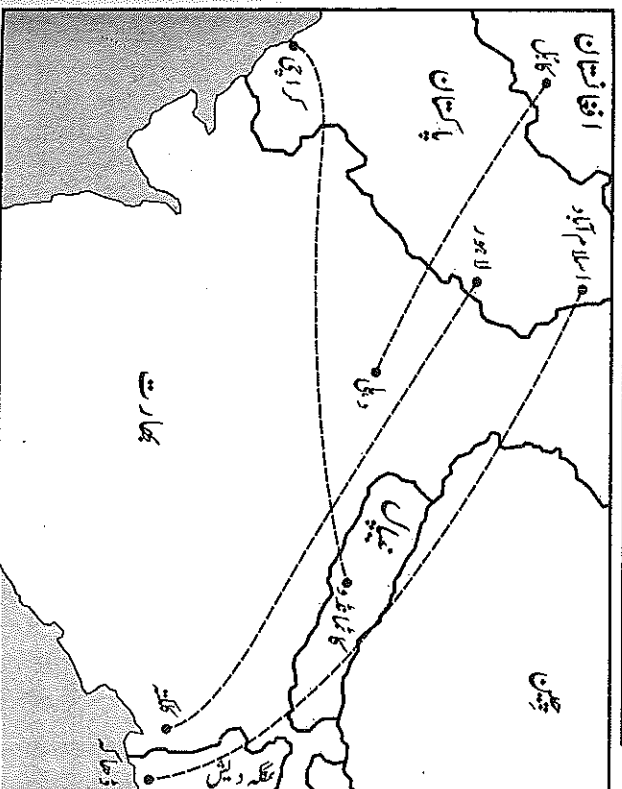
Glossary

advertisement (m)	اُستہار
sale (m)	سیل
old	پُرانی
cars (f)	گاڑیاں
good	اچھی
quality (f)	کوالٹی
very	بہت
less	کم
price (f)	قیمت
in	میں
delay	دیر
not	مت
do	کرو

6. Look up the following timetable and find out where the following airline flies in the subcontinent.

ہمارا انٹر نیشنل

(a)	روانگی	منزل	روز	وقت
(b)	دہلی	کابل	منگل	صبح آٹھ بجے
(c)	لاہور	کلکتہ	روز	شام سات بجے
(d)	کراچی	چتر	شام پانچ بجے	صبح دس بجے
(e)	اسلام آباد	ڈھاکہ	بدھ	
(f)				



Glossary

help/support (m)	سہارا
international	انٹرنیشنل
departure (f)	روانگی
destination (f)	منزل
day (m)	روز
time (m)	وقت
Tuesday (m)	منگل
Monday (m)	پير
Wednesday (m)	بدھ
daily	روز
morning (f)	صبح
evening (f)	شام
eight	آٹھ
seven	سات
five	پانچ
ten	دس
o'clock	بجے

Summary

- **ٹ** *te*, **ڈ** *ḍai* and **ڑ** *re* are retroflex sounds in Urdu. Retroflex sounds are produced by placing the tip of the tongue on the roof of the mouth and, in the case of **ڑ** *re*, flapping it down as the air escapes.
- **غ** *ghain* and **ق** *qāf* occur in words that have come into Urdu from Arabic and Persian.
- The sound **غ** *ghain* represents is close to that made when gargling.
- **ق** *qāf* is similar to the sound **ک** but produced as far back in the mouth as possible.

Answers to practices

1. a) *thand* b) *huqūq* c) *cirāgh* d) *cughli* e) *qadīm* f) *ghaur*
2. a) *ḍāk* b) *ṭikat* c) *ḍāktar* d) *parhnā* e) *pahnār* f) *ghulām* g) *mughal* h) *murgūh* i) *qābil* j) *vaqt* k) *farq*
3. a) **ڈیڑھ** b) **حقیقت** c) **لڑکا** d) **واروغہ** e) **یونیورسٹی**
4. a) *ek choṭī larṭī* b) *do zahn larṭyā* c) *tin larṭō ke nām* d) *cār qaumī zabānē* e) *pāc qaumī akhbārō* mē f) *urdū zabān* g) *urdū kā akhbār* h) *cha (che) muḡāmī zabānē* i) *sāt muḡāmī logō ke nām* j) *dhobī kā makān* k) *phulō kā rang* l) *āṭh phulō kī qimat* m) *nau haṭṭō kā vaqt* n) *ṭhand kā mausam*
5. a) *ishtahār advertisement* b) *sail sale* c) *purānī gāriyā* old cars d) *acchī kvālītī* good quality, *bahut kam qīmat* mē *for (in) a low price* e) *mazdā, sūzūkī, nisān, ṭoyotā* f) *der mat karo* don't delay
6. a) *sahārā intarneshanal* Sahara International b) *ravāṅgī manzil* roz vaqt departure destination day time c) *ḍahli kābul mangal* subah āṭh bajē Delhi Kabul Tuesday morning eight o'clock d) *lahaur kalkattah* (kalkattā) roz shām sāt bajē Lahore Calcutta daily evening seven o'clock e) *kāṭhmāndū karācī pūr shām pāc bajē* Kathmandu Karachi Monday evening five o'clock f) *islāmābād dhākah* (dhākā) budh subah *das bajē* Islamabad Dhaka Wednesday morning ten o'clock

10 | UNIT 10

In this unit the final five characters are introduced. They occur in words that have come into Urdu from Arabic and Persian. Four of them are connectors. The first two characters occur rarely in Urdu.

ث	se	connector
ژ	zhe	non-connector
ط	to'e	connector
ظ	zo'e	connector
ع	'ain	connector

Pronunciation

The first four characters represent more or less sounds that are also represented by characters introduced in earlier units. The final character, ع 'ain, however, may represent several sounds and is even silent in certain words.

Character	Name	Transliteration	Pronunciation
ث	se	s	s in sin
ژ	zhe	z	z in pleasure
ط	to'e	t	t in ton
ظ	zo'e	z	z in zip
ع	'ain	,	see later in unit

The characters that represent one and the same sound for Urdu speakers are:

ز	ز	ض	ظ	
zāl	ze	zād	zo'e	all represent the sound z
ث	س	س		all represent the sound s
se	sīn	svād		
ت	and	ط		represent the dental sound t
te		to'e		
پ	and	چ		both represent the sound h for most speakers in most contexts
choī	he	barī	he	

Positional forms

Most of the characters introduced here have identical shapes to those of characters that were introduced in earlier units. With the introduction of the character ث se, the ب be series of characters is also now complete (ب be, پ pe, ت te, ٹ fe, ث se). ژ zhe has the same shape as ر re, ز ze and ر re. Finally, the basic shape of ط to'e and ظ zo'e is the same. As a result, all of these characters are classed together in the alphabet.

Name	Final form (unjoined)	Final form (joined)	Medial form	Initial form	Transliteration
se	ث	ث	س	س	s
zhe	ژ	ژ	ز	ز	z
to'e	ط	ط	ط	ط	t
zo'e	ظ	ظ	ظ	ظ	z
'ain	ع	ع	ع	ع	,

Writing practice

Practise forming these characters according to the guidelines given.

ش se
For a description of how to draw the four shapes of ش se, see the formation of ب be on p.2.

ژ zhe
For a description of how to draw the four shapes of ژ zhe, see the formation of ر re on p.58.

ط to'e
initial form
ط medial form
ط final form (joined)
ط final form (unjoined)
ط zo'e

For a description of how to draw the four shapes of ط to'e, see the formation of ب to'e just given.

ع 'ain
For a description of how to draw the four shapes of ع 'ain, see the formation of س shain on p.78.

Pronunciation of ع 'ain

ع 'ain is a glottal fricative in Arabic but has all but lost this value in Urdu. (A glottal fricative is the sound made when the throat muscles are highly constricted and the vocal chords vibrate. It is similar to the sound made when retching.) In Urdu ع 'ain either has little or no pronunciation or produces an effect on a preceding or following vowel. The following examples are provided to indicate possible effects ع 'ain can have on the pronunciation of vowels in particular words.

ع 'ain representing a vowel

In many words, ع 'ain has no real pronunciation of its own but simply indicates the presence of a vowel.

عِرات	عِارات	عِمر	عِسا
'adālat	'imārat	'umr	'isā
law court (f)	building (f)	age (f)	Jesus
عِش	عِورت	عِام	عِا
'aish	'aurat	'ām	du'ā
luxury (m)	woman (f)	ordinary	prayer (f)

ع 'ain influencing the pronunciation of a vowel

In the middle of a word, ع 'ain may influence a preceding short vowel. This may have the effect of lengthening it. In the following words the Roman transliteration is given first representing the spelling of the word. This is followed in parentheses by the pronunciation.

استعمال isti'māl (istemāl) use (m)	شعر shē'r* (sher) a couplet (poetry) (m)	معلوم ma'lūm (mālūm) known
جلی ja'lī (jālī) forged	شعلہ shō'lah* (sholā) flame (m)	اشعار i'tibār (etibār) faith (m)

*The symbols above these vowels indicate that they are shorter than the vowels e and o.

جمع jama' (jamā) collected	موائق mavāqē' (mavāqe) opportunities (m)	توقع tavvaqū' (tavvaqo) hope/expectation (f)
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Silent ع 'ain

In some words ع 'ain is not pronounced. This is often the case when it occurs at the end of a word and follows a long vowel.

مطہوع mathū' (mathū) agreeable/laudable
--

ع 'ain as a glottal stop

Occasionally ع 'ain may be pronounced as a glottal stop between two vowels. A glottal stop is the sound that is produced with the release of the glottis (the opening between the vocal cords). This is often lost in Urdu as indicated by the pronunciation in parentheses.

معاف mu'āf (māf) forgiven	سعادت sa'ādat (sādat) fortunate
------------------------------------	--

☑ Reading and writing practice

1. Practise forming the following words according to the guidelines given.

Roman	Meaning
1. طبیت 2. طہ 3. طہ 4. طہ 5. طبیت 6. طہ 7. خطر 8. خطر 9. خطر 10. خطر 11. خطر 12. خطر 13. خطر 14. خطر 15. خطر 16. خطر 17. خطر 18. خطر 19. خطر 20. خطر 21. خطر 22. خطر 23. خطر 24. خطر 25. خطر 26. خطر 27. خطر 28. خطر 29. خطر 30. خطر 31. خطر 32. خطر 33. خطر 34. خطر 35. خطر 36. خطر 37. خطر 38. خطر 39. خطر 40. خطر 41. خطر 42. خطر 43. خطر 44. خطر 45. خطر 46. خطر 47. خطر 48. خطر 49. خطر 50. خطر 51. خطر 52. خطر 53. خطر 54. خطر 55. خطر 56. خطر 57. خطر 58. خطر 59. خطر 60. خطر 61. خطر 62. خطر 63. خطر 64. خطر 65. خطر 66. خطر 67. خطر 68. خطر 69. خطر 70. خطر 71. خطر 72. خطر 73. خطر 74. خطر 75. خطر 76. خطر 77. خطر 78. خطر 79. خطر 80. خطر 81. خطر 82. خطر 83. خطر 84. خطر 85. خطر 86. خطر 87. خطر 88. خطر 89. خطر 90. خطر 91. خطر 92. خطر 93. خطر 94. خطر 95. خطر 96. خطر 97. خطر 98. خطر 99. خطر 100. خطر	1. health, disposition (f) (a) 2. danger (m) (b) 3. meaning (m) (c) 4. known (d)

2. Read the following words and transliterate them into Roman script.

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
capacity (f)		جائیت (a)
debate, argument (f)		بحث (b)
letters (m)		خطوط (c)
surface (f)		سطح (d)
apparent		ظاہر (e)
victorious		مظفر (f)

3. Join the appropriate forms of the following characters and write the words listed.

Roman	Meaning
qata'ia	absolutely (a)
a'zam (azam)	greatest (b)
vazifah (vazifa)	stipend (m) (c)

4. Complete the following words by writing in the appropriate number of dots or the symbol that resembles a flat sign above and below characters.

Roman	Meaning
tahqiq (tehqiq)	inquiry (f) (a)
sanjīdah (sanjīdā)	serious (b)
nākhush*	unhappy (c)

Roman	Meaning
refrijareshan	refrigeration (m) (d)
dental tekhnishan	dental technician (m) (e)
hifazat	protection (f) (f)
pacpan	fifty-five (g)

*The pronunciation of this word is exceptional. The character 'vāo is written but not really pronounced.

5. Look at the restaurant bill and try to determine what the customers on table four had for dinner. Transliterate these dishes into Roman script.

مخل ریشوران لاہور	(a)
دو روغن جوش	(b)
ایک چن فورمہ	(c)
تین پاک پنیر	(d)
پانچ تان	(e)
چار روٹی	(f)
چاول	(g)
دال	(h)
چھ گلاب جاتن	(i)

Glossary

two	دو
three	تین
four	چار
five	پانچ
six	چھ
rice	چاول
bread	نان
roti	روٹی
daal	دال

6. What do the following newspaper headlines say? Read them through and then transliterate them into Roman script.

(a)	روزنامہ جنگ
(b)	بشم کی بیوقوفی کی فکر نہیں وشم اکرم
(c)	لاہور کے عوامی ہسپتال میں آج ہڑتال
(d)	غریبی ہٹانے کی مہم کا اعلان

Glossary

daily	روزنامہ
war	جنگ
team's	ٹیم کی
bating's	بیوقوف کی
worry	فکر
no	نہیں
general	عوامی
in hospital (m)	ہسپتال میں
today	آج
strike	ہڑتال
poverty	غریبی
removing's	ہٹانے کی
campaign's (f)	مہم
call (m)	اعلان

The small symbol that appears in caption (b) is used to denote a name.

NB

کا k̄ā , کے ke , کی kī = 's

Summary

- The character **س** se completes the **ب** be series (**پ** pe, **ت** te, **ث** th, **س** se).
- **ز** zhe is grouped with the **ر** re series of characters (**ر** re, **ز** ze, **ڑ** re, **ڑ** zhe).
- The character **ع** 'ain either represents a short vowel, is not pronounced or may influence the pronunciation of vowels in a word.

Answers to practices

2. a) **ہائسی** b) **بہاس** (betas) c) **کھٹوت** d) **ساتھ** (sateh) e) **زاہر** f) **موزافیر**
3. a) **قسطی** b) **اعظم** c) **وظیفہ**
4. a) **تحقیق** b) **سجیدہ** c) **تاخوش** d) **ریفریجریشن** e) **پیشکش** f) **حفاظت** g) **کچن**
5. a) **ماہفیل** (mehfil) **رستوران** **لہاور**, **مہفیل** Restaurant, Lahore b) **دو** **روغن** **جوش**, two rogan josh c) **ایک** **چکن** **گورماہ** (gornā), one chicken korma d) **تین** **پالاک** **پانی**, three spinach and cheese dishes e) **پچھان**, five naan f) **چار** **روٹی**, four rotis g) **دال**, rice h) **دال**, daal i) **چ** (che) **گولاب** **جامون**, six gulab jamun
6. a) **روزنامہ** (roznāmā) **جنگ**, the daily war b) **فیم** **کی** **باہینگ** **کی** **فیکر** **ناہی** - wasim akram, the teams bating (is) not a worry - Wasim Akram c) **لہاور** **کے** **آوانی** **ہاسپتال** **مے** **آج** **ہارٹل**, a strike in the Lahore's (s) general hospital today d) **گھاربی** **ہاٹانے** **کی** **مہین** **کا** **آوان** (elān), poverty removing's campaign's announcement (announcement of a campaign to remove poverty)

UNIT 11

In this unit the symbol **ہ** hamzā is introduced as well as exceptional forms of particular characters, the **izāfat** construction, the shortened **alif** and the doubling of short vowel-markers. Also included are some notes on exceptional pronunciations.

ہ hamzā

ہ hamzā performs several functions in Urdu, the most important of which is to indicate that one syllable in a word ends in a vowel and the next syllable begins with one. The shape of ہ hamzā is identical to the top portion of the character **ا** 'ain although it also appears in a form which is similar to the Roman letter s.

ہ
hamzā

If the second syllable begins with a vowel represented by **و** vāo, the ہ hamzā rests above the **و** vāo.

For example:

جائو	آؤں	چھوؤ
jāo	āū	chūo
go (imperative)	shall I come?	touch (imperative)

If the second syllable begins with a vowel represented by **ی** *ye*, **ہ** *ha*, **amzā** is said to need a support on which to rest. This support may take several forms depending on the characters that surround **ہ** *hamzā*.

For example:

بھائی	گئے	گئی
bhāi	gae	gai
brother (m)	went (m pl.)	went (f sing.)

There are alternative spellings of some words in which **ہ** *hamzā* occurs. In particular, verbs that end in a consonant to which the ending **ی** *ie* is attached may be encountered with three different spellings.

For example:

چاہیے	چاہیے	چاہیے
cāhie	cāhie	cāhie
	want/need	

ہ *hamzā* is also used to mark the occurrence of two vowels one after the other in a word where the second vowel is not represented by **ی** *ye* or **و** *vāo*.

لائق
lāiq
worthy, capable

izāfat

izāfat is the name given to a short *e* vowel (pronounced as in the English word *bet*) that is used to mark a relationship between two words. It may be translated into the English as in the phrase, 'the lion of Punjab'. **izāfat** is represented in the Roman script in this book by the letter *e*. In Urdu it is represented in more than one way.

izāfat represented by **- zer**

In most cases **izāfat** is represented by the vowel symbol **- zer**. It is written under the final character of the first word in the phrase.

شیر پنجاب
sher -e-panjāb
the lion of Punjab

In many common compounds, **- zer** indicating **izāfat** is not written but is pronounced.

For example:

طالب علم
or
طالب علم
tālib-e-'ilm
seeker of knowledge (a student) (m)

izāfat represented by **ہ** *hamzā*

The symbol **ہ** *hamzā* is used to represent **izāfat** when the first word ends in either **و** *chofi* *he* or **ی** *ye*.

قطرہ آب
qatrah-e-āb
(a) drop of water (m)
والی کامل
valī-e-kāmil
perfect saint (m)

When *izāfat* follows a long *ā* vowel, it is written as **ے** *e*, with or without **ہ** *hamzā* on top.

روئے زمین	صدائے بلند
rū-e-zamīn	sadā-e-buland
the surface of the ground (f)	a high voice (f)

Modified forms of characters

Several characters in the Urdu alphabet may show slightly modified forms, some of which only do so when they precede or follow particular characters. Two of these, the modified forms of **ک** *kāf* and **گ** *gāf* followed by **ا** *alif* or **ل** *lām* were introduced in earlier units. Several more are examined now.

س *sīn* and ش *shīn*

The modified form of these characters occurs frequently in Urdu texts. In this form, the initial indented part of the character is replaced by a long sweeping stroke. This alternative form is found both in texts prepared by calligraphers and in ordinary handwritten Urdu. It is found particularly where two of these characters occur consecutively in a word.

پاکستان	سستا	کوشش
pakistān	sastā	koshish
Pakistan (m)	cheap	endeavour/try (f)

The indented portion of these characters is also abbreviated in some people's handwriting.

پسند
pasand
liked/chosen

The sweeping strokes of characters such as those in the **ب** *be* series and **ک** *kāf* and **گ** *gāf* are also occasionally extended in the final form according to the space on the page.

Modified characters in the ب *be* series

Characters in this series (including **ی** *ye* and **ن** *nūn*) show a slightly modified form when they occur initially or medially and precede characters in the **ج** *jīm* series, **م** *mīm* and **ھ** *choḥī* he.

نہ	but	نہیں	but	بدتر	بچانا	but	تالی	but	ٹھہرا
nau		nahī		badtar	bacānā		tālī		tumhārā
nine		no		worse	to save		clapping		your
ہندو، but		چنچرا		لینا	but		پچھے		
hindū		pinjarā		lenā			pīche		
Hindu		cage (m)		to take			behind		

The same characters are lengthened when they occur in the beginning of a word and are followed by either a character with a rounded form or **س** *sīn* or **ش** *shīn*.

پسند	تقاضا	بعد	نکلنا
pasand	tagāzā	ba'd (bād)	nikalnā
chosen	demand (m)	after	to emerge

do cashmī he is occasionally found after ل lām, ن nūn and ن nūn where ہ choḥī he would be expected.

تمہارا	ہے
tumhārā	hai
your	is/are

Shortened | alif

In a few Arabic words a short, detached form of | alif occurs over the final form of ی ye. This is pronounced as a long ā vowel.

اعلیٰ	دعویٰ
a'lā	da'vā
(ālā)	(dāvā)
paramount, highest	law suit, claim (m)

Doubled vowel-markers

At the end of particular adverbs that have come from Arabic, the short vowel-markers occur twice. This indicates the presence of a short vowel as well as the consonant n. The commonest of these in Urdu involves the vowel symbol ز zabar. This indicates a short a and is placed over | alif. The vowel, however, is not lengthened.

عادۂ	یقیناً	فوراً	مثلاً
'ādatan	yaqīnan	fauran	masalan
habitually	certainly	immediately	for example

The Arabic definite article ال al

The Arabic definite article ال al is found in certain phrases and words that have come into Urdu from Arabic, including people's names and adverbial expressions. It is not always pronounced as it appears. Often the short a vowel in al is not pronounced and, in its place, the vowel of the preceding word is pronounced. This preceding vowel is shortened if long.

بالکل	فی الحال
bi alkul	fi alhāl
(bilkul)	(filhal)
absolutely	at present

When ال al precedes one of the following characters, ت te, ث se, د dāl, ذ zāl, ر re, ز ze, س sīn, ش shīn, ص svād, ض zād, ط to'e, ظ zo'e, ل lām or ن nūn, ل lām is not pronounced. In its place the character that follows is pronounced twice. Occasionally the symbol ت tashdīd is written over this.

السلام علیکم	و علیکم السلام
assalām 'alaikum	va'alaikum assalām
a greeting	(vālaikum assalām)
(lit: 'peace be with you')	the response to this greeting
	(lit: 'and peace be with you')

Often the short vowel in ال al is pronounced as u.

دارالسلطنت	صراج الدین
dārus-salṭanat	sirājuddīn
capital (m)	a name (lit: 'lamp of the faith')

Further notes on pronunciation

Some words that appear in this book have a pronunciation that does not quite match the Roman transliteration. In such cases the pronunciation has been provided in parentheses. For example, a short **a** vowel followed by **ḥ** **choḥī** **he** in a word-final position is often pronounced together as a long **ā** vowel. For this reason, there exist two spellings of some words in Urdu.

پتہ	or	پتا	or	کمرہ
patah		patā		kamrah
(patā)				(kamrā)
address (m)				room (m)

The presence of **ḥ** **choḥī** **he** or **ḥ** **barī** **he** may also influence the pronunciation of a preceding short vowel in other ways. When followed by one of these characters, short **a** and **i** vowels are occasionally pronounced as **e** in the English word **bet** and a short **u** is occasionally pronounced as **o** in the English **go**. This occurs when very little or no vowel sound follows **ḥ** **choḥī** **he** or **ḥ** **barī** **he**. In the following examples, the first form given in Roman represents the transliteration while the second (in parentheses) represents the pronunciation.

پہلا	صحت	ہلک	مہربانی	مخت	تحفہ
pahlā	sahat	mahak	mihrbānī	mihnat	tuhfah
(pehlā)	(sehat)	(mehak)	(mehrbānī)	(mehnat)	(tohfa)
first	health (f)	odour (f)	kindness (f)	labour (f)	gift (m)

However, the pronunciation of a short **a** vowel preceding either **ḥ** **choḥī** **he** or **ḥ** **barī** **he** is not affected in this manner in every word where these conditions apply.

For example:

جگہ	وجہ
jagah	vajah
place (f)	reason (f)

The pronunciation of a few others words in which **ḥ** **choḥī** **he** occurs in a final position is also irregular.

کے	نہ	بالکے
kah	nah	balkah
(kē)	(na)	(balkē)
that	no	rather

Doubling of **ḥ** **choḥī** **he**

In some words both medial and final forms of **ḥ** **choḥī** **he** occur one after the other. This is done to distinguish words in which the sound **h** is pronounced at the end from those where it occurs but is pronounced as **ā** or even **ē**, such as in the words **پتہ** **patah** (patā), **کمرہ** **kamrah** (kamrā) and **کے** **kah** (kē), etc.

کے	سے
kahh	sahh
(keh)	(seh)
say	endure

Reading and writing practice

1. Read the following words and then write them in Roman script.

Meaning	Roman	Urdu
for		کے لئے (a)
mirror		آئینہ (b)
bicycle		سائیکل (c)
may go		جائے (d)
flight		فلائیٹ (e)
save		بچاؤ (f)

2. What sort of courses can be studied at the Islamabad Academy? Read the following advertisement and then write the Urdu in Roman script.

(a)	خواتین و حضرات
(b)	بذریعہ ڈاک پڑھئے
(c)	انگلش لیٹریچ کورس
(d)	آئیر ہو سٹل فلائیٹ اسٹیواریٹ
(e)	نیوٹنی پارلر کورس
(f)	آئیر کنڈکٹ

(g)	موز سائیکل مرمت
(h)	اسلام آباد ایڈی پوسٹ بکس
	اسلام آباد
	1237
	جی پی او

Glossary

ladies	خواتین
and	و
gentlemen	حضرات
by post	بذریعہ ڈاک
study (imperative)	پڑھئے
repairing (f)	مرمت

3. The following is an advertisement for a soft drink that is very popular in India. Transliterate the sentences into Roman script.

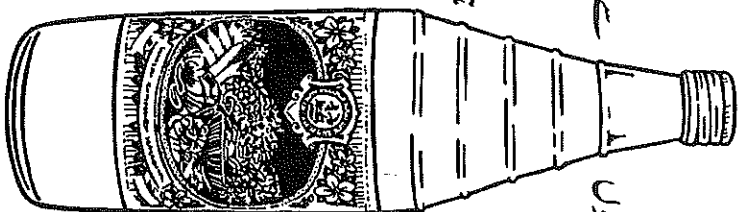
(b) نہ کوئی مصنوعی ذائقہ (c) نہ کوئی کاربوئیٹس

(d) نہ بناوٹی مٹاس

سے بھر پور

(e) الیہ قدرتی خوبیوں

(f) ۸۵ سال سے ہم سب کا جانا پہچانا



(a) رُوح افرا شربت

(g) ہلکا زرد

Glossary

sherbet (f)	شربت
no	نہ کوئی
artificial	مصنوعی
flavour (m)	ذائقہ
carbonates	کاربوئیٹس
artificial	بناوٹی
sweetness (m)	مٹاس
rather	الیہ
natural	قدرتی
with goodness (f)	خوبیوں
for eighty-five years	۸۵ سال سے
all of our	ہم سب کا
recognised	جانا پہچانا
full of	بھر پور
name (m)	رُوح افرا

Summary

- The symbol **ه** *hamzā* is generally used to mark where one syllable in a word ends in a vowel and the next syllable begins with one.
- *izāfat* is a short **ه** vowel which marks a relationship between two words. It is represented either by the vowel marker **ـ** *zer* or by the final form of **ه** *ye*, with or without **ه** *hamzā*. In common compounds it is occasionally omitted in the script but is pronounced. It can be translated by **of** in English.
- Several characters have modified forms, including **س** *sin*, **ش** *shin* and characters in the **ب** *be* series.
- **ی** over the character **ه** *ye* in a final position in some Arabic words gives the pronunciation **ā** in place of **i**.
- The pronunciation of the Arabic definite article **ال** *al* depends on the characters that surround it in a word.
- **ہ** *chofi* **he** and **و** *bari* **he** often influence the pronunciation of a preceding short **a** vowel.
- Often the pronunciation of a short **a** vowel and **ہ** *chofi* **he** at the end of a word is realised as **ā**.
- In some words in which **ہ** *chofi* **he** is pronounced **h** at the end of a word, its medial and final forms are both written to indicate this.

Answers to practices

1. a) **ke** *live* b) **ānah** (**ānā**) c) **sāikal** d) **jāe** e) **flāt** f) **bacāo**
2. a) **khavātūn** *ua* **hazrāt**, ladies and gentlemen b) **bazariya'h** *dāk* (**bazariyā**) *parhiye*, study by post c) **inglish** *laingvī* *cors*, English language course d) **aiyar** *hostes* **flāt** *istiyūārđ*, air hostess flight steward e) **byūf** *pālar* *cors*, beauty parlour course f) **aiyar** *tikiing*, air ticketing g) **moṭar** *sāikal* *marammat*, motorcycle repairing h) **islāmābād** *akeđamī* *posť* *baks*, 1237 *jī* *pī* *o* *islāmābād* Islamabad Academy post box 1237 GPO Islamabad
3. a) **rūh** *afzā* *sharbat* (name of sherbet) b) **nah** (**nā**) *koī* *masnū'ī* *zāikah* (**zāikā**), no artificial flavour c) **nah** (**nā**) *koī* *cārboneṭs*, no carbonates d) **nah** (**nā**) *banāvaī* *mīṭhās*, no artificial sweeteners (sweetness) e) **albatāh** (*albatā*) *quđraī* *khūbiyō* *se* *bhar* *pūr*, rather, filled with natural goodness f) **85** *sāl* *se* *ham* *sab* *kā* *jānā* *pahcānā*, for eighty-five years all of our recognised (recognised by us all) g) **hamdard**, brand name

APPENDIX

Numbers

1	ek	ایک	۱
2	do	دو	۲
3	tīn	تین	۳
4	cār	چار	۴
5	pāc	پانچ	۵
6	cha (chai)	چھ	۶
7	sāt	سات	۷
8	āṭh	اٹھ	۸
9	nau	نو	۹
10	das	دس	۱۰
11	gyārah	گیارہ	۱۱
12	bārah	بارہ	۱۲

APPENDIX

13	terah	تیرہ	۱۳
14	caudah	چودہ	۱۴
15	pandrah	پندرہ	۱۵
16	solah	سولہ	۱۶
17	satrah	سترہ	۱۷
18	aṭhārah	اٹھارہ	۱۸
19	unnis	اونیس	۱۹
20	bis	بیس	۲۰
21	ikkīs	ایکس	۲۱
22	bāis	بائیس	۲۲
23	teis	تیس	۲۳
24	caubīs	چوبیس	۲۴
25	paccīs	پچیس	۲۵
26	chabbīs	چھبیس	۲۶
27	sattāis	ساتیس	۲۷
28	aṭhāīs	اٹھائیس	۲۸

29	untis	اُنٹس	۲۹
30	tis	تس	۳۰
31	ikatīs	اِکتس	۳۱
32	batīs	بٹس	۳۲
33	tainītis	تینٹس	۳۳
34	cauntīs	چوٹس	۳۴
35	paintīs	پینٹس	۳۵
36	chatīs	چھٹس	۳۶
37	saintīs	سینٹس	۳۷
38	artīs	ارٹس	۳۸
39	untālīs	اُنٹالس	۳۹
40	cālīs	چالس	۴۰
41	iktālīs	اِکتالس	۴۱
42	bayālīs	بials	۴۲
43	tainītālīs	تینٹالس	۴۳
44	cavālīs	چوالس	۴۴

45	paintālīs	پینٹالس	۴۵
46	chiyālīs	چھیالس	۴۶
47	saintālīs	سینٹالس	۴۷
48	artālīs	ارٹالس	۴۸
49	uncās	اُنچاس	۴۹
50	pacās	پچاس	۵۰
51	ikyāvan	اِکیاون	۵۱
52	bāvan	باون	۵۲
53	tirpan	تیرپن	۵۳
54	cavan	چون	۵۴
55	pacpan	پچپن	۵۵
56	chappan	چھپن	۵۶
57	sattāvan	ساتاون	۵۷
58	aṭṭhāvan	اٹھاون	۵۸
59	unsath	اُنٹھ	۵۹
60	sāth	ساٹھ	۶۰

61	iksāṭh	اِکْٹھ	۶۱
62	bāsāṭh	بَاسْٹھ	۶۲
63	tresāṭh	تِرِیْٹھ	۶۳
64	caunsāṭh	چُونْسْٹھ	۶۴
65	painsāṭh	پَینْسْٹھ	۶۵
66	chiyāsāṭh	چِیَاْسْٹھ	۶۶
67	sarsāṭh	سَرْسْٹھ	۶۷
68	arsāṭh	اَرْسْٹھ	۶۸
69	unhāṭṭar	اُنْہَٹھ	۶۹
70	sattar	سَٹھ	۷۰
71	ikhāṭṭar	اِکْہَٹھ	۷۱
72	bahāṭṭar	بَہْٹھ	۷۲
73	tiḥāṭṭar	تِہْٹھ	۷۳
74	cauhāṭṭar	چَوْہَٹھ	۷۴
75	pichāṭṭar	پِچْہَٹھ	۷۵
76	chihāṭṭar	چِہْٹھ	۷۶

77	satāṭṭar	سَٹھ	۷۷
78	athāṭṭar	اُتْہَٹھ	۷۸
79	unāssī	اُنَاسِی	۷۹
80	assī	اَسِی	۸۰
81	ikāssī	اِکَاسِی	۸۱
82	bayāssī	بِیَاسِی	۸۲
83	tirāssī	تِرَاسِی	۸۳
84	caurāssī	چَوْرَاسِی	۸۴
85	picāssī	پِچَاسِی	۸۵
86	chiyāssī	چِیَاسِی	۸۶
87	sattāssī	سَٹَاسِی	۸۷
88	aḥḥāssī	اُحْہَاسِی	۸۸
89	navāssī	نَوَاسِی	۸۹
90	navve	نَوَے	۹۰
91	ikānve	اِکَانَوَے	۹۱
92	bānve	بَانَوَے	۹۲

93	tirānve	تیرانوے	۹۳
94	caurānve	چوراانوے	۹۴
95	picānve	پچانوے	۹۵
96	chiyānve	چھیانوے	۹۶
97	satānve	ساتانوے	۹۷
98	aṭhānve	اٹھانوے	۹۸
99	mināve	ننانوے	۹۹
100	sau	سو	۱۰۰
101	ek sau ek	ایک سو ایک	۱۰۱
200	do sau	دو سو	۲۰۰
1,000	ek hazār	ایک ہزار	۱۰۰۰
10,000	das hazār	دس ہزار	۱۰,۰۰۰
100,000	ek lākh	ایک لاکھ	۱,۰۰,۰۰۰
1,000,000	das lākh	دس لاکھ	۱۰,۰۰,۰۰۰
10,000,000	ek karor	ایک کروڑ	۱,۰۰,۰۰,۰۰۰
1,000,000,000	ek arab	ایک ارب	۱,۰۰۰,۰۰,۰۰,۰۰۰

Decimals and fractions

۶

اعشاریہ

a 'shāriyāh

(a 'shāriyā)

decimal point

For example:

دو ہزار پانچ سو چوبیس اعشاریہ دو تین

۲۵۲۴۶۲۳

do hazār pāc sau caubīs a 'shāriyā do tīn

two thousand five hundred and twenty-four point two three

0	sifar	صفر
1/4	ek cauthāi	ایک چوتھائی
1/3	ek tihāi	ایک تہائی
1/2	ādhā	آدھا
2/3	do tihāi	دو تہائی
3/4	paun or tīn cauthāi	پون تین چوتھائی
1 1/4	savā	سوا

1 1/2	دہرہ	دُہرہ
1 3/4	paune do	پانے دو
2 1/4	savā do	سوادو
2 1/2	q̄nāi	ڈھائی
3 1/2	sāṛhe tīn	سارھ تین

From 3 1/2 onwards the word سارھ sāṛhe precedes the numeral to add one-half.

For example:

سارھ چار
sāṛhe cār
4 1/2

Dates

Dates are indicated by placing the word سانھ sanh (year) without the dot under the numerals together with an abbreviation of the word عیسوی 'isvī (Christian era).

For example:

۱۹۴۷ء
1947

Days of the week

پیر pīr	منگل mangal	بدھ budh	جمعرات jum'a rāt (jumerāt)
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
جمعہ jum'a (jumā)	سنیچر ہفتہ sānicar haftah (haftā)	اتوار itvār	
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	

Months

Christian calendar

جنوری janvarī	فروری farvarī	مارچ mārc	اپریل aprail
January	February	March	April
مئی mai	جون jūn	جولائی jūlāi	اگست agast
May	June	July	August
ستمبر sitambar	اکتوبر aktūbar	نومبر navambar	دسمبر disambar
September	October	November	December

Muslim calendar

The Muslim calendar dates from July 16, 622 AD. This is the day after the departure of the prophet Muhammad from Medina to Mecca. Dates according to this calendar are followed by the word **ہجری** *hijrī* from the word **ہجرت** *hijrah* (*hijrā*) which means 'flight'. This is abbreviated with the symbol **ھ**.

محرم muḥarram	صفر safar	ربیع الاول rabī'ul avval	ربیع الثانی rabī'us sānī
جمادی الاول jumādī ul avval	جمادی الثانی jumādī us sānī	رجب rajab	شعبان sha'bān (shabān)
رمضان ramzān	شوال shavvāl	ذی قعدہ zī qa'dah (ziqād)	ذی الحجہ zī ul hijjah (zulhij)

Other related titles

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