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J.S. Nagra
Author

Introduction

This book is the first one in the 'Panjabi Made Easy' series. It is meant primarily for beginners of Panjabi. It may be of use to more advanced learners and teachers of students whose first or dominant language is English. It is also the first book in the series designed for those students preparing for the G.C.S.E. examination in Panjabi.

Slightly modified Roman script is used throughout to facilitate the learning of Panjabi sounds, but not to replace the Panjabi script. I believe that learning the Panjabi script is an exciting intellectual adventure which must not be missed by anyone interested in the language, though it is perfectly possible to learn spoken Panjabi without learning the Panjabi script.

All learners are advised to listen attentively to native speakers of Panjabi. The Panjabi script represents the Panjabi sounds fairly systematically (sometimes more so than the Roman alphabet represents the English sounds), but no script is perfect.

The meanings of some of the words used in each lesson are given in the lesson itself. For the meanings of the other words, consult the list on pages 45-48.

J.S. Nagra.

An Important note on Pronunciation

Panjabi has ten sounds which are called vowel sounds. These are written with the help of three letters:—

ੳ, ਅ and ਏ. They can be divided into three groups.

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------------|---|---|---|
| (i) | ੳ group—(u) | ੳ | ੳ | ੳ |
| (ii) | ਅ group (a) | ਆ | ਐ | ਓ |
| (iii) | ਏ group (i) | ਇ | ਈ | ਏ |

- (i) u ੳ — Like the second sound in the English word put.
ū ੳ — Like the second sound in the English word boot.
o ੳ — This sound is also used by the older Punjabis in the word pole. Learn it by imitating them.
- (ii) a ਅ — Like the first sound in the English word about.
ā ਆ — Like the first sound in the English word arm.
æ ਐ — Like the second sound in the English word cat but slightly longer.
ɔ ਓ — Like the second sound in the English word pot but slightly longer.
- (iii) i ਇ — Like the second sound in the English word fit.
ī ਈ — Like the second sound in the English word deep.
e ਏ — This sound is used by the older Punjabis in the word gate. Listen to and imitate them.

Since we had to follow the principle of one sound, one symbol, and since there are more sounds in Panjabi than there are letters in the English alphabet we had to add bars and dots to some of the English letters and to introduce new symbols æ and ɔ

A bar over the symbol (as in ā, ī, ū) shows that the sound is long.

A dot under a symbol (as in ṭ, ḍ, ṇ, ṛ) shows that the sound is produced by curling the tongue against the roof of the mouth. It is very important to produce these sounds in this way and not in the English way, otherwise there can be confusion. Without dots, t, d, n should be pronounced as in French and not as in English. (Help should be sought from a teacher of French).

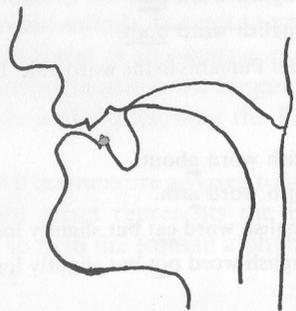
When h occurs after k, t, c, p (as in kh, th, ṭh, ch, chh, ph) it should not be pronounced as a separate sound but the sound preceding h should be pronounced with a strong puff of air.

The symbol ~ when placed over vowel letters indicates that the vowel is pronounced both through the nose and the mouth.

PRONUNCIATION OF PANJABI

t, th, d, dh, n, r, l
and
t, th, d, dh.

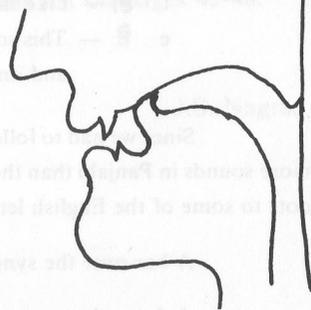
Look at the following diagrams carefully and note the position of the tongue for pronunciation of the Panjabi sounds compared with that for the English sounds. If you want your spoken Panjabi to be properly understood, avoid pronouncing these sounds like the English t and d.



When you pronounce the English t and d, the tip and the upper side of your tongue touches the gumridge behind the upper teeth.

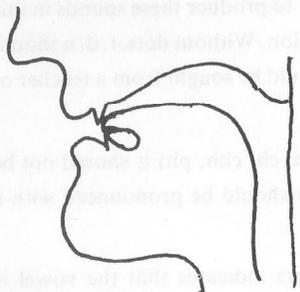
English t and d

It is important that when you pronounce the Panjabi **t th d dh n r l** (ਟ ਠ ਡ ਢ ਠ ਡ ਲੁ) you should curl your tongue backward and the lower side of your tongue touch the hard palate.

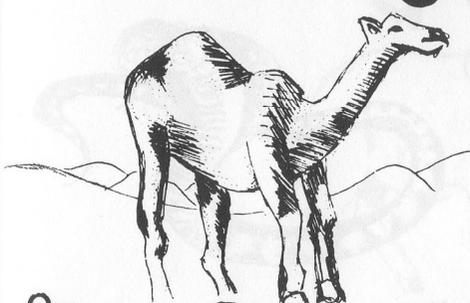
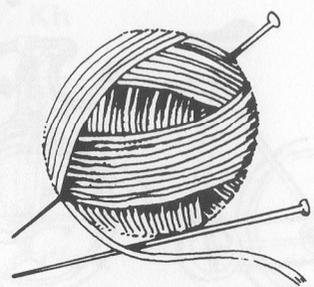
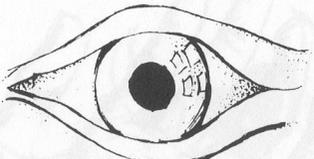
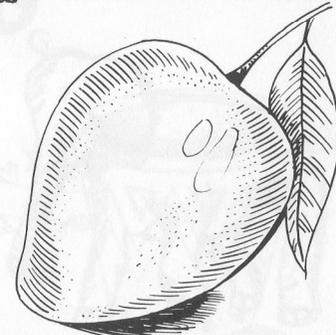
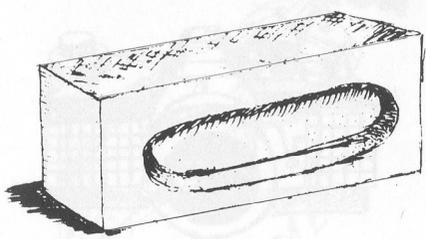
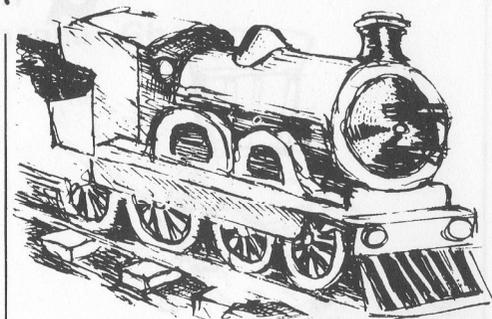


Panjabi **t th d dh n r l**
ਟ ਠ ਡ ਢ ਠ ਡ ਲੁ

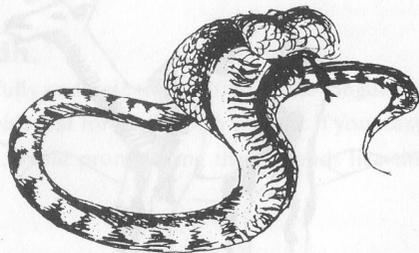
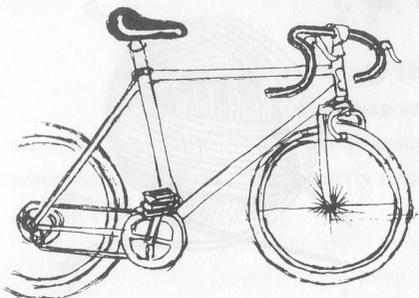
When you pronounce the Panjabi **t th, d, dh, ਤ ਥ ਦ ਧ** the tip of your tongue should touch your teeth.



Panjabi t th d dh
ਤ ਥ ਦ ਧ

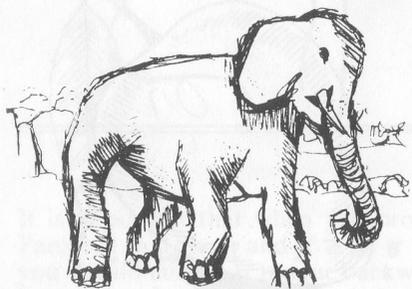
 <p>ਉਠ Uth Camel</p>	 <p>ਉਨ Un Wool</p>
 <p>ਅੱਖ Akh Eye</p>	 <p>ਅੰਬ Amb Mango</p>
 <p>ਇੱਟ Itt Brick</p>	 <p>ਇੰਜਣ Engine</p>

ਸ Sassā s



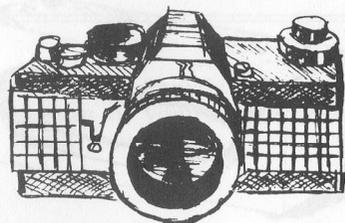
ਸਾਈਕਲ Sāikal Cycle ਸੱਪ Sapp Snake

ਹ Hāhā H



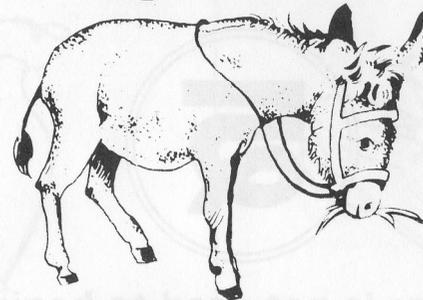
ਹਾਥੀ Hāthī Elephant ਹੱਥ Hath Hand

ਕ Kakā K



ਕੁਰਸੀ Kursī Chair ਕੈਮਰਾ Kæmrā Camera

ਖ Khakhā Kh



ਖੋਤਾ Khotā Donkey

ਗ Gagā G

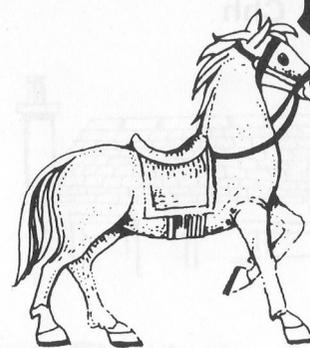


ਗਾਂ Gā Cow

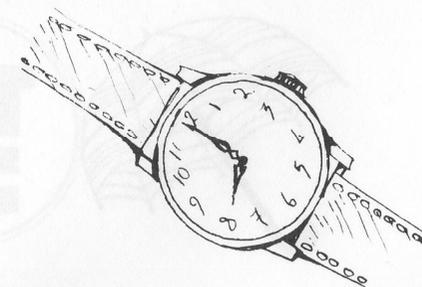


ਗਮਲਾ Gamlā Flowerpot

ਘ Ghaghā Gh



ਘੋੜਾ Ghoṛā Horse



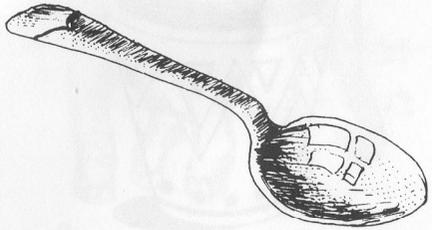
ਘੜੀ Ghaṛī Watch

ਙ Ngangā Nga

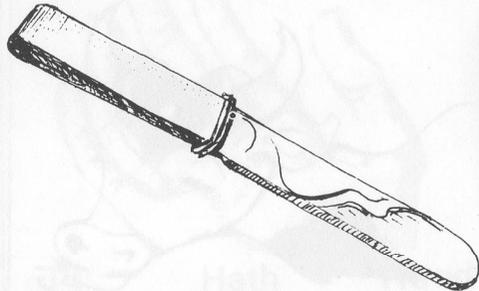


This letter is not used to begin a word

ਚ Chachā Ch



ਚਮਚਾ Chamchā Spoon

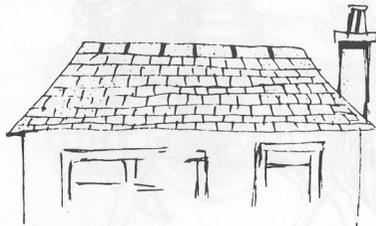


ਚਾਕੂ Chākū Knife

ਛ Chhachhā Chh



ਛਤਰੀ Chhatri Umbrella

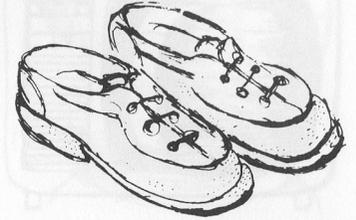


ਛੱਤ Chhatt Roof

ਜ Jajjā J



ਜੱਗ Jug

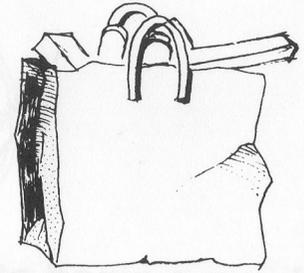


ਜੁੱਤੀ Juttī Shoes

ਝ Jhahhā Jh



ਝੰਡਾ Jhandā Flag



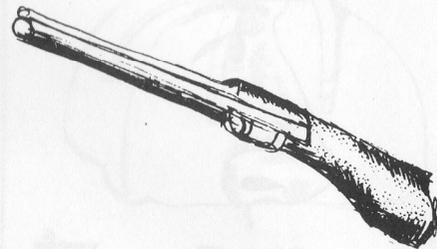
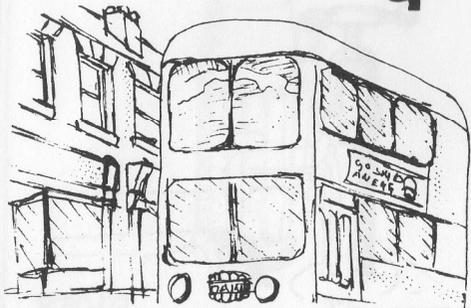
ਝੋਲਾ Jholā Bag

ਞ Njanjā Nja



This letter is not used to begin a word

ਬ Babā B



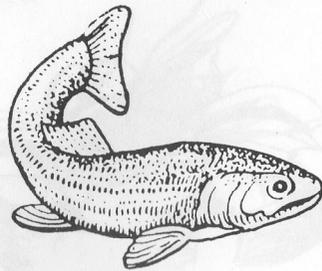
ਬਸ Bus ਬੰਦੂਕ Bandūk Rifle

ਭ Bhabhā Bh



ਭੇਡ Bhed Sheep

ਮ Mamā M



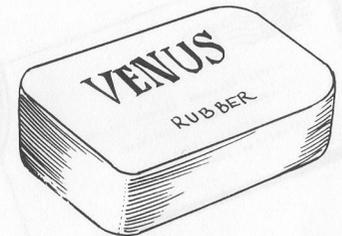
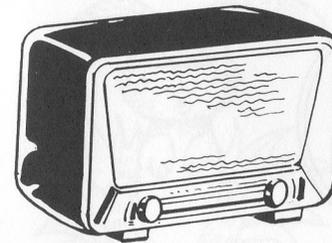
ਮੁਰਗੀ Murgī Hen ਮੱਛੀ Machhī Fish

ਯ Yayā Y



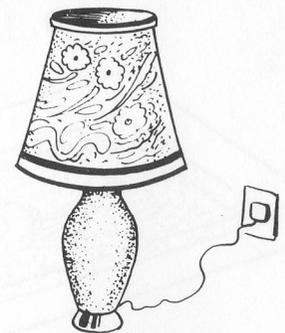
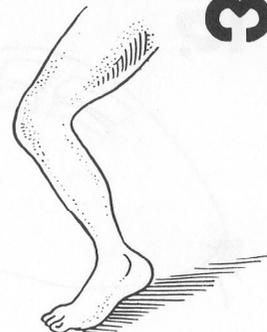
ਯੱਕਾ Yakkā Ace

ਰ Rārā R



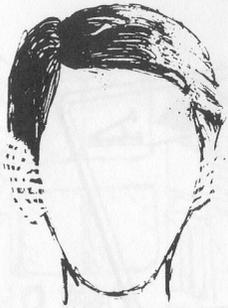
ਰੇਡੀਓ Radio ਰਬੜ Rabar Rubber

ਲ Lalā L

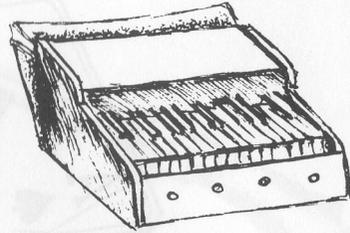


ਲੱਤ Latt Leg ਲੈਂਪ Lamp

ਵ Wāwā W



ਵਾਲੁ Wāl Hair



ਵਾਜਾ Wājā Musical Instrument

ੜ Rārā R

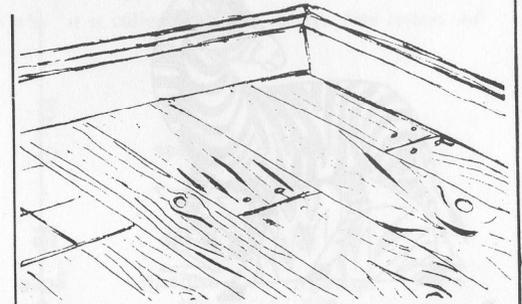


This letter is not used to begin a word

ਸ਼ Shashā Sh

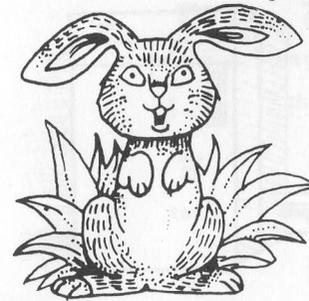


ਸ਼ੇਰ Sher Lion



ਫਰਸ਼ Farsh Floor

ਖ਼ Khakhā kh

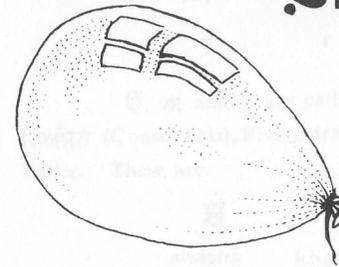


ਖ਼ਰਗੋਸ਼ Khargosh Rabbit

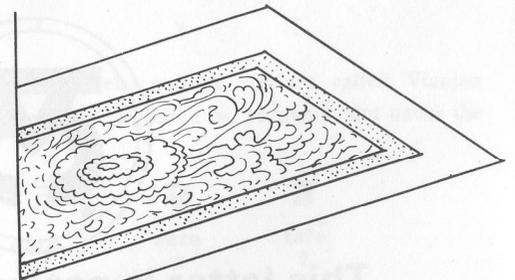


ਖ਼ਤ Khat Letter

ਗ਼ Gāgā G



ਗ਼ਬਾਰਾ Gubārā Balloon



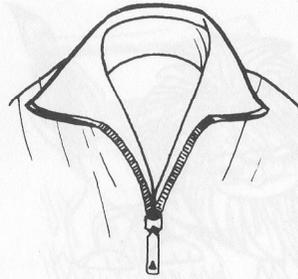
ਗ਼ਲੀਚਾ Galīchā Carpet

ਜ਼ Zazā Z



ਜੈਬਰਾ

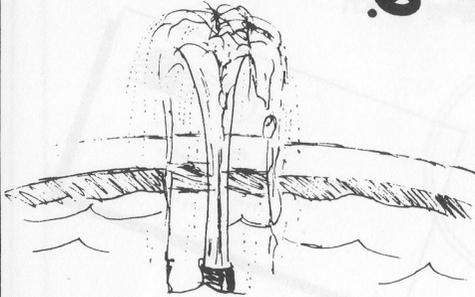
Zebra



ਜ਼ਿਪ

Zip

ਫ਼ Fafā F



ਫ਼ੁਹਾਰਾ

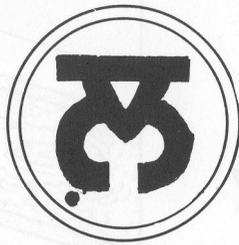
Fuhārā

Fountain

ਫ਼ਰਿਜ਼

Fridge

ਲ਼ !



This letter is not used to begin a word

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਪੈਂਤੀ (Panjabi Alphabet)

We call Panjabi alphabet Painti ਪੈਂਤੀ। ਪੈਂਤੀ also means thirty-five. There were originally ਪੈਂਤੀ letters in the Panjabi ਪੈਂਤੀ. That is why it is called ਪੈਂਤੀ. The thirty five letters of the Panjabi Painti are.

ੳ ūrā u	ਅ æṛā a	ੲ īṛī i	ਸ sassā s	ਹ hāhā h
ਕ kakā k	ਖ khakhā kh	ਗ gagā g	ਘ ghaghā gh	ਙ ngāngā ngā
ਚ chachā ch	ਛ chhachhā chh	ਜ jajā j	ਝ jhajhā jh	ਞ njanā n ja
ਟ ṭainkā ṭ	ਠ ṭhathā ṭh	ਡ ḍadā ḍ	ਢ ḍhadhā ḍh	ਣ ṇāṇā ṇ
ਤ tatā t	ਥ thathā th	ਦ dadā d	ਧ dhadhā dh	ਨ nanā n
ਪ papā p	ਫ phaphā ph.	ਬ babā b	ਭ bhabhā bh.	ਮ mamā m
ਯ yayā y	ਰ rārā r	ਲ lalā l	ਵ wāvā v	ੜ ṛārā ṛ

ੳ, ਅ and ੲ are called swar ਸਵਰ (Vowels) and the rest are called Vianjan ਵਿਅੰਜਨ (Consonants). Five extra ਵਿਅੰਜਨ have been produced by putting a dot under the Letter. These are.

ਸ਼ shashā sh	ਖ਼ khakhā kh	ਗ਼ gagā g	ਜ਼ zazā z	ਫ਼ fafā f
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PANJABI

MADE EASY

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By

J.S.Nagra M.A; M.Ed; Ph.D