

Rocket Hindi  
Speak and understand Hindi faster

2017  
Edition

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**Premium: Level 1**

- Interactive Audio Lessons
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Today's Points: 0 / 400

Leaderboard Position: -

Rocket Record Difficulty: Easy Medium Hard

78 Language and Culture

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**1.8 Being Polite**

Remember how your mom always taught you to use 'please' and 'thank you'? Well today's lesson is all about saying those very words in Hindi. Please and thank you are universally appreciated, and taking the time to learn and use them correctly will really make a difference to how people receive you in India. As well as learning some manners, we're going to learn how to count up to one thousand, and beyond. Numbers feature in all sorts of daily actions - buying things, catching taxis, ordering tickets, asking the time...

After today's lesson, you'll have the basics covered very well!

**Mind Your Manners!**

"Please" and "thank you" are two expressions that you probably think you've already learned from the previous audio lessons. You have learned them... but wait, there's more! It's nothing really complex, just different ways of expressing the same sentiment. But it's good stuff to know because you'll definitely encounter at least some of these words and Indians will be so impressed if you use them yourself. We'll look at the word for "please" before we move on to "thank you".

**Please**

You may face situations where you are required to offer something or request something. In English you can use the word "please" in both occasions, i.e., when requesting something or offering something. In Hindi, even though "kripayai" means please, I don't find it a good way of expressing the whole message with just one word. As you know, each language has its own special expressions! So, the table below will help you to learn more about the ways of offering and requesting.

One of the biggest ways in which you will interact with people in India is through making requests. Whether it is asking for a bottle of water or inviting your new friends to come to your home, requests are one of the main features of communication. It is important to learn to do this politely. Although "kripayai" means please, it is only really used in official documents and signs on government buildings. Most people do not use it in regular conversation. Instead you can make requests in varying degrees of politeness. This means that rather than saying please directly you imply it.

**That's Interesting!**

As it is common to not say the word please, many Hindi speakers also leave this word out in English. It's easy to misunderstand this as rudeness but the real reason is they are not used to a language where "please" must be said!

**āpa and tum**

Remember our two ways of saying you in Hindi? We're going to revisit them to form some requests. First off lets remind ourselves of the differences between them.

- āpa is the politest form of 'you' in Hindi. It should be used when addressing all strangers and people who you wish to show respect to.
- tum is a more familiar way of saying 'you'. It should be used when speaking with friends or talking to children.

Nice and simple! Now, lets look some requests using both āpa and tum. See if you can figure out the rule for making a polite and a familiar request.

	आप बैठिए āpa baiṭhiē Please have a seat	☆
	तुम बैठो tuma baiṭhō Have a seat	☆
	आप खाइए āpa khāiē Please eat	☆

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