LEARNING ENGLISH IN HINDI

PROF. RAJESH KUMAR

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences IIT Madras

INTENDED AUDIENCE: Anyone who wishes to learn to speak, read, and write in English.

COURSE OUTLINE:

Attempting to learn English through the medium of Hindi is a novel experiment through this course. Research indicates that learning gets facilitated if we get content delivered in the language we are comfortable with (in other words, in the language that we grew up speaking). For those who speak Hindi and/or understand Hindi, this course will provide opportunity where they do not need to struggle with the initial hesitation. This course will provide nuances of language in details for acquiring functional competence at the levels of fluency and accuracy in English for speaking, reading, and writing. The course is designed to take the participants through incremental learning at the levels of sounds, words, sentences. It will help go through the intricacies of conducting a sustainable discourse in the English language.

ABOUT INSTRUCTOR:

Prof. Rajesh Kumar is a professor of linguistics in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai. He obtained his PhD in linguistics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Prior to joining IIT Madras, he taught at IIT Kanpur and IIT Patna in India and at the University of Texas at Austin in the USA. He has been a visiting faculty at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences in Mumbai in India. His book on Syntax of Negation and Licensing of Negative Polarity Items was published by Routledge in their prestigious series Outstanding Dissertations in Linguistics in 2006. He has been associate editor of the journal Language and Language Teaching. He has been part of the language teaching program at all the institutions he has been affiliated with. The broad goal of his research is uncovering regularities underlying both the structural form (what language is) and sociolinguistic functions (what language does) of natural language. He works on structure of South Asian Languages. He is keenly interested in issues related to language (multilingualism) in education; politics; human cognition; and landscape.

ORCID ID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5268-3080

URL: https://hss.iitm.ac.in/team-members/rajesh-kumar/

COURSE PLAN:

Week 1: Sounds & Writing Symbols in Engish; Speech Sounds in English; Consonants and Consonant Clusters in English; Syllables and Words; Some Features of English Words; Plural Words in English

Week 2: Parts of speech 1; Parts of Speech 2; Parts of Speech 3; Words and Phrases in English;

Fundamentals of Learning English for Accuracy, Fluency and Communicative Confidence

Week 3: Sentences in English; Direct and Indirect Objects; Verb-be (is, are, am) in English; Imperative sentences in English (command or request); Questions in English (Interogative sentences); Negative Sentences in English; Agreement in English Sentences

Week 4: Participles in English; Relaive Clauses in English; Functions of Modals; Passives in English; Mood and Modal Verbs

Week 5: Modal verb 1; Modal verb 2; Modal verb 3; Modal verb 4; Telephone English

Week 6: Illustrating Clauses and Sentences; Describing Clauses and Sentences; Sentence, Clause and Complex Sentences; Adjectival (Relative) Clause; Adverbs; Agreement in English Sentences (Subject and Verb in Sentences)

Week 7: Question Tags in English Sentences; Questions in English (Interrogative sentences); Learning Softening (Knowing vs Using); Rhythm and Pitch in English; Terminal Punctuations; Punctuation 1;

Week 8: Advanced Vocabulary; Innovation in Vocabulary; Metaphors; Phrases & Idioms You Must Know; Make your expressions impressive