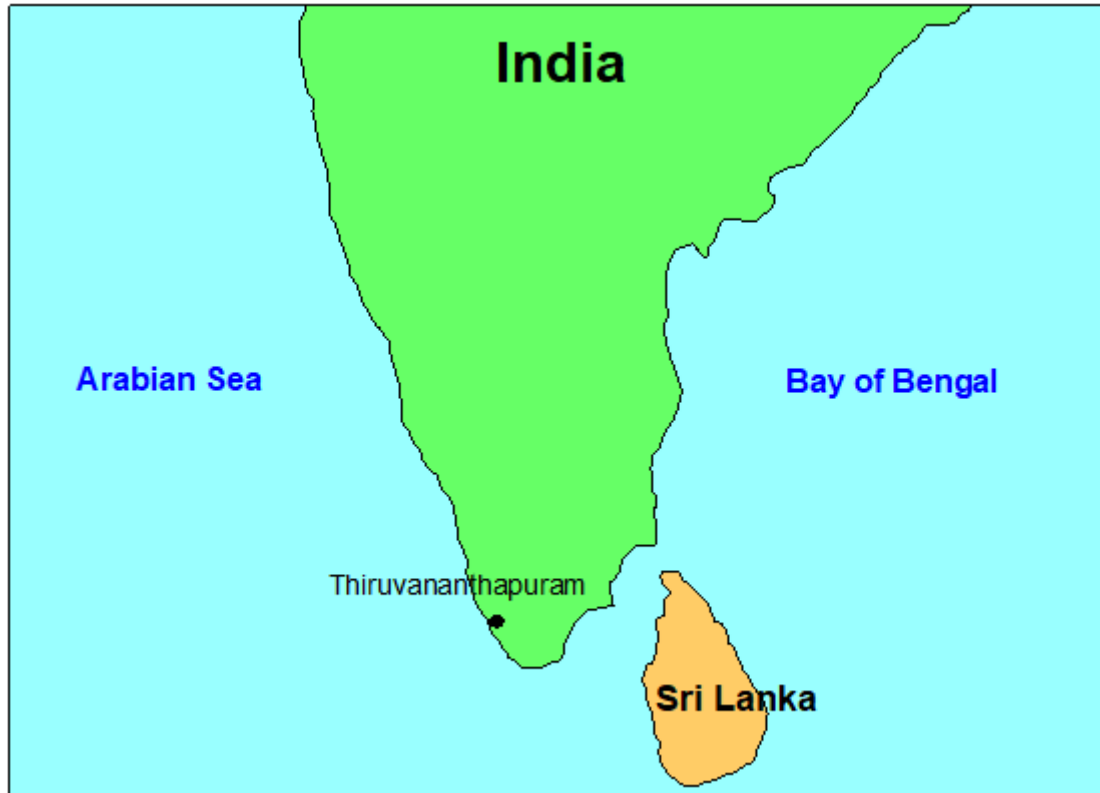


# Malayalam



Malayalam is one of the 22 recognised national languages in India. It is spoken as a native language by around 38,000,000 people and by around 2.88% of the population of India.

Malayalam is a Dravidian language spoken by the Malayali people. Sometimes the language, and its speaker, are referred to as Malabari. It is predominantly spoken in the Indian state of Kerala and the union territories of Lakshadweep and Puducherry. These regions are in the southern peninsula of India.

The Malayalam language has 52 phonemes. A few of the phonemes are unique for Malayalam. The script has 15 vowel letters, 41 consonants and a few other symbols.

# Written Malayalam



Malayalam is written in script. It was first written with the Vatteluttu alphabet (വട്ടെഴുത്ത് Vatteluttü), which means 'round writing' and it developed from the Brahmi script.

<u>Vowels (Swaram)</u>														
അ	ആ	ഇ	ഈ	ഉ	ഊ	ഋ	എ	ഈ	ഐ	ഒ	ഔ	ഔ	അഃ	അഃ
A	Aa	E	Ee	U	Uu	Er	Ea	Eaa	Ai	O	Oh	Oau	Aum	Ah
<u>Consonants (Vyanjanam)</u>														
ക	ഖ	ഗ	ഘ	ങ	ച	ഛ	ജ	ഝ	ഞ					
Ka	Kha	Ga	Gha	inga	Cha	chha	Ja	Jha	inha					
ട	ഠ	ഡ	ഢ	ണ	ത	ഥ	ദ	ധ	ന					
Ta	Tta	Da	Dda	Na	Tha	Thha	Dha	Dhha	Na					
പ	ഫ	ബ	ഭ	മ	യ	ര	ല	വ	ശ					
Pa	Ffa	Ba	Fa	Ma	Ya	Ra	La	Va	Sha					
		ഷ	സ	ഹ	ള	ഴ	റ							
		Shha	Sa	Ha	Lha	zha	Rha							
	ൽ		ൻ	ർ		ൽ		ൻ						
	ilh		in	irr		ill		Inh						

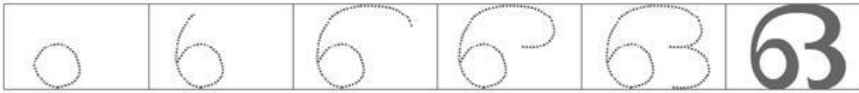
Practice writing these letters.

ഒ - (o)

o as in onion



Steps to write the letter "ഒ"



ഒട്ടകം  
ottakam  
(camel)

ഒ ഒ ഒ ഒ ഒ ഒ ഒ

ഒ ഒ ഒ ഒ ഒ ഒ ഒ

Name:.....

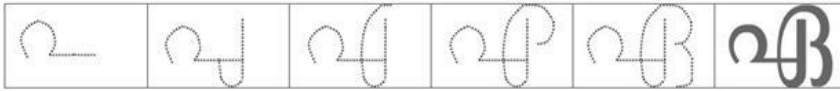
Date:.....

# എ - (aae)

aae as in age



Steps to write the letter “എ”



എണി  
aeni

(ladder)

എ എ എ എ എ എ എ

എ എ എ എ എ എ എ

Name:.....

Date:.....

# എ - (ae)

ae as in aeroplane



Steps to write the letter "എ"

0	1	2	3	4	എ
---	---	---	---	---	---

എറുമാ  
**aeruma**  
(buffalo)

എ	എ	എ	എ	എ	എ	എ
എ	എ	എ	എ	എ	എ	എ

Name:.....

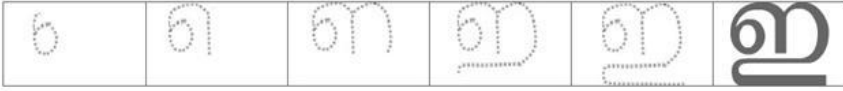
Date:.....

# ഇ - (i)

i as in india



Steps to write the letter “ഇ”



ഇല  
ila  
(leaf)

ഇ ഇ ഇ ഇ ഇ ഇ ഇ

ഇ ഇ ഇ ഇ ഇ ഇ ഇ

Name:.....

Date:.....

# First words

<b>Welcome</b>	Swagatham	സ്വാഗതം
<b>Hello</b>	Namaste	നമസ്കേ
<b>Goodbye</b>	Pinne kaanam	പിന്നെ കാണാം
<b>Yes</b>	Athey	അതെ
<b>No</b>	Illa	ഇല്ല
<b>Thank you</b>	Nanni	നന്ദി
<b>Please</b>	Dayavayi	ദയവായി
<b>Sorry</b>	Kshamikkanum	ക്ഷമിക്കണം
<b>Good Morning</b>	Suprabhaatam	സുപ്രഭാതം
<b>Good afternoon</b>	Namaste	നമസ്കേ
<b>Come here</b>	Iveda varoo	ഇവിടെ വരൂ
<b>Well done</b>	Valare nanaierikannu	വളരെ നന്നായിരിക്കുന്നു

Practice writing these words using Malayalam script.

Try and guess how to pronounce these words.

Listen to these words on the recording. Now practice saying them.

# Numbers 1 to 10

Numbers are also written in script.

One	-	ഒന്ന്	Onnu
Two	-	രണ്ട്	Randu
Three	-	മൂന്ന്	Moonnu
Four	-	നാല്	Naalu
Five	-	അഞ്ച്	Anjhu
Six	-	ആറ്	Aaru
Seven	-	ഏഴ്	Aaezhu
Eight	-	എട്ട്	Aetu
Nine	-	ഒമ്പത്	Onpatthu
Ten	-	പത്ത്	Patthu

Practice counting to 10.

Can you count backwards from 10 to 1?

Practice writing the numbers.



# Questions and answers

What is your name?	നിങ്ങളുടെ പേര് എന്താണ്? Ninguluda peara inth aanu?
My name is Aiswarya.	എന്റെ പേര് ഐശ്വര്യ എന്നാണ്. Enda peara Aiswarya ennakunnu.

How old are you?	നിങ്ങൾക്ക് എത്ര വയസ്സായി? Ningulaca ithareh vais aye?
I am nine years old.	എനിക്ക് ഒൻപത് വയസ്സായി. Ennicu onbadha vais aye.

How are you?	നിങ്ങൾക്ക് ഐശ്വര്യമുണ്ടോ? Ningulacu ingunneh ondah?
Very well.	വളരെ സുഖം. Valareh sugam.

What is this?	ഇത് എന്താണ്? Itha inthav aanu?
This is a pencil.	ഇത് ഒരു പെൻസിൽ ആണ്. Itha oru pencil aavanu.

Do you understand?	നിങ്ങൾക്ക് മനസ്സിലാക്കാമോ? Ningalku manisilayo?
I do not understand.	എനിക്ക് മനസ്സിലായില്ല. Ennacu manisilayila.

# Borrowed words

Borrowed Words or loanwords are words adopted by the speakers of one language from a different language (the source language). The abstract noun borrowing refers to the process of speakers adopting words from a source language into their native language.



Malayalam has incorporated many elements from other languages over the years, the most notable of these being Sanskrit and later, English.

The other main languages whose vocabulary was incorporated over the ages were Pali, Prakrit, Urdu, Hindi, Chinese, Arabic, Syriac, Dutch, and Portuguese.

Some borrowed words from English include:

<i>Script</i>	<i>Transliteration</i>	<i>meaning</i>	<i>original word</i>
മാദാമ	Madaama	A respectful woman	Madam(e)
മാഷ്	Maash	Teacher, guru	Master

English also has lots of borrowed words.

**Did you know:** The word ketchup has its origins in Chinese!



Some other examples include:

*French* - village, restaurant, sabotage, brunette, fiancé and cliché.

*Portuguese* - banana and marmalade

*Greek* - telephone, encyclopedia, mathematics and chaos

*Italian* - diva, scenario, opera, piano, graffiti, pasta and espresso

*Japanese* - tsunami and karaoke

**Challenge:** can you find any more words English has borrowed from other languages?