An overview of IGCSE Sanskrit study

(Cambridge Examinations syllabus 0499 – Grade range A* to G)

Language:

- Basic Sanskrit word order (e.g. verb comes at the end)
- Writing the Sanskrit script in *devanāgarī* and transliteration

- **Noun/pronoun forms**: includes *rāma, sītā, mitram, hari, guru* and *nadī, dhātṛ, pitṛ, mātṛ* and *svasṛ, ātman, rājan, karman, nāman, manas, jñānin* (masc), *dhīmat* (masc & fem); *suhrd, sumanas* (masc); *tat*; *idam; aham* and *tvam*.)
- **Verbs**: *bhavati, karoti* and *vardhate* (present, past, future, optative and perfect); 2nd person singular and plural imperative forms for verbs like *bhavati*; imperative forms for verbs like *bhavati*, eg *bhavatu*; *asti* (present) and *āsīt* (past).

Ability to use the word endings, where applicable, with other IGCSE vocabulary words.

- Past passive participles ending in *–ta* and *-tvā* , and *–ya* after a prefix.
- *iti* after direct speech • *saha* with the third case ending • *samīpe* with the sixth case ending • *dadāti* and *namati* with the fourth case ending • the use of the sixth case ending to show possession.

Language Topics – related to word and sentence construction:
Complementary sentences (when *yadā* /then *tadā* etc). Indefinites (*kiṃcit, kutrāpi* etc). Passive verbs. Common prefixes. *Sandhi* and its application. The *samāsa* system (compound words). *kṛdanta* forms including infinitives, present participles, *tavat* & *kṛtya*. Use of cases (*vibhakti*). Common *dhātus* as they appear in various word forms.

Literature:

• 6 short Mahābhārata stories (adapted); 5 extracts *Hitopadeśa* (original); 20 verses *Bhagavad Gītā* (original text)

Epic Civilisation:

1. Basic Metaphysical Teachings: *ātman, brahman, karma, puruṣa, sattva* etc.
2. The Cosmos: *mahābhūtāni, buddhi, citta, prāṇa* etc.
3. Important Texts: *śruti, smṛti, upaniṣads, sūtras, rāmāyaṇa*, etc.
4. Divine Beings: *deva, śakti, śiva, brahmā* etc.
5. Human Life and its Purpose: *kāma, dharma, mokṣa, dhyāna* etc.

Full syllabus details: *https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-sanskrit-0499* /