

From a student:

What I find wonderful about Sanskrit is the depth that it gives in the meaning of words. The sounds are so therapeutic when heard and spoken. I am learning Sanskrit to analyse passages to give me further understanding of the stories I have heard in my childhood.

I have been a lover of Indian epics, having heard and read many stories in my childhood and youth from my parents, teachers and from movies. I have had an instinctive preference on the type of books that I had read. I picked stories that made me stop in my tracks, that caused a spark that I recognised as a profound interest. These epics transported me to a space of mystery and set me wondering.

Life is infinitely more amazing than our day to day business and work. It is precisely the function of the verses from the Bhagavad Gita for example that one can live life more deeply. The verses wake us up and help us to live with, and within the mystery of our being.

To make this journey of life a conscious endeavour, the question how to live and be authentic keeps coming to mind. We can be honest about what we think and feel on one level, but be failing to include in our expression, a part of us which we have not yet explored enough to articulate. Knowledge is meant to serve this purpose of assisting us to explore, and give to others, clear and satisfying thought, emotion and expression.

Sanskrit language is like a vessel that contains words and sounds that help us to explore ourselves to know/experience and then express ourselves authentically.

'Word' is very important in life and Sanskrit is a language which has perfection in it: in how it sounds and the meanings that those sounds convey. Therefore the complex structures and grammar mean that your mind can be refined through studying it.

I have arrived now into this position where this wonderful language can be learnt through the help of my teacher David Stollar, whose course is extremely well organised. The teaching style is effective because he is knowledgeable and engaging.