

## A Certificate Course in

### "The Art of Learning Tamil as a sound-based language"

A foundation course for the beginners to learn Tamil language with 30 alphabet notes and a few sound symbols

#### THE FRAMEWORK:

At present Tamil is taught as a letter-based language with 247 letters. In fact, Tamil is a sound-based language with 30 alphabet sounds. This curriculum is devised for the learners to learn Tamil as a sound-based musical language with 12 vowel notes and 18 consonant notes and with few vowel sound symbols to understand the rhythmic grammar structures of Tholkappiar, the first formal Tamil grammarian. The curriculum mainly insists the link sounds between the vowel notes and the consonant notes. In fact, the beauty of the Tamil language with marvellous grammar structures spans with the merging of vowel and consonant sounds and how to allot letter shapes to those merged sounds known as vowel-consonant sounds. In the curriculum at every stage the learner will acquaint with how to extract a vowel note and a consonant note from a merged sound and vice versa. This acquaintance of linked sounds and their extractions are more vital to understand the Tamil grammatical structures.

In this curriculum the sounds of Tamil language are alienated into three main groups known as short sounds, long sounds and syllable sounds to form words

There are eight musical structures in this curriculum and word-analysis is conducted in each structure to identify vowel notes, consonant notes including vowel-consonant sounds, short sounds, long sounds and syllable sounds.

## Structure - 1

( ட் - ப் - ம் - ய் - ழ் - அ - ஆ )

### 1.1 : Acquaint with five consonant notes and two vowel notes.

The Tamil language has got 12 vowel notes and 18 consonant notes, but the students will not learn all 30 alphabet notes together. In the first structure they would acquaint with 5 consonant sounds and 2 vowel sounds only

The first consonant note is known as “t” in “kite” ( Tamil alphabet : ட் )

The second consonant note is known as “p” in “pack”( Tamil alphabet : ப் )

The third consonant note is known as “ m” in “come” (Tamil alphabet: ம் )

The fourth consonant note is known as “Y” in “Yak” (Tamil alphabet : ய் )

The fifth consonant note is known as “L” in” TAMIL” (Tamil alphabet : ழ் )

The first vowel note is known as “a” in “another”(Tamil alphabet : அ )

The second vowel note is known as “A” in “All”( Tamil alphabet : ஆ )

### 1.2 : Merging of five consonant notes and two vowel notes to form merged sounds.

### 1.3 : Construction of short, long and syllable sounds with five consonant notes and two vowel notes

### 1.4 : Forming words with five consonant notes and two vowel notes and with the short, long and syllable sound patterns

படம்	பாடம்	பயம்	பழம்
அப்பா	அம்மா	பாப்பா	பட்டம்

## Structure - 2

(ஸ் - ப் - ம் - ய் - ழ் - அ - ஆ - இ - ஈ)

### 2.1 : Acquaint with five consonant notes and two more vowel notes.

In the second structure the learner will acquaint with two more vowel notes known as

இ and ஈ. (இ as “I” in tip and ஈ as “ee” in deep)

### 2.2 : Merging of five consonant notes and four vowel notes to form merged sounds.

### 2.3 : Construction of short, long and syllable sounds with five consonant notes and four vowel notes.

### 2.4 : Forming words with five consonant notes and four vowel notes and with the short, long and syllable sound patterns. Example of words formed by those sound patterns:

அடி	ஆடி	படி	பாடி	பாட்டி
மீழ்	இடம்	ஈயம்	ஈட்டி	மிட்டாய்

### Structure - 3

( ட் -ப் -ம் -ய் -ழ் -க் -ர் ச் -த் - அ -ஆ -இ -ஈ )

#### 3.1 : Acquaint with nine consonant notes and four vowel notes.

( ட் -ப் -ம் -ய் -ழ் -க் -ர் ச் -த் - அ -ஆ -இ -ஈ )

The learner will acquaint with four more consonant notes known as க் -ர் ச் -த்-க் as k in kit ர் as r in rabbit ச் as Ch in Church த் as th in cloth

#### 3.2 : Merging of nine consonant notes and four vowel notes to form merged sounds.

#### 3.3 : Construction of short, long and syllable sounds with nine consonant notes and four vowel notes.

#### 3.4 : Forming words with nine consonant notes and four vowel notes and with the short, long and syllable sound patterns. Example of words formed by those sound patterns:

மார்கழி	மகரம்	ஆயிரம்	அச்சம்	திட்டம்
அக்கம்	பக்கம்	தாக்கம்	கட்டம்	காட்டம்

## Structure - 4

( ட் - ப் - ம் - ய் - ழ் - ர் - ச் - க் - த் - ந் - ங் - ல் - வ் - அ - ஆ - இ - ஈ )

### 4.1 : Acquaint with thirteen consonant notes and four vowel notes.

( ட் - ப் - ம் - ய் - ழ் - க் - ர் - ச் - த் - அ - ஆ - இ - ஈ )

The learner will acquaint with four more consonant notes known as ந்- ங்- ல்- வ் ந் as n in night ங் as ñ in noon ல் as l in lion வ் as v in very

### 4.2 : Merging of thirteen consonant notes and four vowel notes to form merged sounds.

### 4.3 : Construction of short, long and syllable sounds with thirteen consonant notes and four vowel notes.

### 4.4 : Forming words with thirteen consonant notes and four vowel notes and with the short, long and syllable sound patterns. Example of words formed by those sound patterns:

வாழ்க	வரம்	நாட்டம்	வசந்தம்	நகரம்
வீரம்	நிம்மதி	விக்கல்	வீழ்ச்சி	நீதிபதி

## Structure - 5

(ட - ப் - ம் - ய் - ழ் - ர் - ச் - க் - த் - ந் - ங் - ல் - வ் - அ - ஆ - இ - ஈ - எ - ஏ - ஐ -)

### 5.1 : Acquaint with thirteen consonant notes and seven vowel notes.

(ட - ப் - ம் - ய் - ழ் - ர் - ச் - க் - த் - ந் - ங் - ல் - வ் - அ - ஆ - இ - ஈ - எ - ஏ - ஐ -)

The learner will acquaint with three more vowel notes known as எ - ஏ - ஐ எ as E in Eight ஏ as E in Elephant ஐ as ai in Thai

### 5.2 : Merging of thirteen consonant notes and seven vowel notes to form merged sounds.

### 5.3 : Construction of short, long and syllable sounds with thirteen consonant notes and seven vowel notes.

### 5.4 : Forming words with thirteen consonant notes and seven vowel notes and with the short, long and syllable sound patterns. Example of words formed by those sound patterns:

நெல்	நெய்	பெரிய	தெய்வம்	செவ்வாய்
தேர்	வேல்	தேநீர்	தேர்தல்	தேவாரம்

## Structure - 6

( ட் -ப் - ம் - ய் - ழ் - ர் - ச் - க் - த் - ந் - ங் - ல் - வ் - ற் - ள் - ஞ் - ண் - ண் - அ - ஆ - இ - ஈ - எ - ஏ - ஐ )

### 6.1 : Acquaint with eighteen consonant notes and seven vowel notes.

( ட் -ப் - ம் - ய் - ழ் - ர் - ச் - க் - த் - ந் - ங் - ல் - வ் - ற் - ள் - ஞ் - ண் - ண் - அ - ஆ - இ - ஈ - எ - ஏ - ஐ )

The learner will acquaint with five more consonant notes known as ற் - ள் - ஞ் - ண் - ண் ற் as r in room / ள் as l in look / ஞ் as inj in injection/ ண் as n in in night / ண் as n in news

### 6.2 : Merging of eighteen consonant notes and seven vowel notes to form merged sounds.

### 6.3 : Construction of short, long and syllable sounds with eighteen consonant notes and seven vowel notes.

### 6.4 : Forming words with eighteen consonant notes and seven vowel notes and with the short, long and syllable sound patterns. Example of words formed by those sound patterns:

ஆனி	கணனி	வெற்றி	வைகாசி
தண்ணீர்	நேர்காணல்	தெய்வீகம்	வெள்ளிக்கிழமை

## Structure - 7

( ட் - ப் - ம் - ய் - ழ் - ர் - ச் - க் - த் - ந் - ங் - ல் - வ் - ற் - ள் - ழ் - ன் - ண் அ - ஆ - இ - ஈ - எ - ஏ - ஐ - உ - ஊ - ஒ - ஓ.)

### 7.1 : Acquaint with eighteen consonant notes and eleven vowel notes.

( ட் - ப் - ம் - ய் - ழ் - ர் - ச் - க் - த் - ந் - ங் - ல் - வ் - ற் - ள் - ழ் - ன் - ண் அ - ஆ - இ - ஈ - எ - ஏ - ஐ - உ - ஊ - ஒ - ஓ.)

The learner will acquaint with four more vowel notes known as உ - ஊ - ஒ - ஓ உ as u in ultimate/ ஊ as oo in moon / ஒ as o in opera/ ஓ as Oh in Ohm

### 7.2 : Merging of eighteen consonant notes and eleven vowel notes to form merged sounds.

### 7.3 : Construction of short, long and syllable sounds with eighteen consonant notes and eleven vowel notes

### 7.4 : Forming words with eighteen consonant notes and eleven vowel notes and with the short, long and syllable sound patterns. Example of words formed by those sound patterns:

உயிர்	உனக்கு	திருக்குறள்	புதுமை	துள்ளல்
போராட்டம்	நோக்கம்	முக்கோணம்	தொடக்கம்	தொடரும்



## **STRUCTURE – 7 A : IN THIS STRUCTURE THE LEARNERS WILL ACQUAINT WITH**

Types of words like nouns referred to names, places, time, work etc.

Types of verbs referred to time, gender, rational cla etc.

Sentence making-1- a simple sentence with a subject and predicate.

Sentence making-2 - a simple sentence with a subject, predicate and object.

Sentence making-3- structure of sentences with verb tense patterns.

Joining words with grammatic structures.

### **Therefore, upon successful completion of the course curriculum, students will be able to**

- Read Tamil language easily, fluently and speak with good understanding.
- Write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts.
- Read accurately words of two or more syllables that contain the same graphemes.
- Use Tamil as a communication tool through the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing to meet basic and direct communication needs in familiar and everyday settings.
- Introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, acquaintances and friends.
- Understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment).
- Describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need”.

## RESOURCES

“The sound of a language” is a student’s text cum workbook, designed as a resource material for the use of learners gaining access to this certificate course.

In the book there are four practical exercises how to pronounce a vowel note or a consonant note and correlate it with the related letter shape. Those practical exercises are based on the learning factors of listen and respond, say and identify, classify for identification and finally writing practice.

The lessons are designed as learning steps exploring the concepts of vowel and consonant notes structures, merging of notes and patterns of short, long, syllable sound arrangements to form words etc.

Each learning step is identified with a clear learning outcome and pre-requisite skills for the students to complete ten practical exercises to acquaint with the learning outcome.

The curriculum is devised with eight structures and at the end of each structure, the learners must take revision tests, The revision test papers are available in the book.

We have designed differentiated classwork sheets and assignments for each learning steps. They are accessible on the website: [www.tamilnewway.com](http://www.tamilnewway.com).

Short videos about how to teach each learning step are also accessible in the above website.

Model classwork sheets to start a lesson known as a learning step.

## Learning step 10

### Classwork sheet to be used at the beginning of the lesson

**(The teachers have to use this sheet to assess the learner's previous learning outcomes.)**

- 1) If அம் is a kuril asai oli, what is the nadil asai oli?
- 2) Tell me three kuril asai olikal.
- 3) Tell me three nadil asai olikal.
- 4) Change the nadil oli as a kuril oli in the word "பாடம்" and tell me the word.
- 5) How many kuril olikal in the word பட்டம்.
- 6) What is the uyir oli in ழா?
- 7) How many uyir olikal in the word ஆட்டம்
- 8) Tell me a word with ழ in the middle?
- 9) A word in Tamil language could start with an Uyir oli and end with an Uyir oli. Give me an example.
- 10) What is the main difference between a mey eluthu and an uyir eluthu.

Modal Assessment sheet:

A learner must complete an assessment sheet for each learning step.

**LEARNING STEP 10**      **Assignment sheet**

- 1) Write a two letter word starts with யா.
- 2) Write a word ends with the asai oli ழம்
- 3) Write a five letter word starts with டா
- 4) Write a four letter word with two asai olikal .
- 5) Write a word starts with டா and with an asai oli.
- 6) What are the uyir olikal in the word மாம்பழம்.
- 7) What are the two asai olikal in the word மாம்பழம்.
- 8) Change the nadil oli in the word ஆட்டம் and write the word.
- 9) Change the middle letters " ட்ட " in the word ஆட்டம் and write the word.
- 10) Write two four letter words.