

Question 11: Read and write Nepali

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Devanagari is a writing script used for a range of languages in South Asia – including Hindi and Nepali. Nepali is an Indo-Aryan language spoken by around 18 million people.

Below is a collection of Nepali words using a very limited number of letters. In the left column are words written in Devanagari (labelled 1-14), in the right column are the transliterations (labelled A-N) – that is, an indication how to pronounce them – but not in the same order. The English meaning is also given with the transliteration, just for your information. The sequence 'kh' represents a single letter. Be warned: there is one word in each column that doesn't match up!

Column A	Column B
1 पानी	A ras (juice)
2 सेखी	B raanii (queen)
3 रस	C ratna (gem)
4 कालो	D saano (little)
5 पाना	E pani (also)
6 रानी	F kaalo (black)
7 खाना	G paanii (water)
8 पनि	H kalaa (art)
9 रिस	I kaali (goddess Kali)
10 कला	J khaanaa (food)
11 राङ्को	K sekhii (pride)
12 खानी	L ris (anger)
13 रत्न	M raanko (flame)
14 काली	N khaanii (mine)

B1. Match up the numbers in Column A with the letters corresponding to the transliterations in column B. One number will be blank, and one letter will be unused. *(7 points)*

B2. (a) For the item written in Devanagari in column A which does not match up with an English transliteration, provide your own transliteration. *(1 point)*

(b) Similarly, for the unmatched item written in transliteration in column B write the word in Devanagari. *(2 points)*

B3. Write the following words in English transliteration: *(4 points)*

(a) रे (b) साख (c) सोली (d) लक्का

B4. Write the following words in Devanagari: *(6 points)*

(a) la (b) seno (c) panir (d) nirantar