

Good books to get command over the language (my choice)

If one is interested and passionate about the style of the Classical Sanskrit Literature and also interested to write in that style it could be possible only after reading the entire classical literature. I do have such interest but I don't want to get diverted more on Vyakarana or learning usages rather enjoying the classical literature, So I thought it is better to read the primers and other misc books, to learn the language .But even after completing them also, they would create a big gap i,e between the primers and classical literatures. This is because normally readers are prepared by using the similar or the same words which are being used in the mother tongues. Also readers uses Bhavan to escape learning Madhyama Purusa, or it is written without following the Samdhi rules. It uses tavat pratyaya for lanj, never uses yanjluk or lunj etc

So I prepared a list of the books which can be used as a bridge to read the Classical Literature, the list includes not only readers and also grammar books.

Recently I posted about the good sanskrit readers were by K L V Sastry along with sabdamanjarai (at the end of Sabdamanjari book misc topics are explained which is very useful for instance notes on hint to anvaya karma and list of indeclinables etc ) and Dhaturupamanjari (most widely used 495 roots are mentioned )

I strictly believe one should approach these books in the list only after reading the above named books. The order of the list is just random. I hardly have an access to any library so I would have left many good authors, so please feel free to update the list. I may have also forgotten many authors to mention in the list because this list is not pre-planned and I have not mentioned many famous books like readers by Samskrita Bharati Grammers books like Bhaimi Vyakhya etc because I did not like them. Indirectly and directly to prepare this list I have taken the help of my father, S Jagannatha, R Ganesh, H N Bhat, Sankara and many more thanks to all of them.

1. Sanaskrit Reader or Paathavali by T Ganapati Sastry Vol 1 , 2 ,3 (Available online, I could not locate volume 2)
2. Sandhi by Mahabalesvara Bhatt - printed Samskrita Bharati 'Aksharam' Girinagara Bangalore (google for telephone numbers or address)
3. Samasa Chakra -Unknown author by Chowkhamba (Same translation also available in Kannada by Bhima bhatta acharya , one can approach Vandana book house or Vedanta book house)
4. Samasa by Mahabalesvara Bhatt published Samskrita Bharati 'Aksharam' Girinagara Bangalore (google for telephone numbers or address)
5. Karaka by Mahabalesvara Bhatt Printed same as above

6. The Sanskrit Language: v. 1 & 2 By Walter Maurer (International Publication i,e Not an Indian publisher, you can buy online)
7. Samskrta-Subodhini: A Sanskrit Primer By Madhav M. Deshpande (International Publication, you can buy online) around 2000 Rs
8. Laghuvrttaratnakara (most commonly used meters are listed) By T Ramachandra Iyer Vadhyar and sons Palghat around 15 Rs
9. Ramodantam Unknown author available both online and shops best edition Vadhyar and sons, around 15 Rs, some of the verses from Ramodanta included in the Sanskrit readers by K L V Sastry
10. Vyakarana Pravesika By L Anantarama Sastry Vadhyar and sons
11. Exercise in Sanskrit Translation By T K Ramachandra Iyer Vadhyar and sons
12. Sahitya Sudha A Sanskrit reader by Charudeva Sastry Available online.
13. Sabdartha Kaustubha Sanskrit-Kannada dictionary in 6 Vols. By Srinivasacharya Chakravarti Bangalore Press
14. Sanskrit English Dictionary MM Williams ( I did not like the one by Apte)
15. First Book & Second book of Sasnkrit By Bhandarkar Chowkhamba
16. Hitopadesha Mitralabha Commentary by Krishnavallabhacharya Pub Chowkhamba (upto Mitralabha Krishnavallabhacarya Swamy Narayana has commented and it is very useful to learn the splitting of compounds in profound manner, this author also commented on all six darshana granthas and called as Shaddarshanacharya)
17. Students guide to Sanskrit composition By Apte available online
18. Anuvada Kala By Charudeva Sastry HINDI Version available online (The sanskrit version is also available which is not the translation of hindi version)
19. Vakyamuktavali By Charudeva Sastry Out of Print.
20. Upasargartha Chandrika in 5 Vols by Charudeva Sastry Out of Print ( in the Readers by KLV Sastry covers most commonly used prepositions)
21. Prastavatarangini By Charudeva Sastry printed Chowkhamba
22. Kusumamala Vol 1 & 2 By Apte available online (V S Apte and M S Apte's edtion differs with the addition and deletion of passages and sloka, M S Apte has introduced more passages and Slokas and removed few tough ones)
23. Gadyavali By Kane I don't know whether it is available online I believe it is out of print.

24. Vyakarana Chandrodaya in 5 Volumes , one can directly read this book without studying any traditional Grammer books, still you can keep Bhasavrtti (ratna publisher, Varanasi) along with that Kasikavrtti (printed in 3 vol by Iswara Chandra's edition chowkhamba) , I don't prefer Bhaimi vyakya etc

25. Kathasataka By S Venkatarama Sastry Printed Madras 1898

26. Kaumudikathakallolini By Ramasarana Sastry Printed Chowkhamba

27. Brhadanuvadachandrika Motilala Banarasidas

28. Sanskrita Bhasabhyasa By Ambikadatta Vyasa

29. Katha Kusuma By Ambikadatta Vyasa

30. Kathamanjari By Jagannath Vedalankar Printed Arobindo Institute, Pondichery 70 Rs

31. Satkatha By Jagannath Vedalankar Printed Arobindo Institute, Pondichery

32. Sarala Samskrita Sarani By Jagannath Vedalankar Printed Arobindo Institute, Pondichery

33. Sanskrit Dairy By Satvrat Sastry

34. Rjurohita By S Jagannatha

35. Appa Sastry Rashivadekar books mostly printed in his Chandrika Magazine (unfortunately I have not got any of his works like caged parrot, Lavyanyamayi, Alladin story translation but except few letters in the magazine Manjusha)

36. Some of the prefaces of the misc books and great authors of the same, where the diction and language are extremely high

Krishnamachariar book (all three krishnamachariars)

Ramacharya Galagali

Pandarinnathacharya Galagali (I once able to attend his Sanskrit speech 15 years back I did not understand any thing but I still remember few lines which was awesome to listen, I came to know he by-hearted the whole Kadambari)

Bannanje Govindacharya

Kshitishachandra Chattopadhyaya

Rajanarayana Sukla

Venimadhava Sukla

Sesaraja Sarma Regmi

K L V Sastry

Ramasarana Sastry

Pt Durgaprasad (Nirnaya Sagar Books, for instance Sisupalavadha with Sarvankasa)

R S Venkatarama Sastry (author of Samskrita Sahitya Itihasa)

Krishnavallabhacharya Swamy Narayana

Vindhyesvari Prasad Divedi ( I was very much pleased by his style of writing in Tarkika Raksa's preface)

Raghuvamsa Vyakhyaana(only 6 sargas printed from Netherland rest of the work is going on.) by Vallabhadeva is very beautiful, the language is used in the commentary and his diction is really mindblowing but I found slight difference in sisupalavadha's tika it is not like raghuvamsa's and meghaduta's commentary is also really nice,

Viraraghavacharya (Tarkasangraha Sukhapravesini preface)

Appa Sastry Rashivadekar

I believe Gajendragadkar and R D Karmakars language and diction would be very much high standard but till now I could not find any of their Sanskrit writings

There are few books previously printed in the magazines are very good in the writing style, for instance, Raghuvamsa vimarsa, Kumarasambhava vimarsa, Madhuravani by Burli Srinivasacharya (collection of essays written in the magazine Madhuravani, printed mysore) Madhuranjali ( mostly poems printed in Madhuravani Magazine), Sivaji Vijaya by Ambika Datta Vyas(printed serially in Chandrika), Kadambari sangraha, Kadambari sara, Kalidasa nataka Katha, Kalidasiya nataka katha sangraha, Panchatantra sangraha, Bhasa nataka katha sara, etc among all these I have seen only few.

I have not seen the books like Prabandha Kalpalatika by Revatikant bhattacharya etc

Prabandha chintamani prabandha kosa Puratana prabandha sangraha by the authors like Merutungacharya and few other jain authors also is a very good.

I have also not seen the book Learn Sanskrit in six months( I forgot the hindi title) by Yudhistira Mimamsaka. Which is available online.

I request every one to update the list if I have omitted the good books.

Kati KavayaH Kati KrtayaH Kati luptaH Kati charanti Kati sithilaH| - Nilakantha Dikshitha

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