

# Tamil

# வரவேற்பு

Tamil is one of the most important languages in Southern India as well as the Northern and Eastern parts of Sri Lanka. Even though the written form of Tamil is the same everywhere, spoken Tamil (pronunciation) may vary from place to place.

## Script

The Tamil alphabet uses 247 non-roman characters made up of 12 vowels and 18 consonants, and the script is written from left to right.

## Sentence structure and word order

- The basic structure of a sentence in Tamil is "subject-object-verb," as opposed to "subject-verb-object" in English
- Postpositions are used instead of prepositions

## Nouns and pronouns

- There is no definite or indefinite article before a noun
- An alternative form of the second and third person pronoun is used for elders and strangers

## Typical errors

- Pronunciation errors when the letters B, P, F, T, D, K or V are used
- Confusing the use of "no," "not" and "don't"
- Trying to use an irregular verb as a regular verb e.g. "I dranked milk' or "I goed."