



शिखागोविश्वविद्यालये

प्रारम्भिकसंस्कृतम्

FIRST-YEAR SANSKRIT

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



अल्लटाचार्योद्भावितः पाठक्रमः  Designed by Andrew Ollett



COORDINATIVE COMPOUNDS

dvandvāḥ



द्वन्द्वाः

COORDINATIVE COMPOUNDS

2.2.29

The Sanskrit name for these compounds is *dvandvaḥ* (“pair”). They refer to the coordination of their individual elements:

dhavakhadirapalāśāḥ





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dhava-khadira-palāśāḥ

Dhava trees (axlewood), *khadira* trees (cutch), and *palāśa* trees (flame of the forest)

COORDINATIVE COMPOUNDS

2.2.29

The *vigrahavākyam* is formed simply by putting *ca* in between the individual components:

dhavāḥ · ca · khadirāḥ · ca · palāśāḥ · ca

You will know the *gender* from the stem, but you will have to guess the *number* from the context.





COORDINATIVE COMPOUNDS

2.2.29

The most common type of *dvandvaḥ* is called a *itarētara-dvandvaḥ*, where the **number** of the compound is just the sum of the numbers of the individual components:

rāma-lakṣmaṇau [dual]

rāmaḥ · ca · lakṣmaṇaḥ · ca ·

COORDINATIVE COMPOUNDS

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sumitrā-kausalyā-kaikēyyaḥ [pl.]

sumitrā · ca · kausalyā · ca · kaikēyī · ca

COORDINATIVE COMPOUNDS

2.4.2

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Parts of the body

2.4.2

pāṇi-pādam

“hands and feet”



COORDINATIVE COMPOUNDS

Another type is the *samāhāra-* (or “collective”) *dvandvaḥ*, which is necessarily in the singular. This is possible for things that usually appear together, and specifically:

Parts of an army

2.4.2

rathika-pādātam

“charioteers and infantrymen”



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Small animals:

2.4.8

daṁśa-maśakam
“gnats and flies”



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Natural enemies:

2.4.9

mārjāra-mūṣakam

“cats and mice”



COORDINATIVE COMPOUNDS

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And lots of other things:

2.4.II

strī-kumāram

“women and children”



WORD ORDER

Dvandvaḥ compounds can be considered “polycentric” since no one of their components is more important than any of the others. An adjective, for instance, will apply to all equally:

vīrau rāmalakṣmaṇau

brave Rāma and Lakṣmaṇa



WORD ORDER

So what determines the order of words within a *dvandvaḥ*? Pāṇini gives guidelines based not on *meaning* but on *sound*. The first member is usually:

- ✿ the stem with fewer syllables; 2.2.34
- ✿ a stem starting with a vowel (and ending with *a*); 2.2.33
- ✿ a stem ending with *i* or *u*. 2.2.32



ALUK?

The case-suffix of all but the last member is dropped.

But there are Vedic examples of quasi-*dvandvas* (called *dēvatā-dvandvas*) where each of two words is inflected in the dual:

mitrā́-váruṇau

Mitra [du.] (and) Varuṇa [du.]

