



# Quick Tips to Learn A New Language





# Do you know my story of learning Italian??

## IT STARTED IN 2015....

After another solo travel to Italy, I decided to enroll myself in lessons to learn Italian. I knew it would ease my travels if I knew even a little Italian, especially in small towns.

So after a lot of thinking, I jumped to the bandwagon of learning Italian and ever since then, there has been no looking back. But it was a huge step for me to move out of my comfort zone and learn a language so different from my mother tongue i.e. Hindi.

So my advice to you is, to start it! That's half the battle won! Don't overthink unnecessarily, take that plunge!!



# HOW SHOULD I START TO LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE

First things first, don't talk to a million people on what language you should learn. People tend to confuse at times, hence I believe it's better if you take this decision yourself. Think of what culture attracts you more and what language would you like to speak. Do your research, make an informed choice and enroll yourself before someone changes your mind!

## 10 Tips to Get You Started:

1. Listen to Music from the Beginning: Don't wait for yourself to get to an advanced level in your target language. Start listening to music from Day 1. Even if you don't understand the lyrics, keep listening. You will pick up more than you think. And trust me it helps!

2. Get Netflix: Subscribe to Netflix and watch documentaries, movies or plays in your target language. You can even subscribe to a local website of the target language you are learning. For instance, I watch a lot of Italian shows on [www.raiplay.it](http://www.raiplay.it).



3. Don't Expect Results from Day 1. Give yourself time to get accustomed to hearing something unique and different. Don't expect yourself to be fluent for a long time. #HardTruth

4. Keep a Journal: Write new words and sentences that you love in your target language. Keeping a handy journal that you can carry around always helps. I wrote several diaries in my first year of studying Italian and then I got lazy. Don't make that mistake.

5. Teach Others: One very important tip to learn a language is to teach others. I used to do it with my partner when I was learning numbers and they got confusing. We started from 1-10 and he would repeat after me. It was a fun exercise and we both learnt in the end!

6. Speak to Yourself: I know that sounds funny but this is another great mind exercise that helps me capture my mistakes ever so quickly. Try to speak to yourself when you are cooking, walking or even bathing!



**7. Cook in Your Target Language:** If you are fond of cooking, subscribe to vlogs in your target language and learn new recipes. It's fun! You will be surprised to see a new world open up for you.

**8. Buy Children's Books:** This helped me so much because children's books are vivid and entertaining and they teach you more than you think you know. They are the key to improving your vocabulary.

**9. Listen to Podcasts:** It might be similar as listening to music but it's not. While music is faster and you can't catch all lyrics, podcasts are slower. They give you time to ponder and learn alongside and are an excellent way to learn for any level from beginner to advanced.

**10. Talk to a Local:** Join the Cultural Centre of your target language and make friends. Talk to locals of the Embassy and encourage others to do so too.

**Don't be afraid to make mistakes and take a step to do it. Happy Learning!!**