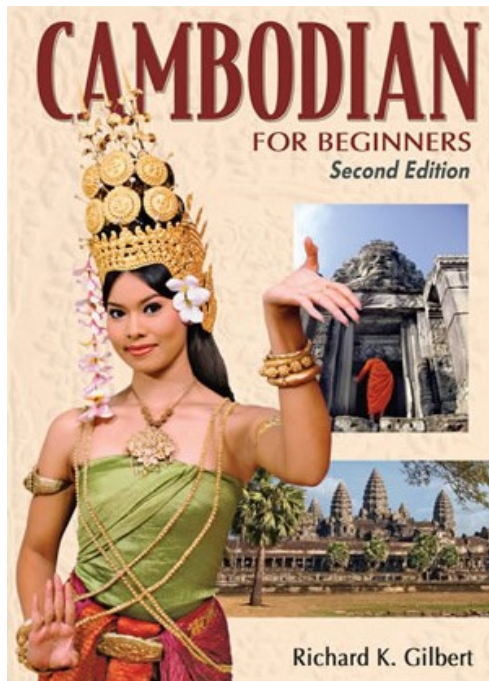


Gilbert, Richard and Sovandy Hang (2004).  
Cambodian for Beginners.  
 Paiboon Publishing (Bangkok). 290p.

BEST PRICE: Publisher US\$35.00 book & CD

Audio: voice speed: good / sound quality: 8 of 10

**Cambodian for Beginners - Second Edition:** Designed for either self-study or classroom use. Teaches all four language skills: speaking, listening (when used in conjunction with the CDs), reading and writing. Offers clear, easy, step-by-step instruction building on what has been previously taught. Lots of exercises and useful phrases. Three CDs follow along with lessons in the book.



mee-rian dtii muay មេរៀនទី១ Lesson 1

viakya-sab វិក្យាសប្ប វិក្យាសប្ប Vocabulary

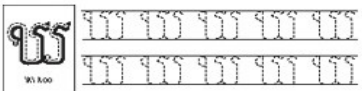
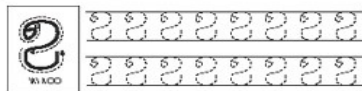
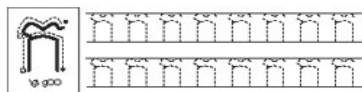
khom ខ្ញុំ	I, me
nek អ្នក	you; person <sup>1</sup>
boong ចង	you (for use with people of your same age group)
look លោក	you (for use with people who have a high social status)
chmuh ឈ្មោះ	name
jum-riab-sua ជំរាបសួរ	hello
sok-sab-baay dtie សុខសប្បាយទេ	"How are you doing?" <sup>2</sup>
sok-sab-baay សុខសប្បាយ	to be fine
sab-baay-jet baan juab សប្បាយចិត្តបាទ/ច្បាប់	Nice to meet you. <sup>3</sup>
soom-dtooh សូមទោស	Excuse me./I'm sorry.
min-ey-dtee មិនអីទេ	It doesn't matter. <sup>4</sup>
da-gum/soom ទា-គុណ / សូមអរគុណ	Thank you.
joh ចង	"so (what about...?)"
vwin វិញ	instead, again
baat បាទ	yes (male speaker) <sup>5</sup>
jaah ចាស	yes (female speaker) <sup>5</sup>
ja/guu-ja ជា/គ្រូជា	is, to be
sia-pao សៀវភៅ	book
gaa-saet កាសែត	newspaper
nia-li-gaa នាវិកា	watch, clock
bik ប៊ិច	pen
kmou-dai គ្រូបង	pencil
gaa-boob កាបូប	bag, wallet
nih នេះ	this
nuh នោះ	that
a-vwey អ្វី	what

Conversation 1

Sopha: jum-riab-sua.  
 សុំជំរាបសួរ  
 Hello.  
 John: baat, jum-riab-sua.  
 បាទ ចងជំរាបសួរ  
 Hello.  
 Sopha: khom chmuh so-paa. dtau boong chmuh ey?  
 សុំឈ្មោះ អ្នក ឈ្មោះ អ្នក ចង ឈ្មោះ អី  
 My name is Sopha. What's your name?  
 John: khom chmuh joun. khom sab-baay-jet baan juab bong.  
 ខ្ញុំ ឈ្មោះ ចង ខ្ញុំ សប្បាយចិត្ត បាទ ច្បាប់  
 My name is John. Nice to meet you.  
 Sopha: jaah, khom gaa sab-baay-jet dae.  
 សុំចាស ខ្ញុំ ក៏ សប្បាយចិត្ត ដែរ  
 Nice to meet you too.

Practice Writing the Consonants

Practice writing the following consonants. Remember to use the proper stroke order as shown below.



Headley Jr., Robert K. and Rath Chim (1999).

[Cambodian Advanced Transcription Course.](#)

Foreign Service Institute Language Courses. Multilingual Books. p.481

Publisher price: book US\$135.00 audio: US\$29.00

The purpose of this course is to provide practice in aural comprehension and transcription of relatively difficult Cambodian material. It is expected that candidates for this course have successfully completed a basic Cambodian course, specifically the Dunwoody Press Cambodian Intensive Basic Course, and have had some additional experience in listening to and using the spoken language. The course begins with fairly easy material and progresses to Level 3 and 3+ material. The material has been selected from Cambodian radio news broadcasts, interviews, and commentaries as well as from studio recordings of conversations on a variety of topics. The style of language varies from carefully enunciated Standard Cambodian to the colloquial spoken language and includes royal and religious vocabulary. There are a total of 36 main selections, a short glossary of new or difficult forms, notes, exercises, and 15 graded supplemental lessons to provide the instructor with additional level 2, 3, and level 3 + to 4 materials. The exercises may involve filling in the correct Cambodian word in a skeletonized version of the selection, transcribing all or a portion of the selection, answering questions about the selection, and composing sentences or short paragraphs in Cambodian

#### Amazon Customer Review

2.0 out of 5 stars **somewhat overpriced**, August 11, 2009 By W Boudville

Perhaps the demand for written Cambodian expertise is low in the US? Because otherwise why is this set of 2 books valued at \$135? There are no fancy graphics. In fact, there appear to be no figures at all. Just plain text.

The material, at least in English, has excerpts from various topics likely to be encountered by a translator. These include politics and social issues. The intersection of these are excerpts on the royal family and their role in the national government.

Huffman, Franklin E. (1970).

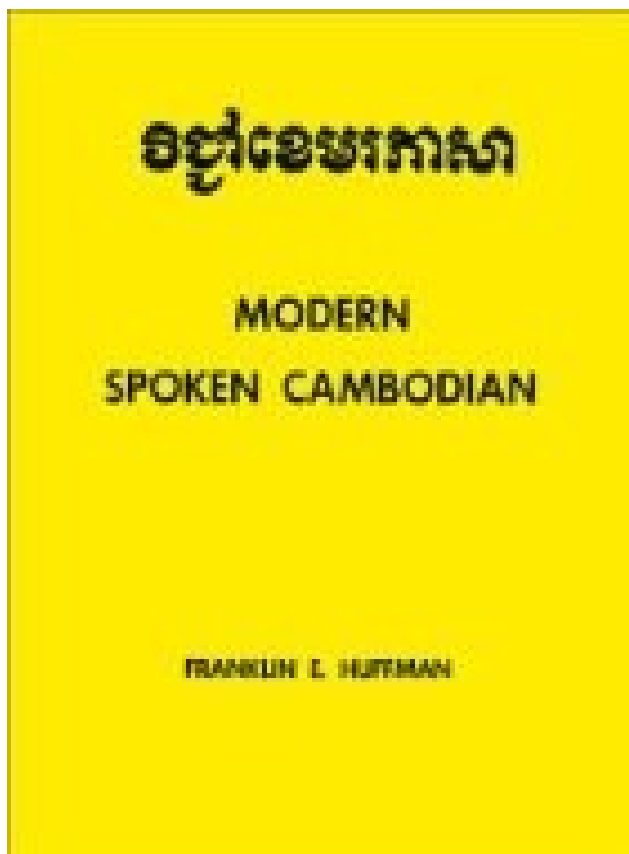
Modern Spoken Cambodian

(Yale Linguistic series) New Haven and London, Yale University Press. p.480 (oversized)

BEST PRICE: book: [public domain online](#) or [Spoken Language Servies, Inc.](#) US\$25

audio: [public domain online](#) or [Spoken Language Servies, Inc.](#) US\$105

A brief narrative description of the journal article, document, or resource. The aim of this volume is to provide the student with a thorough command of the basic structures of standard spoken Cambodian. The course is based on the audio-oral method of language teaching developed by the Intensive Language Program of the American Council of Learned Societies and used successfully during World War II, but modified to take into account advances in language teaching techniques since that time. The course consists of one unit of pronunciation drills, 25 dialogue units, and five review units. If a native speaker is unavailable to the student, tapes of the dialogue and comprehension sections of each lesson can be purchased at cost from the Foreign Language Laboratory at Yale University. The book is designed for use concurrently with the author's "Cambodian System of Writing and Beginning Reader" in an intensive or semi-intensive beginning course. (See AL 002 331.) (Author/AMM)



LESSON 24. EDUCATION

[Tape 42]

A. DIALOGUE

Bill

kmeij  
koun-kmeij  
coul rian

to be young; child(ren)  
children  
to begin studying, to start to  
school

1. niw srok-kmae qayuq ponmaan  
koun-kmeij coul rian?

At what age do children start to  
school in Cambodia?

bun

2. baat, thoemmadaa qayuq  
prammuay enam.

Usually at age six.

kaal pii daem  
kmeij-proh-proh  
sala-woet

originally, formerly  
boys  
pagoda school

3. kaal pii daam, kmeij-proh-proh  
tioep tiw rian niw sala-woet.

Formerly, boys used to study in the  
pagoda schools.

kmeij-proh-sray  
sala-riacckaa

boys and girls  
government school

4. tao sap-tjay-nih kmeij-proh-sray  
craan-tae tiw rian niw  
sala-riacckaa.

But these days boys and girls mostly  
study in the government schools.

Bill

saksaa  
patham  
patham-saksaa  
(pathamməsaksaa)

to study, learn; education  
first, primary  
primary education

5. pathamməsaksaa kee rian ponmaan  
cnam taep cap?

In primary school, how many years do  
they study (before finishing)?

bun

tnaq tii-dap-pii  
tnaq tii-prampil

12th grade (1st year)

\*6. baat, prammuay cnam, kii taq-pii  
tnaq tii-dap-pii tiw tnaq tii-  
prampil.

Six years, from the 12th grade to the  
7th grade.

\*At the teacher's discretion, the sentences preceded by an asterisk in this lesson need not be memorized by the student, since they involve no new patterns. However, the student should master the vocabulary involved, and be able to translate the sentences into English and vice versa, precisely because they involve no new patterns.

Huffman, Franklin E. (1970).  
 Cambodian System of Writing and Beginning Reader, with Drills and Glossary  
 (Yale Linguistic series), with the assistance of Chhom-Rak Thong Lambert and Im Proum, New  
 Haven London, Yale University Press. p.50

[public domain online](#)

Huffman & Proum's Cambodian System of Writing was first published in 1970 -- and, to this day,  
 there is no substitute for it.

The Consonant Symbols

Chart 2. The Two Series Contrasted

Sound	1st Series		2nd Series	
	Symbol	Example	Symbol	Example
k	ក	ក /kaa/ neck	គ	គ /kaa/ mute
kh	ខ	ខាត /khat/ to polish	ឃ	ឃាត /khōt/ to prevent
g	ង	ងារី /ŋaaw/ noise-maker	ង	ងារី /ŋiew/ a kind of clam
c	ច	ចា /caa/ to inscribe	ជ	ជា /ciə/ be
ch	ច	ចោង /chaong/ interval	ឈ	ឈោង /choong/ to reach out
n̄	ញ	ញាំញី /n̄am/ to eat	ញ	ញាំញី /n̄ōm/ meat salad
d	ដ	ដំណាច់ /don/ elephant command	ដ	ដំណាច់ /dun/ alike
t	ត	តា /taa/ old man	ត	តា /tiə/ duck
th	ថ	ថ្ម /thou/ vase	ធ	ធ្ម /thuu/ relaxed
	ថ	ថ្នាក់ /thaan/ place, site	ធ	ធ្មាធ្ម /thiəl/ a large drum
n	ណ	ណាស់ /naay/ bored	ន	នាយ /niəy/ chief

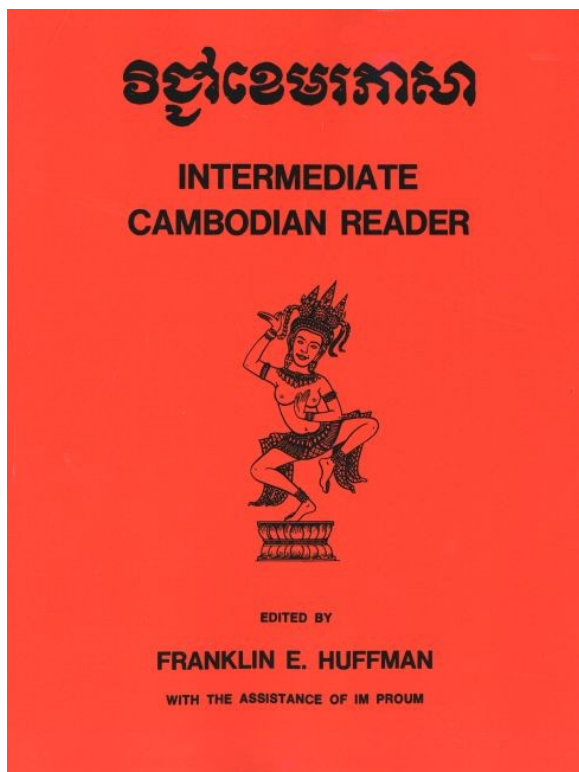
Huffman, Franklin E. (1972).

Intermediate Cambodian Reader

(Yale Linguistic series), assistance of Im Proum, New Haven London, Yale University Press. p.502

Best price: Amazon US\$42.00

This book is a sequel to the author's *Cambodian System of Writing and Beginning Reader*, published by the Yale University Press in 1970. It is intended to develop the student's ability to the point of reading unedited Cambodian texts with the aid of a dictionary.



Jacob, Judith (1968, and 1996).

*Introduction to Cambodian.*

London, Oxford University Press. p.360

Best price (used): Amazon US\$45.00

Originally published in 1968 and here reprinted with corrections, this complete introduction to spoken and written Cambodian can also be used as a comprehensive guide to grammar and usage. It includes a phonetic description of the language's sounds, for those with phonetic training, and for others, a series of comparisons with English and French. Gathered chiefly in Cambodia, the material can be followed entirely in transcription, or worked through in the orthography, and includes exercises and a full vocabulary.

No text or photo available

Kem Sos, Lim Hak Kheang, and Ehrman, Madeline (1976).  
Contemporary Cambodian: Introduction.  
Foreign Service Institute basic course series.  
Lim Hak Kheang and Purtle, Dale (1972).  
p.670

[public domain online](#)

A brief narrative description of the journal article, document, or resource. This volume comprises the basic module of "Contemporary Cambodian." There are 60 lessons, each of which contains a dialogue, drills, and a list of the words introduced in that lesson. In the first 30 lessons, the dialogue and drills are written in a romanized transcription, and the dialogue is written a second time in Cambodian script in order that beginning students can practice reading. Lessons contain reading passages using vocabulary introduced in that and preceding lessons. Cambodian script is used beginning with lesson 31. Forty-five lessons cover general topics including food, visiting the doctor, and transportation. The final 15 lessons treat military topics. A series of comprehensive questions for each lesson and a glossary are included. (Author/RL)

Contemporary Cambodian: Introduction.  
 Madeline Ehrman and Kem Sos.  
 Foreign Service Institute basic course series.  
 p.669

[public domain online](#)

#### ABSTRACT



This is the first of seven interrelated volumes comprising "Contemporary Cambodian". Other texts in the series include introductory lessons, four topic-oriented textbooks, and a comprehensive Cambodian-English English-Cambodian glossary. This volume is a description of aspects of Cambodian grammar and usage. Chapters concentrate on phonology, syntax, word classes, nominals, verbals, adverbials, relators, and vocabulary and usage. Appendixes contain summaries of some important words and a section on Cambodian names and titles. (RL)



P.1.2

CONTEMPORARY CAMBODIAN

Grammatical Sketch

#### P.1.2 Consonant Sequences

A Cambodian syllable can begin with a two-consonant sequence (  /trəm/ 'must') or three-consonant sequence (  /strəy/ 'woman (formal)'). A few of these will give the English speaker no trouble, since they also occur in English.

There is no contrast between aspirated and unaspirated stops before another consonant. However, in order to aid in spelling in Cambodian script, the distinction between aspirated and nonaspirated consonants is maintained in the transcription used in these materials. Thus, for instance,  /pkaa/ 'flower' is transcribed pkaa because the Cambodian character  represents the voiceless aspirate /ph/ before a vowel. However, it could equally well be transcribed /pkaa/.



Noss, Richard B. and Im Proum (1966).

[Cambodian Basic Course](#) with the assistance of Dale I. Purtle and Someth Suos.  
Foreign Service Institute basic course series.

BEST PRICE: public domain - Free Download PDF & Audio files  
(Many people repackage this and sell at very high prices)

Audio: voice speed: fast / sound quality: 7 of 10

Note: learning through repetition, vintage course from 1966

A brief narrative description of the journal article, document, or resource. This Basic Course attempts to provide samples of two different Cambodian dialects--Standard Cambodian, the approved speech style of public education and mass communication, and the dialect of Phnom Penh. The material is arranged in groups of five units with a common theme. The first four units of each sequence are based on Dialogs, usually in the Phnom Penh dialect, and the fifth is based on a Narration, in Standard Cambodian, which reviews the immediately preceding subject matter. The text for Units 1-20 is entirely in standard style. From Unit 21 on, most of the text is given in Phnom Penh dialect (except for the Narrations), but a parallel Standard version of each Dialog is provided in the Dialog for Comprehension. Vocabulary lists include both forms wherever there is a difference. A typical unit includes a Dialog or Narration, cultural and grammatical notes, and extensive pattern drills. All Cambodian material is written in phonemic transcription. See AL 002 470 for Volume Two. Tape recordings for both volumes are available from the Sales Branch, National Audio Visual Center (GSA), Washington, D.C. 20409. (Author/JD)

FOREIGN SERVICE INSTITUTE

CAMBODIAN

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE  
OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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BASIC COURSE  
VOLUME ONE  
UNITS 1-45

ED0041276

AL 002 480



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CAMBODIAN BASIC COURSE

UNIT 1

UNIT 1

BASIC DIALOGUE

Teacher to Students

1. soun bet siew-phw. Please close your books.
2. bast, look kruu. Yes, teacher.
- 2a. oah, look kruu. Yes, teacher.
- 2b. bast, ne' kruu. Yes, teacher.
- 2c. oah, ne' kruu. Yes, teacher.
3. soun than team khfon. Please say after me.  
'khmae srual rien.' 'Khmer is easy to learn.'
4. khmae srual rien. Khmer is easy to learn.
5. tyew, soun than khlia nih nend'. Now, please say the sentence one  
nedooq. person at a time.
6. khlia dodael. The same sentence?
7. bast, khli' dodael. Yes, the same sentence.
- 7a. oah, khlia dodael. Yes, the same sentence.
8. ne'maa mun. Who's first?
9. look mun. You're first.
- 9a. look aray mun. You're first.
10. khmae srual rien. Khmer is easy to learn.

William Patterson, Robert K. Headley Jr., Rath Chim, Ok Soeum, Kobkan Thangpijaigul (1998).  
*Cambodian Intensive Basic Course* (5 Volumes).  
Foreign Service Institute Language Courses. Multilingual Books.  
p. 2,175

ISBN: 1-881265-56-0

List Price: US\$248.00

This is a five-volume, self-contained course with optional accompanying audio cassettes programmed to take a beginning student to Level 3 (minimum professional fluency) in about thirty weeks. The teaching methodology is based on the model used by the Defense Language Institute; the course is designed to be taught by a native speaker. The language is Standard Cambodian throughout. There are one hundred dialogue lessons, forty reading lessons, a script workbook, and supplemental dictations. Each dialogue lesson consists of a Cambodian dialogue and English translation, new vocabulary, pattern sentences, notes, and a recombination dialogue which uses the vocabulary in different ways. Volume 3 contains a glossary of the words introduced in the course. (This publication will be sold as a complete set only.)

Sak-Humphry, Chhany (2002).

[Communicating in Khmer: An Interactive Intermediate Level Khmer Course](#) (CDs and Manuals 1 and 2). Honolulu, Hawaii.

First Year Language Materials (Book and CD, focus on reading and writing for beginners )

- Communicating in Khmer: Reading and Writing for Beginners. Language Textbook (264 pages) and CD-ROM (Interactive, Multimedia, Language Teaching/Learning). Honolulu, Hawai'i, 2005.

Second Year Language Materials (Books and CDs, focus on reading and writing for intermediate-level language learners)

- Communicating in Khmer: An Interactive Intermediate-Level Khmer Course. Language Textbooks 1 (188 pages) & 2 (186 pages), and CD-ROMs 1 & 2 (Interactive, Multimedia, Language Teaching/Learning). Honolulu, Hawai'i, 2003.

To order or inquire for more information, please contact Dr. Chhany Sak-Humphry at [sak@hawaii.edu](mailto:sak@hawaii.edu).

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- 1 The Khmer Writing System
- 3 Introduction
- 4 The Sound System
- 23 **Unit 1 Consonants**
- 15 Lesson1: Independent Consonant Symbols
- 37 Lesson2: Conjunct Consonant Symbols
- 53 **Unit 2. Vowels**
- 55 Lesson 3: Conjunct Vowel Symbols
- 77 Lesson 4: Independent Vowel Symbols
- 83 **Unit 3 Diacritics**
- 85 Lesson 5: Diacritics
- 91 **Unit 4. Numerals and Punctuation**
- 93 Lesson 6: Numerals
- 99 Lesson 7: Punctuation
- 101 **Unit 5 The Mul and Jrian Symbols**
- 103 Lesson 8: Independent Consonant Symbols
- 104 Lesson 9: Conjunct Consonant Symbols
- 105 Lesson 10: Conjunct Vowel Symbols
- 106 Lesson 11: Independent Vowel Symbols
- 107 Lesson 12: Numeral Symbols
- 115 **Unit 6. Combinations of Consonants and Vowels**
- 117 Lesson 13: Monosyllables
- 166 Lesson 14: Expanded Monosyllables
- 185 Lesson 15: Dissyllables
- 215 **Unit 7. Useful Expressions**
- 217 Lesson 16: Meet My Family
- 218 Lesson 17: At the Market
- 219 Lesson 18: Time, Date and Color
- 222 Lesson 19: At the Restaurant
- 224 Lesson 20: Directions
- 229 **Unit 8. Readings**
- 231 Lesson 21: My Family
- 238 Lesson 22: Around My House
- 247 Lesson 23: The Weather
- 256 Lesson24: Buying Plane Ticktes

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- Preface ..... v
- Lesson 1 Angkor Wat..... 1
- Lesson 2 At the Clothing Store ..... 13
- Lesson 3 Ceremony of the Dead ..... 25
- Lesson 4 The Hotel Phnom Penh ..... 37
- Lesson 5 Flooding in Cambodia ..... 49
- Lesson 6 Going on a Picnic ..... 61
- Lesson 7 Going to Siem Reap ..... 73
- Lesson 8 Going to the Hospital..... 85
- Lesson 9 Travel Agency..... 95
- Lesson 10 Khmer Clothing..... 109
- Lesson 11 Khmer Education..... 119
- Lesson 12 Khmer Fishing..... 133
- Lesson 13 Khmer Crafts..... 145
- Lesson 14 Khmer Food..... 159
- Lesson 15 Two Friends Meet at a Restaurant..... 117

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

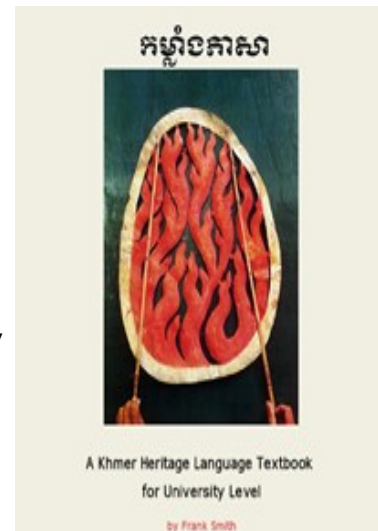
- Preface..... v
- Lesson 1 Phnom Penh ..... 1
- Lesson 2 Khmer Music and Dance ..... 11
- Lesson 3 The Khmer New year ..... 25
- Lesson 4 The Population of Cambodia ..... 39
- Lesson 5 Khmer Rice Noodles ..... 51
- Lesson 6 The Sugar palm ..... 63
- Lesson 7 A Traditional Wedding ..... 75
- Lesson 8 Pleading Ads ..... 87
- Lesson 9 Preparing for a Trip ..... 99
- Lesson 10 Uncle San's Ricefield ..... 115
- Lesson 11 The Transplantation ..... 129
- Lesson 12 The Harvest..... 141
- Lesson 13 How the Hare Was Beaten by the Snail's Wisdom..... 155
- Lesson 14 How the Hare Tricked the Toad ..... 165
- Lesson 15 How the Judge Rabbit Ate the Old Lady's Bananas... 175

Smith, Frank (c. 2004, 2008).  
[Kamlang Phiasaa: Khmer Language Heritage Textbook](#)  
 Self-published.  
 p.350

Textbook and DVD US\$70.00

Audio Quality: 7 of 10

These textbooks are based on 12 summers worth of my experience teaching in and designing the Khmer language program at [SEASSI](#). These are also the textbooks used in teaching Khmer at the University of California-Berkeley. They form a multimedia foundation for communicative, content-based classroom activities by which to learn Khmer language. The various ways of presenting information in these books, the choice of vocabulary and phrases, and the explanations have evolved over the years in response to student requests and teacher perceptions of student needs.



## Contents

Introduction.....i  
 Chapter One: Introduction to Literacy and "Classroom Khmer".....1  
 Chapter Two: Religion.....40  
 Chapter Three: Village Culture and Khmer "Tradition".....100  
 Chapter Four: The Language of Public Information.....161  
 Chapter Five: Being a Modern Cambodian: Living in Phnom Penh.....208  
 Chapter Six: History and Politics.....263  
 Chapter Seven: Introduction to Khmer Literature.....311  
 Khmer Index.....I  
 English (Subject) Index.....a  
 Appendix 1: Provinces of Cambodia.....A  
 Appendix 2: Days of the Week.....C  
 Appendix 3: Traditional Song.....D



The forest-clearing campaign was highly dangerous work in which many young Khmers lost life and limb to land mines, malaria and other hazards. Its purpose was to deprive the Khmer Rouge guerrillas of forest cover in which to hide and launch their attacks on villages and government troops.

The program, known officially to the government (and also to people in their late teens and twenties, who understandably feared being "drafted" into service by it) as "កង", was referred to in government propaganda campaigns as "ពលកម្ម" ("power [of the people]"), "បំពេញពលកម្ម" ("fulfilling your duty to serve as part of the power of the people") and "ការពារមាតុភូមិ" ("safeguarding the motherland"). These and other terms you'll see in the comic are typical of the propaganda language of this period.

- |              |  |          |                               |
|--------------|--|----------|-------------------------------|
| សំណាប់       | young rice plants (from seed, not transplanted)            | យុវកសិករ | "young farmer"                |
| ខ្សែស្រងាត់  | deep, rich blue color                                      | កណ្តាប់  | bundles to be transported     |
| ស្រស់        | freshness  | ឆ្នើម    | supreme; above all else       |
| ក្រុមសាមគ្គី | "solidarity group" (collectivized farm work group)         | មេដាយ    | medal (from the French)       |
| ប្រយុទ្ធ     | to struggle; a favorite verb of the State Socialist regime | ពលកម្ម   | power                         |
| មហាញ្ជីក     | busily   | ទល់ដែន   | border                        |
|              |  | មាតុភូមិ | motherland                    |
|              |  | ធំធេង    | spacious, vast (elegant term) |

Smith, Frank (c. 2004, 2008).  
[Muk Khmae: Khmer Beginning Textbook](#)  
 Self-published.  
 p.350

Textbook and DVD US\$70.00

Audio Quality: 7 of 10

These textbooks are based on 12 summers worth of my experience teaching in and designing the Khmer language program at [SEASSI](#). These are also the textbooks used in teaching Khmer at the University of California-Berkeley. They form a multimedia foundation for communicative, content-based classroom activities by which to learn Khmer language. The various ways of presenting information in these books, the choice of vocabulary and phrases, and the explanations have evolved over the years in response to student requests and teacher perceptions of student needs.

**មុខខ្មែរ**  
*Khmer Faces*

*A Beginning  
 Khmer Language  
 Textbook*

by  
 Frank Smith



# Contents

Introduction.....i

Chapter One: Greetings and Pleasantries..... 1

Chapter Two: The Language of the Classroom.....31

Chapter Three: Family and the Home.....57

Chapter Four: Food and Eating.....103

Chapter Five: Directions and Transportation.....141

Chapter Six: Work.....173

Chapter Seven: Health and Religion.....213

Chapter Eight: Living in Cambodia.....249

Appendices.....A

Khmer-English Glossary.....a

English (Topic) Index.....I

## Chapter One: Introductions and Pleasantries

In this chapter we'll show you what to say first to Khmers when you meet them, and get you acquainted with the things they'll tend to say to you. On the up side, the range of probably questions and responses in this category is fairly limited. On the downside, the kinds of questions that people ask each other in Khmer upon meeting can differ quite a bit from what you're used to in the West, so keep an open mind!



*Kids in rural Kampong Thom*

You'll also get an introduction to the Khmer alphabet, and learn to start writing some useful words right off the bat.

**Audio Track One: Greetings and Farewells** (see Culture Note C.1)

- សុខសប្បាយ Hello (informal, friendly)
- សួស្ដី HI
- ជំរាបស្បថ Hello (formal, respectful)
- លាហើយ Bye (informal, friendly)
- ជំរាបលា Goodbye (formal, respectful)
- អរគុណ Thank you.
- អត់អីទេ You're welcome (literally "it's nothing")



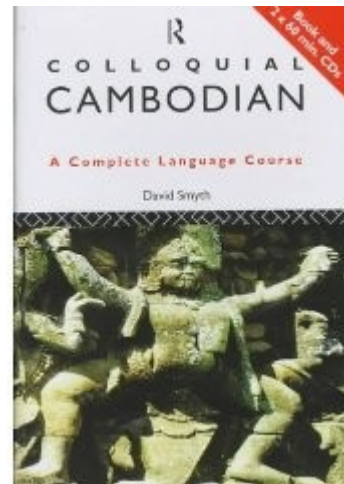
**Audio Track Two: Greetings: Application**

(see footnote 1, next page, and Grammar Note G.1)

- ១. បងសុខសប្បាយជាទេ? Are you doing okay?
- a1. ប្លាទ សុខសប្បាយ Yes, I'm fine (males only)
- a2. ប៉ាស សុខសប្បាយ Yes, I'm fine (females only)



Smyth, David (1995, 2008).  
*Colloquial Cambodian: The Complete Language Course for Beginners.*  
 Routledge (UK). p.224 & 2 CDs



Best Price; Amazon US\$62.00 (book & CD) Also available at Austin Public Library

Audio: 9 of 10

*Colloquial Cambodian* is easy to use and a necessary guide that is specially written by experienced teachers for self-study or class use. The course offers you a step-by-step approach to written and spoken Cambodian and no prior knowledge of the language is required.

What makes *Colloquial Cambodian* your best choice in personal language learning?

- \* interactive - lots of dialogues and exercises for regular practice
- \* clear - concise grammar notes
- \* practical - useful vocabulary and pronunciation guide
- \* complete - including answer key and special reference section

By the end of this rewarding course you will be able to communicate confidently and effectively in a broad range of situations.

# 1 ni-yee-ay om-bpee kloo-un aing

## Talking about yourself



**In this lesson you will learn to:**

- make a number of simple statements about yourself
- ask simple questions using *what?* and *where?*
- read and write some simple words and sentences

If you are a foreigner in Cambodia, your most frequent conversations with Cambodians are likely to involve telling them your name, nationality and perhaps something about your work. These are the kind of statements you will probably need to be able to make about yourself:

### ni-yee-ay om-bpee kloo-un aing

k'nyom ch'moo-ah Sally.	ខ្ញុំឈ្មោះ Sally។
ch'moo-ah dtra-goal Morris.	ឈ្មោះត្រកូល Morris។
jee-a ong-klayh.	ជាអង់គ្លេស។
moak bpee lon-dorn.	មកពី London។
jee-a bpairt.	ជាពេទ្យ។
t'wer gaa nou p'nOOm bpeuñ.	ធ្វើការនៅភ្នំពេញ។

*My (first) name is Sally.  
 My family name is Morris.  
 I am English.  
 I come from London.  
 I am a doctor.  
 I work in Phnom Penh.*

### Vocabulary

k'nyom	I	ខ្ញុំ
ch'moo-ah	to be named; name	ឈ្មោះ
ch'moo-ah dtra-goal	family name	ឈ្មោះត្រកូល
jee-a	is	ជា
ong-klayh	English	អង់គ្លេស
moak	come	មក
bpee	from	ពី
p'nOOm bpeuñ	Phnom Penh	ភ្នំពេញ
t'wer	to do, make	ធ្វើ
t'wer gaa	to work	ធ្វើការ
nou	to be situated at; to live at; at/in	នៅ
bpairt	doctor	ពេទ្យ