

Orthography development in North East India
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This workshop will look at what is involved in developing a writing system for a previously unwritten language. An overview of the principles of phonetics and phonological analysis will be given, and practical exercises used to illustrate their application to orthography development. Examples will be given from languages of North East India.

Some of the questions we will be discussing are: What is the nature of speech? What is gained, and what is lost when speech is represented in written form? What makes a “good” orthography? We will also touch on the history of writing, the various scripts used around the world, and cultural impact of having a written language.