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Learning the Nepali Language

My heroic journey is learning the Nepali language, and it takes a lot of work. Trying to learn a language so different from your own is no picnic, but with the right methods and right attitude, it is possible. So far my progress has been very good, thanks to the steps that I have been taking in order to achieve my weekly goals of learning new Nepali words and phrases. To be successful in my quest, I have come up with three different methods for learning the Nepali language.

My first and easiest method is asking my husband or his family about the meanings of some words and phrases and writing them down on paper to study. For example, I had asked my husband how to say, "How are you?" in his language and he informed me that you say, "k cha?" Then, after learning this new phrase, I wrote it down in my notepad, so that I could study and practice speaking it until I had it memorized.

My second method for learning the Nepali language is listening to my husband's family when I am around them, and trying to pick up on words that I know or recognize. An example of this would be a time when my husband, his uncle, other members of his family, and I went out to eat together at a restaurant. While we were waiting for our food to be prepared, I heard my husband's uncle say "vok lagyo" (Raju Bajagain). I immediately recognized this phrase, having heard it several times, as meaning "I am hungry." Because I understood what he had said, I was able to respond to it with a "me too."

My third and final method that I use is watching Nepali movies with my husband. The way I learn Nepali when doing this is by either asking my husband what the people in the movies are saying, or by putting English subtitles on the movies. For instance, whenever I don't understand something that is being said in a Nepali movie, I ask my husband what it means. After he explains it to me, I keep it in mind, so that when I hear it again, I will be able to understand it. A good example of this is "Meri Bassai," a Nepali series that my husband watches every week. Sometimes I will watch this series with him, and when I don't understand something, I just ask him what it means and he will explain it to me. I take the same approach when the movie has English subtitles. The only difference is that I don't have to ask my husband about it, because the subtitles enable me to figure it out for myself.

Learning a new language is very possible if you use the right methods. The three methods I use have really helped me progress in my quest to learn Nepali. I truly believe that taking these steps will ultimately bring me success in learning this language that is so different from my own. I just have to take it one step at a time.

Works Cited

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<<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WPnRijSVN7s>>.