



Lao for Beginners: An Introduction to the Written and Spoken Language of Laos

By Tatsuo Hoshino, Russell Marcus

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This is an effective and concise self-study Lao language book.

Lao for Beginners is for the person who is beginning to learn Lao. It is an incredibly useful introduction to spoken Lao for tourists, businesspeople or students. *Lao for Beginners* is primarily a workbook full of exercises to help beginners practice and acquire the ability to communicate with Lao people in spoken Lao. It is not a phrase book to scratch the surface of the Lao language. The book has been tested in classrooms and by individuals who have used it successfully to learn Lao. This beginning Lao text was designed for people who want to learn how to speak Lao fast. The book mainly teaches speaking Lao although there is a section which teaches reading Lao. The vocabulary in the whole text is limited to the 1,000 most frequently used words in everyday speech based on one of the author's own research in Vietnamese. The Lao words are listed in a special glossary for beginners which is arranged in English alphabetical order. To make studying easier, all exercises are written in phonetic Lao as well as authentic Lao script. As an additional aid, a review of the major features of Lao grammar is condensed into only 16 pages (including very useful tables) and is located in one place so that it can be read quickly and used as a reference frequently. *Lao for Beginners* is organized in five parts:

- Part 1: How to speak Lao.
- Part 2: Grammar Review.
- Part 3: How to Read Lao.
- Part 4: Lao-English Glossary for Beginners.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Tatsuo Hoshino, a Japanese historian who studied at the Sorbonne, has lived in Laos and Thailand, and has written extensively about the history of Laos.

Russell Marcus served as editor and chief compiler of the *English-Lao, Lao-English Dictionary*. He has lived in both Laos and Thailand.

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