All three languages are Indo-Aryan languages, a subgroup of Indo-European languages.

- Hindi is spoken mainly in India, by about 180,000,000 people.
- Sindhi is spoken mainly in Pakistan, by about 18,500,000 people.
- Nepali is spoken mainly in Nepal, by about 11,100,000 people.

Sindhi and Nepali are both also spoken in India by about 2,500,000 people each.

(source for data: www.ethnologue.com)
Phonetics/Phonology

- All three languages (and probably other related languages) contrast plosives and affricates for both voicing and aspiration, creating a four-way contrast in each position they occur in.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>plosive</th>
<th>bilabial</th>
<th>dental</th>
<th>postalveolar / retroflex</th>
<th>palatal</th>
<th>velar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>p</td>
<td>pʰ</td>
<td>tʰ</td>
<td>t̩ʰ</td>
<td>kʰ</td>
<td>k̩ʰ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>bʰ</td>
<td>d̑ʰ</td>
<td>d̩ʰ</td>
<td>g̩ʰ</td>
<td>g̩ʰ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The affricates vary slightly in position and pronunciation, but they are in the postalveolar-palatal region in all three languages.

- Sindhi further additionally distinguishes for aspiration the bilabial, alveolar and postalveolar nasals ([m, mʰ, n, nʰ, n̥, n̥ʰ]), the postalveolar tap ([r̩, r̩ʰ]) and the dental lateral approximant ([l, lʰ]). In all, 15 pairs can be made which contrast only in aspiration in Sindhi.

- Sindhi also contains four implosive sounds: bilabial [ɓ], alveolar [ɗ], palatal [ʄ] and velar [ɠ].

- The VOTs of the unaspirated and aspirated sounds do not necessarily correspond to the VOTs of corresponding unaspirated and aspirated sounds in other languages.