

THAI

COUNTRY: Thailand

POST: Bangkok

The Thai language which has five different tone marks or pitch contours – mid level, low, high, low rising, and high falling, is perceived by many linguists as a “music language.”

It is relatively difficult for westerners to learn this idiom, especially its multi-tone marks. Nevertheless it is not insurmountable.

In effect, to enjoy the charms of Thailand — picturesque and fascinating tourist spots, colourfully dressed women in their national costumes, exotic and delicious foods, night life of Bangkok etc. — it is absolutely necessary, even if it requires considerable effort to learn a little Thai, that you at least memorize certain phrases to enable you to express yourself when necessary.