

# Śabda-brahma

## Śruti

apauruṣeya “not of human origin”

## Smṛti

what was heard, remembered and further explained by sages

### Original Veda

#### Vedāṅga

(supplementary tools for studying Vedas)  
śikṣā, chanda, jyotiśa (astrology),  
vyakaraṇa, nirukta, kalpa

#### Upaveda

(practical application of the Vedas)  
dhanurveda, āyurveda, gandharvaveda,  
sthāpatyaveda

#### Sūtra

(guidelines for worship)  
śrauta, gṛhya, dharma, kalpa

Ṛg

Yajur

Sāma

Atharva

Śukla (“white”)

Kṛṣṇa (“black”)

Samhitā

Brāhmaṇa

Āraṇyaka

Upaniṣad

} karma-kāṇḍa

upāsanā-kāṇḍa

jñāna-kāṇḍa  
(most advanced)

over 200 (108 main)

Summaries:

Vedānta-sūtra + commentaries  
Bhagavad-gītā (in Mahābhārata)

summary meaning  
in stories

18 Mahā-purāṇas

Bhāgavata Purāṇa  
(Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam)  
+ commentaries from  
4 sampradāyas

18 Upa-purāṇas

Itihāsas

Mahābhārata  
Rāmāyaṇa