

This is a **very common issue with Sinhala typing on Windows 10/11 + Office**, especially with characters like **ඒ, කී, ක්‍ර, ෙ, ඵ, etc.** (what you referred to as “accents” are actually **combining characters / diacritics** in Sinhala).

Let’s break it down simply.

Why this happens

1. Wrong Sinhala keyboard layout

Windows has multiple Sinhala layouts:

- Sinhala Wijesekara (correct standard)
- Sinhala Phonetic (type in English → converts)
- Third-party layouts

👉 If the wrong one is selected, characters won’t combine properly.

2. Font issue (MOST COMMON)

Sinhala needs **Unicode-compliant fonts**.

If your friend is using:

- Old fonts like **FMAbhaya, FMBindumathi, etc.** ❌
- Or a non-Unicode font in Word ❌

👉 Then the “accents” (kombuwa, al-lakuna, etc.) won’t render correctly.

3. Complex script rendering issue

Sinhala is a **complex script language** (like Hindi/Tamil).

If:

- Windows language features are missing
- Or Office rendering settings are off

👉 Combining characters will appear broken.

4. Typing order problem

Sinhala requires a **specific typing sequence**.

Example:

- “කෙ” is typed as කෙ + ක (not the other way)

👉 If typed incorrectly, it looks broken.

5. Using outdated IME or keyboard tool

Some people still use:

- Old Keyman versions
- Legacy Sinhala tools

👉 These conflict with modern Windows Unicode typing.

✅ Fixes (Step-by-step)

✅ 1. Use correct Sinhala keyboard

Go to:

- Settings → Time & Language → Language & Region
 - Add **Sinhala (Sri Lanka)**
 - Ensure keyboard is:
 - ✅ *Sinhala Wijesekara*
-

✅ 2. Use proper Unicode fonts (VERY IMPORTANT)

In Word, change font to:

- **Iskoola Pota** ✅ (best default Sinhala font)
- **Nirmala UI** ✅ (modern UI font)

👉 Avoid:

- FM fonts (legacy)
 - Custom non-Unicode fonts
-

✅ 3. Check Office settings

In Word:

- File → Options → Advanced
 - Ensure:
 -  “Use complex script layout” is enabled (usually default)
-

4. Reinstall Sinhala language pack

Go to:

- Settings → Language
- Remove Sinhala
- Restart
- Add it again

 This fixes rendering bugs sometimes.

5. Try typing in Notepad first

- Open Notepad
- Type Sinhala

 If it works there but not in Word:

 Problem = Word/font

 If broken everywhere:

 Problem = keyboard/layout/system

6. Avoid legacy tools

If installed, remove:

- Old Keyman versions
 - Sinhala typing software from CDs etc.
-

Quick diagnosis cheat sheet

Symptom	Likely Issue
Letters appear separated	Wrong font

Symptom	Likely Issue
"Accents" in wrong place	Typing order / layout
Works in Notepad, not Word	Font issue
Doesn't work anywhere	Keyboard config

👍 Best working setup (recommended)

- OS: Windows 10/11
 - Keyboard: Sinhala Wijesekara
 - Font: **Iskoola Pota**
 - App: Word / Notepad / Browser (all Unicode-friendly)
-

If you want, I can:

- ✓ Check a sample text your friend typed
- ✓ Or guide step-by-step with screenshots
- ✓ Or even give a Sinhala typing key map (very useful)

Just tell me 👍

seems sinhala typing working on the notepad, but not in word/one note

Good — that actually narrows it down very clearly 👍

👉 If Sinhala works in **Notepad** but not in **Word / OneNote**, then the issue is **almost 100% font or Office rendering related**, not keyboard.

🎯 Root cause (your case)

- ✓ Keyboard layout → OK
 - ✓ Windows Sinhala support → OK
 - ✗ Office apps (Word / OneNote) → **font or rendering problem**
-

✓ Fix it step by step

✓ 1. Change the font (MOST IMPORTANT)

In **Word / OneNote**, select all text and set font to:

- Iskoola Pota  (best Sinhala font)
- OR Nirmala UI 

අ	ආ	ඇ	ඈ	ඉ	ඊ
උ	ඌ	ඍ	ඎ	ඏ	ඐ
එ	ඒ	ඓ	ඔ	ඕ	ඖ
ක	ඛ	ග	ඝ	ඞ	ඟ
ච	ඡ	ජ	කඩ	කඳු	ඥ
ට	ඨ	ඩ	ඪ	ණ	ඬ
ත	ථ	ද	ධ	න	ඳ
ප	ඵ	ඹ	භ	ම	ඹ
ය	ර	ල	ව		
ශ	ෂ	ස	හ	ළ	

font.akasa.lk

Nirmala UI Font

සිංහල අක්ෂර මෝස්තරය
දැනීම බාගත කරගන්න

	0D8	0D9	0DA	0DB	0DC	0DD	0DE	0DF
0		ඵ 0D85	ඵ 0D86	ඵ 0D87	ඵ 0D88	ඵ 0D89		
1		ඵ 0D8A	ඵ 0D8B	ඵ 0D8C	ඵ 0D8D	ඵ 0D8E		
2	ඵ 0D8F	ඵ 0D90	ඵ 0D91		ඵ 0D92	ඵ 0D93		ඵ 0D94
3	ඵ 0D95	ඵ 0D96	ඵ 0D97	ඵ 0D98	ඵ 0D99	ඵ 0D9A		ඵ 0D9B
4		ඵ 0D9C	ඵ 0D9D	ඵ 0D9E	ඵ 0D9F	ඵ 0DA0		ඵ 0DA1
5	ඵ 0DA2	ඵ 0DA3	ඵ 0DA4	ඵ 0DA5	ඵ 0DA6			
6	ඵ 0DA7	ඵ 0DA8	ඵ 0DA9	ඵ 0DAA	ඵ 0DAB	ඵ 0DAC	ඵ 0DAE	
7	ඵ 0DAD		ඵ 0DAF	ඵ 0DB0			ඵ 0DB1	
8	ඵ 0DB2		ඵ 0DB3	ඵ 0DB4		ඵ 0DB5	ඵ 0DB6	
9	ඵ 0DB7		ඵ 0DB8	ඵ 0DB9		ඵ 0DBA	ඵ 0DBB	
A	ඵ 0DBD	ඵ 0DBE	ඵ 0DBF	ඵ 0DC0	ඵ 0DC1	ඵ 0DC2	ඵ 0DC3	
B	ඵ 0DC4	ඵ 0DC5	ඵ 0DC6	ඵ 0DC7		ඵ 0DC8	ඵ 0DC9	
C	ඵ 0DCA	ඵ 0DCB	ඵ 0DCC			ඵ 0DCE	ඵ 0DCF	
D	ඵ 0DD0	ඵ 0DD1	ඵ 0DD2	ඵ 0DD3		ඵ 0DD4	ඵ 0DD5	
E	ඵ 0DD6	ඵ 0DD7	ඵ 0DD8			ඵ 0DD9	ඵ 0DDA	
F	ඵ 0DDC	ඵ 0DDD	ඵ 0DDE		ඵ 0DDF	ඵ 0DE0	ඵ 0DE1	

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👉 If it's currently something like:

- Calibri (sometimes breaks Sinhala combining)

- FM fonts ✖
- Unknown/custom fonts ✖

➡ That's the problem.

✓ 2. Clear formatting (important)

Sometimes Word keeps broken formatting.

Try:

1. Select all text (Ctrl + A)
 2. Click **Clear All Formatting** (A with eraser icon)
 3. Re-apply **Iskoola Pota**
-

✓ 3. Check Advanced Font settings

In Word:

- Select text → Right-click → Font → Advanced tab

Make sure:

- ✓ **Kerning OFF** (not required for Sinhala)
 - ✓ **Spacing = Normal**
-

✓ 4. Set default font for Sinhala

Do this once:

1. Open Word
2. Set font to **Iskoola Pota**
3. Click **Set As Default**

👉 Prevents future issues

✓ 5. OneNote specific fix

OneNote is a bit tricky.

Try:

- Change font to **Nirmala UI** (works better in OneNote than Iskoola sometimes)
 - Or paste text as “**Keep Text Only**”
-

✓ 6. Test again

Type something like:

කේ
ක
ක

👉 If they display correctly → fixed

👉 If still broken → continue below

🔧 If still NOT working

Option A — Repair Office

- Control Panel → Programs → Microsoft Office
 - Click **Repair**
-

Option B — Enable complex scripts

In Word:

- File → Options → Language
 - Make sure Sinhala is enabled under:
 - Editing language
-

Option C — Check for font substitution

Word sometimes replaces fonts silently.

- File → Options → Advanced
 - Scroll → “Font Substitution”
-

🧠 Why Notepad works but Word doesn't

- Notepad → simple Unicode rendering ✓
- Word / OneNote → uses **font engine + formatting rules** ✗ (more complex)

👉 So font matters a lot there.

✅ **Most reliable combo (use this)**

- Keyboard: Sinhala Wijesekara
 - Word Font: **Iskoola Pota**
 - OneNote Font: **Nirmala UI**
-

If you want, I can:

- ✅ Send you a Sinhala keyboard layout chart
- ✅ Or debug using a screenshot of what your friend sees (very quick to identify)

Just share 👍