

## BeingAfrican, LLC Curriculum-Lesson 12

### Objectives

1. To understand the 6 personal pronouns and use them in sentence construction.
  2. To practise common verbs in Ndebele.
  3. To construct simple sentences in Ndebele using the Pronoun + Formative + Verb construction.
  4. Familiarize with different food categories
- 

Let's speak simple Ndebele! (A) (simple present tense)

Now that you know some Ndebele verbs, let's try speaking the language.  
Below is an illustration of 6 personal pronouns one must know.

English	Ndebele	Example
I	Mina	
You(singular)	Wena	e.g To a friend!
You (plural)	Lina	(Often used when referring to the adults and high authority as below)  Unkulunkulu-God Khulu-Grandfather Gogo-Grandmother Baba-Father Mama-Father Gogo-Ambuya-Granny
We	Thina	
He/she	U	

**Build up vocabulary using the personal pronouns in sentence construction as guided below**

Ngi	I	Ngipheka ukudla	I cook food
U	You	Utheza inkuni	You fetch the firewood
Si	We	Siyajabula	We are happy
Ba	They	Bayajabula	They are happy
Li	You (plural)	Lidla isitshwala	You eat sadza

**The personal pronouns need helping syllables called “formatives” when one uses them to say something. See the illustration below of how this goes!**

**Lesson IV continued**

PRONOUN + FORMATIVE + VERB				MEANING
↓	↓		↓	
1) Ngi	ya	—	hlala	I sit
3) U/Bonani	uya	—	hleka	Bonani laughs
2) U/Bongani	uya	—	khala	Bongani is crying or Bongani cries
4) Thina	siya	—	lala	We sleep
5) Li (baba)	ya	—	thatha	Father you take
6) Ba	ya	—	bamba	They hold
7) Ngi	—	ya	hamba	I go

**The word-for-word translation sounds very ungrammatical that's in English. Such is the nature of Ndebele.**

**Learn the pronouns and the formatives that go with them. Once you know them well, you can start EXPLORING the language on your own!**

**Here are some more everyday verbs for your language exploration!!**

1) Sukumani-stand get up	9) pheka-cook	17) -fa –die
2) Hamba-walk	10) geza-wash	18) -dla-eat
3) Gijima-run	11) Gqoka-put on/ wear	19) -natha-drink
4) Lahla-throw away	12) Khulula-take off /remove	20) -thanda –like or love or want or need or fancy
5) Phakamisa/Dobha-pick up	13) thenga-buy	
6) Phakamisa-lift up	14) thengisa-sell	
7) Sika-cut	15) hlekelela-smile	
8) Quma-chop	16) tshaya-beat /hit	

## General Word building: Food category

People need food to be healthy and strong - Abantu bamele badle ukuba babe lempilo lamandla

Inhlanzi	Fish
Inyama	Meat
Izithelo	Fruits
Amanzi	Water
Izihlahla	Trees
Umumbu	Maize
Umbhida	Vegetables
Okuphuzwayo	Drinks
Inyama	Meat
Izithelo	Fruits
Inhlanzi	Fish
Irayisi	Rice