

BeingAfrican, LLC Curriculum-Lesson 12

Objectives

1. To understand the 6 personal pronouns and use them in sentence construction.
 2. To further practise common verbs in SiSwati.
 3. To construct simple sentences in SiSwati using the Pronoun + Formative + Verb construction.
 4. Familiarize with different food categories
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Let's speak simple SiSwati! (A) (simple present tense)

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

I	Mine	
You(singular)	Wena	Wena e.g To a friend "unjani wena"!
You (plural)	Nine	(Often used when referring to the adults and high authority as below) Umdali-God Mkhulu-grandfather Gogo-grandmother Babe-father
We	Tsine	
He/she	Mdvuna/Msikati	

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

Mine	I	Mine ngipheka Kudla	I cook food
Wena	You	Wena ulandza tinkhuni	You fetch the firewood
Tsine	We	Tsine sijabulile	We are happy
Laba	They	Laba bajabulile	They are happy
Nine	You (plural)	Nine nidla sadza	You eat sadza

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

Lesson IV continued

PRONOUN + ↓	FORMATIVE ↓	+ VERB ↓	MEANING
1) Mine	ngiya ___	hlala	I sit
3) Yena/Tariro	uya ___	hleka	Tariro laughs
2) Yena/Tatenda	uya ___	khala	Tatenda is crying or Tatenda cries
4) Tsine	siya ___	lala	We sleep
5) Wena (babe)	uya ___	tsatsa	Father you take
6) Bona	baya ___	bamba	They hold
7) Ine	ngiya__	hamba	I go

The word for word translation sounds very ungrammatical-but that’s in English. Such is the nature of SiSwati at times.

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) Sukuma-stand get up	9) pheka-cook	17) fani –die
2) Hamba-walk	10) geza-wash	18) dlani-eat
3) Gijima-run	11) gcoka-put on/ wear	19) natsa-drink
4) Lahla-throw away	12) khumula-take off /remove	20) tsandza –like or love or want or need or fancy
5) Butsa-pick up	13) tsenga-buy	
6) Phakamisa-lift up	14) tsengisa-sell	
7) Sika-cut	15) mondvotela-smile	
8) Coba-chop	16) shaya-beat /hit	

General Word building: Food category

People need food to be healthy and strong - Vanhu vanoda kudya kuti vave neutano

Inhlanti	Fish
Inyama	Meat
Titselo	Fruits
Emanti	Water
Tihlahla	Trees
Umbila	Maize
Tibhidvo	Vegetables
Tinatfo	Drinks
Inyama	Meat
Titselo	Fruits
Inhlanti	Fish
Ilayisi	Rice