

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 Chewa.
 3. To construct simple sentences in Chewa using the Pronoun + Formative + Verb construction.
 4. Familiarize with different food categories
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Let's speak simple Chewa! (A) (simple present tense)

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

I	Ine	
You(singular)	Iwe	Iwe e.g To a friend Mzanga!
You (plural)	Inu	(Kawirikawiri zambiri zimagwiritsidwa ntchito ponena za anthu akuluakulu ndi Iwo amaulamuliro akuluakulunso monga zili munsimu) Mulungu-God Agogo amuna-grandfather Agogo akazi-grandmother Atate-father Amai- mother Ambuya-gogo
We	Ife	
He/she	Iye	

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

Ine	I	Ine ndimaphika chakudya	I cook food
Iwe	You	Iwe ufune nkhuni	You fetch the firewood
Ife	We	Ife ndife okondwa	We are happy
Iwo	They	Iwo ndiwokondwa	They are happy
Inu	You (plural)	Inu mumadya nsima	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) Ine	nda	Khala	I sit
3) Iye/Tariro	a (ku)	seka	Tariro laughs
2) Iwe/Tatenda	a(Ku)	Lira	Tatenda is crying or Tatenda cries
4) IFe	ti(Ku)	gona	We sleep
5) Inu (Atate)	mu	tenge	Father you take
6) Iwo	a	Sunga	They hold
7) Ine	ndiku	Yenda	I go

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

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) Imilira-stand get up	9) Phika-cook	17) -lfa –die
2) Yenda-walk	10) chapa-wash	18) -ldya-eat
3) Thamanga-run	11) vala-put on/ wear	19) -lmwa-drink
4) Taya-throw away	12) vula-take off /remove	20) -Konda –like or love or want or need or fancy
5) Tenga-pick up	13) gula-buy	
6) Kweza/tukula-lift up	14) gulitsa-sell	
7) Cheka/Dula-cut	15) mwetulira-smile	
8) Tema-chop	16) menya/womba-beat /hit	

General Word building: Food category

People need food to be healthy and strong - Anthu amafunika chakudya kuti akhale ndi thanzi komanso mphamvu

Nsomba	Fish
Nyama	Meat
Zipatso	Fruits
Madzi	Water
Mitengo	Trees
Chimanga	Maize
Masamba	Vegetables
Zakumwa	Drinks
Nyama	Meat
Zipatso	Fruits
Nsomba	Fish
Mpunga	Rice