

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

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

I	Me	
You(singular)	Wo	e.g To a friend!
You (plural)	Mo	(Often used when referring to the adults and high authority as below) Onyankopɔn-God Nana barima-grandfather Nana baa-grandmother Papa-father Maame-mother Ambuya-gogo
We	Yɛn	
He/she	Ɔno	

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

Me	I	Me noa aduane	I cook food
Wo	You	Wo hwehwe egya	You fetch the firewood
Yɛn	We	Yɛn ani agye	We are happy
Ɔmo	They	Ɔmo ani agye	They are happy
Mo	You (plural)	Mo di 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) Me _____ tena	I sit
3) ɔno/Tariro _____ sere	Tariro laughs
2) ɔno/Tatenda _____ su	Tatenda is crying or Tatenda cries
4) Yɛn yɛ _____ da	We sleep
5) ɔno(papa) ɔ _____ fa	Father you take
6) ɔmo _____ asom	They hold
7) Me _____ kɔ	I go

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

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!!
Eyi yε daadaa adeyε kasa nhwehwε mu no bi!!

1) Gyina hɔ-stand get up	9) noa-cook	17) -wu-die
2) Nante-walk	10) si-wash	18) -di-eat
3) Dwane-run	11) hyε-put on/ wear	19) -nom-drink
4) To twene-throw away	12) yi-take off /remove	20) -pε-like or love or want or need or fancy
5) Fa-pick up	13) tɔ-buy	
6) Pegya-lift up	14) ton-sell	
7) Twa-cut	15) sere-smile	
8) Twitwa-chop	16) bo-beat /hit	

General Word building: Food category

People need food to be healthy and strong - Nipa hia aduane de anya apomuden ne ahoɔden

Nsuomnam	Fish
Mogyanam	Meat
Aduaba	Fruits
Nsuo	Water
Ndua	Trees
Aburo	Maize
Atosodeɛ	Vegetables
Nsa	Drinks
Mogyanam	Meat
Aduaba	Fruits
Nsuomnam	Fish
Ɛmo	Rice