

BeingAfrican, LLC Curriculum-Lesson 5

Objectives

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

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

I	Nii
You(singular)	Wee
You (plural)	Inyui
We	Ithui
He/she	Ucio

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

Nii	I	Nii ni ndugaga	I cook food
Wee	You	Wee thiira ngu	You fetch the firewood
Ithui	We	Ithui twi na gikeno	We are happy
Acio	They	Acio me na gikeno	They are happy
Inyui	You (plural)	Inyui ni muraria ngima	You are eating mealie meal

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) Nii	ni nda_____	ikara thii	I sit
3) Tariro	ni_____	aratheka	Tariro laughs
2) Tatenda	ni_____	ararira	Tatenda is crying or Tatenda cries
4) Ithui	twi	toro	We sleep
5) Baba	ni	woya	Father you take
6) Acio	ni_____	manyita	They hold
7) Nii	ni_____	ndathii	I go

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

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) Rugama-stand get up	9) ruga-cook	17) -kua –die
2) Thii-walk	10) thambia-wash	18) -ria-eat
3) Teng'era-run	11) Humba-put on/ wear	19) -nyua-drink
4) Tee-throw away	12) Ruta-remove	20) -enda –like or love or want or need or fancy
5) Oya-pick up	13) Gura-buy	
6) Oya-lift up	14) Endia-sell	
7) Tinia-cut	15) Theka-smile	
8) Tema-chop	16) Gutha-beat /hit	

General Word building: Food category

People need food to be healthy and strong - Andu mabataire irio nietha magie na hinya.

Thamaki	Fish
Nyama	Meat
Matunda	Fruits
Maii	Water
Miti	Trees
Mbebe	Maize
Mboga	Vegetables
Indo cia kunywa	Drinks
Nyama	Meat
Matunda	Fruits
Thamaki	Fish
Muchere	Rice