# NCAM (BAASAAR SOONI)

# O.P.L.

# WORKBOOK

## (ORAL PROFICIENCY LEARNING)

**Peace Corps Togo 2010**

# Acknowledgement

Peace Corps Togo is very pleased to present the first ever Bassar local language manual to Peace Corps Togo Trainees and Volunteers. This manual has become a reality due to the meticulous work of many people.

The training team expresses its deepest gratitude to the Peace Corps Togo Country Director Rebekah Brownie Lee, for having taken the initiative to have materials developed in local languages. Her support is tremendous.

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Congratulations to Trainers Ismael S. Morou, Kossi Nyonyo, Simon Yao Gbogla, Training Secretary Jean B. Kpadenou who have worked diligently and conscientiously to develop this manual.

# To the learner

Congratulations to all of you Peace Corps Trainees and Volunteers for your acceptance to learn a new language. Of course learning a new language is not easy, but with dedication you will make it and achieve your goals.

This manual is competency based and contains useful expressions related to all training components such as technical, health, safety and security. This will build up your ability to communicate in local language and will bring you closer to the community with which you will work.

This capacity will also enable you to know your community better. You will participate effectively and with increased personal satisfaction in the type of cultural and technical exchange that Peace Corps has been advocating for since its creation.

Some suggestions for succeeding in this learning process is being receptive and taking risks. Use the new language, analyze it and be methodic. Search for new words with friends, host families, and counterparts.

The training staff invites you to share your comments in the event that it becomes necessary to revise the material. Any kind of feedback would be most welcomed.

Send it to:

Peace Corps Togo Training Manager
PO Box: 3194
Lomé, Togo

Have fun and enjoy using this manual

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# BASSAR ALPHABET

Here is The Bassar alphabet

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | B | C | D | EE | F | G | GB | I | J | K | KP | L |
| a | b | c | d | ee | f | g | gb | i | j | k | kp | l |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | N | NY | Ŋ | ŊM | OO | Ɔ | P | R | S | T | U |
| m | n | ny | ŋ | ŋm | oo | ɔ | p | r | s | t | u |

| | |
|---|---|
| W | Y |
| W | y |

**The vowels are:**

A ee I oo ɔ u

**Summary of Bassar alphabet**

| **Letter** | **Pronunciation (similar sound in English)** | **Bassar Example** | **English Translation** |
|---|---|---|---|
| a | f**a**ther | n**a** | Mother |
| b | **b**oy | **b**ɔɔ | Friend |
| d | **dog** | **d**a | buy |
| f | **f**ish | **f**oo | take |
| g | **g**o | M **g**ii | I am tired |
| gb | Typical Local language sound | M **gb**aam-**s**i | Please/I beg you |
| h | **h**at | yaa**h**a | Response to salutation |
| i | f**i**ll | F**i**ta | Mecanic |
| j | **J**ohn | Ku**j**oou | evening |
| k | **k**itten | **k**ɔpu | Cup |
| kp | Typical Local language sound | u**kp**il | Elder, Chief/Boss |
| l | **l**ady | **L**oor/**l**oo**l** | car |
| m | **m**an | u**m**an | Red |
| n | **n**et | Di**n**ool/Dinoor | yaam |
| ŋ | si**ng** | Di**ŋ**oor | Danse |
| ny | French "pei**gn**er", Spanish "se**ñ**or" | a**ny**in | Teeth |
| ŋm | Typical Local language sound | **ŋm**a | write |

| Letter | Pronunciation (similar sound in English) | Bassar Example | English Translation |
|---|---|---|---|
| o | no | Togo | Togo |
| ɔ | paw, log; ball | kugɔtu | Bathroom |
| p | pick | ipaati | Benefit/Profit |
| r | Africa (but roll the "r" a little) | Afrika | Africa |
| s | sit | san | ran |
| t | tip | Ditankpal | Rock or stone |
| u | loop | sukul | School |
| c | Like "ch" in english "church" | cica | Teacher |
| w | wish | uwanyafɩl | Trader |
| y | eye | Diyíndi | Name |

**Nasalized vowels**

The sign ~, slight sound of ''an'', over the vowel indicates that it is nasalized.

Examples: ŋŋaan = broom

Diyiindi = Walk

**Tones**

Bassar is a tonal language as are most African languages. The major tones are:

- High (/) M ca = I'm going
- Low (\) M ŋma = I'm writing

In Bassar, most of the words that end by **L** can be replaced by **R**

Examples:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lool | or | loor | car |
| Dikpafil | or | Dikpafir | meeting |
| Dalba... | or | Darba… | one day… |

# Lesson 1
# Greetings

**Objectives*:***
After studying this lesson on ‘’greetings’’, trainees will be able to:

1) Use specific vocabulary related to greetings to greet people at the different times of the day
2) Use adequate verbs in the present tense
3) Discuss at least 3 cultural notes related to greetings
4) Communicate, to build social relationship and friendship in Bassar communities in order to support their personal safety and security.
5) Practise greeting in the community while respecting the culture of the Bassar community.

**Dailogue**

***It’s seven a.m.Ismaël meets Rose his neighbor and they greet.***

Ismaël: A-dooŋu pɔɔya?
Rose: Alaafiya. Mmɔŋki pɔɔya?
Ismaël: Alaafiya. Mbiyaam pɔɔ
Rose: Alaafiya.
Ismaël: Ditundi pɔɔya?
Rose: Alaafiya.
Ismaël: An ŋa kuti
Rose: Yoo, A jaam mmɔŋki.

**Dialogue in English**

Ismaɛ̀l: Good morning,
Rose: Good morning. How is the house (your family)
Ismaɛ̀l: Fine.How are kids?
Rose: Fine.
Ismaɛ̀l: How is the work?
Rose: Fine
Ismaɛ̀l: See you later
Rose: Bye, say hello to the house (family)

## Cultural notes

- ***Greeting is a moral and social obligation that should not be neglected. It's a sign of respect.***
- ***You greet people first before you talk about anything else.***
- ***For an elder, a Chief or a notable… you bend down or genuflect while greeting.***
- ***You don't snap fingers with elders and women.***
- ***You initiate greeting with elders but not hand shaking.***
- ***Greeting is not only to ask about people's health but also to show interest in a person or to engage in conversation.***
- ***Greeting eases your integration and acceptance in the community. Therefore people are ready to help you whenever you have a problem or a safety and security issue.***

***Proverb: «Ijaam kaa gbee kudì»***
(*Greeting never fills up a room*).

**Words and Useful expressions**

**<u>Different greetings (non formal )</u>**

- Ndoo pɔɔya? (06h00 – 11h00) — Good morning
- A pɔ mana? — How are you?
- Ni nyanaa? (very formal for elders) — Good morning
- Si ni ŋwiin (12h - 14h) — Good afternoon
- Si ni kujoou (15h – 00h) — Good evening
- A-jooku pɔɔya? (15h00 – 00h) — Good evening
- Ni-jooku pɔɔya? ( you plural)

**Periods of the day**

- Kutaafaau — morning
- ŋwiimpu — noon
- Kujoou — afternoon/evening
- Kunyeeu — night

**Titles**

- Ukpil — elder, boss (men)
- Ti-na — elder, boss(wonen )
- Naana — old woman
- Baaba — old man
- Ti-ba — elder boss, our father

**Some verbs**

- Geen — to sleep
- Fiinti — t o wake up
- Tii kuboou/ŋŋal — to shake hand
- Jaam — to greet
- Foo/kii ijaam — answer greetings
- Foo — to take
- Tii — to give
- Kii — to answer/to accept

Expressions

- Mmɔŋki yab pɔɔya? — How are the members of your family?
- mmɔŋki — house
- Mbiyaam pɔɔya? — How are the children?
- An coomaa? — Are things going well?
- Iin, an coom — yes, things are going well
- Aayee, an kaa coom — no, things are not going well
- A pɔɔ mana? (you sing) — Are you doing well? (you
- Ni pɔɔ mana? (you plu) — Are you doing well? (you plural)
- Ni-dooŋu pɔɔya? — good morning (plural)
- Si ni ŋwiin — good afternoon (sing)
- Ni ni ŋwiin — good afternoon (plural)
- A-jooku pɔɔya? — Good evening (sing)?
- Ni-jooku pɔɔya? — Good evening (plural)?
- An ŋa fool — see you tomorrow
- An ŋa dalba — see you next time
- A geen tiŋan — sleep well / have a good night

- A cu daan — go and come back
- A coom tiŋan — safe journey
- Si ni ditundi/ Si ni kokal — thank you
- An ŋa daapudal — see you (after two days)
- Si ni nsan. / A-sanŋu (pɔɔya) ? — welcome
- Unimbɔti n ceen-si — May God see you off (safe journey)

## Grammar notes

### i. The subjet pronouns

There are six subject pronouns in Baasar:

| | |
|---|---|
| * m | I |
| * a | You |
| * (W)u | He, she, it |
| * ti | We |
| * ni | You |
| * bi | They |

Example:

* M pɔ tiŋan — I'm fine
* A pɔ Tiŋan — You are fine
* U pɔ tiŋan — He/she is fine
* Ti pɔ tiŋan — we are fine
* Ni pɔ tiŋan — you are fine
* Bi pɔ tiŋan — they are fine

Some verbs don't change their form when they are conjugated, but some irregular verbs do change.
Example
**Cu** to go M ca I am going

## Exercises

1) Build a dialogue with the words below and practice it with a classmate or a resource person.

Jooku- A- pɔɔya? Mana-a-jooku - pɔɔ?
Ditundi - pɔɔya - mbiyaam- alaafiya
Mmɔŋki-an ŋa – a jaam- dalba

**2**) Use the subject pronouns (m, a, u, ti, ni, bi) to make sentences with the following verbs:

a) Fiinti kutaafaau_____

b) Geen kunyeeu_____

c) Jaam ukpil_____

d) Tii kuboou_____

e) Foo ijaam_____

**3**) Rearrange the following words into sentences

*a) Jooku/a/pɔɔya/ti-na ?*_____

*b) Fiĩnti /kutaafaau/mbiyaam*_____

*c)* Geen*/kunyeeu/ukpil* _____

*d) Gbati Kossi/jaam/ u/* _____

*e) mbiyaam/mana/pɔ?* _____

*f) Foo/Naana/ijaam* _____

*g) Kuboou/bi/ti/u*_____

**5**) Answer the following questions.

a) Mbiyaam *pɔɔya?* _____

b) A-dooŋu pɔɔya? _____

c) A-tundi pɔɔya? _____

d) Ti-na Blandine pɔɔya? _____

e) Mmɔŋki yab pɔɔya? _____

f) Si ni ŋwiin_____

g) An ŋa fool _____

**6**) Translate the following sentences into Bassar.

a) See you tomorrow. _____

b) Sleep well _____

c) How are you doing? _____

d) How does the work go? /how is your job going? _____

e) See you next time _____

f) See you later_____

g) How are children doing_____

h) Yes, the kids are doing well _____

i) The people in the house are fine _____

**Role play**

1) In the morning, you meet a woman near your house, greet her and say good bye.

2) At noon, after class, you meet the Chief of your village, greet him appropriately and then leave.

3) While going for a walk in the evening you see a young person, greet him/her and wish him/her a good night.

**Situation:**

1) Your host brother comes back home from school in the evening. Greet him and ask him about his school.

2) Imagine a dialogue between you and your host mother as you are leaving the house for your job in the morning. (Greeting, wishes for the day, expressions to take leave).

**TDA**

Go to one of the trainers or a host family member, greet him/her and answer the greeting. Write down all new vocabulary you heard for next class.

# Lesson 2
# Introduce oneself and someone else

**Objectives:**

After studying the lesson on introductions, trainees will be able to:

1) Use appropriate vocabulary to introduce oneself and someone else
2) Ask at least 5 questions to know someone's identity
3) Use specific verbs related to introduction in the present tense
4) Discuss 2 cultural notes related to introduction
5) Introduce themselves to a member of the host family and collect information about him/her.

*Dialogue*

**David Ganske a Peace Corps Volunteer introduces himself and his friend Amy to a counterpart**

David G: A-jooku pɔɔya m-bɔɔ?
Niŋkaabu: Alaafiya. Bi yii-si yii ba?
David G: Bi yii-m yii David.
Niŋkaabu: A nyanni la?
David G: M nyanni Washington, Amerika tiŋki poon.
Niŋkaabu: Ditundi dilar ni a ŋaan?
David G: M sa ututunli (volontaire) nnyɔpee ŋun bi yii Korp de la Paix yee poon. M-bɔɔ sɔ. Bi yii-u yii Amy. U-mun nyanni Amerika ni ki sa ututunli. Baasaar ni u ŋaaan ditundi.
Niŋkaabu: An ŋan paa. Ni sanŋu pɔɔ?
David G: Yaaha. An ŋa kuti.

**Dialogue in English**

David G: Good evening, my friend.
Niŋkaabu: Good evening, what's your name?
David G: My name is David.
Niŋkaabu: Where are you from?
David G: I am an American and I am from Washington DC.
Niŋkaabu: What's your profession?
David G: I'm a Volunteer in Peace Corps. This is my friend .Her name is Amy. She is also an American and a Peace Corps Volunteer. She works in Bassar.
Niŋkaabu: Good. A good idea, welcome
David G: Thanks. See you later.

## Cultural notes:

- ***In general, introducing somebody is not automatic. So to know someone's name you have to ask for it.***
- ***The first name, when it's not a Christian or a muslim name corresponds most of the time to a clanic name. Also there are names of the days of the week on which you are born (Please see below)***
- ***The name is given to a child taking into account the clanic origin of the mother, which explains why the matrimonial system in Bassar community is matriarchal***
- ***A way to show respect is to avoid calling people directly by their name***

Some names are given to children according to the day of the week they are born:

| Day | Women | Men |
|---|---|---|
| Kunca (Monday) | Kuncapu | N/A |
| Laaboo(Tuesday) | Laaboopu | Laabooja |
| Kaŋkundi(Wednesday) | Kaŋkumpu | N/A |
| Cɔkɔl (Thursday) | Coopu | N/A |
| Putaakpa (Friday) | Soom | N/A |
| Kpanja (Saturday) | Kpanjapu | Kpànja |

The clanic names are giving to children according to the clanic group the mother of the children belongs to.So women give names to their children.
Examples of some clanic groups:

| Clans:**Kubedipu,Wadandi, Kpaaja-Dumpu, Kaŋkundi** | | | Clan: **Bina**ŋwaalib | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Boys names: | Girls names: | | Boys names: | Names of girls |
| 1. Gbati /Juwaa | 1. Niŋfoon /Yaaba | | 1. Naakpan | 1. Mɔŋtõõ/Awusi |
| 2. Naapɔɔ/Jambɔnja | 2. Ikpindi/Ayirba | | 2. Niŋkaabu | 2. Niŋkkpiib/Damba |
| 3. Gbandi /Tatarwa | 3. Ajaa /Damba | | 3. Nyandi /Kpakpa | 3. Naadaan/Boosa |
| 4. Lantam (Kulpai) | 4. Mɔŋfaai/Nuusi | | 4. Daal (Daar) /Agbaa | 4. Jabii/Kpɔmbɔ |
| 5. Kisaau (Cilkau) | 5. Kijuui/Aleewa | | 5. Unoo/ Gbaaya | 5. Kpindi/ Gboogboo |

**Vocabulary**

- Diyindi (Ayin) — name(s)
- ututunli (Bitutunliib)/Volontaire — Someone who helps others (volunteer)
- la(ni) — where
- Ba(ni) — what
- Kisukulbiki (nsukulbiyaam) — pupil, student(s)
- Ukpaal (Bikpaab) — farmer(s)
- Cica(b) — teacher(s)
- uwannyafil biwannyafiliib) — seller(s)/trader(s)
- unyampu (Binyampoob) — seller(s)/trader(s) (For women)
- Dɔkɔta(b) — Doctor(s)/nurse(s)
- Kapiinta(b) — carpenter(s)
- Dɔrba(b) — driver(s)

- Karaci — clerk
- Ukaliŋja(Bikalimb) — clerk(men)
- Ukaliŋnimpu(Bikaliŋnimpoob) — clerk(s)(women)
- Bikalimb — clerks
- Utumbifil(Bitumbifiliib)/apprenti — apprentice(s)
- Teela(b) — tailor(s)
- Ukpil (Bikpilib) — boss/patron(s)
- Ti-na — boss/patron(for women)
- Ujaakpaati (Bijaakpaatiib) — bachelor(s)
- Maason(b)/Udimal (Bidimaliib) — masson(s)

Expressions

- Bi yii-m (yii) — my name is…
- Bi yii-si yii ba? — What is your name?
- A nyanni la? — Where do you come from?
  Kitiŋ ki laka poon ni a nyanni — from which town /village/country do You come from?
- A sa la? — what's your nationality/ your ethnic group?
- Ba tundi ni a ŋaan? /A ŋaan ba tundi? — What's your profession?

Some verbs

- Nyanni — to come from
- Nya — To go out
- Sa — to be
- Bi — to be (in or at+place)
- Ca — to go
- Daan — to come

**Exercises**

**1)** Answer a question or ask a question

a) Bi yii-si yii ba? _____

b) M nyanni Kaliforni Amerika tiŋki poon_____

c) A nyanni la? _____

d) M sa dɔkɔta ni ki bi Kpanjal (Banjeli). _____

e) You are on the way to your friend's house and you meet a young person who greets you. Answer the greeting and ask questions to know him/her better

**Grammar notes**

Ask questions with **la** where

**i. La**

Example:

| | |
|---|---|
| A nyanni **la**? | Where do you come from? |
| Waapɔndi nyanni **la**? | Where does Waapɔndi come from? |
| Mbiyaam nyanni **la**? | Where do children come from? |

**A**: personal pronoun (subject): **you**
**Nyann**i: come from
**La?** : Interrogative adverb
Structure of the sentence**:** subject+ verb+la

ii. We can also start the same question by "**la?"**

| | |
|---|---|
| Example: la ni nyanni? | Where do you come from? |
| La ni Waapɔndi nyanni? | Where does wapɔndi come from? |
| La ni mbiyaam nyanni? | Where do children come from? |
| La ni a nyanni? | |

**La ?** : interrogative adverb
**N**i : particle
**A** : personal pronoun (subject)
**Nyanni**: verb
Structure: interrogative adverb+particle +pronoun subject+verb

**Exercises**

**1)** Translate the following sentences into Bassar.

a) I am in Kpanjal(Banjeli)_____

b) Jabi is a student _____

c) She is a nurse in Bitchabe_____

d) Kassi is a Peace Corps Volunteer in Kaabu-Saara _____

_____

e) Mɔŋfaai is a young girl, she is an apprentice _____

_____

f) Blandine is Training Manager at Peace Corps _____

_____

g) Brownie Lee is an American but she is in Togo now _____

_____

h) Trainees are in Agou now _____

_____

**2)** Ask or answer questions from the statements below

a) Bi yii-m yii David _____

b) M sa dɔkɔta _____

c) La ni a nyanni?_____

d) Ba tundi ni a ŋaan? _____

e) Ukpil nyanni la? _____

f) Kassi sa ututunli. U ŋaan ditundi Korp de la Paix

_____

**3) Text**:

Bi yii-m yii Alicia Looks. M nyanni Kaliforni Amerika tiŋki poon. Ama kɔnkɔnnee m bi Togo doo. M sa "stagiaire" ni ki bi Agu tiŋki poon. M-bɔɔ sɔ. Bi yii-u yii Nɔvinyɔ Yabɔ. U sa cica ni ki bi Kpalim.

Text**:**

My name is Alicia looks. I come from California in the States, but now I'm here in Togo. I'm a trainee in Tsévié. This is my friend. Her name is Nɔvinyɔ Yabɔ. She is a teacher and she lives in Kpalime.

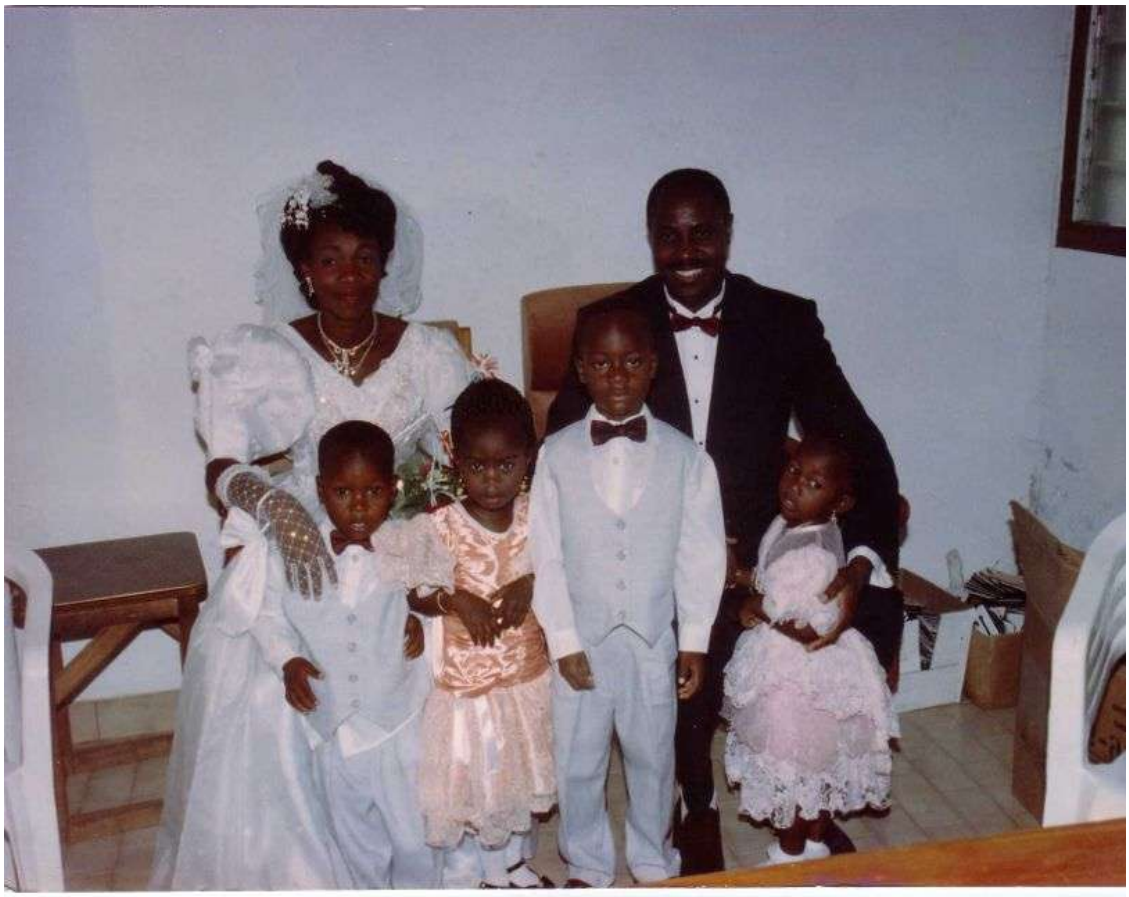
Questions

- Alicia nyanni la? _____
- U sa la? _____
- Ba tundi ni u ŋaan? _____
- Nɔvinyɔ Yabɔ sa la? _____
- U ŋaan ba tundi? _____

**TDA**

In your neigborhood, you meet two people; greet them, introduce yourself to them and ask for questions to know them better (name-origin-profession-where they live). Write down the information for next class.

# Lesson 3
# Introduce one's family

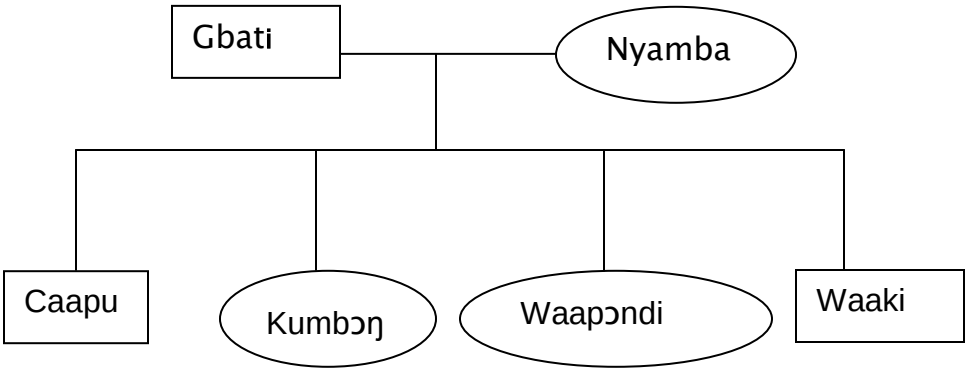


**Objectives**:

After studying the lesson on ''Introduce one's family'', trainees will be able to:

1) Use adequate vocabulary related to family relationships and the numbers from 1 to 20 to introduce their family
2) Use 4 possessive adjectives and their negative structures to introduce their family members
3) Discuss at least 3 cultural notes related to the family
4) Talk about their own family to a member of the community.

**Walim Dĩcaŋku** **Walim's family**




**Text:**

Bi yii-m yii Kumbɔŋ. Binib biluu di bi m-dicaŋku poon. M-baa, m-na ni mbiyaam muna. Bininjab sa bili ni binimpoob mun sa bili. Bi yii m-baa yii Gbati, u sa Cica ni ki bi dimool. U sa Baasaar Binaapalbi. Bi yii m-na yii Nyamba, u sa dɔkɔta ni ki nyanni Baasaar Kpaŋkisi. Bi yii m-niija yii Caapu. U sa ukaliŋja ni ki bi Luma. Bi yiI m-niija kiwaayi yii Waaki ni ki yii m-naal yii Waapɔndi. Waaki ni Waapɔndi bi Luma ni ki ŋaan sukul Kpaan.

**Text:**

My name is Kumbɔŋ. There are six persons in my family: my father, my mother, and four children, two sons and two daughters. My father's name is Gbati. He is a teacher in Dimori. He is from Binaparba. My mother's name is Nyamba. She is a nurse and she's from Kpankissi (Bassar). My brother's name is Caapu. He is a clerk and he lives in Lome. My younger brother's name is Waaki.My younger sister's name is Waapɔndi. Waaki and Waapɔndi attend the University of Lome.

**Cultural notes**

- ***Polygamy is a reality in Togolese community***
- ***Cousins and sisters are considered just like sisters and brothers***
- ***Family links and community solidarity are strong***
- ***Thus acceptance in your family or in your community is very important***

**Proverb***: "A na yaa bi dikpoolĩnee aa looti bikpɔ saa"* *(He's not heavy, he's my brother)*

**Vocabulary**

Members of the family

| | |
|---|---|
| Kudicaŋ | Family |
| Baa | Father |
| Na | Mother |
| Naanja | Grandfather |
| Naan | Grandmother |
| Kibiki | Child |
| Unimpu | Girl |
| Uninja | Boy |
| Jipɔɔn | Son |
| Bisal | Daughter |
| Maan | Brother(elder) |
| Naal | Younger brother |
| Niisal | Sister(from brother to sister) |
| Niija | Brother(from sister tobrother) |
| Cal | Husband |
| Unimpu | Wife |
| Usapɔɔn | Young girl |
| Pool | Aunt(parterna) |
| Bawaal/Bawaayi | Uncle parternal(younger) |
| Bakpil | Uncle paternal(elder) |
| Wee | Uncle (maternal) |
| Nawaa | Maternal aunt(younger) |
| Nakpil | Maternal aunt(elder) |
| Naantiiu | Grandson/grand daugther |

Expressions

| | |
|---|---|
| Bi yii m-baa yii | My father's name is …. (They call my father…….) |
| Bi yii a-na yii ba? | What's the name of your mother? (How do they call your mother? |
| A-baab sa Togo | Your parents are from Togo |
| M caa (b) cal | I have a husband |
| M caa(b) unimpu | I have a wife |
| U-baa caa(b) binimpoob bili | His father has two wives |
| M-baa caa(b) mbiyaam muŋmoo | My father has five children |
| A caa (b) calaa? /A kpa calaa? | Do you have a husband? |
| Iin, m caa(b) cal/ Iin, m kpa cal | Yes I have a husband |

- Aayee, maa caa (b) cal — No, I haven't (a husband)
- Ba tundi ni a-na ŋaan ? — What (kind) of job does your mother do?
- Mbiyaam muŋa ni a caa (b)? — How many children do you have?
- Biŋa? — How many?

Some verbs

- Caa(b)/kpa — To have
- Pɔ diyindi — Give a name
  Caa(b) unimpu — To have a woman (To mary a woman)
- mɔn uninja — To get married to a man
- Caa(b) cal/kpa cal — To have a husband

Numbers

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. → | Ubɔ | 11. → | saalaa ni ubɔ |
| 2. → | bili | 12. → | saalaa ni bili |
| 3. → | bita | 13. → | saalaa ni bita |
| 4. → | binaa | 14. → | saalaa ni binaa (ubɔ kpa saalku) |
| 5. → | biŋmoo | 15. → | saalku |
| 6. → | Biluu | 16. → | saalku ni ubɔ |
| 7. → | Biluli | 17. → | saalku ni bili |
| 8. → | binii | 18. → | saalku ni bita |
| 9. → | biwa | 19. → | saalku ni binaa (ubɔ kpa mmuŋku) |
| 10. → | saalaa | 20. → | mmuŋku |

**Note:** Numbers when used in a sentence loose their prefix (example ubɔ bili bita…) and agree with the the prefix of the word that they follow except 10(saalaa)

**Examples:**
Ubɔ: Kibiki kiba
Bita: bisapɔmbi bita
Biŋmoo: mbiyaam muŋmoo

**Exercises**

1) Give five words you associate with the word family and make a sentence with each of the words.
   Example: baa----→Bi yii m-baa yii Ganske

**2)** Complete this identity card

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Name | | |
| Profession | | |
| Origin | | |
| Family | Father: | Name:<br>Place of residence:<br>Profession: |
| | Mother: | Name:<br>Place of residence:<br>Profession: |
| | Brothers and sisters | Name:<br>Place of residence:<br>Profession: |

**Grammar notes**

i. The personal pronoun in front of a noun becomes a possessive adjective and a dash (-) is placed between the personal pronoun and the thing or person possessed see the board below.

Example:

**Personal pronouns as subjet:**

| | |
|---|---|
| **M** caa (b) unimpu | **I** have a wife |
| **A** caa (b) unimpu | **you** have a wife |
| **U** caa (b) unimpu | **He/ (she**) has a wife |
| **Ti** caa (b) binimpoob | **we** have wives |
| **Ni** caa (b) binimpoob | **you** have wives |
| **Bi** caa (b) binimpoob | **they** have wives |

**Personal pronouns as possessive adjectives**

| | |
|---|---|
| **M-**naal sɔ | this is **my** younger brother |
| **A-**naal sɔ | this is your younger brother |
| **U-**naal sɔ | this is **his/ (her**) younger brother |
| **Ti-**naal sɔ | here are **ou**r younger brother |
| **Ni-**naal sɔ | here are **your** younger brother |
| **Bi-**naal sɔ | here are **their** younger brother |

**Summary of personal pronouns as subjects and as possessive adjectives**

| Subject(pronoun) | | Possessive adjectives | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bassar | English | Bassar | English |
| M | I | M- | My |
| A | You | A- | Your |
| W(u) | He/She | W(u)- | His/her |
| Ti | We | Ti– | Our |
| Ni | You | Ni– | Your |
| Bi | They | Bi– | Their |

**ii. The plural in Bassar agrees with many rules or categories**

**a) Plural of nouns related to family**:

The prefix ‘’u’’ is dropt and replaced by “bi” then we add “b” at the end of the noum

Example:

Unimpu (lady) binimpoob (ladies)

Uninja (man) bininjab (men)

Unaacimpɔɔn (young man) Binaacimpɔmb (young men)

**b) Plural of nouns related to family that don’t have prefix “u**”.

In this case we add “b” at the end of the noun to have the plural.

Example:

Pool (Aunt) poolb (aunts)

Bawaal (uncle) bawaalb (uncles)

Na (mother) nab (mothers)

**Note:** We have some irregular words which do not follow either of the above-mentioned rules. Example**: Kibiki (child)** but **mbiyaam (children).**

**c) For words borrowed from English or french we add “b” at the end of the word to have plural.**

Example:

Cica (teacher) Cicab (teachers)

Kapiinta (carpenter) Kapiintab (carpenters)

Drɔba (driver) Drɔbab (drivers)

**NB**: The plural of other words will be studied in next competence

Exercise:

Write the plural of the following words:

Example: Unimpu binimpoob

1) Usapɔɔn (young girl) _____

2) Naan (grand mother) _____

3) Unimpunaati (old wonan) _____

4) Niija (brother) _____

5) Ujamkpil (oldman) _____

6) Naanja (grandfather) _____

7) Unil (person) _____

.

8) Baa (father) _____

### iii. "**Yes**" or "**No**" questions

To ask yes or no questions, we add the following endings to the affirmative form of the sentence.

Example:

| | |
|---|---|
| Napɔ caa unimpu (Napo has a wife) | Napɔ caa unimpɔɔʔ (Does Napo have a wife?) |
| Jeff sa unil (Jeff is kind) | Jeff sa unilaa? (Is Jeff kind?) |
| Bi ca diyiindi (they are taking a walk) | Bi ca diyiindaa? (Are they taking a walk?) |
| Jennifer caa cal (Jennifer has a husband) | Jennifer caa calaa? (Does Jennifer have a husband?) |

**Note1: unil person or human being is also a nice or kind person**

**Note2:** Words ending by:

Consonnants followed

- By a mute vowel i (li, di, ki, ni…) aa?
- u ɔɔ?
- ii ii?
- a aa?
- ɔ ɔɔ?

| |
|---|
| The affirmative structure is: **subject +verb + noun**<br>The interrogative structure is: **subject+verb + noun + the ending**? |

**Exercises**

**1)** Use the correct possessive adjective that corresponds to the English word in parenthesis:

Example: baa (my) m-baa

a) Na (my) _____
b) Bɔɔ (our) _____

c) Naal (their)_____
d) Naanja (your) _____
e) Weeb (our) _____
f) Poolb (their) _____
g) Niija (his)_____
h) Niisalb (my)_____
i) Bawaal.(her) _____

**2)** Rearrange the following words into sentences:

a) M- / Togo / baa / sa _____

b) Naanja / bi yii / m- / Laabooja _____

c) Bicaabi / u- / nyanni / pool _____

d) Na / m- /munaa mbiyaam/caa? _____

e) Luma (Lomé)/sukul kpaan/ŋaan/u

_____

f) binaa / Ti- / uninja / muŋmoo/ binimpoob /ubɔ/ caa / baa / ni/ mbiyaam

_____

**3)** Translate into Bassar:

There are 12 persons in my family: my father, my mother, my sisters, my brothers, my paternal aunt and my maternal uncle. Our father comes from Bikootibi and our mother is from Koojodumpu. They have 3 sons and 5 daughters.

**4)** Ask yes or no questions from the following statements:

a) U nyanni Dapangu _____
b) Aïsha ca mmɔŋki_____
c) Jabi caa cal_____
d) Bi ca sukul_____
e) U-Baa sa cica _____
f) Jeff niisal sa Dɔkɔta_____
g) NicK caa unimpu_____
h) Bi caa mbiyaam _____

**Role play:**

You are meeting your host father's friend for the first time. Introduce your family to him and ask for questions about his family.

**TDA**

Your host family would like to know more about the members of your family in the States. Give them information and ask questions to know more than what you actually know.

# Lesson 4
# Buying essential items

**Objectives:**
After studying the lesson on "buying essential items" trainees will be able to:

1) Count the CFA in Bassar
2) Name at least 7 essential items found at the market
3) Use correct expressions and verbs related to shopping
4) Use interrogative terms like (**Ba, mana, biŋa…**) and "**laa+verb**" form to purchase items
5) Discuss at least 5 cultural notes related to market
6) Develop adequate strategies for their personal security in the market
7) Bargain and buy an essential item at the market

## Dialogue

***Netta a PCV went to the market in Bassar to buy cloth.***

Boosa: m-bɔɔ a sanŋu. A laa da ba?
Netta : M laa da sata
Boosa: Sata mɔntiib bi m-cee. Kpee, ulɔ ni a la?
Netta : Ciivii satau ni m la. Mana ni a nyafi sata nee?
Boosa: Sata ubɔ sa kutuku ubɔ ni dijandi?
Netta : Oh! an pɔɔ kudaau. M gbaam-si, bati-m
Boosa: Mana ni a caa?
Netta: M laa da sata gbanti kutuku ubɔ
Boosa: Aayee an kaa ban. Mbaamɔn caan kutuku ubɔ ni kilaafaau.
Netta : Tɔɔ, foo animil.
Boosa: Cenji sɔ.
Netta: Si ni ditundi.
Boosa: Tɔɔ, an ŋa kuti.

## Dialogue in English

Boosa: Welcome my friend. What do you want to buy?
Netta: I want to buy a cloth
Boosa: I have good cloths.
Netta: I want "ciivii", (the lower quality). How much is this cloth?
Boosa: One thousand five hundred CFA for two yards.
Netta: Oh. It is too expensive, reduce the price, please!
Boosa: How much do you have?
Netta: I want to buy it one thousand.
Boosa: No. It is not enough. The last price is one thousand two hundred CFA.
Netta: Ok, take the money.
Boosa: This is the balance.
Netta: Ok, thank you very much
Boosa: You're welcome. See you again.

## Cultural and safety and security notes

- ***The market day is not only for trading but is also a great opportunity to meet friends***
- ***It's necessary to bargain in the market and sometimes in shops.***
- ***Exchanging things is not automatic; you need to discuss the case with the seller before.***
- ***You don't use your left hand in the market.***
- ***You don't bargain early in the morning without buying the item.***
- ***It's not safe to go to the market with too much money on you or just after banking.***
- ***It's important to be careful about people who ask for help in the market.***
- ***When buying food you can ask the seller to add you some as a gift.***

## Vocabulary

<u>Numbers from 21 to 100</u>

- mmuŋku ni ubɔ 21
- mmuŋku ni bili 22
- mmuŋku ni bita 23
- mmuŋku ni binaa 24
- mmuŋku ni biŋmoo 25
- mmuŋku ni biluu 26
- mmuŋku ni biluli 27
- mmunku ni binii (bili kpa mmuŋku ni saalaa) 28
- mmuŋku ni biwa (ubɔ kpa mmuŋku ni saalaa) 29
- mmuŋku ni saalaa 30
- mmuŋku ni saalaa ni ubɔ 31
- mmuŋku ni saalaa ni biwa (ubɔ kpa imuŋku ili) 39
- imuŋku ili 40
- imuŋku ili ni biwa (ubɔ kpa imuŋku ili ni saalaa) 49
- imuŋku ili ni saalaa 50
- imuŋku ili ni saalaa ni biwa (ubɔ kpa imuŋku ita) 59
- imuŋku ita 60
- imuŋku ita ni biwa (ubɔ kpa imuŋku ita ni saalaa) 69
- imuŋku ita ni saalaa 70
- imuŋku inaa 80
- imuŋku inaa ni saalaa 90
- imuŋku iŋmoo (dilaataal) 100

**Expressions to count money**

Coins

- Biyee 5F
- Biyee bili 10F
- Biyee biŋmoo 25F
- Biyee biluu 30F
- Biyeeb saalaa 50F
- Biyeeb saalaa ni ubɔ 55F
- Biyeeb saalaa ni bili 60F
- Biyeeb saalku 75F
- Biyeeb saalku ni ubɔ 80F
- Biyeeb saalku ni bili 85F
- Biyeeb saalku ni bita 90F
- Biyeeb saalku ni binaa (Ubɔ kpa dilaataal) 95F
- Dilaataal (jam ubɔ) 100F
- Dilaataal ni biyeeb saalaa (Iluli ni saalaa) 150F
- Kilaafaawu(Jam bili) 200F
- Kilaafaawu ni biyeeb saalaa (Jam bili ni dijandi) 250F
- Jam bita 300F
- Jam binaa 400F
- Sampua / jam biŋmoo 500F
- Jam biluu 600F
- Jam biluli 700F
- Jam bnii 800F
- Jam biwa 900F

Bank notes/bills

- Kutuku (miili) 1000F
- Kutuku ubɔ ni dijandi (Miili ni dijandi) 1500F
- Kutuku bili (Miili bili) 2000F
- Kutuku bita (Miili bta) 3000F
- Kutuku binaa (Miili bnaa) 4000F
- Kutuku biŋmoo (Miili biŋmoo) 5000F
- Kutuku biluu (Miili biluu) 6000F
- Kutuku biwa (Miili biwa) 9000F
- Kutukub saalaa (Miilib saalaa) 10000F

Words and expressions related to the use of the money

| | |
|---|---|
| animil | money |
| animil kaa ŋan | the money is not good |
| animi pɔɔn | new coins/note |
| animil cati | teared money |
| Cenji | change |
| Tifaal | bill/note |
| Dijandi | half (from 200cfa) |

Essential items

| | |
|---|---|
| Anaataka | shoes/sandals |
| Tɔrch | flash light |
| Atɔrch tankpee/piilb | battery |
| Fɔfɔɔ | soap |
| Kifuulii | hat |
| ŋŋaan | broom |
| kuca | sponge |
| Gbeekeeti | bucket |
| kpɔnɔ | bread |
| Sikil | sugar |
| ŋyaam | salt |
| Sikil kpɔnɔu | sugar bread |
| ŋyaam kpɔnɔu | salt bread |
| Yagim | pepper |
| Toomaati/timati | tomato |
| Gaabu/albasaa | onion |
| Ayabaa/Kɔdu | banana |
| Bɔflee/bɔfleelee | papaya |
| Nunufi | orange |
| Sata | material/pagne/cloth |
| Tiwan | thing/things |

Expressions

| | |
|---|---|
| Ba ni a nyaab? | What are you looking for? (present progressive) |
| Ba ni a laa da? | What do you want to buy? |
| M nyaab anaataka | I' looking for shoes |
| M laa da anaataka? | I want buy shoes |
| Manan ni a nyafi anaataka ? | How much are the shoes? |
| An pɔɔ kudaau (paa) | It is (too) expensive |
| Bati-m | Reduce the price for me |

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Ba ni a nyafi? | What are you selling |
| ➢ M laa pa sampua | I want to pay five hundred francs |
| ➢ unyampu | Seller (lady seller) |
| ➢ uwannyafil | Seller( of things) |
| ➢ uwandal/Biwɔndaliib | Customers/Client (of things) |
| ➢ An kaa pɔɔ kudaau | It ‘s cheap |
| ➢ da dipɔndi | To buy (credit) |
| ➢ itoo/ jaara | Add me some ( it is normal to ask for a gift if you buy food at the market) |

Verbs

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ nyafi | to sell |
| ➢ da | to buy |
| ➢ foo | to take |
| ➢ Cuu | to hold / to take |
| ➢ Bati | to reduce |
| ➢ Balfi kudaau | to ask for price |
| ➢ Pinni (animil) | lend / or borrow (money) |
| ➢ nyaab | to look for |

**Exercises**

1) Make at least five sentences using the expression “**m laa da**’’
Example: m laa da nunufi

2) Imagine yourself in the market; ask questions about the price of some items you see by a seller.

**Grammar notes**

**i)** The negative sentence
We have two ways to form the negative sentence in Bassar

a) The first form: with personal pronoun.as subject:

| **Affirmative sentence** | **Negative sentence** |
|---|---|
| M laa da anaataka | Maa laa da anaataka |
| A laa da anaataka | Aa laa da anaataka |
| U laa da anaataka | Waa laa da anaataka |
| Ti laa da anaataka | Taa laa da anaataka |
| Ni laa da anaataka | Naa laa da anaataka |
| Bi laa da anaataka | Baa laa da anaataka |

Note: To form the negative sentence, add "aa" to consonnant of personal pronoun. This means, the negative form of the sentence changes with the personal pronoun.
Structure of the negative sentence:

With personal pronouns as subject:

**<u>Personal pronoun (Subject) + aa + verb + complement</u>**

| | Affirmative | Negative |
|---|---|---|
| I | M | M**aa** |
| You | A | A**a** |
| He/She | W(u) | W**aa** |
| We | Ti | T**aa** |
| You | Ni | N**aa** |
| They | Bi | B**aa** |

Exercice: Write the negative forms (6 personal pronouns) of the following sentence:
Example: M nyafi satab
1) Maa nyafi satab

_____

2)

_____

3)

_____

4)

_____

5)

_____

6)

_____

b) When the subject is not a personal pronoun, the negative form of the sentence is formed by the particle:

Ki+aa =Kaa

Structure of the second form of the negative sentence:

**<u>Subject + Kaa + verb + complement</u>**

Example:

| | |
|---|---|
| Unyampu <u>kaa</u> caa (kpa) cenji | the seller (woman) does"nt have any change. |
| Mbiyaam <u>kaa</u> ca sukul din | Kids are not going to school today. |

Exercices:
ii) Give the negative form of the following sentences:
Example: Mbiyaam ca sukul

Mbiyaam kaa ca sukul

a. anaataka pɔɔ kudaau

_____

b. unyampu tii-m cenji

_____

c. binyampoob nyafi tiwan tikpil

_____

d. biwanyafiliib ca kinyɔn

_____

e. Bitutunliib da kucab

_____

f. Mɔŋfaai baalfi gbeekeeti daaku

_____

iii/ Use of "Manan ni" (how much) to ask questions

Structure: **Mana ni +subject +verb+complement**

Example: A laa da nunufi Mana ni a laa da nunufi?

**Exercises**

1) Make questions with the following sentences

a) Bi da sata kutuku bili ni dijandi

_____

b) U nyafi anaataka kutuku ubɔ

_____

c) Nyamba bati-u sampu

_____

d) U laa da gbeekeeti kutuku bili

_____

e) Bi laa nyafi fɔfɔb jambnii

_____

f) Ni laa da iŋaan dilaataal

_____

2) Use of «Ba ni» «what» to ask for questions:

a) Structure: **Ba ni + subject + verb + complement**

b) Structure: **subject + verb + complement + Ba**

Example:

Affirmative: M laa da bɔflee

Interrogative: Ba ni a laa da?

Or A laa da ba?

Exercises:

1) Make questions with the following sentense

a) Kibiki laa da sikil

_____

b) U nyaab atɔrch tankpee

_____

c) Bi tii-u cenji

_____

c) Kassi foo anaataka

_____

d) Bi laa da sata

_____

e) Yaati laa da sata

_____

2) Use the negative form of the sentence to anwser these questions

Example: A laa da atɔrch tankpeeee? Answer: Aayee, maa la atɔrch tankpee.

a) Wu laa foo animilaa?

_____

b) Bi nyaabi anaatakaa?

_____

c) A ca kinyɔŋaa?

_____

d) Alicia da sataaa?

_____

e) Cicab ca ditundaa?

_____

f) Ni tii cenjaa?

_____

g) Bisapɔmbi nyaabi gbeekeetaa?

_____

h) Ti nyaab yagimaa?

_____

I) A-bɔɔ laa da kpɔnɔɔɔɔ?

_____

3) Use "mana ni" (how much) to ask for the price of the following items

Example: nyafi (verb)/fɔfɔ

Question: Mana ni a nyafi fɔfɔ?

a) da/anaataka

_____

b) laa foo/ animil

_____

c) tii/ cenji

_____

d) nyafi/sikil

_____

e) laa da/kpɔnɔ

_____

f) bati /animil

_____

4) Use of “ba ni” or “ba “(what) to ask about items in the market
Example: Ba ni/laa da
Question: Ba ni a laa da? Or a laa da ba ?

a) Ba/nyafi

_____

b) Ba ni/nyaab

_____

c) Ba/tii

_____

d) Ba ni/laa

_____

e) Ba/foo

_____

5) Dialogue: Katy the PCV goes to market to buy onions

Katy: A jooku pɔɔ ti-na?
Damba: Alaafiya. A la ba?
Katy: M laa da gaabu. Mana ni a paan gaabub nee?
Damba: An kɔkɔ ni an Daaku ni : biyeeb saalaa yɔu bi, dilaataal, kulaafaau, kulaafaau ni biyeeb saalaa. Mana yɔu ni a laa da ?
Katy : Dilaataal yɔu ni m laa da
Damba : An sɔ
Katy: Dilaataal yɔu sɔɔɔ, ti-yab? An pɔɔ kudaau paa. Bati-m
Damba: Aayee gaabu di pɔɔki Kudaau kɔnkɔnnee
Katy: M nyi min ama m gbaam-si bati-m fii.
Damba An ŋan foo itoo
Katy: Si ni ditundi foo animil kutuku ubɔ. Cenji baa?
Damba: Iin, an bi
Katy: tii-m cenji
Damba: Cenji sɔ
Katy: Si ni ditundi an ŋa kuti

**Some words**:

| | |
|---|---|
| Paan: | heap up/to pile up |
| An kɔkɔ ni an Daaku ni: | prices are not the same |
| Mana yɔu… | (for) how much…. |
| An sɔ: | here is, this is |
| An pɔɔ kudaau paa: | It's too expensive |
| Kɔnkɔnnee: | now |
| M nyi min: | I know that |
| M gbaam-si: | Please, I beg you |
| Nyaab: | to look for |

**Questions:**

a) Ba ni Katy laa da?

_____

b) Mana ni bi nyafi gaabu?

_____

c) Mana yɔu ni Katy laa da?

_____

d) Gaabu pɔɔ kudaauaa?

_____

e) Animil mana ni Katy caa (kpa)?

_____

f) Cenji mana ni u laa foo?

_____

G) Translate into Bassar

a) What are you looking for?

_____

b) I'm looking for batteries

_____

c) For how much? _____

d) It's too expensive, please reduce the price for me

_____

e) What do you want to buy?

_____

f) I have 2650F _____

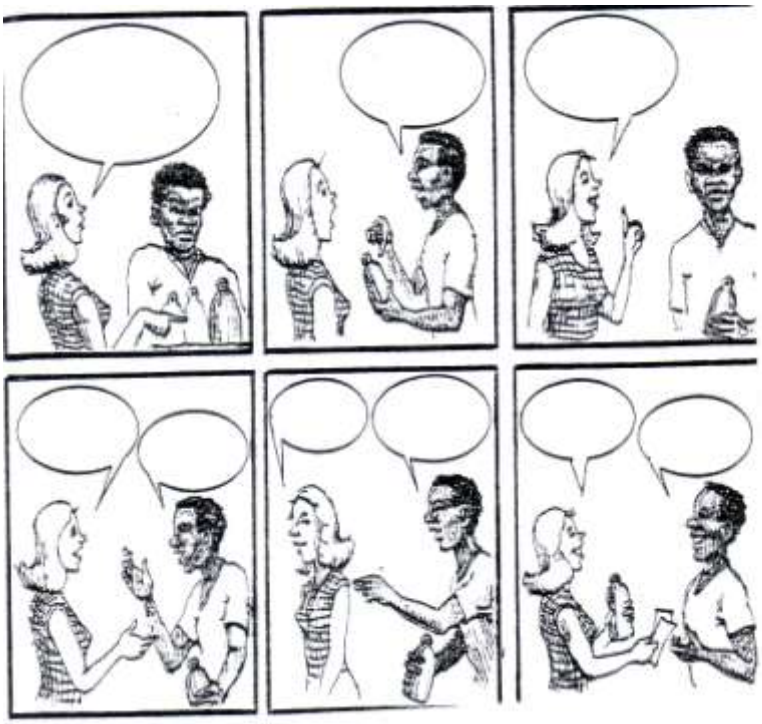
g) No, I don't have any balance

_____

h) Thank you.Here are the shoes?

_____

i) Imagine and write a dialogue between the seller and the customer based on this picture.



**TDA**

Go to the market, identify an article of your choice, ask for the price, bargain and buy it and ask for the change.

# Lesson 5
# Talk about food habits of the host country

**Objectives**:

After studying this lesson, trainees will be able to:

1) Name at least 4 different foods in Bassar areas
2) Use correct expressions and verbs related to food preparation in order to talk about meals
3) Discuss 4 cultural points related to food habits
4) Talk about what to eat in order to stay healthy
5) Give a recipe

**Dialogue**

***Sarah Elliott tells her friend Awusi about her lunch***

Awusi: Sarah, a pɔɔ mana?

Sarah: Alaafiya. A-tundi pɔɔya?

Awusi: Alaafiya. Ba ni a fu jin fool kunyeeu?

Sarah: M fu ŋmɔ imukul ni tikun tiba. An fu mɔ paaa. Ama maa nyi tikun gbanti yindi.

Awusi: An ŋan, man fu ŋmɔ koliko ni ajin ni toomaati kunti.

Sarah: Oh! Mamun neen ajin ni toomaati kunti paa !

**Dialogue in English**

Awusi: Sarah how are you doing?
Sarah: Fine.How is your work?
Awusi: Fine.What did you eat yesterday for dinner?
Sarah: I ate rice and a kind of sauce. It was delicious, but I don't know the name of that sauce.
Awusi: Good, I ate koliko with tomato sauce and eggs.
Sarah: Oh! I also like tomato sauce with eggs.

**Cultural notes**

- ***When you eat you invite people near you to share your meal using the expressions "ti jíi tijìn'' or '' Ti kpée bu'', but this doesn't mean that you will necessarily eat. The answers to this invitation are:***
- ***'An ŋmanti= ''it's enough'' m jin ni=I ate already'' "m diki=I'm full"..***
- ***The left hand is seen like dirty and is not acceptable at table when you're with people.***
- ***You don't smell food in order to appreciate it and you should not step over the meal.***
- ***Kitchen utensils should not be used for other purpose such as taking shower or hiting someone.***
- ***Foods taboos are specific to families, communities or ethinc groups***
- ***Traditional restaurants, "street food restaurants" or "fufu bars" serve cheap but good food and the service is quick. However be careful, they are not always clean and healthy. Consequently, PCTs and PCVs are not advised to eat salads in those restaurants.***

**Proverb:** ***"Kalaa gbifiŋu kaa sa - mɔmŋu"*** *(Everything that shine is not goald. The quantity doesn't mean always quality).*

**Vocabulary**

Foods/meals

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Tijin | Food |
| ➢ Busaa (tumbu) | Dough (of maize, millet…) |
| ➢ Imukul/Sinkafa | rice |
| ➢ Dinool/Dinoor | Yam |
| ➢ Banci | Cassava |
| ➢ Patipati | Ragout/stew (yam) |
| ➢ Imukul ni atuun (Waaci) | Rice and beans prepared together |
| ➢ Sɔkɔrɔ | Pounded yam |
| ➢ Seewee /sawee | Fried bean doughnut |
| ➢ Koliko | Fried yam |
| ➢ Gaarii | Cassava flour |
| ➢ Abloo | Steam-cook paste made of corn porridge |
| ➢ Kookoo/Akasan | Porridge |
| Other: | |
| ➢ ndaam | Drink |
| ➢ kpatasii (sodaabii) | Alcohol |
| ➢ nnyiim | water |

Some of the foods are called by their french name such as:

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Chou | Cabbage |
| ➢ Carotte | Carot |
| ➢ Haricots verts | French bean |
| ➢ Pomme de terre | Potato |
| ➢ Salade | Salad/lettuce |
| ➢ Petit pois | Garden peas |

Some sauces

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Tikun | Sauce |
| ➢ Kuncasii | Tomato sauce, soupe |
| ➢ Gbomaakunti | Spinach sauce |
| ➢ Abeebilkunti | Palm nut sauce |
| ➢ Katikatikukunti/Keerkunti | Sesame sauce |
| ➢ Asilimkunti | Peanut sauce |
| ➢ Imɔɔnkunti | Okra sauce |
| ➢ Ayɔyɔ / adeemiinkunti | Ademe is a vegetable |

Ingredients

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ ŋyaam | Salt |
| ➢ gaabu/albassa | Onion |
| ➢ Yagim | Pepper |
| ➢ ŋkpam | Oil |
| ➢ nsiliŋkpam | Vegetable oil (made of peanut) |
| ➢ Tinan | Meat |
| ➢ Ukɔlnanti | Chicken (meat) |
| ➢ Unaananti | Beef |
| ➢ Uŋoobnanti | Goat |
| ➢ Ugbeeti/afa/nanti | Pork |
| ➢ Ujɔm/(plural:ijɔm) | Fish |
| ➢ Kanamii/ijɔm kikaa | Fried fish |
| ➢ Ijɔm/Soon | Fresh fish |
| ➢ sikil | suagar |

Utensils

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Paranta(b) | Plate |
| ➢ Kisambiki | Bowl |
| ➢ Kijii (plural: ŋjiim) | Spoon |
| ➢ Kijiki (ŋjim) | knife |
| ➢ Kɔɔpu | Cup |
| ➢ Dikumbool | Cooking pot |
| ➢ Silba | Sauce pan |

Verbs

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ ŋa tijin | To cook (food) |
| ➢ Ji | To eat (pounded yam dough) |
| ➢ ŋmɔ | To eat (rice, beans, yam) |
| ➢ nyɔ | To drink |
| ➢ mɔn (busaa) | To prepare dough |
| ➢ Saan (Sɔkɔrɔ) | To pound (fufu) |
| ➢ Caka tinan | To cut meat |
| ➢ Caka (albassa/gaabu) | To cut onion |
| ➢ Kuti kookoo | To prepare porridge (millet porridge) |
| ➢ ŋaan ndaam | To prepare local drink (tchouk) |

Expressions

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Maa ŋmoo tinan | I don't eat meat |
| ➢ Maa nyu ndaam min pɔɔyee | I don't drink alcohol |
| ➢ Maa jin busaa | I don't eat Dough |
| ➢ An mɔ paa | It's very delicious/good |
| ➢ Ɲyaam tunki (tikun) | There is too much salt in the sauce |
| ➢ Yagim jiti | The sauce is spicy |
| ➢ Mana ni bi tɔkɔnti waaci | How does one cook rice and beans |
| ➢ Mana ni bi ŋa asilimkunti? | How do you prepare peanut sauce? |

Other words

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Mpeekaam(ee) / Mpeepeekaam(ee) | First/the fist time |
| ➢ Nliliitim(ee) | Second |
| ➢ Ntataatiim(ee) | Third |
| ➢ Nnanaatim(ee) | Fourth |
| ➢ ŋŋmoŋmotim(ee) | Feeth |
| ➢ min boonee | After that |
| ➢ naani ni | Before |
| ➢ ni | Then |
| ➢ Ama | But |

**Exercises**

**1)** Add a maximum of three words to each word below to make complete sentences.
Example:

Ɲmɔ

Ti ŋmɔ imukul

Suggested words:

Sɔkɔrɔ

Koliko

Ɲa tijin

Gboomaakunti

**2)** You meet your friend after dinner. Ask for questions to know what he/she ate and tell him/her about your dinner.

Text: Mana ni bi ki  koliko?

Mpeekaamee yiinti dinool, ni ki caka dinool ŋwaam ŋwaam. Nliliitimee, finti dinool, tiŋan. A fĩnti ki dooyee, a du dinool ki tɔ ŋyaanyim poon. Min boonee, tɔkɔn ŋkpam  an nuun. An yaa nuun ki doo yee a du dinool ki tɔ ŋkpam poon. An yaa nuun fiiyee a labiti dinool. Ciiti an giti nuun fii. Wuuti: a-koliko-u bindee, a ŋun ki ŋmɔ.

**How to make koliko**

First peel the yam and cut it into small pieces. Second wash the pieces and steep them into salt water. After that heat oil in a pan and put the pieces in the oil, let it fry for a while and turn it. Wait a few minutes more and remove it: your koliko is ready to eat.

**3)** With the following words of meals, make your menu for the day (breakfast, lunch and dinner). Please use complete sentences.

Example: Kutaafaau: m laa nyɔ kookoo ni sikil ki ŋmɔ seewee ni ajin.

Suggestions:

- Kookoo, tii, nnyim, sikil, kpatasii, ndaam
- Imukul, koliko, waaci, dinool, patipati, sɔkɔrɔ, kpɔnɔ, seewee
- Ukɔlnanti, ugbeetinanti, uŋoobnanti, unaananti, ajin, ijɔm
- Asilmkunti, toomaatikunti, gbomaakunti imɔɔnkunti, keerkunti.
- Kutaafaau (morning/breakfast), ŋwiimpu (noon/lunch), Kunyeeu (night/dinner)

**Situation:**

You invited a Togolese friend to share your lunch with you. After the meal, she/he asks you for the recipe. So give her/him the recipe.

**TDA**

Ask your host mother or sister for the recipe of a meal you choose. Bring the information to class and share it with your classmates.

# Lesson 6
# Invite someone, accept or decline an invitation

**Objectives:**

After studying this lesson trainees will be able to:

1) Use appropriate vocabulary and verbs to invite someone
2) Accept or decline an invitation in a polite way to maintain a good relationship with people, which will support their personal safety and security.

**Dialogue**

***Yaati invites her neighbor, the PCV Katy***

Yaati: Katy a pɔɔya?

Katy: Alaafiya Yaati. Sii fa?

Yaati: Alaafiya bi. M baa la ma ni si ti cu ki kpee lawa din kunyeeu. A caa mpaan dinaa ?

Katy : Iin, m caa mpaan. Si ni ditundi.

Yaati: An ŋa kujoou

Katy: Yoo.

**Dialogue in English**

Yaati: Katy, how are you?

Katy: I'm fine, and you?

Yaati: I'm also fine. I would like to invite you for lawa dance tonight. Would you have time?

Katy: Yes! I have time, thank you.

Yaati: See you tonight.

Katy: Ok.

**Cultural notes**

- ***In general, friends or members of the same family visit each other without any previous invitation.***
- ***You are always welcome to share a meal or a drink or to spend time together … even if it was not planned before.***
- ***You are responsible for guest's food or drink.***
- ***It's necessary to express your limits during an invitation where people will be offering you food and drink again and again.***

**Proverb: ''*'Unicaan kaa liiŋti nsan*'':** (*A stranger cannot be a guide)*

Expressions

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ M baa la ki ka-si | I would like to see you |
| ➢ M baa la ti ka-tɔb/M baa la ti kpafi | I would like to meet you |
| ➢ M baa la ti nya | I would like to go out with you |
| ➢ M baa la ti ji tijin | I would you like to eat with you |
| Iin, an ŋan/an mɔm-m | Yes, good. I'm happy |
| ➢ Aayee, maa caa mpaan | No, I don't hve time/I'm very |
| ➢ m gbaam-si, maa caa mpaan | Sorry, I don't have time/I'm busy |
| ➢ Maa la ŋma ki daan | I can't come |
| ➢ Maa laa ŋma ki cu | I can't go. |
| ➢ Ditundi wiiki m-pu… | I have a lot of work to do |

Occasions to be invited

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Dipɔntir | Yam harvest feast |
| Dikpool | Funeral |
| ➢ Nooweel | Christmas |
| ➢ Bɔnaanee (Dibimpɔndi jiŋaalu) | New year |
| ➢ Jamgbeejiŋaal | Ramadan/Tabaski |
| ➢ Paak jiŋaalu | Easter (feast) |
| ➢ Dibɔɔwul | Ceremony/Ceremonies |
| ➢ Agbiil | Dance/Show |
| ➢ Diyiindi | A walk |

Verbs

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Daan | to come |
| ➢ cu | to go |
| ➢ kpee | to watch |
| ➢ ŋɔ | to dance |

**Exercise**

Give an affirmative or a negative answer to these questions in Bassar

a) Would you like to come to my house for Dipɔntir?

_____

b) Would you like going out with me to night?

_____

c) For Ramadan, would you go to eat with El Hadj Napo Razak?

_____

d) Would you like to take a walk this afternoon?

_____

**Grammar notes**

The conditional tense used to express politeness, a wish or to soften a demand or an order is meant in Bassar:
Baa la +Verb=Would like

Example: m baa la ki cu kinyɔŋ I would like to go to the market

| Subject+baa+la +verb+object |
|---|

| | |
|---|---|
| U baa la ki tutun-m | He would like to help me |
| Ti baa la ki daan dikpool | we would like to come to the funerals |
| Bi baa la ki ŋmɔ imukul din kijoou | they would like to eat rice tonight |

**Situation**

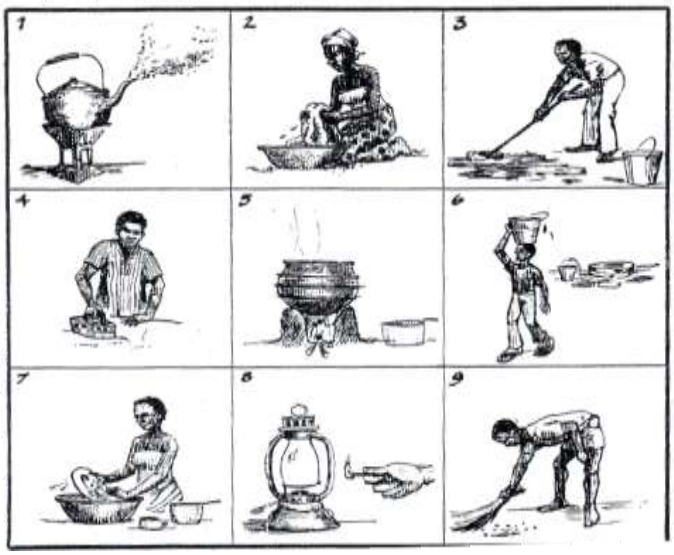
Your host sister/brother seems bored at home. Discuss plans to make for the evening.

**TDA**

Ask two or three people in your host family or in your neighorhood how they accept or decline an invitation without frustating your host. Come back to class with your findings.

# Lesson 7

# Talk about daily activities



**Objectives**

After studying this lesson, trainees will be able to:

1. Name the main daily activities in their community
2. Use the appropriate vocabulary and the present habitual to talk about daily activities in their community
3. Discuss at least 2 cultural notes and safety and security issues related to the competence
4. Talk about their daily activities in the community for their good integration.

**Text: Niŋfoon tundi**

Baabadaal kutaafaauee Niŋfoon fiinti malaa. Wu fiinti ki dooyee ni u fiinti u nimin, ni ki ŋmɔ ŋkoon. Min boonee ni u faal ni ki peen dibɔkɔtil, ni ki caati u yikpiti ni ki bunti sukul. U nyanni sukul ki baanee, ni u tutun u-na bi ŋa tijin. Waa dɔ malaa kinyeeu. Niŋfoon kaa caa diŋuŋfil.

**Niŋfoon's daily activities.**

Every day Niŋfoon wakes up early in the morning. She washes her face and chews a stick; she takes her bath, gets dressed, combs her hair and leaves for school. After class, she is tired but she doesn't rest. At night, she doesn't go to bed early. Niŋfoon does'nt have any time to rest.

**Cultural notes**

- ***In the morning people wash their face before they greet or start their activities.***
- ***Activities are shared according to gender and age***
- ***In general, women take care of household chores.***
- ***It's better to wear appropriate shoes to go to farm.***

**Vocabulary**

Some places

- kudii poon — in the room
- kisamɔndii — kitchen
- kugɔtuu — bathroom
- ŋkpiini — in the river
- ŋkpiin — the river
- Sukul — school
- Ditundi — work / at the office
- kusaau — field
- kinyɔŋ — market

Daily activities

- ŋaati kudii/dicindi — to sweep/the room/the counpound
- Faal/faal mbiyaam — to take the bath/ to bathe the children
- Fiinti — to wash (in general)
- Fiinti nnimiin — to wash face
- ŋa tijin — to cook
- Caati tiyikpiti — to comb hair
- peen dibɔkɔtil — to put on a shirt
- bɔnti — to get dressed
- Fiinti asambil — to wash dishes
- Kpaa ŋŋmi — to light fire
- Fiinti tiwan — to do laundry
- Cu diyiindi — to take a walk
- ŋuŋfi — to rest
- Ji kinyɔŋ — to go shpping
- doon — to go to bed
- Cu kusaau — to go to farm
- Peeti dibɔkɔtil — undress
- Lun nnyim — to fetch water

Expressions of time

- Baabadal — everyday
- Kutaafaau/kɔkɔ kamaaee — everynoon
- ŋwiimpu kɔkɔ kamaaee — every night
- Kujoou kɔkɔ kamaaee — every afternoon
- Kunyeeu kɔkɔ kamaaee — every nigth
- Baabadal kutaafaau — everyday in the morning
- Tam kɔkɔ — everytime
- Malaa — early/quickly
- Malaa malaa — very quickly
- Tam ubɔ — sometimes
- Boonee/Boon — after/last
- Ba ni a ŋaan kutaafaau kɔkɔkamaa — what do you do every morning
- Ditundi dilar ni a ŋaan baabadal — what kind of job do you do everyday

**Exercises:**

1. The teacher will show a picture and the learner will describe or say the activity.

2. Give the activities that correspond to these periods of the day:

   Kutaafaau

   Ŋwiimpu

   Kujoou

   Kunyeeu

   Example: Kutaafaau:

   Ŋwiimpu: Fiinti, fal

## Grammar notes

The present progressive is intoduced by "**bi**"+ the verb. But some verbs do keep their forms.

| Structure: subject+bi +verb+object. |
|---|

Example:

Ŋati (to sweep): m bi ŋati
Fiinti (to do laundry): U bi fiinti
Caati (to comb hair): U bi caati

Examples of verbs that change form:

| | |
|---|---|
| Nyo nnyim | M bi nyu nnyim (I'm drinking water) |
| Ji busaa | M bi jin busaa (I'm eating food) |
| Ŋmo imukul | M bi ŋmoo imukul (I'm eating rice) |
| Fal | M bi fuul (I'm taking my bath) |

## Exercises

**1)** Use the present progressive to answer the following questions:

Example:

| | |
|---|---|
| Q: A bi fulaa? | Are you taking your bath? |
| R: Iin, m bi fuul | Yes I'm taking my bath |
| Aayee, maa bi fuul | No, I'm not taking my bath |

1) A bi ŋati kudiiii?
2) Mbiyaam bi jin tijinaa?
3) Sarah bi caati tiyikpitaa?
4) U-baa bi bɔntaa?
5) Bi bi fiinti tiwanaa?
6) Ti-na bi kpa ŋŋmaa?
7) A-bɔɔ bi nyu ndaamaa?

**2)** Say what you do at these periods of the day

Example: kutaafaau kɔkɔkamaaee, m fuul…

Kutaafaau kɔkɔkamaaee……

kujoou kɔkɔkamaaee……

**3)** Tell a story about someone's daily activities. The trainer begins the story and trainees continue the story in turn.

**Text:**

Bi yii-m yii Nyandi. Baabadal kutaafaauee, m ŋati kudii naani ni ki nin fal. M yaa ful ki doo yee, m lee sɔntɔ ni ki nin bɔnti. Min boonee, ni m bunti ditundi. M yaa nyanni ditundi ki baanee, ni m ŋa tijin. M yaa jin ki doo yee ni m doon.

| | |
|---|---|
| Naani | before |
| Yaa | If/ when |
| Lee sɔntɔ | to take break fast |
| Bɔnti | to get dressed/ to be ready |
| Min boon/min boonee | after that |
| M bunti | I leave |

Questions

a) Ba ni Nyandi ŋaan kutaafaau naani ki nin bunti ditundi?

---

b) U yaa nyanni ditundi ki baanee, ba tundi ni u ŋaan?

---

**Situation**

During your post visit, your counterpart will ask you about your plan for the week.

**Role play**

You want to plan a “happy hour” with your friend over the weekend. Imagine a conversation with him when you discuss your schedule for the weekend and find the right moment for your “happy hour”

**TDA**

Observe the members of your host family and ask them for questions about their daily activities. Write a paragraph on that for next class.

# Lesson 8

# Ask for and give directions and time

**Objectives:**

After studying this lesson, trainees will be able to:

1) Use appropriate vocabulary to ask for and give directions and time
2) Use the imperative form and prepositions to ask for and give directions
3) Discuss at least 3 cultural notes and safety and security issues related to orientatin
4) Give and follow directions in the community.

**Dialogue**

***David Kɔndi a PCV has just arrived in Kabou for his service as a volunteer.He asks Napo a young guy, to indicate him the road from the hospital to the market***

David: A dooŋu pɔɔ m-bɔɔ?
Napɔ: Alaafiya bi. A pɔɔ mana?
David: Alaafiya. M gbaam-si kinyɔŋ sanŋu bi la?
Napɔ: Oh an kaa dati. Coom ki ba didan kpaandi ni ki Paati ŋŋangan pu. Coom ki ba laan bi nyafi sansee. Kinyɔŋ pili ni sansi lanki ni.
David: Si ni ditundi. An ŋa kuti
Napɔ: Yoo. A cu daan.

**Dialogue in Englsih**

David: Good morning my freind.
Napo: Good morning. How are you?
David: Fine. Please where is the road to the market?
Napo: It's not far from here. Walk until you get the main road.Turn left. Continue until you get to the gaz station. The market place is close gaz station.
David: Thank. See you again.
Napo: You're welcome. Go and come back.

**Cultural notes**

- ***In general, indications about distance are not precise***
- ***Sometimes with illiterate people, time is related to the activities of the day (like children going to school, muslems' Morning Prayer…)***
- ***Some people will come late for meetings***
- ***People would prefer to lead you to the place by themselves or by having a child accompany you.***
- ***Keep asking people for directions until you arrive at your destination.***

**Proverb***: ''U baalfil kaa wanki*" *(He who asks for information does not get lost)*

**Vocabulary**

Some places

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Kinyɔŋ poon | In the market |
| ➢ Dɔkɔta | Hospital, health center |
| ➢ Ubɔti dumpu | In the Chief's house |
| ➢ Sukul | School |
| ➢ Faari (poon) | Shop(in the market) |
| ➢ Tiisan | Taxi station |
| ➢ Nsan/Didandi | Road/ way |
| ➢ Kísambiki | Path |
| ➢ Isampuyaati | Cross-road |
| ➢ Poosi / post | Post office |

Verbs

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Daka(nsan) | To indicate / show (the road) |
| ➢ Cu | To go |
| ➢ Paati ŋgan pu | To turn left |
| ➢ Paati ŋgiil pu | To turn right |
| ➢ Daan | To come |
| ➢ Coom | To walk |
| ➢ Punti didandi | To cross the road |
| ➢ Giti | To return |
| ➢ Giti a-boon | To go back |
| ➢ Wanki/wanki nsan | To get lost |
| ➢ Ceen | To go with/to see off |

Expressions

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Ngan | Left |
| ➢ Ngiil | Right |
| ➢ An dati | It's far |
| ➢ An kaa dati | It's not far |
| ➢ Doo | Here |
| ➢ Lapu | There |
| ➢ Tiisan bi la? /staasiyon bi la? | Where is the taxi station |

Expressions related to time

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Tam | 'time |
| ➢ Kikuluu ku lɔkɔ di gban? /Tiŋa di gban? | What time is it? |
| ➢ Tikuti tita di gban? | It is 3 o' clock |
| ➢ Tikuti tili di gbaani | It is 2 o'clock |
| ➢ An kin miiti biluu, tita n gbaa | It is 6 o'clok |
| ➢ m gbinti boon | I'm late |
| ➢ M baan malaa | I came early. |
| ➢ Tam ulɔu ni ti laa doo? | When are we going to finish? |
| ➢ Tam ulɔu ni ti laa kpaafi | When are we going to meet |

**Exercises**

**1)** Make sentences with these words:

Example: Dɔkɔta M-na bi Dɔkɔta Hospital My mother is at the hospital

a) Kusaau

_____

b) Ubɔti dumpu

_____

c) Tiisan

_____

d) Kinyɔn

_____

e) Ditundi

_____

**2)** Make sentences with these expressions:

a) Paati ŋŋangiil pu _____

b) Punti didandi_____

c) Paati ŋŋangan pu

_____

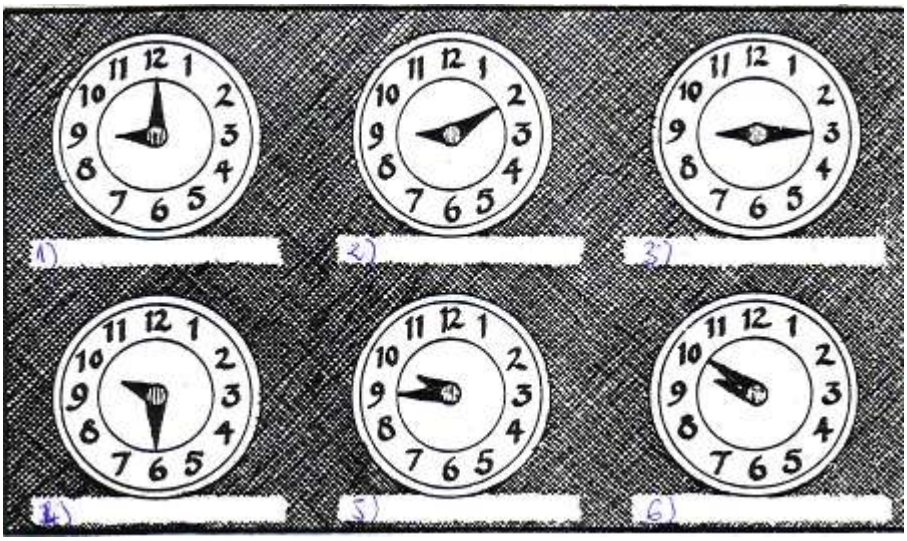
d) Isampuyaati

_____

e) Wanki nsan

_____

**3)** Read the time on these pictures:



## Grammar notes

j) Prepositions in general are the end the sentence.
Here are some:

| Prepositions(Bassar) | English | Example |
|---|---|---|
| -pu | on | Dibɔkɔtil pa teebli pu.<br>The shirt is on the table |
| -poon | In | Nsukulbiyaam bi kusukuldii poon<br>Students are in the room |
| -taapu | under | Anaataka bi teebli taapu<br>Shoes are under the table |
| -nyɔkɔpu | in front of | Tiisan bi kinyɔŋ nyɔkɔpu<br>The taxi station is in front of the market. |
| -boon | Behind | Amy diiku bi ubɔti dumpu boon<br>Amy' house is behind the chief's house |
| -kansikin | Beteen, center, middle | Kassi koo sukul ni kinyɔn kansikin<br>Kassi leaves between the school and the market |
| -pil | Near/close | Kɔndi dumpu pil ni post<br>Kɔndi's house is close to the post office |
| -yilpu | Over/up/on | Ditankpal pa kudii yilpu<br>A stone is over(on) the roof |

Structure: **subject+verb+object+preposition**

ii) Imperative: the formation and the use of imperative are the same as in English, except that the plural personal pronouns (mí, mì) are not dropped out.

Example:

| | |
|---|---|
| Cu kinyɔn | go to the market |
| Paati ŋgan pu | turn left |
| Ni cu dɔkɔta | go to the hospital |
| Ti paati ŋgiil pu | let us turn right |

## Exercises

**1)** Trainees execute orders from trainer and then they do the same thing one by one between themselves.

**2)** Practice question and answer: to be done among trainees

Example: Tikuti tiŋa di gban? (15h00)

Tikuti tina di gbani/Tina gbani

a) Tam ulɔ ni ti la bunti? (10h20)

_____

b) Tam ulɔ ni Ikpindi baan? (18h35)

_____

c) Tikuti tiŋaa ni nsukulbiyaam yikin kujoou? (17h00)

_____

3) Give indications based on the map below:

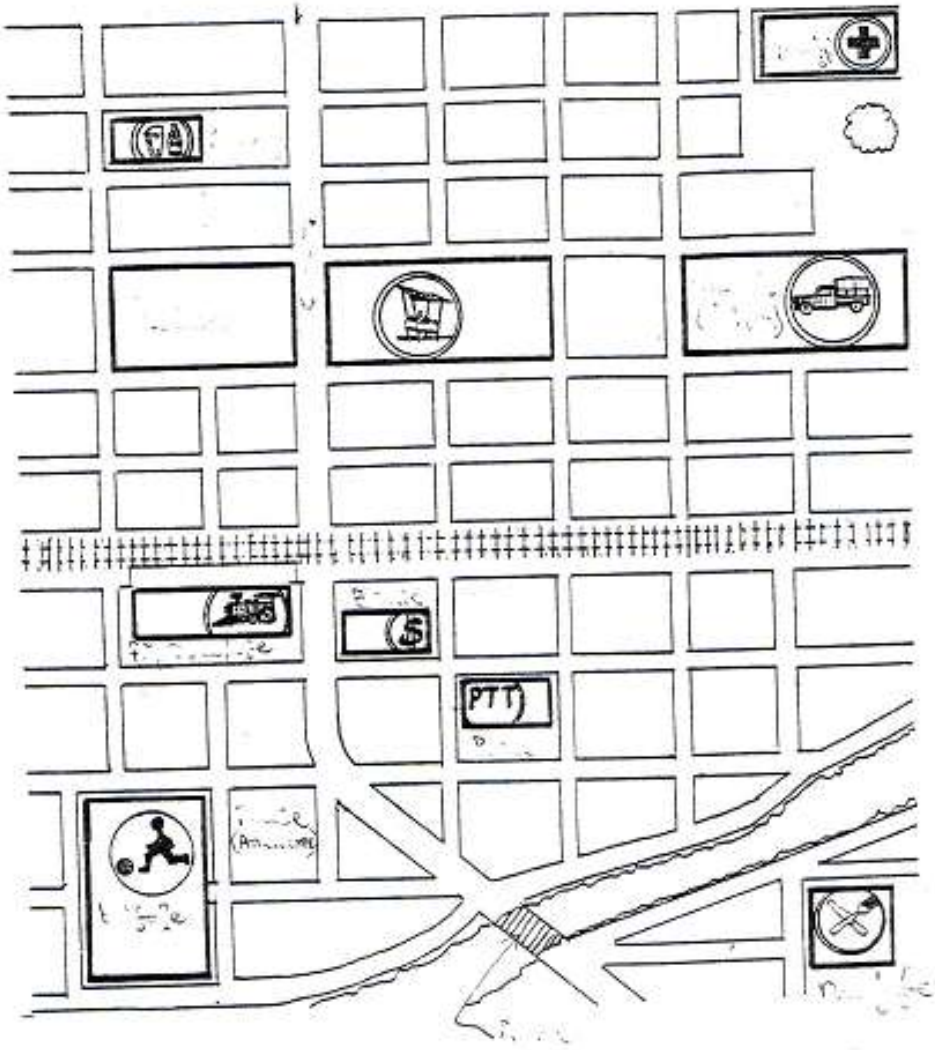
From:

a) ''Dɔkɔta '' to ''bank''

b) ''Tiisan'' to ''Terrain''

c) ''Kinyɔŋ'' to ''dɔkɔta''

d) "Bank" to "Tiisan"



**Situation**

You are inviting your classmates to your host family's house. Give them directions from the tech house to your house.

**TDA**

Go to your host father, ask him how to get to a place you want to go to, write down the information in Bassar and come back with it to class.

# Lesson 9

# Talk about transportation

**Objectives:**

After studying this lesson trainees will be able to:

1) Use the present progressive, interrogative words and the future tense
2) Ask questions about the coast, travel time and destinations to be able to travel independently
3) Discuss travel conditions and strategies to travel safely

**Dialogue**

***The PCV Wyoamin goes to her post Bitchabe***

Boukman: Si ni nsan ti-na
Wyoamin: Yaaha, a pɔɔya?
Bookman: Alaafiya. A ca la?
Wyoamin: M ca Bicaabi
Bookman: Bicaabi Loolu sɔ
Wyoamin: Lool caajuu sa mana?
Bookman: Lool caajuu sa sampua ni kilaafaau. Kɔ nyɔkɔpu
Wyoamin: Aayee, m la kɔ boon?
Bukman: A coom tiŋan.
Wyoamin: Yoo, an ŋa dalba.

**Dialogue in English**

Bookman: Welcome madam
Wyoamin: Thanks how are you?
Bookman: Fine, where are you going?
Wyoamin: I'm going to Bitchabé.
Bookman: Here is Bitchabe taxi
Wyoamin: What is the travel fee?
Bookman: The travel is seven hundred francs, take the front seat
Wyoamin: No, thanks. I will take a seat at the back.
Bookman: Safe journey.
Woamin: See you next time
.

**Cultural notes**

- ***Travelers need to be patient enough because drivers will try to have as many passengers as possible before they depart and they are often overloaded.***
- ***In some remote villages, you can be waiting the whole day, or vehicles are available only on market days.***
- ***It's important to have your valuables on you, not packed in your bags...***
- ***You should check your luggage whenever a passenger is getting off along the way.***

**Proverb: "*Kinimbonŋ kaa nyi ku koojoou jooti*"** *(Misfortunes don't prevent)*

**Vocabulary**

Means of transportation

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Ataa | foot/feet |
| ➢ Ceecee(b) | bicycle(s) |
| ➢ Jakpikpi(b) moto | motocycle |
| ➢ Lool(b) | vehicle/car |
| ➢ Lool kpaan(b) | truck |
| ➢ Biŋalimbu | pirogue/canoe |
| ➢ Daandan | airplane |

Words and expressions

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Tiisan | car station |
| ➢ Dɔrba | driver |
| ➢ Lool caajuu | travel fee |
| ➢ Atun | luggage |
| ➢ Atun caajuu | luggage charge |

Verbs

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ kɔ lool | To take a car/vehicle |
| ➢ kal jakpikpi | To take a moto |
| ➢ kɔ daandan | To take an airplane |
| ➢ ŋaal ceecee | To bike |
| ➢ ŋaal lool | To drive(a car) |
| ➢ kpaati | To get down |
| ➢ buuŋti | To leave |
| ➢ ban | To arrive |
| ➢ Cu Tiisan | To go to the station |
| ➢ Yul | To stop |

Expressions

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ M laa kpaati Baasaar | I will get off in Bassar |
| ➢ M laa kpaati doo | I want get off here |
| ➢ Lool caajuu sa mana Luma ki cu Baasaar | How much do you pay from Luma to Bassar? |
| ➢ Bi fool FCFA | they pay FCFA |
| ➢ Lool ulɔu di ca? | Which vehicle is going (traveling) |
| ➢ Tam ulɔu ni lool yiki ? | What time the vehicles is departing? |
| ➢ An kin paasinja bili | It remains two passengers |

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Tam ulɔ ni ti laa ba? | What time are we going to arrived? |
| ➢ Ti laa ba tikuti tinaa | We'll arrive at four? |
| ➢ An dataa? | Is it far? |
| ➢ An kaa dati tikpilaa? | It is not too far? |
| ➢ Ti laa ba kɔnkɔnnee | We will arrive soon |
| ➢ Dɔrba, m laa kpaati(kpakati) doo | Driver, I'll get down here |
| ➢ Yul Dɔrba. M laa kpaati | Stop driver. I will get down here |
| ➢ M ca Luma ki daan | I'm going and I will be back |

**Exercises**

**1)** What will you say in Bassar in these situations:

a) To know the tariff from Lome to Bassar

_____

b) To know what time you are departing?

_____

c) To know when you will get there?

_____

d) To tell the driver you'll get down at Bassar

_____

**2)** Make sentences with the verbs below:

a) Kɔ lool_____

b) ŋaal ceecee_____

c) buuŋti_____

d) nyanni_____

e) kpaati (kpakati)_____

f) Yul_____

## Grammar notes

i Review interrogative terms (la (where), manan (how much), ba (what))

| | |
|---|---|
| * Lool caaju sa manan or? | How much is the tariff? |
| Mana ni sa lool caajuu ? | |
| * A ca la or? | Where are you going? |
| La ni a ca? | |
| * A nyaab ba or ? | What are you looking for? |
| Ba ni a nyaab? | |

**ii**. Review present progessive

| | |
|---|---|
| M bii ŋaal ceecee | I'm riding bicycle |
| M bii daa tikiti | I'm buying a ticket |

**iii.** Future tense

The future tense hase three forms:
a) The nearest or immediate future tense is introduced by: **laa+verb**
Example

| | |
|---|---|
| M laa cu Baasaar | I'm going to Bassar/ I want to go to Bassar |
| M laa da tikiti | I'm going to buy a ticket / I want to buy a ticket |

Structure: **subject + laa + verb + noun**

For actions that will take place tomorrow:
b) Future tense is introduced by: **laa + fu**
Example:

| | |
|---|---|
| M laa fu cu Baasaar | tomorrow I will go to Bassar |
| M laa fu da tikiti | tomorrow I will buy a ticket |

Struture**: Subject + laa + fu + verb + noun**

When the time is not specific, or close:
c) The future tense is also introduced, by daa
Example:

| | |
|---|---|
| M daa ca Baasaar | I will go to Bassar |
| M daa daa tikiti | I will buy a ticket |

Struture: **subject + daa + verb + noun or laa da + verb +noun**

## Exercises

**1)** Answer these questions using the appropriate future tense

: Example: A daa ca dipɔntiraa? Iin, m daa ca dipɔntir

**a)** Ni laa fu cu agbilaa?

_____

**b)** Badaal ni a laa yiki?

_____

c) Mbiyaam daa ca Vaakansaa?

_____

d) A laa cu Amerikaa?

_____

e) Voluntairb fu ca ditundaa?

_____

f) Bi laa da loolaa?

_____

g) Marie laa fu ŋaal ceecee ki cu kuukaaa?

_____

h) La ni u laa kpaati?

_____

1) Read the dialogue and answer the questions

***Daniel goes to the station in Bassar***

| | |
|---|---|
| Dɔrba: | A sanŋu |
| Daniel: | Yaaha, lool ulɔ di ca kuuka? |
| Dɔrba: | Kuuka loolu sɔ. A laa cuɔɔ? |
| Daniel: | Iin, m laa cu. Mana di sa lool caajuu? |
| Dɔrba: | Lool caajuu sa Kutuku ubɔ ni kulaafaau |
| Daniel: | Tam ulɔ ni lool laa yiki |
| Dɔrba: | kɔnkɔnnee |
| Daniel: | An ŋan, ni tam ulɔu ni ti laa ba? |
| Dɔrba: | Tikuti tinaa. |
| Daniel: | A ci ba? Ti buuŋtaa! |
| Dɔrba: | Ti ciiti fii. an kin unil ubɔ |

**Notes**

| | |
|---|---|
| kɔnkɔnnee | now |
| ti laa ba | We' ll arrive |
| Ti yaa yiki kɔnkɔnnee | If we depart or leave now …. |
| Ti laa ba tikuti tinaa…. | W'll arrive at 4 |
| A ci ba? | What are we waiting for? |
| Ti buuŋtaa? | Let's leave |
| Ti ciiti fii | Let's wait a little / or a moment |
| An kin unil ubɔ | It remains one person |

**Questions:**

a) La ni Daniel ca

---

b) Mana ni lool caajuu sa?

---

c) Tam ulɔu ni bi laa ba?

---

d) Binib biŋaa (how many persons) ni an kin?

---

**Situation**

You want to go Kabu. Try to find the right vehicle at the station, ask for the tariff, duration …

**TDA**
Go to the station in Tsévié. Get information about these tariffs:

Kpalime – Bassar
Kpalime – Kabou
Kpalime – Guerin Kouka

Ask about vehicles and travel conditions. Come back to class with the information.

# Lesson 10

# Talk about one's state of health

**Objectives:**

After studying this lesson, trainees will be able to:

a) Name different parts of the human body
b) Talk about their state of health or ask for someone's state of health
c) Use direct complement personal pronouns
d) Discuss Togolese ideas and behavior regarding sickness

**Dialogue**

***Megan meets Yaaba on her way to her friend's house.***

| | |
|---|---|
| Megan: | M-bɔɔ Yaaba, a pɔɔya? |
| Yaaba: | Alaafiya. A ca la? |
| Megan: | M ca m-bɔɔ dumpu. Si nyanni la? |
| Yaaba : | M cuti ki da nnyɔkɔ faari poon |
| Megan | A-la wu? |
| Yaaba | M-yil di wu ni tiwool mun koo-m |
| Megan: | Fɔɔ, Unimbɔti n caan sooci |
| Yaaba: | Si ni ditundi |

**Dialogue in English**

| | |
|---|---|
| Megan: | My friend Yaaba, how are you? |
| Yaaba : | I'm fine, where are you going? |
| Megan: | I'm going to my friend's house, and you where do you come from? |
| Yaaba: | I went to a shop to buy some medicines |
| Megan: | What part hurt you (what is wrong with you? |
| Yaaba | My head hurt me and I have fever |
| Megan : | Sorry, I wish goog recovery |
| Yaaba: | Thank you |

**Cultural notes**

- ***People are not direct in saying what's wrong. They will first say everything is ok before they mention any sickness or sad new***
- ***Sickness is seen like a punishment from God or ancestors or caused by sorcery***
- ***People will not necessary go to the hospital or to a health center when they are sick, but they will try different treatments by themselves with medicine or traditional infusions***
- ***People believe a lot in traditional healers***

**Vocabulary**

Human body

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Diyil | Head |
| ➢ dipoor | Stomach |
| ➢ Dinimir | Eye |
| ➢ dinyindi | Tooth(teeth) |
| ➢ Kinyɔkɔ | Mouth |
| ➢ Ditafaal(atafaal) | Ear(s) |
| ➢ Dimaŋfaal | Nose |
| ➢ Ditaali(ataa) | Foot (feet) |
| ➢ Dibiil( abii) | Breast |
| ➢ Kicaŋ | Waist |
| ➢ Nsil | neck |
| ➢ Dibindi | Chest |
| ➢ baan | Back |

Verbs

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Wu | Pain/ hurte |
| ➢ Yil wu | Head hurt |
| ➢ Ca dɔkɔta | To go to the hospital |
| ➢ Nyɔ nnyɔkɔ | To take medicine |
| ➢ Da nnyɔkɔ | To buy medicine |
| ➢ Bunki | To get sick |
| ➢ Cɔti | To have diarrhea |
| ➢ Kunki | To cough |

Expressions

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Ba caa -si? | What's wrong with you? |
| ➢ M-poon wu | I have stomach aches |
| ➢ M-yil wu | I have headaches |
| ➢ M-nimir wu | My eye hurts me |
| ➢ M-tafaal wu | My ear hurts me |
| ➢ M ca dɔkɔta | I'm going to the hospital |
| ➢ M laa da nnyɔkɔ | I'm going to buy/I will buy a medecine |
| ➢ ijiliŋkpaam | Worms |
| ➢ ijiliŋkpaam pabi-m | I have worms |
| ➢ m caa ijiliŋkpaam | I have worms |
| ➢ mmubuun caa kibiki | the kid has stomach infection |
| ➢ M bi nyu nnyɔkɔ | I'm taking a medecine |

- Dɔkɔta saa-m mpiin — the doctor/nurse give me a shot
- M kuŋki — I'm coughing
- Fiiva /nnaanyeem — malaria
- Fiiva caa-m — I have malaria
- Ticɔtinli — diarrhea
- Siidaa weenii — AIDS
- Iween — Sicknesses
- Tíwool — Cold
- Tíwool koom — To feel cold

**Exercises**

- Choose one word in each column and make a sentence
- Example: u-yil wu

| **Verb** | **Subject** | **Noun/object** |
|---|---|---|
| Wu | U | poon |
| Nyɔ | mbiyaam | nnyɔkɔ |
| Buuŋki | unacimpɔɔn | nnaanyeem |
| Da | m-bɔɔ | yil |
| Sa (shot) | dɔkɔta | fiivɔa |
| Caa(b) | ni | dɔkɔta |
| Ca (short) | kibiki | siidaa |

**Grammar notes**

i. The past tense is used to express actions that happened and the time is not specified

Example: Ca m cuti dɔkɔta I went to the hospital

Nyɔ: m nyun nnyɔkɔ I took a medecin

Da m laa (no change) da nnyɔkɔ I bought a medecine

If the action happened yestaday, we add: **fu + verb** to be specific

Example: fool, m cuti dɔkɔta M fu cuti dɔkɔta

Yesterday I went to the hospital Yesterday I went to the hospital

Structure: **Subject + fu + past tense + noun**

.

## Exercises

1) Answer the following questions using the appropriate past tense

Example: A fu cuti ditundi foolaa?

Aayee, maa fu cuti or

Iĩn, m fu cuti

a) U nyun nnyɔkɔɔ?

Aayee _____

b) Bi fu cuti dɔkɔtaa?

Aayee._____

c) Kibiki bunkaa?

Aayee._____

d) U fu kunkaa?

Iin._____

e) Willy fu da nnyɔkɔɔ?

Aayee._____

2) Translate into Bassar

a) I have stomach ache _____

b) What's wrong with you_____

c) I have head ache _____

d) The kids are coughing_____

e) You have malaria _____

## TDA

Talk with Mister X. Ask him the common diseases in the area and their treatment.

# Lesson 11

# Express one's sympathy in a happy or sad event

**Objectives**:

After studying this lesson trainees will be able to:

1) Talk about the culturally accepted behavior during a happy or sad event
2) Use correct words and expressions to express one's sympathy in those events.

**Dialogue**

Fan: Oh, Larba, maati ka-si an yunti
Larba: mbamɔn, m-baa nin kpii m cuti mmɔŋki ki ŋa iwiin ili.
Fan: Fɔ, maa gbil, ubɔ kaa tuku-m. Fɔɔ.
Larba: Yahaa
Fan: Unimbɔti n sɔŋki a-pɔbil.
Larba: Yoo, si ni ditundi an ŋa kuti.

**Dialogue in English**

Fan: Oh, Larba, I haven't seen you for a long time!
Larba: Yes. My father died and I went home (village) for some days.
Fan: Oh! I didn't hear that, I'm sorry for you
Larba: Ok, thank you.
Fan: My condolences
Larba: Ok, well, see you.

**Cultural notes**

- ***It's very important to express one's sympathy to a friend, a collegue, your neighbor during a sad event (sickness, accident, death…) by visiting or making a symbolic gift of money, food or anything else depending on your relationship.***
- ***You do the same for happy events and you congratulate.***
- ***Failing to give a moral support (especially to pay a simple visit) would make people think that you have no regard toward people or you are not interested in the community in which you are living.***

**Proverb: "Baa yakati falaa"** *(Misfortunes cannot be shared)*

***Vocabulary***

Events:

- Ŋkum — death
- Iween — sickness
- binaayub — theft
- mmaal — birth
- Ipɔɔn — exam/examination
- Dinimpucaar/ — To marry
- Ticati — marriage /to get married

Words and expressions:

- nyanti kibiki — Naming ceremony (to name a child)
- Ubunli — Sick person/diseased
- Ŋa Ipɔɔn — To take an exam /to sit for an exam
- Ji Ipɔɔn — To pass an exam.
- Ka ditundi — To find a job
- Ti ni diyimɔɔl — congratulations
- Unimbɔti n ŋaanki u-dooŋu lanki — May God make him rest in peace
- Ikpɔjaam — Funerals greeting
- Ti paka Unimbɔti — We thank God
- Unimbɔti n kuti sooci — May God make (him) feel better
- Fɔɔ ( fɔɔ maan plural) — Sorry, condoleances

Verbs

- Jaam — to greet
- maanti unil pu — to visit a person
- Cu unil cee (dumpu) — to go to someone's house
- Paka unil — to congratulate a person

**Exercises:**

**1)** Say the correct expression in these situations:

a) ŋkum

_____

b) mmaal

_____

c) Ka ditundi

_____

d) Ji ipɔɔn

_____

e) Iween

_____

## Grammar notes:

1) The pluperfect tense is formed by using the particle "nin" + the past tense of the verb:

Example: U nin cuti Baasaar — He had gone to Bassar

U nin da nŋyɔkɔ — He had bought some medicine

Structure: **Subject + nin + past tense + noun**

2) The imperfect tense is formed by using the particle "nin"+ the present tense of the verb

Example: Bi nin ca ditundi — they used to go to work

Bi nin nyu nŋyɔkɔ — they used to take medicine

Structure: **subject + nin + present tense + noun**

## Exercises:

1) Answer the following questions using the appropriate tense

a) U nin jaam ubunlaa ?

_____

b) Fan nin da nŋyɔkɔɔ ?

_____

c) Bi nin mannti ubunli pɔɔ ?

_____

d) Bi nin pakawaa?

_____

**TDA:** Discuss with your host mom or your host father about what people usually do and say when:

- A brother , a neighbor or a freind is sick
- There is a birth
- There is adeath in the community

Take note of new useful expressions for next class.

# Lesson 12

# Ask for help in an emergency case

***Objectives:***

After studying this lesson trainees will be able to:

1) Use appropriate words and expressions to ask for help in an emergency case
2) Use complement pronouns
3) Discuss the safety and security support system in their community

**Dialogue**

***One day after lunch, Amy was having a rest when she heard in the compound: Oh, bi fímeee, bi fímeee, m kpineee, bi da foomee, Bi joomeee. Amy went out?***

| | |
|---|---|
| Amy: | Ba ŋa, ba ŋa? |
| Nĩnkɔ: | Ubɔwaati la ki ju-m |
| Amy: | U bi la? |
| Nĩnkɔ: | U di doo |
| Amy: | U ju-saa? |
| Nĩnkɔ: | Aayee, waa ju-m |
| Amy: | Ti ni diyimɔɔl |
| Nĩnkɔ: | Si ni kokal an ŋa kuti. |

**Dialogue in English**
Oh help, help, come and help me

| | |
|---|---|
| Amy: | What's happening? |
| Nĩnkɔ: | A crazy dog wants to bite me. |
| Amy: | Where is he? |
| Nĩnkɔ: | He went this side. |
| Amy: | Has he bitten you? |
| Nĩnkɔ: | No, he hasn't |
| Amy: | Fortunetly, you are lucky |
| Nĩnkɔ: | Thank you for your help. See you after. |

***Cultural notes***

***Solidarity between people in the community is very strong, so you just call out if you need others' help.***
***In towns or big cities people are more individualistic, and may be more reluctant to offer help.***

**Vocabulary:**

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Woyooyiii, Woyooyiii! | alarming cry in an emergency case |
| ➢ Bi fímeee! | Save me! |
| ➢ M kpineee! | I'm diying! (my life is in danger)! |
| ➢ Unaayuyeee | A thief! |
| ➢ Bi joomeee | Help me |
| ➢ U la kpɔmeee! | He want to kill me |
| ➢ Bi cu unaayuyeee! | Seize the thief! Catch the thief |
| ➢ Bi tutunmeee | Help me |

<u>Fire</u>

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Ŋŋmee! | Fire! |
| ➢ Bi caan nnyimeee! | Bring water |
| ➢ Kudii foo Ŋŋmeee | Fire! |
| ➢ Bi fíiteee | Save me |

<u>Harassment/Attack</u>

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Ba ŋa | what's that? |
| ➢ Yanti-m | let me |
| ➢ Maa la min! | I don't like it |
| ➢ A cu a-ba! | be careful |
| ➢ M Koo min | I hate that! |
| ➢ Taati kuti min dalba! | Don't do that again. |
| ➢ Suti m cee! | Get away from! |
| ➢ Maati la ki ka-si m-dumpu! | I don't want to see you in my house again |
| ➢ Taati daan m-dumpu! | Don't come in my house again |
| ➢ Maati la a-jaamii | I don,t want your greetings again |
| ➢ Maa la a-wanti tiba! | I don't like your presents! |
| ➢ Ukoobu? Bi daa kpɔ ukoobeee | Snake! Come and kill the snake |

<u>Sickness and other expressions</u>

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ M wunti kaa mɔ | I'm not doing well |
| ➢ M laa cu Luma | I have to go to Lome |
| ➢ M gbaam-ni. Ni nyaab-m lool | please find a vehicle for me |
| ➢ M gbaam-ni. ni yii-m Damba | please, call me Damba |
| ➢ M ca m-bɔɔ cee ki daan | I will visit my friend and I'll be back |
| ➢ Maa laa ban din | I won't be back today |
| ➢ M laa ban kunca dal | I will be back on Monday |

To propose help

- M tutun-saa? — May I help you?
- M foo-si atunaa? — May I help you take your load on?
- Ba ni a la? — What do you want?
- M laa nyaab lool ki tii-si. — I will find a vehicle for you.
- Ĩin, si ni ditundi — Yes, thank you
- Aayee, si ni ditundi — No, thank you.

## Exercises

If you were in these situations what would you say?

a) ŋŋmi (fire in your house)

b) Unaayuu (robber)

c) dipaabil (harassment)

d) Iween (sickness)

## Grammar notes

Complement pronouns
Example:

| | |
|---|---|
| U ka-**m** | he sees me |
| U ka-**si** | he sees you |
| U ka-**u** | he sees him/her |
| U ka-**ti** | he sees us |
| U ka-**ni** | he sees you |
| U ka-**bi** | he sees then |

The personal pronoum are also complement pronoun when place after a verb. Only the second person of singular changes the form:

**Note: There is a dash between the verb and the object pronoun.**

| Personal pronouns | | object pronouns | |
|---|---|---|---|
| I | M | Me | -M |
| You | A | You | -Si |
| He/she | U | Him/her | -U |
| We | Ti | Us | -Ti |
| You | Ni | You | -Ni |
| They | Bi | Them | -Bi |

**Exercises:**

1) Rewrite the following sentences using the appropriate object pronoun.
Example: U tii (her) animiɩ_____ U tii-u animiɩ

a) BI da tɔrch (laati)

_____

b) Binib tutun (me)

_____

c) Bi caan (them) tijin

_____

d) Bi nyaabi ( you formal) kudii

_____

e) Cicab fii (us)

_____

f) Bi daa (them) ceecee

_____

2) Report the following quotations using the appropriate object pronouns:
Example:
Gbandi bi yii (Gbandi said): "yanti-m"_____U bi yii bi yanti-u

a) Alicia bi yii:"bi fii-ti!"

_____

b) Cicab bi yii: " bi joon-ti!"

_____

c) Napɔ bi yii: "bi tutun-m"

_____

d) Kassi bi yii: " bi pɔ-m nnyim"

_____

e) Willy bi yii: "bi nyaab-m lool"

_____

f) Amy bi yii: "bi can-m nnyɔkɔ'

_____

g) David bi yii: "ti tutun-bi"

_____

h) Fan bi yii: "dá-m sata"

_____

"

3) Which words or expressions would you use in these situations?

Sickness

Attack

**Situation:**

a) You go to a bar and you see somebody who tries to take your bike. React.

b) You are at your post, you are not doing very well and you cannot walk. What would you say in Bassar to ask for help?

**TDA**:

a) Go to the trainer or someboby in the community who comes from your Region and ask him about specific words and expressions people use in case of emergency (if it is possible).

b) Do the same with your host father to know what your host community does.

# Lesson 13

# Talk about her/his work

**Objectives:**

After studying this lesson trainees will be able to:

1) Use appropriate vocabulary and the conditional tense to talk about his/her job in the community
2) Discuss the importance of foreign help (especially American help) in Bassar communities.

**Dialogue**

***Wapondi Christina, a PCV goes to the Chief of her post. She introduces herself and explains her job to him.***

Ubɔti: A sanŋu pɔyaa?
Christina W. Alaafiya ukpil. Ndoo pɔɔya ubɔti?
Ubɔti: Alaafiya. A pɔɔ mana?
Christina W: Alaafiya.
Ubɔti Man cee mɔ, si di coomin
Christina W Ma mun cee mɔ. M sa unicaan ni ki nyanni Amirika ki dɔmin ki tɔ ditundi ma ni doo yaab
Ubɔti Ditundi dilar ni a dɔmin ki ŋa ?
Christina W M dɔmin ki tutun bisapɔmb ni binaacimpɔmb bi-sukuluu n cu nyɔkɔpu
Ubɔti Yoo, an ŋan. Si ni nsan!

**Dialogue in English**

Chief: Welcome.
Christina W: Thanks sir. Good morning chief!
Chief: Good morning, how are you?
Christina W: I'm fine.
Chief: What's the reason of your visit?
Christina W: I have a good reason to be here chief. I'm a stranger and I came from America And I'm here to work with people
Chief: Ok, what kind of work are you going to do?
Christina W: I'm an American Volunteer and I will work with you.
Chief: What kind of job are you going to do?
ChristinaW: I'm here to help girls and boys to go to school and to complete their schooling . I
Chief: Good, you are welcome.

**Cultural notes**

- ***Americans are well regarded in the community and everyboby would like to befriend or to collaborate with them.***
- ***People think Americans are rich and powerful and have solution for any situation***

***Proverb: "Ditundi di sa unil"*** (work makes life value)

**Vocabulary**

Words and expressions:

**GEE:** Bisapɔmb sukulu-u nyɔkɔpu cu tam.

- Sukul — school
- Kisukulbiki(nsukulbiyaam) — student(s)
- Cica (cicab) — teacher(s)
- Utunbifil (bitunbifiliib) — apprentice(s)
- Ukpil ( bikpilb) — patron(s)
- Ti-na (Ti-nab) — patron(s) (Female)
- ditunbifil — apprenticeship
- Kisukuldii (poon) — Classroom (In the classroom)
- Ditundi laŋki — office/workplace

**CHAP:** ŋgbanpɔn ni Siidaaweenii sanŋki

- Dɔkɔta — clinic, hospital, health unit
- Dɔkɔta — nurse, doctor
- ŋmanti kibiki — to weigh child
- Diŋmaŋtir — (child)weighing
- Saa mpiin — to vaccinate/to inject
- maali — to give birth
- mmaal — birth
- mbiyaam jinti tiitam — child nutrition
- Umati (bimatib) — mother(s)
- Siidaaweenii/siidaweeŋyi — AIDS
- iween — sickness
- tutun mbiyaam — to help kids
- tutun bimatib — to help mothers

**NRM:** Tikpaal ni isufi coontam sanŋki

- Kusaau (Tisati) — farm(s)
- Ukpaal (Bikpaab) — farmer(s)
- Busubu (Isufi) — tree(s)
- Kiwaŋkulu (Tiwaŋkuti) — animal(s)
- Kpaa tiwaŋkuti — to raise animals
- Naan kusaau — to make a farm
- Coon isufi — to plant trees
- Ma ŋfan (ifan) — to construct a stove(s)

**SED:** Anyampuyil dambi tutuntam

- Uwannyafil (Biwannyafiliib) — trader(s)
- Unyampu (Binyampoob) — trader(s)[women]
- Dinyampuyil ( Anyampuyil) — Trade
- Faari(b) — shop(s)
- Faaridaan(Faardambi) — shop keeper(s)/ owner(s)
- nnyɔpee — group/association
- Dinimitɔr/Aboo — tontine
- Siin animil — to save money
- Bank/Bankaa — bank,
- P iini animil — to lend / borrow money
- Piini biwannyafiliib animil — to give a loan to traders
- Pa — to pay
- da — to buy
- Dipɔndi — Debt
- Ipaati — profit/benefit
- Ka ipaati — to make profit

Verbs

- Sanŋki — To educate/to sensitize
- Daka — to teach

Expressions

- Sanŋki binib Siidaaweeni pu — to sensitize people on AIDS.
- Sanŋki binimpoob mbiyaam jinti bɔti — ssensitize/ advise women on child nutrition.
- Sanŋki cicab mbiyaam sukulu-u bɔti — to sensitize teachers about children schooling
- Ca dikpafil … — to have a meeting …
- A ŋaan ba tundi? — what's your profession?
- Ba tundi ni a dɔmin ki ŋa doo? — what job are you here for?

**Grammar notes:**

Ask questions with who "**ŋma**", Why "**Bapu**", How many "**Biŋa**", How much"**Mana**"

**Ŋma** (who): **Ŋma** nii a nyaab? **Who** are you looking for?
Structure: Ŋma .+.ni.+subject.+.verb.+.+noun

**Bapu** (why): **Bapu** ni a gii-u footo? **Why** did you take him a picture?
Structure: Bapu .+.ni.+subject.+.verb.+.+noun

**Biŋa** (how many): Binib biŋa ni dɔmin dikpafil? **How many** persons came to the meeting?
Structure: subject.+ Biŋa.+.ni.+. verb.+.noun

NB: The particle "ni" follows the interrogative term and gives a good sound to pronunciation. It can be omitted in certain case
Example: ŋma dɔmin ki nyaab-m? Who came to look for me?
The particle "**n**i" disappears if the interrogative term is palced at the end of the sentence.
Example: U nyaab ŋma? He's looking for whom?

## Exercises

Use "ŋma", "Bapu", "Biŋa", "Mana" to ask questions with the following sentences.
Example: Niŋkɔ nyafi fɔfɔ dilaataal
Mana ni u nyafi fɔfɔ?

1. Maa dɔmin ditundi. Kumpuee m bun.

2. Ti-na Tikɔyi Marie caab lool bili

3. Tina Rooz Naabin laa fu daan fool
4. Waa dɔmin kumpuee baa pu-u nsan

5. Bi da imukul kutuku bili

6. Kɔndi David cuti Baasaar ki jaam u-bɔɔ

7. U-baa caa mbiyaam muluu (6)

8. U-na nyaab-u

1) Make sentences with: "M la yii ", "M dɔmin ki", "M cuti yii".

**2)** Dialogue: during her post visit Amy explains her job to her host father Naajɔmbɩ

Naajɔmbi: Si ni nsan!
Amy: Yahaa, ni jooku pɔɔya?
Naajɔmbi: Alaafiya. Ba tundi ni a dɔmin ki ŋa doo ?
Amy: M dɔmin ki tutun binib ni.
Naajɔmbi: M gbaam-si ditundi kii dilar?
Amy: M dɔmin ki soon Siidaa bɔti, min boonee ki tuku binib bi nin laa ŋubi bi ba pu ki nin caa ŋgbampɔnee.
Naajɔmbi: An ŋan. Kin a-bɔɔ Kassi Niŋkɔ wun laa ŋa ba?
Amy: U laa tutun nsukulbiyaam ni bitunbifiliib.
Najɔmbi: M jaam-si tikpil. An ŋa fool
Amy: Yoo, an ŋa fool

| | |
|---|---|
| Ŋgbampɔn | health |
| Siidaa bɔti | AIDS issue |
| M gbaam-si | please, I beg you. |
| M jaam-si | I greet you, I thank you |
| M dɔmin | I came |
| Bitunbifiliib | Apprentices |

Questions:

a) Ba tundi ni Amy ŋaan?
b) Ba tundi ni Kassi Niŋkɔ ŋaan?
c) Ba tundi ni a ŋaan?
d) Translate into English: "M dɔmin ki soon…to the end of the dialogue"

**Situation:**

You meet a community member who wants to know more about your program and the job you will do at your post.

**TDA**

Go to your host father and ask him to explain his job to you. (What he does exactly).

Tell him about your work. Report to the next class.

# Useful expressions

## 1) Conversation managers:

| | |
|---|---|
| M gbam-si du pɔ-m | please/excuse me |
| Soo soo | slowly |
| soon soo | say it slowly |
| giti soon m gbil | say it again |
| Taapu yii ba? | What does it mean? |
| Maa gbil an taapu | what does … mean? |
| Maa gbil | I don't understand it. |
| Maa ŋun ki pilfi . | I can't hear you. |
| A nimiin wuntaa? | Is that clear for you? |
| Ayee, nnimiin kaa wunti. | It's not clear for me. |
| A soon mala mala tikpil | It's too fast |
| Fatii soon soo m ŋma ki gbil | say it slowly again so that I can understand it |
| A li yii ba? | You said what? |
| Baa? | What? |
| An kaa sa tibɔti | It's not a problem |
| An kaa ŋaan tiba | It'doesn't matter |
| A gbilaa? | Do you understand? |
| Iin, M gbil | yes, I do |
| Aayee, maa gbil | No, I don't |
| A gbil-taa?? | Did you hear that? |
| Iin, m gbil-ti. | Ok, yes I heard it. |
| An sa mbaamɔnaa? | Is it true? |
| Iin, an sa mbaamɔn. | It's true. |
| Maa nyi | I don't know |

## 2) To express needs:

| | |
|---|---|
| Nnyinyoo caa-m | I'm thirsty. |
| M la ki nyɔ nnyim | I want to drink some water |
| ŋkum caa-m | I'm hungry |
| M la ki ji | I will/ I want to eat |
| Tiba | something |
| M gii | I'm tired |
| M la ki ŋuŋfi | I want to relax |
| M la ki ŋuŋfi fii | I want to relax a little |
| M ca ki doon | I'm going to bed |

- M la ki cu ataapu/pɔɔm — I want to use the latrine/bathroom
- M gbil Kituŋtuŋ pu — I'm hot
- Tiwool koo-m — I'm cold
- M baa la ki bifi fii — I would like to study a little

**3) At home:**

- Gaafraa! — excuse me
- Kɔnni — ok, come in
- Si ni nsan — welcome
- M gbaam-si kal dijaal pu/dijaal sɔ — please, have a seat
- M gbaam-ni, ajaal sɔ — please, have a seat (to more than one person)
- Ŋgeem bi doo, sii ni coomin? — what are you here for?
- M ca kinyɔn ki daan — I'm going to the market and I will be back
- M laa fu cu ditundi ki daan — I'll go to the office and I will come back
- A gitin mala — come back early
- A cu ki daan — have a good day
- Daan ti ji — let's eat
- Daan ti ti ji tijin — come let's eat
- An ŋa fool/Baabaayii — see you tomorrow

**4) On travel:**

- M laa cu nsan ki daan — I'll travel and I will come back
- Unimbɔti n ceen-si/A coom tiŋan — safe journey
- Unumbɔti n ceen-ni? — safe journey(to more than one person)
- Gitin mala — come back early
- A dan tiba ki kin-m — bring good things back
- Niin yaab pɔɔ? — What about people from where you come from?
- Baabaayii — bye bye

**5) Compliments:**

- An maan-si — your dress is very nice /it suits you.
- An ŋan — It is good/nice
- A nyanti a ba kutaafaaunee paa — you look so nice this morning
- A-wanpeenkaati nee ŋan paa — I like your dress.
- A-sata-u nee ŋan paa. — I like the cloth

**6) At work:**

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ A (ni) ditundi | Good job |
| ➢ Yoo/tɔ | ok |
| ➢ A tundi coom mana? | what about the work |
| ➢ A tundi coom tiŋanaa? | How are doing with it? |
| ➢ Ti bi an pu | We are on it |
| ➢ Ditundi pɔɔ tikpil | The work is very difficult |
| ➢ An kaa sa gbam gbam tundi/ Ditundi gbanti kaa sa fii | it's not easy to do./it's not an easy job |

**7) The weather:**

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ An tum | it's hot |
| ➢ An tum paa | it's very hot |
| ➢ An sɔɔm paa | it's very cold |
| ➢ Kibuŋ | wind |
| ➢ Kibuŋ bi | it's windy |
| ➢ Utaa bii ni | it's raining |
| ➢ Kitagbɔŋ ŋan | the weather is clear |
| ➢ Ŋwiin nyaati ` | it's sunny. |
| ➢ Utaa laa ni | it will rain |
| ➢ An bɔnti/kunyeeu mɔ | it's dark |

**8) At a feast:**

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ Jiŋaal nin mɔɔki | the feast was very good |
| ➢ Jiŋaal mɔɔki | good feast |
| ➢ Ni ni jiŋaal | good feast to you |

**Other expressions**

| | |
|---|---|
| ➢ An daka yii… | it's means that… |
| ➢ An ŋan yii… | it's good that…… |
| ➢ An pab-m yii … | it's necessary for me that… |
| ➢ An sa yii… | it's important to… |

# English to Bassar Glossary

**A**

| | |
|---|---|
| Accept | kii |
| Accident | Diniminamandi/Dipɔɔbildi |
| Ache | Tibunbun |
| Across | Lapu |
| Act (behavior) | mbimbim |
| Action | ŋa tiwan |
| Advance | Dilintir/Ki pee linti/Ki pee kitii animil |
| Advice | Isaŋki/Dikpootil |
| After | Boonee/Min boonee/Kiwaati |
| Afternoon | kujoou |
| Again | guti/guti ŋa |
| Age | Abin |
| Agree | kii |
| Aid | Tutun |
| Airplane | Dandani |
| All | kɔkɔ |
| allow | Pɔ nsan |
| Alone | Baba (M baba="Me alone") |
| Already | Daadaa/dooyee |
| Also | Kimun |
| Although | Baa |
| Always | Tam kɔkɔ |
| America | Amerika |
| Ancestor(s) | Naanja (Naanjab) |
| And | ni |
| Animal | Kiwaŋkuluu |
| Another /others | Ubɔ mun (bibamun plural) |
| Answer | Kii/Gati |
| Any | Tiba |
| Anything | Baatiba |
| Apologize | gbaam |
| Appear | Likiti/paanni |
| Arm (weapon) | Tijanjawan |
| Around | Maanti |
| Arrive | Ba |
| As | kii |
| Ask | Balfi |

**B**

| | |
|---|---|
| Bad | Kaaŋan/tikpitil |
| Ball | Bɔɔl |
| Banana | Ayabaa / Kɔdu |
| Bank | Banki /banka |
| Barber | uyikpiikooli |
| Bathroom | kugɔtu |
| Battery | Atɔrchi Tankpee |
| Beat | Gba |
| Beautiful | ŋan |
| Become | Kpanti |
| Because | Kumpuee |
| Bed | Ndoo |
| Bedroom | Kudidoonkaau |
| Beer | Biya |
| Begin | Kil |
| Behind | Boon |
| Believe | Foo ki kii |
| Belt | Dambara |
| Between | kansikin |
| Big | Ukpaan |
| Bird | Kunɔmbiki |
| Bite | ju |
| Black | Ubɔn |
| Blood | fatiku |
| Blue | blɔɔ |
| Boat | Biŋalimbu |
| Book | Kigbɔŋ |
| Bottle | kpaalba |
| Box | dakaa |
| Boy | uninja |
| Break down | Biil |
| Bridge | kadulka |
| Bring | Caan |
| Burn | See/Tuu/Wa |
| Bureau | buroo/Ditundi lanki |
| But | Ama |
| Buy | Da |

**C**

| | |
|---|---|
| Call | Yiin |
| Car (auto) | lool |
| Carpenter | Kapiinta |
| Carry | Tun |
| Catch | cuu |
| Cellphone | Kikpampɔkɔyi |
| Cement | Simiiti |
| Center | Kansikin |
| Century | Abin imuŋku iŋmoo |
| Chair | Dijal |
| Change | Kpanti |
| Chat | Ulambunti/Tɔntɔ |
| Chief | Ubɔti |
| Choose | Lee |
| Church | cɔɔci |
| Cigarette | sigaar |
| City | kitiŋgbaŋ |
| Classroom | Kiuskuldii |
| Clean | ŋati/piti |
| Close | Piin |
| Cloth | Tiwanpeeŋkaal |
| Clothes | Tiwanpeeŋkaal |
| Come | daan |
| Comic | Tinaacin |
| Complain | Sama |
| Comfort | Sɔɔŋki dipɔbil |
| Continue | Nin ŋaan ki ca |
| Corn | Italandi |
| Cost | kudaau |
| Cry | Sɔɔ |
| Cut | gii |

**D**

| | |
|---|---|
| Dance | ŋɔ |
| Dark | bɔn |
| Daughter | Bisaal |
| Day | ŋwiin |
| Dead | ŋkum |
| Deep | Nnyonynoon |
| Depend | An nyanni |
| Different | An bi uba (it is different) |
| Difficult (It's difficult) | An pɔɔ |

| | |
|---|---|
| Disease | Iween |
| Dish | Asambil |
| Distribute | Yaakati |
| Do | ŋa |
| Doctor | Dɔkɔta |
| Dog | kubɔkɔ |
| Door | Kupunyɔkɔ |
| Draw | Lee |
| Dry | Kpa |
| Dream | Daminti |
| Drug | Nnyɔkɔ |
| Duty | Ditundi/Sintri |

**E**

| | |
|---|---|
| Ear | dItafal |
| Early | mala |
| Earth | Kitiŋ |
| East | ŋwiin nyanlanki |
| Effort | Dipɔɔndi |
| Egg | Dijindi |
| Empty | klum/kun |
| Encourage | Pɔɔn |
| End | Doo/Kunti (An doo=an kunti=its finish) |
| Enemy | Unannanli |
| Enjoy | purfi/Kinyannyaau |
| Evening | Kunyeeu |
| Everybody | Baaŋma kɔkɔ |
| Everything | Tiwan kɔkɔ |
| Everywhere | Baa la |
| Except | See |
| Extra | Kun paanee |
| Eye | Dinimil |

**F**

| | |
|---|---|
| Face | Nnimiin |
| Fall | Liti |
| Famous | Nya diyindi |
| Far | An dati |
| Farm | kusaau |
| Farmer | Ukpaal |
| Fast (rapid) | Malaa |
| Festival | jiŋaal |
| Few | fii |
| Field | Kusaau |
| Fire | ŋŋmi |
| First | Npeepeekaam |
| Food | Tijin |
| Force | mpɔɔn |
| Foreigner | Unicaan |
| Forest | Kipɔɔu |
| Forget | Suunti |
| Fork | Kijii |
| Forward | Nyɔkɔpu |
| Fry | ki |
| Full | Gbi |

G

| | |
|---|---|
| Game | Agbiil |
| Gas station | Sansi nyafilaŋki (station) |
| Garden | „Jardin“ (kusaau) |
| Gate | Kupunyɔkɔ |
| Gather | Kpafi/Nyaabi |
| Get | Foo |
| Gift | Tiwanpɔkaal |
| Give | Tii |
| Girl | Usapɔɔn |
| Glass (drinking) | kɔpu |
| God | Unumbɔti |
| Gold | Sika |
| Government | gomna |
| Green | Tifaasɔɔn |
| Ground | Titann |
| Groundnut | Asilim |
| Grow | kpɔ tikpaal/ŋa tinyool/cu nyɔkɔpu |
| Guest | unicaan |
| Guide | Usanliiti |

## H

| | |
|---|---|
| Habit | Mbimbim |
| Hair | Tiyikpiti |
| Half | Dijandi |
| Hand | Nŋaal |
| Handsome | Nyankan/Kunyaaŋu |
| Happiness | ŋwunsɔɔŋfi |
| Hard | Pɔɔ |
| Health | Alaafiya/ŋgbansɔɔŋfi |
| Healthy | Alaafiya bi |
| Heart | Diŋuul |
| Hear | Gbil |
| Heavy | Nnyim |
| Height | ŋfɔkɔnni |
| High | ukpaan/Yilpu |
| Highway | Nsan kpaan |
| History | Tibɔti tin jiti dooyee yee |
| Honest | mbaamɔn daan /deedee daan |
| Hunter | Ukpan |

## I

| | |
|---|---|
| Idea | Nlandɔkɔ |
| If | Yaan/A yaan… (If you…) |
| Immediately | Kɔnkɔnnee |
| Important | Timpabee |
| Insect | Mpɔkɔfum |
| Inspector | Ditundi kpiluu |
| Interesting | (An) mɔɔki/ (An caa) Kinyannyaau (It's interesting) |
| Invite | yiin / (Cɔfi invite to share a meal) |
| Iron | kikuluu |

## J

| | |
|---|---|
| Job | Ditundi |
| Joke | Tinaacin/Saami |
| Journey | Nsan |
| Joy | Faal/Difaaldi |
| Jump | Yuku |
| Justice /truth | Mbaamɔn |

## K

| | |
|---|---|
| Key | Ukpalkaa/Saafii |
| Kerosene | Karanzim |
| Kill | Kpɔ |
| Kilometer | Kilometri / antaŋkpee |
| King | Ubɔti |
| Kitchen | Kisamɔndii |
| Knee | Ditabinnyiil |
| Knife | kijiki |
| Kow | Nyii |

## L

| | |
|---|---|
| Labor | Ditundi |
| Ladder | Kaarkaar |
| Land | kitiŋ |
| Language | Isoon/Ilinfi |
| Last | Ujoolikaa |
| Late | Gbinti boon |
| Laugh | Laa |
| Law | Mara |
| Leader | Usanliiti |
| Learn | Bifi |
| Leave | Yiki/Bunti |
| Leg | Ditaal |
| Length | ŋfɔkɔn |
| Letter | ŋgban |
| Lie | Mɔnti |
| Life | Dulnya |
| Line | Mpɔɔn |
| Listen | Pilfi |
| Little | Fii |
| Long | Fɔkɔ |
| Look | Kpee |
| Lose | waŋki |
| Luck (good) | Diyimɔɔl |

## M

| | |
|---|---|
| Machine | ŋjin |
| Malaria | Fiiva/Nnaanyeem |
| Male | uninja |
| Manioc | Baanci |
| Many | Tikpil |
| Matches | Mancasi |
| Maybe | Yaayi/Kiɔnee |
| Meaning | Taapu yii |
| Mechanic | Uwaŋŋankil/Fiita |
| Medecine | Nnyɔkɔ |
| Meeting | Dikpafil |
| Merchant | Uwannyafil |
| Miracle | Maamaci |
| Mirror | Digitil |
| Month | Uŋmal |
| Moon | Uŋmal |
| Mosquito | Unaacibi (Plural: Inaacibi) |
| Mountain | Dijool |
| Mouth | Kinyɔkɔ |

## N

| | |
|---|---|
| Nation | Kitiŋ |
| Nature | Kitaa |
| Near | Pili |
| Nearly | jubiti |
| Necessary | kumpabee |
| Neck | Nsil |
| Need | Kuni a nyaabee |
| Neighbor | Nkɔnkɔnnaatɔ |
| Never | Kpa +negation |
| New | Upɔɔn |
| Night | Kunyeeu |
| Noise | Kifuu |
| None | Ba ubɔ |
| Noon | ŋwiimpu |
| Nose | Dimaŋfaal |
| Nothing | ba Tiba |
| Now | kɔnkɔnnee |
| Number | Tikaaŋkaal |

## O

| | |
|---|---|
| Ocean | Dimɔɔl |
| Offer | Tii |
| Office | Ditundi laŋki |
| Often | Tam ubɔ |
| Old | Pul |
| Once | Dibapu |
| Open | Piiti |
| Opinion | Nlandɔkɔ |
| Or | kumun |
| Order | Tii nsan /pɔ nsan |
| Other | Tiŋkin |

## P

| | |
|---|---|
| Pack | Umɔn |
| Package | Diwaŋgul |
| Pain | Kpɔnɔ |
| Papaya | Bɔɔflee |
| Paper | ŋgban |
| Parent | Baab |
| Party | Jiŋaal |
| Past | Tin jitee |
| Pay | Paa |
| Peace | ŋwunsɔŋfi |
| Period | Tam |
| Permit | Pɔ nsan |
| People | Binib |
| Perhaps | Yaayi |
| Person | Unil |
| Picture | Footo |
| Piece | Dibukul/Kikpaacaŋu |
| Pillow | Diyikunkul |
| Piss | Nyeem |
| Place | Mpaan |
| Plant | Coon/Buul |
| Plate | Kisambiki |
| Pleasure | Mmɔn |
| Policeman | Pilsii |
| Poor | Usoodaan |
| Post office | Ditundi lanki |
| Pot | Dibool |
| Power | Mpɔɔn |

| | |
|---|---|
| Praise | Paka (Unimbɔti) |
| Prefer | laa ki jiti |
| Pregnant | Upɔdan |
| Prepare | ŋa tijin/bɔnti |
| President | Uyidaan |
| Pretty | ŋan |
| Prevent | ŋa ki ciiti |
| Priest | Ujaamil/Utootil/Fada |
| Profit | Ipaati |
| Progress | cu nyɔkɔpu/ŋa tinyool |
| Prove | Daka abaamɔnŋu |
| Punishment | Naati/Gii dipɔndi |

## Q

| | |
|---|---|
| Queen | Unimpubɔti |
| Question | Dibalfil |
| Quicly | mala mala |
| Quiet | Diŋmiŋmir |

## **R**

| | |
|---|---|
| Rain | utaa |
| Raise | Kpaa |
| Reach | Ba |
| Read | Kaan |
| Ready | Bɔnti |
| Receive | foo |
| Red | Uman |
| Refugee | Ukunsanli |
| Respect | jirma |
| Rest | ŋuŋfi |
| Return | Giti |
| Ripe | Piiti |
| Robber | unaayuu |
| Rope | ŋŋmii |
| Rubber | Rɔba |
| Run | san |

**S**

| | |
|---|---|
| Sack | kutuku |
| Salary | Tipaal |
| Say | Tuku |
| Scream | Faa mbiil/Kuunti |
| Seat | Dijaal |
| See | Kaa |
| Separate | Yakati |
| Share | Yakati |
| Short | kigiŋ |
| Show | Daka |
| Sick | Bun |
| Side | Kpakan |
| Sign | Kidaaŋu |
| Since | Doo ki |
| Sit down | Kaal |
| Slow | Soo |
| Small | Kiwaayi/Fii |
| Soldier | sooja |
| Speak | Soon |
| Swim | Wanki nnyim |

T

| | |
|---|---|
| Table | Teebri |
| Talk | Soon |
| Tall | fɔkɔ |
| Test | Ipɔɔn |
| Than | Ki jitin |
| Then | Ni |
| Thank | Ditundi/kokaal |
| There | Niin/Lapu |
| Third | Utataati |
| Throw | Tɔ (tɔ ditaŋkpaal= throw a stone) |
| Thus | Mimpuee |
| Tooth | Dinyindi |
| Travel | Nsan (cu nsan) |
| Tree | Bisubu |

**U**

| | |
|---|---|
| Until | Hali |
| University | Sukulkpaan |

**V**

| | |
|---|---|
| Vaccinate | Saa mpiin |
| Volunteer | Ututunli |

**W**

| | |
|---|---|
| Wait | Ciiti |
| Wake up | Fiinti |
| Walk | coom |
| Warn | Tuku ki siin |
| Wash | Fiinti |
| Water | Nnyim |
| Welcome | Si ni nsan |
| Well | Lɔkɔ |
| Wide | ŋwaan |
| Wind | kibuŋ |
| Window | Tɔkɔrɔ |
| With | Ni |
| Work | Ditundi |
| Write | ŋma |

**Y**

| | |
|---|---|
| Yam | Dinnool |
| Yellow | ŋkoojiŋkpeem |
| Yesterday | Fool |

**Z**

| | |
|---|---|
| Zone | Kikpaacaŋu |
| Zero | Fam /dikuŋkuŋdi |