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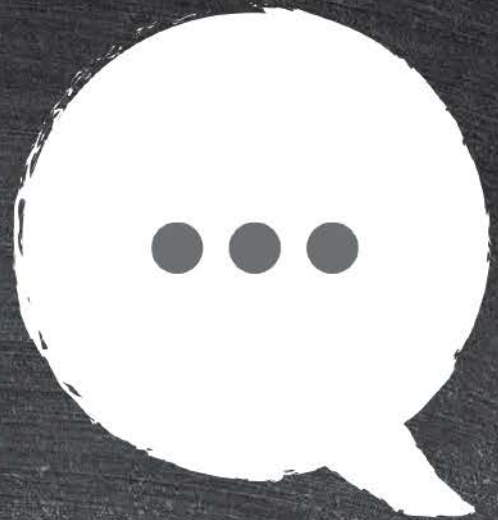
3 MINUTE SWAHILI

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LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #1 Self Introduction

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 5 Cultural Insight

#1

SWAHILI

1. Habari, mimi ni Medina.
2. Shikamoo. Jina langu ni Medina
3. Ninafuraha kukutana na wewe.
4. Ninafuraha kukujua.

ENGLISH

1. Hi, I'm Medina.
2. Hello, my name is Medina. (formal)
3. Nice to meet you.
4. Pleasure to know you.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
Habari	Hello	Interjection
Mimi	I	Pronoun
ni	am, are, is	auxiliary verb
jina	name	noun
langu	my	adjective, pronoun
kukutana	to meet	verb
wewe	you	Pronoun

kukujua	to know you	Phrase
shikamoo	good day	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Habari yako Hello	Habari. Waambaje? "Hello. How are you doing?"
Mimi ni Maria. "I'm Maria."	Jina lako ni nani? "What's your name?"
Jina lake limetajwa. "His name has been called."	Gari langu limepotea. "I have lost my car."
Tunaweza kukutana katika stesheni. "We can meet at the station."	Ningelipenda kukutana na wazazi wako. "I would love to meet your parents."
Nitakutana na wewe saa nne usiku mbele ya stesheni. "I will meet you at 10 PM in front of the station."	Ningelipenda kukutana nawe kesho. "I would have liked to meet you tomorrow."
Wewe unaalikwa. "You are invited."	"Wewe uliniangusha" "You made me fall down."

Kukujua na pia kujua dada yako kumenisaidia kujua lugha ya kiswahili.

"Knowing you and also knowing your sister has helped me learn the Swahili language."

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to introduce yourself.

	Register	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	informal	<i>Habari, mimi ni Medina.</i>	Hi, I'm Medina.
Word 1		<i>Habari</i>	Hi
Word 2		<i>mimi</i>	I
Word 3		<i>ni</i>	am
Word 4		<i>Medina</i>	Medina, person's first name
Phrase 2	formal	<i>Shikamoo. Jina langu ni Medina</i>	Hello, my name is Medina.
Word 1		<i>Shikamoo</i>	Good day, Hello
Word 2		<i>Jina</i>	name
Word 3		<i>langu</i>	my
Word 4		<i>ni</i>	is
Word 5		<i>Medina</i>	Medina, person's first name
Phrase 3	formal	<i>Ninafuraha kukutana na wewe.</i>	Nice to meet you.
Word 1		<i>Ninafuraha</i>	I am happy
Word 2		<i>kukutana</i>	to meet
Word 3		<i>na</i>	with
Word 4		<i>wewe</i>	you
Phrase 4	formal	<i>Ninafuraha kukujua.</i>	Pleasure to know you.
Word 1		<i>ninafuraha</i>	I am happy

CULTURAL INSIGHT

When you introduce yourself, it's a good habit to shake hands. Usually, the right hand is accompanied by a slight support by the left hand. If you're concerned about politeness, a slight bend forward while shaking the hand adds another sign of respect in the Kenyan business world. However, if you speak too formally, people will think you sound unnatural. In Kenya, simplicity is best!

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #2 Greetings

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 2 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

#2

SWAHILI

1. Habari.
2. Habari ya jioni!
3. Kwaheri.
4. Tionane baadaye.

ENGLISH

1. Hello.
2. Good evening!
3. Goodbye.
4. See you later.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
Habari	Hello	Interjection
jioni	evening	noun
Kwaheri.	Bye.	expression
Tionane	See you	phrase
baadaye	later	adverb
ninafuraha	I am happy	phrase
ya	of	preposition

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Habari yako Hello	Habari. Waambaje? "Hello. How are you doing?"
Nilienda kumuona nyakati za jioni. "I went to see him in the evening."	Uwanja wa tenisu utafunguliwa jioni, pia. "The tennis court is open in the evening, too."
Mara nyingi, sisi hucheza kadi wakati wa jioni katika msimu wa kiangazi. "We often play cards on a warm summer evening."	Napenda kutembea jioni nikitoka kazini. "I like to walk home in the evening from my work place."
Tuonane tena. "See you again."	

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to greet someone when you arrive and when you part.

	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	<i>Habari.</i>	Hello.
Word 1	<i>habari</i>	hello
Phrase 2	<i>Habari ya jioni!</i>	Good evening!
Word 1	<i>habari</i>	hello
Word 2	<i>ya</i>	of
Word 3	<i>jioni</i>	evening
Phrase 3	<i>Kwaheri.</i>	Goodbye.

Word 1	<i>kwaheri</i>	goodbye
Phrase 4	<i>Tuonane baadaye.</i>	See you later.
Word 1	<i>Tuonane</i>	see
Word 2	<i>baadaye</i>	later

CULTURAL INSIGHT

In formal situations, Kenyans commonly greet each other by shaking hands. But, if we meet someone we are very friendly with, we hug each other. Don't be afraid to do so with your Kenyan friends—it's normal!

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #3 Manners

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 2 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

3

SWAHILI

1. Shukran
2. Asante sana.
3. Asante, kwa furaha.
4. Asante kwa kila kitu.

ENGLISH

1. Thank you.
2. Thank you very much.
3. Thank you, gladly.
4. Thanks for everything.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
asante	thank you	phrase
sana	so much, very much	adjective
kwa	for	Conjunction
shukran	thank you	phrase
kwa furaha	gladly	phrase
kila kitu	everything	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Asante kwa usaidizi wako. "Thank you for your help!"	Asante kukipitisha. "Thank you for passing it over."
Asante Yuki. "Thanks Yuki."	Samahani sana. "I am very sorry."
Asante sana kwa kukuja. "Thank you so much for coming."	sasa nakutana nawe kwa mara ya pili "I am now meeting you for the second time"

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to thank other people in various ways.

	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	<i>Shukran</i>	Thank you.
Word 1	<i>Shukran</i>	Thank you.
Phrase 2	<i>Asante sana.</i>	Thank you very much.
Word 1	<i>Asante</i>	Thank you.
Word 2	<i>sana</i>	very much
Phrase 3	<i>Asante, kwa furaha.</i>	Thank you, gladly.
Word 1	<i>Asante</i>	Thank you
Word 2	<i>kwa furaha</i>	gladly
Phrase 4	<i>Asante kwa kila kitu.</i>	Thanks for everything.
Word 1	<i>Asante</i>	Thank you.
Word 2	<i>kwa</i>	for

CULTURAL INSIGHT

If you're not sure about whether to use *Asante* or *Asante sana*, keeping it simple is always your safest bet. You don't have to worry about formal or informal situations. *Asante* can be used on its own with just about anyone, anywhere, and at any time!

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #4 Asking How Someone Is

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 2 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 3 Cultural Insight

4

SWAHILI

1. Habari yako?
2. Habari zenu?
3. Mzuri, asante.
4. Si salama.

ENGLISH

1. How are you?
2. How are you all?
3. I'm fine. Thank you.
4. Not so well.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
habari	news	noun
yako	yours, my, mine	pronoun
asante	thank you	phrase
salama	safe, wonderful	adverb
zenu	yours	pronoun
mzuri	well	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Nitachukua picha yako. "I will take your photo."	Asante kwa usaidizi wako. "Thank you for your help!"
Asante kukipitisha. "Thank you for passing it over."	Asante Yuki. "Thanks Yuki."
Ukikuja usiku utakuwa salama? "Will you be safe when you come at night?"	

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask and answer the question "How are you?".

	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	<i>Habari yako?</i>	How are you?
Word 1	<i>habari</i>	news
Word 2	<i>yako</i>	your
Phrase 2	<i>Habari zenu?</i>	How are you?
Word 1	<i>Habari</i>	news
Word 2	<i>zenu</i>	yours (plural)
Phrase 3	<i>Mzuri, asante.</i>	I'm fine. Thank you.
Word 1	<i>mzuri</i>	fine
Word 2	<i>asante</i>	thank you
Phrase 4	<i>Si salama.</i>	Not so well.
Word 1	<i>si</i>	not
Word 2	<i>salama</i>	fine

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The word *habari* in Swahili is used as a greeting and to inquire about the condition of someone or something. Remember to always put the thing you are inquiring about after *habari*. For instance, *Habari ya gari lako?* means "How is your car?"

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #5 Making Apologies

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 2 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 3 Cultural Insight

5

SWAHILI

1. Samahani.
2. Kumradhi
3. Sikukusidia.
4. Samahani kwa kuchelewa.

ENGLISH

1. Excuse me.
2. Excuse me. (formal)
3. I didn't mean it.
4. I'm sorry for coming late.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
Samahani.	I'm sorry.	expression
kwa	for	Conjunction
kuchelewa	be late	verb
si	not	adverb
kumradhi	excuse me	phrase
kukusudia	intentional	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

sasa nakutana nawe kwa mara ya pili

"I am now meeting you for the second time"

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to apologise for yourself and say that you didn't do it on purpose or you are sorry.

	Register	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	informal	<i>Samahani.</i>	Excuse me.
Word 1		<i>Samahani.</i>	Excuse me.
Phrase 2	formal	<i>Kumradhi</i>	Excuse me.
Word 1		<i>Kumradhi</i>	Excuse me.
Phrase 3		<i>Sikukusidia.</i>	I didn't mean it.
Word 1		<i>Si</i>	I did not
Word 2		<i>kukusudia</i>	mean it
Phrase 4		<i>Samahani kwa kuchelewa.</i>	I'm sorry for coming late.
Word 1		<i>Samahani</i>	I'm sorry
Word 2		<i>kwa</i>	for
Word 3		<i>kuchelewa</i>	to be late

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Please remember when you're in Kenya, that if you accidentally bump into someone, it's more common to say *Samahani* than "pardon me," which is *Niwe radhi*.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #6

Refusing Politely

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

6

SWAHILI

1. La, asante.
2. Hapana, nashukuru.
3. Samahani, lakini nina shughuli tayari.
4. Niwieradhi, ninamipango tayari.

ENGLISH

1. No, thank you.
2. No, thank you.
3. Sorry, but I already have plans.
4. Sorry, but I already have plans.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
la	no	Interjection
asante	thank you	phrase
Hapana.	No.	verb
nashukuru	I appreciate	verb
Samahani.	I'm sorry.	expression
lakini	but	conjunction
tayari	already	adverb

nina shughuli	I have plans	phrase
Niwieradhi.	I'm so sorry.	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

La, sijui. "No, I don't."	Asante kwa usaidizi wako. "Thank you for your help!"
Asante kukipitisha. "Thank you for passing it over."	Asante Yuki. "Thanks Yuki."
Amina alisema “nashukuru” kwa sababu alifurahia kuja kwa Rehema. "Amina said “I appreciate” because she was happy with Rehema’s visit."	Ninahisi usingizi lakini nilazima nimalize ripoti hii usiku huu. "I'm sleepy but I have to finish this report tonight."
Najua unashughuli. Lakini waweza kumpigia wakili wangu simu? "I know you are busy. But can you call my lawyer?"	Je, mko tayari? "Are you ready?"

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to refuse an invitation politely.

	Register	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	informal	La, asante.	No, thank you.
Word 1		La	No
Word 2		asante	thank you

Phrase 2	formal	<i>Hapana, nashukuru.</i>	No, thank you.
Word 1		<i>Hapana</i>	No
Word 2		<i>nashukuru</i>	thank you
Phrase 3	formal	<i>Samahani, lakini nina shughuli tayari.</i>	Sorry, but I already have plans.
Word 1		<i>Samahani.</i>	Sorry
Word 2		<i>lakini</i>	but
Word 3		<i>nina shughuli</i>	I have plans
Word 4		<i>tayari</i>	already
Phrase 4	formal	<i>Niwieradhi, ninamipango tayari.</i>	Sorry, but I already have plans.
Word 1		<i>Niwieradhi</i>	Sorry
Word 2		<i>ninamipango</i>	I have plans
Word 3		<i>tayari</i>	already

CULTURAL INSIGHT

It is not uncommon for Kenyans to turn down an invitation. Usually, this happens when someone has an appointment or is busy with work. It is often polite to thank the invitee for the invitation and give reasons for not being able to accept the invitation.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #7 Do You Speak English?

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

#7

SWAHILI

1. Unazungumza Kiingereza?
2. La, sizungumzi Kiingereza.
3. Ndio, nazungumza Kiingereza.
4. Lugha yangu ya mama ni Kiswahili.

ENGLISH

1. Do you speak English?
2. No, I don't speak English.
3. Yes, I speak English.
4. My mother tongue is Swahili.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
Kiingereza	English	noun
la	no	Interjection
Ndio.	Yes.	expression
lugha	language	noun
yangu	my, mine	possessive pronoun
ya	of	preposition
mama	mother	noun
ni	am, are, is	auxiliary verb

Kiswahili	Swahili	noun
unazungumza	Do you speak [language]?	phrase
sizungumuzi	I don't speak	phrase
nazungumza	I speak	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Unajua Kiingereza? "Do you know English?"	La, sijui. "No, I don't."
Mayai yangu yameoza. "My eggs are rotten."	Juma ni Rafiki yangu sana tangu hiyo miaka ya zamani. "Juma has been my friend since those many years back".

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask and answer the question "Do you speak English?".

	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	<i>Unazungumza Kiingereza?</i>	Do you speak English?
Word 1	<i>Unazungumza</i>	Do you speak
Word 2	<i>Kiingereza</i>	English
Phrase 2	<i>La, sizungumzi Kiingereza.</i>	No, I don't speak English.
Word 1	<i>La</i>	No
Word 2	<i>sizungumuzi</i>	I don't speak
Word 3	<i>Kiingereza</i>	English

Phrase 3	<i>Ndio, nazungumza Kiingereza.</i>	Yes, I speak English.
Word 1	<i>Ndio</i>	Yes
Word 2	<i>nazungumza</i>	I speak
Word 3	<i>Kiingereza</i>	English
Phrase 4	<i>Lugha yangu ya mama ni Kiswahili.</i>	My mother tongue is Swahili.
Word 1	<i>lugha</i>	language
Word 2	<i>yangu</i>	my
Word 3	<i>ya mama</i>	of mother
Word 4	<i>ni</i>	is

CULTURAL INSIGHT

For those of you who speak languages other than English, this question still works. Just substitute *Kiingereza* with a different language. Here are some examples: *Kihispania* is "Spanish," *Kijerumani* is "German," *Kitallia* is "Italian."

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #8 Talking About Your Age

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 2 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

8

SWAHILI

1. Una miaka mingapi?
2. Una umri gani?
3. Ninamiaka kumi na saba (17).
4. Ninapendelea nisiseme.

ENGLISH

1. How old are you?
2. How old are you? (formal)
3. I am 17.
4. I prefer not to say.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
una	have	verb
miaka	year, years	noun
mingapi	how many	phrase
kumi na saba	seventeen	noun
umri	age	noun
gani	what	pronoun
ninapendelea	I prefer	phrase
nisiseme	not to say	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Unapesa ya kutosha ya kuzuru sehemu tofauti za watalii. "Do you have enough money to visit different tourist areas?"	Kenya imefikisha miaka hamsini tangu ipate uhuru. "It has been fifty years since Kenya got its independence."
Nina miaka ishiri na saba mwaka huu. "I am 27 years this year."	Kulingana na bibilia, Yesu alifanya miujiza mingapi? "According to the bible, how many miracles did Jesus perform?"

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask someone's age and to say your own.

	Register	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	informal	<i>Una miaka mingapi?</i>	How old are you?
Word 1		<i>Una</i>	to have
Word 2		<i>miaka</i>	years
Word 3		<i>mingapi</i>	how many
Phrase 2	formal	<i>Una umri gani?</i>	How old are you?
Word 1		<i>Una</i>	to have
Word 2		<i>umri</i>	age
Word 3		<i>gani</i>	what
Phrase 3		<i>Ninamiaka kumi na saba (17).</i>	I am 17.
Word 1		<i>Ninamiaka</i>	I have years

Word 2	<i>kumi na saba (17).</i>	seventeen
Phrase 4	<i>Ninapendelea nisiseme.</i>	I prefer not to say.
Word 1	<i>Ninapendelea</i>	I prefer
Word 2	<i>nisiseme</i>	not to say

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Age is a sensitive topic for Kenyans and it may be rude to ask someone their age. It is common for people to be asked their age in the hospital. Job applicants are required to give their age and usually this is indicated in the resume. Knowing the history of someone, such as when he started and finished school, can give a hint to someone's age and, of course, you can create an atmosphere where one can be comfortable to say their age. It only calls for wisdom.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #9 Using Adjectives

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

9

SWAHILI

1. Mimi ni mpole.
2. Yeye ni mtulivu.
3. Sisi ni hodari.
4. Wewe ni mwerevu.

ENGLISH

1. I am kind.
2. He is quiet.
3. We are powerful.
4. You are wise.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
Mimi	I	Pronoun
ni	am, are, is	auxiliary verb
mpole	polite	adjective
yeye	he	pronoun
wewe	you	Pronoun
mwerevu	clever	adjective
sisi	we	pronoun
mtulivu	quiet	adjective

hodari	powerful	adjective
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SAMPLE SENTENCES

Mimi ni Maria. "I'm Maria."	Yeye aliwalisha vifaranga leo asubuhi. "He fed the chickens this morning."
Wewe unaalikwa. "You are invited."	"Wewe uliniangusha" "You made me fall down."

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to use adjectives in simple sentences.

	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	<i>Mimi ni mpole.</i>	I am kind.
Word 1	<i>mimi</i>	I
Word 2	<i>ni</i>	am
Word 3	<i>mpole</i>	kind
Phrase 2	<i>Yeye ni mtulivu.</i>	He is quiet.
Word 1	<i>yeye</i>	He or she
Word 2	<i>ni</i>	is
Word 3	<i>mtulivu</i>	quiet
Phrase 3	<i>Sisi ni hodari.</i>	We are powerful.
Word 1	<i>Sisi</i>	We
Word 2	<i>ni</i>	are

Word 3	<i>hodari</i>	powerful
Phrase 4	<i>Wewe ni mwerevu.</i>	You are wise.
Word 1	<i>Wewe</i>	You
Word 2	<i>ni</i>	are
Word 3	<i>mwerevu</i>	wise

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Learning Swahili adjectives is important because they are used in daily conversation. Just remember that unlike in English, where the adjective doesn't change, in Swahili it has to agree with the noun class!

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #10

Asking How Much Something Costs

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Grammar
- 5 Cultural Insight

10

SWAHILI

1. Unauzaje?
2. Hii ni pesa ngapi?
3. Sawa, nitaichukua.
4. Hapana, asante. Ni ghali sana.

ENGLISH

1. Are you selling?
2. How much does this cost?
3. OK, I'll take it.
4. No, thank you. It's too expensive.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
unauza	sell	verb
je	do you	phrase, pronoun
hii	this	noun, determiner
ni	am, are, is	auxiliary verb
pesa	money	noun
ngapi	how much, how many	phrase
sawa	ok	Interjection
Hapana.	No.	verb

asante	thank you	phrase
ghali	expensive	adjective
sana	very	adverb
nitaichukua	I'll take it	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Unauza nini? "What are you selling?"	Ali, je una baiskeli? "Ali, do you have a bicycle?"
Nyanya yangu alinipa hii. "My grandmother gave me this."	Unakulaje hii? "How do you eat this food?"
Hii saa tafadhali. "This one please."	Nahitaji pesa. "I need money."
Alichukua vitu ngapi? "How many things did he pick?"	Sawa, nitaenda. "OK, I'll go."
sawa. nitakunywa chai pia. "Ok. I will take tea too."	Asante kwa usaidizi wako. "Thank you for your help!"
Asante kukipitisha. "Thank you for passing it over."	Asante Yuki. "Thanks Yuki."
Alinunua mvinyo ghali zaidi kutoka kwa duka la mvinyo. "He got the most expensive wine in the liquor shop."	Ni ghali kuishi Tokyo. "It is expensive to live in Tokyo."
Gari hilo ni ghali sana; sitalinunua. "That car is too expensive; I won't buy it."	Kitabu hiki ni ghali sana. "This book is very expensive."

Mpwa wangu ni mtundu sana ukilinganisha na mtoto wa miaka yake.

"My nephew is pretty cheeky for a child of his age."

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask how much something costs.

	Register	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	informal	<i>Unauzaje?</i>	How much are you selling? (Lit. Are you selling?)
Word 1		<i>unauza</i>	you sell
Word 2		<i>je</i>	question marker
Phrase 2		<i>Hii ni pesa ngapi?</i>	How much does this cost?
Word 1		<i>hii</i>	this
Word 2		<i>ni</i>	is
Word 3		<i>pesa</i>	money
Word 4		<i>ngapi</i>	how much
Phrase 3		<i>Sawa, nitaichukua.</i>	OK, I'll take it.
Word 1		<i>sawa</i>	ok
Word 2		<i>nitaichukua</i>	I'll take it
Phrase 4		<i>Hapana, asante. Ni ghali sana.</i>	No, thank you. It's too expensive.
Word 1		<i>hapana</i>	no
Word 2		<i>asante</i>	thanks

Word 3	<i>ni</i>	is
Word 4	<i>ghali</i>	expensive

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Credit and debit cards are not commonly used in Kenya, but you can double-check by asking the following question-*naweza lipa kwa kadi ya kredit?* meaning "Can I pay by credit card?"

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #11

How to Read Prices

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 2 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 3 Cultural Insight

11

SWAHILI

1. Shilingi moja.
2. Shilingi kumi.
3. Shilingi hamsini na tano.
4. Shilingi ishirini na sita na senti sabini.

ENGLISH

1. One shilling.
2. Ten shillings.
3. Fifty-five shillings.
4. Twenty-six shillings and seventy cents.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
shilingi	shillings	noun
moja	one	noun
kumi	ten	noun
hamsini na tano	fifty-five	numeral
senti sabini	seventy cents	phrase
na	and	conjunction
ishirini na sita	twenty-six	numeral

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Nipe shilingi moja kwa kila peremende. "Give me one shilling for each candy."	Inagharimu shilingi kumi tu. "It costs ten shillings only."
---	---

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to read prices.

	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	<i>Shilingi moja.</i>	One shilling.
Word 1	<i>shilingi</i>	shilling
Word 2	<i>moja</i>	one
Phrase 2	<i>Shilingi kumi.</i>	Ten shillings.
Word 1	<i>shilingi</i>	shillings
Word 2	<i>kumi</i>	ten
Phrase 3	<i>Shilingi hamsini na tano.</i>	Fifty-five shillings.
Word 1	<i>shilingi</i>	shilling
Word 2	<i>hamsini</i>	fifty
Word 3	<i>na tano</i>	and five
Phrase 4	<i>Shilingi ishirini na sita na senti sabini.</i>	Twenty-six shillings and seventy cents.
Word 1	<i>shilingi</i>	shillings
Word 2	<i>ishirini na sita</i>	twenty-six
Word 3	<i>na</i>	and
Word 4	<i>senti sabini</i>	seventy cents

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Kenyan currency is in shillings. Since the amount is the same as the names of the numerals, it is easy to say the amount in Swahili. Just add *shilingi* before the amount.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #12

Asking What Someone is Doing

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 2 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

12

SWAHILI

1. Unafanya nini?
2. Wewe unafanya nini?
3. Ninasoma.
4. Sifanyi jambo lolote spesheli.

ENGLISH

1. What are you doing?
2. What are you doing?
3. I am studying.
4. I'm doing nothing special.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
unafanya	doing	verb
nini	what	pronoun
wewe	you	Pronoun
jambo	issue	Noun
spesheli	special	adverb
ninasoma	I am studying	phrase
sifanyi	I'm not doing	phrase
lolote	any	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Unaongea kuhusu nini? "What are you talking about?"	Unataka nikupatie nini? "What do you want me to give to you?"
Wewe unaalikwa. "You are invited."	"Wewe uliniangusha" "You made me fall down."
Unapunguzo spesheli yeyote leo? "Do you have any special discounts today?"	

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask and answer the question What are you doing?.

	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	<i>Unafanya nini?</i>	What are you doing?
Word 1	<i>Unafanya</i>	You are doing
Word 2	<i>nini</i>	what
Phrase 2	<i>Wewe unafanya nini?</i>	What are you doing?
Word 1	<i>wewe</i>	you
Word 2	<i>unafanya</i>	you are doing
Word 3	<i>nini</i>	what
Phrase 3	<i>Ninasoma.</i>	I am studying.
Word 1	<i>ninasoma</i>	I am studying
Phrase 4	<i>Sifanyi jambo lolote spesheli.</i>	I'm doing nothing special.
Word 1	<i>sifanyi</i>	I'm not doing
Word 2	<i>jambo</i>	issue

Word 3	<i>lolote</i>	any
Word 4	<i>spesheli</i>	special

CULTURAL INSIGHT

"What are you doing?" is a common question asked to find out whether a person is busy before suggesting something else for them to do. You can use it when you are bored and want someone to talk to or go shopping with you or do a task.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #13

Who Is It?

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 2 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

13

SWAHILI

1. Ni nani?
2. Yule ni nani?
3. Ni mimi.
4. Yule ni rafiki yangu.

ENGLISH

1. Who is it?
2. Who is that?
3. It's me.
4. That is a friend of mine.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
ni	am, are, is	auxiliary verb
nani	who	pronoun
mimi	me	pronoun
rafiki	friend	noun
yangu	my, mine	possessive pronoun
yule	that	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Sijali ni nani anapiga simu, huwezi kutumia simu hapa.</p> <p>"I don't care who is calling, you cannot use the phone here."</p>	<p>Mimi ni mzalendo wa Kenya.</p> <p>"I am a Kenyan citizen."</p>
<p>Rafiki ya mpenzi wako ni rafiki yako.</p> <p>"Your lover's friend is your friend."</p>	<p>Amekuwa rafiki yangu kwa miaka ishirini.</p> <p>"He has been my friend for twenty years."</p>
<p>Rafiki yangu mpendwa na mimi huenda kila mahali pamoja.</p> <p>"My best friend and I go everywhere together."</p>	<p>Alikuwa rafiki yangu mpaka wakati nilipandishwa cheo badala yake.</p> <p>"She was a friend of mine until I got the promotion instead of her."</p>
<p>Rafiki yangu alinipa zawadi maalum.</p> <p>"My friend gave me a special gift."</p>	<p>Tumepanga kukwea milima ya Ngong katika likizo ya pasaka pamoja na marafiki zangu.</p> <p>"My friends and I are planning for a hike in the Gong hills during the Easter holiday."</p>
<p>Nilimuuliza rafiki yangu Wanjiku kama alikuwa ananikumbuka pia kwa sababu nilimkumbuka vyema kabisa.</p> <p>"I asked my friend Wanjiku whether she remembered me too because I remembered her too well."</p>	<p>Mayai yangu yameoza.</p> <p>"My eggs are rotten."</p>
<p>Juma ni Rafiki yangu sana tangu hiyo miaka ya zamani.</p> <p>"Juma has been my friend since those many years back".</p>	

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask who it is.

	Register	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	informal	<i>Ni nani?</i>	Who is it?
Word 1		<i>Ni</i>	is
Word 2		<i>nani</i>	who
Phrase 2	formal	<i>Yule ni nani?</i>	Who is that?
Word 1		<i>Yule</i>	that (person)
Word 2		<i>ni</i>	is
Word 3		<i>nani</i>	who
Phrase 3	formal	<i>Ni mimi.</i>	It's me.
Word 1		<i>Ni</i>	is
Word 2		<i>mimi</i>	me
Phrase 4	formal	<i>Yule ni rafiki yangu.</i>	That is a friend of mine.
Word 1		<i>yule</i>	that
Word 2		<i>ni</i>	is
Word 3		<i>rafiki</i>	friend
Word 4		<i>yangu</i>	mine

CULTURAL INSIGHT

You can ask *Ni nani?* which means "Who is there?" when you get a knock on your door, and you want to know who it is.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #14 When Are You Leaving?

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

14

SWAHILI

1. Unaondoka lini?
2. Utasafiri lini?
3. Nitaondoka kwa karibu masaa mbili.
4. Nitaondoka wiki kesho.

ENGLISH

1. When are you leaving?
2. When are you travelling?
3. I leave in two hours.
4. I leave next week.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
lini	when	adverb, pronoun
kwa	by	preposition
karibu	nearby	adverb, adjective
masaa	time	noun
mbili	two	noun
wiki	week	noun
kesho	tomorrow	noun
unaondoka	you leave	phrase

utasafiri	you will travel	phrase
nitaondoka	I would leave	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Lini mchezo wa kandanda unaanza? "When does the football game start?"	Kuna jumba kuu la kupendeza hapa karibu. "There is a big beautiful building nearby."
Kuna duka hapa karibu? "Is there a shop nearby?"	Sasa ni masaa ya kukula kiamsha kinywa. "Now it is time to have breakfast."
Nitajaribu nikuone wiki kesho. "I will try to check on you next week."	Tutakutana kesho. "We will meet tomorrow."

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask when someone is leaving.

	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	<i>Unaondoka lini?</i>	When are you leaving?
Word 1	<i>unaondoka</i>	you leave
Word 2	<i>lini</i>	when
Phrase 2	<i>Utasafiri lini?</i>	When are you travelling?
Word 1	<i>utasafiri</i>	you will travel
Word 2	<i>lini</i>	when

Phrase 3	<i>Nitaondoka kwa karibu masaa mbili.</i>	I leave in two hours.
Word 1	<i>nitaondoka</i>	I would leave
Word 2	<i>kwa</i>	by
Word 3	<i>karibu</i>	about
Word 4	<i>masaa</i>	hours
Word 5	<i>mbili</i>	two
Phrase 4	<i>Nitaondoka wiki kesho.</i>	I leave next week.
Word 1	<i>nitaondoka</i>	I would leave
Word 2	<i>wiki</i>	week
Word 3	<i>kesho</i>	tomorrow

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Knowing when someone is leaving, or how long the person is staying is essential in order to make plans. It is generally fine to ask about it. As we just learned, in Swahili this will be *Unaondoka lini?*

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #15

Where Are You Going?

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 2 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

15

SWAHILI

1. Unaenda wapi?
2. Unaenda?
3. Ninaenda kwa supamaketi.
4. Ninaenda kazini.

ENGLISH

1. Where are you going?
2. Where are you going? (informal)
3. I'm going to the supermarket.
4. I'm going to work.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
wapi	where	adverb, pronoun
kwa	for	Conjunction
supamaketi	supermarket	noun
unaenda	you are going	phrase
ninaenda	I'm going	phrase
kazini	work	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Unaenda wapi kesho? "Where are you going tomorrow night?"	Benki liko wapi? "Where is the bank?"
Bafu lililoko karibu liko wapi? "Where is the nearest bathroom around here?"	sasa nakutana nawe kwa mara ya pili "I am now meeting you for the second time"
Supamaketi imekuwa njia bora ya kununua vitu vingi kwa wakati mmoja. "Supermarkets are convenient for buying many products at once."	

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask where someone is going.

	Register	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	formal	<i>Unaenda wapi?</i>	Where are you going?
Word 1		<i>unaenda</i>	you are going
Word 2		<i>wapi</i>	where
Phrase 2	informal	<i>Unaenda?</i>	Where are you going?
Word 1		<i>unaenda</i>	you are going
Phrase 3		<i>Ninaenda kwa supamaketi.</i>	I'm going to the supermarket.
Word 1		<i>ninaenda</i>	I'm going
Word 2		<i>kwa</i>	to
Word 3		<i>supamaketi</i>	supermarket

Phrase 4	<i>Ninaenda kazini.</i>	I'm going to work.
Word 1	<i>ninaenda</i>	I'm going
Word 2	<i>kazini</i>	to work

CULTURAL INSIGHT

In Kenya, a single public vehicle can pick up many customers. So when you stop a public car that is not empty, you can ask him where he is going in order to decide whether you want to take it or wait for another one. You can use the same phrase we just learned, *Unaenda wapi?*

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #16

Asking Directions

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 2 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

16

SWAHILI

1. Stesheni iko wapi?
2. Enda wima.
3. Geuka kulia.
4. Geuka kushoto.

ENGLISH

1. Where is the station?
2. Go straight.
3. Turn right.
4. Turn left.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
stesheni	station	noun
iko	is	auxiliary verb
wapi	where	adverb, pronoun
wima	straight	noun
geuka	turn	verb
kulia	right	noun
kushoto	left	noun
enda	go	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Unaenda wapi kesho? "Where are you going tomorrow night?"	Benki liko wapi? "Where is the bank?"
Bafu lililoko karibu liko wapi? "Where is the nearest bathroom around here?"	Enda wima kwa takriban dakika tano. "Go straight for approximately five minutes."
Utageuka mara mbili kushoto. "You will turn to the left twice."	Ukifika pale, pitia njia iliyo katika kulia kwako. "When you get there use the path on your right."
Duka la dawa liko upande wa kulia. "A pharmacy is on your left."	Ukifika pale pitia tumia njia ya kushoto. "When you get there, use the left road."
Gueuka kushoto kwenye duka la dawa. "Turn left at the pharmacy."	

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask and understand basic directions.

	<i>Swahili</i>	English
Phrase 1	<i>Stesheni iko wapi?</i>	Where is the station?
Word 1	<i>stesheni</i>	station
Word 2	<i>iko</i>	is
Word 3	<i>wapi</i>	where
Phrase 2	<i>Enda wima.</i>	Go straight.
Word 1	<i>enda</i>	go

Word 2	<i>wima</i>	straight
Phrase 3	<i>Geuka kulia.</i>	Turn right.
Word 1	<i>geuka</i>	turn
Word 2	<i>kulia</i>	right
Phrase 4	<i>Geuka kushoto.</i>	Turn left.
Word 1	<i>geuka</i>	turn
Word 2	<i>kushoto</i>	left

CULTURAL INSIGHT

These are some of the most important sentences when travelling. Kenyans in general are very helpful to tourists in that aspect, and they would do their best to give you directions.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #17

Why?

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

17

SWAHILI

1. Mbona umechelewa?
2. Nilikosa treni.
3. Mbona unaondoka mapema?
4. Kutokosa treni.

ENGLISH

1. Why are you late?
2. I missed the train.
3. Why do you leave so early?
4. To not miss the train.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
mbona	why	adverb
treni	train	noun
mapema	premature	adjective
kosa	to fail (to do something)	verb
nilikosa	I missed	phrase
kuto	not to	phrase
umechelewa	you are late	sentence
nazipenda	I like them	sentence

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Treni lifuatalo kwenda London litawasili kwa dakika thelathini. "The next train to London will arrive in thirty minutes."	Treni mpya ya kuenda hadi Kismayu inastarehe. "The new train that goes to Kismayu is comfortable."
Treni imejaa pomoni. "The train is very full."	Ilikuwa mapema kwa Wajerumani kushambulia Uingereza bila maandalizi ya kutosha wakati wa vita vya kwanza vya dunia. "It was premature for the Germans to attack Britain without adequate preparations during the First World War."
Nilikosa kuripoti afisini kwa wakati oliofaa. "I failed to report to the office in time."	

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask and answer why.

	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	<i>Mbona umechelewa?</i>	Why are you late?
Word 1	<i>mbona</i>	why
Word 2	<i>umechelewa</i>	you are late
Phrase 2	<i>Nilikosa treni.</i>	I missed the train.
Word 1	<i>nilikosa</i>	I missed
Word 2	<i>treni</i>	the train

Phrase 3	<i>Mbona unaondoka mapema?</i>	Why do you leave so early?
Word 1	<i>mbona</i>	why
Word 2	<i>unaondoka</i>	you leave
Word 3	<i>mapema</i>	early
Phrase 4	<i>Kutokosa treni</i>	To not miss the train.
Word 1	<i>kuto</i>	to not
Word 2	<i>kosa</i>	miss
Word 3	<i>treni</i>	the train

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Just like in English, "Why not?" can also have a positive meaning, for example if you are invited to a party and after a moment of thinking you respond "Sure, why not!". In the same way, in Swahili you can just answer *Mbona sivyo!*

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #18

Possession

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 2 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

18

SWAHILI

1. Unakalamu?
2. Nisaidie na kalamu.
3. Ndio, ninayo.
4. Ndio, hii hapa.

ENGLISH

1. Do you have a pen?
2. Help me with a pen.
3. Yes, I have one.
4. Yes, here you are.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
una	you have	phrase
kalamu	pen	noun
Nisaidie!	Help!	expression
Ndio	yes	expression
hii	this	noun, determiner
hapa	here	adverb
ninayo	I have	phrase
na	and	conjunction

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Nina kalamu tayari. "I already have a pen."	Nyanya yangu alinipa hii. "My grandmother gave me this."
Unakulaje hii? "How do you eat this food?"	Hii saa tafadhali. "This one please."
Vitabu zote ziko hapa. "All the books are here."	Kuna benki kadhaa hapa. "There are several banks around here."
Nasimama hapa. "I am stopping here."	Usitupe takataka hapa. "Do not litter here."

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to talk about possession.

	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	<i>Unakalamu?</i>	Do you have a pen?
Word 1	<i>una</i>	you have
Word 2	<i>kalamu</i>	pen
Phrase 2	<i>Nisaidie na kalamu.</i>	Help me with a pen.
Word 1	<i>nisaidie</i>	help me
Word 2	<i>na</i>	with
Word 3	<i>kalamu</i>	pen
Phrase 3	<i>Ndio, ninayo.</i>	Yes, I have one.
Word 1	<i>ndio</i>	yes
Word 2	<i>ninayo</i>	I have
Phrase 4	<i>Ndio, hii hapa.</i>	Yes, here you are.

Word 1	<i>ndio</i>	yes
Word 2	<i>hii</i>	this
Word 3	<i>hapa</i>	here

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Borrowing things from people is very common. For example, in small places Kenyans usually socialize with their neighbors a lot, often so much that they borrow stuff from each other. *Nisaidie na* followed by the name of the item comes handy in such situations.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #19

Using Negation

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 2 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 3 Cultural Insight

19

SWAHILI

1. Sina kalamu.
2. Sina wakati.
3. Sijui.
4. Sielewi.

ENGLISH

1. I don't have a pen.
2. I don't have time.
3. I don't know.
4. I don't understand.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
sina	I don't have	phrase
kalamu	pen	noun
wakati	time	Noun
si	not	adverb
jui	know	verb
elewi	understand	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Sina hata kalamu. "I don't even have a pen."	Nina kalamu tayari. "I already have a pen."
Wakati wa uwekezaji umefika. "The time for investing has come."	Alienda shuleni wakati wa asubuhi kama saa mbili hivi. "He went to school at eight in the morning."
Mchezo wako uko wakati gani? "What time is your play?"	Huu ni wakati wa kukula chakula cha mchana. "It is now time for eating lunch."

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to state essential negative statements.

	<i>Swahili</i>	English
Phrase 1	<i>Sina kalamu.</i>	I don't have a pen.
Word 1	<i>sina</i>	I don't have
Word 2	<i>kalamu</i>	pen
Phrase 2	<i>Sina wakati.</i>	I don't have time.
Word 1	<i>sina</i>	I don't have
Word 2	<i>wakati</i>	time
Phrase 3	<i>Sijui.</i>	I don't know.
Word 1	<i>si</i>	I don't
Word 2	<i>jui</i>	know
Phrase 4	<i>Sielewi.</i>	I don't understand.
Word 1	<i>si</i>	I don't
Word 2	<i>elewi</i>	understand

CULTURAL INSIGHT

In Swahili, negative phrases follow a certain pattern. In this lesson we saw the negation marker *si-* an equivalent of the English "I don't..." which is used when talking about oneself.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #20 Talking about Your Likes

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 2 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

20

SWAHILI

1. Je, unapenda chokoleti?
2. Je, unapenda peremende?
3. Ndio, naipenda.
4. Ndio, nazipenda.

ENGLISH

1. Do you like chocolate?
2. Do you like sweets?
3. Yes I like it.
4. Yes I like them.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
je	do you	phrase, pronoun
chokoleti	chocolate	noun
peremende	sweet	noun
ndio	yes	Interjection
Naipenda.	I like it.	expression
unapenda	you like	phrase
nazipenda	I like them	sentence

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ali, je una baiskeli? "Ali, do you have a bicycle?"	Watu wengine hawawezi kuishi bila chokoleti. "Some people just can't live without chocolate."
"Ndio, unaweza chukua simu uongee lakini siku nyingine uzime simu yako ukiwa kwa darasa" "Yes, you may receive your call but next time, remember to switch it off during classes. "	Ndio, najua. "Yes, I know."

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask and answer affirmatively to the question.

	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	<i>Je, unapenda chokoleti?</i>	Do you like chocolate?
Word 1	<i>je</i>	question indicator
Word 2	<i>unapenda</i>	you like
Word 3	<i>chokoleti</i>	chocolate
Phrase 2	<i>Je, unapenda peremende?</i>	Do you like sweets?
Word 1	<i>je</i>	question indicator
Word 2	<i>unapenda</i>	you like
Word 3	<i>peremende</i>	sweets
Phrase 3	<i>Ndio, naipenda.</i>	Yes I like it.
Word 1	<i>ndio</i>	yes
Word 2	<i>naipenda</i>	I like it

Phrase 4	<i>Ndio, nazipenda.</i>	Yes I like them.
Word 1	<i>ndio</i>	Yes
Word 2	<i>nazipenda</i>	I like them

CULTURAL INSIGHT

You can use the same verb introduced in this lesson to declare your love to someone. You just have to say *Nakupenda* which means "I love you."

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #21 Talking about Your Dislikes

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 2 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

21

SWAHILI

1. Sipendi hii.
2. Sipendi kungoja.
3. Nachukia hii.
4. Nachukia kungoja.

ENGLISH

1. I don't like this.
2. I don't like waiting.
3. I hate this.
4. I hate waiting.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
sipendi	I don't like..	phrase
hii	this	noun, determiner
kungoja	to wait	verb
nachukia	I hate	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Sipendi kutembea kwa miguu kwa hivyo nitahitaji gari la kunizungusha humu mjini.</p> <p>"I do not like to walk on foot, so I will need a vehicle to take me around town."</p>	<p>Nyanya yangu alinipa hii.</p> <p>"My grandmother gave me this."</p>
<p>Unakulaje hii?</p> <p>"How do you eat this food?"</p>	<p>Hii saa tafadhali.</p> <p>"This one please."</p>
<p>Unaweza ngojea orodha yako kwa masiku mengine kadhaa? Nikokaribu kuimaliza.</p> <p>"Can you wait for your invoice a couple of days more? I have it almost ready."</p>	<p>Nachukia kukungoja kwa masaa!</p> <p>"I hate waiting for you for hours!"</p>

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to say that you don't like something.

	<i>Swahili</i>	English
Phrase 1	<i>Sipendi hii.</i>	I don't like this.
Word 1	<i>sipendi</i>	I don't like
Word 2	<i>hii</i>	this
Phrase 2	<i>Sipendi kungoja.</i>	I don't like waiting.
Word 1	<i>sipendi</i>	I don't like
Word 2	<i>kungoja</i>	waiting
Phrase 3	<i>Nachukia hii.</i>	I hate this.
Word 1	<i>nachukia</i>	I hate
Word 2	<i>hii</i>	this

Phrase 4	<i>Nachukia kungoja.</i>	I hate waiting.
Word 1	<i>nachukia</i>	I hate
Word 2	<i>kungoja</i>	to wait

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Some situations demand that you be open to your feelings and say it out loud. In normal conversations with friends, Kenyans will outrightly say their dislikes. But when receiving a gift that you don't like, it is polite to take it anyway. You can always give it to someone else later!

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #22

Ordering at a Restaurant

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 2 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

22

SWAHILI

1. Naweza tazama menyu?
2. Unasifia gani?
3. Kahawa kwangu mimi.
4. Ningelipenda kahawa.

ENGLISH

1. Can I see the menu?
2. What do you recommend?
3. A coffee for me.
4. I would like a coffee. (formal)

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
naweza	can I	phrase
tazama	facing	phrase
menyu	menu	noun
gani	what	pronoun
kahawa	coffee	noun
Mimi	I	Pronoun
Ningelipenda.	I would like	phrase
kwangu	to me	pronoun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Naweza pata wapi simu? "Where can I find a pay phone."	Naweza kuchukua kwa shilingi tano. "Can I get it with five shillings?"
Tafadhali nipe menu. "Give me the menu please."	Niongezee kikombe kimoja cha kahawa tafadhali. "Add a cup of coffee please."
Niongezee kikombe kimoja cha kahawa tafadhali. "Add one cup of coffee for me, please."	Siwezi kuanza siku bila kahawa. "I can't start the day without coffee."
Niongezee kikombe kimoja cha kahawa tafadhali. "Add me a cup of coffee please."	Mimi ni Maria. "I'm Maria."
Ningelipenda kuhifadhi nafasi. "I would like to make a reservation."	

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to order at a restaurant or coffee shop.

Register	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	<i>Naweza tazama menyu?</i>	Can I see the menu?
Word 1	<i>naweza</i>	Can I
Word 2	<i>tazama</i>	see
Word 3	<i>menyu</i>	menu
Phrase 2	<i>Unasifia gani?</i>	What do you recommend?
Word 1	<i>unasifia</i>	you recommend

Word 2		<i>gani</i>	what
Phrase 3	informal	<i>Kahawa kwangu mimi.</i>	A coffee for me.
Word 1		<i>kahawa</i>	coffee
Word 2		<i>kwangu</i>	to me
Word 3		<i>mimi</i>	I
Phrase 4	formal	<i>Ningelipenda kahawa.</i>	I would like a coffee.
Word 1		<i>ningeli</i>	I would
Word 2		<i>penda</i>	like
Word 3		<i>kahawa</i>	coffee

CULTURAL INSIGHT

In a busy Kenyan restaurant, you may have to call the waiter by saying *Tafadhali*, meaning "Excuse me," or *Bwana*, meaning "Sir." Sometimes people shout the name "Chef" to attract the attention of the waiters. In case there are any around, you can beckon with your palm facing downwards.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #23

Asking for the Bill

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Grammar
- 5 Cultural Insight

23

SWAHILI

1. Unawezaleta kadirio, tafadhali?
2. Naweza lipa wapi kadirio?
3. Samahani, chenji si sawa.
4. Weka chenji.

ENGLISH

1. Can you bring the bill, please?
2. Where can I pay the bill?
3. Excuse me, the change is wrong.
4. Keep the change.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
tafadhali	please	Interjection
naweza	can I	phrase
lipa	pay	verb
wapi	where	adverb, pronoun
samahani	sorry	interjection, phrase
si	not	adverb
sawa	all right	adverb, expression
weka	keep	verb

kadirio	bill	noun
chenji	change	noun
unawezaleta	can you bring	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Tafadhali usirudi kuingia afisini kama umechelewa.</p> <p>"Please don't come into the office late."</p>	<p>Tafadhali nielekeze kwa afisi ya mkuu wa kijiji</p> <p>"Please direct me to the chief's office."</p>
<p>"Tafadhali nisamehe, najua nimekosa."</p> <p>"Please forgive me, I know I am wrong."</p>	<p>Waweza kukisema tena tafadhali?</p> <p>"Can you say that again, please?"</p>
<p>Hii saa tafadhali.</p> <p>"This one please."</p>	<p>Naweza pata wapi simu?</p> <p>"Where can I find a pay phone."</p>
<p>Naweza kuchukua kwa shilingi tano.</p> <p>"Can I get it with five shillings?"</p>	<p>Nitalipa kwa pesa taslimu.</p> <p>"I will pay by cash."</p>
<p>Unaenda wapi kesho?</p> <p>"Where are you going tomorrow night?"</p>	<p>Benki liko wapi?</p> <p>"Where is the bank?"</p>
<p>Bafu lililoko karibu liko wapi?</p> <p>"Where is the nearest bathroom around here?"</p>	<p>Samahani, siwezi kwenda na wewe.</p> <p>"Sorry, I can't go with you."</p>

<p>Samahani lakini sitaweza kuhudhuria arusi yako kwa sababu zisizoepukika.</p> <p>"I am sorry but I will not be able to attend your wedding due to unavoidable circumstances."</p>	<p>Sawa. Tutatengeneza mpango mpya.</p> <p>"All right. We'll make a new plan."</p>
<p>Sio sawa kumpiga mtoto kila mara.</p> <p>"It is not alright to beat up a child all the time."</p>	

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask for the bill and check the change.

	<i>Swahili</i>	English
Phrase 1	<i>Unawezaleta kadirio, tafadhali?</i>	Can you bring the bill, please?
Word 1	<i>unawezaleta</i>	can you bring
Word 2	<i>kadirio</i>	bill
Word 3	<i>tafadhali</i>	please
Phrase 2	<i>Naweza lipa wapi kadirio?</i>	Where can I pay the bill?
Word 1	<i>naweza</i>	Can I
Word 2	<i>lipa</i>	pay
Word 3	<i>wapi</i>	where
Word 4	<i>kadirio</i>	bill
Phrase 3	<i>Samahani, chenji si sawa.</i>	Excuse me, the change is wrong.
Word 1	<i>samahani</i>	excuse me
Word 2	<i>chenji</i>	change

Word 3	<i>si</i>	not
Word 4	<i>sawa</i>	right
Phrase 4	<i>Weka chenji.</i>	Keep the change.
Word 1	<i>weka</i>	keep
Word 2	<i>chenji</i>	change

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Restaurant staff in Kenya earn low wages and so many also rely on tips. It is upon an individual to tip whatever you want, usually depending on the service you get. It is advisable to tip in Kenyan shillings because it can be difficult to change to foreign currency.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #24 Offering an Invitation

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

24

SWAHILI

1. Unashughuli usiku wa Ijumaa?
2. Unafanya nini usiku wa Ijumaa?
3. Ninaenda kuona sinema.
4. Utaambatana nasi?

ENGLISH

1. Do you have plans on Friday night?
2. Do you have plans on Friday night? (informal)
3. I'm going to the movies.
4. Will you join us?

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
usiku	night	noun
Ijumaa	Friday	noun
unafanya	doing	verb
nini	what	pronoun
kuona	to watch	verb
sinema	movie	noun
nasi	us	pronoun
unashughuli	you have plans	phrase

wa	of	preposition
ninaenda	I'm going	phrase
utaambatana	you will join	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Unampango upi Ijumaa hii usiku? "What's your plan for this Friday night?"	Mzinduo wa rais wa Amerika ulifanyika Ijumaa. "The inauguration ceremony for the American president was on a Friday."
Unaongea kuhusu nini? "What are you talking about?"	Unataka nikupatie nini? "What do you want me to give to you?"
Mimi huona habari ya runinga saa tatu jioni. "I usually watch the news at nine p.m."	Hatujaona sinema mzuri tangu shule ya upili. "We haven't watched a good movie since high school."
Yuko kwenye sinema mpya ya Woody Allen. "He's in the new Woody Allen movie."	Kuna sinema nyingi sana hadi ukashindwa utatazama ngani. "There are so many movies that it's difficult to decide which movie to watch."

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to invite someone out.

	Register	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	formal	Unashughuli usiku wa Ijumaa?	Do you have plans on Friday night?

Word 1		<i>unashughuli</i>	you have plans
Word 2		<i>usiku</i>	night
Word 3		<i>wa</i>	of
Word 4		<i>Ijumaa</i>	Friday
Phrase 2	informal	<i>Unafanya nini usiku wa Ijumaa?</i>	Do you have plans on Friday night?
Word 1		<i>unafanya</i>	you are doing
Word 2		<i>nini</i>	what
Word 3		<i>usiku</i>	night
Word 4		<i>wa</i>	of
Word 5		<i>Ijumaa</i>	Friday
Phrase 3		<i>Ninaenda kuona sinema.</i>	I'm going to the movies. (lit.) I'm going to watch a movie.
Word 1		<i>ninaenda</i>	I'm going
Word 2		<i>kuona</i>	to watch
Word 3		<i>sinema</i>	movie
Phrase 4		<i>Utaambatana nasi?</i>	Will you join us?
Word 1		<i>utaambatana</i>	you will join
Word 2		<i>nasi</i>	us

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Kenya has many good spots to explore and engage in affordable activities with

friends. Usually, it is better to inform and agree with your friends when and how much they will need to pay for the trip. This helps in preparation and gives time for them to accept the invitation.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Swahili #25

On the Phone

CONTENTS

- 2 Swahili
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 2 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

25

SWAHILI

1. Jambo.
2. Huyu ni Medina.
3. Nawezaongea na Mark?
4. Nitapinga simu tena baadaye.

ENGLISH

1. Hello.
2. This is Medina.
3. May I talk to Mark?
4. I'll call again later.

VOCABULARY

Swahili	English	Class
Jambo.	Hello.	expression
huyu	this is	Demonstrative Phrase
Huyu ni (jina la mtu).	This is (person's name).	expression
simu	telephone	noun
tena	again	adverb
baadaye	later	adverb
nawezaongea	can I talk	phrase
nitapinga	I will call	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Tulisoma na huyu rafiki yangu Juma chuo kikuu. "We studied with my friend Juma here at the university".	Nataka kukutana na wewe tena. "I want to meet you again."
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Unaweza sema hivyo tena? "Could you say that again?"
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GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to understand the basic vocabulary on the phone.

	Swahili	English
Phrase 1	<i>Jambo.</i>	Hello. (answering)
Word 1	<i>jambo</i>	hello
Phrase 2	<i>Huyu ni Medina.</i>	This is Medina.
Word 1	<i>huyu</i>	this
Word 2	<i>ni</i>	is
Word 3	<i>Medina</i>	Medina
Phrase 3	<i>Nawezaongea na Mark?</i>	May I talk to Mark?
Word 1	<i>nawezaongea</i>	can I talk
Word 2	<i>na</i>	with
Word 3	<i>Mark</i>	Mark
Phrase 4	<i>Nitapinga simu tena baadaye.</i>	I'll call again later.
Word 1	<i>nitapinga</i>	I will call
Word 2	<i>simu</i>	telephone
Word 3	<i>tena</i>	again

CULTURAL INSIGHT

If you get a phone call and the caller forgets to introduce himself, you can politely ask *Samahani, ni nani?* which means "Excuse me, who is this?"



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3 MINUTE SWAHILI

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	Intro	13	Who Is It?
1	Self Introduction	14	When Are You Leaving?
2	Greetings	15	Where Are You Going?
3	Manners	16	Asking Directions
4	Asking How Someone Is	17	Why?
5	Making Apologies	18	Possession
6	Refusing Politely	19	Using Negation
7	Do You Speak English?	20	Talking about Your Likes
8	Talking About Your Age	21	Talking about Your Dislikes
9	Using Adjectives	22	Ordering at a Restaurant
10	Asking How Much Something Costs	23	Asking for the Bill
11	How to Read Prices	24	Offering an Invitation
12	Asking What Someone is Doing	25	On the Phone

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