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TWI



READING BOOKLET

.....
: *Travelers should always check with their* :
: *nation's State Department for current* :
: *advisories on local conditions before* :
: *traveling abroad.* :
.....

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

TWI

VOICES

English-Speaking Instructor Dr. Paul Pimsleur
Female Twi Speaker Victoria Agyei
Male Twi Speaker Andrew C. Denteh

COURSE WRITER

Dr. Paul Pimsleur

For more information, call
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Introduction

Twi, also called “Ashanti Twi,” is spoken in Ghana by about 15 million people. It is one of three mutually intelligible dialects of the Akan language.

This course was originally published in a limited edition by Dr. Paul Pimsleur for use by the Peace Corps and the U.S. Department of Education. It is now available for the first time on CD.

After completing the ten Units, you will have a highly practical 125-word vocabulary that was selected to help you meet many situations you will encounter in Ghana. You will have a rudimentary command of Twi grammar, and you will know how to read (i.e., sound out) written Twi. With this knowledge, you will be able to obtain food and lodging, make purchases, and engage in simple social contacts. Of course, 125 words will not make you a fluent speaker of Twi, but it will establish you as a person who has made an effort to meet his foreign hosts halfway.

The recorded portion of the reading materials for this course will be found at the end of each unit. You can do the readings as it is most convenient for you. They can be done individually with each respective unit or at a more appropriate time after

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Introduction (continued)

the unit. Instructions on how to proceed with the readings are contained in the audio portion of the course.

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Unit Two

1. Ghana
2. AmErika
3. AmErikani, Ghanani
4. meyε e / ε
5. Meyε AmErikani.
6. O / ɔ o / ɔ
7. woyε
8. Woyε AmErikani.
9. Woyε AmErikani anaa? a / aa
10. Aane.
11. Aane, meyε AmErikani.
12. Wo nso?
13. Dabi.
14. Menyε AmErikani.
15. Menyε AmErikani, meyε Ghanani.
16. Wote Twi anaa?
17. Aane, mete Twi.
18. Wo nso?
19. Wo nso wote Twi anaa?
20. Dabi, dabi. Mente Twi.

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Unit Three (No Readings)

Unit Four (No Readings)

Unit Five

1. Meyε Ghanani.
2. Yεfrε wo sεn?
3. Yεfrε me Kofi.
4. Meyε tikyani. ky
5. Maakye oo!
6. Owura, maakye.
7. Mepa wo kyεw.
8. ka ka / ka
9. Ka bio.
10. Mepa wo kyεw, bɔ kɔɔ.
11. awuraa
12. Awuraa, Bank wɔ he?
13. Owura, εwɔ hɔ.
14. Hotel wɔ ha?
15. Dabi Hotel nni ha.
16. εwɔ Kumasi.
17. Yoo, meda a se.
18. Meda ase pii.
19. Mepa wo kyεw, me'ekɔ.
20. Baabae oo!

Unit Six

1. Mepa wo kyɛw.
2. Ankaa.
3. Ankaa yei.
4. Ankaa yei sɛn?
5. Sidi, pɛsewa
6. Pɛsewa biako.
7. Mpɛsewa mmienɔ.
8. Ankaa yei mpɛsewa mmiɛnsa.
9. Awuraa, meda ase pii.
10. Owura nna ase.
11. Awuraa, mepa wo kyɛw.
12. Tiafi wɔ he?
13. Owura, ɛwɔ hɔ.
14. Posuwɔfese wɔ ha?
15. Dabi, posuwɔfese nni ha.
16. Yoo, meda ase.

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Unit Seven

At a beer bar. (Wɔ̃ bia bar.)

1. *Customer:* Maakye.
2. *Barman:* Yaa Ɛsɔ̃n.
3. *Customer:* Mepa wo kyɛw, ma me bia.
4. *Barman:* Gye bia. gy
5. *Customer:* Ɛyɛ. Gye wo sika.
6. *Barman:* Owura, meda ase. Bra bio.

Unit Eight (No Readings)

Unit Nine (No Readings)

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Unit Ten

1. *Person A*: Wowɔ sika sɛn? Sidi?
2. *Person B*: Dabi, mewɔ mpɛsewa nwɔtwe.
Wote aseɛ?
3. *A*: Dabi, mente aseɛ. Wose sɛn?
4. *B*: Mese menni sika pii wɔ ha?
5. *A*: Wo'okɔ he?
6. *B*: Me'kɔ Nkran. Wo nso ɛ?
7. *A*: Aane, Nkran yɛ fɛ. Me nso me'ekɔ hɔ.
8. *B*: Yoo. Me ne wo'okɔ.

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Glossary: Twi to English

aane	Unit 2: yes
Accra	Unit 8: Accra
adamfo	Unit 8: friend
aduanɛ	Unit 8: food
akwaaba	Unit 1: welcome
Amɛrikani	Unit 2: American person
Amma	Unit 5: a name (girl born on Sat.)
anaa	Unit 1: question word
anaa	Unit 8: or
ankaa	Unit 6: orange
Asanteni	Unit 3: Asante person
awuraa	Unit 4: miss; madam
baabae oo	Unit 3: bye-bye; good-bye
baae	Unit 3: bye
bank	Unit 4: bank
Beach	Unit 10: Beach (Labadi Beach)
benkum	Unit 9: left (opposite of right)
bia	Unit 8: beer
biako	Unit 6: one
Bob	Unit 6: Bob
Borɔfo	Unit 1: English language
bɔkɔɔ	Unit 3: slowly
bɔs	Unit 2: bus
bɔs stɔp	Unit 4: bus stop
bra bio	Unit 7: come again

TWI

Glossary: Twi to English (continued)

Brown	Unit 6: Brown
chewing gum	Unit 9: chewing gum
chocolate	Unit 9: chocolate
coffee	Unit 8: coffee
chopbar	Unit 4: chopbar (restaurant of local food)
coka cola	Unit 7: Coca Cola
coke	Unit 7: Coke
Continental Hotel	Unit 6: Continental Hotel
dabi	Unit 1: no
deɛn	Unit 10: what
dɛ	Unit 9: sweet
di	Unit 8: eat
du	Unit 10: ten
ɛ; ɛwɔ he?	Unit 4: it; Where is it?
ɛnyɛ hwee!	Unit 2: It's nothing! (It's no matter!)
ɛsɔn	Unit 1: response to greetings
ɛyɛ.	Unit 7: It is all right. (It's enough)
ɛyɛ nnan.	Unit 9: It is four.
Fanteni	Unit 3: Fante person
fɛ	Unit 10: beautiful
fufu; fufuo	Unit 8: fufu; fufuo
Germann	Unit 2: German person
gye	Unit 7: here! (i.e. take it)
ha	Unit 4: here (i.e. this place)

TWI

Glossary: Twi to English (continued)

he?	Unit 4: where?
hello	Unit 6: hello
ho yɛ fɛ	Unit 10: beautiful / handsome
hotel	Unit 4: hotel
hɔ	Unit 4: there
ice cream	Unit 9: ice cream
ka bio	Unit 3: say it again
kaa	Unit 10: car
kakra	Unit 3: a little
Kofi	Unit 5: a name (boy born on Fri.)
Koforidua	Unit 4: Koforidua
kɔ	Unit 9: go
Kɔ so	Unit 7: Go ahead.
kɔɔp	Unit 9: cup
kube	Unit 10: coconut
Kumase	Unit 4: Kumasi
Labadi Beach	Unit 10: Labadi Beach
maaha	Unit 10: good afternoon
maadwo	Unit 10: good evening
maakye	Unit 3: good morning
maakye oo	Unit 1: good morning (with <u>oo</u> to help voice carry)
maame	Unit 8: mother
m'adamfo	Unit 8: my friend
Mary	Unit 5: Mary

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Glossary: Twi to English (continued)

me	Unit 1: I
Me ho yɛ.	Unit 2: I am fine.
Me nso.	Unit 2: I too.
Meda ase.	Unit 3: I thank you.
Meda ase pii.	Unit 3: I thank you very much.
me'ekɔ (merekɔ)	Unit 5: I am going
mekɔ	Unit 9: I go
mempɛ	Unit 10: I don't like
menkɔ	Unit 9: I don't go
Menni sika.	Unit 10: I don't have money.
mennom ...	Unit 8: I don't drink ...
menom	Unit 8: I drink
Mensa	Unit 6: Mensa
mente	Unit 1: I don't speak ("I don't hear")
Mente aseɛ.	Unit 10: I don't understand.
menyɛ	Unit 2: I am not
mepa wo kyɛw	Unit 1: please; excuse me
mepɛ	Unit 10: I like
mese	Unit 10: I say
Mete aseɛ.	Unit 10: I understand.
mewɔ	Unit 10: I have (i.e. I possess)
meyɛ	Unit 2: I am
mmienu	Unit 6: two
mmiɛnsa	Unit 6: three
mpɛsewa	Unit 6: pesewas

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Glossary: Twi to English (continued)

Nana	Unit 5: chief's title
Nancy	Unit 5: Nancy
ne	Unit 9: and (to join single words)
newspaper	Unit 6: newspaper
nifa	Unit 9: right (opposite of left)
Nkran (Accra)	Unit 8: Accra
nkron	Unit 9: nine
Nna ase.	Unit 6: Don't mention it.
nnan	Unit 7: four
nni ha, etc.	Unit 4: is / are not here
num	Unit 7: five
nom	Unit 8: drink
nsia	Unit 8: six
nso	Unit 8: also
nson	Unit 8: seven
nwɔtwe	Unit 9: eight
paa	Unit 10: very much
Peter Brown	Unit 6: Peter Brown
pɛ	Unit 10: like (i.e. to be fond of)
pɛsewa	Unit 6: pesewa
pii	Unit 3: much
pii	Unit 10: many
posuɔfeso	Unit 4: post office
restaurant	Unit 9: restaurant
Saa!	Unit 7: Is that so! Is that right!

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Glossary: Twi to English (continued)

se (mese)	Unit 10: say (I say)
Sɛn?	Unit 5: How?
Sɛn?	Unit 6: How much?
sidi	Unit 6: cedi
sika	Unit 7: money
sini	Unit 4: movie; cinema
sukuu	Unit 8: school
tena ase	Unit 3: sit down
Thomas	Unit 6: Thomas
tiafi	Unit 4: bathroom
tii	Unit 8: tea
Trade Fair	Unit 10: Trade Fair
Twi	Unit 1: Twi language
Twini	Unit 3: Twi person
w'adamfo	Unit 8: your friend
wo	Unit 1: you
wo	Unit 7: your
Wo ho te sɛn?	Unit 2: How are you?
wo nso	Unit 2: you too
Wo nso ɛ?	Unit 3: And you?
wokɔ	Unit 9: you go
wonkɔ	Unit 9: you don't go
wonom	Unit 8: you drink
wonte	Unit 1: you don't speak (Lit. "you don't hear")

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Glossary: Twi to English (continued)

wonyɛ	Unit 2: you are not
Wo'okɔ he?	Unit 8: Where are you going?
Wose sɛn?	Unit 10: What do you say?
wote	Unit 1: you speak (Lit. "you hear")
wote aseɛ	Unit 10: you understand
woyɛ	Unit 2: you are
wɔ	Unit 10: have (i.e. to possess)
wɔ he ...?	Unit 4: Where is ...?
wɔ hɔ	Unit 4: is there
Yaa, ɛsɔn.	Unit 1: (a response to greetings)
yei	Unit 6: this
yei yɛ ...	Unit 10: this is ...
Yei yɛ deɛn?	Unit 10: What is this?
yɛ	Unit 2: is / am (the verb <i>to be</i>)
yɛ dɛ	Unit 9: is sweet
yɛ fɛ	Unit 10: is beautiful
yɛ sɛn?	Unit 9: is how much / is how many?
Yɛfrɛ wo sɛn?	Unit 5: What is your name?
Yoo.	Unit 4: O.K.

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Glossary: English to Twi

Accra	Unit 8: Nkran
also	Unit 2: nso
American person	Unit 2: Amɛrikani
Amma (girl born on Sat.)	Unit 5: Amma
and (joining single words)	Unit 9: ne
Asante person	Unit 3: Asanteni
bank	Unit 4: bank
bathroom	Unit 4: tiafi
Beach (Labadi)	Unit 10: Beach (Labadi)
beautiful	Unit 10: fɛ
beer	Unit 8: bia
Bob	Unit 6: Bob
Brown	Unit 6: Brown
bus	Unit 2: bɔs
bus stop	Unit 4: bɔs stɔp
bye	Unit 3: baae
bye-bye; good-bye	Unit 3: baabae oo
car	Unit 10: kaa
Cedi	Unit 6: Sidi
chewing gum	Unit 9: chewing gum
chief's title	Unit 5: Nana
chocolate	Unit 9: chocolate
chopbar	Unit 4: chopbar
cinema (movie)	Unit 4: sini
Coca Cola	Unit 7: Coka Cola

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Glossary: English to Twi (continued)

coconut	Unit 10: kube
coffee	Unit 8: coffee
Coke	Unit 7: Coke
come again	Unit 7: bra bio
Continental Hotel	Unit 6: Continental Hotel
cup	Unit 9: kɔɔp
Don't mention it.	Unit 6: Nna ase.
drink (to drink)	Unit 8: nom
eat	Unit 8: di
eight	Unit 9: nwɔtwe
Excuse me.	Unit 1: Mepa wo kyɛw.
English language	Unit 1: Borɔfo
Fante person	Unit 3: Fanteni
five	Unit 7: nnum
food	Unit 8: aduane
four	Unit 7: nnan
friend	Unit 8: adamfo
fufu (kind of food)	Unit 8: fufu / fufuo
German person	Unit 2: Germanni
go	Unit 9: kɔ
go on (go ahead)	Unit 7: kɔ so
good afternoon	Unit 7: maaha
goodbye	Unit 3: baabae oo
good evening	Unit 3: maadwo

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Glossary: English to Twi (continued)

good morning (distant)	Unit 1: maakye oo
good morning (close)	Unit 3: maakye (Owura, etc.)
have (to possess)	Unit 10: wɔ
Hello.	Unit 6: Hello.
here (this place)	Unit 4: ha
here (get it; take it)	Unit 7: gye
hotel	Unit 4: hotel
How?	Unit 5: Sɛn?
How are you?	Unit 2: Wo ho te sɛn?
How are you called?	Unit 5: <i>See</i> , “What is your name?”
How do you say?	Unit 10: <i>See</i> , “What do you say?”
How much?	Unit 6: Sɛn?
How much is ...	Unit 9: ... yɛ sɛn?
I	Unit 1: me
I am	Unit 2: meyɛ
I am fine.	Unit 2: Me ho yɛ.
I am going	Unit 5: me'ekɔ
I am not	Unit 2: menyɛ
I don't drink ...	Unit 8: mennom ...
I don't go	Unit 9: menkɔ
I don't have money.	Unit 10: Menni sika.

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Glossary: English to Twi (continued)

I don't hear / speak	Unit 1: mente
I don't like	Unit 10: mempɛ
I don't understand.	Unit 10: Mente aseɛ.
I drink	Unit 8: menom
I go	Unit 9: mekɔ
I have (I possess)	Unit 10: mewɔ
I like	Unit 10: mepɛ
I say	Unit 10: mese
I thank you.	Unit 3: Meda ase.
I thank you very much.	Unit 3: Meda ase pii.
I too	Unit 2: me nso
I understand.	Unit 10: Mete aseɛ.
ice cream	Unit 9: ice cream
is (the verb <i>to be</i>)	Unit 2: yɛ
is beautiful	Unit 10: yɛ fɛ
is beautiful / handsome (of persons)	Unit 10: ho yɛ fɛ
is how much?	Unit 9: yɛ sɛn?
is not here	Unit 4: nni ha
is sweet	Unit 9: yɛ dɛ
Is that so!	Unit 7: Saa!
is there	Unit 4: wɔ hɔ
is where?	Unit 4: wɔ he?
It (It is there.)	Unit 4: ɛ (ɛwɔ hɔ)
It's all right / enough.	Unit 7: ɛyɛ.

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Glossary: English to Twi (continued)

It's four, etc.	Unit 9: Ɛyɛ nnan, etc.
It's no matter.	Unit 2: Ɛnyɛ hwee.
Kofi (boy born on Friday)	Unit 5: Kofi
Koforidua	Unit 4: Koforidua
Kumasi	Unit 4: Kumase
Labadi Beach	Unit 10: Labadi Beach
left (opposite of right)	Unit 9: benkum
like (to be fond of)	Unit 10: pɛ
little	Unit 3: kakra
lot (a lot, a lot of)	Unit 3: pii
madam	Unit 4: awuraa
many	Unit 10: pii
Mary	Unit 5: Mary
Mensa	Unit 6: Mensa
miss (young lady)	Unit 4: awuraa
money	Unit 7: sika
mother	Unit 8: maame
movie (cinema)	Unit 4: sini
much	Unit 3: pii
my friend	Unit 8: m'adamfo
Nancy	Unit 5: Nancy
newspaper	Unit 6: newspaper
nine	Unit 9: nkron
no	Unit 1: dabi
O.K.	Unit 4: Yoo.

TWI

Glossary: English to Twi (continued)

one	Unit 6: biako
or	Unit 8: anaa
orange	Unit 8: ankaa (other places: <i>akutu</i>)
pesewa	Unit 6: pɛsewa
pesawas	Unit 6: mpɛsewa
Peter Brown	Unit 6: Peter Brown
please	Unit 1: mepa wo kyɛw
question word	Unit 1: anaa
response to greetings	Unit 1: Yaa, ɛsɔn.
restaurant	Unit 9: restaurant
right (opposite of left)	Unit 9: nifa
say (I say)	Unit 10: se (mese ...)
say it again	Unit 3: ka bio
school	Unit 8: sukuu
seven	Unit 8: nson
sit down	Unit 3: tena ase
six	Unit 8: nsia
slowly	Unit 9: bɔkɔɔ
sweet	Unit 9: dɛ
tea	Unit 8: tii
ten	Unit 10: du
Thank you.	Unit 3: Meda ase.
Thank you very much.	Unit 3: Meda ase pii.
there	Unit 4: hɔ

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Glossary: English to Twi (continued)

this	Unit 6: yei
this is ...	Unit 10: yei yɛ ...
this is what	Unit 10: See, “What is this?”
Thomas	Unit 6: Thomas
three	Unit 6: mmiɛnsa
Trade Fair	Unit 10: Trade Fair
Twi (language)	Unit 1: Twi
Twi person	Unit 3: Twini
two	Unit 6: mmienu
understand (perceive)	Unit 10: te aseɛ
very much	Unit 10: pii/ii ...; paa
welcome	Unit 1: akwaaba
what	Unit 10: deɛn
What do you say?	Unit 10: Wose sɛn? (Wose deɛn?)
What is this?	Unit 10: Yei yɛ deɛn?
What is your name?	Unit 5: Yɛfrɛ wo sɛn?
Where (is where?)	Unit 4: He? (wɔ he?)
Where are you going?	Unit 8: Wo’okɔ he?
yes	Unit 2: aane
you (and you? – Unit 3)	Unit 1: wo (wo nso ɛ?)
you are ... (verb <i>to be</i>)	Unit 2: woyɛ (are: yɛ –
You are going where?	Unit 8: Wo’okɔ he?
(Literal)	
you are not	Unit 2: wonyɛ

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Glossary: English to Twi (continued)

you don't go	Unit 9: wonkɔ
you don't speak (Lit.: you don't hear)	Unit 1: wonte
you drink	Unit 8: wonom
you go	Unit 9: wokɔ
you say what?	Unit 10: <i>See</i> , "What do you say?"
you speak (Literal: you hear)	Unit 1: wote
you too	Unit 2: wo nso
you understand	Unit 10: wote aseɛ
your (e.g., your mother)	Unit 7: wo (wo maame)
your friend	Unit 8: w'adamfo