

Swahili-English glossary

A

acha (v.)	leave, leave behind (stop, quit, give up)
adhuhuri	noontime, 12–2 p.m.
afadhali	better, preferable
Afrika	Africa
Agosti	August
ajali	accident
akili	intelligence, brains, a good mind, ingenuity

ala	instrument (scabbard)
alama	sign, symbol, mark, pockmark, scar

alasiri	afternoon (3–5 p.m.)
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albamu	album
alfajiri	dawn, daybreak

Alhamisi	Thursday
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alika (v.)	invite someone
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ambia (v.)	tell
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amu	paternal uncle(s)
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amka (v.)	wake up, get up
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amkiana (v.)	greet each other
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amua (v.)	decide,
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andika (v.)	write
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angalia (v.)	look at
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anguka (v.)	fall
anza (v.)	begin, start
Aprili	April
arobaini	forty
arusi	wedding
asante	thanks
asilimia	per cent
askari	policeman, guard
asubuhi	morning
athiri (v.)	affect
azimio (ma)	declaration

B

baada ya	after
baadaye	afterwards, later on

baba mdogo	father's younger brother
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baba mkubwa	father's elder brother
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baba mkwe	father-in-law
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baba wa	stepfather
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kambo	
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baba	father
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badala ya	instead of
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badilika (v.)	be changed
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badilisha (v.)	change, exchange
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bado	not yet (still)
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Bahari ya	the Indian Ocean
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Hindi	
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bahari	sea, ocean
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bahati	luck, chance, fate
bali	but, however
barabara	perfectly, flawlessly precisely, exactly
baridi (<i>adj.</i>)	cold, cool (mild)
bariki (<i>v.</i>)	bless
barua	letter
basi	so, well
-baya (<i>adj.</i>)	bad, evil, ugly
bega (<i>ma</i>)	shoulder
behewa (<i>ma</i>)	train carriage
bei	price
bendi	musical band
biashara	business, trade
bibi	Miss, Mrs, lady (grandmother)
bidi (<i>v.</i>)	be necessary
bila	without
binafsi (<i>adj.</i>)	personal(ly), private(ly)
bingirisha (<i>v.</i>)	cause to roll
bishana (<i>v.</i>)	argue
Bonde la Ufa	the Rift Valley
bondia (<i>ma</i>)	a boxer
bora (<i>adj.</i>)	best, excellent
buluu	blue
burudani	entertainment, recreation
busara	wisdom
bwana (<i>ma</i>)	sir, mister, husband
bweni (<i>ma</i>)	hall of residence

C

chai	tea
chakula (<i>vy</i>)	food
chanda (<i>vy</i>)	finger
chanda cha mguu (<i>vi</i>)	toe

changanya (<i>v.</i>)	mix, combine
changia (<i>v.</i>)	contribute to
chati	chart
cheka (<i>v.</i>)	laugh
chekesha (<i>v.</i>)	be funny (make someone laugh)
chemka (<i>v.</i>)	be boiling
chemshabongo	crossword(s)
cheo (<i>vy</i>)	rank, status
chini	down (under/ below)
choka (<i>v.</i>)	be tired
chomwa (<i>v.</i>)	be roasted/ burnt
choo (<i>vy</i>)	toilet
chukua (<i>v.</i>)	carry, take away
chuo kikuu (<i>vy</i>)	university

D

dada (and <i>ma pl.</i>)	sister(s)
dakika	minute(s) of time
daladala	local minibus
danganywa (<i>v.</i>)	be deceived/ cheated
daraja (<i>ma</i>)	bridge
daraja	rank, position
darasa (<i>ma</i>)	classroom, lesson class period
deni (<i>ma</i>)	debt, loan
Desemba	December
desturi	custom(s), way(s)
dhani (<i>v.</i>)	think, suppose
dhidi ya	against
diwani	collected works
-dogo (<i>adj.</i>)	small, little
duka (<i>ma</i>)	shop

E

-ekundu (<i>adj.</i>)	red/reddish
elekea (<i>v.</i>)	be directed towards, face towards
eleza (<i>v.</i>)	explain
elfu	thousand
elimu	education
-ema (<i>adj.</i>)	good, kind
-embamba (<i>adj.</i>)	thin, narrow
endelea (<i>v.</i>)	continue, progress
endesha (<i>v.</i>)	manage, drive
eneo (<i>ma</i>)	area
-enye (<i>adj. + prefix</i>)	with, having
eti!	listen here!
-eupe (<i>adj.</i>)	white, clear
-eusi (<i>adj.</i>)	black, dark

F

fa/kufa (<i>v.</i>)	die
faa (<i>v.</i>)	be useful, be proper
fahamu (<i>v.</i>)	know, be familiar with, under- stand, be aware of
fanya (<i>v.</i>)	do, make
fanyika (<i>v.</i>)	be made
fariki (<i>v.</i>)	die, pass away
Februari	February
fedha	silver metal, money, currency, finance
fidla	fiddle/violin
fika (<i>v.</i>)	arrive, come to
filimbi	flute, whistle
fizi (<i>sing. ufizi</i>)	gums
fuata (<i>v.</i>)	follow, come next

fulani (<i>adj.</i>)	certain, unnamed
fundi (<i>ma</i>)	craftsman, technician
fundisha (<i>v.</i>)	teach
funga	close, lock, fasten
-fupi (<i>adj.</i>)	short, brief
fupisha (<i>v.</i>)	shorten, abbreviate
furahi (<i>v.</i>)	be happy/ delighted

G

gambusi	Arabic instrument similar to a banjo or mandolin
gandana (<i>v.</i>)	be stuck together, hardened fast (frozen)
gani?	what? what kind of?, which?
gari (<i>ma</i>)	car, vehicle
gawana (<i>v.</i>)	share alike
gawanya (<i>v.</i>)	divide
gawia (<i>v.</i>)	divide among, distribute to
geuka (<i>v.</i>)	turn, turn away
gitaa	guitar
gombana (<i>v.</i>)	quarrel, argue
gongana (<i>v.</i>)	collide with, bump into one another
goti (<i>ma</i>)	knee
-gumu (<i>adj.</i>)	hard, difficult
gunia (<i>ma</i>)	bag, sack
gusa (<i>v.</i>)	touch

H

habari	news, information
Habeshi	Ethiopia

hadi	until, up to	hivi	approximately,
haki	justice/right(s)		this way
hakika	fact, certainty	hodari (<i>adj.</i>)	hardworking,
hakikisha (v.)	make sure, make certain		brave
hali	state, condition, situation, event	homa	fever
hali	while, seeing that, when	hongera	congratulations
hali ya hewa	the weather	hoteli	hotel
Halo!	Hello!	hudhuria (v.)	attend, be present
hama (v.)	move away, emigrate, vacate	Hujambo?	How are you?
hamia (v.)	move into, immigrate, settle at	huko	there, over there
Hamjambo?	How are you? (<i>pl.</i>)	huku	here, while (hereabouts)
hamsini	fifty	humo	in there, there inside
hao	those (of people/ animals)	humu	in here, here inside
hapa	here, this place	husika (v.)	be involved
hapana	there is not/are not	husikana na (v.)	be concerned with
hapana	no	husu (v.)	concern, about
hapo	there, just there	huyo	that person
haraka	haste, hurry	huyu	this (person/ animal)
haribika (v.)	be damaged/ ruined	huzuni	sadness
hasa	especially		
hata	even, until, to	I	
Hatujambo	We are fine	idadi	total, total number
hawa	these (of people/ animals)	Ijumaa	Friday
hebu!	'Hey there!'	ila	except
heri	happiness	inama (v.)	bend, bow
heri	it's preferable	ingawa	although
hisa	stock(s), share(s)	ingia (v.)	enter
hisi (v.)	sense, feel, perceive	-ingine (<i>adj.</i>)	another, other(s)
hisia	feeling(s)	Inshallah!	God willing!
hitaji (v.)	need	ishi (v.)	live, live at
		ishirini	twenty
		istilahi	terminology, terms
		ita (v.)	call, name someone

itika (v.) reply, answer
itwa (v.) be called, be
 named

J

ja/kuja (v.) come
jaa (v.) be full
jamaa family, relative(s)
jamani! 'My goodness!'
jambo thing, matter,
 (pl. **mambo**) affair
jamhuri republic
jamii society/community
jana yesterday
Januari January
jaza (v.) fill up
je, ...? *Clarifies a question
 is being asked*

jengwa (v.) be built
jeruhiwa (v.) be injured
jibu (ma) an answer,
 a reply
jibu (v.) answer, reply
jicho (pl. **macho**) eye
jifunza (v.) learn
jiji (ma) city
jiko (pl. **meko**) cooking place,
 stove, kitchen
jina (ma) name
jino (pl. **meno**) tooth
jinsi + vyo as, how, the way
 (in verb)
jinsi way, manner
 (kind, sort,
 species)
jinsia gender, sex
jioni evening
jirani (ma) neighbour
jisifu (v.) boast, praise
 oneself

jiwe (ma) stone
joto (ji) hot weather, heat
jua (ma) sun
jua (v.) know
Julai July
julikana (v.) be known
julisha (v.) inform (introduce
 someone)
Jumamosi Saturday
Jumanne Tuesday
Jumapili Sunday
Jumatano Wednesday
Jumatatu Monday
jumba (ma) building
Juni June
juu ya on, above, about
juzi, majuzi two days ago,
 recently

K

kaa (v.) sit, stay
kadha (adj.) certain, various
kahawa coffee
kaka older brother
kalamu pen, pencil
-kali (adj.) sharp, fierce,
 stern
kalia (v.) sit on, sit at,
 occupy
kama + vyo as
 (in verb)
kama like, as, as if
kamili (adj.) exactly
 (perfect(ly),
 complete(ly))
Kanada Canada
kando ya next to, beside,
 alongside
kanisa (ma) church
kanzu man's long white
 robe

karani (ma)	clerk	kilele (vi)	summit, peak,
karibisha (v.)	welcome, invite		climax
karibu!	welcome!	kilimo (ki)	agriculture
karibuni!	welcome all!	kimbia (v.)	run, run away
kasirika (v.)	be angry	kimbilia (v.)	run to
kaskazini	north	kinanda (vi)	keyboard
kasoro	less (minus)		instrument,
kasorobo	less a quarter		piano, harmoni
kata (v.)	cut	kinywa (vi)	inner mouth
kataa (v.)	deny, refuse, reject	kinywaji (v.)	drink, beverage
kataza (v.)	forbid	kipofu (vi)	blind person
kati ya	between, among	kisha	then, afterwards
katika	in, into	kisigino (vi)	the heel
katuni	cartoon(s)	kisima (vi)	water hole/well
kazi	work, job(s)	kisiwa (vi)	island
kelele (ma)	noise, shouting	kisu (vi)	knife
kesho	tomorrow	kitabu (vi)	book
keshokutwa	day after tomorrow	kitambaa (vi)	fabric, cloth
Kiafrika (<i>adj.</i>)	African	kitanda (vi)	bed
kibanda (vi)	hut	kiti (vi)	chair
kichwa (vi)	the head	kitu (vi)	thing
kidevu (vi)	chin	kituo (vi)	a station/stop
kidogo	a little, a bit	kiu (ki)	thirst
kidole (vi)	finger	kiuno (vi)	the waist
kidole cha	toe	kiwiko (vi)	elbow
mguu (vi)		kiwiliwili (vi)	torso
kidole gumba	thumb	klabu/kilabu	club, nightclub
(vi)		(vi)	
kifua (vi)	the chest	kobe (ma)	tortoise
kifundo (vi)	joint of the body	kodiani	accordion
kifundo cha	wrist	kofia	hat, cap
mkono (vi)		komesha (v.)	make stop, bring to an end
kiganja (vi)	palm of the hand	koo	throat
kigasha (vi)	forearm	kope	eyelid(s)/ eyelash(es)
kijana (vi)	youth	koroga (v.)	stir, stir up, mix ingredients
kijiji (vi)	village	kosea (v.)	be mistaken/ wrong, make a mistake
kikapu (vi)	small basket		
kikombe (v.)	cup	kubali (v.)	agree
kila	each, every		

kubaliana (v.)	be in agreement
-kubwa (adj.)	big, large
kuja/ja	to come
kuku	chicken(s)
kule	there
kulia	the right (side/ hand)
kuliko	than (comparison)
kumbuka (v.)	remember, recall
kumbusha (v.)	remind
kumi	ten
kushoto	the left (side/ hand)
kusini	south, in/to south
kuto	not to
+ verb stem	
kutokana na	as a result of
kutwa	all day long
-kuu	great, big, important
kwa	to, from, for, with, by
kwa hiyo	therefore, thus, so
kwa maana	because, since, that is to say
kwa mfano	for example
kwa umbali	from a distance, afar
kwaheri	goodbye (sing.)
kwaherini	goodbye (pl.)
kwamba	that
kwanza	first, firstly
kwapa (ma)	armpit
kweli	true
kwenye	at, in, on
kwetu	at our place, us
L	
la	no
labda	perhaps, maybe
laki	hundred thousand

lakini	but, however
lala (v.)	sleep/lie down
laza (v.)	set down, put to bed
lazima	a necessity/must
leo	today
leta (v.)	bring
lia (v.)	eat with or in
lia (v.)	cry, ring, roar
lima (v.)	cultivate
lini?	when?
lipa (v.)	pay
lipisha, lipiza (v.)	force payment, avenge
Loh!	expresses surprise

M

maadili (pl.)	ideals, ethics
maalum(u) (adj.)	special, famous
maandazi (pl.)	doughnuts, pastries
mabishano (pl.)	dispute
Machi	March
maendeleo (pl.)	progress, development
mafanikio (pl.)	success, achievement(s)
mafua (pl.)	the flu, a cold
mafuta (pl.)	oil
magharibi	the west, sunset
mahakama	court of law
mahali	place, location
majani (sing. jani)	leaves/grass
majeraha (sing. jeraha)	injuries, wounds
maji (pl.)	water
makala	article
makalio (pl.)	buttocks
maktaba	library

mali	wealth, goods	maziwa (<i>pl.</i>)	milk
malipo (<i>pl.</i>)	payment	maziwa	lakes, breasts
mama	mother	(<i>sing. ziwa</i>)	
mama mdogo	mother's younger sister	mazoezi (<i>pl.</i>)	exercise(s), practice
mama mkubwa	mother's elder sister	mbali	far, distant, apart
mama mkwe	mother-in-law	mbegu	seed(s)
mama wa	stepmother	mbele	ahead/forward/in front
kambo		mbili	two
mandhari	scenery, landscape	mbio	speed, sprint
mapacha	twins, Gemini	mboga	vegetable(s)
mapema	early	mbona	why, how come
mara	times	mchana	daytime
Marahaba	reply to Shikamoo	mchanga (<i>mi</i>)	sand
marehemu	deceased person	mchele (<i>mi</i>)	husked rice
Marekani	America	mchopozi (<i>wa</i>)	pickpocket
masaa (<i>pl.</i>)	hours	mchumba (<i>wa</i>)	fiancé(e)
masafa (<i>pl.</i>)	range, distance	mchungwa (<i>mi</i>)	orange tree
mashariki	the east, dawn	mdomo (<i>mi</i>)	the mouth, beak of a bird
masharubu	moustache	Mei	May
(<i>pl.</i>)		meya	mayor of a city
mashuhuri	famous	meza	table(s)
(<i>adj.</i>)		meza (<i>v.</i>)	swallow something
masimulizi	narrations/tales	mfano	example
(<i>pl.</i>)		mfanyakazi (<i>wa</i>)	worker
maskini	poor/unfortunate person	Mfaransa (<i>wa</i>)	French person
masomo (<i>pl.</i>)	studies	mgeni (<i>wa</i>)	guest, foreigner, stranger
matangazo (<i>pl.</i>)	announcements, advertisements	Mghana (<i>wa</i>)	Ghanaian
matatizo	difficulties,	Mgiriki (<i>wa</i>)	Greek person
(<i>sing. tatizo</i>)	complications	mgomba (<i>mi</i>)	banana plant
matatu (<i>pl.</i>)	minibus	mgongo (<i>mi</i>)	the back (a pension)
matengenezo	repairs, maintenance	mgonjwa (<i>wa</i>)	sick person, patient
(<i>pl.</i>)		Mhabeshi (<i>wa</i>)	an Ethiopian
matibabu	medical treatment	mguu (<i>mi</i>)	foot, leg
matokeo (<i>pl.</i>)	results/outcomes	mhandisi (<i>wa</i>)	engineer
matumizi (<i>pl.</i>)	use(s), expenses	mhariri (<i>wa</i>)	editor
mawasiliano	communication		
(<i>pl.</i>)			
mazingira (<i>pl.</i>)	the environment		

Mhindi (wa)	an Indian, a Hindu	mpwa (wa)	sister's child/ nephew
mhitimu (wa)	graduate	mrithi (wa)	inheritor
mhudumu (wa)	waiter, attendant	msaada (mi)	help, assistance
mia	hundred	msaidizi (wa)	assistant
milele	forever, eternally	msanii (wa)	artist
milioni	million	msemaji (wa)	speaker
mimi	I, me	mshahara (mi)	salary
Mjapani (wa)	Japanese person	mshairi (wa)	poet
Mjerumani (wa)	German person	msiba (mi)	bereavement
mji (mi)	town, city	msichana (wa)	girl
mji mkuu	capital city	msikiti (mi)	mosque
mke (wa)	wife	Msomali (wa)	a Somalian
Mkenya (wa)	Kenyan person	mstari (mi)	line
mkimbiaji (wa)	runner	Msumbiji	Mozambique
mkingamo (mi)	barrier, cross- roads	Mswidi (wa)	a Swede
mkoa (mi)	state, province	mtaa (mi)	street/avenue
mkoloni (wa)	colonialist	mtalaka (wa)	divorcee
mkondo (mi)	current	Mtanzania (wa)	a Tanzanian
mkono (mi)	arm, hand	mtazamo	viewpoint, attitude
mkopo (mi)	loan, credit	mti (mi)	tree
mkulima (wa)	farmer	mto (mi)	river, pillow
mkurugenzi (wa)	director	mtoto (wa)	child
mle	there inside	mtu (wa)	person
mlima (mi)	mountain	mtunzi (wa)	composer, author
mlinzi (wa)	guard	muda (mi)	time, period of time
mnara (mi)	tower	muhimu (<i>adj.</i>)	important
mnazi (mi)	coconut palm	mume	husband
mno	too much, to excess	(<i>pl. waume</i>)	
moja	one	Mungu	God
moja kwa	straight on/ahead	mvua	rain
moja		mvulana (wa)	boy
-mojawapo (<i>adj.</i>)	one of	mvuvi (wa)	fisherman
motokaa	motorcar	Mwafrika (wa)	an African
mpaka (mi)	border	mwaka (mi)	year
mpaka	until, to	mwaliko (mi)	invitation
mpango (mi)	arrangement, plan	mwalimu (wa)	teacher
mpendwa	dear, beloved	mwana (<i>pl. wana</i>)	son, daughter (<i>lit.</i> one's own child)
		mwanafunzi (wa)	student

mwanamke	woman	ndi- + <i>suffix</i>	is/are
mwanamuziki (wa)	musician	ndiyo	yes, that is so
mwangalifu (wa)	careful person	ndizi	banana(s) (savoury or sweet)
mwanzo (mi)	beginning/start	ndoa	marriage
mwanzoni mwa	at/in the beginning	ndoto	dream(s)
mwembe (mi)	mango tree	ndugu	relative, brother/ sister
mwenye (<i>pl. wenye</i>)	someone with/ having, owner	-ngapi? (<i>adj.</i>)	how much?/man
mwenzi (<i>pl. wenzi</i>)	companion, colleague	Ngazija	Comoro Islands
mwerevu (<i>pl. werevu</i>)	clever/cunning person	ngojea (v.)	wait for
mwezi (<i>pl. miezi</i>)	month, moon	ngoma	drum(s), traditional dance
mwili (<i>pl. miili</i>)	the body	ng'ombe	cow(s)
mwimbaji (wa)	singer	ngumi	fist
Mwingereza (wa)	English person	nguyu	ankle
mwisho (mi)	end	ni	am, is, are, it is
mwishoni mwa	at the end of	nini?	what?
mwuguzi (wa)	nurse	njaa	hunger, famine
mzee (wa)	old man, an elder, parent	nje	outside
mzima (wa)	healthy, mature person	njia	path, way, road
N		njia panda	crossroad/ junction
na	and, with, by	njooni!	come everyone!
nafasi	opportunity, space	njoo!	come!
nafuu	improvement	nne	four
nane	eight	Novemba	November
nani?	what person(s), who?	nunua (v.)	buy
nchi	country(ies)	nunuliwa (v.)	be bought
ndani	inside	nusu	half, semi
ndege	bird, plane	nyama	meat
ndevu	beard	nyinyi	you (<i>pl.</i>)
		nyonga (v.)	strangle someone
		nyota	star(s)
		nyuma	back, behind
		nyumba	house(s)
		nyusi (<i>sing. usi</i>)	eyebrows
		nywele (<i>sing. unywele</i>)	hair

O

oa (v.)	marry
ogopesha (v.)	frighten, scare
Oktoba	October
olewa (v.)	be married
omba (v.)	ask for, pray for
ombi (ma)	request, prayer
ona (v.)	see
onana (v.)	see each other
ondoka (v.)	leave, depart
onekana (v.)	seem, appear
ongoza (v.)	lead, guide
onja (v.)	taste
onya (v.)	warn
onyesha (v.)	show, demonstrate
onywa (v.)	be warned
orodha	list, catalogue
ota (v.)	dream
-ote (adj.)	all, whole

P

paja (ma)	thigh
paji (ma)	forehead
paka (v.)	apply, smear
pale	there
pamba	cotton, cotton wool
pamoja	together
-pana (adj.)	wide, broad
pana (v.)	there is
panda (v.)	plant, sow
panda (v.)	climb, go up, mount, board
pandishwa (v.)	be raised, uplifted
pandwa (v.)	be planted
Pasaka	Easter
pasi	passport(s)
pasi	clothes iron
pata (v.)	get

patana (v.)	be compatible
patikana (v.)	be available
patwa na (v.)	come down with
peke yako	by yourself (peke yangu , by myself, etc)
peleka (v.)	send, transmit
penda (v.)	like, love
pendeza (v.)	be pleasing
pengine	sometimes, perhaps
penya (v.)	penetrate
pesa	money
piga gitaa (v.)	play the guitar
piga muziki (v.)	play music
piga simu (v.)	make a phone call
pigia simu (v.)	phone someone
pika (v.)	cook
pili	second, secondly, next
pima (v.)	test, examine, assess
pinda (v.)	bend, fold
pinga (v.)	oppose, obstruct
pita (v.)	pass, make a turn
pitia (v.)	pass by/at/near
pochi	wallet/purse
pokea (v.)	receive, accept, take
pole!	my sympathy!
polepole	slowly, carefully
polisi	policeman, the (and <i>ma pl.</i>) police
pombe	beer
popote	anywhere, wherever
posta	post office
potea (v.)	get lost, go astray (wander, be ruined)
pua	nose

pumzika (v.)	rest	salama salimini	safe and sound
pungua (v.)	decrease	salama	safely, securely
punguzwa (v.)	be reduced	salama	safety, peace, good health
puuzwa (v.)	be disregarded	salimia (v.)	give regards to
pwani	coast	samahani!	excuse me! I'm sorry!
-pya (adj.)	new	samaki	fish
R		samehe (v.)	forgive, pardon
radhi	pardon	sanaa	art(s), handi- craft(s)
rafiki	friend(s)	sasa	now
(and ma/pl.)		sawa	correct, OK, equ
rahisi (adj.)	easy, cheap	sehemu	part, section
raia	citizen(s)	sekunde	second of time
rangi	colour, dye, paint	sema (v.)	say, speak
-refu (adj.)	tall, long	semea (v.)	speak to/for
reli	railway, rails	Septemba	September
ridhika (v.)	be satisfied	sera	policy
rika (ma)	age group	serikali	government
riziki	daily needs, God's blessings	shairi (ma)	poem
robo	one quarter	shaka	doubt(s)
rudi	return, reverse, come back	(and ma/pl.)	
rudiana	return to/with, reunite with	shamba (ma)	field, farm
Rumi	Rome	shangaa (v.)	be amazed/ surprised
S		shangazi	paternal aunt
saa	hour(s), clock(s), watch(es)	shauri (ma)	advice
saba	seven	shauriwa (v.)	be advised
sabini	seventy	shavu (ma)	the cheek
sabuni	soap(s)	shawishi (v.)	urge, persuade
safari	journey, occasion	sherehe	celebration(s)
safi (adj.)	clean, pure	sheria	law(s); justice
safiri (v.)	travel	shiba (v.)	satisfied with foc
safisha (v.)	clean	shida	problem, difficul
sahau (v.)	forget	shika	hold, grasp
saidiana (v.)	help each other	Shikamoo	My respects! (reply is Marahaba!)
		shimo (ma)	hole, pit
		shindwa (v.)	be beaten, fail
		shingo	neck

shughuli	business, preoccupations	siyo hivyo	that's not right, not that way
shughulisha (v.)	keep someone busy	siyo	it is not so, no
shuka (v.)	descend, get off	soko (ma)	market
shukrani	thanks, gratitude	soma (v.)	read, study
shukuru (v.)	be grateful/ thankful	somesha (v.)	teach, educate
shule	school	starehe (v.)	be comfortable, rest easy (have a good time)
si	am not, are not, isn't	stesheni	railway station(s)
siasa	politics	sungura	hare(s), rabbit(s)
sifiwa (v.)	be praised	swali (ma)	question
sifuri	zero, nil		
sigara	cigarette(s)	T	
Sijambo	I am fine	taabu	problem(s), trouble(s)
sikia (v.)	hear, feel	taarifa	statement, report, announcement
sikika (v.)	be heard, be audible	tabia	character, characteristics, nature
sikio (ma)	ear	tafadhali	please
sikitika (v.)	be sad/sorry, disappointed	tafrija	party, reception
siku	day(s)	taifa (ma)	nation, nationality
siku zote	always	taka (v.)	want
silaha	weapon(s), arms	takwimu	statistic(s)
simama (v.)	stop, stand, rise up	talaka	divorce
simba	lion	tamasha	festivity, spectacle
simu	telephone, telegram, telex	tambiana (v.)	brag/boast to one another
simulia (v.)	tell a story, narrate	tambua (v.)	realize, recognize
sindikiza (v.)	see someone off, escort someone	tambuka reli	level crossing
sinema	cinema	tangawizi	ginger, ginger beer
sisi	we (sisi sote , all of us)	tano	five
sita	six	tanzia	obituary (-ies)
sitini	sixty	tarab(u)	Swahili/Arab music
sivyo!	that's not so! not that way!	tarehe	date
		taslimu (adj.)	prompt (cash) payment

tatu	three
taya (ma)	jaw
tazama (v.)	look at, watch
tegemea (v.)	expect, rely on
tekelezwa (v.)	be implemented
teknolojia	technology
tekisi	a taxi
tele (and <i>adj.</i>)	plenty of, a lot
tembea (v.)	walk, travel around
tembelea (v.)	visit, walk with
tengana (v.)	be separated
tengeneza (v.)	repair, manufacture, prepare
teremka (v.)	descend, get off
tetemeka (v.)	tremble, shake
thelathini	thirty
themanini	eighty
tia (v.)	put, put in, place
tiba	medicine, treatment
tibiwa (v.)	be medically treated
timu	team
tisa	nine
tisini	ninety
tofauti	difference
tofautiana (v.)	be different
toka (v.)	come from, out of
tokana na (v.)	result, stem from
tokea (v.)	happen, occur
toweka (v.)	disappear, vanish
treni	train
tu	only, just
tuhumiwa (v.)	be suspected (of)
tumai, tumaini (v.)	hope, expect
tumbo (ma)	stomach
tumia (v.)	use
tumiwa (v.)	be used

tunda (ma)	a fruit
tunga (v.)	compose, arrange
twaa (v.)	take, pick up

U

ua (ma)	flower
ua (<i>pl. nyua</i>)	courtyard
ubaguzi	discrimination
ubalozi	embassy
ubao (<i>pl. mbao</i>)	board
Ubelgiji	Belgium
ubingwa	championship, expertise
uchumi	economy, economics
udi	Arab lute
ufagio (<i>pl. fagio</i>)	broom
ufahamu	consciousness, comprehension
ufunguo (<i>pl. funguo</i>)	key
ugali	cooked maize meal
Ugiriki	Greece
ugonjwa (<i>pl. magonjwa</i>)	illness
Uhabeshi	Ethiopia
Uholanzi	Holland
uhuru	independence, freedom
Uingereza	England, Britain
ujenzi	building, construction, architecture
Ujerumani	Germany
ujinga	ignorance
ujumbe	message, delegation
ukoloni	colonialism
ukucha (<i>pl. kucha</i>)	finger nail, toenail

ukurasa	page
(<i>pl. kurasa</i>)	
ukuta	wall
(<i>pl. kuta</i>)	
ukweli	truth
Ulaya	Europe
ulimi	tongue
(<i>pl. ndimi</i>)	
ulimwengu	world, universe
uliza (v.)	ask question(s)
uma (v.)	bite, hurt
umeme	electricity
Umoja wa	The United
Mataifa	Nations
umri	age
umuhimu	importance
umwa (v.)	be in pain
ungana (v.)	be joined
unganisha (v.)	merge, connect
Unguja	Zanzibar
unyonga	hip
(<i>pl. nyonga</i>)	
upande	side
(<i>pl. pande</i>)	
upanga	sword
(<i>pl. panga</i>)	
upesi	quickly
upimaji	assessment
upinzani	opposition
Ureno	Portugal
urithi	inheritance/ heritage
Urusi	Russia
ushairi	poetry
usiku	night, at night
usiku kucha	all night long
uso (<i>pl. nyuso</i>)	face
utaifa	nationhood
uvumulivu	patience, tolerance
uza (v.)	sell
uzazi	birth, childbearing
uzuri	beauty, goodness

V

vidonge (ki)	pills, tablets
vifaa (ki)	supplies, equipment
vimba (v.)	swell
vipindi (ki)	periods of time, programmes
vita	war
vitambaa (ki)	cloths, materials (fabric)
viza	visa(s)
vua (v.)	fish, catch fish
vuka (v.)	cross over (sail)
vuma (v.)	cause a stir
vumbi (ma)	dust
vunjika (v.)	be broken
vutia (v.)	fascinate, attract
vyombo vya jikoni	kitchenware

W

Waafrika	Africans
wahi (v.)	manage to, be on time for time
wakati (<i>pl. nyakati</i>)	
wakati ujao	the future
walakini	but, however
wale	those (of people/ animals)
wali	cooked rice
wananchi (<i>pl.</i>)	fellow country- men, citizens
wao	they, their, theirs
wapi?	where?
washa (v.)	itch (light, ignite)
wasia	will, testament
wasiliana (v.)	be in contact, communicate
wayo (<i>pl.</i> nyayo)	sole of the foot

weka (v.)	put, place, keep
wembe (<i>pl. nyembe</i>)	razor
wewe	you
weza (v.)	can, be able
-wezekana (v.)	be possible
wiki	week
wimbo (<i>pl. nyimbo</i>)	song
woga (u)	fear, cowardice

Y

yai (ma)	egg
yaliyomo	table of contents
yeye	she, he, her, him
yule	that (person/ animal)

Z

zaa (v.)	give birth, bear fruits
zahanati	dispensary
zaidi	more
zaliwa (v.)	be born
zamani	in the past
zawadiwa (v.)	be awarded
zidi (v.)	increase
zidishwa (v.)	be increased
-zima (<i>adj.</i>)	whole, well, adult
ziwa (ma)	lake, breast
zuia (v.)	prevent
-zuri (<i>adj.</i>)	good, beautiful

English–Swahili glossary

A

able (be)	-weza (v.)	also	pia, vilevile
above	juu	although	ingawa
abundance	wingi	am	ni
accident	ajali	America	Marekani
accompany	-fuatana (v.)	American	Mmarekani
accompany	-sindikiza (v.)	(person)	
part way		among	miongoni mwa, kati ya
address	anwani	amount	kiasi
advertisement	tangazo (ma)	and	na, tena, -ka-
advice	shauri (ma)	angry	-kasirika (v.)
advise	-shauri (v.)	animal	mnyama (wa)
affair	jambo (<i>pl. mambo</i>)	announcement	tangazo (ma)
	-ogopa (v.)	another	-ingine (<i>adj.</i>)
afraid (be)	Afrika	answer	jibu (ma)
Africa	baada ya	any	-o -ote (<i>adj.</i>)
after	alasiri	appearance	sura
afternoon	baadaye	April	Aprili
afterwards	tena	approach	-karibia (v.)
again	umri	(something)	
age	-kubali (v.)	are	ni
agree	-kubaliana (v.)	area	eneo (ma)
agreement (be in)	kilimo	arm	mkono (mi)
agriculture	mbele	arrive	-fika (v.)
ahead	ukimwi	art	sanaa
AIDS	hewa	article (written)	makala
air	-ote (<i>adj.</i>)	asset(s)	mali
all	-ruhusu (v.)	aside	kando
allow	peke -angu/	ask	-uliza (v.)
alone	-ako, etc.	assistant	msaidizi (wa)
		at	kwa, kwenye
		attend	-hudhuria (v.)

aunt (maternal)	mama mdogo	blessing	baraka
aunt (paternal)	shangazi	blind person	kipofu (vi)
B		blood	damu
		blue	buluu
		board	ubao (<i>pl. mbao</i>)
baby	mtoto mchanga	board (a bus etc.)	-panda (v.)
back (of the body)	mgongo (mi)	body	mwili (mi)
bad	-baya (v.)	boil (something)	-chemsha (v.)
badly	vibaya	boiling (be)	-chemka (v.)
badness	ubaya	book	kitabu (vi.)
bag	mfuko (mi)	border	mpaka (mi)
banana	ndizi	box	sanduku (ma)
banana plant	mgomba (mi)	boy	mvulana (wa)
bar (for drinks)	baa (ma)	boy-child	mtoto wa
basket	kikapu (vi)		kiume (wa)
be (to)	-wa/-kuwa (v.)	bread	mkate (mi)
bean	haragwe (ma)	break	-vunja (v.)
beat	-piga (v.)	bride	biarusi (ma)
because	kwa sababu	bridegroom	bwana arusi
bed	kitanda (vi)		(ma)
beer	pombe, bia	bring	-leta (v.)
before	kabla	Britain	Uingereza
beg	-omba (v.)	British person	Mwingereza
beggar	mwombaji		(wa)
	(wa)	broken (be)	-vunjika (v.)
begin	-anza (v.)	broom	ufagio
beginning	mwanzo (mi)		(<i>pl. fagio</i>)
behind	nyuma	brother	kaka
bend	-pinda (v.)	build	-jenga (v.)
best	bora (<i>adj.</i>)	building	jumba (ma)
better (get)	-pona (v.)	burn	-waka (v.)
betterment	nafuu	bus	basi (ma)
between	kati ya, baina	buy	-nunua (v.)
	ya		
big	-kubwa (<i>adj.</i>)	C	
bicycle	baiskeli	call	-ita (v.)
birth (give)	-zaa (v.)	car	gari (ma),
black	-eusi (<i>adj.</i>)		motokaa
blackboard	ubao	care for	-tunza (v.)
	(<i>pl. mbao</i>)	carry	-chukua/-beba
bleed	-toka damu		(v.)
bless	-bariki (v.)		

cassette	kanda	company	kampuni (ma)
cat	paka	compete	-shindana (v.)
certainty	hakika	competition	mashindano (pl.)
certificate	cheti (vy)		
chair	kiti (vi)	complete(ly)	kamili
chat	-zungumza/ -ongea (v.)	computer	kompyuta
		concerning	juu ya, -husu (v.)
cheap	rahisi (adj.)		
chest (of the body)	kifua (vi)	condition	hali
chicken	kuku	conference	mkutano (mi)
child	mtoto (wa)	congratulations	hongera
childhood	utoto	construct	-unda (v.)
China	Uchina	continue	-endelea (v.)
Chinese person	Mchina (wa)	cook	-pika (v.)
Christian person	Mkristo (wa)	cook	mpishi (wa)
church	kanisa (ma)	cooking pot	sufuria, chungu (vy)
city	jiji (ma)		
clap	-piga makofi (v.)	cool (become)	-poa (v.)
		corner	pembe
class (position)	daraja	correct	sawa (adj.)
class (room/period)	darasa (ma)	count	-hesabu (v.)
clean	-safisha (v.)	country(-ies)	nchi
clean	safi (adj.)	cow(s)	ng'ombe
clerk	karani (ma)	create	-umba (v.)
climb	-panda (v.)	crop	zao (ma)
clock	saa	cross	-vuka (v.)
close	-funga (v.)	cultivate	-lima (v.)
cloth	kitambaa (vi)	cunning	-erevu (adj.)
clothes	nguo	cup	kikombe (vi)
cloud	wingu (ma)	cure	-ganga/-ponya (v.)
coast	pwani		
coconut	nazi	custom	desturi, kawaida
coconut palm	mnazi (mi)		mteja (wa)
coffee (drink)	kahawa	customer	forodha
cold	baridi (adj.)	customs office	-kata (v.)
collide	-gongana (v.)	cut	
colour	rangi		
come	-ja/-kuja (v.)		
come!	njoo!	D	
comfort	raha	damage	-haribu (v.)
companion	mwenzi (pl. wenzi)	dance	-cheza ngoma (v.)

dance	ngoma, dansi	dream	ndoto
danger	hatari	drink	-nywa/-kunywa (v.)
date (calendar)	tarehe		
daughter	mwana (wa), binti	drink (beverage)	kinywaji (vi)
dawn	alfajiri	drive	-endesha (v.)
day (24 hrs)	siku	driver	dereva (ma)
daytime	mchana	drug	dawa (and ma <i>pl.</i>)
debt	deni (ma)	drum	-piga ngoma (v.)
December	Desemba/ Disemba	drum	ngoma
decline (invitation)	-kataa (v.)	drunk (be)	-lewa (v.)
decrease	-pungua (v.)	drunkard	mlevi (wa)
decrease (something)	-punguza (v.)	during	wakati wa
definitely	kabisa	duties	shughuli
depend (on)	-tegemea (v.)	E	
descend	-shuka/ -teremka (v.)		kila
despair	-kata tamaa (v.)	each	sikio (ma)
destroy	-haribu (v.)	ear	mapema
development	maendeleo (<i>pl.</i>)	early	mashariki
die	-fa/-kufa/fariki (v.)	east	rahiisi
differ	-tofautiana (v.)	easy	-la/-kula (v.)
difference	tofauti	eat	mhariri (wa)
difficulty	taabu, tatizo (ma)	editor	yai (ma)
dispensary	zahanati	egg	Misri
distress	taabu	Egypt	-nane
divide	-gawa/-gawanya (v.)	eight	-themanini
do	-fanya (v.)	eighty	au, ama
doctor	daktari (ma), mganga (wa)	either	mzee (wa)
dog	mbwa	elder	umeme
door	mlango (mi)	electricity	tembo, ndovu
doubt	shaka (ma)	elephant(s)	mwisho (mi)
doughnut	andazi (ma)	end	mwishoni, mwishowe
down/downwards	chini	in the ~	-tosha (v.)
dream	-ota (v.)	enough (be)	-ingia (v.)
		enter	bahasha
		envelope	kosa (ma)
		error	hasa
		especially	Ulaya
		Europe	

European (person)	Mzungu (wa)	fifty	hamsini
evening	jioni	fight	-pigana (v.)
every	kila	fighting	mapigano (<i>pl.</i>)
exactly	kamili	fill	-jaza (v.)
example	mfano (mi)	final	-a mwisho
except	ila	finally	hatimaye, mwishowe
expect	-tegemea (v.)	find	-kuta (v.)
expensive	ghali	finger	kidole (vi), chanda (vy)
expert	mtaalam(u) (wa)	finish	-maliza (v.)
explain	-eleza (v.)	finished (be)	-isha/-kwisha (v.)
explanation	maelezo (<i>pl.</i>)	fire	moto (mi)
extent	kadiri	first	-a kwanza (<i>adj.</i>)
extremely	mno	firstly	kwanza
eye	jicho (<i>pl. macho</i>)	follow	-fuata (v.)
F		food	chakula (vy)
fabric	kitambaa (vi)	foot	mguu (mi)
face	uso (<i>pl. nyuso</i>) sura	forbid	-kataza (v.)
faeces	choo (vy)	force	nguvu
family	familia	foreigner	mgeni (wa)
fan (fanatic)	mshabiki (wa)	forest	msitu (mi), mwitu (mi)
far	mbali	forget	-sahau (v.)
farm	shamba (ma)	forgive	-samehe (v.)
fast (from food)	-funga (v.)	fork	uma (<i>pl. nyuma</i>)
fasten	-funga (v.)	form (school)	kidato (vi)
fat (humans)	-nene (<i>adj.</i>)	forty	arobaini
fat (animals/ things)	-nono (<i>adj.</i>)	foundation	msingi (mi)
father	baba (and <i>ma pl.</i>)	four	-nne
February	Februari	France	Ufaransa
feed	-lisha (v.)	French person	Mfaransa (wa)
feel (hungry/ cold etc.)	-ona (v.), -sikia (v.)	Friday	Ijumaa
female	-ke, -a kike (<i>adj.</i>)	friend(s)	rafiki, mwenzi (<i>pl. wenzi</i>)
few	-chache (<i>adj.</i>)	frog	chura (vy)
		from	-toka (v.)
		front	mbele

front (in ~ of)	mbele ya	green	kijani (<i>adj.</i>)
fruit	tunda (ma)	greet (someone)	-salimu (v.)
full (be)	-jaa (v.)	greetings	salaam/salamu
		group	kikundi (vi), kundi (ma)
G		guard	-linda (v.)
game	mchezo (mi)	(something)	
game-park	mbuga ya	guard	mlinzi (wa)
(reserve)	wanyama	guest	mgeni (wa)
garden	bustani		
gazelle	paa	H	
Gemini	Mapacha	hair (<i>pl.</i>)	nywele (<i>sing.</i> unywele)
(star sign)		hat	kofia (ma)
gentleman	bwana (ma)	have	-kuwa na (v.)
genuine	halisi (and <i>adj.</i>)	having	-enye (<i>adj.</i>)
geography	jiografia	he	yeye, -a
German person	Mjerumani (wa)	head	kichwa (vi)
Germany	Ujerumani	hear	sikia (v.)
get	-pata (v.)	heart	moyo (mi)
gift	zawadi	heat	joto
giraffe	twiga	heavy	-zito (<i>adj.</i>)
girl	msichana (wa)	height	urefu
girl-child	mtoto wa kike (wa)	help	saidia (v.)
give	-pa/-kupa (v.)	hen(s)	kuku
go	-enda/kwenda (v.)	her(s)	yeye, -ake, -m-
go!	nenda!	here	hapa, huku
go (about)	-tembea (v.)	herself	mwenyewe
go (around)	-zunguka (v.)	hippopotamus	kiboko (vi)
go (up)	-panda (v.)	his	-ake
goat(s)	mbuzi	hit	piga (v.)
God	Mungu	hold	shika (v.)
good	-ema/-zuri (<i>adj.</i>)	holiday	likizo, livu
goodbye	kwaheri	hope	tumaini (v.)
goodness	wema	hot	moto
government	serikali	hotel	hoteli
grandmother	bibi (ma)	hour	saa
grasp	-shika (v.)	house	nyumba
grass	majani (<i>pl.</i>)	how?	vipi? -je?
great	-kuu (<i>adj.</i>)	how many?	-ngapi?
Greece	Ugiriki	human being	binadamu
Greek person	Mgiriki (wa)		

hundred	mia
hunger	njaa
hunt	-winda (v.)
hurt	-uma (v.)
husband	mume (wa)
hut	kibanda (vi)
hyena	fisi

I

I	mimi, ni-
idea	wazo (ma)
if	ikiwa, kama
ignite	-washa (v.)
ill (become)	ugua (v.)
illness	ugonjwa
immediately	mara moja, sasa hivi
improvement	nafuu
increase	-ongeza (v.)
India	Bara Hindi
Indian (person)	Mhindi (Wa)
injured (be)	umia (v.)
injury	jeraha (ma)
insect	mdudu (wa)
inside	ndani
instead (of)	badala ya
intend	kusudia (v.)
invite	alika/karibisha (v.)
iron	piga pasi (v.)
(something)	
iron	pasi
is	ni
its	-ake

J

January	Januari
join	-unga (v.)
journalist	mwandishi wa habari (wa)
journey	safari

judgement	hukumu
July	Julai
jump	-ruka (v.)
June	Juni

K

kebab	mshikaki (mi)
key	ufunguo (<i>pl. funguo</i>)
kill	-ua (v.)
kitchen	jiko (<i>pl. meko</i>)
knee	goti (ma)
kneel	-piga magoti (v.)
knife	kisu (vi)
knock	-gonga (v.)
know	-jua (v.)
knowledge	maarifa (<i>pl.</i>)

L

lady	bibi (ma)
lamp(s)	taa
land (set down)	-tua (v.)
land(s)	ardhi
language(s)	lugha
last (position)	-a mwisho
late (be)	-chelewa (v.)
later (on)	halafu
lead	-ongoza (v.)
leader	kiongozi (vi)
leaf	jani (ma)
learn	-jifunza (v.)
leave	-ondoka/-toka (v.)
left (direction)	kushoto
leg	mguu (mi)
lemon	limau (ma)
lemon tree	mlimau (mi)
length	urefu
leopard(s)	chui
lesson	somo (ma)
letter(s)	barua

library	maktaba	marry (men)	-oa (v.)
light (ignite)	-washa (v.)	marry	-olewa (v.)
like	-penda (v.)	(women)	
like	kama	match (lighter)	kiberiti (vi)
line	mstari (mi)	match	mashindano (pl.)
lip	mdomo (mi)	(competition)	
listen	-sikiliza (v.)	matter	jambo
live	-kaa/-ishi (v.)		(pl. mambo)
load	mzigo (mi)	mattress	godoro (ma)
loaf	mkate (mi)	May	Mei, Mai
local (person)	mwenyeji	me	mimi
	(pl. wenyeji)	meaning	maana
long	-refu (adj.)	meat	nyama
long ago	zamani	medicine(s)	dawa (and <i>ma p</i>)
look (after)	-tunza/-angalia	meet	-kutana (v.)
	(v.)	meeting	mkutano (mi)
look (at)	-tazama,	message	ujumbe
	-angalia (v.)	metre	mita
look (for)	-tafuta (v.)	midday	aduhuri
lorry	lori (ma)	middle (in the)	katikati
loser	mshindwa (wa)	mini bus	daladala,
lost (be)	-potea (v.)		matatu
love	-penda (v.)	minute(s)	dakika
love	upendo	miss	-kosa (v.)
luck	bahati	(something)	
luggage	mzigo (mi)	mistake (make)	-kosea (v.)
		mistake	kosa (ma)
		money	pesa, fedha,
			hela
M		monkey	kima (and <i>pl.</i>)
machete	panga (ma)	month	mwezi (mi)
make	-fanya,	moon	mwezi (mi)
	-tengeneza (v.)	more	zaidi
male	-ume,	morning	asubuhi
	-a kiume (adj.)	mosque	msikiti (mi)
man	mwanamume	mosquito(es)	mbu
	(pl. wanaume)	mosquito net	chandalua
mango	embe (ma)		/chandarua (vy)
mango tree	mwembe (mi)		
many	-ingi	mother	mama
map(s)	ramani	motorcycle(s)	pikipiki
March	Machi	mountain	mlima (mi)
market	soko (ma)	mouth	mdomo (mi)

mouth (inner)	kinywa (vi)	number(s)	namba, nambari
Mozambique	Msumbiji	numeral(s)	tarakimu
museum	makumbusho (<i>pl.</i>)	nurse	mwuguzi (wa)
music	muziki (mi)		
Muslim person	Mwislamu (wa)		
my	-angu		

N

name	jina (ma)	observe	-angalia (v.)
narrow	-embamba (<i>adj.</i>)	obtainable	-patikana (v.)
nation	taifa	(be)	
nationhood	utaifa	occur	-tokea (v.)
near	karibu	ocean	bahari
necessary	lazima	October	Oktoba
necessities	mahitaji	of	-a
need	-hitaji (v.)	office	ofisi
(something)		oil	mafuta
need	uhitaji, haja	old (people)	-zee (v.)
neighbour	jirani (ma)	old (become)	-zeeka (v.)
neck(s)	shingo	on	juu ya
net	wavu (<i>pl. nyavu</i>)	once	mara moja
new	-pya (<i>adj.</i>)	only	tu
news	habari	open	-wazi (v.)
newspaper	gazeti (ma)	operation	operesheni
next (to)	kando ya, karibu	opportunity	nafasi
	na	oppose	-pinga (v.)
	usiku	or	au, ama
night	sifuri	orange	chungwa (ma)
nil	tisa		
nine	hapana, la, siyo		
no	upuuzi		
nonsense	kaskazini		
north	pua		
nose	cheti (vy)		
note	tangazo (ma)		
notice	-tangaza/-arifu		
notify	(v.)		
	bado, -ja-		
not (yet)	sifuri		
nought	Novemba		
November	sasa		
now			

O

observe	-angalia (v.)
obtainable	-patikana (v.)
(be)	
occur	-tokea (v.)
ocean	bahari
October	Oktoba
of	-a
office	ofisi
oil	mafuta
old (people)	-zee (v.)
old (become)	-zeeka (v.)
on	juu ya
once	mara moja
only	tu
open	-wazi (v.)
operation	operesheni
opportunity	nafasi
oppose	-pinga (v.)
or	au, ama
orange	chungwa (ma)

P

parent	mzazi (wa), mzee (wa)
park (vehicle)	-egsha (v.)
park	bustani
part(s)	sehemu
particularly	hasa
party (political)	chama (vy)
pass	-pita (v.)
passenger(s)	abiria
passerby	mpita njia (wa)
path(s)	njia
patience	subira
patient (be)	-subiri (v.)
patient	mgonjwa

pay	-lipa (v.)	pray	-omba/-sali (v.)
peak	kilele (vi)	preferable	afadhali
pepper	pilipili	prepare	-tayarisha (v.), -tengeneza (v.)
perhaps	labda, huenda		
period	muda (mi), kipindi (vi)	president	rais
permission	ruhusa	prevent	-zuia (v.)
permit	-ruhusu (v.)	price	bei
petrol	petroli	print	-piga chapa (v.)
photograph	-piga picha (v.)	private(ly)	binafsi (and <i>adj.</i>)
(take a)		problem	tatizo (ma), shau
photograph(s)	picha	produce	-zaa (v.)
piece	kipande (vi)	progress	maendeleo (pl.)
pick up	-twaa (v.)	progress	-endelea (v.)
pillow	mtoto (mi)	promise (to)	-ahidi (v.)
pineapple	nanasi (ma)	promise	ahadi
pineapple	mnanasi (mi)	pronunciation	matamshi (pl.)
plant		property	mali
place	mahali	provisions	manufaa (pl.)
plantation	shamba (ma)	pull	-vuta (v.)
please	tafadhali	push	-sukuma (v.)
please (to)	-pendeza (v.)	put	-tia/-weka (v.)
plenty	wingi, tele		
pluck	-chuma (v.)	Q	
plug	-ziba (v.)	quarrel	-gombana (v.)
(something)		quarrelling	ugomvi (pl. magomvi)
plug	kizibo (vi)		
pocket	mfuko (mi)	quarter	robo
policeman/	polisi, askari	question	swali (ma)
woman		quickly	kwa haraka, upe mbio
police station	kituo cha polisi		
poor	maskini	quiet (be)	-nyamaa (v.), -nyamaza (v.)
port	bandari		
porter	mpagazi (wa)	quiet	kimya, -tulivu (<i>adj.</i>)
possible (be)	-wezekana (v.)	quietness	kimya, utulivu
post office	posta		
postage stamp	stempu		
potato	kiazi (vi)	R	
pound	pauni	race	shindano (ma)
(currency)		rain	-nyesha (v.)
poverty	umaskini, ufukara	rain	mvua
power	nguvu		

read	-soma (v.)	safety	usalama
ready (get)	-tayarisha (v.)	salt	chumvi
ready	tayari	satisfied	-shiba (v.)
real	halisi (and <i>adj.</i>)	(be full)	
reason	sababu, maana	Saturday	Jumamosi
receive	-pokea (v.)	saucepan	sufuria
recently	juzijuzi	say	-sema (v.)
reception	mapokezi (<i>pl.</i>)	sea	bahari
(hotel)		search	-tafuta (v.)
red	-ekundu (<i>adj.</i>)	season	majira (<i>pl.</i>)
reduce	-punguza (v.)	(time of year)	
refuse	-kataa (v.)	second	sekunde, nukta
region	mkoa (mi)	(of time)	
relative(s)	ndugu	second	-a pili (<i>adj.</i>)
remain	-baki (v.)	secondly	pili
remember	-kumbuka (v.)	secretary	karani (ma), mhazili (wa)
remove	-ondoa (v.)		sehemu
repair	-tengeneza (v.)	section(s)	-ona (v.)
repairs	matengenezo (<i>pl.</i>)	see	-enyewe
reply	-jibu (v.)	self	-uza (v.)
research	utafiti	sell	mwuzaji (wa)
responsibilities	madaraka (<i>pl.</i>)	seller	-peleka/-tuma (v.)
rest	-pumzika (v.)	send	Septemba
return	-rudi (v.)	September	mtumishi (wa)
return	-rudisha (v.)	servant	saba
(something)		seven	sabini
rhinoceros	kifaru (vi)	seventy	-shona (v.)
rice (plant)	mpunga	sew	kivuli (vi)
(husked)	mchele	shade	kivuli (vi)
(cooked)	wali	shadow	-nyoa (v.)
riddle	kitendawili (vi)	shave	yeye, a-
right (direction)	kulia	she	shuka (ma)
ring	pete	sheet (bed)	shilingi
river	mto (mi)	shilling(s)	shati (ma)
road(s) (main)	njia, barabara	shirt	kiatu (vi)
roof	paa (ma)	shoe	duka (ma)
room	chumba (vy)	shop	-fupa (<i>adj.</i>)
		short	bega (ma)
		shoulder	-onyesha (v.)
		show	upande
		side	(<i>pl. pande</i>)
S			
sack	gunia (ma)		
safely	salama		

silence	kimya	specialist	mtaalam(u) (wa)
silver	fedha	speed	mwendo (mi)
since	tangu, toka	spice	kiungo (vi)
sing	-imba (v.)	split	-pasua (v.)
singer	mwimbaji (wa)	spoon	kijiko (vi)
singly	-moja -moja	stage	jukwaa (ma)
sister	dada	stand	-simama (v.)
sit	-kaa (v.)	standard	sanifu (adj.)
situation	hali	start	-anza (v.)
six	sita	state	hali
sixty	sitini	station	stesheni
size	ukubwa	stay	-kaa (v.)
skilled worker	fundi (ma)	steal	-iba (v.)
sleep	-lala usingizi (v.)	steam	moshi (mi)
slightly	kidogo	still (on-going)	bado
slowly	polepole	stir	-koroga (v.)
small	-dogo (adj.)	stomach	tumbo (ma)
smoke	moshi (mi)	stone	jiwe (pl. mawe)
smooth	laini (adj.)	stop	-simama (v.)
snake	nyoka	stopper	kizibo (vi)
sneeze	-piga chafya (v.)	(bottle)	
snow	theluji	storey	ghorofa
socks	soksi	story	hadithi
soft	laini (adj.)	straight (on)	moja kwa moja
soft drink	soda	stranger	mgeni (wa)
soil	udongo	strength	nguvu
soldier	askari,	student	mwanafunzi (wa)
	mwanajeshi (wa)	studies	masomo (pl.)
some (part of)	baadhi (ya)	study	-soma (v.)
some (part)	-ingine	stupid	-jinga (adj.)
son	mwana (pl. wana)	stupidity	ujinga
song	wimbo	style	mtindo (mi)
	(pl. nyimbo)	succeed	-fana/-faulu (v.)
sorry (be)	-sikitika (v.)	success	fanka,
sorry!	samahani!, pole!		mafanikio (pl.)
sort (type)	aina, namna,	sudden	-a ghafula
	jinsi	suddenly	kwa ghafula
sound	sauti	sugar	sukari
south	kusini	sugar cane	muwa (mi)
space	nafasi	suitable (be)	-faa (v.)
Spain	Hispania	summit	kilele (vi)
speak	-sema (v.)	sun	jua (ma)

sweep	-fagia (v.)	thirty	telathini
swell	-vimba (v.)	this (person/ animal)	huyu
swim	-ogelea (v.)	this (thing)	hii, hiki , etc.
sympathy! (my)	pole!	those	-le + <i>prefix</i>
T		thousand	elfu (ma)
tailor	mshonaji (wa)	three	-tatu
take	chukua (v.)	throat	koo (ma)
take (away)	onda (v.)	throw	-tupa (v.)
talk	-zungumza/-ongea (v.)	Thursday	Alhamisi
tall	-refu	ticket	tiketi
Tanzanian (person)	Mtanzania (wa)	tie (to)	-funga (v.)
taxi	tekisi	time	saa, wakati
tea	chai	timetable	ratiba
teach	-fundisha/-funza (v.)	tired (be)	-choka (v.)
teacher	mwaliimu (wa)	today	leo
teaching	mafundisho	toe	kidole cha mguu (vi)
tear	-pasua (v.)	together	pamoja
telephone (to)	-piga simu (v.)	tomato	nyanya
telephone	simu	tomorrow	kesho
tell	-ambia (v.)	too (much)	mno
ten	kumi	tool	kifaa (vi)
terminus	kituo (vi)	tooth	jino (<i>pl. meno</i>)
thank	-shukuru (v.)	top	-a juu
thanks	asante	topic	mada
that	-le + <i>prefix</i>	total	jumla
their(s)	-ao + <i>prefix</i>	tourist	mtalii (wa)
them	wao, -wa-	town	mji (mi)
then	halafu, ndipo	trade	biashara
there	kule, pale, huko	trade (do)	-fanya biashara (v.)
these (people)	hawa	trader	mfanyabiashara (wa)
these (things)	hizi, hivi , etc.	train	treni
they	wao, -wa-	train (steam)	garimoshi (ma)
thief	mwizi (wezi)	travel	-safari (v.)
thing	kitu (vi)	traveller	msafiri (wa)
think	-fikiri/-waza (v.)	treat (illness)	-tibu/-ganga (v.)
thirst	kiu	tree	mti (mi)
		tribe	kabila (ma)
		trouble	taabu, shida

trousers	suruali	vegetables	mboga
truck	lori	vehicle	gari (ma)
true	kweli	very	sana
truly	kweli, kwa kweli	video	video
Tuesday	Jumanne	village	kijiji (vi)
turn	-pinda (v.)	visible (be)	-onekana (v.)
twenty	ishirini	visit	-tembelea (v.)
twice	mara mbili	voice	sauti
two	mbili, -wili-	vomit	-tapika (v.)
type	aina, jinsi, namna	vote	kupiga kura (v.)

U

Ugandan (person)	Mganda (wa)
umbrella	mwavuli (mi)
uncle (maternal)	mjomba (wa)
uncle (paternal)	baba mdogo
under	chini ya
understand	-elewa (v.)
undress	-vua (v.)
unfold	-kunjua (v.)
university	chuo kikuu (vy)
untangle	-tatua (v.)
untie	-fungua (v.)
until	mpaka, hadi, hata
up	juu
up (to)	mpaka
us	sisi, -tu-
USA	Marekani
useful (be)	-faa (v.)
usefulness	manufaa
useless	bure
usually	kwa kawaida, hu-

V

vacation	likizo, livu, mapumziko
various	mbalimbali

W

wake (up)	-amka (v.)
walk	-tembea (v.), -enda/-kwenda (v.)
walk (stroll)	matembezi
wall	ukuta (<i>pl.</i> kuta)
want	-taka (v.)
warn	-onya (v.)
wash (clothes)	-fua
wash (hands)	-nawa (v.)
whole	-zima (<i>adj.</i>)
why?	kwa nini?
why! (emphatic)	mbona!
wide	-pana (v.)
wife	mke (wa)
win (to)	-shinda (v.)
window	dirisha (ma)
wine	divai, mvinyo
with	na, kwa, pamoja na
woman	mwanamke (<i>pl.</i> wanawake)
woodland	msitu (mi)
word	neni (ma)
work (to)	-fanya kazi (v.)
work	kazi
worker	mfanyakazi (wa)
worry	wasiwasi

wound	jeraha (ma)	you	wewe, u-, -ku-
write (to)	-andika (v.)	you (<i>pl.</i>)	ninyi, m-, -ku-
writer	mwandishi		+ ni, -wa-
		young	-changa (<i>adj.</i>)
Y		youth	kijana (vi)
yawn (to)	-piga miayo (v.)	your (<i>sing.</i>)	-ako
year	mwaka (mi)	your (<i>pl.</i>)	-enu
yellow	manjano	Z	
yes	ndiyo	Zanzibar	Unguja, Zanzibar
yes!	naam! (<i>used by men</i>)	zebra	punda milia
yesterday	jana	zero	sifuri
yet	bado		