

The Gambia Pre-Service Training

Mandinka Language Tape Script



Greetings – General

Salalmamleekum -

Peace be upon you

Maleekumsalaam

Peace be upon you too

Suumoolu lee?

Where are the people of the compound?

I be jee

They are there.

Koritana te jee?

Hope there is no trouble there?

Tana te jee.

There is no trouble there.

Dindipolu be dii?

The Children are how?

I bee be jee.

They are all there.

Dookuwo be dii?

How is the work?

Dookuwo be jaŋ doron.

Work is here only.

Mbaa kaŋ domañ domañ

I am on it slowly - slowly

Specific Greetings

Morning

I saama

Good morning

I saama / last name

Good morning

Kayira laa ta?

Did you sleep in peace?

Kaira doron

Peace only

Kori I siinoota?

I hope you slept well?

Haa dee, n siinoota baake.

Yes, I slept very well.

Somandaa be dii?

How is the morning?

Somandaa be jaŋ doron

The morning is here only

Afternoon

I tiiñay

Good afternoon

I tiiñay / last name

Good afternoon

Kayira tiiñanta?

Did you spend the afternoon in peace?

Kayira doron

Peace only

Tilibuloo be dii?

How is the afternoon?

Tilibuloo be jaŋ doron.

The afternoon is here only.

Evening

I wulaara

Good evening

I wulaaraa /last name

Good evening

Wulaaroo be dii?
This is the afternoon?

Wulaaroo be jaŋ doron
The afternoon is fine.

Night
Suutoo be dii?
How is the night?

Suu too be jaŋ doron
The night is here only

Leave Taking
I yoo, n ka sey le
Alright, I am going home

I si ila moolu konton nñe
You can greet your people for me.

Iyoo Isaa mooy
Alright, they will hear it.

Fo Saama, fo soomandaa, fo wuraaro, fo tilibuloo
Till tomorrow, till tomorrow morning, till evening, till afternoon

Alamaa nga laa kayira la
May we sleep in peace.

Kayira niŋ Kayira.
Peace and peace

Personal Identification
I tondii?
What is your name?

N too mu Omar le ti.
My name is Omar.

I kontonŋ dung?
What about your last name?

N kotongo mu Saye le ti.
My last name is Saye.

I bota banku jumaa le?
Which country do you come from?

M bota Gambia le.
I come from the Gambia

I be sabatiriŋ mintoo le saayiŋ?
Where do you live now?

M be sabatiriŋ Bakau le saayiŋ.
I live in Bakau now.

I be sabatiriŋ mintoo le Gambia kono?
Where do you live in the Gambia?

M be sabatiriŋ Bakau le.
I am living in Bakau

Mune mu ila dookuwo ti?
What work do you do?

M mu Peace Corps Volunteer le ti.
I am a Peace Corps Volunteer

I ye sanji jelu le soto?
What is your age?

Nga sanji tang saba niŋ kononto le soto
I have 39 years.

I ye kewo soto le bang?
Do you have a husband?

Haa dee, ngaa soto le.
Yes, I have one.

I ye musoo soto le bay?
Do you have a wife?

I ye dingolu soto le bay?
Do you have children?

Introducing someone
ñij mu n teerimaa le ti.
This is my friend

A bota Bakau le
He is from Bakau

A be tara la jay fo lookuy kiliy.
He will stay here for one week

Shopping
I be dii?
How are you?

I ye bayoo soto le bay?
Do you have fabric?

I may borodewo soto bay?
You don't have lace right?

Meetaroo mu jelu le ti?
The meter is how much?

Hee! Wo daa koleyaata baake.
What! That is too expensive.

Dukare a talaa. N si kemoo joo noo le.
Please reduce it. I can pay a hundred

N lafita meetari tay ne la.
I want 10 meters

Hani, maa soto
No I don't have one.

Haa, ña diyo soto le.
Yes, I have children.

A too mu Musaa le ti.
His name is Musa

A ka dookuwo ke MRC le. A mu dokitaroo le ti
He works with MRC. He is a doctor.

M be jay doroy.
I am here only.

Haa bayoo be jay ne.
Yes, fabric is there.

I lafita bayi siifaa juma le la? ña
Waksoo, popliinoo aniñ mbaseño soto le.
Which type of fabric do you want? I have wax,
Popline and damask.

Haa, ñaa soto le. ña kulooru buluuriño,
jambakeroo aniñ wuleeringo soto le.
Yes, I do have it. I have blue, green and red colours.

Meetaroo mu dalasi keme kiling niñ tay luulu le
ti.
The meter costs D150.00

I be jelu le joo noo la.
How much can you pay?

Saayin dalasi keme kiling niñ muway niñ
luulu joo
Now you can pay D125

A fele. A baraka. Ila faliño fele.
It's here. Thank you. Your change is here.

Abaraka. fo waati doo
Thank you. Till next time.

Common Conversation

I be dii?
How are you?

I ka taa mintoo le?
Where are you going?

Mune be jee?
What is there?

Alamee ñimma futa la
May you get there in peace

Tenses
M mu Karandiyo le ti
I am a student

A mu nuy naakadookuulaa le ti
He was a gardener

I be ke la PCV ti nyiy Kari naalaa
You will be a PCV next month

Verbs
M be kuuroo ke kan
I am doing laundry

A be benekini taboo la
She is cooking Benechin

Transportation
Bansaŋ gaaraasoo be mintoo le?
Where is the Bansang car park?

Moto jumaa le ka taa Brikamabaa?
Which vehicle is going to Brikamabaa

Apparantee, ñin gele-gele ka taa Brikamabaa le ban?
Apprentice, is this the vehicle going to Brikamaba?

M be jaŋ doron
I am here only

N ka taa Basse le
I am going to Basse

Maaño bitoo. N teerima le be fuutuu la
Marriage ceremony. My friend is getting married

Amiin
Amen

A be nuy laariŋ
He was lying down

A be konton na talan saba le
He will have lunch at 3 O'clock

A ñaa be tilindinŋ marsewo la
It is opposite the market.

Wo gelegele Koymaa niŋ buluriŋo meŋ be looriŋ woo yiroo koto.
That white and blue bus under that tree.

Haa dee, ñiŋ ne ka ta Brikamabaa.
Yes, this is the one going to Brikamabaa

Paasoo mu je lu le ti?
How much is the fare?

Dukare, a ke ñe dalasi tan ti.
Please make it D10 for me.

N jindi Jonsonjoto, Bantabaa daa la.
Drop me at the Junction, by the sitting place

Counting

<i>1 – kiliŋ</i>	<i>20 – muwaŋ</i>
<i>2 – fula</i>	<i>30 – tan saba</i>
<i>3 - saba</i>	<i>40 – tan naani</i>
<i>4 - naani</i>	<i>100 - keme</i>
<i>5 -luulu</i>	<i>200 – keme fula</i>
<i>6 -wooro</i>	<i>300 – keme saba</i>
<i>7 - wooro wula</i>	<i>1000 – wuli kiliŋ</i>
<i>8 - Sey</i>	<i>2000 – wuli fula</i>
<i>9 - kononto</i>	<i>3000 – wuli saba</i>
<i>10 - tan</i>	

Adjectives

Jan niŋ Basse jamfata baake
From here to Basse is very far

Wo kee kotoo janayaata le
That old man is tall

Tilo be kandiŋ ne
The sun is hot.

Fatou le sutuyaata Sarjo ti
Fatou is shorter than Sarjo.

Kara maloo be fanuriŋ baake
The moon light is bright

Duutoo mooto le
The mango is ripe

Lemunoo timiyaata
The orange is tasty

ñiŋ siijuloo kuliyaata bake
This bucket is very heavy

***Paasoo mu dalasi tan wooro niŋ luulu leti anduŋ ila
baakoo mu dalasi muwaŋ ne ti.***
The fare is D65 and your bag is D20

Bula, taa ñaato, I ye palaaso taa
Enter, go in front, you take a seat.

Jan niŋ Soma maŋ janfa
From here to Soma is not far

Sunkutundiŋo ñiiñaata le
The girl is beautiful

I ye jii sumaya soto le baŋ?
Do you have cold water?

Saŋo be findiŋ
The sky is dark.

Ataaya kuniyaata le
The ataya is bitter

Kaanoo fatiyaata le
The pepper is spicy

I maŋ nna murundiŋo je baŋ?
Do you see my small knife?

Moo jamaa le be jee

A lot of people are there

A be noorinj ko koo bootoo

He is as dirty as a bag of salt

Laarajo be fooyaarinj

The bed is soft

Ila diyaamoo tariyaata

The way you talk is quick

Weather

Bari, kunuj kandoo warabaata le

Yesterday, it was very hot

N wulita suutoo ka n kuu

I got up at night to bath

I yaa mira a koyta ka siinoo banta le bay?

Do you think its safe to sleep outside?

Hani foñondij man soto nuj

Even a small breeze was not available

Weather Words

Kandoo-heat

kankajo-dust

minaayoo-clouds

sumayaa-cold

Foñoo-wind

sanjoo-rain

waamoo-unfavourable weather condition

tiloo-sun

Karamaloo-full moon

karidiboo-no moon

tilikandoo-dry season

sanjaanoo- harvest season

Samaa-rainy season

baafaa-high tide

baajaa-low tide

Tailoring

N lafita I ye sipaa kara nñe, jelu le mu?

I want you to sew a skirt for me, how much will it cost?

Dalasi muwan ne mu

Its D20.00

Meetari jelu le be jan?

How many meters are here?

Meetari fula

Two meters

I yoo! Wo be sii la le

Alright! That will be enough

A be pare la muntumaa le?

when will it be ready?

Saama wuraaroo

Tomorrow evening

I yoo abaraka n ka taa le fo saama wuraaroo

alright thank you I am going back till tomorrow evening

Vocabulary

Bayoo-fabric *kararlaa*-tailor *staayloo*-style *tikoo*-head-tie *kurtoo*-pants
Dendikoo-shirt/dress *siipaa*-skirt *a niinaata le*-it is beautiful *a deteta le*-it is tight
A warata baake le-its very big

A niinaata le-it beautiful *A beteyaata le*-its good/good *A deteta le*-its tight
A warata baake le-its very big

General Complements

Ila siimaño diyaata baake le
Your dinner is very delicious

Ila kontonjo diyaata baake le
Your lunch is very delicious

I kuño beteyaata baake le
He is very clever

I man ñon soto
You are the best

I beteyaata baake le
You are a good person

I hadamayaata baake le
You are very polite

Dookuu kendo
Good work

Abaraka/ yaa ke kuu
Thank you/you did the right thing

Family/friend vocabulary

Baamaa-mother *faamaa*-father
Binky-aunt *bariñ*-uncle
brother
Dokomaa musoo-younger sister
Jaati-host *deenaano*-baby
Musoo/musoo-woman/wife
Alikaaloo-village head
Saatee dokitooroo-village doctor

bandiñ-step-mother *fandiñ*-step-father
kotomaa musoo-elder sister *dokomaa kewe*-younger
mama musoo-grand mother *mama kewe*-grand father
teerimaa/kafuñoo-friend *dimbaayaa*-family
kewe/kee-man husband *kambaano*-boy/boyfried
almaamoo-muslim leader *timmatalaa*-traditional birth att.

Noticing if someone is sick

Faatu, mune keta?
Fatou what happened?

N saasaata le
I am sick

Mune kee dimiñ?
What is aching you?

N kono
My stomach

Kabiriñ muntumaa?
Since when?

Kabiriñ kunuñ suutoo
Since last night

I taata lopitaano to le bay?
You went to the hospital right?

Haadee
Yes

I ye booroo soto le bay?
You had medicine right?

Haadee
Yes

N saa jee noo le ban?
I can see it right?

Haadee
Yes

Alamaa fiseyaa la
May it get better

aamiin
A men

Common phrases

Naa jaŋ-come here

I be siirij ne-you are seated

mune mu?-what is it?

Mune keta-what happened

I keemaa lee-where is your husband?

I be mune na?-what are you at?

N ka taa le-I am going

I lafiŋa mune la?-what do you want?

m bula-leave me alone

Mune mu ŋij ti?-what is this?

N so jiyoo la-give me some water

I ye mune fo?-what did you say?

I bota mintoo le?-where did you come from

Naa domoroo la-come eat

M bee lipa la-I will beat you

Akaaŋanta-it's OK (enough)

N konoo faata-my stomach is full

I ka taa mintoo le-where are you going.

Abaraka-thank you

A koo-he/she said

N ka sey le-I am going home

m baamaa ko-my mother said

Mune ketee la? - what happened to you?

Question words and Responses

Ila saatewo be dii?

How is your village?

A kandita baake

Its very hot

Nna bukoo lee?

Where is my book?

A be taabuloo kan

Its on the table

I be muru la nan muntumaa le?

You are coming back when?

M be muru la naŋ saama tilibuloo

I am coming back tomorrow afternoon

Jumaa le mu I baamaa ti?

Who is your mother?

Fatou le mu n baamaa ti

Fatou is my mother

Jumaa le be buŋo kono?

Who is in the house?

M mama musoo be buno kono

My grand mother is in the house

jumaaŋoolu le be buno kono?

Who are those in the house?

Nna luntanoolu le be buŋo kono

My guests are in the house

I bota bayku jumaa le?

Which country do you come from?

M bota Gambia le

I came from the Gambia

Muneyaatina I ka mandinka kaŋo karaŋ?

Why are you learning to speak mandinka language?

Kaatu m be sabatirij mandinka saatewo le kono

Because I am living in a mandinka village

Expressing Sympathy

Moo le banta somita

Someone died in somita

Alamaa laa jaŋo sooneyaa la

May his soul rest in peace

Offering Prayers

Journey

Alamaa silo ye diyaa

May God grant you a joyful journey

Alamaa Ala yee tanka silo kaŋ

May God protect you on the way

New Baby

Alamaa deenaanoo baluu la

May the baby have a long live

Alamaa a ye doko jamaa soto

May the baby have younger siblings

Sickness

Alamaa saasaa fesityaa la

May God make you get better

Jaata kendeyaa-health

booroo-medicine

Dokitooroo-doctor

kono baayoo-diarrhoe

Boori kesoo-tablets

sankewo-mosquito net

Alamaa neema niŋ kafar ke la a ye

May God forgive his sins

I muña, Alla la baaroo le mu

Be patient its God's will

Alamaa I ye futa kayira kono

May you arrive in peace

Alamaa a baraka la

May the baby be blessed

Alamaa deenaanoo ye diinoo soto

May God make the baby a good Muslim

Kori I ka fesityaa le?

I hope you are getting better?

seneyaa-clean

suusuulaa-mosquito

suusuulaa kuuraŋo-malaria

fresh kool-common cold

Tobaski/Koriteh Prayers

Alamaa m bee maabee la jaari

May God make us witness next year

N yanfa tee ye

I have forgiven you

Yanfa m ma

Forgive me

Alamaa ala ye yanfa n ñe

May God forgive us

Charity

Abaraka, Alamaa sadaa jaabi la

Thank you may God accept this charity

Alamaa Ala yee takandi seytaanoo ma

May God protect you from satan

Expressing Needs

N suulata kodoo la bii

I need money today

N suulatee je la

I need to see you

I suulata mune la?

What do you need?

I suulata jumaa le je la?

Who do you need to see?

M maŋ nna suula feŋoolu soto
I haven't got all my needs

N si ɪla muroo fuu noo le baŋ?
Can I borrow your knife

N see maakoy noo le baŋ?
Can I help you?

Location
M be GPI le
I am at GPI

Wo lookuŋ tambilaa m be nuŋ America le
Last week I was in America

Jonkono-toilet/bathroom ***kuu***-wash ***fita***-sweep ***suntukuno***-trash dump

Jonkono be mintoo le?
where is the toilet?

Naa m maakoy dukare
Please come and help me

M maŋ maakoyirilaa soto
I don't have a helper

Saama m be tara la kian ne
Tomorrow I will be in Kiang