

Ziva Kwawakabva Online Shona Tutoring Notes

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1 Vocabulary

1.1 Nouns

1.1.1 Food

mvura *water*

chibage *corn*

mbambaira *sweet potato*

mupunga *rice*

nzungu *peanuts*

munyu *salt*

1.1.2 Relatives

amai *mother*

baba *father*

sekuru *grandfather*

ambuya *grandmother*

mwana *child/baby*

tete *father's sister*

mainini *mother's younger sister*

maiguru *mother's older sister*

babamunini *father's younger brother*

babamukuru *father's older brother*

munin'ina *younger brother or sister*

mukoma *older brother or sister*

mukomana *boy*

musikana *girl*

murume *man*

mukadzi *woman*

1.1.3 Animals/Creatures

imbwa *dog*

mombe *cow*

hove *fish*

mbudzi *goat*

huku *chicken*

mhuka *animals*

mbongoro *donkey*

1.1.4 Clothes/Body Parts

shangu/bhutsu *shoe/shoes*

bhachi *coat*

bhurukwa *pants*

bhande *belt*

mhete *earrings*

nguwani *hat*

tsoka *feet*

gumbo *leg*

maoko *hands*

zvipeko *clothes*

ziso *eye*

1.1.5 Things you own

mugoti *cooking stick*

mutsvairo *broom*

ndiro *plate*

bhuku *book*

bhasikoro *bike*

1.1.6 Occupations/People

shamwari *friend*

mudzidzisi *teacher*

mukoti *nurse*

chiremba *doctor*

mutyairi *driver*
moto *fire*
mota *car*
murimi *farmer*
muvhimi *hunter*
mupurisa *policeman/woman*
gweta *lawyer*
muimbi *singer*
mambo *king*

1.1.7 Weather

kunaya *raining*
kupisa *hot*
hutonhora *cold*
zuva *sun/day*
gore *year/cloud*

1.1.8 Time (Today)

mangwanani *morning*
masikati *afternoon*
maneru *evening*
nezuro *yesterday*
nhasi *today*

1.1.9 Days of the Week

muvhuro *monday*
chipiri *tuesday*
chitatu *wednesday*
china *thursday*
chishanu *friday*
mugovera *saturday*
svondo *sunday*

1.1.10 Time (Weeks)

vhiki/svondo *week*
vhiki rino *this week*
vhiki rakapera *last week*
vhiki rinouya *next week*

1.1.11 Time (Months)

mwedzi *month*
mwedzi uno *this month*
mwedzi wakapera *last month*
mwedzi unouya *next month*

1.1.12 Time (Years)

gore *year*
gore rino *this year*
gore rakapera *last year*
gore rinouya *next year*

1.1.13 Other

zororo *break*
basa *work*
chikoro *school*
chitoro *store*
maruva *flowers*

1.2 Verbs

bika *cook*
bata *touch/hold/catch*

rara *sleep*
dira *pour*
muka *wake up*
fara *be happy*
ona *see*
buda *go out*
gara *sit*
ifa *die*
ipa *give*
ida *like*
isa *put*
seka *laugh*
geza *bath/wash*
vaka *build*
tsvaga/wana *find*
simuka *stand up*
tarisa *look*
tevera *follow*
buruka *get down*
kurumidza *hurry/be quick*
dzinga *chase away*
nhonga *pick up*
shaya *lack*
unza *bring*
shevedza *call*
dimbura *break*
rasa *throw away*
ziva *know*
namata *pray*
uya *come*
mira *stand/wait*
famba *walk*
mhanya *run*
dzidza *learn*
verenga *count/read*
nyora *write*
pinda *come in*
simudza *lift up*

idya *eat*
inwa *drink*
pedza *finish*
chema *cry*
dhidha *swim*
nyarara *be quiet*
bhururuka *fly*
tenga *buy*
tengesa *sell*
tanga *start/begin*
vhara *close*
vhura *open*
tamba *play/dance*
enda *go*
pfeka *wear/put on*
cheka *cut*
pfura *shoot*
udza *tell/inform*
batsira *help*
gadzira *fix/repair*
nongedza *point to*

1.3 Negatives

Handidi *I don't want*
Handina *I don't have*
Handizivi *I don't know*
Handikudi *I don't love you*
Handiende *I don't go*
Handisi *I am not*
Hausi *You are not*
Hatise *We are not*
Hamusi *You are not (plural)*
Handidyi *I don't eat*
Handinwi *I don't drink*
Handigezi *I don't bathe*
Haarare *He/she does not sleep*

1.4 Phrases/Sentence Fragments

1.4.1 Common Phrases

nguva dzose *all the time*
mazuva ose *everyday*
mazuvano *these days*
roga-roga *each and every*
mangwanani ano *this morning*
kuma *around*
manje-manje *soon*
marimwezuro *two days ago*

1.4.2 Numbers

motsi *one*
piri *two*
tatu *three*
ina *four*
shanu *five*
tanhatu *six*
nomwe *seven*
sere *eight*
pfumbamwe *nine*
gumi *ten*

2 Full Conversation

2.1 Greetings

2.1.1 First/Long Time Greeting (formal)

“Makadii henyu iA₆.”
“Ndiripo, makadiiwo?”
“Ndidipo.”

2.1.2 First/Long Time Greeting (informal)

“Wakadii hako iA₆?”
“Ndiripo wakadiiwo?”
“Ndiripo.”

2.1.3 Morning (formal)

“Mangwanani iA₆.”
“Mangwanani iB₆, mamuka sei?”

“Ndamuka mamukawo”

“Ndamuka”

2.1.4 Morning (informal)

“Mangwanani ꞑAꞑ.”

“Mangwanani ꞑBꞑ, wamuka sei?”

“Ndamuka.”

2.1.5 Afternoon (formal)

“Masikati ꞑAꞑ”

“Masikati ꞑBꞑ, maswera sei?”

“Ndaswera maswerawo.”

“Ndaswera.”

2.1.6 Afternoon (informal)

“Masikati ꞑAꞑ.”

“Masikati ꞑBꞑ, waswera sei?”

“Ndaswera.”

2.1.7 Evening (formal)

“Manheru ꞑAꞑ”

“Manheru ꞑBꞑ, maswera sei?”

“Ndaswera maswerawo.”

“Ndaswera.”

2.1.8 Evening (informal)

“Manheru ꞑAꞑ”

“Manheru ꞑBꞑ, waswera sei?”

“Ndawera.”

2.2 About You

1. “Unonzi ani?”
What is your name?
“Ndinonzi Mufaro.”
My name is Mufaro.
2. “Unogara kupi?”
Where do you live?
“Ndinogara kuHouston”
I live in Houston.
3. “Unogara nani?”
Who do you live with?
“Ndinogara na amai na baba na Tinofara”
I live with my mother, my father, and Tinofara.
4. “Une makore mangani?”
How old are you?
“Ndine makore gumi nemapfumbamwe gore.”
I am nineteen years old.
5. “Chii chaunofarira kudya?”
What do you like to eat?
“Ndinofarira kudya nyama yemombe ne mupanga uye inwa mvura kutonhora.”
I like to eat beef with rice and drink cold water.
6. “Chii chaunofarira kuita?”
What do you like to do
“Ndinofarira kugadzira mota yangu uye kurara zvakanaka.”
I like to fix my car and sleep
7. “Chikoro chako chinonzi chii?”
What is the name of your school?
“Chikoro chanugu chinonzi UBC.”
The name of my school is UBC.

8. “Mudzidzisi wako anonzi ani?”
What is the name of your teacher?
 “Mudzidzisi wangu anonzi John.”
My teacher is named John.
9. “Shamwari yako inonzi ani?”
What is your friend’s name?
 “Shamwari yangu inonzi Kevin.”
My friend is named Kevin.
10. “Hanzvadzi yako ndiani?”
Who is your brother if you are female or sister if you are male?
 “Handina hanzvadzi.”
I do not have a sister.
11. “Munin’ina wako anonzi ani?”
What is the name of your younger sister (if you are female) or younger brother (if you are male)?
 “Handina munin’ina.”
I don’t have a younger brother.
12. “Mukomana wako ndiani?”
Who is your older brother (if you are male) or older sister (if you are female)?
 “Mukomana wangu ndiTinofara.”
My older brother is named Tinofara.
13. “Kumusha kwenyu ndekupi?”
Where is your rural home?
 “Kumusha kwedu kuri kunze kweGweru.”
Our home is outside of Gweru.
14. “Ambuya vako vanonzi ani?”
What is your grandmother’s name?
 “Ambuya vangu vanonzi Jane.”
My grandmother’s name is Jane.
15. “Sekuru vako vanonzi ani?”
What is your grandfather’s name?
 “Handizivi anonzi Sekuru vangu.”
I don’t know what my grandfather’s name is.

16. “Unoerei?”
What is your totem?
 “Ndinoera shumba.”
My totem is the lion.
17. “Musikana/Mukomana wako ndiani?”
Who is your girlfriend/boyfriend?
 “Handina musikana.”
I don’t have a girlfriend.
18. “Unoshanda kupi?”
Where do you work?
 “Handiende basa.”
I don’t go to work.

3 June 4

3.1 Pre-Class Homework

1. “Handidi kupa Tinofara bhachi rangi!”
I don’t want to give Tinofara my coat!
2. “Handina nguva kurumidza kutaura.”
I don’t have time to talk, hurry up.
3. “Handizivi kugadzira mota nokuti handina kuwuna nguva yekudzidzira kugadzira motakari.”
I don’t know how to fix my car because I don’t have the time to learn repair.
4. “Handikudi nokuti hanisi kufara.”
I don’t love you because I am not happy.
5. “Handiende kuDeutschland nokuti handi taurai Deutsch!”
I don’t go to Germany because I don’t speak German.
6. “Nasi, handisi kuenda kuchikoro nokuti kuri kutonhora ne kunaya.”
Today, I will not go to school because it is raining and cold.
7. “Handidyi mombe ne mbudzi ne huku ne hove ne mbongoro ne imbwa nokuti ndiri vegetarian.”
I don’t eat cow, goat, chicken, fish, donkey, and dog because I’m vegetarian.

8. “Handinwi mvura inopisa.”

I don’t drink hot water.

9. “Handigezi kuchikoro.”

I don’t bathe at school.

10. Haarare means

3.2 Post-Class Homework

1. “Handidi kuenda kuchikoro.”

I don’t want to go to school.

2. “Handina marii ye zvipfeko.”

I don’t have enough money for the clothes.

(a) “Anoita marii madomasi?”

How much are the tomatoes?

3. “Handizivi anonzi yako¹.”

I don’t know the name.

4. “Handikudi nhasi.”

I don’t love you today.

5. “Handiende kubasa mangwanani ano.”

I don’t go to work this morning.

6. “Handisi mutambi.”

I am not an actor/playing.

7. “Handidyi nguruve.”

I don’t eat pork.

8. “Handinwi Doro asi ndanwa mukaka.”

I don’t drink beer but I drink milk.

9. “Handigezi manheru.”

I don’t bathe in the evening.

¹Missing: who’s name it is?

4 June 11

4.1 Tenses

Tenses in shona are enoted by a specific sound preceding a verb (either as a standalone word or as a prefix):

- “ka” for the distant past (yesterday and earlier).
- There is no special prefix for things that happened today, but not the immediate present. (default).
- “iri” for the present.
- “cha” for the future.

4.1.1 Distant Past Tense Examples (ka)

1. **kudya** *eat*
“Nezuro, ndak**adya** sadya.”
Yesterday I ate sadza.
2. **kugeza** *bathe*
“Gore rakapera, tak**ageza** kuhotera.”
Last year, we bathed at the hotel.
3. **kumhanya** *run*
“Baka vak**amhanya** kuchitoro.”
Dad ran to the store.
4. **kutaura** *talk/speak*
“Sekuru vak**ataura** nagogo.”
Grandpa talked to grandma.
5. **kufamba** *walk*
“Ndak**afamba** kuenda kuchikoro nezuro.”
I walked to school yesterday.
6. **kunwa** *drink*
“Gore rakapera, ndak**anwa** Mazoe Orange akawanda, asi zvino handinwi Mazoe nokuti handina mari yakakwana yekutenga Mazoe kuchitoro.”
Last year, I drank a lot of Mazoe Orange, but now, I don’t drink Mazoe because I don’t have enough money to buy Mazoe at the store.

7. **kuseka** *laugh*

“Handina kuseka mwedzi wakapera uye uno nokuti ambuya vangu vakafa.”
I did not laugh last month and this month because my grandmother died.

8. **kuenda**

“Vhiki rakapera, ndakaenda kubasa kwandino gadzira mota dzakawanda.”
Last week, I went to work where I fix many cars.

4.1.2 Past (Today) Examples (no prefix)

1. **kudya** *eat*

“Mangwanani ndadya sadza.”
In the morning, I ate sadza.

2. **kugeza** *bathe*

“Nhasi tageza kuhotera.”
Today we bathed at the hotel.

3. **kumhanya** *run*

“Baba vamhanya kuchitoro.”
Dad ran to the store.

4. **kutaura** *talk/speak*

“Nhasi, ndafonera shamwari yangu anonzi David tikatura nezve chikoro nebasa.”
Today, I called my friend named David and we spoke about school and work.

5. **kufamba** *walk*

“Masikati ndafamba kuenda kubank kunotanga kutengesa imba yangu.”
In the evening, I walked to the bank to begin selling my house.

6. **kunwa** *drink*

“Ndichango pedza kunwa komichi yemukaka ne kudya kwangu kwemasikati.”
I just finished drinking a cup of milk with my lunch.

7. **kuseka** *laugh*

“Ndaseka zvakananyanya nokuti shamwari yangu yatura joke inoseka.”
I just laughed a lot because my friend said a funny joke.

4.1.3 Present Tense Examples (iri)

1. **kudya** *eat*
“**Ndiri** kudya sadza.”
I am eating sadza.
2. **kugeza** *bathe*
“**Tiri** kugeza kuhotera.”
We are bathing at the hotel.
3. **kumhanya** *run*
“Baba **vari** kumhanya kuchitoto.”
Dad is running to the store.
4. **kutaura** *talk/speak*
5. **kufamba** *walk*
6. **kunwa** *drink*
7. **kuseka** *laugh*

4.1.4 Future Tense Examples (cha)

1. **kudya** *eat*
“Mangwana, ndi**ch**adya”
Tomorrow, I will eat sadza.
2. **kugeza** *bathe*
“Manheru, ti**ch**ageza kuhotera.”
In the evening, we will bathe in the hotel.
3. **kumhanya** *run*
“Baba va**ch**amhanya kuchitoto.”
Dad will run at the store.
4. **kutaura** *talk/speak*

5. **kufamba** *walk*

6. **kunwa** *drink*

7. **kuseka** *laugh*

4.2 Conjunctions