

Intensive Beginning Swahili Syllabus
African Flagship Languages Initiatives (AFLI) 2021
University of Florida

Time: M-F 11:00-1:00 & 2:00 - 4:00

Venue: Online through Zoom

Instructors:

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Course Description

This is a beginning Swahili course designed for adult learners. The primary goal of the course is to provide students with the spoken knowledge of the language. The course also aims at promoting practical application of the skills learnt in class in self-expression, description of everyday experience as well as enhancement of interpersonal interaction. At the end of this course, it is anticipated that students will be able to perform a number of common communicative tasks.

This course may seem to be a little different in respect to its extensive focus on speaking and listening skills, and target vocabulary as well as basic structures rather than focusing extensively on grammar, writing and other formal aspects of the language. Although its principal aim is offering basic skills in Kiswahili speaking and listening, the course will involve a number of reading and writing activities as well. Overall, this course engages students in authentic learning environments with diverse activities, offering real life- related target vocabulary and recursive follow up activities on the subject that is learnt.

Course Meetings

This course will be offered purely online, and it will last for eight weeks. Learners are expected to spend about 8 hours each day on different directed activities, readings and assignments.

Prerequisite Knowledge Requirement

No prerequisite knowledge required in this course.

Minimum Technical Skills Required

For easy navigation in this course, you will need to have the basic technological skills, like browsing the internet, audio recording, and putting texts on online word processors.

Technology Requirement

You will need access to all of the following for synchronous online meetings throughout the semester: Computer, internet, headphones, microphone, and webcam.

Recommended Texts

1. Hinnebusch, T and Sarah Mirza: Kiswahili: Msingi wa Kusema, Kusoma na Kuandika (2nd edition). Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 1998
2. Awde, Nicholas (2004) Swahili-English, English-Swahili Dictionary. Hippocrene Practical Dictionary, Hippocrene Books Inc. Madison Avenue, New York.

Recommended Online Resources

1. LLS Digital Learning Lab from University of Wisconsin, Madison. This website contains sound files for all dialogues and reading lessons from the Hinnebusch/Mirza Textbook. <http://imp.lss.wisc.edu/lss/mediacat/sh/1/010/>
2. The KIKO website: <http://www.africa.uga.edu/Kiswahili/doe/kikoteam.html>
3. [TUKI online dictionary](#) (English<-->Swahili)
4. [Swahili Grammar Book](#)

General Objectives

1. To equip students with the fundamental elements of Kiswahili language such as simple everyday phrases and words.
2. Promote communicative learning by engaging students in simple conversations.
3. Introduce students to the Swahili culture

Specific Objectives

Language Production (Speaking and Writing) Goals

Students will be able to:

1. Use appropriate Swahili expressions and gestures in greetings and farewell
2. Give and follow simple instructions in Swahili
3. Share with others about themselves, their interests, hobbies, and dislikes
4. Demonstrate the use of language based on real life situations
5. Talk about and describe Swahili common practices and culture
6. Ask and answer questions in Swahili about familiar topics such as family, school, animals, familiar objects, and possessions.

Language Receptive Skills (Listening and reading) Goals

Students will be able to:

1. Follow oral and written instructions related to daily activities.
2. Comprehend oral and written information on familiar topics
3. Listen and read descriptions and illustrations.

4. Understand the message in familiar Swahili songs and poems
5. Understand information provided in books, menus, posters and advertisements.

Cultural goals

Students will be able to:

1. Use culturally acceptable gestures and expressions in language use
2. Identify customs, traditions which make up the Swahili culture
3. Identify popular classical and contemporary Swahili artists
4. Identify and recognize products and symbols of the Swahili world such as foods and clothing

GRADING POLICY

Grade scale		Final Grade Distributions			
A	94 -100	A-	90-93	Attendance & Participation	15%
B+	85-89	B	80-84	Homework Assignments	20%
B-	75-79	C+	70-74	Weekly Quizzes	20%
C	67-69	C-	64-66	Semester Exam	20%
D+	60-63	D	55-59	Film Review	10%
D-	50-54	F	0-49	Final Project (Portfolio)	15%

Evaluation Procedures

It is the responsibility of the student to complete and submit all assignments via the course site and other means as directed by the instructors. The following are the things that will be involved in the evaluation and grading of the course:

Attendance and Participation

Attendance is compulsory. Remember, missing one class in the intensive program is equivalent to missing the entire week in regular semesters. Students are expected to do all the required assignments for each day. All the lessons which are expected to be done asynchronously should all be done before students come to class. Students are encouraged to ask questions, participate in drills and discussions, and volunteer in role playing and demonstrations. THREE absences will lower the grade for one level (e.g. A will be A-). Coming late to class will affect a student's participation grade.

Conversations and Virtual Home Visits

Activities such as conversations hours, experiential learning, and virtual home visits are non-classroom activities which are also compulsory. These carry 5% of the attendance and participation grade.

Weekly Quizzes

Every Friday (except Fridays of the semester exams), there will be a quiz which will cover all the materials covered in that particular week. Most quizzes will have an oral proficiency interview with each student, to assess their actual listening and speaking skills. These quizzes will count 20% of the total grade. There will be no make-up quizzes.

Homework Assignments

There will be assignments for each lesson every day. Most assignments will be required prior to the class, and others will be after class. Most assignments are indicated in the course's learning management system (LMS), but other assignments will be communicated in the classroom by instructors. All assignments will be graded and recorded. Assignments will count 20% of the total grade.

Semester Exams

There will be two semester exams. Both exams may include the oral proficiency interview (OPI). Semester 1 exam will be administered on July 2, while semester 2 exam will be administered on July 30.

***Siri ya Mtungi* TV Show (Filamu)**

We will watch a Swahili TV show called *Siri ya Mtungi*. *Siri ya Mtungi*, which was filmed in Tanzania has 26 episodes and is in Swahili with English subtitles. Each week, in class, we will watch four episodes, two on Tuesdays, and the next two on Friday after weekly tests (each episode is 30 minutes long). Each student will be required, in the subsequent class, to engage in a conversation about the previous episode(s) and to present in writing (not less than 10 words/phrases/sentences) about the TV show - anything from a character(s) or event(s) they liked/did not like.

Academic Dishonesty

Cheating of any kind is a serious University policy offense. You can work with others on assignments that need group discussions but always write your own answer(s). Please express concerns about your performance if any, early in the semester instead of later towards the end of session. Whenever in doubt, please refer to the University's [Student Conduct and Honor Code](#).

Final Project/ Padlet Portfolio

You will use Padlet (<https://padlet.com/>) to compile a portfolio/document that records creatively a reflection of the general information you will learn in this course. You are free to include images, short video/audio files, etc. to reflect your understanding of the various language components that you have learned in the course. You must update your padlet at the end of each major topic. You will share your Padlet with the teacher for weekly checks every Monday, and the teacher will give

feedback by Friday. The portfolio will be graded on weeks 4 and 8. [Padlet example](#).

In writing your portfolio, imagine that you are writing for a foreign student who is planning to stay in East Africa for some time. Create a portfolio to reflect your understanding of at least one theme from each major topic. In the end, you will share your portfolio during the pre-departure workshop.

Ask Your Professor

If you have any concern, question or any suggestions, you are encouraged to email me to discuss any problem and to ask for additional explanations (in English) if you are having difficulties with understanding materials or homework. You can let me know if you need us to schedule a Zoom meeting for that. I will try my level best to reply to your emails/questions within 24 hours on weekdays and within 48 hours over the weekend.

******* Disclaimer *******

Unless stated otherwise, all the videos (including YouTube videos), texts and audios used in this course are created specifically for this course. They are all copyrighted, and no part of these materials can be shared, downloaded or distributed for purposes other than Swahili studying at the University of Florida without the permission of the Director of African Languages Program or any other person authorized by the UF Center for African Studies.

Course Modules

The course will be covered in the following sequence. Each of these modules will be covered in one day of the intensive program (which is equivalent to one week in a regular semester). Objectives for each course module, materials and assignments have been put in the course LMS (Canvas). Note that other assignments are given in the course management system (Canvas), so make sure you visit Canvas every day to turn in the assignments given.

NB: The ‘Nyumbani’ assignments are due before class.

Salamu/Maamkio na Maagano (Greetings and Farewell)

Tarehe	Darasani	Nyumbani
WIKI YA 1 Jumatatu Juni 07	Swahili Course Introduction and Syllabus. Swahili Pronunciation Wimbo: a, e, i, o, u Greetings and self-introduction in brief	
Jumanne Juni 08	Salamu kwa Mtu Mmoja (One-on-One Greeting) Greeting at different times of the day: Habari za asubuhi, mchana, jioni, kutwa, leo, tangu jana, tangu juzi, siku nyingi. Wimbo - Jambo bwana	Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 1 2. T.H. (Thomas Hinnebusch) Somo la 1 Grammar: 1. Personal pronoun; (mimi, wewe interrogative -je, gani; na wewe je, gani habari gani 2. Canvas: 1.5 & 1.6
Jumatano Juni 09	Salamu baina ya watu wengi (Greetings between many people) Mazungumzo: Hamjambo, hatujambo, habari zenu; Polite Expressions: Please, thank you, I am sorry, excuse me. Classroom objects and simple commands, and numbers.	Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 2 2. TH Somo la 2 Grammar: 1. Plural (sisi, ninyi, wao) 2. Subject markers... ni-, u-, a- (sing.) tu-, m-, wa- (pl.)
Alhamisi Juni 10	Salamu Kuhusu Ndugu, Jamaa na Marafiki (Greetings about Relatives and Friends) Habari gani? Mama/Baba Hawajambo? Nzuri, safi, salama, njema. Activities; Role play Kusoma: Maamkio Juu ya Wengine TH uk. 14 Kubisha hodi, na kuagana Shikamoo- Marhaba Role play; knocking, going to someone's house/welcoming a visitor	Study: 1. Canvas: Somo la 3 2. TH Somo la 3 & Somo la 4 Grammar: (u.k 15-16) 1. Question indicator, je (Na ninyi je.....) Yes-No questions (Bahati hajambo?) Nouns and adjectives Interrogative nani?; Je, Yes-No questions? (Agreeing and disagreeing) Ndiyo, hapana, Conjunction: lakini (but)
Ijumaa Juni 11	Weekly Quiz Filamu: Siri ya Mtungi Sehemu ya 1&2	Prepare for the Weekly Quiz

Utambulisho (Introductions)

<p>WIKI YA 2 Jumatatu Juni 14</p>	<p>Salamu Mchanganyiko na Salamu za Vijana (Mixed and Colloquial greetings)</p>	<p>Study: Canvas Somo la 4</p> <p>Portfolio submission 1</p>
<p>Jumanne Juni 15</p>	<p>Kujitambulisha Monolojia: Kujitambulisha – ninatoka, ninaishi/ninakaa; ninazungumza; ninasoma, utaifa (nationality); mzaliwa wa.....; Jimbo la.../mji wa.....; Lugha Filamu: Siri ya Mtungi Sehemu ya 3&4</p>	<p>Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 5 2. TH Somo la 5 & 6</p> <p>Grammar: 1. Possessives - 1st Person Singular (-angu) 2. Conjunction ‘na’; Prepositions; katika, cha 3. Question words; wapi?, gani?, nini?, nani? 4. Prefix ki- (e.g. Kiingereza)</p> <p>Swahili verb and present tense</p>
<p>Jumatano Juni 16</p>	<p>Kutambulishana Mazungumzo: Mzaliwa wa wapi? na Taifa gani? (Nationality) Educational majors Mazungumzo Zaidi: Kukataa; Sisomi, Sitoki</p>	<p>Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 6 2. TH Somo la 8</p> <p>Grammar: 1. Possessives: langu, lako, lake 2. Question words; Nani? Wapi? Gani? Etc. 3. First person singular verb forms ninatoka elided as natoka Conjunction; lakini 4. Noun Class M/ Wa</p> <p>Present tense Negation: si-(sisomi) ha-(hawatoki) hu-(husomi).</p>
<p>Alhamisi Juni 17</p>	<p>Kutambulisha Wengine Kusoma: Jina la Mwalimu, TH uk. 26 More on introductions Asking questions using photos of celebrities</p>	<p>Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 7 2. TH Somo la 5&6</p> <p>Grammar: Demonstratives: huyu, huyo, yule (sing.), hawa, hao, wao (pl.)</p>

Ijumaa Juni 18	Marudio Weekly Quiz Filamu: Siri ya Mtungi Sehemu ya 5&6	Prepare for the weekly quiz
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Family and Relations

WIKI YA 3 Jumatatu Juni 21	Mti wa Familia Monolojia: Mti wa Familia yangu (Baba, mama, bibi, babu, kaka, dada) Mazungumzo: Una kaka/dada wangapi?	Study: Canvas Somo la 8 Grammar: Has/Have; and pronouns Zoezi: TH, uk. 85 Use family pictures Portfolio submission 2
Jumanne Juni 22	Ndugu, Jamaa, na Marafiki Extended family: parents' siblings, grandmother and grandfather, family tree Filamu: Siri ya Mtungi sehemu ya 7&8	Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 9 2. TH Somo la 22 Grammar: Family and Kinship terms (Noun Class N/N)
Jumatano Juni 23	Nyumba na Makazi Monolojia: Nyumba Yangu, FS uk. 98 Mazungumzo: Chumbani kuna nini? FS, uk. 100	Study: Canvas Somo la 10 Grammar: Ngeli za mahali (PO-KO-MO), FS (Senkoro) uk. 104
Alhamisi Juni 24	Nambari na Wakati (Numbers and Time) Mazungumzo: Ni saa ngapi? Zoezi: TH, uk. 72 Mazungumzo: Utafanya kazi saa ngapi?	Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 11 2. TH, Somo la 10 (uk. 59-66) Grammar: 1. Future Tense (TH, uk. 62) 1. Telling Time (TH, uk. 63)

Time and Season

Ijumaa Juni 25	Marudio Weekly Quiz Filamu: Siri ya Mtungi Sehemu ya 9&10	Prepare for the weekly quiz
WIKI YA 4 Jumatatu Juni 28	Siku za Juma (Days of the Week)	Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 12 2. TH - Cardinal numbers

	<p>Mazungumzo: Hufanya nini wikiendi?</p> <p>Monolojia: Siku niipendayo</p>	<p>(TH, uk.10-11 & FS, uk. 60-61; 130-133);</p> <p>Grammar:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ngeli N/N (TH uk. 92 & FS, uk. 302-304) 2. Zoezi: FS, Zoezi la 7 (uk.133), Zoezi la 10 (uk. 135) <p>Portfolio submission 3</p>
<p>Jumanne Juni 29</p>	<p>Ratiba ya Kila Siku (Daily Schedule)</p> <p>Monolojia: Ratiba yangu ya Siku</p> <p>Mazungumzo: Husoma nini kila siku?</p> <p>Filamu: Siri ya Mtungi Sehemu ya 11&12</p>	<p>Study:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Canvas Somo la 13 <p>Grammar:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Habitual tense (TH, uk. 132-133); 3. Zoezi: FS, uk. 133,
<p>Jumatan o Juni 30</p>	<p>Miezi na Miaka (Months and Years)</p> <p>Mazungumzo: Wewe una miaka mingapi? Ulizaliwa tarehe ngapi?</p> <p>Zoezi: Pesa ngapi? Mwaka gani?</p> <p>Kusoma: Sikukuu za Uhuru Afrika Mashariki (TH, Uk. 116)</p> <p>Wimbo: Furahia Siku ya Kuzaliwa https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ekTPmjSSazc</p>	<p>Study:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Canvas Somo la 14 2. TH, uk. 63-64); 3. TH Somo la 12 <p>Grammar:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Past Tense (-li) 2. Reflexive-ji- Zoezi <p>Grammar: TH, uk. 78 & 79</p>
<p>Alhamisi Julai 01</p>	<p>END OF SEMESTER 1 EXAM</p>	<p>Prepare for Exam</p>
<p>Ijumaa Julai 02</p>	<p>Majira na Hali ya Hewa (Seasons and Weather)</p> <p>Mazungumzo: Unapenda majira gani?</p> <p>Monolojia: Mavazi yangu: Wakati wa baridi/joto/upepo/theluji; ninavaa</p>	<p>Study Canvas Somo la 15</p> <p>Portfolio submission 4</p>

Food and Leisure (Vyakula na Burudani)

<p>WIKI YA 5 Jumatatu Julai 05</p>	<p>No classes - American Independence Holiday observed</p>	
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Jumanne Julai 06	Vyakula vya Afrika Mashariki (East African Foods) Monolojia: Vyakula Ninavyovipenda Mazungumzo: Ungependa Kupika Nini? Kusoma: Vyakula vya Afrika ya Mashariki, TH, uk. 107 Filamu: Siri ya Mtungi sehemu ya 13 & 14	Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 16 2. TH – Somo la 16 (uk. 107 – 114) Grammar: 1. Sarufi: Conditional nge- (FS, uk 190-191); the infinitive – ku- (FS, uk. 173)
Jumatano Julai 07	Kula Chakula Mgahawani (Eating in a Restaurant) Mazungumzo: Ungependa Kula nini Leo?	Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 17 2. TH – Somo la Grammar: 1. Negative subjunctive 2. -ote and -o-ote and -o of Reference (TH, uk. 162 -163)
Alhamisi Julai 08	Wanyama na Utalii (Animals and Tourism) Mazungumzo: Utaenda wapi likizo ya kiangazi? Kuzuru Mbuga za Wanyama Kusoma: “Kiswahili” u.k.124-125	Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 19 Grammar: More on Noun Adjective Agreement
Ijumaa Julai 09	Weekly Quiz Filamu: Siri ya Mtungi sehemu ya 15 & 16	Prepare for the Quiz

Usafiri na Usafirishaji (Transport and Transportation)

WIKI YA 6 Jumatatu Julai 12	Hadithi na Vitendawili Hadithi, Mashairi na Vitendawili, TH uk. 168 - 169 Kusoma: Utoaji wa Hadithi Afrika Mashariki (TH, uk. 130-132) Formulae; Hadithi hadithi- hadithi njoo! Hadithi: writing a strip story using photos and phrases.	Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 20 Carry at least one ‘kitendawili’ to share with other students. Portfolio submission 5
Jumanne Julai 13	Aina za Usafiri (Means of Transport) Mazungumzo: Unakuja kwa Usafiri Gani? Kuja na Kwenda kwa motokaa Kusoma: Kusafiri, TH uk. 55 Filamu: Siri ya Mtungi sehemu ya 17 & 18	Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 21 2. TH – Somo la 9 3. Grammar: Kwa tekisi; kwa gari; kwa treni; n.k.

Jumatano Julai 14	<p>Usafiri wa Umma (Public Transport) Mazungumzo: Nauli ni Shilingi ngapi? Unakwenda Wapi? Means of transportation TH, uk. 53. Kununua Tiketi ya Basi na Ndege Safari ya Dar es salaam Filamu: Siri ya Mtungi sehemu ya 19 & 20</p>	<p>Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 22 Grammar: 2. Negation; nina-sina 3. Tenses: present, past, future, habitual 2. Locative-ni Study: TH uk. 69 - 70</p>
Alhamisi Julai 15	<p>Monolojia: Safari yangu ya Arusha Mazungumzo: Mlitumia usafiri gani? Kusoma: Safari yetu kwa meli, FS uk. 186</p> <p>Maelekezo ya Njia Mazungumzo: Njia iko wapi? Prepositions, Directions: North, East, South & West</p>	<p>Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 23 2. Canvas Somo la 24 (Study the vocabulary section (24.2)) FS, uk. 188 - Zoezi la 2 Grammar: Imperatives</p>

Mavazi, Hali ya Hewa na Rangi (Clothing and Weather)

Ijumaa Julai 16	<p>Weekly Quiz Filamu: Siri ya Mtungi sehemu ya 21 & 22</p>	Prepare for the weekly quiz
WIKI YA 7 Jumatatu Julai 19	<p>Mavazi Niyapendayo (My Favorite Clothes) Mazungumzo: Wewe unapenda mavazi gani? (Harusini, kanisani, msikitini, ofisini, darasani, nyumbani) Activity: Napenda/sipendi Monolojia: FS, uk. 206</p>	<p>Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 25 2. FS Sarufi: the Associative Marker ‘-a’ (uk. 10 – 11) Study: FS, uk. 219 Grammar: Adjectives, TH uk. 125 –126 Portfolio submission 6</p>
Jumanne Julai 20	<p>Mavazi na Hali ya Hewa Mazungumzo: Huvaa Mavazi Gani wakati wa baridi, joto, theluji n.k. Filamu: Siri ya Mtungi sehemu ya 23 & 24</p>	<p>Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 26</p>
Jumatano	Rangi Niipendayo	Study:

Julai 21	Mazungumzo: Unapenda rangi gani? Bendera za Afrika Mashariki Mazungumzo: Bendera ya ina rangi gani?	1. Canvas Somo la 27 & 28 Sarufi: Rangi gani?; Ngeli N/N
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Going to the Market and Shopping

Alhamisi Julai 22	Kununua Mavazi (Buying Clothes) Mazungumzo: Mavazi ya aina gani? Mazungumzo: Shati lako lilitengenezwa wapi? Lilinunuliwa wapi?	Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 29 Grammar: 2. Possessive concords (TH, uk.109); 3. Passive sentences (TH, uk. 111)
Ijumaa Julai 23	Marudio Weekly Quiz Filamu: Siri ya Mtungi Sehemu ya 25&26	Prepare for the weekly quiz
WIKI YA 8 Jumatatu Julai 26	Kununua Chakula na Viungo (Buying Food and Groceries) Monolojia: Jana nilikwenda sokoni... Mazungumzo: Kununua chakula Sokoni	Study: 1. Canvas Somo la 30 2. FS, uk. 239 Portfolio submission 7

Magonjwa na Afya (Ailments and Health)

Jumanne Julai 27	Kuwa Mgonjwa (Being Sick) Mazungumzo: Nilikuwa mgonjwa? Mazungumzo: Sehemu za Mwili Kichwa/mgongo/mguu/tumbo/kifu a kinauma Body parts	Study: Canvas Somo la 32
Jumatano Julai 28	Review and Final Project Presentations	
Alhamisi Julai 29	END OF SEMESTER 2 EXAM OPIs (tentative)	Prepare for End of Semester 2 Exam
Ijumaa Julai 30	OPIs (tentative)	

NOTE: The instructor may revise/modify the syllabus. Students will be notified in such a case.

Common Classroom Vocabulary and Phrases
Greetings – Salamu

English	Kiswahili
Fine (response)	nzuri
Good afternoon?	Habari za Mchana?
Good evening?	Habari za jioni?
Good morning?	Habari za Asubuhi?
Good night	Usiku mwema
Goodbye	kwa heri/kwaheri!
Goodnight	lala salama
Good luck	Kila la heri
Hello (response to hujambo)	Sijambo
Hello (to one person)	Hujambo
How are you?	habari gani?
How is (someone)	Habari za?
Nice afternoon	Mchana mwema
Nice evening	Jioni njema
Nice morning	Asubuhi njema
Nice to meet you	nimefurahi kukufahamu
See you later	Tutaonana
Sorry (for sympathy)	Pole
Sorry I am late	Samahani nimechelewa

Civilities – Ustaarabu

English	Kiswahili
Can you help me?	Unaweza kunisaidia?
Can I go to the bathroom?	Ninaweza kwenda bafuni?
Do you speak Swahili?	unasema Kiswahili?
Excuse me	samahani
How do you say in Swahili?	unasemaje ... kwa kiswahili
I have understood	nimeelewa
I have not understood	sijaelewa
I'm from...	ninatoka...
Just a little bit	kidogo tu!
My name is	jina langu ni
No	hapana
OK	sawa
Repeat please	Rudia tafadhali
Thank you	asante
Thank you very much	asante sana
Yes	ndiyo
Welcome	karibu