

Useful Swahili

Greetings

Hello, how are you? – *habari?*
Fine, how are you? - *nzuri, habari?*

Colloquial:
Hi, how are you? – *mambo?*
Cool - *safi/poa*

Respectful greeting to elders/to
white people often from children:
shikamoo
marabar (Response)

Goodbye - *kwa heri*

See you tomorrow - (*tutaonana*)
kesho

See you later/Later - *baadaye*

Excuse me - *samahani*

I'm sorry (that happened to you) -
pole
I'm sorry (I did something to you) -
samahani

Please - *tafadhali*
Thank you (very much) - *asante*
(*sana*)
No, thank you - *sitaki*
You're welcome (pl) - *karibu(ni)*

I speak very little Swahili -
ninaongea Kiswahili kidogo

OK/I understand – *sawa*
I don't understand - *sielewa*
No Problem - *hamna sheda*

What is your name? - *lina lako nane?*
My name is... - *jina langu ni... /*
mimi.../ naitwa...

White person - *mzungu*

Basics

No - *hapana*

Yes - *ndio*

And - *na*

By - *kwa*

Now - *sasa*

Big - *kubwa*

Small - *kidogo*

You - *wewe*

Me - *mimi*

He/She - *yeye*

We - *sisi*

They - *wale*

Mine - *yangu/langu/changu*

Yours - *yako*

Useful Verbs:

I see – *mimi angalia...*

I want – *Nataka...*

I go – *mimi naenda...*

I like – *napenda*

To buy - *kununua*

To eat - *kula*

To drink - *kunywa*

To say - *kusema*

To listen - *sikiliza*

To give - *kumpa*

Children

Child – *mtoto*

Children - *watoto*

Sit down – *kaa*

Stand up - *simama*

Stop it – *acha*

Look (at me) – *angalia/nitazame*
mimi

Listen to me – *niskilize mimi*

Give me – *nipe mimi*

Be quiet – *nyamaza*

Slowly /gently– *polepole*

Nicely - *vizuri*

Well done! – *vizuri sana!*

It hurts – *nimeumia*

I am ill/hurt – *mimi umia*

Tired – *kuchoka*

Happy – *furaha*

Sad - *majonze*

Playtime

Play – *(ku)cheza*

Sing - *imba*

Dance – *(ku)cheza*

Draw/colour – *(ku)chola*

Write - *andika*

Paint – *paka*

Colour - *rangi*

Catch – *pata/kamata*

Throw – *rusha*

Run – *kimbia*

Walk - *tembea*

Jump – *luka*

Ball – *mpila*

Book – *kitabu*

Inside – *ndani*

Outside – *nje*

Shopping/Town

Shop – *duka*

Where is ... - ...*iko wapi?*

Do you know...? – *unafahamu?*

Left - *kushoto*

Right - *kulia*

Straight on – *moja kwa moja*

Near to... - *karibu na...*

How much? – *shingapi?*

Money - *pesa*

Too much (£) - *pesa kubwa/nyingi*

Too little (£) – *pesa ndogo/chache*

Numbers

1 *moja*

2 *mbili*

3 *tatu*

4 *nne*

5 *tano*

6 *sita*

7 *saba*

8 *nane*

9 *tisa*

10 *kumi*

20 *isharini*

30 *thelathini*

40 *arobaini*

50 *hamsini*

60 *sitini*

70 *sabini*

80 *themaini*

90 *tisini*

100 *mia*

1000 *elfu*

Food etc

Bread - *mkate*

Eggs - *mayai*

Orange - *machungwa*

Pineapple - *mananasi*

Mango - *maembe*

Tomato - *nyanya*

Cucumber - *tango*

Cabbage - *kabichi*

Pepper - *hoho*

Carrot - *karoti*

Onion - *vitunguu*

Ginger - *tangawizi*

Chilli - *pilipili*

Rice - *wali*

Beans - *maharage*

Soap – *kigoma*

Matches – *kibiriti*

Candle - *mshumaa*