

Beginning Chichewa Lesson One

Muli bwanji?	How are you?
Ndili bwino. Kaya inu?	I am fine. What about you?
Ndili bwino.	I am fine.
Zikomo.	Thank you.

Conjugating Verbs:

Ine ndi- = I

Inu mu- = you (the children will try to teach you verbs that begin with “u” like Uli bwanji? Or Uko. This is very impolite. Please do not use the familiar form of Uko or “u”).

Iye a- = he/she

Ife ti- = we

Awa a- = they

Three verbs to begin using:

Kuli: to be

Kufuna: to want

Kuyenda: to go

Kuyimba: to sing

In the present tense, take the pronoun prefix + ku + the root of the verb: ti + ku + yenda = tikuyenda.

Which translated means: We go.

Exercises:

1. In the greetings at the top of the page, circle the pronoun prefixes and the verb roots. Circle the one pronoun in the greeting. What is it?
2. Using the verbs above, make a few simple, one word sentences.