

XHOSA
INTRODUCTORY MATERIAL

ENGLISH	XHOSA	XHOSA PHONETIC
I am an American and I need your help, but I do not speak your language. I'll point to the question in your language and you can point to the answer in your language.	Ndi ngu Melika ndidinga uncedo kodwa andikwazi ukuthethe ulwimi lwakho. Ndizokhomba umbuzo ngolwimi lwakho, wena undikhombise ngolwimi lwakho	Ndee-n GOO -Merika ndee- DEE -nga oo- NCEDO ko- DWA a-ndee- KOA-ZEE oo-coo- TAY-TAH oo- LOO-WE-ME low-are- KOW . Ndee- ZOW -cow- MBER oo- MBOO-ZOW ngo- LOO-WE-ME low-are- KOW , way- NAH oon-ndee-kow- MBEE-SAY ngo- LOOWE-ME low-are- KOW

COMMUNICATION

ENGLISH	XHOSA	XHOSA PHONETIC
Will you help me?	Ungandiceda?	Oo-ngn-dee- NCEDA ?
Is there someone that speaks English?	Ukho othetha isilungu?	Oo- KOW o-tay- TAH eesy LOO-NGOO ?
Are they willing to help me?	Bazimiseleukundineda?	Bar-zee-me- SAY-LAY oo-coo-ndee- NCEDA ?
Can they come here?	Bandeza oha	Bah-ngay- ZAR upper?
I must go now but, I want to thank you for your help.	Ndizagoduka ngoku, kodwa ndiyalubulela uncedo lwakho	Ndee- ZAWOO Go- DOO-CAR , kow- DOO -wah ndee- YALOO boo- LAY-LAH oo- NCEDO low-are- KOW
My government will repay you for your kindness.	Igavamenti yami izakunika umvuzo ngoncedo lwakho	Ee- GAR-VAME -nty YUMMY ee- ZAW -coo-nee- KAH oom-voo-zow ngo- NCEDO low-are- KOW
I greatly appreciate your assistance.	Ndilubonga kakhulu uncedo leakho	Ndee- LOO bow- NGA car-coo- LOO oo- NCEDO low-are- KOW

BASIC NEEDS

ENGLISH	XHOSA	XHOSA PHONETIC
May I have some water?	Ndi cela amanzi	Ndee- CELA aman- ZEE
May I have some food?	Ndicela ukutya	Ndee- CELA oo-coo- TYA
I am injured. Is there someone that can help me?	Ndenzakele ukho umntu ongandceda na?	Nday- NZA-KAY -lay okow-oom- TWO o-nga-ndee- NCEDA NA ?
Do you have any bandages?	Unebandeji na?	Oo--nay BANDAY ji NA ?
Can you contact someone to help me?	Ungandifumanela umtu ongandineda na?	Oo- NGA -ndee foo- MUNA -Yah-la oom- TWO o-nga-ndee NCEDA NA ?
Where is the latrine?	Iphi indlu encinci	Ee- PPY ee- NDLU e NCI -nci NA ?
I am very tired. Is there a place I can sleep?	Ndikhathele kakubi kukho apho endinga lala khona na?	Ndee- CAR-TELL-AY coo- KOW upper-e NDEE nga- LALA kow- NAH NA ?
May I have a blanket, or more clothing?	Ndingafumana ingubo yokulala noba impahla zokunxiba na?	Ndee- NGAFOO -munner ee-ngoo- BOW yow-coo- LALA -noba eem- PA-HLA zow -coo- NXI-BAR NA ?

Ngoom- as good

Nce – pronounced as N, but with the tip of the tongue pressed against the front teeth

Dwa –pronounced as “D and “WA together

Koazee -as koala

Tya- push the flexible middle of your tongue against the roof of your mouth and sound like the English form of ty

Mboo as booz

Kow as cold

Nc-pronounced as “N” but with the tip of the tongue pressed against front top teeth

Loo- sa look

Ngoo -pronounced as good with “N” in the beginning

Voo- as look

Zow-as zowwy

C-pronounced as “K” but with the tip of the tongue pressed against the upper front teeth

Tya- push flexible middle of tongue against the roof of mouth nad sound will be like the English form of “TY”

Zee as zebra

Nze- pronounce the n & the z together

Ji -as jim

Ndl-pronounced “ n” + very guttural “sh” + “L”

Foo -as foot

Lala -as apple

Hla -soft blowing, very guttural “sh” followed by a normal “L”

Nxi-sound more like “X”, but weakened by the “N”. The “N” is not pronounced separately

TRAVEL

ENGLISH	XHOSA	XHOSA PHONETIC
Can you show me my location on a map?	Ungandi bonisa ukuthi ndiku phi emepini?	oo-NGA -ndeebo-NEE-SA oo-coo-TEA ndee-COOP-EE eme-PINNY?
Can you send word that I am alive?	Ungabaxelela ukhuthi ndisa phila?	Oon-GABA-xe-LAY-LAH oo-coo-TEA dee-SAH PILLER?
How far is it to friendly territory?	Ikude kangakanani inadawo enobedlelwano?	Ee-coo-DAY Car-nga-CAR-nunny ee-NDU-wow eno-BOO-dle-LOWER-NAY?
Can you take me there?	Ungandisa apho na?	Oo-nga-NDISA apho Na?
If you cannot take me, will you give me directions?	Uma ungandisi ungandiyaleza ukuba ndihambe njani?	Oo-MA unga-nDEE-SEA oo-nga-ndee-YALAY-ZALAH oo-coo-BA-ndee-HUMBAY nja NEE?
Is it safe to travel now?	Icinga ukuba akunangozi ukuhama?	Oo-CINGA oo-coo-BA a-coo-ner-NGOWZEE oo-coo-HUMBER?
Which way do you advise me to travel?	Ucinga ukuba nbihambe ngayiphi indlela ?	oo-CINGA oo-coo-BA ndi-HUMBER nga-YIPPY ee-NDLELA
Automobile	nge mmoto	ngeMOW-TOW
Train	Itreyini	Ee-tee-RAINY
Boat	Isikepe	Eesy-KAYPAY
Carriage/wagon	Ikharetshi/inqwela	Ica-RRAYji / inQWELA
Pack of animals	Izinyamazane	eesy-nya-MAZANNY
On Foot	ngezenyawo	nge-zee-NYA-wow

UNFRIENDLY

ENGLISH	XHOSA	XHOSA PHONETIC
What types of troops are in the area?	Kunamasotsha omhlobomni lulendawo?	Coo-nama-SOSHA om-hlobo-MNEE kule-ndawo?
Are they army troops?	Ngamasotsha empi?	Nga-ma-SOSHA MPEE?
Are they militia?	Bahlomile na?	Bar-HLO-me-LAY NA?
Have you noticed any increase of troops or patrolling?	Ukewahoya ukuthi abamaninzi ?	Oo-KAY-wah-ho-YYER oo-coo-TEA Bar-NEE-NZEE?
When do they patrol?	Bapatrola nini?	Bar-PATROLLER nee-NEE?
Are you aware of others like me?	Ucinga ukuba bakho Abanjengam?	Oo-CINGA oo-coo-BAR bar-KOW abar-njeNGUM ?
Can you take me to them?	ungandisa apho?	Oo-NGUN-DEESA apow?

Nga as sang

E as egg (emepinny)

X- sound like "X" but weakened by the "N" sound the "N" is not pronounced separately

Nd-pronounced like end or and

Ndle- D + "SH" as followed by a normal "L"

c- inward sucking "tska" loud and sharp

y- as yellow

Su -as sun

Humber- as hummer

Nja "N" followed by immediately by a sharp "J" using the tongue on the roof of the mouth

Maza as apple-

Nya- pronounced through the nose as "N" but with the tongue pressed on both sides of jaws

Sha - as shoe

Mpee as mp3

Hlo – soft blowing very guttural "SH" followed by "L"

C- inward sucking "TSKA" loud and sharp

ngu -as gum but with an "N" sound

Nde- pronounce as end or an

VOCABULARY

ENGLISH	XHOSA	XHOSA PHONETIC
Hello	Molo	mo- LOW
Goodbye	Hambakakuhle	Hummb- CAR-COO -hle
Thank you	Ndiyabulela	Ndee-yu- BOOLAY -lah
Please	ndiyacela	ndee- CELA
Ammunition	izihlomo	ee-zee- HLO-MOW
Armed Vehicle	Izinqwelazempi	ee-zee-nqwela-ze MPI
Checkpoint	Indawo yokudibana	ee-nduwo yow-coo-dee- BANA
Day	Imini	ee-me- NEE
Danger	Ingozi	Ee-ngo- ZEE
Desert	Intlango	ee-ntla- NGO
East	Emmpume	empoo- ME
Evening	ngukuhlwa	ogo-coo- hlwa
Food	Ukutya	oo-coo- TYA
Good	Kulungile	car- coo- HLE
Bad	Kakubi	Kah-coo- BEE
Here	Apha	u- PPER
Hour	Ihora	ee- HORROH
Kilometer	Ikilomita	ee-kilo- MITA
Knife	Immela	eem- MELA
Leader	ngumkhokheli	Ngoom-kho- KELLY
Medicine	ngumthi	ngoom - TEA
Men	amadoda	ama- DODAH
Women	abafazi	aba- FUZZY
Minute	ngumzuzu	ngoom-zoo- ZOO
Morning	ekuseni	e-coo- say- NEE
Mountain	intaba	een-tu- BBER
Night	busuku	boo-soo- COO
North	umantla	ooma- TLA
Pass	qgitha	Qgi TAH
Pistol	isibamu	ee-sea- BHAMOO
Radio	unomathotholo	oo-noma-tow- TOW-LO
River	Nguvula	ngoom - FULLER
Road	yindlela	yee- ndle- LAH
Shelter	ngumkhukhu	goom-coo- COO
South	umzantsi	oo-mza- NTSI

There	Phaya	par- YYER
Valley	ezilalini	e-zee-la- LEENY
Village	emzini	Eem- ZEENY
Water	Amanzi	aman- ZEE
Weapon	iizikhali	ee-zee-car- LEE
West	entsona	en- TSO-na
Yes	Ewe	err- WAY
No	hayi	ha- YEE
1	Nye	NEAR
2	Mbini	Mbee- NEE
3	Nthathu	Ntar- TWO
4	Ne	NAY
5	Hlanu	Hla- NOO
6	Isithandathu	See-tar- NDU-TWO
7	Isixhenxe	Eesy- XHE-NXE
8	Isibhozo	Eessy - BOW-ZOW
9	Lethoba	Lee-tow- BAR
10	Leshumi	Lee- SHOEME
20	mashuammhini	Ma- SHOEME mum- BEE-NEE
30	Mashimiamathathu	Mar- SHOEME mar- TAR-TWO
40	Mashumimi amane	Mar- SHOEME -mar- NAY
50	Mashumi mahlanu	Mar- SHOEME Mar- HLA-NOO
60	Mashumiayisithan datu	Mar- SHOEME see-tar- NDU-TWO
70	Mashumiayisixhenxe	Mar- SHOEME a-yee-see- XHE-NXE
80	mashumiayisibhozo	Mar- SHOEME a-yee-see- BOW-ZOW
90	mashumi alithoba	Mar- SHOEME a-lee- TOW-BAR
100	Ikhulu	ee- COO-LOO
500	Ngamakhulu mahlanu	Nga-mar- COO-LOO Ama- HLANOO
1000	Iwaka	ee-wa- CAR

Hla- soft, blowing, very guttural “SH” followed by “L”

Xhe- slightly cusped tongue pressed entirely against the roof of the mouth sound is made by releasing the tongue while still pressing against the roof, causing air to develop in the middle of the tongue

Ndu- as under

Coo- as cool

Loo- as loop

Wa -as what

Ama- as apple

Mo -as more

Hl- soft blowing very guttural “SH” followed by a normal “L”

Boo- as bull

C- pronounced inward sucking “TSKA” loud sound

Mpi- as mp3

Ng as song

Hlwa -same as “HL” followed by “WA”

Tya- pronounced like the English “ty” but with a strong “CH”