

UGANDA

English and Swahili are the official languages of Uganda, however we have also included some key phrases and language from Ganda/Luganda as it is also a widely spoken dialect. Beyond that there are over 40 local languages and dialects, which are too many include and often only spoken in specific local area.

SWAHILI

A collection of useful phrases in Swahili, a Bantu language spoken in much of east Africa by about 140 million people.

Key to abbreviations: sg = singular (said to one person), pl = plural (said to more than one person), inf = informal

English	kiSwahili (Swahili)
Welcome	Karibu (sg) Karibuni (pl)
Hello (General greeting)	Habari (inf) Hujambo (sg) Hamjambo (pl) Sijambo (reply)
How are you?	Habari? Hujambo? Habari yako? Habari gani?
Reply to 'How are you?'	Nzuri Sijambo
What's your name?	Jina lako ni nani?
My name is ...	Jina langu ni ...
Where are you from?	Unatoka wapi?
I'm from ...	Natoka ...
Pleased to meet you	Nafurahi kukuona Nimefurahi kukutana nawe

Good morning (Morning greeting)	Habari ya asubuhi
Good afternoon (Afternoon greeting)	Habari ya mchana
Good evening (Evening greeting)	Habari ya jioni
Good night	Usiku mwema Lala salama (<i>sleep well</i>)
Goodbye (Parting phrases)	Kwaheri
Good luck	Kila la kheri!
Cheers! Good Health! (<i>Toasts used when drinking</i>)	Maisha marefu! Afya! Vifijo!
Have a nice day	Nakutakia siku njema!
Bon appetit / Have a nice meal	Ufurahie chakula chako (sg) Furahieni chakula chenu (pl) Chakula chema
Bon voyage / Have a good journey	Safari njema!
I understand	Naelewa
I don't understand	Sielewi
I don't know	Sijui
Please speak more slowly	Tafadhali sema polepole
Please write it down	Waweza kuiandika?
Do you speak English?	Unazungumza Kingereza?
Do you speak Swahili?	Unazungumza Kiswahili?
Yes, a little	Ndiyo, kidogo tu

(reply to 'Do you speak ...?')	
How do you say ... in Swahili?	Unasemaje ... kwa Kiswahili?
Excuse me	Samahani nipishe (<i>to get past</i>) Samahani (<i>to get attention or say sorry</i>)
How much is this?	Hii ni bei gani?
Sorry	Samahani
Please	Tafadhali
Thank you	Asante Asante sana (sg) Asanteni (pl)
Reply to thank you	Asante kwa kushukuru
No thanks	Hapana asante
Where's the toilet?	Choo kiko wapi?
This gentleman/lady will pay for everything	Mtu huyu atalipia kila kitu
Would you like to dance with me?	Tucheze ngoma? Utapenda kudansi?
I love you	Ninakupenda
Get well soon	Ugua pole
Help!	Msaada!
Fire!	Moto!
Stop!	Usifanye hivyo!
Go away!	Nenda zako!
Leave me alone!	Usinisumbue!
Call the police!	Mwite polisi!
Christmas and New Year greetings	Krismasi Njema Heri ya krismasi

	Heri ya mwaka mpya
Easter greetings	Heri ya Sikukuu ya pasaka
Birthday greetings <i>Swahili birthday song</i>	Nakutakia mema katika siku yako ya kuzaliwa! Sikukuu njema ya kuzaliwa! Furaha katika siku yako ya kuzaliwa! <u>Heri katika siku yako ya kuzaliwa!</u>
My hovercraft is full of eels <i>Why this phrase?</i>	Gari langu linaloangama limejaa na mikunga
One language is never enough	Lugha moja haitoshi

GANDA or LUGANDA

Ganda or Luganda is a member of the Bantu branch of Niger-Congo languages. Around 3 million Baganda people, who live mainly in the Buganda region of Uganda, speak the language. Ganda is also widely used elsewhere in Uganda as a second language.

The name Uganda is the Swahili version of Baganda. **English and Swahili are the official languages of Uganda, however Luganda/Ganda are also widely used**

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Lugandan Greetings

In the morning you just do not say Good morning but, **How was your night?**

When someone comes back from a days work one will ask, how was your day? and the same in the evening.

Good Morning: **Wasuze otya nno?**

Good afternoon or Good Evening: **Osiibye otya nno?**

Some other greetings depending on day or night as you leave or come are:

Hi: **Ki kati** the 'ki' is pronounced 'Chi', so 'Chickarti'

How are you?: **Oli Otya**

The answer is -I am ok: **Gyendi** the 'G' is pronounced like a 'J'

Have nice day: **Siiba bulungi** the 'G' is pronounced like a 'J'

Good night when going to bed or leaving for the night: **Sula bulungi**

Saying goodbye to one person: **Weeraba**

Saying goodbye to more than one person: **Mweraba**

Welcome to one or several people: **Tukusanyukidde**

See you later: **Tunaalabagana**

Useful Phrases

Please: **Mwattu**

Thank you: **Weebale**

Thank you very much: **Weebale Nnyo**

Please come in: **Mwattu yingira**

Excuse me in order to get someone's attention: **Owange**

Please sit down: **Mwattu tuula wansi**

Pardon me, what did you say?: **Wangi or Ogamby Ki?**

apologize by saying I am sorry: **Nsonyiwa**

OK: **Kale**

No thanks: **Nedda**

I do not know: **Simanye**

What time is it?: **Sawa mmeka?**

How much is it?: **Mmekka Ssente?**

I do not have any money: **Sirina Sente**

I love you: **Nkwagala**

I am: **Nze (your name)**

Madam: **Nyabo**

Sir: **Ssebo**

Other Useful Phrases

I am angry: **Ndi munyiivu**

I am cold: **Mpulira empewo**

I am full: **Ndi mukkuvu**

I am happy: **Ndi musanyufu**

I am hot: **Mpulira ebbugumu**

I am hungry: **Enjala ennuma**

I am sad: **Ndi munakuwavu**

I am scared: **Ntidde**

I am sick: **Ndi wulwadde**

I am thirsty: **Ennyonta ennuma**

I am tired: **Nkooye**

I am worried: **Ndi mweraliikirivu**

What happens when you can't understand?

Do you speak English?: **Omanyi olungereza**

Yes, I do: **Weewawo**

No, I do not: **Nedda**

Does anyone here speak English?: **Wano waliwo amanyi olungereza?**

Do you understand? **Otegeera?**

I understand: **Ntegeera**

I don't understand: **Sitegeera**

Please speak slowly: **Ekigambo ekyo kimpandiikire**

I like: **Njagala**

I do not like: **Saagala**
