

Peace Corps

P.Dot
Soninke Lessons



P.DOT – Soninke Lessons

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Lesson 1: The Alphabet

Soninke Alphabet	Pronounced as in
i	Kit
e	Met
a	Bat
o	Dot
u	Book
ii	Meat
ee	Fair
aa	Far
oo	Boy
uu	Food
b	Bad
c	Chair
d	Door
f	Father
g	Good
h	Hard
j	Job
k	Kit
l	Like
m	Mother
n	Noon

ñ	Señor (in Spanish)
ŋ	Sing
p	Part
q	No equivalent
r	Rice
s	Sit
t	Talk
w	Word
x	No equivalent
y	You

Lesson 2: Vocabulary 1

N	I
An	You
A	He
A	She
O	We
Xa	You
I	They
Yaxare	A woman
Yaxaru	Women
Yugo	A man
Yugu	Men
Xuso	A girl
Xusu	Girls
Murunte	A boy
Murunto	Boys
Lemine	A child
Leminu	Children
Ka-dunko	A family
Saaxe	Mother
Faabe	Father
Yaqqe	Wife

Kiine	Husband
Gidan-yaxare	Sister
Gidan-yugo	Brother
Suxuba	Morning
Kinsiga	Noon
Lelle	Afternoon
Wuro	Night
Suxuban-fo	Breakfast
Yaraxate	Lunch
Naxame	Dinner

Lesson 3: Greetings

Salaamu aleykum	Peace be upon you (use at any time of the day)
Aleykum salaam	And on you, too (reply to the above greeting)
An wuyi jam	Good morning
Lella	Good afternoon
Sunka	Good evening
Xori an wa jam?	Are you in peace?
Jam baane	Peace only
An moxo?	How are you?
Ma jam	I am fine
Ka-dunko n moxo?	How is the family?
I wa jam	They are fine
Golle n moxo?	How is the work?
Jam duuro	It is fine
An do tanpiye n moxo?	How are you with tiredness?
Ma jam	I am fine
Mary moxo?	How is Mary?
Mary wa jam	Mary is fine
Leminu n moxo?	How are your children?
I wa jam	They are fine
Bisimilla!	Welcome!
Nawaari	Thank you!

Lesson 4: Numbers – Counting 1 to 20

Baane	One
Fillo	Two
Sikko	Three
Naxato	Four
Karago	Five
Tumu	Six
Ñeru	Seven
Segu	Eight
Kabu	Nine
Tanmu	Ten
Tanmu do baane	Eleven
Tanmu do fillo	Twelve
Tanmu do sikko	Thirteen
Tanmu do naxato	Fourteen
Tanmu do karago	Fifteen
Tanmu do tumu	Sixteen
Tanmu do ñeru	Seventeen
Tanmu do segu	Eighteen
Tanmu do kabu	Nineteen
Tanfille	Twenty

Lesson 5: Vocabulary 2 (Common Objects)

Tabeli	A table
Siisi	A chair
Follaqqe	A door
Palanteeri	A window
Safandi fo	A pen
Kereyon	A pencil
Kaye	A notebook
Kitabe	A book
Sakkoosi	A bag
Kere	Chalk
Tablo	Chalk board
Palaati	A plate
Kuddu	A spoon
Labo	A knife
Sellaade	A broom
Saxu-raxe	A bed
Bajjo	A blanket
Derebu	A bed sheet
Leeso	A mat
Yiraamu	Clothes
Simisi	A shirt
Wuno	Pants

Teppuni	Shoes
Mexensi	Bike
Yaaxan-duŋeru	Eye glasses
Ji	Water
Attaaye	Tea
Kefe	Coffee
Xatti	Milk
Sukkara	Sugar
Sappe	Salt
Maaro	Rice
Nexe	Fish
Tiye	Meat

Lesson 6: Vocabulay 3 (Names of Places)

Xaran-ra	School
Kalaasi	Classroom
Jooxe	Toilet
Waaño	Kitchen
Biire	Hangar (Straw roof that you sit under)
Ka	House
Konpe	Room
Tilliise	Tent
Dispenseeri	Dispensary
Saxa	Market
Butiki	Shop
Biro	Office
Fanqe	River
Gede	A well
Ponpe	Pump
Faara	Garden
Te	Field
Golliñan-raxe	Working place
Misiide	Mosque
Banke	Bank
Garaasi	Bus station
Kanda	Airport

Lesson 7: Days of the Week and Some Expressions of Time

Tineeni	Monday
Talaata	Tuesday
Araba	Wednesday
Alaxamisa	Thursday
Al juma	Friday
Sibiti	Saturday
Alahadi	Sunday
Koota su	Every day
Suxuba su	Every morning
Lelle su	Every afternoon
Wuro su	Every night
Tineeni su	Every Monday
Al juma su	Every Friday
Kiye	Day
Koye	Week
Xaso	Month
Siine	Year
Koye su	Every week
Xaso su	Every month
Siine su	Every year

Lesson 8: Introducing Self/Someone

N toxo n ni Souleymane	My name is Souleymane
N janmu n ni Sall	My last name is Sall
An toxo?	What's your name?
An janmu?	What's your last name?
N bakka Moritani n ya	I am from Mauritania
N yaqqe n bakka Moritani n ya	My wife is from Mauritania
An bakka minna?	Where are you from?
An yaqqe n bakka minna?	Where is your wife from?
A bakka minna?	Where is she from?
A bakka minna?	Where is he from?
A toxo n ni John	His name is John
A janmu n ni Hogan	His last name is Hogan
John feti Moritaninke. Amerikinke n ya ni	John is not from Mauritania. He is from America
Amerikinke n ya ni anɲa?	Are you from America?
Ayi, Amerikinke feti inɲa	No, I am not from America.
Moritaninke n ya ni anɲa?	Are you from Mauritania?
Iyo, Moritaninke n ya ni inɲa	Yes, I am from Mauritania.
Xaranmoxe n ya ni inɲa	I am a teacher
N yaqqe n feti xaranmoxe	My wife is not a teacher
John ni wolonteeri n ya	John is a volunteer
A yaqqe n feti wolonteeri	His wife is not a volunteer
John yaqqe n ni doktooru n ya	John's wife is a doctor

Lesson 9: Leave-taking Expressions

Hari na o koyi me!	Good-bye!
O na me wari jam!	See you!
Jam na kira	Have a good day
Jam na wuyi	Have a good night
Hari na xeeri ro wuro n̄a	May we have a good night
Na jam dallandi	Stay in peace
Anmiina!	Amen!
O wa suxuba n̄a	See you in the morning
O wa lelle n̄a	See you in the afternoon
O wa kinsiga n̄a	See you around noon
O wa wuro n̄a	See you in the evening
O wa xunbane	See you tomorrow
O n katta kaane	See you soon
O n katta kaane	See you later

Lesson 10: Some Useful Expressions & Phrases

N tanpi	I am tired
Xenqo n wa in ɲa	I am sleepy
Dulle n wa in ɲa	I am hungry
Dulle nta in ɲa	I am not hungry
Daqqu n wa in ɲa	I am thirsty
Daqqu nta in ɲa	I am not thirsty
A tewe n ya ni	It's hot
A tewe fe	It's not hot
A mulle n ya ni	It's cold
A mulle fe	It's not cold
Haqqe toxo	Excuse me
Haqqe nta an ɲa	You are excused
An telle minna?	Where are you going?
N telle o ka n ya	I am going home
N telle xaran-ra n ya	I am going to school
John wa telle saxa	John is going to the market
John wa telle butiki	He is going to the shop
N wa telle biro	I'm not going to the office
An wa Soninke n mukku?	Do you speak Soninke?
Iyo, n wa Soninke n mukku fonne	Yes, I speak Soninke a little bit
John nta Soninke n mukku	John doesn't speak Soninke
N nta Faranse n mulla	I don't like French

N nta kefe mulla	I don't like coffee
Jennifer wa Soninke n mulla	Jennifer likes Soninke
N xarana ya	I study
N yigene ya	I eat
N golliñana ya	I work
A nta xarana	He doesn't study
A nta yigene	She doesn't eat
I nta golliñana	They don't work
N wa xenqene fonne	I am having some sleep
N nta golliñana saasa	I don't work now
N wa a mulla in nan tuuma	I want to rest