Adesuadeɛ a ɛdi kan: 1st Lesson
Twi Kasa Nnyegyeɛ (Twi Language Sounds) Nsɛmfua Afoforɔ (New Vocabulary)



Mfitiaseɛ Nkɔmmɔdie Akan (Twi)
Introductory Conversational Akan (Twi)
Ọbádélé Bakari Kambɔn, PhD © Abibitumi Kasa 2018
Nana Kwame Pɛbi Date I – Ban mu Kyidɔmhene – Akuapem Mampɔn

Course Description

Introductory Twi is an eight class course where you will learn the essentials to function in a Twi-speaking environment within a Ghanaian cultural context. You will learn greetings, introductions and basic conversational skills. You will learn pronunciation, sentence structure and regular verb tenses. Cultural lessons are part of language learning and you will learn how to speak intelligently about yourself and to find out information from others, how to address different people, proverbs, how to speak about where you are from, where you live and more! Learning activities are appropriate for all ages and will include listening, speaking, reading, role-playing and writing. You will be expected to reinforce learning between classes by completing homework assignments and by learning and using vocabulary words. A practical assessment of acquired skills concludes the course.

Course Materials

Access to downloadable/streamed files containing entire lessons with notes, exercises, assignments and multimedia learning activities in addition to a list of supplementary learning resources will be made available at our website.
You'll submit your homework after each class to: https://www.abibitumi.com/afrikan-languages/intensive-intro-conversational-akan-twi-classes-ongoing/

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Mfitiaseɛ Nkɔmmɔdie Akan (Twi) Adesua Nhyehyɛɛ Introductory Conversational Akan (Twi) Course Syllabus
1. **Adesuadeɛ a ɛdi kan: Twi Kasa nnyegyeɛ (Sounds of the Twi language), Nsɛmfua afoforɔ (new vocabulary)**
2. **Adesuadeɛ a ɛtɔ so mmienu: Apɔmuden ho nkyea (asking after one's health); Mmerɛ ahodoɔ nkyea (greetings for various times)**
3. **Adesuadeɛ a ɛtɔ so mmiɛnsa: Wo din (Your name)**
4. **Adesuadeɛ a ɛtɔ so nnan: Baabi a wofiri (Where you're from); Baabi a wote (Where you live)**
5. **Adesuadeɛ a ɛtɔ so nnum: Deɛ wopɛ (That which you like)**
6. **Adesuadeɛ a ɛtɔ so nsia: Deɛ woyɛ (That which you do)**
7. **Adesuadeɛ a ɛtɔ so nson: Mfeɛ a woadi (The years that you have lived (age)); Wo ho asɛm (About you); Sɛnea wo nipadua teɛ (Physical description)**
8. **Adesuadeɛ a ɛtɔ so nwɔtwe: Twi Nsɔhwɛ (Twi exam); Awieeɛ dwumadie (Work on final projects)**

Lesson Structure

1.Introduction – lesson review
2.Overview – outline learning objectives
3.Lesson - using listening, speaking, reading and other activities
4.Introduce new vocabulary
5.Exercises and practice
6.Recap the day's lesson and assign week's homework.

Lesson Components (presented in any order)

1. Nsɛmfua afoforɔ (new vocabulary)
2. Nkɔmmɔdie (dialogue) i.e using the language
3. Dwumadie ahodoɔ (exercises), i.e reciting numbers, place names/locations, etc…
4. Adetie ne asɛmka dwumadie (listening and speaking exercises)
5. Akenkan ne adetwerɛ dwumadie (reading and writing exercises)
6. Nsɛm bi fa amammerɛ ho (cultural notes) i.e. Akan culture and worldview
7. Nsɛm bi fa kasa mmara ho (grammar notes)
8. Fie dwumadie (homework)

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Twi Kasa Nnyegyeɛ ne Nhwɛsoɔ bi
(Sounds of the Twi Language and Examples)[1]

Atwerɛdeɛ	Nnyegyeɛ	borɔfokasa nhwɛsoɔ	Twi kasa nhwɛsoɔ	Mfoni	Nkyerɛaseɛ
(letter)	(sound)	(english example)	(Twi example)	(Picture)	(translation)
a	ah	spa/ apple	**Abibiman**		Afrika
b	bay	bait	**ɛboɔ**		rock
d	day	divine	**ɔdɔn**		bell
e	ay	pray/ if	**okusie**		rat
ɛ	eh	revolution	**abɛ**		palm tree
f	fay	freedom	**efie**		house/home
g	gay	gate	**agorɔ**		game

[1] Yɛahyɛ ɛnne nnyegyeɛ nso ama woahu ntɛm. (Vowels appear shaded for quick discernment.)

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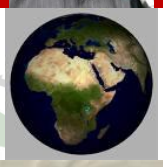
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h	hay	hope	**ɔhene**		king
i	ee	beat	**esie**		termite mound
k	kay	cake	**akokɔ**		chicken
l	el	lake	**obolo**		fat person
m	em	maroon	**mako**		pepper
n	en	never	**nana**		grandparent/ grandchild
o	oh	own/ hook	**osuo**		rain
ɔ	aw	law	**ɔbarima**		male/man
p	pay	pace	**mpoano**		beach

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r	er	butter	**aborɔbɛ**		pineapple
s	say	soul	**sika**		gold/money
t	tay	take	**otuo**		gun
u	oo	blue	**tuntum**		Black/dark
w	way	world	**wiase**		world
y	yay	yes	**oyiwan**		razor

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Atwerɛdeɛ Nkabom	Nnyegyeɛ	borɔfokasa nhwɛsoɔ	Twi kasa nhwɛsoɔ	Mfoni	Nkyerɛaseɛ
letter combinations	**sound**	**english example**	**Twi example**	**picture**	**translation**
dw	jw	bridgeway	**adwene**		catfish
gy	j	gymnasium	**ogya**		fire
hw	shw	bushwacker	**ahwehwɛ**		mirror
hy	sh	ship	**ɛhyɛn**		ship
kw	qu	quest	**ɛkwaeɛ**		forest
ky	ch	child	**kyea**		to greet
nw	nw	wrong word	**ɔnwam**		toucan
ny	ny	canyon	**anyinam**		lightning
tw	chr/chw	inchworm	**etwa**		scar

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	borɔfokasa kasamufa english phrase	Twi kasamufa Twi phrase	Nnyegyeɛ [pronunciation]	Nkyerɛaseɛ mapa Literal translation
1.	**How are you?**	Wo ho te sɛn?	[woe HOE teh SANG]	Your body feels how?
2.	**I am doing well.**	Me ho yɛ.	[mih HOE yeh]	My body is.
3.	**What's up?**	Ɛte sɛn?	[eh-teh SANG]	It feels how?
4.	**I'm fine.**	Ɛyɛ.	[eh-yeh]	It is.
5.	**And you?**	Na wo nso ɛ?	[nah WOE-NSOH eh]	And you also?
6.	**Yes.**	Aane.	[aah-NIH]/[ayn]	Yes.
7.	**No.**	Dabi.	[deh-BEE]	No.
8.	**Greetings.**	Mekyea wo.	[mee-chee-YA wo]	I greet you.
9.	**Good morning.**	Maakye.	[mah CHEE]	I wish/give you daybreak.
10.	**Good day/afternoon.**	Maaha.	[mah HÃ]	I wish/give you good day.
11.	**Good evening/night.**	Maadwo.	[mah JWO]	I wish/give you coolness.
12.	**Welcome.**	Akwaaba.	[ah-QUAAH-ba]	Going and coming.
13.	**Acknowledgment to elder.**	Yaa nana.	[yaah nah-NAH]	Acknowledgment to elder.
14.	**Acknowledgment to father.**	Yaa agya.	[yeah EH-jah]	Acknowledgment to father.
15.	**Acknowledgment to mother.**	Yaa ɛna.	[yaah EH-nah]	Acknowledgement to mother.
16.	**Acknowledgment to sibling.**	Yaa nua.	[yeah nwee-YAH]	Acknowledgement to sibling.
17.	**Acknowledgment to child.**	Yaa ɔba.	[yaah AW-bah]	Acknowledgement to child
18.	**What's your name?**	Wo din de sɛn?	[woe DEEN dih SANG]	Your name takes how?

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19.	**My name is ____.**	Me din de _____.	[mee DEEN dih ____]	My name takes _____.
20.	**What are you called?**	Yɛfrɛ wo sɛn?	[yeh-FRE woe SANG]	We call you how?
21.	**I'm called _____.**	Yɛfrɛ me _____.	[yeh-FRE mih _____]	They call me _____.
22.	**What does that mean?**	Ɛkyerɛ sɛn?	[eh cher-EH sang]	It shows/teaches how?
23.	**Translate _____.**	Kyerɛ ____ aseɛ.	[cher-EH ah-see-EH]	Show/teach ____'s base.
24.	**Excuse me/Please.**	Mepa wo kyɛw.	[mih-pah woe CHOW]	I take off my hat to you.
25.	**I need to urinate.**	Dwonsɔ de me.	[JWON-saw dih mih]	Urination takes me.
26.	**I need to defecate.**	Mɛkɔ baabi so.	[MEH-kaw beeh-BEE soe]	I will go on somewhere.
27.	**How much is this?**	Wei yɛ sɛn?	[WAY yeh sang]	This is how (much)?
28.	**Reduce the price.**	Te so.	[tih SO]	Tear the top.
29.	**I'm hungry.**	Ɛkɔm de me.	[eh-COMB dih mih]	Hunger takes me.
30.	**I'm thirsty.**	Osukɔm de me.	[oh-sue-COMB dih mih]	Thirst takes me.
31.	**I'm cold.**	Awɔ de me.	[ah-WAW dih mih]	Cold takes me.
32.	**I'm hot.**	Ahuhuro de me.	[ah-HOO-hoo-row dih mih]	Heat takes me.
33.	**I'm tired.**	Mabrɛ.	[mah-BREH]	I have ripened.
34.	**I'm sleepy.**	M'ani kom.	[men-KNEE comb]	My eyes are bent.
35.	**I want/like _____.**	Mepɛ ____.	[mih-peh]	I want/like___.
36.	**I don't want/like _____.**	Mempɛ _____.	[mim-PEH]	I don't want/like ___.
37.	**I'm happy.**	M'ani agye.	[men-KNEE AH-jih]	My eyes have received.

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38.	**Teach/Show me. ____**	Kyerɛ me _____.	[cher-EH mih]	Teach/Show me _____.
39.	**I want to eat.**	Mepɛ sɛ medidi.	[mih-peh SEH mee-dee-DEE]	I want that I eat.
40.	**When?**	Berɛ bɛn?	[ber-EH bang]	Time which?
41.	**I only speak english.**	Mete borɔfo kasa nko ara.	[mih-tih braw-fo KA-sa in-QUAH]	I hear the language of whites only.
42.	**What did you say?**	Wosee dɛn?	[woe-SAY dang]	You said what?
43.	**Repeat what you said.**	Ka bio.	[kãh BEE-YO]	Say again.
44.	**No, I don't speak Twi.**	Dabi, mente Twi.	[deh-BEE, men-TIH chwEE]	No, I don't hear Twi.
45.	**Yes, I speak a little Twi.**	Aane, mete Twi kakra.	[aah-NIH mih-tih chwEE kah-KRAH]	Yes, I hear Twi a little.
46.	**Please help me.**	Mepa wo kyɛw, boa me.	[mih-pah woe CHOW, BWAH mih]	I remove my hat to you, help me.
47.	**I'm lost.**	Mayera.	[mah-YER-AH]	I have (become) lost.
48.	**Thank you.**	Meda ase.	[mih-daah sih]	I lay at your base.
49.	**You're welcome.**	Yɛnna ase.	[yen-NAAH sih]	We don't lay underneath.
50.	**Goodbye.**	Yɛbɛhyia bio.	[ye-BAY-shee-YAH BEE-YO]	We will meet again.
51.	**Later.**	Akyire.	[EH-chee ray]	Behind/after.
52.	**How do you say _____?**	Sɛn na yɛka _____?	[SANG nah yeh-kah _____]	How it is we speak _____ ?
53.	**We say _____.**	Yɛse _____.	[yeh-SAY _____]	We say _____.
54.	**I have a question.**	Mewɔ asɛmmisa.	[mih-WAW ah-sem-MEE-SAH]	I have a question.
55.	**Yes, I understand.**	Aane, mate aseɛ.	[aah-NIH, mah-teh AH-seh-eh]	Yes, I have heard underneath.
56.	**No, I don't understand.**	Dabi, mente aseɛ.	[deh-BEE, men-teh AH-seh-eh]	No, I don't hear underneath.

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57.	**I'll be right back.**	Mereba seesei ara.	[miih-BAH sih-see-aaah]	I'm coming right now.
58.	**Please, write it.**	Mepa wo kyɛw, twerɛ.	[mih-pah woe-CHOW, chweh-REH]	Please, write it.
59.	**Speak slowly.**	(Ɛ)kasa bɔkɔɔ.	[(eh)KAH-sah baw-kaw]	Speak soft.
60.	**Give me ____.**	Ma me _____.	[mah mih _____]	Give me _____.
61.	**Take _____.**	Gye _____.	[jih _____]	Receive _____.
62.	**I'm going ____.**	Merekɔ _____.	[miih KAW _____]	I'm going _____.
63.	**Go!**	Kɔ.	[KAW]	Go.
64.	**Come here!**	Bra ha!	[brah HA]	Come here.
65.	**Bring it.**	Fa bra.	[FAH bra]	Take come.
66.	**Bring me ____.**	Fa ____ brɛ me.	[FAH ___ breh mih]	Take ___ bring me.
67.	**Sit down.**	Tena ase.	[ten-AH-sih]	Sit down.
68.	**Get up.**	Sɔre!	[saw-RIH]	Get up.
69.	**Wake up.**	Nyane!	[NYA-NIH]	Wake up.
70.	**Let's go.**	Yɛnkɔ!	[YEN-kaw]	We should go.
71.	**Go to sleep.**	Kɔda.	[kaw-DAH]	Go sleep.
72.	**Y'all go to sleep.**	Monkɔda.	[MOAN-KAW-DAH]	Y'all should go sleep.
73.	**Be careful.**	Hwɛ yie.	[shweh YEE-yay]	Look well.
74.	**Travel safely**	Nante yie	[non-tih YEE-yay]	Walk well.

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Fie Dwumadie (Homework): Make a conversation between two people using the phrases in the table above. The conversation should be natural and have a sensible progression going from introductory greetings, introductions, the core of the conversation and finally parting greetings. Each of the two participants should have no less than 15 lines.

APPENDIX A: KASA MMARA (GRAMMAR)
Edin nsiananmu (Pronouns)

	Twi ɔyɛfoɔ din nsiananmu (Twi subject pronouns)	borɔfokasa din nsiananmu (english pronoun)
1	**me-**	I
2	**wo-**	you
3	**ɔ-**	she/he
4	**ɛ-**	it
5	**yɛ-**	we
6	**mo-**	you (pl)/y'all
7	**wɔ- / yɛ-[2]**	they

All pronouns ***must be written connected to the following verb***. For example the pronouns with the verb kɔ, "to go" will appear as:

1. mekɔ **NOT WRITTEN SEPARATELY** LIKE me kɔ
2. wokɔ NOT wo kɔ
3. ɔkɔ NOT ɔ kɔ
4. ɛkɔ NOT ɛ kɔ
5. yɛkɔ NOT yɛ kɔ
6. mokɔ NOT mo kɔ
7. wɔkɔ OR yɛkɔ NOT wɔ kɔ OR yɛ kɔ

Twerɛ edin nsiananmu yeinom ka nneyɛɛ nsɛm yi ho yɛ kasamu. Hwɛ yie sɛ wotwerɛ edin nsiananmu ne adeyɛ asɛm bom (te sɛ, mesua Twi, ɔkɔ, ne ade)

*Combine pronouns with these verbs below to create simple sentences. Make sure that you write the **subject pronoun as connected with the verb** (i.e. mesua Twi, ɔkɔ, etc.)*

[2] In Asante Twi "yɛ-" serves as both we and they

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	Asante Nneyɛɛ nsɛm ne nneyɛɛ nsɛm kasamufa (verbs and verb phrases)	Akuapem nneyɛe nsɛm ne nneyɛe nsɛm kasamufa	borɔfokasa nkyerɛaseɛ (english translation)
1	**sua Twi**		to learn Twi
2	**kɔ**		to go
3	**nim**		to know
4	**te aseɛ**	**te ase**	to understand
5	**ba**		to come
6	**tumi**[3]		to be able
7	**tɔ**		to buy
8	**noa aduane**		to cook food
9	**pue**		to go out
10	**tɔn**		to sell
11	**didi**[4]		to eat
12	**hyia**		to meet
13	**da**		to go to sleep
14	**hu(nu)**	**hu**	to see
15	**hwɛ**		to look (at)
16	**yɛ**		to do
17	**kyerɛ**		to teach
18	**yɛ adwuma**		to do work
19	**kyea**	**kyia**	to greet
20	**tu kwan**		to travel

Nhwɛsoɔ bi:	**(Examples:)**
ɔsua Twi nti ɔtumi tete mma	She learns Twi, therefore she can raise children

[3] most often used in conjunction with other following verbs, like “can” in english
[4] used with no object, i.e. when that which is being eaten is not specified

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	Nkabomdeɛ (conjunction)	borɔfokasa nkyerɛaseɛ (english translation)
1	**na**	and (used for connecting phrases and sentences)
2	**ne**	and (used for connecting individual items)
3	**anaa**	or
4	**nanso**	but
5	**enti/nti**	therefore
6	**nso**	also
7	**ɛfiri sɛ/ɛsiane sɛ/ɛnam sɛ**	because
8	**ma**	so that
9	**(na) mmom**	however
10	**____ nkamfua**	_____ notwithstanding
11	**ɛnkanka**	not to mention
12	**ɛwɔ mu sɛ**	it is the case that
13	**sɛ**	that
14	**nkantom sɛ**	although
15	**ɛhia sɛ**	it is needed that
16	**ɛsɛ sɛ**	it is proper that
17	**sɛ ____a,**	if _____ then,
18	**berɛ a _____ no,**	when _____ then,
19	**ansa na**	before
20	**yei akyi no**	after this
21	**ɛte saa deɛ a,**	if that be the case then,

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