

# Lesson 45:

## Possessive Pronouns

### Possessive Pronouns [vivumishi vimilikishi]

There are three possessive pronouns in Swahili:

- First person possessive (e.g. my, our)
- Second person possessive (e.g. your)
- Third person possessive (e.g. his/her, their)

Each possessive pronoun has a singular and a plural form. This pronoun must agree with the noun class it represents:

1. All nouns that start with **M-WA** take the **W-** prefix, and those that do not change in singular and plural form in the same class.  
(e.g. samaki, ndege, simba, paka, etc)
  - Mifano: mwalimu **wangu**, mwanafunzi **wangu**, watoto **wangu**, walimu **wangu**.
2. All professions take the **W-** prefix.
  - Mifano: nesi **wangu**, daktari **wangu**.
3. Most family names will take a **Y-** prefix for singular, and **Z-** prefix for plural.
  - Mifano: kaka **yangu**/kaka **zangu**, dada **yangu**/dada **zangu**, mama **yangu**/mama **zangu**, shangazi **yangu**/shangazi **zangu**, rafiki **yangu**/rafiki **zangu**.

### Muhtasari [Summary]

1 <sup>st</sup> Person Singular: <b>-ANGU</b> [My]	1 <sup>st</sup> Person Plural: <b>-ETU</b> [Our]
2 <sup>nd</sup> Person Singular: <b>-AKO</b> [Your]	2 <sup>nd</sup> Person Plural: <b>-ENU</b> [Your (pl.)]
3 <sup>rd</sup> Person Singular: <b>-AKE</b> [His/Her]	3 <sup>rd</sup> Person Plural: <b>-AO</b> [Their]

## A). Possessive Pronouns

### First Person:

1. Umoja [singular]  
-ANGU [my]

2. Wingi [plural]  
-ETU [our]

Mifano:

Mwalimu wangu [My teacher]  
Walimu wangu [My teachers]

Mwalimu wetu [Our teacher]  
Walimu wetu [Our teachers]

### Second Person:

1. Umoja [singular]  
-AKO [your]

2. Wingi [plural]  
-ENU [your (pl.)]

Mifano:

Kalamu yako [Your pen]  
Kalamu zako [Your pens]

Kalamu yenu [Your (pl.) pen]  
Kalamu zenu [Your (pl.) pens]

### Third Person:

1. Umoja [singular]  
-AKE [his/her]

2. Wingi [plural]  
-AO [their]

Mifano:

Jina lake [His/her name]  
Majina yake [His/her names]

Jina lao [Their name]  
Majina yao [Their names]

### Zingatia [Note]

-angu	[my]
-ako	[your]
-ake	[his/her]
jina	[name]
langu	[my]
lako	[your]
lake	[his/her]
Nani?	[Who?]
ni	[is]

## Question Formation

Mifano:

### 1. Jina langu ni nani?

[What is my name?]

Jina lako ni Peter.

[Your name is Peter.]

### 2. Jina lako ni nani?

[What is your name?]

Jina langu ni Darnell.

[My name is Darnell.]

### 3. Jina lake ni nani?

[What is his/her name?]

Jina lake ni Darnell.

[His/her name is Darnell.]

### 4. Jina lako ni nani mama/mwalimu?

[What is your name, mom/teacher?]

Jina langu ni Joan.

[My name is Joan.]

## B). Possessive Pronouns with the Noun Classes

NGELI	JINA	First Person	Second Person	Third Person
[noun class]	[noun]	(singular/plural)	(singular/plural)	(singular/plural)
M	mtoto	wangu/wetu yangu / zangu	wako/wenu	wake/wao
Wa	watoto	wangu/wetu	wako/wenu	wake/wao
KI	kitabu	changu/chetu	chako/chenu	chake/chao
VI	vitabu	vyangu/vyetu	vyako/vyenu	vyake/vyao
M	mti	wangu/wetu	wako/wenu	wake/wao
MI	miti	yangu/yetu	yako/yenu	yake/yao
JI	gari	langu/letu	lako/lenu	lake/lao
MA	magari	yangu/yetu	yako/yenu	yake/yao
N	kalamu	yangu/yetu	yako/yenu	yake/yao
N	kalamu	zangu/zetu	zako/zenu	zake/zao
U	ufunguo	wangu/wetu	wako/wenu	wake/wao
U	funguo	zangu/zetu	zako/zenu	zake/zao
U	ugonjwa	wangu/wetu	wako/wenu	wake/wao
U	ugonjwa	wangu/wetu	wako/wenu	wake/wao
KU	kula	kwangu/kwetu	kwako/kwenu	kwake/kwao
KU	kula	kwangu/kwetu	kwako/kwenu	kwake/kwao
PA	pahali	pangu/petu	pako/penu	pake/pao
PA	pahali	pangu/petu	pako/penu	pake/pao
MU	shimoni	mwangu/mwetu	mwako/mwenu	mwake/mwao
MU	shimoni	mwangu/mwetu	mwako/mwenu	mwake/mwao

### Sentence Formation

Mifano:

**1.** Mgeni **wangu** amefika  
Wageni **wetu** wamefika.

[**My** guest has arrived.]  
[**Our** guests have arrived.]

**2.** Mgeni **wako** amefika.  
Wageni **wenu** wamefika.

[**Your** guest has arrived.]  
[**Your** (pl.) guests have arrived.]

**3.** Mgeni **wake** amefika.  
Wageni **wao** wamefika.

[**His/Her** guest has arrived.]  
[**Their** guests have arrived.]

Mifano zaidi:

<b>4.</b> Gari <b>langu</b> limeharibika. Magari <b>yetu</b> yameharibika.	[ <b>My</b> car has broken down.] [ <b>Our</b> cars have broken down.]
<b>5.</b> Gari <b>lako</b> limeharibika. Magari <b>yenu</b> yameharibika.	[ <b>Your</b> car has broken down.] [ <b>Your</b> (pl.) cars have broken down.]
<b>6.</b> Gari <b>lake</b> limeharibika. Magari <b>yao</b> yameharibika	[ <b>His/Her</b> car has broken down.] [ <b>Their</b> cars have broken down.]
<b>7.</b> Nyumba <b>yangu</b> iko mjini. Nyumba <b>zangu</b> ziko mjini. Nyumba <b>yetu</b> iko mjini. Nyumba <b>zetu</b> ziko mjini.	[ <b>My</b> house is in the city.] [ <b>My</b> houses are in the city.] [ <b>Our</b> house is in the city.] [ <b>Our</b> houses are in the city.]
<b>8.</b> Nyumba <b>yako</b> iko mjini. Nyumba <b>zako</b> ziko mjini. Nyumba <b>yenu</b> iko mjini. Nyumba <b>zenu</b> ziko mjini.	[ <b>Your</b> house is in the city.] [ <b>Your</b> houses are in the city.] [ <b>Your</b> (pl.) house is in the city.] [ <b>Your</b> (pl.) houses are in the city.]
<b>9.</b> Nyumba <b>yake</b> iko mjini. Nyumba <b>zake</b> ziko mjini. Nyumba <b>yao</b> iko mjini. Nyumba <b>zao</b> ziko mjini.	[ <b>His/Her</b> house is in the city.] [ <b>His/Her</b> houses are in the city.] [ <b>Their</b> house is in the city.] [ <b>Their</b> houses are in the city.]