

Lesson 2a:

Greetings

Greetings [maamkio; salamu]

There are at least five ways of greeting in Kiswahili:

- A). Habari gani?
- B). Hujambo?
- C). U hali gani?
- D). Shikamoo.
- E). Mambo? / Vipi?

A). Habari gani?

Example 1 - *Two people greeting each other*

Person A: **Habari gani?**

Person B: **Nzuri!**

Sentensi:

- a). Nzuri / njema / salama / safi / sawa / poa.
[Good / nice / peaceful / clean / fine / cool.]
- b). Nzuri / njema / salama / safi / sawa / poa **sana...**
[**Very** good / nice / peaceful / clean / fine / cool.]
- c). Nzuri / njema / salama / safi / sawa / poa **tu...**
[**Just** good / nice / peaceful / clean / fine / **just** cool.]

B). Hujambo?

Example 1 - *Two people greeting each other*

Person A: **Hujambo?**

Person B: **Sijambo!**

Sentensi:

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Hujambo? | [Any issue(s)? / <i>How are you doing?</i>] |
| Sijambo! | [No issue(s)! / <i>I am okay/fine!</i>] |
| Hamjambo? | [Any issue(s)? / <i>How are you doing?</i>] |
| Hatujambo! | [No issue(s)! / <i>We are okay/fine!</i>] |

Example 2 - *Teacher greeting students*

Teacher: **Hamjambo?**

Students: **Hatujambo!**

C). U hali gani?

Example 1 - *Two people greeting each other*

Person A: **U hali gani?**

Person B: **Njema.**

Example 2 - *One person greeting many people*

Person A: **M hali gani?**

Persons B, C, & D: **Salama.**

Sentensi:

1. U hali gani? / M hali gani?

What's your condition? / *How are you?*]

a). Nzuri / njema / salama / safi / sawa / poa.

[Good / nice / peaceful / clean / fine / cool.]

b). Nzuri / njema / salama / safi / sawa / poa **sana...**

[**Very** good / nice / peaceful / clean / fine / cool.]

c). Nzuri / njema / salama / safi / sawa / poa **tu...**

[**Just** good / nice / peaceful / clean / fine / **just** cool.]

D.) Shikamoo.

Example 1 - *A youth greeting an elder person*

Youth: **Shikamoo.**

Elder Person: **Marahaba.**

Sentensi:

Shikamoo. [I touch your feet.]

Marahaba. [I am delighted.]

E). Vipi? / Mambo?

Example 1 - *A youth greeting another youth*

Youth A: **Vipi?**

Youth B: **Poa.**

Example 2 - *A youth greeting another youth*

Youth A: **Mambo?**

Youth B: **Safi.**

Sentensi:

Vipi? / Mambo? [What's up?]

Poa / Safi / Sawa. [Cool / Clean / Fine.]

Additional Vocabulary

Mifano:	
1. Hodi!	[<i>Requests permission to enter a house.</i>]
2. Karibu!	[Welcome!]
3. Karibu ndani!	[Welcome inside!]
4. Asante.	[Thank you.]
5. Asante sana.	[Thank you very much.]
6. Kwaheri.	[Be blessed. / <i>Goodbye.</i>]
7. Tutaonana baadaye.	[We will see each other later.]
8. Habari za asubuhi/ mchana/jioni/usiku?	[How is the news of the morning/afternoon/evening/night?]
9. Habari za mama/baba/kaka/dada/ ndugu/mjomba	[How is the news of mother/father/brother/sister/ comrade/uncle]
10. Habari za nyumbani/shuleni/chuoni/ masomo/Amerika	[How is the news at home/at school/at college/ studies/America]

Lesson 2b:

Other Forms of Greetings

Greetings

Mifano:

Waambaje?	[How are you doing?]	Sina la kuamba.	[I have nothing to say.]
Salaamaleikum.	[Peace be upon you.]	Aleikumsalaam.	[And also with you.]
Upo?	[Are you there?]	Nipo.	[I am here.]
Lala salama.	[Sleep peacefully.]	Nawe pia.	[And you also.]
Tuonane kesho.	[See you tomorrow.]	Inshallah.	[God willing.]
Ndoto njema.	[Dream well.]	Za mafanikio.	[Of success.]
Lala unono.	[Sleep comfortably.]	Nawe pia.	[And you also.]
Usiku mwema.	[Good night.]	Wa buraha.	[With tranquility.]
Usingizi mwema.	[Sleep well.]	Wa buraha.	[With tranquility.]
Habari za kutwa?	[How was your day?]	Njema/Nzuri.	[Good.]
Jioni njema.	[Good Evening]	Salama!	[Peaceful!]
Uende salama	[Go with peace.]	Tuonane inshallah!	[We will see each other God willing]

Lesson 2c:

Respectful Terms That Accompany Greetings

Respectful Terms

Salamu, Adabu, Heshima , Tafside
[Peace, Politeness, Honorable, Civil]

Mifano:

Samahani	[Excuse me]
Niwe radhi	[My apologies/Pardon me]
Tafadhali	[Please]
Pole	[Sorry]
Makiwa	[Term used to express condolences]
Asante	[Thank you]
Heko/Hongera	[Congratulations]
Shukrani	[Thanks]
Inshallah	[God willing]
Binti	[Daughter of]
Bin	[Son of]
Bi/Biti	[Miss/Ms.]
Bibi	[Mrs.]
Bwana	[Mr./Sir]
Marehemu	[The late]
Bimdogo	[Little miss / young lady]
Bwanamdogo	[Little sir / young man]
Bimkubwa	[Middle aged/ elderly woman]
Bwanamkubwa	[Middle aged / elderly man]]
Hayati	[Distinguished deceased person]
Ustadh	[Distinguished scholar]
Guru	[Spiritual leader / expert/innovative person]