

Lesson 31:

Subject and Object Prefixes

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- A). Subject Prefixes and Noun Classes
- B). Subject Prefixes and Personal Pronouns
- C). Object Prefixes and Noun Classes
- D). Object Prefixes and Personal Pronouns

A). Subject Prefixes and Noun Classes

NGELI [noun class]	JINA [noun]	Subject Prefix	Verb with Subject Prefix
M	mtu	a-	alipendeza
WA	watu	wa-	walipendeza
KI	kiti	ki-	kilipendeza
VI	viti	vi-	vilipendeza
M	mti	u-	ulipendeza
MI	miti	i-	ilipendeza
JI	tunda	li-	lilipendeza
MA	matunda	ya-	yalipendeza
N	nyumba	i-	ilipendeza
N	nyumba	zi-	zilipendeza
U	ukuta	u-	ulipendeza
U	kuta	zi-	zilipendeza
U	urembo	u-	ulipendeza
U	urembo	u-	ulipendeza
KU	kupika	ku-	kulipendeza
KU	kupika	ku-	kulipendeza
PA	pahali	pa-	palipendeza
PA	pahali	pa-	palipendeza
MU	darasani	m-	mlipendeza
MU	darasani	m-	mlipendeza

B). Subject Prefixes and Personal Pronouns

Subject Prefix	Subject Prefix + Verb
<i>1st Person:</i>	
Mimi	Ni-
Sisi	Tu-
<i>2nd Person:</i>	
Wewe	U-
Nyinyi	M-
<i>3rd Person:</i>	
Yeye	A-
Wao	Wa-

C). Object Prefixes and Noun Classes

NGELI [noun class]	JINA [noun]	Object Prefix	Verb with Object Prefix
M	mtu	-a-	nime m wona
WA	watu	-wa-	nime w aona
KI	kiti	-ki-	nime k iona
VI	viti	-vi-	nime v iona
M	mti	-u-	nime <u>u</u> ona
MI	miti	-i-	nime <i>i</i> ona
JI	tunda	-li-	nime liona
MA	matunda	-ya-	nime <ya>yaona</ya>
N	nyumba	-i-	nime <i>i</i> ona
N	nyumba	-zi-	nime <zi>ziona</zi>
U	ukuta	-u-	nime <u>u</u> ona
U	kuta	-zi-	nime <zi>ziona</zi>
U	urembo	-u-	nime <u>u</u> ona
U	urembo	-u-	nime <u>u</u> ona
KU	kupika	-ku-	nime <ku>kuona</ku>
KU	kupika	-ku-	nime <ku>kuona</ku>
PA	pahali	-pa-	nime <pa>paona</pa>
PA	pahali	-pa-	nime <pa>paona</pa>
MU	darasani	*	* Never used as an object prefix *
MU	darasani	*	* Never used as an object prefix *

D). Object Prefixes and Personal Pronouns

Object Prefix	Object Prefix + Verb
<i>1st Person:</i>	
Mimi	-ni-
Sisi	-tu-
<i>2nd Person:</i>	
Wewe	-ku-
Nyinyi	-wa-
<i>3rd Person:</i>	
Yeye	-m(w)-
Wao	-wa-

Zingatia [Note]

The object prefix must be included **when the object of the verb is an animate object** (i.e. human animals, insects, etc.).

When the object of the verb is inanimate, we can have both the object prefix and the object noun or just one of them.

Sentence Formation

Mifano:

1. Kiti kilichonunuliwa na mama kilipendeza.

[The chair that was bought by mom was very attractive.]

Viti viliwyonunuliwa na mama vilipendeza sana.

[The chairs that were bought by mom were very attractive.]

2. Pahali pa Zak palipendeza.

[Zak's place is attractive.]

Pahali pa Zak palipendeza.

[Zak's place is attractive.]

3. Nimemwona mgeni wa kaka yangu.

[I have seen my brother's guest.]

Nimewaona wageni wa kaka yangu.

[I have seen my brother's guests.]