

Peace Corps

*P.Dot
Wolof Lessons*



P.DOT – Wolof Lessons

Lesson 1: The Alphabet

Lesson 2: Vocabulary 1

Lesson 3: Greetings

Lesson 4: Numbers

Lesson 5: Vocabulary 2

Lesson 6: Vocabulary 3

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

Lesson 8: Introducing Self/Someone

Lesson 9: Leave-taking Expressions

Lesson 10: Some Useful Expressions & Phrases

Lesson 1: The Alphabet

Wolof Alphabet	Pronounced as in
i	Kit
e	Met
é	No equivalent
ë	Fun
a	But
à	Fat
o	Pot
u	Book
ii	Meat
ee	Fair
ée	No equivalent
ëë	Girl
aa	Far
oo	Boy
óó	Goat
uu	Food
b	Bad
c	Chair
d	Door
f	Father
g	Good

i	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	Juan (in Spanish)
y	Yes
mb	No equivalent
nd	No equivalent
ng	No equivalent
nj	No equivalent

Lesson 2: Vocabulary 1

Man	I
Yow	You
Moom	He
Moom	She
Nun	We
Yéen	You
Ñoom	They
Jigéen	A woman
Ay jigéen	Women
Góor	A man
Ay góor	Men
Xale bu jigéen	A girl
Xale yu jigéen	Girls
Xale bu góor	A boy
Xale yu góor	Boys
Xale	A child
Ay xale	Children
Waa kër	A family
Yaay	Mother
Baay	Father
Jabar	Wife

Jëkkër	Husband
Mag bu jigéen	Elder sister
Rakk bu jigéen	Younger sister
Mag bu góor	Elder brother
Rakk bu góor	Younger brother
Suba	Morning
Bëccëg	Noon
Ngoon	Afternoon
Guddi	Night
Ndekki	Breakfast
Añ	Lunch
Reer	Dinner

Lesson 3: Greetings

Salaamaalekum	Peace be upon you (use at any time of the day)
Maalekum salaam	And on you, too (reply to the above greeting)
Jamm nga fanaan	Good morning
Jamm nga yendu	Good afternoon
Jamm nga yendu	Good evening
Mbaa yaangi ci jamm?	Are you in peace?
Jamm rekk	Peace only
Nanga def?	How are you?
Maangi fi rek	I am fine
Naka waa kër ga?	How is the family?
Ñunga fa	They are fine
Naka liggéey bi?	How is the work?
Jamm rekk, imdilaay	It is fine
Nanga def ak coono?	How are you with tiredness?
Jamm rekk	I am fine
Naka Mary?	How is Mary?
Mary mungi ci jamm	Mary is fine
Naka xale yi?	How are your children?
Ñunga fa	They are fine
Bisimila!	Welcome!
Mba!	Thank you!

Lesson 4: Numbers – Counting 1 to 20

Benn	One
Ñaar	Two
Natt	Three
Ñeent	Four
Juróom	Five
Juróom benn	Six
Juróom ñaar	Seven
Juróom ñatt	Eight
Juróom ñeent	Nine
Fukk	Ten
Fukk ak benn	Eleven
Fukk ak ñaar	Twelve
Fukk ak ñatt	Thirteen
Fukk ak ñeent	Fourteen
Fukk ak juróom	Fifteen
Fukk ak juróom benn	Sixteen
Fukk ak juróom ñaar	Seventeen
Fukk ak juróom ñatt	Eighteen
Fukk ak juróom ñeent	Nineteen
Ñaar fukk	Twenty

Lesson 5: Vocabulary 2 (Common Objects)

Taabal	A table
Siis	A chair
Bunt	A door
Palanteer	A window
Istilo	A pen
Kereyoŋ	A pencil
karne	A notebook
Tééré	A book
Saak	A bag
Kare	Chalk
Tablo	Chalk board
Palaat	A plate
Kuddu	A spoon
Paaka	A knife
Bale	A broom
Lal	A bed
Mbajj	A blanket
Darab	A bed sheet
Ndes	A mat
Yëre	Clothes
Simis	A shirt
Tubey	Pants

Ay dall	Shoes
Welo	Bike
Lunett	Eye glasses
Ndox	Water
Attaaya	Tea
Kafe	Coffee
Meew	Milk
Suukër	Sugar
Xorom	Salt
Ceeb	Rice
Jën	Fish
Yàpp	Meat

Lesson 6: Vocabulay 3 (Names of Places)

Ekool	School
Kalaas	Classroom
Wanag	Toilet
Waañ	Kitchen
Mbaar	Hangar (Straw roof that you sit under)
Kër	House
Néeg	Room
Xayma	Tent
Dispañseer	Dispensary
Marse	Market
Bitik	Shop
Biro	Office
Dex	River
Teen	A well
Pomp	Pump
Sardeñ	Garden
Tool	Field
Liggéeyu kaay	Working place
Jakk	Mosque
Bànk	Bank
Kaar	Bus
Aeroport	Airport

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

Altine	Monday
Talaata	Tuesday
Allarba	Wednesday
Alxamis	Thursday
Ajjuma	Friday
Aseet	Saturday
Dibeer	Sunday
Bes bu nekk	Every day
Suba su nekk	Every morning
Ngoon su nekk	Every afternoon
Guddi gu nekk	Every night
Altine bu nekk	Every Monday
Ajjuma ju nekk	Every Friday
Bes	Day
Ayu bes	Week
Weer	Month
At	Year
Ayu bes bu nekk	Every week
Weer wu nekk	Every month
At mu nekk	Every year

Lesson 8: Introducing Self/Someone

Maam laa tudd	My name is Maam
Baas laa sant	My last name is Baas
Nanga tudd?	What's your name?
Nanga sant?	What's your last name?
Waa Moritani laa	I am from Mauritania
Sama jabar waa Moritani la	My wife is from Mauritarā
Yow waa fan nga?	Where are you from?
Sa jabar waa fan la?	Where is your wife from?
Moom waa fan la?	Where is she from?
Moom waa fan la?	Where is he from?
John la tudd	His name is John
Hogan la sant	His last name is Hogan
John du waa Moritani. Waa amerik la	John is not from Mauritania. He is from America
Waa Amerik nga?	Are you from America?
Déedéet, du ma waa Amerik.	No, I am not from America
Waa Moritani nga?	Are you from Mauritania?
Waaw, waa Moritani laa	Yes, I am from Mauritania.
Jangalekat laa	I am a teacher
Sama jabar du jangalekat	My wife is not a teacher
John wolonteer la	John is a volunteer
Jabaram du wolonteer	His wife is not a volunteer
Jabaru John doctoor la	John's wife is a doctor

Lesson 9: Leave-taking Expressions

Ci jamm!	Good-bye!
Ba beneen yoon!	See you!
Yendul ak jamm	Have a good day
Fanaanal ak jamm	Have a good night
Nu fanaan ak jamm	May we have a good night
Ci jamm!	Stay in peace
Aamiin!	Amen!
Ba ëllëg ci suba	See you in the morning
Ba ngoon	See you in the afternoon
Ba booru bëccëg	See you around noon
Ba guddi	See you in the evening
Ba ëllëg	See you tomorrow
Ba ci kanam	See you soon
Ba ci fan yii	See you later

Lesson 10: Some Useful Expressions & Phrases

Dama sonn	I am tired
Dama gëmentu	I am sleepy
Dama xiif	I am hungry
Xiif-u ma	I am not hungry
Dama mar	I am thirsty
Mar-u ma	I am not thirsty
Dafa tang	It's hot
Tang-ul	It's not hot
Dafa sedd	It's cold
Sedd-ul	It's not cold
Baal ma	Excuse me
Baal naa la	You are excused
Fan nga jëm?	Where are you going?
Maa ngi jëm kër ga	I am going home
Maa ngi jëm ekool	I am going to school
John mungi jëm marse	John is going to the market
Mungi jëm ci bitik bi	He is going to the shop
Jëm-uma biro ba	I'm not going to the office
Degg nga Wolof?	Do you speak Wolof?
Waaw, degg naa Wolof tuuti rekk	Yes, I speak Wolof a little bit
John degg-ul Wolof	John doesn't speak Wolof
Bëgg-uma français	I don't like French

Bëgg-uma kafe	I don't like coffee
Jennifer dafa bëgg lakk Wolof	Jennifer likes Wolof
Damay jang	I study
Damay lekk	I eat
Damay liggéey	I work
Moom jang-ul	He doesn't study
Moom lekk-ul	She doesn't eat
Ñoom liggéey-uñu	They don't work
Damay nelaw tuuti	I am having some sleep
Liggéey-uma léegi	I don't work now
Dama bëgg noppalu	I want to rest