

SOMALI GRAMMAR

VOLUME ONE



by JOHN WARNER

041-434488

SOMALI GRAMMAR

By John Warner

Published by:
Mennonite Board in Eastern Africa
P O Box 14894
NAIROBI

1988

PREFACE TO SOMALI GRAMMAR

This grammar was written for a number of reasons, the chief being to have a grammar written in the official Somali script and in a sequence that will enable the student to have a fairly wide use of the various parts of speech and interrogatives early in the course.

I make no pretence of this being a scholarly work but if it enables the layman to gain an understanding of the working of the language then it has been worthwhile.

Due to the demand for this to be ready for duplicating it has not been possible to have all the exercises checked, particularly those in the latter half of the course. By "checked" we mean testing them thoroughly with Somali informants. As there are different correct ways of saying the same thing in Somali, disagreement can arise between two informants who have their own respective preferences. In some cases (we hope they are very few) the language used in the exercises is not strictly idiomatic. This has occurred where we have tried to give the student early practice in the use of vocabulary before another component which normally would be used with that word has been dealt with in the teaching program at that point.

This brings us to emphasizing the need for a good informant, i.e., one who will insist upon good pronunciation. He may disagree violently with some forms of the grammar due to his own preferences. Where such a disagreement arises, the student should try to understand. Language is an area of much controversy amongst Somalis so it is not wise to persist doggedly upon a course of disagreement. If you come to an impasse it is best to agree to investigate the matter further later and proceed.

The student is advised to begin his own dictionary for listing not only the words in the vocabulary section of the lesson but also the others he will "pick up". Such a dictionary will be useful when trying to locate a word learnt previously and about which there is some question. The Somali language is so rich in idiom that one can be amazed at the versatility of some words and expressions.

Special thanks is due to Ruth Myers and Mrs Modricker for their invaluable suggestions, comments and proof-reading. I am grateful to Fred Kniss of the Mennonite Board in Eastern Africa for arranging the typing and duplicating of this grammar. The phonetic information in the introduction is the work of Douglas Biber and should be very helpful for those with some linguistic background. I trust that this will be a useful tool to effective communication with the Somali people.

J Warner 25 Oct. 1983

SOMALI GRAMMAR

VOLUME ONE

Table of Contents

<u>Lesson No.</u>	<u>Subject/s</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
1	Interrogatives (Questions)	1.1
2	Nouns	1.3
3	Imperatives (Commands)	1.6
4	Negative Imperative and Vocative	1.8
5	Present and Past Indicative of Class I Verbs	1.10
6	Class II Verbs and Interrogative "Ma"	1.13
7	Numerals	1.16
8	Present and Past Continuous Tenses	1.18
9	Questions: Where? How many? Present and Past Continuous of "Kaalay"	1.21
10	Plurals of Nouns and Sentences with nouns Subject	1.24
11	More Plurals of Nouns and Class III Verbs	1.26
12	Introducing "baa", Defining Subject Nouns, More Noun Plurals	1.29
13	Irregular Plurals and More Numerals	1.32
14	Syntax and More Plurals	1.35
15	Infinitives, Negative Conjugations and Negative Noun Suffix	1.38
16	Emphatic Pronouns, Object Pronouns and Verbal Particle "U"	1.41
17	Adjectives	1.44
18	The Verb "To Be"	1.47
19	Present Tense Negative of Verb "To Be" and Conjunctions "oo" and "ee"	1.50
20	Adverbs and Demonstrative Adjectives Word Order	1.53
21	Interrogatives Who? Whom?	1.56
22	Adverbs	1.59
23	Past Tense Negative and Affirmative of the Verb "To Be"	1.62
24	Possessive Adjectives and Conjunctions "Laakiin", "-se", and "-na"	1.65
25	The Use of "of" for Possessives and Conjunction "iyo"	1.68
26	Interrogative Adjectives "Which" and "How"	1.71

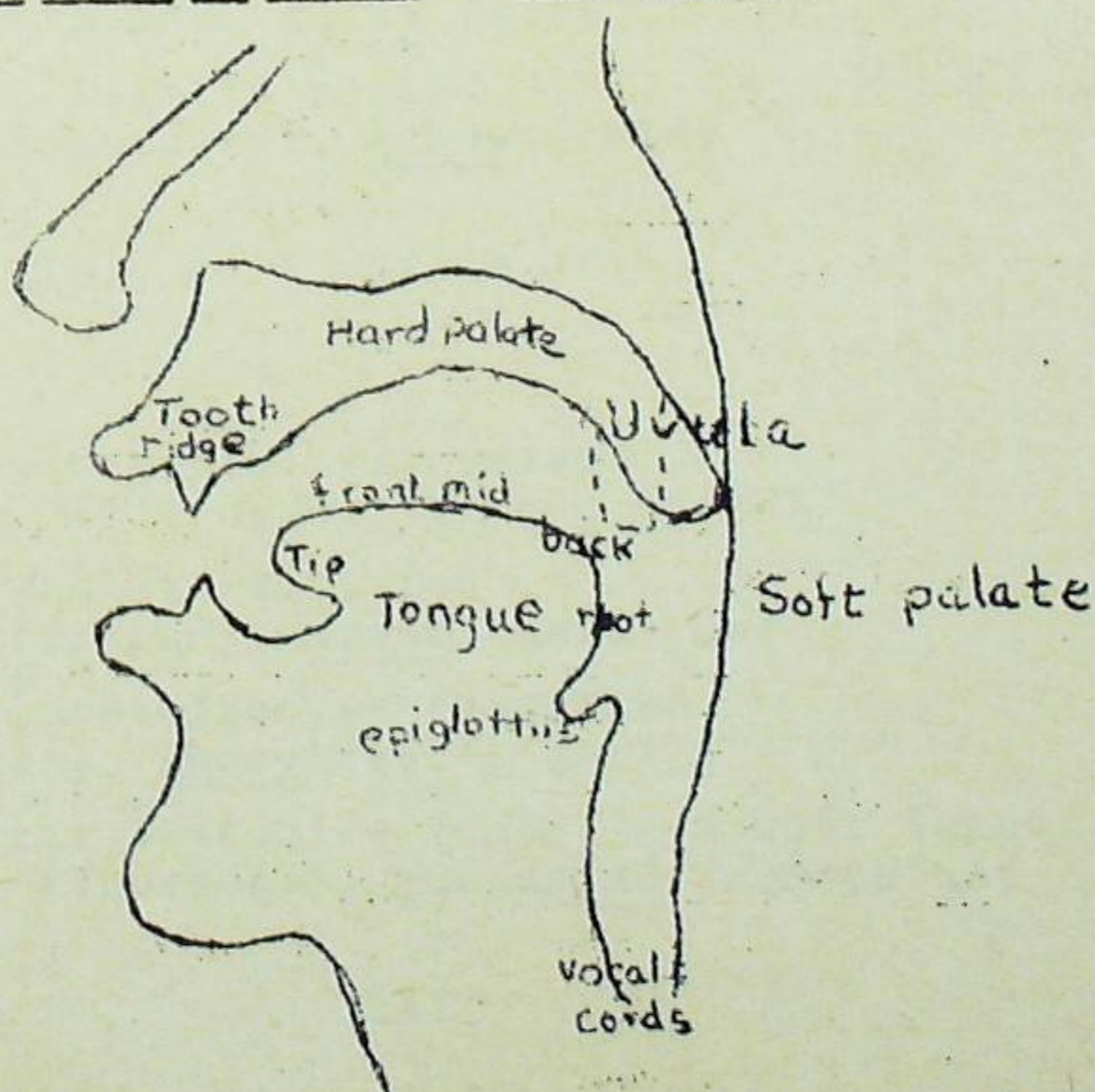
PRONUNCIATION

Introduction

These drills and dialogues are written in the standard Somali orthography. This orthography closely follows the phonemic structure of Somali: although it under-represents the vowel system. However, these additional vowels carry a small functional load and therefore few problems will arise from this under-representation. For the sake of completeness, the descriptions of the vowels will include all of the phonemic sounds.

It was stressed in the first edition of this manual that the learner must rely on the pronunciation of his Somali teacher. The spellings provide a good indication of pronunciation but your teacher will provide the best guide. This can especially be seen with regard to vowel alternations in the verbal morphology. For example, depending on the individual speaker and/or the particular verb, many of the verbal endings are sometimes pronounced with an a and sometimes with an e. Regardless, the point to be stressed is the need for careful imitation of the Somali teacher.

The World of Speech -- Its Geography



u /u/ tuf (spit), dul (top side), tus (show it)
 /ú/ dúl (nostril), súg (wait), dúf (fringe fibers)
uu /uu/ tuug (beg), duul (fly), suun (belt)
 /üü/ túüg (thief), dúüg (something old), güür (shift)

Again, /ú/ is pronounced much farther forward than (u).

SOMALI CONSONANTS

Stops:

b bilabial stop, only lightly voiced.
bar (half), beer (garden, shamba)
d dental, lightly voiced.
dad (people), dab (fire)
t same as d only no voicing and often with heavy aspiration
tag (go), taajir (rich)
dh post-alveolar, voiced, often implosive.
dheer (tall), dhul (earth)
g velar stop, lightly voiced
gabar (girl), garo (understand, know)
K velar stop, unvoiced
kas, understand, kulli (all)
q uvular stop, lightly voiced.
qaad (take, carry), qabow (cold)
' glottal stop.
lo' (cattle), bi'i (erase it)

Fricatives:

f unvoiced labio-dental fricative.
fadhiiso (sit down), fiican (good)
s unvoiced alveolar fricative
saaxiib (friend), samee (make, do)
sh unvoiced palato-alveolar fricative.
shaah (tea), sheeg (tell, say)
kh unvoiced velar fricative (only in Arabic loans)
khamiis (Thursday), makhaayad (restaurant)

- x unvoiced pharyngeal fricative.
xun (bad), xaley (last night)
- c voiced pharyngeal fricative.
cab (drink), cun (eat)
- h unvoiced glottal fricative.
haa (yes), hadal (talk)

Nasals:

- m bilabial nasal.
maya (no), macallin (teacher)
- n alveolar nasal.
nabad (peace), naag (woman, wife).

Glides:

- w bilabial glide.
wanaagsan (good), weyn (big)
- y palatal glide.
yar (small), yeehd (call)

Liquids:

- l alveolar lateral.
laba (two), lacag (money)
- r alveolar trill/flap
raac (follow), run (truth)

Affirmatives:

- j palato-alveolar affricative, voiced.
jebi (break it), jooji (stop it)

Interrogatives (Questions)

Before commencing this lesson it is necessary for you to have had an introduction to the Somali alphabet and sounds. Have it as a regular part of your daily program to practice imitating the sounds.

It is important to be able to ask questions to facilitate the learning process and this is even more so when it comes to language. This lesson will only introduce you to the simplest and most basic questions for beginners.

1. Magacaa? What is your name?

Magacayga waa My name is or just

Waa..... It is

2. Waa maxay? What is it? Waa It is

Tanu/kanu waa maxay? What is this?

Tanu/kanu waa This is a

Taasu/kaasu waa maxay? What is that?

Taasu/kaasu waa That is

Taasu and kaasu are alternatives depending on gender as are tanu and kanu. It could be that you will anticipate the wrong gender when asking a question so if you are corrected it is only in the interest of assuring that you attain a high degree of accuracy. Normally it is probably safer to use tanu and taasu in your questions unless you are referring to something that is definitely masculine.

3. Ma..... baa? Is it a?

Haah, waa Yes, it is a

Maya, waa..... No, it is a

Do not be discouraged if your informant doesn't restrict himself to these elementary forms. Just go on to the next question. Be in control of the questions but don't forget to listen and listen well.

Vocabulary:

name	magac
teacher	macallin
table	miis
house	guri
knife	mind
thing	wax
book	buug
door	albaab
lamp	siraad
river	webi
ram	wan
road	jid/waddo
chair	kursi
wife/woman	naag
girl/daughter	gabadh* gabar/geber
boy/son	wiil
man/husband	nin
mother	hooyo
child/children	ilmo
letter/paper	warqad
sugar	sonkor
tree	geed
tea	shaah
well	ceel
bull	dibi

* "dh" when not the initial letter of a word is often substituted by "r".

Mostly we will use "dh" even if the preference of your informant is "r" the reason being that you will be aware of the "dh" alternative.

Nouns:

Nouns are the names of things; people, places, concepts, etc. In English nouns are classified in many ways. This lesson will deal with singular nouns. A singular noun is the name of a single thing e.g., book, man, etc. Singular nouns can be defined or undefined. An undefined noun is expressed thus: a pencil, smoke, woman, a boy. These nouns do not speak of a particular thing but are the names of the things in a general way; just any pencil, some smoke, some woman, etc. With most words in English we use the indefinite articles "a" or "an". However, in Somali there is no indefinite article. In Somali "a man" is written "nin", "some water" is "biyo".

If you wish to define a noun and say "the man" then the article is suffixed to the undefined noun, "ninka", "the water" becomes "biyaha". You will often have cause to note that the order of words and parts of words is almost without exception the reverse of the English.

Gender: Somali nouns only fall into two genders; masculine and feminine. The feminine noun articles are "ta" and "da" and very rarely "a".

The masculine articles are "ka", "ga", "ha" and "a". Do not be discouraged if it looks difficult right now. To assist you to learn what articles go with the nouns without any worry you will notice in the vocabulary lists hereafter that the nouns are listed with their respective articles thus:

naag-ta	woman/wife
---------	------------

You will know that if you want to say "a woman" you will use "naag" while for "the woman" you would write "naagta".

As many words that in English would be neuter gender (that is, neither masculine nor feminine) will in Somali be either masculine or feminine, you are advised to learn the words thus: house/guri/guriga. By so doing you will get the gender, which in the case above is masculine, with the learning of the vocabulary.

At a later stage you will learn that the articles may end in other vowels than "a". You will learn then the reasons and uses of the variant vowels on the articles. For the time being employing the articles "da, ta, ka, ga and a", is very workable and relieves you of an extra burden early in the course.

Accent: Somali, though not a full-fledged tonal language, employs tonal preferences. Be prepared at the outset to work on correct pronunciation which includes tone and stress.

The classical example of tone is the word "inan". The undefined noun's gender is only gathered by tone. If the context reveals the gender, incorrect tone can be an annoyance to the person with whom you are communicating.

A general rule is: Feminine monosyllables have a rising tone while masculine monosyllables have a falling tone. In feminine polysyllables the last syllable is accented and rises in tone. If the polysyllable is defined then the second last syllable is accented and rises in tone.

Masculine nouns have accent and stress with rising tone on the first syllable with a falling tone on the later syllable/s.

Check with your informant on these and practice them correctly.

Vocabulary:

lamp <i>hal</i>	siraad-ka	woman/wife	naag-ta
river <i>webi</i>	webi-ga	child/children	ilmo-ha
thing <i>wax</i>	wax-a	letter/paper	warqad-da
boy/son <i>wiiil</i>	wiil-ka/inan-ka	girl/daughter	gabadh-a/inan-ta
tea <i>shaah</i>	shaah-a/shaahi-ga	sugar	sonkor-ta
book <i>buug</i>	buug-ga	teacher	macallin-ka
tree	geed-ka	name	magac-a
door	albaab-ka	mother	hooyo-da
knife	mindida	man/husband	nin-ka
well	ceel-ka	chair	kursi-ga
bull	dibi-ga	table	miis-ka
ram	wan-ka	road	jid-ka/waddo-da

N.B. Check your rules on euphony. Notice that undefined nouns ending with "o" when defined change the "o" to agree in sound with the vowel following the consonant of the suffix appended.
e.g., ilmo becomes ilmaha, hooyo becomes hooyada etc..

Exercise: Translate into Somali:

1. a table, the ram, a well, a knife,
2. The book, the wife, a son, the lamp, the tree, a house
3. the name, a river, a teacher, a bull, sugar, the table, the chair
4. a book, a lamp, the river, a door, a man, the teacher, the house
5. a wife, the well, a chair, the knife, the ram, the son, the letter
6. a road, the sugar, the tea, child, a name, a tree, the mother
7. a daughter, the child, a knife, the road, the bull, the man, tea
8. a letter, the daughter, the child, a child, the name, a mother

Translate into English:

1. hooyo, ninka, geed, inanka, albaab, wiil
2. magaca, dibiga, ilmo, kursi, buugga, macallin, siraad,
3. naagta, webi, buug, mindida, magac, waddada, ilmaha, wan, shaah,
4. warqad, hooyada, nin, dibi, siraadka, miis, webiga, inanta, naag
5. gabadh, jidka, kursiga, waddo, ceel, guri, sonkor, ilmo, mindi,
6. shaaha, ceelka, geedka, gabadha, inan, albaabka, macallinka, wanka
7. miiska, siraad, warqadda, jid, sonkorta

Imperative (Commands)

When giving commands we usually use the verb in this way: "Come here!" "Go to the market"! This form of command employs what is called the imperative mood of the verb.

- A. In Somali the imperative has singular and plural forms. e.g., push (singular), a command directed to only one person is "riix", push (plural) - directed to more than one person is "riixa". You are well advised to learn both the singular and plural parts of the verb initially. Until you are advised otherwise your vocabulary lists will give the two parts.
- B. Direction to a person, or action for a person, or animal is expressed by placing a verbal particle in front of the verb.

e.g., u tag go to (a person), u kaalay come to (a person)
u riix push for (someone) u yeedh call to (a person)

This particle "u" does compound with others and pronouns to widen the spectrum of meanings. "U" combined with "i", meaning me, results in "ii", meaning to or for me.

ii kaalay come to me, ii keen bring to me

Again you will notice that the word order is the reverse of what we are accustomed to in English.

Vocabulary:

enter	gal, gala	Send	dir, dira
bring	keen, keena	come	kaalay, kaalaya
tell	sheeg, sheega	call	yeedh, yeedha
push	riix, riixa	open	fur, fura
light	shid, shida	tie/close	xidh, xidha
go	tag, taga	drive	wad, wada
cook	bislee, bisleeya	cut	jar, jara
climb/grow	kor, kora	climb/mount	fuul, fuula
write	qor, qora		
fire	dab-ka	food/porridge	soor-ta
food/throat	hunguri-ga	meat	hiblib-ka
food	cunto-da		

Exercise: Translate into Somali:

1. Come to me. Bring (pl.) the letter.
2. Light the lamp. Go to the river. Open the door.
3. Go to the teacher. Tell the mother. Push the bull. Call the girl.
4. Go to the well. Go to the children. Drive a bull. Cut a thing.
5. Tie a ram. Cook the porridge. Write a letter. Enter the house.
6. Light the fire. Call the teacher. Tie a bull. Open the book.
7. Send a child. Tell a boy. Open (pl.) the letter. Push (pl.) the table.
8. Cook (pl.) some food. Light(pl.) the lamp. Enter the door.
9. Go (pl.) to the road. Cut the meat. Shut (pl.) the door. Call the man.
10. Write (pl.) the paper. Climb the tree. Tell (pl.) the teacher.

Translate into English:

1. Mindi ii keen. Ninka u sheega.
2. Ceelka kaalay. Hooyada u yeedh. Geedka fuula. Dibiga xidh.
3. Kursi keen. Hunguri bislee. Gabadha ii dira. Warqadda fur.
4. Dabka shida. Wanka wad. Guriga gala. Albaabka xidha
5. Ilmaha u yeedh. Soorta keena. Hilib ninka u keen. Dabka ii shid.
6. Webiga taga. Hilibka jara. Albaabka riixa. Sonkor wiilka u dir.
7. Macallinka u tag. Naagta u sheeg. Shaah ii keen.
8. Ilmaha siraadka u shida. Waddada tag. Dibiga ii wad.

Negative Imperative and Vocative

A negative imperative is used when a negative order or instruction is given e.g., Don't talk! Don't write!

- A. In Somali the negative particle for both singular and plural for the second person is "ha". In the singular the verb form which follows the negative particle is made up thus:

When the verb root (usually the singular imperative) ends in a consonant then suffix "-in" is appended to the root. e.g., Ha riixin Don't push.
Ha furin Don't open it. Use the suffix "-in" for negative plural.
e.g., Ha furina Don't open.

- B. A note on euphony: In many words when a suffix beginning with "i" is appended euphony dictates a change in sound to the vowel before the linking consonant particularly when that vowel is "a".

e.g., tag becomes ha tegin and ha tegina and gal becomes ha gel
ha gelina.

- C. In your vocabulary so far with two exceptions all of the verb roots you have learned end in consonants. One of the exceptions, "kaalay" is an irregular verb with which you will have dealings later in the course. For now it will suffice if you learn the negative imperatives.

Ha iman Don't come. Ha imanina Don't (pl.) come.

- D. Vocative: The vocative is the term to describe the noun used to address someone whether by their own name or a title.
e.g., Boy! come here. "Boy" is vocative. Mary, wait!
Mary is vocative.

In Somali masculine nouns add the vocative suffix "-ow"
e.g., Xasanow! for calling Xasan. If the name by which a male is addressed is a title then often the title is followed by "yahow"
e.g., nin yahow! that is, "Hey man".

Feminine nouns add either of the following "-ay", "-oy", "yahay".
e.g., Fadumay, or Faduma yahay! for calling Faduma.
Naagtoy! or Naag yahay! for calling a woman.

- E. Somali male names: Xasan, Cusman, Cumar, Moxamed, Cali, Cabdi, Cabdullaahi, Jaamac, Axmed, Maxmuud, Jeylaani, Salaad, Dheqani.

Somali female names: Faduma, Canab, Safiya, Luul, Khadija, Seynab, Faraxiya, Sahara, Xalimo, Xaawa, Asli.

Vocabulary:

amount	in-ta	Wild animal	bahal-ka
egg	ukun-ta	error/mistake	qalad-ka/khalad-k
town	magaalo-da	enemy/force	col-ka
broom	xaaqin-ka	female goat	ri-da
bed	sariir-ta	ewe	lax-da
garden	beer-ta	town	beled-ka
ground/floor	dhul-ka		
Sweep	xaaq, xaaqa	take/pick up	qaad, qaada
build	dhis, dhisa	wait	sug, suga
accompany	raac, raaca	look at	eeg, eega
put, place, set (as a table)	dhig dhiga		

Exercises:

Translate into Somali:

- Write the negative plural imperatives of: tell, call, come, shut go to (a person), cook, cut, drive.
- Cali, don't tell Faduma! Tell Moxamed, Don't (pl.) shut the door.
- Don't go to Cali, come to me! Teacher, tell me! Look at the town.
- Don't (pl.) take the ewe, take the female goat! Don't (pl.) push it.
- Xasan, don't go to Jeylaani, go to Cusman! Jaamac, light the fire.
- Is it Cabdullaahi? Yes, it is Cabdullaahi. Call (him) for me.
- Children, don't wait for me! Go to the teacher! Don't climb the tree.
- Cusman, don't drive the bull, drive the ewe! Pick up the broom.
- Look at (pl.) the wild animal! Is it a ram? No, it is a wild animal.
- Don't send Jaamac, send Luul! Khadija, bring me the food.
- Don't (pl.) build the house. Write (pl.) a letter for me.
- Is it a son? No, it is a daughter. Tell (pl.) the mother!
- Boy, don't go to the well! Go to the town. Bring me some meat.
- Safiya, set the table! Cut the meat for me. Bring (it) to me.
- Abdulqaadir! Woman! Girl! Teacher! Fadumo! Jaamac!

Translate into English:

- Ma qalad baa? Haah, waa qalad. Dhulka dhig. Aamina u sheeg.
- Xaaqinka ii keen. Dhulka xaaq. Geedka ha fuulina.
- Beerta taga, ukun ii keena. Buuga ha ii keenina.
- Naagtoy, macallinka ha u sheegin. Kursiga, miiska sariirta.
- Axmedow, sariirta ha fuulin. Hooyada raac. Beledka tag.
- Fatumay, beerta ha xaaqin. Miiska dhig, cunto keen.
- Ha ii sugina, ilmaha ii keena. Rida ha fuulina. Dibiga webiga u wa.
- Nin yahow, warjad qor! Ceelka kaalay! Siraadka ha shidin. Dabka s.
- Mindida keen, hilibka jar, colka ha eegin. Colka dir.
- Inan yahay, macallinka sug. Kursi ha keenin, miiska ha fuulin.

Present and Past Indicative of Class I Verbs

The root/stem of a verb in Somali is the singular imperative form except in a very few irregular cases. Somali verbs have been classified and are described in their classes in their root form.

- A. Class I verbs have stems that end in a consonant. Having identified the stem of a verb you are then able to add the suffixes to form the tenses, number and gender of the verb. Look at the following examples:

<u>Present Indicative</u>		verb stem "dir"	<u>Past Indicative</u>	
Waan diraa	I send		Waan diray	I sent
Waad dirtaa	You send		Waad dirtay	You sent

You will notice that I have underlined the suffixes and that they show a pattern. Also the word before the verb indicating a pronoun meaning is consistent which will enable you to apply this to the verb stems you have already learned.

- B. i. Euphony: "Tag" in the first person past tense allows the "a" in the stem to change to "e".
- ii. Stems ending in gutturals "c" and "x" or with "d" prefer the "t" on the second person suffix to change to "d".

raac + taa = raacdaa
 riix + taa = riixdaa
 rid + taa = riddaa

- iii. In Somali when "l" and "t" come together in that order they form "sh" e.g., gal + taa = gashaa

- iv. When a verb stem ends in a "g" and a suffix beginning with "t" is appended, then the "g" sometimes changes to "k"
 e.g., tag + taa = taktaa

- v. When a word ending in "n" has a suffix beginning with a vowel, then "n" often changes to "m"

- C. Words order: Now that we have a simple pronoun subject let us check the order of words. If there is an object to the verb it will come first, followed by the pronoun, then the verb. If there is a particle related to the verb it must take its place in front of the verb.

Third person pronouns (object) e.g., him, her, them, it, are usually understood from the context and not always shown.

e.g., Waan u sheegay
 Waad ii dirtay
 Wiilka waan raacay
 Guriga waad ku ridday.
 Ukun waad ii keentay.

I told him/
 You sent him/her/it to me
 I accompanied the boy.
 You threw it in the house
 You brought me an egg.

D. Irregular Class I Verbs:

These verbs are of two or more syllables in their stem. When a suffix beginning with a vowel is appended then the last vowel between the consonants is ejected allowing the two consonants to stand together.

e.g., ~~ma~~qal + ay = maqlay
maqal + tay = maqashay

orod + ay = orday
orod + tay = orodday

Vocabulary:

throw	tuur, tuura	have (a wife)/hold	qab, qaba
be quiet	aamuus, aamuusa	put/throw in	ku rid, ku rida
accompany	raac, raaca	show	tus, tusa
hear	maqal, maqla -	spread (cloth on table or bed)	gogol, gogla -
speak	hadal, hadla -	see	arag, arka -
laugh	qosol, qosla -		
move	durug, durka -		
err	khatalan, khatalma	be rich	hodon, hodma
be proud	kibir, kibra -	be patient	samir, samra -
meet	la kulan, la kulma -	inherit from *	ka dhaxal, ka dha
be glad	farax, farxa -	argue	muran, murma -
speak with	la hadla, la hadla -	be satiated	dhereg, dherga -
make a will	dardaaran, dardaarma	eat	cun, cuna
(say last word)			

* You cannot say in Somali "I inherited something". The idea is that you inherit something from someone deceased.

e.g., Moxamed guri waan ka dhaxlay. I inherited a house from Mohamed.

Exercises: Translate into Somali

1. I entered the house. You saw the boy. I brought the letter.
2. Show me the letter. I sent it to Cali. I erred.
3. You speak to the children. I speak to the teacher.
4. I laughed; you looked at me. I heard something. It's a ewe.
5. Send (pl.) a boy; bring the teacher! Children be quiet!
6. You put sugar in the tea. I ate the meat. You ate the porridge.
7. Faduma, don't talk! Send (her) to the teacher. Accompany her.
8. I accompanied her. I ran to the river. You laughed.
9. Don't (pl.) accompany me; move! Don't (pl.) run! Listen (pl.) to me!
10. I have a wife. (she) is Safiya. You called me. I heard.
11. Don't throw the knife! Bring it to me! You erred.
12. You ate the food; you are satiated; don't eat the meat!
13. You made (spread) the bed. I set the table. I became quiet.
14. I argued. You rejoiced. I made a will. You inherited a house from a man.
15. You moved. You erred. You became rich. I was patient.
16. I heard a bull. I was glad. I ate food. I was satiated.
17. I met with Axmed. I was proud.
18. Boy! show me the well. Don't laugh. Don't be proud. Be patient.

Translate into English:

1. Ilmaha waan raacay. Macallinka

Verbs of Class II and Interrogative "Ma"

- A. Class II verbs have a stem ending in "o" often preceded by two consonants e.g., iibso, qabso etc.

Present Indicative

verb stem "iibso"

Past Indicative

Waan iibsadaa I buy
 Waad iibsataa You buy

Waan iibsaday I bought
 Waad iibsatay You bought

You will have noticed that the first person singular suffix begins with "d" while the second person begins with "t". N.B. "o" changes

N.B. "o" changes to "a" where followed by a consonant to suit euphony.

- B. Imperatives: Affirmative imperatives are "iibso" and "iibsada".

The negative imperative employs the same idea but as the stem ends with a vowel this is first rounded off with a consonant, viz., "n".

In the singular imperative that is all that is necessary while in the plural the suffix "ina" is appended to the rounded form.

e.g., Don't buy Ha iibsan. Don't buy (pl.) Ha iibsanina.

- C. Interrogative "ma": In lesson five you learned that you used "waan" and "waad" for the first and second singular pronouns respectively. Pronoun "-aan" for "you". Similarly "waad" is "waa" + "-aad" for the subject pronoun "you".

The interrogative word "ma" can be combined with the subject pronoun thus:

ma + -aan = miyaan

ma + -aad = miyaad

So now you can ask questions. e.g., Miyaad jiifsatay? Did you lie down?
 Miyaan qaybsaday? Did I divide for myself?

Already you have been using the interrogative "ma" with a noun followed by the particle "baa". e.g., Ma nabad baa? An alternative is to combine the "ma" and "baa" to form "miyaa", which then follows the noun thus:

Nabad miyaa? Is it peace? Wiil miyaa? = Ma wiil baa? Is it a boy?

Vocabulary:

escape	baxso, baxsada	stop/stand still	joogso, joogsada
despise	quudhso, quudhsada	buy for self	iibso, iibsada
marry	guurso, guursada	breathe	neefso, neefsada
grip tightly	qabso, qabsada	lie down	jiifso, jiifsada
pray	tuko, tukada	divide for oneself	qaybso, qaybsada
consult	la tasho, la tashada	complain	ashtako, ashtakada
lean on	ku tiirso, ku tiirsada	request work/money	ashkatoo, ashkataada
consider	tasho, tashada	sleep	dalbo, dalbada
	(u fiirso, u fiirsada)	recover/get well	hurud, hurda
lie down	jiif, jiifa	shop	dukaan-ka
donkey	dameer-ka (ta)	camels (collective)	geel-a
shoe	kab-ta	belt	suun-ka
clothes	dhar-ka		
work	shuqul-ka		

Useful expressions:

_____ miyaad doonaysaa? Do you want _____?

Maya, dooni maayo.

No I don't want it.

Haah, waan doonayaa.

Yes, I want it.

Exercises: Translate into Somali

1. Did you see the child? Yes, I saw the child. Is it a boy?
Yes it's a boy.
2. Cabdullaahi, don't buy a donkey; buy some camels!
3. Did you pray? Yes, I prayed. Don't put on the clothes; lie down.
4. Did I marry the daughter? Yes, you married the daughter.
5. Did you despise the man? You despised the man.
6. I went to the bed; I lay down.
7. Did you seize the man? Yes, I seized the man. Did you complain?
8. Did I tell Ali? No, you told Khadija. Did you hear me? No, I slept.
9. Did I tie the shoe? No, you put it on; tie it.
10. Lie down (pl.). Did you sleep? Yes, I slept, Did you make the bed?
11. Did you bring the camels? Yes, I brought the camels.
12. Did you hear the teacher? Yes, I spoke to the teacher.
13. I applied for a job, Did you hear something? No, I erred.
14. Divide out (pl.) the clothes for yourselves. Do you breathe?
Yes, I breathe.
15. Did you consult with Cali? No, I consulted with Jaamac.
16. Put on the clothes; wait for me. I heard the teacher; Did you (pl.) hear (him)?
17. Do you have a wife? Yes, I have a wife. Jaamac, did you marry the girl?
18. Did you enter the shop? Yes, I entered the shop. Did you buy clothes?
19. No, I considered a belt. Did you speak to the man?
Yes, I spoke to the man.

Translate into English:

1. Miyaad hurudday? Haah, waan hurday. Sariirta waan goglay.
2. Beledka miyaad taktay? Maya, webiga baan tegay. Geel waan arkay.
3. Miyaad albaab ku tiirsatay? Haah, albaabka waan ku tiirsaday.
4. Dukaanka waad gashay. Buug miyaad iibsaday. Maya, sonkor waan iibsaday.
5. Naag miyaad qabtaa? Haah, naag waan qabaa. Nuurta waan guursaday.
6. Miyaad ashtakatay? Maya, waan tukaday. Deqaani waan la tashaday.
7. Geel miya? Maya, waa dameer. Dameerka dooni mayo. Webiga u wad.
8. Dharka gashada. Beledka taga; mindi iibsada; ii keena.
9. Kabta fur. Guriga gal. Miyaad hilibka cuntay? Maya, soor waan cunay.
10. Wanka miyaad araktay? Haah, waan arkay; waan keenay. Waa keena.

Numerals*

- A. The numerals in Somali are nouns as you will recognize from the list below. 1 to 7 inclusive are feminine while the others are masculine. Late in the list of vocabulary you will see two alternative words for "one". "Kow" is used for counting only. "Mid" is used for speaking of only one thing. To say "one man" you use the word "hal".

Notice that for numbers 11 to 19, 21, to 29, etc., that the smaller number comes first, then the conjunction "iyo", meaning "and", or its shortened form "yo" then the larger number. e.g. labyo toban-ka. In this case you will see that the last "a" of laba and the "i" of iyo have both been ejected.

- B. Use as Adjectives: Although the numerals are really nouns, by their placement in the sentence they perform the function of an English numeral which is an adjective when placed in front of a noun. In Somali the numeral is written first and then the noun follows. The noun is undefined. If you wish to define then it is the numeral that is defined. Note that the undefined noun is singular.

e.g., two men laba nin. the two men labada nin.

Some feminine nouns when defined by a numeral higher than one add the suffix "-ood" or "-aad" to the undefined form. This does not occur with Nouns **ending with "o"**.

e.g., hal naag* one one woman laba naagood two women
 afar halaad four female camels
 shan meelood five places
 lixda riyood the six nanny goats

Vocabulary:

1	kow-da	9	sagaal-ka
2	laba-da	10	toban-ka
3	saddex-da	11	kowbyo toban-ka
4	afar-ta	12	labyo toban-ka
5	shan-ta	20	labaatan-ka
6	lix-da	21	kowbyo labaatan-ka
7	toddoba-da	30	soddon-ka
8	siddeed-ka <i>da</i>	40	afartan-ka
50	konton-ka	60	lixdan-ka
70	toddobaatan-ka	80	siddeetan-ka
90	sagaashan-ka	100	boqol-ka
200	laba boqol	1000	kun-ka

Vocabulary: Contd.

stone	dhagax-a	female camel	hal-ta
billy goat	orgi-ga	male camel	awr-ka
livestock	xoolo-ha	place	mael-ta
*girls (coll.)	hablo-ha	goats and sheep	ari-ga
one thing	mid-ka	# one (not for counting	hal-ka

* "hablo" if qualified by a numeral is the exception to the rule and does add "oo". e.g., afar hablood four girls.

That when "kow" has a suffix appended that when the suffix begins with a vowel the "kow" is rounded off with a "b" - a preference for euphony.

Exercises: Translate into Somali

1. I saw three boys. Fifty women. Bring me two knives.
2. Did you speak with the two teachers? No, I spoke to one teacher.
3. The three, thirty, three hundred, the eighty four ewes.
4. Fifty nine, twenty three, ninety eight, sixty five, seventy six.
5. Did you eat five eggs? No, I ate four eggs. I am satiated.
6. Is it five hundred? Yes, it is five hundred.
7. Did you drive the livestock? No, I went to the river.
8. There are forty seven nanny goats, there are two male camels.
9. Don't (pl.) throw the stone. You threw one; I watched.
10. You saw two women. I called to them. You spoke to them.
11. Axmed, are there forty four children? No, there are 42 children.
12. Tie up the two shoes. I tied (them).
13. Did I tell the two men? Yes, you told them. No, you told the two women.
14. Do you speak to the children? No, I speak to the mother.
15. Do I complain? Yes, you complain. Did you hear?
16. Did you buy three bulls? No, I bought one hundred nanny goats.
17. Are there five women? No, there are six women.
18. Did you marry two wives? No, I married a wife.
19. Did I put on two shoes? Yes, you put on two shoes.
20. Did you enter the three shops? No, I entered ten shops.

Present Continuous and Past Continuous Tenses:

- A. The Present Continuous Tense of the verb is formed by appending the appropriate suffixes to the stem of the verb. In the table below you are also introduced to all the subject pronouns with their corresponding verbs.

I am opening	Waan furayaa	We are opening (excl.)	Waannu furaynaa
You are opening	Waad furaysaa	We (incl.) are opening	Waynu furaynaa
She is opening	Way furaysaa	You(pl.) are opening	Waydin furaysaan
He is opening	Wuu furayaa	They are opening	Way furayaan.

Notice that the pronouns "-ay, -uu, -annu, -aynu, -aydin and -ay" are suffixed to the particle waa to form: way, wuu, waannu, waynu, waydin and way.

The inclusive and exclusive pronouns for "we" require a comment. The inclusive is used if the "we" includes the one/s being addressed. The exclusive form is used when the person/s addressed are not included in the action of the verb.

- B. The Class I Irregular Verbs eject the last vowel of the stem before adding the continuous suffixes as the suffixes all begin with a vowel.

e.g., verb maqal

Waan maqlayaa	Waannu maqlaynaa
Waad maqlaysaa	Waynu maqlaynaa
Way maqlaysaa	Waydin maqlaysaan
Wuu maqlayaa	Way maqlayaan

- C. Past Continuous Tense: Exactly the same procedure is followed except that with the past continuous the suffix ends with a y instead of the "a".

I was opening	Waan furayey
You were opening	Waad furaysay
She was opening	Way furaysay
He was opening	Wuu furayey
We (excl.) were opening	Waannu furaynay
We (incl.) were opening	Waynu furaynay
You (pl.) were opening	Waydin furayseen
They were opening	Way furayeen

I was listening	Waan maqlayey
You were listening	Waad maqlaysay
She was listening	Way maqlaysay
He was listening	Wuu maqlayey
We (excl.) were listening	Waannu maqlaynay
We (incl.) were listening	Waynu maqlaynay
You (pl.) were listening	Waydin maqlayseen
They were listening	Way maqlayeen.

D. Verbs of Class II These verbs, because they end in "o" or "oo" add the linking consonant "n" and then append the appropriate continuative suffix.

e.g., Waan baxsanayaa. Waad baxsanaysaa etc.

Vocabulary:

room	qol-ka	here	halkan	there	halkaas
money	lacag-ta	day	maalin-ta	today	maanta
truck	baabuur-ka	hat	koofiyad-da	pen	qalin-ka
arm	gacan-ta	fence	ood-da	wall	derbi-ga
bucket	baaldi-ga	father	aabe-ha	old man	oday-ga
ball	kubbad-da	leg	lug-ta	horse	faras-ka
water(pl)	biyo-ha	skin bucket	sibraar-ka	milk (pl)	caano-ha

drink	cab, cabba	want	doon, doona (but used in continuous with an indicative meaning)
milk	lis, lisa		
milk for self	maal, maala		

Useful expressions: Maxaad samaynaysaa? What are you doing?
ku celi repeat that.

Use maxaad in front of second person verbs to ask questions, e.g., "Maxaad araktay?" What did you see?

Full Conjugation of the Past and Present Indicative

E. Past Indicative:

Waan furay	Waan maqlay	Waan baxsaday
Waad furtay	Waad maqashay	Waad baxsatay
Way furtay	Way maqashay	Way baxsatay
Wuu furay	Wuu maqlay	Wuu baxsaday
Waannu furnay (furray)	Waannu maqalnay (maqallay)	Waannu baxsanay
Waynu furnay (furray)	Waynu maqalnay (maqallay)	Waynu baxsanay
Waydin furteen	Waydin maqasheen	Waydin baxsateen
Way fureen	Way maqleen	Way baxsadeen

As you study the above you will see that the third person masculine singular form of the verb is exactly the same as the first person singular.

The feminine singular of the verb is the same as the second person singular. The "tay" of the second person singular becomes "teen" in the plural.

Euphony: Somalis often prefer to make "rn" into the one sound of "r" hence the doubling of the "r". Similarly when "l" is followed by "n" a double "ll" is preferred.

However, you need to check these out with your informant. Some will not accept this due to their personal lack of exposure to it.

F. Present Indicative:

Waan furaa	Waan maqlaa	Waan baxsadaa
Waad furtaa	Waad maqashaa	Waad baxsataa
Way furtaa	Way maqashaa	Way baxsataa
Wuu furaa	Wuu maqlaa	Wuu baxsadaa
Waannu furnaa (furraa)	Waannu maqalnaa (maqallaa)	Waannu baxsanaa
Waynu furnaa (furraa)	Waynu maqalnaa (maqallaa)	Waynu baxsanaa
Waydin furtaan	Waydin maqashaan	Waydin baxsataan
Way furaan	Way maqlaan	Way baxsadaan

Compare the endings of these two tenses and you will notice the consistency between the Past and Present Tenses as noted in paragraph C.

Exercises: Translate into Somali

1. What are you doing? I am putting on some clothes.
2. Did he mount the horse? Yes, he mounted the horse.
3. Do you milk five she camels? No, he milks the camels.
4. Do you (pl.) consult with the old man? Yes, we consult with the old man.
5. Were we (inc.) eating the food? Yes, we were eating the food.
6. Are they drinking water? Yes, I milked her.
7. Did you milk the camel? No, they are eating meat.
8. Did you (pl.) hear the camels? Yes, we heard them.
9. What do you want? I am looking for work.
10. He is running; she is praying; they are looking.
11. What are you bringing to me? I am bringing a milk bucket (of skin).
12. Is she bringing the bucket? No, she is bringing the ball.
13. Did you throw the ball? No, I brought it here.
14. Do you (pl.) go to the shop? Yes, we go to the shop.
15. Was he climbing the fence? No, he was climbing a tree.
16. Are you buying a horse? Yes, I am buying a horse.
17. Does she speak with the children? Yes, she speaks with the children.
18. Do they speak with the boy? Yes, they speak with the boy.
19. Did you (pl.) enter the shop? Yes, we entered the shop.
20. What did you (pl.) buy? I bought a hat, she bought two shoes, he bought a ball.
- 21.. Does he have a wife? Yes, he has three wives.

Write out the singular and plural imperatives,)
 the present indicative in full,) of these verbs:
 the past indicative in full,) neefso, qosol, maal
 the present continuous in full)
 and the past continuous in full)

Questions: Where? How many?

- A. Where: The simplest form is when the following words are used in the masculine or plural: mee? meeyey? aaway? and for the feminine meeday?

"aaway" is quite often used for the feminine too.

e.g., Cali mee? Where is Ali? Ilmaha aaway? Where are the children?
Asli meeday? Where is Asli? Kursiga mee? Where is the chair?

It is permissible to use the respective question words first.
Aaway Moxamed? Where is Mohamed?

Though the foregoing is very common yet it is restricted to asking where someone or something is and you will learn a number of verbs to use with "where".

- B. How many? Just to ask the question "How many" you place the particle "waa" in front of either of the interrogatives thus:

Waa immisa? or waa meeqa? How many are there?

- i. If however, you wish to employ a verb in the sentence, then you need to place your interrogative first followed by the verbal particle "baa" and then the verb.

e.g., Immisa baa tegay? How many went? Immisa baa jooga
How many are present?

There are some observations you need to make. Note that the verb remains in the singular and that the present tense vowel ending is shortened to a short vowel. These are characteristics that are introduced when "baa" does not have a pronoun subject appended to it.

- ii. Where a noun subject is in the sentence, then the noun precedes the "baa" e.g., Immisa nin baa joogsaday? How many men stopped?
- iii. Should you have an object to the verb then the object is normally placed between "baa" and the verb.

e.g., Immisa naagood baa guriga gashay?
How many women entered the house?

- iv. Where these interrogatives are followed by a verb the "baa" may appear to be absent but has in fact ~~benn~~ contracted into the end of the interrogative, making its final vowel longer. The verbs behave in the same way as mentioned above when the "baa" without a subject pronoun is visible.

e.g., Immisaa jooga? Immisaa naagood boogsatay?

- v. If the interrogative is the object of the verb then the subject can come first in the sentence followed by the interrogative section, then "taa" with the subject pronoun added. If the noun subject is understood then the pronoun subject on "baa" will suffice. Once a pronoun is attached to "baa" then the verb must agree with the pronoun in number and gender.

e.g., Ninka immisa naagood buu guursaday?
 Immisa naagood buu guursaday?
 Ilmaha immisa buug bay keeneen?

- vi. N.B. The particle "waa" can never be used to follow an interrogative in a sentence. In a later lesson we shall deal with the reason for this.

Present and Past Continuous of the verb "kaalay". An alternative to this verb in the root form is "imo" and this is the form conjugated for your continuous tenses.

e.g., Waan imanayaa.	I am coming	Waan imanayey	I was coming
Waad imanyasaa	You are coming etc.		
Waad imanaysay	You were coming etc.		

Vocabulary:

where?	(mee/meeyey/aaway/meeday)
bread	rooti-ga kibis-ta
wood	qori-ga
brother	walaal-ka
how many?	immisa/meeqa
stick	ul-ta
goods/tools	alaab-ta/qalab-ka
window	dariishad-da
thorn	qodax-da
grass	caws-ka
sister	walaal-ta
carpenter	nijaar-ka
rope	xarig-ga
cloth	maro-da
soap	saabbuun-ta
calf	weyl-ta
stay, be present	joog, jooga
prick, pierce	mud, muda
drink (milk)	dhan, dhama
be late	raag, raaga
use	isticmaal, isticmaala

Useful expressions:

Xaggeed ka timid? Where did you come from?
 _____ baan ka imid. I came from _____
 Goormaad timid? When did you come?
 _____ baan imid. I came _____

Exercises: Translate into Somali

1. Where is Faduma? She is in the house.
2. Where is Cali? He is in the shop. Is he buying some bread?
3. How many buckets did you buy? I bought six buckets.
4. Are you buying a ball? No, I am buying a cloth.
5. Cabdullaahi, where is Khadija? She is in the house.
She is coming.
6. Do you want Khadija? Yes, call her.
7. Throw the thorn over there. It pricked me.
8. Is he a carpenter? Yes, he is a carpenter. Is he building the house?
9. Were you (pl.) praying? Yes, we were praying.
10. Are you buying a rope? No, I am buying a belt.
11. Does he eat bread? Yes, he eats bread. They drink milk.
12. Did you tie the wood? Yes, I tied it. Where is it?
13. Did you use the goods? No, I used the hand.
14. Was she looking at the window? Yes, she was looking at the window.
15. Did she open the window? No, Cali opened the window.
16. Did he buy two cloths? No, Luul bought a cloth.
17. Where is the calf? Here she is! She is eating grass.
18. Were they going to the river? No, the teacher was going to the river.
19. Do you (pl.) use the goods? No, we use two knives.
20. How many camels did you bring? I brought fifty camels.
21. How many camels escaped? Ten camels escaped.
22. The old man was late. He picked up the goods.

Translate into English:

1. Afaryo tobanka qalin aaway? Miiska waan dhigay, miyaad qaadday?
- 2.. Geela waa immisa? Waa saddex iyo sagaashan.
3. Nijaarka miyuu guriga dhisayaa? Maya, derbi wuu dhisayaa.
4. Dariishadda miyaydin furteen? Haah, dariishadda waannu furnay.
5. Dhagax ha tuurin! Biyaha halkan keen. Waan cabbayaa.
6. Maxaad samaynaysaa? Caano waan dhamayaa. Hasha miyaad maashay?
7. Warqad way qortay. Walaasha way u qortay. Lacag way doonaysaa.
8. Sibraarka qaad. Hasha lis. Caanaha Luul u keen.
9. Weysha ha xidhin, fur! Dibiga xidh. Xariga mee?
10. Immisa maro baad iibsaday? Afar maro waan iibsaday.
Mid miyaad doonaysaa?
11. Miyey imanayeen? Haah, way imanayeen, Way raageen!
12. Odayga meeqa naagood buu guursaday? Laba naagood buu guursaday.
13. Dukaanka immisa ilmo baa galey? Afar ilmo dukaanka way galeen.
14. Jaamac yahow, halkan kaalay! Sug, waan imanayaa.
15. Aabbaha waa u yeedhayaa. Inanka miyuu imanayaa? Maya, wuu tegayaa.

Plural of Nouns

- A. A general rule can be given initially and you can learn all the exceptions progressively. Generally a Somali noun ending in a consonant in the singular just adds "o". It is to be noted that with pluralization a change of gender takes place. The verb generally must agree with the new gender of the noun.

e.g., Naag-ta becomes naago-ha
dameer-ka becomes dameerro-ha*

* Notice the doubling of the last consonant. The only Somali consonants that can be doubled are: b, d, l, m, n, and r. These are not always doubled so you just have to watch for when they are.

- B. Most monosyllabic masculine nouns ending in a consonant duplicate the final consonant after a linking vowel "a", to form a second syllable.

e.g., nin-ka becomes niman-ka#
ceel-ka becomes ceelal-ka (or ceelal-ta)
wiil-ka becomes wiilal-ta (sometimes wiilal-ka is preferred)

According to the rules of euphony "n", being the last letter of a word, when followed by a vowel changes to "m".

- C. Some masculine monosyllabic nouns ending in a consonant simply add "o" but retain their gender. The examples given, you will notice have long vowels.

Geed-ka becomes geedo-ha Naas-ka (breast) becomes naaso-ha

- D. Sentences with Noun Subjects: The simplest form of sentence already learned is where we use "waa" followed by the noun.

e.g., Waa nin It is a man.

You can use "waa" after a noun subject and, followed by a verb, no pronoun is required.

e.g., Naagta waa taktay. The woman went.
Wiilka waa qoslayaa. The boy is laughing.

Vocabulary:

axe	faas-ka	leg	lug-ta	ear	dheg-ta
branch	laan-ta	river bed	tog-ga	bird	shimbir-ta
hill	buur-ta	rib	feer-ta	finger	far-ta
body	jir-ka	infidel	gaal-ka	family	xaas-ka
banana	moos-ka	purse	kiish-ka	snake	mas-ka
house	aqal-ka	rain	roob-ka	thumb	suul-ka
thief	tuug-ga	cup	koob-ka	track	raad-ka
female teacher	macallimad-da	can	daasad-da	foal	qayl-ka

Exercises: Translate into Somali

1. Did the carpenter build the houses? No, the men built the houses.
2. Where are the shoes? Did the children bring them?
3. Do the men speak with the women? Yes, they speak with the women.
4. Were you (pl.) using the purses? Yes, we were using them.
5. Use (pl.) the cloth. Did you use the cloth? Yes, I used the cloth.
6. Does she send the belts? Yes, she sends the belts.
7. Did we divide the money? Yes, we divided the money.
8. Does he see the snake? No, she sees the snake.
9. Don't (pl.) stop! Enter the shops.
10. Are you praying. Yes, I am praying. The man prays today.
11. Do you pray here? Yes, I pray here.
12. Did you pick up the table? No, Cusman picked up the table.
13. Did they cut the bread? No, we cut the bread.
14. Did you see the carpenter? I saw the carpenter. He was using the tools.
15. The boy is climbing the branches. He is taking an axe.
16. The infidels climbed the hill. They saw the rain. They entered a house.
17. The snake went to the grass. The boys ran. They are bringing sticks.
18. The lady teacher is calling. She is talking to the family.

Write the Somali plurals for these words, showing the articles.

tree, track, axe, **river-bed** foal, body, mountain/hill, bird, rib, thumb, purse, ear, thief, leg, shop, brother, sister, calf, hat, room, arm.

Translate into English:

1. Masaska waa korayaan. Geedaha way korayaan. Ha qabsanina!
2. Faraha eega. Waa saddex farood. Haah, waa saddex, waa laba suul!
3. Faduma waa yeedhay. Tuugagga waa baxsadeen. Magaalada way tegeen.
4. Alaabta miyey qaadeen? Alaab way doonayeen, lacag way qaadeen.
5. Aqallada wuu dhisayey. Axmed miyuu dhisayey? Maya, nijaarka waa dhisayey.
6. Ariga miyaad araktay? Maya, togga way geleen.
7. Maxaad samaynaysaa? Moos waan cunayaa; moos miyaad doonaysaa?
8. Shimbiiraha miyaydin maqasheen? Haah, waannu maqallay. Aaway?
9. Koobabka keena, shaah cabba, caano way dhameen.
10. Roobka waa imanayaa! Ilmaha waa ordayaan, way farxaan.

More Plurals and Class III Verbs:

- A. Some polysyllabic nouns ending in a consonant will eject their last vowel when pluralized. This is only possible when it will not bring three consonants together. "Kh, dh, and sh" are regarded as single consonants.

girl	gabadh-a	gabdho-ha	meat	hilib-ka	hilbo-ha
day	maalin-ta	maalmo-ha	shoulder	garab-ka	garbo-ha
tooth	ilig-ga	ilko-ga	camel foal	nirig-ta	nirgo-ha

- B. Class III Verbs Verbs of this class have their stems ending in vowels other than "o" and "u". They normally end in "i", "ii", "ee" and very rarely "aa".

give	sii, siiya	lead	gee, geeya
------	------------	------	------------

<u>Pres. Indic.</u>	<u>Past Indic.</u>	<u>Pres. Indic.</u>	<u>Past Indic.</u>
waan siiyaa	waan siiyey	waan geeyaa	waan geeyey
waad siisaa	waad siisay	waad gaysaa	waad gaysay
way siisaa	way siisay	way gaysaa	way gaysay
wuu siiyaa	wuu siiyey	wuu geeyaa	wuu geeyey
waannu siinnaa	waannu siinnay	waannu gaynaa	waannu gaynay
waynu siinnaa	waynu siinnay	waynu gaynaa	waynu gaynay
waydin siisaan	waydin siiseen	waydin gaysaan	waydin gayseen
way siiyaan	way siiyeen	way geeyaan	way geeyeen
<u>Pres. Continuous</u>	<u>Past. Continuous</u>	<u>Pres. Continuous</u>	<u>Past continuous</u>
waan siinayaa	waan siinayey	waan gaynayaa	waan gaynayey
waad siinaysaa	waad siinaysay	waad gaynaysaa	waad gaynaysay
way siinaysaa	way siinaysay	way gaynaysaa	way gaynaysay
wuu siinayaa	wuu siinayey	wuu gaynayaa	wuu gaynayey
waannu siinaynaa	waannu siinaynay	waannu gaynaynaa	waannu gaynaynay
waynu siinaynaa	waynu siinaynay	waynu gaynaynaa	waynu gaynaynay
waydin siinaysaan	waydin siinayseen	waydin gaynaysaan	waydin gaynayseen
way siinayaan	way siinayeen	way gaynayaan	way gaynayeen

- N.B. All of these, when appending a suffix that begins with a vowel, require an "n" to be the linking consonant (all continuous tenses) "Ee" changes to "ay" when it is to be followed by "n" or "s".
The same happens with "aa".

Negative Imperatives:

Ha gayn)	Don't lead	Ha siin)	Don't give
Ha gaynina)	Don't(pl.) lead	Ha siinina)	Don't give (pl.)

Vocabulary:

ask	weydii, weydiiya	make/do	(samee, sameeya
make small	yaree, yareeya		(suubi, suubiya
answer	jawaab, jawaaba	break	jebi, jebiya
care for	ilaali, ilaaliya	fall	dhac, dhaca
work	shaqee, shaqeeya	beat	dil, dila
straighten	bagaaji, hagaajiya	pull	jiid, jiida
lead	gee, geeya	cook	bislee, bisleeya
wake	toosi, toosiya	postpone/cancel	baaji, baajiya
boil	kari, kariya	shout	qayli, qayliya
heal	bogsii, bogsiiya	cross	ka tallaab, ka tallaaba
give/pay	sii, siiya		
now	haddeer, imminka	then	markaas/goortaa
God	Ilaah, ilaaha,	grass mat	derin-ta/dermo-da
tooth	ilig-ga	hyena	waraabe-ha
question	su'aal-ta		

N.B. Maalin-ta with a numeral becomes _____ maalmood in the same way as gabadh.

Exercises: Translate into Somali:

1. Did the men get well? Yes, they got well. Did you heal them?
No, God healed them.
2. Straighten the mat, wake up Cali. Did you straighten the mat?
3. Don't (pl.) ask me, ask Moxamed. I asked Moxamed. He laughed.
4. What are they doing? They are making a grass mat.
5. The family went to the river. Did they catch some meat?
Yes, they caught something. Now they are cooking the food.
6. Were you shouting? No, the girls were shouting.
7. How many days was he working? He was working for four days.
8. Have you boiled the water? Yes, I boiled it.
9. He is breaking the chair. Don't break the chair.
10. They were leading the camels. She is leading the bull.
11. Do you cook the food? No, he cooks the food.
12. The hyena is pulling the rope. The old man was drinking the milk.
13. The infidels asked questions. I answered them. Then they went to the town.
14. How many infidels went? Five infidels went.
15. Mother, do we eat bananas? Yes, we eat bananas. Do you want one now?
16. Did you (pl.) see the snakes? Yes, they crossed the dry river bed.
17. Does she ride the horse? No, he rides the horse.
18. The sister pulled the foal. She fell. The foal ran. It crossed the road.
19. Today, they caught the thief. He was beating the old man.
20. They are praying to God. They postponed the meeting.
21. Asli broke the chair. Moxamed repaired it. We worked.
22. The father reduced the money. Now, the mother is working.

Exercises: . Translate into English

1. Miyaad Sahara raacday? Haa, waan raacay. Haddeer, way jiifsanaysaa.
2. Buugagga mee? Guriga waan ku riday.
3. Xoolaha way geeyeen. Haddeer nirig way iibsanayaan
4. Laba maalmood waan joogay. Haddeer waan tegayaa.
5. Waa maxay? Waa waraabe. Hilibka wuu qaadayaa. Ilkaha wuu tusayey.
6. Xaawa meeday? Ilmaha way ilaalinaysaa. Hooyada waa taktay.
7. Naagta waa qaylisay. Ninka waa dilay. Ninka way la hadlayaan
8. Cuntada yaree. Wax waan cunay. Soorta dooni maayo.
9. Caanaha meeyey? walaaha waa dhameen.
10. Dermada wuu keenay. Ilaah wuu u tukanayaa.
11. Warqad waannu qorray. Maxamed u geeya. Wuu jawaabayaa.
- 12.

Write the parts of and conjugate in Present Indicative, Past continuous_ and write the negative singular and plural imperatives of the following verbs: ilaali, joogso, orod, yaree.

Introducing "baa", Defining Subject Nouns, More Plurals

- A. "Baa" is a very interesting word to which we shall be returning from time to time. One of its characteristics is to emphasize the word, phrase or clause which precedes it. It is therefore used:

1. in a simple sentence to emphasize the subject.

Ninka baa naagta u sheegaya. The man is telling the woman.
Ninka naagta baa u sheegaysa. The woman is telling the man.

N.B. The present tense verb ending "aa" is shortened to "a" when "aa" when "baa" is used without a pronoun.

- ii. to emphasize an unexpected point.

Ninka naagta baa dishay. The woman beat the man!

Basically, for now, know that "baa" emphasizes what comes before it whereas "waa" emphasizes what follows it. "Baa" can never stand first in a sentence as it has nothing to emphasize in that position.

- B. Defining the subject Noun: Identifying the subject noun is not a problem where, when the subject is a different gender or number from the object the form of the verb betrays it by agreeing with the subject in number and gender.

- i. The subject noun is defined by using the vowel "u" on the definite article. In such a case don't use "baa" as well as the indicator.

Wiilka ninku waa dilay. Ninka baa wiilka dilay. The man beat the boy.
Naagta baa gabadha sugaysa. The woman is waiting for the girl.

- ii. Some subject nouns without the definite article have the suffix "i" appended to show their position. This is rare though.

Naagi gabadha way araktay.

- c. More Plurals of Nouns: A number of masculine nouns, in the main those of more than one syllable and ending in "b", "c", "s", "g" and "x" or "q" form their plurals by suffixing "yo" and reversing the gender.

alhaab-ka	albaabyo-da	(an alternative to albaabbo-da)
magac-a	magacyo-da	
ogeysiis-ka	ogeysiisyo-da	notice/announcement
suuq-a	suuqyo-da	market
libaax-a	libaaxyo-da	lion
taambuug-ga	taambuugyo-da	tent (one alternative for plural)

Vocabulary:

lightning	hillaac-a
thong	dacas-ka
hammaer	burris-ka
flower	ubax-a
time	waqti-ga
tribe	qolo-da
thunder	onkod-ka
mortar	mooye-ha
leaf	caleen-ta
wind	dabayl-ta
dust	habaas-ka
person	qof-ka
people	dad-ka
dates	timir-ta
pestle	tib-ta
soil	ciid-da
wages	mushaar-ka
village	tuulo-da
dagger	toorrey-da
storm	duufaan-ka
heap	tuul, tuula
rise	kac, kaca
find	hel, hela

N.B. When a plural subject noun is indicated by the particle "baa" without the subject pronoun suffix then the verb will agree with the gender of the subject noun but will be in the singular.

e.g. Naagaha baa tegay
Wiilasha baa tegay. (taktay)

Exercises: Translate into Somali

1. The people cut the branches. The boys took the leaves.
2. The tribe entered the village. The men escaped. The women stayed.
3. The girls were working. They tied the flowers.
4. The old man gave some money. The girls took the wages.
5. Did you (pl.) see the storm? Yes, we heard the thunder. She saw the lightning. Now the rain has gone.
6. The wind brought the dust. Don't climb the hill now!
7. The woman used the mortar and pestle. (In this case use "iyo" for "and")
8. A person moved away. Did you wake the person? No, he got up/rose up.
9. The carpenter wants the wages. He fixed the house.
10. The man beat the woman. Did the woman shout? Yes, she shouted.
11. Did the children keep quiet? The children ran to the teacher.
12. The teacher called an old man. Don't(pl.) shut the doors.
13. The girl cooked the food. The children complained.
14. The father is beating the girl. Now he is throwing the food.
15. Did you find the thongs (flip-flops)? I found one.
16. Did God send the rain? Yes, God sent the rain.
17. The knife cut the fingers. The brothers took the knife.
18. Men are using the hammers. Did the women cut the flowers?
19. The tribe went to the village. The boys are taking care of the camels.
20. Did the children climb the fence? No, they climbed the trees.

Translate into English:

1. Qof baa suuqa tegay. Ogeysiis wuu arkay. Wuu dalbaday.
2. Odeyga baa wiil dilay. Jirka miyuu dilay. Maya, garbaha wuu dilay.
3. Dadka baa onkodka maqlay. Taambuugga way galeen.
4. Dabayshu waa kacday. Laa'eemaha waa dhacayaan.
5. Libaaxu dameerka buu qabsaday. Haddeer wuu cunayaa.
6. Lacagta, kiishka buu ku riday. Waa immisa? Waa siddeed shilin.
7. Dabayshu habaas bay keenaysaa.
8. Nimanka toosiya! Dabka eega! Baldiga mee? Webiga taga! Biyo keena.
9. Nimanka waa kaceen. Odayga usha wuu ku tiirsaday.
10. Walaallaha geel bay arkeen. Nimanka baa geela fuulay.
11. Orgiga libaax wuu arkay. Ariga wuu u orday. Wuu baxsaday.
12. Farasku webiga buu ka tallaabay. Xoolahu waa raacay.
13. Kaasi (kaasu) waa qalin. Miyaad isticmaasheen? Maya, ul waannu isticmaallay.
14. Lacagta halkan baan keenay. Qaybsada! Immisa lacag baad hesheen?

Irregular Plurals and More Numerals:

- A. Irregular Plurals As in English some words are always plural
e.g., trousers, scissors, etc. So in Somali. Some of these are

biyo-ha	water	caano-ha	milk	xoolo-ha	livestock
geedo-ha	herbage/plants	hablo-ha (col.)	girls		

"Timo-ha" hairs is the plural of tin-ta, a hair but you could not use the singular unless you were speaking of only one strand of hair.

Some other plurals are very irregular. e.g.,

faras-ka	fardo-ha	horse	il-ta	indho-ha	eye
askari-ga	askar-ta	soldier			

- B. High Numbers: Numbers in excess of 100 use the same method learned in lesson 7. e.g., boqolyo afaryo afartan 144. Note that 100 comes first followed by 4 then the 40. The conjunction - joining word -, "iyo" is often shortened to "-yo" when it is contracted into the numeral.

Remembering that numerals are nouns, if you want to say five hundred or five thousand follow the procedure you learned in lesson 7 thus:

Place the five before the hundred or the thousand. Shan boqol, shan kun. 483 is afar boqolyo saddexyo siddeetan.

3792 saddex kunyo toddoba boqolyo labyo sagaashan.

When a noun (numerals are nouns) is governed twice, the conjunction "oo" is used. e.g., 300,000 is a 1000 governed by 100 governed by 3
300,000 saddex boqol oo kun.

Follow the same principle with other nouns.

500 children	shan boqol oo ilmo
200,000 camels	laba boqol oo kun oo geel

Just a note to help you not to be confused with the two words translated as "and" viz "iyo" and "oo". "Iyo" is used for listing nouns whereas "oo" cannot be listed in that role but rather to add additional adjectives and sentences. You will learn more on this in a later lesson. To say 123 a Somali literally says "100 and 3 and 20".

Vocabulary:

lush green (grass)	doog-ga
eye	il-ta
sky	cir-ka
star	xiddig-ta
soldier/policeman	askari-ga
moon	dayax-a
month/moon	bil-ta
hair	tin-ta
sun	qorrax-da
forgive	saamax, saamaxaa
refuse	diid, diida
fly	duul, duula
deny falsely	inkir, inkira; dafir, dafira
gallop	hardaf, hardafa
pour in	ku shub, ku shuba
pour out	daadi, daadiya
accuse	ashtakee, ashtakeeya
carry on back	xambaar, xambaara
pass	dhaaf, dhaafa
descend	ka deg, ka dega
hope	rajee, rajeeya
teach	bar, bara
change	beddel, beddela
toast	dub, duba
obey/do	yeel, yeela
graze (int)	daaq, daaqa
fry	shiil, shiila
think	u malee, u maleeya
water	waraabi, waraabiya
fold	laab, laaba
break (int):	jab, jaba
slaughter	qal, qala
go	bax, baxa
pay/expel	bixi, bixiya
tear (int)	jeexan, jeexma
tear (tr.)	jeex, jeexa
bite	qaniin, qaniina
graze (tr.)	daaji, daajiya

Exercise: Translate into Somali

1. The girls descended the hill. They were carrying children.
2. The mother taught the child something. The child refused the milk.
3. The horses are galloping. They were grazing on dry grass.
4. Now, they are wanting the lush green grass. They refused the dry grass.
5. The woman accused the thief. He denied (falsely) it.
6. They poured the water into the cans. Then they poured the water out.
7. The brothers are watering the flock. They took them to the river.
8. Did the men go to the town? Yes, they are buying two hundred horses.
9. The girls are frying some meat. The brother slaughtered a goat.
10. The mother looked at the sky. She called to the boys. The boys obeyed the mother. They ran to (her).
11. The teacher bought some stock. The stock is grazing.
12. Do the boys water the camels? Yes, I think (so). In pres. continuous
13. The mother accused the woman. The woman denied (it).
The mother bit the ear. The woman forgave the mother.
14. A bird flew. The birds are flying. They flew to the tree.
15. Did the old man work? Yes, he worked. Did he take the money?
No, he refused the money.
16. The boy is pulling the hair. The girl fell down. She called the mother.
17. She saw the sun. They are looking at the moon. Do you see the stars?
18. The snake passed the soldiers. It entered the green grass.
19. Now, it is climbing the tree. Does a snake drink water?
20. You asked me (a question). Did I answer? Yes, you answered.
21. 2781, 300,945 300 children, 2000 bags.
22. One eye; two eyes; the eyes.

Translate into English

1. Laba boqol oo dibi waa daaqayaan. Geela baa halkaas jooga.
2. Immisa dibi baad araktaa? Shanyo afartan dibi baan arkaa.
3. Boqolyo shanyo kontonka meeyey? Halkaas miyey joogaan? Haah, waan u malaynayaa.
4. Gabdhaha marada way jeexeen. Markaas marada way laabeen.
5. Naagta gabadh bay xambaartay. Guriga bay gaynaysaa.
6. Wiil baa macallin dilay, macallinka baa wiilka bixiyey.
7. Wiilku geedka wuu fuulay. Laan waa jabtay. Wiilka baa dhacay.
8. Toddoba boqol oo ukun baan iibsaday. Miyaydin cunaysaan?
9. Immisa shilin baad heshay? Toddoba boqol oo kun!
10. Kaasu waa guriga. Qolka way galeen. Askarta u yeedha!

Syntax and More Plurals:

A. Syntax: Syntax deals with sentence construction and the rules pertaining to it. Already you have been doing syntax without realizing it. At this stage we are only dealing with some elementary rules.

1. Pronoun subjects with noun objects. e.g., They entered the shop. You would translate that: Dukaanka way galeen. When the object is defined, Somalis often suffix the pronoun subject on to the end of the article:

e.g., Dukaankay galeen. (dukaankay = dukaanka + way)
Hooyadu wiilkay u yeedhay. (wiilkay = wiilka + way)

- ii. Mostly Somalis shorten the first and second person plural pronouns to the singular form. The form of the verb betrays the number of the pronoun in such cases.

Waan tagtay = Waannu tagtay (Waynu tagtay)
Waad takteen = Waydin takteen

For your own benefit it is better to practice being precise until you are very familiar with it. This is mentioned here because of the regularity with which you will hear the shortened form.

B. More Plurals

- i. Feminine nouns ending in "o" are pluralized by adding "oyin" and reversing the gender.

e.g., Hooyo-da hooyooyin-ka
 magaalo-da magaaloooyin-ka

- ii. Masculine nouns ending in "i" or "e" are pluralized by adding "yaal", those ending in "ey" or "ay" just add the "aal".

e.g., aabbe-ha aabbeyaal-ta (ka)
 guri-ga guriyaal-ta (ka)
 oday-ga odayaal-ta (ka)

Generally they change gender but seem to be capable also of remaining masculine.

- iii. Words of Arabic origin which in the singular have two consonants together, often insert a vowel between the two consonants.

kursi-ga	kuraas-ta	markat-ka	marakiib-ta
sanduug-a	sanaadiiq-a	sargaal-ka	sarakiil-ta
maxbuus-ka	maxabuus-ta	taanbuug-ga	tamaabuug-ta
bunduq-a	banaadiiq-da		

Some of these words have a number of alternative plurals. Check them out for preferential use. You will notice that there is not uniformity in the changes made.

Vocabulary:

wife
scissors
ostrich
school
pitcher
winnowing tray
fox
chaff
officer
box
tent
head
kind/sort
coffee
fight/war
paternal uncle
maternal uncle
prison
ship
prisoner
gun
mare
brain
wooden dish
giraffe
iron

delay (tr)
place on

afo-da
manqas-ka
goroyo-da
dugsi-ga
aashuun-ka
masaf-ka
dawaco-da
buunshe-ha
sargaal-ka
sanduuq-a
taanbuug-ga
madax-a
jinsi-ga/cayn-ka
bun-ka
dagaal-ka
adeer-ka
abti-ga
xabbis-ka/xabsi-ga
markab-ka
maxbuus-ka
bunduq-a/buntukh-da
geenyo-da
maskax-da
xeero-da
geri-ga
kaawiyad-da

xayir, xayira
saar, saara

Exercises: Translate into English

1. Immisa shilin baad bixisay? Laba kun oo shilin baan bixiyey.
2. Maxabuusta waa baxsanayaan. Sarakiisha maxabuustay qabsanayaan.
3. Abtiga geenyaduu qabsaday. Haddeer geenyaduu fuulayaa.
4. Dawacooyinka webigay ordeen. Biyo miyay **cabbeen**? Maya, way sugayaan.
5. Shan boqol oo goroyo marakiibtay gelayaan. Sargaalka miyuu goroyooyinka iibsaday? Maya, qof buu u dirayaa.
6. Faduma miyey masafka keentay? Xeero waan doonayey.
7. Aashuunka halkan keen. Biyaha daadi, haddeer caano ku shub.
8. Bunka miiska saar. Bunka miisgaan saaray.
9. Odayaasha dugsigay bexeen. Macallimadday la tashanayaan.
10. Odayaasha ilmahay la hadlayaan. Ilmaha miyey maqleen?

Write the Somali plurals of the following nouns:

head, town, box, fox, scissors, brain, chair, wooden dish,
prison, prisoner sort, maternal uncle.

Translate into Somali

1. The rain fell. We were shouting. God sent the rain,
2. Put (pl.) the hammer in the box. I put (it) in. I shut the box.
3. The giraffes were eating the chaff. The wives drove the giraffes away.
4. The maternal uncle told the paternal uncle. He laughed.
5. Thorns pierce the shoes. The wives pull the thorns.
6. She sees the giraffe. He heard the fox. We use the scissors.
7. They open the box. You pushed the chairs. You (Pl.) use the scissors(pl)
8. The body, the hand, the fingers, the head, the legs, thumbs.
9. We accompanied the teachers. They showed me the books.
10. Did you (pl.) straighten the cloth? You (pl.) divided the money.
11. She uses the iron. I killed the bird. He carries the rope.
12. They placed the axe on the chair. Place (pl.) it on the box.
13. I asked the boys. They answered (to) me.
14. Did you see the lightning? Did she hear the thunder?
15. An officer entered the tent. He wants a lamp. Take (it) to him.
16. The rain delayed the soldiers. They were late.
17. A war broke out (got up). The soldiers are going.
18. The wind is taking the chaff. Bring the winnowing tray here.
19. Do you eat brain? No, I eat the kind here.
20. Pour some milk in the goat-skin. Take it to the old man.

Verb Infinitives and Negative Conjugations and Negative Noun Suffix

A. Infinitives: In English we identify the verbs by their infinitive form. e.g., to say, to eat, etc.

- i. Class I Verbs form their infinitives by simply adding "i" to the stem. e.g., sheeg; sheegi; maqal; maqli; tag; tegi; etc.
- ii. Class II and Class III Regular Verbs simply add "n" to the stem. iibso, iibsan, gee, gayn, bixi, bixin. Notice that the rules of euphony are applied to allow the adding of the "n".

B. Negative Conjugations:

1. The Negative Particle "ma" is widely used before the verb. When ambiguity is to be avoided the "ma" is followed by the subject. pronoun appropriate to the occasion. See examples below.
2. Past Indicative Negative: This is formed by placing the negative "ma" before the infinitive of the Class II and III verbs and, in the case of the Class I verbs "ma" is placed in front of the infinitive which has been rounded off with an "n".
e.g., ma aan tegin, ma aad tegin, etc. ma aan iibsan, ma aad iibsan.
ma aan gayn, ma aad gayn, etc. ma aan maqlin, ma aad maqlin.
3. Present Indicative Negative; The "ma" negative, with or without the pronoun subject is placed before the verb. The verb, where it ends in "aa" in the affirmative changes to "o" in the negative with the exception of the second person singular which normally prefers to end with "id". In the second and third persons plural the verb form is the same as in the affirmative.
ma tago, ma taktid, ma tago, ma tagno, ma tagno, ma taktaan.
ma tagaan, ma iibsado, ma iibsatid, etc.
4. Past Continuous Tense Negative: The past continuous negative suffix is "-aynin" and this is suffixed to the stem of the Class I Verbs and to the infinitive of the Class II and Class III Verbs. The form of the verb is invariable regardless of the number and person.
ma tegaynin, ma iibsanaynin, ma gaynaynin, ma maqlaynin.
5. Present Continuous Negative: This is formed by using the infinitive of the verb with the present continuous negative appendix.

tegi maayo
tegi maysid
tegi mayso
tegi maayo

tegi mayno
tegi mayno
tegi maysaan
tegi maayaan

Some Somalis prefer to make the negative by changing the "aa" endings of the affirmative present continuous to "o" and in the case of the 2nd singular "id". ma tegayo, ma tegaysid, ma tegayso, ma tegayo, etc.

- C. Negative Noun suffix: The negative noun suffix "-na" appended to an undefined noun accompanying a negative verb has the meaning "not any".

e.g., Ninna ma tegin. No man went
 Wiilna ma aan arkin I didn't see any boy.

Vocabulary: From this lesson on, your verbs in the vocabulary will be in three parts, viz. stem, infinitive and present indicative first person singular. e.g., tell sheeg, sheegi, sheegaa.

believe	rumee, rumayn, rumeeyaa	trust	aammin, aammini, aamminaa
understand	kas, kasi, kasaa	twist	marooji, maroojin, maroojiyaa
young men	dhallinyaro-da	story	sheeko-da
mouth/language	af-ka	year	sano-da/sannad-ka
tongue	carrab-ka	hour	saac-a
world	duni-da/adduun-ka	clock	saacad-da
voice	cod-ka	noise	shanqar-ta
telegram	taar-ka	middle	dhex-da
gift	hadiyad-da	tip	baqshiish-ka
vegetables	khudrad-da	scales	miisaan-ka
price	qiime-ha	holy book	kitaab-ka
stone house	sar-ta/daar-ta		

ADDITIONAL NOTE ON WORD ORDER In the negative, verbal particles "ku, u, ka" and "la" and the object pronoun "i" or "ii" stand before the negative particle "ma".

e.g., Ii ma aad sheegin. You didn't tell me.
 Wiilka lama aan hadlin I didn't speak to the boy.

Exercises: Translate into Somali

1. Do the young men believe the holy book? No, they don't believe.
2. They do not understand the holy book. They trust God.
3. Did she cut the vegetables? No, she didn't. She placed them on the scales.
4. You didn't tell me a story. Tell me a story now. No, I am not telling a story.
5. Do you want a gift? Yes, give me a gift. Take the gift. Don't tell any man.
6. I sent the telegram. I didn't bring a letter.
7. Did you hear a noise? No, we didn't hear a noise.
8. Did we pay the price? No, we didn't pay. We are paying the money today.
9. They inherited five she camels from the old man. They didn't buy them. (use odaygii).
10. The children shouted. The birds did not fly away.
11. The old men despise the tribe, they don't use soap.
12. Do they drink coffee? No, they don't drink coffee, they drink tea.
13. I didn't twist the leg. The leg broke.
14. The cup fell. Did it break? No, it didn't break.
15. The carpenter didn't build the stone house. He made the table.
16. The father forgave the boy. He didn't beat him.
17. Foxes don't eat grass, they eat meat. They don't drink milk.
18. The girl doesn't boil the water. She cooks the vegetables.
19. The boy descended from the tree. He isn't climbing it now.
20. Did the banana fall on the ground? No, it didn't fall on the ground.
21. Cali caught it. Then he ate it. Now he wants some bread.

Write the negative conjugations in the present indicative, present continuous, the past indicative and the past continuous of the following verbs: orod, iibso, rumee.

Translate into English

1. Odayga lacag buu doonayaa. Baqshiish miyaad siisay? Haah, shan shilin baan siiyey.
2. Sheeko baan u sheegay. Miyuu sheekada maqlay? Maya, ma maqlin, wuu baxay!
3. Ilaah dunida buu arkaa. Dadku ma ay aamminaan.
4. Af Soomaali miyaad kasaysaan? Maya, kasi mayno.
5. Khudradda miiska saar. Ukun miyaad iibsaday? Maya, ma iibsan.
6. Biyaha ma aan karin. Ilmaha waan ilaaliyey. Lacag ma aad siin.
7. Macallinku albaabka ma uu furo. Naagta baa furta.
8. Arigu toogga ma tegaynin. Webiga way tegayeen. Ma aan gaynaynin.
9. Qolada waannu u yeedhnay. Ma ay jawaabin. Way baxsadeen.

Emphatic Pronouns, Object Pronouns and Verbal Particle "u"

- A: Emphatic Pronouns: To emphasize a pronoun an alternative emphatic word can be used. In English we might say, "He himself went". In this case "himself" is the emphatic pronoun.

In Somali the emphatic word is actually a noun but it lends emphasis to a pronoun. Being nouns they can be defined with articles ending with "a" and "u".

I, me	anigu/aniga	we, us (excl.)	annagu/annaga
you (sing)	adigu/adiga	we, us (incl.)	inagu/inaga
she, her	iyedu/iyeda	you (pl.)	idinku/idinka
he, him	isagu/isaga	they, them	iyagu/iyaga

As these are really nouns they can be used as such.

- The subject can be followed by the verbal particle and verb
e.g., Aniga baa tiriya. Anigu waan tiriya. I count (them).
- The object can have the subject pronoun suffixed to it.
e.g., Isagaan arkay. I saw him. This is not necessarily emphatic but rather eliminating any ambiguity.

It is quite common in Somali to use the short form of this emphatic noun. The short form really is the undefined noun. When "baa" follows the short form then the vowel combines with the "baa" to become "aa".

e.g., ani + baa = anaa	anaa u sheegaya. I am going to tell it.
adi + baa = adaa	Check these out as some may not prefer
iye + baa = iyaa	these forms at all, others may only use
isa + baa = isaa	some of them.
anna + baa = annaa	
ina + baa = inaa	

- B. Object Pronouns: Under A. above you have already seen how the emphatic noun can be used to reveal the gender and number and person of an object. The object pronouns listed below act in some ways like verbal particles.

me i	us (incl.)	ina
you ku	us (excl.)	na
	you (pl.)	idin

Notice that they only exist in the first and second persons. Often in the third person the object is understood. Ninka baa dilay. The man beat (her)

It is important that you place the object pronoun in front of the verb.

C. Verbal Particle "u" In lesson 3 you were introduced to this verbal particle. It carries the concept of "for" or "towards": a person or animal.

e.g, tag go u tag go to (someone) u samee do it for (someone).
You learned then that "to/for me" was represented by "ii".

"ii" is derived from "i" and "u". Similarly:

ku + u = kuu	Wuu kuu yeedhay. He called you.
ina + u = inoo	Way inoo sheegtay. She told us (all of us)
na + u = noo	Waad noo samaysay You did (it) for us.
idin + u = idiin	Waan idiin jawaabay. I answered (to) you (pl.)

N.B. If you are emphasizing an object pronoun you cannot omit the simple object pronoun that stands near the verb. The emphatic noun is optional but the true object pronoun is indispensable.

D. Negatives and Object Pronouns: In the negative, verbal particles must be placed next to the verb. The "ma" negative particle must stand closer to the verb than the object pronoun.

e.g., Ku ma arkin. I did not see you. Iyaga u ma sheegin. I didn't tell
Ii ma aad keenaynin. You were not bringing it to me. him.

Vocabulary:

count
sell
return (trans.)
steal
run away
receive/accept
draw water for self
arouse
kick forwards
hurry
carry

tiri, tirin, tiriya
iibi, iibin, iibiyaa
celi, celin, celiyaa
xad, xadi, xadaa
carar, carari, cararaa
aqbal, aqbali, aqbalaa
dhaanso, dhaansan, dhaansadaa
kici, kicin, kiciyaa
laad, laadi, laadaa
degdeg, degdegi, degdegaa
sid, sidi, sidaa

mule
friend
bill
tomorrow
yesterday
day before yesterday
day after tomorrow
three days hence
this morning
servant
trade
jump

baqal-ta/ka
saaxiib-ka
xisaab-ta
berrito/berri
shalay/shalayto
dorraad-da/dorraato-da
saa dambe
saa kuun
saaka
midiidin-ka
baayacamustari-ga
bood, boodi, booda

Exercises: Translate into Somali:

1. Did you call me? No, I didn't call you. It was he I called.
(I called him)
2. They sent you (pl.) the box yesterday. Did you receive it?
3. We didnot receive it yesterday. We received it today.
4. Three women drew water. They didn't pour it out.
5. He carries wood. He doesn't carry meat. I carry meat.
6. She told him the story. He didn't tell her.
7. We told you (pl.). You didn't tell us.
8. I sold the book to him. They didn't sell it.
9. Did she return the purse? No, she didn't return it.
10. The traders stole the money. Did they run away? No, they stayed.
11. Does she pay the bill? No, she doesn't pay the bill.
12. The officers weren't crossing the river. They were lying down.
13. The boy didn't kick the ball. She kicked it!
14. Did you lean on the wall? Yes, I leaned on the wall.
15. They brought the sheep to us (incl.). She didn't bring a thing to us(inc)
16. Did we send you two letters? No, you didn't send us two letters. You sent us three letters. You sent her two letters.
17. Did you put on the clothes? Yes, we put on the clothes. We didn't put on the hats. They took the hats.
18. Did he marry her? No, he didn't marry her. Cali married her.
19. The children laugh. The young men jump. The old men talk.
20. I saw two eyes. He didn't see any man.

Translate into English:

1. Baqashu ma cunto khudradda. Shalayto way cuntay. Maanta dooni mayso.
2. Axmedow, degdeg! Waan ku sugayaa. Anigu ma kasin, haddeer waan imanayaa.
3. Naagi waa qaylisay. Dadkay toosisay. Dadku u ma tegin iyeda.
4. Biyaha miyaad ii keentay? Maya, ma keenin, Faduma ma ay dhaansan.
5. Tuugaggu lacag bay isaga u keeneen. Isagu ma aqbalin.
6. Askarigu waa hurdayey. Anigu waan kiciyey. Wuu kacay.
7. Qaalinka buu qaaday. Saakaa wuu celiyey.
8. Dorraadda geela baan tiriyeey. Saddex boqolyo labaatan oo geel baan tiriyeey.
9. Tuugaggu geel ma xadin. Laba orgi bay xadeen. Midiidinka baa ii sheegay.
10. Shaah buu cabbay. Hilibkaan cunay, xisaabta noo keen.

Adjectives:

Adjectives are words which describe nouns. As the Somali language is extremely versatile adjectives can be derived from verbs and coined from nouns with some assistance from a couple of verbs. For this lesson we shall concentrate on the radical adjectives and you will also be able to use some other adjectives that are derived from nouns and verbs.

Radical or true adjectives are root words themselves from which other parts of speech can be formed. In the vocabulary list only radical adjectives will be given to you besides some nouns.

1. Adjectives follow the nouns they qualify in Somali.

e.g., nin weyn a big man; ninka weyn the big man.

With plural nouns the ~~radical~~ adjectives duplicate their first syllable. The vocabulary list will show both the singular and plural of the radicals.

weyn, waaweyn. Nimanka waaweyn waa bexeen. The big men have gone.

- ii. Defining the subject noun qualified by an adjective. Although this isn't often necessary it is good to practice it early. To define the subject an "i" is suffixed to the adjective qualifying the noun subject.

e.g., Ninka weyni lacagtuu doonayaa. The big man wants the money.

- iii. Complementary use: In the sentence, "the book is red" the adjective is the complement, following the verb "to be". Already you have discovered that the verbal particles can act as the verb "to be".

e.g., Waa nabad. It is peace.

The verbal particle "baa" can fulfil this function with the adjectives.

e.g., Ninka baa weyn The man is big.
Dibiga baa shilis. The bull is fat.

Vocabulary:

careful
bad
black
fat
new/fresh
red
small
large
light
far
white
near
cold
hard
clever/good
heavy
hot
tall/deep
ripe/cooked
unripe

feeyig, feeyig
xun, xunxun
madow, madmadow
shilis, shishilis
cusub, cuscusub
cas, cascascas
yar, yaryar
weyn, waaweyn
fudud, fudfudud
fog, fogfog
cad, cadcad
dhow, dhowdhow
qabow, qabqabow
adag, adadag
fiican, fiicfiican
culus, culculus
kulul, kulkulul
dheer, dhaadheer
bisil, bisbisil
ceerin, ceerceeriin

morning
guest
fruit
night
evening
worker (collective)
afternoon
early down

subax-da
marti-da
miro-ha
habeen-ka
fiid-ka
shaqaale-ha
galab-ta
arooryo-da salaad-da

Vocabulary:

careful	feeyig, feeyig	
bad	xun, xunxun	
black	madow, madmadow	
fat	shilis, shishilis	
new/fresh	cusub, cuscusub	
red	cas, cascascas	
small	yar, yaryar	
large	weyn, waaweyn	
light	fudud, fudfudud	
far	fog, fogfog	
white	cad, cadcad	
near	dhow, dhowdhow	
cold	qabow, qabqabow	
hard	adag, adadag	
clever/good	fiican, fiicfiican	
heavy	culus, culculus	
hot	kulul, kulkulul	
tall/deep	dheer, dhaadheer	
ripe/cooked	bisil, bisbisil	
unripe	ceerin, ceerceeriin	
morning	subax-da	
guest	marti-da	
fruit	miro-ha	
night	habeen-ka	
evening	fiid-ka	
worker (collective)	shaqaale-ha	
afternoon	galab-ta	
early down	arooryo-da	salaad-da

Exercises: Translate into English

1. Alaabta baa culus. Anigu alaabta culus ma qaadin.
2. Naagta dheeri khudradda bisil way iibsaday.
3. Dibiga shilis baa cas. Ninka baa yar. Isagu ma shaqeeyo.
4. Ilmaha khudrad ceeriin way cuneen. Haddeer hunguriga dooni maayaan.
5. Kaawiyadda baa kulul. Haddeer isticmaal.
6. Waqtiga baa dhow. Haddeer buu baxayaa.
7. Wiilka weyni gabadha yar wuu dilay. Isaga baa xun.
8. Dibiga baa madow, Dibiga madhow baa cararaya.
9. Walaalka yari saaxiib buu keenayaa. Dadka hadiyad bay keenayaan.
10. Miiska adag waa jabay. Nijaarka fiican waa hagaajinayaa.

Translate into Somali:

1. I don't believe the young men, they told me a bad story.
2. The day is hot. The people are not running.
3. Pour (pl.) the milk into the big cup. Now pour (pl.) it out.
4. The tall girl is jumping. The small boy wasn't jumping.
5. The new teacher was counting the children. He is a clever teacher.
6. The careful servant cooked the fresh meat. The servant is tall.
7. The wood is hard. The clever carpenter is using it.
8. The big son kicked the red door. The mother didn't shout.
9. The heavy fruit is unripe. Don't (pl.) cook the ripe fruit.
10. The new axe is heavy. Use the little axe.
11. The prisoner is small; the officer is tall.
12. The tall officer caught the small prisoner. The officer imprisoned him.
13. The red fox took the bad meat. He didn't eat it.
14. Come in the evening. The day is hot. We talk in the evening.
15. The big white bird flew to the tree. (Where there is more than one adjective qualifying the same noun the adjectives are separated by the conjunction "ee")
16. The big fat billy goat didn't cross the river. He is grazing here.
17. The new heavy chair broke. The tall clever carpenter is fixing it.
18. The morning is cool, the afternoon is hot. I lie down in the evening.
19. The far town is small. The white guest went to the near village.
20. The worker lay down. It is hard work. Now he is getting up. He is working.

The Verb "To Be"

- i. Present Tense Affirmative: The verb "To Be" is one of the very irregular verbs in Somali. Hereunder follows the present tense conjugation:

waan ahay	waannu nahay
waad tahay	waynu nahay
way tahay	waydin tihiin
wuu yahay	way yihiin

Special note on the use of the verb "To Be":

Waan ahay	I am
waad tahay	You are, etc...

This is set out for the sake of learning. In practical use the verbal practical "baa" is usually used with the pronoun affixed.

e.g., Wiil wanaagsan buu yahay. He is a good boy.

Naag dheer bay tahay. She is a tall woman.

In these examples "taa" emphasizes what you want to say the person or thing is. i.e., wiil wanaagsan, naag dheer.

- ii. Use of the verb "to be" with adjectives: In the previous lesson you learned the complementary use of the adjective with "baa" after a noun. If "baa" carries a subject pronoun or when you are using the particle "waa" with a complementary adjective the verb "to be" in the appropriate form follows the adjective.

e.g., Way kulushahay	She/it is hot.
Tuugag bay yihiin	They are thieves.
Ilamaha waa badan yihiin	The children are many
Waynu ladannahay	We are well.

- iii. Weeye, Weeyaan: Another useful equivalent of the verb "to be" in the Somali is the word weeye/weeyaan. These seem to be used as singular and plural respectively at times and sometimes as exact equivalents.

Ma nabad baa?
Ma nabad baa?
Lacag miyaad keentay?

Lacag miyaad tirisay?

Nabad weeye.
Waa nabad.
Haah, waan tan.
Haah, tan weeye.
Haah, waa labaatan shilin.
Haah, labaatan shilin weeye.

Weeye/Weeyaan: Contd.

Notice that "waa" in these cases comes first while weeye/weeyaan follow the word being emphasized.

Vocabulary:

tired	daalan	boiled	karsan	each	kasta
absent	maqan	an/other	kale	many/much	badan
open	furan	every	walba	wide	balaaran
good	wanaagsan	well	ladan	fat	buuran
empty	madhan	dry	engegan	broken	jaban
lost	lunsan	shut	xidhan	clean	sifaysan
written	qoran	cooked	bislaysan	middle	dhexe
loving	jecel	upper	sare/kore	front	hore
lower	hoose	next/last	dambe	hating	neceb
clean	sifee, sifayn, sifeeyaa				
lose	lumi, lumin, lumiyaa				
be lost	lun, lumi, lumaa				
rule over	xukun, xukumi, xukumaa				
student	arday-ga, ardo-da				

Weeye/Weeyaan: Contd.

Notice that "waa" in these cases comes first while weeye/weeyaan follow the word being emphasized.

Vocabulary:

tired	daalan	boiled	karsan
-------	--------	--------	--------

Exercises: Translate into Somali:

1. The meat is cooked. The tall old man is absent. Is he lost?
2. The top box is empty. The next box is heavy.
3. The thief is tied. Did you tie him? No, I didn't tie him.
4. She eats dried fruit. The donkey likes unripe fruit.
5. The river is broad. The tall old man crossed the broad river,
6. The goods are clean. Did the servant put the new soap in?
7. The traders refused the first bull. They wanted the next bull.
8. Is the student absent? Yes, he is absent.
9. Today the student is well. He went to the school. He didn't stay in the house.
10. The white horse is fat; it hates the big donkey.
11. The light hammer is near. Send me the heavy hammer. This is heavy.
12. It is red! Did you want something red? No, I don't want a red one.
13. The sun is red, the moon is white. She is clever. They are many.
14. Each man is a good worker. The work is hard.
15. The children refused the raw meat. They want cooked meat.
16. The evil thieves entered the open door. They took many goods.
17. The new officer counted the prisoners. One prisoner is absent.
18. Call the chief officer! The officers are going to catch the absent prisoners.
19. The prisoner escaped yesterday. The soldiers caught him. They returned him.
20. The small boy refused the large bucket. The bucket is heavy.
21. The middle seat is broken. The other chairs are strong (hard).
22. The letter is written. Did they send it to us? No, we are sending it to them.
23. The guest hates cooked vegetables. He loves fresh fruit.
24. The fat worker went to you. He works everyday.
25. You showed me the clean floor. Is the bucket clean?

Translate into English

1. Sheekada waan maqlay. Sheekada waan jeclahay. Miyey qorantahay?
2. Guriga furan wuu galay. Qolka waa madhanyahay. Qol kale wuu eegayaa.
3. Fadumoy! dhulka sifee. Miyaad sifaysay? Haah, dhulka waa sifaysanyahay.
4. Aqalka jaban nijaarka baa hagaajinaya. Duufaanka miyuu jebiyey?
5. Alaabta hoose waa adagtahay. Alaabta kale waa fududdahay.
6. Dorraadda laba gabdhood lax yar bay iibiyeen. Saakaa askari iyaguu doonayaa.
7. Dorraadda lax baa luntay. Laxda lunsan ninna ma arkin.
8. Labada gabdhood askariga bay arkeen. Way carareen. Laxda miyey celinayaa? U malayn maayo; qof baa iibsaday; lacag buu bixiyey.
9. Buug yar miyaad doonaysaan? Buugga dhexe qaad. Saa kuun celi.
10. Geedka weyn ee dheer ilmaha yaryar bay fulayeen.

Verb "To Be" Present Tense Negative, Conjunction "oo" and "ee"A. Present Tense Negative of Verb "To Be"

ma ihi (mi ihi)
 ma ihid (ma ahid)
 ma aha
 ma aha

ma ihin (ma ahin)
 ma ihin (ma ahin)
 ma ihidin (ma ahidin)
 ma aha

e.g., Askari mi ihi
 Nin xun ma ahid

I am not a soldier
 You are not a bad man.

Complementary Negative adjectives:

You will notice from the above conjugation that, excepting for changes made for the sake of euphony that each part of the verb begins with "ah". What follows is the negative suffix appropriate to the subject. With negative complementary adjectives the suffix of the negative verb "to be" is suffixed to the adjective.

e.g., Ninka ma weyna.
 Ma gaajaysani.

The man is not big.
 I am not hungry.

Several of the adjectives that end in "-an" will eject the "a" before appending the suffix as all of these negative suffixes begin with a vowel.

e.g., Ma buurnid
 Iyagu ma ladna.

You are not fat.
 They are not well.

ma wanaagsani
 ma wanaagsanid
 ma wanaagsana

(I am not good, etc)

ma wanaagsanin
 ma wanaagsanidin
 ma wanaagsana

B. Conjunction "oo" and "ee"

Where more than one adjective qualifies the same noun a conjunction (joining word) is used. If the noun is not defined then the conjunction "oo" is used between the adjectives.

e.g., Nin buuran oo culus.
 Miis weyn oo cad.

A heavy fat man.
 A big white table.

If the noun is defined then the additional adjectives after the first one are joined by the conjunction "ee"

e.g., Ninka weyn ee wanaagsan
 Faraska madow ee rabbaysan.

The good big man
 The tame black horse.

Vocabulary:

forgiven	cafiyan	angry	xanaaqasan	hungry	gaajaysan
sweet	macaan	wet	qoyan	tame	rabbaysan
round	wareegsan	soft	jilicsan	satiated	dheregsan
slender	anuuban	ready	diyaarsan	naked	qaawan
needy	u baahan	enough	ku filan		
wash	maydh, maydhi, maydhaa				
wash clothes	qasaal, qasaali, qasaalaa		cow	a certain person	sac-a hebel-ka
tonight	caawa		readiness		diyaar-ka

Exercises: Translate into Somali

1. The shut door isn't broken. It isn't good. The small door is good.
2. The calf is tame. The cow isn't tame. She will run away.
3. The hair is soft; it isn't long.
4. The meat is sufficient. Are you satisfied? No, I am not satisfied. I'm hungry.
5. The tea isn't sweet. The hands aren't clean. Wash the hands.
6. The fat man ate the long white bread. The bread isn't fresh.
7. The cloth is wet; it isn't dry. Place the cloth on the table. Spread it.
8. Are you(pl.) ready? Yes, we are ready. He is not ready.
9. The little children are naked. They are washing the new clothes.
10. Did a certain man marry the girl? No, no man married the girl.
11. The black goats are not tame. They are big fat goats.
12. Does she milk the white nanny goat? No, she doesn't milk it.
13. She milks the black nanny goat. The white nanny goat isn't tame.
14. Yesterday the children didn't go to school. The teacher is angry.
15. The students are not forgiven. The teacher is calling the old
16. Look (pl.) at the stars. Do you (pl.) see the three calves.
17. Did you clean the house? Yes, the house is clean now.
18. Is the floor wet? No, it isn't wet; it is dry.
19. The table is round. Is the red table round? It isn't round.
20. Do you like black bread? No, I don't like black bread.

Exercises: Contd. Translate into English

1. Cabdiyow! ma lunsantahay? Maya, ma lunsani; halkan baan joogaa.
2. Usha dheer ee dhuuban miyaad doonaysaa? Maya, ul kale waan helay.
3. Dharka cusub ma qasaasheen? Haah, waannu qasaalnay.
4. Dharku ma engegan yahay? Maya, ma engegna. Miyaan laabayaa?
5. Cunto waan u baahanahay. Hilib ii keen. Shaahi ma diyaarsan yahay?
6. Shaah baa diyaar. Wax kale miyaan kuu keenaa? Maya, waan dheregsanahay.
7. Yarow, sonkor keen! Shaahi ma macaana. Waa ku filantahay.
8. Marada jilicsan ee wareegsan ma doonayso. Maro kale bay doonaysaa.
9. Fardaha miyey dhaadheer yihiin? Fardo dhaadheer ma aha. Waa yaryar yihiin.
10. Ardayga ma feeyiga. Isagu ma jecla shuqul. Shuqul wuu neceb yahay.
11. Nin dhuuban ma ahid. Waad dheer tahay. Walaasha waa yar tahay; ma dheera.
12. Wiil kasta oo maqan waan diray. Wiilal ladan ma aha.

Write out the affirmative and negative conjugations of the verb "to be".

Demonstrative Adjectives, Adverbs

A. Demonstrative Adjectives: The demonstrative adjectives in English are: This ____, that ____, these ____, those ____. In Somali these adjectives are in the form of suffixes that are appended to the respective nouns

- i. e.g., -an is the adjective suffix meaning "this/these", depending on the number of the noun.

ninkan this man; nimankan these men

- ii. The adjective suffix for "that/those" varies between the following "-aa", "aas", "eer" and "-oo". The most common would be "-aas" with "-aa" running a close second.

naagtaas	that woman	wiilalkaas	those boys
miiskaa	that table	ninkeer	that man

- iii. Use with the numerals. When using a demonstrative with a numeral to qualify a noun the demonstrative is appended to the numeral.

e.g.,	labadaas nin	those two men
	tobankan shilin	these ten shillings
	saddexdaa geed	those three trees

Notice that the noun being qualified does not change, except of course when a feminine noun in the plural adopts the suffix "ood" or "-aad".

B. Adverb: Adverbs are words that modify the meaning of verbs. Adverb meanings are derived by a number of means in Somali. In this lesson we shall only deal with two true adverbs.

True adverbs stand immediately before the verb and no other verbal particle can stand closer to the verb.

sii conveys the meaning "continue to ____" or "away in direction".
soo has the meaning "this way", or go and ____ with the idea of returning.

sii hadal	keep speaking.continue speaking
sii raac	continue to accompany

soo raac	come this way to accompany/follow
soo eeg	go look (and return here)

C. Word Order: You are now accumulating a number of particles and it could be confusing as to their order when a number of them come together. Here is the order of the particles, etc, you have learned so far:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Verbal particle "waa/baa" | 2. Subject Pronoun |
| 3. Verbal particle "u" | 4. Negative particle "ma" |
| 5. Adverb particle "sii/soo" | 6. Verb. |

Affirmative: Ninka alaabta bay u soo celisay. She returned the stuff to the man.

Negative: Ninka alaabta uma ay soo celin. She didn't return the stuff to the man.

You will notice in the negative that the subject pronoun follows the "ma" negative. You may wish to insert in the word order a note to the effect that the optional negative subject pronoun follows the negative "ma".

Vocabulary:

midwife	ummuliso-da
medicine	dawo-da
menfolk	rag-ga
message	farriin-ta
market	suuq-a
womenfolk	dumar-ka
meeting	shir-ka
cattle	lo'-da
happy	faraxsan
straight	hagaagsan
alternate	dhaaf
same in size	le'eg
tangled	murugsan
hidden	qarsoon
crooked	qalloocan
brown/reddish	guduudan
full	buuxsan
giddy	wareersan
short	gaaban
like/alike	u eg
alive/living	nool
clear/plain	cad
sad	qulubsan
cracked	dillacsan
beautiful	quruxsan
wander	wareeg, wareegi, wareegaa
repeat/return (trans)	soo celi, soo celin, soo celiyaa
scrape/scratch	xoq, xoqi, xoqa
fall (of rain)	da', di'i, da'aa

Exercises: Translate into Somali

1. Those two persons are the same. They are brothers.
2. Faduma, where is Asli? She went to a far place. She is not here.
3. Where are the old men? They are at the meeting. The young men are present.
4. The cattle were roaming in the market. The cattle were many.
5. Is the teacher continuing to teach in the evening? Go and see.
6. We are not ready. They were waiting for us. We were late.
7. A teacher taught you. Now you are a teacher.
8. She is a clever girl. That girl isn't clever. This girl is beautiful.
9. A boy is running to the midwife. He is giving her a message.
10. The good midwife is taking the goods. The woman is shouting.
11. Now she is drinking some good red medicine. She is sleeping.
12. The little boy is naked. The midwife is washing him.
13. Now the woman isn't shouting; she is happy.
14. The thieves ran that way. The short fat one wore a red hat.
15. Did he go to the market? No, he didn't go anywhere.
16. You are not well. Buy some medicine. Lie down.
17. The womenfolk are writing. The clothes are not ready. Come tonight.
18. I am not ready. I am needing the black shoes. Go and Clean them for me.
19. That hair isn't beautiful. It is soft; it is wet; we don't like soft hair.
20. This table is not round. That white table is round.

Translate into English

1. Idinku geela lunsan waad soo hesheen. Miyaydin noo keenteen?
2. Caawa dharka cusub way qasaalayaan. Dharkan kale ragga waan siinayaa.
3. Hilib sii cun. Maya, waan dheregsanahay.
4. Shaahan madow ma macaana. Annagu ma jeclin.
5. Xariggaas murugsan ma wanaagsana. Mid kale oo cusub keen.
6. Usha qalloocan isticmaali mayno. Ul hagaagsan waan u baahan nahay.
7. Farriintan Moxamed u gee. Dad kale ha la hadlin. Soo degdeg.
8. Sanduuqa qarsoon way doonayaan. Ma ay helin. Way qulubsan yihiin.
9. Tuugga laba nin buu dilay. Midka nool waa baxsaday.
10. Roob badan baa da'ay. Ha gelin!
11. Soo celi. Kabahan waa engegan yihiin; ma ay qoyaana.
12. Maalin walba uma baahani. Maalin dhaaf ii keen.

Exercises: Translate into Somali

1. Those two persons are the same. They are brothers.
2. Faduma, where is Asli? She went to a far place. She is not here.
3. Where are the old men? They are at the meeting. The young men are present.
4. The cattle were roaming in the market. The cattle were many.
5. Is the teacher continuing to teach in the evening? Go and see.
6. We are not ready. They were waiting for us. We were late.
7. A teacher taught you. Now you are a teacher.
8. She is a clever girl. That girl isn't clever. This girl is beautiful.
9. A boy is running to the midwife. He is giving her a message.
10. The good midwife is taking the goods. The woman is shouting.
11. Now she is drinking some good red medicine. She is sleeping.
12. The little boy is naked. The midwife is washing him.
13. Now the woman isn't shouting; she is happy.
14. The thieves ran that way. The short fat one wore a red hat.
15. Did he go to the market? No, he didn't go anywhere.
16. You are not well. Buy some medicine. Lie down.
17. The womenfolk are writing. The clothes are not ready. Come tonight.
18. I am not ready. I am needing the black shoes. Go and Clean them for me.
19. That hair isn't beautiful. It is soft; it is wet; we don't like soft hair.
20. This table is not round. That white table is round.

Translate into English

1. Idinku geela lunsan waad soo hesheen. Miyaydin noo keenteen?
2. Caawa dharka cusub way qasaalayaan. Dharkan kale ragga waan siinayaa.
3. Hilib sii cun. Maya, waan dheregsanahay.
4. Shaahan madow ma macaana. Annagu ma jeclin.
5. Xariggaas murugsan ma wanaagsana. Mid kale oo cusub keen.
6. Usha qalloocan isticmaali mayno. Ul hagaagsan waan u baahan nahay.
7. Farriintan Moxamed u gee. Dad kale ha la hadlin. Soo degdeg.
8. Sanduuqa qarsoon way doonayaan. Ma ay helin. Way qulubsan yihiin.
9. Tuugga laba nin buu dilay. Midka nool waa baxsaday.
10. Roob badan baa da'ay. Ha gelin!
11. Soo celi. Kabahan waa engegan yihiin; ma ay qoyaana.
12. Maalin walba uma baahani. Maalin dhaaf ii keen.

Interrogatives Who? and Whom?

A. Who? The simplest way of asking "Who.....?" is to use the interrogative "yaa" with the masculine verb.

e.g., Yaa(ayaa) jooga? Who is present?

Note how "yaa" has the same effect on the present tense verb as "baa"

Yaa albaabka furay?	Who opened the door?
Yaa wanaagsan?	Who is good?
Yaa weeye?	Who is it?

- i. Another interrogative for "who", having articles of both genders is "kuma/tuma". The articles are prefixed to the interrogative "ma". These interrogatives are followed by the particle "baa" which can be contracted with the interrogative thus:

kuma + baa = kumaa? tuma + baa = tumaa?

Kuma baa Cali arkay = Kumaa Cali arkay? = Cali kumaa arkay?

Who saw Ali?

Tuma baa Jaamac la hadashay? = Tuma jaamac la hadashay?

Who spoke to Jama?

(In this case it is assumed the person is feminine gender.)

- ii. "Waa" can be used with an interrogative but it can only precede it.

Waa tumaa?	Who is it?	(expecting the person to be feminine)
Waa kumaa?	Who is it?	(not necessarily expecting the person to be masculine.)

Another alternative is to use "waa" with the interrogative "ayo"

e.g., Waa ayo? Who is it?

- B. Whom? Whom is used when the question is asked about the person who is the object of the verb. e.g., Whom did you see? Yaad araktay?

In Somali a "Whom" question is asked by using one of the interrogatives, "kuma", "tuma", or "yaa", followed by "baa", then suffix the subject pronoun.

e.g., Kumay u shaqaynayeen?	For whom were they working?
Yaad alaabta siisay?	To whom did you give the goods?

It is possible for the noun subject to follow its pronoun in this kind of sentence as ambiguity is so minimal.

e.g., Kumay gabadhu keentay? = Gabadhu kumay keentay?

Vocabulary:

key	fure-ha
monkey	daayeer-ka
right	midig-ta
female	dheddig-ga
priest	wadaad-ka
fish	malay-ga/kalluun-ka
judge	xaakin-ka
elephant	maroodi-ga
clerk	karraani-ga
left	bidix-da
court	maxkamad-da
reward	abaalmarin-ta
burden camel	rati-ga
male	lab-ka
doctor	dhakhtar-ka
fine	ganaax-a
male camel	awr-ka
rough	qallafsan
spread	fidsan
dressed in	ku huwan
exist	jir, jiri, jiraa
be in	ku jir, ku jiri, ku jiraa
condemn	xukum, xukumi, xukumaa
fine	ganaax, ganaaxi, ganaaxaa
still/yet	weli
not yet	weli ma (with the negative verb)

Exercises: Translate into English

1. Aashuunkan dillacsan yaa keenay? Ma buuxsan yahay? Maya, ma buuxsana.
2. Maska guduudan miyuu weli nool yahay? Ma noola.
3. Midigta u eeg. Waddada ka tallaab. Kalluun soo iibi.
4. Wadaadka yar maxkamadda yaa geeyey? Cali baa geeyey; wuu ashtakeeyey.
5. Qorigan waa qallafsan yahay; ma wanaagsana. Dooni maayo.
6. Karraniga warqad wuu qorayaa. Warqaddaas waan u baahanahay.
7. Wadaadku yuu la hadlayey saakaa? Xaakinka buu la hadlayey.
8. Waa qulubsan yahay; xaakinkaa isaguu ganaaxay. Ma xanaaqsana.
9. Gurigaas kumaa jooga? Qofna ma joogo. Way bexeen.
10. Ninkaas xun kumuu dilay? Weli ma nool yahay?

Translate into Somali

1. The elephants entered the village. They broke many houses.
2. The people ran away. One man fell. Did the doctor see him? Yes, he saw him.
3. Who called the doctor? Whom did he send to the doctor?
4. Who brought this water? It is not cold. I want cold water.
5. For whom did you buy the monkey? I bought it for the little boy.
6. Whom is she working for? She is working for us.
7. To whom are we going? We are going to the old man. Who is he?
8. Who milks the goats? The womenfolk milk the goats. Menfolk milk the camels.
9. To whom did you give the heavy boxes? I gave them to the young men.
10. This man works alternate nights. Who works the other nights?
11. Who is absent today? Moxamed is absent. Asli is absent. Cali is present.
12. Who is lost? No one is lost. The children are in that room.
13. To whom are you writing the letter? I am writing it to a friend
14. Whom do you like? Do you like this man? Do you like that man?
15. Were you(pl.) in the meeting? Whom were you listening to?
16. To whom are those two hundred men going? They are not going to anyone.
17. Today they are going to the river. They are going to pray.
18. Are they carrying the mats? No, they sent the mats this morning.
19. The evil men asked the priest something. The priest condemned them.
20. Are they angry? I don't know? I didn't see them. Who knows?

Adverbs

- A. In lesson 19 you were briefly introduced to adverbs, viz., "true adverbs". You learned ~~that~~ ~~adverbs~~ are words or particles that give ~~more~~ meaning to a verb.

e.g., He talked quickly. Look over there. Come here.
The words, "Quickly, over there, and here" are all adverbs.

1. Some Somali adverbs are words that in their own right are adverbs and can stand alone normally at the beginning of a sentence.

e.g., marmar sometimes Marmar wuu shaqeeya. He sometimes works
imminka now Imminka wuu imahayaa. Now he is coming.

2. Some words are used in responses:
Hawrarsan, haye, waa tahay, Alright.

"haye" can also be used as a grunt indicating that you are following what is being said.

- B. Nouns are used extensively in Somali for adverb meanings:

i. Defined Nouns

dhex-da	the middle	gees-ta	side	dul-ta	above
hor-ta	the front (firstly)	bannaan-ka	outside	dibad-da	outside
kor-ka	above	hareero-ha	around		

ii. Nouns qualified by a demonstrative adjective:

halkan	here	halkaas	there	meeshas	there
markaas/kolkaas/goortaa			then	haddeer	now, at once
meeshan	here	markan/goortan/kolkan			this time

iii. Nouns defined or undefined, qualified by an adjective:

mar kale	again	mar dambe	next time
meel dhow	near	meel walba	everywhere
meel fog	far	mar walba	everytime
markii hore	previously	berigii hore	formerly
marka/markii dambe		the next time	
meel uun		somewhere	
marar badan		often	

All of these seem to prefer a position at the beginning of the sentences especially in the type of sentences you have learned so far.

Vocabulary:

	honey	malab-ka	
change	sarrif-ka	time/opportunity	kol-ka/mar-ka/goor-ta
middle	dhex-da	wall	derbi-ga
outside	dibad-da	front	hor-ta
top	kor-ka	side	gees-ta
plain	bannaan-ka	poor person	miskiin-ka
top	dul-ta	direction	hareer-ta
edible grain	badar-ka	fan	babbis-ka
bone	laf-ta	joke	kaftan-ka
canal	keli-ga	hoe	yaanbo-da
short	gaaban	sick	jirran
condemn	xukuma		
stampede		yaac, yaaci, yaacaa	
make a mistake		gaf, gefi, gafaa	
dig/cultivate		fal, fali, falaa	
sow		beer, beeri, beeraa	
apply (as a paste)		mari, marin, mariyaa	
knock		garaac, garaaci, garaacaa	

Exercises: Translate into Somali:

1. The white children went outside. Today is hot. The children are red.
2. They are not sick. The mother is applying the medicine.
3. This short man saw the new fans. Now he is picking it up.
4. The livestock saw the lion then they stampeded.
5. Those clerks made a mistake. Who counted the change?
6. The trader is angry. He is paying a reward.
7. The priest is talking to the fat women. They are digging the garden.
8. Who sowed the plants? For whom did he sow them?
9. The girls climbed the wall. One girl fell. The arm is broken.
10. The mother led her to a doctor. The doctor is straightening the bone.
11. They told us a joke. We didn't laugh.
12. Who is making the canal? Ali is making it. For whom is he doing it?
13. Did you knock on the door? Yes, no one answered.
14. Faduma washed the hair. The hair is soft.
15. The fresh fruit is not clean. The wet fruit is sweet.
16. The short old man isn't absent. He was waiting here. (use "ku sug").
17. The husband accused the wife. The judge gave judgement. She is condemned.
18. The poor people wait here every morning. We give them some grain.
19. Who is watering the garden? Mohamed is watering it. Ali is sick today.
20. For whom are you taking the honey? I bought this honey. It is sweet. I like honey. Put some honey in the tea.

Translate into English

1. Maalmahan waa kulul yihiin. Haa, marmar ma kulul.
2. Dhallinyaradu qoladaas way neceb yihiin. Yay la tashadeen?
3. Yaa geela tiriyeey? Immisa baa jira? Saddex boqol iyo toddoba iyo soddon baa jira.
4. Saakaa waad gaftay. Albaabkaas waad garaacday. Qolkaas qofna ku ma jiro.
5. Yaa jirran? Anaa jirran. Halkan jiifso. Waad ladantahay haddeer.
6. Wiilasha waa murmayaan. Mid baa midka kale qandhsaday.
7. Wiilka yari wiilka kale buu cafiyey. Imminka way faraxsan yihiin.
8. Warqadda yaad u dirtay? Miyuu kuu jawaabay? Warqadda miyaad kastay?
9. Faduma dhar cusub bay ku huwan tahay. Maro cas ku ma huwana.
10. Sonkorta waa dhacday. Way fidsan tahay. Xaaqinka Asli baa keenaysa.

Past Tense Negative and Affirmative of Verb "to be"A. Past Tense Affirmative:

Waan ahaa	waynu ahayn
waad ahayd	waannu ahayn
way ahayd	waydin ahaydeen
wuu ahaa	way ahaayeen

- B. Past Negative: Ma ahayn (ma ahaan) this is not conjugated. However, to avoid ambiguity the subject pronoun can be placed after negative "ma".
 e.g., ma-aan ahayn. I was not; ma ay ahayn. She was not etc.

- C. Complementary Use: Earlier you learned that for using adjectives in the complementary construction the verb "to be" was appended to the adjective that followed the verbal particle. In the past tense the verb "to be" only appends the part which follows "ah" in the conjugation.

e.g., waan gaabnaa	I was short
waad wanaagsanayd	you were good
way dhaadheeraayeen	they were tall

Similarly in the negative:

ma uu buurnayn	he wasn't corpulent
ma ay quruxsanayn	she wasn't beautiful

Note: You will have cause to notice that the verb "to be" often will yield a part when used in various ways. The division is always between the "ah-" and the endings "-aa", "ayd", "-ayn" "-a", etc.

Vocabulary:

shield	gaashaan-ka	dagger	billaawe-ha
shelter	waab-ka	handle/haft	daab-ka
debt	deyn-ta	spear	waran-ka
witness	markhaati-ga	picture	taswiir-ta
pain	xanuun-ka	face	weji-ga
number	tiro-da	nail	musmaar-ka
crow	tuke-ha	kidney	kelli-da
liver	beer-ka		
nose	san-ka	weapons	hub-ka
strength	xoog-ga	country	waddan-ka/dal-ka
painful	xanuunsan	swollen	bararsan
wrapped	duuban	folded	laaban
cause pain	xanuuji, xanuujin, xanuujiyaa		
torment	caddib, caddibi, caddibaa		
fight	dagaallan, dagaallami, dagaallamaa		
pain, be in	xanuunso, xanuunsan, xanuunsadaa		
hurt (trans.)	xanuun, xanuuni, xanuunaa		
fight with	la dagaallan, etc.		

Exercises: Translate into Somali:

1. She was a clever girl. She wasn't beautiful. Asli is pretty.
2. I fell. The leg is hurting. I am a man in pain.
3. Don't pull the door. push it, then enter.
4. That language is difficult. This language wasn't hard.
5. They issued an announcement. The lost boy is still alive.
6. This shleter was small. It wasn't broad. It is sufficient.
7. What is that number? That number is eleven.
8. This witness is a good man. He paid the money. Now the prisoner is free.
9. Those black crows are not healthy. They are thin.
10. The purse wasn't lost. She put it in another place. Now she is holding it.
11. That liver is not good. The bull was not well. Put it outside.
12. Did they go to the war? For whom are they fighting?
13. The enemy caught the soldier. The tormented him.
14. Who lost the weapons? This is a spear. Here is a shield.
15. This country is dry. No rain has fallen. We are praying to God.
16. The arm is swollen. The bone is broken. It is painful. It is hurting me.
17. The cloth wasn't folded. Now Asli is bringing the iron.
18. The cattle graze there. A horse has escaped. It is galloping.
19. Whom is Mohamed carrying on the back? The little brother is in pain.
20. Thieves entered the house. The door wasn't shut. The house was empty.

Translate into English

1. Furahan ma jabna. Waa qalloocanaa. Waan hagaajiyey. Haddeer waa hagaagsan yahay. Eeg waan isticmaalayaa. Albaabka waa furanyahay.
2. Yaa ku sugaya? Waa saaxiibka gaaban. Isagu ma deera.
3. Hilibkaas ma badna. Ku ma filla dad badan. Hilib kale soo bislee.
4. Cali miyuu geela ceelka gaynayaa? U malayn maayo. Isaga baa maqan.
5. Gabadhu sibraarkay qaadaysaa. Biyuhu waa macan yihiin
6. Gabadhaas miyey dhaansatay? Maya, biyahaas ma macaana.
7. Ilmaha waa boodayaan; way faraxsan yihiin; hooyada wax macaan way iibsatay.
8. Odayga waa jirran yahay. Wuu dardaarmay.
9. Lo'da magaaladay geleen; way wareegayeen. Wiilasha baa heshay.
10. Masakiinta qaawan dadku dhar bay siiyeen. Cunto way cuneen. Haddeer way dheregsan yihiin. Ma gaajaysna haddeer.

Possessive Adjectives and Conjunctions "Laakiin", "-se" and "-na"

Possessive Adjectives: are simply suffixed to the articles of their respective nouns. As the nouns are of two genders the ending of the possessive must correspond.

A. i. Masculine

Feminine

my	-ayga	our(excl.)	-ayaga	my	-ayda	our (excl.)	-ayada
your	-aaga	our(incl.)	-eenna	your	-aada	our(incl.)	-eenna
her	-eeda	your(pl.)	-iinna	her	-eeda	your(pl.)	-iinna
his	-iisa	their	-ooda	his	-iisa	their	-ooda

buugayga = my book

sariirtiisa = his bed.

ii. An irregularity occurs with these possessives when they qualify the names of blood relatives.

eg., aabbahay, aabbaha, aabbaheed, aabbahiis.
aabbahayo, aabbaaheen, aabbahiin, aabbahood

Notice that the last syllable is dropped. Beware that the number of the noun does not get confused with the number of the possessor.

ilmooyinkiisa	his children	ilmahooda	their children
or ilmahiisa		or cunuggooda	

iii. Possessive on Numerals: Numerals can have possessives suffixed to them as they are nouns also.

labadayda my two afartooda their four.

When you are speaking of a noun which is possessed and also qualified by a numeral, then the numeral is the noun that carries the suffix of possession.

saddexdayda buug
tobankiinna ilmo

my three books
your ten children

B. Conjunctions: Conjunctions are joining words used for joining sentences, phrases and words of different parts of speech. Just for now you will be introduced to the conjunctions that are used for joining sentences and are translated to mean "and" and "but".

There are two words meaning "but" viz. laakiin and the post-positive "-se".
There are also two words meaning "and" viz. "oo" and the post-positive "-na".
In each case the first word stands between the two sentences:

Albaabka buu furay oo galay.

He opened the door and entered.

Cuntaday keeneen laakiin wax diid...

The post-positives are suffixed to the first word of the second sentence.

Albaabkuu furay isaguse ma gelin. He opened the door but didn't enter.

Cuntaday keeneen iyaduse way diidday. They brought the food but she refused it.

<u>Vocabulary:</u>	and	oo, -na	but	laakiin, -se
Brother-in-law		seeddi-ga	grandfather	awow-ga/awowe-ha
child		cunug-ga	grandmother	ayeeyo-da
blanket		buste-ha	cousin	inaadeer-ka
dikdik		sagaaro-da	caravan	safar-ka
deer		deero-da	heel	cirib-ta
iron		bir-ta	foot	cag-ta
knee		jilib-ka	elbow	xusul-ka/suxul-ka
chin/beard		gar-ka	enclosure	xero-da
neighbour		deris-ka	dust	bus-ka
command		amar-ka	roof	saqaf-ka
voice		cod-ka	skin	maqaar-ka/harag-ga
make sure		hubso, hubsan, hubsadaa		
hide (trans)		qari, qarin, qariyaa		
dig hole		qod, qodi, qodaa		
increase (trs.)		kordhi, kordhin, kordhiyaa		
sour		dhanaan		
bitter		qaraar		

Explanatory Note On the use of the possessive adjective:

The possessive adjective is often used in Somali where we would use the possessive noun.

e.g., The man's shoe. To translate into Somali you think, "the man, his shoes". Ninka kabtiisa. Similarly, "the girl's brother, gabadha walaalked. This use is not limited to those nouns normally thought of as being capable of possessing things.

e.g., The door of the house guriga albaabkiisa (the house, his door)
The top of the wall. derbiga korkiisa (the wall, his top)

Exercises: Translate into Somali:

1. Did you use my book? No, I didn't see your book. Is it red?
2. His nose is large. Her face is round. This water is bitter.
3. Our tent isn't large. It is a nice tent. My elbow is paining me.
4. The hyena dug a deep hole. It used its feet. Then it caught a deer.
5. Her elbow is bent. She doesn't straighten it.
6. My chin is red. Your brother hit me. I have forgiven him.
7. Our new teacher is tall. Today he showed us his spear.
8. I don't understand that language. Your language is difficult.
9. Our daughter found their lost goat. This old man's wife is washing the clothes.
10. He carried his weapons, a dagger, a shield. His strength is greater.
11. What is that number? That number is eleven. This is twenty five.
12. His sister is watching the deer. Her father doesn't like deer.
13. My strength is small. I need my God every day.
14. Her chair wasn't smooth. It was clean. She was a careful person.
15. We loved our children. Now we love their children.
16. Your grandfather doesn't drink this bitter water. He doesn't like it.
17. My son went to the teacher's room. The teacher issued a command.
18. The thieves dug a hole. They are hiding the goods. The goods are hidden.
19. Where is your house? Our house is that one. Is this your house?
20. Is the lamp lit? Not yet. My grandmother is lighting it now.
21. The men kill the dikdik and sell the skins but they don't eat the meat.
- 22.

Translate into English:

1. Dabayshu dharkeennay engejinaysaa. Ma engegan yahay? Soo hubso,
2. Ciribtaydu waa i xanuunaysaa. Ciribtaan laaday, cagtana waan maroojiyey.
3. Jilibkiisu waa bararsan yahay laakiin weli wuu shaqaynayaa.
4. Albaabka korkiisu waa jaban yahay albaabkuse ma furna.
5. Caanahan waa yar yihiin. Ii soo kordhiya.
6. Isagu amarka ma yeelin oo waa xukuman yahay laakiin haddeer wuu cafiyan yahay.
7. Dabayshu bus badan bay kicisay isaguna buste duuban wuu furay.
8. Seeddigay waa dhacay oo cagtiisa maroojiyey. Daawo dhanaanse wuu cabay.
9. Waraabuhu caawa mar kale wuu wareegayaa. Arigu miyuu xerada ku jiraa?
10. Xoolahayga xerada gee. Arigaagu Moxamed xeradiisa way ku jiraan.
11. Saakaa roob gurigayaga buu galay deriskayaguna waa hagaajinayaa.
12. Cali waa joogaa codkiisaan kasaa oo maqlay.

Use of "of" for possessives and Conjunction "iyo"

- A. Use of "of" for Possessives: In English we could substitute "The hat of the man" for "The man's hat". or "a shoe of a girl" for "a girl's shoe". In the previous lesson you learned the possessive adjective.
e.g., Wiilka hooyadiis. The boy's mother.

Often in Somali you won't want to be that specific.

i. When both nouns are defined:

The noun possessed usually is defined by the article ending in "ii" while the possessor is defined with the article ending with "a"

e.g.,	hooydii wiilka	the mother of the boy
	ninkii naagta	the husband of the woman

The possessor can otherwise be defined.

aabbihii saaxiibkay	the father of my friend
saqafkii gurigaas	the roof of that house

ii. When only the possessor is defined:

The possessor can still only have an article that ends in "a"

e.g.,	af Soomaaliga	nin miyiga
-------	---------------	------------

iii. When neither noun is defined:

reer Xamar	people of Xamar.	Caano geel	camel milk
hadal ilmo	child's talk	Af Soomaali	Somali language

It is fairly common to find that the possessor will have a suffix either "-eed" or "-aad" when the meaning being conveyed is something like, "belonging to" or "originating from".

e.g.,	caano riyaa	goat milk	caano idaad	sheep milk
	hadal naagood	women's talk	nin Soomaaliyeed	Somali man
	shimbir badeed	sea bird	af Carbeed	Arabic language

- iv. You are now in a position to appreciate that numerals are nouns so that laba nin is "two of men". The numerals differ from regular nouns in that they, the first noun, can be defined while the other noun remains undefined.

- v. You have noted that the second name of any Somali is the name of his/her father. Cali Jaame indicates that the name of Cali's father is Jaamac which is another way of saying "Cali of (son of) Jaamac."

- B. Conjunction "iyo": The conjunction "iyo" is the one used for joining nouns and noun clauses. It is most important that you do not use it as a substitute for "oo", "ee" or "-na" all of which with "iyo" are translated into English to mean "and". For now you will only be using "iyo" for joining nouns in a list, or where there are two nouns.

Faduma iyo Asli waa tegeen. Fatuma and Asli went
Deero iyo waraabe iyo xoolo badan baan arkay. I saw a deer, a hyena and
a lot of stock.

Vocabulary:

fool	nacas-ka	sea	bad-da
rice	bariis-ka	tribal group	reer-ka
judge	qaaddi-ga	sailor	baxri-ga
millet	meseggo-da	ghee	subag-ga
throat	luqun-ta	interior (bush)	miyi-ga
canoe	huuri-ga	dhow	doon-ta/dooni-da
match	kebriid-ka		
put upright	taag, taagi, taagaa		
dress self	howo, huwan, huwadaa		
burn (trans)	gub, gubi, gubaa		
compete	bedertan, bedertami, bedertamaa		
advise	la tali, la talin, la taliyaa		
face (cause to)	u jeedi, u jeedin, u jeediyaa		
hurry	dhaqso, dhaqsan, dhaqsadaa		
be able	kar, kari, karaa		
drive	kaxee, kaxayn, kaxeeyaa		
halter (horse)	taxaab, taxaabi, taxaabaa		
face	u jeed, u jeedi, u jeedaa		
stand	istaag, istaagi, istaagaa		
grip tightly	xaji, xajin, xajiyaa		
confused/muddled	qasan		
wrapped	ku duuban		

Exercises: Translate into Somali:

1. The knee of the boy is wrapped. Is it swollen? It is not swollen now
2. The skin of the knee is hot. His knee is painful.
3. Increase my wages. I need a lot of money. That money is little.
4. Is that man's work good? Yes, he made a dhow and a canoe.
5. I gave him money yesterday but he wants something else now.
6. The student leaned on his elbow and wrote a story.
7. The hide of the bullock is dry. The bullock hide is hard.
8. The old man kicked his toe and it was painful. Is it better now?
9. The priest obeyed the voice of God. His command is good.
10. The floor of the house was broken but the father of that student fixed it.
11. Now it is fixed. The student's father advised the students.
12. We spread the blanket on the bed.
13. We are drying the fish. Later, we are going to cook it.
14. The billy goat of the trader tormented the ram of the clerk.
15. The side of the house is white and the door is red. Its roof is brown.
16. The dikdik isn't alive. A hyena bit it and went away.
17. The old man lost his spear and shield. He went to the interior and found them.
18. Where is my chair? I don't like this chair but I like my chair.
19. Big crows are watching the lost sheep. The sheep escaped but now it is lost.
20. The side of the enclosure is broken and other sheep are running away.

Translate into English:

1. Fartayda iyo suulkayga dabku waa gubay laakiin dawo baan mariyey.
2. Laba nin baa isaga la taliyey markaas nin kale baa la hadlay haddeerna wuu qasan yahay.
3. Warankiisa wuu xajiyey oo tuuray. Markaas waranka wuu helay oo qaaday.
4. Macallinku qolkuu galay oo ilmuhu waa istaageen. Maalin walba waxaas way sameeyaan.
5. Baxriga dheer ee buuran magaaladu tegay oo meseggo iyo subag iibsaday.
6. Wiilka wejigiisa derbiga wuu u jeediyey. Derbiga ha u jeedin! Halkan u jeed.
7. Ushiisa wuu taagay oo usha korkeeda sanduuq buu saaray.
8. Caano geel miyaad dhantay? Maya, ma dhamin laakiin waan doonayaa.
9. Dharkiis wuu huwaday oo banaanka tegay wuuna qayliyey.
10. Reerkaas waa reer Jabuuti. Afkooda waa adagyahay oo aniguna ma kaso.
11. Faduma geela way kaxaynaysaa. Miyey kartaa? Haah, shuqulkaas ma adka.
12. Nacasku badda buu tegay oo huuri galay wuuna lumay.
13. Qaaddigu baqalkuu qabsaday laakiin Cali waa taxaabay.
14. Ilmooyinka yaryar waa bedertamayeen. Way ordeen iyaguse ma dhaqsanaynin.

Interrogative Adjectives "Which", "How"

- A. The first way of forming interrogative Adjectives is to use the interrogative suffix "-ee" on the articles thus forming -kee, -tee, -dee and -ee, etc.

e.g., Faraskee? Which horse? Kursigee? Which chair?

In a sentence the interrogative is followed by the verbal particle "baa"

Naagtee baad aragtay?	Which woman did you see?
Ninke baa waxaas sameeyey?	Which man did that?

This now opens a whole wide range of new questions:

Xaggee/halkee/meeshe	Where?
sidee	How?
intee	How much/what size?

Note that "sidee" requires the verbal particle "u" meaning to/for (to/for what way?) e.g., Sidee baad u samaysay? How did you make it?

- B. The alternative method is to use the interrogative suffix "-ma" on a noun that is undefined.

e.g.,	Goorma?	When?	(what time)
	meelma?	where?	(what place)
	aqalma?	which house?	
	lacagma?	what money?	

As the personal emphatic pronouns are really nouns, the plurals can also have the interrogative "-ma" suffixed to ask questions:

inama?	which of (all of) us?	annama?	Which of us (but not you)
idinma?	which of you?	iyama?	which of them

Idinma tegay? Which of you went?

Inama u sheegay? Which of us told?

Vocabulary:

sin
 mercy
 dirt
 ice
 widow
 divorced woman
 manner/way
 pole
 skill
 custom
 ear
 cat
 hole
 intelligence
 danger
 trust
 truth
 flood
 dog
 orphan (fatherless)

denbi-ga
 naxariis-ta
 wasakh-da
 baraf-ka
 carmal-ka/carmali-ga
 garoob-ta
 si-da
 tiir-ka
 karti-da
 xeer-ka
 dheg-ta
 bisad-da
 god-ka
 caqli-ga
 qatar-ka
 aammin-ka
 run-ta
 daad-ka
 eey-ga
 agoon-ka (-ta)

bite
 finish
 praise
 go abroad
 trust
 blow (wind)

qaniin, qaniini, qaniinaa
 dhamme, dhammayn, dhammeeyaa
 ammaan, ammaani, ammaanaa
 dhoof, dhoofi, dhoofaa
 aammin, aammini, aamminaa
 dhac, dhici, dhacaa

Exercises: Translate into Somali

1. When did you do that? I didn't want that.
2. Which pauper did you send? It was that pauper. Did you see him?
3. Our neighbours drove the truck. Which truck did they drive? That one.
4. Which rice and millet did she buy? She likes this kind.
5. Stand there. Face that way. Now turn your head to the right.
6. The old man counselled with the thief. The thief was a fool.
7. Who was burning the paper? Were you burning it? No, I wasn't burning it.
8. These three boys completed in running. The small boy didn't finish.
9. The brother of that sailor wasn't a priest but he was a carpenter.
10. The judge was confused. He turned that way and prayed.
11. Which man did you see? That man. He dressed himself in a cloth.
12. Which horse is alive? That black one is still alive.
13. Which of us did you tell(pl.)? We told you (sing).
14. These two little boys drive the camels. Are they able?
15. She put the ghee in the millet. Now she is cooking it.
16. The hole is ready. Stand the pole there. Put the soil back.
17. A hyena entered the tent. It took a child away. The men drove it.
18. The hyena dropped the child and now the child is recovering.
19. Which of them obeyed the order? Those four men obeyed.
20. Which of you is going to Wajir? He is going to Wajir.

Translate into English

1. Buugaggee baydin keenteen? Buugaggan baannu keennay.
2. Baayacmushtariga xanaqsan baa aabbahay luquntiisa qabsaday.
3. Idinma baa dhacay? Anigu waan dhacay. Xusulkayga waa i xanuunayaa.
4. Xeradu waa jabnayd oo idahu waa baxsadeen fardahase weli waa joogaan.
5. Sariirruhu ma jilicsana laakiin way qallafsan yihiin.
6. Inama baa kara? Ma karno laakiin Ilaah baa kara.
7. Cunto ku filan wuu cunay, haddeerna wuu dheregsan yahay.
8. Ilaah miyaad aammintaa oo ammaantaa? Wax walba wuu karaa oo wax walba wuu sameeyey.
9. Aamminkayga waa yar yahay laakiin Ilaah waan aamminaa.
10. Eeygaagu lugtayduu qaniinay oo way i xanuunaysaa.
11. Meelmaad tegaysaa? Sidee baad u tegaysaa?
12. Denbi iyo wasakh waa xunyihiin. Naxariis iyo aamin baa wanaagsan.