



Igbo

Dictionary & Phrasebook

A language of Nigeria

**Igbo–English
English–Igbo**

Nicholas Awde &
Onyekachi Wambu

IGBO-ENGLISH ENGLISH-IGBO

DICTIONARY AND PHRASEBOOK

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HIPPOCRENE BOOKS
NEW YORK

With gratitude to Peter Davies, Jack Carnochan,
Ejiro Ejaife & Tedius Gill

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Fourth printing, 2012.

Typesetting by Nicholas Awde/Desert♥Hearts

For information, address:
HIPPOCRENE BOOKS, INC.
171 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10016
www.hippocrenebooks.com

ISBN-13: 978-0-7818-0661-9

ISBN-10: 0-7818-0661-5

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-
- An Igbo person is an **Igbo**
 - The adjective for Igbo things is **ihe Ndi Igbo**.
 - Igbos call themselves **Ndi Igbo**.
 - The Igbo language is called **asụsụ Ndi Igbo**
 - Igboland is **Ala Ndi Igbo**

INTRODUCTION

The Igbo are one of the three largest ethnic groups in the west African country of Nigeria. They number between 12-16 million people, and are predominately located in the five states of Anambra, Imo, Ebonyi, Abia, and Enugu in South Eastern Nigeria, although significant numbers of Igbo communities can be found in neighboring states such as Rivers, Cross River, and Asaba, as well as the commercial centre of the country, Lagos. As traders and entrepreneurs, Igbos have also travelled widely in Nigeria, where they have established vibrant communities.

Their traditional territory cuts across the Equatorial Forest in the South and the Savannah in the North. It includes areas both East and West of the River Niger. Their neighbors are the Igala and Tiv in the North; Ekoi and Ibibio in the East; Ijaw and Ogoni in the South; and the Benin and Isoko in the West. Through the ages, Igbos have influenced and been influenced by these neighbors.

The Igbos speak a language that belongs to the Kwa group found in West and Central Africa. Their language would have split from the nearest languages (such as Ijo, Idoma and Edo) in the Kwa sub-family groups between 6,000 to 5,000 years ago. Over that period a traditional and highly complex culture, which grew out of a mode of production that was dependent on subsistence agriculture and trading, was established.

An individual society

This culture produced highly developed and unique handicrafts, particularly in the areas of weaving pottery-making, and smithing. The culture also demonstrated unique features in the political and social spheres. For the Igbos, families, villages and clans were the basis of their

social, political and economic organisation. The emphasis on family and blood ties produced broadly egalitarian and democratic village states, run by councils of elders (although there were a minority of Igbo communities such as the Aros which had more stratified social structures where **Eze Nri** or priest-kingships were not uncommon).

Despite their large numbers — being one of the biggest African ethnic groups — scholars have always found this feature of the Igbos remarkable, the fact that they did not come under the umbrella of a single state or establish state systems of any great size, until the tragic Biafran War between 1967 and 1970 when they attempted to secede from the Nigerian state, alongside other minority groups like the Ijaw and Kalagbari.

What is even more remarkable is that, despite never having developed a single overarching state structure, Igbo society and culture nevertheless enjoyed a basic uniformity of cosmological and social ideas, which were held together through regular markets, powerful spiritual shrines and oracles like the Ibini Ukpabi of Arochukwu, marriage networks, and traditional doctors, magicians, wrestlers and musicians.

However, the absence of evolved centralised state systems comparable to neighboring Benin, which had well-developed institutions for documenting its society, has meant that information which survives about the Igbo past is scanty and scrappy.

Excavations at a site at the University of Nigeria (Nsukka) Agricultural Farm by the archeologist Professor D. D. Hartle, provided evidence of human presence in the nature of potsherds, which carbon dating established as having been constructed around 2555 BC. By the ninth century AD, a complex civilisation was flourishing around Igbo-Ukwu, according to the archeological discoveries made by Professor Thurstan Shaw.

Resistance against the Europeans

Five hundred years later, as a result of their confrontation with Europeans from the 15th century onwards (particularly through the brutal slave trade), Igbo history became better documented. To the European captains of the slave vessels, it was mostly Igbos who occupied the interior beyond the Bight of Biafra. They began to indiscriminately label as 'Eboe' most of the slaves exported from the ports in this region, even though many were from other smaller neighboring ethnic groups.

Nevertheless Igbos formed a significant number of those African slaves who helped to develop the Americas, and generally attracted attention because of their efficiency and loyalty as household slaves. They also became renowned for their hatred of plantation slavery. This hatred was so intense that they would sometimes commit suicide to assert their freedom. In Haiti, there is still a saying: **ibos pend' cor'a yo!** — 'The Ibo hang themselves!'

In the 18th and 19th centuries, three of their members in exile — Olaudah Equiano in Britain, Dr James Africanus Beale Horton in Sierra Leone and the Gold Coast, and Jaja of Opobo in Nigeria — distinguished themselves as tireless defenders of the rights of Africans.

Despite these attempts at fighting European domination, Britain in the 19th century extended her colonial control over Igboland and the rest of Southern Nigeria, moving from trading through companies like the United African Company and Royal Niger Company, to establishing formal treaties, annexing city states and other areas.

The conquest of Igboland took over 20 years of constant military action towards the end of the century. Gunboats shelled Ndoni in 1876, Onitsha was sacked in 1879, Obohia in 1896, and finally the Aro expedition of December 1901 to March 1902, which destroyed the most organised large-scale force in Igboland.

In the arms of the Empire

Resistance continued on a small scale against the British well into the 1920s, but the destruction of the Aros had been an important part of the British attempt in 1900 to replace the authority of the Royal Niger Company with that of a formal state, the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria (which included the Yorubas and Edos from Benin) which they governed effectively in that part of West Africa.

The Protectorate of Southern Nigeria was eventually merged in 1914 with the Hausa/Fulani dominated Northern Protectorate to form Nigeria. Northern, Western, Central and Eastern administrative units were then created by the British with the object of efficiently running the country.

Igbo democracy and the complexity of traditional government was found unsuitable by the British, so Warrant Chiefs were created (usually by bypassing traditional elders and religious figures), and in the process creating new hierarchies and tensions. Alongside these chiefs, Native Courts were also established, and it was through these two institutions that a few British officials managed to indirectly rule a vast territory.

Resistance, of course, continued against British rule. The First World War and the worldwide Pan-African movement which had began amongst Diasporan Africans provided fresh impetus for anti-colonial struggle. Igbo anti-colonial struggles were subsumed under the Nigerian and West African nationalist movements.

Leading Igbo anti-colonialists like Nnamdi Azikiwe were campaigning on broad Pan-African platforms, rather than narrow Igbo ones. Specific Igbo resistance did continue, however. In 1929, market women in Aba, provoked by rumors of a rise in taxation, launched a bitter campaign against British authority, which spread like wildfire over a wide area, and shook the colonial authority. The Women's War was eventually crushed with the shooting and killing of 55 women.

Shaking off the British

The Second World War was to greatly destroy Britain's capacity for holding onto her colonies through force. Following India's independence in 1947, it was simply a matter of time for her colonial possessions, including Nigeria, to win their independence. Plans were drawn up, including three constitutions (the Richards constitution of 1947, the Macpherson constitution of 1952 and the Lyttelton constitution of 1954) which ended by splitting Nigeria into three, then four regions — Eastern (which contained most Igbos), Western, Northern and Mid-West.

As the movement towards Independence accelerated towards the end of the 1950s, the anti-colonial movement collapsed into its constituent ethnic parts, with Azikiwe emerging as the leader of National Council of Nigerian Citizens (NCNC) party which was now associated with Igbos, though it had formally been the main anti-colonial party.

Deep suspicions and mistrust between the different ethnic groups created increasing tensions in the lead-up to Nigeria's independence in 1960. The Hausa/Fulani, being the most numerous group, emerged from elections taking the prime-ministership, with the Yorubas, under Chief Awolowo, in opposition. Azikiwe won the ceremonial post of President.

But the country was unstable, attempting to work an unwieldy federal system based on the four states within a Westminster-style parliamentary system, with each of the main three ethnic groups, Hausa/Fulani, Yoruba and Igbo jockeying for supremacy.

The nation splits asunder

Rioting and violence in the Western region provoked a military coup in January 1966 by a group of junior officers, a number of whom were Igbo — particularly the leading figure of Major Chukuma Nzeogwu. In the coup the

Hausa/Fulani Premier of the northern region, the Sardauna of Sokoto, was assassinated — as was the Northern Prime Minister Sir Abubakar Tefewa Balewa.

None of the leading Igbo politicians was killed. An Igbo, Major General Johnson Aguiyi-Ironsi, the leading army officer in the country, eventually assumed control of the country following the surrender of the junior officers.

Northern suspicions of an Igbo plot to control and dominate Nigeria were high. When, as part of Ironsi's plan to restore order in the country, he proposed doing away with Nigeria's federal structure and creating a unitary state, the North was convinced that there really was an Igbo plot to take over Nigeria.

Igbos began to be attacked in the North. By July 29 1966, Northern officers had launched another coup, killing Ironsi and other senior Igbo officers. Violence against Igbo traders in the North escalated — by September and October huge pogroms were launched against them there. Thousands were killed, sometimes by Northern soldiers. The aim was to drive them out of the North. Those who survived — over 600,000 — fled back to the Igbo heartland, without any possessions. They were joined by hundreds and thousands of others who poured back from Lagos and other regions of Nigeria.

The Biafran War

Led by the most senior surviving Igbo army officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Emeka Ojukwu, the Igbos decided that, since their safety could not be guaranteed inside Nigeria, they would seek secession — alongside many of the other minority groups in the East of the country. And so began the brutal Biafran War, which ironically was the only time when the Igbos had managed to find themselves in the closest thing to a unified Pan-Igbo state. Given the oil and other resources in the East, the Nigerian leader Yakubu Gowon fought to keep the country united.

The war was to last from 1967 to 1970, leaving millions of Igbo dead and malnourished, setting back infrastructural, educational and economic opportunities by more than a decade. Although there was a genuine attempt at reconciliation at the end of the war, the Igbo, having lost it, have nevertheless found themselves marginalised in most of the major institutions in Nigeria — including the army, judiciary, formal business sector and politics.

Building blocks of the future

The former Eastern region was also split into two states, as part of Gowon's creation of a 12-state federal structure for Nigeria. These two states have grown to the present five Igbo states over the last 30 years as the federal structure of the country has expanded in order to aid development and reduce ethnic-bloc rivalry.

Against this difficult backdrop, the Igbos have worked tirelessly, re-establishing much of their old trading networks in the rest of the country; and through their embracing of education, attempting to recapture much of the ground that was lost in the institutions. They have played their role in the continuing political dramas that have afflicted Nigeria as it searches for a democratic model that will allow room for it to reconcile and positively unleash the enormous energies of the different ethnic groups and diverse cultures within it.

Meanwhile, like other Nigerians over the past decades, they have also sat back and watched as the country lurched from one unstable democratic structure into military coups and dictatorship, the end result of the failure of the search for freedom.

LANGUAGE

The origin of the word Igbo itself is not very clear. Some sections of the Igbo speak of the rest as '**Ndi Igbo**' (Igbo people). Thus the West Niger Igbo refer to all East Niger Igbo as 'Igbo'; The Onitsha people refer to all living east of them as Igbo, while the Aro refer to all others, including Nri and Onitsha as Igbo. It has been said that the word means 'forest dwellers,' or 'people of low status,' even 'slaves.' However, the Igbo expert Professor M. A. Onwuejeogwu maintains that, based on linguistic uses of the word, 'Igbo' means 'The Community of People.'

Talking of the Igbo in this way means talking about two cultural phases: the pre-colonial Igbo with a type of basic cultural unity irrespective of the existence of sub-cultures; and post-colonial Igbo (British colonial administration formally began in 1901) with basic cultural diversities not just local variations of sub-cultures. These cultural phases have of course affected the language.

The first studies

Scientific interest in the study of the Igbo language began with the colonial experience in the early 19th century, amongst missionaries who realised that a knowledge of African languages was an essential tool in spreading the message of the Bible.

Between 1852 and 1900, more than ten works had been published in the language, mainly by missionaries. They found the language difficult because of the huge number of dialects, its richness in prefixes and suffixes and its heavy intonation.

Nevertheless, the books they produced in Igbo mainly focused on grammar and translations of sections of the Bible. However, unlike the two other major Nigerian languages, Hausa and Yoruba, it remained underdeveloped, particularly in relation to the development of a literary dialect of the language.

The different Igbos

In the absence of a widely accepted literary form — a position reinforced by the political fragmentation of Igbo societies and the lack of a pan-Igbo state (apart of course from the three years secession from Nigeria between 1967 and 1970) — the language has remained dominated by different dialects. Market-places and other common cultural Igbo institutions such as the Oracles meant that a 'spoken union' or 'market Igbo' has developed amongst the so-called 20 dialects identified by N. W. Thomas, one of the first anthropologists who, in the 1920s, looked at Igbo culture.

The dialect that the missionaries first had contact with was the Onitsha dialect, out of which the first literary Igbo developed. This dialect was not as widely spoken as the Owerri or Central dialect, which was nearer the original heartland of Igboland and therefore at the root of many of the Igbo dialects. So, at a later stage the Church Missionary Society (CMS) developed a sort of 'union' — 'Union Igbo' — out of a combination of Onitsha, Owerri, Arochukwu, Unwana and Bonny dialects.

Religious divisions

An Igbo Bible and prayer-book were produced in 1913 by Archdeacon T. J. Dennis in the new Union Igbo, although it was spoken or written by few people. It however became the main means of communication, until the emergence of a ruthless rivalry with the competing Roman Catholic Church, which was also fishing for souls and had its own school system.

The Catholic Church first stuck to the Onitsha dialect, before combining this with Union, as they found that outside the Onitsha areas, the Onitsha dialect did not travel well. Union Igbo thus remained the best attempt to create a national dialect and it was very nearly successful. Sadly, disputes over a standardised written script scuppered it.

ALPHABET

The Igbo did not develop an indigenous script to write their language, although there were limited scripts which developed amongst secret societies in certain parts of Igboland in order to pass on their secrets.

So for instance in Ngwaland there was the **Uri Ala** script, associated with the Okonko secret society, and amongst the Cross River peoples, there was the **Nsibidi** writing said to have been developed by the Aro, and which was highly developed and associated with the Ekpe secret society. Finally there was also **Ikpa Akwukwo Mmanwu** (literally 'reading the book of the masquerade') used in secret societies in other parts of Igboland.

However, these systems were limited and when the missionaries arrived in the 19th century they attempted to develop a script solution not only for the Igbo language, but one that would be applicable to other African languages.

The renowned Egyptologist, Carl R. Lepsius, was called upon to adapt the Latin alphabet. Through the use of diacritic marks and the combination of certain alphabets to produce new sounds unknown to European languages, Lepsius was able to design an orthography which by and large met the basic needs of the missionaries in Africa and Asia. This he published in 1855 as the Standard Alphabet.

The alphabet was modified in 1908 using vertical lines or even dots to produce new sounds out of vowels, and it was this modified version which was used in printing the Igbo Bible in 1913.

It continued to be modified at such a rate that, by the 1920s, the Lepsius alphabet had almost broken down. There had been only six vowels which were not enough since it required at least eight to represent effectively all the significant sounds in the Igbo language. Also the number of diacritic marks (which were frequently omitted or altered) was an additional problem.

A new orthography

The response to this was a new Orthography of African Languages put together by the International African Institute in 1929. For Igbo this meant the elimination of diacritic marks, and included the addition of two new vowels. While the Catholic mission and the colonial government adopted the 'New Africa' script, the Protestant missions stuck to the old one, and were supported by important Igbo organisations like the Igbo State Union and the Society for Promoting Igbo Language and Culture.

Confusion reigned and the situation was not clarified until the 1950s when the colonial government set up the Onwu Committee which would recommend a script which would be imposed on all sides. The Onwu Orthography stuck with the eight vowels of the 'New Africa' script, but extended the use of diacritic marks by deciding to create 'light' vowels out of **i** and **u** by the use of subscript dots — **ḭ** and **ṹ**. This orthography was adopted by the Government.

Despite its adoption, Written Igbo has not really developed — mainly because Igbos passionately embraced the English language for pragmatic reasons. They saw it as the way to get ahead in the new scientific and political colonial world which confronted them. For instance, by the 1920s, Church Missionary Service churches which continued to teach in Igbo began to lose pupils to the Catholic missions which were instructing in English. Igbo was felt by parents to be backward, as those Igbos who had power and prestige as court clerks in the new system, were those who had a good command of English.

A passion for English

This passion for English can be seen in the number of prominent Igbo writers such as Chinua Achebe and Cyprian Ekwensi, who have gained worldwide reputations

by writing African literature in English. The main consequence of this has been that the Igbo language has very little literature.

The few books include 'Ala Bingo' by D. N. Achara (1933), 'Omenuko' by Peter Nwana (1933), 'Ije Odumodu Jere' by L. B. Gam (1952) and 'Elelia Na Ihe O Mere' also by Achara (1952) — and, since the end of the Nigerian Civil War, the novels by T. Ubesie and a few children's books by Achebe.

Igbo in the 21st century

Igbo is now taught in Eastern Nigerian schools at all levels, and is one of the three nationally recognised indigenous languages (Yoruba and Hausa being the other two) outside of English, the language of government. (The national news, for instance, will be delivered first in English, with Yoruba, Hausa and Igbo versions following).

However, it has broadly remained a vibrant oral language. Its fortunes have mirrored the fortunes of the Igbo people themselves. Having not independently established a widely accepted indigenous script across Igboland, the language and the Igbo have been caught up and subsumed within the wider political calculations of British colonial authority and the multi-ethnic Nigerian state which emerged at the end of British colonialism.

Ever pragmatic, the Igbos have adapted to deal with these external challenges. That adaptation has frequently meant discarding traditional ways of doing things and taking on what was seen as the practical strengths of the new dispensation. The opposite of developing and improving Igbo culture and language itself to meet the challenges (as the Japanese did when faced with similar problems) was really not attempted with any confidence.

Since the Civil War and the creation of several Igbo states, attempts at an internal Igbo renewal have faced even more formidable obstacles. Igbos are sensitive to

accusations that the aggressive development of any such pan-Igbo language or cultural initiative is seen as 'stoking up' Igbo nationalism through the back door.

The Igbos are thus caught on the horns of a dilemma. To develop and improve their language — in order to make it relevant to the modern world — raises fears. However, not to do so will increasingly make the language less relevant and practical to the modern world — with all the implications and consequences this has for Igbo culture and the people themselves.

THE OFFICIAL ONWU ORTHOGRAPHY

a	b	gb	d	e
f	g	gh	h	i
ì	j	k	l	m
n	ñ	o	ọ	p
kp	r	s	sh	t
u	ụ	v	w	y
z				
ch	gw	kw	nw	ny

This present standard orthography, though the most widely used, is not, however, the only one. There are some orthographies based on regional dialects that contain as many as 50 consonants and a dozen vowels but they are not sufficiently used to merit attention. The Onwu alphabet has been used in this book.



Further Reading

Soon to be published is *The Nigerians: A Handbook* (Bennett and Bloom, London, United Kingdom — www.bennettandbloom.com).

A VERY BASIC GRAMMAR

WORD ORDER

The structure of Igbo is quite simple and generally follows a word order similar to English, e.g.

O gàrà ahịa echi.

'He went to market yesterday.'

(literally: 'He went market yesterday.')

-tone

Igbo is a tonal language. This means that the syllables of each word are pitched high or low in relation to one another. It's a bit like singing and the way how you assign specific notes—or tones—to the parts of each word, i.e. it's as if every word has a particular melody. Although this is not the same as using stress in languages like Spanish, Swedish or English, for example, there are clear parallels where stressing syllables is used to achieve a similar (but more limited) system of contrast, e.g.

English: **in**valid = 'incapacitated person'

in^{va}lid = 'not valid'

object = noun

object = verb

Spanish: **Pa**so = 'I pass'

pa^{so}* = 'he/she passed'

Or, as an even closer example, compare the difference in intonation (which approximates to 'tone') of the word 'radio' in what are otherwise identical sentences:

Statement: It's a **ra**dio. *Question:* It's a radi^o?

* In practise, written with an accent as **pasó**.

a = pat e = pay i = feet I = pet o = so

Every word in Igbo has a basic high tone or low tone,* e.g. **avù** 'song' is made of a high tone syllable **a** plus a low tone syllable **vù**. Try pronouncing this by saying, rather than singing, a high note followed by a lower note at exactly the same volume. Try this for **àhụ** 'body' (low-high) and **anụ** 'meat' (high-high — both parts pronounced on a similar [high] level or note). The word **ìgbò** itself is made of two low tones, both parts also pronounced on the same (low) level or note.

When words are combined with each other in phrases or sentences, the tones are often mixed together to create new patterns and combinations of high and low, triggered by the word before or after or simply by the effect the speaker wishes to impart. Tones are not usually marked in the written language.

Tone is used in the grammar of the language (e.g. where English would use a separate word, but look back at the Spanish example above), and sometimes to distinguish between words that are otherwise similar. An extreme example of words indistinguishable in spelling but quite different in tone, and therefore meaning, is as follows:

'cry'	akwa	[ak wa HIGH HIGH]
'cloth'	akwà	[ak wa HIGH LOW]
'egg'	àkwa	[ak wa LOW HIGH]
'bed'	àkwà	[ak wa LOW LOW]

Note that here, to keep words uncluttered, high tones are left unmarked, and low tones with an accent.

The concept of tone may sound a little strange at first, but it is a worldwide phenomenon. For example, most languages in Africa and many in the Far East are tonal, such as Chinese, Vietnamese, Thai, Toruba, Twi and Hausa. Igbo is certainly not as complex as, say, Chinese or Yoruba, and you

* A mid-tone between the two also exists, but since it's not so important, it has not been marked in this book.

should have little difficulty in making yourself understood while you develop an ear for good tonal pronunciation.

And remember you don't have to be musical — even people who are tone-deaf speak tonal languages *exactly* the same as other speakers!

VARIATIONS

As noted elsewhere in this book, be prepared to meet many variations in the speech of Igbo-speakers, and remember that there is no 'correct' or 'incorrect' way of speaking. The important thing is communication — to understand and to be understood.

Very much like in English, the consonants, vowels and tones of Igbo vary widely from area to area, constantly changing according to how and when they appear in speech. The official alphabet, needless to say, doesn't reflect any of these variations. Be also prepared for differences in vocabulary, not only in basic Igbo vocabulary but also as a result of borrowings from English, Pidgin or neighboring languages.

Like other unrelated languages such as Turkish, you may hear people describe Igbo as having 'vowel harmony.' This means that under certain circumstances vowels may adapt under the influence of other, dominant vowels in a neighboring word or phrase. But once you find your ear for understanding Igbo, you'll see that there are quite logical rules for this. This creates further variations in Igbo speech, but no more so than the variation, for example, encountered between American and British English vowels.

As a result of all these factors, and in the absence of a widely used standard language, a truly systematic representation of tone and vowel sounds is beyond the scope of this small volume. The markings used here are for general guidance only and should not be used as a system of rules. The dictionary section does not mark tone. All comments and suggestions will be gratefully received in the event of a future revised edition.

a = pat e = pay i = feet l = pet o = so

NOUNS

There is no real word in Igbo for 'the' or 'a/an', consequently **motò** can mean 'the car,' 'a car' or just simply 'car.'

Likewise, there is no plural as such: in most cases, it is quite evident from the context whether a word is singular or plural, so **motò** can also mean 'car' or 'cars.' Words like **umu** and **ndị** 'people' are sometimes used to specify plurality, e.g. **Ndị Igbo** means 'the Igbo people' or simply 'Igbos' while **umu nwanyi** means 'women' and **umu nwoke** means 'men.'

'Of' is formed by simply putting two words together. There may be changes in the tones of the words, created by the new structure and to indicate there is a relationship between them, e.g. **àchìchà + Ọnìchà = àchìchà Ọnìchà** 'bread of Onitsha,' **àlà + Ìgbò = àlà Ìgbò** 'Igboland'

Igbo is a language rich in vocabulary and expressions, but, like English, it is never afraid to borrow or coin new words. It has simple, effective ways of immediately creating compound words using **onye, òde, ògụ, òje, òra**, etc, which can mean 'doer/maker of,' using a similar construction to the genitive described above, e.g.

òde akwụkwọ	–	writer	('doer of writing')
òra mmiri	–	rainmaker	('maker of rain')
òje mbà	–	passenger	('doer of travel')
ògụegwu	–	singer	('maker of song')

ADJECTIVES

There are only a few true adjectives in Igbo, and the most important you need to know are included below:

oma good; beautiful	duñ all
ajò; ojò bad	niñle all
ọcha clean; white	ukwu big
ọzọ other	ncha all

Ajò is used before a noun, the others come after, e.g. **ajò motò** 'bad car', **motò oma** 'good car,' **ihe ọzọ** 'another thing,' **ụlọ ncha** 'all (the) houses.'

ọ = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

A more common way of making adjectives is to take a noun that expresses a quality and put it next to the word you want to modify, e.g. **nnukwu motò** 'big car' where **nnukwu** literally means 'bigness.' Other nouns used this way are:

abadaba width	mkpumpku shortness
obere smallness	ogologo length/height
ochie oldness	ohuru newness
ezigbo/ezi goodness	

e.g. old car **motò ochie**
 new car **motò ohuru**
ezigbo ihe very good thing
ezi azu good fish

Verbal forms using nouns are also used, like **-pe òmpe** 'to be small' which literally translates as 'to have smallness.' Other examples are:

-je òji 'to be black'	-cha òcha 'to be white'
-hi nne 'to be much/many'	-bu ibù 'to be fat'
-ma mma 'to be beautiful/good'	-jọ òjọ 'to be bad'

e.g. **o hiri nne** 'they are many'
 (literally: 'it is characterized by manyness')
o di ohuru 'it is new' (lit. 'it has newness')
o di ogologo it is long (lit. 'it has length')

ADVERBS

Most adverbs have a single form which doesn't change. Some examples:

mma well	ebe-ahụ there
ojo badly	ugbu-à now
ebe-à here	echi tomorrow

Like adjectives, nouns are also used to give the sense of English adverbs, using words like:

osiiso 'speed'	òzigbo 'immediacy'
nyaaoo 'slowness'	ofuma 'wellness'

a = pat e = pay i = feet i = pet o = so

e.g. **O nàrà ụlọ osiiso.** 'He went home quickly.'

(lit. 'He went home with speed.')

O nàrà ụlọ òzigbo. 'He went home immediately.'

(lit. 'He went home with immediacy.')

PREPOSITIONS

Igbo has an extremely useful all-purpose preposition — **na** — which means 'in', 'on', 'at', etc. Its meaning will always be clear from the context. It can change tone or be abbreviated, e.g.

na + motò = **nà motò** 'in the car'

na + ubi = **n'ubi** 'on the farm'

However, the sense of English prepositions is mostly rendered by modifications to the verb (see below).

PRONOUNS

Basic forms are as follows:

SINGULAR

I

m; mụ

you *singular*

ngị; gị

he/she/it

ya

PLURAL

we

ànyị

you *plural*

ụnụ

they

ha

Tones and form will vary according to use, and, in general, these are used as both subjects and objects of the verb. 'We' has two forms: the inclusive **ànyị niine** 'we all' (= 'us and you'), and the exclusive **ànyị nwà** 'we ourselves' (= 'us not you').

There is another set of pronouns used as subjects of verbs only for some of the singular forms: **i/ị** is used for 'you', **o/ọ** for 'he/she/it' while **e/a** is used for impersonal expressions, meaning 'one', 'they', or 'people', e.g. **È jeghi.** 'People didn't come.' This corresponds to the French 'on', German 'Mann', or Hausa 'a.'

Word order and tones can be flexible, e.g.

Mu àzuola yà. 'I have bought it.'

O hùrù m. 'She saw me.'

Azùrù m̄ motò. 'I bought a car.'

o = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

There is also an emphatic set of varying forms, some written occasionally with a capital letter: 'I' **M̄/M̄mụ/Àmụ**, 'you singular' **Ngị/Àgị**, 'he/she/it' **Ya/Àya**, e.g. **Àmi mèrè ya**. 'I did it!' or 'It was me who did it!' The plural forms are the same as above.

Possessive pronouns come after what is possessed. Again, tones can vary according to use:

SINGULAR		PLURAL	
my	m	our	ànyị
your <i>singular</i>	gị	your <i>plural</i>	ụnụ
his/her/its	yá	their	há

e.g. **ụlọ** 'house' + **m** 'my' = **ụlọ m** 'my house'
ụlọ + **ya** 'his/her/its' = **ụlọ ya** 'his/her/its house'

Demonstratives follow the noun, often with an accompanying **-nàa**:

à	this/these
ahụ or afụ	that/those

CONJUNCTIONS

These are flexible in meaning. The most common are:

nà and; that	kà as; that
mà if; but; and	kwà as; so
kà . . . kà both . . . and	ntà then
tùtù until	mànà except that
tupu; tutu before; until	màkà (nà) because of
mà . . . mà both . . . and; whether . . . or	
kamà; tumà instead of; even if	

VERBS

Igbo takes the basic form of the verb and adds on other parts to modify the meaning, e.g.

je	go
ije	to go
o jè	he went
o jèkò	he is going

a = pat e = pay i = feet ì = pet o = so

o jewere he continued to go
o jekpòrò he completely went

As mentioned in the section on pronouns, there is a special short form of pronouns, limited to certain persons:

SINGULAR		PLURAL
I	m	—
you singular	i/ì	—
he/she/it	o/ọ	they ha/hụ

These are used with **e-/a-** attached to the beginning of the verb, e.g.

ejèrè m̀ 'I went'
ejèrè hà 'they went'

There is basically no difference in meaning between this form and the fuller version, e.g. 'I shall go tomorrow' is either **Agàrà m̀ èje echì.** or **M gàrà èje echì.**

In English you can modify the basic meaning of a verb by adding prepositions. Often this is a simple physical modification, e.g. 'to come,' 'to come up,' 'to come down,' 'to come across.' This addition can create a new meaning that is far removed from the original verb, e.g. 'to put off' means 'to postpone,' 'to put down' can mean 'to humanely kill an animal,' 'to put up with,' means 'to tolerate,' and so on. Igbo has a similar system, with a greater range of uses, and uses a wide range of suffixes to a verb's meaning. Some important ones that are expressed by prepositions, conjunctions or separate verbs in other languages are:

-dụ stop	-kọ together
-gbà with	-tù down
-hàa ever	-kwàsị again
-ta for	-kata so much . . . that
-be from	-sịsị continuously

e.g. **imedu** 'to stop doing'
ibikọ 'to live together'
imekwàsị 'to do again'
izuta 'to buy for someone'

ọ = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

Note that you'll commonly find **a-** or **e-** attached to the beginning of verbs, often with no apparent change in basic meaning, e.g.

chi 'buy' — **Achi m amotò.** } 'I (**m**) am buying
M chi motò. } the car (**motò**).'

Changing the basic tone of the verb can also give extra meaning.

The negative is generally formed by putting **-ghi/-ghị** 'not' immediately after the verb, e.g.

zu 'buy' — **zu-ghi** 'not buy'
Ò zughị motò. 'He didn't buy a car.'

The tone can vary and sometimes **a-/e-** may be added with no change of meaning, e.g.

Ànyị àzughị motò. 'We didn't buy the car.'

Note that some tenses have their own special forms of 'not', so be prepared to encounter unfamiliar forms.

ESSENTIAL VERBS

The verb 'to be' is expressed in a variety of ways, including **bụ** (but see also the section above on adjectives):

Ị bụ ọnye Nijeriya. 'You are Nigerian.'

A bụ m ọnye Ocha. 'I am English.'

A bụ m ọnye Amerika. 'I am American.'

A bụ m ọnye Jaman. 'I am German.'

O bụ ụgbọ ala. 'It is a car.'

Ụgbọ ala buru ibu. 'The car is big.'

The verb 'to have' is generally expressed with **nwere**:

E nwere m nwa-nne nwoke. 'I have a brother.'

E nwere m ụgbọ. 'I have a car.'

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Igbo letter	Igbo example	Approximate English equivalent
a	aka 'hand'	pat
b	-bà 'enter'	box
ch	-cha 'wash'	chair
d	ndù 'life'	dog
e	egò 'money'	pay
f	afọ 'belly'	fox
g	egò 'money'	get
gb	ìgbò 'Igbo'	—
gh	agha 'war'	—
h	àhụ 'body'	hat
i	isi 'head'	feet
ì	ádirì 'line'	pet
j	-je 'go'	jet
k	àkwa 'egg'	kick
kp	àkpà 'bag'	—
l	àlà 'land'	let
m	-me 'do'	mat
n	anụ 'meat'	net
ñ	anụ 'bee'	sing
o	-go 'buy'	so
ọ	ọjì 'kolanut'	more
p	-pụ 'go out'	pet
r	ìrì 'ten'	rat , but 'rolled' as in Scottish English
s	isi 'head'	sit
sh	ìsha 'crayfish'	shut
t	ntu 'nail'	ten
u	ùchichi 'night'	soon
ụ	ụlọ 'house'	put
v	avụ 'song'	van
w	ewu 'goat'	well
y	ya 'he/she/it'	yet
z	azụ 'fish'	zebra

ọ = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

Nothing beats listening to a native speaker, but the following notes should help give you some idea of how to pronounce the following letters.

CONSONANTS

- kp** This is a single sound, but it might help you to see it as a combination of **k** + **p** pronounced simultaneously. Get your mouth ready to say a 'k' but articulate it with your lips as a 'p'.
- gb** Like **kp** this is a single sound, but again it will help you to see it as a combination of **g** + **b**. get your mouth ready to say a **g**, but articulate it with your lips as a **b**.
— It might help to look at **kp** and **gb** as being 'emphatic' or 'heavy' versions of **p** and **b** respectively.
- gh** This is pronounced like a sort of growl in the back of your throat — like when you're gargling. The German or Parisian 'r' is the easy European equivalent.
- m** This can be a syllable in itself. Its pronunciation is similar to how you would say 'uhm' in English — i.e. something between 'um' (= 'I'm not sure') and 'mm' (= 'yes'). Examples are **mmiri** ('uhm-me-re') 'water,' **mbà** ('uhm-bà') 'no' and **m** ('uhm') 'me/I/my.' Like any syllable with a vowel, it can be a high tone or a low tone.
- n** Like **m** above, **n** can also be a syllable in itself. Its pronunciation is similar to how an English person would say 'uhn' — i.e. something between the 'n' in 'rock'n'roll' and the 'un-' in 'unlimited.' Examples are **ndi** ('uhn-dé') 'people' and **nri** ('uhn-re') 'food.' Again, as with **m**, it can be high tone or low tone. But note that it is not pronounced separately in front of **y** and **w**, e.g. **nwa** ('nwa') 'child' and **anya** ('a-nya') 'eye.'

EXTRA NOTES

- 1) In many cases **ch** and **s** can sound like **sh**, and **gh** like **kh** (like the 'ch' in Scottish 'loch' or German 'Ich'). **F** and **h** can alternate also.
- 2) Note that there are different ways of writing the sound 'ng' — **ñ**, **'n** or simply not marked. It is also unmarked but pronounced in words like **anwụ** 'sunshine' ('ang-wo').
- 3) Don't be put off by the dots under **ị** and **ụ**. It may help to remember that **ị** is a form of **e** and **ụ** is a form of **o**.

a = pat e = pay i = feet ị = pet o = so

IGBO

DICTIONARY





IGBO-ENGLISH

IGBO-BEKEE

A

aba bottle
abali night
abali gara aga last night
abiiidii alphabet
abu poem; poetry
abua two; second
abuakwa lament
abuāriri elegy
abuba isi; abubara isi hair
abumonụ curse
abuune lyric
achaghi acha unripe
achara grass
achicha bread; biscuit; cake
achoghi anti
acho mmeko discriminate
acho mmeko ncha discrimination
ada daughter; first-born daughter
adafu uno cheap
adighi absent
adighi chim-chim uncomfortable
adighi egwu safety
adighi ike easy; soft; weak
adighi ncha zero
adimadi pattern
adomokoro antagonism
Afirika Africa
afọ stomach
afo year
afo gara aga last year
afo iri decade
afo mkpochi indigestion
afo nabia abia next year
afo nkaa this year
afo ohihi stomachache
afọ ojụjụ comfortable
afo okwu bladder
afọ ọnụ mustach
afo owuwu cholera
afọ ukwu ankle
afọ-onu beard

aga akọ ihe pasture
aga eche delay
agada bed
agada dikotara double bed
agada eji edote ihe table
agada mattress
agada nwatakiri cot
agadi old
agba chin; jaw; part
agbada dagger
agbaetiti average
agbaghara disturbance
agbanwo stereotype
agbara oath
agbaragharii enigma
agbata district; environment
agbata-obi neighbor
agbaya boot(s)
agbaya ukwu sho(es)
agboghobia lady
agburu ethnic
agha war
aghia ekere nut (food)
aghirigha ego coins
aghotaaazaa comprehension
agomago incantation
agu hungry
aguguala history
agumagu literature
agumakwụkwọ education
agumakwụkwọ nkuzi education
 (teacher)
agumakwụkwọ praimari primary
 education
agumakwụkwọ sekọndiri
 secondary education
aguu hunger; malnutrition
agwa bean(s); attitude; character
agwara feature
agwara okwu confrontation
agwaraagwa hybrid
agwo snake

ọ = more

u = soon

ụ = put

ń = sing

- agwo otita** snake bite
aha name
aha ebe ibi address
aha nngi surname
ahia market
ahia aja black market
ahia akwụkwọ nri vegetable shop
ahia akwụkwọ stationer's
ahia iwu black market
ahia ukwu supermarket
ahihia garbage
ahihia nri salad
ahihia oḡu herbs
ahiri line
ahiri nkwa row
ahiri oge timeline
ahiriokwu sentence
ahiriuda rhythm
ahu body; **ahu adighi m.** ill: I am ill.
ahụ ekere groundnut
ahu ekere peanut
ahụ ike healthy
ahu ima ihe mature
ahu mgbu pain
ahu ojo disease
ahu oḡoḡ ill
ahụ ọkụ fever;
ahụ ọma health
ahu-ọkụ *medical* cold
ahuhu ntaramahuhu punishment
ahuhu insect; fly
ahuhu n'ebu oya bacteria
ahuhu passion
ahumihe experience
AIDS AIDS
aja sand
aji onu mustach
ajo nasty
ajuaza quiz
ajuire antidote
ajuju question
ajuju nchoputa questionnaire
aka hand; arm; limb
aka nka style
aka edemede style of writing
aka ikpa left
aka oru eji mara ọnye profession
aka uwe sleeve
akaa mere igwe engineer
akaebe evidence
akara mmuke asterisk
akaraaka destiny; fate
akaranta diacritic
aki bekee coconut
akidi beans
akika termite
akikọlọ scale
akisi bean(s)
akisident accident
ako subtlety
akọ n'uche wisdom
akomako narration
akpa afookwu bladder
akpa bag; pocket; purse; sack
akpa eji ehi ura sleeping bag
akpa nwa womb
akpa nwamiri kidney
akpa onyinya backpack
akpaalaokwụ idiom
akpi scorpion
akpiri throat; **Akpiri n'akpo m nku.** I'm thirsty.
akpu osisi bud
akpu cassava
akpukpo anụ leather
akpuruapu sculpture
akụ dabidoro mmadụ inheritance
aku na uba fortune
akụ ọyibo coconut
akuko; akuko aroroaro fiction; story; report
akuko mgbeaka legend
akuko ifo fable
akuko mgbokpụ legend
akuko mkpirisi short story
akuko mmụo fairy tale
akuko n'abụ ballad
akukonsinooge chronicle
akukoabu ndiife folk ballad
akukoala history
akukonndu (ọnye) biography
akukondụnwe autobiography
akuku section
akumakpu aromaro composition (essay)

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

akwa cloth; sheet; egg
akwa agada sheet
akwa eji achu oyi blanket
akwa eji ehicha ahu towel
akwa eji ehicha aka napkin
akwa ogodo tampons
akwa mgbochi curtain(s)
akwara vein
akwauwa blues
akwobiri amputation
akwu hip
akwukkwa bed
akwukwa mmiri bridge
akwukwe eji ana n'aka credit card
akwukwo book; paper
Akwukwo Nso Bible
akwukwo akuko Bekee novels in English
akwukwo anaeziga na ugbo elu air mail
akwukwo anwuru oku cigarette papers
akwukwo arumaru workbook
akwukwo ego bank notes
akwukwo eje ehicha ike toilet paper
akwukwo eji aba ugbo elu boarding pass
akwukwo eji akwu ugwo bill
akwukwo eji anya ugbo driver's license
akwukwo eji ede ozi writing paper
akwukwo eji eje ije passport
akwukwo etinyere naka ndi ozi registered mail
akwukwo ichebido ihe maka mmebi insurance
akwukwo igosi ihe guidebook
akwukwo ihe ndote notebook
akwukwo ilogha ego check money
akwukwo inabata no obodo visa
akwukwo naezi uzọ obodo road map
akwukwo nleghari anya magazine
akwukwo nri green; vegetables

o = more u = soon

akwukwo omumu textbook
akwukwo osisi leaf
akwukwo ozi letter; newspaper; postcard
akwukwo ugbo ala car papers
akwukwo ugwo bill
akwukwo ukwu university
akwukwo ngosi brochure
akwukwo eji achota ihe okwu putara dictionary
Ala Nde Ojii Africa
ala aga ako ako fallowland
ala down; earth; ground; floor; land; country; low
ala n'eto ihe fertile land
ala ngu marsh
ala okponku desert
ala oma fertile soil
ala oma jigi jigi earthquake
ala-mmadu country
alukwa yim divorce
ama ukwu main square
amakekwu folk dancing
ambulans ambulance
ami reed
amuma dirty
ana edote ihe eji aka mme art gallery
anagi aso anya rude
anakpo m . . . I am called . . .
ano four
anu meat
anu aturu mutton
anu ezi pork
anu nama beef
anu nsọ totem
anụ ewu goat meat
anumamu animal
anwu sun
anwu wasp
anwu nacha it is sunny
anwu ochicha sunny
anwuru tobacco
anwuru oku cigar; cigarette
anwuta mosquito
anya eye; far
anya ike ax; pickax
anya kamera lens
anya mmiri tears
 u = put n = sing

anya-anwu sun rays
anyi we inclusive
anyinwa we exclusive
anyu bee
apa aka elbow
apiri throat
ara breast
ariommgbaghara apology
ariri insect
aro thought
arumaru exercise; project;
 argument
aruru okwu play on words
aruruaro construct
asambo certificate
asaa seven
asato eight
asi false; lie
asimba xenophobia
asisa sandpaper
astroloji astrology
astronomi astronomy
asughara dagger
asusu language
asumasusu abuo bilingualism
asusu epum/nne mother tongue;
 asusu ogbedu patois; **asusu**
 mbu first language; **asusu**
 agwaragwa pidgin; **asusu**
 amumamu technical language;
 asusu edereede written
 language; **asusu krio** creole;
 asusu mba /mbiabia foreign
 language; **asusu ofufe** sacred
 language; **asusu onu** spoken
 language
asusu akara sign language
asusu izugbe standard language
asusu mpaghara regional
 language
asusu nkweko lingua franca
asusu obodo/ala national
 language
asusu ochichi official language
asusu ozuruuwa/ozurumba
 international language
ato three; third
atu afu same
atukwasiri included

a = pat e = pay i = feet i = pet o = so

atumatu nkuzi scheme of work
aturu sheep
atutu theory
awo frog
ayan iron for clothing
aziza answer; broom; brush
azu fish; back; behind
azuazu forwards

B

baibail goodbye!
Baibulu Bible
baket bucket
bampa bumper
banki bank
bara uru useful
barbed waya barbed wire
basketbol basketball
bata! come in!
battery battery
baye enter
becha peel
Bekee English
biko please
binoculars binoculars
blakbod blackboard
blanketi bedcover; blanket
blu blue
blues blues
boda frontier
bol ball
bombo bomb; shell; missile
bombo na agbawabegi
 unexploded bomb
boot boot
bosi cat
bosu bus
brake brake
briki brick
bukaririibu too much
buru ozo verb lead
busu cat
buta butter

CH

chaati chart
chee consider
cheil ah!
chek check money

cheree wait
cheretu! excuse me!
cheretu? may I?
Chi God
Chikwe! God willing!
chim-chim comfortable
Chineke God
chokolat chocolate
chọp want
chooku chalk
chota find
Chukwu God

D

da aunt; to fall
dam exactness
dayagram diagram
dayari diary
democracy democracy
di efere *adjective* light
di husband; very; have; be; **di nta** less; **di ofu** spicy; **di ohuru** fresh
dinka artist
dibia; dibia bekee doctor
dibia na awa ahu surgeon
dibia na elekota eze dentist
diegwu master musician
digrii degree
dika e.g.
dikariri more
dike hero
dindu alive
dinko sharp
dinotu autonomy
dioka expert
dionu ala cheaper
diploma diploma
disko disco
ditu mma better
ditu nta smaller
ditu ukwu larger
dizateshon dissertation
dokita; dokito doctor
dokita eze dentist
dokumenti document
dollar dollar
dosta duster
dube *noun* lead

o = more

u = soon

y = put

n̄ = sing

E

e-mail e-mail
ebaa here
ebe where; place; location; campsite; beetle
ebe-a here
ebe-ahu there
ebe ana eri ihe ụgbọ ala auto spares store
ebe ama azuta ihie shop
ebe an ere ihe eji echeta obodo souvenir shop
ebe ana abanye check-in counter
ebe ana agba ọl stadium
ebe ana agu egwu ukwu opera house
ebe ana akpa isi barber's
ebe ana akwusi na opupu station
ebe ana anu mmayi bar
ebe ana asa akwa laundry
ebe ana awa ahu operating theater
ebe ana azuta ihe aga obodo ozo travel agent
ebe ana eche nche checkpoint
ebe ana edote ego treasury
ebe ana edote ihe ala museum
ebe ana edote ụgbọ ala car park
ebe ana egwu egwu park
ebe ana ehi ura sleeping car
ebe ana eli mmadu cemetery
ebe ana eme achicha baker's, bakery
ebe ana eme mmanu refinery
ebe ana enweta ogwu pharmacy
ebe ana ere agbaya ukwu shoeshop
ebe ana ere akwụkwọ bookshop
ebe ana ere fulawa florist
ebe ana ere ihe azinụlọ hardware store
ebe ana ere ihe orire department store
ebe ana ere ihe shop
ebe ana eri ihe dining car
ebe ana eri nrj restaurant
ebe ana etinye akwụkwọ edere mailbox

ebe ana etinye ibu

- ebe ana etinye ibu** baggage counter
ebe ana etinye ihe drawer
ebe ana etinye iko cupboard
ebe ana ewere akwukwo opupu ticket office
ebe ana eweta ozi information
ebe ana ihe imu oku electrical goods store
ebe ana teye akwukwo edere ede post office
ebe edotara reserved
ebe eme mmiri ara ehi dairy
ebe ihe ise aka art gallery
ebe izu ike onye ije hotel
ebe izu ike onye obibia hostel
ebele pail
ebe mmiri si bido river source
ebe ndi fada monastery
ebe ndi ncho akuko newsstand
ebe ndi oria clinic
ebe nju resource center
ebe nkiri scenery
ebe nkwusi ugbo igwe train station
ebe nzuko conference room
ebe obibi habitat
ebe obu ba check-in
ebe okporo uzọ gafere crossroads
ebe okwusi ugbo ala bus stop
ebe onino onye ije guesthouse
ebe opupu mgberegede emergency exit
ebe otu uzọ one-way street
ebe ozizo ihe file; documents
ebe ugbo elu n'ada; ebe odida ugbo elu airport
ebge ukwu machine gun
ebighiebi eternity
ebu bee
ebube brave
ebubo accusation
echere odiaala folklore
echi tomorrow
echiche thought
ede coco yam
edecheta memoirs
edekwa edit
edemede composition; essay
edemsemina seminar paper
edenduonye biography
ederede article
edereede passage
edide article
edozi ego economy of country etc
edukeshon education
edumede nkaru lampoon
eeh yes
efere plate; bowl; dish; china
efu zero
efuola m I am lost
egba ahia commercial
egbe gun; kite
egbe nta pistol
egbe tuum artillery
egbeokwo exaggeration
egbo egbo boiling
egbomoku humidity
egbu egbu ax
egbugbere ihu forehead
egbugbere onu lip
eghere eghe ji french fries
ego money; cash; price; coin
ego aghirgha loose change
ego ala iji bia currency
ego anakwu na ebe ugwo elu nada airport tax
ego mbato income
ego ndota savings
egusi melon; watermelon
egweriri-egweri ground
egwu amakewu folk music
egwu song; composition;
egwu/uri alumdi marriage songs;
egwu/uri dike/otito praisesongs;
egwu/uri ogbugba dance songs;
egwu/uri okwu love songs
egwu nkwa music
egwu poopu pop music
egwu ugbua modern music
egwu/nkwa odinaala traditional music
ehe yes
ehere ihe fried
ehesia anya concentration

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

ehi cow; cattle
ehihe; ehizie day; noon; afternoon
ejije drama; **ejije ndiife** folk drama; **ejije odinaala** traditional drama; **ejije ogbū** pantomime; **ejije ohuruoha** popular drama; **ejije onū** oral drama; **ejijedike** epic poetry
ejiji costume
ejima twins
ejirimara characteristics
eju snail
eke fate
ekene greet
ekereke creature
Ekesmesi Christmas
eketa basket
ekike; ekike egwū costume
ekpa ihe na aka busy; occupied
ekwadoro recommend
ekwe approve
ekwechaghi skepticism
ekweghekwe disbelief
ekwemekwe belief
ekwomekwo abortion
ekwu cooker
ekwu igwe stove
ekwukwe ngu diaphragm
ekwumekwu speech; performance
ekwureekwu okpū traditional sayings
ekwuru theatre
ele ebe/ha? where is/are?
elekele-aka *noun* watch
elekra onye clock
elu up; high; thick
elu ulo roof
ema ihe clever
emechaa until
emechaa after
emenka carpenter
emi cause
emiriemi depth
emughu ahū hurt
emume act
emume ngosi performance
emumenzuikē interlude

enara borrow
eno four
enwe monkey
enweghi isi useless
enweghī zero
enwegi nwa barren
enwere ike to be able; can
enyi friend
enyi mba elephant
enyo picture
enyouche imagination
eri cotton
erimeri meals
eriri string; rope
eriri eji ado ugbo tow rope
eriri olu tie
eriyal television antenna
eruru caterpillar
esaa seven
esato eight
esereese diagram
eteghiete nine
etemte cycle
ethnic cleansing ethnic cleansing
etite center
etite obodo center of town
etiti average
etiti between
etiti obodo city center
eto three
etoto boil *noun*
evo accusation
ewa anyo to be cheeky
ewepuru excluded
ewu goat
ewumewu institution
eze king; sovereign; tooth/teeth
eze ngbu toothache
eze nwanyi queen
ezi lawn; pig
ezi nta suburb
ezi oku true
ezi okwu truth
ezi na ulo nuclear family; **ezi na ulo mbasa** extended family
ezie sure *adjective*
ezigbo real
ezum ike holiday

o = more

u = soon

u = put

h = sing

F

faks fax
fan fan
fataliza fertilization; fertilizer
fim; fiim film
fim nachaputa achaputa color film
fiyuz fuse
fiziki physics
fiziyo physiotherapy
flashikaadi flashcard
flawa flower
flint flint
fomula formula
foonu nti earphone
foto photograph; picture
fọtọkọpi photocopy
fọtọkọpia photocopier
foutin fountain
Fraide Friday
franc franc
Frenchi French
fulawa flour
fut *measurement* foot
futbọl; futubọl soccer
fuwel fuel

G

ga go; walk
ga naka ikpa turn left
ga naka nri turn right
gadaga bridge
gadin garden
galon gallon
gara aga past
gas gas
gawa move
gawa n'ihu proceed
gazeeti gazette
gbache blockade
gbanwe convert
gbasara concerning
gbaziri borrow
gbubie cut
gbujuo fill
gburu gburu circle
gburugburu round; roundabout
gerigi thin
gi you *singular*

gini wu ubochi taa? what date is it today?
gita guitar
giya gear
gol goal
gọm chewing gum
gosi check
gova guava
gram gram
grama grammar; **grama okpu** traditional grammar
gulu glue
guo count

H

ha they
haba harbor
ha di? are there?
hapu leave
HIV HIV

I/I!

iba flu; malaria
ibe akwa weep
ibe nkenke short-cut
ibi live
ibi uguwu circumcision
ibia aka vote
ibila mattress
ibọ ebubo accuse
ibu fat
ibu load; goods
ibu kariri akari excess baggage
ibua two
ibufe promote
ibuli n'okwa promote
ibulita raise
iburu ibu fat
ibuwanye increase
ichafu isi scarf
iche ihu facing
iche n'ihu to focus
ichebịbọ to attack
ichi ozo chieftaincy
ichiachi authority
ichọ expect; look for
ichocho research *verb*
ichoputa discovery
ichu nta hunting

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

ichu osu chase
ida fail
ide write; aim at
idere copy
idetu iha list
idezi edit
idi afọ ole age
idide worm
idi iche different
idi ike intensity
idi ndu alive
idi ocha hygiene
idi uto interesting
ido any prove
idola azu to retard
idonyere ukwu to support
idozi mend
iduu saga
iduuazi novel
ifo folk tale
ifo ime pregnant
ifu to blow
ifufe air
ifuru/akuko okike
 myth/mythology
igadu arrive
igafe to pass
igagbe anya eyeglasses
igba sting; drum
igba abuo double
igba afa to divine
igbagbu assassination
igbagbu mmadu nihu ogbara
 oha public execution
igba egwu dancing
igba ihe bright
igba ihe plait
igba irogho curve; curved
igba mgba wrestling
igba nju to query
igbanwe exchange; reform; vary;
Achọrọ m igbanwe ego
 dollar. I want to change some
 dollars.
igba oso athletics
igba ukwu kick
igbaputa liberation
igbasa expansion
igbati straighten

igbe box; case; suitcase
igbe anwuru oku carton of
 cigarettes
igbo nwe exchange
Igbo Igbo; **Ndi Igbo** the Igbo
 people; **dioka na nkuzi asusu**
Igbo Igbo language teaching
 expert
igbu kill
igbu mmadu murder
igegbe anya contact lenses
igenti listen
ighe ihe fry
ighere onu empty
igidi foot of leg
igobata ihe na obodo import
igosi perform; show
igụ n'isi recite *verb*
igwe bicycle; iron; steel; flock;
 herd
igwe edojila cloud(s)
igwe ọme ngwa ngw accelerator
igwe ndu iron
igwu flea; louse; tick
igwu ala dig
igwuagwu finish
igwu mmiri swimming
ihe thing; something; light
ihe a na-ere ma ericha nri
 dessert
ihe akpuru akpu monument
ihe akpuru akpu statue
ihe ana akpu akpu pottery
ihe ana anu anu drink
ihe ana asa asa laundry
ihe ana ete nonu lipstick
ihe ana eti n'ukwu boots
ihe ana-enyi na amụ condom
ihe biri-biri candy; sugar
ihe di mkpo valuable
ihe eje ede akwu akwo pen; pencil
ihe eji abe mbo nail clippers
ihe eji abo isi hairbrush
ihe eji acho nma powder;
 mascara
ihe eji achu oyi ọzọ extra blanket
ihe eji agafe mmiri bridge
ihe eji agba mmiri hose
ihe eji agbako ihe calculator

ọ = more

u = soon

ụ = put

ñ = sing

ihe eji agba mmiri

ihe eji agbanye oku lighter
ihe eji aghu eze toothpick
ihe eji aka kpaa handicraft
ihe eji akpoghe ihe can opener
ihe eji akpoghe karama
corkscrew
ihe eji aku ihu shaving cream
ihe eji ama oge anagba naka
watch
ihe eji amunye oku matches
ihe eji anwunye anwuru oku
ashtray
ihe eji ari elu ladder
ihe eji asa ahu shower
ihe eji asa eze toothbrush;
toothpaste
ihe eji asa isi shampoo
ihe eji asa onu mouthwash
ihe eji atu ihe ruler
ihe eji atugbu ahụ anesthetic
ihe eji atukwasi akwụkwọ desk
ihe eji azu anumanu animal feed
ihe eji ede akwu kwo ballpoint
ihe eji ede akwụkwọ ink; paper
ihe eji edosi food processor
ihe eji egbo mmiri umbrella
ihe eji egwu ihe drill
ihe eji ehicha ike toilet paper
ihe eji ehicha imi/ihu tissues
ihe eji ejide mmanu na ụgbọ
tanker
ihe eji ejide mmanu oilcan
ihe eji ejide nchu anwu tent pegs
ihe eji ejide uweyi safety pin
ihe eji ejigide uweyi ukwu belt
ihe eji ekuta mmiri bucket
ihe eji ekwo okwu nikuku
telephone
ihe eji emechi akwụkwọ edere
envelope
ihe eji emechi onya bandaid
ihe eji emeghari onu snack
ihe eji emehie karama bottle-
opener
ihe eji esi isi oma deodorant
ihe eji etinye ihe vase
ihe eji etinye mmiri water bottle
ihe eji ezi ụzọ sign
ihe eji isi nri cooker

ihe eji mara ụgbọ car registration
ihe eji-kpa akwa fabric
ihe elu climb
ihe emume occasion
ihe eseri ese drawing
ihe esieri esie to be cooked
ihe gbalu yari magic
ihe gbasara subject; topic
ihe gbasara iku ubi agriculture
ihe gbasara ndi ije tourism
ihe iguri egu toy
ihe ijide aka handle
ihe ima tų model
ihe mgbakacha ahụ allergy
ihe mgberegde accident
ihe mme me ceremonial
ihe mmuya oku light bulb
ihe nachikata obodo
constitution
ihe n'achipu ụmụ ahinia insect
repellant
ihe nagu oku light meter
ihe n'aju ihe ogi refrigerator
ihe nakowa ụzọ map
ihe nakowasi obodo postcard
ihe n'ebe oku elektriiki current;
electricity
ihe nebulie ebuhie infection
ihe n'ebuli elu elevator
ihe n'ebupu mmiri ojọ drainage
system
ihe n'efe-efe butterfly
ihe n'egbu ahuhu insecticide
ihe n'egbu anwuta mosquito coil
ihe n'egbu mmedu poison
ihe n'ejide anwuta mosquito net
ihe n'esi isi oma perfume
ihe n'eweta oku plug
ihe nezi obodo city-map
ihe ngosi direction
ihe nkechi package
ihe nkiri comedy; show
ihe nkwobi saw
ihe nracha ice-cream
ihe ntinye aka relief aid
ihe ntu oyi tųrų freeze
ihe ntuda ụgbọ elu parachute
ihe o tita sandwich
ihe ochi concert; show;

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

performance; fun
ihe ochie echedoro mma fossil
ihe ohuru jade; modern
ihe ojoo crime
ihe oku flame
ihe omume activity; exercise
ihe onu necklace
ihe oputara development
ihe oputara okirikiri diameter
ihe oriri di ichie diet
ihe oru aka occupation
ihe otu-utu candy
ihe oyi ice
ihe ozizi exhibition
ihe si na mmiri ara ehi cheese
ihe ubi crops
ihe ura asleep; to be asleep
ihe utita chewing gum
ihe okpom oku acid
ihe-nile every
ihenti earring
ihj ura to sleep
ihogbu itunye akwukwo vote-rigging
ihoro select
ihu exterior; face; front
ihu akwukwo page
ihu ahu bath
ihu mmuo shrine
ihu na anya attraction
ihu n'ogu grill
ihu oma favour
ihu ubochi weather
ihuhu backwards
ihunanya love
ihujoj failure
ihuoma success
ijboru cassava
iji fly
iji ego acho ego business
ijiji housefly
ijiriji fog; misty
iju to be full up
iju afo to be satisfied
iju ajuju interview
ika nulnya bias
ika okwu guess
ika death
ike bottom; difficult; hard; heavy;

strong; strength; force; power; share
ike ndi mmadu civil rights; human rights
ike ogwu gwu tired
ike ugbo ala exhaust
ikeolu stress; emphasis
ikili ukwu heel
iko cup; jug
iko ako to dry
ikpo ihe cultivate
ikpo ihe planting
ikoke define
ikopi to copy
ikosara; ikoturu report
ikowad describe
ikowasi define
ikpa maka discuss
ikpa nkata discussion
ikpalite stimulate
ikpate mmuo inspire
ikpe law; satire
ikpe azu lateness
ikpe ikpe onwu death penalty
ikpere knee
ikpesa to report
ikpo pu evacuate
ikpo(ko) pronounce
ikpucha shave
ikpumi shift
ikpurukpu caterpillar
iku anya eyebrow
iku ihe crop rotation
iku ihe sowing
ikuku air; breeze; wind; oxygen
ikuku neku taa windy
iku obi plow
iku okpo box *fight*
iku ubi farming
ikwa ozu funeral
ikwado support
ikwasa counter
ikwe confirm; allow
ikwekorita agreement
ikweta believe
ikwikwi owl
ikwo-ura snore
ikwu si ike declare
ikwunwe repeat

o = more u = soon

y = put n = sing

ikwuputa announce	knowledge
ikwusi cancellation	ine look
ikwusi ogu ceasefire	ini grave; cemetery
ile sell	inji motor
ile isi ofe saucepan	ino occur
ile okwu regional accent	ino ala sit
ileba anya examine; investigate	inobido iche bido interference
ilekota supervise	inofega to shift
ileta supervise	internet Internet
ili tomb	inu ihe hear
ilo wish <i>verb</i>	inupụ isi resistance
ilu bitter; proverb	inupu push
ilu ogu battle	inwa oke truck
iluola di ko iluola nwanyi marital status	inwa oke try
ima know	inwale assess
ima evuvu condensation	inwe belonging to; have
ima ihe knowledge	inwe isi ike protest
ime bake; in; inside	inweike ability
ime abali midnight	inwere onwe free
ime ala underground	inwere onwe independence
ime ebere humanitarian aid	inweta onwe freedom
ime obodo city center	inweta onwe independent
ime obodo interior of <i>country</i> ; town; town center	inwu onwu die
ime ofia jungle	inya ugbọ ala drive a car
ime ulọ room	inye accident
imegbu mmegbu torture	inye aka help <i>noun</i>
imegbu wrong	inye aka na uzo diche input
imeghari revise	inye nri feed
imegide oppression	inye obara blood transfusion
imeji liver	inyiinya ibu donkey
imela thank you	inyinya horse; stallion
imelite stimulate	inyinya ibu donkey
imenwe repeat	inyinya ibu mule
imenwo revise	inyonye anya scan
imeolu bedroom	ipaasi pass
imeputa ihe production	ipere shy
imetosi mmadu rape	ipia ihe corporal punishment
imi nose	ire tongue; root
imirị amu to smile	ire ure decay
imirikiti more	iri ten
impi horn	iri abuo twenty
imu anya awake	iri ano forty
imurị amụ laugh	iri asaa seventy
inabata accept	iri ato thirty
inabata na ofo ojuju to entertain guests	irihe eat
inagide (amamihe) to retain	iri ihe ubi harvest
	iri ihe ubi reaping
	iri ise fifty
	iri isi sixty

a = pat e = pay i = feet ì = pet o = so

iri iteghete ninety
iri na abo thirteen
iri na abuo twelve
iri na ano fourteen
iri na asaa seventeen
iri na isato eighteen
iri na ise fifteen
iri na isi sixteen
iri na iteghefe nineteen
iri na otu eleven
iri ngari corruption
iro ochi clown; comic
iru inyi dirty
iru mgbede female coming of age
iru oru work
iru uka argue
irugosi identify
isato eight
ise; iso five
iseke analyse
isi blindness; blind; top; head;
 chapter; to boil; six
isi church cathedral
isi ego capital (financial)
isi-isi peak; summit
isi mmiri coast
isi nkpisi ukwu toe
isi nkwocha bald
isi obodo capital city
isi ugbo ala bonnet
isi ulo uko cathedral
isi ututu dawn
isiokwu argument
iso anya polite
iso okwu conflict: to be in
 conflict with
isompi competition
isu nsu stutter
isuko (lata) to contract
isupe to spell
isusu onu kiss
ita kpom kpom drip
ita nchara rust
itabi anya wink
ite pot
ite aka distance
ite egwu to dance
ite mmiri water pot
ite nkwa dance *verb*

ite nri cooking pot
itenye anya n'ihe invest
itenye ego n'ihe investment
iteta wake someone up
itiri dark; darkness
ito rise
ito three
itoozu qualify
itu agwo gwu color
itu egwu danger
itu ujo to be frightened
itucha; itule assess
itunye akwukwo voting
itunyere compare
iwagbo ogu invasion
iwaputa extract
iwe anger
iwe iwe angry
iwepu tinye onye ozọ
 displacement
iwu build; rule
iye copy
iyi oath; similar (to)
iza to sweep
izipa no obodo ozọ to export
izipu export
iziputa ndi to contrast
izommiri fall *rain*
izu buy
izu afia trade
izu ike imeghari onu break for
 refreshments
izu uka week; **izu uka gara aga**
 last week; **izu uka nabia abia**
 next week; **izu uka nkaa** this
 week
izu uka abuo fortnight

J

jack jack
jarra commission
jaz jazz
ji yam; quiet
jide arrest
jide catch
jide hold
jikodo join
jiografi geography
jioloji geology

ọ = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

jonalu journal
juo ask

K

kaadi card
kaadiboodu cardboard
kaesirihu attitude
kaesiriwere attitude
ka-ma but
kamera camera
kandulu candle
kansa cancer
kanye check
ka omesial goodbye!
karama bottle; **karama mmanyi**
bottle of beer; **karama mmiri**
bottle of water
kariri many
kaseti cassette tape
kemmaiwu prescriptive
kemmeme ceremonial
kempunuudi informal
kentoaja ritual
keabu poetry; poetic
keadiuchemnsu illogical
keaja ritual
kedike epic
kedu? why?; what?; how?; **Kedu**
ihe oge nekwa? What time is
it?
kedul hello!
keeshirihu point of view
keeze dental
kegide fasten
kemgbaulo cyclic
kemistri chemistry
kemmetuta obi emotional
kemmugo ill-formed
keodimara symbolic
ketaa just now
ketal kettle
keuchenso logical
keudi formal
keuri sonic
keuwa cosmic
kilogaram kilogram
kilomita kilometer
Kiristia Christian
klaasi class *in school*

koji coffee
komedi comedy
komitii committee
kompas compass
komputa computer
konodom condom
kontrakt contract
kopa copper
kopi copy
koton cotton
koton-wul cotton wool
kowa explain
kpachiri narrow
kpafuo disappear
kpakpandu star
kpo-oku burn
kpom kwem accurate
kpuchie close
kreolu; krio creole
kua to dial
kuku cook
kuo to plant
kurikulum curriculum
kushon cushion
kusia oku burn
kuzie teach
kwot coat
kwunsara reporter
kwuo tell
kwura address
kwuru otu get up
kwusi! stop!

L

la nu to say goodbye to
labrari library
lakwaha ... here are ...
larri level
lekwaya ... here is ...
lingwistiiki mpaghara linguistic
group
lifti lift *noun*
linin linen
lita liter

M

ma also
Ma Chikwe! God willing!
maasi mathematics

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

madu abuo double room
madu human
magazin magazine
mail mile
majarin butter
maka because
maka eze dental
maka ihea because of that
mana but
mangoro mango
manu brown
ma otu ma otu each
ma owu or
mara mma beauty; beautiful
mark mark *currency*
mashin machine
masiri especially
ma ukwu, ma nta more or less
mba no; **mba** abroad
mbam mba belt
mbara acre; width; wide
mbara ala field
mbara elu igwe atmosphere
mbara main minefield
mbara mmanu oilfield
mbari/oba nkaokpu museum
mbata arrivals; enter
mbem chant; poetry
mbem okwu ode
mberede surprise
mbgo (egbe) ammunition
mbiba aka signature
mbo comb; nail
mboro mboro balloon
mbu first; firstly
mbube ladder
mbunaobi aim
mbunuuche kpomkwem specific
 objective
mburu metaphor
me do
mebe make
mebie destroy
mech football match
mechi close
megedi continue
meghaa happen
mel mail
metafo metaphor

o = more

u = soon

mezie fix
mfunaala indigenous
mgako add
mgba aka bracelet
mgba bo (abup) fork
mgba nju query
mgbaaghara discord
mgba-aka ring
mgbabido blockade
mgbabido intervention
mgbabo branch
mgbachi closed; lock
mgbachi uzọ doorlock
mgbada deer
mgbafu exile
mgbagbo bent
mgbagha debate
mgbaghaputa reason
mgbaghara area
mgbaghasi calamity
mgbaji bead(s); break; cotton
 cloth
mgbali struggle
mgbali obara blood pressure;
mgbamafa divination
mgbanuuche realize
mgbanwe change
mgbasa disperse
mgbaze melt
mgbe abali evening
mgbe emechara afterwards
mgbe period; time
mgbeole? when?
mgberegede natural disaster
mgbesi crumb
mgbhari uka contradiction
mgbirigha bell
mgboko sugar cane
mgbonzu blackboard
mgboonu argot
mgbu ache
mghafu escape
mgosi direct
mikroskop microscope
mil mill
miliki milk
mita meter
mkpa significance
mkpaamu jester

u = put

n = sing

mkpabi aka

mkpabi aka thumb
mkpachi padlock
mkpalite stimulation
mkparị abuse
mkparita uka dialogue
mkpata; mkpatara cause; reason
mkpatara na mputara cause and effect
mkpatemmụo inspiration
mkpe structure
mkpesa complaint
mkpete azu last
mkpi pair
mkpiriishi short
mkpisiri aka finger
mkpo da ugwu slope
mkpo-aghara ọchịchị coup d'etat
mkpoko pronunciation
mkpolite evocation; introduction
mkpori sarcasm
mkporogwu root
mkpotu loud
mkprishi half
mkpu mask
mkpuru crops
mkpuru abidii nta small letter
mkpuru aka finger
mkpuru mgbo bullet
mkpuru nta small
mkpuruabidii letter of alphabet
mkpuruobi soul
mkpuruokwu word
mkpuruuda to phone
mkpuchi cover
mma feature
mma good; nice; knife; **odi mma** well
mma ihu abuo dagger
mma ntakiri penknife
mmabiegwu cadence
mmadu person
mmadu bi na obodo population
mmagba chord
mmagba harmony
mmaiwu prescription
mmajijiji vibration
mmalite stimulation
mmammuta competence
mmanu anu honey

mmanu crude (oil)
mmanu ihe eji amunye oku lighter fluid
mmanu oil
mmanu ugbo fuel
mmanu ugbo ala petroleum
mmanya ngwo palm wine
mmanyeanya skim
mmasi charm
mmatazu familiarity
mmaya na aba nanya alcohol
mmaya oku wine
mmayi oku brandy
mmbido begin
mmechi base
mmechi shut
mme instrument
mmeemee red
mmegbu abuse
mmeghari revision
mmehie open
mmeko ọmenaala bicultural
mmekorita relationship
mmemara experience
mmeme celebration
mmenwo revision
mmeochi humor
mmeputa output
mmereme fact
mmeri victory
mmetuta relation
mmetuta obi emotion
mmife transmission
mmiọ learn
mmiri water; liquid; stream; river; sea; ocean; rain; **mmiri oku** hot water; **mmiri oyi** cold water; **Mmiri na ezo**. It is raining.
mmiri ara ehi milk
mmiri igegbe anya contact lens solution
mmiri ohuhu water current
mmiri oku tea; **mmiri oku di ike etinyere mmiri ara ehi** coffee with milk; **mmiri oku etighere mmiri ara ehi** tea with milk; **mmiri oku etighere oroma nkirisi** tea with lemon
mmiri onunu drinking water

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

mmiri ọrum fruit juice
mmiri ọruru stream
mmiri osisi sap
mmiri uto mineral water
mmu ọkọ candle
mmu ọkọ candlestick
mmume activity
mmumu olu aka education
 (vocational)
mmuọ soul
mmuta education
modem modem
moto car; bus
mpaghara accent
mpaghara breadth
mpaghara empire
mpaghara section
mpakoṣṣwe chauvinism
mpalaga branch
mpalisi pillow
mpata ụkwụ thigh
mpesin impersonal
mpi hoof
mpki atụrụ Hausa ram
mpunuudi informality
mputa output
mputara effect
mputara sense; meaning
mụ I
muọ ozi angel
muudu mood
mwere assumption
mwube construction
myiemetu parallel
myinaabuọ full
myiri similarity
myiri simile
myiri synonym
myiyi imagery
myoch nri digestive
myocha digestion
myochaputa digest
myomyo lax

N

na and; in; on; at; with
na-akuku edge
na ututu in the morning
nabali taa tonight

naira naira
nama cow; cattle
nani alone
na-oge early
na uju abundance
ncha scissors; soap
ncha oku flash
nche n'ihu focus
nche ngu diaphragm
nchebido attack
nchebido intervene
ncheoge interlude
nchetu pause
nche-ụnọ wall gecko
nchicha duster; eraser
nchikota resume; summary
nchocha research *noun*
nchoputa discover
nchu anwu tent
ndabi olu shoulder
ndagwurugwu valley
ndakọ coincidence
ndakoritamkpi couplet
ndalorita rhyme
ndanda ant
ndanuusoro rhythm
nde million
nde no ne isi authority
ndebaaha register (for a course)
ndenkenke shorthand
ndenkenke writing (shorthand)
ndenyeaha register (for a course)
nderenaaka manuscript
ndi people; community
ndiaa these
Ndi Arab Arabs
ndi agha army; troops; armed
 forces
ndi agha ụgbọ elu airforce
ndi agha ụgbọ navy
ndida ugwu slope
ndidi endurance
ndi di ntakiri minority
Ndi Edo Edo
Ndi Efik Efik
ndieri those
Ndi Fulani Fulani
Ndi Hausa Hausa
Ndi Ibibio Ibibio

ọ = more

u = soon

ụ = put

ń = sing

- ndiichie** ancestor(s)
Ndi Idoma Idoma
ndiife folk
Ndi Igara Igara
Ndi Ijaw Ijaw
ndika simile
Ndi Kanuri Kanuri
ndi kariri majority
ndi lamkpa critical
Ndi Mba Mmiri Coastal People
 (Brass, etc.)
ndi mba obodo ozo international
 community
ndi mgbasa ozi oma missionary
ndimiiche difference
ndi mmadu people
ndi na elekota onye isi obodo
 presidential guard
ndi nagakata convoy
ndi ndumodu advisory council
ndi ne eche ahia iwu customs at
airport etc
ndi nedote udo peace-keeping
 troops
ndi negwu mmanu oil company
ndi nekwataghi opposition
ndi nkiri audience; spectators
ndi nwe ala government
Ndi Obodo Noko Tora United
 Nations
ndi obodo townspeople
ndi ochichi/oluobodo
 government
ndi ogba oso refugee
ndi otu team
ndi soja armed forces
Ndi Tiv Tiv
ndi uweyi oji police
Ndi Yoruba Yoruba
ndo! sorry!
ndogburu ugbo cart
ndokasi; ndokurita conflict
ndola azu retardation
ndomanya exposition
ndonyere ukwu support
ndoro ndoro futbol soccer
 match
ndoro ndoro matches; politics
ndosi co-operative
ndota ego deposit *financial*
ndu life
ndubata introduction
ndudu syringe
nduku sweet potato
nduli pigeon
ndumodu exhortation
ndumodu advice
ne abali tonight
n'elu on top of
nfecha ihu handkerchief
nga prison
nga ana ako ihe plantation
nga ana aku ogo laboratory
nga ana eri nri restaurant
ngabiga mmiri canal
ngadaba fort
nga gara aga previous
ngaji cutlery; spoon
ngaji eze armed forces
ngaji ntakiri teaspoon
ngaji odudu fork
ngbaji broke
ngbako calculate
ngbo ammunition
ngbo egbe bullet
ngbu be chop up
ngbu pail
ngbubecha fragmentation
ngelenge xylophone
nghaliko conflict
nghogbu cheat; cheating
nghota meaning
ngigo ode
ngili atọ intestine
ngọ reward
ngosiedemede proof
ngosiputa illustration
ngucha end *verb*
ngucha ohimiri delta
nguchi diaphragm
nguniisi recitation
ngunwu ability
ngwa ngwa fast
ngwa nlere (anya) visual-aid
ngwa olu equipment
ngwaamme action
ngwaegwu instrument
ngwaraogwa miscellaneous

a = pat e = pay i = feet i = pet o = so

ngwe fence; wall
ngwere lizard
ngweri grind
ngwo ngwo ụlọ furniture
ngwoolụ accent
ngwu ala shovel; spade
ngwugwu parcel
nha compound *in village*
nhatanha balance; symmetry
nhatuobi comic relief
nhazi akuko plot; scheme
nhoputa selection
nhoro selection
nhuru sense
ni ihu present; now
n'ihu in front of; opposite
n'ile whole
njakiri railroad
njem journey; trip; travel
njem egwu adventure
njije parody
njikere readiness
njiko eji akuzu akwụkwọ
 curriculum
njiko nwoke na nwanyi
 contraception
njiko obodo federation
njkwata control
njin engine
nji nji black
njirimara characteristics
njirisi; njiritu criteria
njọ ugly
nju negative
nka craft; art; skill
nka ahu that
nkaa this
nkalama glass
nkaru slander
nkata basket
nke ano fourth
nke edotere edote reserves
nke ojoo bad
nke platform
nke gboo primitive
nke segment
nkebi step; section
nkebi ekere cross-section
nkebi nta sub-section

nkegba timetable
nkeji hour; section
nkeole? which?
nkeri ahiriuda divisive
nkete possession
nkewa distribution; divided; part
nkghari contradiction
nkita dog
nkiti ordinary
nkocha describe
nkọke definition
nkoo n la na agboke ọkụ
 fireworks
nkopi copying
nkoririko legend
nkowa broken
nkowa (ihe kpatara) explanation
nkowa njieme key
nkowa okwu interpretation
nkowaasi fallacy
nkowada footnote
nkowaokwu dictionary
nkowaokwu n'asusu abuo
 bilingual dictionary
nkowasi definition
nkpata ụzọ foothpath
nkpatụ noise
nkpisi akwụkwọ pen
nkpisi akwụkwọ pencil
nkpofuru lung
nkporọ cage
nkpruru nkwo palm nut
nkpu chi lid
nkpuru seed
nkpuru anya eyeball
nkpuru osisi fruit
nkpuru ubi cash crop
nku wing
nkụ wood; firewood
nkufe to cross
nkuku mmiri flood; river bank
nkume brick; block; rock
nkumigwe typewriting
nkuugu chest pulse
nkwa record; dance
nkwadide apology
nkwado support
nkwadota ready
nkwadowe readiness

ọ = more

u = soon

ụ = put

ń = sing

- nkwako egwụ** percussion
nkwu association; palm wine
nkwu jbu pineapple
nkwuma euphemism
nkwunihu antecedent
nkwuru atmosphere; status
nkwuto libel
nkwuwa adverb
nleda anayanwu south
nlekota supervision
nlele examine; investigate
nlele akwụkwọ examination
nleta supervision
nma cutlery
nna father
nnama cattle
nnana and; anecdote
nnanna ancestor(s)
nnanna; nna ochie nna
 grandfather on father's side
nnanne; nna ochie nne
 grandfather on mother's side
nnara assimilation
nnari hundred
nndu existence
nne mother
nne inyinya mare
nnenna; nne ochie nna
 grandmother on father's side
nnenne; nne ochie nne
 grandmother on mother's side
nni okponku dried food
nnochiaha pronoun
nnochoteanya succession
nnokọta alliance
nnomi imitation
nnu salt
nnukwu large
nnukwu major
nnukwu ogige territory
nnukwu ọka iwụ judge
nnukwu ụbọ ọla lorry
nnuno occurrence
nnunu bird
nnunu na egbu ebeya bird of
 prey
nnunuuche image
nnurunuuche imagery
nnwale evaluation
nnwale test
nnwebiisinka copyright
nnweta possession
nnwoghari transformation
nnyeife transmission
nnyamaka nurulere audio-visual
 aid
nnyo mirror
nnyocho critique
nnyocho examination
nochi barrier
noklata collective; community
novul nine
npuga obodo countryside
nputara sensory perception
nri food; meal
nri abali dinner
nri abali supper
nri ehie lunch
nri eji emeghari onu dessert
nri ututu breakfast
nriụle cheat
nro dream
nromegwu musical composition
nruaka sign
nrugosi identification
nrurita uka debate
nruro efu fantasy
nruro fancy
nsaiklopedia encyclopedia
nsere okwụ quotation
nsi egwu music
nsikọ crab
nsinaala mpunaala indigenous
nsinambu original
nsinammuọ intuition
nsiputa source
nsiridi reality
nso near
nsochiuda continuity
nsogbu crisis; problem
nsogbu di! danger!
nsoje sequel; sequence
nsoro pattern; rank
nsoro nsoro series
nsoroedide orthography
nsu egbe cannon
nsuobi stress; tension
nsupe spelling

a = pat e = pay i = feet ị = pet o = so

nsuru finiteness
nsuso sequence
nta light
ntachi close
ntachị stitch
ntakiri little; small
ntakwu soliloquy
nti cheek; ear
ntị nkpu shout
ntiinime input
ntoaja rites
ntokiri dilemma
ntozu qualification
ntropoloji anthropology
ntu oyi fridge
ntuaka sign
ntufeokwu innuendo
ntugbu oya antiseptic
ntughari converse; reverse
ntughari translation
ntughe key
ntuhiko conflict
ntule examination
ntuleghari review
ntumade surprised
ntusa stretch
ntutu needle
ntuwata anwu sunrise
nukwu abundance
nuo drink
nuo miliki drink milk
nuria enjoy
nurulere audio-visual
nwa child
nwa agboq girl
nwa akwukwo school pupil
nwa akwukwo student
nwa aturu lamb
nwa-bebi baby
nwa inyinya pony
nwa nna *male* cousin
nwa nne *female* cousin
nwa ntakiri baby
nwa nwanyi eze princess
nwa nwoke boy
nwa nwoke eze prince
nwa obala kitten
nwaamadi gentleman
nwanna nwoke brother; father's son

nwanne nwoke brother; mother's son
nwanne nwanyi sister
nwanyi woman; marriage
nwanyi hapuru diya divorced *female*
nwanyi luru di married *female*
nwanyi na alubegi di single *female*
nwanyo silence; slow
nwata child
nwatakiri young
nwata nwoke boy
nwe ihu oma! good luck!
nwekota ndi obodo ozọ
 diplomatic ties
nwere ike imu mwa fertile
nwereike to be able
nwoke man
nwoke hapuru nwunye ya
 divorced *male*
nwoke luru nwanyi married *male*
nwoke na alubegi nwanyi single *male*
nwunye wife
nwuru anwu dead
nyahu gara aga yesterday
nyaka child
nye give
nye aka help
nyem bring; give
nyi charcoal
nyiri aru heavy
nyo strainer
nyo akuku sieve
nyocha itule examine; investigate
nzere degree; qualification
nzimozi; nzikorita ozi
 communication
nziputa demonstration
nziuzo clue
nzizo hide
nzoku audience *meeting*
nzoputa defense
nzụ chalk; full
nzuko meeting; conference;
 convention
nzuko ndi neligede ndi ozi trade union

o = more u = soon

y = put ñ = sing

nzuko ndi ode akwụkwọ cabinet
nzuko ochichi parliament
nzupuuka aside

O/O

oba barn; building
oba akwụkwọ library
ọbagwụ duck
obara blood
obara mgbali ala low blood pressure
obara mgbali elu high blood pressure
obara-obara red
ọbere osisi ụgbọ mmiri canoe
obere ọtụ ileta ihe committee
obere ugwu plateau
obi heart; chest
obi eze kingdom; palace
obi mgbafu heart attack
obi oha communal sentiment
obi ụgbọ ala engine
obi uto happy
obodo city; country; state; nation
obodo bekee abroad
obodo jikọrụ ọnụ federal state
Obodo Ndi Nnokotara Otu
 United Nations
obodo noro onweya
 independent state
obodo ọyibo abroad
obom arena *theatre*
obu lezi course: of course!
ocha clean; neat; white
ocha nanya hepatitis
oche seat; chair; stool; furniture
oche ide ihe desk
oche nwere aka armchair
oche ozo chair
ochichi ofere democracy
ochie old; ancient; traditional; century
ochucho desire
odachi tragedy
ode akwụkwọ author; writer
ode akwụkwọ na edozi obodo
 administrator
ode ole? how many?
odee writer

odenke shorthand writer
odezi editor
odibendi custom
odida failure
odida ala landslide
odida anyanwu west
odida mmiri waterfall
odida ugwu foothills; valley
odide writing
odidi nature; shape; form
odigi onu cheap
odimara symbol
odi mma good
odinaala tradition; **odinaala dike**
 heroic tradition; **odinaala**
ndife folk traditions
odi n'ihu future
odi njoo bad
odinkwenye credibility
odi nma tasty
odi nnu nnu salty
odinoogbara verse
odi ntakiri too little
odi ọkụ hot *not cold*
odi onu expensive
ododo yellow
odo okoro antagonist
odogwu hero
odogwu nwaanyi heroine
ọdụ tail
ofe soup; sauce
ofuma plenty
ogan organ
ogbaka mmiri lake
ogbako audience; meeting; conference
ogba kpim wasp
ogba nkwa dancer
ogbara uka sour
ogbo stage of *theatre*
ogborogbodo society; association
ogbu anu butcher
ogbu azu fisherman
ogbu na igwe bomb
ogbu na igwe rocket
oge clock; season; period; time
ogede banana
ogede ojoko plantain
oge eji aga timetable

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

ogege hedge
oge gboo primitive
oghanadum revolution
oghaniizi revolution
ogharaokwu irony
oghom accident
ogiga adventure
ogini? what?
ogodo underwear
ogologo anyanhu long sight
ogologo length; long; straight (on); tall
ogu gu isi clever
ogu thorn; war
ogwako minstrel
ogu akwukwo read; reader
ogu egwu singer
ogugu reading
ogu oha na ibe civil war
ogu uri soloist
ogwe osisi tree trunk
ogwu drug
ogwu ahu mgbu painkillers
ogwuatikpa charm
ogwu isi aspirin
ogwu itu ura tranquilizer
ogwu mgbu painkiller
ogwu pinisilin antibiotic
ogwu ura sleeping pills
ogwugwu end
oha society
ohazi odekwa editor
ohere gap
ohi robbery; theft
ohia bush; forest
ohia ntakri copse
ohu abo forty
ohu afo ise century
ohuano eighty
ohuhu mmadu election
ohuru modern
ohuru new
oja flute
oji dark; black
oji ego acho ego capitalist
ojo badly; sick
ojuju afo satisfaction
oka corn; maize
oka okwu spokesman

o = more

u = soon

oka akawukwo academic
okaegosi sorcery
okammuta professor
okammuta scholar
okara half
okariri akari too much
oke acute; boundary; mouse; rat
oke chia forest
oke okuko rooster
oke oso speed
oke ulo rabbit
oke na olu social role
okenye elder; old person
okike creation
okiriki circle
okirikiri round
okistra orchestra
oko akuko narrator
okochi dry season; drought; sunny season
okorobia gentleman
okotookwu verbosity
okpali stimulus
okpara first-born son
okpe ikpe satirist
okpete sugar cane
okpo worm
okpo fufu heat
okpo nkuacute acute
okpoko pipe
okpom oku heatwave
okporo igbe cardboard
okporo ugbo igwe railway
okporo ordinary
okpu cap; hat
okpu eze crown
okpukpu bone
okpukpu mmadu skeleton
okpuru bottom
oku electricity; fire; heat; warm
oku elektrik light bulb
oku mkpote wake-up call
oku nezi uzọ flashlight
oku ngosi indicator light
oku okpo boxer
okuihu speech; conversation
okukọ chicken
okusri oku burnt
okwa goose

u = put

h = sing

okwa nka creative art
okwa rank; status
okwado patron
okwanka carpenter
okwee egwu chorus
okweuri chorus
okwo oku electric
okwu speech
okwu ekwumaha ntinyenanka
 euphemism
okwu mmalite; okwu nkwado
 forward
okwu ububo njakiri colloquialism
okwuako joke
okwuchukwu sermon
okwuejama slogan
okwukwe hope
okwukwe belief
okwukwo abortion
okwukwu speaking
okwuta; okwute stone; rock;
 gravel
okwute ntakiri pebble
okwute tury nka marble
ola aku bracelet
ola chain; jewelry
ola edo gold
ola nti earring(s)
ola obi brooch
ola ocha metal; copper; silver
ola ogbugbu anya crystal
ole amount
olile anyanwu north
olu labor
olu abo na iri fight
olu dara ada ruins
olu di adi duties
olu e nyere assignment
olu nnaa solo-singer
olu ogu fighter
olu okwu accent (style of speech)
olu uweyi collar
olu voice
olundi dialect
oluabu duet
oluegwu melody
oluku fool
olulu marriage
olulu mmiri dam

oma beautiful
omajiji shake
omenka artist
omeka actor
omela ochie stale
omenaala culture
omenaala custom
omenka carpenter
omi well; swamp
omimi deep
omume habit; behavior; manners;
 etiquette
omume ojoo incident
omume oputa obie dictatorship
omumu ihe scientist
omumu nwa birth
omumu ofufe religious studies
ona edu diamond
ona ocha mgbuke enamel
onochiobi mood
onodu context
ononaaku bourgeois
onoroonwe freelance
onu mouth; neck
onukwu fool
onu mmiri beach
onunu ravine
onu ogbom apron
onuogu number; numeral
onu ogugu imulo room number
onu okwu alphabet
onu uzọ gate
onwa moon; **onwa ohuru** new
 moon; **onwa ukwu** full moon
onwe ego
onweghi nothing; less; minus
onweghi uto tasteless
onwu death
onwu oku lamp
onye someone; person;
 doer/maker of; who; the one
 who
onye nka artist
onye nsu stutterer
onye agbata obi acquaintance
onye ala citizen
onye anuruma alcoholic *person*
onye church Christian
onye dim-kpa fame

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

onye egwu odinaala traditional musician
onye egwu poopu pop musician
onye ejidere ejide hostage
onye ewepuru ewupu displaced person
onye ije traveler
onye ikpe lawyer
onye ikpe negotiator
onye iro enemy
onye ishi officer
onye isi ala obodo president
onye isi leader; manager; minister; premier; prime minister
onye isi ike left-wing
onye isi urị lead singer
onye mba/obia foreigner
onye mgbe orụ job seeker
onye n'achị anụ shepherd
onye n'adu uweyi dressmaker
onye n'afu maka ihe gbasara obodo ọzọ foreign minister
onye n'agu ego cashier
onye n'agwo oria doctor
onye n'aku egwu disk-jockey
onye n'aku ubi farmer; agronomist
onye n'akwo ụgbọ elu pilot
onye nanya ụgbọ driver
onye n'aru akpukwụ cobbler
onye n'asọ ụgbọ mmiri sailor
onye n'atugbu ahụ anesthetist
onye ndoro ndoro politician
onye n'edote ego accountant
onye n'edozi isi hairdresser
onye n'edozi ego economist
onye n'edozi oche eze administrator
onye n'edozi ụgbọ ala mechanic
onye n'egbu anu butcher's
onye n'ekwuziri obodo ọzọ diplomat
onye n'elekota eze dentist
onye n'eme bred baker
onye n'emegide mmadụ m'ọbụ oppressor
onye n'emezi ihe eji ama oge watchmaker's
onye n'enyé aka aid worker

onye n'enyé ọbala donor: blood donor
onye n'enyé ọgụ igbo herbalist
onye n'ere nkpuru osisi greengrocer
onye n'eti uwe tailor
onye n'ewu ụlọ builder
onye n'ezi uzọ consultant
onye nga prisoner
onye ngosi performer
onye nkuzi academic
onye nlekota supervisor
onye nochi ambassador
onye nochi obodo ọzọ ambassador
onye nochiri anya representative
onye nta akuko journalist
onye ntighi aka aid worker
onye nwe ihe owner
onye nyocha spy
onye nzuzu:onye ewu fool
onye ọbja stranger
onye ọbja nwe ikwu okwu guest speaker
onye ochichi aka ike dictator
onye ọchichi ruler; leader
onye ode akwụkwọ secretary
onye ogba oso refugee
onye ogbugbu killer
onye ogbugbu murderer
onye ohi bandit
onye oji ndu acho ego mercenary
onye ojoo criminal
onye okike creator
onye okwu speaker
onye ọlụ ụgbọ laborer
onye ori thief; burglar
onye oru mmanu oil worker
onye oru worker
onye oshi burglar
onye otu member
onye ọzụ ahia merchant
onye ubi farmer
onye uka Christian
onye uka Christian
onye uweyi oji policeman
onyeegwu musician
onyeije tourist
onyena akuo osisi carpenter

ọ = more u = soon

ụ = put ñ = sing

onyena akuzi ụgbọ ala mechanic
onyena alụ ogu soldier
onyena aru ọru bekee officer
 worker
onyena aru oru waya
 telecommunications
onyena awa ahu surgeon
onyena eji ego achoro ego business
 person
onyena ele eze dentist
onyena ele anya observer
onyena eme cinema film-maker
onyena ese ihe artist
onyena ese ulọ architect
onyenazu ndi mmadu training
 consultant
onyendoro ndorọ political
 scientist
onyeoputa obie specialist
onyeuweyi ọcha nurse
opareto operator
opareto nke ukwu international
 operator
opi horn
opio dagger
opupu exit; departures;
 germination; out
oputa obie veto
oria infection
oria mgberede epidemic
oria onu uto ona ariagi diabetic
oriüle cheating
oroegwu composer
oroma ngbakasi onu lemon
oroma orange
ọrụ job; work
orurugbana crisis
osa bat
ose hot; spicy; pepper
osi-nri cook
osikapa rice
osisa answer
osisi nkwo palm tree
osisi plant; tree; wood
osiso hurry; express; quick; **Ọ di**
m osiso! I'm in a hurry!
oso nkirinki chili pepper
osu asusu abuo bilingual
ọte aka away

oti okpa boxer
oti igba drummer
otito eulogy; praise
otu one; single; group
otu afọ age group
otu akara nkeji second of time
otu awa hour
otu nkeji minute of time
otu nnokota allies
otu unison; once
otu onwa month
otu onye someone
otu ụgboro once
otu ọgbo; otu ebiri social class
otuchi uwie button
otugwa key; padlock
otuole? how?
owo gini? what's that?
owu cotton; thread
owu owu building; construction
owumaka gini? why?
owuwa anyanwu east
ọya ọgbu n'ike AIDS
ọya side
oyere hole
oyi cold; cool; ice; breeze; **Oyi**
n'atụ m. cold: I have a cold.
oyi ututu frost
Oyibo English
oyiri metaphor
oyiyi image
oyo cotton
oze bronze
ozi message
ozi ụzọ compass
ozi waya cable
ọzọ extra; next; other; spare
ozu miri coast line
ozuruoha popular

P

papa father
pasinja passenger
pasta spaghetti
payint pint
pensil pencil
pesin person
petrol gas
piajie fold

a = pat e = pay i = feet i = pet o = so

piichi larii level pitch
pijin pidgin
piyano piano
plastik plastic
plug plug
podium podium
popo pump
popo pawpaw
potato potato
printa printer
profeso professor
projector projector
projekti project
projekto projector
puku thousand

R

radiyeta radiator
radio radio
radio steshan radio station
rejista register
rekoodu awantiro record player
rekoodu record
reputu agamniihu progress report
reputu report
reza razor
reza-bled razorblade
ridim rhythm
rie eat
rizootu result
roba eraser
rula ruler of *measurement*
ruru inyi untidy

S

sanpepa sandpaper
safrikeeti certificate
sapo sponge
satelait satellite
sayensi ahuike science (health)
sayensi science
scissors scissors
se draw
semina seminar
shuga sugar
sidi cd
sie ihe to cook
sikru screw
sikrudreva screwdriver

siment brick
sinekamera cine-camera
sinema cinema
sipu send
siri ike difficult; difficulty
sistem system
skiing skiing
snow snow
som arithmetic; mathematics
sofia survey
soja army; soldier
sonskrin sunscreen
oro follow
soshioloji sociology
spana spanner
stadium stadium
sterling sterling
suga ken sugar cane

T

taa bite; today
taipwrita typewriter
takzi taxi
tank tank (military)
tanka tanker
tata baby
taya tire
te egwu dance
tensi tense
tee ume wear
teleks telex
televishon television
televishon steshan TV station
temomija thermometer
tep (kaset) tape (cassette)
tep-rakoda tape recorder
tikiti ticket
tiliskop telescope
tinye add
tinyere ya add to
tomato tomato
toolu nine
torotoro turkey
trajidi tragedy
trakta tractor
transforma transformer
tub and taya inner-tube
tulerita ma hocharita compare
 and contrast

o = more

u = soon

y = put

n = sing

tụọ throw
tupu drop
tụsaa analyse

U/U

ubi farm; garden; stable
ubi ojo unhappy
ubochi day
ubochi gbara ijiriji taa cloudy
ubochi nhapu date of departure
ubochi obibia date of arrival
ubochi ole date
ubochi taa na okpom oku very hot
ụbọsi amuru mmadụ birthday
ububo conversation
ucha clean
uche mind; idea; sense; wise
uchenso logic
ucheobi reason
ucheobi viewpoint
ụchicha cockroach
uda sound; phone; sophistication
udamkpafa epic drama
udandakpu implosive
udanseda falling tone
udaolu tone
udaume vowel
udele vulture
udi image; form; class; type; shape; genre
udinha equivalent *noun*
udide spider
udidi texture
udo peace
udu container
udu mmiri rain; rainy season
ufe dye
ufere romance
ugbo vehicle; vessel; craft
ugbo aghia igwe armored car
ugbo ala car; bus; truck
ugbo ala na egbo oku fire-engine
ugbo ala ụlọ ogwu ambulance
ugbo elu aeroplane
ugbo elu eji alu agha bomber
ugbo elu naga na obodo nke ya internal flight
ugbo elu naga obodo ozo

international flight
ugbo elu ntakiri helicopter
ugbo igwe train
ugbo mmiri boat; ship; canoe; ferry; tanker
ugbo na enye oku generator
ugboojii blackboard
ugboro hammer
ugboro abua twice
ugboro ato three times
ugbo ukwu abua motorbike
ugbua now; present; modern; yet
ugbune feather
ugegbe mirror
ugo eagle; spade
ugoli ode
ugu pumpkin
uguru winter
ugwo debt; reward
ugwu hill; range
ugwu isi owuwa aspirin
ugwu ukwu mountain
uhe paint
uhie red
uhie across
ujo frighten; fear
uju abundance; detail
ukabuilu anecdote; parable
ukpor retardation
ukwa breadfruit
ukwu big; foot/feet; leg; limb; waist; anthology
ukwu nkita paw
ukwuhiriato triplet
ule examination; test
ule mbata entrance examination
ule ngwucha final examination
ulo building; home; house; village
ulo ahu bathroom
ulo aja hut
ulo akwukwo college; school; classroom
ulo akwukwo otaakara nursery school
ulo akwukwo ukwu academy; university
ulo ana aru aru housing project
ulo ana enweta akwukwo library
ulo ana ere ihe ntakiri kiosk

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

ụlọ ana esi nni kitchen
ụlọ anakokata okwu ikuku
 telephone center
ụlọ anumanu zoo
ụlọ arumaru workshop
ụlọ ebe ana eme ihe ochi
 concert hall
ụlọ ego bank
Ụlọ Ego Uwa World Bank
ụlọ egwu egwu theatre
ụlọ egwuru egwu casino
ụlọ erimeri dining room
ụlọ ndi isi ministry
ụlọ ndi ochichi parliament
 building
ụlọ nnukwu akwukuo academy
ụlọ ihe ochie museum
ụlọ ihu mmiri bathroom
ụlọ ikpe law court
ụlọ ilu ihe industry
ụlọ nche castle
ụlọ ndi iwu parliament
ụlọ ndi n'efe Muhamed mosque
ụlọ ndi obia consulate
ụlọ ndi obia embassy
ụlọ ndi ogbo oso refugee camp
ụlọ ndi uweyi oji police station
ụlọ ndu mba ozo embassy
ụlọ nkowa information office
ụlọ nzuko assembly
ụlọ obibi accommodation
ụlọ obibi flat *apartment*
ụlọ ogologo tower
ụlọ ogwu hospital
ụlọ oka iwu law court
ụlọ oria clinic
ụlọ oru factory; workshop
ụlọ ụgbọ ala garage; station
ụlọ ụgbọ elu airport
ụlọ uka church; temple
ụlọ uka ndi Jew synagogue
ụlọakwụkwọ praimari primary
 school
ụlọakwụkwọ sekondiri
 secondary school
ulookpu archives
uma behavior
ume energy
umengwu weak

umi substance
umo oria germs
umu ahuhu ant
umu ewu goats
umu mkpuru osisi fruits
umu nwanee clan
umu nwanyi women
umu nwoke men
umụ-aka children
umu-anụnụ bird
umuntakiri children
unere banana
unu-dum you *plural*
ura to be asleep
uri sing; song; tune
uri mmemme festival song; **uri**
abamaba initiation song; **uri**
alumdi marriage song; **uri**
ike/otito praise song; **uri ikpe**
 satirical song; **uri ngugu nwa**
 lullaby; **uri nwa** maternity
 song; **uri nwa** nursery song; **uri**
ochichi obodo political song;
uri ofufe praise song; **uri**
ogbugba dance song; **uri okpo**
 love song; **uri umuaka**
 children's play songs;
uriakwamozu/okwukwa
 funeral song
urinwa nursery rhyme
uriotuto anthem
uro clay
urookwu pun
urosi rice
uru profit; significance
uru baba butterfly
usoro order; rule
usoro mmiri river course
usoro obara blood group
usu bat *animal*; pulse
ute carpet
ute ikpe ekpere prayer
utoasusu grammar
ututu morning; **ututu a** this morning
uwa earth; world
uwe gown (woman's); robe
uwe nwanyi clothing (women's)
uweyi dress; clothes
uweyi ahu shirt

o = more

u = soon

ụ = put

ń = sing

uweyi aka

uweyi aka gloves
uweyi akwukwo envelope
uweyi eji achu oyi suit
uweyi ichu oyi sweater
uweyi mkpuchi overcoat
uweyi ndikota uniform
uweyi oyi jacket
uweyi ukwu trousers; jeans; socks
uzo road; street; path; way; route;
lane; door
uzo adighi no entry
uzo ano quarter of four
uzo mpuga entrance
uzo nkpochi roadblock
uzo oyi window
uzu noisy
uzu loudness
uzuzu training

V

varangidi blanket
vichapu wipe
video video
video video (player)
videotape videotape
virus virus

vitamin vitamin(s)

W

wagbo ogu invade
waya telegram
waya wire
waya-ogu barbed wire
wel well (of water)
wepu reduce
were ugbo ala ga go by car
weta bring; get
wiski whisky
wul wool

Y

ya he; she; it
yabasi onion
yaka therefore
yard yard

Z

zam dash
ziputa check
zota m! help!
zuru ezu enough
zuta buy

ENGLISH-IGBO

BEKEE-IGBO

A

- abdomen** afọ
ability ngunwu
ability inweike
able: to be able nwereike
abortion ekwomekwo
abroad obodo oyibo
absent adighi
abundance nukwu
abuse mkparị
academic ọnye nkuzi
academy ụlọ akwụkwọ ukwu
accent *regional* mpaghara; *way of speaking* ngwoolu
accept inabata
accident ihe mgberede; akisident
accommodation ụlọ obibi
accompany i soro
accountant ọnye n'edote ego
accurate kpom kwem
accusation ebubo
accuse *verb* ibọ ebubo
ache mgbu
acid ihe okpom oku
acquaintance ọnye agbata obi
acre mbara
across uhie
act emume; agba
action ngwaamme
activity mmume; ihe ọmume
actor omee; omeka
acute oke; okpo nkuacute
add tinye; mgako
address aha ebe ibi
administrator ode akwụkwọ na edozi obodo; ọnye na edozi oche eze
adventure ọgiga; njem egwu
adverb nkwuwa
advice ndụmọdụ
advisory council ndi ndụmọdụ
aeroplane ụgbọ elu
- Africa** Afirika; Ala Nde Ojii
after emechaa
afternoon ehihe; ehihie
afterwards mgbe emechara
age afọ
age group otu afọ
agreement ikwekọrta
agriculture ihe gbasara iku ubi
agronomist ọnye na aku ubi
ah! chei!
aid worker ọnye n'enye aka; ọnye ntighi aka
AIDS AIDS; ọya ọgbụ n'ike
aim mbunaobi
aim at ide
air ifufe; ikuku
air mail akwụkwọ anaeziga na ụgbọ elu
airforce ndi agha ụgbọ elu
airplane ụgbọ elu
airport ụlọ ụgbọ elu
airport tax ego anakwu na ebe ụgwọ elu nada
alcohol mmaya na aba nanya
alcoholic person ọnye anuruma
alive idi ndu; dindu
allergy ihe mgbakacha ahụ
alliance nnokọta
allies otu nnokọta
allow ikwere
alone nani
alphabet abiidii
also ma
ambassador ọnye nochi obodo ọzọ
ambulance ụgbọ ala ụlọ ogwu; ambulans
ammunition ngbo
amount ole
amputation akwobiri
analyse iseke; túsaa
ancestor(s) nnanna; ndiichie
ancient ochie
and na

ọ = more u = soon

ụ = put ñ = sing

anecdote nnana; ukabuilu
anesthetic ihe eji atugbu ahụ
anesthetist ọnye na atugbu ahụ
angel muọ ozi
anger iwe
angry iwe iwe
animal anumamu
animal feed ihe eji azu anumanu
ankle afọ ukwu
announce ikwuputa
answer aziza; osisa
ant ndanda; ahuhu
antagonism adomokoro
antagonist odo okoro
antecedent nkwniihu
anthem uriotuto
anthology ukwu
anthropology ntropoloji
anti- achoghi
antibiotic 'antibiotic'
antibiotic ogwu pinjilin
antidote ajuire
antiseptic antiseptic
antiseptic ntugbu ọya
apartment ụlọ
apartment block ụlọ obibi
apology nkwadide;
 ariommgbaghara
apple achicha
approve ekwe
apron onu ogbom
Arab Ndi Arab
architect ọnyena ese ụlọ
archives ulookpụ
are there? ha di?
area mgbaghara
arena theatre obom
argot mgboonụ
argue iru uka
argument isiokwu; arumaru
arithmetic som
arm aka
armchair oche nwere aka
armored car ụgbọ aghia igwe
army soja; olu ogu
arrest jide
arrivals mbata
arrive igadu
art nka
article ederede; edide
artillery egbe tuum

artist omenka; dinka; ọnye nka
ashtray ihe eji anwunye anwuru
 oku
aside nzupuúka
ask juo
asleep: to be asleep ura; ihe ura
aspirin ogwu isi
aspirin ugwu isi owuwa
assassination igbagbu
assembly ụlọ nzukọ
assess inwale; itule; itucha
assignment olu e nyere
assimilation nnara
association nkwu
assumption mwere
asterisk akara mmuke
astrology astroloji
astronomy astronọmi
athletics igba oso
atmosphere nkwwuru; mbara elu
 igwe
attack *noun* nchebido
attack *verb* ichebijọ
attitude kaesirihi; kaesiriwere;
 agwa
attraction ihu na anya
audience *people* ndi nkiri;
 meeting ogbako; nzoku
audio-visual nurulere
audio-visual aid nnyemaka
 nurulere
August onwa asato nafa
aunt da
aura anwara
author ode akwụkwọ
authority nde no ne isi; ichiachi
auto spares store Ebe ana eri ihe
 ugbo ala
autobiography akukondụnwe
autonomy dinotu
average agbaetiti; etiti
awake imu anya
away ọte aka
ax egbu egbu; anya ike

B

baby tata; nwa-bebi; nwa ntakiri
back azu
backpack akpa onyinya
backwards ihuhu
bacteria ahuhu n'ebụ ọya

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

bad nke ojoo; odi njoo
badly ojo
bag akpa
baggage counter ebe ana etinye ibu
bake ime
baker onye n'eme bred
baker's, bakery ebe ana eme achicha
balance nhatanha
bald isi nkwocha
ball bọl
ballad akuko n'abu
balloon mboro mboro
ballpoint ihe eji ede akwu kwo
banana unere; ọgede; ọgede
bandaid ihe eji emechi onya
bandit onye ohi; 'armed robber'
bank banki; ụlọ ego
bank notes akwụkwọ ego
bar ebe ana anu mmayi
barbed wire barbed waya; waya-ogu
barber's ebe ana akpa isi
barn oba
barrel barel
barren enwegi nwa
barrier nochi
base mmechi
basket nkata; eketa
basketball basketball
bat *animal* usu; osa
bath ihu ahu
bathroom ụlọ ahu; ụlọ ihu mmiri
battery battery
battle ilu ogu
beach onu mmiri
bead(s) mgbaji
bean(s) agwa; akisi; akidi
beard afọ-onu
beautiful oma; mara mma
beauty mara mma
because maka
because of that maka ihea
bed agada; akwa
bedcover blanketi
bedroom imeolu
bee ebu; ahu
beef anu nama
beetle ebe
begin mmbido

behavior omume; uma
behind azu
belief okwukwe; ekwemekwe
believe ikweta
bell mgbirigha
belonging to inwe
belt mbam mba
bent mgbagbọ
better ditu mma
between etiti
bias ika nulinya
Bible Akwukwo Nso; Baibulu
bicultural mmeko ọmenaala
bicycle igwe
big ukwu
bilingual newspaper nuuzupepa n'asusu abuo; akwụkwọ akuko n'asusu abuo
bilingual osu asusu abuo
bilingual dictionary nkowaokwu n'asusu abuo
bilingualism asumasusu abuo
bill akwụkwọ ugwo
binoculars binoakulaz
biography akukondu (onye); edenduonye
bird nnunu; umu-anynu
bird of prey nnunu na egbu ebeya
birth omumu nwa
birthday ụbọsi amuru mmadu
biscuit achicha
bite taa
bitter ilu
black market ahia iwu; ahia ajia
black ojii; nji nji
blackboard blakbọd
blackboard ụgbọojii; mgbonzu
bladder akpa afookwu; afo okwu
blanket varangidi; blanketi
blind (onye) isi
blindness isi
block igbache ụzọ
blockade mgbabido; gbache
blood group usoro obara
blood obara
blood transfusion inye obara
blow *verb* ifu
blue blu
blues akwauwa; bluz
boarding pass akwụkwọ eji aba ụgbọ elu

ọ = more

u = soon

ụ = put

ñ = sing

- boat** ụgbọ mmiri
body ahu
boil *noun* etoto
boil *verb* isi
boiling egbo egbo
bomb bọmbọ; ogbu na igwe
bomber ugbe elu eji alu agha
bone ọkpukpụ
bonnet of *car* isi ụgbọ ala
book akwụkwọ
bookshop ebe ana ere akwụkwọ
boot agbaji; but
borrow gbaziri; enara
bottle aba; karama; **bottle of beer** karama mmayi; **bottle of water** karama mmiri
bottle-opener ihe eji emehie karama
bottom ike; okpuru
boundary oke
bourgeois ononaaku
bowl efere
box *case* igbe; *fight* iku okpo
boxer oti okpa; oku okpo
boy nwa nwoke; nwata nwoke
bracelet mgba aka; ola aku
brake brake
branch mgbabo; mpalaga
brandy mmayi oku
brave ebube
bread achicha
breadfruit ụkwa
breadth ume; mbara
break mgbaji
break for refreshments izu ike imeghari onu
breakfast nri ututu
breast ara
breath ume
breathy voice ekonuumu; mkponuuzu
breeze oyi; ikuku
brick siment; briki; nkume
bridge akwukwa mmiri; gadaga
bright igba ihe
bring weta; nyem
broad mbara
broadness mpaghara
brochure akwụkwọngosi
broke ngbaji; nkowa
bronze oze
brooch ola obi
broom aziza
brother on *mother's side* nwanne nwoke; on *father's side* nwanne nwoke
brown manu
brush aziza
bucket baket
bud akpu osisi
bug *see insect*
build iwu
builder ọnye na ewu ụlọ
building ụlọ; *activity* owu owu
bulb *electric* oku elektrik
bullet mkpuru mgbo; ngbo egbe
bumper bampa
burglar ọnye oshi; ọnye ori
burn kpo-oku; kusia oku
burnt okusri oku
bus stop ebe okwusi ụgbọ ala
bus ụgbọ ala; bosu; moto
bush ohia
business iji ego acho ego
business person ọnyena eji ego acho ego
busy ekpa ihe na aka
but ka-ma; mana
butane canister butane canister
butcher ogbu anu
butcher's ọnye na egbu anu
butter buta; majarin
butterfly ihe na-efe-efe; uru baba
button otuchi uwie
buy zuta; izu

C

- cabinet** nzuko ndi ode akwụkwọ
cable ozi waya
cadence mmabiegwu
cake nkporo
cake achicha
calamity mgbaghasi
calculate ngbako
calculator ihe eji agbako ihe
call: I am called ... Anakpo m ...
camera kamera
campsite ebe
can *verb* enwere ike
can opener ihe eji akpoghe ihe
canal ngabiga mmiri
cancellation ikwusi

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cancelled: The plane is cancelled. igaghi adi ọzọ.
cancer kansa
candle kandulu; mmu ọkụ
candlestick mmu ọkụ
candy ihe ọtụ-ọtụ; ihe biri-biri
cannon nsu egbe
canoe ụgbọ mmiri
cap okpu
capital *financial* isi ego
capital city isi obodo
capitalist oji ego acho ego
car ụgbọ ala; moto
car papers akwụkwọ ụgbọ ala
car park ebe ana edote ụgbọ ala
car registration ihe eji mara ụgbọ
card kaadi
cardboard kaadiboodu; okporo igbe
carpenter okwanka; emenka; omenka
carpet ute
cart ndogburu ụgbọ
carton igbe
cash crop nkpuru ubi
cash ego
cashier ọnye na agu ego
casino ụlọ egwuru egwu
cassava akpu; ijboru
cassette tape kaseti
castle ụlọ nche
cat bosì; busu
catch jide
caterpillar eruru; ikpurukpu
cathedral isi church; isi ụlọ uko
cattle ehi; nname
cause mkpatara; mkpata; emi
cause-and-effect mkpatara na mputara
cd sidi
ceasefire ikwusi ogu
celebration mmeme
cemetery ebe ana eli mmadu
center etite
center of town etite obodo
century ochie; ohu afo ise
ceremonial kemmeme; ihe mme me
certificate safrikeeti; asambo
chain ola
chair oche; oche ozo
chalk chooku; nzu

change *noun* mgbanwe; I want to change some dollars.

Achorọ m igbanwe ego dollar.

chant mbem
chapter isi
character agwa
characteristics njirimara; ejirimara
charcoal nyi
charge *electricity* pawa
charm ogwụatikpa; mmasi
chart chaati
chase ichu osu
chauvinism mpakoṅwe
cheap adafu uno
cheap odigi onu
cheaper di onu ala
cheat; cheating nghogbu
check *money* chek; akwụkwọ ilogha ego
check *verb* banwe; ziputa; gosi
check-in counter ebe ana abanye
check-in ebe obu ba
checkpoint ebe ana eche nche
cheek *noun* nti
cheek *verb* ewa anyo
cheese ihe si na mmiri ara ehi
chemistry kemistri
chest obi
chest pulse nkuúgu
chewing gum góm; ihe utita
chicken ọkụkọ
chieftaincy ichi ozo
child nyaka; nwata
children ụmụ-aka; ụmụntakiri
chili pepper oso nkirinki
chin agba
china efere
chocolate chocolat
cholera afo owuwu
chop up ngbu be
chord mmagba
chorus okweuri; okwee egwu
Christian Kiristia; ọnye uka; ọnye church
Christmas Ekemesi
chronicle akukunsinooge
church ụlọ uka
cigar anwuru oku
cigarette(s) anwuru oku; **cigarette papers** akwụkwọ anwuru oku
cine-camera sinekamera

ọ = more

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ń = sing

cinema sinema
circle okiriki; gburu gburu
circumcision ibi ugwu
citizen ɔnye ala
city obodo
city center etiti obodo; ime obodo
city-map ihe nezi obodo
civil rights ike ndi mmadu
civil war ogu oha na ibe
clan umu nwanee
class school klaasi; *social* otu; udi
classroom ụlọ akwukwo
clay uro
clean ocha; ucha
clever ema ihe; ogu gu isi
climate
climb ihe elu
clinic ụlọ oria
clock elekra ɔnye; oge
close ntachi; kpuchie; mechi
closed mgbachị
cloth akwa
clothes uweyi
clothing *women's* uwe nwanyi
cloud(s) igwe edojila
cloudy ubochi gbara ijiriji taa
clown iro ochi
clue nziuzo
coast isi miri
coast line ozu miri
Coastal People (Brass, etc.) Ndi Mba Mmiri
coat kwot
cobbler ɔnye na-arụ akpukwụ
cockroach ụchicha
coco yam ede
coconut akụ ɔyibo; aki bekee
coffee kofị; **coffee with milk** mmiri oku di ike etinyere mmiri ara ehi
coin ego
coincidence ndako
coins aghirigha ego
cold *noun* oyi; *illness* ahu-ọkụ;
cold water mmiri oyi; **I have a cold.** Oyi n'atụ m.
collar ọlụ uweyi
collective noklata
college ụlọ akwukwọ
colloquialism okwu ububo njakiri

color itu agwo gwu; **color film** fim nachaputa achaputa
comb mbo
come
come in! bata!
comedy komedi
comedy ihe nkiri
comfortable chim-chim
comfortable afo ọjuju
comic iro ochi
comic relief nhatuobi
coming of age *female* iru mgbede
commercial egba ahia
commission jarra
committee komitii; obere ọtụ ileta ihe
communal sentiment obi oha
communication nzimozị, nzikorita ozi
community noklata
compare itunyere
compare and contrast tulerita ma hocharita
compass kompas; ozi ụzọ
competence mmammuta
competition isompi
complaint mkpesa
composer oroegwu
composition *essay* edemede; akumakpu aromaro; *music* egwu; nromegwu
compound (*village*) nha
comprehension aghotaaazaa
computer computa
concentration ehesia anya
concerning gbasara
concert ihe ochi
concert hall ụlọ ebe ana eme ihe ochi
condensation ima evuvu
condom kondom; ihe ana-enyi na anyị
conference ogbako; nzuko
conference room ebe nzuko
confirm ikwe
conflict ntuhiko; nghaliko; ndokasi; ndokurita; **to be in conflict with** iso okwu
confrontation agwara okwu
consider chee
constitution ihe nachikata obodo

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

construct aruruaro
construction mwube
consulate ụlọ ndi obia
consultant ọnye na ezi ụzọ
contact lens solution mmiri
 igegebe anya
contact lenses igegebe anya
context onodu
continue megedi
continuity nsochiuda
contraception njiko nwoke na
 nwanyi
contract verb isuko (lata)
contract noun kontirakt
contradiction nkghari; mgbhari
 uka
contrast verb iziputa ndi
control nijkwata
convention nzuko, ogbako; usoro,
 kaesime
conversation ububo
converse ntughari
convert gbanwe
convoy ndi nagakata
cook noun kuku; osi-nri
cook verb sie ihe
cooked: to be cooked ihe esieri
 esie
cooker ekwu; ihe eji isi nri
cooking pot ite nri
cool oyi
co-operative ndosi
copper kopa; ola ocha
copse ohia ntakri
copy noun kopi; iye
copy verb ikopi
copy idere
copying nkopi
copyright nnwebiisinka
corkscrew ihe eji akpoghe karama
corn oka
corner na nkorinko
corporal punishment ipia ihe
correct kmpom kwem
corruption iri ngari
cosmic keuwa
costume ekike; ejiji; ekike egwu
cot agada nwatakiri
cotton cloth mgbaji
cotton koton; oyo; eri
cotton wool koton wul; owu

count guo
counter ikwasa
country ala; obodo; ala-mmadu
countryside npuga obodo
coup d'etat mkpo-aghara ọchichị
couplet ndakoritamkpi
course: of course! obu lezi
court ụlọ ikpe
cousin nwa nne/nwa nna
cover mkputchi
cow ehi; nama
crab nsikọ
craft nka
creation okike
creative art okwa nka
creator ọnye okike
creature ekereke
credibility odinkwenye
credit card akwukwe eji ana n'aka
creole kreolu; krio
creole language asusu krio
crime ihe ojoo
criminal ọnye ojoo
crisis nsogbu; orurugbana
criteria njirisi; njiritu
critical ndi lamkpa
critique nnyocha
crop rotation iku ihe
crops ihe ubi; mkpuru
cross verb nkufe
crossroads ebe Okporo ụzọ
 gafere
crown okpu eze
crude (oil) mmanu
crumb mgbesi
crystal ola ogbugbu anya
cultivate jkọ ihe
culture omenaala
cup iko
cupboard ebe ana etinye iko
currency ego ala iji bia
current water mmiri ohuhu;
 electric ihe n'ebe oku elektriki
curriculum kurikulum; njiko eji
 akuzu akwukwọ
curse abumonọ
curtain(s) akwa mgbochi
curve igba irogho
curved igba irogho
cushion kushon
custom omenaala; odibendi

o = more u = soon

y = put n = sing

customs at border ndi ne eche
 ahia iwu
cut gbúbie
cutlery ngaji; nma
cycle etemte
cyclic kemgbaulo

D

dagger asughara; opio; agbada;
 mma ihu abuo
dairy ebe eme mmjri ara ehi
dam olulu mmjri
dance noun nkwa; te egwu
dance verb ite nkwa; ite egwu
dance songs egwu/uri ogbugba
dancer ogba nkwa
dancing igba egwu
danger itu egwu
danger! nsogbu di!
dangerous ihe n'adighi mma
dark itiri
dark noun itiri
dark oji
darkness itiri
dash zam
date of arrival ubochi obibia
date of departure ubochi nhapu
date ubochi ole
date: What date is it today? Gini
 wu ubochi taa?
daughter ada
dawn isi ututu
day (24 hour period) otu ubochi
day ehie
day ubochi
dead nwuru anwu
death ika; onwu
death penalty ikpe ikpe onwu
debate nrurita uka; mgbagha
debt ugwo
decade afo iri
decay ire ure
declare ikwu si ike
deep omimi
deer mgbada
defense nzoputa
define ikowasi; ikoke
definition nkowasi; nkoke
degree nzere; digrii
delay aga eche
delayed: The plane is delayed.

Ugbo elu agaghi abia osi iso.
delta ngucha ohimiri
democracy demokirasi; ochichi
 ofere
demonstration nziputa
dental keeze; maka eze
dentist dokita eze
deodorant ihe eji esi isi oma
department store ebe ana ere
 ihe orire
departures opupu
deposit financial ndota ego
depth emiriemi
describe ikowa (odidi); nkocha
desert ala okponku
desire ochucho
desk ihe eji atukwasi akwukwo;
 oche ide ihe
dessert ihe a na-ere ma ericha nri;
 nri eji emeghari onu
destiny akaraaka
destroy mebie
detail uju
development ihe oputara
diabetic oria onu uto ona ariagi
diacritic akaranta
diagram esereese; dayagram
dial verb kua
dialect olundi
dialogue mkparita uka
diameter ihe oputara okirikiri
diamond ona edụ
diaphragm nguchi/ekwukwe ngu;
 nche ngu
diary dayari
diatribe pkwu nkocha
dictator onye ochichi aka ike
dictatorship omume oputa obie
dictionary nkowaokwu
die inwu onwu
diet ihe oriri di jche
difference ndimiiche
different idi iche
difficult ike; siri ike
difficulty siri ike
dig igwu ala
digest myochaputa
digestion myocha
digestive myoch nri
dilemma ntokiri
dining car ebe ana eri ihe

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

dining room ụlọ erimeri
dinner nri abali
diploma diplōma
diplomat ọnye na ekwuziri
 obodo ọzọ
diplomatic ties nwekota ndi
 obodo ọzọ
direct mgosi
direction ihe ngosi
dirty amuma; iru jnyi
disappear kpafuo
disbelief ekweghekwe
disco disko
discord mgbaaghara
discover nchoputa
discovery ichoputa
discriminate acho mmeko
discrimination acho mmeko
 ncha
discuss ikpa maka
discussion ikpa nkata
disease ahu ojo
dish efere
disk-jockey ọnye na aku egwu
disperse mgbasa
displaced person ọnye ewepuru
 ewupu
displacement iwepu tinye ọnye
 ọzọ
dissertation dizateshon
distance ite aka
distribution nkewa
district agbata
disturbance agbaghara
divided nkewa
divination mgbamafa
divine verb igba afa
divisive nkeri ahiriuda
divorce alụkwa yim
divorced *female* nwanyi hapuru
 diya; *male* nwoke hapuru
 nwunye ya
do me
doctor dibia; dibia bekee; dokito
document dokumenti
dog nkita
dollar dollar
donkey inyinya ibu
donor: blood donor ọnye na-
 enye ọbala
door ụzọ

doorlock mgbachi ụzọ
double bed agada dikotara
double igba abuo
double room madu abuo
down ala
drainage system ihe na-ebupu
 mmiri ọjọọ
drama *folk* ejije ndiife; *oral* ejije
 ony; *popular* ejije ohuruoha;
traditional ejije odinaala
drama ejije
draw se
drawer ebe ana etinye ihe
drawing ihe eseri ese
dream nro
dress uweyi
dressmaker ọnye na adu uweyi
dried *food* nni okponku
drill ihe eji egwu ihe
drink *noun* ihe ana anu anu
drink *verb* nuo; **drink milk** nuo
 miliki
drinking water mmiri onunu
drip ita kpom kpom
drive a car inya ụgbọ ala
driver ọnye nanya ụgbọ
driver's license akwụkwọ eji anya
 ụgbọ
drop tupu
drought okochi
drug ogwu
drum igba
drummer oti igba
dry verb iko ako
dry season okochi
duck ọbagwụ
duet oluabu
duster nchicha; dosta
duties olu di adi
dye *noun* ufe

E

each ma otú ma otú
eagle ugo
ear nti
ear phone foonu nti
early na-oge
earring(s) ihenti; ola nti
earth *ground* ala; *planet* uwa
earthquake ala oma jigi jigi
east owuwa anyanwu

ọ = more u = soon

ụ = put ñ = sing

easy adigi ike
eat rie; irihe
economist ɔnye na edozi ego
economy of country etc edozi ego
edge na-akuku
edit idezi; edekwa
editor odezi; ohazi odekwa
Edo Ndi Edo
education mmuta;
 agumakwụkwọ; edukeshon;
adult education
 agumakwụkwọ okenye;
teacher education
 agumakwụkwọ nkuzi;
vocational education mmumu
 olu aka; **primary education**
 agumakwụkwọ praimari;
secondary education
 agumakwụkwọ sekọndiri
effect mputara
Efik Ndi Efik
e.g. dika
egg akwa
eggplant
ego onwe
eight asato; isato; esato
eighteen iri na isato
eighty ohuano
elbow apa aka
elder *noun* okenye
election ohuho mmadu
electric okwo oku
electrical goods store ebe ana
 ihe imu oku
electricity oku
elegy abụariri
elephant enyi mba
elevator ihe n'ebuli elu
eleven iri na otu
e-mail e-mail
embassy ụlọ ndi obia; ụlọ ndu
 mba ozo
emergency exit ebe opupu
 mgberede
emotion mmetuta obi
emotional kemmetuta obi
empire mpaghara
empty ighere onu
enamel ona ocha mgbuke
encyclopedia nsaiikipedia

end *noun* ogwugwu
end *verb* ngucha
endurance ndidi
enemy ɔnye iro
energy ume
engine njin; obi ụgbọ ala
engineer akaa mere igwe
English Bekee; Oyibo
enigma agbaragharii
enjoy nuria
enough zuru ezu
enter mbata; baye
entertain *guests* inabata na ofo
 ojuju
entrance examination ule mbata
entrance ụzọ mpụga
envelope uweyi akwụkwọ
environment agbata
epic *drama* udamkpafa; *poetry*
 ejijedike
epidemic oria mgberede
equipment ngwa ọlụ
equivalent *noun* udinha
eraser nchicha; roba
escape mghafu
especially masiri
eternity ebighiebi
ethnic agburu
ethnic cleansing ethnic cleansing
etiquette omume
eulogy otito
euphemism nkwuma; okwu
 ekwumaha ntinyenanka
evacuate ikpọ pụ
evaluation nnwale
evening mgbe abali
every ihe-nile
evidence akaebe
evocation mkpolite
exactness dam
exaggeration egbeokwo
examination ule; nlele akwụkwọ;
 ntule; nnyocha
examine ileba anya; nyocha itule;
 nlele
excess baggage ibu kariri akari
exchange *money* igbanwe; igbo
 nwe
excluded ewepuru
excuse me! cheretú!
exercise ihe ọmume; arumaru

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

exhaust ike ugbo ala
exhibition ihe ozizi
exhortation ndumodu
exile mgbafu
existence nndu
exit opupu
exodus opupu
expansion igbasa
expect icho
expensive odi onu
experience mmemara/ahumihe
expert dioka
explain kowa
explanation nkowa (ihe kpatara)
export *noun* izipu
export *verb* izipa no obodo ozo
exposition ndomanya
express osiso
exterior ihu
extra ozo; **extra blanket** ihe eji
 achu oyi ozo
extract iwaputa
eye anya
eyeball nkpuru anya
eyebrow iku anya

F

fable akuko ifo
fabric ihe eji-kpa akwa
face ihu
facings iche ihu
fact mmereme
factory ulo oru
fail *verb* ida
failure ihuojo; odida
fairy tale akuko mmuo
fall da; *rain* izommiri
fallacy nkowaasi
falling tone udanseda
fallowland ala aga ako ako
false asi
fame onye dim-kpa
familiarity mmatazu
family ezi na ulo; *of the compound* ezi na ulqubara
 usekwu; *extended* ezi na ulo
 mbasa; *nuclear* ezi na ulo; **sub family** onu usekwu
fan fan
fan belt fan belt
fancy nruru

fantasy nruru efu
far anya
farm ubi
farmer onye (n'aku) ubi
farming iku ubi
fast ngwa ngwa
fasten kegide
fat *adjective* iburu ibu
fat *noun* ibu
fate akaraaka; eke
father nna; papa
favour ihu oma
fax faks
fear ujo
feather ugbune
feature mma; agwara
features
federation njiko obodo
federal state obodo jikolu onu
feed inye nri
feet ukwu
fence ngwe
ferry ugbo mmiri
fertile nwere ike imu mwa
fertile soil ala oma
fertilization fataliza
fertilizer fertiliza
festival songs egwu/uri mmeme
fever ahụ oku
fiction akuko; akuko aroroaro
field mbara ala
fifteen iri na ise
fifty iri ise
fight olu abo na iri
fighter olu ogo
file *documents* ebe ozizo ihe
fill gbujuo
film fiim
film-maker onyena eme cinema
filtered filta
filterless no-filta
final examination ule ngwucha
find chota
finger mkpisiiri aka; mkpuru aka
finish igwuagwu
finite: to be finite iso aso
finiteness nsuru
fire oku
fire-engine ugbo ala na egbo
 oku
firewood nku

o = more

u = soon

u = put

n = sing

fireworks nkoo n la na agboke

ọkụ

first mbu

first-born child *female* ada; *male* okpara

first language asusu mbu

firstly mbu

fish azu

fisherman ogbu azu

fist aka

five ise; iso

fix mezie

flame ihe ọkụ

flash ncha oku

flashcard flashikaadi

flashlight oku nezi ụzọ

flat *apartment* ụlọ obibi

flea igwu

flint flint

flock igwe

flood nkuku mmiri

floor ala

florist ebe ana ere fulawa

flour fulawa

flower

flu iba

flute oja

fly iji

fly *noun* ahuhu

fly *verb* ije efe

focus *noun* nche n'ihu

focus *verb* iche n'ihu

fog ijiriji

fold piajie

folk *noun* ndi

folk *adjective* ndiife; **folk ballad**

akukoabu ndiife; **folk poetry**

abu ndiife; **folk tale** ifo; **folk**

traditions odinaala ndife; **folk**

dancing amakekwu; **folk**

music egwu amakewu

folklore echere odiaala

follow sóró

food nri

food processor ihe eji edosi

fool oluku; onukwu; ọnye

nzuzu: ọnye ewu

foot ukwu; igidi; *measurement* fut

football futbọl; futubọl; bọl

foothills odida ugwu

foothpath nkpata ụzọ

footnote nkowada

force ike

forced labor

forces; armed forces ndi aya; ndi soja

forehead egbugbere ihu

foreign ọnye mba/obia

foreign language asusu

mbiabia/mba (ozo)

foreign minister ọnye n'afu maka

ihe gbasara obodo ọzọ

forest ohia; oke chia

fork ngaji eze; fọku

form *document* odidi; *shape* udi

formal keudi

formula fomula

fort ngadaba

fortnight izu uka abuo

fortune aku na uba

forty iri ano

forward okwu mmalite; okwu

nkwado

forwards azuazu

fossil ihe ochie echedoro mma

fountain foutin

four ano; ino; eno

fourteen iri na ano

fourth nke ano

fragmentation ngbubecha

franc frank

free inwere onwe

freedom inweta onwe

freelance onoroonwe

freeze ihe ntu oyi tury

French Frenchi

french fries eghere eghe ji

fresh di ohuru

Friday fraide; abalise na wiki

fridge ntu oyi

fried ehere ihe

friend enyi

frighten ujo

frightened: to be frightened itu

ujo

frog awo

front ihu

frontier boda

frost oyi ututu

fruit nkpuru osisi

fruit juice mmiri ọrum

fruits umu mkpuru osisi

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

fry ighe ihe
fuel fuwel; mmanu ụgbọ
Fulani Ndi Fulani
full moon onwa ukwu
full myinaabuq; nzu
full: to be full up iju
fun ihe ochi
funeral ikwa ọzu
furniture oche; ngwo ngwo ụlọ
fuse fiyuz
future ọ di n'ihu

G

gallon galon
gap ọhere
garage ụlọ ụgbọ ala
garbage ahiiha
garden gadin; ubi
garden ubi
gas petrol petrol
gas *not liquid* gas
gate onu ụzọ
gazette gazeeti
gear gear
generator ụgbọ na enye ọkụ
genitals *male* amu; *female* otu
genre udi
gentleman okorobia; nwaamadi
geography jjiografi
geology jjioloji
germination opupu
germs umo oria
get weta
get up kwuru ọtọ
girl nwa agbọq
give nye
glass *drinking* nkalama
glasses/eyeglasses igagbe anya
gloves uweyi aka
glue gulu
go ga
go by car were ụgbọ ala ga
goal gol
goat ewu; *meat* any-ewu
goats umu ewu
God Chi; Chukwu; Chineke
God willing! Ma Chikwel
gold ola edo
good mma; o di mma
goodbye! ka omesia!; **to say**
goodbye to la nu; baibai

ọ = more u = soon

good luck! nwe ihu ọma
goods ibu
goose okwa
government ndi nwe ala; ndi
 ochichi/olobodo
gown (woman's) ụwe
gram gram
grammar utoasusu; grama;
traditional grama okpu
grandfather *father's side* nnanna;
 nna ochie nna; *mother's side*
 nnanne; nna ochie nne
grandmother *father's side* nne
 ochie nna; nnenna; *mother's*
side nnenne; nne ochie nne
grass achara
grave *noun* ini
gravel okwute
green akwụkwọ nri; **green**
vegetables akwụkwọ nri
greengrocer ọnye na ere nkpuru
 osisi
greet ekene
grill ihu n'ọgụ
grind ngweri
ground egweriri-egweri
groundnut(s) ahụ ekere
group otu
grow ọtito
growth j eto-eto
guava gova
guess ika okwu
guest speaker ọnye obia nwe
 ikwu okwu
guesthouse ebe onino ọnye ije
guidebook akwụkwọ igosi ihe
guitar gita
gun egbe
gut afo

H

habit omume
habitat ebe obibi
hair abuba isi; abubara isi
hairbrush ihe eji abo isi
hairstylist ọnye na edozi isi
half mkprishi; nkeji; ọkara
hammer ụgboro
hand aka
handbag akpa
handicraft ihe eji aka kpaa

ụ = put ñ = sing

handkerchief nfecha ihu
handle ihe ijide aka
happen megghaa
happy obi uto
harbor haba
hard ike
hardware store ebe ana ere ihe
 azinulọ
harmattan winds ugurų
harmony mmagba
harvest iri ihe ubi
hat okpu
Hausa Ndi Hausa
have inwe
he/she/it ya
head isi
health ahų ọma
healthy ahų ike
hear inu ihe
heart obi
heart attack obi mgbafu
heat *noun* okpo fufu
heatwave okpom oku
heavy ike; nyiri aru
hedge ọgege
heel ikili ụkwų
helicopter ugbo elu ntakiri
hello! kedu!
help *noun* inye aka
help *verb* nye aka
help! zọta m!
hepatitis ocha nanya
herbalist ọnye na enye ọgu igbo
herbs ahihia ọgu
herd igwe
here ebaa; ebea; **here are** ...
 lakwaha ... ; **here is** ...
 lekwaya ...
hero odogwu; dike
heroine odogwu nwaanyi
hide nzizo
high elu
highway motorway uzo ugbo ala
hill ugwu
hip akwu
history aguguala/akukoala
hit kie
HIV HIV
hold ijide
hole oyere
holiday ezum ike

home ulọ
honey mmanu anu
hoof mpi
hope okwukwe
horn opi; impi
horse inyinya
hose ihe eji agba mmjri
hospital ulọ ogwu
hostage ọnye ejidere ejide
hostel ebe izu ike ọnye obibia
hot *not cold* odi ọkų; *spicy* ọse;
 hot water mmjri ọkų
hotel ebe izu ike ọnye ije
hour nkeji; otu awa
house ulọ
housefly ijiji
housing project ulọ ana aru aru
how otuole
how many? ọde ole?
human madu
human rights ike ndi mmadu
humanitarian aid ime ebere
humidity egbomoku
humor mmeochi
hundred nnari
hunger aguu
hungry: I'm hungry. Agu na agu
 m.
hunting ichu nta
hurry ọsiso; **I'm in a hurry.** ĩ di m
 ọsiso.
hurt emughu ahų
husband di
hut ulọ aja
hybrid agwaraagwa
hygiene idi ocha

I mų

Ibibio Ndi Ibibio
ice oyi; ihe oyi
ice cream ihe nracha
idea uche
identification nrugosi
identify irugosi
idiom akpaalaokwu
Idoma Ndi Idoma
Igara Ndi Igara
Igbo Igbo; Ndi Igbo
Igbo Language Teaching Expert
 Dioka na Nkuzi Asusu Igbo

a = pat e = pay i = feet ĩ = pet o = so

Ijaw Ndi Ijaw
ill ahu ojo ɔ; **I am ill.** Ahu adighi m.
ill-formed kemmugo
illogical keadiuchemnsio
illustration ngosiputa
image nhunuuche; nnunuuche;
 oyi; udi
imagery myiyi; imejiri
 nhuruuuche; nnuruuuche
imagination enyouche
imitation nnomi
impersonal mpesin
impulsive udandakpu
import igobata ihe na obodo
in ime; **in the afternoon** na
 ehie; **in the evening** na abali;
in the morning na ututu
in front of n'ihu
incantation agomago
incident omume ojo
included atukwasiri
income ego mbato
increase ibuwanye
independence inwere onwe
input ntiinime
independent inweta onwe
independent state obodo noro
 onweya
indicator light oku ngosi
indigenous nsinaala mpunaala;
 mfunaala
indigestion afo mkpochi
indigo ufie
industry ulo ilu ihe
infection ihe nebuhe ebuhe
infection oria
influenza iba
informal kempunuudi
informality mpunuudi
information ebe ana eweta ozi
information office ulo nkowa
inheritance akụ dabidoro
 mmadu
ink ihe eji ede akwukwo
inner-tube tub and taya
innuendo ntufeokwu
input inye aka na uzọ diche
insect ariri; ahuhu
insect repellent ihe n'achipu umu
 ahia
insecticide ihe n'egbu ahuhu

o = more u = soon

inside ime
inspiration mkpatemmwo
inspire ikpate mmwo
institution ewumewu
instrument mmee; ngwaegwu
insurance akwukwo ichebido ihe
 maka mmebi
insurance policy akwukwo ugbo
intensity idi ike
interesting idi utọ
interference inobido iche bido
interior of country ime obodo
interlude ncheoge; emumenzuike
internal flight ugbo elu naga na
 obodo nke ya
international community ndi
 mba obodo ozo
international flight ugbo elu
 naga obodo ozo
international operator opareto
 nke ukwu
Internet internet
interpretation nkowa okwu
interval agbata
intervene nchebido
intervention mgbabido
interview iju ajuju
intestine ngili atọ
introduction ndubata; mkpolite
intuition nsinammwo
invade wagbo ogo
invasion iwagbo ogo
invest itenye anya n'ihe
investment itenye ego n'ihe
iron metal igwe; igwe ndu; for
 clothing ayan
irony ogharaokwu
island ailan

J

jack jack
jacket uweyi oyi
jade ihe ohuru
January onwa mbu
jaw agba
jazz jazz
jeans uweyi ukwu
jester mkpaamu
jewelry ola
job oru
job seeker onye mgbe oru

y = put n = sing

join jikodo
joke okwuako
journal jonalu
journalist ɔnye nta akuko
journey njem
judge nnukwu ɔka iwu
jug iko
July onwa asa
June onwa isi
jungle ime ɔfja
just now ketaa

K

Kanuri Ndi Kanuri
kettle ketal
key ntughe; nkowa njieme;
 otugwa
kick igba ukwu
kidney akpa nwamiri
kill igbu
killer ɔnye ogbugbu
kilogram kilogaram
kilometer kilomita
king eze
kingdom obi eze
kiosk ulɔ ana ere ihe ntakiri
kiss isusu onu
kitchen ulɔ ana esi nni
kite egbe
kitten nwa ɔbala
knee ikpere
knife mma
know ima
knowledge ima ihe

L

labor ɔlu
laboratory nga ana akɔ ɔgu
laborer ɔnye ɔlu ugbo
ladder ihe eji ari elu; mbube
lady agboghobia
lake ogbaka mmiri
lamb nwa aturu; *meat* anu aturu
lament abukwa
lamp onwu ɔku
lampoon edumede nkaru
land *noun* ala; **fertile land** ala
 n'eto ihe
landslide odida ala
lane uzɔ
language asusu; **sacred language**

asusu ofufe; **written language**
 asusu edereede; **spoken
 language** asusu onu; **creole
 language** asusu krio; **first
 language** asusu mbu ɔnye;
foreign language asusu mba;
international language asusu
 ozuruuwa/ozurumba; **native
 language** asusu epum/nne;
national language asusu
 obodo/ala; **official language**
 asusu ɔchichi; **patois language**
 asusu ogbedu; **pidgin language**
 asusu agwaragwa; pijin;
regional language asusu
 mpaghara; **sign language** asusu
 akara; **standard language**
 asusu izugbe; **technical
 language** asusu amumamu

large nnukwu

larger ditu ukwu

last mkpete azu; **last night** abali
 gara aga; **last week** izu uka gara
 aga; **last year** afo gara aga

lateness ikpe azu

laugh imuri amu

laundry ebe ana asa akwa; ihe ana
 asa asa

law ikpe

law court ulɔ ikpe; ulɔ ɔka iwu

lawn ezi

lawyer ɔnye ikpe

lax myomyo

lead *verb* buru ozo

lead *noun* dube

leader ɔnye isi

lead singer ɔnye isiuri

leaf akwɔkwɔ osisi

learn mmjɔ

leather akpukpo anu

leave hapu

Lebanese Kora

left aka ikpa

left-wing ɔnye isi ike

leg ukwu

legend akuko mgbeaka; akuko
 mgbokpu; akuko
 ndiichie; nkoririko

lemon oroma ngbakasi onu

length ogologo

lens anya kamera

a = pat

e = pay

i = feet

j = pet

o = so

less di nta
lesson ihe ọmụmụ
letter akwụkwọ ozi
letter of alphabet mkpuruabidii
level larri
level pitch piichi larri
libel nkwuto
liberation igbaputa
library oba akwụkwọ; labrari; ụlọ
 ana enweta akwụkwọ
lid nkpu chi
lie asii
life ndu
lift *noun* lifti
lift *verb* bulie
light *adjective* di efere
light *noun* nta
light bulb ihe mmuya oku
light meter ihe nagu oku
lighter fluid mmanu ihe eji
 amunye oku
lighter ihe eji agbanye oku
lightning egbe igwe
like *preposition* dika
like *verb* odika; **I don't like it.** Ọ
 masighi m.; **I like it.** Ọ masiri m.
limb leg ukwu; arm aka
limit nje debe
line ahiri
linen linin
lingua franca asusu nkweko
linguistic group lingwistiiki
 mpaghara
lip egbugbere onu
lipstick ihe ana ete nonu
liquid mmiri
list idetu iha
listen igenti
liter lita
literature agumagu; folk
 literature agumagu ndiife; oral
 literature agumagu onụ
little ntakiri
live ibi
liver imeji
lizard ngwere
load jbu
lock *noun* mgbachi
logic uchenso
logical keuchenso
long ogologo

long sight ogologo anyanhu
look ine
loose change ego aghirgha
lorry nnukwu ụbọ ala
lose: I have lost my key. Etufụọla
 m otugwa m.
lost: I am lost. Efuọla m.
loud mkpọtụ
loudness uzu
louse igwu
love *noun* ihunanya
love *verb* ihu n'anya
love songs egwu/uri okwu
low ala
lunch nri ehizie
lung nkpofuru
lyric abuune

M

machine mashin
machine gun ebge ukwu
magazine magazin; akwụkwọ
 nleghari anya
magic ihe gbalu yari
mail mel
mailbox ebe ana etinye akwụkwọ
 edere
main square ama ukwu
maize oka
major *adjective* nnukwu
majority ndi kariri
make mebe
malaria iba
malnutrition aguu
man nwoke
manager ọnye isị
mango mangoro
manners omume
manuscript nderenaaka
many kariri
map ihe nakowa ụzọ
marble okwute tury nka
March onwa ato
mare nne inyinya
marital status iluola di ko iluola
 nwanyi
mark *noun* mark
market ahia
marriage olulu; nwanyi
married *female* nwanyi luru di;
 male nwoke luru nwanyi

φ = more u = soon

υ = put ñ = sing

marsh ala ngu
mascara ihe eji acho nma
mask mkpu
master musician diegwu
match *football* mech
matches ndoro ndoro; ihe eji
 amunye oku
mathematics som; maasi
mattress agada; ibila
mature ahu ima ihe
May onwa ise
may I? chere tu?
meals erimeri
meaning nghota, mputara
meat anu
mechanic ɔnyena akuzi ɔgbọ ala
mechanic ɔnye nedozie ɔgbọ ala
medicine ɔgu
meet nzuko
meeting nzuko
melody oluegwu
melon egusi
melt mgbase
member ɔnye otu
memoirs edecheta
men umu nwoke
mend i dozi
mercenary ɔnye oji ndu acho ego
merchant ɔnye ɔzụ ahia
message ozi
metal ola ocha
metaphor mburu; oyiri; metafo
meter mita
mice oke
microscope mikroskop
midday ehie
middle etiti
midnight ime abali
mile mil
milk mmjri ara ehi; miliki
mill mill
million (otu) nde
mind uche
mine *mineral* min; *explosive* main;
 ogbu n'igwe
minefield mbara main
miner mina
mineral water mmjri uto/
 mineralz
minibus kiki; buz
minister ɔnye isi

ministry olu ndi isi
minority ndi di ntakiri
minstrel uguako
minute *time* otu nkeji
mirror nnyo; ugegbe
miscellaneous ngwaraogwa
missile bombo
missionary ndi mgbasa ozi ɔma
mistake mmefe
misty ijiriji
mix njiko
model ihe ima tu
modem modem
modern ugbua; ohuru; ihe ohuru
modern music egwu ugbua
monastery ebe ndi fada
money ego
monkey enwe
month otu onwa
monument ihe akuru akpu
mood onochiobi; muudu
moon onwa
more jmjrikiti; dikariri; **more or
 less** ma ukwu, ma nta
morning ututu
mosque ɔlọ ndi n'efe Muhamed
mosquito anwuta
mosquito coil ihe na egbu
 anwuta
mosquito net ihe na ejide anwuta
mother nne
motor inji
motorbike ɔgbọ ukwu abua
motorway ɔzọ ɔgbọ ala
mountain ugwu ukwu
mouse oke
mouth onu
mouthwash ihe eji asa onu
move gawa
much kariri
mule inyinya ibu
murder igbu mmadu
murderer ɔnye ogbugbu
museum ɔlọ ihe ochie
music egwu nkwa; nsi egwu
musician ɔnyeegwu
mustach aji onu; afọ ɔnu
myth; mythology ifuru/akuko
 okike

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

N

nail mbo
nail clippers ihe eji abe mbo
naira naira
name aha
napkin akwa eji ehicha aka
narration akomako
narrator oko akuko
narrow kpachiri
nasty ajo
nation obodo
natural disaster mgberegede
nature odidi
navy ndi agha ụgbọ
near nso
neat ocha
neck onu
necklace ihe onu
need jcho
needle ntutu
negative nju
negotiator onye ikpe
neighbor agbata-obi
new ọhụrụ
new moon onwa ọhụrụ
newspaper akwụkwọ ozi
newsstand ebe ndi ncho akuko
next ọzọ; **next week** izu uka nabia abia; **next year** afo nabia abia
nice mma
night abali
nine eteghiete; itenaani; toolu; toolu
nineteen iri na iteghefe
ninety iri iteghete
no entry ụzọ adighi
no mba
noise nkpatụ
noisy ụzụ
noon ehizie
normal nọmal
north olile anyanwu
nose imi
notebook akwụkwọ ihe ndote
nothing onweghi
novel iduuzi; novul
novels in English akwụkwọ akuko Bekee

November onwa iri na otu
now ugbua
number onuogụ
numeral onuogugụ
nurse ọnyeuweyi ọcha
nursery rhyme urinwa
nut food aghia ekere

O

oath iyi; agbara
observer ọnyena ele anya
occasion ihe emume
occupation ihe oru aka
occur ino
occurrence nnuno
ocean mmiri
October onwa iri
ode ngigo; ugoli; mbem okwụ
of course! ezi okwu!
officer ọnye ishi
officer worker ọnyena aru ọru bekee
oil company ndi negwu mmanu
oil mmanu
oil worker ọnye oru mmanu
oilcan ihe eji ejide mmanu
oilfield mbara mmanu
okra ọkrọ
old ochie; agadi
Old City Obodo Ochie
on na
on top of n'elu
once otu ụgboro; otu ọny
one otu; ofu
one-way street Ebe otu ụzọ
onion yabasị
open mmehie
opera house ebe ana agu egwu ukwu
operating theater ebe ana awa ahu
operator opareto
opposite n' ihu
opposition ndi nekwataghi
oppression imegide
oppressor ọnye n'emegide mmadụ m'ọbụ
or ma ọwu
oral literature agumagu onu
oral poetry abu onụ
orange oroma

o = more u = soon

u = put n = sing

orchestra okịstra
order *verb* usoro
ordinary nkiti; okporo
organ ogan
original nsinambu
orthography nsoroedide
other ọzọ
out opupu
output mputa; mmeputa
outside iro; mbara
oven afan
overcoat uweyi mkpuchi
owl ikwikwi
own *verb* nke m
owner ọnye nwe ihe
oxygen ikuku

P

package ihe nkechi
padlock mkpachi
padlock otugwa
page ihu (akwụkwọ)
pail ngbu
pain ahu mgbu
pair(s) mkpi
painkiller ogwu mgbu; ogwu ahu mgbu
paint *verb* uhe
palace obi-eze
palm nut nkpruru nkwo
palm tree osisi nkwo
palm wine mmanya ngwo; nkwo
pantomime ejije ogbu
paper ihe eji ede akwụkwọ
parable ukabuilu
parachute ihe ntuda ugbọ elu
parallel myiemetu
parcel ngwugwu
parent onye n'enata anya
park ebe ana egwu egwu
parliament building olu ndi ochichi
parliament nzuko ochichi
parliament ụlọ ndi iwu
parody njije
part agba; nkewa
party *festive* ihe anwuri; *political* otu ndoro-ndoro
pass *verb* igafe; ipaasi; **to pass an examination** igafe ule
passage edereede

passenger pasinja
passion ahuhu
passport akwụkwọ eji eje ije
past gara aga
pasture aga akọ ihe
path ụzọ
patron okwado
pattern nsoro; adimadi
pause nchetu
paw ukwu nkita
pawpaw pọpọ
pay *noun* kwuo
pay *verb* kwuo ugwo
peace udo
peace-keeping troops ndi nedote udo
peak isi-isi
peanut ahu ekere
pebble okwute ntakiri
pedriatician dokita n'ahu maka
peel becha
pen nkpisi akwụkwọ
pencil pensil; nkpisi akwụkwọ
penknife mma ntakiri
people ndi mmadu
pepper ose
percussion nkwaoko egwu
perform igosi
performance emume ngosi
performer ọnye ngosi
perfume ihe na esi isi oma
perhaps ike kwa
period oge; mgbe
person mmadu
person pesin
petrol mmanụ ugbọ ala
petroleum mmanu ugbọ ala
pharmacy ebe ana enweta ogwu
phone *noun* uda
phone *verb* mkpuruuda
photocopier fọtọkọpia
photocopy fọtọkọpi
photograph foto
physics fiziiki
physiotherapy fiziyo
piano piyano
pickax anya ike
picture foto
picture enyo
pidgin pijin
piece ibekere

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

pig ezi
pigeon ndulị
pillow mpalisi
pilot ọnye n'akwo ugbo elu
pin nedudu
pineapple nkwa jbu
pint payint
pipe okpoko
pistol egbe nta
place ebaa
plait igba ihe
plank osisi
plant *verb* kuo
plant *noun* osisi
plantain ogede ojoko; abrika
plantation nga ana akọ ihe
planting ikọ ihe
plastic plastik
plate efere
plateau obere ugwu
platform nke
play *theatre* ihe ngosi igwu-egwu
play *verb* egwu
play on words aruru okwų
please biko
plenty ofuma
plot *scheme* nhazi akuko
plow iku obi
plug ihe na eweta oku
plug plug
pocket akpa
podium podium
poem abu
poetry abu; **didactic poetry** abu nziko; **epic poetry** abu akuko dike; **folk poetry** abu ndiife; **historical poetry** abu akuko ala; **invocation poetry** abu mkopku; **lullaby poetry** abu ngugu nwa; **lyrical poetry** mbem; **mythological poetry** abu akuko okike; **narrative poetry** abu akuko; **oral poetry** abu onų; **poetic poetry** keabu; **popular poetry** abu otito
point of view keeshirihu
poison ihe na egbu mmedu
police ndi uweyi oji
police station ulọ ndi uweyi oji
policeman ọnye uweyi oji
polite iso anya

φ = more u = soon

political scientist ọnyendoro ndorọ
politician ọnye ndoro ndoro
politics ndoro ndoro
pony nwa inyinya
poor ọgboyi ọgbonye
pop music egwu poopu
pop musician ọnye egwu poopu
popular ozuruoha
population mmadų bi na obodo
pork anu ezi
porridge awai
port nga ugbo mmiri n'edo
possession nnweta; nketere
post office ebe ana teye akwukwọ edere ede
postcard akwukwọ ozi; ihe nakowasi obodo
pot ite
potato potato
pottery ihe ana akpu akpu
pound pound
pour ntanye
powder ihe eji acho nma
power ike
power cut oku elektrik adighi
praise otito
prayer ute ikpe ekpere
pregnant ifo ime
premier ọnye isi
prepare nkwado
prescription mmaiwu
prescriptive kemmaiwu
present *now* ni ihu
present gift ugbuga
president ọnye isi ala obodo
presidential guard ndi na elekota ọnye isi obodo
press *verb* ide
pressure: blood pressure mgbali obara; **high blood pressure** obara mgbali elu; **low blood pressure** obara mgbali ala
pretty imma
prevent jkwusi
previous nga gara aga
price ego
prime minister ọnye isi
primitive nke gboo; oge gboo
prince nwa nwoke eze
princess nwa nwaanyi eze

ų = put ń = sing

printer printa
prison nga
prisoner ɔnye nga
private *adjective* nke m nani
prize ihe onyinye
problem nsogbu; **no problem!**
 nsogbu adighi!
proceed gawa n'ihu
production imeputa ihe
profession aka oru eji mara ɔnye
professor okammuta; profeso
profit uru
progress *noun* iga n'ihu
progress report repootu
 agamnihu
project *noun* arumaru; projekti
projector projekta
promise *noun* kwe nkwa
promise *verb* ikwe nkwa
promote *verb* ibufe; ibuli n'okwa
pronoun nnochiaha
pronounce ikpo
pronunciation mkpoko
proof ngosiedemede
property *land* inwe ala
protect ichedo
protection chedo
protest inwe isi ike
prove ido anay
proverb ilu
public execution igbagbu mmadu
 nihu ogbara oha
pulse usu
pump ɔpmpo
pumpkin ugu
pun urookwu
punishment ahuhu ntaramahuhu
pupil *school* nwa akwukwo
purpose ihe ogbasara
purse akpa
pus abu
push inupu
put tinye

Q

qualification ntozu; nzere
qualify itozu
quantity imirikiti
quarrel ise okwu
quarter *of four* ɔzo ano
queen eze nwanyi
query *noun* mgba nju

query *verb* igba nju
question ajuju
questionnaire ajuju nchoputa
quick osiso
quiet jii
quiz ajuaza
quotation nsere okwu

R

rabbit oke ulo
radiator radiyeta
radio redio
radio station redio steshan
railroad njakiri
railway okporo ugu igwe
rain udu mmiri
rain mmiri
rain: It is raining. Mmiri na ezo.
rainy season udu mmiri
raise ibulita
ram mpki aturu Hausa
range ugu
rank *noun* okwa; nsoro
rape imetosi mmadu
rapid osiso
rat oke
ravine ɔnunu
raw ndu
razor reza
razorblade reza-bled
read *verb* ogu akwukwo
reader ogu akwukwo
readiness nkwadowe; njikere
reading ogugu
ready nkwadota
real ezigbo
reality nsiridi
realize mgbanuuche
reaping iri ihe ubi
reason mgbaghaputa; mkpatara
reason ucheobi
receipt rasit; akwukwo eji kwu
 ugu
receive nabata
recent isi nso
recitation nguniisi
recite igu n'isi
recommend ekwadoro
record nkwa
record player rekoodu awantiro
record rekoodu
red uhie

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

red mmeemmee; obara-obara
reduce wepu
reed ami
referee rafari
refinery ebe ana eme mmanu
reform *noun* igbanwe
refrigerator ihe n'aju ihe ogi
refugee camp ụlọ ndi ogbo oso
refugee ndi ogba oso
refugee ọnye ogba oso
refuse ahihia
region mkpaghara
register *noun* rejista
registered mail akwụkwọ
 etinyere naka ndi ozi
regularly kwa oge
relation mmetuta
relationship mmekorita
relative nwa nne
relief aid ihe ntinye aka
religion uka
religious studies omumu ofufe
repeat imenwe; ikwụnwwe
report *noun* akuko
report *verb* ikpesa; ikosara;
 ikọturu
report repootu
reporter kwunsara
representative ọnye nochiri anya
research *noun* nchocha
research *verb* ichocha
reserved ebe edotara
reserves nke edotere edote
resistance jnyụ isi
resource centre ebe nju
rest *resting* jzu ike; *remainder* ọzọ
rest *verb* zua ike
restaurant ebe ana eri nrị; nga
 ana eri nrị
result rizootu
resume; summary nchikota
retard *verb* idọla azu
retardation ndola azu; ukpor
return wechita
reverse *noun* ntughari
review ntuleghari
revise imeghari; imenwo
revision mmeghari; mmenwo
revolution oghanadam; oghaniizi
reward ugwo; ngo
rhyme ndalorita
rhythm ndanusoro; ridim;

ahiriuda
rice osikapa; urosi
rich ogaranya
ride a horse jnya anyinya
right *side* aka ikpa; *correct* o di
 mma
ring *noun* mgba-aka
ripe chara acha
rise jto
rites ntoaja
ritual kentoaja; keaja
river mmiri
river bank nkuku miri
river course usoro mmiri
river source ebe mmiri si bido
road ụzọ; **road map** akwụkwọ
 naezi ụzọ obodo; **road sign**
 ngosi ụzọ; **roadblock** ụzọ
 nkpochi
roast *verb* jhụ n'oku
robbery ohi
robe uwe
rock nkume; okwute
rocket ọgbu na igwe
role *social* oke na olu
romance ufere
roof elu ụlọ
room ime ụlọ
room number onu ogugu imụlọ
rooster oke okuko
root mkporọgwụ
rope eriri
round *adjective* okirikiri;
 gburugburu
roundabout gburugburu
row ahiri nkwa
rubber *substance* roba; *eraser*
 nchicha
rubbish ahijha
rude anagi aso anya
ruins olu dara ada
rule usoro; iwu
ruler *political* ọnye ọchichi;
 measure rula
run igba ọsọ
rust ita nchara

S

sack akpa
sad nnwuta
sadness ihe nnwuta
safety adigi egwu

φ = more u = soon

ψ = put ñ = sing

safety pin ihe eji ejide uweyi
saga akuku agburu; iduu
sailor ɔnye n'asọ ugbo mmjri
salad ahihia nri
salary ugwo-ɔnwa
salt nnu
salty odi nnu nnu
same atu afu
sand aja
sandpaper asisa; sanpepa
sandwich ihe o tita
sap mmjri osisi
sarcasm mkpori
satellite satelait
satire ikpe
satirist okpe ikpe
satisfaction ojuju afo
satisfied: to be satisfied iju afo
sauce ɔfe
saucepan ile isi ɔfe
savings ego ndota
saw ihe nkwo
scale akikọlọ
scan inyonye anya
scar apa
scared: to be scared itụ egwu
scarf ichafu isi
scene (ihe) nkiri
scenery ebe nkiri
scheme of work atumatu nkuzi
scholar okammuta
school ulọ akwụkwọ; **nursery school** ulọ akwụkwọ ọtaakara;
primary school ulọakwụkwọ praimari; **secondary school** ulọakwụkwọ sekọndjri
science sayensi
scientist omumu ihe
scissors ncha; sizaz
scooter, motor scooter skuta
score: What's the score? Owu gini ka eji gbagbue?
scorpion akpi
screw sikru
screwdriver sikrudreva
sculpture akpuruapu
sea osjmiri
season noun oge
seat oche
second 2nd abua; of time otu akara nkeji
secret nzuzo

secret police 'state security'
secretary ɔnye ode akwụkwọ
section nkeji, nkebi; akuku; mpaghara; **cross section** nkebi ekere; **sub section** nkebi nta
security ihe nchedo
see ihu
seed nkpuru
seek ichọ
segment nke
select verb ihoro
selection nhoro; nhoputa
sell ile
seminar semina
seminar paper edemsemina
send sipu
sense meaning mputara; uche; nhuru; feeling etc uche iru
sensory perception nputara
sentence ahiriokwu
separate ɔ di ihe
September onwa itoli
sequel nsoje
sequence nsoje; nsuso
series nsoro nsoro; nsonso
sermon okwuchukwu
set noun dote
set verb dota
seven asaa; isaa; esaa
seventeen iri na asaa
seventy iri asaa
sew nkwachi
sewing machine ihe eji akwa-akwa
shade ndo
shake ɔmajiji
shampoo ihe eji asa isi
shape udi; odidi
share ike
sharp dinkọ
shave ikpucha
shaving cream ihe eji aku ihu
sheep aturu
sheet akwa agada
shell military bọmbọ; snail, etc. okpokoro
shepherd ɔnye n'achị anụ
shift verb inofega; ikpumi
ship ugbo mmjri
shirt uweyi ahu
shoe(s) agbayi ukwu

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

shoeshop ebe ana ere agbayi ukwu
shoot verb gba
shop ebe ana ere ihe
shopkeeper onye ahja
short mkpiriishi
short cut ibe nkenke
short story akuko mkpirisi
shorthand writer odenke
shorthand ndenkenke
shortness mere-mpe
shoulder ndabi olu
shout verb ntị nkpu
shovel ngwu ala
show verb igosi
shower ihe eji asa ahu
shrine ihu mmuo
shut verb mmechi
shy ipere
sick ojo
side oya
sieve nyọ akukụ
sign ihe eji ezi ụzọ; ntuaka; nruaka
signature mbiba aka
significance mkpa; uru
silence nwanyo
silver ola ocha
similar (to) iyi
similarity myiri
simile ndika; myiri
sing urị
singer ogu egwu; **lead singer** onye isi urị
single otu
single: *female* nwanyi na alubegi di; *male* nwoke na alubegi nwanyi
sink verb ndamina
sister nwannem nwanyi
sit inọ ala
sitting room
six isii
sixteen iri na isi
sixty iri isi
skeleton ọkpụkpụ mmadu
skepticism ekwechaghi
skill nka
skim mmanyeanya
skin ahụ
skull ọkpụkpụ isị
sky enu igwe
slander nkaru

sleep noun ihị ura
sleep verb ihj ura
sleeping bag akpa eji ehi ura
sleeping car ebe ana ehi ura
sleeping pills ogwu ura
sleeve aka uwe
slip verb mepu
slogan okwuejiam a
slope mkpo da ugwu; ndida ugwu
slow nwanyo
small mkpuru nta; ntakiri; **small letter** mkpuru abiidii nta
smaller ditu nta
smell verb isị
smile verb imiri amu
smoke noun anwuru
smoke verb **Şkwu anwuru**
snack ihe eji emeghari onu
snail eju
snake agwo
snake bite agwo otita
snore ikwo-ura
soap ncha
social class otu ọgbo; otu ebiri
soccer futbọl
soccer match ndoro ndoro futbọl
society association oha; ogborogbodo; *social* otu; oha
sociology soshiolọji
socks uweyi ukwu
soft adighi ike; ndi nlo
soil aja
soldier onyena aly ogu; soja
soliloquy ntakwu
solo-singer olu nnaa
soloist ogu ụri
someone otu onye
son okpara
song uri; egwu; **initiation song** uri abamaba; **masquerade song** uri mmanwu; **nursery song** uri nwa; **political song** uri ọchichi obodo; **praise song** uri ofufe; uri ike/otito; **satirical song** uri ikpe; **lullaby song** uri ngugu nwa; **children's play songs** uri umuaka; **dance song** uri ọgbugba; **festival song** uri mmemme; **funeral song** uri akwamozu/okwukwa; **love song** uri okpo; **marriage song** uri alumdị; **maternity song** uri nwa

o = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

sonic keuri
sophistication uda
sorcery okaegosi
sorry! ndol
soul mmuq; mkpuruobi
sound uda
soup ofe
sour ogbara uka
source nsiputa
south nleda anayanwu
souvenir shop ebe an ere ihe eji
 echeta obodo
sovereign eze
sowing iku ihe
space area ohere
spade ngwu ala; ugo
spaghetti pasta
spanner spana
spare ọzọ
speaker ọnye okwu
speaking okwukwu
specialist ọnyeoputa obie
specific objective mbunuuche
 kpomkwem
spectacle ihe nkiri
speech *talking* okuihų;
 performance
 okwu/ekwumekwu
speed oke oso
spell *verb* isupe
spelling nsupe
spend *money* ikpasa ego; *time*
 ikpasa ọge
spicy di ofu
spider udide
spokesman ọka okwu
sponge sapo
spoon ngaji
spy ọnye nyocha
square *of town* ogbe
stable ubi
stadium ebe ana agba bọl;
 stadium
stage *of theatre* ogbo
stairs ihe eji aliogo elų
stale omela ochie
stallion inyinya
stand *verb* ikwudo
star kpakpandu
start *noun* mbido
start *verb* ibido ihe
state *nation* obodo; *condition* ka

 ihe di
station *train* ọlọ ọgbọ ala
stationer's ahia akwųkwọ
statue ihe akpuru akpu
status okwa; nkwurų
stay ọdų
steel igwe
steering wheel steering wheel
step *noun* nkebi
stereotype agbanwo
sterling sterling
stethoscope 'stethoscope'
stick *noun* osįsi
still *adverb* otu nga
still *adjective* adighi mmeghari
stimulate imelite; ikpalite
stimulation mmalite; mkpalite
stimulus okpali
sting igba
stir kuyarį
stitch ntachį
stomach afo
stomachache afo ohihi
stone okwuta
stool *chair* ọche
stop *verb* kwųsį
stop! kwusil
story akųkọ
stove ekwu igwe
straight ogologo
straighten igbati
straight on ogologo
strainer nyọ
stranger ọnye ọbia
stream mmirį ọrųrų
street uzọ
strength ike
stress *emphasis* ikeolų
stress *tension* nsuobi
stretch ntųsa
string eriri
strong ike
structure mkpe
struggle mgbali
student nwa akwųkwọ
stutter isu nsu
stutterer ọnye nsu
style aka nka
style of writing aka edemede
subject *topic* ihe gbasara; *school*
 ihe gbasara
substance umi

a = pat e = pay i = feet į = pet o = so

subtlety ako
suburb ezi nta
success ihuoma
succession nnochoteanya
sugar ihe biri-biri; suga
sugar cane ọkpete; mgboko; suga ken
suit uweyi eji achu oyi
suitcase igbe
summary nchikota
summit isi-isi
sun anwu
sunburn anwu igba ọkụ
sunny anwu ochicha
sunny season okochi
sunny; It is sunny. anwu nacha
sun rays anya-anwu
sunrise ntuwata anwu
sunscreen sọnskrin
sunset anwu ọdị da
supermarket ahia ukwu
supervise ilekota; ileta
supervision nlekota; nleta
supervisor ọnye nlekota
supper nri abali
supply bugara
support *noun* nkwado; ndọnyere ukwu
support *verb* ikwado; idọnyere ukwu
sure *adjective* ezie
sure! esi okwul
surface n'ehu
surgeon dibia na awa ahu; ọnyena awa ahu
surname aha nnagi
surprise mberede
surprised ntụmade
survey sofia
swallow *verb* olilo
swamp omi
sweater uweyi ichu oyi
sweep *verb* iza
sweet *adjective* ihe di uto
sweet *noun* ihe uto
sweet potato ndyuku
swimming igwu mmiri
sword opia
symbol odimara
symbolic keodimara
symmetry nhatanha
synagogue ụlọ uka ndi Jew

synonym myiri
syringe ndudu
system sistem

T

table agada eji edote ihe
tail ọdu
tailor ọnye na eti uwe
take were
tale akụkọ
talk *verb* jkwu okwu
talks okwu
tall ogologo
tampons akwa ogodo
tank *military* tank; *container* tanki
tanker tanka
tap (faucet) tapu
tape (cassette) tep (kaset)
tape recorder tep-rakọda
tasteless onweghi uto
tasty odi nma
taxi driver ọnye n'akwo ugbo ala
taxi takzi
tea mmiri oku; **tea with lemon** mmiri oku etighere oroma nkirisi; **tea with milk** mmiri oku etighere mmiri ara ehi
teach kuzie
teacher ọnye nkuzi
team ndi otu
tears anya mmiri
teaspoon ngaji ntakiri
teeth eze
telecommunications ọnyena aru oru waya
telegram waya
telephone center ụlọ analekota okwu ikuku
telephone ihe eji ekwo okwu nikuku
telescope tịliskọp
television televishon
television antenna eriyal
television station televishon steshan
telex teleks
tell kwuo
temperature fever ahu oku
temple ụlọ uka
ten iri; ili
tense tensi
tent nchu anwu

o = more u = soon

u = put n = sing

tent pegs

tent pegs ihe eji ejide nchu anwu
termite akika
territory nnukwu ogige
test ule; nnwale
textbook akwụkwọ omumu
texture udidi
thank you imela
that nka ahu
theatre ekwuru; ụlọ egwu egwu
theft ohi
then emecha
theory atutu
there ebe-ahu
therefore yaka
thermometer temọmịta
these ndiaa
they ha
thick elu
thief ọnye ori
thigh mpata ụkwụ
thin gerigi
thing ihe
think ilo ilolo
third ato (nke ato)
thirst agu mmiri
thirsty: I'm thirsty. Akpiri n'akpo m nku.
thirteen iri na abo
thirty iri ato
this morning ututu a
this nkaa; **this week** izu uka nkaa;
this year afo nkaa
thorn ogu
those ndieri
thought echiche; aro
thousand (otu) puku
thread owu
three ato; ito; eto; **three times** ụgboro ato
throat akpiri
throw tọp
thumb mkpabi aka
tick insect igwu
ticket tikiti
ticket office ebe ana ewere akwụkwọ opupu
tie eriri olu
time oge; mgbe; **What time is it?** Kedu ihe oge nekwu?
timeline ahiri oge
timetable nkegba; oge eji aga
tire of car taya

tired ike ogwu gwu
tissues ihe eji ehicha imi/ihu
Tiv Ndi Tiv
tobacco anwụrụ
today taa
toe isi nkpisi ukwu
together idiko n'otu
toilet ebe a n'anyụ nse
toilet paper akwụkwọ eje ehicha ike; ihe eji ehicha ike
tomato tomato
tomb ili
tomorrow echi
tone udaolu
tongue ire
tonight n'abali taa; ne abali
too little odi ntakiri
too much bukaririibu
too much okariri akari
tool ngwa ọlụ
tooth eze
toothache eze ngbu
toothbrush ihe eji asa eze
toothpaste ihe eji asa eze
toothpick ihe eji aghu eze
top isi
tortoise mbe
torture imegbu mmegbu
totem anu nsọ
touch verb metu aka
tourism ihe gbasara ndi ije
tourist ọnyeije
tow rope eriri eji ado ụgbọ
towel akwa eji ehicha ahu
tower ụlọ ogologo
town ime obodo
town center ime obodo
townspeople ndi obodo
toy ihe iguri egu
tractor trakta
trade izu afja
trade union nzuko ndi neligede ndi ozi
traditional ochie; odinaala;
traditional musician ọnye egwu odinaala; **traditional music** egwu/nkwa odinaala;
traditional sayings ekwurekwu okpu
tragedy odachi; trajidi
train station ebe nkwasị ụgbọ igwe

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

train ʊgbɔ igwe
training uzuzu
training consultant ɔnyenazu ndi mmadu
tranquilizer ogwu itu ura
transformation nnwoghari
transformer transform
translation ntughari
transmission mmife; nnyefe
travel njem
travel agent ebe ana azuta ihe aga obodo ozo
traveler ɔnye ije
treasury ebe ana edote ego
treaty alo atukoro ɔnɔ
tree osisi
tree trunk ogwe osisi
triplet ukwuhiriato
troops ndi agha
trousers uweyi ukwu
truck inwa oke
true ezi oku
trunk of tree ogwe osisi
truth ezi okwu
try inwa oke
tune uri
turkey torotoro
turn kuyari; **turn left** ga naka ikpa; **turn right** ga naka nri
twelve iri na abuo
twenty iri abuo
twice ʊgbɔro abua
twins ejima
two abua; ibua
type udi
typewriter taipwrita
typewriting nkumigwe
tyre taya

U

ugly njo
umbrella ihe eji egbo mmiri
U.N. *see* **United Nations**
uncomfortable adigi chim-chim
underground ime ala
underwear ogodo
unexploded bomb bombo na agbawabegi
unhappy ubi ojo
uniform uweyi ndikota
unison otu onɔ
United Nations Ndi Obodo

Noko Tora; Obodo Ndi
 Nnokotara Otu
university ʊlo akwɔkwɔ ukwu
unripe achaghi acha
untidy ruru inyi
until emechaa
up elu
useful bara uru
useless enweghi isi

V

valley odida ugwu; ndagwurugwu
valuable ihe di mkpo
vary igbanwe
vase ihe eji etinye ihe
vegetable shop ahia akwɔkwɔ nri
vegetables akwɔkwɔ nri
vegetarian: I am a vegetarian.
 Anaghi m eri ahɔ .
vehicle ʊgbɔ
vein akwara
verb ngwaa
verbosity okotookwu
verse odinoogbara
very dii
veto oputa obie
vibration mmajijiji
victory mmeri
video video
videotape videotep
viewpoint ucheobi
village ʊlo
virus virus
visa akwɔkwɔ inabata no obodo
visit *verb* ije fɔ
visual-aid ngwa nlere (anya)
vitamin(s) vitamin
voice olu
vote ibia aka
vote-rigging ihogbu itunye akwɔkwɔ
voting itunye akwɔkwɔ
vowel udaume
vulture udele

W

waist ukwu; cheree
wake someone up iteta
wake-up call oku mkpote
walk ga; ije
wall ngwe
wall gecko nche-ʊnɔ

ɔ = more u = soon

ʊ = put ñ = sing

want chọq
war agha; ogu
warm oku
wasp ogba kpim; anwụ
watch *noun* elekele-aka
watchmaker's ọnye na emezi ihe eji ama oge
water bottle ihe eji etinye mmiri
water mmiri
water pot ite mmiri
waterfall odida mmiri
watermelon egusi
way ụzọ
we anyi
weak adigi ike; umengwu
wear tee ume
weather ihu ubochi
week izu uka
weep ibe akwa
well *noun* omi; wel
well *adjective* odi mma
west odida anyanwu
what's that? owo gini?
what? ọgini?
wheel okpore
when? mgbeole?
where? ebe?; **where are?** ele ha;
where is? ele ebe/ha?
which? nkeole?
whisky mmaya oku; wiski
white ocha
who? ọnye?
whole n'ile
why? kedụ?; ọwumaka gini?
wide mbara
wife nwunye
win imeriri; **Who won?** inye meriri?
wind ikuku
window ụzọ oyi
windy ikuku neku taa
wine mmaya oku
wing nku
wink itabi anya
why? ọwumaka gini?
winter uguru
wipe vichapu
wire waya
wisdom akọ n'uche

wise uche
wish *verb* ilo
with na
woman nwanyi
womb akpa nwa
women umu nwanyi
wood *substance* nkụ; *many trees* osisi
wool wul
word mkpuruokwụ
work *noun* ọru
work *verb* iru oru
workbook akwụkwọ arumaru
worker ọnye ọru
workshop ụlọ arumaru; ụlọ ọru
World Bank ụlọ Ego Uwa
world uwa
worm okpo; idide
wrestling igba mgba
wrist aka
write ide
writer ode akwụkwọ
writing odide; *shorthand* ndenkenke
writing paper akwụkwọ eji ede ozi
wrong imegbu

X

x-ray 'x-ray'
xenophobia asimba
xylophone ngelenge

Y

yam ji
yard yard
year afo
yellow odo do
yes eeh; ehe
yesterday nyahụ gara aga
yet ugbua
Yoruba Ndi Yoruba
you *plural* unu
you *singular* gi
young nwatakiri

Z

zero adighi ncha; efu; enweghi
zoo ulọ anumanu

IGBO

PHRASEBOOK



1. ETIQUETTE

Hello!
How are you?
Fine, thank you!
Good morning!
Good afternoon!
Good evening!
Good night!
See you tomorrow!

Goodbye!
Bon voyage!
Bon appetit!

yes
no
thank you
good luck!
excuse me!
may I?
sorry!

Kédù!
Kédù kà ọ̀di?; Kedù kà ị̀méré?
Ọ̀ dí mmá!; Ọ̀ mákà!
Ị̀ bọ̀la chí!
Ndéwó!
Ndéwó!
Ká chí fọ́!; Ká chí bọ́!
Anyí gá áh7 echì!;
Ka ọ̀ dí échì!
Ká ómésíá!
Gà nké ọ̀má!; Ijé ọ̀mó!
Ríé nké ọ̀má!

éh
mbá
imélá; dálù
nwé ihù ọ̀mà!
chérétù!
énwèrè m ikè?
ndò!

2. QUICK REFERENCE

I	mụ
you <i>singular</i>	gị
he/she/it	yá
we <i>exclusive</i>	ányìnwà
we <i>inclusive</i>	ányì-nilé
you <i>plural</i>	únù-nilé
they	há
this	nkè à
that	nkè áhù
these	ndị à
those	ndị éri
here	ébè à
there	ébè àhù
where?	èbèè?
who?	ónyé?
what?	ọgịni?
when?	mgbè ọlè?
which?	nkè ọlè?
how?	otuòlè?
why?	ọ bụ màkà gịni?
how far?	ọ tère anyà?
how much?	ọ bụ ego ole?
how much each?	otù ọ bụ egò ole?
how many?	ọ bụ ole?; ọ di ole?
what's that?	ọ bụ gịni?
is there?/are there?	ọ dị?/ha dị?
how near?	ọ tere anyà?
how close	o dị nso?
where is/are ... ?	ebee ka ... ?
what must I do?	gịni ka m ga eme?
what do you want?	ọ bụ gịni ka ịchòrò?
very	dị

ọ = more

u = soon

ụ = put

ń = sing

QUICK REFERENCE

and
or
but
I like/want
I don't like/want
I should like
I don't want
I know.
I don't know.
Do you understand?
I understand.
I don't understand.
My condolences.
I am grateful.
It's important.
It doesn't matter.
No problem!
more or less
here is
here are
Is everything OK?
Danger!
How do you spell that?

I am . . .

cold
hot
hungry
thirsty
happy
sad
sleepy
tired
well
worried

na
mà ọ̀ bù
kama
Ọ̀ masị̀rị̀ m̀
Ọ̀ masị̀ghị̀ m̀
A gam achụ
A chọghị̀ m
A ma m.
A màghị̀ m̀.
Ị̀ ghòtàrà?
A ghòtara m̀.
A ghòtàghị̀ m̀.
Ọ̀ na ewùta m.
Afọ̀ juru m./Obi juru m.
Ọ̀ dị̀ nkpa.
Ọ̀ dị̀ghị̀ nkpa.
Nsògbu àdighị̀!
ma ntinye, ma ọ̀ bụ̀ nwepu
lee ya (or lekwa ya)
lekwa ha (or lee ha)
Ị̀he nilè ọ̀ dị̀ mma?
̀nsògbù̀ dì!; ihe nmeru ahụ!
Kedù otu esi ekwu ya?

Oyi n'atụ m.
Okpom ọ̀kù na eme m̀.
Agụụ na agu m̀.
Akpịrị̀ kporo nkù.
Obi na atọ m ụto.
Obi adighị̀ m mma.
Ụra n'atụ m.
Ike agwula m.
A dị̀ m mma!
Ọ̀ na eche m uchè.

a = pat e = pay i = feet ị = pet o = so

3. INTRODUCTIONS

Note that the Igbo are multilingual (frequently speaking formal English, Pidgin English and other neighboring languages) and will use, particularly in urban areas, titles such as Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss, Master etc. Professional titles such as Doctor are also popular, given the importance of status to the Igbo. The traditional status symbols are chieftaincies, with prominent and successful individuals taking on local titles. These titles are treated seriously, as they confer prestige and honour on the individual. Most people would want to be referred by their title, especially on formal occasions. People are frequently referred to by their professional title ('Doctor', 'Lawyer', 'Chief') rather than by name. Also, given the incredible social stratification in Igboland, if you are wealthy or in a position of power, don't be surprised to be referred to as Sir, Madam, or Master. In the rural areas older peoples names are prefixed with **Dede** (man) or **Dada** (women) out of respect.

What is your name?

Kedù aha gị?

My name is . . .

Aha m bụ . . .

(e.g. My name is Fred.

Aha m bụ Fred.)

May I introduce you to . . .

Bia ka m zi gị . . . ;

(e.g. May I introduce
you to Fred?

Bia ka m gosi gị . . .

Bia ka m zi gị Fred;

Bia ka m gosi gị Fred.)

This is my . . .

Ọnye a bụ . . . m

friend

enyị

colleague/companion

onye ụlọ ọrụ anyị/

onyè agbàtà obi

relative (mother's side)

nwà nne m

relative (father's side)

nwà nna m

ABOUT YOURSELF

Nationality — The general term for anybody outside

Africa is **obodo oyibo** or **onye ocha/onye bekèè**. Otherwise the individual name of the countries is usually enough.

Where are you from?

Kedụ ebe isi bịa?

I am from . . .

Esị m . . .

I am . . .

Abụ m ọnye . . . + name of country

ọ = more

u = soon

ụ = put

ń = sing

Where were you born? **Kedụ ebe amurụ gi?**
I was born in . . . **A mụrụ m na . . .**

NIGERIAN PEOPLES

Coastal People (Brass etc)	Ndi Mba Mmiri
Edo	Ndi Edo
Efik	Ndi Efik
Fulani	Ndi Fulani
Hausa	Ndi Hausa
Ibibio	Ndi Ibibio
Idoma	Ndi Idoma
Igara	Ndi Igara
Ijaw	Ndi Ijaw
Kanuri	Ndi Kanuri
Tiv	Ndi Tiv
Yoruba	Ndi Yoruba

OCCUPATIONS

What do you do?
I am a/an . . .

academic
accountant
administrator
agronomist
aid worker
architect
artist
business person
carpenter

consultant

dentist
judge
diplomat
doctor

Olụ aka gi bụ gini?
Abụ m . . .

onye nà akùzi nkùzi
onye ndolè ego
ọde akwụkwò na edozị obodo
onye n'akò ubi
onye ntinye akà
onye nà esè ulò
onye nà esè ihè
onye nà eji egò achoro egò
onye n'akpịcha osisi;
opịcha osisi
onye nà ezi uzọ; ọmacha
n'ezi ụzọ ihe
onye nà apkà eze; dọkịta eze
onye ọka ikpe; ọka iwu
onye n'ekwuru obodo ọzọ
onye nà agwo oria; dibia
bekee; dọkịta oyibo

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

economist	onye nà edozi ego
engineer	onye nà ewu ihe; aka mere igwe
farmer	onye nà aku ubi
film-maker	onye nà eme 'cinema'
journalist	onye nta akuko
lawyer	onye ikpè; onye nà èkpè ikpè
manual worker	onye orụ àkà
mechanic	onye n'aruzi ụgbọ ala
negotiator	onye mkpezi
nurse	onye uweyi ọchà
observer	onye nà èle ànyà
officer worker	onye nà aru oru bekèè
pilot	onye n'akwọ ụgbọ elù
political scientist	onye ndorọ ndorọ
scientist	omumu ihe
secretary (clerk)	onye ode akwụkwọ
soldier	onye soja
student	nwà akwụkwọ
surgeon	onye nà awà ahù; onye
	dọkita n'awa ahụ mmadụ
teacher	onye nà akuzi nkuzi
telecommunications	ozi ụzọ 'wire'
specialist	onye oputa obiè; onye
	ọmachà àmachà
tourist	onye ijè
training consultant	onye nazù ndi mmadù; onye
	n'azù ndi mmadù
writer	ode akwụkwọ; ọ de akwụkwọ

AGE

How old are you?

I am . . . years old.

Afọ ole ka i dị?

Adị m afọ . . .

FAMILY

Are you married?

male I lụlụlụ nwanyị?

female I lụlụlụ di?

ọ = more

u = soon

ụ = put

ñ = sing

I am single.

male **Alụbeghị m nwanyi.**

I am married.

female **Alụbeghị m di.**

I am divorced.

male **Alụọla m nwanyi.**

female **Alụọla m di.**

I am widowed.

male **Nwanyi m ahapụla m.**

female **Di m ahàpụla m.**

Do you have a boyfriend?

male **Nwanyi m anwụọla.**

female **Di m anwụọla.**

Do you have a girlfriend?

! nwere enyi nwoke?

What is his/her name?

! nwere enyi nwanyi?

How many children do you have?

Gini bụ aha ya?

I don't have any children.

! nwere ụmụ olè?; Ụmụ ole

ka i mụrụ?

I have a daughter.

Enweghị m ụmụ akà.

Enwere m ada.; Enwere m otu

nwanyi.

I have a son.

Enwere m ọkpara.; Enwere m

otu nwoke.

How many sisters do you have?

! nwere umunne nwanyi olè?

How many brothers do you have?

! nwere umunne nwoke olè?

father

nna

mother

nne

grandfather (father's side)

nnannà

grandfather (mother's side)

nnanne

grandmother (father's side)

nnenne

grandmother (mother's side)

nnennà

brother

nwanne m nwokè

(literally: 'my mother's son')

nwannà m nwokè

(literally: 'my father's son' i.e half-brother)

sister

nwanne m nwanyi

a = pat e = pay i = feet ì = pet o = so

children	ụmụaka
daughter	àdà
son	ọkpàrà
twins	ụmụ ejimà
husband	di; nnà ukwụ
wife	nwunyè; oli àkù
family	ezi n'ụlọ
man	nwokè
woman	nwanyị
boy	nwa nwokè
girl	nwa nwanyị
person	mmadụ
people	ndi mmadụ
non person/spirit	mmuọ

Religion

See also the note on religious heritage on page 136.

What is your religion?

I am (a) . . .

Catholic

Christian

Muslim

Jewish

Hindu

Buddhist

Kedụ ụkà ị n'aga?

Abụ m ọnye ụka . . .

Fada

Kristu

Muhamed; Ụka Alakùba

omume ndi Jew

Hindu

n'efe Buda

Christianity

Islam

Judaism

Hinduism

Buddhism

ofufe Krist

ofufe Mohamed/Alakùba

ofufe Juda

ofufe Hindu

ofufe Budha

I am not religious.

Ọ nweghị ọnye m n'efe.

4. LANGUAGE

Many Igbos in urban areas will speak or understand a form of English — whether formal or Pidgin (English is spoken with varying degrees of fluency by 50 percent of Nigerians). They will also speak many of the neighboring languages such as Efik as the Igbo have been great long-distance traders. However, beyond Igbo — the best fall-back position would be Pidgin English — which is an independent language and has its own grammar and vocabulary.

Do you speak Igbo?

! na asụ Igbo?

Do you speak English?

! na asụ Oyibo?

Do you speak French?

! na asụ French?

Do you speak German?

! na asụ German?

Do you speak Portuguese?

! na asụ Portuguese?

Do you speak Yoruba?

! na asụ Yoruba?

Do you speak Hausa?

! na asụ Hausa?

Does anyone speak English?

Ọ nwere ọnye n'asu Oyibo?

I speak a little . . .

Ana m asu ntakiri . . .

I don't speak . . .

Anaghị m asu . . .

I understand.

Aghọtara m.

I don't understand.

Aghọtaghị m.

Please point to the word in the book.

Biko tụtọra m aka na okwu di na akwụkwọ a.

Please wait while I look up the word.

Biko chere ka m lee anya n'okwu di na akwụkwọ a.

Could you speak more slowly, please?

Biko jiri nwaayo n'ekwu okwu?

Could you repeat that?

Kwugharịa ihe i kwuru ọzọ?

How do you say . . . in Igbo?

Kedụ ka esi ekwu . . . ya na Igbo?

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

What does . . . mean?
How do you
pronounce this word?

I speak . . .

Danish
Dutch
English
French
German
Greek
Hausa
Italian
Japanese
Portuguese
Yoruba

Kedụ ihe . . . ọ pụtara?
Kedụ otu esi asụ okwu ndia?

Ana m asu . . .

Danish
Holland
Bakee
France
Germany
Greece
Hausa
Italy
Japan
Portugal
Yoruba

5. BUREAUCRACY

Note that the details below are purely for reference purposes, since any form you encounter will be written in English. Many of the Igbo phrases given below are basically in question form, e.g. **aha gi** means 'your name (is ...)?'

FILLING IN FORMS

name	aha gi
address	kedụ ebe ibi
date of birth	kedụ mgbe amụrụ gi
place of birth	kedụ ebe amụrụ gi
nationality	ị bụ onye ebe ole
age	ị di afọ ole
sex: <i>male / female</i>	nwọke mabù nwanị
religion	gini ka ị n'efe
reason for travel:	maka gini ka ị ji aga njem:
business	iji egò achọ egò
tourism	ihe gbasara ndi ije
work	ịrụ ọrụ
personal	ihe gbasara m
profession	ọrụ aka
marital status	onodụ di na nwunye
single: <i>male</i>	òkpòkòro nwoke
single: <i>female</i>	òkpòkòro nwanị
married: <i>male</i>	nwoke lụrụ nwanị
married: <i>female</i>	nwanị lụrụ di
divorced: <i>male</i>	nwoke ya na nwunye ya gbasara
divorced: <i>female</i>	nwanị ya na di ya gbasara
date	ụbọchị ole
date of arrival	ụbọchị ọbịbia
date of departure	ụbọchị nhapụ
passport	akwụkwọ eji eje ije
passport number	agụgụ ọgụ di na akwụkwọ eji eje ije (njem)
visa	akwụkwọ iji bata obodo ọzọ
currency	ego ndi nwe ala

a = pat e = pay i = feet ị = pet o = so

MINISTRIES

Ministries and other government departments and official organisations are referred to by their names or acronyms in English — since English is the main language of bureaucracy.

Ministry of . . .

Defense

Agriculture

Home Affairs

Foreign Affairs

Transport

Health

Education

Justice

Ụlọ ndi nwe-ala n'ahụ maka . . .

Ịche Obodo

Ọrụ Ubi

Obodo Ha

Obodo Ndi Ọzọ

Njem

Ahu-ike

Ọmụmụ Akwụkwọ

Ikpe-Ikpe

USEFUL PHRASES

Is this the correct form?

What does this mean?

Where is . . . 's office?

Which floor is it on?

Does the lift work?

Is Mr./Ms. . . in?

Please tell him/her
that I am here.

I can't wait, I have an
appointment.

Tell him/her that I was
here.

Nkea ahụ ezi akwụkwọ?

Gịjị ka nkea putara?

Kedụ ebe ọ n'arụ ọrụ?

Kedụ ebe ọ di?

**Ihea na ebuli mmadu elu ,
ọ na arụ ọrụ?**

Mazi/Oriaku . . . ọno ya?

**Biko gwara m ya na anọ m
ebea.**

**Ogaghị m echeli, enwere m
ebe ọzọ m n'aga.**

Gwa ya n'abiara m ebea.

6. TRAVEL

Public transport is rare, crowded, dirty and poorly maintained. Most people, including local people, travel by privately run minibuses (**kiki** or **buz**) or taxis which can be picked up at special 'motorparks' in each town. These travel between towns and cities, within and beyond Igboland, are relatively cheap, though they can sometimes be crowded. Taxi drivers pick up fares heading to a particular drop-off point. If you want the taxi to yourself, you will have to specially 'charter' it — which at the very least means covering the fares of the four other people who would have been squeezed in alongside you for that particular journey, plus an extra charge for your own comfort. You can also 'charter' by the hour or day. You pay the taxi when you arrive at your destination.

The rail network is not really extensive. The main lines are between Nigeria's commercial capital Lagos and Enugu, the old colonial capital of Igboland, which used to have a thriving coal industry. The railway lines were to get the coal to the coast, although they now transport passengers as well as goods. Some other lines connect Enugu to the north of Nigeria. But passenger lines between the main Igbo towns were not really developed. And where they do exist, they are slow and unreliable (taking days rather than hours to complete journeys). Very few people travel by rail.

Most people travel by road, or fly, especially if they are going to other parts of Nigeria. There are airports at Enugu, Owerri and Port Harcourt, mainly to service flights from other parts of Nigeria. Public announcements in Igboland are made in English and Pidgin English. There really isn't a rental market for bicycles.

ENQUIRIES

What time does the
... leave/arrive?

the airplane

the boat

the bus

the train

the minibus

The plane is delayed.

Kedù mgbe . . . ji hapụ/ abia?

ụgbọ elu

ụgbọ mmiri

ụgbọ ala

ụgbọ igwe

kiki; buz

Ụgbọ elu agaghi abia n'oge.

a = pat e = pay i = feet ì = pet o = so

The plane is cancelled.

How long will it be delayed?

There is a delay of . . . hours.

There is a delay of two or three hours.

Akagbụọla ọbibia ụgbọ elu.

Rue ole oge (mgbe) ke-aga ele anya?

Ọ ga eruchakwa awa . . .

Ọ ga eruchakwa awa abụọ ma ọbụ atọ.

BUYING TICKETS

Excuse me, where is the ticket office?

Where can I buy a ticket?

I want to go to . . .

I want a ticket to . . .

...

I would like . . .

a one-way ticket

a return ticket

first class

second class

business class

Can I pay in cash?

Can I pay by cheque?

You must pay in cash.

You must pay by cheque.

You can pay in any way.

Can I reserve a place?

How long does the trip take?

Biko kedù ebe ụlọ anazuta akwụkwọ njem dị?

Biko kedù ebe m ga azu akwụkwọ njem?

Achọrọ m ịga . . .

Achọrọ m akwụkwọ njem ịjị

Achọrọ m . . .

akwụkwọ mjem nkè otu ụzọ

akwụkwọ mjem nkè ojiiie n'loto

nkè ndi nwere agbo

nkè n'eso ndi nwere agbo

nkè ndi oji egòachọ egò

Enwere m ike ịjị egò kwụọ ụgwọ?

Enwere m ike ịjị egò akwụkwọ ụlọ akụ kwụọ ụgwọ?

Ị ga ejiri ịjị egò kwụọ ụgwọ.

Ị ga ejiri ịjị egò akwụkwọ ụlọ akụ kwụọ ụgwọ.

Ị nwere ike ịkwụ otu ọbụla.

Enwere m ike inweta onọdu?

Ọ bụ awà ole kàa njem ga ewè?

Ọ n'aga otu ụzọ?

ọ = more

u = soon

ụ = put

ń = sing

AIR

You can smoke on flights after take-off and before landing.

Is there a flight to ... ?

When is the next flight to ... ?

Enwere ụgbọ elu n'aga ... ?

Kedụ mgbe ụgbọ elu ụzọ ga abia?

How long is the flight?

What is the flight number?

Ọ na ewe awa ole n'ife na elu?

Kedụ ọnụ ọgụgụ enyere ụgbọ elu a?

You must check in at ...

Ị ga eme nkwado eji aba ụgbọ elu na ...

Is the flight delayed?

Ọ bụ na ụgbọ elu agaghi abia ngwa?

How many hours is the flight delayed?

Ọ ga ewe awa ole tupu ụgbọ elu abia?

Is this the flight for ... ?

Is that the flight from ... ?

When is the Lagos flight arriving?

Is it on time?

Is it late?

Do I have to change planes?

Ụgbọ elua ọ bụ nke ... ?

Nkaa ọ bụ ụgbọ elu si ... ?

Kedụ mgbe ụgbọ elu si Lagòs na-abia?

Orutara na-oge?

Ọ bụ na obiaghị n'oge?

Enwere m ike igbanwe ụgbọ elu?

Has the plane left Lagos yet?

What time does the plane take off?

Ụgbọ elu ọhapụla Lagòs?

Ohee mgbe ụgbọ elu ga-ahapụ?

What time do we arrive in Lagos?

Kedụ mgbe anyị ga eru Lagòs?

excess baggage

ibu karịrị akarị

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

international flight
internal flight

ụgbọ elu n'aga obodo ọzọ
ụgbọ elu na-efe n'ime obodo
nke ya

BUS

bus stop

Where is the bus stop/
station?

Take me to the bus station.

Which bus goes to ... ?

Does this bus go to ... ?

How often do buses pass
by?

What time is the ... bus?

next

first

last

Will you let me know
when we get to ... ?

Stop, I want to get off!

Where can I get a bus
to ... ?

When is the first bus
to ... ?

When is the last bus
to ... ?

When is the next bus
to ... ?

Do I have to change buses?

I want to get off at ...

ebe ụgbọ ala n'akwụsi

Kedụ ebe ụgbọ ala ukwu
n'akwụsi?

Kporo m je ebe ụgbọ ala
ukwu n'akwụsi?

Kedụ ụgbọ ala n'ije ... ?

Ụgbọ ala a ana eje ebe ole ... ?

Ugboro ole ka ụgbọ ala
n'agefe ebea?

Kedụ oge ụgbọ ala ... na abia?

ọzọ

nke mbu

nke ikpotemazu

Biko i ga agwa m mgbe anyi
ruru ... ?

Kwusi, ka m pụta!

Kedụ ebe m ga-enweta ụgbọ
ala ukwu na ga ... ?

Kedụ mgbe ụgbọ ala ukwu
nke mbu enuta, n'aga ... ?

Kedụ mgbe nke ikpetemazu
n'aga ... ?

Kedụ mgbe ụgbọ ala ozo ga
n'aga ... ?

Aga m agbanwe ụgbọ ala?

Achoro m iputa na ...

ọ = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

Please let me off at the next stop.
 Please let me off here.
 How long is the journey?
 What is the fare?
 I need my luggage, please.
 That's my bag.

**Biko kwe ka m pụta na
 nkwụsị nke ọzọ.
 Biko kwusi m ebea.
 Ijea oga ewe awa ole?
 Egò ole ka anakwu?
 Achoro m ibum, biko.
 Lekwa akpà m.**

TRAIN

Passengers must . . .
 change trains.
 change platforms.

**Ndi ije aghaghị . . .
 agbanwe ụgbọ ịgwe ala
 agbanwe ebe ana
 awụdata na ụgbọ ịgwe ala**

Is this the right platform
 for . . . ?

**Nkea ọbụ ebe ana awụda na
 iga . . . ?**

The train leaves from
 platform . . .
 Is there a timetable?

Ụgbọ ịgwe ala na esi ebea . . .

Take me to the railway
 station.

**Onwere akwụkwọ eji ama
 oge ụgbọ ịgwe ala ji abia?
 Kporo m ga ebe ụgbọ ịgwe
 ala n'adi.**

Which platform should I
 go to?
 platform one/two
 You must change trains
 at . . .

**Kedụ ebe m ga, guzoro ụgbọ?
 nke mbu/nke abuo
 Iga agbanwe ụgbọ ịgwe ala
 na . . .**

Where can I buy tickets?

**Kedụ ebem gazu akwukuo
 ike eji aba ụgbọ?**

Will the train leave on
 time?

**Ụgbọ okporo ịgwe ọ ga
 ahapụ na oge?**

There will be a delay of . . .
 minutes.

Ogagi abia rue . . . nkeji.

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

There will be a delay of . . . hours. **Oga ewe . . . awa abia.**

TAXI

Most taxis are marked. Avoid waving down and negotiating fares with private cars, people generally only take who they know because of the problem of armed robbery. Agree fares in advance. The driver will start high and you need to haggle as there is no set price but what the driver thinks he can get away with given the time of day, how busy he is and whether he believes he can make more money elsewhere. Most drivers will speak Pidgin English, though they will only take you to your precise address if you 'charter' the taxi especially. Otherwise you will be dropped at the main 'motorpark' for your area, and you would then have to walk.

Taxi!

Where can I get a taxi?
Please could you get me a taxi.

Can you take me to . . . ?
Please take me to . . .

How much will it cost it to . . . ?

To this address, please.

Turn left.

Turn right.

Go straight ahead.

Stop!

Don't stop!

I'm in a hurry.

Please drive more slowly!

Here is fine, thank you.

The next corner, please.

The next street to the left.

Takzi!

Kedù ebe m ga enweta takzi?
Biko chotora m takzi.

Nwere ike i kpòrò m ga ebe . . . ?
Biko kporo m ga . . .

Egò ole ka ọ ga ad iji ga . . . ?

Kporo m ga na . . . biko.

Ga n'aka ekpe.

Ga n'aka nrị.

Gawa n'ihu.

Kwusi!

Akwusila!

Ọ dị m ọsịso.

Biko, nwere nwayò n'anya

ụgbò àlà!

Ebeà dị mmà, imeelà.

Na nkọ nkọ nke ọzọ, biko.

Na opkoro ụzọ nke ọzọ n'aka ekpe.

ọ = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

The next street to the right.
 Stop here!
 Stop the car, I want to get out.
 Please wait here.
 Take me to the airport.

Na okoro ụzọ nke ọzọ n'aka nri.
Kwụsị ngaa!
Kwụsị ụgbọ ala, achoro m iputa.
Chere ebea.
Kporo m ga ebe ụgbọ elu n'ada.

GENERAL PHRASES

I want to get off at . . .
 Excuse me!
 Excuse me, may I get by?
 These are my bags.
 Please put them there.
 Is this seat free?

 I think that's my seat.

Achoro m iputa na . . .
Biko!
Biko, chere ka m gafere!
Ndea bu akpa m.
Biko, dowe hà ebe ahù.
Ọ di ọnye nọ n'ọchea?;
Ọ nwere ọnye nọ n'ọchea?
Eche m na nkea bụ ọche m.

EXTRA WORDS

ambulance
 bicycle
 boat
 car
 4-wheel drive
 helicopter
 motorbike
 trolley bus
 airport
 airport tax
 arrivals
 baggage counter
 boarding pass
 bus stop
 cancellation
 check-in counter

ambulans
 igwe; igwe okporo ụzọ
 ụgbọ mmiri
 ụgbọ ala
 ụgbọ nwere ụkwụ anọ
 ụgbọ elu ntakiri; helikoputa
 ụgbọ tum-tum
 ụgbọ eji ebu ibu
 ebe ụgbọ elu n'ada
 iwù ana-eri ndi njem ụgbọ elu
 ụlọ nzute ndi ije
 tebùlù ebe ana anabata ibu ndi ije
 akwukwo eji aba ụgbọ elu
 ebe ụgbọ ala ukwù n'akwusị
 kagbùo
 tebùlù ebe esi anabata ndi ije
 maka njem

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

check-in	nwàdo ọ̀bụba ụgbọ elu
closed	emechiela
customs	ndi na-eche ahia iwu
delay	ntufu oge
departures	ụlọ ọ̀nọ̀dụ ndi na-aga ije
dining car	ebe ana eri ihe
emergency exit	ụzọ ọ̀pụ̀pụ̀ (mberede)
entrance	ụzọ ọ̀bụba
exit	ụzọ ọ̀pụ̀pụ̀
express	ọ̀sịsọ
ferry	ụgbọ mmiri ntakiri
information	ebe ana-nweta ozi na enyem aka
ladies/gents	ụmụ-nwaànyị/ụmụ-nwokè
no entry	ụzọ adighi
no smoking	anaghị ahụ anwụrụ ọkụ
open	mèpe
path	ụzọ
platform number	ụnọ ọ̀gụ̀gụ nwụdata
railway	okporo ụgbọ ịgwe
reserved	ebe edotara
road	ụzọ
sign	ihe eji ezi ụzọ
sleeping car	ebe ana ehi ụra n'ụgbọ okporo ịgwe
station	ebe ụgbọ na-akwụsi
telephone	ihe eji ekwu okwu n'ikuku
ticket office	ebe ana ewere akwụkwọ ike eji eje ije
timetable	ogè eji agà
town center	ime obodo
train station	ebe nkwụsi ụgbọ ịgwe

7. ACCOMMODATION

Major hotels are broadly the same here as elsewhere. In guest houses and smaller hotels, you will need to pay in advance. Again expect to haggle over prices.

I am looking for a . . .	Ana m achọ . . .
guesthouse	ebe ọnụnọ ọnye ije
hotel	ebe izu ike ọnye ije
hostel	ebe izu ike ọnye obibia
Is there anywhere I can stay for the night?	Onwere ebe m ga-anọ n'abali ta?
Is there anywhere we can stay for the night?	Onwere ebe anyi ga-anọ n'abali ta?

Where is . . . >	Olee ebe . . . ?
a cheap hotel	ụlọ izu ike ọnye ije di ọnụ ala
a good hotel	ezigbo ụlọ izu ike ọnye ije
a nearby hotel	ụlọ izu ike ọnye ije di nso
a clean hotel	ụlọ izu ike ọnye ije di ocha
What is the address?	Kedụ ebe ọ di?
Could you write the address please?	Detarụ m aha ebe ọbi?

AT THE HOTEL

Do you have any rooms free?	Ohere ọ di ebea?; Nwere ohere ebea?
I would like . . .	Achọrọ m mkpuru . . .
a single room	otu ọnye
a double room	madụ abụọ
We'd like a room.	Anyi chọrọ otu mkpuru.
We'd like two rooms.	Anyi chọrọ mkpuru abụọ.
I want a room with . . .	Achọrọ m mkpuru ụlọ nwere . . .
a bathroom	ụlọ isa ahu

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

a shower
a television
a window
a double bed
a balcony

shawà
televishon
ụzọ oyi
àkwà madu abụọ
mgbe

I want a room that's quiet. **Achọrọ m imè ụlọ dị jụụ.**

How long will you be staying?

Ị ga-anọrù mgbe ole?

How many nights?

Abalị ole ka ị ga anọ?

I'm going to stay for ...

Aga m anọ ...

one day

otù ụbòchị

two days

ụbòchị abụọ

one week

otu izù ụka

Do you have any I.D.?

Ị nwere ihe eji amata gi?

Sorry, we're full.

Ndo! Anyị ejula.

I have a reservation.

Onwere ebe edotara m.

My name is ...

Aha m bụ ...

May I speak to the manager please?

Biko achọrọ m ikwuru ọnye isi okwu?

I have to meet someone here.

Onwere ọnye m n'achọ izuta ebea.

How much is it per night/
per person?

Ọ bụ egò ole ka ofu ọnye n'akwu kwa abali?

How much is it per week?

Egò ole ka ana-akwu n'izuka?

It's ... per day/per person.

Ọ bụ ... otù ọnye kwa ụbòchị.

Can I see it?

Enwere m ike ịhụ ya?

Are there any others?

Ọ nwere ndi ọzọ?

Is there ... ?

Ọ nwere ... ?

air conditioning

ntụ oyi

laundry service

ebe isa akwà

room service

nlekota ọbia

a telephone

ihe eji ekwu na ikuku;

telefon

hot water

mmiri ọkụ

ọ = more

u = soon

ụ = put

ń = sing

No, I don't like it.

It's too . . .

cold

hot

big

dark

small

noisy

dirty

It's fine, I'll take it.

Where is the bathroom?

Is there hot water all day?

Do you have a safe?

Is there anywhere to wash clothes?

Can I use the telephone?

Mba, achoghi m ya.

Ọ dị . . .

oyi

oku

ukwù

itini

ntakiri

ụzụ

orùrù inyi

Ọ dị mma, aga m ewe ya.

Olee ebe ana-asa ahụ?

Enwere mmiri okụ kwa ubochi?

Ị nwere ebe ana edọta ihe?

Ọ nwere ebe ana asa akwa?

E nwere m ike ikpọ telefon?

NEEDS

I need . . .

candles

toilet paper

soap

clean sheets

an extra blanket

drinking water

a light bulb

Achọrọ m . . .

kandulụ (uri okụ)

akwukwo eji ehicha ike

ncha

akwà dị òcha

akwà nchù oyi òzò

mmiri ọnhụ

uri okụ bekee

Please wake me up at . . .
o'clock.

Please change the sheets.

I can't open/close the
window.

I have lost my key.

Can I have the key to my
room?

Biko kpote m na elekere . . .

**Biko gbanwee akwà ana-atọ
n'elu àkwà.**

**E nweghi m ike imepe/ma
ọbụ imechi ụzọ ikuku.**

Etufuola m otugwa m.

**Ị nwere ike inyem otugwa
ebem nno?**

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

The toilet won't flush.
I am leaving now.
We are leaving now.

**Mposi ekweghi nsachapu
Ahapụwala m ugbua
Anyị ahapụwalà ugbùà.**

I would like to pay the bill.
wake-up call
I would like to be woken
up at . . . (o'clock).

**Achòrò m ìkwù ùgwò.
okù mkpòte
Achòrò m ka-akpotee m ma
ọkùò . . .**

The water has been cut
cut off.
The electricity has been
cut off.
The gas has been cut off.
The heater doesn't work.

**Akwùsìlà mmiri ọgbùgba;
Akwùsìlà pọmpù.
Agbanyụla ọkù.**

The air conditioning
doesn't work.
The phone doesn't work.

**Akwùsìlà ihe na enwu oku.
Ihe ekpom ọkù eji achù oyi
emebielà.
Ntù oyi emebielà.**

I can't flush the toilet.
The toilet is blocked.
I can't switch off the tap.

**Ihe eji ekwu okwu na ikuku
emebielà.
Enwèghi m ike isacha mposi.
Mbosi agbòchielà.
Enwèghi m ike ìkwùsì mmiri
ọgbùgba.**

EXTRA WORDS

bathroom
bed
bill
blanket
candle
chair
clean
cold water
cupboard
dark

**ụlọ ihu mmiri
àkwà
akwukwọ ikike akwù ụgwò
akwà eji achù oyi
uri ọkù; kandụlụ
oche
ọcha
mmiri oyi
ebe ana-edọta efere na iko
ochichii**

ọ = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

ACCOMMODATION

dirty	iru ìnyị
doorlock	mgbachi uzo
double bed	akwà abụa etikọtara ọnụ
electricity	ọkụ bekee
excluded	wepurù
fridge	firij
hot/cold	ọkụ/ọyị
hot water	mmịrị ọkụ
included	tukwasiri
key	otugwa
laundry	ebe anà-asa akwà
mattress	ibila
meals	erimeri
mirror	ènyò
mosquito net	akwà n'echè anwùntà
mosquito coil	ihe n'egbu anwùntà
name	ahà
noisy	ùzù
padlock	mkpachi
pillow	mpalisi
plug	plọg
quiet	jụjụ
room	mkpuru; ime ụlò
room number	ọnụ ọgụgụ mkpuru
shampoo	mmanụ eji asa isi
sheet	akwà àkwà
shower	shawa
suitcase	akpàti ùwe
surname	aha nna gi
table	tebùlù
towel	akwà eji echicha ahù
water	mmịrị
window	ụzọ oyi

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

8. FOOD AND DRINK

MEALS

breakfast

lunch

snack

dinner, supper

dessert

I'm hungry.

I'm thirsty.

nri ùtùtù

nri ehihiè

ihe eji emeghàrì ọ̀nù

nri abali

nri eji emeghàrì ọ̀nù

Aguù n'àgụ m̀.

Akpìrì kpọ̀rọ̀ m nkụ.

EATING OUT

Do you know a good restaurant?

I would like a table, please.

Can I see the menu please?

I'm still looking at the menu.

I would like to order now.

What's this?

Is it spicy?

Does it have meat in it?

Does it have alcohol in it?

Do you have ... ?

We don't have ...

What would you recommend?

Do you want ... ?

Can I order some more ... ?

Ị ma ebe enwerè ezigbo

ùlọ̀-*nri*?

Achọ̀rọ̀ m ka ị dowere m ọtu

tebùlù, biko.

Biko, zim nri unu nà-esigasi ebeà?

Akanà m̀ elele erimèrì ùnù.

Achọ̀rọ̀ m ịgwa gi ihe m chọ̀rọ̀ ugbua.

Gini bù nke a?

Osè ọ̀ dị ya?

Ọ nwere anù n'ime ya?

Ọ nwere mmanya n'egbu egbu n'ime ya?

Ị nwere ... ?

Anyị enweghi ...

Gina ka iga agwam kam were?

Ị chọ̀rọ̀ ... ?

Enwere m ike ịgwa gi ihe ozo m chọ̀rọ̀ ... ?

ọ̀ = more

u = soon

ụ = put

ń = sing

That's all, thank you.
 That's enough, thanks.
 I haven't finished yet.
 I have finished eating.
 I am full up!

Ọgwùchaàlà, imeèla.
Ozugo, imeèla.
Emechabeghi m
Erichaàla m̀ ǹri.
Afoọ ejula m!

Where are the toilets?

Kedù ebe mbosi di?

I am a vegetarian.
 I don't eat meat.
 I don't eat pork.
 I don't eat chicken or fish.

Anàghị m eri anù.
Anàghị m eri anù.
Anàghị m eri anù ezi.
Anàghị m ata ọkukọ mà ọbù
azù.

I don't drink alcohol.

Anàghị m m̀manya nègbù
egbù.

I don't smoke.

Anàghị m anwuru oku.

NEEDS

I would like . . .
 an ashtray
 the bill

a glass of water
 a bottle of water
 a bottle of beer
 a bottle of beer

another bottle
 a bottle-opener
 a corkscrew
 a cup
 dessert
 a drink
 a fork
 another chair
 another plate

Achọọ m . . .

efere ntù anwùrù ọkù
akwùkwọ ikike eji akwù
ùgwọ
otù iko mmiri
otù karama mmiri
otù karama manya
otù karama mmayi
n'egbù egbù
karama ọzọ
ihe eji emepe karama
ihe eji akpoghe karama
iko
ihe eji emeghari ọnụ
ihe ana anù anù
ngaji odudu
ọche ọzọ
efere ọzọ

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

another glass
 another cup
 a napkin
 a glass
 a knife
 a plate
 a spoon
 table
 teaspoon
 toothpick

ihe nkuwa ọzọ
iko ọzọ
akwà eji ehicha aka
ihe nkuwa
mma
efere
ngaji
tebùlù
ngaji ntàkiri
mkpìsì eji aghụ eze

fresh
 spicy
 stale
 sour
 sweet
 hot
 cold
 salty
 tasteless
 bad
 tasty

dị ohuru
dị ụfụ
o meela ochie
ọgbara ụka
ọ dị uto
ọ dị oku
ọ dị oyi
nnu boro ya
ọ dighi uto
ọ dị njo
ọ dị mma

too much
 too little
 not enough

ọ kariri akari
ọ dị ntakiri
ozubeghi

FOOD

bread
 capsicum
 cheese
 chewing gum
 egg
 flour
 french fries
 honey

achicha
ose
chiz
gam
akwà
fulawa
eghere eghe ji
mmanụ anụ

ọ = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

ice cream
 ketchup
 mustard
 nut
 oil
 pasta
 pepper
 rice
 salad
 salt
 sandwich
 soup
 sugar
 candy

VEGETABLES

beans
 cassava
 coconut
 coco yam
 okra
 plantain
 potato
 pumpkin
 rice
 sweet potato
 tomato
 vegetables
 yam

FRUIT

banana
 coconut
 grapefruit
 guava
 kolanut

aisi-kirim
tomato akwọrọ akwọ
ihe eji edozi nri di oku
aki
mmanụ
pasta
ose
urosi; eresi; osikapa
akwukwọ nri ndu
nnu
sanwich; nri achicha
ofe
shuga; ọtọ biri-biri
ihe nracha ọtọ biri-biri

akidi
gari; ji apu
aki bekee
ede
okra
ọgede ojoko
potato
ụgụ
urosi
ndụkụ
tomato
akwukwọ nri
ji

ọgede
aki bekee
oroma ilu
gova
oji

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

lemon
mango
melon
orange
paw paw
pineapple
watermelon

oroma ngbakasi onu
mangorọ
egusi
oroma (nkịrisi)
porọ
pineapple
ugụ

MEAT

beef
chicken
fish
lamb
meat
pork
goat

anụ nama
anụ okukọ
azụ
anụ atūrū
anụ
anụ ezi
anụ ewọ

DRINK

Remember to ask for modern soft drinks by brand name.

alcohol
bottle
brandy
can
coffee
coffee with milk
fruit juice
ice
milk
tea
 tea with lemon
 tea with milk
no sugar, please
vodka
whisky
wine

mmanya na aba nanya
karama
mmanya oku
iko
kofị
kofị na miliki
oroma onunu
ihe oyi
mmiri ara ehi; miliki
tii
 tii na oroma nkịrisi
 tii na miliki
Biko, etinyela shuga.
mmanya oku/vodka
mmanya oku/whisky
mmanya oku

MORE ON FOOD AND DRINK

Offering food and hospitality to strangers is an important part of Igbo culture. An Igbo proverb says you offer food to strangers because you realise that one day, you might be the stranger. So expect to be offered food and drinks, even by very poor people, who will be equally offended and insulted if you refuse. The staple food is '**gari & ofe**' — which is processed and fried cassava, which is then mixed with water to form a solid but soft mass. It is then dipped in **ofe** (or a vegetable, fish and meat stew) and swallowed or chewed. Pounded yam is also sometimes used instead of **gari**. Yam (**ji**) is also used in various ways — particularly boiled or roasted with palm oil and stew. Jollof rice (**jollof urosi**) (rice mixed and flavoured with palm oil, spices and meat) or plain rice and various types of stew are also popular. For breakfast **akara** (fried bean based dumplings) and **akamu** (corn-based porridge) is incredibly tasty. Hot pepper soup — a combination of fresh fish and chilli papers is hot but exhilarating. Most fruit — pineapples (**pineapple**), guava (**gova**), oranges (**oroma**), paw paw (**popo**), grapefruit (**oroma ilu**), mangoes (**mangoro**) and melons (**egusi**) can be found easily if they are in season. Although Nigerians are great meat and fish eaters, vegetarians can get by with vegetable variations of the meat dishes. There are ample vegetable and bean dishes such as **moi-moi** which are popular and tasty.

Beer (**maya**) and other alcoholic drinks (**maya oku**) like schnapps (**shnap**) are very popular. Generally a bottle of schnapps is used as a libation to the ancestors on most important occasions, or to welcome guests along with kolanuts (**oji**). The bearer of a bottle is generally well thought of.

Locally tapped palm wine (**mmayi ngowo** or **mmanya nkwe elu/ngwo**) is very popular in the villages. But be wary of stale palm in the urban areas, as it can cause stomach upsets. If left for weeks, however, the palm wine ferments and forms a lethal spirit called **kai-kai**. Deadly — do not touch if you have a weak constitution.

Menus in restaurants are usually in English.

9. DIRECTIONS

Where is . . . ?

the art gallery
a bank
the church
the Ministry of . . .
the mosque
the city center
the . . . embassy

my hotel
the market
the museum

the police
the post office

a toilet
the consulate
the telephone center
an information office
parliament
main square
university
airport
station

academy

Olee ebe . . . ?

ana elele ihe nka aka mere
ụlọ akụ
ana ekpe uka
ụlọ ndi obodo
ana efe Muhamed; Ala-kuba
etiti obodo
ụlọ govamenti obodo ọzọ
nkendi . . .
ebe m n'ezu ike
ahịa
ebe ana edote ihe nka eji aka
mee
ụlọ ndi uwe ojii
ana-esi a kụrụ mmadu
akwụkwọ
ebe ana anyụ nsị
ụlọ govamenti ndi ọbia
ụlọ analekota okwu ikuku
ụlọ ajujụ na nkọwa
nzuko ọchịchị
ama ukwu
ụlọ akwụkwọ mahadum
ebe ụgbọ elu n'ada
ụlọ nzute ụgbọ elu na ụgbọ
ala
ụlọ akwụkwọ ukwu

What . . . is this?

bridge
building
district
river
road/street

Olee . . . bụ nkea?

ihe eji agafe mmiri
ụlọ
mpaghara obodo
nukwu mmiri
uzọ

ọ = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

suburb
town
village

akukụ obodo
obodo ukwu
ụlọ

What is this building?
What is that building?
What time does it open?
What time does it close?

Ụlọ nke a ọ bụ gini?
Ụlọ nke ọzọ, ọ bụ gini?
Olee mgbe ọ na-emepe?
Olee mgbe ọ na-emechi?

Can I park here?
Are we on the right road
for ... ?
How many miles is it
to ... ?

Enwere m ike ikwusi ebe a?
Anyị anọ n'ezi ụzọ esi eje ... ?
Ofoduru ije ukwu ole tupu
anyi eruo ebe ahu ... ?

It is ... miles away.

Ọ dị eji ukwu ...

Where can I find this
address?
Can you show me on the
map?

Kedụ ebe m ga achọta ihe eji
egosi ebe obi?
! nwere ike igosi m ya
n'akwukwọ naa-egosi ụzọ na
obibi?

How do I get to ... ?
I want to go to ...
Can I walk there?

Kedù otu m ga-esi ruo ... ?
Achọrọ m iga ...
Enwere m ike iru ebe ahu
n'ije ukwu?
Otere anya?
Ọ dị nso?
Oteghi anya.

Is it far?
Is it near?
It is not far.

Go straight ahead.
It's two blocks down.

Gawa ogologo.
Owu ije ukwu abua tupu eru
ebe ahu.
Tugharia aka ekpe.
Tugharia aka nri.

Turn left.
Turn right.

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

at the next corner
at the traffic lights

**na nhirari nke mbu
ebe oku ụzọ di**

behind
far
in front of
left
near
opposite
right
straight on

**azụ
anya
n'ihu
aka ekpe
nso
n'ihu
aka nri
ogologo**

bridge
corner
crossroads
one-way street

**ihe eji agafe mmiri
na nko (nkonko)
ebe okporo ụzọ gafere
nga otu ụzọ**

north
south
east
west

**olile anyanwụ
nleda anyanwụ
ọwụwa anyanwụ
ọdida anyanwụ**

10. SHOPPING

Where can I find a . . . ?

Where can I buy . . . ?

Where's the market?

Where's the nearest . . . ?

Kedù ebe m ga achọta?

Kedù ebe m ga azụ?

Kedù ebe ahia di?

Kedù nke kachasi nso?

Can you help me?

Can I help you?

I'm just looking.

I'd like to buy . . .

Could you show me
some . . . ?

Can I look at it?

Do you have any . . . ?

Ị nwere ike inyere m aka?

Ị chọrọ enye m aka?

Ana m elegharị anya.

Achọrọ m izu . . .

Ị nwere ike izi m . . . ufodu?

Enwere m ike ilele ya?

Ọ nwere nke i nwere . . . ?

This.

That.

I don't like it.

I like it.

Do you have anything
cheaper?

cheaper/better

larger/smaller

Do you have anything else?

Do you have any others?

Sorry, this is the only one.

Nka a.

Nke ahù.

Ọ masighị m.

Ọ masịrị m.

**Ọ nwere ihe ị nwere ọny ya
dịtu ọny ala?**

dị ọny ala/dịtu mma

dịtu ukwu/dịtu nta

Ọ nwere ihe ọzọ i nwere?

Ọ nwere ndi ọzọ i nwere?

Ndo, ọ bụ sọ nkea ka m nwere.

I'll take it.

How much/many do you
want?

How much is it?

Can you write down the
price?

Could you lower the price?

Aga m ewere ya.

Ọ bụ ole ka ị chọrọ?

Ọ bụ ole ka ị chọrọ?

Ị nwere ike idetu egò ole ọ bụ?

**Ị nwere ike iwedata ọny ya
ala?**

a = pat e = pay i = feet ị = pet o = so

I don't have much money.	Enweghị m nnukwu egò.
Do you take credit cards?	Ina-ere ahia n'ugwo?
Would you like it wrapped?	Ị chọrọ ka m kechie ya?
Will that be all?	Ọgwụla ihe ị chọrọ?
Thank you, goodbye.	Imeela, ka omesia.
I want to return this.	A chọrọ m iweghachi nke a.

PLACES

auto spares store	ebe ana-ere ihe ụgbọ ala
baker's	ebe ana-eme achicha
bank	ụlọ egò; ụlọ akụ
barber's	ebe ana-akpa isi
I want a haircut please.	Biko, achọrọ m ikpa isi.
bookshop	ebe ana-ere akwụkwọ
butcher's	ebe ana-egbu anụ
clothes store	ebe ana-ere uwe
dairy	ebe eme mmiri ara ehi; ebe eme miliki
dentist	onye na elekota eze
department store	ebe ana-ere ihe orire
dressmaker	onye na adu uweyi
electrical goods store	ebe ana ihe imu oku
florist	ebe ana-ere fulawa
greengrocer	onye na ere nkpuru osisi
hairdresser	onye na edozi isi
hardware store	ebe ana-ere ihe ezi n'ụlọ
hospital	ụlọ ọgwụ
kiosk	ụlọ ana-ere ihe ntakiri
laundry	ebe ana-asa akwa
market	ahia
newsstand	ebe ndi nchọ akụkọ
pharmacy	ebe ana-ere ọgwụ
shoeshop	ebe ana-ere agbayi ukwu
shop	ebe ana-ere ihe
souvenir shop	ebe ana-ere ihe eji echeta obodo
stationer's	ahia akwụkwọ

ọ = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

supermarket
travel agent

vegetable shop
watchmaker's

ahia ukwu
ebe ana azuta ihe eji aga obodo
ọzọ
ahia akwukwọ nri
onye na emezi ihe eji ama ọge

GIFTS

The Igbo have an extensive cultural tradition in the production of arts and crafts. Baskets, clothes, wood carvings, hand-crafted wall tapestries, leather and hide goods of all kinds, including furniture can be bought quite easily in hotels, 'roadside shops' and in special areas in markets. Beware there are also many items, such as ivory carvings, which are sometimes illegal to transport internationally. Check with your embassy before travel. Most true Igbo antiquities are in the national museums of Nigeria. Excavations continue to be done on important historical sites, both legally and illegally. It is illegal to take out antiquities from Nigeria, without relevant paperwork.

box
bracelet
brooch
candlestick
carpet
chain
clock
copper
crystal
earrings
enamel
gold
handicraft
iron
jade
jewelry
leather
metal
modern

igbe
ngba aka
ọla obi
mmụ ọkụ
ute
ola
oge; elekele
ọla ọcha
ọla ọgbụgbụ anya
ọla nti
enamel
ọla edọ
ihe eji aka kpaa
igwe
ihe ohuru
ọla
akpukpọ anụ
ọla ocha
ihe ohuru

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

necklace	ihe olu
pottery	ihe ana akpu akpu
ring	ọla aka
silver	ọla ocha
steel	igwe
stone	okwute
traditional	nke ochie
vase	ihe eji etinye ihe
watch	ihe eji ama oge anagba naka; elekele-aka
wood	osisi

CLOTHES

Traditionally, women wear **lappa**, a basic wrap around which begins at the midriff and flows down to the ground. Above this would be a blouse. Variations on the lappa are numerous and elaborate, sometimes accompanied by huge and beautiful headresses. **Lappas** usually have finely worked designs and motifs on silk or the best Netherlands 'George' material.

Men wear more discreet and simpler wrappers, accompanied by long decorated shirts which fall down as low as they can without being tucked in. This is usually topped off by headgear of some sort — bowler hats, woolly hats or circular and bigger versions of the Muslim-style skull-caps. Sometimes they also wear traditionally cut baggy trousers as found in the North, accompanied by huge flowing robes in a variety of colours. Given the heat, cotton, linen and other light materials are preferred.

bag	akpa
belt	ihe eji ejigide uweyi ukwu
boots	ihe ana eti nukwu
cotton	cotton
dress	uweyi
gloves	uweyi aka
handbag	akpa
hat	okpu
jacket	uweyi oyi
jeans	uweyi ukwu

ọ = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

leather	akpukpo anụ
overcoat	uweyi mkpuchi
pocket	akpa
scarf	ichafu isi
shirt	uweyi ahụ
shoes	agbayi ukwu
socks	uweyi ukwu
suit	uweyi eji achu oyi
sweater	uweyi ichu oyi
tie	eriri olu
trousers	uweyi ukwu
umbrella	ihe eji egbo mmiri
underwear	ogodo
uniform	uweyi ndikota
wool	wul

TOILETRIES, ETC.

aspirin	ogwu isi owuwa
bandaid	ihe eji emechi onya
comb	mbo
condom	kondom
cotton wool	koton wul
deodorant	ihe eji esi isi oma
hairbrush	ihe eji abo isi
insect repellent	ihe eji achupu umu ahuhu
lipstick	ihe a n'ete n'onu
mascara	ihe eji acho nma
mouthwash	ihe eji asa onu
nail clippers	ihe eji agba mbo
painkillers	ogwu ahu mgbu
perfume	ihe n'esi isi oma
powder	ihe eji acho nma
razor	reza
razorblade	reza-bled
safety pin	ihe eji ejide uweyi
shampoo	ihe eji asa isi

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

shaving cream
 sleeping pills
 soap
 sponge
 sunscreen
 tampons
 thermometer
 tissues
 toilet paper
 toothbrush
 toothpaste

ihe eji aku ihu
ogwụ ura
ncha
sapo; ogbò
'sunscreen'
akwa ogodo
'thermometer'
ihe eji ehicha imi/ihu
ihe eji ehicha ike
ihe eji asa eze
ihe eji asa eze

STATIONERY

ballpoint
 book
 dictionary

 envelope
 guidebook

 ink
 magazine
 map
 road map
 a map of Onitsha

 newspaper
 a newspaper in
 English
 notebook
 novels in English
 (piece of) paper
 pen
 pencil
 postcard
 scissors
 writing paper

ihe eji ede akwu kwo
akwụkwọ
akwụkwọ eji achota ihe okwu
putara
uweyi akwụkwọ
akwụkwọ nche; akwụkwọ
n'akọwa nkọwa
ihe eji ede akwụkwọ
akwụkwọ nleghari anya
ihe nakowa ụzọ
akwụkwọ naezi ụzọ obodo
akwụkwọ naezi ụzọ obodo
Onitsha
akwụkwọ ozi
akwụkwọ ozi na Bekee

akwụkwọ ihe ndote
akwụkwọ akuko Bekee
akwụkwọ
ihe eje ede akwu akwo
ihe eje ede akwu akwo; pensil
akwụkwọ ozi
ncha; ihe eji achabi ihe
akwụkwọ eji ede ozi

o = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

Do you have any foreign publications?

! nwere akwukwo ndi obodo ozo?

PHOTOGRAPHY

How much is it to process this film?

Ego ole ka m ga eji sa fima?

When will it be ready?

Elegi mgbe nga enweta ya?

I'd like a film for this camera.

A chorom fim kamera nke a.

B&W (film)

fim nke ocha na oji

camera

kamera

color (film)

fim nachaputa achaputa

film

fim

flash

ncha oku

lens

anya kamera

light meter

ihe nago oku

SMOKING

Cigarettes are usually bought in kiosks, hotel shops or at road side vendors. International brands are available, as are Nigerian brands with similar tar levels. Smoking is not that widespread and is still seen almost exclusively as a middle-class male past-time. Female smokers are seen as trying to act like men. A strong anti-smoking lobby has not yet developed.

A packet of cigarettes, please.

Anwuru oku, biko.; Mgo anwuru oku, biko.

Do you have a light?

Inwere oku?

cigar

anwuru oku

cigarette papers

akwukwo anwuru oku

cigarettes

anwuru oku

a carton of cigarettes

igbe anwuru oku

flint

flint

lighter fluid

mmanu ihe eji amanye oku

anwuru

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

lighter	ihe eji agbanye ọkụ
matches	ihe eji amụnye ọkụ
pipe	ọkpọkọ
tobacco	anwụrụ

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

Common Igbo names for modern technology are rare, and the English term is usually used, e.g. adapter, battery, cd, cd player, fan, hairdryer, heating coil, iron (for clothing), kettle, plug, portable tv, radio, record, tape (cassette), tape recorder, television, transformer, video (player), videotape and voltage regulator. A record or l.p. is **nkwa**.

SIZES

small	ntakiri
big	ukwu
heavy	nyiri aru
light	di efere
more	dikariri
less	di nta
too much	bukaririibu
many	kariri
enough	zuru ezu
that's enough	ozugo
also	ma
a little bit	di natakiri
Do you have a carrier bag?	! nwere akpa eji ebu ihe?

Electric current — Nigeria carries 220 volts. However most hotels have outlets for 110 volts electric shavers. If you take other equipment designed for 110 volts, take a converter. There are wide fluctuations in voltage strength and frequent power cuts. Most hotels, however, will have their own back-up generator. But do carry a torch and supply of candles.

11. WHAT'S TO SEE

The Igbo are renowned for their music and dancing, and the colourful masquerades in which the participants wear elaborate masks. These days these can best be seen during the Christmas and New Year festivities where masquerades walk the streets whipping up a storm, or at particular village ceremonies and festivities such as huge weddings or funerals. You will need to ask around to see when festivals are taking place. Try and catch an example of **atilogwu** dancing — a vigorous dance form which literally translates as 'Is this magic?' — it involves gymnastics, foot-stomping rhythms and brilliant colours. Different troupes of young men and women **atilogwu** dancers perform at different festivals.

Otherwise, for the general visitor who wants to go sightseeing: Anambra offers splendid natural sites like the Obgunike Caves, Agulu Lake (rich in wild life) and the Aguleri Game Reserve. There are also the Igbo-Ukwu archeological excavations. And Onitsha is a famous and bustling market centre on the east bank of the Niger River. The traditional Ofala festivals, involving the royalty in Anambra, are full of color and fanfare.

At Enugu is a branch of the National Museum, the Iva Valley Coal Mine Museum and University of Nigeria facilities. At Owerri there is an amusement park, Nekeda Botanical and Zoological Gardens, the Palm Beach Tourist Village at Awomama and the Oguta Lake Holiday Resort, which is developing into an international tourist centre. While Umuahia is home to the National War Museum, with the Civil War collection. Other places of interest are Akwette Blue River Tourist Village and Uwana Beach. Akwette also has its own unique weaving industry.

Do you have a guide-book/local map?

Is there a guide who speaks English?

Ị nwere ọnye n'ezị ụzọ?

Akwukwọ n'ezị ụzọ?

Ọ nwere ọnye n'ezị ụzọ n'asụ

Bekee?

What are the main attractions?

What is that?

How old is it?

Gini ka ha na eme?

Gini bụ nkea?

Odi afo ole?

a = pat e = pay i = feet ị = pet o = so

May I take a photograph?	Enwere m ike ịchị n enyo?; Kam we foto?
What time does it open/ close?	Kedụ mbe ọ na emepe/ emechi?
What is this monument?	Gini wu ihe nkea akpuru akpu?
What does that say?	Gina ka nke ahu kwuru?
Who is that statue of?	Akpuru akpu, o wu nke onye?
Is there an entrance fee?	Ana akwu ugwo abanye?
How much?	Egò ole?
Are there any night clubs?	Ọ nwere ebe ana aga mkpari abali?
Where can I hear local folk music?	Kedụ ebe m ga anụ urị ndị bī ebea?
How much does it cost to get in?	Ego ole ka o na ada ịbanye?
What's there to do in the evenings?	Gini ka ana eme na-abali?
Is there a concert?	Ọ nwere ihe omume ana eme?
When is the wedding?	Kedụ mgbe agbam akwukwo?
What time does it begin?	Kedụ mgbe ọ na ebido?
Can we swim here?	Anyi nwere ike igwu mmiri?
dancing	igba egwu; igba nkwa
disco	disko
disk-jockey	onye na aku egwu; onye n'etinye nkwa
exhibition	ihe ozizi
folk dancing	amakekwu
folk music	egwu amakewu
jazz	jazz
party	ebe anuri/omume
rock'n'roll	rock'n'roll
blues	blues

ọ = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

A NOTE ON RELIGIOUS HERITAGE

Many Igbo have converted to Christianity, and on one level Igboland is essentially a Christian country, with all the various denominations (Catholic, Anglican, Presbyterian, Methodist, and even new-look African churches like the Cherubim and Seraphim) represented. There is also a great 'born-again' revival taking place at the moment, with many of the American Evangelical churches making dramatic inroads. So Igbo religious festivals and holidays, like Easter and Christmas follow those of other Christian countries. (There are ten national holidays in Nigeria — New Year's Day (January 1); Good Friday; Easter Monday; Worker's Day (May 1); Children's Day (May 27); Id-el-Fitri; Id-el-Kabir; National Day (October 1); Christmas Day (December 25); Boxing Day (December 26).

However, many people who are nominally Christian still practise traditional Igbo religion — particularly as the religion is so bound up with the culture and tradition (**Omenala** — which literally translates as 'the etiquette of the land' or 'our customs and conventions'). The Godhead at the centre of this religion is a duality — **Chi** (The Supreme Being **Chi-ukwu** or **Chukwu**) and **Eke** (God the Creator or **Chineke**.) Below this force are deities (**Agbara**) such as **Ala** (land) who also have to be appeased — and whose importance depends on the part of Igboland where one is. And then there are the 'Venerable Ancestors' (**Ndichie**), who are also linked to the traditional Godhead. Religious figures, seers and diviners help us understand the spirits and forces unleashed in this religious system — guided by **Omenala**. Harvest festival, thanksgiving ceremonies and other remembrances are built into the system, the occasions of the prayers and sacrifices traditionally marked holidays such as the popular **Omume Ala** i.e. '**Ala** Day in honour of the Earth Deity.' These holidays tend now to be informal occasions restricted to individual rural areas with their own shrines and deities.

Beyond traditional religion, a tiny but growing number of people are converting to Islam either through marriage or as part of the old Igbo pragmatism, this time through an attempt to deepen business relationships with the Muslim North, where power and control of Nigeria is believed to lie.

OCCASIONS

birth

omumụ nwa

death

onwụ

funeral

onini mmadụ

a = pat e = pay i = feet ì = pet o = so

marriage
circumcision
coming of age *female*
chieftaincy

olulu nwanyi
ibi ugwu
iru mgbede
ichiji ọzọ

BUILDINGS

academy
apartment
archaeological
art gallery
bakery
bar
apartment block
building
casino
castle
cemetery
church
cinema
city-map
college
concert hall
concert
elevator
embassy
hospital
house
housing project
library
main square
market
monastery
monument
mosque
museum
nightclub

ụlọ nnukwu akwụkwọ
obi
ebe ihe ochie
ebe ihe ise aka
ebe ana eme achicha
ebe ana anu mmayi
ụlọ obibi
ụlọ
ụlọ egwiri egwu
ụlọ nche
ebe ana eli mmadu
ụlọ uka
sinema
ihe n'ezị obodo
ụlọ akwụkwọ
ụlọ ebe ana eme ihe ọchị
ihe ọchị
ihe nebuli elu
ụlọ ndi obia
ụlọ ọgwụ
ụlọ
ụlọ ana aru aru
ụlọ ana enweta akwụkwọ
ama ukwu
ahia
ebe ndi fada
ihe akpụrụ akpụ
ụlọ ndi nefe Muhamed
ụlọ ihe ochie
ebe ana agba nkwa abali

ọ = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

WHAT'S TO SEE

old city
opera house
park
parliament building
restaurant
ruins
school
shop
shrine
stadium
statue
synagogue
temple
theatre
tomb
tower
university
zoo

obodo ochie
ebe ana agụ egwụ ukwu
ebe ana egwụ egwụ
ụlọ ndi ochichi
ebe ana eri nri
ụlọ dara ada
ụlọ akwụkwọ
ebe ama azuta ihie
ihu mmuo
ebe ana agba ball
ihe akpuru akpu
ụlọ uka ndi Juda
ụlọ uka
ụlọ egwu egwu
ini
ụlọ ogologo
ụlọ akwụkwọ ụkwụ
ụlọ anụmanụ

12. Finance

Currency — The unit of currency is the **naira**, with notes issued in 5, 10, 20 and 50 naira denominations. An unlimited amount of foreign currency is allowed, provided it is declared to customs.

Changing money — Foreign currency is only allowed to be changed at official banks, although a huge black market flourishes. This is not to be encouraged as undercover agents frequently pose as black-market currency dealers. English will be spoken at all banks.

I want to change some dollars.

A chọrọ m igbanwe egò dollar.

I want to change some pounds.

A chọrọ m igbanwe egò pounds.

Where can I change some money?

Kedụ ebe m ga agbanwe egò?

What is the exchange rate?

Gini ka anaeji agbanwe?

What is the commission?

Egò ole ka ana ana iji agbanwe ya?

Could you please check that again?

Biko, legharia ya anya ọzọ?

dollar

dollar

euro

euro

naira

naira

pound (sterling)

pound (sterling)

bank notes

akwụkwọ egò

calculator

ihe eji aguzi ogu

cashier

onye na agụ egò

coins

aghirigha egò

credit card

akwụkwọ eji ana n'aka

commission

jarra

exchange

igba nwe

loose change

egò aghirigha

signature

mbiba aka

13. COMMUNICATIONS

Telephones — Igboland and Nigeria generally has a notoriously bad telephone system. Too few lines for the volume of traffic means long delays in trying to get through both domestically and internationally. Keep trying and you will get through — or else use the state telephone company, a branch of which can be found in most major towns. The international operator will put you through.

The **postal service** is erratic and not secure. For important messages send through a secure route — fax, couriers, telex, e-mail. If you expect mail, ask to borrow somebody's PO box number; or arrange to receive it through your hotel or business organisation's address.

AT THE POST OFFICE

Where is the post office?	Kedụ ebe ụlọ ana etinye akwụkwọ edere ede di?
What time does the post office open?	Kedụ mgbe o na-emepe ?
What time does the post office close?	Kedụ mgbe o na-emechi?
Where is the mail box?	Kedụ ebe ana etinye akwụkwọ edere ede?
Is there any mail for me?	Ọ nwere akwụkwọ edetara m?
How long will it take for this to get there?	Kedụ ọge ọga ewe tupu orute ebe ahu?
How much does it cost to send this to ... ?	Egò ole ka oga ada iji zipu nkea, ka orue ... ?
I would like some stamps.	Achọrọ m stamp.
I would like to send ...	Achọrọ m ịziga ...
a letter	akwụkwọ edere ede
a postcard	ihe nakowasi obodo
a parcel	ngwugwu
a telegram	iku waya

a = pat e = pay i = feet ị = pet o = so

air mail	akwụkwọ anaeziga
envelope	n'ụgbọ elu
mailbox	ambalop
parcel	ebe ana etinye akwụkwọ
registered mail	edere ede
stamp	ngwugwu
telegram	akwụkwọ etinyere naka
	ndi ozi
	ihe eji eziga akwụkwọ
	waya

TELEPHONING

Where is the telephone?	Kedụ ebe ihe eji ekwu okwu n'ikuku di?
May I use your phone?	Biko, enwere m ike iwewetụ ife eji akpọ oku n'ikuku?
Can I telephone from here?	Enwere m ike site n'ebia kwuu okwu n'ikuku?
Can you help me get this number?	Ị nwere ike ịnye m ịhe eji amata ebea n'ikuku?
I would like to make a phone call.	A chọrọ m ikpo oku n'ikuku.
I would like to send a fax.	A chọrọ m ịziga faks.
I would like to send a telex.	A chọrọ m iku waya.
I want to ring . . .	A chọrọ m ikpo . . .
What is the code for . . . ?	Kedụ ihe eji amataya obodo . . . ?
What is the international code?	Kedụ ihe eji amata mba ọzọ?
The number is . . .	Ihe eji amataya bu . . .
The extension is . . .	Nke ga eweru okwu ebe ona aga wu . . .

It's busy.
I've been cut off.
The lines have been cut.
Can you help me get this
number?

Can I dial direct?

Where is the nearest
public phone?

I would like to speak to
Mr./Mrs./Ms. . . .

Can I leave a message?

fax
e-mail
international operator
Internet
mobile phone
modem
operator
satellite phone
telex

Oru juru.
Ewezugala m.
Ewezugala m ihe eji eruta.
! nwere ike itinyere m aka
nweta ihe eji amata nkea.

Enwere m ike ikpo oku kpom
kwem?

Kedụ ihe eji akpo oku nikuku
karichara nso di?

Aga m acho ikwuru Masi/
Oriaku/Adanwanyi . . .

Enwere m ike ihapu ozi?

faks
'e-mail'
opareto nke ukwu
'internet'
'mobile'
'modem'
opareto
'satellite'
teleks

14. THE OFFICE

chair
 computer
 desk
 drawer
 fax
 file
 meeting
 paper
 pen
 pencil
 photocopier
 printer
 report
 ruler
 telephone
 telex
 typewriter

oche
computa
ìhe eji atúkwasì akwúkwo
ebe ana etinye ìhe
faks
ebe ozizọ ìhe
nzuko
akwúkwo
nkpisi akwúkwo
nkpisi akwúkwo
fotocopia
printa
akúkọ
ìhe eji atu ìhe
ìhe eji ekwu okwu n'ikuku
teleks
teprita

15. THE CONFERENCE

a break for refreshments	izu ike imeghari onu
conference room	ebe nzuko
copy	idere
discussion	ikpa nkata
guest speaker	onye obia nwe ikwu okwu
a paper	akwukwọ
podium	'podium'
projector	projekta
a session chaired by . . .	onye isi oche nzuko a . . .
speaker	onye okwu
subject	ihe gbasara

NOTE ON IGBO TRADITIONAL LAW

Traditional Igbo law is based on **Omenala**, the collection of common law and costume that has gone by in the culture. It was based on the old religion, and explained the things you had to do to appease the deities, spirits and the ancestors, in order that your crops flourished and you were protected from bad spirits.

Keeping the laws meant that you were in harmony with the universe. The elders interpreted and kept the numerous secular laws, while people such as the **Onye Isi Mmuo** ('He who is the Head of the Deity') or **Eze Nri** ('Priest King') would interpret and keep the sacred laws.

Given the agricultural and clan-based nature of Igbo societies, there were strong laws against incest and other abominations, as well as against more common things like theft, murder etc. The penalty for theft was ritual humiliation, which involved being paraded through the streets of the village naked. The penalty for murder was ritual death and ostracising of the killer's family.

16. THE FARM

agriculture
 barn
 cattle
 to clear land
 corn
 crops
 earth
 fallowland
 farm
 farmer
 farming
 animal feed
 fertilizer
 field
 fruit
 garden
 to grow crops
 harvest
 marsh
 mill
 orchard
 palm tree
 palm nut
 planting
 plow
 to plow
 reaping
 season
 seed
 sowing
 tractor
 well (of water)

ihe gbasara iku ubi
oba
nama; ehi
isuchala
oka
ihe ụbị
ala
ala aga ako ako
ubi
ọnye naku ubi
iku ubi
ihe eji azụ anụmanụ
fertiliza
mbara ala
nkpuru osisi
ụbị
iku ihe n'ubi
iri ihe ụbị
ala ngu
mil
plantation
osisi nkwo
nkpruru nkwo
iku ihe
iku obi
iku obi
iri ihe ubi
oge
nkpuru
iku ihe
trakta
omi; wel

17. ANIMALS**MAMMALS**

cat

cow

deer

dog

donkey

flock

goat

herd

horse

lamb

mare

mouse

mule

pig

pony

rabbit

ram

rat

sheep

bosi nwa ọbala

ehi; nama

atụ

nkita

inyinya ibu

igwe

ewu

igwe

inyinya

nwa aturu

nne inyinya

oke

inyinya ibu

ezi

nwa inyinya

oke ulo

aturu awusa

oke

aturu

BIRDS

bird

chicken/hen

rooster

duck

eagle

goose

hawk

owl

turkey

vulture

nnụnụ

okuko/nne okuko

oke okuko

ọbagwụ

ugo

okwa

egbe

ikwikwi

tololo

udele

INSECTS & AMPHIBIANS

ant	umu ahuhu
bat	ụsụ
bee	anu
butterfly	ihe na-efe-efe
caterpillar	ikpurukpu; eruru
cockroach	ụchicha
fish	azu
flea	igwu
fly	iji
frog	awo
gecko	ncheke
insect	ahuhu
lizard	ngwere
louse	igwu
mosquito	anwunta
snail	ejuna
snake	agwo
spider	udide
termite	akika
tick	igwu
wasp	ogba kpim
worm	idide

18. COUNTRYSIDE

canal	ngabiga mmịrị
copse	ohia ntakri
dam	olulu mmịrị
earthquake	ala oma jigi jigi
fire	oku
flood	nkuku mmịrị
foothills	odida ugwu
foothpath	nkpata uzo
forest	ohia
hill	ugwu
lake	ogbaka mmịrị
landslide	odida ala
mountain	ugwu ukwu
peak	isi-isi
plant	kuo
range	ugwu
river bank	nkuku mịrị
river	mmịrị oruru
rock	okwute
slope	ndida ugwu
stream	iyi
summit	isi-isi
swamp	omi
tree	osisi
valley	odida ugwu
waterfall	odida mmịrị
a wood	osisi

19. THE WEATHER

Igbo land has two major seasons — **okochi**, the dry season (October to April) which is very hot with extremely high temperatures; and **udu mmiri**, the rainy season (July to August), when it rains persistently, alongside cooler weather. **Uguru** is the season when the Harmattan winds also blow through from the North (from November to February) during the dry season, leaving clouds of dust and cold temperatures at night and in the early morning.

What's the weather like?

The weather is . . . today.

cold
cool/fresh
cloudy
foggy
hot
misty
very hot
windy

Elegbi otu ubochi di?

Ubochi di . . . taa.

oyi
mma
ubochi gbara ijiriji taa
ijiriji
oku
ijiriji
ubochi taa da okpom oku
ikuku neku taa

It is raining.

It is sunny.

It is overcast.

Mmiri na ezo.

Anwu nacha.

Qdi ka mgbako ikuku.

air
cloud
fog
frost
full moon
heatwave
ice
midsummer
midwinter
mild winter
moon

ikuku
mgbako ikuku
ijiriji
oyi ututu
onwa ukwu
okpom oku
oyi
okochi
uguru
oyi ututu
onwa

o = more u = soon u = put n = sing

new moon	onwa ọhụrụ
rain	udu mmiri
star	kpakpandu
sun	anwu
sunny	anwu ochicha
weather	ihu ubochi
wind	ikuku
sunny season	okochi
winter	uguru
rainy season	udu mmiri

NOTE ON IGBO SOCIAL/FAMILY STRATA

Being a people who base their laws, politics and religion on the clan, the Igbo naturally take their families, both nuclear and extended very seriously.

People from the same village usually consider themselves kin, given that most villages were established by a mythical singular ancestor figure or together with his brothers. The incest taboo is maintained rigorously, and intermarriage within the village is forbidden.

Male descendants from the ancestor figure(s) are entitled to work the commonly-owned land of the village, and as a result of this are entitled to all the other legal and political rights that accrue.

Women born in the village traditionally have few rights as they are married off (with a bride price normally paid by the husband) to their husband's village, where they are nevertheless able to have their say political and socially through formal women's groups.

However, despite these mechanisms to allow females a voice, the society is a strong patriarchy. From birth the males are usually divided into age groups — and as they get older within the village, different age groups assume different responsibilities.

The most privileged age group are the **Ndi Okemadu** (the Elders), who run the village politically, and allocate land to others to work. Given the emphasis on wisdom, authority and power coming with age, people are very respectful of their elders. Usually if somebody is in an older age group than you, then you are obliged to call them **Dede** or **Dada**.

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

20. Camping

For reasons of access, infrastructure and security, camping would not be encouraged. Hotels and other guesthouses are always to be preferred.

Where can we camp?	Kedi ebe anyi ga ano kota?
Can we camp here?	Anyi nwere ike nokata ebeea?
Is it safe to camp here?	Onwere ihe ga eme anyi ma anyi nokata ebeea?
Is there drinking water?	Mmịrị onunu odi
May we light a fire?	Anyi nwere ike imunya oku?
ax	anya ike
backpack	akpa onyinya
bucket	ihe eji ekuta mmịrị
campsite	ezi nokata
can opener	ihe eji akpoghe olokoro
compass	ozu uzo
firewood	nku
flashlight	oku n'ezu uzo
gas canister	'gas canister'
hammer	ugboro
ice axe	anyi ike
lamp	mmpa naka
mattress	agada
penknife	mma ntakiri
rope	eriri
sleeping bag	akpa eji ehi ura
stove	ekwu igwe
tent	nchu anwu
tent pegs	ihe eji ejide nchu anwu
water bottle	ihe eji etinye mmịrị

21. IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Complaining — If you feel cheated or treated badly, raise the matter directly with the person concerned, and if possible go over their heads to their superior. Sometimes to make the point, you may have to spend time putting your case and getting it accepted. Like haggling, the process can be long, drawn out and quite theatrical, involving verbal ultimatums and exaggerated injury. On a one to one basis, Igbo are generally honest, fair and willing to give a stranger the benefit of the doubt.

Crime — Igbo land is a paradox. You are unlikely to suffer pick-pocketing or muggings while sexual attacks are virtually unheard of. However, there is crime there — frequently involving those who are there to uphold the law. Police and many other public servants will frequently expect additional bribes for doing their jobs. Sometimes these requests for bribes are made quite aggressively, especially if you are in a vulnerable position. Your vulnerability is frequently exploited in a callous way — and you are faced with either paying the bribe or being delayed. Reporting the officers to superiors helps little, so endemic is the system of corruption. Patience and a savvy local guide are usually the best way through.

Armed robbery in a car or house is also a problem. Try not to draw attention to yourself if you are carrying much money or other valuable goods. Follow the same sensible precautions you would in your country. Don't leave valuables in your hotel room. Don't tempt poor, badly paid people.

What to do if you lose something — Always ask senior officials. It may have been handed in. The same person who would demand a 10 naira bribe off you in the morning, would also calmly hand in a wallet with 100 naira in it in the afternoon.

Disabled facilities are virtually non-existent. There is not really a huge lobby for easier access. Buildings, offices, overcrowded and badly maintained roads and non-existent pavements do not make it easy for people in wheelchairs. Again because of power cuts and poor maintenance, lifts do not generally function. Very few hotels provide such facilities.

Toilets — there are very few public amenities. Usually you would have to use a facility in a restaurant or shop. Water shortages, failed plumbing and lack of toilet paper does not always make this a pleasant experience. Carry some tissues or wet wipes if you can.

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

Help!	Nyere m aka!
Could you help me please?	Biko, nyere m aka?
Do you have a telephone?	Ị nwere ihe eji ekwu okwu n'ikuku?
Can I use your telephone?	Enwere m ike iwere ihe iji ekwu okwu n'ikuku?
Where is the nearest telephone?	Kedụ ebe ihe eji ekwu okwu n'ikuku di nso ebea i?
Does the phone work?	Ehi eji ekwu okwu n'ikuku ana arụ ọrụ?
Get help quickly!	Nweta inya aka osiso!
Call the police.	Kpoo ndi uweyi oji!
I'll call the police!	Aga m akpọ ndi uweyi oji!
Is there a doctor near here?	Onwere ọnye dibia di nso?
Call a doctor.	Kpoo ọnye dibia.
Call an ambulance.	Kpoo ụgbọ ala eji ebuge ndi oria!
I'll get medical help!	Agam akputu ọnye ga enye aka mgbake ahu!
Where is the doctor?	Kedụ ebe dibia di?
Where is the hospital?	Kedụ ebe ụlọ ọgwụ di?
Where is the chemist?	Kedụ ebe ana-ere ọgwụ?
Where is the dentist?	Kedụ ebe ọnye na elokota eze di?
Where is the police station?	Kedụ ebe ụlọ ndi uwenyi oji di?
There's been an accident!	Ihe mgberegede emewo!
Is anyone hurt?	Onwere ọnye meruru ahụ?
This person is hurt.	Ọnye nkea meruru ahụ.
There are people injured.	Ndi mmadu mereru ahu.
Don't move!	Emegharila ahu
Go away!	Puo nebea!
I am lost.	Efuola m.
I am ill.	Ahu adighi m.
I've been raped.	Emetosiala m.
Take me to a doctor.	Kporo m ga ebe ọnye dibia.

ọ = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

Where is the doctor?

I've been robbed.

Thief!

My . . . has been stolen.

I have lost my . . .

my bags

my camera equipment

my handbag

my laptop computer

my money

my passport

my sound equipment

my travelers' checks

my wallet

My possessions are insured.

I have a problem.

I didn't do it.

I'm sorry.

I apologize.

I didn't realize anything was wrong.

I want to contact my embassy/consulate.

I speak English.

I need an interpreter.

Where are the toilets?

clinic

doctor

nurse

hospital

policeman

police

police station

Kedù ebe ọnye dibia di?

Ezụọla m ohi.

Onye ori!

Ezuala . . . ihem.

Etufuola m . . .

akpa m

ihe na nese foto m

akpa aka m

laptop computa m

ego m

akwụkwọ eji eje mba m

ihe egwu m

ego eji aga ije m

akpa m

Edere ihe nile mmwere na akwụkwọ.

Enwere m nsogbu.

Emeghi m ihe ahụ.

Ịwere m iwe.

Gbayara m.

Amaghi m na ọdi njo.

Achoro m ikpokuta ndi obodo m.

Ana m asụ ọkwu Bekee.

Achoro m ọnye nkọwa okwu.

Kedù ebe ana anyụ nsi?

ụlọ oria

dibia

ọnye uweyi ọcha

ụlọ ọgwu

ọnye uweyi oji

ndi uweyi oji

ụlọ ndi uweyi oji

a = pat e = pay i = feet ị = pet o = so

22. HEALTHCARE

Make sure your **insurance policy** covers Nigeria. Nigerian law currently requires **vaccinations** against yellow fever and cholera in order to enter the country. Without these you could be barred from entering the country. Polio is also advisable.

Nigeria is a tropical country, therefore **malaria** is a problem. A course of chloroquine phosphate taken once a week, to be started two weeks before departure, and continued two weeks after returning, is usually enough.

Chemists are fairly widespread. Try and avoid market vendors as the country has a huge problem with bogus drugs. Ask around for a reputable chemist which should be well stocked. But for peace of mind it is probably best to bring your own drugs like aspirin, etc.

What's the trouble?

I am sick.

My companion is sick.

May I see a female doctor?

I have medical insurance.

Please undress.

Gini mmere?

Ahu adighi m.

Ahu adighi onye otu m.

Biko zim dibia nwanyi?

Ihe gbasara ahu m di na akwukwo.

Biko tipu uweyi.

AILMENTS

How long have you had this problem?

Where does it hurt?

It hurts here.

I have been vomiting.

I feel dizzy.

I can't eat.

I can't sleep.

I feel worse.

I feel better.

Are you . . . ?

diabetic

epileptic

Kedụ mgbe ibidoro iria oria?

Kedụ ebe ọna egbu mgbu.

Ọ na egbu ebea.

Ana m agbọ agbọ.

Ajụụ n'ebu m

Anaghi m eri nri.

Ura anaghi atụ m.

O na aka njo.

O na ditu mma.

Ị di . . . ?

oria onu uto ona ariagi

osise/akwukwu ona ese gi

ọ = more

u = soon

ụ = put

ń = sing

I'm pregnant.

I have ...

You have ...

a temperature

an infection

an itch

I have a cold.

You have a cold

I have a cough.

You have a cough.

I have a headache.

I have toothache.

I have a sore throat.

I have a stomachache.

I have a broken arm.

I have a broken leg.

I have backache.

I have constipation.

I have diarrhea.

I have a problem with
my heart.

MEDICATION

I take this medication.

I need medication for ...

What type of medication
is this?

How many times a day
must I take it?

When should I stop?

I'm on antibiotics.

I'm allergic to ...

Adj m ìme.

Enwere m ...

!nwere ...

ahụ ọkụ

ọria

ọkọ

Oyi n'ama m.

!nwere oyi.

Enwere m ụkwara.

!nwere ụkwara.

Isi n'awa m.

Eze n'egbu m

Akpiri n'ara m ahụ.

Afọ n'egbu m mgbu.

Agbajiri m aka.

Agbajiri m ukwu.

Azu n'egbu m mgbu.

Afọ kpochiri m.

Afọ nasa m.

Obi negbu m mgbu.

Ana m anwu ọgwụ a.

Achoro m ọgwụ nke ...

Kedù ọgwụ dị nkea?

Kedù ugboro ole

n'ubuochi ka m ga anwu ya?

Kedù mgbe m ga akwụsi?

Ana m anwu ọgwụ

'antibiotics.'

Ọgwụ ndia ... anaghi aba

m ọnu.

a = pat e = pay i = feet ì = pet o = so

antibiotics
penicillin

'antibiotics'
'penicillin'

I have been vaccinated.
I have my own syringe.

**Agbala m ọgụ aka.
Enwere m ihem jì eso
ọgwụ.**

Is it possible for me
to travel?

**Enwere m ike iga ijem
n'acho iga?**

painkiller
tranquilizer
aspirin
antibiotic
drug

**ọgwụ mgbụ
ọgwụ itu ura
ọgwụ isi
'antibiotic'
ọgwụ**

HEALTH WORDS

AIDS
alcoholic
alcoholism
anemia
amputation
anesthetic
anesthetist
antiseptic
blood
blood group
blood pressure:
 low blood pressure
 high blood pressure
blood transfusion
bone
cancer
cholera
clinic
dentist

**AIDS
ọnye anuruma
ọnye anuruma
akwobiri
ihe na atu ura
ọnye na enye ihe na atu
ura
'antiseptic'
ọbara
usoro ọbara
mgbali ọbara
 ọbara mgbali ala
 ọbara mgbali elu
inye ọbara
ọkpụkpụ
cancer
afo owuwu
ebe ndi oria
dibia na elekọta eze**

ọ = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

epidemic
fever
flu
fracture
frostbite
germs
heart attack
hepatitis
HIV virus
hygiene
indigestion
infection
influenza
limb

needle
nurse
operating theatre
(surgical) operation
oxygen
pain
parasite
physiotherapy
pins and needles
rabies
snake bite
stethoscope
stomachache
surgeon
(act of) surgery
syringe
thermometer
toothache
torture
virus

oria mgberegede
ahu oku
iba
mgbaji
ntagbu
umo oria
obi mgbafu
ocha nanya
HIV virus
idi ocha
afo mkpochi
ihe nebuhe ebuhie
iba
ukwu ('leg')
or aka ('arm')
ndudu
onye uweyi ocha
ebe ana awa ahụ
iwa ahụ mmadụ
ikuku
ahụ mgbụ
'parasite'
fizio
ntagbu
oya anumanu
agwo otita
'stethoscope'
afo ohihi
dibia na awa ahụ
iwa ahụ
ndudu
'thermometer'
eze ngbu
imegbu mmegbu
virus

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

EYESIGHT

I have broken my glasses.

**Akuwala m igegbe
anya m.**

Can you repair them?

I nwere ike imezi ha?

I need new lenses.

**Achoro m igegbe anya
ozọ.**

When can I collect them?

**Kedụ mgbe m ha ewere
ha?**

How much do I owe you?

Eji m gi ego ole?

contact lenses

igegbe anya

contact lens solution

mmiri igegbe anya

23. RELIEF AID

Can you help me?

Do you speak English?

Who is in charge?

Fetch the main person in charge.

What's the name of this town?

How many people live there?

What's the name of that river?

How deep is it?

Is the bridge still standing?

What is the name of that mountain?

How high is it?

Where is the border?

Is it safe?

Show me.

! nwere ike inyere m aka?

! na asu okwu Bekee?

Kedụ ọnye isi?

Kpọta ọnye isi.

Kedụ aha obodo a?

Mmadu ole bi ebe ahụ?

Kedi aha mmiri ahụ?

Ọdi omimi?

Ihe eji agafe mmiri oka naguzo?

Kedụ aha ụgwụ ahụ?

Ọ ha otu ole?

Kedụ oke obodo?

Ọ di mma?

Zim.

ROADBLOCKS

checkpoint

roadblock

Stop!

Do not move!

Go!

Who are you?

Don't shoot!

Help!

no entry

no admission

emergency exit

ebe ana eche nche

ụzọ nkpochi

kwusi

A pukwala!

Gawa!

Ọnye ka ibu?

Agbala egbe!

Nye aka!

anaghị aba aba

anaghị abanye ebea

ebe eji apu na mgberede

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

straight on
 turn left
 turn right
 this way
 that way
 Keep quiet!
 You are right.
 You are wrong.
 I am ready.
 I am in a hurry.
 Well, thank you!
 What's that?
 Come in!
 That's all!

naga niru
tughara aka ekpe
ga aka nri
ebeà
ebe ahụ
mmechie ọnụ
Idi mma.
Idighị mma.
Ejikerela m.
Odi m ọsisọ.
Imela, ndewo!
Ogini wu nkea?
Bata!
Ogwula!

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

This is a feeding station.
 How many people in your family?
 How many children?
 You must come back this afternoon.

Ebea ana enye nri.
Kedụ mmadu ole di na ezinụlọ gi?
Ụmụ ọle ka iji?
Igaabiachi na ehiehe.

tonight
 tomorrow
 the day after
 next week

ne abali
echi
nwanne echi
izu uka ozo

There is water for you.
 There is grain for you.
 There is food for you.
 There is fuel for you.

E debere gi mmiri.
E debere gi nkporu.
E debere gi nri.
Mmanụ ugbo diri gi.

ROAD REPAIR

Is the road passable?
 Is the road blocked?
 Are the bridges intact?
 Are there any obstacles?

Ana agali ụzọ ahu agali?
Akpochiri ụzọ ahu?
Ebe esi agafe, odi mma?
Onwere ihe nochiri uzo?

o = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

What is it blocked with?
 holes?
 trees?
 rocks?
 landslide?
 something else?

Gini ka eji kpochie ya?
onunụ?
okporo osisi?
nkume?
ala odịda
odi ihe ozo eji kpochie ya?

Are there any road-
 building machines nearby?
 We are repairing the road.
 We are repairing the
 bridge.
 We need . . .
 wood
 rock
 gravel
 sand
 fuel

**Onwere ihe eji edozi ụzọ
 dinso?**
Anyi na emezi ụzọ.
**Anyi na emzi ihe eji agafe
 mmiri.**
Anyi chọrọ . . .
osisi
nkume
ọkwute
aja
mmanụ ụgbọ

OTHER WORDS

airforce
 ambulance
 armored car
 army
 artillery
 barbed wire
 bomb
 bomber
 bullet
 cannon
 gun
 machine gun
 mine
 minefield
 missile
 natural disaster

ndi agha ụgbọ elu
ụgbọ nebu ndi meruru ahu
ụgbọ aghia
ndi agha
egbe tuum
barbed waya
bombọ; ọgbụ-nigwe
ugbe elu eji alu agha
ngbo egbe
nsu egbe
egbe
ebge ukwu
mine
mbara mine
bombọ
mgbergede

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

navy	ndi agha ugbo
officer	ọnye isi
oil company	ndi n'egwu mmanụ
oilfield	mbara mmanụ
parachute	ihe ntuda ụgbọ elu
peace	udo
people	ndi mmadụ
pistol	egbe nta
refugee	ndi ogba ọsọ
refugee camp	ụlọ ndi ọgbọ ọsọ
relief aid	ihe ntinye aka
sack	akpa
shell	bombo
shrapnel	unkpokoro bombo
tank	tank
troops	ndi agha
unexploded bomb	bombo na agbawabeghi
United Nations	Obodo Ndi Nnokotara Otu; <i>or use English</i>
war	agha

24. TOOLS

binoculars	'binoculars'
brick	nkume
brush	aziza
cable	waya
cooker	ihe eji isi nri
drill	ihe eji egwụ ihe
glasses, sunglasses	igagbe anya
hammer	ugboro
handle	ihe ijide aka
hose	ihe eji agba mmiri
insecticide	ihe negbu ahuhu
ladder	ihe eji ari elu
machine	mashin
microscope	'microscope'
nail	ntu
padlock	otugwa
paint	uhe
pickaxe	anya ike
plank	osisi
plastic	plastik
rope	eriri
rubber	roba
rust	ita nchara
saw	ihe nkwobi
scissors	'scissors'
screw	'screw'
screwdriver	'screwdriver'
spade	ugo
spanner	'spanner'
string	eriri
telescope	'telescope'
varnish	'varnish'
wire	waya

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

25. THE CAR

Driving — Unless you already know the country well, it is inadvisable to bring your own vehicle to Nigeria. If you do, you will need an international driver's license, car registration papers and insurance. It is unlikely you will find spare parts readily available. Driving conditions vary. In the big towns you can pick up rental cars with an international driving license. Please keep your papers in order as the police and army at checkpoints, will ask you to produce your documents. Failure to do so may well lead to having to pay bribes or serious delay. Cars are quite expensive, as is buying locally in naira. There is a good market in used cars, but don't go by yourself. Find a guide who can take you through. Driving is a hair-raising experience, given the pot-holed and badly maintained roads and the free-wheeling attitude of other drivers. There are few traffic lights, at which nobody stops. Don't be surprised if a taxi driver is quite calmly driving the wrong way up a one-way street. Roads are not well signposted, street lights few and erratic due to power cuts. There are parking restrictions in the towns, but check with locals before parking to make sure. It might otherwise involve you in contact with officialdom and the possibility of having to pay bribes.

Where can I rent a car?

Kedụ ebe nagaagbaziri ụgbọ ala?

Where can I rent a car with a driver?

Kedụ ebe ngagbaziri ụgbọ ala na ọnye ga anya ya?

How much is it per day?

Ọ bụ ego ole kwa ubochi?

How much is it per week?

Ọ bụ ego ole kwa izu uka?

Can I park here?

Enwere m ike ikwusi ebea?

Are we on the right road for ... ?

Anyi no nuzọ ziri ezi na ga ... ?

Where is the nearest filling station?

Kedụ ebe ana agbanye mmanụ di nsụ?

Fill the tank please.

normal/diesel

Check the oil/tires/
battery, please.

I've broken down.

I have a puncture.

I have run out of gas.

Our car is stuck.

There's something wrong
with this car.

We need a mechanic.

Where is the nearest
garage?

Can you tow us?

Can you jump start the car?

There's been an accident.

My car has been stolen.

Call the police.

driver's license

insurance policy/car papers

car registration

Gbajuru m mmanụ, biko.

'normal'/'diesel'

**Lekwara mmanụ/ukwu/
'battery' ugbulm, biko.**

Akwusila m.

Ihe akpofuola igwem.

Mmanum agwusiala.

ugbọ ala anyi kwusiri

**Ọ nwere ihe na eme ugbọala
nkea.**

**Anyi choro ọnye n'emezi
ugbọ ala.**

**Kedụ ebe ana edozi ugbọ ala
dinso?**

Ị nwere ike ikporo anyi?

Ị nwere ike ịbido ugbọ ala-a?

ihe mgberegede emela.

Ezurula ugbọ ala m.

Kpọ ndi uweyi oji.

akwụkwọ eji anya ugbọ

akwụkwọ ugbọ

ihe eji mara ugbọ

WORDS

accelerator

air

battery

brake

bumper

car park

clutch

driver

engine

exhaust

'accelerator'

ikuku

'battery'

'brake'

'bumper'

ebe ana edote ugbọ ala

'clutch'

ọnye nanya ugbọ

obi ugbọ ala

ike ugbọ ala

a = pat e = pay i = feet ị = pet o = so

fan belt	'fan belt'
gear	'gear'
indicator light	'trafficator'
inner-tube	'tube and tire'
jack	jak
mechanic	onye nedozie ụgbọ ala; onye n'edozi ụgbọ ala
neutral drive	'neutral driven
oil	mmanụ
oilcan	ihe eji ejide mmanụ
passenger	'passenger'
petrol	mmanụ eji anya ụgbọ ala.
radiator	'radiator'
reverse	ntughari
seat	ọche
spare tire	'spare tire'
speed	ọke ọsọ
steering wheel	'steering wheel'
tank	'tank'
tire/tyre	'tire'
tow rope	eriri eji adọ ụgbọ
windscreen	'windscreen'

26. COLORS

Ocha is white, **edo** is any color than white. Most colors are described by comparing them to what they look like. So green is said to look like leaves that you eat.

black

blue

brown

green

red

white

yellow

oji**'blue'****nchara****akwụkwọ nri** (literally: 'eating leaves')**uhie****ocha****edo**

27. SPORTS

Igbo culture greatly values dancing and displays of physical strength. Wrestling contests between villages which would last a week, was a great part of the festivities that surrounded traditional Igbo culture. Unfortunately this is not as popular, having been replaced by modern participatory sports such as football and athletics. Tennis courts, swimming pools and gyms would be available at hotels or private clubs.

athletics	igba oso
ball	'ball'
basketball	'basketball'
chess	'chess'
goal	gol
horse racing	ọsọ anyịnyo
horse-riding	ịny anyịnya
match	ndoro-ndoro
soccer match	ndoro-ndoro futbọl
pitch	mbara
rugby	'rugby'
soccer	futbọl; bọl
stadium	'stadium'
swimming	igwu mmiri
team	ndi otu
wrestling	igba mgba
Who won?	ọnye meriri?
What's the score?	owu gini ka eji gbagbue?

28. THE BODY

ankle	ụkwụ
arm	aka
back	azu
beard	aji ọnụ; afo ọnụ
blood	obara
body	ahụ
bone	ọkpụkpụ
bottom	ịke
breast	ara
chest	obi
chin	agba
ear	nti
elbow	apa aka
eye	anya
face	ihu
finger	mkpisiri aka
foot	ukwu
hair	abubara isi
hand	aka
head	isi
heart	obi
jaw	agba
kidney	akpa nwamịrị
knee	ikpere
leg	ukwu
lip	egbugbere onu
liver	imeji
lung	nkpofuru; ngwu
moustache	aji onu; afo ọnụ
mouth	onu
neck	olu
nose	imi
shoulder	ndabi olu; nkunbụ
stomach	afo

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

teeth
throat
thumb
toe
tongue
tooth
vein
womb
wrist

eze
olu
mkpabi aka
nkpisiri ukwu
ire
eze
akwara
akpa nwa
aka

29. POLITICS

aid worker
 ambassador
 arrest
 assassination
 assembly
 autonomy
 cabinet
 a charity
 citizen
 civil rights
 civil war
 constitution
 convoy
 corporal punishment
 corruption
 coup d'état
 crime
 criminal
 crisis
 dictator
 death penalty
 debt
 democracy
 dictatorship
 diplomatic ties
 election
 embassy
 ethnic cleansing
 exile
 free
 freedom
 government
 guerrilla
 hostage

**onye intighe aka
 onye isi obodo ozo
 jide
 igbagbu
 nnoko
 dinotu
 nzuko ndi isi
 ndi na enwe obi ebere
 onye ala
 ike ndi mmadu
 ogu
 ihe nachikata obodo
 ndi nagakata
 ipia ihe
 iri ngari
 'coup'
 ihe ojoo
 onye ojoo
 nsogbu
 onye oputa obie
 ikpe ikpe onwu
 ugwo
 'democracy'
 omume oputa obie
 nwekota ndi obodo ozo
 ohuhọ mmadu
 ulọ ndu mba ozo
 'ethnic cleansing'
 mgbafu
 inwere onwe
 inweta onwe
 ndi nwe ala
 guerrilla
 onye ejidere ejide**

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

humanitarian aid
 human rights
 imam
 independence
 independent
 independent state
 judge
 killer
 law court
 law
 lawyer
 leader
 left-wing
 liberation
 majority
 mercenary
 minister
 ministry
 minority
 murder
 opposition
 parliament
 (political) party
 peace
 peace-keeping troops
 politician
 politics
 premier
 president
 presidential guard

 prime minister
 prison
 prisoner-of-war
 POW camp
 protest

**ime ebere; inye aka n'ebere
 ike ndi mmadu
 ọnye isi ndi n'efe Muhamed
 inoro onwe
 inweta onwe
 obodo nọrọ ọnwe ya
 ọnye ikpe; ọka ikpe
 ọnye ogbugbu
 ụlọ ikpe
 ikpe
 ọnye ikpe
 ọnye isi
 ọnye isi ike
 igbaputa
 ndi kariri
 ọnye oji ndụ acho ego
 ọnye isi
 ọlụ ndi isi
 ndi di ntakiri
 igbu mmadu
 ndi nekwataghi
 ụlọ ndi iwu
 ndi ndọrọ-ndọrọ
 ụdo
 ndi nedote udo
 ọnye ndọrọ-ndọrọ
 ndọrọ-ndọrọ
 ọnye isi; ochichi
 ọnye isi ala obodo
 ndi na elekota ọnye isi
 obodo
 ọnye isi obodo
 nga
 ndi ejidere nga ogu
 ebe edotere ndi nga ogu
 inwe isi ike**

o = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

public execution

refugee

revolution

right-wing

robbery

seat (in assembly)

spy

struggle

theft

trade union

treasury

United Nations

veto

vote

vote-rigging

voting

**igbagbu mmadụ nihu ogbara
oha**

ọnye ogba oso

i nupu isi n'obodo

'right wing'

ohi

oche

ọnye nyocha; ọnye mgbama

mgbali

ohi

nzuko ndi neligede ndi ozi

ebe ana edote ego

Obodo Ndi Nnokotara Otu;

or use English

oputa obie

ibia aka; itunye akwukwo

ochichi

ihogbu itunye akwukwo

itunye akwukwo

30. OIL & GAS

barrel
 cargo
 crane
 crude (oil)
 deepwater platform

derrick
 diver
 dock
 drill *noun*
 drilling
 exploration
 fuel
 gas
 geologist
 natural resources
 off-shore
 oil
 oilfield
 oil pipeline
 oil production
 oil spill
 oiltanker (lorry)
 oiltanker (ship)
 oil well
 oil worker
 petroleum
 pipeline
 platform
 port
 pump
 pumping station
 refine
 refinery

'barrel'
 ịbụ ụgbọ mmiri
 'crane'
 mmanụ
 ebe ana egwu mmanụ n'obgu
 mmiri
 'derrick'
 otu omimi mmiri
 'dock'
 iji gwu onụ
 onụ mmiri orurụ
 ịchọ ihe di mpka
 mmanụ
 gas
 ọnye n'achota ihe di n'ala
 ihe di mkpa n'ala
 na ime mmiri
 mmanụ
 mbara mmanụ
 ọgboro n'ebu mmanụ
 imebe mmanụ
 mmanụ nchafu
 ụgbọ ala n'ebu mmanụ
 ụgbọ mmiri n'ebu mmanụ
 nga mmanụ si apụta
 ọnye oru mmanụ
 mmanụ ụgbọ ala
 ogboro mmanụ
 ebe ana anọ egwu mmanụ
 ebe ndota
 izipu mmanụ
 ebe ana anọ ezipu mmanụ
 idozi mmnu ọfụmaa
 ebe ana eme mmanụ

ọ = more u = soon ụ = put ñ = sing

reserves
rights
seismic survey
supply (noun)
tanker (lorry)
tanker (ship)
well
well site

**nke edotere edote
iketa oke
'seismic survey'
i bunye ihe
ugbo ala; tanka
ugbo mmiri; tanka
oyere mmanu
ebe oyere mmanu di**

31. TIME AND DATES

The traditional Igbo calendar is based on moon cycles and seasons. Key events were used to mark people's birthdays and other events. On a daily basis, time was marked by the shadows cast by the sun from sun-up to sun-down.

century	ohu afo ise
decade	afo iri
year	afo
month	otu onwa
fortnight	izu uka abuo
week	izu uka
day (24 hour period)	otu ubochi
hour	otu awa
minute	otu nkeji
second	otu akara nkeji
dawn	isi ụtụtụ
sunrise	owuwa anyanwu
morning	ụtụtụ
day	ehihie
noon	ehihie
afternoon	ehihie
evening	mgbe abali
sunset	odida anyanwu
night	abali
midnight	ime abali
four days before	ụbochi anọ gara aga
three days before	ụbochi atọ gara aga
the day before yesterday	nwanne nyahụ gara aga
yesterday	nyahụ
last night	abali gara aga
today	ta

TIME & DATES

tomorrow
the day after tomorrow
three days from now
four days from now

the year before last
last year
this year
next year
the year after next
last week
this week
next week
this morning
now
tonight
yesterday morning
yesterday afternoon
yesterday night
tomorrow morning
tomorrow afternoon
tomorrow night

in the morning
in the afternoon
in the evening

past
the present
future
What date is it today?
What time is it?
It is . . . o'clock.

echi
nwanne echi nabia abia
ụbochi atọ nabia abia
ụbochi anọ nabia abia

afo abua gara aga
afo gara aga
afo nkaa; afo a
afo nabia abia
afo abua nabia abia
izu uka gara aga
izu uka nkaa
izu uka nabia abia
ụtụtụ a
ugbu a
nabali tàà
ụtụtụ nyahụ gara aga
ehihie nyahụ gara aga
abali nyahụ
ụtụtụ echi
ehihie echi
abali echi

na ụtụtụ
na ehihie
na abali

gara aga
ugbu a
nke di nihi
gini wu ubochi taa?
Kedụ ihe oge nekwu?;
Kedụ ihe elekele kwurụ?
Oge nekwu awa . . .

a = pat e = pay i = feet ì = pet o = so

DAYS OF THE WEEK

Traditionally the Igbo week (**Izu**) comprises 4 days which were the 4 market days — **Eke, Orië, Afo, Nkwo**. These repeat themselves sequentially. Many Igbos informally, and particularly in the rural areas, still count the days this way. So the normal 7-day week would be broken down to fit the rotating four days of the Igbo week. Government, business, and people in the big towns follow the normal 7-day week and use the English words.

MONTHS

January	Ọnwa Mbu
February	Ọnwa Abua
March	Ọnwa Atọ
April	Ọnwa Anọ
May	Ọnwa Ise
June	Ọnwa !sị
July	Ọnwa Asa
August	Ọnwa Asatọ
September	Ọnwa Itoli
October	Ọnwa !rị
November	Ọnwa !rị na Otu
December	ỌỌỌnwa !!rị na Abụọ

32. NUMBERS & AMOUNTS

Igbo has two counting systems. The new way is decimal and is listed below. Be prepared to hear variations in the pronunciation of some of the numerals. Note the use of **nà** 'and' or 'plus' in combinations. The first decade is based on 10. After 10, the pattern is '10 plus 1' (= 11), etc, with 20 being literally '10/2,' 21 being '10/2/1,' 30 being '10/3' and so on. The pattern is repeated until 100, which is followed by '100/1' (= 101), 112 being '100/10/2,' etc. Generally all numbers except for '1' come after the noun, e.g. **otù nnwa** '1 child,' **ulo àto** '3 houses.'

The older, traditional system was a counting system based on 10 up to 20 and then based on 20 up to 400, using the basic building blocks of **otù/òfu** '1,' **ogù** '20' and **nnù** '400'. This was a sophisticated system developed largely along commercial lines and was designed to reach a limit of 400, although it is possible to construct greater numbers beyond that.

0	adigi
1	otu (ofu)
2	abua (abua; ibua; abụọ)
3	atọ (ito; eto)
4	anọ (ino; eno)
5	ise (iso)
6	isii
7	asaa (isaa; esaa)
8	asato (isato; esato)
9	eteghiete (itenaani; toolu; toolu)
10	iri (ili)
11	iri na otu
12	iri na abụọ
13	iri na atọ
14	iri na anọ
15	iri na ise
16	iri na isi
17	iri na asaa

a = pat e = pay i = feet ì = pet o = so

18	iri na isato
19	iri na iteghete
20	iri abụọ
22	iri abụọ na abụọ
30	iri ato
32	iri ato na abụọ
40	iri ano
42	iri ano na abụọ
50	iri ise
52	iri ise na abụọ
60	iri isii
62	iri isii na abụọ
70	iri asaa
72	iri asaa na abụọ
80	iri asato
82	iri asato na abụọ
90	iri iteghete
92	iri iteghete na abụọ
100	nnari
102	nnari na abụọ
112	nnari na iri na abụọ
200	nnari abụọ
300	nnari ato
400	nnari ano
500	nnari ise
600	nnari isii
700	nnari asaa
800	nnari asato
900	nnari iteghete
1,000	(otu) puku
10,000	puku iri
50,000	puku iri ise
100,000	puku nari
1,000,000	(otu) nde

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

NUMBERS

first	mbu
second	abuọ
third	ato (nke ato)
fourth	nke ano
tenth	nke iri
fifteenth	nke iru na ise
twentieth	nke ohu
once	otu ugboro
twice	ugboro abuọ
three times	ugboro ato
one-half	nkeji; mkprishi
one-quarter	uzọ anọ
three-quarters	uzọ atọ
one-third	nke atọ
two-thirds	uzọ abuọ nke atọ

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

33. WEIGHTS & MEASURES

kilometer	kilometer
meter	mita
mile	mile
foot	foot; ama ụkwụ
yard	yard
gallon	gallon
liter	liter
kilogram	kilogram
gram	gram
pound	pound
ounce	ounce

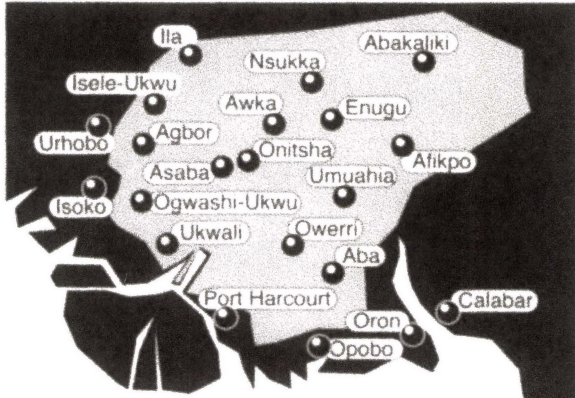
34. OPPOSITES

beginning—end	mbido—ogwugwu <i>or nke mbu—nke ikpeazu</i>
clean—dirty	ocha—ọjii
comfortable—uncomfortable	chim—chim
fertile—barren	adigi chim—chim nwere ike imu mwa—enweghi nwa
happy—unhappy	obi uto—ubi ojo
life—death	ndu—onwu
friend—enemy	enyi—onye irọ
modern—traditional	ohuru—ochie
modern—ancient	ohuru—ochie
open—shut	mmepe—mmechi
wide—narrow	mbara—kpachiri
high—low	elu—ala
peace—violence/war	udo—ogu; anaghi aso anya; ocho ogu
polite—rude	iso anya—anagi aso anya
silence—noise	nwanyo—uzu
cheap—expensive	odigi onu—odi onu
hot/warm—cold/cool	oku—oyi
health—disease	ahu oma—ahu ojo
well—sick	mma—ojo
night—day	abali—ehihe
top—bottom	isi—okpuru
backwards—forwards	azuazu—ihuhu
back—front	azu—ihu
dead—alive	nwuru anwu—dindu
near—far	nso—anya
left—right	aka ekpe—aka nri
in—out	ime—opupu
up—down	elu—ala
yes—no	eeh—mba
here—there	ebea—ebeahu

a = pat e = pay i = feet j = pet o = so

soft—hard	adighi ike—ike
easy—difficult	adigi ike—ike
quick—slow	osiso—nwanyo
big—small	ukwu—ntakiri
old—young	agadi—nwatakiri
tall—short	ogologo—mkpirisi
strong—weak	ike—ume ngwu
success—failure	ihuoma—ihuojo
new—old	ohuru—ochie
question—answer	ajuju—osisa
safety—danger	adigi egwu—egwu
good—bad	nke oma—nke ojoo
true—false	esi okwu—okwu asi
light—heavy	nta—ike
light <i>noun</i> —dark <i>noun</i>	ihe—itiri
well—badly	mma—ọjọ
truth—lie	ezi okwu—asii





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Printed in the USA
LVHW011626210820
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