

# Yoruba



# pronunciation

Vowels		Consonants	
Symbol	English sound	Symbol	English sound
a	act	b	bed
ang	as in 'act', but nasal	d	dog
ay	say	f	fun
e	bet	g	go
eng	as in 'bet', but nasal	gb	rugby
i	hit	h	hat
ing	as in 'hit', but nasal	j	jar
o	pot	k	kit
oh	cold	kp	backpack
ong	as in 'pot', but nasal	l	lot
u	put	m	man
ung	as in 'put', but nasal	n	not
		r	run
		s	sun
		sh	shot
		t	top
		w	win
		y	yes

The Yoruba pronunciation is given in light green after each phrase.

Each syllable is separated by a dot.

For example:

Ọsẹ.                      oh-shay

Yoruba's nasal vowels, indicated with ng after the vowel symbol, are pronounced as if you're trying to force the sound out of your nose.

There are a range of accent marks above and below vowels. You won't need to worry about using these, if you follow the pronunciation guides you'll be understood.

# YORUBA

yorùbá

## introduction

There's a Yoruba proverb, *Ohun tí o bá gbìn ni wàà ká o-hung ti o ba gbìng ni wa-a ka*, which means 'Whatever you sow, you will reap' – and any efforts to speak to locals in Yoruba will be greatly appreciated. Yoruba (*Yorùbá* yoh-ru-ba), a language from the Niger-Congo family, is spoken by around 25 million people in West Africa. The Yoruba nation consists of a number of tribes which trace their origins to a leader called Oduduwa, the founder of the city Ile-Ife in what is now southwestern Nigeria, where Yoruba is primarily spoken. There are also Yoruba speakers in the Benin Republic and eastern Togo, and a variety of the language is spoken in Sierra Leone. Yoruba was one of the first West African languages to have a written grammar and a dictionary in the 1840s. It's also one of the first African languages with a novel published in it, and is the mother tongue of Nobel-prize-winning writer Wole Soyinka.

yoruba (native language)
  yoruba (generally understood)



## language difficulties

Do you speak English?

*Ṣé o n̄ sọ gèèṣì?*

shay o n so ge-e-si

Do you understand?

*Ṣé ó yé o?*

shay oh yay o

I (don't) understand.

*Èmi (kò) gbó.*

ay-mi (koh) gbo

Could you please ...?

*Jòwó ṣé o lè ...?*

jo-wo shay oh lay ...

repeat that

*tun sọ*

tung so

speak more slowly

*rora sòrò*

ro-ra so-ro

write it down

*kọ o sílẹ̀*

ko o si-le

## time, dates & numbers

What time is it?

*Kí ni aago sọ?*

ki ni a-a-goh so

It's one o'clock.

*Aago kan ni.*

a-a-goh kang ni

It's (two) o'clock.

*Aago (méjì) ni.*

a-a-goh (may-ji) ni

Quarter past (one).

*Aago (kan) kojá ìṣéjú mēèdógún.*

a-a-goh (kang) ko-ja i-she-ju

Half past (one).

*Aago (kan) àbò.*

a-a-goh (kang) a-bo

Quarter to (eight).

*Aago (méjọ) ku ìṣéjú mēèdógún.*

a-a-goh (me-jo) ku i-she-ju

At what time ...?

*Nígba wo ...?*

ni-gba woh ...

At ...

*Ní ...?*

ni ...

It's (15 December).

*Ní (ojọ̀ kẹ̀èdógún osù òṣù òṣémbà).*

ni (o-jo ke-e-doh-gung oh-shu di-se-m-ba)

yesterday

*àná*

a-na

today

*òní*

oh-ni

tomorrow

*òla*

o-la

Monday

*ojọ̀ ajé*

o-jo a-jay

Tuesday

*ojọ̀ iségun*

o-jo i-she-gung

Wednesday

*ojọ̀ rú*

o-jo-ru

Thursday

*ojọ̀ bọ̀*

o-jo-bo

Friday

*ojọ̀ ètì*

o-jo e-ti

Saturday

*ojọ̀ abáméta*

o-jo a-ba-me-ta

Sunday

*ojọ̀ àìkú*

o-jo a-i-ku

## numbers

0	<i>òdo</i>	o-do	16	<i>èrindínlógún</i>	e-ring-ding-loh-gung
1	<i>òkan</i>	o-kang	17	<i>ètàdínlógún</i>	e-ta-ding-loh-gung
2	<i>èjì</i>	ay-ji	18	<i>èjìdínlógún</i>	ay-ji-ding-loh-gung
3	<i>èta</i>	e-ta	19	<i>òkàndínlógún</i>	o-kang-ding-loh-gung
4	<i>èrin</i>	e-ring	20	<i>ogún</i>	oh-gung
5	<i>àrun</i>	a-rung	21	<i>òkànlélógún</i>	o-kang-lay-loh-gung
6	<i>èfà</i>	e-fa	22	<i>èjìlélógún</i>	ay-ji-lay-loh-gung
7	<i>èje</i>	ay-jay	30	<i>ogbòn</i>	o-gbong
8	<i>èjo</i>	e-jo	40	<i>ogóji</i>	oh-goh-ji
9	<i>èsan</i>	e-sang	50	<i>àádòta</i>	a-a-do-ta
10	<i>èwá</i>	e-wa	60	<i>ogóta</i>	o-go-ta
11	<i>òkanla</i>	o-kang-la	70	<i>àádòrin</i>	a-a-do-ring
12	<i>èjìlá</i>	ay-ji-la	80	<i>ogórin</i>	o-go-ring
13	<i>ètàlá</i>	e-ta-la	90	<i>àádòrún</i>	a-a-do-rung
14	<i>èrínlá</i>	e-ring-la	100	<i>ogórùn-ún</i>	o-go-rung-ung
15	<i>èdógún</i>	e-do-gung	1000	<i>egbèrúng</i>	e-gbe-rung



## border crossing

I'm here ...

*Mo wà níbí ...*

moh wa ni-bi ...

in transit  
on business  
on holiday

*lénu ìrìn-àjò  
fún isé  
fún isimi*

le-nu i-ring-a-joh  
fung i-she  
fung i-si-mi

I'm here for ...

*Mo wà níbí fún ...*

moh wa ni-bi fung ...

(10) days  
(three) weeks  
(two) months

*ojọ̀ (mèwàá)  
òsẹ̀ (mèta)  
osù (mèjì)*

o-jo (me-wa-a)  
o-se (me-ta)  
oh-shu (may-ji)

I'm going to (Òyó).

*Mò ní lo sí (Òyó).*

moh n lo si (o-yo)

I'm staying at the (Premier Hotel).

*Mò ní gbé ní (Ilẹ̀ Itura Pírémìà).*

moh n gbay ni (i-lay i-tu-ra kpi-re-mi-a)

## tickets

A ... ticket (to <i>l̀b̀ad̀an</i> ), please.	<i>Ìwé iwolé ... l̀o (sí l̀b̀ad̀an).</i>	i-way i-wo-lay ... l̀o (sí i-ba-dang)
one-way	<i>àl̀o nikan</i>	a-lo ni-kang
return	<i>àt̀al̀o-àt̀ab̀ò</i>	a-ta-lo-a-ta-bo
I'd like to ... my ticket, please.	<i>J̀òẁò mà á fé l̀átí ... ìwé iwolé mi.</i>	jo-wo ma a fe la-ti ... i-way i-wo-le mi
cancel	<i>fagilé</i>	fa-gi-lay
change	<i>p̀ààr̀ò</i>	kpa-a-ro
collect	<i>gba</i>	gba
Is there a ...?	<i>Şé ... wa?</i>	shay ... wa
air conditioning	<i>èr̀o amúlétutù</i>	e-ro a-mu-lay-tu-tu
toilet	<i>il̀é igb̀ònsè</i>	i-le i-gbong-se
I'd like a smoking/nonsmoking seat, please.		
<i>J̀òẁò, mà á fé ij̀ók̀òò amusigá/mámusigá.</i>		jo-wo ma a fe i-joh-koh-oh a-mu-si-ga/ma-mu-si-ga
How long does the trip take?		
<i>Báwo ni ìr̀inàj̀ò yìl̀ se j̀innà sí?</i>		ba-woh ni i-ring-a-joh yi-i shay jing-na si
Is it a direct route?		
<i>Şé tààràt̀a ni?</i>		shay ta-a-ra-ta ni

## transport

Where does the (Virgin Nigeria) flight arrive/depart?		
<i>Ibo ni bàdl̀ù (f̀aj̀inì tí Nàij̀ir̀ià) ỳòò tí gb̀era/kúr̀ò?</i>		i-boh ni ba-a-lu (fa-ji-ni ti na-i-ji-ri-a) yoh-oh ti gbay-ra/ku-roh
How long will it be delayed?		
<i>Fún àk̀òk̀ò wo ni ìd̀ád̀ur̀ò bàdl̀ù?</i>		fung a-koh-koh woh ni i-da-du-roh ba-a-lu
Is this the ... to (Ekó)?	<i>Şé èyí ni ... sí (Ekó)?</i>	shay ay-yi ni ... sí (ay-ko)
boat	<i>òk̀ò oj̀ú-omi</i>	o-ko oh-ju-oh-mi
bus	<i>b̀òd̀sì</i>	bo-o-si
plane	<i>b̀àdl̀ù</i>	ba-a-lu
train	<i>òk̀ò oj̀ú-irin</i>	o-ko oh-ju-i-ring

## How much is it to ...?

*Èl̀ò ni dé ...?*

ay-loh ni day ...

## Please take me to (this address).

*J̀òẁò gbé mi l̀o sí (àd̀ir̀ésì yìi).*

jo-wo gbay mi lo si (a-di-re-si yi-i)

## I'd like to hire a car (with air conditioning).

*Mà á fé gba òk̀ò tí ó*

ma a fe gba o-ko ti oh

*(ni èr̀o amúlétutù).*

(ni e-ro a-mu-lay-tu-tu)

## How much is it for (three) days/weeks?

*Èl̀ò ni fún òj̀ò/òsè (m̀eta)?*

ay-loh ni fung o-jo/o-se (me-ta)

## directions

Where's the  
(nearest) ...?*Ibo ni ...**(tí ó súnm̀ò wà)?*

i-boh ni ...

*(ti oh sung-mo wa)*internet café  
market*búkà ìt̀ak̀un àgbáyé**ojà*

bu-ka i-ta-kung a-gba-yay

o-ja

## Is this the road to (Òyó)?

*Şe ònà (Òyó) niyí?*

shay o-na (o-yo) ni-yi

## Can you show me (on the map)?

*Şé o lè fi hàn mí (l̀órí àwòrán)?*

shay oh lay fi hang mi (loh-ri a-woh-rang)

## What's the address?

*Kí ni àd̀ir̀ésì?*

ki ni a-di-re-si

## How far is it?

*Báwo ni ó se j̀innà sí?*

ba-woh ni oh shay jing-na si

## How do I get there?

*Báwo ni mà á se dé ibè?*

ba-woh ni ma a shay day i-be

## Turn left/right.

*Yà s̀òsì/s̀òt̀un-ún.*

ya soh-si/so-tung-ung

## It's ...

*Ó wà ...*

oh wa ...

## behind ...

*l̀é-yin ...*

le-ying ...

## in front of ...

*níwájú ...*

ni-wa-ju ...

## near (to ...)

*l̀égbèè ...*

le-gbe-e ...

## next to ...

*l̀égbèè ...*

le-gbe-e ...

## on the corner

*l̀égbèè ...*

le-gbe-e ...

## opposite ...

*níwájú ...*

ni-wa-ju ...

## straight ahead

*l̀òk̀ankán*

lo-kang-kang

## there

*níbè*

ni-be

## accommodation

Where's a ...?	<i>Níbo ni ... wà?</i>	ni-boh ni ... wa
camping ground	<i>ilẹ̀ ipàgó</i>	i-le i-kpa-go
guesthouse	<i>ilẹ̀ itura</i>	i-lay i-tu-ra
hotel	<i>ilẹ̀ itura</i>	i-lay i-tu-ra
youth hostel	<i>ilẹ̀ itura òdó</i>	i-lay i-tu-ra o-do

### Can you recommend somewhere cheap/good?

*Se o lè júwe ibi tí ó ti dínwo/dára?* shay oh lay ju-way i-bi ti oh ti ding-woh/da-ra

### I'd like to book a room, please.

*Jòwò mà á fẹ̀ gba yàrà kan.* jo-wo ma a fe gba ya-ra kang

### I have a reservation.

*Mo ti gba yàrà silẹ̀ tẹ̀lẹ̀.* moh ti gba ya-ra si-le te-le



Do you have a ... room?	<i>Se ẹ̀ ní yàrà ...?</i>	shay e ni ya-ra ...
single	<i>elénikan</i>	e-le-ni-kang
double	<i>eléniméjì</i>	e-le-ni-may-ji
twin	<i>oníbejì</i>	oh-ni-bay-ji

How much is it per ...?	<i>Èlọ̀ ní fún ...?</i>	ay-loh ni fung ...
night person	<i>alẹ̀ ojọ̀ kan ẹ̀ni kan</i>	a-le o-jo kang e-ni kang

### I'd like to stay for (two) nights.

*Mà á fẹ̀ sun ibí fún ojọ̀ (méjì).* ma a fe sung i-bi fung o-jo (may-ji)

### What time is check-out?

*Ìgbà wo ni kíkẹ̀ rú jáde nínú ilẹ̀ itura?* i-gba woh ni ki-ke ru ja-de ni-nu i-lay i-tu-ra

### Am I allowed to camp here?

*Se àyè wà láti pàgọ̀ síbì?* shay a-yay wa la-ti kpa-go si-bi

## banking & communications

I'd like to ...	<i>Mà á fẹ̀ ...</i>	ma a fe ...
arrange a transfer	<i>fi owó ránsẹ̀</i>	fi oh-woh rang-she
cash a cheque	<i>fi sòwédowó gba owó</i>	fi so-way-doh-woh gba oh-woh
change a travellers cheque	<i>pààrò sòwédowó arinrinàjò</i>	kpa-a-ro so-way-doh-woh a-ring-ring-a-jo
change money	<i>pààrò owó</i>	kpa-a-ro oh-woh
withdraw money	<i>gba owó ní bànkì</i>	gba oh-woh ni bang-ki

### I want to ...

buy a phonecard	<i>ra káàdi ifòònù</i>	ra ka-a-di i-foh-oh-nu
call (Singapore)	<i>pe (Singapore)</i>	kpay (sing-a-po)
reverse the charges	<i>yi owó padà</i>	yi oh-woh kpa-da
use a printer	<i>lo itẹ̀wé</i>	loh i-te-way
use the internet	<i>lo itàkùn àgbáyé</i>	loh i-ta-kung a-gba-yay

### How much is it per hour?

*Èlọ̀ ní fún wákàtí kan?* ay-loh ni fung wa-ka-ti kang

### How much does a (three-minute) call cost?

*Èlọ̀ ní pípè fún (isẹ́jú méta) jẹ́?* ay-loh ni kpi-kpay fung (i-she-ju me-ta) je

### (100 naira) per minute/hour.

*(Ogórùn-ún náirà) fún isẹ́jú/wákàtí kan.* (o-go-rung-ung na-i-ra) fung i-she-ju/wa-ka-ti kan

## tours

When's the next ...?	<i>Ìgbà wo ni ...?</i>	i-gba woh ni ...
day trip	<i>ìrìn-ọjó kan</i>	i-ring-o-jo kang
tour	<i>ìrìn-àjò afẹ̀</i>	i-ring-a-joh a-fe

### Is ... included?

accommodation	<i>Sé ẹ̀ fi ... sí?</i>	shay e fi ... si
the admission charge	<i>ibùgbé owó ìgbàwólé</i>	i-bu-gbay oh-woh i-gba-wo-lay
food	<i>óúnjẹ</i>	oh-ung-je
transport	<i>ìrìn-àjò</i>	i-ring-a-joh

**How long is the tour?***Báwo ni irin-àjò náà ẹ jinnà sí?*

ba-woh ni i-ring-a-joh naa shay jing-na si

**What time should we be back?***Ìgbà wo ni ó yẹ kí á padà?*

i-gba woh ni oh ye ki a kpa-da

**shopping****I'm looking for ...***Mò ní wá ...*

moh n wa ...

**I need film for this camera.***Mo fé fìmù fún ẹrò ayàwòrán yí.*

moh fe fi-i-mu fung e-ro a-ya-woh-rang yi-i

**Can I listen to this?***Se mo lè gbó ẹyí?*

shay moh lay gbo ay-yi

**Can I have my ... repaired?***Se mo lè tún ... mi se?*

shay moh lay tung ... mi shay

**When will it be ready?***Ìgbà wo ni yóò se tán?*

i-gba woh ni yoh-oh shay tang

**How much is it?***Èlò ni?*

ay-loh ni

**Can you write down the price?***Se o lè kọ iye owó rẹ sílẹ?*

shay oh lay ko i-yay oh-woh re si-le

**What's your lowest price?***Èlò ni jálẹ?*

ay-loh ni ja-le

**I'll give you (800) naira.***Mà á fún ọ ní (egbèrin) náírà.*

ma a fung o ni (e-gbe-ring) na-i-ra

**There's a mistake in the bill.***Àsìşe wà nínú iwé owó yí.*

a-shi-she wa ni-nu i-way oh-woh yi-i

**It's faulty.***Ó ti bàjẹ.*

o ti ba-je

**I'd like a ..., please.****receipt  
refund***Jòwò mà á fé gba ...**risítì**owó padà*

jo-wo ma a fe gba ...

ri-si-i-ti

oh-woh kpa-da

**Do you accept ...?****credit cards  
debit cards  
travellers  
cheques***Se ẹ gba ...?**káàdì moyáwó  
káàdì mojegbèsè  
ìwé sòwédowó  
arin-rin-àjò*

shay e gba ...

ka-a-di moh-ya-woh  
ka-a-di moh-je-gbay-say  
i-way so-way-doh-woh  
a-ring-ring-a-joh**Could you ...?****burn a CD from my  
memory card  
develop this film***Se o lè ...?**da rẹkòdù yìi kọ  
láti inú fón rán  
fọ fìfùmù*

shay oh lay ...

da re-ko-du yi-i ko  
la-ti i-nu fong rang  
fo fi-i-mu**making conversation****Hello.***Pẹlẹ o.*

kpe-le o

**Good night.***Ó dàárò.*

oh da-a-ro

**Goodbye.***Ó dàbò.*

oh da-bo

**Mr***Ọgbéni*

o-gbe-ni

**Mrs***Aya*

a-ya

**Ms/Miss***Omidan*

oh-mi-dang

**How are you?***Se dáadáa ni?*

shay da-a-da-a ni

**Fine, and you?***Bẹ̀ẹ̀ni, iwò ní kọ?*

be-e-ni i-wo n ko

**What's your name?***Kí ni orúkọ rẹ?*

ki ni oh-ru-ko re

**My name's ...***Orúkọ mi ni ...*

oh-ru-ko mi ni ...

**I'm pleased to***Inú mi dùn láti*

i-nu mi dung la-ti

**meet you.***pàde rẹ.*

kpa-day re

**This is my ...***Èyí ni ... mi.*

ay-yi ni ... mi

**boyfriend***òrẹ̀kùnrin*

o-re-kung-ring

**brother***arakunrin*

a-ra-kung-ring

**daughter***omọ mi obinrin*

o-mo mi oh-bing-ring

**father***bàbá*

ba-ba

**friend***òrẹ*

o-re

**girlfriend***òrẹ̀binrin*

o-re-bing-ring

**husband***okọ*

o-ko

**mother***iyá/mámá*

i-ya/ma-ma

**sister***arabinrin*

a-ra-bing-ring

**son***omọ mi okunrin*

o-mo mi o-kung-ring

**wife***iyawó*

i-ya-woh

Here's my ... What's your ...? address email address  phone number	<i>Eyi ni ... Kí ní ... rẹ?</i> <i>àdírésì</i> <i>àdírésì itàkùn</i> <i>àgbayé</i> <i>nórmbà fòdùnù</i>	a-yi ni ... ki ni ... re a-di-re-si a-di-re-si i-ta-kung a-gba-yay no-m-ba foh-oh-nu
Where are you from?	<i>Ibo ni ilú rẹ?</i>	i-boh ni i-lu re
I'm from ... Australia Canada New Zealand the UK the USA	<i>Ìlú mi ni ... Osirélíà</i> <i>Kánádà</i> <i>Níú silandì</i> <i>Ìlú òyìn bó</i> <i>Amérikà</i>	i-lu mi ni ... o-si-ray-li-a ka-na-da ni-u si-la-n-di i-lu oh-ying-boh a-me-ri-ka
I'm (not) married. m I'm (not) married. f Can I take a photo (of you)?	<i>Mí (ò) tí ì láyá.</i> <i>Mí (ò) tí ì ní okò.</i> <i>Ṣé mo lè yà (ò) ní fòtò?</i>	mi (oh) ti i la-ya mi (oh) ti i ni o-ko shay moh lay ya (o) ni fo-toh

## eating out

Can you recommend a ...? bar dish place to eat	<i>Ẹ̀jẹ́ o le júwe ...? iléotí oúnjẹ́ iléouúnjẹ́</i>	n je oh lay u-way ... i-lay-o-ti oh-un-je i-lay-oh-ung-je
I'd like ..., please. the bill the menu a table for (two)  that dish	<i>Jòwó, mà á fẹ́ ... íwe owó àwọn oúnjẹ́ tí ó wà ìjokòó fún (eni méji) oúnjẹ́ yẹn</i>	jo-wo ma a fe ... i-we oh-woh a-wong oh-ung-je ti oh wa i-joh-koh-oh fung (e-ni me-ji) o-ung-je yeng
Do you have vegetarian food?	<i>Ẹ̀jẹ́ e ní oúnjẹ́ alájeran?</i>	n je e ni oh-ung-je a-la-i-je-rang
Could you prepare a meal without ...? eggs meat stock	<i>Jòwó ba mi se oúnjẹ́ lai fi ... si? eyin eran</i>	jo-wo ba mi shay oh-ung-je lai fi ... si e-ying e-rang

(cup of) coffee ... (cup of) tea ... with milk without sugar  (boiled) water	<i>(ife) kofí ... (ife) tî ... pèlú mílìkì lái sí sùgà  omi (gbígboná)</i>	(i-fay) ko-fi ... (i-fay) ti-i ... kpe-lu mi-li-i-ki la-i si su-ga  oh-mi (gbi-gboh-na)
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## emergencies

Help!	<i>Ẹ̀ ràn mí lówó o!</i>	e rang mi lo-wo o
Call ...! an ambulance a doctor the police	<i>Ẹ̀ pe ...! okò gbókùúgbokùú dòkítà olópàà</i>	e kpay ... o-ko gboh-ku-u-gboh-ku-u doh-ki-ta o-lo-kpa-a
Could you help me, please? <i>Jòwóse o lè ràn mí lówó?</i>		jo-wo-shay oh lay rang mi lo-wo
I'm lost. <i>Mo ti sọ̀nù.</i>		moh ti so-nu
Where are the toilets? <i>Ibo ni ilé igbònsè wà?</i>		i-boh ni i-lay i-gbong-se wa
I want to report an offence. <i>Mo fẹ́ fi ejọ́ kan sùn.</i>		moh fe fi e-jo kang sung
I have insurance. <i>Mo ní ìwé adójútòfò.</i>		moh ni i-way a-do-ju-to-fo
I want to contact my consulate/embassy. <i>Mo fẹ́ bá aṣojú ilẹ́ òkèrè ilú mi sọ̀rò.</i>		mo fe ba a-shoh-ju i-le o-kay-ay-ray i-lu mi so-ro
I've been ... assaulted raped robbed	<i>Won ti ... fiyà je mí fipá bá mi lò pọ́ jà mí lólè</i>	wong ti ... fi-ya je mi fi-kpa ba mi loh kpo ja mi loh-lay



I've lost my ...	<i>Mo ju ... nù.</i>	moh ju ... nu
bags	àpò	a-kpoh
credit card	<i>kààdì moyáwó</i>	ka-a-di moh-ya-woh
handbag	àpamówó	a-kpa-mo-wo
jewellery	<i>ohun-ọṣọ</i>	oh-hung-o-sho
money	owó	oh-woh
passport	<i>ìwé irinnà</i>	i-way i-ring-na
travellers	<i>ìwé sòwédowó</i>	i-way so-way-doh-woh
cheques	<i>arin-rìn-àjò</i>	a-ring-ring-a-joh
wallet	<i>pòṣì</i>	kpo-o-si
My (money) was stolen.	<i>(Owó) mi ti sọnu.</i>	(oh-woh) mi ti so-nu



## medical needs

Where's the nearest ...?	<i>lbo ni ... tí ó súnmó ibi?</i>	i-boh ni ... ti oh sung-mo i-bi
dentist	<i>dókítà eléyin</i>	doh-ki-ta ay-lay-ying
doctor	<i>dókítà</i>	doh-ki-ta
hospital	<i>ilé-ìwòsàn</i>	i-lay-i-woh-sang
pharmacist	<i>apògùn</i>	a-kpoh-gung
I need a doctor (who speaks English).	<i>Mo fẹ́ dókítà (tí ó lè sọ èdè òyìnbó).</i>	moh fe doh-ki-ta (ti oh lay so ay-day oh-ying-boh)
Could I see a female doctor?	<i>Ṣe mo lè rí dókítà obinrin?</i>	shay moh lay ri doh-ki-ta oh-bing-ring
It hurts here.	<i>O ní dùn mí níbí.</i>	oh n dung mi ni-bi
I'm allergic to (penicillin).	<i>(Ògùn) yíi se ọwọ̀ òdì sí mí.</i>	(oh-gung) yi-i shay o-wo oh-di si mi

## english–yoruba dictionary

In this dictionary, words are marked as n (noun), a (adjective), v (verb), sg (singular) and pl (plural) where necessary.

### A

accommodation *ibùgbé* i-bu-gbay  
 adaptor *ibádógba* i-ba-do-gba  
 after *léyin* le-ying  
 airport *ibùdókò òfurufu* i-bu-doh-ko oh-fu-ru-fu  
 alcohol *otí* o-ti  
 all *gbogbo* gboh-gboh  
 allergy *èhun* e-hung  
 and *àti* a-ti  
 ankle *orùn-esè* o-rung-e-se  
 antibiotics *ògùn-èyà wuuru* oh-gung-e-ya wu-u-ru  
 anti-inflammatories *ògùn-ara wíwú* oh-gung-a-ra wi-wu  
 arm *apá* a-kpa  
 aspirin *asipirínìni* a-si-kpi-ring-ing-ni  
 asthma *ikó-fée* i-ko-fay-ay  
 ATM *ẹ̀rọ kààdì agbówójade*  
 e-ro ka-a-di a-gboh-woh-ja-de

### B

baby *omo-owó* o-mo-o-wo  
 back (body) *eyin* e-ying  
 backpack *apo igbérùsíléyin* a-kpoh i-gbe-ru-si-le-ying  
 bad *burú* bu-ru  
 baggage claim *ibígbèrù* i-bi-i-gbe-ru  
 bank *ilẹ̀-ìfowópamòsì* i-lay-i-foh-woh-kpa-mo-si  
 bathroom *ilẹ̀-ìwẹ̀* i-lay-i-we  
 battery *bátirí* ba-ti-ri  
 beautiful *dára* da-ra  
 bed *ibùsùn* i-bu-sung  
 beer *bìà* bi-a  
 bees *oyin* oh-ying  
 before *télétélé* te-le-te-le  
 bicycle *kèké* ke-ke  
 big *tóbi* toh-bi  
 blanket *asọ-ibora òtùtù* asho-i-boh-ra oh-tu-tu  
 blood group *orísì-èjẹ* oh-ri-shi-e-je  
 bottle *igò* i-goh  
 bottle opener *Ìsítí* i-shi-ti  
 boy *omokúnrin* o-mo-kung-ring  
 brakes (car) *birèèkì-okò* bi-ray-ay-ki-o-ko  
 breakfast *óúnje-àárò* oh-ung-je-a-a-ro  
 bronchitis *àisàn inú èdàfòrò* a-i-sang i-n-e-do-foh-roh

### C

café *bùkà* bu-ka  
 cancel *fagilé* fa-gi-le  
 can opener *isí-agolo* i-shi-a-goh-loh  
 cash n *owó* oh-woh  
 cell phone *telifóònù aláàgbèkà*  
 te-li-foh-oh-nu a-la-a-gbay-ka  
 centre n *ààrin* a-a-ring  
 cheap *pò* kpo  
 check (bill) *ìwé sòwédowó* i-way so-way-doh-wo  
 check-in n *kérùsókò* ke-ru-so-ko  
 chest *àyà* a-ya  
 child *òdómódé* o-do-mo-day  
 cigarette *sigá* si-ga  
 city *ilú* i-lu  
 clean a *mó* mo  
 closed *padẹ* kpa-day  
 codeine *kodínìni* koh-di-i-ni  
 cold a *tútù* tu-tu  
 condom *kóndòmù* ko-n-do-o-mo-mu  
 constipation *inúkikún* i-nu-ki-kung  
 contact lenses *ìgò-òjú* i-goh-oh-ju  
 cough n *ikó* i-ko  
 currency exchange *ìsẹ̀wó ilẹ̀ òkèèrè*  
 i-she-woh i-le oh-kay-ay-ray  
 customs (immigration) *asòbodè* a-sho-boh-day

### D

dairy products *èròjà wàrà* ay-roh-ja wa-ra  
 dangerous *léwu* lay-wu  
 date (time) *àkòkò* a-koh-koh  
 day *ojó* o-jo  
 diaper *asọ-ìlèédí* a-sho-i-lay-ay-di  
 diarrhoea *ìgbé-gbuuru* i-gbe-gbu-u-ru  
 dinner *óúnje-alé* oh-ung-je-a-le  
 dirty *dòtí* do-ti  
 disabled *abirùn* a-bi-rung  
 double bed *ibùsùn aláàgbèkà* i-bu-sung a-la-a-gbay-ka  
 drink n *ohun mímu* oh-hung-mi-mu  
 drivers licence *ìwé ẹ̀rí awakò* i-way e-ri a-wa-ko  
 drug (illcít) *ògùn olórò* o-gung oh-loh-roh



## E

ear *efi* ay-ti  
 east *ilà oòrùn* i-la oh-oh-rung  
 economy class *ṣṣkòò alábòòdè*  
 i-joh-koh-oh a-la-bo-o-day  
 elevator *èrò-àkàbà* e-ro-a-ka-ba  
 email *n létà orí itàkùn àgbayé*  
 le-ta oh-ri i-ta-kung a-gba-yay  
 English (language) *èdè gèésì* ay-day ge-e-si  
 exchange rate *pàsípààrò owò ilè òkèèrè*  
 kpa-shi-kpa-a-ro oh-woh i-le oh-kay-ay-ray  
 exit *n ònà àbájáde* o-na a-ba-ja-deh  
 expensive *àwón* o-wong  
 eye *ojú* oh-ju

## F

fast *yá* ya  
 fever *ibà* i-ba  
 finger *ika* ówó i-ka o-wo  
 first-aid kit *àpò ṣèsègùn wàràwéré*  
 a-kpoh i-she-gung wa-ra-way-ray  
 first class *ipò kīmi* i-kpoh ki-i-ni  
 fish *n eja* e-ja  
 food *olúnje* oh-ung-je  
 foot *esè* e-se  
 fork *émúga* e-mu-ga  
 free (of charge) *ófè* o-fe  
 fruit *èso* ay-soh  
 funny *panilérínin* kpa-ni-le-ring-ing

## G

game park *ogba-erankò* o-gba-e-rang-koh  
 gift *èbùn* e-bung  
 girl *omòbínrin* o-mo-bing-ring  
 glass (drinking) *ife-ìmumi* i-fay-i-mu-mi  
 glasses *dígí-ojú* di-gi-oh-ju  
 gluten *gulutīnì* gu-lu-ti-i-ni  
 good *dára* da-ra  
 gram *gírààmù* gi-ra-a-mu  
 guide *n amòhà* a-mo-na

## H

hand *owó* o-wo  
 happy *idunnú* i-dung-nu  
 have *ní* ni

he *òun* oh-ung  
 head *orí* oh-ri  
 headache *èfórí* e-fo-ri  
 heart *okàn* o-kang  
 heart condition *ipò okàn* i-kpoh o-kang  
 heat *n oorú* oh-oh-ru  
 here *ibi* i-bi  
 high *gíga* gi-ga  
 highway *òpòpòhà* oh-kpoh-kpoh-na  
 homosexual *n&a okúnrin asebiako*  
 o-kung-ring a-shay-bi-a-boh  
 hot *gbónà* gboh-na  
 hungry *ebi* ay-bi

## I

I *èmi* ay-mi  
 identification (card) *kààdì idánimò* ka-a-di i-da-ni-mo  
 ill *àisàn* a-i-sang  
 important *pàtáki* kpa-ta-ki  
 internet *itákùn àgbáyé* i-ta-kung a-gba-yay  
 interpreter *ogbúfò* oh-gbu-fo

## J

job *isè* i-she

## K

key *kókóró* ko-ko-ro  
 kilogram *kilò* ki-loh  
 kitchen *ilè idánà* i-lay i-da-na  
 knife *òbè* o-be

## L

laundry (place) *ibi ifosò* i-bi i-fo-sho  
 lawyer *agbejorò* a-gbe-jo-roh  
 left-luggage office *ófisi ikèrùsì* o-fi-i-si i-ke-ru-si  
 leg *esè* e-se  
 lesbian *n&a obínrin asebiako*  
 oh-bing-ring a-shay-bi-a-ko  
 less *dín* ding  
 letter (mail) *létà* le-ta  
 like *v fèràn* fe-rang  
 lost-property office *ófisi ikèrùtònu-sì*  
 o-fi-i-si i-ke-ru-toh-nu-si  
 love *v fè* fe  
 lunch *olúnje osán* oh-ung-je o-sang

## M

man *okúnrin* o-kung-ring  
 matches *isánà* i-sha-na  
 meat *eran* e-rang  
 medicine *ogùn* oh-gung  
 message *isè* i-she  
 mobile phone *télifoonù-alààgbeká*  
 te-li-foh-oh-nu-a-la-a-gbay-ka  
 month *osù* oh-shu  
 morning *ààrò* a-a-ro  
 motorcycle *alùkpùkpù* a-lu-kpu-kpu  
 mouth *enu* e-nu  
 movie *sinimá* si-ni-ma  
 MSG *amòbèdùn* a-mo-be-dung  
 museum *ilè-ìsèmbáyé* i-lay-i-she-m-ba-yay  
 music *orin* oh-ring

## N

name *n orúko* oh-ru-ko  
 napkin *aso inuwó* a-sho i-nu-wo  
 nappy *aso ilèèdì omode* a-sho i-lay-ay-di o-mo-day  
 national park *gbàgede igbàfè* gba-gay-day i-gba-fe  
 nausea *èèbì* ay-ay-bi  
 neck *orùn* o-rung  
 new *tuntun* tung-tung  
 news *iròyin* i-roh-ying  
 newspaper *iwè-iròyin* i-way-i-roh-ying  
 night *alé* a-le  
 nightclub *ilè igbaté alé* i-lay i-gba-fe a-le  
 noisy *pariwo* kpa-ri-woh  
 nonsmoking *mámusigá* ma-mu-si-ga  
 north *àarèwá* a-a-ray-wa  
 nose *imú* i-mu  
 now *nísinsinyi* ni-sing-sing-yi  
 number *nónbà* no-n-ba  
 nuts *nòtì* no-o-ti

## O

oil (engine) *epo* ay-kpoh  
 OK *òdára* oh-da-ra  
 old *gbò* gboh  
 open *a sí* shi  
 outside *ita* i-ta

## P

package *erú* e-ru  
 pain *irora* i-roh-ra

palace *ààfin òba* a-a-fing o-ba  
 paper *iwè* i-way  
 park (car) *v yàrà igbàkòsì* ya-ra i-gbo-ko-si  
 passport *iwè irinnà* i-we i-ring-na  
 pay *san* sang  
 pen *kálàmù* ka-la-mu  
 petrol *epo betiròlù* ay-kpoh be-ti-roh-oh-lu  
 pharmacy *ilè ipòogun* i-lay kpoh-oh-gung  
 plate *àwo/abá* a-woh/a-bo  
 postcard *páálí ikini* kpa-a-li i-ki-ni  
 post office *ilè ifowòpamòsì* i-lay i-foh-woh-kpa-mo-si  
 pregnant *oyún* oh-ying

## Q

quiet *dáké* da-ke

## R

rain *n òjò* oh-joh  
 razor *abefélé* a-be-fe-le  
 registered mail *iwè ifiransé* i-way i-fi-rang-she  
 rent *v yá ló* ya loh  
 repair *v tún sè* tung shay  
 reservation *gbà sílè* gba-si-le  
 restaurant *ilè itura* i-lay i-tu-ra  
 return *v padà* kpa-da  
 road *òhà* o-na  
 room *yàrà* ya-ra

## S

sad *banújé* ba-nu-je  
 safe *a fi pamò* fi-kpa-mo  
 sanitary napkin *aso nikan-osù* a-sho n-n-kang-oh-shu  
 seafood *àwon-ohun-fije-inú-òkùn*  
 a-wong-oh-hung-ji-je-i-nu-oh-kun  
 seat *ijokòò* i-joh-koh-oh  
 send *fi ransé* fi rang-she  
 sex *bà sùn* ba sung  
 shampoo *oseiforun* o-she-i-fo-rung  
 share (a dorm, etc) *bà pin* ba-kping  
 shaving cream *oseifarun* o-she-i-fa-rung  
 she *òun* oh-ung  
 sheet (bed) *aso ibora* a-sho i-boh-ra  
 shirt *sèètì* she-e-ti  
 shoes *bàtà* ba-ta  
 shop *n sòòbù* sho-o-bu  
 shower *n sàwà* sha-wa  
 skin *awo* a-wo  
 skirt *aso àwòsòò obínrin*  
 a-sho a-wo-soh-doh oh-bing-ring  
 sleep *v sùn* sung

small *kéré* kay-ray  
 smoke (cigarettes) *v mu mu*  
 soap *osè* o-she  
 some *dîè* di-e  
 soon *lâipé* la-i-kpe  
 sore throat *egbò òfun* ay-gboh-o-fung  
 south *gúsù* gu-su  
 souvenir shop *sòbù itajà* sho-o-bu i-ta-ja  
 speak *sòrò* so-ro  
 spoon *síbi* shi-bí  
 stamp *dòtè* oh-oh-te  
 stand-by ticket *tikéèti sí-dúródiè*  
 ti-ke-e-ti sí-du-roh-di-e  
 station (train) *ibudoko réluwèè*  
 i-bu-doh-ko ray-lu-way-ay  
 stomach *lkùn* i-kung  
 stop *v dúró* du-roh  
 stop (bus) *n ibúdókò* i-bu-doh-ko  
 street *òpópó* oh-kpoh-kpoh  
 student *akékòò* a-ke-ko-o  
 sunscreen *ipara-agbòòrùn* i-kpa-ra-a-gboh-oh-rung  
 swim *v lúwéè* lu-we-e

## T

tampons *asò nnkan-osù* a-sho n-n-kang-oh-shu  
 teeth *eyín* ay-ying  
 telephone *n telifòdùnù* te-li-foh-oh-nu  
 television *amòhùnmàwòrán*  
 a-moh-hung-ma-woh-rang  
 temperature (weather) *ojú ojó* oh-ju o-jo  
 tent *àgò* a-go  
 that (one) *iyen* i-yeng  
 they *àwon* a-wong  
 thirsty *òungbè* oh-ung-gbe  
 this (one) *éyí* ay-yi  
 throat *òfun* o-fung  
 ticket *iwè iwólé* i-way i-wo-le  
 time *igbà* i-gba  
 tired *rè* re  
 tissues *isù ara* i-shu a-ra  
 today *òní* oh-ni  
 toilet *ilé igbònsè* i-lay i-gbong-se  
 tonight *alé òní* a-le oh-ni  
 toothache *akokoro* a-koh-koh-roh  
 toothbrush *búróòsí ifoyín* bu-ro-o-shi i-fo-ying  
 toothpaste *osè ifoyín* o-she i-fo-ying  
 torch (flashlight) *tòòsí* to-o-shi  
 tourist office *ofisí arin-rìn-àjò* o-fi-i-si a-ring-ring-a-joh  
 towel *tàwèlì* ta-we-li

translate *túmò* tu-mo  
 travel agency *asètò arin-rìn-àjò*  
 a-she-toh a-ring-ring-a-joh  
 travellers cheque *iwè sòwédowo arin-rìn-àjò*  
 i-we so-way-doh-woh a-ring-ring-a-joh  
 trousers *sòkòtò* shoh-koh-toh  
 twin beds *bèèdì onibèjì* be-e-di oh-ni-bay-ji  
 tyre *táyà* ta-ya

## U

underwear *àwòtélé* a-wo-te-le  
 urgent *kiàkià* ki-a-ki-a

## V

vacant *sí sílè* shi si-le  
 vegetable *n èfó* e-fo  
 vegetarian *a alájeran* a-la-i-je-rang  
 visa *iwé àsè irinnà* i-we a-she i-ring-na

## W

waiter *agbáfi* a-gbo-ti  
 walk *v rìn* ring  
 wallet *ápò owò* a-kpoh oh-woh  
 warm *a oorú* oh-oh-ru  
 wash (something) *fò* fo  
 watch *n isó* i-sho  
 water *omi* oh-mi  
 we *àwa* a-wa  
 weekend *òpin-òsè* oh-ping-o-se  
 west *iwò oòrùn* i-wo oh-oh-rung  
 wheelchair *kèké abirùn* ke-ke a-bi-rung  
 when *nigbàwo* ni-gba-woh  
 where *níbo* ni-boh  
 who *ta ni ta ni*  
 why *nítófi kí* ni ni-toh-ri ki ni  
 window *fèrèsè* fay-ray-say  
 wine *otí lílè* o-ti li-lay  
 with *pèlú* kpe-lu  
 without *láisi* la-i-si  
 woman *òbinrin* oh-bing-ring  
 write *kọ* ko

## Y

you *sg iwò* i-wo  
 you *pl èyin* e-ying

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