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Swahili Verbs + Example Sentences

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Original page:

<https://discoverdiscomfort.com/200-plus-swahili-verbs-examples/>

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English verb	Swahili verb	English sample sentence(s)	Swahili sample sentences
to be (past/future)	-kuwa	I will be a student next year. I was hungry. You will be our guest It will be different next time.	Mwaka ijayo nitakuwa mwanafunzi. Niliikuwa na njaa. Utakuwa mgeni wetu Mara ijayo itakuwa tofauti.
to be (in a place)	-kuwa po/ko, kuwa po/ko	Is he there? No, he's not here. Where are my keys? They're on the table. I'm at home I'll be at home/I won't be at home I was at home/I wasn't at home	Yuko hapa? Hapana, hayupo. Funguo zangu ziko wapi? Ziko mezani. Mimi nipo nyumbani Nitakuwepo nyumbani baadae/sitakuwepo nyumbani Nilikuwepo/sikuwepo
to be fine, or suitable	-faa	It's good, it works (describing a thing) It's no good, it doesn't work (describing a thing) I don't like my coworkers they're no good. This drink is no good; those drinks are fine.	Inafaa Haifai Siwapendi wafanya kazi wenzangu, wote hawafai. Kinywaji kile hakifai, vinyiwaji hivi vinafaa.
to happen, to occur	-fanyika	What's happening now? The party will happen tomorrow.	Nini inafanyika sasa? Sherehe itafanyika kesho.
to end	-isha	It will end soon Our time is finished.	Itaisha karibu Wakati wetu umeisha.
to open	-fungua	You can open the window. I opened the door. What time will the shops open?	Unaweza kufungua dirisha. Nilifungua mlango. Maduka yatafunguliwa saa ngapi?
to close	-fungua	I closed the door. The shops will close soon. Sorry, it's closed today.	Nilifunga mlango. Maduma yatafungwa karibu. Samahani, limefungwa leo.
to start/begin	-anza	I haven't started yet. I started a week ago.	Sijaanza bado Nimeanza wiki iliyopita.
to inform, explain	-fahamisha	I will inform you. If there is any problem, please let me know.	Nitakufahamisha. Ikiwa kuna shida yoyote, tafadhali nifahamisha.
to mean	-maanisha	What I mean is... What does this word mean?	Ninamaanisha... Neno hili linamaanisha nini?
to say	-sema	What are you saying? Did they say we should go? You said yesterday there will be no rain. As I was saying, we need more time.	Unasema nini? Walisesema twende? Ulisema jana hatakuwa na mvua leo. Kama nilivyosema, tunahitaji muda zaidi.
to speak	-ongea	Do you speak English? Please speak to me in Swahili. No, I don't speak Swahili	Unaongea kiingereza? Tafadhali ongea na mimi kwa Kiswahili. Hapana, siongei Kiswahili
to understand	-elewa	Do you understand? I don't understand how to do this Did you understand?	Unaelewa? Sielewi namna ya kufanya hii Umeelewa?
to speak/converse	-zungumza	I want to speak Swahili with you I spoke with you yesterday	Nataka kuzungumza Kiswahili na wewe Nilizungumza na wewe jana!
to request, ask for	-omba	I'd like [to order] bananas and meat. We'd like [to order] fish I'd like some help.	Naomba ndizi na nyama. Tunaomba samaki Naomba msaada.
to tell	-ambia	She told me to come today. Did they say we should go today?	Aliniambia nije leo. Je, walituambia twende leo?
to write	-andika	Write [it] here. I've written two books. Can you write it?	Andika hapa Nimeshaandika vitabu viwili. Unaweza kuandika?
to show	kuonyesha	Let me show you! Can you show me? I want to show her	Hebu nikuonyeshe! Unaweza kunionyesha? Ninataka kumwonyesha.
to recommend	-sifia	What food do you recommend?	Unasifia chakula gani?
to communicate (with each other)	-wasiliana	We can communicate in Swahili My goal is to be able to communicate	Tunaweza kuwasiliana kwa Kiswahili sasa Lengo langu ni kuwasiliana
to confirm/to make sure	-hakikisha	I have to confirm something. Make sure you understand what he tells you.	Ninahitaji kuhakikisha kitu. Hakikisha unaelewa ambacho anakuambia
to read, to study	-soma	I need to study I read an article about politics this morning	Ninahitaji kusoma Nilisoma makala kuhusu siasa asubuhi
to explain	-eleza (from elewa)	I can't explain it well. He explained it to us. I explained it to you once.	Siwezi kueleza vizuri. Alitueleza. Nilikueleza mara moja.
to be called, to be named	-itwa	My name is Dana, what's your name? What's this thing called in Swahili? What is your brother's name?	Ninaitwa dana, unaitwa nani? Kitu hiki kinaitwa nini kwa Kiswahili? Kaka yako anaitwa nani?
to come from, out of	-toka	I come from Australia. Where are you from? I just came from eating.	Ninatoka Australia. Unatoka wapi? Nimetoka kula.
to live/live at	-ishi	It's the first time they lived outside the house We live together We don't live here	Ni mara ya kwanza wameishi nje ya nyumba Tunaishi pamoja Hatuishi hapa

English verb	Swahili verb	English sample sentence(s)	Swahili sample sentences
to stay (to live in a place)	-kaa	You can sit here We're staying for two weeks. Where do you (pl) live? We don't live in the village; we live in the city.	Unaweza kukaa hapa. Tunakaa kwa wiki mbili. Mumekaa wapi? Hatukai kijijini, tunakaa mjini.
to die	-kufa	You might die! I won't die today.	Unaweza kufa! Sitakufa leo.
to be born	-zaliwa	Where were you born? I was born in London	Umezaliwa wapi? Nimezaliwa London
to give, offer, take out, subtract	-toa	I got divorced They gave them money.	nimetoa talaka Waliwatolea pesa
to pay	-lipa	I didn't want to pay We want to pay now We will pay tomorrow	Sikutaka kulipa pesa Ninataka kulipa sasa Tutalipa kesho
to give	-pa (pea)	It will give us more time. I can't give you money, but I can give you food. I gave you 1000.	Itatupea muda zaidi. Siwezi kukupea pesa, lakini naweza kukupea chakula. Nilikupea elfu moja.
to get, to find	-pata	I will get water later. I need to get more food. I found eggs but they were very expensive!	Nitapata maji baadaye. Ninahitaji kupata chakula zaidi. Nilipata mayai lakini yalikuwa ghali san!
to bring	-leta	Did you bring money? I forgot to bring my wallet. Can you bring us a bottle of water? I brought you bread.	Umeleta pesa? Nimesahau kuleta mkoba wangu. Unaweza kutuletea chupa ya maji? Nilikuletea mkate.
to take	-chukua	How long will this journey take? It will take two hours Take this money.	Safari hii itachukua muda gani? Itachukua saa mbili Chukua pesa hizi.
to put	-weka	Where should I put it? Put the plate there. Where did you put the keys?	Nikiweke wapi? Weka sahani huko. Uliweka funguo wapi?
to take	-peleka	You can take the eggs I have taken your time	Unaweza kupeleka mayai Nilipeleka wakati wako
to carry	-beba	I can carry your bag	Ninaweza kubeba begi yako
to pass (by), to turn	-pita	Do not pass here Turn left here	Usipite hapa Pita kulia hapa
to pick up	-otoka	It fell and I picked it up	Imeshuka na niliiotoka
to send	-tuma (tumia for "to" someone)	I sent you an email Did you receive the thing I sent you?	Nilikutumia baruapepe Umepokea kito ambacho nilikutumia?
to receive	-pokea	Did you receive the message I sent you?	Umepokea ujumbe ambao nilikutumia?
to come	-kuja	I'm coming on foot The cat came inside	Ninakuja kwa miguu Paka alikuja ndani
to go	-elekea	Where are you going? Heading home now	Unaelekea wapi? Naelekea nyumbani sasa.
to leave, depart	-ondoka	The train will leave at 11 We'll leave tomorrow morning Leave!	Treni itaondoka saa tano asubuhi Tunaondoka kesho asubuhi Ondoka!
to come back, to return	-rudi	We'll come back every day I'll come back in five minutes	Tutarudi kila siku Nitarudi baada dakika tano
to visit/pass through (place)	-pitia	How many countries have you visited?	Ulipitia nchi ngapi?
to do	-fanya	What are you doing They already did it	Unafanya nini? Wameshafanya kitu
to have	-na, kuwa na	I have a pen Excuse me, I don't have time now When I was young I had a dog	Ninayo kalamu Samahani, sina muda sasa Nilipokuwa mdogo nilikuwa na mbwa
to go, to travel	-kwenda	I'll go by car Where are you going? Go straight ahead	Nitakwenda kwa gari Unakwenda wapi? Nenda moja kwa moja
to arrive, come to	-fika	Fortunately, you can come to class by foot. The train will arrive at 9:30am We arrived!	Kwa bahati wewe unaweza kufika darasani kwa miguu. Treni itafika saa tatu na nusu asubuhu Tulifika!
to walk, take a walk	-tembea	It's not far, so I prefer to walk. Can I walk here?	Siyo mbali sana, kwa hivyo ninapendelea kutembea. Je, naweza kutembea hapa?
to be lost	-potea	I'm lost! Are you lost? No we're not lost.	Nimepotea! Mumepotea? La, hatujapotea.
to turn (left/right)	-pinda	Turn right, then turn left	Pinda kulia, halafu pinda kushoto
to arrive at	-fikia	We have arrived at the hotel a little early You've already arrived at home?	Tumefikia hoteli mapema kidogo Mumeshafikia nyumbani?
to run	-kimbia	I ran 20km today	Nilikimbia kilomita ishirini leo.

English verb	Swahili verb	English sample sentence(s)	Swahili sample sentences
to use	-tumia	I'm learning using a book. You can use this pen. I want to use a phone.	Ninakujifunza kwa kutumia kitabu. Unaweza kutumia kalamu hii. Nataka kutumia simu
to buy	-nunua	We need to buy more milk. I bought you something.	Tunahitaji kununua maziwa zaidi. Nilikununulia kitu
to sell	-uza	They want to sell us things How much are you selling it for? (You sell it for what price?) What food are you selling? Maybe we can sell them	Wanataka kutuuzia vitu Unauza bei gani? Unauza chakula gani? Labda tunaweza kuwauza.
to eat	-kula	Eat! I want to eat something	Kula! Ninataka kula kitu
to wash (things)	-osha, -nawa	I'm washing my face, hands.	Ninaosha uso. Ninanawa uso, mikono
to turn off	-zima	Turn off the light. I forgot to turn off the light	Zima taa Nimesahau kuzima taa
to turn on	-kuwasha	Turn on the light	Washa taa.
to make	-tengeneza	I'm making bread.	Ninatengeneza mkate.
to add	-ongeza	Add a little sugar It's too little. Add a little more (money)	Ongeza kidogo sukari Ni rahisi sana, ongeza kidogo
to reduce	-punguza	Please try to reduce the price for me Reduce [the price] for me!	Tafadhali jaribu kunipunguza bei! Nipunguzie!
to leave (something)	-acha	Leave [it] here. He left the others inside	Acha hapa. Aliwaacha watu wengine humo ndani
to organise, to prepare	-anda	I organised everything. She organised a party for me!	Nilianda kila kitu. Aliniandalia sherehe!
to mix	-changanya	I don't like to mix different foods You mix flour and water We mix languages.	Sipendi kuchaganya vyakula tofauti. Unachanganya unga na maji Tunachanganya lugha
to bite	-uma	The dog might bite you.	Mbwa anaweza kukuuma
to boil (food)	-chemsha	Boil the water. I boil the water, but then I forget right away.	Chemsha maji. Ninachemsha maji, lakini halafu ninasahau mara moja.
to cut	-kata	Cut the pineapple with a knife! I cut myself.	Kata nanasi kwa kisu! Nimejikata.
to modify, to adapt, repair, fix	-rekebisha	We can modify the style We'll fix the window tomorrow.	Tunaweza kurekebisha mtindo. Tutarekebisha dirisha kesho.
to drink	-kunywa	Drink!	Kunywa! (pronounced kunioa)
to break	-vunja	Who broke it? I broke it!	Nani aliivunja? Niliivunja!
to break (itself)	-vunjika	The window broke!	Dirisha limevunjika!
to lose	-poteza	I lost it! I lost my key	Niliipoteza. Nilipoteza ufunguo wangu
to look for	-tafuta	I'm looking for my friend. I'll have to find her.	Ninatafuta rafiki yangu. Nitahitaji kumtafuta
to know	-jua	I know this person I don't know, do you know?	Namjua! Sijui, unajua?
to remember	-kumbuka	Now I remember. Remember your phone! I just remembered.	Sasa ninakumbuka. Kumbuka simu yako! Nilikumbuka tu.
to forget	-sahau	I forgot I didn't forget what you said (your news)	Nimesahau Sisahau habari zako
to ask	-uliza	I will ask I want to ask a question	Nitauliza Nataka kuuliza swali.
to learn	-jifunza	I have to study more We're learning Swahili here. We have been learning for two weeks.	Ninahitaji kujifunza zaidi. Tunajifunza Kiswahili hapa. Tumejifunza kwa wiki mbili.
to remind	-kumbusha	Can you remind me? Otherwise I'll forget. I'll remind you later.	Unaweza kunikumbushia? Vinginevyo nitasahau. Nitakukumbushia.
to be wrong	-kosea	You are wrong! I thought the village was close, but I was wrong.	Umekosea! Nilifikiri kijiji kilikuwa karibu na hapa, lakini nimekosea.
to think	-fikiri	I thought it was something different What do you think we should do?	Nilifikiri ilikuwa kitu tofauti Unafikiri tunapaswa kufanya nini?
to be able to, can	-weza	Can you please help me? I wanted to go, but I wasn't able to.	Je unaweza kunisaidia? Nilitaka kuenda pale, lakini sikuweza.
to be going to	-enda	What are you going to buy?	Unaenda kununua nini?
to have to	-takiwa	You have to try once. Children should be told what to do.	Unatakiwa kujaribu mara moja. Watoto wanatakiwa kueleza.
to 'should'	-paswa	You should come. I realised I should have gone.	Unapaswa kuja. Nilitambua kuwa nilipaswa kwenda.

English verb	Swahili verb	English sample sentence(s)	Swahili sample sentences
to like	-penda	Do you like bananas? I don't like it much She didn't like it.	Unapenda ndizi? Sipendi sana. Hakuipenda.
to be thirsty	-na kiu, -ona kiu	I'm thirsty. Are you thirsty?	Nina kiu/Naona kiu. Una/Uona kiu?
to be satisfied, full (after eating)	-shiba	Are you full? I'm full, thanks	Umeshiba? Nimeshiba, asante
to get tired	-choka	Are you tired?	Umechoka?
to prefer	-pendelea	I prefer to wake up early.	Ninapendelea kuamka mapema.
to be afraid of, to be scared	-ogopa	I am afraid of accidents Foreigners are afraid of getting sick. Don't be scared!	Ninaogopa ajali Wageni wanaogopa kuumwa. Usiogope!
to be used to	-zoea	I'm used to the heat We have to get used to it. I'm not used to the humidity. Are you used to the food?	Nimezoea joto Tunahitaji kuzoea Sijazoea mvuke Umezoea chakula?
to hate, dislike	-chukia	Something I hate a lot...	Kitu ambacho ninachukia sana...
to listen	-sikiliza	Are you listening? Sorry, I wasn't listening	Unasikiliza? Samahani, sikusikiliza
to hear	-sikia	Can you hear the sound of that bird? I heard his news	Unasikia sauti ya ndege ile? Nilisikia habari zake
to see	-ona	Let's see... What do you think? See you tomorrow	Natuone... Unaionaje? Tunane kesho
to look at, to watch	-angalia	Look, a lion! Don't look at me! It's free to look	Angalia! Simba! Usiniangalie! Kuangalia ni bure
to help	-saidia	Can I help you? Can you help us?	Naweza kukusaidia? Unaweza kutusaidia?
to wait	-subiri	Wait for a minute please I have waited for half an hour.	Subiri tafadhali Nilisubiri kwa muda wa nusu saa.
to stand up/stop (bus, taxi)	-simama	Please stop here. Don't stand close to me.	Tafadhali simama hapa. Usimame karibu na mimi.
to wake (oneself) up	-amka	I wake up very early What time did you wake up? How did you sleep (lit. wake up)?	Mimi huamka mapema sana Umeamka saa ngapi? Umeamka vipi?
to cook	-pika	Can you show me how to cook octopus? I cooked dinner for you	Unaweza kunionyesha namna ya kupika pweza? Nilikupikia chakula cha jioni
to have a shower	-oga bafuni	I have to have a shower twice a day	Ninahitaji kuoga bafuni mara mawili kila siku
to rest	-pumzika	I need to rest today She needs to rest	Nahitaji kupumzika leo Lazima apumzike
to sleep	-lala	She likes to sleep more. He's asleep! Sleep well!	Yeye anapenda kulala zaidi. Amelala! Lala salama!
to relax	-starehe	I usually relax after a lesson.	Mimi hustarehe baada ya darasa
to order	-agiza	We (would like to) some food Would you like to order now?	Tunaagiza chakula Munataka kuagiza sasa?
to buy (cut) tickets	-kata tiketi	When you get tickets, you can choose your food.	Ukikata tiketi, utaweza kuchagua chakula chako.
to hope	-tumaini	I hope you liked it. Small businesses hope Obama's visit will lift their business.	Ninatumaini umependa. Wafanyabiashara wadogo wanatumaini ziara ya Obama kuinua biashara zao.
to be married (female)	-olewa	Are you (f) married? Yes, I (f) am married No, I (f) am not yet married	Je, umeolewa? Ndiyo, nimeshaolewa. Hapana, bado sijaolewa.
to be married (male), to marry	-oa	When I was married Are you (m) married sir? Yes, I'm (m) married. No, I'm (m) not yet married He married again	Nilipokuwa nimeoa... Umeoa bwana? Ndiyo, nimeshaoa. Hapana, bado sijaoa Ameoa tena
to hope, to plan	-tegemea	When do you hope to come? We hope to arrive at 4pm.	Unategemea kuja lini? Tunategemea ...
to give birth	-zaa	When will you give birth?	Utazaa lini?
late, to be late	-chelewa	We're going to be late!	Tutachelewa!
to watch	-tazama	I am watching television I like watching TV, but not much	Ninatazama TV Ninapenda kutazama TV, lakini si mengi
to be enough	-toshia	One kilo is enough I don't have enough money now. We don't have enough time	Kilo moja kinatosha Sina pesa za kutosha sasa. Hatuna muda wa kutosha

English verb	Swahili verb	English sample sentence(s)	Swahili sample sentences
to feel cold (see/hear)	ona baridi, sikia baridi (see/hear)	I feel cold. Do you feel cold?	Ninaona/Ninasikia baridi. Unaona/Unasikia baridi?
to think (Bantu)	-waza	I thought you said you were hungry. And now?	Niliwaza umesema unanja. Na sasa?
to answer	-jibu	I can answer Can you answer this question?	Naweza kujibu Unaweza kujibu swali hili?
to swim	-ogelea	I can't swim well. If the water were warm, I'd have swum	Siwezi kuogelea vizuri. Ikiwa maji yangalikuwa joto, ningaliogelea.
to wash (self, hands)	-nawa	I need to wash my hands	Ninahitaji kunawa mikono.
to watch (television)	-angaliza	I like watching television	Napenda san kuangaliza TV.
to try	-jaribu	I try to speak with everyone.	Ninajaribu kuzungumza na kila mtu.
to argue	-gombana	Why are we arguing? They argue all the time.	Kwa nini tunagombana? Wanagombana siku zote.
to dance, to play	-cheza	We will dance tonight!	Tutacheza usiku!
to agree	-kubali	I agree Do you agree? She agrees. I disagree completely!	Nakubali. Unakubali? Anakubali. Sikubali kabisa!
to disagree	-bisha	I disagree!	Nabisha!
to enter, go inside, go in	-ingia	Can we go inside here?	Tunaweza kuingia kwa hapa?
to expect, hope, wait for	-tarajia	Today I expect to come at 2	Leo natarajia kuja saa nane.
to continue, to keep	-endelea	Continue, please. We're going to keep using it.	Tafadhali endelea. Tutaendelea kuutumia.
to wear, to put on	-vaa	Put on a hat I'm wearing a hat They're wearing shoes	Vaa kofia Nimevaa kofia Wamevaa viatu
hunger/to feel hungry	-ona njaa	Are you hungry? I'm hungry.	Unaona njaa? Naona njaa
to taste	-onja	Taste this! Can I taste?	Onja hili! Naweza kuionja?
to phone someone	-piga simu	Call me tomorrow. I'll call you later.	Nipigia simu kesho. Nitakupigia simu baadaye.
to pray	-sali	Do you pray five times a day?	Unasali mara tano kwa siku?
to clean	-safisha (from -safa)	I'm cleaning the plates. You don't need to clean today.	Ninawasafisha sahani Huhitaji kusafisha leo.
to touch	-gusa	I touched my eyes. I touched it. Don't touch me!	Niliyagusa macho. Niliigusa Usinguse!
to realize, recognise	-tambua	I realized it was not true.	Nilitambua kwamba hii ni si kweli.
to decide	-amua	We decided to go. My uncle decided to start a business. I decided I want to see my family more.	Tuliamua kwenda Mjomba wangu aliamua kuanza biashara. Niliamua kwamba nataka kuona zaidi familia yangu.
share (ar.), to participate	-shiriki	We will share everything. Every person wants to participate. Girls can also participate.	Tutashiriki kila kitu. Kila mtu anataka kushiriki. Wasichana wanaweza pia kushiriki.
share	-gawana	We will share everything.	Tutagawana kila kitu.
to sing	-imba	She is good at singing Sing a song!	Yeye Nni mzuri katika kuimba Imba wimbo!
to laugh/smile	-cheka	Smile! (to group) What's so funny?	Chekeni! Unacheka nini?
to play	-cheza	What game are you playing? Can I play with you?	Mnacheza mchezo gani?Naweza kucheza na ninyi?
to be happyx	-furahi	Are you happy? We had a lot of fun. If I lived in America, I wouldn't be happy.	Umefurahi? Tulifurahi sana. Ningaliishi America, nisingalifurahi.
to be angry	-kasirika	Why are you angry? Don't be angry.	Umekasirika kwa nini? Usikasirike.
to cross (a road)	-vuka	Cross this street	Vuka barabara hii
to be sick, in pain	-umwa	I'm sick. I have a stomach-ache, or headache She's sick If I eat eggs, I don't get sick	Ninaumwa. Ninaumwa na tumbo/kichwa Naumwa tumbo/kichwa Anaumwa Ningekula mayai, nisingeumwa

English verb	Swahili verb	English sample sentence(s)	Swahili sample sentences
to finish	-maliza	The lesson is finished What time will it finish? We should finish now. Have you finished yet? If we hurry now, we'll finish our work	Darasa alimaliza Itamaliza lini/saa ngapi? Tunapaswa kumaliza sasa Umemaaliza bado? Kama tukifanya haraka, tutamaliza kazi yetu.
to be closed	-fungwa	What time do they close? The shop closed.	Duka limefungwa. Yanafungwa saa ngapi?
to feel	-hisi	I feel hot	Nahisi joto
to look like (sw)	-fanana kama/na	You look like your brother It looks a little big	Unafanana kama kaka yako Linafanana nkubwa kidogo
to look like (thing)	-onekana	It looks like an apple.	Inaonekana tofaa.
to rain	-nyesha	It'll rain tonight It'll continue to rain for two weeks.	Kutanyesha usiku Kutaendelea kunyesha muda wiki wawili.
to improve	-jitahidi	You're improving	Unajitahidi!
to feel (listen)	-sikia	I feel good being here.	Najisikia vizuri kuwa hapa.
to change, exchange with	-badilishana	Did you exchange money with anyone else?	Umebadilishana pesa na watu wengi?
to kill	-ua	I killed the fly!	Niliua nzi!
to mean	-maana/ maanisha	It means... They mean the same thing	Inamaana/inamaanisha... Yanamaanisha sawa.
to drive (a car)	-endesha	They drive 3 hours a day	Wanaendesha masaa matatu kila siku.
to plan (to)	-panga	They're organising a function We plan to go to Kenya next month	Wanapanga shehere. Tunapanga kuenda Kenya mwezi ijayo
to choose	-chagua	I can't choose one.	Sijui kuchagua moja.
to teach	-funza	I'll teach you English.	Nitakufunza Kiingereza.
to hurry	-fanya haraka	Can you hurry?	Unaweza kufanya haraka? (or Unaweza haraka?)
to build	-jenga	They are building a new house	Wanajenga nyumba mpya
to be shocked	-shtuka	I was shocked!	Nilishtuka!
to be interesting, to look great	-pendeza	She looks great today! You look great!	Anapendeza leo! Umependeza!
to worry	-sumbuka	Don't worry!	Usisumbuke!
to grow up	-kulia	She grew up by the sea	Alikulia karibu ya bahari
to be cold	-a baridi	It was cold this morning It'll be cold next month	Kulikuwa na baridi asubuhi Kutakuwa na baridi mwezi ijayo
to visit	-tembelea	Will they visit another place? I visit my family once a year.	Watatembelea sehemu nyingine? Ninatembelea familia yangu mara moja kwa mwaka.
to fast	-funga	In East Africa, Muslims on average will fast for 13 hours a day.	Afrika Mashariki, Waislamu kwa wastani watafunga saa 13 kwa siku.
to cry	-lia	Don't cry! I don't know why he is crying.	Usilie! Sijui kwa nini analia.
to compare, to be compared	-linganisha (linganishwa = to be compared)	I can't compare these things If you compared me to other people	Siwezi kulinganisha vitu hivi Nikilinganishwa na watu wengine
to spoil	-haribika	It spoils, gets destroyed This milk has spoiled	Kinaharibika Maziwa hawa yameharibika
to steal	-iba	I'm afraid they will steal it The monkeys will steal your food	Ninaogopa wataiba Nyani wataiba chakula chako
to believe	-amini	I believe you. Do you believe me? I don't believe it!	Ninakuamini Unaniamini? Siamini!
to be proud	-jivunia	It's nothing to be proud of	Siyo kitu cha kujivunia
to be required to	-stahili	I am required to go to work	Ninastahili kwenda kufanya kazi.
to think about (consider)	-fikiria	I'll think about your offer	Nitafikiria ombi lako.
to put on weight, to be fat	-nenepa	My friend got fat I don't want to get fat	Rafiki yangu amenenepa Sitaki kunenepa
To get thin, to be thin	-konda	I got very thin	Nimekonda sana
to quit	-acha	I quit my job! Don't quit your job!	Niliacha kazi yangu! Usiacha kazi yako!
to approach, to be about to be	-karibia	I'm approaching old age We're approaching the city He's about to arrive	Ninakaribia kuwa mzee Tunakaribia mji sasa Anakaribia kufika

English verb	Swahili verb	English sample sentence(s)	Swahili sample sentences
to fall	-anguka	I fell in the mud Don't fall!	Nilianguka chini katika matope. Usianguke chini!
to permit, to allow	-ruhusu	They don't allow it	Hawairuhusu
to rent (to let out) to rent (receive)	-kodisha -kodishwa	Do you rent (out) motorcycles here? Yesterday we rented a motorcycle We want to rent a motorcycle for one day.	Munakodisha pikipiki hapa? Jana tulikodishwa pikipiki Nataka kukodishwa pikipiki kwa siku moja.
to trust	-na imani na	I trust you! You don't trust this country.	Nina imani na wewe Wewe huna imani na nchi hii
to call (someone a name)	-ita	What do they call you? They call me mzungu	Unaitwa nini? (itwa = passive form of ita) Wananiita mzungu
to pass away	-fariki	His parents passed away	Wazazi wake walifariki
to worry, care	-jali	Don't worry! Do you even care?	Usijali! Unajali hata?
to fry	-kaanga	It's good for frying.	Ni nzuri kwa kukaanga.
to study (in university)	-somea	She's studying martial arts. The students are studying under the trees.	Anasomea elimu ya kupigana. Wanafunzi sasa wanasomea chini ya miti.
to strengthen	-imarisha	Cardio exercise (exercise that strengthens the heart) is very important	Mazoezi ya kuimarisha moyo ni muhimu sama
to educate	-elimisha	My goal is to educate people Empowering a woman without educating a man is futile	Lengo langu ni kuelimisha watu Kuwezesha mwanamke bila kuelimisha mwanaume ni bure
to wish	-tamani	I wish I had more money I wish you would come	Ninatamani niwe pesa zaidi Ninatamani uje