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AFRIKAANS

The Complete Course for Beginners

Bruce Donaldson



AFRIKAANS

COLLOQUIAL AFRIKAANS

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Bruce Donaldson is Associate Professor and Reader in Dutch and German at the University of Melbourne. He is author of the best selling *Colloquial Dutch*.

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Colloquial Afrikaans

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Contents

First published 2000 by Routledge
2 Park Square, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4RN

Simultaneously published in the USA and Canada
by Routledge
270 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016

Reprinted 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 (twice), 2005

Routledge is an imprint of the Taylor & Francis Group

© 2000 Bruce Donaldson

Typeset in Times Ten by Florence Production, Stoodleigh, Devon
Printed and bound in Great Britain by Biddles Ltd, King's Lynn,
Norfolk

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reproduced or utilized in any form or by any electronic, mechanical, or
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British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data
A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data
Donaldson, B. C. (Bruce C.), 1948-

Colloquial Afrikaans: the complete course for beginners / Bruce
Donaldson.

p. cm.

Includes index.

1. Afrikaans language—Grammar. 2. Afrikaans language—Spoken
Afrikaans. 3. Afrikaans language—Textbooks for foreign speakers—
English. I. Title.

PF861.D57 2000
439.3'68421-dc21

99-052355

ISBN 0-415-20672-3 (book)
ISBN 0-415-20673-1 (cassettes)

ISBN 0-415-30072-X (CDs)

ISBN 0-415-20674-X (book and cassettes course)

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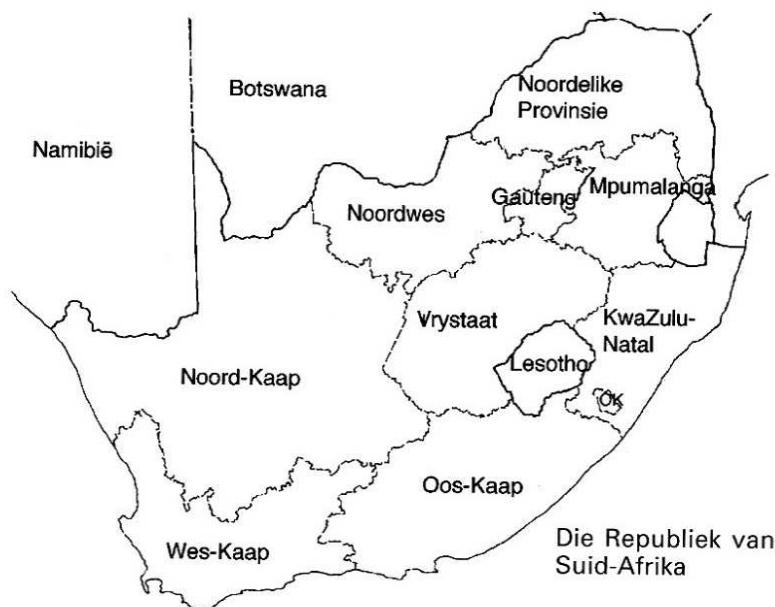
About this book

Afrikaans is descended from the Dutch of the first settlers who came to the Cape in the employ of the Dutch East India Company in 1652. It contains features of seventeenth-century Dutch dialects and influences absorbed from the other languages with which it came into contact in this new, exotic environment. Afrikaans is spoken by some six million people as their mother tongue and by an undetermined number (but certainly millions) of other South Africans as a second or third tongue, as it serves as the chief lingua franca of the rural areas of the country. It is also by far the most widely spoken language in Namibia where it serves as an indispensable lingua franca, despite the new government's policy since gaining independence from South Africa in 1990 of pushing English as the only official language.

At the level of the colloquial language there are basically three regional varieties of Afrikaans: South-Western Afrikaans (also called **Kaaps**), Eastern (Border) Afrikaans and North-Western Afrikaans (also called Orange River Afrikaans). The basis of the standard language is Eastern Afrikaans, a variety originally spoken by the white settlers of the Eastern Cape Province and taken inland by them to the former Boer republics of the Orange Free State and the Transvaal as a result of the Great Trek in the late 1830s. It is this variety of Afrikaans that is described in this book.

One can easily get by in South Africa, even as a resident of the country, without knowing Afrikaans, which is the case with many immigrants from abroad as well as with many blacks, but one misses a great deal of the true flavour of the country if one lives entirely in an English-speaking world. Whatever its tainted past as the language of the oppressor, Afrikaans is an indispensable part of South Africa and Namibia, and reduction of its official functions, as is currently being executed under the new government, will have little effect on its role as an idiom in which millions of South Africans of all races feel at home and which they need to express the South African experience. Afrikaans has proved itself to be

ingenious in inventing or translating vocabulary and expressions to keep abreast of the modern world; linguistic purity, at least at the level of its vocabulary, which is the only purity the average person is capable of assessing, is highly admired in Afrikaans-speaking circles. But Afrikaans is also gutsy and capable of great humour, and the most distinguishing characteristic of South African English is the enormous influence Afrikaans has had on it since the British occupied the Cape about two hundred years ago, some 150 years after the foundation of Cape Town by the Dutch.



The names of some provinces are to be renamed as part of an africanisation process.

The two-and-a-half million white Afrikaners are not the only mother tongue speakers of the language. The three million people of mixed race, found predominantly but certainly not exclusively in the western and northern Cape, are for the most part Afrikaans-speaking, although some of those in urban environments have been Anglicised. The term 'coloureds' (**kleurlinge**) has long been in vogue for these people. There are objections from some quarters to this term for which reason the term **bruin mense** was coined in Afrikaans (it has no equivalent in English), but this too was coined by whites and is not considered an improvement on the term

'coloured' by many coloureds. Another politically neutral term of relatively recent coinage is **Afrikaanssprekendes** or even **Afrikaanses** to cover all mother-tongue speakers of the language, whether white or otherwise. Attempts to refer to the whole language community as **Afrikaners** have not been successful. This word continues to refer exclusively to whites of Dutch-German-Huguenot origin, formerly referred to as 'Boers' (**Boere**), a term which no longer has any official currency in South Africa.

It is of course impossible to cover every aspect of the grammar of Afrikaans in a book of this size. Those desiring more detail on any of the grammatical issues dealt with in this book are advised to consult the following book by the same author: *A Grammar of Afrikaans*, Mouton de Gruyter, Berlin, 1993, which is the most comprehensive description of the language available in English. The best bilingual dictionary on the market is D.B. Bosman, I.W. van der Merwe and L.W. Hiemstra's *Tweetalige Woordeboek/Bilingual Dictionary*, Tafelberg, Cape Town, 1984 (with numerous later editions). The same dictionary has appeared under the title *Reader's Digest Afrikaans-Engelse Woordeboek/English-Afrikaans Dictionary*, Reader's Digest, Cape Town, 1987 and includes many very useful additional comments on words in the form of comment boxes in the margin.

If the learner is keen to have access to reading matter in Afrikaans, the following are recommended as examples of the living language. The main daily paper in Gauteng is *Beeld*, its equivalent in the Western and Eastern Cape being *Die Burger*, both publications of Nasionale Pers. The main national Sunday paper is *Rapport*. The most widely read women's weekly is *Die Huisgenoot*, which is an excellent example of natural sounding, non-literary Afrikaans, and the local equivalent of *Time* magazine, for want of a better comparison, is the monthly *Insig*.

What you need to gain some fluency in Afrikaans is exposure to the language, which can be easier said than done for those who do not live in South Africa.

Here are some Internet sites that may be useful in this respect. The first is: <http://www.dieknoop.co.za>. This page lists hundreds of Internet material and Web sites in Afrikaans as well as some in English about Afrikaans. The second is: <http://www.24.com>, the 'front door' leading to all the Web pages of *Nasionale Pers*, the largest media group in South Africa. Through this page, one gets easy access to *Kalahari.net*, an Internet bookshop, and to electronic versions of newspapers and magazines, as well as to publishers' Web sites.

Stigting vir Afrikaans is a body that seeks to nurture a positive attitude towards Afrikaans in South African society following the tarnish it received during the apartheid era. The Foundation's website is: www.afrikaans.com. Another useful site for ordinary Afrikaans books is www.kalakari.net.

Learning Afrikaans is great fun – **geniet dit!**

Layout of the lessons and how to work through them

Each lesson starts with a dialogue that contains examples in context of the language points that follow that dialogue. This applies to all dialogues throughout the book, as most lessons contain several language points. The dialogues in the first five lessons are supplied with translations. After that you can consult the Afrikaans-English glossary in the back of the book, but see how well you can understand them first without looking anything up. The dialogues are to be found on the accompanying cassettes. For those with little or no knowledge of formal grammar, all grammatical concepts are illustrated by brief English examples where they occur for the first time, but there is also a glossary of grammatical terms in the back of the book. The answers to all exercises are also to be found in the back of the book, as is an English-Afrikaans glossary if you are searching for an Afrikaans word in order to do an exercise.

Please send all corrections and suggestions for improvements to future editions to the following postal or e-mail addresses: Bruce Donaldson, Department of German and Swedish Studies, University of Melbourne, Parkville, Victoria, Australia 3010, e-mail: bcr@unimelb.edu.au.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Fritz Ponelis of the Department of Afrikaans and Dutch at the University of Stellenbosch for his role in assuring the success of my sabbatical leave to his university in 1996 during which time most of this book was written. I must express my gratitude to Biebie van der Merwe of the University of Cape Town and Alf Jenkinson of the University of the Orange Free State for

giving their time to cast their native-speaker eyes over this work, and Biebie in particular for taking a close look at all the dialogues. My thanks also go to Marguerite Boland of Melbourne for the compilation of the glossaries. I would also like to thank Stellenbosch Toerisme en Inligting for permission to use a map from their brochure *Historiese stap deur Stellenbosch*. My employer, the University of Melbourne, is also to be thanked for granting me sabbatical leave – without the opportunity to write this book on location the end result would have lacked the topicality it now hopefully contains.

Introduction

Pronunciation

Possibly the most difficult aspect of Afrikaans is the pronunciation but that is unfortunately where you have to start. Don't be discouraged by sounds that you may feel you will never be able to get your tongue around. With exposure to the language your accent will improve with time. Where the following Afrikaans sounds are compared to those in English words, these merely represent an approximation of their pronunciation. If you possess the cassettes you can compare these approximations with the actual sounds. Don't feel you have to master all the sounds before proceeding to the next lesson. Perfection comes with time and practice.

Short vowels

- a** This is a very short sound not unlike the vowel in 'but', e.g. **bal** 'ball', **matte** 'mats'.
- e** Generally speaking this vowel does not differ greatly from that in 'pet', e.g. **bed** 'bed', **hemp** 'shirt'. When followed by **r** plus **d**, **t**, or **s**, **e** is pronounced longer, i.e. more like the vowel in 'air' than that in 'pet', e.g. **perd** 'horse', **dertig** 'thirty', **pers** 'purple'.
- i** This vowel is identical to the **i** sound so typical of South African and New Zealand English. It is the same sound as the 'i' sound in 'girl' without the 'er' that follows it, e.g. **bitter** 'bitter', **dink** 'to think', **kind** 'child'.
- ie** This vowel is pronounced like that in 'peak', e.g. **dief** 'thief', **fiets** 'bicycle', **piesang** 'banana'; **familie** 'family'. When followed by **r**, this vowel is pronounced somewhat longer, like the vowel sound in 'fear', i.e. whereas in English this is pronounced 'feeuh', in Afrikaans **vier** is pronounced like 'fee' + a trilled 'r', omitting the 'uh', e.g. **dier** 'animal', **hier** 'here'.

- o This vowel is similar to that in ‘ought’, but is shorter, e.g. **hond** ‘dog’, **kok** ‘cook’, **potte** ‘pots’. In the combination **ons**, **o** is pronounced longer and is nasalised, e.g. **gons** ‘to buzz’, **ons** ‘we’.
- oe This vowel is more or less the same as that in ‘book’, e.g. **boek** ‘book’, **doen** ‘to do’, **moeder** ‘mother’. When followed by **r**, this vowel is pronounced somewhat longer, like the vowel in the second half of ‘insure’, e.g. **boer** ‘farmer’, **loer** ‘to peer’.
- u This sound is not unlike the vowel in ‘hurt’ but is somewhat shorter, e.g. **bus** ‘bus’, **kussing** ‘cushion’, **stukkend** ‘broken’. For those who know German, it is identical to the vowel in **können**.
- uu This is the same sound as in German ‘Flüsse’, which is not unlike the last sound in English ‘few’, e.g. **minute** ‘minutes’, **nuus** ‘news’, **u** ‘you’. When followed by **r** it is pronounced longer, e.g. **suur** ‘sour’, **mure** ‘walls’.

Note that the sound **uu**, as well as **aa**, **ee** and **oo**, all of which are dealt with below, are written double in closed syllables and single in open syllables, which is one of the basic rules of Afrikaans spelling (see p. 7).

Long vowels

- aa This vowel is similar to that in ‘father’ and is pronounced distinctly long, e.g. **haal** ‘to fetch’, **swaar** ‘heavy’; **asem** ‘breath’, **blare** ‘leaves’.
- ae This sound is identical to **aa** but is written this way for historical reasons, e.g. **dae** ‘days’, **hael** ‘to/the hail’, **swaer** ‘brother-in-law’.
- é This sound is pronounced like the vowel in ‘air’ and is commonly followed by **r**, e.g. **hê** ‘to have’, **lê** ‘to lay/lie’, **sê** ‘to say’; **skêr** ‘scissors’, **wêreld** ‘world’.
- ô This sound occurs in only a few words. It is basically the same sound as the **o** dealt with above, but it is pronounced longer, i.e. like the vowel in ‘law’, e.g. **môre** ‘morning’, **trôe** ‘troughs’.
- û This sound occurs in very few words indeed. It is basically the same sound as **u** dealt with above, but it is pronounced longer, i.e. like the vowel in ‘heard’, e.g. **brûe** ‘bridges’, **rûe** ‘backs’.

Double vowels

- aai Pronounce like ‘eye’, e.g. **haai** ‘shark’, **kraai** ‘crow’, **maai** ‘mow’.
- euu Pronounce like Afrikaans **ie** + **oe**, e.g. **leeu** ‘lion’, **meeu** ‘seagull’.
- ieu This spelling is not common. It sounds the same as **eeu**, e.g. **hernieu** ‘to renew’, **kieu** ‘gills’, **Nieu-Seeland** ‘New Zealand’.
- oei Pronounce like Afrikaans **oe** + **ie**, i.e. more or less as in the French name ‘Louis’ (with a silent ‘s’), e.g. **boei** ‘buoy’, **koeie** ‘cows’, **poeier** ‘powder’. Note that **goeie** ‘good’ is pronounced like Afrikaans **g** + **oe** + **je**.
- ooi Pronounce like Afrikaans **oo** + **ie**, e.g. **mooi** ‘pretty’, **nooiens** ‘girls’, **vlooie** ‘fleas’.

Diphthongs

The sounds **ee**, **eu** and **oo** all end in an off-glide, i.e. a sound similar to the final sound (not letter) in ‘tour’.

- ee This sound closely resembles that in ‘beer’ and ‘year’, e.g. **gee** ‘to give’, **leef** ‘to live’; **enige** ‘any’, **lewe** ‘life’, **stewel** ‘boot’.
- eu Try pronouncing the vowel in ‘heard’ while preventing the lips from rounding, e.g. **heup** ‘hip’, **seun** ‘son’, **reus** ‘giant’.
- oo This sound closely resembles that in ‘tour’ or ‘doer’, e.g. **brood** ‘bread’, **roos** ‘rose’; **rose** ‘roses’, **toring** ‘tower’.
- ei/y This sound is written for historical reasons in two ways. It is a long diphthong similar to that in ‘lay’ in English, e.g. **eier** ‘egg’, **lei** ‘to lead’, **teiken** ‘target’; **by** ‘bee’, **ryp** ‘frost’, **yster** ‘iron’.
- ou This sound is very similar to the vowel in English ‘know’, e.g. **blou** ‘blue’, **moue** ‘sleeves’, **skouer** ‘shoulder’. The distinction between this sound and **ui** is subtle.
- ui This sound is one of the hardest to master. It starts with a sound similar to the vowel in ‘heard’, pronounced with rounded lips, and is followed by the vowel in ‘see’, e.g. **huis** ‘house’, **lui** ‘lazy’, **vuil** ‘dirty’.
- ai This sound occurs in very few words, all of them loanwords. It is pronounced like the vowel in ‘bike’, e.g. **baie** ‘much’/‘many’, ‘very’, **kaia** ‘native dwelling’. See also **matjie** below, which contains the same sound.

- oi** This sound occurs in only a few words. It is identical to the vowel in ‘boy’, e.g. **goiing** ‘hessian’, **toiings** ‘tatters’.

Diphthongs in diminutives

The diminutive of nouns is exceedingly commonly used in both spoken and written Afrikaans (see p. 105). When a noun of one syllable that contains an **a**, **aa**, **an**, **aan**, **aen**, **e**, **en**, **i**, **in**, **o**, **oo**, **on**, **oon**, **oe**, **u** or **un** ends in **-djie** or **-tjie** (both pronounced ‘key’), diphthongisation of the vowel occurs. This may seem rather complex, and some of the resulting sounds are indeed quite difficult to pronounce, but this is a finer point of pronunciation which you can take your time to master.

a	mat mat	> matjie , pronounced ‘mikey’.
aa	maat mate	> maatjie , pronounced with the same vowel as in matjie but with a longer vowel.
an	hand hand	> handjie , pronounced ‘high + n + key’.
aan	aand evening	> aandjie , pronounced like ‘high + n + key’, but dropping the ‘h’ and with a longer vowel.
aen	wa wagon	> waentjie , pronounced with the same vowel as in aandjie .
e	bed bed	> bedjie , pronounced ‘bear + key’, but the vowel of ‘bear’ is pronounced short.
en	prent picture	> prentjie , pronounced ‘prayer + n + key’, but with a short vowel.
i	pit seed	> pitjie , pronounced ‘pay + key’.
in	kind child	> kindjie , pronounced ‘cane + key’.
o	pot pot	> potjie , pronounced ‘poy + key’.
oo	poot paw	> pootjie , pronounced with the same vowel as in potjie but with a longer vowel.
on	hond dog	> hondjie , pronounced ‘hoi + n + key’.
oon	oond oven	> oondjie , pronounced like ‘hoi + n + key’, but dropping the ‘h’ and with a longer vowel.
oe	voet foot	> voetjie , pronounced ‘fooey + key’.
u	put well	> putjie . The vowel here is the Afrikaans diphthong ‘ui + key’.
un	punt point	> puntjie . The vowel here is the Afrikaans diphthong ‘ui + n + key’.

Consonants

- b** There is little or no distinction between an English and an Afrikaans **b**, e.g. **bal** ‘ball’, **boek** ‘book’; **skubbe** ‘scales’. But at the end of a word a **b** is pronounced as a ‘p’, e.g. **rib** ‘rib’, **skub** ‘scale’.
- c** This letter is only used in a few loanwords ending in **-ici**, in which case it is pronounced as ‘s’, e.g. **akademici** ‘academics’, **musici** ‘musicians’, which are the plurals of **akademikus** and **musikus**.
- ch** This letter combination, which only occurs at the beginning of a few foreign words, is pronounced, depending on the word, either the same as a guttural Afrikaans **g**, e.g. **chaos** ‘chaos’, **christen** ‘Christian’, or as English ‘sh’, e.g. **chauvinisties** ‘chauvinistic’, **China** ‘China’, **chirurg** ‘surgeon’. Note that many personal and place names contain **sch**, a Dutch spelling; where **sch** stands at the beginning of a word, it is pronounced ‘sk’ and where it stands at the end of a syllable or word, it is pronounced ‘s’, e.g. **Schalk**, **Schoeman**; **Franschhoek**, **Stellenbosch**.
- d** There is no difference between an English and an Afrikaans **d**, e.g. **den** ‘pine tree’, **doen** ‘to do’; **beddens** ‘beds’. But at the end of a word a **d** is pronounced as a ‘t’, e.g. **bed** ‘bed’, **dood** ‘dead’, **pad** ‘road’. The combination **dj** in diminutives is pronounced ‘k’, e.g. **aandjie** ‘evening’, **oondjie** ‘oven’, **perdjie** ‘horse’ (see p. 4).
- f** There is no distinction between an English and an Afrikaans **f**, e.g. **fiets** ‘bicycle’, **fris** ‘fresh’; **blaf** ‘to bark’.
- g** This letter is pronounced like the ‘ch’ in Scottish ‘loch’, e.g. **gaan** ‘to go’, **gat** ‘hole’; **berg** ‘mountain’, **tagtig** ‘eighty’; **boggel** ‘hump’; **energie** ‘energy’, **ingenieur** ‘engineer’. Before the front vowels **ee** and **ie** the softer sound of German ‘ich’ may be heard, e.g. **geel** ‘yellow’, **geut** ‘gutter’, **giet** ‘to pour’.
- gh** This letter combination, which only occurs at the beginning of a few English loanwords, is used to indicate that the **g** is pronounced as in English and not as an ‘ach’ sound, e.g. **ghitaar** ‘guitar’, **gholf** ‘golf’.
- h** Afrikaans **h** is described by linguists as being voiced, which in layman’s terms means it does not sound very breathy and in fact to an English ear often sounds as if it is almost being dropped, e.g. **haan** ‘rooster’, **hond** ‘dog’, **huis** ‘house’.

- j** This letter is pronounced as an English ‘y’, e.g. **jaar** ‘year’, **juk** ‘yoke’, **sy** ‘you’. In just a few English loanwords it is pronounced as in English, e.g. **jellie**, **junior**.
- k** This letter is pronounced like ‘k’ in English but without aspiration (i.e. breathiness following the sound), e.g. **kat** ‘cat’, **keer** ‘to turn’; **boek** ‘book’; **rokke** ‘dresses’.
- l** An Afrikaans **l** is said to be ‘thicker’ than in English, particularly after a vowel, e.g. **lei** ‘to lead’, **loop** ‘to walk’; **belle** ‘bells’; **sal** ‘will’, **wil** ‘to want’.
- m** There is no distinction between an English and an Afrikaans **m**, e.g. **maan** ‘moon’, **mat** ‘mat’; **lammers** ‘lambs’; **kam** ‘comb’.
- n** There is no difference between an English and an Afrikaans **n**, e.g. **nooit** ‘never’; **bone** ‘beans’; **been** ‘leg’.
- ng** This combination is always pronounced as in ‘singer’, never as in ‘finger’, e.g. **onger** ‘hunger’, **vinger** ‘finger’; **sing** ‘to sing’.
- p** This letter is pronounced like ‘p’ in English but without aspiration (see **k**), e.g. **pan** ‘pan’, **pes** ‘plague’; **koppe** ‘heads’; **pop** ‘doll’.
- r** An Afrikaans **r** must always be pronounced, even at the end of words. It is pronounced by trilling the tip of your tongue against your teeth, as in Italian, e.g. **riet** ‘reed’, **rooi** ‘red’; **brood** ‘bread’, **praat** ‘to talk’; **kar** ‘car’, **word** ‘to become’; **baard** ‘beard’, **woord** ‘word’; **broer** ‘brother’, **duur** ‘expensive’, **leer** ‘to learn’, **mier** ‘ant’; **moeder** ‘mother’, **poeier** ‘powder’.
- s** This letter is pronounced as in English, e.g. **sokkie** ‘sock’, **suiker** ‘sugar’; **mossie** ‘sparrow’; **hoes** ‘to cough’, **roos** ‘rose’.
- sj** This letter combination is used to transcribe a ‘sh’ sound in certain loanwords (see also **ch**), e.g. **sjampanje** ‘champagne’, **sjiek** ‘chic’; **hasjisj** ‘hashish’.
- t** This letter is pronounced like ‘t’ in English but without aspiration (see **k**), e.g. **tafel** ‘table’, **tel** ‘to count’, **trein** ‘train’, **trek** ‘to pull’, **tuis** ‘at home’; **botter** ‘butter’; **gat** ‘hole’.
- tj** This letter combination is used in some loanwords to render an English ‘ch’ sound, e.g. **tjap** ‘stamp’, **tjek** ‘cheque’, **tjop** ‘chop’. The combination **tj** that commonly occurs in diminutives is pronounced ‘k’, e.g. **bytjie** ‘bee’, **matjie** ‘mat’, **netjies** ‘neat’ (see p. 4).
- v** This letter is pronounced as an English ‘f’, e.g. **val** ‘to fall’, **vel** ‘skin’, **vrek** ‘to die’; **koevert** ‘envelope’, **rivier** ‘river’. In loanwords **v** is usually pronounced as in English, e.g. **variasie** ‘variation’, **visueel** ‘visual’; **televisie** ‘television’.
- w** This letter is usually pronounced as an English ‘v’. As an

Afrikaans **v** is pronounced ‘f’, there is no confusion between **w** and **v**, e.g. **water** ‘water’, **weet** ‘to know’; **growwe** ‘coarse’, **nuwer** ‘newer’, **waarskuwing** ‘warning’. When **w** follows a consonant (i.e. it can only occur after a **d**, **k**, **s** or **t**), it is pronounced as in English, e.g. **dwaal** ‘to wander’, **kwaad** ‘angry’, **swak** ‘weak’, **twee** ‘two’.

- z** This letter occurs in only a few foreign names where it is pronounced as in English, e.g. **Zambië**, **Zoeloe**, **Tanzanië**. In personal and place names where the Dutch spelling with **z** is retained, **z** is pronounced as an ‘s’, e.g. **Van Zyl**, **Zeekoevlei**.

Stress

The general rule is that indigenous Afrikaans words carry the main stress on the first syllable (‘ indicates that the following syllable is stressed), e.g. **'goedkoop** ‘cheap’, **'handdoek** ‘towel’, **'kennisgewing** ‘notice’, **'burgemeester** ‘mayor’, **'lessenaar** ‘desk’, **'platteland** ‘countryside’. There are quite a number of exceptions for which no rule can be given. The Afrikaans prefixes **be-**, **ge-**, **her-**, **ont-** and **ver-** never take the stress, e.g. **be'loof** ‘to promise’, **ge'loof** ‘faith’, **her'haal** ‘to repeat’, **ont'meting** ‘meeting’, **ver'loor** ‘to lose’.

Spelling

Afrikaans spelling is more or less phonetic and is thus easy once you have mastered a few hard and fast rules which clarify the changes that often take place when one

- makes a noun plural by adding an **-e** (see p. 21) or
- inflects an adjective by adding an **-e** (see p. 37).

You will meet these concepts as you work your way through the book, but here is a general summary of the principles of Afrikaans spelling.

Certain vowel and consonant letters are either doubled or written singly depending on whether the syllables concerned are open or closed. To understand the rationale behind this spelling system, one needs to understand the distinction between open and closed syllables. A closed syllable is one that ends in a consonant and an open syllable is one that ends in a vowel, e.g. **aap** ‘monkey’, **peer** ‘pear’, **roos** ‘rose’ and **muur** ‘wall’ are closed, but the first syllable in **ape**

'monkeys', **pere** 'pears', **rose** 'roses' and **mure** 'walls' is open. Note that when syllabifying an Afrikaans word (i.e. as in hyphenating a word at the end of a line), each new syllable begins with a consonant, e.g. **a-pe**, **pe-re**, **ro-se**, **mu-re**; this is in keeping with long vowels in open syllables being written singly. Compare the short vowel in the first syllable of **katte** 'cats', **beddens** 'beds', **potte** 'pots', **putte** 'wells'.

Let us first deal with nouns. The following three words illustrate the changes that can occur: **aap – ape** 'monkeys', **toon – tone** 'toes', **muur – mure** 'walls' (see p. 21).

The same applies to adjectives when the **-e** ending is added: **kaal – kale** 'naked', **bloot – blote** 'naked', **puur – pure** 'pure' (see p. 37).

When two vowels that belong to separate syllables stand side-by-side and could be read as one sound, a dieresis is placed on the second vowel to show that it forms part of a new syllable. This occurs in indigenous words where two vowels that were historically separated by a **g** are now contiguous due to the dropping of the **g**, e.g. **oë** 'eyes' (< **oog** 'eye'), **hoë** 'high' (< **hoog + e**). In a few cases, a dieresis is put on an **e** when an intervocalic **d** has dropped out, e.g. **breë** 'wide' (< **breed + e**) (see p. 21 and 37).

1 Meeting and greeting people

In this lesson you will learn about:

- meeting and greeting people
- addressing people
- saying goodbye
- personal pronouns
- the indefinite article
- the definite article
- expressing nationality and profession
- expressing possession
- the demonstratives

Dialogue 1

Meeting and greeting

PERSON A: Goeie môre, Piet. Hoe gaan dit met jou?

PERSON B: Dit gaan goed, dankie. En met jou?

PERSON A: Ek mag nie kla nie.

or

PERSON A: Môre, Piet. Hoe gaan dit?

PERSON B: Goed, dankie. En self?

PERSON A: Ek kan nie kla nie.

PERSON A: Good morning, Piet. How are you?

PERSON B: Fine, thanks. And you?

PERSON A: I can't grumble.

Dialogue 2

Meeting and greeting

SAREL: Naand, Piet. Hoe gaan dit (met jou)?
 PIET: (Dit gaan) goed, dankie. En self?
 SAREL: Goed. En met jou vrou?
 PIET: Ook goed. Piet, laat ek jou aan my broer Koos voorstel.
 SAREL: Aangename kennis.
 KOOS: Bly te kenne.
 PIET: (Ek) sien (vir) jou later, Sarel.
 SAREL: Tot siens, Piet. Tatta, Koos.
 PIET: (Alles van die) beste.

SAREL: *Evening, Piet. How are you doing?*
 PIET: *Well, thanks. And you?*
 SAREL: *Fine. And your wife?*
 PIET: *Fine too. Piet, let me introduce you to my brother.*
 SAREL: *How do you do?*
 KOOS: *Nice to meet you.*
 PIET: *(I'll) see you later, Sarel.*
 SAREL: *Goodbye, Piet. Bye, Koos.*
 PIET: *All the best.*

When meeting someone for the first time, while shaking hands, you say **aangename kennis** ‘nice to meet you’/‘how do you do’. A less common variant of this is **bly te kenne**. Otherwise the usual greetings for people you already know are as follows, depending on the time of day: **(goeie) môre**, **(goeie) middag**, **(goeie)naand**. The **goeie** is commonly dropped in colloquial speech. **Goeie nag**, like its English equivalent, is reserved for taking your leave of someone. **Hallo**, pronounced exactly as in English, is used as in English too.

Hoe gaan dit (met jou/u)? is the standard way of asking someone how they are, dropping the **met jou/u** in particular if you are not sure how to address them (see Language points below).

Language points

Addressing people

The second person singular is expressed by **jy/jou** or **u**. The distinction between the former and the latter is officially one of intimacy

versus polite distance respectively. But in practice the latter is a particularly elevated sounding form that is seldom heard in a normal conversational environment. It is quite common to hear **jy** being used in combination with **Meneer** ‘sir’ and **Mevrou** ‘madam’, e.g.

Ekskuus, Mevrou, kan jy asseblief vir my beduie waar die poskantoor is?

Excuse me, madam, could you please tell me where the post office is?

It is far more common in practice to express politeness in addressing someone by using a title rather than **u**. Afrikaans society is very hierarchical and you are advised to respect the use of titles wherever possible if you want to avoid treading on toes. Anyone with a doctor’s or professorial title, for example, is most likely to be addressed by the repetitive use of **Dokter** or **Professor** where in English we would simply say ‘you’ and ‘your’, e.g.

Goeie môre, Dokter. Dokter se vrou het nou net gebel.
 Good morning, doctor. Your wife just rang.

Meneer and **Mevrou** can be used in exactly the same way in situations where one feels obliged to watch one’s p’s and q’s, e.g.

Sal Meneer my asseblief help om hierdie tas te dra?
 Will you please help me carry this suitcase?

If in doubt as to the appropriate form of address to strangers or vague acquaintances, the foreigner is advised to err on the side of overformality by using **Meneer/Mevrou** with **u** or to use **Meneer/Mevrou** in lieu of any pronoun.

Saying goodbye

There is a variety of expressions used when taking your leave of someone in Afrikaans. All the following have exact equivalents in English:

tot siens	goodbye
tatta	bye
(Ek) sien jou	(I'll) see you.
(Ek) sien jou later	(I'll) see you later.

Very nice, truly Afrikaans expressions used when guests are departing, for example, are **mooi loop/ry** ‘goodbye’, but with the

added connotation of ‘may you get home safely’ and said to those departing, while **mooi bly** is the retort said to those whose place you are leaving.

To any of the above farewell greetings you can optionally add any of the following:

(alles van die) beste	all the best
laat dit goed gaan	all the best/take care
voorspoed	all the best
geniet die dag	have a nice day

Personal pronouns

The subject pronouns are:

<i>Singular</i>		<i>Plural</i>	
ek	I	ons	we
jy	you	julle	you
u	you	u	you
hy	he		
sy	she	hulle	they
dit	it		

When followed by the verb **is**, **dit** is very commonly pronounced and written **dis**. The common question tags ‘is he?’, ‘are you?’, ‘won’t they?’, etc. are expressed simply by **is dit?** (South African English ‘is it?’), e.g.

A: Hy woon nou in Kaapstad.

A: He now lives in Cape Town?

B: Is dit?

B: Does he?

A: Hy woon nie meer in Kaapstad nie. **B: Is dit?**

A: He no longer lives in Cape Town. B: Doesn’t he?

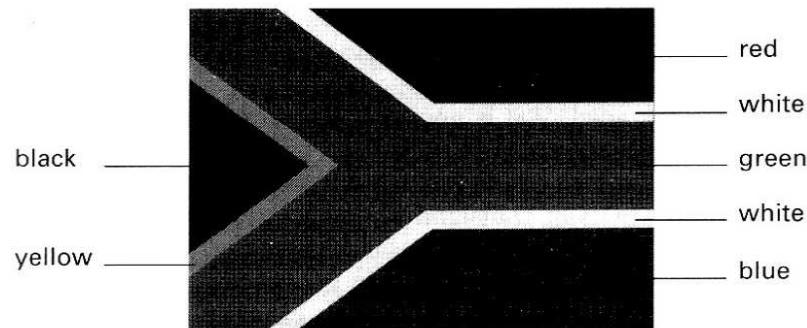
The object pronouns are:

<i>Singular</i>		<i>Plural</i>	
my	me	ons	us
jou	you	julle	you
u	you	u	you
hom	him		
haar	her	hulle	them
dit	it		

In English we refer to all inanimate objects as ‘it’. Although **dit** is used in this way in Afrikaans too, it is just as common to refer to inanimate objects as **hy/hom**, e.g.

Wat dink jy van die nuwe vlag? Ek dink hy is pragtig.

What do you think of the new flag? I think it’s beautiful.



Die Suid-Afrikaanse vlag

The indefinite article

The indefinite article in Afrikaans is **’n**, which is usually pronounced much the same as English ‘a’ in ‘a house’, even when the word that follows begins with a vowel, e.g. **’n huis** ‘a house’, **’n man** ‘a man’, **’n vrou** ‘a woman’, **’n appel** ‘an apple’, **’n oond** ‘an oven’. If a sentence begins with **’n**, the first letter of the next word is capitalised, e.g. **’n Mens moet deesdae versigtig wees** ‘One has to be careful these days’.

The definite article

Afrikaans does not distinguish between masculine, feminine and neuter nouns like many European languages do – it is the same as English in this respect. Consequently, the definite article (i.e. ‘the’) is **die** for all nouns whether singular or plural, e.g. **die man** ‘the man’, **die vrou** ‘the woman’, **die huis** ‘the house’, **die huise** ‘the houses’.

Dialogue 3

Koos en Hennie is kollegas. Hulle ontmoet mekaar in 'n winkelcentrum en gesels 'n bietjie.

Koos: Goeiemôre, Hennie, hoe gaan dit?
 HENNIE: Dit gaan baie goed, en met jou?
 Koos: Nee*, uitstekend, dankie. Hoe gaan dit met jou vrou en die kinders?
 HENNIE: Ook goed. Wat is nou weer jou vrou se naam, Koos?
 Koos: Hildegard.
 HENNIE: Ag ja, dis reg. Waarvandaan kom sy?
 Koos: Sy kom van Duitsland af.
 HENNIE: My vrou is ook 'n buitelaander, weet jy?
 Koos: Is sy? Van watter land kom sy?
 HENNIE: Van Nederland. Koos, weet jy, ek moet die kinders by die skool oplaai. Ek sien jou.
 Koos: Tot siens, Hennie. Sê groete vir jou vrou.
 HENNIE: Ja, ek sal so maak. Sê ook groete vir joune. Tot siens.

Koos en Hennie are colleagues. They meet each other in a shopping centre and chat a bit.

Koos: Good morning, Hennie, how are you going?
 HENNIE: Fine, and you?
 KOOS: Great, thanks. How's your wife doing and the kids?
 HENNIE: Fine too. What's your wife's name again, Koos?
 KOOS: Hildegard.
 HENNIE: Oh, yes, that's right. Where does she come from?
 KOOS: She comes from Germany.
 HENNIE: My wife is also a foreigner, did you know?
 KOOS: Is she? What country does she come from?
 HENNIE: From Holland. Koos, you know, I have to pick the children up from school. I'll see you.
 KOOS: Bye, Hennie. Give my regards to your wife.
 HENNIE: Yes, I'll do so. Regards to yours too. Goodbye.

Language points

Expressing nationality and profession

Nationalities and professions are expressed as in English, e.g.

Hy is 'n Nederlander. He is a Dutchman.
Hy is 'n onderwyser. He is a teacher.

As in English there is no specifically feminine form of nationalities, e.g.

Sy is 'n Suid-Afrikaner/Australiër.
 She is a South African/an Australian.

As only the words for 'Englishman' (**Engelsman**) and 'Frenchman' (**Fransman**) end in **-man**, as in English, just these two nationalities must be expressed by using the adjective with reference to women, e.g.

Sy is Engels/Francs. She is English/French.

It is of course possible to express all nationalities, both males and females, in this way, as in English, e.g.

Hy is Nederlands/Australies. He is Dutch/Australian.
Sy is Nederlands/Australies. She is Dutch/Australian.

There is a list of common nationalities on p. 176.

But when it comes to expressing the feminine of professions, the situation is a little more complex. Where the profession is dominated by females there is no problem as the feminine form is more usual than the masculine, e.g. **sekretaresse** 'secretary', **verpleegster** 'nurse', **tikster** 'typist'. But whereas it is possible, for example, to render the feminine of **onderwyser** 'teacher' with **onderwyseres**, **dosent** 'lecturer' with **dosente** and **skrywer** with **skryfster**, in practice such endings are usually dispensed with, e.g.

Lina Spies is 'n bekende digter/digteres.
 Lina Spies is a well-known writer.

Me. Van Staden is 'n bankbestuurder/bankbestuurderes.
 Ms. Van Staden is a bank manager.

* This idiomatic **nee** is commonly inserted before a positive answer.

Exercise 1

Consulting the list of nationalities at the back of the book if need be, write down the words that would complete the table below. Note that all these words are written with capital letters, as in English.

Land	Inwoner (manlik)	Taal/Nasionaliteit
–	Duitser	–
–	Engelsman	–
Frankryk	–	–
–	–	Nederlands
–	–	Sweeds
België	–	–
Suid-Afrika	–	–
–	Australiëër	–
Amerika	–	–

Expressing possession

Possession is expressed in the following ways:

1 By possessive adjectives as in English:

Singular	Plural
my	my
jou	your
u	your
sy	his
haar	her
sy	its
	ons
	julle
	u
	hulle

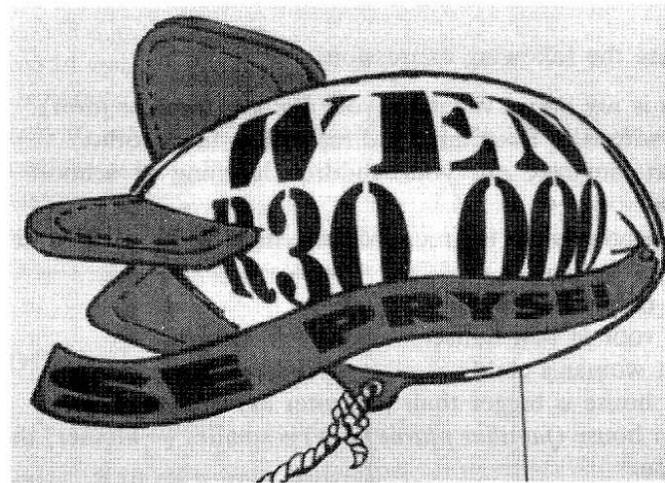
Note that there is no difference between the subject and object pronouns and possessive adjectives in the plural, although **julle** and **hulle** as possessives are commonly shortened to **jul** and **hul** when the full form has been previously used in the sentence, e.g. **Wat gaan julle met jul kinders doen?** ‘What are you going to do with your children?’

2 In contexts where possession is expressed in English by apostrophe s (or s apostrophe) Afrikaans uses the particle **se**, e.g. **die land se regering** ‘the country’s government’, **my pa se broer** ‘my father’s brother’. The **se** construction is even more common in

Afrikaans than that with apostrophe s in English which has certain limitations, e.g. **dié tafel se poot** ‘the leg of this table’, **die huis se dak** ‘the roof of the house’, **die land se hoofstad** ‘the capital of the country’/‘the country’s capital’.

Such **se** constructions occur in multiples, as indeed can be the case with English apostrophe s, e.g. **dié man se vrou se hare** ‘that man’s wife’s hair’, **die kind se pa se tweede vrou** ‘the child’s father’s second wife’.

Se constructions also occur with expressions of time, similar to English, e.g. **drie uur se ry** ‘three hours’ drive’, **vyf minute se werk** ‘five minutes’ work’, **vandag se koerant** ‘today’s newspaper’. They are also common with measures and currency, e.g. **’n kilo se boere-wors** ‘a kilo’s worth of sausage’, **vyftig rand se biltong** ‘fifty rands’ worth of biltong’.



The demonstratives

‘This’/‘these’ and ‘that’/‘those’ before a noun, i.e. when used as demonstrative adjectives, can be expressed in one of two ways. Most usual are **hierdie** ‘this’/‘these’ and **daardie** ‘that’/‘those’, e.g. **hierdie man** ‘this man’, **daardie vrou** ‘that woman’, **hierdie huise** ‘these houses’, etc. The form **dié**, which is emphasised when spoken, is common in writing but usually means ‘this’/‘these’ rather than ‘that’/‘those’, e.g. **dié man**, **dié vrou**, **dié huis**, **dié huise**.

Although the practice is frowned upon by purists, because it is regarded as an anglicism, **hierdie** and **daardie** are frequently used independently too as subject and object pronouns, e.g. **Hierdie** is **baie goed** ‘This (one) is very good’. Purists would prefer **Dit is baie goed**, which can also mean ‘It is very good’, but **Hierdie (een)** is **baie goed** is also possible.

Hierdie and **daardie** are often colloquially pronounced, but never written, **hierie** and **darie**. In addition, the latter is very frequently pronounced **daai** when emphasised, e.g. **Daai ou kan ek nie verdra nie** ‘I can’t stand that chap’.

There are remnants of the Dutch form **deze**, meaning ‘this’, in standard expressions, e.g. **vandesweek/-maand** ‘this week/month’, **deesdae** ‘these days’, **Hoe op dees aarde ... ?** ‘How on earth ... ?

Exercise 2

Translate the following expressions.

- 1 This is my book. Where is your book? (*familiar form*)
- 2 My wife is in Swaziland and his wife is in Lesotho.
- 3 What language are your children learning at school? (*polite form*)
- 4 My brother’s car is green but my car is white. And your wife’s car?
- 5 The colour of this book.
- 6 The roof of that house.
- 7 That woman’s child.
- 8 Her house is bigger than (= **groter as**) their house.
- 9 Your house (*familiar plural form*) is smaller (= **kleiner**) than our house.

Exercise 3

Translate the following.

- 1 this man
- 2 those books
- 3 This is a good book.
- 4 That is a large house.
- 5 These are good.
- 6 Those are large.
- 7 What is that?
- 8 I don’t know that.

2 Shopping

In this lesson you will learn about:

- saying please and thank you
- plural of nouns
- the present tense of verbs
- asking questions
- modal verbs
- expressing things in the past
- how to express actions that started in the past and are still continuing
- historic present
- word order in simple sentences

Dialogue 1

Daar is 'n uitverkoping in 'n klerewinkel

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| VERKOPER: | Kan ek u help, Mevrou? |
| KLANT: | Nee, dankie. Ek kyk net.
(‘n rukkie later) |
| KLANT: | Ekskuus tog, Meneer. Wat kos hierdie reënjasse? |
| VERKOPER: | Hulle is op die uitverkoping. Hulle is op die oomblik baie goedkoop. Hulle was R120 en kos nou net R75. |
| KLANT: | O! Dis rērig goedkoop. Gee vir my een van dié reënjasse, asseblief, 'n medium. |
| VERKOPER: | Sal ek dit in 'n sak sit? |
| KLANT: | Ja, asseblief. |
| VERKOPER: | (Gee die sak vir die klant). Baie dankie, Mevrou. |
| KLANT: | Baie dankie, Meneer. |
| VERKOPER: | Plesier. Tot siens. Geniet die dag. |

There is a sale in a clothing store

- SALESMAN: *Can I help you, madam?*
 CUSTOMER: *No, thanks. I'm just looking.*
 (a little while later)
 CUSTOMER: *Excuse me, sir. What do these raincoats cost?*
 SALESMAN: *They're on sale. They are very cheap at the moment.*
They were R120 but now they cost only R75.
 CUSTOMER: *Gee! That's really cheap.*
Give me one of these raincoats, please, a medium.
 SALESMAN: *Shall I put it in a bag?*
 CUSTOMER: *Yes, please.*
 SALESMAN: (Gives the bag to the customer.) *Thanks very much, madam.*
 CUSTOMER: *Thank you, sir.*
 SALESMAN: *It was a pleasure. Goodbye. Have a nice day.*



DANKIE DAT U NIE ROOKNIE

Language points

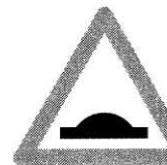
Saying 'please' and 'thank you'

Afrikaans etiquette with regard to the use of 'please' and 'thank you' is exactly as in English, and thus different from most other European languages. For example, if you were asked if you would like a cup of tea, you can reply in the affirmative with either **asseblief** or **(ja) dankie**; you reply in the negative by saying **nee**, **dankie** (see p. 148 for comments on the position of **asseblief** in a sentence). On being handed the cup of tea, the host says nothing, unlike on the Continent. You then thank the host by saying **dankie** or **baie dankie**. In a shop, for example, once you have received the parcel from the shop assistant and said **dankie**, (s)he is likely to utter **(dit)**

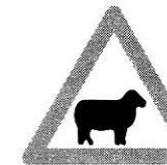
was 'n) plesier, which is the usual way of expressing 'You're welcome' or 'Don't mention it'; **nie te danke nie** is also possible in this situation.



Kinders



Spoedboggels



Plaasdiere



Laagvlieënde vliegtuie

Plural of nouns

Forming the plural of nouns is a complex issue in Afrikaans and only a few basic guidelines are given here. Although the vast majority of nouns form their plural in either **-s** or **-e**, there are several other ways of pluralising certain nouns, but these are exceptional and concern only a minority of (often common) nouns.

-s plurals

Most nouns that take **-s** consist of more than one syllable. Generally speaking certain endings require that a noun forms its plural in **-s**, e.g. **rekenaar** – **rekenaars** 'computer', **bottel** – **bottels** 'bottle', **besem** – **besems** 'broom', **eier** – **eiers** 'egg'.

-e plurals

Nearly all nouns that don't end in one of the endings requiring an **-s** plural, take **-e**. This applies to the majority of Afrikaans nouns, e.g. **huis** – **huise** 'house', **kerk** – **kerke** 'church', **koei** – **koeie** 'cow', **laai** – **laiae** 'drawer', **stoel** – **stoele** 'chair', **skildery** – **skilderye** 'painting'.

In adding this **-e** ending to form the plural of a noun, the spelling rules referred to on page 7 commonly apply, e.g. **rem** – **remme** 'brake', **pen** – **penne** 'pen', **pop** – **poppe** 'doll'; **blaar** – **blare** 'leaf', **peer** – **pere** 'pear', **oor** – **ore** 'ear', **muur** – **mure** 'wall'.

Dialogue 2

'n Gesprek tussen 'n onderwyser en 'n nuwe leerling op skool

- ONDERWYSER: Wie is jy? Wat is jou naam?
 NUWE LEERLING: My naam is Jannie van Schalkwyk. Wat is Mevrou se naam?
 ONDERWYSER: My naam is mevrou Van Coller. Hoe oud is jy, Jannie?
 NUWE LEERLING: Ek is sewe, Mevrou.
 ONDERWYSER: En waar woon jy?
 NUWE LEERLING: Nie ver van hier nie.
 ONDERWYSER: In watter straat?
 NUWE LEERLING: Ek woon in De la Reylaan, Mevrou.

A conversation between a teacher and a new pupil at school

- TEACHER: Who are you? What is your name?
 NEW PUPIL: My name is Jannie van Schalkwyk. What is your name?
 TEACHER: My name is Mrs. Van Coller. How old are you, Jannie?
 NEW PUPIL: I am seven.
 TEACHER: And where do you live?
 NEW PUPIL: Not far from here.
 TEACHER: In what street?
 NEW PUPIL: I live in De la Rey Avenue.

Language points

Verbs

Afrikaans verbs are very simple. The verb has only two forms, the stem, which is used to form the infinitive, the present tense and the imperative, and a past tense form.

The basic form of the verb is called the infinitive. In English it is the form of the verb preceded by 'to', e.g. 'to read', 'to play', 'to work'. In Afrikaans such infinitives are expressed by the verbal stem, which is identical to the present tense, e.g. **lees**, **speel**, **werk**.

The present tense of verbs

The full conjugation of the present tense of a verb is as follows:

Ek werk.	I work.	Ons werk.	We work.
Jy/u werk.	You work.	Julle werk.	You work.
U werk.	You work.	U werk.	You work.
Hy/sy/dit werk.	He/she/it works.	Hulle werk.	They work.

A form like **Ek werk** renders 'I work', 'I am working' and 'I do work', and **Hy werk** renders 'He works', 'He is working', 'He does work', etc.

There are only two verbs in Afrikaans that have an infinitive that differs from the form used for the present tense: **hê** 'to have', which is conjugated in the present tense as follows: **ek het**, **jy het**, **hy het**, etc. The other verb is **wees** 'to be', which is conjugated as follows: **ek is**, **jy is**, **hy is**, etc. In natural speech the finite verbs **het** and **is** are commonly fused to the pronoun, as happens in English too, e.g. **Hy's gelukkig** 'He's lucky', **Sy't tien kinders** 'She has ten children'. **Dit + is** may even be written **dis**.

Asking questions

You ask a question in Afrikaans by merely inverting the subject and the verb:

- Woon jy in Bloemfontein?** Do you live in Bloemfontein?
Gaan sy vandag strand toe? Is she going to the beach today?

In addition, questions can be formed from interrogatives, after which the subject and verb are inverted, e.g.

- Wat is jou naam/van?** What is your name/surname?
In watter gebou werk hy? What building does he work in?

Here are some typical interrogatives or question words:

hoe	how	wat	what
hoekom	how come, why	watter	which, what
hoeveel	how much/many	wanneer	when
waar	where	waarom	why
waarvandaan	where ... from	wie	who
waarheen	where (... to)	wie se	whose
waarnatoe	where (... to)		

The standard language requires that **waar** replace **wat** when a preposition is involved and that the preposition be joined to it, e.g.

Waarvan praat jy nou? What are you talking about now?
 (= about what = lit. 'whereabout')

Waarop sit hulle? What are they sitting on?
 (= on what = lit. 'whereon')

It is highly colloquial to render such constructions literally, i.e. by using **wat** in combination with a preposition, e.g.

Wat praat jy nou van? or **Van wat praat jy nou?**
Wat sit hulle op? or **Op wat sit hulle?**

Exercise 1

What are the questions to the following answers? Use the appropriate question word in the list on p. 23.

- 1 Die president woon in Pretoria.
- 2 Hy kom volgende week terug.
- 3 Ek leer Afrikaans omdat ek in die Vrystaat woon.
- 4 My broer gaan Kaapstad toe.
- 5 Hulle het R300 000 vir hulle huis betaal.

Dialogue 3

'n Egpaar praat oor wat hulle vanaand gaan doen

- MA: Anton, wat wil jy vanaand doen?
PA: Niks nie. Ek is gedaan. Ek wil net by die huis bly.
MA: Ag nee, man, ons kan dit nie doen nie. Dis Jannie se verjaarsdag. Ons moet iets doen, en ek wil ook iets doen, maar wat?
PA: Jy mag doen wat jy wil, maar ek gaan doen wat ek wil – ek kan nie en wil nie vanaand uitgaan nie.

A married couple are talking about what they are going to do this evening

- MUM: Anton, what do you want to do tonight?
DAD: Nothing. I've had it. I simply want to stay at home.
MUM: Oh no, we can't do that. It's Jannie's birthday. We have to do something, and I want to do something too, but what?

DAD: You can do whatever you want, but I'm going to do what I want to – I can't and don't want to go out tonight.

Language points

Modal verbs

The modal verbs **kan** 'to be able'/'can', **mag** 'to be allowed to'/'may', **moet** 'to have to'/'must' and **wil** 'to want to' are all auxiliary verbs, i.e. they are used in combination with other verbs. The second verb always stands at the end of the clause, e.g.

Jy moet my onmiddellik help.

You must (= have to) help me immediately.

Ek kan jou nie op die oomblik help nie.

I can't help you at the moment.

In the next example, which consists of two clauses, the additional verb in each clause stands at the end of its clause:

Die kinders wil rugby kyk, maar hulle mag nie kyk nie.

The children want to watch rugby but they are not allowed to watch.

Dialogue 4

'n Moeder praat met haar dogter oor haar dag op skool

- MA: Liefie, wat het jy vandag op skool gedoen?
DOGTER: Ek het tennis gespeel.
MA: Is dit? Het jy niks geleer nie?
DOGTER: Ons het vanoggend klas gehad maar vanmiddag het ons net sport gespeel.
MA: Was dit nie te warm om tennis te speel nie?
DOGTER: Dit was, maar ek het na die wedstryd na die swembad in die stad gegaan.
MA: Het jy, en hoe kon jy dit bekostig? Ek het jou nog nie vandeesdae se sakgeld gegee nie.
DOGTER: Ek moes eenvoudig gaan swem want dit was so warm.
'n Vriendin het vir my betaal. Sy wou ook soontoe gaan en sy mag nie alleengaan nie.
MA: Jy's gelukkig.

A mother talks to her daughter about her day at school

- MOTHER: *Darling, what did you do at school today?*
 DAUGHTER: *I played tennis.*
 MOTHER: *Did you? Didn't you learn anything?*
 DAUGHTER: *This morning we had classes but this afternoon we only played sport.*
 MOTHER: *Wasn't it too hot to play tennis?*
 DAUGHTER: *It was, but after the match I went to the swimming pool in town.*
 MOTHER: *Did you, and how could you afford it? I haven't given you this week's pocket money yet.*
 DAUGHTER: *I simply had to go swimming as it was so hot. A girl friend paid for me. She also wanted to go and she is not allowed to go alone.*
 MOTHER: *You're lucky.*

Language points

Expressing things in the past

Afrikaans has only one past tense form, i.e. **Ek het gewerk**. With very few exceptions there are no irregular verbs in Afrikaans. All verbs form their past tense by simply adding the prefix **ge-** to the stem of the verb that is used to form the present tense and this is used together with the auxiliary verb **het**, e.g. **Hy gaan** 'He goes/is going' – **Hy het gegaan** 'He went/has gone/had gone', **Ek lees** 'I read/am reading' – **Ek het gelees** 'I read/have read/had read', etc.

Because these past tense forms all consist of two parts, i.e. the auxiliary verb **het** and a past participle formed from **ge-** + verbal stem, only the former can stand next to the subject, while the past participle is sent to the end of the clause, e.g.

Sy het gister dorp toe gegaan.

She went to town yesterday.

In the next example, which consists of two clauses, the two past participles stand at the end of their respective clauses:

Die kinders het televisie gekyk en die ouers het kaart gespeel.
 The children watched TV and the parents played cards.

Verbs starting with the inseparable prefixes **be-, er-, ge-, her-, ont-** and **ver-** do not add the prefix **ge-** to form their past participle and thus the past participle is identical to the stem of the verb but its use together with **het** indicates the past tense, e.g.

Hy het die vraag herhaal.

He repeated the question.

Ek het hom 'n keer in Durban ontmoet.

I once met him in Durban.

Verbs ending in the stressed ending **-eer** may dispense with the **ge-** prefix in the past, but it is generally speaking more usual to apply it, e.g.

Hy het op Maties (ge)studeer.

He studied at the University of Stellenbosch. (**Maties** is a nickname.)

Ek het nie eers (ge)probeer nie.

I did not even try.

Het can be used on its own with the past participle dependent on it being understood, just as in English, e.g.

A: Die Van der Merwes het 'n nuwe motor gekoop. B: Het hulle?

A: The Van der Merwes have bought a new car. B: Have they?

Hy het Kaap toe gegaan, maar ek het nie.

He went to Cape Town but I didn't.

Exercise 2

Translate the following sentences and then put them into the past tense.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Sy praat te veel. | 6 Die onderwyser verduidelik die probleem. |
| 2 Die buitelanders leer Afrikaans. | 7 Waarom lees jy dit? |
| 3 Die twee gesels met mekaar. | 8 Ek probeer nog 'n keer. |
| 4 Ek eet 'n appel. | 9 Die eiland word 'n toeriste-aantreklikheid. |
| 5 Ons woon op Springfontein.* | 10 Hy skiet 'n bokkie. |

* **Op** is used instead of **in** with smaller places, e.g. **in Johannesburg, in Kaapstad, but op Stellenbosch, op Worcester**.

Past tense of the irregular verbs **hê** 'to have' and **wees** 'to be' and of modal verbs

There are only two groups of verbs that diverge from the above in forming their past tense:

- 1 **hê** 'to have' and **wees** 'to be'
- 2 the modal verbs **kan** 'to be able', **moet** 'to have to' and **wil** 'to want to'.

The verb **sal** 'will' has a past tense form **sou** 'should' (see p. 172).

The verbs **hê** and **wees**

hê to have

This verb is unique in Afrikaans in that the finite form in the present tense, **het**, differs from the infinitive, **hê**, and it also has an irregular past participle, **gehad**, e.g.

Die land het jare lank 'n blanke regering gehad.

The country had a white government for years.

wees to be

This verb, along with the modal verbs, has retained its simple past or imperfect, **was**, e.g.

My vrou het werk toe gegaan, maar ek was te siek en ek het by die huis gebly.

My wife went to work but I was too sick and I stayed at home.

Although it is in fact superfluous, it is very common to use **was** and **gewees** together to express the past tense of this verb, e.g. **Ek was siek gewees** 'I was sick'.

Modal verbs

The simple past or imperfect of the modal verbs **kan** 'to be able to', **moet** 'to have to' and **wil** 'to want to' has been preserved and is used to express the past of these verbs – they do not have a past participle: **kon** 'could', **moes** 'had to' and **wou** 'wanted to', e.g.

Hy kon my nie sien nie.

He couldn't see me.

Ek moes hom huis toe vat.

I had to take him home.

Hulle wou gister vleis braai.

They wanted to have a barbecue yesterday.

There is more to the past tense of modal verbs than explained here, but this will suffice for the time being. We will return to them later in the book (see pp. 81 and 172).

Exercise 3

Put the following sentences into the past tense.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Sy wil saamgaan. | 5 Hy is in Namibië. |
| 2 Die kinders moet Afrikaans leer. | 6 Ek moet 'n appel eet. |
| 3 Hulle het twee kinders. | 7 Ek probeer nog 'n keer. |
| 4 Die motor is splinternuut. | 8 Ons is by die huis. |

Exercise 4

Put the following sentences back into the present tense.

- 1 Die bokkies het al die gras gevreet.
- 2 Hoekom moes hy dit doen?
- 3 Dié hondjie het kleintjies gehad.
- 4 Hy kon nie sy rekenaar verkoop nie.
- 5 Hy het die hele dag in die bed gelê.
- 6 Ons wou hom nie nooi nie.
- 7 Op die ou end het hy huis toe gekom.
- 8 Sy het in Pole gewoon.

Dialogue 5



Annetjie praat met haar man oor haar snaakse ou oom

ERNST: Wat doen jy?

ANNETJIE: Ek skryf 'n brief.

ERNST: Aan wie?

ANNETJIE: Aan Oom Paul.

ERNST: Hy het jarelank nie 'n foon gehad nie. Het hy nog nooit een gehad nie?

- ANNETJIE: Nee, hy het nou al langer as 'n jaar 'n foon maar hy het skielik doof geword en kan hom nie meer gebruik nie.
- ERNST: Hoe lank woon hy al in daardie ou huis?
- ANNETJIE: Hy woon al langer as dertig jaar daar, dink ek.
- ERNST: Kan jy dit glo? Hy het al die tyd sonder 'n telefoon gelewe en toe koop hy een net toe hy doof word. Wat 'n snaakse ou man!
- ANNETJIE: Moenie lelik oor my lieflingsoom praat nie.

Annetjie talks to her husband about her funny old uncle

- ERNST: *What are you doing?*
- ANNETJIE: *I'm writing a letter.*
- ERNST: *Who to?*
- ANNETJIE: *To Uncle Paul.*
- ERNST: *He didn't have a phone for years. Has he never had one?*
- ANNETJIE: *No, he has had a phone now for more than a year but he suddenly went deaf and can't use it any more.*
- ERNST: *How long has he been living in that old house?*
- ANNETJIE: *He's been living there for more than thirty years, I think.*
- ERNST: *Can you believe it? He lived without a phone for all that time and then he bought a phone just as he went deaf. What a funny old man!*
- ANNETJIE: *Don't say nasty things about my favourite uncle.*

Language points

How to express actions that started in the past and are still continuing

There is one instance in which an English perfect is not rendered by a past tense in Afrikaans. When an action which started in the past continues through to the present, Afrikaans must use the present tense to indicate that the action of the verb is ongoing, e.g.

Sy was in 'n ernstige verkeersongeluk. Sedertdien is sy in 'n rolstoel.

She was in a serious traffic accident. Since then she has been in a wheelchair.

In the following examples, which all illustrate this very common Afrikaans construction, the 'for' indicating the duration of time is rendered by the adverb **al**, e.g.

Hulle woon al jare op daardie dorp.

They have been living in that town for years.

Die kinders kyk al die hele aand televisie.

The children have been watching TV all evening.

Ek leer al agtien maande lank Afrikaans.

I have been learning Afrikaans for eighteen months.

See p. 125 on how to express 'for' in other expressions of time.

Historic present

Despite the above explanation of how to express the past tense in Afrikaans, it is in fact much more common to use the present tense to relate events that occurred in the past. This form of narrative is called the historic present. It occurs in spoken English too, but is seldom written, unlike in Afrikaans, e.g. 'We got into the tram. It takes off and we're sitting there minding our own business and this chap comes up to us. . . .' This is exactly the way a series of events in the past is related in Afrikaans; the first verb or two may be put into the past, which sets the time of the action; the word **toe** 'then' (see p. 65) is very frequently also inserted as a constant reminder that although the verbs are in the present tense, the action took place in the past, e.g.

Ek was haastig en het te vinnig gery en ek beland toe in 'n sloot duskant Houtbaai. Toe kom die polisie en en trek my kar uit die sloot.

I was in a hurry and was speeding and ended up in a ditch this side of Hout Bay. Then the police came and pulled my car out of the ditch.

Note that both **dan** and **toe** mean 'then' but the latter is only used when the action of the verb is in the past; a past tense form of the verb is unnecessary but possible when **toe** is used.

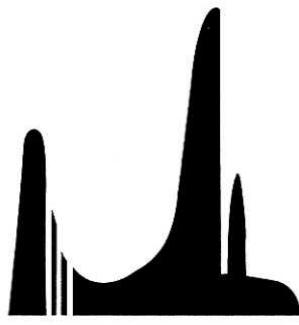
Word order in simple sentences

One aspect of Afrikaans that differs quite drastically from English is word order. You have already been introduced to a couple of word order rules relating to the position of verbs. Here's a summary of those rules before you are introduced to some new ones.

1 The finite verb (i.e. the one that stands next to the subject of the clause) is always the second idea in a statement, e.g.

1	2
Die Afrikaanse Taalmonument staan op een van die koppe naby die Paarl.	

The Afrikaans Language Monument is on one of the hills near Paarl.



Afrikaanse Taalmonument

2 In a question the subject and verb are inverted, e.g.

Waar staan die Taalmonument? Staan dit in die Paarl? (read/ pronounce as **pêrel**)

Where is the Language Monument? Is it in Paarl?

3 When there are more than two verbs in a clause – which means that the second verb must be either a past participle (i.e. in the past tense) or an infinitive (i.e. after a modal verb or **sal/gaan** in the future tense) – the second verb is placed at the end of the clause, e.g.

1	2	Final
Die ANC het in 1994 aan die bewind gekom.		

The ANC came to power in 1994.

1	2	Final
Die Nasionale Krugerwildtuin gaan sy huidige naam behou.		

The Kruger National Park is going to retain its current name.

Here are two new rules of word order:

1 If a sentence starts with any other expression, usually an adverb, inversion of subject and verb takes place to ensure that the finite verb stays in second position (i.e. that it is the second idea in the clause), e.g.

1	2	1	2
Môre gaan hulle Suidkus toe. (< Hulle gaan môre Suidkus toe.)			

Tomorrow they are going to the South Coast.

2 Adverbial expressions of time, manner and place must occur in that order in a clause (the TMP rule); you need to be careful here because English employs the reverse order, e.g.

T	M	P
Hulle gaan elke dag met die bus skool toe.		

They go to school by bus every day. (Note the order: PMT.)

There are several more important rules of word order to come. You will be introduced to them gradually.

Exercise 5

Rewrite the following sentences starting with the underlined expressions and making any necessary changes to the word order.

- 1 Die ANC het in 1994 aan die bewind gekom.
- 2 Hulle gaan elke dag met die bus skool toe.
- 3 Ons gaan môre wildtuin toe.
- 4 Hy kom volgende week van Zimbabwe terug.
- 5 Die Van Rensburgs gaan elke somer Kaap toe.
- 6 Hy het vroeër op die hoek van hierdie twee strate gewoon.
- 7 Hy neem die trein een dag 'n week.
- 8 Jy kan op my reken.
- 9 Hulle sit in die tuin, nie in die sitkamer nie.
- 10 Hy praat Afrikaans met sy ma.

3 Buying a ticket

In this lesson you will learn about:

- expressing future events
- putting endings on adjectives

Dialogue 1

'n Gesprek in 'n reisagentskap

KLIËNT: Ekskuus tog, Mevrou. Kan u my asseblief help?
 REISAGENT: Natuurlik, Meneer, maar hoe?
 KLIËNT: Ek wil môre na 'n kongres in Bloemfontein vlieg.
 Sal ek nog 'n plek kan bespreek?
 REISAGENT: Ek dink dit sal nog moontlik wees, Meneer. Waar gaan u in Bloemfontein bly?
 KLIËNT: Ek weet nog nie. Sal u ook 'n hotelkamer vir my kan bespreek?
 REISAGENT: Hoe lank gaan u in Bloemfontein bly?
 KLIËNT: Ek bly net twee dae, dus net een nag.
 REISAGENT: Dit sal nie 'n probleem wees nie. Ek sal maklik 'n hotelkamer vir een persoon vir net een nag kan vind.

A conversation in a travel agency

CLIENT: Excuse me, madam. Can you please help me?
 TRAVEL AGENT: Of course, sir, but how?
 CLIENT: I want to fly to a conference in Bloemfontein tomorrow. Will I still be able to book a seat?
 TRAVEL AGENT: I think that will still be possible, sir. Where are you going to stay in Bloemfontein?
 CLIENT: I don't know yet. Will you also be able to book a hotel room for me?

TRAVEL AGENT: How long are you going to stay in Bloemfontein?
 CLIENT: I'm only staying for two days, thus only one night.
 TRAVEL AGENT: That won't be a problem. I'll easily be able to find a hotel room for one person for one night.

Dialogue 2

'n Man en sy vrou bespreek hulle vakansieplanne

VROU: Waarheen gaan ons hierdie somer met vakansie, Piet?
 MAN: Wat van Europa? Sal ons by jou ouma in Nederland gaan kuier?
 VROU: Dit sou wonderlik wees, maar kan ons dit bekostig?
 MAN: Ek dink so. Ek sal môre na 'n reisagentskap gaan en vra wat dit gaan kos.
 VROU: Vir hoe lank sal ons gaan?
 MAN: Ons sal vir minstens 'n maand moet gaan, nè?
 VROU: Ja, natuurlik, maar sal jy so lank kan vry kry?
 MAN: Ja, ek is seker ek sal.

A man and his wife discuss their holiday plans

WIFE: Where are we going to on holiday this summer, Piet?
 MAN: What about Europe? Shall we go and visit your granny in Holland?
 WIFE: That would be wonderful, but can we afford it?
 MAN: I think so. I'll go to a travel agency tomorrow and ask what it is going to cost.
 WIFE: How long will we go for?
 MAN: We'll have to go for at least a month, won't we?
 WIFE: Yes, of course, but will you be able to get that long off?
 MAN: Yes, I'm sure I will.

Language points

Expressing future events

Afrikaans expresses future action in three ways, as does English:

- 1 by use of the present tense, e.g. **Hy kom môre terug** 'He's returning tomorrow'.

- 2 by use of **gaan** 'to go', e.g. **Hy gaan dit mōre doen** 'He's going to do it tomorrow'.
- 3 by use of **sal** 'will', e.g. **Hy sal dit later doen** 'He'll do it later'.

The two languages are more or less identical in the way they employ these three forms of the future.

Note that in expressing a sentence with a modal verb in the future using **sal** (**gaan** in lieu of **sal**) is not possible with modal verbs, unlike English), **sal** takes up position next to the subject and **moet** joins the other verb at the end of the clause and stands before it, e.g.

Die kinders moet Afrikaans leer > Hulle sal Afrikaans moet leer.

The children have to learn Afrikaans > They will have to learn Afrikaans.

Exercise 1

Express the following sentences as future events using **sal**.

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Die hemp is spierwit. | 4 Hy mag nou weer werk. |
| 2 Ek moet 'n appel eet. | 5 Ek probeer nog 'n keer. |
| 3 Ons is by die huis. | 6 Sy wil saamgaan. |

Exercise 2

Express the following sentences as future events using **gaan**.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Hy het 'n nuwe motor gekoop. | 4 Hy werk nou weer. |
| 2 Ek het 'n appel geëet. | 5 Ek probeer nog 'n keer. |
| 3 Ons was by die huis. | 6 Sy bly 'n week by ons. |

Dialogue 3

Twee vriendinne doen inkopies

- HESTER: Anna, ek moet nuwe koppies koop. Sal jy my help kies?
- ANNA: Met plesier, Hester. Wat soek jy? Grotes of kleintjies?
- HESTER: Ek het groot teekoppies asook klein koffiekoppies nodig.
- ANNA: Hierdie blou teekoppies is pragtig. Wat dink jy?

HESTER: Ja, ek stem saam, maar wat van hierdie pienk koppies? Hulle lyk 'n bietjie soos die ou, stukkende teekoppies wat ek nou het.

ANNA: Ag, ja, dis nou pragtige koppies, dié.

Two friends go shopping

HESTER: Anna, I have to buy new cups. Will you help me choose?

ANNA: With pleasure, Hester. What are you looking for? Big ones or little ones?

HESTER: I need big teacups as well as small coffee cups.

ANNA: These blue teacups are beautiful. What do you think?

HESTER: Yes, I agree but what about these pink cups? They look a bit like the old, broken cups that I have now.

ANNA: Oh, yes, they are beautiful, those are.

Language points



Wilde diere



Gladde pad

Putting endings on adjectives

When an adjective is used before a noun, it may or may not require an **-e** ending (called inflection), e.g. '**n wilde hond**' 'a wild dog' but '**n klein land**' 'a small country'. Knowing when to apply the ending and when to omit it is one of the most difficult aspects of Afrikaans grammar. When adjectives are inflected they are subjected to the spelling changes explained in the introduction (see p. 7). Two sorts of adjective take an **-e** ending:

Adjectives of more than one syllable always take an ending, e.g. **belangrik – belangrike** 'important', **dankbaar – dankbare** 'grateful', **gemeen – gemene** 'common'.

Adjectives of one syllable ending in **d, f, g** and **s** (learn **dog fees** as a mnemonic) normally take an ending, but if they end in any

other sound they don't, e.g. **glad – gladde** 'smooth', **breed – breë** 'wide', **goed – goeie** 'good'; **dof – dowwe** 'dull', **doof – dowe** 'deaf', **half – halwe** 'half'; **droog – droë** 'dry', **laag – lae** 'low', **eg – egte** 'real', **vlug – vlugge** 'quick', **streg – strelge** 'strict'; **bewus – bewuste** 'conscious', **snaaks – snaakse** 'funny', but **grys – grys** 'grey' and **vars – vars** 'fresh'.

The rules for inflecting adjectives as given here have been greatly simplified – there are many exceptions. The situation with regard to adjectives ending in **-s** is particularly difficult, as the few examples above illustrate.

Exercise 3

Decide on the basis of the rules given above whether the following adjectives require an **-e** ending, and if so, make the necessary changes to the spelling:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 'n regverdig ... oordeel | 11 die huis ... getal |
| 2 jou laas ... kans | 12 'n styf ... been |
| 3 'n Japannees ... motor | 13 'n vas ... belofte |
| 4 die Suid-Afrikaans ... vlag | 14 'n hoog ... boom |
| 5 vars ... vrugte | 15 'n vaag ... idee |
| 6 die reg ... antwoord | 16 'n wonderlik ... belewenis |
| 7 'n vinnig ... motor | 17 'n goud ... oorlosie |
| 8 'n lig ... poeding | 18 'n leeg ... lêer |
| 9 'n gaaf ... kêrel | 19 'n goed ... onderwyser |
| 10 'n snaaks ... grap | 20 'n half ... brood |

Culture point

Very generally speaking, you can say that the cities of South Africa are English-speaking but the countryside is Afrikaans-speaking. The language developed gradually from seventeenth-century Dutch in the mouths of a racially mixed society. Today not only are sixty per cent of the country's whites Afrikaans-speaking (i.e. about two and a half million Afrikaners), but so are the majority of the country's three million coloureds.

Adjectives that do not inflect

The following three categories of adjective do not normally inflect.

1 Monosyllabic adjectives ending in **k**, **p**, **t**, **m**, **n**, **I** and **r** do not inflect, e.g. **sterk** 'strong', **ryp** 'ripe', **groot** 'big', **dom** 'stupid', **groen** 'green', **koel** 'cool', **swaar** 'heavy'. But **elk** 'each'/every' always takes an **-e**.

2 Adjectives ending in a vowel or diphthong, e.g. **blou** 'blue', **mooi** 'pretty', **rooi** 'red', do not inflect.

3 There are a few adjectives which, although they do not appear to take **-e**, change in form when used before a noun because they were inflected historically, e.g. **jonk – jong** 'young', **lank – lang** 'long', 'tall', **oud – ou** 'old'.

The adjective **nuut** 'new' becomes **nuwe** 'new' before a noun, e.g. **die nuwe regering** 'the new government'.

Exercise 4

Decide whether the following adjectives require an **-e** ending, and if so, make the necessary changes to the spelling.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 elk ... kind | 9 'n duur ... huis |
| 2 blou ... water | 10 'n koel ... plek |
| 3 'n baie sterk ... man | 11 die Groot ... Trek |
| 4 'n rooi ... vlag | 12 'n oud ... vrou |
| 5 'n ryp ... perske | 13 jonk ... mense |
| 6 'n stout ... kleuter | 14 'n geel ... blaar |
| 7 'n dom ... mens | 15 'n nuut ... motor |
| 8 'n dood ... voël | 16 'n lank ... man |

Exercise 5

Rewrite the noun and the adjective in the following sentences putting the adjective in front of the noun and inflecting it where necessary.

Example: Die tafel is baie laag.

Die baie lae tafel.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Die visserman was baie jonk. | 7 Die rivier is breed. |
| 2 Die dorp is verskriklik oud. | 8 Hierdie boom is baie hoog. |
| 3 Jou seun is baie lank. | 9 Al die voetslaners is moeg. |
| 4 Dié rolprent is wonderlik. | 10 Die vraag was baie vaag. |
| 5 Die foto is goed. | 11 My vingernaels is baie bros. |
| 6 Die donkie is dood. | 12 Hierdie yskas is belaglik klein. |

4 Numbers and money

In this lesson you will learn about:

- numerals
- South African money
- ordinal numerals
- seasons
- days of the week and months of the year
- dates
- public holidays
- how to express age
- telephoning
- telling the time
- separable verbs
- inseparable verbs

Dialogue 1

'n Moeder en haar kind praat oor ouderdom

- MOEDER: Jannie, weet jy hoe oud jy is?
 KIND: Ja, ek is vyf.
 MOEDER: Nee, jy is al ses.
 KIND: Hoe oud is jy, Mamma?
 MOEDER: Ek is vier-en-dertig.
 KIND: En Pappa?
 MOEDER: Hy is agt jaar ouer. Hy is twee-en-veertig.

A mother and her child are talking about age

- MOTHER: *Jannie, do you know how old you are?*
 CHILD: *Yes, I'm five.*

- MOTHER: *No, you're six already.*
 CHILD: *How old are you, Mummy?*
 MOTHER: *I'm thirty-four.*
 CHILD: *And Daddy?*
 MOTHER: *He's eight years older. He's forty-two.*

Language points

Cardinal numerals (hooftelwoorde)

0 nul	10 tien
1 een	11 elf
2 twee	12 twaalf
3 drie	13 dertien
4 vier	14 veertien
5 vyf	15 vyftien
6 ses	16 sestien
7 sewe	17 sewentien
8 agt	18 agttien
9 nege	19 negentien
20 twintig	70 sewentig
30 dertig	80 tagtig
40 veertig	90 negentig
50 vyftig	100 honderd
60 sestig	1000 duisend
21 een-en-twintig	31 een-en-dertig
22 twee-en-twintig	32 twee-en-dertig
23 drie-en-twintig	33 drie-en-dertig
24 vier-en-twintig , etc.	34 vier-en-dertig , etc.
100 ('n) honderd or eenhonderd	
101 ('n) honderd-en-een or honderd-en-een/eenhonderd-en-een*	
102 ('n) honderd-en-twee or eenhonderd-en-twee	
103 ('n) honderd-en-drie or eenhonderd-en-drie	

* 'A billion' is officially **'n miljard**, but you will also hear **'n biljoen**.

^{*} The distinction between these forms is identical to that in English between 'a hundred (and one)' and 'one hundred (and one)', etc.

Exercise 1

Give the following numbers in numerals.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 vyf-en-sestig | 5 drie-en-tagtig |
| 2 nege-en-veertig | 6 vyf-en-vyftig |
| 3 twee-en-negentig | 7 agt-en-sewentig |
| 4 een-en-veertig | 8 sewe-en-dertig |

Dialogue 2

'n Amerikaanse toeris wil geld in die bank wissel

- TOERIS: Kan ek asseblief 'n paar Amerikaanse dollar wissel?
 TELLER: Ja natuurlik, Meneer, hoeveel?
 TOERIS: 'n Honderd dollar sal genoeg wees, dankie.
 TELLER: Sekerlik, Meneer.
 TOERIS: Wat is die wisselkoers vandag?
 TELLER: Ek weet nie presies nie. Ek sal gou vasstel.

An American tourist wants to change money at the bank

- TOURIST: Can I change some American dollars, please?
 TELLER: Yes of course, sir, how many?
 TOURIST: A hundred dollars will be enough, thanks.
 TELLER: No problem, sir.
 TOURIST: What is the exchange rate today?
 TELLER: I don't know exactly. I'll just check.

Dialogue 3

Nog 'n buitelaander gaan bank toe

- TOERIS: Kan ek hier 'n reisigerstjek wissel, asseblief?
 TELLER: Ja, Meneer, kan ek asseblief u paspoort kry?
 TOERIS: Nee, ongelukkig nie. Ek het dit nie op die oomblik by my nie.
 TELLER: U rybewys miskien, Meneer?
 TOERIS: Ja, hier is dit. (Hands it over.)
 TELLER: Baie dankie. (Pointing to the cheque.) Sal u asseblief hier teken?
 TOERIS: Ja, natuurlik. Waar moet ek teken? Hier so?

TELLER: Dis reg, ja. (once it's signed) Goed. U kry sewehonderd vyf-en-tagtig rand drie-en-dertig sent.

Another foreigner goes to the bank

- TOURIST: Can I cash a traveller's cheque here, please?
 TELLER: Yes, sir, can I have your passport?
 TOURIST: No, unfortunately not. I haven't got it on me at the moment.
 TELLER: Your driver's licence perhaps, sir?
 TOURIST: Yes, here it is.
 TELLER: Thank you. Would you please sign here?
 TOURIST: Yes, of course. Where do I have to sign? Here?
 TELLER: Yes, that's right. Fine. You get seven hundred and eighty-five rands and thirty-three cents.

Language points

South African money



The South African monetary unit is **die rand**, 'the rand': **een rand = 100 sent**. The coins (**die munte**) are: **een sent, twee sent, vyf sent, tien sent, twintig sent, vyftig sent, een rand, twee rand, vyf rand**. The notes come in denominations of **tien, twintig, vyftig, 'n honderd** and **tweehonderd rand**. Note '**'n tiendrandnoot**' a ten rand note', '**'n twintigsentstuk**' a twenty cent coin'.

The symbol used for a rand is **R**. The words **sent** and **rand**, as well as the names of all other currencies, are not pluralised when they are used in prices, e.g. **Dié wors kos 25 rand 'n kilo** 'This

sausage costs R25 a kilo', **Gee vir my twintig sent asseblief** 'Please give me twenty cents'.

With money a comma is used instead of a decimal point, e.g. R15,60 (**vyftien rand sestig**).

Note how possessive **se**, the equivalent of English apostrophe **s** (see p. 17), can be used with currency to render '...’s worth of': **veertien rand vyftig se vleis** 'fourteen rand fifty's worth of meat'.

Dialogue 4

Anton praat met Sarie oor Kaapstad en Tafelberg

ANTON: Dit is my vyfde besoek aan Kaapstad.

SARIE: Dis al my negende of tiende – ek weet eintlik nie meer presies hoe dikwels ek hier was nie. Maar ek sal my eerste besoek nooit vergeet nie. Dit het 'n groot indruk op my gemaak.

ANTON: Die eerste keer dat ek gekom het, het ek Tafelberg glad nie gesien nie. Dit het die hele tyd in die wolke en mis gestaan.

SARIE: Jy was ongelukkig.

ANTON: Ja, maar die tweede keer was dit stralende sonskyn soos vandag.

Anton is talking to Sarie about Cape Town and Table Mountain

ANTON: This is my fifth visit to Cape Town.

SARIE: This is already my ninth or tenth – actually I don't know any more exactly how often I have been here. But I will never forget my first visit. It made a great impression on me.

ANTON: The first time I came I didn't see Table Mountain at all. It was standing in the clouds and fog the whole time.

SARIE: You were unlucky.

ANTON: Yes, but the second time it was radiant sunshine like today.

Language points

Ordinal numerals

Ordinal numerals are 'first', 'second', 'third', 'fourth', etc. Apart from 'first', 'third' and 'eighth' the ordinal numerals up to 'nineteenth' are

simply the cardinal numerals (the numbers you have already learnt) with **-de** added to them:

eerste	tweede	derde	vierde	vyfde
sesde	sewende	ag(t)ste	negende	tiende
elfde	twaalfde	dertiende	veertiende	vyftiende
sestiente	sewentiente	ag(t)tiende	negentiende	

Note the three irregularities **eerste**, **derde** and **ag(t)ste**. **Neëntiende** exists alongside **negentiende**. Also note the inclusion of **n** before the **-de** ending in **sewende** and **negende**.

From 'twentieth' to 'hundredth' **-ste** is added to all numerals:

twintigste	20th	een-en-twintigste	21st
twee-en-twintigste	22nd	drie-en-twintigste	23rd
vier-en-twintigste	24th	dertigste	30th
veertigste	40th	vyftigste	50th
sestigste	60th	sewentigste	70th
tagtigste	80th	negentigste	90th
honderdste	100th	honderd-en-eerste	101st
honderd-en-tiende	110th		

The Afrikaans equivalents of the abbreviations 'st', 'nd', 'rd' and 'th' are **1ste**, **2de**, **3de**, **4de**, **8ste**, **20ste**, **21ste**, **100ste**, etc. according to the ending on the ordinals above, or simply **-e** for all, e.g. **die 18e eeu** 'the eighteenth century'.

Days of the week and months of the year

The Afrikaans words for the days of the week are: **Maandag**, **Dinsdag**, **Woensdag**, **Donderdag**, **Vrydag**, **Saterdag**, **Sondag**.

The months are: **Januarie**, **Februarie**, **Maart**, **April**, **Mei**, **Junie**, **Julie**, **Augustus**, **September**, **Oktober**, **November**, **Desember**.

Dialogue 5

'n Kind vra haar ma uit oor haar verjaarsdag

KIND:	Mamma, hoe lank moet ek nog wag vir my verjaarsdag?
MOEDER:	Jou verjaarsdag is op die vyf-en-twintigste.
KIND:	Watter dag is dit vandag?
MOEDER:	Vandag is die negentiende. Jy moet nog tot volgende Saterdag wag.

KIND: Dis te lank om te wag.
 MOEDER: Nee, wat! Dis net ses dae.
 KIND: Ek wens vandag was al die vier-en-twintigste en dan sou ek môre verjaar.

A child quizzes her mother about her birthday

CHILD: *Mummy, how long do I still have to wait for my birthday?*
 MOTHER: *Your birthday is on the twenty-fifth.*
 CHILD: *What's the date today?*
 MOTHER: *Today is the nineteenth. You still have to wait till next Saturday.*
 CHILD: *That's too long to wait.*
 MOTHER: *No, it isn't! That is just six days.*
 CHILD: *I wish today was already the twenty-fourth and then it would be my birthday tomorrow.*

Language points

Dates

Watter dag is dit vandag?
Die hoeveelste is dit vandag?
Wat is die datum vandag?
Wat is vandag se datum?
Watter dag/die hoeveelste het jy gekom?
(op) die sewentiende Oktober
(op) sewentien Oktober
(op) die sewentienteen

What's the date today?
 What's the date today?
 What's the date today?
 What's the date today?
 What day did you come?
 (on) 17 October
 (on) the seventeenth

You write **21 Maart 1999** but say **die een-en-twintigste Maart negentien nege-en-negentig**, i.e. no abbreviation of the ordinal is used in writing and it is usual, as it is in English, to omit the word **honderd** from years. You will also hear **een-en-twintig Maart**.

Public holidays – Openbare vakansiedae

1 Januarie	Nuwejaarsdag	New Year's Day
21 Maart	Menseregtdag	Human Rights Day
Pase		Easter
Goeie Vrydag		Good Friday

8 April	Gesinsdag	Family Day
27 April	Vryheidsdag	Freedom Day
1 Mei	Werkersdag	Workers' Day
16 Junie	Jeugdag	Youth Day
9 Augustus	Nasionale Vrouedag	National Women's Day
24 September	Erfenisdag	Heritage Day
16 Desember	Versoeningsdag	Day of Reconciliation
25 Desember	Kersdag	Christmas Day
26 Desember	Welwillendheidsdag	Day of Goodwill

STERRE

Deur William Smith

RAM 21 Maart–21 April

Jy moet nou ekstra voorsorg tref. Maak seker dat jy genoeg slaap en gesonde eetgewoontes volg. Moenie aan aktiwiteite deelneem wat jou aan gevare kan blootstel nie. Werk hard, maar sorg ook dat jy genoeg ontspanning geniet.

BUL 21 April–21 Mei

Jy is nogal bitter oomekrapoor iets wat iemand gedoen het, en dit sal jou entoesiasme vir 'n wyle demp. Jy sal maar moet probeer vergeet daarvan, want dit sal regtig nie help om eer gedane sake te tob nie. Konsentreer op iets anders.

TWEELING 21 Mei–22 Junie

Jy kan soms geneig wees om van mense te probeer onslae raak eerder as om na hul stories en probleme te luister. Die nadeel hiervan is dat jy invloedryke mense teen jou kan laat draai. Jy sal meer toeganklik moet wees.

KREEF 22 Junie–23 Julie

Verandering en gevare is op die oomblik vervleg in jou lewe, maar jy moet toelet dat dit jou onderkry nie. Al wat jy moet doen is om baie versigtig te wees en nie sommer 'n onverantwoordelike besluit te neem nie. Wees wakker.

LEEU 23 Julie–24 Augustus

Dit is 'n tyd om jou fantasiee te konfronteer. Om na onnoontlike dinge te hunker, verhinder jou om na die meer realistiese te streef. Probeer om eerlik met jouself te wees ten opsigte van jou vooruitsigte en glo in jouself.

MAAGD 24 Augustus–23 September

Jou naïwiteit betreffende 'n sekere vriendskap kan jou nou dalk 'n bietjie in die bok ruk; dalk in so 'n groot mate dat jy dit moeilik vind om jou vertroue in jou medemens weer te herwin. Dit sal 'n tydje duur voordat jy beter voel.

WEEGSKAAL 23 September–23 Oktober

Dit is glad nie die aangewese tyd om oor jou persoonlike probleme te praat nie. Maak seker dat diegene wat jy in jou vertroue neem jou nie in die rug sal steek nie. Mense is geneig om jou moedswilling verkeerd te verstaan.

SKERPIOEN 23 Oktober–23 November

Jy moet oppas om nie te veel hooi op jou verk te laai nie. Moenie toegee aan impulsiviteit nie. Dit is nie altyd nodig om alles tegelyker tyd te probeer doen nie. Jy is ook maar net 'n mens met beperkte vermoëns. Dis normaal!

BOOGSKUTTER 23 November–22 Desember

Jy kan in diep finansiële warm water beland indien jy nie jou beursie met 'n arendsoog dophou nie. Jy moet eenvoudig nie meer bestee as wat jy kan bekostig nie. Jy moet dit ookernstig oorweeg om meer te spaar of 'n polis uit te neem.

STEENBOK 22 Desember–22 Januarie

Jy het geneog rede om kwaad te wees, dalk omdat iemand 'n belofte aan jou verbreuk het, of 'n onverwagte teleurstelling, maar dink twee keer voordat jy iemand 'n blou oog wil gee. Jy kan jou situasie net tien keer vererger.

WATERDRAER 22 Januarie–20 Februarie

By die huis gaan alles nie so voor die wind nie. Misverstand tussen jou en ander familielede kan op 'n lelike onenighed uitloop. Daar kan woorde gesê word wat baie sal seermaak en groot skade vir die toekoms kan berokken.

VISSE 20 Februarie–21 Maart

Jy moet erkenning gee aan 'n verbode begeerte as jy dit uit jou gesel wil kry. Jy kan 'n vet foot maak as jy toelaat dat jy in hierdie stadium gaan toegoe aan verließing. Luister ook gerus na iemand wat meer lewenservaring as jy het.

Exercise 2

Answer the following questions in Afrikaans with full sentence answers and writing out the figures in full.

- 1 Op watter dag het Goeie Vrydag in 1999 gevval? (2 April)
- 2 Wanneer is Nasionale Vrouedag?
- 3 Wat noem ons die dag ná Kersdag?
- 4 Hoeveel openbare vakansiedae is daar in 'n jaar in Suid-Afrika?
- 5 Wat is die derde vakansiedag in April?

How to express age

Hoe oud is jy?

Ek is sewe-en-twintig.

Sy is maar drie jaar oud.

Wanneer is jy gebore?

Ek is (op) die 26ste Oktober

negentien ses-en-sestig gebore.

Wanneer verjaar jy?

Wanneer is jou verjaar(s)dag?

How old are you?

I am twenty-seven.

She is only three years old.

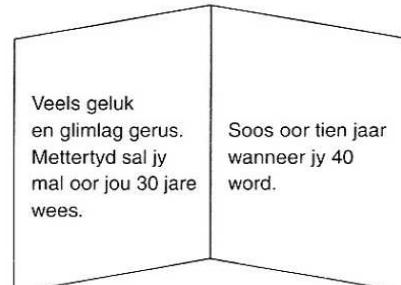
When were you born?

I was born on 26 of October

1966.

When is your birthday?

Verjaardagwense



Dialogue 6

Meneer Strydom bel 'n versekeringsmaatskappy in Johannesburg

SKAKELBORD: Sanlam, goeie môre.

MNR STRYDOM: Goeie môre, Mevrou. Uitbreiding ses-en-vyftig, asseblief.

SKAKELBORD: Hou net aan. (*'n rukkie later*) Uitbreiding ses-en-vyftig is beset. Met wie wil Meneer praat?

Met Mevrou Van Rooyen.

Mevrou Van Rooyen is vandag ongelukkig nie by die werk nie. Kan ek u met iemand anders verbind?

Nee, dankie. Vra net vir mevrou Van Rooyen om my terug te bel.

SKAKELBORD: Ek sal, Meneer. Wat is Meneer se naam en telefoonnummer asseblief.

MNR. STRYDOM: My naam is Strydom. Ek bel van Pretoria af en my nommer is 012-256 7855.

Mr. Strydom rings an insurance company in Johannesburg

SWITCHBOARD: Sanlam, good morning.

MR. STRYDOM: Good morning, madam. Extension 56, please. Just hang on. (a little later) Extension 56 is engaged. Who do you want to speak to?

MR. STRYDOM: To Mrs. Van Rooyen.

SWITCHBOARD: Mrs. Van Rooyen is not at work today unfortunately. Can I put you through to someone else? No, thanks. Just ask Mrs. Van Rooyen to ring me back.

MR. STRYDOM: I shall, sir. What is your name and telephone number, please?

MR. STRYDOM: My name is Strydom. I'm ringing from Pretoria and my number is 012-256 7855.

Telephoning

laat die voetslaan aan jou vingers oor



Telephone numbers are read out figure by figure as in English, i.e. **drie sewe ses agt drie nege een** '376-8391'. **Dubbel** and **trippel** are used as in English, e.g. **nul dubbel een drie dubbel sewe trippel agt nege** '011-377 8889'. The 'area code' is called the **streekskode**.

Vocabulary

telefoonhokkie	telephone box	die gehoorstuk	to pick up the
buite werking	out of order	optel/oplig	phone
munt-/kaartfoon	coin/card phone	die (tele)foon	to hang up
telefoonoproep	telephone call	neersit	
(op)bel, skakel	to ring (up)	beset	engaged
terugbel, terugskakel	to ring back	antwoordmasjien	answering machine
op die (tele)foon	on the phone	dankie vir die	thanks for
Die telefoon lui.	The phone is ringing.	oproep, (hoor)	ringing
sellulêre telefoon, selffoon	mobile phone	iemand 'n luitjie	to give someone
'n nommer skakel	to dial a number	gee	a call
die geel bladsye	the yellow pages	Hou net aan/bly	Please hold on.
die gehoorstuk	receiver	aan, asseblief.	
		net 'n oomblik	just a moment

Dialogue 7



'n Tiener bel sy meisie

- SEUN: Môre, mevrou Van Schalkwyk. Dis Arno wat praat.
Mag ek asseblief met Helena praat? Is sy huis?
MA: Môre, Arno. Ja, sy is. Bly net aan. Ek roep haar gou – Helena, dis jou kêrel. Kom gou – hier kom sy.
VRIENDIN: Hello, Arno, hoe gaan dit?
SEUN: Nee, ek kan nie kla nie. Luister, is jy lus om vanaand te gaan flik?
VRIENDIN: Dit hang af. Watter flik wil jy gaan kyk? Ek kan nie Amerikaanse skiet-skop-en-donder-fleks verdra nie.
SEUN: Nee, daar is 'n baie goeie nuwe Australiese flik wat op die oomblik in Claremont wys.
VRIENDIN: Dan is ek beslis lus. Ek is dol oor Australiese rolprente.
SEUN: Nou maar goed. Ek kom haal jou so sewe-uur se kant.
VRIENDIN: Doodreg. Tot dan. Tatta.
SEUN: Sien jou.

A teenager rings his girlfriend

- BOY: Morning, Mrs. Van Schalkwyk. It's Arno speaking. Can I please speak to Helena? Is she home?
MOTHER: Morning, Arno. Yes, she is. Just hang on. I'll call her – Helena, it's your boyfriend. Come on – here she comes.
GIRLFRIEND: Hello, Arno, how are things?
BOY: Well, I can't complain. Listen, do you feel like going to the cinema tonight?
GIRLFRIEND: It depends. What film do you want to go and see? I can't bear American action films.
BOY: No, there's a very good Australian film which is showing in Claremont at the moment.
GIRLFRIEND: Then I definitely feel like it. I'm mad about Australian films.
BOY: Well, great. I'll come and fetch you at about seven.
GIRLFRIEND: Okay. Till then. Bye.
BOY: See you.

Telling the time

You ask the time in Afrikaans as follows:

Hoe laat is dit?

What time is it?

Hoe laat kom die vliegtuig aan? What time is the plane arriving?

The time is expressed as in English, using the twelve-hour, not the twenty-four hour clock. ‘Past’ is expressed by **oor** and ‘to’ by **voor**. The only difficulty occurs when expressing half past the hour – this is expressed by **half** + the hour to come, unlike English which looks back to the hour just past.

Notes on time

1 Note that the numeral is written together with the word **uur** and a hyphen is used when the numeral ends in a vowel, e.g.

Dit is eenuur/twee-oor/drie-oor. It is one/two/three o’clock.

Half is also written as one word together with the numeral that follows it, e.g.

Dit is halfeen/halftwee/halfdrie. It is half past twelve/one/two.

2 On the half hour it is also possible to say ‘six-thirty’, etc., e.g.

Die volgende nuusbulletin is om ses dertig in Engels.

The next news broadcast is at six-thirty in English.

3 ‘At’ with times of the day is expressed by **om**, as in the previous example, but it is very commonly omitted, e.g. as opposite.

Ek sien jou vieruur.

I’ll see you at four (o’clock).

4 The word **minuut** is only used in those few cases where it is also used in English, e.g.

Dis veertien (minute) oor vyf. It is fourteen (minutes) past five.

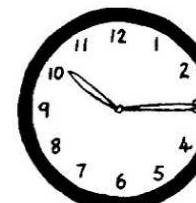
5 The most natural way of expressing ‘am’ and ‘pm’ is as follows: **drie-oor (in) die oggend** ‘at three in the morning’, **drie-oor (in) die middag** ‘at three in the afternoon’, **agtuur (in) die aand** ‘at eight in the evening’, but it can also be expressed like this: **Die vliegtuig kom mōreoggend tienuur aan** ‘The plane is arriving at ten am’ (= tomorrow morning at ten). In writing one sees **vm** and **nm**.



Dit is tienuur.



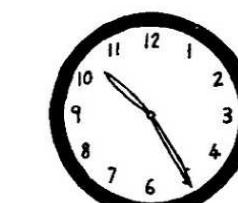
Dit is vyf oor tien.



Dit is kwart oor tien.



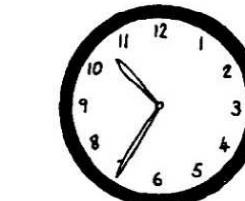
Dit is twintig oor tien.



Dit is vyf-en-twintig oor tien.



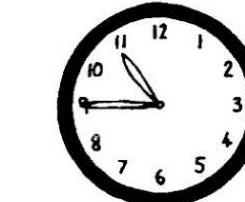
Dit is halfelf.



Dit is vyf-en-twintig voor elf.



Dit is twintig voor elf.



Dit is kwart voor elf.



Dit is vyf voor elf.

6 The following are examples of ways of expressing approximate time:

Hulle verwag ons agtuur se kant.

They are expecting us at eightish.

Dis agtuur presies/presies agtuur.

It is exactly eight o'clock.
(It is) on the dot of six.

Dit is skuins na/or agt.

It's just after eight.

Dis byna-byna halfagt.

It's almost half past seven.

ongeveer agtuur, omstreeks agtuur,

at about eight o'clock

(so) teen agtuur, agtuur se kant

7 **My horlosie is agter/voor** expresses 'My watch is slow/fast'.

8 Note that the word **uur** renders both 'o'clock' and 'hour' and in the latter meaning does not take a plural -s when preceded by a numeral, e.g. **om agtuur** 'at eight o'clock', **agt uur** 'eight hours'. (Note that the same applies to the words **jaar** and **keer**, e.g. **tien jaar oud** 'ten years old', **Ek het dit al drie keer gesê** 'I've said it three times already').

9 'A quarter' is **kwart**, as illustrated above, but 'a quarter of an hour' is **kwartier**, e.g.

Die vertoning het 'n uur en 'n kwart geduur.

The performance lasted an hour and a quarter.

Ek het 'n driekwartier vir jou gewag.

I waited for you for three quarters of an hour.

Exercise 3

Give the answers in brackets to the following questions.

- 1 Hoe laat is dit? (Answer: *It is exactly three o'clock*)
- 2 Hoe laat vertrek die trein? (Answer: *It is leaving at half past three.*)
- 3 Hoe laat verwag hulle ons? (Answer: *They're expecting you at tenish.*)
- 4 Hoe laat begin die fliek? (Answer: *It begins at a quarter past six.*)
- 5 Hoe laat het jy daar aangekom? (Answer: *Just after half past one.*)

Dialogue 8

Jannie se moeder probeer hom aanjaag

MOEDER: Staan nou op, Jannie! Jy moet vanmôre skool toe gaan.

JANNIE: Ek wil nog nie opstaan nie, Ma. Ek is nog moeg.

MOEDER: Jy het natuurlik gisteraand te laat opgebly. Toe, staan op! Trek aan!

(*'n rukkie later*)

MOEDER: (roep vanuit die kombuis) Is jy al aangetrek, Jannie?

JANNIE: Wag 'n bietjie, Ma. Ek staan nou eers op. Ek sal nou nou aantrek.

(*'n rukkie later*)

MOEDER: Eindelik het jy nou aangetrek. En het jy ook al jou bed opgemaak?

JANNIE: Nee wat, ek is al klaar uitgeput van so vroeg opstaan en aantrek. Ek sal dit later doen.

MOEDER: Moenie dit uitstel nie. Jy probeer dit altyd uitstel. Doe dit nou en ruim jou kamer sommer ook op. Dit lyk verskriklik.

JANNIE: Opstaan, aantrek, bed opmaak, kamer opruim – dit maak my mal.

Jannie's mother tries to hurry him up

MOTHER: Get up now, Jannie! You have to go to school this morning.

JANNIE: I don't want to get up yet, Mum. I'm still tired.

MOTHER: Of course you stayed up too late last night. Come on, get up! Get dressed!

(a little later)

MOTHER: (calls from the kitchen) Are you dressed yet, Jannie?

JANNIE: Wait a moment, Mum. I'm only just getting out of bed now. I'll get dressed in a moment.

(a little later)

MOTHER: You've now finally got dressed. And have you already made your bed too?

JANNIE: No, I'm already exhausted from getting up so early and getting dressed. I'll do it later.

MOTHER: Don't put it off. You always try to put it off. Do it now and just tidy your room up too. It looks terrible.

JANNIE: Getting up, getting dressed, making the bed, tidying the room – it drives me crazy.

Language points

Separable verbs

The infinitives of verbs like ‘to turn on’ and ‘to turn off’ that contain a preposition, are written as one word in Afrikaans, i.e. **aanskakel**, **afskakel**. Such verbs, which contain a stressed prepositional prefix, are called separable verbs because in certain tenses the preposition separates from the verb and is placed at the end of the clause; this is the case in the present tense and the imperative, e.g. **ophang** ‘to hang up’:

Ek hang die biltong in 'n koel, droë plek op. (present tense)
I'm hanging the biltong up in a cool, dry place.

Hang die biltong in 'n koel, droë plek op. (imperative)
Hang the biltong up in a cool, dry place.

Ek gaan die biltong in 'n koel, droë plek ophang. (future tense)

I am going to hang the biltong up in a cool, dry place.

The past participle is formed by placing the **ge-** prefix between the preposition and the verb, e.g.

Ek het die biltong in 'n koel, droë plek opgehang. (past tense)
I('ve) hung the biltong up in a cool, dry place.

The following separable verbs occur in the above dialogue:

opstaan to get up
aantrek to get dressed
uitput to exhaust
opruij to tidy up

opbly to stay up
opmaak to make (a bed)
uitstel to postpone, put off

Here are some more examples of separable verbs: **aanskaf** ‘to acquire’, **afrond** ‘to round off’, **opdrink** ‘to drink up’, **uitgaan** ‘to go out’, **toeneem** ‘to increase’. Note that the new verb that results from the addition of such a prefix to an existing verb often has a figurative meaning (this is even more the case with inseparable verbs, see p. 57). For example, although **uitgee** can mean ‘to give out’, it also and more usually means ‘to spend (money)’ or even ‘to publish’. Similarly **voorstel** (lit. ‘to put forward’) usually means ‘to suggest’ or ‘to introduce (someone)’. It is common for verbal opposites to be formed by means of such separable prefixes, e.g. **aantrek/uittrek** ‘to put on/take off (clothes)’. Many common verbs

occur with a host of different separable prefixes, each new combination rendering a totally new word, e.g. **aankom** ‘to arrive’, **agterkom** ‘to trace’, **opkom** ‘to rise (of the sun)’, **omkom** ‘to die’, **voorkom** ‘to occur’.

There are many separable verbs whose prefix is a noun or adjective/adverb, e.g. **asemhaal** ‘to breathe’, **doodmaak** ‘to kill’, **klasgee** ‘to teach’.

Exercise 4

Form imperative sentences from the following couplets.

Example: toemaak/die deur
Maak die deur toe!

- 1 opstaan/onmiddellik
- 2 uitnooi/jou broer
- 3 opeet/die lemoen
- 4 aanneem/die aanbod
- 5 binnekombinneblief
- 6 oopmaak/die venster
- 7 uitgee/die geld

Exercise 5

Put the following sentences into the past tense.

Example: Ek maak die deur toe.
Ek het die deur toegemaak.

- 1 Hy staan onmiddellik op.
- 2 Ek nooi jou broer uit.
- 3 Schalk eet die lemoen op.
- 4 Amanda neem die aanbod nie aan nie.
- 5 Hy kom nie binne nie.
- 6 Sy maak die venster oop.
- 7 Sy gee die geld uit.

Inseparable verbs

Verbs starting with the inseparable prefixes **be-**, **er-**, **ge-**, **her-**, **ont-** and **ver-** were introduced back on p. 27 where the point was made that such verbs do not add the **ge-** prefix to form their past

participle, but whose past participle is the same as both the infinitive and the finite form in the present tense, e.g.

Ons ontmoet mekaar elke Vrydagmiddag in die stad. (present tense)

We meet each other in town every Friday afternoon.

Ons het mekaar elke Vrydagmiddag in die stad ontmoet. (past tense)

We met (used to meet) each other in town every Friday afternoon.

Ons gaan mekaar volgende Vrydag in die stad ontmoet. (future)

We are going to meet each other in town next Friday.

In addition to these inseparable verbs, there is a relatively large group of verbs that have a prepositional prefix (or adverbial prefix like **mis-**, **vol-** and **weer-**) that is also not stressed, which indicates that the prefix is inseparable and thus no **ge-** prefix is used in the past tense, e.g. **aanvaar** ‘to accept’, **agtervolg** ‘to pursue’, **misbruik** ‘to misuse’, ‘abuse’, **omsingel** ‘to surround’, **onderskat** ‘to underestimate’, **onderteken** ‘to sign’, **oorhandig** ‘to hand over’.

Compare Afrikaans **ooreet** and English ‘overeat’ where in both languages the stress is on the root verb, not on the prefix. The infinitive form of these verbs in Afrikaans looks the same as that of separable verbs on paper, but in the present and past tenses, as well as in the imperative, they differ from separable verbs in that the prefix never separates from the verb, e.g. **onderteken** ‘to sign’.

Ek onderteken nie hierdie vorm nie. (present)

I'm not signing this form.

Onderteken hierdie vorm, asseblief. (imperative)

Please sign this form.

Ek gaan die vorm nou-nou onderteken. (future tense)

I'm going to sign the form in a moment.

Ek het die vorm nou net onderteken. (past tense)

I signed the form a moment ago.

Exercise 6

Put the following sentences into the past tense.

Example: Hy aanvaar die geskenk.

Hy het die geskenk aanvaar.

- 1 Hy voldoen aan die vereistes. (**voldoen** ‘to satisfy’)
- 2 Hulle misbruik sy gasvryheid. (**misbruik** ‘to abuse’)
- 3 Schalk voltooi nie sy kursus nie. (**voltooi** ‘to complete’)
- 4 Dit voorkom moeilikheid. (**voorkom** ‘to prevent’)
- 5 Hulle voorspel slegte weer. (**voorspel** ‘to predict’)
- 6 My swaer onderneem te veel. (**onderneem** ‘to undertake’)
- 7 Die polisie deursoek sy woonstel. (**deursoek** ‘to search’)
- 8 Sy ouma ondergaan 'n operasie. (**ondergaan** ‘to undergo’)
- 9 Daardie vreeslike man mishandel sy troeteldiere. (**mishandel** ‘to maltreat’)
- 10 Daardie vrou agtervolg hom. (**agtervolg** ‘to pursue’)

5 Making a date

In this lesson you will learn about:

- coordinate and subordinate clauses
- the three meanings of the word **toe**
- special functions of the preposition **vir**

Dialogue 1

Amanda en Ina maak 'n afspraak

AMANDA: As dit mōre mooi weer is, gaan ons in die restaurant op Tafelberg ontbyt eet. Wil jy saamkom, Ina?

INA: Jy weet mos dat ek altyd graag saamgaan as julle so iets op Sondae doen. Hoe laat wil julle gaan?

AMANDA: Ons wil vroeg-vroeg opstaan sodat ons nie te lank vir die kabelkarretjie hoef te wag nie. Kom ons vertrek sē maar sewe-uur se kant. Ek weet nie of dit te vroeg vir jou is nie. Is dit reg?

INA: Nee wat, jy praat asof ek 'n ou tannie is. Voordat ek getroud was, het ek elke dag sesuur opgestaan.

AMANDA: Nou maar goed. Kom ons ontmoet mekaar dan halfagt by die sweefspoorstasie.

Amanda and Ina make a date

AMANDA: If the weather is fine tomorrow we are going to have breakfast in the restaurant on Table Mountain. Do you want to come along, Ina?

INA: You know, don't you, that I always like going with you when you do something like that on Sundays. What time do you want to leave?

AMANDA: We want to get up very early so that we don't have to wait too long for the cable car. Let's leave at say sevenish. I don't know whether that is too early for you. Is that alright?

INA: Not at all, you talk as if I'm an old lady. Before I was married I got up at six o'clock every day.

AMANDA: Well, fine. Then let's meet each other at the cable station at 7.30.

Language points

Coordinate and subordinate clauses

You have been seeing longer sentences of two clauses joined together by means of **en** 'and', **maar** 'but', **of** 'or' and **want** 'because' for some time now. But normally when you join two clauses in Afrikaans – each with its own subject and finite verb – you need to apply a change of word order. Only when the joining word (i.e. the conjunction) is one of the above four words, is no change in word order necessary, e.g.

Marie bly vandag tuis want daar is 'n treinstaking.

Marie is staying home today because there is a train strike.

Hy het 'n kar maar hy gaan liewers op sy fiets.

He has a car but he'd rather go on his bike.

These four joining words, which cause no change in word order, are called coordinating conjunctions. All other conjunctions, which do cause a change in word order, are called subordinating conjunctions. The finite verb in the subordinate clause is sent to the end of that clause when the clause is introduced by one of the following conjunctions:

dat	that	asof	as if
omdat	because	soos	as
na(dat)	after	terwyl	while
tot(dat)	until	hoewel	although
voor(dat)	before	sedert	since
sodat	so that	tensy	unless
as	when, if	sodra, so gou as	as soon as
toe	when (in the past)	of	whether

There are in fact quite a few more of these conjunctions, but the above are the most common. Observe the effect they have on the finite verb that follows them:

Weet jy dat hy op die oomblik in Lesotho is? (< hy is op die oomblik in Lesotho)

Do you know (that) he is in Lesotho at the moment?

Sy maak die bed op terwyl hy die skottelgoed opwas. (< hy was die skottelgoed op)

She is making the bed while he does the washing-up.

Kom huis toe sodra die fiek klaar is. (< die fiek is klaar)

Come home as soon as the film is over.

The conjunction ‘that’ can be omitted in Afrikaans just as it can in English and when it is omitted, the finite verb of that clause stays where it does in English, e.g.

Ek dink dat hy dit gedoen het > Ek dink hy het dit gedoen.

I think (that) he did it.

Observe what happens when the finite verb in the subordinate clause is a separable verb – the verb and the prefix join up again:

Ek weet dat hy mōre terugkom (< hy kom mōre terug).

I do know he is returning tomorrow.

Note what happens when you turn a clause that has a past participle or an infinitive at the end of it into a subordinate clause:

Ek het vanoggend brood gekoop.

I bought bread this morning.

Weet jy dat ek vanoggend brood gekoop het?

Do you know that I bought bread this morning?

Ek moet vanmiddag brood koop.

I must buy bread this afternoon.

Ek weet dat ek vanmiddag brood moet koop.

I know that I have to buy bread this afternoon.

When the finite verb that is being sent to the end of the clause by the conjunction is the auxiliary verb **het** (i.e. when a sentence is in the past tense), it must follow the past participle. But when the finite verb is a modal verb, it stands before the infinitive.

There are a few tricks to watch out for when using the above

conjunctions. What follows may seem a bit confusing, but you’ll soon get the hang of it.

You may have noticed that **of** is used as both a coordinating conjunction meaning ‘or’ with no change in word order, or as a subordinating conjunction meaning ‘whether’/‘if’ with a change in word order. Context and word order always make it clear what the meaning is:

Kom jy vandag of kom jy mōre?

Are you coming today or are you coming tomorrow?

Ek weet nog nie of ek mōre of oormōre kom nie.

I don’t yet know whether/if I’m coming tomorrow or the day after tomorrow. (This sentence contains **of** with both meanings.)

As just illustrated, when ‘if’ means ‘whether’ it is rendered by **of**, but an ‘if’ that does not mean ‘whether’ is **as**:

As dit mōre reën, bly ek tuis.

If it rains tomorrow, I’m staying home.

There are several tricks associated with translating ‘when’ in Afrikaans. As you saw on page 23, ‘when’ introducing a question is **wanneer**, e.g.

Wanneer kom hy?

When is he coming?

But when ‘when’ occurs in a statement, it is rendered by either **as** or **wanneer**, but use of **wanneer** removes any possible ambiguity and is thus preferable, e.g.

Ek sal die brief pos as ek terugkom.

I’ll post the letter when I get back. (Here logic tells you **as** does not mean ‘if’.)

When ‘when’ refers to one single incident in the past, it is rendered by **toe**:

Ek het baie goed geëet toe ek in die wildtuin was.

I ate really well when I was in the game park.

But when the action took place on repeated occasions in the past, i.e. when ‘when’ means ‘whenever’, **wanneer** is used:

Ek het altyd baie goed geëet wanneer ek in die wildtuin was.

I have always eaten really well when(ever) I have been in the game park.

Exercise 1

Put **Hy het gesê dat** ‘He said that’ in front of the following sentences, thereby turning them into subordinate clauses, and make the necessary changes to the order of the verbs. (Note that if the **dat** were omitted, **hy het gesê** could be placed in front of the following clauses with no change in word order being necessary.)

Example: Sy vrou werk vir Sasol.

Hy het gesê dat sy vrou vir Sasol werk.

Hy het gesê sy vrou werk vir Sasol. (also possible)

- 1 Sy tannie is in Engeland gebore.
- 2 Piet wil vroeg huis toe kom.
- 3 Die leerling het nie sy huiswerk gedoen nie.
- 4 Die kinders moet nou opstaan.
- 5 Marie se ma het haar opgebel.

Exercise 2

What is the appropriate word for ‘when’ in the following sentences? You have a choice of **as**, **wanneer** or **toe**:

- 1 ... gaan jy Engeland toe?
- 2 ... hy huis kom, gaan ek inkopies doen.
- 3 Annette het die skêr teruggegee ... sy klaar daarmee was.
- 4 ... Piet sy buurman op straat teëgekom het, het hy hom altyd gegroet.

Dialogue 2

Jannie wil nie stad toe gaan nie

- KIND: Waarnatoe gaan jy, Ma? Gaan jy winkelsentrum toe?
- MOEDER: Nee, Jannie, ek gaan stad toe. Wil jy saamkom?
- KIND: Nee, ek het laas keer met jou saamgegaan en toe't jy my na al die klerewinkels toe gesleep.
- MOEDER: Wat is verkeerd daarmee?
- KIND: Toe ek gekla het dat jy nooit na speelgoedwinkels toe gaan nie, toe't jy gesê dat ek liever huis moes gebly het.
- MOEDER: Jy's darem 'n moeilike kind.
- KIND: Jy's darem 'n moeilike ma, bedoel jy.

Jannie does not want to go to town

- CHILD: Where are you going, Mum? Are you going to the shopping centre?
- MOTHER: No, Jannie, I'm going to town. Do you want to come along?
- CHILD: No, I went with you last time and you then dragged me off to all the clothing shops.
- MOTHER: What's wrong with that?
- CHILD: When I complained that you never go to toy shops, you then said that I should have stayed at home.
- MOTHER: You're a really difficult child.
- CHILD: You're a really difficult mother, you mean.

Language points

The three meanings of the word toe

1 **Toe** is used for ‘when’ when talking about one occasion in the past, although it is not usually necessary for the verb in the same or subsequent clauses to be in the past as **toe** is in itself sufficient indication that the event occurred in the past, e.g.

Toe hy huis kom, sien hy dat sy vrou die hele dag niks gedoen het nie.

When he got home he saw that his wife hadn’t done anything all day.

2 **Toe** renders the adverb ‘then’ with reference to something that occurred on one occasion in the past (see p. 63). It is very common in colloquial narrative style to use **toe** in both this and the previous sense while leaving the verbs in the present, e.g.

Toe hy huis kom, toe sien hy dat ...

When he got home he (then) saw that ...

3 The third meaning of **toe** has nothing to do with the previous two. It expresses ‘to’ a place. It usually stands on its own after the noun, e.g.

Die kinders is al huis/skool/kerk toe.

The children have already gone home/to school/to church.

Reading text

Note the repeated use of **toe** in both senses (**toe¹** = the conjunction ‘when’ and **toe²** = the adverb ‘then’), together with verbs in the present tense, as well as the verbs in other clauses in the past, to place the entire action in the past.

Toe² begin die rowers die motor vol te pak en sowat anderhalf uur later was hulle klaar met hul strooptog. Hulle was besig om Lisa in die badkamer met luidsprekerdraad vas te bind **toe¹** iemand aan die deur klop. Dit was skoonmakers wat die kothuis wou regmaak vir die nag. **Toe¹** een van die rowers die deur oopmaak, het die skoonmakers alarm gemaak, en twee wagte het die huis bestorm. Skote is geskiet, maar niemand is getref nie. Die rowers het **toe²** sonder die volgepakte motor gevlug, maar hulle is nogtans met die kamerasak en byna al Sakkie en Lisa se naweekklere weg. **Toe²** kom die volgende skok.

Then the thieves began to pack the car and about one and a half hours later they were finished with their raid. They were busy tying Lisa up with loudspeaker cord in the bathroom when someone knocked at the door. It was the cleaners who wanted to prepare the cottage for the night. When one of the thieves opened the door the cleaners sounded the alarm and two guards stormed the house. Shots were fired, but nobody was hit. The thieves then fled without the packed car but nevertheless they got away with the camera bag and nearly all Lisa and Sakkie's weekend clothes. Then came the next shock.

Sê vir my waar bly jy?
Tell me where you live?

2 **Vir** also commonly renders ‘to’ before indirect objects after verbs, e.g.

Sy skryf toe ’n brief vir haar ma. (also **aan**)
She then wrote a letter to her mother.

Ek het dit vir hom gegee. (also **aan**)
I gave it to him.

Luister vir my! (also **na**)
Listen to me.

Language points

Special functions of the preposition vir

The preposition **vir** is very commonly used in Afrikaans in contexts where it cannot be equated with ‘for’, its literal meaning. The word has two functions other than rendering ‘for’:

1 In spoken, but seldom in written Afrikaans, it is common to insert **vir** before a personal direct object, whether it be a noun or a pronoun, e.g.

Hy het laasjaar vir haar op ’n partytjie ontmoet.

He met her at a party last year.

6 Likes and dislikes

In this lesson you will learn about:

- Negating a sentence

Dialogue 1

'n Moeder wil haar kind stad toe neem, maar die kind weier om saam te gaan

- MOEDER: Helena, ek gaan stad toe. Wil jy nie saamkom nie?
 KIND: Nee, ek wil nie, maar ek wil ook nie by die huis bly nie.
 MOEDER: Hoekom nie, my kind?
 KIND: Ek weet nie. Ek weet nie wat met my aangaan nie.
 MOEDER: Ag, my kind, moenie onsin praat nie. Jy klink soos 'n ou vrou en nie soos 'n kind nie. Jy lei 'n heerlike lewe.
 KIND: Ek dink nie so nie.
 MOEDER: Jy is bederf, dis jou probleem. Kom my kind, ek gaan jou nie alleen hier los nie. Jy moet saamkom.
 KIND: Nee, ek gaan nie en Ma kan my ook nie dwing nie.
 MOEDER: Ek kan en ek gaan. Hou op met hierdie nonsies.

From here on translations of the dialogues will no longer be given. Refer to the Afrikaans-English glossary if they contain words that are new to you.

Language points

Negating a sentence

The word for 'not' is **nie**, and it is normally used in combination with a second **nie**, which reinforces the first and which is placed at the end of the sentence, e.g.

Ek ken nie daardie man nie.

I don't know that man.

The following negative particles are also used in combination with a **nie** placed at the end of the sentence – for the sake of simplicity we'll call this the second **nie**: **geen/g'n** 'no', 'not a/'any', **geeneen** 'not one', **nêrens** 'nowhere', **niemand** 'no-one', 'nobody', **niks** 'nothing', **nooit** 'never', e.g.

Niemand het 'n woord gesê nie.

No one said a word.

Daar het nog niks gebeur nie.

Nothing has happened yet.

If a sentence consists of only a subject and a verb, the second **nie** is not required, but with other negatives the second **nie** is optional in such cases as they end up standing next to each other, e.g.

Ek weet nie.

I don't know.

Hy bid nooit (nie).

He never prays.

Hy weet niks (nie).

He knows nothing.

Only one **nie** is required if a sentence consists of only a subject, one verb and a pronominal object, e.g.

Weet jy dit nie?

Don't you know that?

Ek ken hom nie.

I don't know him.

Compare the following sentences which all require a second **nie**:

Ek kyk nie televisie nie.

I don't watch TV. (with an object that is a noun)

Dit is nie reg nie.

That is not right. (with an adjective)

Jy praat nie duidelik nie.

You're not speaking clearly. (with an adverb)

Jy let nie op nie. (< oplet)

You're not paying attention. (with a separable prefix)

If there is more than one verb in a negated clause, a second **nie** is required, e.g.

Hy sal nie kom nie.

He won't come.

Hy het nie gekom nie.

He didn't come/hasn't come.

Exercise 1

Negate the following sentences.

- 1 Johannesburg is die land se hoofstad.
- 2 Die land is arm.
- 3 Ken jy sy vrou?
- 4 Ken jy haar?
- 5 Ons het 'n motor. (*two possibilities*)
- 6 Het jy 'n fiets? (*two possibilities*)
- 7 Ons gaan braai.
- 8 Ek sien iemand. (*two possibilities*)
- 9 Ek het hulle.
- 10 Sy gaan saam.

Exercise 2

Translate the following sentences.

- 1 They haven't got any children. (*two possibilities*)
- 2 Haven't you got my keys? No, and Jan hasn't got them either. (See p. 75 for 'either'.)
- 3 How come the government hasn't built more houses for these people?
- 4 I'm not ringing him up.
- 5 I'm not doing it.
- 6 It simply (= **net**) isn't possible. Why isn't it possible?

7 He won't help you, and she won't either.

8 What are you doing at the moment? Nothing.

9 Nobody likes (= **hou van**) this programme. Why not?

All the above examples relate to sentences consisting of only one clause. However, in a sentence consisting of two clauses, where the first clause is negated, the second **nie** is placed at the end of the second clause, not at the end of the first, e.g.

Ek het nie geweet dat hy sou kom nie.

I didn't know that he would be coming. (a subordinate clause)

Ons het nooit die mense geken wat in hierdie huis gebly het nie.

We never knew the people that lived in this house. (a relative clause)

Dis nie so moeilik om Afrikaans te leer nie.

It isn't that difficult to learn Afrikaans. (an infinitive clause)

If only the second clause is negated, the following occurs:

Ek het geweet dat hy nie sou kom nie.

I knew that he wouldn't be coming.

If both clauses are negated, the first clause contains only one **nie** while the second contains two, which is consistent with the above, e.g.

Ek het nie geweet dat hy nie sou kom nie.

I didn't know he wouldn't be coming.

If the clause following a negated main clause is a coordinate clause (i.e. one introduced by **en**, **maar**, **of** or **want**), the second **nie** is placed at the end of the main clause, not at the end of the sentence, e.g.

Hulle kan nie kom nie want hulle het mense.

They can't come because they have visitors.

Sy het niks verdien nie maar ek het.

She didn't earn anything but I did.

Dialogue 2 

Koos praat met Jan oor sy ouers

JAN: Koos, woon jou ouers nie op Robertson nie?

Koos: Nee, hulle woon lankal nie meer daar nie, man. Die plek was nie groot genoeg vir hulle nie.

JAN: Maar hulle het nie altyd so gedink nie, hè?

- Koos: Weet jy, hulle weet eintlik nie waar hulle wil woon nie.
Hulle sal ook nie noodwendig bly waar hulle op die oomblik woon nie, hoewel hulle nie so lank gelede nie soontoe verhuis het. G'n plek is goed genoeg vir hulle nie.
- JAN: Kan jy nie 'n bietjie invloed op hulle uitoefen nie?
- Koos: Man, niemand kan vir my pa raad gee nie. Hy dink hy weet alles, maar in werklikheid weet hy niks nie. En hy sou beslis nooit na my luister nie.

Language points

The most difficult aspect of negation in Afrikaans is where to place the second **nie**, which has been explained above, but there are also a few things to learn about where to place the first **nie** (or **nooit**). The first **nie** always follows pronoun objects, e.g.

Hy ken my nie.

He doesn't know me.

Hy het my nie gesien nie.

He didn't see me.

Hy gee my nooit iets nie.

He never gives me anything.

A certain freedom exists as to the position of the first **nie** in clauses containing noun direct objects, e.g.

Ek het nog nooit 'n kar gehad nie or

Ek het 'n kar nog nooit gehad nie.

I've never had a car.

The first **nie** can also stand either before or after (indirect) objects preceded by **aan** or **vir**, e.g.

Politici gee nooit vir ons waarborgie nie or

Politici gee vir ons nooit waarborgie nie.

Politicians never give us guarantees.

The same choice of word order exists with regard to adverbial expressions of time, e.g.

Ek het nie gister geweet dat hy nie vandag sou kom nie or

Ek het gister nie geweet dat hy vandag nie sou kom nie (or any combination of these two).

I didn't know yesterday that he wouldn't be coming today.

The first **nie** always precedes **altyd** 'always', **dikwels** 'often', **gewoonlik** 'usually' and expressions such as **elke jaar/maand/week** 'every year/month/week', all of which have a connotation of repetition, e.g.

Daar is nie altyd 'n watertekort nie.

There's not always a water shortage.

Die mynwerkers gaan nie elke maand huis toe nie.

The miners don't go home every month.

The first **nie** always precedes adverbial expressions of manner, e.g.

Ek gaan vandag nie met die bus nie (maar met die motor).

I'm not going by bus today (but by car).

But the position of **nie** can depend on what you want to stress, i.e. 'not today, but tomorrow' or 'not by bus, but by car'.

Ek gaan nie vandag met die bus nie (maar mōre wel).

I'm not going by bus today (but I am tomorrow).

The first **nie** usually precedes adverbial expressions of place, e.g.

Hy het nie in Kaapstad gewoon nie.

He didn't live in Cape Town.

Hy het nooit by die huis gerook nie.

He never smoked at home.

Dialogue 3

Jan praat met Koos oor sy werk

JAN: Koos, weet jy, ek is moeg vir my werk. Ek dink ek gaan bedank.

Koos: Moenie dit doen nie, man. Jy sal nie in hierdie tyd ander werk kry nie.

JAN: Ag, ek weet nie. My swaer sê hy kan nie genoeg mense vind om by sy motorhawe te werk nie.

Koos: Ja, maar jy wil nie vir hom werk nie. Hy's skelm.

JAN: Hy is nie.

Koos: Hy is, en jy weet dit baie goed.

Language points

In colloquial Afrikaans both the first and the second **nie** are commonly assimilated to the final consonant of a preceding word in spoken Afrikaans, e.g. **ek wetie < weet nie** ‘I don’t know’ (compare ‘dunno’), **hy sallie < sal nie** ‘he won’t’, **hy hettie gekommie < het nie gekom nie** and the very commonly used but humorously intended **makie sakie < Dit maak nie saak nie** ‘It doesn’t matter’. The last line of the following limerick employs just such a contraction to rhyme with the place name Bethulie:

‘n Stuitige man van Bethulie **stuitig** ‘cheeky’, **Bethulie** ‘a place name’

Was rērig ‘n vreeslike boelie, **rērig** ‘really’, **boelie** ‘bully’
Hy kielie jou sommer **kielie** ‘to tickle’, **sommer** ‘for no reason’
So met sy komkommer, **komkommer** ‘cucumber’
En sê dan dis nie bedoelie. **dis nie bedoelie < dit is nie**
bedoel nie, bedoel ‘to mean’

(from *Die Deng van Gauteng* by Philip de Vos, Human & Rousseau, Cape Town, 1996)

Dialogue 4

Ronel en Piet se geld raak op

RONEL: Piet, jy het vandag bank toe gegaan, nè?

PIET: Ja, ek het. Hoekom?

RONEL: Ek het vandag nuwe skoene gekoop en het nie veel geld oor nie.

PIET: Ek ook nie, want ek moes ‘n klomp rekenings betaal. Trouens, ek het nog nooit soveel geld op een dag uitgegee nie.

Language points

The common question tags ‘isn’t it?’, ‘won’t he?’, ‘shouldn’t they?’ are all expressed very simply in Afrikaans by **nè?** or somewhat more formally by **nie waar nie?**, e.g.

Hy woon nou op Orkney, nè/nie waar nie?

He now lives in Orkney, doesn’t he?

See p. 12 for ‘is he?’, ‘was she?’, ‘are they?’, etc.

‘Much’/‘many’ in combination with a negative is usually expressed by **veel**, not **baie** (see p. 143), e.g.

Hy weet ook nie veel nie.

He doesn’t know much either. (NB **ook nie** = not either)

‘Not yet’ is **nog nie**, whereas **nog nooit** expresses ‘never ever’, e.g.

Die rand het nog nie herstel nie.

The rand has not recovered yet.

Hy was nog nooit in Suid-Afrika nie.

He has never ever been to South Africa.

The following positive-negative couplets should be noted: **êrens/nêrens ... nie** ‘somewhere’/‘nowhere’, **iemand/niemand ... nie** ‘somebody’/‘nobody’, **iets/niks ... nie** ‘something’/‘nothing’, **ooit/nooit ... nie** ‘ever’/‘never’.

Exercise 3

Negate the following sentences.

- 1 Suid-Afrika is ‘n klein land.
- 2 Die meerderheid het vir Mandela gekies.
- 3 Die Olimpiese Spele sal in 2004 in Suid-Afrika gehou word.
- 4 Negate the previous sentence again adding **maar in ‘n ander land**.
- 5 Ek ken haar.
- 6 Ons ken vir hom baie goed.
- 7 Sy kon altyd Afrikaans praat.
- 8 Hoe lank het julle gewag? Lank. (Negate only the answer.)
- 9 Hoekom kan jy vars brood op Sondag kry?
- 10 Hy het ‘n vakansiehuis op Plettenbergbaai.

Exercise 4

Negate the following complex sentences assuming that only the main clause (i.e. the first clause) is in the negative.

- 1 Ek sal daarvoor betaal hoewel ek dit bestel het.
- 2 Sy het ‘n kat se kans om vir die span gekies te word. (The expression **‘n kat se kans hê** is only used in the negative.)

- 3 Hy is iemand van wie almal hou.
- 4 Die land se paaie, wat miljoene gekos het, is baie goed.
- 5 Die land se paaie, wat baie goed is, het verskriklik baie gekos.
(Negate the relative clause only.)
- 6 Die land se paaie, wat baie goed is, het verskriklik baie gekos.
(Negate the main clause only.)
- 7 Die land se paaie, wat baie goed is, het verskriklik baie gekos.
(Negate both clauses.)
- 8 Die parlementsgebou is in Kaapstad omdat dit die land se hoofstad is.

Exercise 5

Insert the second **nie** in the correct position.

- 1 Die plaas is nie duur, dus kan ons dit koop.
- 2 My vader sal jou niks gee, tensy jy eers jou rekening betaal.
- 3 Nie ver van die huis af het die bliksem die boom getref.
- 4 Ons gaan nie dorp toe, aangesien dit reën.
- 5 Die kind is nie lui, maar swak.

Exercise 6

The following instructions occur on a sign at the foot of Stellenboschberg, a nature reserve. Answer the question **Wat alles mag 'n mens in hierdie reservaat nie doen nie?** by rephrasing the rules using **jy mag nie ... nie**.

Example: 1 Afwyk van die wandelpaaie is verbode.

Jy mag nie van die wandelpaaie afwyk nie.

- 2 Geen trapfietse, motorfietse of ander voertuie word toegelaat nie. (Use **ry** 'to ride'.)
- 3 Vuurmaak streng verbode.
- 4 Honde slegs aan leibande toegelaat. (Use **laat rondhardloop** 'to let run around'.)
- 5 Jag verbode.
- 6 Pluk van blomme en beskadiging van plante streng verbode. (Use the verbs **pluk** 'to pick' and **beskadig** 'to damage'.)
- 7 Rommelstrooery sal vervolg word. (Use the verb **strooi** 'to scatter'.)

(Rules 2 and 7 contain passive constructions, which are discussed on p. 167.)

Culture point

There are a number of recognised English loanwords in Afrikaans, like **boelie** in the limerick on p. 74, which are now written as if they were Afrikaans words, e.g. **brekfis** 'breakfast', **budjie** 'budgie', **empaaier** 'empire', **enjin** 'engine', **jellie** 'jelly', **klub** 'club', **têkkies** 'runners'. But there are many more English words which you will commonly hear but which would never be written, e.g. **grand, issue, moan, nice, obviously, organise, shame, worry**. Of course Afrikaans speakers are likely at any time to use any English word at all, but the words just given are repeatedly used, as are numerous others.

7 Asking the way

In this lesson you will learn about:

- further tips on the use of **moet**
- past tense of **hoeft**
- the use of **beter** as a verb
- past tense of the verb **dink**
- points of the compass

Dialogue 1

'n Toeris in Stellenbosch vra iemand hoe om by die poskantoor te kom

TOERIS: Ekskuus, Meneer. Kan jy asseblief vir my verduidelik hoe ek by die poskantoor moet kom?

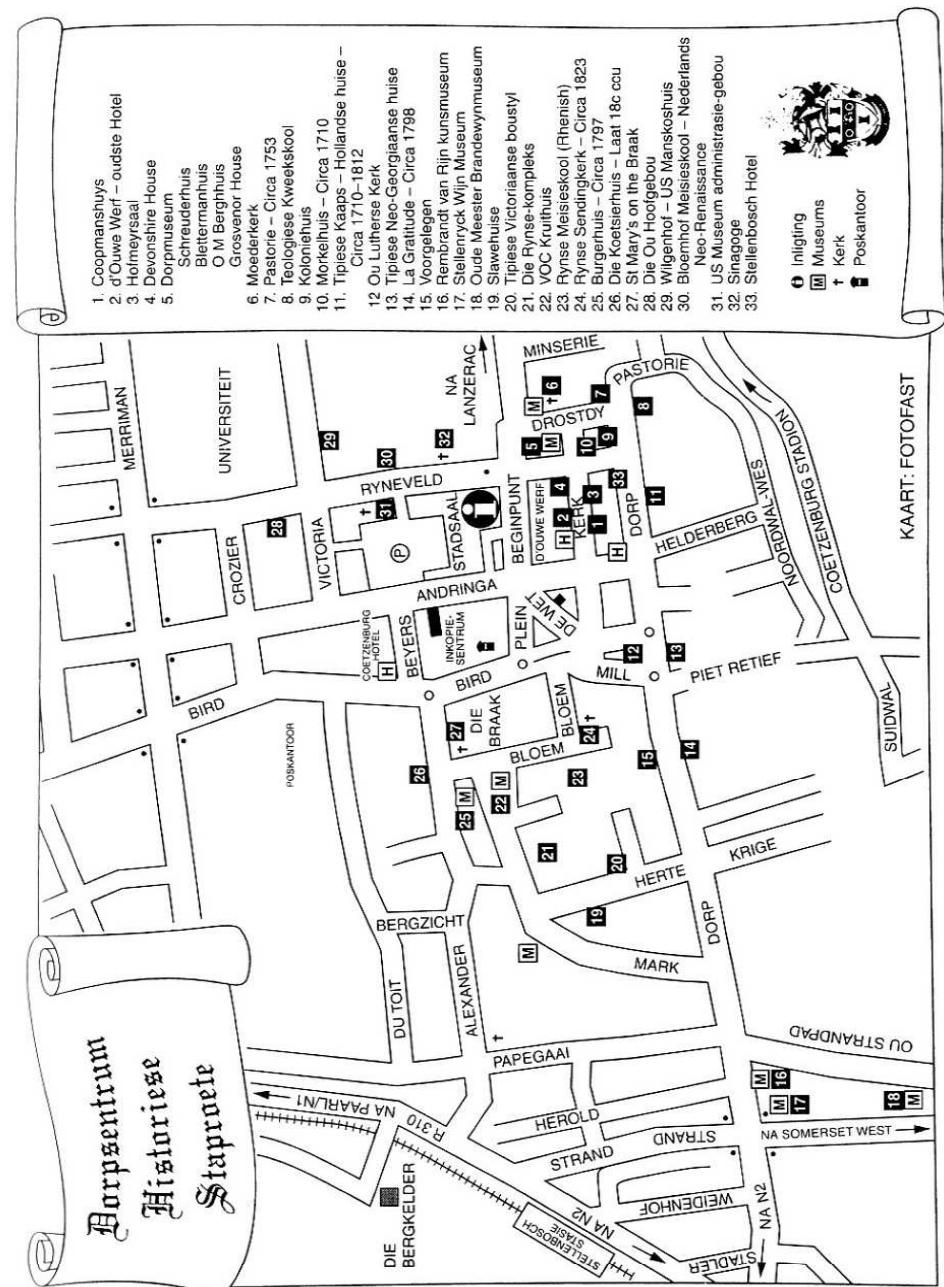
STELLENBOSSER: Ja, sekerlik, Mevrou. Gaan reguit tot aan die einde van hierdie straat, draai links op die hoek van Birdstraat, en draai regs by die volgende kruispunt. Stap dan reguit tot by die eerste verkeersligte en dan sal jy die poskantoor aan jou regterhand vind, teenoor die tuisnywerheid. Baie dankie, Meneer. Ek hoop ek sal dit kan onthou.

STELLENBOSSER: Indien nie, vra enigiemand. Almal weet dit.

TOERIS: Nou maar goed. Ek sal. Baie dankie.

STELLENBOSSER: Plesier. Tot siens.

TOERIS: Tot siens, Meneer.



Exercise 1

Study the map of the centre of Stellenbosch and answer the following questions – you will have to consult the key on the right of the map to find out which numbers refer to the buildings that have to be found.

- 1 In watter straat staan die ou Lutherse kerk?
- 2 Dis Saterdag en jy is 'n Joodse student aan die US. Watter gebou soek jy en in watter straat staan dit?
- 3 Jy gaan die naweek in Stellenbosch deurbring en jy wil in die mees historiese hotel in die dorp bly. In watter hotel gaan jy bly en in watter straat staan dit?
- 4 Jy is 'n manlike student aan die US. In watter gebou woon jy en in watter straat staan dit. Wat staan aan die oorkant van die straat?
- 5 Op watter hoek staan die poskantoor?
- 6 Watter pad neem 'n mens van Stellenbosch Paarl (pronounced **Pérel**) toe?

Dialogue 2



Op die poskantoor

WERKER: Môre, Meneer.

KLANT: Môre. Ek het 'n vyf-rand posseël op hierdie brief na Amerika geplak. Is dit genoeg.

WERKER: Meneer, moenie meer as nodig betaal nie. 'n Brief Amerika toe kos net vier rand vyftig. Mens hoef nie meer as dit te betaal nie.

KLANT: Ag, wat. Dis net vyftig sent meer.

WERKER: Ja, maar ek wil nie hê Meneer moet meer betaal as nodig nie.

KLANT: Dit maak nie saak nie. Wat kos 'n poskaart Europa toe?

WERKER: Twee rand sestig.

KLANT: Dis nou wratig duur. Ek was van plan om tien kaartjies te stuur, maar ek hoef eintlik nie so veel te stuur nie. Gee my vyf keer twee rand sestig, asseblief.

WERKER: Reg, Meneer.

Language points

Further tips on the use of moet

When **moet** ‘must’ is negated, there are two possibilities depending on the meaning. ‘Mustn’t’ (i.e. a prohibition) is rendered by **moenie** (< **moet nie**), but ‘don’t have to’ (i.e. no compulsion to) is rendered by **hoef nie**, e.g.

Jy moet gaan inkopies doen.

You have to go shopping.

Jy moenie gaan inkopies doen nie.

You mustn’t go shopping.

Jy hoef nie inkopies te gaan doen nie.

You don’t have to go shopping.

Note that despite the fact that **hoef** is a modal verb, unlike all other modals any infinitive dependent on it is preceded by **te**.

Moenie die wêrld platloop nie!

... koop per
foon



geelbladsye®



Los die voetslaan vir jou vingers

The form **moenie** is also used to render the imperative ‘don’t’ (see p. 74), e.g.

Moenie dit doen nie. (More emphatic is the form **Moet dit nie doen nie.**)

Don’t do that.

Moenie dink dat ek kwaad vir jou is nie.

Don't think I am angry with you.

Moenie dat hulle dit sien nie.

Don't let them see it.

A further use of **moet** that has no parallel in English is its use in the following expression:

Ek wil hê jy moet jou kamer opruim = Ek wil hê dat jy jou kamer (moet) opruim.

I want you to tidy up your room.

Ons wou hê elke ete moes anders wees.

We wanted every meal to be different.

Note that if the conjunction **dat** is omitted, **moet** must be used, but if it is inserted, **moet** is optional.

Exercise 2

Form negative imperative sentences from the following couplets.

Example: die deur/toemaak

Moenie die deur toemaak nie!

- 1 nou/opstaan
- 2 jou broer/nooi
- 3 hierdie vis/eet
- 4 die geld/aanneem
- 5 later/kom
- 6 die venster/oopmaak
- 7 al jou geld/uitgee

Past tense of hoef

Although the verb **hoef**, which is always used in combination with a negative, is a modal verb, unlike **kan**, **moet** and **wil**, its simple past form has not survived. Afrikaans thus employs the following construction to express the past tense of this verb, e.g.

Hy hoef nie (saam) te gaan nie, maar hy sal. (present tense)

He doesn't have to go (along) but he will.

Hy hoef nie (saam) te gegaan het nie, maar hy het. (past tense)

He didn't have to go (along) but he did.

Another modal verb that forms its past tense in exactly the same way is **durf** 'to dare', e.g.

Hy durf dit nie te doen nie. (present tense)

He doesn't dare do it.

Hy durf dit nie te gedoen het nie. (past tense)

He didn't dare do it.

The past tense of the modal verb **mag** 'to be allowed to', 'may' used to be **mog**, but this is now chiefly found only in literary texts. In speech and normal writing it is avoided:

Ek is/was nie toegelaat om dit te doen nie.

I wasn't allowed to do it.

Another option is to render the past of **mag** as follows:

Ek mag dit nie gedoen het nie.

But **mag gedoen het** also expresses possibility, i.e. 'may have done', e.g.

Hy mag sy motor (dalk) al verkoop het.

He may already have sold his car.

The use of beter as a verb

While on the topic of modal verbs your attention should be drawn to the colloquial, but very common use of **beter** as a verb. It is derived from English 'better' from 'had better' and is usually used as in English as a mild warning to do something, e.g.

Jy beter nou jou huiswerk doen as jy vanaand wil uitgaan.

You'd better do your homework now if you want to go out tonight.

Purists would insist on using the modal **moet** + **liewer** ('preferably'), e.g.

Jy moet liewer nou jou huiswerk doen ...**Past tense of the verb dink**

The verb **dink** 'to think' can form its past in five ways: **het gedink**, **dag/dog**, **het gedag/gedog**. All five forms of the past tense of **dink**

can be synonymous and completely interchangeable, e.g.

Hy dag/dog ek sou eers môre kom or
Hy het gedag/gedog/gedink ek sou eers môre kom.
 He thought I wouldn't be coming until tomorrow.

But in the sense of 'thinking of' someone, only **het gedink** can be used, e.g.

Ek het heeldag aan jou gedink. (the only possibility here)
 I thought of you all day.

Exercise 3

Put the following sentences into the past tense.

- 1 Hy mag weer werk.
- 2 Sy moenie hier bly nie.
- 3 Ons wil Kaap toe ry.
- 4 Sy dink nog elke dag aan haar oorlede moeder.
- 5 Ek dink hy woon in Pietersburg.
- 6 Hy durf haar nie help nie.
- 7 Hy wil hê ek moet hom met sy huiswerk help.
- 8 Ek moet hom in die hospitaal besoek.

Dialogue 3

'n Huishoudelike twis tussen moeder en dogter

MOEDER: Annetjie, ek wil hê jy moet my met die opwas help, asseblief.

DOGTER: Ag, Ma! Moet ek? Ek wou nou juis my huiswerk doen.

MOEDER: Wragting! Dis die eerste keer dat ek jou dit hoor sê het. Jy hoef my nie te help nie, as jy nou werklik jou huiswerk gaan doen, maar moenie dit net as 'n verskoning gebruik nie.

DOGTER: Ja, ja.

MOEDER: Maar wag 'n bietjie. Ek het gedog jy het nie hierdie naweek huiswerk nie, want Maandag is 'n openbare vakansiedag, hè?

DOGTER: Ag ja, dis reg. Ek het vergeet.

MOEDER: Hoekom jok jy dan so net omdat jy te lui is om my te wil help? Ek kan dit nie glo nie.

DOGTER: Ek is jammer, Ma. Natuurlik sal ek Ma help skottelgoed was.

MOEDER: Ja, ek dink jy beter.

Language points

Points of the compass

The four points of the compass are **die noorde**, **suide**, **weste** and **ooste**, e.g.

Ons bly in die ooste van die land.

We live in the east of the country.

Compounds of these points are formed as follows: **die suidooste**, **die noordwste**, etc. Winds are referred to as '**n noordooster** or '**n noordostewind** 'a north-easterly', etc., but if blowing from one of the four cardinal points they are called '**n noordewind/suidewind** 'a northerly'/southerly', etc. Compare **die noordekant**, etc. 'the northern side'. Note that the notorious wind that blows incessantly in Cape Town in summer is called **die Suidoos**.

'North of', etc. is rendered either by **noord van** or by **ten noorde van**, e.g.

Hulle plaas lê oos van/ten ooste van die rivier.

Their farm lies (to the) east of the river.

Note the forms **wes** and **oos** have no 't'.

'Northern', etc. is **noordelik**, etc., except when it occurs in an official place name, when it is **Noord-**, etc., e.g. **die noordelike voorstede van Johannesburg** 'the northern suburbs of Johannesburg' and **die noordelike/suidelike halfond** 'the northern/southern hemisphere', but **Wes-Europa** 'Western Europe', **die Oos-Vrystaat** 'the Eastern Free State'. Note the use of such words in the names of some of the nine provinces: **die Noordelike Provincie**, **die Noord-Kaap**, **die Noord-Wes**, **die Wes-Kaap** and **die Oos-Kaap**. Note too **suidwaarts** 'southward', **suidweswaarts** 'south-westward', etc.

In the expressions 'Southern Cross' and 'Southern Africa', **suider** is used instead of **suidelik**, i.e. **Suiderkruis**, **Suider-Afrika**.

8 Colours

In this lesson you will learn about:

- colours
- adjectives used as nouns
- reflexive verbs
- use of **myself, jouself**, etc. with reflexive verbs
- getting dressed and clothing

Dialogue 1

Annetjie kla oor Ernst se ou hemp

- ANNETJIE: Ag, Ernst, jy gaan nie al weer daardie ou blou hemp van jou dra nie.
- ERNST: Hoekom nie? Jy weet mos dat ek van blou hou.
- ANNETJIE: Dis nie jou enigste blou hemp nie.
- ERNST: Miskien nie, maar dis my gunstelinghemp.
- ANNETJIE: Ek gaan vir jou nog 'n rooi en 'n geel en 'n pienk hemp koop.
- ERNST: 'n Pienk hemp? Nooit nie. Oor my dooie liggaam!

Language points

Colours

beige	beige (pronounced as in English)	groen	green
blou	blue	grys	grey
bruin	brown	oranje	orange
geel	yellow	pers	purple
		pienk	pink

rooi	red	vaal	fawn
skarlaken	scarlet	(naas)wit	(off-)white
swart	black		

None of the adjectives above are inflected when they stand before a noun, e.g. **die rooi motor** 'the red car'. But colour adjectives, like all adjectives, can take an -e(s) when used as nouns, e.g. **die bloue (= die blou een/ene/enetjie)** 'the blue one', **die rooies** 'the red ones' (see Language points, below).

Prefixes are applied to the above colours as in English, e.g. **ligblou** 'light blue', **diepblou** 'deep blue', **donkergroen** 'dark green', **heldergeel** 'bright yellow'; compare '**'n ligte/donker groen** 'a light/dark green', etc.

By means of the suffix **-kleurig** 'coloured', which is not stressed in such words, shades of colour derived from nouns can be expressed, e.g. **appelkooskleurig** 'apricot', **olyfkleurig** 'olive(-coloured)', **roomkleurig** 'cream(-coloured)', **effekleurig** 'all one colour'. The ending **-erig** renders '-ish', e.g. **rooierig** 'reddish', **blouerig** 'bluish'. All adjectives ending in **-kleurig** and **-erig**, being polysyllabic, take an **-e** ending before a noun.

'Black and white' is **swart-en-wit**, whereas 'to have something in black and white' (i.e. on paper) is **iets swart op wit hê**.

Dialogue 2

Ernst het 'n skêr nodig

- ERNST: Gaan haal asseblief vir my die skêr, Annetjie.
- ANNETJIE: Die grote of die kleintjie?
- ERNST: Die groot skêr, asseblief.
- ANNETJIE: Ek kry net die klein skêr. Wat wil jy sny?
- ERNST: 'n Ou laken.
- ANNETJIE: Nie die wit fluweel een nie?
- ERNST: Nee, nie die witte nie, die blou een (= die bloue).

Language points

Adjectives used as nouns

All adjectives take **-e** when used as nouns after articles, demonstratives and possessives, e.g. '**'n grote** 'a big one', **die grote** 'the big

one', **hierdie grote** 'this big one', **jou grote** 'your big one'. The plural of these forms is **die grotes** 'the big ones', etc.

Exercise 1

The following phrases should be read as meaning 'a just one', 'a blue one', etc., which means they will all take an **-e** ending. Inflect these adjectives applying the appropriate spelling changes where required.

Example: **'n droog ... = 'n droë** (= 'a dry one')

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 'n regverdig ... | 13 'n nuut ... |
| 2 'n blou ... | 14 'n hoog ... |
| 3 'n baie sterk ... | 15 'n vaag ... |
| 4 'n koel ... | 16 'n wonderlik ... |
| 5 'n vars ... | 17 'n ru ... |
| 6 'n geel ... | 18 'n leeg ... |
| 7 'n vinnig ... | 19 'n goed ... |
| 8 'n lig ... | 20 'n half ... |
| 9 'n gaaf ... | 21 'n dom ... |
| 10 'n lank ... | 22 'n groot ... |
| 11 'n jonk ... | 23 'n ryp ... |
| 12 'n styf ... | 24 'n rooi ... |

Dialogue 3

Stefan is geskok dat sy vriend so vet geword het

STEFAN: Man, jy lyk verskriklik.

KOOS: Ja, ek het gister verjaar en ek het my ooreet.

STEFAN: Maar jy het ook vet geword.

KOOS: Miskien, maar ek steur my glad nie aan wat ander mense van my dink nie.

STEFAN: Dit is natuurlik jou reg, maar ek is bekommerd oor jou, man.

KOOS: Maar jy moet jou nie verbeel dat jy so maer is nie.

Language points

Reflexive verbs

A reflexive verb: I scratched myself.

The concept of reflexive verbs is a difficult one to grasp. They exist in English too, but there are a lot more of them in Afrikaans and they contain several pitfalls for the learner. This is one aspect of Afrikaans grammar that is in the process of being heavily influenced by English, which has already led to many previously reflexive verbs no longer requiring a reflexive pronoun, or where the pronoun is optional.

Take a verb like **verdedig** 'to defend'. If you defend someone else or something, there is no problem, e.g.

Sy ma verdedig hom altyd.

His mother always defends him.

Die strydmagte verdedig die land.

The armed forces defend the country.

But the verb 'to defend oneself/yourself' you learn in the form **jou verdedig**, and you conjugate it as follows:

Ek verdedig my.

I defend myself.

Jy verdedig jou.

You defend yourself.

U verdedig u.

You defend yourself.

Hy verdedig hom.

He defends himself.

Sy verdedig haar.

She defends herself.

Ons verdedig ons.

We defend ourselves.

Julle verdedig julle.

You defend yourselves.

Hulle verdedig hulle.

They defend themselves.

The **my**, **jou**, **hom**, etc. in this case, although the same as object pronouns, are called reflexive pronouns and are used where the doer of the verb does the action of the verb to him or herself, i.e. the action reflects back on the subject of the verb.

Where third person forms of address (see p. 11) are used, the same word is used as the reflexive pronoun, e.g. **jou verveel** 'to get/be bored'.

Het Ma Ma op die partytjie verveel? = Het jy jou op die partytjie verveel?

Did you get bored at the party?

The reflexive and non-reflexive use of a verb like **verdedig** above runs parallel with English and is thus a good point to start in coming to grips with reflexive verbs. However, the real difficulty lies in those verbs that require a reflexive pronoun in Afrikaans, but don't in English. Examples of such verbs are (**hom**) **afspeel** 'to take place' (only occurs in the third person), **jou haas** 'to hurry up', (**jou**) **omdraai** 'to turn around', (**jou**) **onttrek** 'to withdraw', **jou ooreet** 'to overeat', **jou opwen** 'to get agitated', (**jou**) **skeer** 'to shave', (**jou**) **verslaap** 'to oversleep', **jou verskuil** 'to hide', **jou vestig** 'to settle'. The pronouns in parentheses indicate where these verbs have commonly dispensed with their reflexive pronoun. Dictionaries tend to be conservative in this respect, often not indicating that the pronoun has become optional.

Haas jou!

Sy het (haar) omgedraai.

Ek het my ooreet.

Die oompie het hom vreeslik opgewen.

Hy het hom in die kas verskuil. He hid in the cupboard.

Hurry up!

She turned around.

I overate.

The old bloke got terribly agitated.

Note that reflexivity is not merely limited to use with personal subjects, e.g.

Die haai-aanval het (hom) voor hul oë afgespeel.

The shark attack took place before their eyes.

Such uses of the reflexive simply have to be accepted as part of the idiom of the language and must be mastered.

Note that the reflexive pronoun required when the subject of the verb is '**n mens**' is **jou**, e.g.

'n Mens kan jou kwalik iets bedenklikers indink.

One can hardly imagine anything more suspicious.

The reflexive pronoun always stands after the finite verb, whether that verb is the reflexive verb itself (see a, below) or an auxiliary verb (see b, below); in a subordinate clause only the finite verb moves to the end of the clause, while the reflexive pronoun retains its position after the subject (see c, below), e.g. **jou verset teen** 'to resist':

a **Hy verset hom toe teen die besluit.**

He (then) resisted the decision.

b **Hy gaan hom teen die besluit verset.**

He is going to resist the decision.

c **Ek weet dat hy hom teen die besluit gaan verset.**

I know he is going to resist the decision.

Dialogue 4

'n Meningsverskil tussen 'n man en sy vrou na 'n partytjie

VROU: Hendrik, jy het jou gisteraand by die Van der Merwes baie sleg gedra.

MAN: Wat ekke*? Wat bedoel jy?

VROU: Eerstens het jy jou nie geskeer nie, tweedens het jy jou nie aan Ronel se ouers voorgestel nie, derdens het jy jou op die partytjie ooreet, en laastens toe jy te veel gedrink het, het jy jou aan die hele geselskap onttrek om op die toilet te gaan slaap. Ek het my dood geskaam.

MAN: Ag man, moenie jou so opwen oor sulke kleinighede nie. Ek kan my nie voorstel dat die Van der Merwes hulle in die minste aan my gedrag gesteur het nie.

VROU: As jy dit dink, dan misgis jy jou heeltemal.

MAN: Jy het jou verveel. Dit was vir almal duidelik. Ek weet tenminste hoe om my te geniet.

VROU: As jy sulke gedrag 'jou geniet' noem, voel ek jammer vir jou, want dan is daar aan jou geen salf te smeer nie.

Exercise 2

Translate the following sentences, which all contain a reflexive verb in Afrikaans, using the reflexive verbs given in parentheses.

- 1 The children are getting bored. (**jou verveel**)
- 2 Stoffel behaved very badly. (**jou gedra**)
- 3 The children must behave themselves. (**jou gedra**)
- 4 You are mistaken. (**jou vergis**) (Use **jy**.)
- 5 I am ashamed. (**jou skaam**)
- 6 The children couldn't behave themselves. (**jou gedra**)
- 7 We then found ourselves in a difficult situation. (**jou bevind**)
- 8 He introduced himself to the bank manager. (**jou voorstel**)
- 9 Do you know that he has withdrawn from the course? (**jou onttrek aan**)
- 10 The squatters settled on the Cape Flats in the 1960s. (**jou vestig**)

* **Ekke** is an emphatic form of **ek**.

Language points

Use of myself, jouself, etc. with reflexive verbs

The reflexive pronouns given above also occur with the addition of **-self**, e.g. **myself**, **jouself**, **homself**, **haarself**, **onsself**, **Jul(le)self**, **hul(le)self**, etc. Despite the similarity with English ‘myself’, ‘yourself’, etc. these forms should only be used where a certain emphasis is required, i.e. where one needs to stress that the action is being performed on the doer of the verb and not on someone else, e.g.

Piet het sy pa geskeer, want sy pa was siek, en toe het hy homself geskeer.

Piet shaved his dad, because his dad was ill, and then he shaved himself.

Sy het eers haar kinders probeer beskerm en toe haarsel.

She first tried to protect her children and then herself.

This too is an aspect of Afrikaans that is currently being heavily influenced by English in that the forms with **-self** are used in contexts where no particular emphasis or contrast is implied as in the above examples, e.g.

Hy het homself ooreet.

He has overeaten.

Ek het myself daar tuisgemaak.

I made myself at home there.

Gedra jouself!

Behave (yourself)!

Note how ‘myself’, etc. is expressed when it is not part of a reflexive verb, i.e. when it means ‘on one’s own’:

Ek moes dit self doen.

I had to do it myself.

Hy het die hele huis self geverf.

He painted the whole house himself.

Dialogue 5

‘n Moeder wil hê haar kind moet hom aantrek

MOEDER: Jannie, trek gou-gou aan.

JANNIE: Ek het niks om te dra nie, Ma. Al my klere is vuil.

MOEDER: Onsin. Trek die nuwe klere aan wat jy van jou ouma vir jou verjaarsdag gekry het.

JANNIE: Nee, ek wil dit nie dra nie en buitendien pas die broek my nie.

MOEDER: Hoe kan jy dit sê? Jy het dit nog nie eers aangepas nie. JANNIE: Ek het.

MOEDER: Nee, jy het nie. Kom, trek hierdie broek aan. (*na ’n rukkie*) Kyk dit lyk pragtig. Daardie broek pas baie goed.

Language points

Getting dressed and clothing

Getting dressed and undressed are expressed by the reflexive verbs **jou aantrek** and **jou uittrek**, but here too these verbs often dispense with the reflexive pronoun, e.g.

Ek gaan my net gou aantrek.

I’m just going to get dressed quickly.

Arno het hom uitgetrek.

Arno (has) got undressed.

But the verbs **aantrek** and **uittrek** also render ‘to put on’ and ‘to take off’ clothes respectively, in which case they are never used reflexively as there is an object involved, e.g.

Hy trek sy nuwe skoene aan. He’s putting on his new shoes.

Sy het haar nuwe rok uitgetrek. She took off her new dress.

‘To get changed’ is best expressed by **ander klere aantrek**, e.g.

Sy gaan net gou ander klere aantrek.

She’s just going to get changed quickly.

And thus to change any item of apparel is expressed as follows:

Sy het ’n ander rok aangetrek. She changed her dress.

Handy expressions associated with clothing:

aanpas

to try on

aanpaskamer

fitting room

pas

to fit, to suit

dra

to wear

Watter grootte hemp/broek dra jy?

What size shirt/trousers do you take?

Ek dra/is ’n 36.

I take/am a size 36.

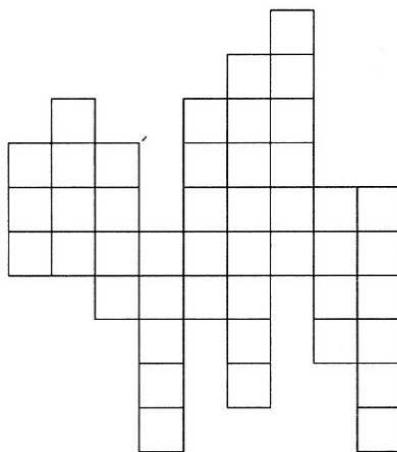
Hierdie bloesie is te styf.
Dit pas goed/reg/mooi.
Dit pas jou.
Dit pas jou nie.
Dit lyk nie goed nie.

This blouse is too tight.
 It fits nicely.
 It fits/suits you.
 It doesn't fit/suit you.
 It doesn't look good.

Exercise 3

Look up the Afrikaans words for the following items of apparel and fill them in vertically from left to right. If you get them all right, the name of a South African city will appear across the middle. **Waarvoor is dié stad bekend?** (antwoord in Afrikaans)

dress, pullover, skirt, trousers, shoe, dressing gown, belt, shirt,
 silk stocking



< pleknaam hier

Song

Sarie Marais (pronounce Marais as in French with a silent s) is Afrikaans-speaking South Africa's best known and most loved folk song. The war mentioned in the song is the Boer War (**die Anglo-Boereoorlog** in Afrikaans).

Sarie Marais

My Sarie Marais is so ver van my hart,
 Maar ek hoop om haar weer te sien.

Sy het in die wyk van die Mooirivier gewoon
 Nog voor die oorlog het begin.
 O bring my terug na die ou Transvaal, daar waar my Sarie
 woon,
 Daar onder in die mielies by die groen doringboom,
 Daar woon my Sarie Marais,
 Daar onder in die mielies by die groen doringboom,
 Daar woon my Sarie Marais.

9 Comparing things

In this lesson you will learn about:

- the comparative and superlative of adjectives and adverbs
- similes
- adjectives that act as adverbs qualifying adjectives

Dialogue 1

Ernst en Annetjie praat met mekaar oor Portugal se kolonies

- ERNST: Is Mosambiek kleiner as Angola?
- ANNETJIE: Ja, ek dink Angola is groter.
- ERNST: En Mosambiek is beslis armer, hè?
- ANNETJIE: Ja, Angola is baie ryker as Mosambiek.
- ERNST: Wat was die rykste Portugese kolonie, weet jy?
- ANNETJIE: Ja, Brasilië was ongetwyfeld die rykste.
- ERNST: Ja, natuurlik, 'n ryker land as Brasilië, in elk geval wat sy potensiaal betref, sal jy nie vind nie.
- ANNETJIE: Dis ook die grootste land in Suid-Amerika.
- ERNST: Dis eintlik snaaks om te dink dat so 'n klein land so lank sulke groot lande onder hom gehad het, hè?
- ANNETJIE: Ja, maar jy kan dieselfde van Brittanje sê.
- ERNST: Ja, dis reg.

Vocabulary

beslis	definitely	in elk geval	anyway, in any case
arm	poor	wat ... betref	as far as ... is concerned
ongetwyfeld	undoubtedly	snaaks	funny, odd

Language points

The comparative and superlative of adjectives and adverbs

The comparative of an adjective: This house is *larger*. The *larger* house.

The comparative of an adverb: He speaks *more clearly*.

The superlative of an adjective: The *largest* house.

The superlative of an adverb: He speaks *(the) clearest*.

Generally speaking in English we distinguish between adjectives and adverbs, e.g. 'He is slow' (adjective) and 'He speaks slowly' (adverb, i.e. describing not him, but how he speaks). This distinction is not made in Afrikaans: **Hy is stadig**, **Hy praat stadig**.

Forming the comparative and superlative of the adjective is similar in both languages in terms of the endings used, but the regular spelling changes that apply when pluralising nouns and inflecting adjectives by adding **-e** apply here too when forming the comparative. Look closely at the adjectives below and their comparative forms and you will see the spelling changes dealt with on p. 7 being applied when the **-er** ending is added. There are many other adjectives to which the same changes apply:

breed	broad	breër	wider	breedste	widest
doof	deaf	dower	deafer	doofste	deafest
groot	large	groter	larger	grootste	largest
hoog	high	hoër	higher	hoogste	highest
koud	cold	kouer	colder	koudste	coldest
laag	low	laer	lower	laagste	lowest
oud	old	ouer	older	oudste	oldest
sag	soft	sagter	softer	sagste	softest
vet	fat	vetter	fatter	vetste	fattest

The following adjectives show spelling changes that only apply to the words given here, i.e. they are not representative of a larger group like those above:

jonk	young	jonger	younger	jongste	youngest
laat	late	later	later	laaste	latest
lank	long, tall	langer	longer, taller	langste	longest, taller
nuut	new	nuwer	newer	nuutste	newest

Irregular adverbial comparatives and superlatives:

baie	much, many	meer	more	meeste	most
goed	good	beter	better	beste	best
min	little, few	minder	less, fewer	minste	least, fewest
na	near	nader	nearer	naaste	nearest

Note what happens in the comparative to those that end in **-r**:

duur	expensive	duurder	more expensive
duurste	most expensive		

The previous example illustrates a basic difference between English and Afrikaans. In English there is a point (usually more than two syllables) where it is no longer possible to simply add ‘-er’ and ‘-st’ to the adjective and where we resort to ‘more’ and ‘most’ to express the comparative and superlative. This is not the case in Afrikaans where the endings are applied whatever the length of the adjective, e.g.

interessant interesting **interessanter** interessantste

Use of **meer** and **mees** with the comparative and superlative of the adjective:

Contrary to what has just been stated with regard to the use of ‘more’ and ‘most’ before comparatives and superlatives, **meer** and **mees** are used in certain limited circumstances in Afrikaans. In practice polysyllabic adjectives ending in **-e**, a large number of which are derived from verbs, usually form their comparative and superlative with **meer** and **mees**, e.g.

beskeie	modest	meer beskeie	mees beskeie
verlate	deserted	meer verlate	mees verlate
geïnteresseerd(e)	interested	meer geïnteresseerd	mees geïnteresseerd

When comparative forms with their **-er** ending stand in front of a noun, they are subject to the usual rules governing the inflection of adjectives (i.e. adjectives ending in **-r** do not inflect despite the fact that they may be polysyllabic), but superlatives always inflect, e.g.

'n groter motor a larger car
die grootste motor the largest car



Note: the following English comparatives following ‘the’ require a superlative in Afrikaans:

Hy is die kleinste van die twee. He is the smaller of the two.
Die kleinste seun. The smaller boy.

Dialogue 2

'n Kind praat met haar moeder oor haar pa

KIND: Mamma, is Pappa net so oud soos Annetjie se pa?
MOEDER: Nee, Liefie, hy's beslis jonger as Annetjie s'n.
KIND: Maar hy is ewe lank as hy, nè?
MOEDER: Ek dink so, ja.
KIND: Pa sê hoe langer hoe beter, maar ek dink nie so nie.
Ek wil nooit so lank soos hy word nie.
MOEDER: Jy sal nie. Jy is 'n meisie en meisies word nie so lank soos seuns nie.

Language points

Here are some handy expressions associated with comparatives:

groter/kleiner/langer as	bigger/smaller/taller than
nie so groot/klein/lank soos ... nie	not as big/small/tall as
net so groot/klein/lank soos	just as big/small/tall as

ewe groot/klein/lank as just as big/small/tall as
hoe groter/meer hoe beter the bigger/more the better

Ek is net so lank soos, my pa maar gelukkig nie so vet soos hy nie.

I am just as tall as my father, but fortunately not as fat as him.

My ma is nog langer as my vader en sy is ongelukkig nog vetter as hy.

My mother is even taller than my father and she is unfortunately even fatter than him.

Note that the following extremely common error in English must not be applied to Afrikaans:

Sy is mooier as ek.	She's prettier than me (= I).
Jy is mooier as sy.	You're prettier than her (= she).

The comparative of the adverb is easy because in Afrikaans it does not differ from that of the adjective, e.g.

Ek stap stadiger as jy.	I'm walking more slowly than you.
Jy stap vinniger as ek.	You are walking faster than I.

Note the following expressions involving comparatives:

Sy was mal oor sjokolade en sy het al/steads vetter geword.

She was mad about chocolate and got fatter and fatter.

Die hemel is nog blouer as gister.

The sky is even bluer than yesterday.

Bly julle nie te na aan die berg nie? Hoe nader hoe beter, dink ek.

Don't you live too close to the mountain? The nearer the better, I think.

The superlative of the adverb is formed by adding **-ste** to the root form and putting **die** before it, e.g. **die stadigste** '(the) slowest'. 'The best singer' and 'Who is the best?' (i.e. the superlative of the adjective) are simply **die beste sanger** and **Wie is die beste?**, but 'Who sang (the) best' (i.e. the superlative of the adverb) is **Wie het die beste gesing?** You can usually ascertain whether you are dealing with the superlative of the adverb rather than that of the adjective by asking yourself if 'the' can be omitted – if so, you are dealing with the superlative of the adverb, e.g.

Ek het die vinnigste gery.
I was driving (the) fastest.

Exercise 1

Contradict these false statements as illustrated in the examples:

Example: Tafelberg is net so hoog soos Simonsberg.
Nee, Simonsberg is hoër as Tafelberg.
Nee, Tafelberg is nie so hoog soos Simonsberg nie.

- 1 Die Vrystaat is net so warm soos Natal.
- 2 Die Suid-Afrikaanse rand is net so veel werd soos die Zimbabwe dollar.
- 3 Diere is ewe intelligent as mense.
- 4 Die Indiese Oseaan is groter as die Atlantiese Oseaan.
- 5 Suid-Afrika het net so veel inwoners soos Zimbabwe.

Exercise 2

Translate the following sentences.

- 1 These bananas are riper than those.
- 2 These are the most delicious apples.
- 3 When are potatoes (the) dearest?
- 4 These pears are just as dear as those.
- 5 The boys are just as well-behaved (**soet**) as the girls.
- 6 He spoke even louder (**hard**), but not as loudly as her.
- 7 This is the most interesting building in the city.
- 8 He was more successful (**suksesvol**) than me.
- 9 My uncle is the poorer of the two.

Dialogue 3

Piet vertel Koos van sy hond se dood

- Koos: Piet, jy lyk spierwit? Wat makeer jy?
PIET: Ek het net huis gekom en die hond in die tuin gevind, so dood soos 'n mossie.
Koos: Jy jok.
PIET: Nee, ek jok nie. Sy liggaam was kliphard, dus hy moet laasnag al gevrek het.
Koos: Dis nou 'n jammerte. Hy was die lieflikste ou hondjie, hè?

- PIET: Ja, hy was, maar hy was natuurlik ook nie meer van die jongste nie.
 Koos: Nee wat, die hond was stokoud.

Language points

Similes

Similes of the sort ‘as white as snow’ exist in Afrikaans too, e.g.

so dood soos ’n mossie	as dead as a doornail (lit. ‘sparrow’)
so doof soos ’n kwartel	as deaf as a post (lit. ‘quail’)
so hard soos klip	as hard as stone
so lelik soos die nag	as ugly as sin (lit. ‘night’)
so maer soos ’n riet	as thin as a rake (lit. ‘straw’)
so mal soos ’n haas	as mad as a hatter (lit. ‘hare’)
so oud soos die berge	as old as the hills
so reg soos ’n roer	as right as rain (lit. ‘rudder’)
so skaars soos hoendertande	as scarce as hens’ teeth
so wit soos sneeu	as white as snow

But note the exception **so gou (as) moontlik** ‘as soon as possible’.

Do you recognise this?

Hompie-Kedompie sit op die wal
 Hompie-Kedompie het afgeval.
 Die koning se mense doen àl wat hul kan
 Maar Hompie-Kedompie bly plat soos ’n pan.

But more common in Afrikaans than structures of the above kind are those like ‘snow-white’, ‘dog-tired’, ‘dripping/soaking wet’, ‘brand new’, e.g. **’n skatryk man** ‘a very rich man’, **’n rasegte Hollander** ‘a true-blue Dutchman’, **’n bloedjong vrou** ‘a really young woman’.

Note the difference between **’n goed gekwalifiseerde onderwyser** ‘a well-qualified teacher’ and **’n goeie gekwalifiseerde onderwyser** ‘a good, qualified teacher’; the lack of an ending on **goed** in the former case indicates that **goed** is acting as an adverb qualifying the following adjective ‘qualified’, whereas the presence of an ending on **goed** in the latter case indicates that **goeie** is also an adjective referring to **onderwyser**. Compare **’n vreeslik hoë boom**

‘a terribly tall tree’ where the lack of an ending on **vreeslik** renders the English adverbial ending ‘-ly’. This is a rule of the written language, but in speech it is usual for such a polysyllabic qualifying adverb preceding an attributive adjective to take an **-e** ending, e.g. **’n yslike groot boom** ‘a dreadfully tall tree’.

Exercise 3

Translate the following sentences into English.

- 1 My swaer is so doof soos ’n kwartel.
- 2 My pa het my van Spanje opgebeld en sy stem het glashelder geklink.
- 3 Koos het onlangs met ’n bloedjong meisie getrou wie se pa skatryk is.
- 4 Dit was ’n polities gemotiveerde moord.
- 5 Ek het dit gelees in ’n onlangs gepubliseerde boek.
- 6 My buurman, wat so mal soos ’n haas is, het ’n splinternuwe, bloedrooi Mercedes gekoop.

10 At play

In this lesson you will learn about:

- diminutives
- some idiosyncrasies of diminutive formation
- use of **om te**

Dialogue 1

'n Kind kan haar speelgoedjies nie vind nie

MARIETJIE: Mammie, weet jy waar my poppie is?

MOEDER: Watter een, Liefie?

MARIETJIE: Die kleintjie met die rooi rokkie en die blou skoentjies, weet Ma dalk?

MOEDER: Ja, ek het dit vanmôre in die boonste laaitjie van jou klerekassie gesien.

MARIETJIE: Dankie. Maar waar is daardie poppie se ander kleertjies?

MOEDER: Watter ander kleertjies, Skatjie?

MARIETJIE: Mammie weet mos, die pienk rompie, die geel bloesie en die swart sandaaltjies.

MOEDER: Ek weet nie, Marietjie. As jy jou speelgoed netjies sou weg sit wanneer jy klaar is met speel, sou jy my nie elke keer moes vra waar alles is nie. Het jy my gehoor, Kleintjie?

MARIETJIE: Ek dink ek gaan liewers huisie-huisie speel as met my poppies. Nou kan ek daardie goedjies nie vind nie.

MOEDER: Watter goedjies?

MARIETJIE: My bordjies, koppies, pierinkies en al die ander dingetjies wat ek nodig het om huisie-huisie te speel.

MOEDER: Ek het nie tyd om jou te help nie, my liefieding. Jy sal self moet soek.

Vocabulary

pop	doll	rok	dress
skoen	shoe	dalk	perhaps
laai	drawer	klerekas	wardrobe
klere	clothes	romp	skirt
bloes	blouse	speelgoed	toys
huisie-huisie	mummies and daddies	goedjies	things
bord	plate	koppie	cup
piering	saucer	liefieding	darling

Language points



Diminutives

Diminutives: dog – *doggy*, doll – *dolly*

You have probably already noticed how many Afrikaans nouns end in **-ie** and that the ending is often optional. This ending is called the diminutive ending. Its primary function is to make something small. Whereas words like 'doggy' and 'bickie' (< biscuit) are highly colloquial in English and more commonly found in children's language, the equivalent formation in Afrikaans is not at all childish. Virtually every Afrikaans noun can take the diminutive

ending. The effect may be to make the noun small (e.g. **katjie** 'kitten'), but it can also express affection or approval ('**n oulike oompie** a nice old man', **Jy het darem vandag 'n lekker broodjie gebak** 'You really baked a delicious loaf of bread today') or contempt (**Hy is maar 'n vrotsige ou doktertjie** 'He's not much of a doctor', **Is jy bang jou handjies sal vuil word?** 'Are you afraid you're going to get your hands dirty?').

The ending is not always merely **-ie**, but may be **-jie**, **-tjie**, **-etjie**, **-kie** or **-pie**, i.e. there are six possible endings in all with the choice of ending depending on the final sound of the noun. See p. 4 for the pronunciation of diminutives. Here are the rules:

1 The basic form is the addition of **-ie** to any noun; note that in so doing, some of the spelling changes discussed on p. 7 may apply:

boek – boekie book **aap – apie** monkey

2 Nouns ending in **d** or **t** add **-jie** and pronounce the ending as if written **-kie**:

hond – hondjie dog – puppy **kat – katjie** cat – kitten

3 Nouns containing a long vowel or diphthong, either at the end of the word or followed by **l**, **n** or **r**, take **-tjie** (pronounced **-kie**):

ui – uitjie onion **eier – eiertjie** egg
skoen – skoentjie shoe **sambrel – sambreeltjie** umbrella

Nouns ending in **-el**, **-en** and **-er** also take **-tjie** (pronounced **-kie**):

bottel – botteltjie bottle **kamer – kamertjie** room

4 Monosyllabic nouns containing a short vowel and ending in **b**, **l**, **m**, **n**, **ng** or **r** add **-etjie** (pronounced **-ekie**):

rib – ribbetjie rib **bal – balletjie** ball
kam – kammetjie comb **man – mannetjie** man, husband
ring – ringetjie ring **ster – sterretjie** star

5 Polysyllabic nouns ending in **-ing** change the **g** to **k** and add **-ie**:

koning – koninkie king **piesang – piesankie** banana

6 Nouns ending in **m** take **-pie**:

boom – boompie tree **besem – besempie** broom

Some idiosyncrasies of diminutive formation

Note that many nouns that have a short vowel in the singular but a long vowel in the plural also have a long vowel in the diminutive form:

gat (pl. **gate**) – **gaatjie** hole **glas** (pl. **glase**) – **glasie** glass

There are many exceptions, however, e.g.

brug (pl. **brûe**) – **bruggie** bridge **dag** (pl. **dae**) – **daggie** day

All diminutives form their plural by adding **-s**, e.g. **stoeltjies** 'shoes', **pierinkies** 'saucers'.

Some words only exist in diminutised form and consequently can be further diminutised by adding **-tjie**, e.g.

meisie – meisietjie girl **mandjie – mandjietjie** basket

But many words which only occur as diminutives cannot be further diminutised, e.g.

bessie berry **krammetjie** staple

Exercise 1

Form the diminutive of the following nouns.

vader, broer, kas, huis, dak, stoel, deur, lepel, spel, blaar, bed, rekening.

Exercise 2

Give the plural diminutive of the following plural nouns.

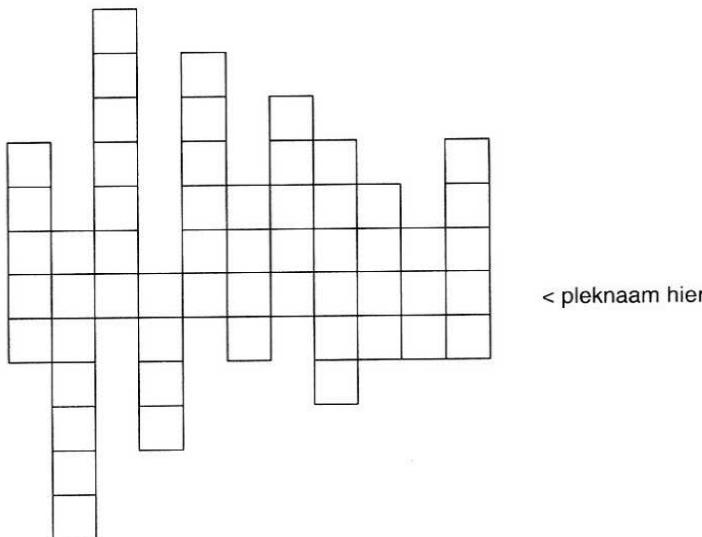
skoene, lampe, appels, pere, kinders, manne, krane, honde, lammers, oë.

Exercise 3

Look up the Afrikaans words for the following parts of the body and fill them in vertically from left to right. If you get them all right, the name of a South African town will appear across the middle. In which province does it lie?

(antwoord in Afrikaans)

hips, fingers, parting, toes, breasts, hair (always plural in Afrikaans),
nails, elbows, nose, ears, cheeks



Dialogue 2

Twee vriendinne praat oor die wel en wee van kinders hê

AMANDA: Môre, Annetjie. Ek het gisteraand geprobeer om jou te bel. Jy's deesdae darem moeilik om te bereik.

ANNETJIE: Ja, dis reg, Amanda. Ek het so baie om te doen. Daar is net nie genoeg ure in die dag om alles te doen wat ek moet doen nie. Vind jy dit nie ook nie?

AMANDA: Nee, ek stem nie saam nie. Jy kan altyd die tyd maak om dié dinge te doen, wat jy werklik wil doen.

ANNETJIE: Net iemand wat nie kinders het nie, kan dit bekostig om so te redeneer.

AMANDA: Wat bedoel jy? Ek het kinders.

ANNETJIE: Ja, natuurlik het jy kinders, maar hulle is nie meer op laerskool nie. Dis onmoontlik om my situasie met joune te vergelyk. Soms dink ek hoe lekker dit moes gewees het om sonder kinders te wees.

AMANDA: Jy sien, jy het miskien nie tyd vir baie dinge nie, maar jy het wel genoeg tyd om te droom.

Language points

Use of **om** te

Whenever a 'to' standing before an infinitive in an English sentence means 'in order to', **om te** is required in Afrikaans not just **te**, e.g.

Ons gaan Houtbaai toe om vis en skyfies te eet.

We're going to Hout Bay (in order) to have fish and chips.

Ons gaan Houtbaai toe om te gaan swem.

We're going to Hout Bay (in order) to go swimming.

Afrikaans uses **om te** in many other instances too where it does not correspond to 'in order to' and where you might otherwise expect a simple **te** would be sufficient, e.g.

Ek probeer om die lughawe te bel. (See p. 127.)

I'm trying to ring the airport.

Hulle hoop om mōre terug te kom.

They hope to return tomorrow.

Wat is die goedkoopste: om begrawe of veras te word?

What is cheaper: to be buried or cremated?

Oftentimes the equivalent English structure requires an '-ing' form, e.g.

Hy het nie 'n kat se kans om daardie werk te kry nie.

He hasn't a ghost of a chance of getting that job.

Dis nie maklik om 'n vreemde taal te leer nie.

It's not easy learning a foreign language.

Om luiperds te jag, kan baie gevaelik wees.

Hunting leopards can be very dangerous.

Note that when an infinitive that is dependent on **om te** is a separable verb, the **te** is inserted between the prefix and the verb and the three are written as separate words, e.g.

Hy gaan sy bes doen om vroeër as die ander aan te kom.

He's going to do his best to arrive earlier than the others.

See also 'Use and omission of **te** before infinitives' on p. 126.

Note the use of **om te** after indirect interrogatives, e.g.

Ek gaan vir jou vertel hoe om hierdie spel te speel.

I am going to tell you how to play this game.

Sy het nie geweet wat om te doen nie.

She didn't know what to do.

Hoe om VIGS te voorkom

Veilige seks

Veilige seks is seks met 'n kondoom. Dit is belangrik om 'n kondoom reg te gebruik. Jy moet 'n kondoom so gebruik...

Dialogue 3



Hester loop Ronel op straat raak

- RONEL: Hester, jy lyk bekommerd. Wat is verkeerd?
- HESTER: Ek weet nie wat om te doen nie. Ek het die sleutels in die motor toegesluit.
- RONEL: Ek is bereid om te help, maar ek weet ook nie wat om te doen nie. Kan jy nie die AA bel nie?
- HESTER: Ek het my selfoon by die huis gelaat en het nie munte om te bel nie.
- RONEL: Ek sal kyk of ek die regte munte het om van die telefoonhokkie op die hoek te kan bel. (*Sy kyk in haar beursie.*) Ja, ek het.
- HESTER: Gelukkig. Maar hoekom het jy nou toevallig net hier langs gekom?
- RONEL: Ek is op pad skool toe om die kinders te gaan haal.

Exercise 4

Complete the following sentences using **om te**. The verbs required are given in parentheses. Be careful with those containing a negative.

Example: Hy gaan jou opbel 'to invite you to a party'. (**nooi**)
Hy gaan jou opbel om jou na 'n partytjie te nooi.

- 1 Koos het geprobeer 'to lift the bed up'. (**optel**)
- 2 Ons was te moeg 'to get up so early'. (**opstaan**)
- 3 Hy het besluit 'to emigrate to Australia'. (**emigreer**)

- 4 Dit is nie maklik 'to find Pofadder on the map'. (**vind**)
- 5 Ek vind dit moeilik 'to speak Xhosa'. (**praat**)
- 6 Sy het baie 'to do'. (**doen**)
- 7 Dit is nie moontlik vir haar 'to come home' nie. (**huis toe kom**)

11 In the process of doing things

In this lesson you will learn about:

- progressive or continuous constructions
- adjectival inflection in -s
- compound nouns
- use of **laat** with infinitives

Dialogue 1

'n Onenigheid tussen 'n man en sy vrou

- MAN: Wat het jy die hele dag gedoen, Ronel? Dis 'n gemors hier.
- VROU: Vanmôre was ek die hele tyd besig om skottelgoed te was na gisteraand se kuiergaste, wat jy, my liewe man, genooi het, nie ek nie.
- MAN: Ja goed, maar wat het jy die hele middag gedoen terwyl ek aan die werk was?
- VROU: Ek het vanmiddag 'n tydjie net sit en dink en toe 'n rukkie gaan lê en aan die slaap geraak.
- MAN: Wragtig! Ek wens ek kon gaan slaap het as ek aan die werk is. Maar waaraan het jy dan so lank gesit en dink, as ek mag vra?
- VROU: Aan jou, wat anders? Maar man, jy doen die hele dag niks anders as met ander mense staan en praat nie.
- MAN: Ja, oor werk. Maar wag 'n bietjie, wat het jy dan aan my loop en dink?
- VROU: Dat jy so 'n pyn in die nek is, natuurlik, dat jy dink dat ek die hele dag by die huis niks sit en doen nie.

Vocabulary

gemors	mess	skottelgoed was	to wash the dishes
kuiergas	visitor	nooi	to invite
aan die slaap raak	to fall asleep	Wag 'n bietjie.	Wait a moment.

Language points

Progressive or continuous constructions

When you were introduced to Afrikaans verbs the point was made that English progressive or continuous forms such as 'I am working' (present tense) and 'I was working' or 'I have/had been working' (all three are past tense) are rendered simply by **ek werk** and **ek het gewerk** respectively. Although that is the most usual way of rendering those structures in Afrikaans, it is not the only way. When a certain emphasis is put on the continuity of an action, this can be expressed in one of the following three ways.

1 **Lê, loop, sit and staan** can be used in combination with the verb that one wishes to express in the progressive, e.g.

Wat doen jy? Ek sit en lees. What are you doing? I'm reading.

Wat doen hy? Hy lê en slaap. What's he doing? He's sleeping.

Hy loop en sing. He's (walking along) singing.

When these constructions are used in questions you have a choice of word order, e.g.

Wat lê en dink jy? What are you lying there

Wat lê jy en dink? thinking about?

When the subject is stressed, only the second option is possible, e.g.

Wat staan hulle en doen? What are *they* doing?

The use of such constructions in Afrikaans does not always correspond exactly to a continuous form in English, but is seen to be continuous in Afrikaans, e.g.

Sy staan/sit en praat vir ure as sy niks anders te doen het nie.

She talks for hours if she has nothing else to do. (= sits/stands around talking)

Although the **sit** and **staan** do not necessarily have to correspond exactly with whether the action being performed is being done in a sitting or standing position, this is most usually the case and **sit**, **staan** and **lê** can only be used with reference to actions that can feasibly be performed in those positions as **Ek lê en slaap** illustrates. Although **Ek lê en dink** 'I am thinking' is not impossible as long as you are lying down, **Ek sit/staan en dink** would be a more usual rendition of that English statement, but **Ek dink** would not be incorrect either.

There are a few tricks to watch out for when expressing the above constructions in the past tense. Firstly, the **ge-** is optionally added to the stem of the first verb in the couplet, although the forms with **ge-** are more common than those without, e.g.

- Hy het (ge)lê en slaap.** He was sleeping.
Hy het (ge)staan en praat. He was standing talking.
Hy het (ge)sit en skryf. He was (sitting) writing.
Hy het (ge)loop en fluit. He was (walking along) whistling.

And in a subordinate clause:

Ek sal nooit die bloekombome vergeet waarna ek altyd loop en kyk het nie.

I will never forget the eucalyptus trees which I always used to walk along looking at.

Compare the above constructions with the following where by adding a **ge-** to both verbs, they are marked as separate, consecutive actions and are thus not part of a progressive construction, e.g.

Hy het 'n bietjie gelees en geslaap. He read a little and slept.

2 The second means of expressing progressive constructions is by using **wees + aan + die + verb**, e.g.

Moenie my nou steur nie. Ek is 'n brief aan die skryf. = Ek sit en skryf 'n brief.

Don't disturb me at the moment. I am writing a letter.

The past tense of **aan die** structures is formed by simply using the imperfect of **wees**, e.g.

Sy was 'n boek aan die lees. She was reading a book.

Aan die structures also occur in combination with the verbs **bly**, **gaan**, **hê**, **hou**, **kom**, **kry**, **raak** and **sit** rendering 'to keep, start, etc. + verb + -ing', e.g.

Die dogtertjies bly aan die giggel.

The little girls keep giggling/don't stop giggling.

Die hoenders het aan die kekkel gegaan.

The chickens started clucking.

Jan Spies het die hele land aan die lag gehad.

Jan Spies had the the whole country laughing.

3 The third way of expressing progressive action is by the use of **besig wees te + verb** = 'to be busy'/in the process of doing something', e.g.

Daardie woord is besig om uit die taal te verdwyn.

That word is (busy) disappearing from the language.

Ek is besig om 'n brief te skryf.

I am writing a letter.

The past tense of this construction is as follows, e.g.

Ek was besig (gewees) om 'n brief te skryf.

I was writing a letter.

Dialogue 2

'n Ander idee van ontspanning

MAN: Wat sit jy en skryf?

VROU: Ek is besig om 'n brief te skryf.

MAN: Jy is altyd briewe aan die skryf.

VROU: Dis vir my ontspannend om briewe te sit en skryf nadat ek die hele dag aan die werk was.

MAN: Noem jy dit ontspanning? Ek sit liewer televisie en kyk. Dis nou wat ek ontspanning noem.

Exercise 1

The following sentences employing progressive forms are based on those in the preceding dialogue. Translate them into English.

1 Ek was vanmôre besig om skottelgoed te was.

2 Wat het jy die hele middag gedoen terwyl ek aan die werk was?

3 Ek het vanmiddag 'n tydjie rustig gesit en dink.

4 Ek het 'n rukkie gaan lê en aan die slaap geraak.

- 5 Waaraan het jy gesit en dink?
- 6 Jy doen die hele dag niks anders as met ander mense staan en praat nie.
- 7 Wat het jy aan my loop en dink?
- 8 Jy dink dat ek die hele dag by die huis niks sit en doen nie.

Language points

Adjectival inflection in -s

Adjectives preceded by the indefinite pronouns **iets** and **niks** take an **-s** ending, e.g.

Hy het iets aakligs oorgekom toe hy in die Kaap was.

Something dreadful happened to him when he was in the Cape.

Dit is niks nuuts nie.

That is nothing new.

Theoretically, this ending is also applied to comparatives (e.g. **iets kleiners** ‘something smaller’), but it is now commonly omitted from comparatives, e.g.

Het jy niks beter(s) om te doen nie?

Haven’t you anything better to do?

Daar is eintlik niks lekkerder(s) as dit nie.

There is really nothing nicer than that.

Compound nouns

A compound noun: sunglasses

In Afrikaans compound nouns should always be written as one word, e.g. **voordeur** ‘front door’, **kerktoring** ‘church tower’. They can consist of more than two words, e.g. **motorvoertuigversekerings** ‘motor vehicle insurance’.

It is not uncommon for either an **-e-** or **-s-** to be inserted between the two parts of compound nouns and unfortunately there are no rules as to when these are required; it is usually a matter of sound, a feeling for which comes only with experience and exposure to the language, e.g. **sonskyn** ‘sunshine’ and **sonbril** ‘sunglasses’, but **sonneblom** ‘sunflower’; **boekrak** ‘book shelf’ and **boekwinkel** ‘book

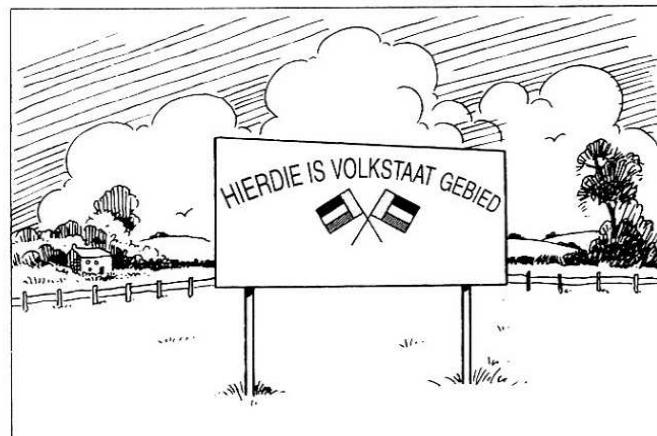
shop’, but **boeketas** ‘book case’; **sakeman** ‘businessman’; **apartheidsbeleid** ‘policy of apartheid’; **skaapvleis** ‘mutton’, but **kalfsvleis** ‘veal’; **pannekoek** ‘pancake’; **werkswinkel** ‘workshop’; **blikkieskos** ‘canned food’.

Where the first part of the compound is a noun that normally takes **-s** in such compounds, the **-s** is dropped if the second part of the compound begins with **-s**, e.g. **voedingswaarde** ‘nutritional value’, but **voedingsorg** ‘nutritional care’; **volksmusiek** ‘folk music’, but **volkstaat** ‘nation state’.



Connected with the fact that a few nouns form their plural in **-e(ns)** and **-ers**, **-ns** and **-er** are inserted into some compounds, e.g. **etenstyd** ‘mealtime’ (< **ete**), **lewensversekering** ‘life insurance’ (< **lewe**), **nooiensvan** ‘maiden name’ (< **nooi**), **kinderbiblioteek** ‘childrens’ library’ (< **kind**).

Increasingly, as a result of English influence, such compound nouns are being written as separate words, particularly when there is no medial **-e-** or **-s-** involved, e.g. **lemmetjie geur** ‘lime flavouring’, **karavaan park** ‘caravan park’. This practice should not be copied, however commonly you may encounter it and however long the compound, e.g. **kleuterskoolonderwyseres** ‘kindergarten teacher’.



It is also not uncommon to see hyphens being used in less common compounds, particularly when one of the two elements is a loanword or when the lack of a hyphen might cause the eye problems, e.g. **toeriste-inligting** ‘tourist information’, **vakansie-oord** ‘holiday resort’, **senu-ineenstorting** ‘nervous breakdown’. In practice hyphens are commonly used where they are not necessary and where their use is not condoned by the official spelling rules.

Exercise 2

Try making compounds from the following nouns. There are some surprises in store for you here so don’t feel too bad if you don’t get them all right.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1 tand + borsel (toothbrush) | 7 verkeer + ongeluk (<i>traffic accident</i>) |
| 2 wyn + glas (wine glass) | 8 pruim + boom (<i>plum tree</i>) |
| 3 saak + lui (business people) | 9 lam + vleis (<i>lamb (meat)</i>) |
| 4 knoop + gat (button hole) | 10 kind + fiets (<i>children’s bicycle</i>) |
| 5 stad + raad (city council) | 11 wolk + krabber (<i>skyscraper</i>) |
| 6 liefde + brief (love letter) | 12 gewete + besware (<i>conscientious objections</i>) |

Dialogue 3

'n Pynlike situasie

- MAN: Ek was so skaam gisteraand by die Van der Merwes toe jy Annetjie se pragtige koffiepot laat val het.
- VROU: Ag wat, ek gaan dit laat herstel.
- MAN: Laat my dit sien. Man, die tuit is vreeslik krom. Is jy seker jy kan dit laat regmaak?
- VROU: Kom, ons gaan onmiddellik silversmid toe. Jy sal sien. Dan los jy my miskien eindelik uit.

Language points

Use of *laat* with infinitives

Laat has several meanings in Afrikaans and is a very important verb.

1 It is used to render ‘let’ in imperatives, where it can be used together with either the subject or object pronoun, e.g.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Laat ek/my sien. | Let me see. |
| Laat sy/haar dit doen. | Let her do it. |
| Laat ons gaan. | Let’s go. |

But note that the most colloquial way of expressing ‘Let’s ...’ is as follows: **Kom ons gaan huis toe** ‘Let’s go home’.

2 It can also mean ‘to leave’, in which meaning it is usually interchangeable with **los**, e.g.

- Ek het my beursie huis gelaat/gelos.**
I’ve left my purse at home.

3 It is commonly used as an auxiliary verb with infinitives, e.g. **laat sak** ‘to lower’, **laat vaar** ‘to give up’, **laat val** ‘to drop’, e.g.

- Sy het die teepot laat val.** She dropped the teapot.

But over and above this, **laat** is the auxiliary verb you require when you ‘have someone do something’, i.e. in Afrikaans you *let* someone do it, e.g.

- Sy laat haar man die skottelgoed opwas.**
She has/lets her husband do the washing-up.

- Ek moes my hare laat sny.**
I had to have my hair cut.

- Hulle laat hul huis deur iemand anders verf.**
They are having their house painted by someone else.

When this **laat**, which has an infinitive dependent on it, is used in the past tense, a double infinitive construction is required (see p. 127), e.g.

- Sy het haar man die skottelgoed laat opwas.**
She had/let her husband do the washing-up.

- Hulle het hul huis deur iemand anders laat verf.**
They (have) had their house painted by someone else.

In the future tense these **laat** constructions go as follows, e.g.

- Ek sal my hare moet laat sny.**
I’ll have to have my hair cut.

- Hulle gaan hul huis deur iemand anders laat verf.**
They are going to have their house painted by someone else.

See p. 128 for more on **laat**.

Exercise 3

Put all the following sentences into the past tense.

Example: Hy laat die boek val.

Hy het die boek laat val.

- 1 Annetjie laat haar ma altyd weet waar sy is.
- 2 Ek laat elke week my motor was.
- 3 Waar laat jy jou kar staan?
- 4 Hy domkrag die motor op, vervang die papwiel en laat die motor weer sak.
- 5 Ons moet die dokter laat kom.
- 6 Sy laat haar skoene reparéer.
- 7 Ons laat 'n vakansiehuis op Hermanus bou.

12 Expressing time

In this lesson you will learn about:

- periods of the day
- more expressions of time
- how to say 'for' in expressions of time
- use and omission of **te** before infinitives
- some additional word order rules concerning verbs

Dialogue 1

'n Moeder sien te min van haar seun

- MOEDER: Karel, kom jy vanaand terug of bly jy in Johannesburg?
 SEUN: Nee Ma, ek kom eers môreaan weer.
 MOEDER: Dis nou jammer. Jy het nie lank gebly nie. Ek sien deesdae so min van jou.
 SEUN: Wat? Dis nie waar nie! Ek het gisteroggend hier aangekom, ek het gister die hele dag saam met Ma en Pa deurgebring, en gisteraand het ons die hele aand kaart gespeel. Wat wil Ma dan nog hê moet ek doen? Dit is nie gesond vir 'n twintigjarige om so veel tyd by sy ma te wees nie.

Periods of the day

The following is a list of important adverbs of time worth learning by heart.

vanoggend
vanmôre

this morning
this morning

vanmiddag	this afternoon
vanaand	this evening, tonight
vannag	tonight (after lights out)
môre	tomorrow
môreoggend	tomorrow morning
môremiddag	tomorrow afternoon
môreaand	tomorrow evening/night
oormôre	the day after tomorrow
oormôreoggend, -middag, -aand	the morning of the day after tomorrow, etc.
gister	yesterday
gisteroggend	yesterday morning
gistermiddag	yesterday afternoon
gistaand	last night (up till bedtime)
laasnag, vannag	last night (after lights out)
eergister	the day before yesterday

Exercise 1

Fill in the appropriate expression of time.

- 1 Hy kom eers (*the day after tomorrow*).
- 2 Wat doen jy (*tonight*)?
- 3 Wat het jy (*last night*) gedoen?
- 4 Ek het hom (*this morning*) in die dorp gesien.
- 5 My vader kom (*Wednesday evening – it is now Monday*) terug.

More expressions of time

Here are some more important adverbs of time worth learning by heart.

vandesemaand/-week	this month/week
vanjaar, hierdie/dié jaar	this year
volgende jaar/maand/week	next year/month/week
verlede jaar/maand/week	last year/month/week
laasjaar, laasweek, laasmaand	last year/month/week
voorverlede jaar/maand/-week	two years/months ago, the week before last
(op) Sondag, Maandag, etc.	(on) Sunday/Monday, etc. (past and future)

op Sondae, Maandae, etc.	on Sundays/Mondays, etc.
verlede/laas Sondag, etc.	last Sunday, etc.
volgende Sondag, etc.	next Sunday, etc.
oor die naweek	at the weekend
soggens	in the morning(s) (habitual)
smiddags, smiddae	in the afternoon(s) (habitual)
saans	in the evening(s) (habitual)
snags	at night(time) (habitual)
bedags	by day, during the daytime (habitual)

The following expressions render ‘am’ and ‘pm’: **in die oggend/middag/aand/nag**, e.g.

Ons drink tienuur in die oggend koffie.

We have coffee at ten in the morning/10.00 am.

Ons drink nooit soggens koffie nie.

We never drink coffee in the morning.

Note that there are two words for ‘morning’, **môre** and **oggend**. The two words are totally synonymous but not interchangeable in all contexts. You always say, for example, **goeie môre** ‘good morning’, but **tienuur soggens/in die oggend/môre** ‘ten o’clock in the morning’, **Woensdagmôre** or **Woensdagoggend** ‘Wednesday morning’, and **vanmôre** or **vanoggend** ‘this morning’ and **elke môre** or **elke oggend** ‘every morning’. As **môre** also means ‘tomorrow’, ‘tomorrow morning’ is **môreoggend**.

Exercise 2

Answer the following questions giving the day and the date, assuming **Vandag is Donderdag vier April**.

Example: Wat is vandag?

Vandag is (dit) Donderdag vier April.

Maandag 1 April	Dinsdag 2 April	Woensdag 3 April	Donderdag 4 April
Vrydag 5 April	Saterdag 6 April	Sondag 7 April	

- 1 Wat is môre?
- 2 Wat is oormôre?
- 3 Wat was gister?

- 4 Wat was eergister?
- 5 Wat was verlede Maandag?
- 6 Wat is volgende Sondag?

Exercise 3

Translate the following.

- 1 What do you do on Thursdays?
- 2 Where do you work on Wednesdays?
- 3 What are you doing next Friday?
- 4 Where were you last Monday?
- 5 Where are you going at the weekend?
- 6 The grass grows so quickly in spring.
- 7 I'm going to Italy in summer this year. (Remember 'Time-Manner-Place', as well as more general time before more specific time.)

Exercise 4

Someone wants to make an appointment with you. This is your schedule. You are hard to catch. Tell her/him where you will be if s/he comes when s/he suggests:

Example: Monday in Durban
**Ek is jammer, Meneer/Mevrou, maar Maandag is
ek in Durban.**

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1 Tuesday | at university |
| 2 Thursday | in Pietersburg, in the north of the country |
| 3 Friday | abroad |
| 4 on the weekend | in Namibia |
| 5 next week | in Paris |
| 6 next month | not yet back in South Africa |

Dialogue 2

Christo vra Theo uit oor sy lewe as boer

- CHRISTO: Hoe lank woon julle al op hierdie plaas?
THEO: Ons woon al langer as tien jaar hier. Dié plaas was

eers my pa s'n en hy het twintig jaar hier geboer. Ek boer al twaalf jaar, maar net die afgelope tien jaar op Rustenburg.

CHRISTO: En hoe lank sal jy nog bly boer? Raak jy nie moeg daarvoor nie?

THEO: Is jy mal? Ek sal die volgende dertig jaar nog 'n boer wees. Dit is die enigste ding wat ek in die lewe wil doen.

Language points

How to say 'for' in expressions of time

'For' with periods of time is expressed in a number of ways. When an action that started in the past continues into the present, 'for' is rendered by **al** (see also p. 31), e.g.

Sy bly al (vir) jare op Tulbagh.

She has lived in Tulbagh for years. (and still lives there)

Hulle ken mekaar al lank.

They've known each other for a long time.

Use of **vir** in such contexts, although common in both the spoken and written languages, is due to the influence of English and is disapproved of by some.

When the action started and finished in the past, 'for' is best left untranslated but here too an Anglicistic **vir** is often heard; the **lank** in the next example may be omitted, e.g.

Sy het (vir) jare lank op Tulbagh gebly.

She lived in Tulbagh for years. (and does not any more)

Hulle was net (vir) 'n dag of drie in Pole.

They were only in Poland for about three days.

When the action is to be performed in the future, 'for' must be rendered by **vir**, e.g.

Vir hoe lank gaan sy?

How long's she going for?

Sy gaan vir twee jaar Bulgarye toe.

She's going to Bulgaria for two years.

Note that ‘for’ remains untranslated in the following example:

Ek gaan nie lank praat nie.
I’m not going to talk for long.

Dialogue 3

Marietjie het pas ’n operasie ondergaan en is weer by die huis. ’n Vriendin bel haar op ...

- ANNETJIE: Hoe gaan dit na jou operasie, Marietjie?
- MARIETJIE: Ek het eers gister van die hospitaal huis toe gekom en kan nog nie alles self doen nie. Ek moet weer leer loop. Ek het die dag na my operasie probeer loop maar dit was te gou. Die sisters in die hospitaal wou my toe maak loop, maar toe hulle my drie keer binne tien minute sien val het, het hulle besluit om my ’n bietjie langer te gee om te herstel. Die eerste keer dat ek probeer stap het, was ek alleen in die kamer en ek het neergeslaan. Ek het so begin lag dat ek nie eers weer kon opstaan nie. Ek moes op die vloer bly lê totdat iemand verbygekom het en my kon help opstaan.
- ANNETJIE: Behoort jy nie langer in die hospitaal te gebly het nie?
- MARIETJIE: Nee wat. Hou net aan, Annetjie. Ek het pas iemand hoor aankom. Besoekers hou nie op kom nie en ek word deur almal verwen. Dis te lekker. Ek moet gaan. Tot siens. Dankie vir die bel.
- ANNETJIE: Tot siens, Marietjie. Beterskap, nè?

Language points

Use and omission of te before infinitives

Normally when the finite verb in a clause is followed by an infinitive, which is always placed at the end of the clause, that infinitive is preceded by **om te** as discussed on p. 109. Use of **te** without **om** was not discussed there. Generally speaking the use of **te** on its own is limited to the verbs **behoort** ‘should’, **durf** ‘to dare to’ and **hoeft** ‘to need to’, e.g.

Hulle behoort die regering te ondersteun.

They should (= ought to) support the government.

Sy durf nie alleen huis toe te gaan nie.
She doesn’t dare (to) go home alone.

Jy hoeft nog nie huis toe te gaan nie.
You don’t need to (= have to) go home yet.

The modal verbs **kan**, **mag**, **moet**, **sal** and **wil** do not require **(om) te** before a following infinitive, as was illustrated on p. 25, as this in part is the meaning of a modal verb. But in addition to modals, there is another group of verbs which have in common with modals that they are regularly followed by an infinitive for which they act as a sort of auxiliary verb and thus **(om) te** is not required. These verbs are called linking verbs as they can be linked to an infinitive without the assistance of **(om) te**. The verbs in question are:

aanhou to keep on	leer to learn, teach
begin to begin, start	loop to walk
bly to stay	maak to make (= force)
gaan to go	ophou to stop
help to help	probeer to try (also with om te)
hoor to hear	sien to see
kom to come	voel to feel
laat to let, have (something done, see p. 119)	

In the present tense these verbs are used as follows:

Dit begin nou reën.

It’s starting to rain.

Hy hou aan lawaai maak.

He keeps on making a racket.

Hy moet ophou rook.

He must stop smoking.

And in the imperative:

Bly sit.

Stay seated.

Help my asseblief opstaan.

Please help me to get up.

When these constructions are used in the past tense, you use a so-called double infinitive construction (see p. 119), i.e. where you

would expect the past participle of **probeer** and **ophou** to be used in the following examples, an infinitive is used instead together with the infinitive of the verb to which **probeer** and **ophou** are acting as auxiliaries:

Hy het sy vader probeer help.

He (has) tried to help his father.

Dit het ophou reën.

It (has) stopped raining.

In subordinate clauses the following word order applies where **het** follows infinitives:

Ek het gesê dat ek dit nog nie laat doen het nie.

I said that I haven't had it done yet.

Weet jy dat ek hom sien swem het?

Did you know that I have seen him swim?

Exercise 5

Put the following sentences into the past tense applying a double infinitive construction.

- 1 Ek gaan dadelik kyk.
- 2 Sy kom my elke Maandag help.
- 3 Sy hoor die bure se kind huil.
- 4 Hy bly sit hoewel daar aan die deur geklop word.
- 5 Ek gaan vanmiddag by my tante kuier.
- 6 Ek sien hom weggaan.
- 7 Sy hoor my altyd inkom.
- 8 Hy kom elke jaar met Kersfees by ons kuier.

Some additional word order rules concerning verbs

1 On pp. 25 and 26 you were introduced to the concept of any additional verb in a clause being placed at the end of the clause. This is applicable to infinitives and past participles when the action is in the past tense, e.g.

My pa sal my vanaand bel. (modal verb + infinitive)

My dad will ring me tonight.

My pa het my gisteraand gebel. (het + past participle)
My dad rang me last night.

But when structures like **sal ... bel** and **het ... gebel** occur in a subordinate clause, i.e. with the finite verb being sent to the end, the following occurs: a modal verb, although it no longer stands in second position and must be sent to the end of the clause, must precede the infinitive dependent on it, whereas **het** must follow the past participle which is dependent on it, e.g.

Ek is seker dat my pa my vanaand sal bel. (modal verb + infinitive)

I'm sure my dad will ring me tonight.

Het jy geweet dat my pa my gisteraand gebel het? (past participle + het)

Do you know that my dad rang me last night?

Of course it is always possible to omit a subordinating **dat** (see p. 62) and then there is no need to alter the word order, e.g.

Ek is seker my pa sal my vanaand bel.
I'm sure my father will ring me tonight.

Het jy geweet my pa het my gisteraand gebel?
Did you know that my father phoned last night?

Exercise 6

Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words **Is jy seker dat ...** and making the appropriate changes to the word order in the clause that follows.

- 1 Haar ma sal dit doen.
- 2 Hy kom jou sesuur haal.
- 3 Hy het haar tien rand gegee.
- 4 Sy het nog nie aangetrek nie.
- 5 Hy sal my sewe-uur kom haal.
- 6 Dit het ophou reën.

13 The weather

In this lesson you will learn about:

- seasons
- a weather report
- present participles
- verbs used as nouns
- idiomatic uses of the word **daar**

Dialogue 1

Twee vriendinne praat oor die seisoene

ANNETJIE: Ek is so bly die somer is verby.

HESTER: Is jy mal? Die somer was pragtig en die herfsweer wat ons nou het, is nog mooier.

ANNETJIE: Nee, die somer was vir my te warm.

HESTER: Wag totdat ons weer elke nag ryk kry. Dan sal jy wens dit was al lente.

Seasons

The four seasons are:

die somer (the) summer
die herfs (the) autumn

die lente (the) spring
die winter (the) winter

The definite article must always be used with the seasons, e.g.

Dit reën hier nie in die winter nie.

It doesn't rain here in (the) winter.

Reading text 1

This is the weather report in brief as broadcast on SABC* television.

Die weervoorspelling vir mōre die derde November

Die miskolle wat die afgelope twee dae oor die noordelike dele van die land voorgekom het, gaan minstens die volgende vier-en-twintig uur nog voortduur. Wolke het oor Wes-Botswana en Oos-Namibië begin ontwikkel, met miskolle langs die weskus. 'n Koue front is suid van Kaapstad in aantog en sal koeler weer oor die Skiereiland meebring. Die weerburo het 'n waarskuwing uitgereik dat dit veral oor Gauteng, Noord-Wes-Provincie en dele van die Noordelike Provincie bloedig warm sal wees. Enkele donderbuie word vannag oor Noord-Oos-Namibië en Wes-Botswana verwag met buie langs die Kaapse suidweskus. 'n Strook donderbuie sal mōre oor die noordoostelike dele van die land ontwikkel. Buie en donderbuie sal langs die Kaapse suidkus en binneland en die Ooskaap voorkom. Die westelike binneland sal vannag koel wees, maar elders sal dit matig tot warm wees. In die Noordelike Provincie sal die kwik nie laer as twintig grade daal nie. Oor die westelike en suidelike kusgebiede sal dit mōre koel wees, maar oor die noordelike en noordoostelike dele sal dit versengend warm wees. Hoë temperature word oor die sentrale en oostelike gebiede verwag. Oor groot dele van die land sal daar mōre bewolkte tot gedeeltelik bewolkte toestande voorkom met sonnige weer oor die westelike en noordoostelike gebiede. Fris tot sterk wind sal langs die kus waai met fris wind oor die sentrale binneland.

Weather terminology in the above passage:

weervoorspelling	weather forecast	versengend/	very hot
hittegolf	heatwave	bloedig warm	
miskol	patch of fog	(gedeeltelik)	(partially)
voortduur	to last	bewolk	cloudy
in aantog wees	to be approaching	sonnig	sunny
matig	moderate	'n fris/sterk wind	a cool/strong wind
koel	cool		
donderbui	thunderstorm	waai	to blow

Reading text 2

The following weather report was broadcast on Radio Sonder Grense, an Afrikaans station, for 12 October.

Hier volg die volledige weervoorspelling vir mōre soos verstrek deur die weerburo.

Gauteng: gedeeltelik bewolk en warm met 'n veertig persent moontlikheid van donderbuie.

Mpumalanga: gedeeltelik bewolk en warm, maar baie warm in die Laeveld met 'n veertig persent moontlikheid van donderbuie later, behalwe in die noordooste.

Noordelike Provincie: gedeeltelik bewolk en baie warm, maar bloedig warm in die Laeveld en Limpopo-vallei met 'n veertig persent moontlikheid van donderbuie later, behalwe in die noordooste.

Noordwes: gedeeltelik bewolk en baie warm, maar bewolk en warm in die noordooste met 'n moontlikheid van enkele donderbuie.

Die Vrystaat: gedeeltelik bewolk en warm met 'n veertig persent moontlikheid van donderbuie, behalwe in die weste.

Noord-Kaap: mooi weer en warm maar koel langs die kus met miskolle in dieoggend. Die kuswind matig suidwes.

Wes-Kaap: warm in die noordooste andersins mooi weer en koel. Die kusgedeelte bewolk met 'n matige suidwestewind.

Die westelike helfte van Oos-Kaapland: mooi weer en warm, maar dit sal later gedeeltelik bewolk en koel word langs die kus. Die wind langs die kus matig noordoos en dit word later taamlik sterk suidwes.

Die oostelike helfte van Oos-Kaapland: gedeeltelik bewolk en koel maar warm oor die binneland met 'n twintig persent moontlikheid van donderbuie later in die noordooste. Die kuswind matig noordoos en dit sal later sterk word.

KwaZulu-Natal: bewolk met miskolle mōreoggend in die ooste, andersins gedeeltelik bewolk en warm met 'n veertig persent moontlikheid van donderbuie later oor die binneland. Die kuswind lig suidoos en dit word later matig noordoos.

Namibië: mooi weer en baie warm maar gedeeltelik bewolk in die noordooste met twintig persent moontlikheid van donderbuie. Die kusgebied bewolk met miskolle in dieoggend maar andersins mooi weer en koud. Die kuswind matig noordwes tot suidwes.

Botswana: gedeeltelik bewolk en baie warm met 'n twintig persent moontlikheid van donderbuie behalwe in die suidwese.

Lesotho: gedeeltelik bewolk en warm met 'n veertig persent moontlikheid van donderbuie later.

Swaziland: gedeeltelik bewolk en warm.

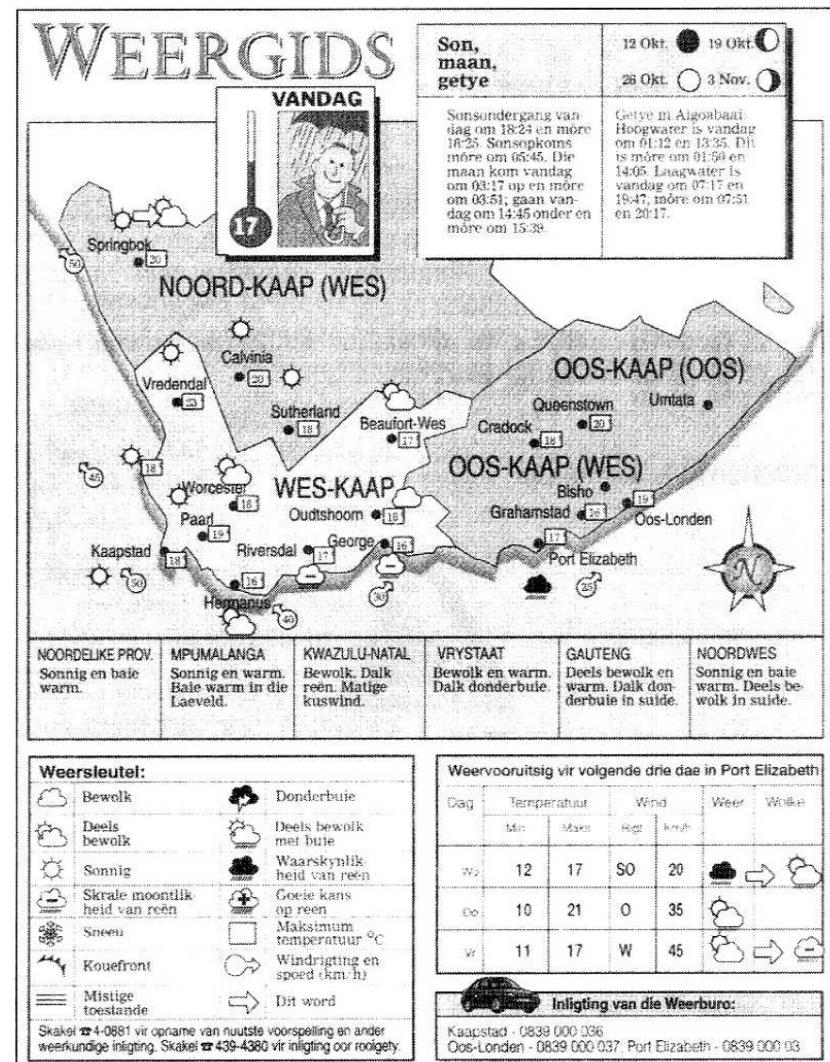
Mōre se verwagte minimum en maksimumtemperatuur is soos volg:

Gauteng: Pretoria 16/29, Johannesburg 14/27, Vereeniging 12/29.

Mpumalanga: Nelspruit 12/31, Ermelo 11/27, Witbank 12/27, Standerton 14/28, Skukuza 17/36, ensovoorts.

Exercise 1.

Look closely at all the weather details on the map and answer the following questions. (There is more useful weather terminology to be learnt by reading the chart closely.)



- 1 Wat gaan die maksimumtemperatuur vandag op Springbok wees?
- 2 Hoe gaan die weer wees in die Noordwes Provinsie?
- 3 In watter provinsies gaan donderbuie voorkom?
- 4 Hoe gaan die weer wees in die Laeveld?
- 5 Dit gaan dalk êrens reën – waar?
- 6 Wat gaan die minimumtemperatuur wees Donderdag in Port Elizabeth?
- 7 Waar en wanneer gaan daar 'n skrale moontlikheid van reën wees?
- 8 Wanneer gaan die son vandag onder?

Dialogue 2

'n Man en sy vrou bespreek die weersomstandighede

- MAN: Dis vandag pragtige weer. Ek gaan gholf speel.
- VROU: Nee, jy moenie. Dit gaan vanmiddag reën.
- MAN: Dit lyk vir my onmoontlik.
- VROU: Het jy nie vanoggend die weerberig gehoor nie? Die weerburo het vreeslike donderbuie voorspel, met 'n groot moontlikheid van hael.
- MAN: Goeie Hemel! Ek wil nie dat my splinternuwe motor deur die hael beskadig word nie.

Language points



Vallende klippe
(van reg)s

Present participles

A present participle: The child came in *crying*. The *crying* child.

Back on p. 23 you learnt that Afrikaans verbs do not have the equivalent of our '-ing' form, i.e. 'The child is crying' is simply **Die**

kind huil. On p. 113 you were introduced to possible ways of expressing this progressive if need be, i.e. **Die kind is aan die huil**, **Die kind sit en huil**. The literal translation of 'crying' is **huilend**, i.e. this is the present participle which is formed by adding **-end** to the infinitive with the same spelling changes being applied to the stem of the verb as apply when an **-e** is added to a noun (see p. 7). Such present participles are used as adverbs or adjectives in Afrikaans, e.g.

Die kind het huilend huisgekom. (adverb)

The child came home crying.

Sy kon nie die huilende kind paai nie. (adjective)

She couldn't pacify the crying child.

Here are more elevated examples derived from the verb **toeneem** 'to increase':

Die staat het toenemend afhanglik geword van sy weermag.
(adverb)

The state became increasingly dependent on its military.

Die beleid van toenemende onderdrukking ignoreer die oorsake van die situasie. (adjective)

The policy of increasing oppression ignores the causes of the situation.

In higher style the present participle can introduce a participial clause, which is as close as it comes to being used verbally in Afrikaans:

Hulle word deur 'n kommissie aangestel, bestaande uit ses persone.

They are appointed by a commission, consisting of six people.

English participial clauses of the following kind must be rephrased when rendered into Afrikaans, e.g.

Nadat ek (die) skottelgoed gewas het, gaan ek televisie kyk.
After doing the dishes, I'm going to watch TV.

Nadat ek (die) skottelgoed gewas het, het ek televisie gekyk.
After having done the dishes, I watched TV.

See also 'Reduplication' on p. 152 for how to render yet another '-ing' form.

Exercise 2

What verbs are the following adjectives derived from?

Example: etende (*eating*)
eet

- | | |
|-------------|----------------------|
| 1 blywende | (<i>remaining</i>) |
| 2 roepende | (<i>calling</i>) |
| 3 leidende | (<i>leading</i>) |
| 4 lewende | (<i>living</i>) |
| 5 skokkende | (<i>shocking</i>) |

Exercise 3

Form adjectival present participles of the verbs given below, i.e. they must end in **-e**. The new words have the meanings given in brackets.

Example: lag
lagende (*laughing*)

- | | |
|---------|------------------------------|
| 1 sit | (<i>sitting</i>) |
| 2 lees | (<i>reading</i>) |
| 3 skryf | (<i>writing</i>) |
| 4 loop | (<i>walking</i>) |
| 5 klop | (<i>beating, knocking</i>) |

Verbs used as nouns

Rendering English '-ing' forms is tricky in Afrikaans. Several possibilities have been dealt with above. Another is the rendering of so-called gerunds, i.e. present participles ('-ing' forms) used as nouns, e.g.

Voer van bobbejane verbode.

Feeding of baboons prohibited.

Vroeg opstaan is nie lekker nie.

Getting up early is not nice.

Haar oë was rooi van die huil.

Her eyes were red from crying.

Dialogue 3 

'n Man en sy vrou probeer om uit te vind hoe hulle nuwe kamera werk

- MAN: Hoe werk hierdie nuwe kamera, Annetjie?
 VROU: Laat my daarna kyk. Was daar nie aanwysings in die doos nie?
 MAN: Daar was, maar die kinders het met 'n vulpen daarop geskryf en ek kan dit nie meer uitmaak nie.
 VROU: Kyk hierso. Daar staan ook aanwysings op die agterkant van die kamera self. Daaronder staan nog iets wat ek nie kan lees nie.

Language points**Idiomatic uses of the word daar**

In addition to simply rendering the English adverb of place 'there', **daar** has two other highly idiomatic functions which need to be mastered.

Dummy subject daar

Indefinite subjects are commonly placed after the verb in Afrikaans with **daar** introducing the verb:

Daar sit 'n hond agter die hek.

There's a dog sitting behind the fence.

Daar is twee dinge wat ek moet sê.

There are two things I have to say.

In the examples above **daar** corresponds exactly to English usage, but this is certainly not always the case. Such constructions with a dummy subject **daar** are more common in Afrikaans than in English, but you usually have the choice of either using it or leaving the construction as it is in English, e.g.

Toe kom daar 'n dominee aan = Toe kom 'n dominee aan.

Then a minister arrived.

Was daar iemand by die huis? = Was iemand by die huis?

Was (there) anyone at home?

Daar is renders ‘there is/are’, but Afrikaans has several other ways of expressing this. **Daar lê**, **daar sit** and **daar staan** can be used instead of **daar is** when the position designated by these verbs is appropriate to what is being referred to, e.g.

Daar lê twee koerante op die vloer.

There are two papers (lying) on the floor.

Daar staan twee splinternuwe bakkies voor die motorhuis.

There are two brand new pick-ups (standing) in front of the garage.

Daar is particularly commonly used in combination with the passive (see p. 167) in a way that English ‘there’ is not, e.g.

Daar word aan die deur geklop.

There’s a knock at the door.

Pronominal daar and hier

‘On it’, ‘in it’, ‘from it’, etc. (i.e. a preposition + the pronoun ‘it’) is expressed in Afrikaans by **daarop**, **daarin**, **daarvan**, etc.; **op dit**, **in dit**, **van dit**, etc. are not strictly speaking possible, e.g.

Dit was my stoel, maar nou sit die kat daarop.

This was my chair, but now the cat is sitting on it.

Daar + preposition not only translates ‘on’/‘in’/‘from it’, etc., but also ‘on’/‘in’/‘from them’, etc., when ‘them’ refers to non-personal objects, e.g.

Ons kyk graag daarna.

We like looking at it (a painting) or We like looking at them (paintings).

Daarop, etc. not only renders ‘on it/them’, etc. but also ‘on that/those’, in which case it contrasts with **hierop** ‘on this/these’, etc., e.g.

Die voorval het my daaraan laat dink.

The incident reminded me of it/that/those.

Ek gaan nie hieragter staan nie.

I’m not going to stand behind this/these.

Hulle gaan nie hierop sit nie.

They are not going to sit on this/these.

Exercise 4

Rewrite the following sentences replacing the italicised expressions with **daar** + preposition.

Example: Die seuns sit *op die rusbank.*

Die seuns sit daarop.

- 1 Die hond lê *op die grond.*
- 2 Ek weet niks *van daardie ongeluk* nie.
- 3 Sy het dit *uit die koerant geknip.*
- 4 Ons het urelank *in die motor rondgery.*
- 5 Ek het die hele dag *aan daardie flik loop en dink.*
- 6 Ons kyk op die oomblik *na ’n baie interessante televisieprogram.*

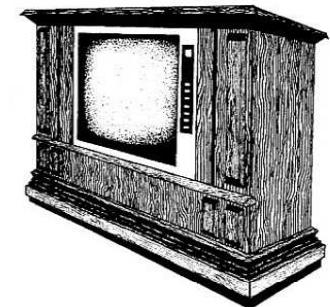
Exercise 5

Answer the following questions with reference to each illustration using the nouns and verbs given.

Example: Wat is dit en wat doen ’n mens daarmee?

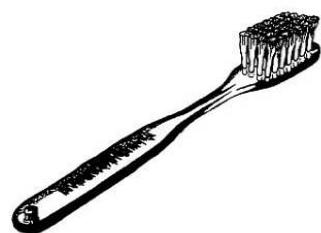


Dit is ’n gholfbal en jy speel gholf daarmee.

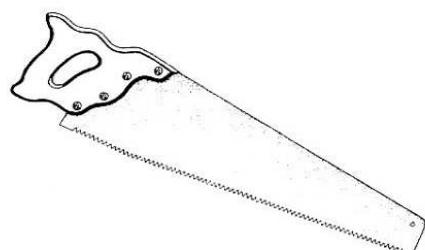


1 ’n viool (musiek speel)

2 televisiestel (kyk na)



3 tandeborsel (jou tandeborsel) 4 saag (hout saag)



5 teddiebeer (speel)



6 hamer (spykers inslaan)

Culture point

The term 'Afrikaander' (now archaic for 'Afrikaner') was first used at the beginning of the eighteenth century to designate a white, Dutch-speaking inhabitant of the Cape Colony. But the term 'Afrikaans' to designate the language, although occasionally used earlier in the nineteenth century, only became current after 1875, the year in which the **Genootskap van Regte Afrikaanders (GRA)** was founded in Paarl to strive for the recognition of Afrikaans as a separate written language from Dutch. The work begun in 1875 reached its culmination in 1925 in which year an act of parliament declared Afrikaans to be the other official language of the then Union of South Africa, replacing Dutch. For the next seventy years Afrikaans enjoyed official equal status with English, with its equal use in the public sphere being particularly pushed by the white Nationalist government from 1948 to 1994. It is this equality in the official sphere that has begun to be eroded since the ANC came to power in April 1994.

14 Exclamations, congratulations and apologies

In this lesson you will learn about:

- exclamations
- indefinite pronouns
- offering congratulations
- making and accepting apologies
- modal particles
- how to make a request or order sound polite

Dialogue 1

Ronel se nuwe bondeltjie vreugde

- RONEL: Kyk, Annetjie, wat ek vir my verjaarsdag van Piet gekry het.
- ANNETJIE: Wat is dit?
- RONEL: 'n Hondjie.
- ANNETJIE: Ag foeitog! Hy's pragtig.
- RONEL: Ja, hy is te lieflik, hè? Hy's 'n opregte worshond.
- ANNETJIE: Eina! Hy het my gekrap.
- RONEL: Ja, jy moet oppas want sy kloue is skerp en hy is sterk. Hy het vanoggend die voëltjieku omgestamp.
- ANNETJIE: Dit kan nie waar wees nie. Daai klein dingetjie en daai helse groot voëltjieku van julle.
- RONEL: Ja, hy het. Kan jy dit glo?
- ANNETJIE: Goeie genugtig!

Language points

Exclamations

wat 'n jammerte!	what a pity!
Dis jammer.	It's a pity/shame.
o!	oh!
ag, ja/nee, man*	oh, yes/no
Weg is jy!	Scram, get lost!
Voertsek!	Scram, get lost!
siestog!	how cute!, poor devil/soul!
foeitog!	how cute!, poor devil/soul!
(ag) sies!	(oh), yuck!
eina!	ouch!
Dis hy!	That's it; that's correct!
Daar's hy!	That's it; that's correct!
okay!	okay! (pronounced as in English)
nou maar goed!	alright then!
twak/snert!	nonsense!
Toe!	Come on! (giving encouragement)
Kan jy dit glo!	Can you believe it! (expresses incredulity)

Hoor, pronounced with a rising intonation, commonly follows imperatives (compare South African English 'eh?') as a confirmation that the order has been understood, e.g.

Jy moet jou huiswerk vir my wys as jy klaar is, hoor?
You must show me your homework when you're done, okay?

But it is used in other situations too where it does not have any direct equivalent in English, e.g. **dankie, hoor!** 'thanks!'.

There is a host of exclamations that express amazement similar to English expressions like 'heavens', 'my goodness', etc. All the following are as innocuous as these English expressions:

vaderland	(my) maggies
(goeie) genade	(my) hene (pronounced jene)
(goeie) genugtig	allawêrelد
mensdom	my wêrelد
rirre	my tyd

* **Man** is very frequently suffixed to numerous exclamations whether you are talking to a male or a female.

Jesus is regarded as a strong exclamation in Afrikaans and is best avoided in polite company. **Nugter weet** or **die Vader weet** express 'Lord knows'.

Indefinite pronouns

Learning indefinite pronouns is more a matter of vocabulary than grammar. Here is a list of the main ones followed by an exercise which illustrates how some of them are used in a sentence.

albei, beide	both
al, alle, almal	all*
al, alles	everything
baie, veel	much, many
enige	any
iemand	somebody
iedereen	everybody
iets	something
mekaar	each other
die meeste	most (of)
min	little, few
'n paar	a few, a couple of, some**
(heel)party ... party	some ... others
sommige ... ander	some ... others
sulke, so'n	such (a)
verskeie	several
verskillende	various

When followed by a mass noun, 'some' is left untranslated, e.g.

Hy moet geld maak.
He must make some money.

Moenie vergeet om brood te koop nie.
Don't forget to buy some bread.

* Note that 'all' with expressions of time is expressed by **heel** not **al**, i.e. 'all day/night/week' is either **die hele dag/nag/week** or **heeldag/heelnag/heelweek**.

** 'Some' with reference to a following plural noun is most usually expressed by **'n paar**, but it can be left untranslated, e.g.

Hy het al ('n paar) vriende gemaak.
He has already made some friends.

Exercise 1

Translate the following sentences into English.

- 1 Beide kinders het by die huis gebly.
- 2 Die kinders het albei by die huis gebly.
- 3 Almal het toe huis toe gegaan.
- 4 Ek het almal daar gesien.
- 5 Ons ken almal die man.
- 6 Dis al wat ek weet.
- 7 Ek het (veels) te veel geëet.
- 8 Ek het baie min vir my kar gekry.
- 9 Party/sommige mans word nooit groot nie.
- 10 Sy praat sulke mooi Afrikaans.

Offering congratulations

Veels geluk or **baie geluk** are the most usual way of expressing congratulations. If the reason for the congratulations needs to be specified, you can add **met jou verjaar(s)dag/eksamenuitslae/troue** ‘on your birthday/exam results/marriage’ depending on the occasion. In the case of birthdays, it is also possible to say **gelukkige verjaar(s)dag**.

Making and accepting apologies

(Ek is) jammer.

Ek is jammer/dit spyt my (dat ...).

Ekskuus (tog), 'skuus.

Verskoon my/verskoon tog.

Dit maak nie saak nie.

(I am) sorry.

I'm sorry (that ...).

Excuse me.

Excuse me.

It doesn't matter.

Ekskuus/'skuus is also the appropriate expression to use when someone says something to you that you have not heard or understood, i.e. it also renders ‘Beg your pardon?’ or ‘What (did you say)?’

Exercise 2

Translate the following.

- 1 Congratulations. (2 ways)
- 2 Happy birthday (2 ways)

3 Excuse me. (2 ways)

4 It didn't matter. (NB: past tense)

5 Sorry.

6 What did you say?

Modal particles

dalk

Dalk literally means ‘perhaps’, as does **misken**, but it also renders ‘might’ and commonly stands at the beginning of the clause, e.g.

Neem 'n sambrel saam; dalk reën dit.

Take an umbrella with you; it may/might rain.

Dalk was dit 'n fout.

Perhaps it was a mistake./It might have been a mistake.

Daar kan dalk iets gebeur.

Something might happen. (see p. 137)

Dalk is also frequently used in questions to make them sound more polite, in which case it is better left untranslated in English, e.g.

Het jy dalk 'n rooi pen?

Have you got a red pen (which I can borrow)?

darem

Darem has two meanings, context making it clear which is intended. First it is used together with adjectives expressing ‘really’ or ‘very’, e.g.

Dié hoederpastei is darem lekker.

This chicken pie is really delicious.

Second it renders ‘but’, ‘however’ or ‘at least’, e.g.

Hy was 'n ongenooide gas, maar hy het darem sy eie vleis na die braai gebring.

He was an uninvited guest, but he did at least bring his own meat to the barbecue.

Die rand is baie swak, maar jy kry darem nog steeds meer as drie Zimbabwees dollar daarvoor.

The rand is very weak, but you do still at least get more than three Zimbabwean dollars for it.

maar

In addition to meaning ‘but’/‘however’, in which case this word does not constitute a problem (see p. 61), **maar** can mean ‘just’ or ‘quite’/‘rather’, e.g.

Julle sal maar vir my moet wag.

You’ll just have to wait for me.

Ons huis is maar eenvoudig.

Our house is quite ordinary.

Maar also renders ‘only’ with reference to age (otherwise the word for ‘only’ is **net**), e.g.

Ons dogtertjie is maar drie jaar oud.

Our daughter is only three years old.

Note also:

Het hulle dit maar geweet!

If only they had known (that)!

mos

This is an extremely common little word and considered so indispensable that it has even made its way into South African English. Inclusion of **mos** in a statement implies on the part of the speaker that the listener already knows what is being said, e.g.

Jy weet mos ek kan nie swem nie.

As you know, I can’t swim.

’n Mol is mos blind.

A mole is of course blind.

Ek het jou mos gesê.

I told you so, (didn’t I)?

sommer

Sommer, similar to **mos**, is considered so indispensable in South Africa that it is just as integral to South African English as Afrikaans. It normally translates as ‘just’/‘merely’/‘simply’ often with the connotation ‘without reason’, e.g.

Sy het sommer geloop sonder om eers verskoning te maak.

She just/simply left without first excusing herself.

’n Olifant kan ’n boom sommer maklik omstoot.

An elephant can push a tree over quite easily.

Exercise 3

Translate the following sentences getting the feeling behind the modal particles (underlined) right.

- 1 My swaer het my sommer vyfhonderd rand gegee.
- 2 Dis darem mooi, dié nuwe huis van jou.
- 3 Ek het jou mos al gesê waar ons bly.
- 4 Hierdie oefening is maar maklik, nè?
- 5 Hy betaal my nooit terug nie, maar hy help my darem met my kar as ek moeilikheid het.

Dialogue 2 

’n Man vra hoe om by die Oorlogsmuseum te kom

MAN: Ekskuus, Mevrou. Kan u my asseblief sê hoe ek by die Oorlogsmuseum kom?

VROU: Gaan reguit tot by die hoek, draai links en gaan reguit tot by die afdelingsinkel oorkant die Volksbank. Draai daar regs en dan is dit tweehonderd meter verder aan jou regterhand.

MAN: Ek is jammer, Mevrou, maar ek is bevrees ek sal dit nie alles kan onthou nie. Sal u dit asseblief herhaal?

VROU: Wag ’n bietjie. Het Meneer ’n pen? Ek sal ’n kaartjie teken, maar Meneer kan gerus vir enigiemand vra want almal weet waar die Oorlogsmuseum is.

MAN: Baie, baie dankie, Mevrou. U was baie geduldig met my.

VROU: Niks te danke nie, Meneer.

Language points

How to make a request or order sound polite

A request to someone that they do something for you can be put in one of two ways:

Kan jy my asseblief stasie toe neem? or **Kan jy my stasie toe neem, asseblief?**

Sal jy my asseblief stasie toe neem? or **Sal jy my stasie toe neem, asseblief?**

Please take me to the station.

The difference in connotation between **kan** and **sal** is that the latter sounds a little more like an imperative – the former is the less presumptuous of the two. Note that in Afrikaans **asseblief** can stand either in the body of the sentence (before nominal objects) or at the end, never at the beginning, as is possible in English.

The adverbs (**'n**) **bietjie**, **gerus** and **dalk** are used in various situations to soften requests and imperatives:

(**'n**) **bietjie**

In addition to its literal meaning of ‘a little’, (**'n**) **bietjie** is used to make imperatives sound more polite, in which case it can either replace or be used in combination with **asseblief**, e.g.

Sit (asseblief) bietjie die lig aan.

Please switch the light on.

Vertel ons so 'n bietjie van die uitstalling.

Do tell us about the exhibition.

It often also renders ‘(for) a moment’ in imperatives, e.g.

Wag (so) 'n bietjie.

Wait a moment.

Kom bietjie hierso; ek wil jou iets wys.

Come here for a moment; I want to show you something.

gerus

Gerus renders ‘do’ or ‘by all means’ in polite imperatives, e.g.

Sit gerus.

Do sit down.

Bring gerus jou hondjie saam.

Do/by all means bring your dog along.

Jy kan gerus hulp vra.

You can ask for help by all means.

Exercise 4

Form polite requests from the following word groups using **asseblief**.

Example: help/my

Help my asseblief!

- 1 opstaan
- 2 opbel/my môre
- 3 aansteek/die kers
- 4 binnekom
- 5 voorlees/die brief
- 6 weggooi/dié rommel

Exercise 5

Form polite requests from the following word groups using **sal + asseblief**.

Example: help/my

Sal jy my asseblief help?

- 1 opstaan
- 2 opbel/my môre
- 3 aansteek/die kers
- 4 binnekom
- 5 voorlees/die brief
- 6 weggooi/dié rommel

15 Where? – on, under, behind or in front of?

In this lesson you will learn about:

- prepositions
- reduplication
- verbs with prepositional objects
- writing letters and addressing envelopes
- how to express weight
- adjectives followed by a preposition

Dialogue 1

Piet soek sy flits

- PIET: Tommie, wat het jy met my flits gedoen?
 PIET SE SEUN: Ek het hom by die kas in die kombuis gelos.
 PIET: Waarso? Op, onder, voor, agter of langs die kas?
 PIET SE SEUN: Op die vloer langs die kas tussen die kas en die yskas.
 PIET: Elke keer dat ek hom nodig het, moet ek hom soek. Dit maak my mal. Ek raak moeg daarvoor.
 MA: Moenie kla nie, Piet. Dis jou eie skuld. Jy sit hom self nooit terug op dieselfde plek nie.

Language points

Prepositions

You have been using prepositions since Chapter 1. They are the (usually) little words that show the relationship of nouns and

pronouns to each other in a sentence, e.g. ‘He got a bike *from* his uncle *for* his birthday’. They are to be found in almost every Afrikaans and English sentence. The problem with prepositions is that they are often used very idiomatically, e.g.

- | | |
|---|--|
| Hy dink dikwels aan haar. | He often thinks <i>of</i> her. |
| Hulle woon aan die kus. | They live <i>at/on</i> the coast. |
| Dié twee dinge gaan hand aan hand. | These two things go hand <i>in</i> hand. |

It is impossible to describe all the various uses of prepositions systematically. You will have to observe how they are used. Here are some typical prepositions: **aan** ‘on’, ‘at’, **agter** ‘behind’, **by** ‘at’, **in** ‘in’, ‘into’, **met** ‘with’, ‘by’, **na** ‘after’, **om** ‘around’, **op** ‘on’, ‘at’, **sedert** ‘since’, **teen** ‘against’, **teenoor** ‘opposite’, **tot** ‘until’, **tussen** ‘between’, **uit** ‘out (of)’, ‘from’, **van** ‘from’, ‘of’, ‘off’, **vir** ‘for’, **voor** ‘in front of’, ‘before’.

Note that both **aan** and **op** mean ‘on’, but the former refers to a vertical and the latter to a horizontal position, e.g.

- Die skildery hang aan die muur.**
 The painting is hanging on the wall.

- Die tydskrif lê op die tafel.**
 The magazine is lying on the table.

Aan also renders ‘on’ or ‘at’ the edge of something, e.g.

- Hulle bly aan die kus.**
 They live on the coast.

Met, **tot** and **vir** are replaced by **mee**, **toe** and **voor** when combined with **waar**, **hier** or **daar**, e.g.

- Hy het geld vir die instandhouding van die monument geskenk.**
 He donated money for the maintenance of the monument.

- Hy het geld daarvoor geskenk.**
 He donated money for it/that.

Note that ‘of’ is not translated in phrases of the following sort expressing quantities:

‘n dosie vuurhoutjies	a box of matches
‘n bottel melk	a bottle of milk
‘n koppie tee	a cup of tea

Exercise 1

Translate the following.

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 under the bed | 4 since the war |
| 2 above the bed | 5 between the trees |
| 3 opposite the station | 6 on the wall |

Exercise 2

What are the following in Afrikaans?

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 a bottle of beer | 4 a kilo of meat |
| 2 a packet of cigarettes | 5 a bag of potatoes |
| 3 two glasses of wine | 6 a little saucer of milk |

Reduplication

Reduplication refers to the common and quite unique practice in Afrikaans of doubling certain words to express a new connotation. Verbs, nouns, numerals and adverbs can be reduplicated.

Verbs

Reduplicated verbs can function as adverbs, e.g.

Hy het dit lag-lag gesê.

He said it laughing(ly).

Such adverbial expressions formed from reduplicated verbs are synonymous and interchangeable with expressions formed from **al** + present participle + **e**, e.g. **Hy het dit al laggende gesê.**

But reduplicated verbs can also function as verbs and thereby have the added connotation of repeated or iterative action, e.g.

Die babatjie het sy ogies geknip-knip.

The little baby kept blinking its eyes.

Nouns, adverbs and numerals function as adverbs when reduplicated, e.g.

Ryp sal plek-plek voorkom. (reduplicated noun)

Frost will occur here and there.

Kom ons gaan gou-gou huis toe. (reduplicated adverb)

Let's go home straight away.

Die kinders slaap twee-twee in 'n bed. (reduplicated numeral)

The children sleep two to a bed.

The names of some children's games are rendered by reduplicated nouns, the connotation being 'pretending', 'not real', e.g.

Die kinders het skool-skool gespeel.

The children played school.

Exercise 3

Try translating the following sentences, all of which contain a reduplicated form. Some require quite an idiomatic translation.

- 1 Hy het voel-voel deur die donker kamer gestap.
- 2 Die hasies het spring-spring in die verte verdwyn.
- 3 Speel-speel ons is perde. (*children playing together*)
- 4 Sy het soek-soek deur die bos gegaan.
- 5 Voeg die olie bietjie-bietjie by die eiers.
- 6 Die dronk man het val-val oor die straat geloop.
- 7 Reën word plek-plek in Gauteng verwag.
- 8 Ek sal nou-nou kom.
- 9 Sy het die wedren lag-lag gewen.
- 10 Die eendjies het die straat twee-twee oorgesteek.

Dialogue 2



Schalk dink nostalgies terug aan sy tyd in Namibië

SCHALK: Ek moet altyd aan my heerlike tyd in Suid-Wes dink wanneer ek na hierdie prentjie van die woestyn kyk.

HENNING: Namibië, bedoel jy, Schalk.

SCHALK: Ja, ja Namibië, maar in daardie tyd was dit nog Suid-Wes-Afrika.

HENNING: Gaan jy nie volgende maand soontoe terug nie?

SCHALK: Ja, vir die eerste keer sedert 1988. Ek sien baie daarna uit om al my vriende weer te sien wat nog daar bly.

HENNING: Is jy seker hulle sal nie intussen van jou vergeet het nie?

SCHALK: Nee wat. My vriendekring in Suid-Wes het bestaan veral uit ou skoolmaats van my. Hulle was almal mense op wie jy kon vertrou.

Language points



Verbs with prepositional objects

A verb with a prepositional object: I think of you every day.

Many verbs are commonly used in combination with a given preposition and thus need to be learnt as follows:

bestaan uit	to consist of	dink aan	to think of
kyk na	to look at	lag oor	to laugh at
oppas vir	to beware of	praat met	to talk to
sê vir	to say to	uitsien na	to look forward to
vergeet van	to forget about	vertrou op	to rely on

There are far too many to list so these should be observed and learnt as you meet them.

Exercise 4

Translate the following sentences looking up the verbs in the Afrikaans-English glossary to find the appropriate preposition.

- 1 Wat het hy (*to*) sy moeder gesê? (*to say to*)
- 2 Hy het (*of*) kanker gesterf. (*to die of*)
- 3 Ek het (*about*) die komende vakansie nagedink. (*to think about*)

- 4 Wat het (*to*) haar swaer gebeur? (*to happen to*)
- 5 Hy het my (*for*) geld gevra. (*to ask for*)
- 6 Sy lyk sprekend (*like*) haar moeder. (*to look like*)
- 7 Hy het toe (*to*) haar getrou. (*to get married to*)
- 8 Sy glimlag toe (*at*) die kind. (*to smile at*)
- 9 Dit het (*to*) sy dood geleï. (*to lead to*)
- 10 Die hond het (*at*) die kinders geblaf. (*to bark at*)

Writing letters and addressing envelopes

The envelope

Envelopes are addressed to **Mnr.** ‘Mr’, **Mev.** ‘Mrs’, **Mej.** ‘Miss’ or **Me.** ‘Ms’. Afrikaans surnames of Dutch and French origin containing prepositions and articles, e.g. **van** and **de**, are not capitalised when the initial or Christian name precedes, which is the case on an envelope, e.g. **Mnr. H. van Rooyen**, **Mev. P. de Villiers**; compare **meneer Van Rooyen** and **mevrou De Villiers** when the initial is dropped.

An envelope is addressed as follows with the street number following the name of the street. The postal code, which always consists of four digits, precedes the name of the suburb or town, e.g.

Mev. H.T. Malherbe
Voortrekkerstraat 110
2116 WITBANK

The street name and the words **laan** ‘avenue’, **rylaan** ‘drive’, **straat** ‘street’, **weg** ‘road’, etc. are written as one word, e.g. **De la Reylaan** ‘De la Rey Avenue’. ‘PO Box’ is rendered by **Posbus**, which is not abbreviated, and ‘Private Bag’ by **Privaatsak**.

It is usual to write **Afsender** ‘sender’, followed by the address, on the back of the envelope.

The letter

The sender’s address is placed in the top right-hand corner and, in official letters, the address of the addressee in the top left-hand corner. The date is given as follows, **24 Mei 1997**, with no abbreviation corresponding to ‘st’, ‘nd’, ‘rd’ and ‘th’ after the numeral. In the letter, as opposed to the envelope, the titles given above are written with a small letter if they are followed by a name, or a capital letter

if used as an independent title, e.g. **Geagte mnr./meneer Gouws** ‘Dear Mr. Gouws’, but **Geagte Meneer** ‘Dear Sir’. **Geagte Menere** or **Geagte Meneer/Mevrou** are used for impersonal business letters.

‘Dear’ in official letters or in letters addressed to strangers is rendered by **Geagte** (lit. ‘respected’), as just illustrated, whereas in letters to friends it is translated by either **Beste** or **Lieve**, the latter being more intimate, e.g. **Beste mnr./mev. Van der Merwe/Koos/Dalena, Lieve Koos/Dalena**. Two males, other than close family, would not however address each other with **Lieve**.

Formal letters end with either **Hoogagtend** (lit. ‘respectfully’) or **Die uwe** (lit. ‘yours’) or even a combination of the two, e.g. **Hoogagtend die uwe**.

Letters that begin with **Beste** or **Lieve** end with any of the following, all of which are variants of the greeting ‘Regards’: **Groete, Vriendelike/Hartlike groete, Groetnis**.

The equivalent of ‘PS’ is **NS** (< **naskrif**).

Exercise 5

Translate the following letter into Afrikaans. Pretend you are a young man writing to another male friend.

Dear Sarel,
 I am in Cape Town at the moment. I am staying here for two days. Two days is not very long but I have to be in Durban on Wednesday. I would like to visit the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens (**botaniese tuin**) but I don’t have enough time to go there. I can’t do everything unfortunately and I don’t have much money left (**oor**) either (**ook**). What are you going to do this summer? Shall we go to the Kruger Park together (**saam**)? I hope to see you in Johannesburg next month. I have to go to the post office now. Give my regards (**sê groete vir**) to your parents.

Kind regards,

Johan

Dialogue 3

Christo en Stoffel praat oor gewigsverlies

CHRISTO: Hoeveel weeg jy, Stoffel?

STOFFEL: Man, ek weeg vyf-en-tagtig kilo(gram) op die oomblik. Dis ’n klein bietjie aan die swaar kant, hè?

- CHRISTO: Ja, man. ’n Bietjie baie. Jy’s te vet.
 STOFFEL: Ek weet ek moet maerder word maar ek wil nie op ’n dieet gaan en oefen nie. Dis so moeilik om gewig te verloor.
 CHRISTO: Ek weet, ek het laasjaar vyf kilo aangesit en dit het lank gevat om dit te verloor, maar dit was op die ou end tog die moeite werd, weet jy.
 STOFFEL: Dit gee my ’n bietjie moed. Ek gaan ook my bes doen om gewig te verloor, maar ek begin eers môre want vanaand gaan ons ’n lekker vleisie braai. Wil jy oorkom?
 CHRISTO: Baie dankie vir die uitnodiging. Ek sou baie graag wou, maar my vrou laat my net ’n paar slaaiblaartjies vir aandete toe.
 STOFFEL: En dit noem jy die moeite werd. Man, as dit die prys is wat ’n ou moet betaal om maer te word, bly ek liewers vet, dink ek.

Language points

How to express weight

South Africa decimalised decades ago and thus imperial measures are now merely a vague memory. Personal weight is expressed in kilograms, not pounds or stones. Remember that all measures are expressed in the singular after numerals, e.g. **Sy weeg net sesig kilogram** ‘She weighs only sixty kilos’. ‘To lose/gain weight’ is expressed by **gewig verloor/aansit** and ‘fat’/‘thin’ is **vet/maer**.

Adjectives followed by a preposition

An adjective followed by a preposition: I am proud of you.

We saw on p. 154 that many verbs are commonly used in combination with a given preposition. There is also a substantial number of adjectives that are regularly followed by a preposition which often differs from the preposition used in English. What follows is a sample list:

arm aan
bang vir

poor in (e.g. minerals)
 afraid of

bly oor	glad of, happy about
dol oor	crazy about
entoesiasties oor	enthusiastic about
goed vir	good to (someone)
jaloers op	jealous, envious of
kwaad vir	angry with
lief vir	fond of
mal oor	crazy, mad about
moeg vir	tired of, fed up with
skadelik vir	harmful to

Such expressions are used as follows:

Suid-Afrika is ryk aan goud.

South Africa is rich in gold.

My suster is baie trots op haar dogter.

My sister is very proud of her daughter.

Some adjectives are derived from the past participle of verbs. These adjectives can take up one of two positions in a clause in relation to the prepositional phrase dependent on them: they can either precede that phrase, like a true adjective (i.e. **trots op** 'proud of'), or they can follow that phrase, then standing at the end of the clause and thus resembling more closely the past participle from which they are derived, e.g. **getrouwd met** 'married to', derived from the verb **trou** 'to marry':

Ek is getrouwd met sy suster or

Ek is met sy suster getrouwd.

I am married to his sister.

There are also several non-participial adjectives which allow both word orders, e.g. **afhanklik van** 'dependent on':

Lesotho is ekonomies afhanklik van Suid-Afrika or Lesotho is van Suid-Afrika ekonomies afhanklik.

Lesotho is economically dependent on South Africa.

The following is a sample list of such adjectives that can take up either position in the sentence:

onafhanklik van	independent of
bekend vir/weens	known for
bekommerd oor	worried about
besorg oor	concerned about

geïnteresseerd in	interested in
gekant teen	opposed to
getrouw met	married to
gewoond aan	used to
opgewonde oor	excited about
oortuig van	convinced of
verantwoordelik vir	responsible for
vergeleke met	compared to/with
verlief op	in love with
verwant met	related to

Two adjectives, **vol** 'full of' and **werd** 'worthy of' (which follows the noun), take no preposition in Afrikaans, e.g.:

Die bottel is vol mampoer.

The bottle is full of peach brandy.

Hulle is nie my vriendskap werd nie.

They are not worthy of my friendship.

16 Stellenbosch, a town which everyone loves

In this lesson you will learn about:

- relative clauses
- relative pronouns with prepositions
- how to express the relative pronoun 'whose'

Dialogue 1

Annetjie het koekies gebak wat Piet wil proe

- ANNETJIE: Piet, het jy al die koekies geproe wat ek vandag gebak het?
- PIET: Bedoel jy dié wat in die rooi blik is.
- ANNETJIE: Nee. Dis oues. Ek bedoel die koekies wat bo op die yskas lê om af te koel.
- PIET: Nee, dis nou iets wat ek baie lus is om te proe.
- ANNETJIE: Ek het so gedink. Dis 'n ou resep wat ek onlangs van Ouma gekry het en wat ek nog nooit geprobeer het nie.

Reading text 1

Stellenbosch is 'n dorp in die Boland wat 'n universiteit het. Dié universiteit, wat die land se leidende Afrikaanstalige universiteit is, is baie mooi geleë aan die voet van skouspelagtige berge. Daar is ook pragtige wingerde wat teen die hange van die berge groei en wat in die herfs pragtige kleure vertoon. Dié dorp, wat die land se tweede oudste is, is 'n groot toeriste-aantreklikheid, wat nie net



buitelanders lok nie, maar ook baie Suid-Afrikaners, vir wie 'n besoek aan die Bolandse dorp 'n bekoring inhoud. Stellenbosch is 'n dorp waarvoor alle Suid-Afrikaners baie lief is. Die talryke berge in die omgewing waar 'n mens kan gaan stap, is baie indrukwekkend.

Language points

Relative clauses

A relative clause: The apple *that/which I tasted* was rotten.
In English we use a number of words to introduce a relative clause; we have the choice between 'that', 'who', 'whom' or 'which', but in Afrikaans there is only one form of the relative pronoun, which is **wat**, e.g.

Wie het die koekies geëet wat in die kas was?
Who ate the biscuits *that* were in the cupboard?

Die ou wat langsaan bly, is 'n Duitser.
The chap *who* lives next door is a German.

Die mense wat jy gister ontmoet het, het Bloemfontein toe getrek.
The people (*whom*) you met yesterday have moved to Bloemfontein.

Ek het biltong van die bok gemaak wat ek geskiet het.
I made biltong from the buck (*which*) I shot.

Notes on relatives

1 Note that in the final two examples above the relative pronoun can be omitted in English as it forms the object of the relative clause, but this is not possible in Afrikaans. (Only the conjunction ‘that’, i.e. **dat**, can be omitted in Afrikaans, as it can in English. See p. 62.)

2 In a relative clause the finite verb is sent to the end of the clause, which in the second and third sentences on p. 161 puts that verb next to the finite verb in the main clause, for which reason these two verbs are commonly separated by a comma in all but the shortest of sentences.

3 When a relative clause is imbedded in a main clause containing a verb (an infinitive or a past participle) which must stand at the end of that clause, you have the choice of placing that verb either isolated from its clause at the end of the sentence as a whole, or at the end of its clause in which case the relative and the noun it relates back to are not adjacent as in English, but this does not matter in Afrikaans, although generally speaking it is preferable not to isolate verbs as in the following examples, e.g.

Wie het die koekies wat in die kas was, geëet?

Ek het biltong van die bok wat ek geskiet het, gemaak.

Exercise 1

Insert the relative pronoun.

- 1 Die trein ... later vertrek, kom vroeër in Kaapstad aan.
- 2 Waar is die kaartjie ... jy pas gekoop het?
- 3 Piet is iemand ... iedereen oulik vind.
- 4 Die mense ... langsaan woon, kom uit Hongarye.
- 5 Die beskuit ... jy vandag gekoop het, is nie lekker nie.

Exercise 2

Join the following sentences with **wat** putting the verb in the relative clause at the end.

Example: My oupa is baie oud. Hy woon op Springfontein.

My oupa wat op Springfontein woon, is baie oud.

- 1 Die motor is rooi. Hy het die motor gister gekoop.
- 2 Die dame is oulik. Sy was nou net hier.

- 3 Die boek is baie spannend. Jy het dit vir my present gegee. (Omit **dit**.)
- 4 Die kind is stout. Die kind bly langsaan.
- 5 Die tikmasjien is stukkend. Jy het dit aan haar verkoop. (Omit **dit**.)

Exercise 3

Translate into Afrikaans.

- 1 The pens that hang on little chains in banks are always empty.
- 2 These cars, which are assembled (= **monter**) in Botswana, are very cheap.
- 3 Many of the black people who live in this part of the city are illegal immigrants.
- 4 The medicine man (= **sangoma**) you saw on the beach yesterday sits in that spot every day.
- 5 Our neighbours in Betty's Bay, whom you once (= **op 'n keer**) met, are very nice (= **gaaf**) people.

Dialogue 2



'n Partytjie wat net vir kollegas bedoel is

- HESTER: Wie het jou vanmôre gebel?
 HENNIE: Bedoel jy die ou wat net voor ontbyt gebel het?
 HESTER: Nee, ek bedoel die vrou wat 'n bietjie later gebel het.
 HENNIE: Ag sy, sy is iemand met wie ek 'n afskeidspartytjie vir die baas organiseer.
 HESTER: Is dit, en waar word die partytjie gehou?
 HENNIE: In dieselfde saal waarin ons laasjaar se kerspartytjie gehou het.
 HESTER: As ek weer na dieselfde vervelige mense moet staan en luister na wie ek laasjaar ure lank moes luister, bly ek liewers by die huis, dankie.
 HENNIE: Jy sal glad nie met mense moet praat wat jou nie interesseer nie, want jy is nie genooi nie.
 HESTER: Hoekom nie?
 HENNIE: Hierdie partytjie is net vir kollegas, nie vir eggenote nie.

Language points

Relative pronouns with prepositions

What you've learnt about relative pronouns so far is not quite all there is to know about relatives. Relative 'that', 'which', 'who' and 'whom' can be used in combination with a preposition, e.g. 'The girl *that/who/whom* I gave the book *to* is my niece', 'The table *that/which* we are sitting *at* is too low'. Without a preposition, the relative in Afrikaans is **wat**, as we have seen, but in combination with a preposition you will need to make a choice between **wie** and **waar**. When the antecedent, i.e. the noun which the relative refers or relates back to, is a person, **wie** is used and the preposition precedes it. In other words you literally say 'to whom', 'with whom', 'from whom', etc., e.g.

Die bedelaar vir wie ek die twee rand gegee het, het net een been gehad.

The beggar I gave the two rands to (= to whom) only had one leg.

Die man met wie ek gepraat het, het 'n plaas in die Klein Karoo.

The man I was talking to (= to whom) has a farm in the Little Karoo.

When the antecedent is a thing (i.e. non-personal), **waar-** + preposition is used. In other words you literally say 'whereon', 'wherein', etc., e.g.

Die tafel waarby ons nou sit, is te laag.

The table we are now sitting at (= at which) is too low.

Die kas waarin die boeke nou is, staan in die slaapkamer.

The cupboard the books are now in (= in which) is standing in the bedroom.

In English we often omit the relative when it is used together with a preposition, as illustrated by the previous four examples, but it can never be omitted in Afrikaans.

Exercise 4

Translate the following sentences using a preposition + **wie** for personal and **waar** + preposition for non-personal antecedents.

- 1 The pen you are writing with was a present from my grandma.
- 2 Those (= **dit**) are the glasses we drank out of last night.
- 3 Did you see the lady I was just talking to?
- 4 The grass that we're lying on is still wet.
- 5 The knife which I'm cutting the meat with isn't sharp enough.
- 6 The holiday which we had so been looking forward to (= **uitsien na**) was terrible.
- 7 The Van Stadens are people you can rely on.

Dialogue 3

Piet en Annetjie praat oor Piet se kollega se nuwe motor

- PIET: Annetjie, ken jy die kollega van my wie se motor ek laas week geleen het toe myne stukkend was?
- ANNETJIE: Bedoel jy die man wie se vrou saam met my ma tennis speel?
- PIET: Ja. Hy het nou 'n nuwe kar waarvan ek nog nooit gehoor het nie. Dis 'n Kia. Ken jy dit?
- ANNETJIE: Natuurlik. Dis 'n Koreaanse maak. Dis verbasend – om te dink, ek weet iets van motorkarre wat jy nie eens weet nie.

Language points

How to express the relative pronoun 'whose'

Back on p. 23 we saw that 'whose' in a question is expressed by **wie se**. The same form is used to express 'whose' as a relative pronoun when the antecedent is personal, e.g.

Die ou wie se kar sy geleen het, is nou spyt dat hy dit gedoen het.

The chap whose car she borrowed is now sorry he did it.

Die mense wie se kinders ek elke dag oppas, het 'n slaghuis in die dorp.

The people whose children I take care of every day have a butcher's shop in town.

Wie se can also be used in combination with a preposition, e.g.

Dié mense met wie se kinders ek vroeër gespeel het, is vriende van my pa.

These people, whose children I used to play with, are friends of my father's.

When the antecedent is inanimate, **waarvan** ‘of which’ is used to render ‘whose’, but then ‘whose’ is often avoided in such cases in English as it sounds too personal to many people, e.g.

Die boer se werkers bly in die rondawel waarvan die grasdak herstel word.

The farmer's labourers live in the rondavel whose thatch roof (= of which the thatch roof) is being repaired.

In colloquial Afrikaans you are likely to hear **wat se** in such contexts, e.g.

Die boer se werkers bly in die rondawel wat se grasdak herstel word.

Exercise 5

Translate the following sentences.

- 1 Sy is die vrou wie se man met myne saam werk.
- 2 Dit is die tafel waarvan die poot afgebreek het.
- 3 Lande waarvan die groeikoers verminder het, sal nie meer geld kanleen nie.
- 4 Die bure wie se huis 'n tydjie gelede in die mark was, het besluit om hier te bly.
- 5 Hy het 'n kar gekoop waarvan die vorige eienaar tronk toe gegaan het vir dronkbestuur.

17 There's a school being built here

In this lesson you will learn about:

- the passive
- more about modal verbs
- the conditional tense
- use of the finite form **het** instead of the infinitive form **hê**

Dialogue 1

Hier word 'n skool gebou

- VRIEND 1: Hier word 'n skool gebou, weet jy?
- VRIEND 2: Nee, ek het dit nie geweet nie. Maar hoekom? Drie jaar gelede is daar 'n skool omtrent net 'n kilometer van hier af opgerig.
- VRIEND 1: Ja, dis reg, maar dit was 'n laerskool, hierdie een is 'n hoërskool.
- VRIEND 2: O, ek sien.
- VRIEND 1: Hierdie voorstad het die laaste jare geweldig gegroei, hè?
- VRIEND 2: Ja. Daar word op amper elke hoek gebou.
- VRIEND 1: Ja, al die erwe is nou al verkoop. Binnekort sal niks meer gebou kan word nie.

Language points

The passive

The concept ‘passive’ is the same in both English and Afrikaans, but Afrikaans expresses it in a slightly different way. Sometimes,

for stylistic reasons, we choose not to mention who or what is performing an action, i.e. ‘The door was opened’ instead of ‘I/she/he opened the door’; the former construction is called the passive and the latter the active. The doer of the action can also be mentioned in the passive if required, i.e. ‘The door was opened by me/her/him’. As you can see, in the passive the object of the active (in this case ‘the door’) becomes the subject of the sentence.

In English the passive is formed by using the verb ‘to be’ plus a past participle. In Afrikaans you use **word** (lit. ‘to become’) plus the past participle in the present and **is** plus the past participle in the past. Here are all the tenses of the passive in Afrikaans and English:

Die deur word (deur hom) oopgemaak.	The door is (being) opened (by him).
Die deur is (deur hom) oopgemaak.	The door was (being) opened (by him).
Die deur sal oopgemaak word.	The door has been opened (by him).
Die deur sou oopgemaak word.	The door had been opened (by him).
Die deur moet/kan oopgemaak word.	The door will be opened.
Die deur sal oopgemaak moet word.	The door would be opened.
Die deur sal oopgemaak gewees het.	The door must/can be opened.
Die deur sou oopgemaak gewees het.	The door will have to be opened.

Note that there is only one past tense form where English has three; this runs parallel with the active where a form like **Hy het die deur oopgemaak** renders ‘He opened/has opened/had opened the door’.

In the past you will often see and particularly hear **Die deur was (deur hom) oopgemaak**, with **was** instead of **is**. Purists object to this, which has most probably come into the language via English, but it is very common and most speakers would not regard it as incorrect. Don’t be misled by the present tense appearance of **is** in the passive

– when used with a past participle in the passive it renders the past tense, the present tense being rendered by **word**.



Dialogue 2

- Twee vriendinne praat oor hoe 'n sekere Indiese geregt gemaak word
- VRIENDIN 1: Hoe word hierdie eksotiese geregt gemaak?
 VRIENDIN 2: Dit word van bestanddele gemaak wat net op die Indiese mark in Durban verkoop word. Sover ek weet, word hulle nêrens anders verkoop nie. Die geregt is oorspronklik gemaak deur 'n ou Indiërs van Pietermaritzburg wat bekend was in daardie stad vir sy heerlike kos.
- VRIENDIN 1: Sou dit nie met ander speserye gemaak kon word nie? Wat moet ek doen, as ek nie die regtes in die hande kan kry nie?
- VRIENDIN 2: Jy kan dit natuurlik probeer, maar dit word nie aanbeveel nie.

Vocabulary

geregt	dish, course	bestanddeel	ingredient
nêrens	nowhere	oorspronklik	originally
bekend vir	famous for	heerlik	delicious
kos	food	spesery	spice
in die hande kry	to get hold of	aanbeveel	to recommend

Exercise 1

Use the passive to answer the following questions in the passive.

Example: Waarvan word brood gemaak? (van meel)

Brood word van meel gemaak.

- 1 Waarmee is dit geskryf? (**met 'n vulpen**)
- 2 Waarmee word die skottelgoed afgespoel? (**met warm water**)
- 3 Waarmee is dit skoongemaak? (**met seep**)
- 4 Deur wie is hy gehelp? (**deur my**)
- 5 Deur wie kan hy gehelp word? (**deur niemand**)
- 6 Deur wie is die geld geskenk? (**deur sy oupa**)
- 7 Waar word Afrikaans gepraat? (**in Namibië en Suid-Afrika**)

Exercise 2

Write out the questions and answers in the above exercise in the other tense of the passive, i.e. sentence 1 is in the past, so put it into the present, and sentence 2 is in the present, so put it into the past.

Exercise 3

Translate the questions and answers you just gave in answer to the previous exercise.

Exercise 4

Here are the conditions for a competition. Great use is made of the passive. Translate the seven rules, taking particular care with how you render the passives in English.

Reëls van die wedstryd

- 1 Deelname is gratis en enigeen mag inskryf.
- 2 Die prys sal aan die eerste korrekte inskrywing toegeken word.
- 3 Die prys is nie oordraagbaar nie en kan nie vir kontant verruil word nie.
- 4 Geen gefotostateerde inskryfverfs sal aanvaar word nie.
- 5 Die beoordelaars se besluit is finaal en geen briefwisseling sal gevoer word nie.
- 6 Die weninskrywing word Saterdag 21 September om 14.00 getrek. Die wenner sal telefonies verwittig word.

- 7 Die wenner moet bereid wees om vir promosiedoeleindes gefotografeer te word.

Reading text 1

(This text is written in the past tense, combining both the active and the passive.)

Vroeë ontdekkingsreisigers wat die Kaap in die 1500s aangedoen het, het met die Khoi inwoners handel gedryf. Toe die Hollandse Oos-Indiese Kompanjie in 1652 'n verversingspos aan die Kaap stig, het handelsbetrekkinge met die binneland tot by Swellendam gestrek. In 1743 het die HOIK Swellendam as landdrostdistrik geproklameer, die derde oudste in Suid-Afrika. Die dorp is vernoem na Goewerneur Hendrik Swellengrebel en sy vrou, 'n nooi Ten Damme. Hierdie afgeleë nedersetting het gou die deurweg na die binneland geword en is deur menige beroemde ontdekkingsreisigers besoek.

Exercise 5

If you would like to try translating the preceding passage with the help of the Afrikaans-English word list in the back of the book, do so and check the result against the translation of the passage in the Answers to the exercises.

Exercise 6

Only one verb has been left in the present tense in the above Reading text, although all the events occurred in the past. Which verb is this and why is it quite clear that it has past tense meaning?

Dialogue 3 

Twee vriende maak planne vir die naweek

- VRIEND 1: Ek gaan Saterdag na my pa se plaas toe op Rustenburg. Sou jy wou saamkom?
 VRIEND 2: Ek sou seker wou, maar ...
 VRIEND 1: Maar wat?
 VRIEND 2: Sou ek die kinders kon saamneem?

VRIEND 1: Ja, natuurlik, man.

VRIEND 2: Jy sien, as hulle nie sou kon saamkom nie, sou ek by die huis moes bly, want ek het my vrou belowe dat ek hulle altyd sou oppas op die dae dat sy gholf speel.

VRIEND 1: Nee wat, die kinders is welkom, man. En as julle langer as een dag sou wou bly, kan julle dit gerus doen. My Pa-hulle het beddens vir Afrika.*

VRIEND 2: Nou maar goed. Dan kom ons beslis.

Language points

More about modal verbs

The basics about modal verbs have been covered, but modals are so common and occur in such a variety of constructions, that you need to know more about them than has been explained to date. What follows is quite complicated, but it is also all there is left to say about how the verbal system of Afrikaans works.

The conditional tense

The conditional tense: He would do it, if ...

Let's first take a look at the past tense of **sal**, **sou**. Just as the use of **sal** corresponds more or less exactly with that of 'will' in English, so **sou** corresponds fairly closely to 'would', with a few exceptions.

Dié park sou ouliker wees as hy/dit meer bome sou hê.

This park would be nicer if it had more trees.

Sy sou baie bly wees as sy hier langer (sou) kon bly.

She would be very pleased if she could stay here longer.

Ek sou my motor wou inruil, maar ek kan nie 'n nuwe (een) bekostig nie.

I would like to trade my car in, but I can't afford a new one.

Jy sou langer in die land moes bly as jy die taal vloeiend sou wou leer praat.

You would have to stay in the country longer if you wanted to learn to speak the language fluently.

There are two important complications to take note of in the above examples:

1 Not only is there a **sou** in the first clause corresponding literally with English 'would', but the **as** ('if') clause, which is so commonly used in combination with a clause in the conditional, also contains a **sou** which expresses the hypothetical nature of that clause. Note that the first sentence could also have been rendered in English as follows: 'That park would be nicer if it were to have more trees'; 'were to' here corresponds exactly with what the second **sou** is expressing. But that clause could also read ... **as hy meer bome het**, where the hypothetical nature of the statement is less stressed.

2 Where a modal verb is preceded by **sou**, where you would logically expect **kan**, **moet** and **wil** (i.e. infinitives after the finite verb **sou**), it is usual in Afrikaans to use **kon**, **moes** and **wou**. A sort of past tense assimilation is occurring here with the past tense form **sou** forcing **kan**, **moes** and **wil** to adopt a past tense form. This is illustrated in the last three examples above.

Just as in English, when a 'would' clause is used in combination with an 'if' clause, it is optional whether the 'would' clause precedes the 'if' clause, as above, or follows it, e.g.

As hy meer bome sou hê, sou dié park ouliker wees.

If it had more trees, this park would be nicer.

As sy langer hier (sou) kon* bly, sou sy baie bly wees.

If she could stay here longer, she would be very pleased.

Note that when this word order is applied, as is usual when a sentence begins with a subordinate clause (see p. 61), inversion of subject and verb in the second clause is required to keep the finite verb in the main clause in second position in the sentence as a whole and a comma is placed between the two verbs belonging to separate clauses.

Note too that, as in English, in somewhat higher style the **as** can be omitted, with the subject and finite verb **sou** being inverted:

Sou sy langer in Europa bly, sou haar geld gou opraak.

Should she stay in Europe any longer, her money would soon be used up.

Were she to stay in Europe any longer, her money would soon be used up.

* The form **kon**, just like English 'could', can function as both a past tense (= 'was able to') and a conditional (= 'would be able to') without a **sou** necessarily having to precede it.

* **Appels vir Afrika** 'apples, etc. for Africa' is a common idiom meaning 'lots of'.

And finally, it should be noted that **sou** can also mean 'was going to' (= was one's intention to), e.g.

Toekom gesien het, sou hy gaan draf.
When I saw him he was going to go jogging.

Use of the finite form *het* instead of the infinitive form *hê* in the future perfect and conditional perfect tenses

The future perfect tense: He will have done it by then.

The conditional perfect tense: He would have done by then, if ...

In the simple future and conditional tenses a 'have' following a 'will' or 'would' is rendered by the infinitive **hê**, as you would expect, e.g.

Eendag sal die land 'n ander regering hê.
One day the country will have another government.

Hy sou meer vriende hê as hy nie so vrekkerig was nie.
He would have more friends if he wasn't so miserly.

But in the future perfect and conditional perfect tenses **het** is used where English uses the infinitive and thus where you might expect **hê**, e.g.

Die vliegtuig sal nou sekerlik al geland het.
The plane will certainly have arrived by now.

Hy sou meer vriende gehad het as hy nie so vrekkerig was nie.*

He would have had more friends if he had not been so miserly.

This use of **het** instead of **hê** also applies to all verbal constructions where a modal verb and a past participle occur, e.g.

Hy moes die rekening betaal het.
He must have paid the bill.

'Could have done' and 'should have done' are expressed by similar constructions, e.g.

Hulle kon die sweefspoor in die winter gediens het, maar hulle het nie.

They could have serviced the cable car in the winter, but they didn't.

Hulle moes dit lank gelede gedoen het.
They should have done it ages ago.

* Note that the English pluperfect 'had been', in keeping with there being only one past tense form of **wees**, is expressed by a simple **was**.

List of countries, inhabitants, nationalities

	<i>Country</i>	<i>Inhabitant/plural</i>	<i>Adjective</i>
Africa	Afrika	Afrikaan/Afrikane	Afrika*
America	Amerika	Amerikaner/Amerikaners	Amerikaans
Angola	Angola	Angolees/Angolese	Angolees
Argentina	Argentinië	Argentyn/Argentyne	Argentyns
Asia	Asië	Asiaat/Asiate	Asiaties
			Asiër/Asiërs
Australia	Australië	Australier/Austaliërs	Australies
Austria	Oostenryk	Oostenryker/Oostenrykers	Oostenryks
Belgium	België	Belg/Belge	Belgies
Botswana	Botswana	Tswana/Tswanas	Tswana
Brazil	Brasilië	Brasiliaan/Brasiliane	Brasiliaans
Britain	Brittanje	Brit/Britte	Brits
Canada	Kanada	Kanadees/Kanadese	Kanadees
China	China/Sjina	Chinees/Chinese	Chinees
Denmark	Denemarke	Deen/Dene	Deens
England	Engeland	Engelsman/Engelse	Engels
Europe	Europa	Europeér/Europeërs	Europees
Finland	Finland	Fin/Finne	Fins
France	Frankryk	Fransman/Franse	Frans
Germany	Duitsland	Duitser/Duitsers	Duits
Greece	Griekeland	Griek/Grieke	Grieks
Holland	Holland	Hollander/Hollanders	Hollands
Hungary	Hongarye	Hongaar/Hongare	Hongaars
India	Indië	Indiér/Indiërs	Indies
Indonesia	Indonesië	Indonesiér/Indonesiërs	Indonesies
Ireland	Ierland	Ier/Iere	Iers
Israel	Israel	Israeli/Israelis	Israelies, Israels

Italy	Italië	Italianer/Italianers	Italiaans
Japan	Japan	Japannees/Japannees	Japannees
		Japanner/Jappers	Japans
Lesotho	Lesotho	Sotho/Sothos, Basotho	Sotho
Mexico	Mexiko	Mexikaan/Mexikane	Mexikaans
Morocco	Marokko	Marokkaan/Marokkane	Marokkaans
Mozambique	Mosambiek	Mosambieker/ Mosambiekers	Mosambieks
Namibia	Namibië	Namibiér/Namibiërs	Namibies
Netherlands	Nederland	Nederlander/-ers	Nederlands
New Zealand	Nieu-Seeland	Nieu-Seelander/-landers	Nieu-Seelands
Nigeria	Nigerië	Nigeriér/Nigeriërs	Nigeries
Norway	Noorweë	Noor/Nore	Noors, Noorweegs
Poland	Pole	Pool/Pole	Pools
Portugal	Portugal	Portugees/Portugese	Portugees
Romania	Roemenië	Roemeen/Roemene	Roemeens
Russia	Rusland	Rus/Russe	Russes
South Africa	Suid-Afrika	Suid-Afrikaner/-ers	Suid-Afrikaans
Spain	Spanje	Spanjaard/Spanjaarde	Spaans
Swaziland	Swaziland	Swazi/Swazis	Swazi
Sweden	Swede	Sweed/Swede	Sweeds
Switzerland	Switserland	Switser/Switsers	Switsers
Thailand	Thailand	Thailander/Thailanders	Thailands
Turkey	Turkye	Turk/Turke	Turks
United States	die Verenigde (USA)	Amerikaan/ State (VSA)	Amerikaans
Zambia	Zambië	Zambiér/Zambiërs	Zambies
Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe	Zimbabwiér/Zimbabwiërs	Zimbabwies

* Because the word **Afrikaans**, originally the Dutch word for 'African', now has a specialised meaning in South Africa, the word **Afrika-** is now prefixed to nouns to render 'African', e.g. **Afrika-tale** 'African languages'.

Answers to the exercises

Lesson 1

Exercise 1

Country	Inhabitant (male)	Language/Nationality
Duitsland	Duitser	Duits
Engeland	Engelsman	Engels
Frankryk	Fransman	Frans
Nederland	Nederlander	Nederlands
Swede	Sweed	Sweeds
België	Belg	Belgies
Suid-Afrika	Suid-Afrikaner	Suid-Afrikaans
Australië	Australiër	Australies
Amerika	Amerikaner	Amerikaans

Exercise 2

1 Dit/hierdie is my boek. Waar is jou boek? 2 My vrou is in Swaziland en sy vrou is in Lesotho. 3 Watter taal leer u kinders op skool? 4 My broer se kar/motor is groen, maar my kar is wit. En jou vrou se kar? 5 Hierdie/dié boek se kleur. 6 Daardie huis se dak. 7 Daardie vrou se kind. 8 Haar huis is groter as hulle huis. 9 Julle huis is kleiner as ons huis.

Exercise 3

1 hierdie/dié man 2 daardie boeke 3 Dit/hierdie is 'n goeie boek. 4 Dit/daardie is 'n groot huis. 5 Dit/hierdie is goed. 6 Dit/daardie is groot. 7 Wat is dit? 8 Dit weet ek nie.

Lesson 2

Exercise 1

1 Waar woon die president? 2 Wanneer kom hy terug? 3 Waarom/hoekom leer jy Afrikaans? 4 Waarheen/waarnatoe gaan jou broer? 5 Hoeveel het hulle vir hulle huis betaal?

Exercise 2

1 She talks too much. 2 The foreigners are learning Afrikaans. 3 The two are talking to each other. 4 I am eating an apple. 5 We live in Springfontein. 6 The teacher is explaining the problem. 7 Why are you reading it? 8 I'm trying a second time/I'll try again. 9 The island is becoming (or 'is to become') a tourist attraction. 10 He's shooting a small buck.

1 Sy het te veel gepraat. 2 Die buitelanders het Afrikaans geleer. 3 Die twee het met mekaar gesels. 4 Ek het 'n appel geëet. 5 Ons het op Springfontein gewoon. 6 Die onderwyser het die probleem verduidelik. 7 Waarom het jy dit gelees? 8 Ek het nog 'n keer (ge)probeer. 9 Die eiland het 'n toeriste-aantreklikheid geword. 10 Hy het 'n bokkie geskiet.

Exercise 3

1 Sy wou saamgaan. 2 Die kinders moes Afrikaans leer. 3 Hulle het twee kinders gehad. 4 Die motor was splinternuut (gewees). 5 Hy was in Namibië (gewees). 6 Ek moes 'n appel eet. 7 Ek het nog 'n keer (ge)probeer. 8 Ons was by die huis (gewees).

Exercise 4

1 Die bokkies vreet al die gras. 2 Hoekom moet hy dit doen? 3 Dié hondjie het kleintjies. 4 Hy kan nie sy rekenaar verkoop nie. 5 Hy lê die hele dag in die bed. 6 Ons wil hom nie nooi nie. 7 Op die ou end kom hy huis toe. 8 Sy woon in Pole.

Exercise 5

1 In 1994 het die ANC aan die bewind gekom. 2 Elke dag gaan hulle met die bus skool toe. 3 Môre gaan ons wildtuin toe. 4 Volgende week kom hy van Zimbabwe terug. 5 Elke somer gaan

die Van Rensburgs Kaap toe. 6 Op die hoek van hierdie twee strate het hy vroeër gewoon. 7 Een dag 'n week neem hy die trein. 8 Op my kan jy reken. 9 In die tuin sit hulle, nie in die sitkamer nie. 10 Afrikaans praat hy met sy ma.

Lesson 3

Exercise 1

1 Die hemp sal spierwit wees. 2 Ek sal 'n appel moet eet. 3 Ons sal by die huis wees. 4 Hy sal nou weer mag werk. 5 Ek sal nog 'n keer probeer. 6 Sy sal wil saamgaan.

Exercise 2

1 Hy gaan 'n nuwe motor koop. 2 Ek gaan 'n appel eet. 3 Ons gaan by die huis wees. 4 Hy gaan nou weer werk. 5 Ek gaan nog 'n keer probeer. 6 Sy gaan 'n week by ons bly.

Exercise 3

1 'n regverdige oordeel 2 jou laaste kans 3 'n Japannese motor 4 die Suid-Afrikaanse vlag 5 vars vrugte 6 die regte antwoord 7 'n vinnige motor 8 'n ligte poeding 9 'n gawe kêrel 10 'n snaakse grap 11 die juiste getal 12 'n stywe been 13 'n vaste belofte 14 'n hoë boom 15 'n vae idee 16 'n wonderlike belewenis 17 'n goue oorlosie 18 'n leë lêer 19 'n goeie onderwyser 20 'n halwe brood

Exercise 4

1 elke kind 2 blou water 3 'n baie sterk man 4 'n rooi vlag 5 'n ryp perske 6 'n stout kleuter 7 'n dom mens 8 'n dooie voël 9 'n duur huis 10 'n koel plek 11 die Groot Trek 12 'n ou vrou 13 jong mense 14 'n geel blaar 15 'n nuwe motor 16 'n lang man

Exercise 5

1 Die baie jong visserman. 2 Die verskriklik ou dorp. 3 Jou baie lang seun. 4 Dié wonderlike rolprent. 5 Die goeie foto. 6 Die dooie donkie. 7 Die breë rivier. 8 Hierdie baie hoë boom. 9 Al die moeë voetslaners. 10 Die baie vae vraag. 11 My baie bros vingernaals. 12 Hierdie belaglik klein yskas.

Lesson 4

Exercise 1

1 65 2 49 3 92 4 41 5 83 6 55 7 78 8 37

Exercise 2

1 In 1999 het Goeie Vrydag op die tweede April/op twee April gevval. 2 Nasionale Vrouedag is die negende Augustus/is nege Augustus. 3 Die dag ná Kersdag noem ons Welwillendheidsdag. 4 Daar is twaalf openbare vakansiedae in 'n jaar in Suid-Afrika. 5 Die derde vakansiedag in April is Vryheidsdag.

Exercise 3

1 Dis presies drie-uur. 2 Dit vertrek halfvier. 3 Hulle verwag julle tienuur se kant. 4 Dit begin kwart oor ses. 5 Skuins na halftwee.

Exercise 4

1 Staan onmiddellik op! 2 Nooi jou broer uit! 3 Eet die lemoen op! 4 Neem die aanbod aan! 5 Kom asseblief binne! 6 Maak die venster oop! 7 Gee die geld uit!

Exercise 5

1 Hy het onmiddellik opgestaan. 2 Ek het jou broer uitgenooi. 3 Schalk het die lemoen opgeëet. 4 Amanda het die aanbod nie aangeneem nie. 5 Hy het nie binnekoma nie. 6 Sy het die venster oopgemaak. 7 Sy het die geld uitgegee.

Exercise 6

1 Hy het aan die vereistes voldoen. 2 Hulle het sy gasvryheid misbruik. 3 Schalk het nie sy kursus voltooi nie. 4 Dit het moeilikheid voorkom. 5 Hulle het slechte weer voorspel. 6 My swaer het te veel onderneem. 7 Die polisie het sy woonstel deursoek. 8 Sy ouma het 'n operasie ondergaan. 9 Daardie vreeslike man het sy troeteldiere mishandel. 10 Daardie vrou het hom agtervolg.

Lesson 5

Exercise 1

1 Hy het gesê dat sy tannie in Engeland gebore is. 2 Hy het gesê dat Piet vroeg huis toe wil kom. 3 Hy het gesê dat die leerling nie sy huiswerk gedoen het nie. 4 Hy het gesê dat die kinders nou moet opstaan. 5 Hy het gesê dat Marie se ma haar opgebel het.

Exercise 2

1 Wanneer gaan jy Engeland toe? 2 As/wanneer hy huis kom, gaan ek inkopies doen. 3 Annette het die skēr teruggegee toe sy klaar daarmee was. 4 Wanneer Piet sy buurman op straat teëgekom het, het hy hom altyd gegroet.

Lesson 6

Exercise 1

1 Johannesburg is nie die land se hoofstad nie. 2 Die land is nie arm nie. 3 Ken jy nie sy vrou nie? 4 Ken jy haar nie? 5 Ons het geen/g'n motor nie or Ons het nie 'n motor nie. 6 Het jy geen/g'n fiets nie? or Het jy nie 'n fiets nie? 7 Ons gaan nie braai nie. 8 Ek sien niemand (nie). 9 Ek het hulle nie. 10 Sy gaan nie saam nie.

Exercise 2

1 Hulle het geen/g'n kinders nie or Hulle het nie kinders nie. 2 Het jy nie my sleutels nie? Nee, en Jan het hulle ook nie. 3 Hoekom het die regering nie meer huise vir hierdie mense gebou nie? 4 Ek bel hom nie op nie. 5 Ek doen dit nie. 6 Dit is net nie moontlik nie. Waarom is dit nie moontlik nie? 7 Hy sal jou nie help nie, en sy sal ook nie. 8 Wat doen jy op die oomblik? Niks (nie). 9 Niemand hou van (hier) dié program nie? Hoekom/waarom nie?

Exercise 3

1 Suid-Afrika is nie 'n klein land nie. 2 Die meerderheid het nie vir Mandela gekies nie. 3 Die Olimpiese Spele sal nie in 2004 in Suid-Afrika gehou word nie. 4 Die Olimpiese Spele sal in 2004 nie

in Suid-Afrika gehou word nie maar in 'n ander land. 5 Ek ken haar nie. 6 Ons ken nie vir hom baie goed nie./Ons ken vir hom nie baie goed nie. 7 Sy kon nie altyd Afrikaans praat nie. 8 Hoe lank het julle gewag? Nie lank nie. 9 Hoekom kan jy nie vars brood op Sondag kry nie?/Hoekom kan jy vars brood nie op Sondag kry nie? 10 Hy het nie 'n vakansiehuis op Plettenbergbaai nie.

Exercise 4

1 Ek sal nie daarvoor betaal nie hoewel ek dit bestel het. 2 Sy het nie 'n kat se kans om vir die span gekies te word nie. 3 Hy is nie iemand van wie almal hou nie. 4 Die land se paaie, wat miljoene gekos het, is nie baie goed nie. 5 Die land se paaie, wat nie baie goed is nie, het verskriklik baie gekos. 6 Die land se paaie, wat baie goed is, het nie verskriklik baie gekos nie. 7 Die land se paaie, wat nie baie goed is nie, het nie verskriklik baie gekos nie. 8 Die parlementsgebou is nie in Kaapstad omdat dit die land se hoofstad is nie.

Exercise 5

1 Die plaas is nie duur nie, dus kan ons dit koop. 2 My vader sal jou niks gee, tensy jy eers jou rekening betaal nie or My vader sal jou niks gee nie, tensy jy eers jou rekening betaal. 3 Nie ver van die huis af nie het die bliksem die boom getref. 4 Ons gaan nie dorp toe nie, aangesien dit reën. 5 Die kind is nie lui nie, maar swak.

Exercise 6

2 Jy mag nie trapfietse, motorfietse of ander voertuie ry nie. 3 Jy mag nie vuur maak nie. 4 Jy mag honde/jou hond nie laat rondhardloop nie or Jy mag nie honde/jou hond laat rondhardloop nie. 5 Jy mag nie jag nie. 6 Jy mag nie blomme pluk nie en jy mag nie plante beskadig nie. 7 Jy mag nie rommel strooi nie.

Lesson 7

Exercise 1

1 Dit staan in Dorpstraat. 2 Jy soek die sinagoge en dit staan in Ryneveldstraat. 3 Jy gaan in d'Oude Werf bly en dit staan in

Kerkstraat. 4 Jy woon in Wilgenhof en dit staan in Victoriastraat. Aan die oorkant van die straat staan die universiteit. 5 Dit staan op die hoek van Bird en Pleinstraat. 6 'n Mens neem die N1.

Exercise 2

1 Moenie nou opstaan nie! 2 Moenie jou broer nooi nie! 3 Moenie hierdie vis eet nie! 4 Moenie die geld aanneem nie! 5 Moenie later kom nie! 6 Moenie die venster oopmaak nie! 7 Moenie al jou geld uitgee nie!

Exercise 3

1 Hy is/was toegelaat om weer te werk. 2 Sy hoef nie hier te gebly het nie. 3 Ons wou Kaap toe ry. 4 Sy het nog elke dag aan haar oorlede moeder gedink. 5 Ek dag/dog/het gedag/het gedog/het gedink hy woon in Pietersburg. 6 Hy durf haar nie te gehelp het nie. 7 Hy wou hê ek moes hom met sy huiswerk help. 8 Ek moes hom in die hospitaal besoek.

Lesson 8

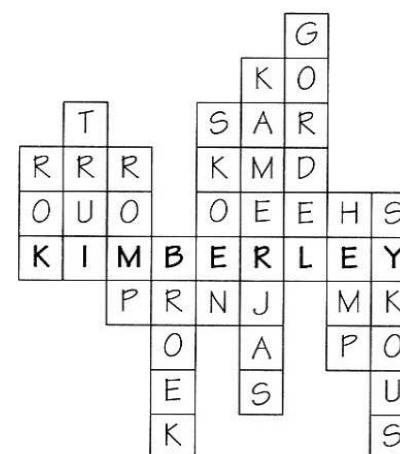
Exercise 1

1 'n regverdige 2 'n bloue 3 'n baie sterke 4 'n koele 5 'n varse 6 'n gele 7 'n vinnige 8 'n ligte 9 'n gawe 10 'n lange 11 'n jonge 12 'n stywe 13 'n nuwe 14 'n hoë 15 'n vae 16 'n wonderlike 17 'n ruwe 18 'n leë 19 'n goeie 20 'n halwe 21 'n domme 22 'n grote 23 'n rype 24 'n rooie

Exercise 2

1 Die kinders verveel hulle. 2 Stoffel het hom baie sleg gedra. 3 Die kinders moet hulle gedra. 4 Jy vergis jou. 5 Ek skaam my. 6 Die kinders kon hulle nie gedra nie. 7 Ons het ons toe in 'n moeilike situasie bevind. 8 Hy het hom aan die bankbestuurder voorgestel. 9 Weet jy dat hy hom aan die kursus onttrek het? 10 Die plakkies het hulle in die jare sestig op die Kaapse Vlakte gevestig.

Exercise 3



< pleknaam hier

Kimberley is bekend vir diamante.

Lesson 9

Exercise 1

1 Nee, Natal is warmer as die Vrystaat. Nee, die Vrystaat is nie so warm soos Natal nie. 2 Nee, die Zimbabweanse dollar is meer werd as die Suid-Afrikaanse rand. Nee, die Zimbabweanse dollar is minder werd as die Suid-Afrikaanse rand. 3 Nee, mense is intelligenter as diere. Nee, diere is nie so intelligent soos mense nie. 4 Nee, die Atlantiese Oseaan is groter as die Indiese Oseaan. Nee, die Indiese Oseaan is nie so groot soos die Atlantiese Oseaan nie. 5 Nee, Suid-Afrika het meer inwoners as Zimbabwe. Nee, Zimbabwe het nie so veel inwoners soos Suid-Afrika nie.

Exercise 2

1 Hierdie piesangs is ryper as daardie. 2 Dit is die lekkerste appels. 3 Wanneer is aartappels die duurste? 4 Hierdie pere is net so duur soos daardie. 5 Die seuns is net so soet soos die meisies. 6 Hy het nog harder gepraat maar nie so hard soos sy nie. 7 Dit is die interessantste gebou in die stad. 8 Hy was suksesvoller as ek. 9 My oom is die armste van die twee.

Exercise 3

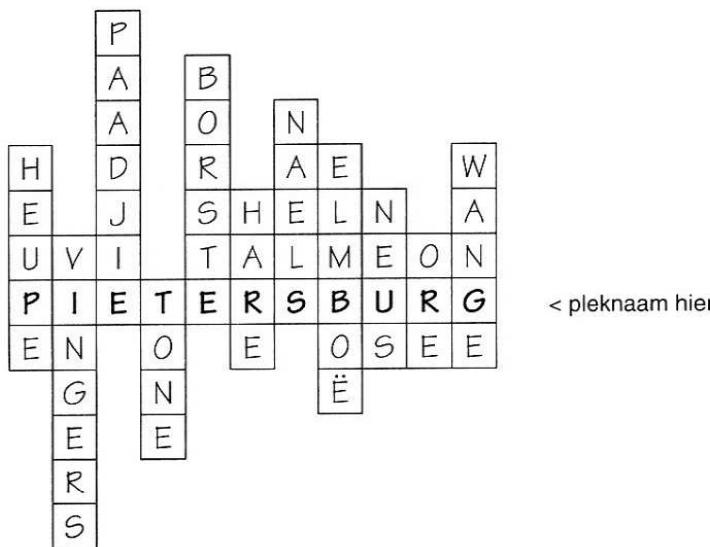
1 My brother-in-law is as deaf as a post. 2 My father rang me from Spain and his voice was as clear as a bell. 3 Koos recently married a very young girl whose father is filthy rich. 4 It was a politically motivated murder. 5 I read it in a recently published book. 6 My neighbour, who is as mad as a hatter, has bought a brand-new, blood-red Mercedes.

Lesson 10**Exercise 1**

vadertjie, broertjie, kassie, huisie, dakkie, stoeltjie, deurtjie, lepeltjie, speletjie, blaartjie, bedjie, rekeninkie

Exercise 2

skoentjies, lampies, appeltjies, peertjies, kindertjies, mannetjies, kraantjies, hondjies, lammertjies, ogies

Exercise 3

Pietersburg lê in die Noordelike Provinsie.

Exercise 4

1 Koos het geprobeer om die bed op te tel. 2 Ons was te moeg om so vroeg op te staan. 3 Hy het besluit om Australië toe te emigreer. 4 Dit is nie maklik om Pofadder op die kaart te vind nie. 5 Ek vind dit moeilik om Xhosa te praat. 6 Sy het baie om te doen. 7 Dit is nie moontlik vir haar om huis toe te kom nie.

Lesson 11**Exercise 1**

1 This morning I was (busy) washing up. 2 What did you do all afternoon while I was working? 3 This afternoon I sat thinking for a while. 4 I went and lay down for a while and fell asleep. 5 What were you thinking of? 6 You do nothing else all day than talk to other people. 7 What were you thinking about me? 8 You think that I sit at home all day doing nothing.

Exercise 2

1 tandeborsel 2 wynglas 3 sakelui 4 knoopsgat 5 stadsraad 6 liefdesbrief 7 verkeersongeluk 8 pruimboom 9 lamsvleis 10 kinderfiets 11 wolkekrabber 12 gewetensbesware

Exercise 3

1 Annetjie het haar ma altyd laat weet waar sy is. 2 Ek het elke week my motor laat was. 3 Waar het jy jou kar laat staan? 4 Hy het die motor opgedomkrag, die papwiel vervang en die motor weer laat sak. 5 Ons moes die dokter laat kom. 6 Sy het haar skoene laat reparreeer. 7 Ons het 'n vakansiehuis op Hermanus laat bou.

Lesson 12**Exercise 1**

1 Hy kom eers oormôre. 2 Wat doen jy vanaand? 3 Wat het jy gisteraand gedoen? 4 Ek het hom vanoggend/vanmôre in die dorp gesien. 5 My vader kom oormôreaand/Woensdagaand terug.

Exercise 2

1 Môre is (dit) Vrydag vyf April. 2 Oormôre is (dit) Saterdag ses April. 3 Gister was (dit) Woensdag drie April. 4 Eergister was (dit) Dinsdag twee April. 5 Verlede Maandag was (dit) een April. 6 Volgende Sondag is (dit) sewe April.

Exercise 3

1 Wat doen jy op Donderdae? 2 Waar werk jy op Woensdae?
 3 Wat doen jy volgende Vrydag? 4 Waar was jy verlede/laas Maandag? 5 Waarheen gaan jy oor die naweek? 6 Die gras groei so vinnig in die lente. 7 Ek gaan vanjaar/dié jaar in die somer Italië toe.

Exercise 4

1 Ek is jammer, Meneer/Mevrou, maar Dinsdag is ek by die universiteit. 2 Ek is jammer, Meneer/Mevrou, maar Donderdag is ek in Pietersburg, in die noorde van die land. 3 Ek is jammer, Meneer/Mevrou, maar Vrydag is ek in die buiteland/oorsee. 4 Ek is jammer, Meneer/Mevrou, maar oor die naweek is ek in Namibië. 5 Ek is jammer, Meneer/Mevrou, maar volgende week is ek in Parys. 6 Ek is jammer, Meneer/Mevrou, maar volgende maand is ek nog nie terug in Suid-Afrika nie.

Exercise 5

1 Ek het dadelik gaan kyk. 2 Sy het my elke Maandag kom help. 3 Sy het die bure se kind hoor huil. 4 Hy het bly sit hoewel daar aan die deur geklop is. 5 Ek het vanmiddag by my tante gaan kuier. 6 Ek het hom sien weggaan. 7 Sy het my altyd hoor inkom. 8 Hy het elke jaar met Kersfees by ons kom kuier.

Exercise 6

1 Is jy seker dat haar ma dit sal doen? 2 Is jy seker dat hy jou sesuur kom haal? 3 Is jy seker dat hy haar tien rand gegee het? 4 Is jy seker dat sy nog nie aangetrek het nie? 5 Is jy seker dat hy my sewe-uur sal kom haal? 6 Is jy seker dat dit ophou reën het?

Lesson 13**Exercise 1**

1 Dit gaan twintig grade wees. 2 Dit gaan sonnig en baie warm wees. 3 Donderbuie gaan voorkom in Vrystaat en Gauteng. 4 Dit gaan baie warm wees. 5 Dit gaan dalk in KwaZulu-Natal reën. 6 Dit gaan tien grade wees. 7 Vrydag in Port Elizabeth. 8 Die son gaan vandag om 18:24 onder.

Exercise 2

1 bly 2 roep 3 lei 4 leef 5 skok

Exercise 3

1 sittende 2 lesende 3 skrywende 4 lopende 5 kloppende

Exercise 4

1 Die hond lê daarop. 2 Ek weet niks daarvan nie. 3 Sy het dit daaruit geknip. 4 Ons het urelank daarin rondgery. 5 Ek het die hele dag daaraan loop en dink. 6 Ons kyk op die oomblik daarna.

Exercise 5

1 Dit is 'n viool en jy speel musiek daarmee. 2 Dit is 'n televisiestel en jy kyk daarna. 3 Dit is 'n tandeborsel en jy borsel jou tande daarmee. 4 Dit is 'n saag en jy saag hout daarmee. 5 Dit is 'n teddiebeer en jy speel daarmee. 6 Dit is 'n hamer en jy slaan spykers daarmee in.

Lesson 14**Exercise 1**

1 Both ([the] children) stayed at home. 2 The children both stayed at home. 3 All went home then. 4 I saw all of them there. 5 We all know that man. 6 That's all/everything/the only thing I know. 7 I've eaten (much) too much. 8 I got very little for my car. 9 Some men never grow up. 10 She speaks such lovely Afrikaans.

Exercise 2

1 Veels geluk/baie geluk. 2 Veels/baie geluk met jou verjaarsdag/gelukkige verjaarsdag. 3 Ekskuus (tog)/verskoon my/tog. 4 Dit het nie saak gemaak nie. 5 Jammer. 6 Ekskuus?

Exercise 3

1 My brother-in-law simply gave me R500. 2 It's really beautiful, this new house of yours. 3 I've told you already where we live, haven't I? 4 This exercise is quite simple, isn't it? 5 He never pays me back but he does at least help me with my car if I have trouble.

Exercise 4

1 Staan asseblief op! 2 Bel my asseblief môre op! 3 Steek die kers asseblief aan! 4 Kom asseblief binne! 5 Lees die brief asseblief voor! 6 Gooi dié rommel asseblief weg!

Exercise 5

1 Sal jy asseblief opstaan? 2 Sal jy my asseblief môre opbel? 3 Sal jy asseblief die kers aansteek? 4 Sal jy asseblief binnekom? 5 Sal jy asseblief die brief voorlees? 6 Sal jy asseblief dié rommel weggooi?

Lesson 15**Exercise 1**

1 onder die bed 2 bo die bed 3 teenoor die stasie 4 sedert die oorlog 5 tussen die bome 6 aan die muur

Exercise 2

1 'n bottel bier 2 'n pakkie sigarette 3 twee glase wyn 4 'n kilogram vleis 5 'n sak aartappels 6 'n pierinkie melk

Exercise 3

1 He walked across the dark room feeling his way. 2 The rabbits hopped off into the distance. 3 Let's pretend we're horses. 4 She

went searching through the forest. 5 Add the oil bit by bit/gradually to the eggs. 6 The drunken man walked across the road falling over. 7 Rain is expected here and there/in places in Gauteng. (= scattered showers) 8 I'll come in a moment/just now. 9 She easily won the race. 10 The ducklings crossed the road in pairs.

Exercise 4

1 Wat het hy vir sy moeder gesê? 2 Hy het aan kanker gesterf. 3 Ek het oor die komende vakansie nagedink. 4 Wat het met haar swaer gebeur? 5 Hy het my om/vir geld gevra. 6 Sy lyk sprekend op/na haar moeder. 7 Hy het toe met haar getrou. 8 Sy glimlag toe vir die kind. 9 Dit het tot sy dood geleli. 10 Die hond het vir die kinders geblaf.

Exercise 5

Beste Sarel,

Ek is op die oomblik in Kaapstad. Ek bly twee dae hier. Twee dae is nie baie lank nie maar ek moet (op) Woensdag in Durban wees. Ek sou graag die Kirstenbosch Botaniese Tuin wou besoek maar ek het nie genoeg tyd om soontoe te gaan nie. Ek kan ongelukkig nie alles doen nie en ek het ook nie baie geld oor nie. Wat doen jy hierdie somer? Sal ons saam Kruger Wildtuin toe gaan? Ek hoop om jou volgende maand in Johannesburg te sien. Ek moet nou poskantoor toe gaan. Sê groete vir jou ouers.

Hartlike groete,

Johan

Lesson 16**Exercise 1**

1 Die trein wat later vertrek, kom vroeër in Kaapstad aan. 2 Waar is die kaartjie wat jy pas gekoop het? 3 Piet is iemand wat iedereen oulik vind. 4 Die mense wat langsaan woon, kom uit Hongarye. 5 Die beskuit wat jy vandag gekoop het, is nie lekker nie.

Exercise 2

1 Die motor wat hy gister gekoop het, is rooi. 2 Die dame wat nou net hier was, is oulik. 3 Die boek wat jy vir my present gegee het, is baie spannend. 4 Die kind wat langsaan bly, is stout. 5 Die tikmasjien wat jy aan haar verkoop het, is stukkend.

Exercise 3

1 Die penne wat aan klein kettings in banke hang, is altyd leeg. 2 Hierdie motors, wat in Botswana gemonteer word, is baie goedkoop. 3 Baie van die swartes wat in hierdie deel van die stad woon, is onwettige immigrante. 4 Die sangoma wat jy gister op die strand gesien het, sit elke dag op daardie plek. 5 Ons bure op Bettysbaai, wat jy op 'n keer ontmoet het, is baie gawe mense.

Exercise 4

1 Die pen waarmee jy skryf was 'n present van my ouma. 2 Dit is die glase waaruit ons gisteraand gedrink het. 3 Het jy die dame gesien met wie ek nou net gesprek het? 4 Die gras waarop ons lê, is nog nat. 5 Die mes waarmee ek die vleis sny, is nie skerp genoeg nie. 6 Die vakansie waarna ons so uitgesien het, was verskriklik. 7 Die Van Stadens is mense op wie jy kan vertrou.

Exercise 5

1 She is the woman whose husband works with mine. 2 This is the table whose leg broke off/of which the leg broke off. 3 Countries whose growth rate (of which the growth rate) is not doing well will no longer be able to borrow money. 4 The neighbours whose house was on the market a little while ago, have decided to stay here. 5 He's bought a car whose previous owner (of which the previous owner) went to prison for drunk driving.

Lesson 17**Exercise 1**

1 Dit is met 'n vulpen geskryf. 2 Dit word met warm water afgespoel. 3 Dit is met seep skoongemaak. 4 Hy is deur my gehelp.

5 Hy kan deur niemand gehelp word nie. 6 Die geld is deur sy oupa geskenk. 7 Afrikaans word in Namibië en Suid-Afrika gepraat.

Exercise 2

1 Waarmee word dit geskryf? Dit word met 'n vulpen geskryf. 2 Waarmee is die skottelgoed afgespoel? Dit is met warm water afgespoel. 3 Waarmee word dit skoongemaak? Dit word met seep skoongemaak. 4 Deur wie word hy gehelp? Hy word deur my gehelp. 5 Deur wie kon hy gehelp word? Hy kon deur niemand gehelp word nie. 6 Deur wie word die geld geskenk? Die geld word deur sy oupa geskenk. 7 Waar is Afrikaans gepraat? Afrikaans is in Namibië en Suid-Afrika gepraat.

Exercise 3

1 What is this being written with? It is being written with a fountain pen. 2 What were the dishes rinsed with? They were rinsed with hot water. 3 What is this being cleaned with? It is being cleaned with soap. 4 Who is he being helped by? He is being helped by me. 5 Who was he able to be helped by? Who could he be helped by? He was able to/could be helped by no one. 6 Who is the money being donated by? The money is being donated by his grandfather. 7 Where was Afrikaans spoken? Afrikaans was spoken in Namibia and South Africa.

Exercise 4

Rules of the competition

1 Participation is free and anyone may participate/enter. 2 The prize will be awarded to the first correct entry. 3 The prize is not transferable and cannot be exchanged for cash. 4 No photocopied entry forms will be accepted. 5 The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into (lit. 'conducted'). 6 The winning entry will be drawn at 14.00 on Saturday, 21 September. The winner will be notified by telephone. 7 The winner must be prepared to be photographed for promotional/publicity purposes.

Exercise 5

Early explorers who called at the Cape in the 1500s traded with the Khoi inhabitants. When the Dutch East India Company founded a

revictualling station at the Cape in 1652, trading relations/activities with the interior stretched as far as Swellendam. In 1743 the DEIC proclaimed Swellendam as a magisterial district, the third oldest in South Africa. The town was named after Governor Hendrik Swellengrebel and his wife, née Ten Damme. This isolated settlement soon became the way through to the interior and was visited by many a famous explorer.

Exercise 6

The verb is **stig** ‘to found’ and the use of **toe** at the beginning of the sentence indicates that the action is in the past (see p. 31 for the explanation).

Grammar summary

Articles

The indefinite article is **'n** ‘a’ and the definite article is **die** ‘the’. ‘This’/‘these’ is **hierdie** and ‘that’/‘those’ is **daardie**.

Personal pronouns

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Object</i>	<i>Possessive</i>	<i>Independent possessive</i>
ek	my	my	myne
jy	jou	jou	joune
u	u	u	u s'n(e)
hy	hom	sy	syne
sy	haar	haar	hare
dit	dit	sy	syne
ons	ons	ons	ons s'n(e)
julle	julle	julle	julle s'n(e)
hulle	hulle	hulle	hulle s'n(e)

Plural of nouns

The vast majority of nouns in Afrikaans simply add **-e** to form the plural, which can cause a change in spelling. A significant minority of nouns add **-s** in the plural; the choice of **-e** or **-s** is usually dependent on the ending of the word.

Verbs

There is no difference between the infinitive and all the persons of the verb in the present tense in Afrikaans, e.g. **speel** ‘to play’, **Ek speel** ‘I play/am playing/do play’, **Jy speel** ‘You play’, **Hy speel**

'He plays', etc. The only verbs whose infinitive differs from the finite form are **wees** 'to be' (**Ek is** 'I am', **Jy is** 'You are', etc.) and **hê** 'to have' (**Ek het** 'I have', **Jy het** 'You have', etc.).

Afrikaans has only one past tense, i.e. the perfect. This is formed, as in English, by using the finite form of the verb **hê** 'to have' followed by the past participle; the past participle is formed in nearly all cases by adding **ge-** to the stem of the verb, e.g. **Ek het gespeel** 'I played/was playing/did play/I had played/I had been playing'.

The future tense is formed by combining **sal** 'will' or **gaan** 'am/is/are going to' with the infinitive stem, e.g. **Ek sal/gaan speel** 'I will play/I am going to play'.

Position of verbs in a clause

When a clause contains a verb in the past or future, the finite verb must be the second idea in the clause and the other verb stands at the end of the clause, e.g. **Ons het gister voetbal gespeel** 'We played football yesterday', **Ons gaan mōre voetbal speel** 'We are going to play football tomorrow'. Compare the following where the finite verb remains in second position: **Gister het ons voetbal gespeel/Mōre gaan ons voetbal speel**.

To ask a question you simply invert the subject and the verb, e.g. **Gaan jy mōre voetbal speel?** 'Are you going to play football tomorrow?'

Order of adverbs

Adverbial expressions must occur in the order 'Time–Manner–Place', not 'Place–Manner–Time' as in English, e.g. **Hy ry mōre met sy pa Kaapstad toe** 'He's driving to Cape Town with his father tomorrow'.

Adjectives

Adjectives that stand before a noun may take either an **-e** ending or no ending at all; whether they are inflected or not depends generally speaking on either the last sound or the number of syllables, e.g. **'n groen baadjie** 'a green coat', **'n wonderlike vakansie**

'a wonderful holiday'. The rules are quite complex and constitute one of the few real difficulties in learning Afrikaans. The comparative and superlative of adjectives are formed by adding **-er** and **-ste** to the adjective, e.g. **groot** 'big', **groter** 'bigger', **grootste** 'biggest'.

Numerals

Afrikaans counts by using 'the four-and-twenty' system from twenty-one on, e.g. **vyf-en-sestig mense** 'sixty-five people'.

Relative pronouns

The simple relative, regardless of the antecedent (whether personal or non-personal, singular or plural) is **wat**, e.g. **Die volstruis wat hy doodgeskiet het, was baie oud** 'The ostrich which/that he shot was very old'. If a relative pronoun is used in combination with a preposition, Afrikaans uses **waar-** plus the appropriate preposition if the antecedent is non-personal, or the preposition plus **wie** if it is personal, e.g. **Die vloer waarop die kinders speel, is baie glad** 'The floor which the children are playing on is very slippery', **Die ou man vir wie jy die geld gegee het, was baie dankbaar** 'The old man to whom you gave the money was very grateful'.

Position of the verb in relative and subordinate clauses

When two clauses are joined by means of a subordinating conjunction or a relative pronoun, the finite verb in the subordinate clause stands at the end of that clause, e.g. **Weet jy dat ons elke Donderdagaand Pretoria toe ry?** 'Did you know we drive to Pretoria every Thursday evening?' Where there is already an infinitive at the end of the clause, the finite verb stands in front of it, e.g. **Weet jy dat ons Donderdagaand Pretoria toe gaan ry?** 'Did you know that we are going to drive to Pretoria on Thursday night?', but **Weet jy dat ons Donderdagaand Pretoria toe gery het?** 'Did you know that we drove to Pretoria on Thursday night?'

Negation

Whenever any part of a sentence is negated, usually by means of **nie** ‘not’, another **nie** is usually placed at the end of the clause, a so-called double negative construction, e.g. **Ek het jou nie gesien nie** ‘I didn’t see you’.

Glossary of grammatical terms

active

The active is the opposite of the passive. ‘He is/was reading a book’ is an example of a sentence in the active (i.e. the normal present/past tense) whereas the passive of this would be ‘The book is/was being read by him’.

article

See ‘definite article’ and ‘indefinite article’.

aspiration

Some consonants, notably **p**, **t** and **k**, are pronounced in English allowing a puff of air to escape from the mouth. This is called aspiration. These consonants are unaspirated in Afrikaans.

attributive

An attributive adjective is one which stands in front of a noun and in Afrikaans may require an **-e** ending, e.g. **’n vinnige motor**. The opposite to this is a predicative adjective which does not stand in front of a noun and consequently does not ever take an ending, e.g. **Die man is baie oud**.

auxiliary verb

An auxiliary verb is one that is used as a finite verb (see ‘finite verb’) in combination with a past participle or infinitive and thus serves as a helping verb, e.g. in **Sy het hom geslaan**, **het** functions as an auxiliary for **geslaan** and in **Sy moet hom help**, **moet** acts as a (modal) auxiliary for **help**. (See ‘modal verb’.)

clause

A clause is that part of a sentence which contains its own subject and finite verb. A sentence may consist of either one or more clauses, e.g. ‘I saw the man’ (one clause), ‘I saw a man who was stealing a car’ (two clauses). (See ‘main clause’, ‘coordinate clause’, ‘subordinate clause’ and ‘relative clause’.)

closed syllable

A closed syllable is one which ends in a consonant, e.g. **kat**, **kat-te**; **man**, **man-ne**. (See open syllable.)

comparative	The comparative of an adjective or adverb is that form which has ‘-er’ added to it or is preceded by ‘more’, e.g. ‘bigger’, ‘more interesting’. A compound adjective is one that has been formed by putting two adjectives or a noun and an adjective together, e.g. liggroen, bloedrooi .
compound adjective	
compound noun	A compound noun is one that has been formed by putting two or more nouns together, e.g. stadsaal ‘town hall’.
conditional	The conditional is the tense of a verb formed with ‘would’, i.e. it expresses what you would do if a certain condition applied, e.g. ‘I would go if I had enough time’.
continuous	The present or past continuous is another name for the present or past progressive. (See ‘progressive’).
coordinate clause	A coordinate clause is one which is introduced by a coordinating conjunction, i.e. one of the four joining words en, maar, of or want which coordinates its clause to the main clause (= makes it equal to), which is indicated by the finite verb in the coordinate clause not being relegated to the end of that clause, e.g. Hy bly vandag tuis, want hy voel siek where want is the coordinating conjunction and want hy voel siek the coordinate clause. (Compare ‘subordinate clause’.)
definite article	‘The’ is referred to as the definite article, as it refers to a definite object, as opposed to ‘a’, the indefinite article. The definite and indefinite articles in Afrikaans are die and ’n respectively.
demonstrative	A demonstrative, as the word implies, is a word that points out or distinguishes. ‘This’/‘these’ and ‘that’/‘those’ are examples of demonstratives.
derived adjective	A derived adjective is one that has been formed by adding a suffix to another word, senuweeagtig ‘nervous’ (< senuwee ‘nerve’ + the suffix agtig). When two adjacent vowels run together in such a way that they produce a new vowel sound, the new sound is called a diphthong, e.g. e + i = ei .
diphthong	The direct object in a sentence is the object of the verb, i.e. the person or thing that is having
direct object	
diminutive	the action of the verb performed on it, e.g. ‘I can see the man/the ball’.
double infinitive	A diminutive in Afrikaans is a noun which has had the suffix -(tj)ie added to it to render it small, e.g. ’n huis/’n huisie ‘a house’/‘a little house’.
dummy subject	A double infinitive construction is one where a clause in the perfect tense has two infinitives at the end of it, rather than a past participle and an infinitive, e.g. Ek het hom sien wegry and not Ek het hom gesien wegry .
finite verb	This refers to one of the functions of daar where daar stands in first position in the clause in the position normally occupied by the subject, e.g. Daar lê ’n boek op die tafel , which is a more usual way of expressing ’n Boek lê op die tafel . A finite verb is one which has a subject, e.g. Hy skryf ’n boek . The opposite to this is an ‘infinitive’, which is the basic form of a verb that has not been defined as to who is performing it, e.g. Hy gaan ’n brief skryf , where gaan is a finite verb and skryf an infinitive.
first person	The pronoun ‘I’ is referred to as the first person singular and ‘we’ as the first person plural.
imbedded clause	In the sentence ‘The man whom they lent the money to has just bought a house’, ‘whom they lent the money to’ is said to be imbedded in the main clause ‘The man has just bought a house’. The imperfect is the simple past as expressed by ‘was’, ‘had’, ‘did’, ‘wrote’, etc., as opposed to the perfect tense (see ‘perfect tense’).
imperfect tense	See ‘definite article’.
indefinite article	The indirect object in a sentence is the person or object the action of the verb is applied ‘to’, e.g. ‘He gave the book (direct object) to the girl (indirect object)’.
indirect object	A direct question reproduces a question verbatim, e.g. ‘Where does he live?’ The indirect question form of this is ‘where he lives’, e.g. ‘I do(n’t) know where he lives’.
indirect question	See ‘finite verb’.
infinitive	An infinitive clause is one introduced by a
infinitive clause	

inflect/inflection	conjunction but whose verb is an infinitive, not a finite verb as is the case with coordinate, subordinate and relative clauses (see each of these), e.g. om Afrikaans te leer in the sentence Dis nie so moeilik om Afrikaans te leer nie. An adjective is said to be inflected when it takes an -e ending, e.g. breeë is the inflected form of breed .	open syllable	An open syllable is one that ends in a vowel, e.g. haan (closed) but ha-ne (first syllable open). The n after ha is seen as belonging to the next syllable in Afrikaans. (See syllabification.) See 'active'.
interrogative	An interrogative is a question word, most of which start with 'wh' in English and w in Afrikaans, e.g. 'what', 'where', 'when', 'how'. See 'transitive verb'.	passive	The perfect or past tense in Afrikaans is a compound tense, i.e. one formed from more than one word, where the finite verb is het plus a past participle, e.g. Hy het 'n brief geskryf . The pluperfect tense is that which consists of 'had' + a past participle in English, e.g. 'He had done it'.
intransitive verb		perfect tense	Consisting of more than one syllable, e.g. geweldig 'tremendous', which consists of three syllables.
long vowel		pluperfect tense	Possessives are words like 'my'/‘mine’, ‘your’/‘yours’ which indicate the possessor of a noun, e.g. 'This is my book'/'It is mine'. See 'attributive'.
main clause	A main clause, as opposed to a subordinate clause (see 'subordinate clause'), is one which makes sense on its own, i.e. it has a subject and finite verb and is not introduced by a conjunction, e.g. Hy bly vandag tuis omdat hy siek is , where Hy bly vandag tuis is the main clause in this complex sentence.	polysyllabic	The present or past progressive is a variation of the present or past tenses that emphasises that an action is or was in the process of being performed, e.g. 'He is/was reading' is the progressive form of 'He reads/read'. See 'nominal'.
mass noun	A mass noun is one that denotes a non-countable entity, e.g. water, milk, money, and which thus cannot be pluralised.	possessive	Reduplication means the doubling of a word to form a new expression, e.g. nou means 'now' but nou-nou means 'in a moment'.
modal verb	A modal auxiliary verb is a verb which is always used in conjunction with an infinitive and which expresses the attitude of the subject of the action to be performed, i.e. volition (wil 'to want to'), obligation (moet 'to have to'/'must'), permission (mag 'to be allowed to'/'may'), ability (kan 'to be able to'/'can'). These verbs in both English and Afrikaans show several irregularities.	predicative	Reflexive pronouns are used with reflexive verbs. They indicate that the action of the verb is being performed on the subject of the verb (i.e. the action reflects back), e.g. Hy het homself gesny 'He cut himself', where homself is the third person singular of the reflexive pronoun and jou sny is said to be a reflexive verb.
monosyllabic	Consisting of only one syllable, e.g. groot 'big'.	progressive	A relative pronoun connects a relative clause to a main clause, i.e. it relates back to a noun in the main clause, e.g. 'The man who gave me the money was very rich', where 'who' is a relative pronoun relating back to 'man' and 'who gave me the money' is the relative clause which in
nominal	A nominal object is one that is a noun, as opposed to a pronoun, which is a pronominal object, e.g. Ek het 'n stoel gekoop/Ek het dit gekoop .	pronominal reduplication	
nominalise	To nominalise an adjective, for example, is to turn it into a noun, e.g. verslaaf means 'addicted' while ' n verslaafde ' means 'an addict', i.e. the adjective has been nominalised by adding this ending.	reflexive	
object	See 'direct object' and 'indirect object'.	relative clause/ pronoun	

schwa	Afrikaans requires subordinate word order, i.e. the finite verb is sent to the end, e.g. wat my die geld gegee het . (See ‘subordinate clause’.) This is the name given by linguists to that non-descript vowel sound that we hear in the first syllable of ‘again’ or in the second syllable of ‘father’. Those speakers of English who pronounce ‘film’ as ‘filem’ are inserting a schwa between the ‘l’ and the ‘m’ to facilitate pronunciation of the cluster ‘lm’.
second person	The pronoun ‘you’ is referred to as the second person. In Afrikaans there are two forms in the singular, jy and u , and two forms in the plural, julle and u where English only has the one word for all functions.
separable verb	A separable verb is one with a prefix (usually a preposition, e.g. opbel ‘to ring up’) which separates from the verb and stands at the end of the clause in the present tense (e.g. Hy bel my op), and which permits the ge- of the past participle to be inserted between it and the rest of the verb, e.g. Hy het my opgebel .
short vowel	A short vowel is one which is pronounced short and thus contrasts with the same vowel pronounced long, e.g. man (short), maan (long). The stem is the root form of a verb, e.g. loop and skryf , while the past participles geloop and geskryf are derived from this stem.
stem	The subject of a clause is the noun or pronoun that is performing the action of the finite verb in that clause, e.g. ‘The man/he is reading a book’.
subject	A subordinate clause is one which is introduced by a subordinating conjunction, i.e. a joining word which subordinates its clause to the main clause (= makes it secondary to), which is indicated by the finite verb in the subordinate clause being relegated to the end of that clause, e.g.
subordinate clause	Hy bly vandag tuis omdat hy siek voel , where omdat is the subordinating conjunction and omdat hy siek voel the subordinate clause. (See ‘main clause’ and ‘coordinate clause’.)

superlative	The superlative of an adjective or adverb is that form which has ‘st’ added to it or is preceded by ‘most’, e.g. ‘biggest’, ‘most interesting’.
syllabification	The rules for hyphenating words are different in Afrikaans from English where the derivation of the word is significant, e.g. ‘be-long-ing’, ‘work-ed’. In Afrikaans words are always divided (syllabified) by starting each new syllable with a consonant, e.g. kat-te, ma-ne, be-doe-ling , although e and ing are derivational endings that have been attached to these words.
tense	The tense of a verb is that form of the verb that indicates the time of the action being described; ‘I write/am writing’ is the present tense, while ‘I wrote/was writing’ is the imperfect tense and ‘I have written’ is the perfect tense. ‘I had written’ is called the pluperfect tense.
third person	The pronouns ‘he’, ‘she’ and ‘it’ are referred to as the third person singular and ‘they’ as the third person plural.
transitive	A transitive verb is one that can take an object, as opposed to an intransitive verb, which is one that cannot, e.g. ‘He is reading a book’ (‘read’ is transitive because of ‘book’), but ‘He is going to Botswana’ (‘go’ is intransitive because ‘to Botswana’ is not the object of the verb, merely an adverb of place telling you where the action of the verb is to take place.)
verbal noun	A verbal noun is a verb (i.e. an infinitive) that is used as a noun, e.g. die skryf van kookboeke ‘the writing of cookbooks’.

Afrikaans–English glossary

aaklig	dreadful	aanskakel	to turn on
aan	in; to; on; at	aanslag	attack
aanbeveel	to recommend	aansluit	to join
aanbied	to offer	aansteek	to light
aanbrand (intr.)	to burn	aanstel	to appoint
aanbreek	to be at hand; dawn	aantog	approach: (in ~ wees) to be approaching
aand	evening	aantoon	to demonstrate
aanddiens	evening service	aantref	to find
aandeel	share	aantrek	to put on
aandete	dinner, evening meal	aantrek (jou)	to get dressed
aandoen	to cause (trouble)	aantreklikheid	attraction
aangee	to pass	aanvaar	to set out on (a journey)
aangenaam	pleasant	aanvraag	inquiry
aangesien	considering	aanwas	to grow
aanhang	to adhere to; to follow	aanwysing	instruction
aanhou	to keep on	aap	monkey
aankom	to arrive	aarbei	strawberry
aanmoedig	to encourage	aards	earthly
aanname	acceptance; admission	aartappel	potato
aanneem	to accept; to assume	afbreek	to break off
aanpak	to take in hand	affère	affair
aanpas	to try on	afgeleë	distant, far-off
aanpaskamer	fitting room	afgelope	past, ended
aansienlik	considerable	afhangend	depending
aansit	(gewig ~) to gain weight	afhanklik	dependent
aanskaf	to acquire	aflê	to sit for (an exam)
		afloop	to walk along
		afneem	to decrease
		afrond	to round off

afsender	sender	ander	other, another
afskakel	to turn off	anders	different;
afspeel (hom)	to take place	andersins	otherwise
afspoel	to rinse	antwoord	otherwise
afspraak	appointment	antwoordmasjien	answering
afstap	to get off		machine
aftreepakket	retirement		
	package	appel	apple
afwyk	to deviate, to	appé	appeal
	deflect	appelkoos	apricot
agter	behind	appelkooskleurig	apricot (-coloured)
agterdogtig	suspicious		
agterin	down/in the	appelliefe	gooseberry
	back	April	April
agterkom	to detect, to	apteek	chemist's shop
	discover	argief	archive
agtertoe	towards the	arm	poor
	back	artikel	article
agtervolg	to follow, pursue	as	when; if
agterweë	behind, aside	asem	breath
akademici	academics	asemrowend	breath-taking
akademicus	academic	asof	as if
akkerboom	oaktree	asoek	as well as
aksent	accent	aspek	aspect
aksie	action	aspersies	asparagus
akteur	actor	asseblief	please
aktivis	activist	atleet	athlete
aktrise	actress	Augustus	August
aktueel	topical	baadjie	coat, jacket
al	already; all; everything;	baard	beard
	the only (thing)	baat	to profit
albei	both	baba	baby
algemeen	(in) general	bad	bath
alle	all, everything	baie	much/many; very
allerlei	all sorts of	bak	bowl
almal	all, everyone	bakkery	bakery
als	everything	bakkie	utility van, pick-up
altyd	always	baklei	to fight
amptelik	official	bal	ball
amuseer	to amuse	balkon	balcony
		bande	tyres

bandopnemer	tape recorder	bekostig	to afford
bank-	bank manager	bel	bell
bestuurder(es)		bel	to ring
bas	bark (of a tree)	belaglik	ridiculous
beantwoord (tr.)	to answer	beland	to land (in a ditch)
bed	bed	belang stel	to take an interest in
bedags	during the day	belangrik	important
beddens	beds	beleef	to experience
bedding	flower/river bed	belegging	investment
bedek	to cover	beleid	policy
bedelaar	beggar	belewenis	experience; adventure
bedenklik	suspicious	belofte	promise
bedoel	to mean	beloning	reward
bederf	spoilt, to spoil	beloof	to promise
bedreig (trans.)	to threaten	belowe	to promise
beduie	to mean; to indicate	beoordelaar	judge
beef (<i>see bewe</i>)	to tremble	bepeinsing	pondering, speculation
beeld	picture	bêre	to store
been	bone; leg	bereid	prepared
bees	head of cattle	bereik	to reach
beet	beetroot	berg	mountain
begin	beginning	besem	broom
begrawe	buried	beset	engaged
behalwe	except	besig	busy
behandel	to treat	besigheidsman	businessman
beheer	to control; (onder ~ kry)	besit	to own
	to get under control	besitting	possession
behoefte	need	beskadig	to damage
behoort	should; to belong (to)	beskeie	modest
behou	to retain	beskerm	to protect
beide	both	beskik	to dispose
beige	beige	beskikkig	disposal
beïnvloed	influenced	beskuit	rusk
beken	to confess	beslis	decidedly, definitely
bekend	known	besluit	decision
bekoorlik	charming, appealing	besoek	to visit (v.); visit (n.)
bekoring	enchantment		

besoeker	visitor	bewind	regime, authority; (aan die ~) in power
bespreek	to book, to reserve		
bessie	berry	bewolk	cloudy
bestaan	to exist	bewys	to prove
bestaan uit	to consist of	biblioteek	library
bestanddeel	ingredient; component	bid	to pray
Beste	Dear (inform. address term)	bier	beer
beste	best	bietjie	little bit
bestel	to order	biltong	jerky
bestelling	order	binne	within, in(side)
bestuur	to guide, direct; to manage	binnekom	to come in shortly
		binnekort	the interior; (~s) inland, internal, domestic
		binneland	
beswaar	objection		
betaal	to pay	bioskoop	cinema
beter	better	bitter	bitter
Beterskap!	Get well soon!	blaar	leaf
betref	to concern; (wat dit ~) as far as ~ is concerned	blad	sheet (of paper); (news)paper
		bladsy	page
betroubaar	reliable	blaf (vir/teen)	to bark (at)
beursie	purse	blanke	white (person)
beursverslag	stock exchange report	blatjang	chutney
		bleek	pale
bevat	to contain	(doodsbleek)	
bevel	to command	blêr	to bleat
bevind (jou)	to find oneself	bliksem	lightening
bevoeg(de)	competent, qualified	blind	blind
		blits	brandy
bevolking	population	bloedig	(~ kwaad) bloody
bevorder	to advance, further (a cause)		angry
		bloekom(boom)	(blue) gum, eucalyptus
bevrugting	insemination		
bevrydingsbeweging	liberation	tree	
bewe (<i>see beef</i>)	movement	bloesie	blouse
beweging	movement	blom	flower
		bloot	naked

blou	blue	brandarm	very poor
blouerig	bluish	brandewyn	brandy
bly	to stay (v.); happy (adj.)	brandgevaar	fire danger
bo	above, over	brandmaer	very thin, skinny
bo-op	on top	bredie	stew
bobbejaan	baboon	breed	wide, broad
boei	buoy	breer	<i>see breed</i>
boek	book	brekfis	breakfast
boel	('n ~) a lot	brief	letter
boelie	bully	briefwisseling	correspondence
boer	to farm (v.); farmer (n.)	bril	glasses
Boesman	Bushman	bring	to bring
boetebessie	metre maid	broek	pants
boetie	little brother	broer	brother
boggel	hump	brood	bread
bôgom	bark	broodrolletjie	bread roll
bok	buck	bros	brittle
bokkie	kid, little goat	brûe	plural of brug
bondeltje	small bundle	bruidegom	bridegroom
bont	pied, spotted	bruikbaar	usable
boom	tree	bruilof	wedding
boon	bean	bruin	brown
boontoë	upwards, upstairs	budjie	budgie
boord	board; (<i>aan ~</i>) aboard	buie	showers (of rain)
boot	boat	buite	outside
bord	plate	buiteland	foreign country or countries
borduur	to embroider	buitelaander	foreigner
borskwaal	chest complaint	buitengewoon	exceptional(ly)
bosbouer	forester	bulletin	broadcast
bosoorlog	bush war	bure	neighbours
bottel	bottle	burgemeester	mayor
botter	butter	burger	citizen
boud	buttock	bus	bus
boumateriaal	building material	buurman	neighbour (male)
braai	to roast, barbecue	buurvrou	neighbour (female)
braaivleis	barbecue	by	bee (n.); at (prep.)
brand	to burn (intrans.)		

byvoeg	to add	Desember	December
chaos	chaos	deskundig	expert
chauvinisties	chauvinistic	destyds	at that time
chemikus	chemist	deur	door (n.); through (prep.)
chirurg	surgeon	deurbring	to spend, pass (time)
Christen	Christian	deursoek	to search
daai (< daardie)	that	deurvoer	to carry out
daal	to drop; to descend	deurweg	passage
daar	there	diamant	diamond
daardie	that/those	die	the
daarvoor	for that; of that	dié	this/that
dadelik	immediately	die hele jaar	all year
dae	plural of dag	Die uwe	Yours
dag	past tense of dink	dieet	diet
dag	day	dief	thief
dagoud	day-old	diegene wat	he/the one/ those who
dak	roof	diens	service
dal	valley	diensreëling	timetable
dalk	perhaps; might	diensstasie	service station
dame	lady	diepblou	deep blue
dankbaar	grateful	dier	animal
dankie	thanks	diereriem	zodiac
dans	dance	dieselfde	the same
darem	really, very; but, however, at least	dig	to write poetry
dat	that	digter(es)	poet
datum	date	dik	fat
deel	part	dikwels	often
deelname	participation	ding	thing
deelneem	to take part in, to participate	dinges	thingummy, what's-it
deesdae	these days	dingetjie	little thing
deflig	ornate	dink (aan)	to think (of)
deken	quilt	Dinsdag	Tuesday
dêm	damn	dis	= dit is
demokrasie	democracy	dis	dish
den	pine tree	dit	it; this
derdens	thirdly	doding	slaying
dertig	thirty	doeleinde	purpose

doen	to do	droom	to dream
dof	dull	druif	grape
dog	past tense of dink	drieweasyn	wine vinegar
dogter	daughter, girl	dryf (handel)	to trade
doktor	doctor	duidelik	clear(ly)
dokumentêr	documentary	duif	dove
dol	crazy, mad	duim	thumb
dom	stupid	duinebesie	beach buggy
dominee	minister	duisend	a thousand
donderbui	thunderstorm	dun	thin
Donderdag	Thursday	durf	to dare
donker	dark	duskant	this side
donkergroen	dark green	duur	to last (v.); expensive (adj.)
donkie	donkey	duurder	more expensive
dood	dead	dwaal	to wander
doodreg	exactly right	dwelm	
doodsiek	very sick		(= dwelmmiddel) drug
doodskiet	to shoot dead		
doof	deaf	dwing	to force
dooie	dead person	een	one
doos	box	eend	duck
doring	thorn	eendag	one day
doringboom	thorntree, acacia	eensaamheid	loneliness
dorp	town	eenvoudig	simple, ordinary
dorpsentrum	town centre	eerregister	the day before yesterday
dorpie	small village		
dosent(e)	lecturer	eers	even; only; formerly (once); first
dosyn	dozen		
dower	see doof	eerskomende	following, next
dowwer	see dof	eerste	first
dra	to carry; to wear	eerstens	firstly
draad	wire	eet	to eat
draai	to turn	eetkamer	dining-room
draf	to jog	eeu	century
drankie	drink	effek	effect
dreig (intr.)	to threaten	effekleurig	all one colour
driedubbel	threefold, triple	effens	slight(ly)
dronk	drunk	eg	harrow
dronkbestuur	drink driving	eggenoot	spouse
droog	dry	eie	own
droogte	drought		

eienaar	owner	Februarie	February
eier	egg	feitlik	actually, really
eikehout	oak	fiets	bicycle
eiland	island	fietstog	cycling trip
eina	ouch	filantropies	philanthropic
einde	end	filosoof	philosopher
eindelik	at last	finaal	final
eintlik	really, actually	finansieel	financial
eis	to demand	fliek	film
ek	I	flits	torch
ekonomie	economy	flou	weak (of tea)
eksamen	exam	fluit	to whistle (v.); flute (n.)
eksklusief	exclusive	fluks	smart
ekskuus	excuse	fluweel	velvet
eksoties	exotic	foeitog!	dear me!
elders	elsewhere	fonds	fund
elektriën	electrician	fontein	fountain
elk	each; every; any	footjie	tip
elkeen	everyone	foon	phone
elmboog	elbow	foto	photo
emigreer	to emigrate	fotograaf	photographer
emmer	bucket	fotografeer	to photograph
empaayer	empire	fotostateer	to photocopy
en	and	fout	mistake
energie	energy	fris	cool, fresh
engel	angel	front	front
enige	any	gaaf	fine, nice
enigeen	anyone	gaan	to go
enigiemand	anyone	galbitter	very bitter
enigiets	anything	gas	guest
enigste	only one	gasvryheid	hospitality
enjin	engine	gat (pl. gate)	hole
enkel(e)	a few	gawe	gift
êrens	somewhere	Geagte	Dear (lit. 'respected')
erf (pl. erwe)	plot (of ground)		
erns	seriousness	geamuseer	amused
ernstig	serious	gebed	prayer
ertjie	pea	gebeur (met)	to happen (to)
ervaring	experience	gebied	territory; area
ewe	even, just as	gebore	born
fabriek	factory	gebou	building
familie	family		

gebruik	use	geselskap	company
gebuk	crouching; bent	gesig	face
gedagte	thought	gesigcie	little face
gedeeltelik	partially	gesin	family
gedra (jou)	to behave oneself	geskenk	gift
gedrag	behaviour	geskiedenis	history
gedurende	during	geskoold	trained
gee	to give	geskryf	scribbling; writing
geel	yellow	gesog(te)	sought after
geen/geeneen	none/not one	gesondheid	'cheers'; 'bless you'
gegewens	details	gespanne	tense
geheim	secret	gesprek	conversation
gehoorsin	sense of hearing	gestalte	form, shape
gehoorstuk	receiver	getal	number
geïnteresseerd	interested	geuniformeerd	uniformed
gekonsentreerd	concentrated	geur	scent
geld	money	geut	gutter
gelede	ago, past	gevaar	danger
geleenthed	occasion	gevaarlik	dangerous
geloof	faith	geval	case
geluid	sound	gevoel	feeling
gelukkig	lucky; luckily	gevolg	consequence
gemeen	common	gewete	conscience
gemeenskap	community	gewig	weight
gemmer	ginger	gewigsverlies	weight loss
gemors	mess	gewild	in demand
generaal	general	gewoonlik	usually
geniet	to enjoy	gewoonte	custom
genoeg	enough	ghitaar	guitar
genugtig	(goeie ~) good gracious	gholf	golf
geoes	harvested (p.p.)	ghries	grease
geoktrooieerd	chartered	giert	to pour
gepratery	chatter	giggel	to giggle
gereg	course (of a meal)	gipsbeeldjie	plaster statue
gerond	rounded	gister	yesterday
gerus	by all means, do; safely	gisteraand	yesterday evening (up till bedtime)
gesels	conversation	gistermiddag	yesterday afternoon

gisteroggend	yesterday morning	grotendeels	for the most part
glad	smooth; not at all	grys	grey
glas (pl. glase)	glass	guns	favour; goodwill
glimlag vir	to smile at	haai	shark
glo	to believe	haal	to fetch
god	god	haan	rooster
godsdiens	religion	haar	her
goed	odds and ends, things; good	haas (jou)	to hurry up
goedere	goods	haastig	hasty
goedkoop	cheap	hakie	bracket
goeie	good	halfmond	hemisphere
gogga	insect	halveer	to halve
goiing	hessian	hamer	hammer
gons	to buzz	hand	hand
gordel	belt	handdoek	towel
gordyn	curtain	handel	trade
gou	swiftly	handels-	commercial
goud	gold	betrekkinge	relations
graag	gladly	handhawing	enforcement
graan	grain	hard	hard; loud
grade	degrees	hardloop	to run, sprint
graf	grave	hare	hair
grap	joke	hart	heart
gras	grass	Hartlike groete	Best regards
grasdak	thatch roof	hasie	young hare
grasperk	lawn	hasjisj	hashish
grassprinkaan	grasshopper	hawe	harbour
grens	border	hawer	oats
groeikoers	growth rate	hawik	hawk
groen	green	hê	to have
groente	vegetables	heeldag	all day
groep	group	heelparty	quite a lot of (idiomatic)
groete	greetings, regards	heeltemal	altogether
Groetnis	Regards	heelwat	a lot of
grof	coarse	heerlik	lovely
grond	ground	heet	to be called
groot	big	hef	knife handle
grot	cave	heg	close(knit)
		hektaar	hectare

hel	hell	hond	dog
heldergeel	bright yellow	honderd	a hundred
heldhaftig	heroic	honger	hunger
help	to help	hoof	head
hels	hellish	hoofde (pl.)	heads
hemel	heaven, sky	hoofgebou	main building
hemelsblou	sky blue	hoofstad	capital
hemp (pl. hemde)	shirt	hoog	high
Here	Lord	Hoogagtend	Sincerely (lit. respectfully)
herfs	autumn	hoogtepunt	pinnacle
herhaal	to repeat	hooi	hay
herhaling	repetition	hoop	to hope
herinnering	recollection, memory	hoor	to hear
hernieu	to renew	horing	horn
herstel	to repair; to recover	horlosie	watch, clock
Hervorming	Reformation	hospitaal	hospital
het	(present tense of hê) have, has	hotel	hotel
heuning	honey	hou	to hold
heup	hip	hou van	to like
hier	here	hout	wood
hierdie	this/these	Hugenoot	Huguenot
histories	historical	huidig	current
hittegolf	heatwave	huil	to cry
hoe	how	huis	house
hoe(r)	see hoog	huishoudelik	household (adj.)
hoed	hat	huisvrou	housewife
hoef nie	don't have to	huiswerk	homework
hoegenaamd	not at all	hulle	they/them
hoek	corner	hulle s'n	theirs
hoekom	how come, why	huwelik	marriage
hoender	chicken	hy	he
hoenderpastei	chicken pie	ideal	ideal
hoendertande	hens' teeth	idioom	idiom
hoes	to cough	ieder	every
hoeveel	how much/many	iedereen	everyone
hoewel	although	iemand	someone
hof	court, courtyard	iets	something
hom	him	ietsie	a little bit
		iewers	somewhere
		in	in, into
		Indies	Indian

indink (jou)	to imagine	jarelank	years ago
indruk	impression	jellie	jelly
indrukwekkend	impressive	joernalis	journalist
industrie	industry	jok	to joke, not to be serious
ineenstort	to collapse	joligheid	festivity
infrastruktur	infrastructure	jong	boy
ingeboou	built-in	jonger	see jonk
ingenieur	engineer	jonk	young
inhou	to contain	Joods	Jewish
inkom	to enter	jou	(ob.) you; your
inkopie	small purchase	joune	yours
inkopies doen	to go shopping	juffrou	teacher (female)
inkopieslys	shopping list	juis	correct
inruil	to trade in	Julie	yoke
insamel	to collect	julle	July
inskryf	to register; to enrol	julle s'n	you (pl.)
inskryfform	application form	Junie	yours
instandhouding	maintenance	jylland	June
instansie	instance	kaal	you
instel	to introduce	kaart	naked
instroom	to pour in	kaartfoon	card
intelligent	intelligent	kabelkarretjie	card phone
interessant	interesting	kabouter	cable-car
interesseer (jou)	to interest	kafee	gnome
intuitief	intuitive	kafeien	cafe, milkbar
intussen	meanwhile	kaggel	caffeine
invloed	influence	kaia	heater
invoer	introduce (changes)	kalf	native dwelling
irreël	unreal	kalwers (pl.)	calf
ivoor	ivory	kam	calves
jaar	year	kameelperd	to comb (v.); comb (n.)
jag	to hunt (v.); hunt (n.)	kamer	giraffe
jakkals	jackal, fox	kamerjas	room
jammer	too bad; sorry; a pity	kan	dressing gown
jammer genoeg	unfortunately	kanker	to be able/can
jammerete	pity	kans	cancer
Januarie	January	kant	chance
		kantoor	side
		kar	office
			car

kardioloog	cardiologist	klavier	piano
kas	cupboard	klein	small
kassie	box	kleindogter	granddaughter
kastaiing	chestnut	kleinigheid	small thing
kaste (pl.)	cupboards	kleinkinders	grandchildren
kastrol	pot	kleinseun	grandson
kat	cat	kleintjies	little ones
katoen	cotton	klere	clothes
Katolieke	Catholic	klerekas	wardrobe
kous	stocking	kleur	colour
keer	time, (menige ~) many a time	kleurling	person of mixed race
keer	to turn; turn	kleuter	toddler
kekkel	to cluck	klier	gland
ken	to know (someone)	klim	to climb
kenmerkend	characteristic, distinctive	klink	to sound
kennisgewing	notice	klip	stone
kêrel	chap	klomp(ie)	a lot
kerk	church	klop	to beat
kerktoring	church tower	klou	claw
kerrie	curry	klub	club
kers	candle	knoffel	garlic
kersie	cherry	knoffelhuisie	clove of garlic
kerspartytjie	Christmas party	knoop	button
ketting	chain	koedoe	kudu
keur	choice	koei	cow
kielie	to tickle	koekie	biscuit
kiem	germ	koel	cool
kierie	walking stick	koerant	(news)paper
kies	to choose	koevert	envelope
kieskeurig	choosy	kok	cook
kieu	gill	kol	spot
kind	child	kollega	colleague
kinders (pl.)	children	kolonel	colonel
kla	to grumble, complain	kolonis	settler
klaar	finished	kom	to come
klant	customer	kombers	blanket
klas	class	kombuis	kitchen
klasse loop	to attend classes	komend	(up)coming
		komkommer	cucumber
		kommandeur	commander
		kommersieel	commercial

kommissie	commission	kuns	art
kon	could (modal v.)	kunsmatig	artificial
kondoom	condom	kursus	course
konfyt	jam	kus	coast
kongres	conference	kusgebied	coastal area
koning	king	kussing	cushion
koningin	queen	kwaad	angry
koningsblou	royal blue	kwaadaardig	malignant
konstruksie	construction	kwaai	bad-tempered, strict
kontant	cash	kwaal	ailment
kontra-offensief	counter-offensive	kwagga	zebra
koop	to buy	kwalifikasie	qualification
koor	choir	kwalifiseer	to qualify
koördineerde	coordinator	kwalik	hardly
kop	head	kwaliteit	quality
koppie	cup	kwantiteit	quantity
koring	wheat	kwart	quarter
korrek	correct	kwartel	quail
korting	reduction	kwartier	quarter of an hour
kos	food, meal	kwater	<i>see kwaad</i>
kostuum	costume	kweekskool	training-school; (theological) seminary
koud	cold	kwekery	nursery
kouer	<i>see koud</i>	kwik	mercury
krammetjie	staple	kyk (na)	to look (at)
krap	to scratch	laag	low
kreef	crayfish	laai	drawer
kriket	cricket	laan	avenue
kroeg	bar	laasjaar	last year
krokodil	crocodile	laasnag	last night (after lights out)
kroongrond	crown land	laaste	last
kruid	herb	laastens	lastly
kruip	to crawl, to slither	laasweek	last week
kruis	cross	laat	to let (v.); late (adj.)
kruispunt	intersection	laer	<i>see laag</i>
krul	curl	laerskool	primary school
krummel	to crumble		
kry	to get		
kuijer	to visit		
kuiergas	visitor		
kuiermense	visitors		
kuiken	(baby) chicken		

laf	silly	lees	to read
lafaard	coward	leeu	lion
lag (oor)	to laugh (at)	lei (na)	to lead (to)
lag vir/met	to smile at	lei (tot)	to evoke, invite;
lag-lag	easily		to cause, to
laken	sheet		lead (to)
lam	lamb	leidend	leading
lammers	plural of lam	leiding	pipe, line
lammertjie	little lamb	leier	leader
land	to land (v.); land (n.)	lekker	delicious
landbou	agriculture	lekker eet	'bon appetit'
landdrosdistrik	magisterial district	lel	lobe
landskap	landskap	lente	spring
lang	long	lepel	spoon
langer	<i>see lank</i>	leraar	minister (religion)
langs	next to	les	lesson
langsaaan	next door	lesing	lecture
langskom	to come by	lessenaar	desk
lank	long; tall	letter	letter
lankal	for a long time, for ages	lewe	life
lap	rag, cloth	lewenslus	love of life
lastig	difficult; cumbersome	lever	to supply; to produce
later	later	lid	member
lawaai	noise	lied	song
lawwe (< laf)	silly	lief	dear
lê	to lay/lie	liefde	love
lede (pl.)	members	liefhê	to like; to love
leef	to live	liefie	sweetie
leeg	empty	lieflik	lovely
leen	to lend; to borrow	liefste	dearest, darling
leer	to learn (v.); ladder (n.)	liefwees vir	to like (a lot); to love
leêr	file	lietsjie	lychee
leer ken	to get to know	Liewe	Dear (intimate address term)
leerlooiny- werheid	leather industry	liewe	dear
leerstelling	doctrine	liewer(s)	rather, preferably

lig	light	maatskappy	society;
ligblou	light blue		company
liggaam	body	maer(der)	thin(er)
links	left	mag	to be allowed to, may
loer	to peer		major
lok	to lure	majoor	to ail; be wrong with; to be missing
loodgieter	plumber	makeer	easy
loop	to walk		to tame
lorrie	truck, lorry		crazy
los	to loosen; to leave	maklik	to drive crazy
lot	fate	mak maak	peach brandy
lug	air	mal	man; husband
lughawe	airport	mal maak	basket
lui	lazy	man	male;
luiperd	leopard	mandjie	masculine
luitjie	buzz, call	manlik	market
lus	to (feel) like; (~ hê/wees vir) to feel like (doing/ having) something	mark	machine
LW (= let wel)	NB (= nota bene)	masjien	mat
ly	to suffer	mat	moderate
lyk	to seem, appear	matig	matric
lyk na/op	to look like	matriek	market
lys	list	meel	flour
maag	stomach	meen	to mean; to think
maai	to mow	meer	more
maak	to do; to make	meerderheid	majority
maaltyd	meal	mees(te)	greatest, most
maalvleis	minced/ground meat	meeu	seagull
maan	moon	Mei	May
maand	month	meisie	girl
Maandag	Monday	Mej.	Miss
maar	but; just, rather; only	mekaar	each other
Maart	March	melk	milk
maat	mate	melkttert	milk tart
		melodie	tune
		Meneer	sir
		meng	to mix

menige	many, several	moesie	mole, beauty
meningsverskil	disagreement		spot
mens	person	moet	to have to; must (modal v.)
Menseregtdag	Human Rights Day	mog	past tense of mag
menu	menu		
mes	knife	mond	mouth
met	with	monument	monument
meule	mill	mooi	pretty, nice
Mev.	Mrs	moontlik	possible
Mevrou	madam, Mrs	môre	morning
middelmatig	moderate	môreaand	tomorrow evening/night
mielie	maize, corn cob		
mier	ant	môremiddag	tomorrow afternoon
mikrofoon	microphone		
militêr	military	môreoggend	tomorrow morning
miljard	billion		
min	little, few	morsdood	dead as a doornail
minder	less, fewer		
minste	least, fewest	mos	indeed; of course, as you know
minstens	at least		
minuut	minute		
mis	mist	mossie	sparrow
misbruik	to misuse, abuse	motivering	motivation
misgis (jou)	to make a mistake; to be mistaken	motorhuis	garage
		motorvoertuig-	motor vehicle
		versekerig-	insurance
mishandel	to maltreat	mou	sleeve
misken	perhaps, maybe	muis	mouse
miskol	patch of fog	muntfoon	coin phone
mislei	to deceive	musici (pl.)	musicians
Mnr.	Mr	musikus	musician
model	model	muskiet	mosquito
modern	modern	muur	wall
moeder	mother	my	me, my
moeg	tired	my maggies	my goodness
moeilik	difficult	myne	mine
moeilikhed	difficulty, trouble	mynwerker	miner
moenie (< moet nie)	mustn't; don't (imp.)	na	after; to
moes	past tense of	naam	name
		naamlik	namely
		moet	next (to) niche

naaste	nearest	noem	to call, to name
naastenby	roughly, approximately	nonsies	nonsense
	off-white	noodwendig	necessary; necessarily
naaswit	near	nooi	to invite
naby	proximity	nooi	girl
nabyheid	after	nooien van	maiden name
nadat	nearer	nooit	never
nader	to think about	noord(e)	north
nadink oor	nail	noordelik	northern
nael	navel	noordooster	north-easterly
naeltjie	night	nostalgies	nostalgic
nag	on behalf of	nou	at the moment, now
namens	mandarin		
nartjie	national	nou-nou	in a moment
nasionaal	wet	November	November
nat	nature	NS (lit. naskrif)	PS (lit. 'post- script')
natuur	of course		
natuurlik	weekend	nuus	news
naweek	The Netherlands	nuut	new
Nederland	settlement	Nuwejaarsdag	New Year's Day
nedersetting		nuwer	see nuut
nee	no	oë	plural of oog
neef	male cousin	oefen	to practise, exercise
neem	to take		
neersit	to hang up	oeroud	very old
neerslaan	to fall down		
nege	nine	oes	harvest
nektarien	nectarine	oewer	bank (of a river)
nêrens	nowhere	of	whether, or
nes (< net soos)	just like	oggend	morning
net	only, just	Oktober	October
net soos	just like	olie	oil
netjies	neat	olifant	elephant
neus	nose	olyfkleurig	olive(-coloured)
neusgat	nostril	om	around
neut	nut	omdat	because
nie	not	omdraai (jou)	to turn around
niemand	nobody	omgaan	to go around
nietemin	nevertheless	omgewing	surroundings
niggie	niece	omkom	to die
niks	nothing	omsingel	to surround
nissie	niche	omstamp	to knock over

omstandighede	circumstances	ontmoet	to meet
omtrent	about, more or less	ontmoeting	meeting
onaangenaam	unpleasant	ontslae raak van	to be rid of, free from
onbruikbaar	unusable	ontstaan	to originate
ondanks	in spite of, despite	onttrek (jou)	to withdraw
onder	under	ontvang	to receive
ondergaan	to undergo	ontwikkel	to develop
onderhoud	interview	ontwikkeling	development
onderneem	to undertake	onvermoeid	tireless
onderskat	to underestimate	onvoorstelbaar	unimaginable
ondersteun	to support	onwettig	illegal
onderteken	to sign	oog	eye
ondertoe	towards the bottom	ooit	ever
ondervind	to experience	ook	also
onderwyser(es)	teacher	oom	uncle
onenigheid	quarrel, dispute	oomblik	moment
ongelooflik	unbelievably	oompie	old bloke
ongeluk	accident	oond	oven
ongelukkig	unhappy; unfortunately	oopmaak	to open
ongetwyfeld	undoubtedly	oor	ear
ongeveer	approximately	oor	over, about (i.e. concerning)
onlangs	recently	oordeel	judgement
onmiddellik	immediately	oordraagbaar	transferable
onmoontlik	impossible	ooreenstem	to agree; to correspond
ons	we (subj.); us (obj.)	ooreet (jou)	to overeat
ons s'n	ours	oorgetrek	upholstered
onsin	nonsense	oorhandig	to hand over
ontbyt	breakfast	oorheers	to dominate
ontdekking	discovery	oorkant	other (opposite) side
ontdekingsreisiger	explorer	oorkom	to overcome
ontferm oor (jou)	to take pity on	oorlog	war
ontginning	clearing	oorlog voer	to wage war
onthaal	to entertain; to treat	oorlosie	watch
		oormôre	day after tomorrow
		oorrompel	to overwhelm
		oorsaak	cause
		oorspronklik	original(ly)

oorsteek	to cross	oranje	orange
oorstroming	flood	orde	order
oos(te)	east	ordinêr	common (looking)
Oos-Vrystaat	Eastern Free State	organisasie	organisation
oosterlik	eastern	organiseer	to organise
op	on; at	orgidee	orchid
opbel	to ring (up)	oseaan	ocean
opbly	to stay up	osoon	ozone
opdaag	to arrive, turn up	ou	chap, bloke
opdrink	to drink up	oud	old
opeet	to eat up	ouderdom	(old) age
openbaar	public	ouens	plural of ou
operasie	operation	ouer	see oud
opgewonde	excited	oulik	nice
ophang	to hang up	ouma	grandma
ophou	to stop, cease	oumagrootjie	great-grandmother
opkom	to rise (of the sun)	oupa	grandpa
oplaai	to flame up; to load up	oupagrootjie	great-grandfather
oplig	to pick up	pa	dad
opmaak	to use up; to make (the bed)	paaï	to pacify
oppas	to take care of; (~ vir) to beware of	paaie	plural of pad
	opposition	paal	pole
opposisie	to run out of	paar	pair; ('n ~) a few
opraak	genuine	pad	road
opreg(te)	to tidy up	padda	frog
opruiim	respect; (in alle te) in all respects	padwerke	road works
opsig		pa-hulle	parents
opstaan	to get up	papier	paper
optel	to pick/lift up	palmboom	palm tree
optimisties	optimistic	palmwyn	palm wine
opwas	to wash up	pampoen	pumpkin
opwen (jou)	to get agitated	pampoen-kwekery	pumpkin growing
opwindend	exciting	pan	pan
		pap	porridge
		papdronk	very drunk
		papnat	sopping/soaking wet

parady ^s	paradise	plek-plek	here and there
paranoïes	paranoid	plesier	pleasure, fun
park	park	plesier!	you're welcome!
parkeer	to park	pluk	to pick
party(tjie)	party	poeding	pudding
party ... party	some ... others	poeier	powder
pas	just, recently	polisie	police
pas	to fit, to suit	pondok	hovel
pasiënt	patient	poot	paw, leg (of animal, chair)
passasier	passenger	pop	doll
patat	sweet potato	poppie	doll
patroon	pattern	pos	to post
peer	pear	Posbus	PO box
pêl	pal	poskantoor	post office
pen	pen	pot	pot
perd	horse	praat (met)	to talk (to)
pérel	pearl	prakties	practical
perfek	perfect	pragtig	fabulous; beautiful
periodiek	periodical	prent	picture
perron	railway platform	present	present
pers	purple	presies	exact, precise
persist	per cent	primér	primary
perske	peach	primitief	primitive
pes	plague	privaat	private
pienk	pink	Privaatsak	Private Bag
pieklein	tiny	probeer	to try
piering	saucer	probleem	problem
piesang	banana	produk	product
pil	pill	produseer	to produce
pit	seed	proe (trans.)	to taste
pla	to worry	program	program
plaas	farm	projek	project
plaasvind	to occur	proklameer	to proclaim
plafon	ceiling	promosie	promotion
plak	to squat	Protestant	Protestant
plakker	poster	provinsie	province
plasie	small farm	prys	price
plastiek	plastic	puik	prime, superb
plat	flat	punt	point
platteland	countryside	put	well

puur	pure	riet	reed, straw
pyn	pain	rif	ridge
pyp	pipe	rig	to erect
raad	council	ring	ring
raad vra	to ask for advice	rissie	capsicum, chilli pepper
raaf	raven		
raai	to guess	rivier	river
raak	incisive, to the point; to hit; to become	rob	seal
		roep	to call
raar	rare	roer	rudder; to stir
rak	shelve	roete	route
rand	edge	roetine	routine
rand	rand	rog	rye
rassis	racist	rokery	smoking
redeneer	to reason	rolstoel	wheelchair
reeds	already	rommel	rubbish
reël	rule	romp	skirt
reën	rain	ronddwaal	to wander about
reënjas	raincoat	rondhandoop	to run around
reg	right, correct	roof	scab
regering	government	rooi	red
regs	right	rooibok	impala
regstellend	rectifying	rooierig	reddish
regstreeks	direct(ly)	rook	to smoke
regter	judge	roomkleurig	cream(-coloured)
regterhand,	right-hand side	roomys	ice cream
-kant		roos	rose
reguit	straight ahead	rot	rat
regverdig	fair, just	rou	raw
reisagentskap	travel agency	rower	robber
rekenaar	computer	ru	rough
rekening	bill	rubriek	column
reklame	advertisement	rûe	plural of rug
relatief	relative	rug	back
rem	brake	ruig	rugged, bushy
renoster	rhinoceros	ruik	to smell
republiek	republic	ruil (see inruil, verruil)	to exchange; to switch
rêrig	real, actual; really	rukkie	little while
resep	recipe	rus	to settle down
rib	rib	rustig	calm(ly)

ry	to drive (v.); row (n.)	sederboom	cedar tree
ryk	rich	sedert	since
rylaan	drive	sedertdien	since then
ryloop	to hitch-hike	seekoei	hippopotamus
ryp	frost, ripe	seën	blessing
rys	rice	seep	soap
saad	seed	seisoen	season
saag	saw	seker	sure, certain
saal	hall, room; saddle	sekerlik	certainly
saam	together	sekondêr	secondary
saambring	to bring (along, together)	sekretaresse	secretary
saamkom	to come along	selfoon	mobile/cellular phone
saamstem	to agree	selfs	even
saans	in the evening	selfsugtig	selfish
sag	soft	sening	sinew, tendon
sagter	see sag	sent	cent
sak	bag	sentraal	central
sakelui	businessmen	sepie	soapie
sakevroue	businesswomen	September	September
sakgeld	pocket money	setlaar	settler
sal	will (modal v.)	seun	son, boy
self	ointment	sewe	seven
self	Dan is daar aan	siek	sick
	jou geen ~ te	siekte	disease
	smeer nie =	sien	to see
	you're beyond redemption	sigaret	cigarette
sambrel	umbrella	silwer	silver
sand	sand	simbool	symbol
sandaal	sandal	sing	to sing
sanger	singer	sisteem	system
sangoma	medicine wo/man	sit	to sit
sanksies	sanctions	sitkamer	lounge
sap	sap	siviël	civil
sardien	sardine	sjampanje	champagne
Saterdag	Saturday	sjarmant	charming
sê (vir/aan)	to say (to)	sjarme	charm
sê maar	let's say	sjiek	chic
		sjokolade	chocolate

skaal	scale	skouspelagtig	spectacular
skaam (jou)	to be ashamed (of oneself)	skraal	lean, skinny
skaars	scarce	skrap	to scrape
skakel	to telephone, to call/ring up	skree	to shout
skarlaken	scarlet	skryf	to write
skatryk	stinking rich	skrywer	writer, author
skatting	estimate; estimation	sku	shy
skeer (jou)	to shave	skub	scale
skeiding	parting	skugter	shy
skelm	roguish	skuif	to push; to slide
skenk	to donate	skuit	boat
sklep	to scoop	skuld	guilt
skepe	plural of skip	skuwer	guilty
skepties	sceptical	skyf	disk, slide; (vis en ~ies) fish and chips
skêr	scissors	slaaf	slave
skerm	screen	slaafs	servile
skerp	sharp	slaag	to succeed
skielik	sudden(ly)	slaaiblaartjie	lettuce leaf
skiet	to shoot	slaap	to sleep
skik	to manage; to suit	slaapkamer	bedroom
skildery	painting	slaggat	pot hole
skilpad	tortoise, turtle	slaghuis	butcher's shop
skip	ship	slak	snail
skoen	shoe	slang	snake
skool	school	slank	slim
skoolmaats	school mates	slawerny	slavery
skoon	clean	sleg	bad
skoondogter	daughter-in-law	sleutel	key
skoonmaak	to clean	sloep	barge
skoonmoeder, (-ma)	mother-in-law	sloop	pillow slip
skoonseun	son-in-law	slot	ditch
skoonsuster	sister-in-law	slu	sly
skoonvader, (-pa)	father-in-law	smaak (intr.)	to taste
skottelgoed	crockery; dishes and plates	smaaklike ete	'bon appetit'
skouer	shoulder	smaraggroen	emerald green
		smeer	to grease
		smiddags, smiddae	in the after- noon(s)

smous	hawker	sosiaal	social
snaaks	funny	sosioloog	sociologist
sneeu	snow	sou	would (modal v.)
snesie	tissue		
snoei	to prune	sousboontjie	bean salad
snor	moustache	soveel	so many
sny	to cut (v.); slice (n.)	sover	as far as
so ... soos	as ... as	sowaar	truly, indeed
so'n	such (a)	span	team
sodanig (as ~)	as such	spannend	exciting
sodat	so that	speelgoed	toys
sodra	as soon as	spel	game
soek	to look for, seek	spesery	spice
soep	soup	spesiaal	special
soet	sweet; well-behaved	spierwit	pure white
sog	sow (pig)	splinternuut	brand new
soggens	in the morning	spons	sponge
sokkie	sock	sprokie	fairy-tale
somer	summer	spyskaart	menu
sommer	for no particular reason, just, merely	spyt hê	to be sorry
sommige ... ander	some ... others	staan	to stand (upright)
Sondag	Sunday	staat	state
sonder	without	staatsdiens	public service
sone	zone	stad	city
sonnig	sunny	stadig	slow
sonslyn	sunshine	stadsbestuur	municipality
sooi	sod	staking	strike
soölogie	zoology	stam	tribe
soontoe	(= daarnatoe) there	standaard	standard
soort	sort	stap	to walk, to go on foot
soos	as	stasie	station
sopnat	sopping/soaking wet	stede	plural of stad
sôre	to care	steil	steep
sorg	worry	stel	(in gevaar ~) to endanger
sosatie	kebab	stemming	mood
		ster	star
		sterf (aan)	to die (of)
		stert	tail

steun	to support (v.); support (n.)	suksesvol	successful
steur	to disturb	sulk(e)	such (a)
stewel	boot	sussie	younger sister
stig	to found, establish	suur	sour
stikdonker	pitch black	swaar	heavy
stoel	chair	swaer	brother-in-law
stof	material, fabric	swak	weak
stokdoof	deaf as a post	swanger	pregnant
stokoud	very old	swart	black
stokperdjie	hobby(-horse)	swart-en-wit	black and white
stompie	cigarette butt	swarte	black (person)
stoof	stove	sweefspoor	cable car
stook	to distil	swem	to swim
storie	story	swembad	swimming pool
stort	to dump	sy	she
stout	naughty	syne	hers
straat	street	taal	language
straatvrou	streetwalker	taamlik	rather
stralend	radiant	taankleurig	tan
strand	beach	tabak	tobacco
strek	to stretch, reach	tafel	table
streng	strict	tafelgebed	grace (at meals)
strook	strip; band	tagtig	eighty
stropery	poaching	talryk	numerous
strydmag	military force	tamatie	tomato
studeer	to study	tand	tooth
student	student	tandeborstel	tooth brush
stug	morose	tang	tongs
stuitig	cheeky	tannie	aunt
stuk	piece	tas	suitcase
stukkend	broken	teef	bitch
styf	stiff	teen	(up) against
styg	to rise	teenoor	opposite
suid(e)	south	teenspoed	misfortune
suidelik	southern	teepot	teapot
Suider-Afrika	Southern Africa	teiken	target
Suiderkruis	Southern Cross	teister	to ravage, devastate
suidwaarts	southwards	teken	sign
suiker	sugar	tekening	drawing
suip	to drink	têkkies	running shoes (trainers)

tekort	shortage	toemaak	to shut
tel	to count	toeneem	to increase
telefonies	by telephone	toenemend	increasing(ly)
telefoon	telephone	toeris	tourist
telefoongids	telephone book	toeskryf	to attribute
telefoonhokkie	telephone box	toestand	state (of affairs), condition
telefoonoproep	telephone call	toetrek	to pull (door) to coincidence,
teleurgesteld	disappointed	toeval	chance
televisie	television; (-stel) television set	toevallig	by chance
tenk	tank	tog	yet, nevertheless
tenminste	at least	toiings	tatters
tensy	unless	toilet	toilet
teologie	theology	tol	toll
teorie	theory	toneelklas	drama class
terreur	terror	tong	tongue
terug	back	toon	toe
terugbel	to ring back	toring	tower
terwyl	while	tot gevolg hê	to result in
testament	will	tot siens	goodbye
tevrede	contented	tot(dat)	until
tevredenheid	satisfaction	tou	twine, rope
teweegbring	to bring about	tradisie	tradition
tien	ten	tragies	tragic
tiener	teenager	transformasie	transformation
tikmasjien	typewriter	trapfiets	push-bike
tikster	typist	tref	to strike; to come across
tipe	sort, type	trein	train
tjap	stamp	trek	to pull
tjek	cheque	trekkery	moving house
tjop	lamb chop	trem	tram
toe	to; then; when (in the past)	treur	to be sad
toe	closed	trôe	plural of trog
toe!	please!; come on!	trofee	trophy
toeganklik	accessible	trog	trough
toeken	to award	tronk	prison
toekoms	future	trop	flock; herd; pack
toelaat	to allow, to permit	trots	proud

trou (met)	to marry	uitkom	to come out; to arrive
trourok	wedding dress	uitnooi	to invite
trui	pullover	uitoefen	to exercise
tuin	garden	uitput	to exhaust
tuis	at home	uitreik	to give out
tuisbedryf	<i>see tuisnywerheid</i>	uitsaai	scatter
tuiskom	to arrive home	uitsien na	to look forward to
tuismaak (jou)	to make oneself at home	uitstalling	exhibition
tuisnywerheid	shop selling homemade goods	uitstappie	excursion
turksvy	prickly pear	uitstekend	excellent
tussen	between	uitstel	to delay
twak	nonsense, rubbish	uitsterwing	extinction
twee	two	uittrek	to take off
tweedens	secondly	uittrek (jou)	to get undressed
twis	quarrel	uitverkoping	sale
tyd	time	uitvind	to find out, discover
tydens	during	uitwis	to wipe out
tydperk	period, era, epoch	universiteit	university
tydskrif	magazine	uur	hour
tydstip	point in time	vaag	vague
u	you	val	fawn
u s'n	yours	vader	father
ui	onion	vak	subject
uit	out (of), from	vakansie	holiday
uitbrei	to spread; to augment	val	to fall
uitbreiding	extension, expansion	van	from; of; some (of); surname (n.)
uiter	to utter	vanaand	tonight
uiters	extremely	vandag	today
uitgaan	to go out	vandeesmaand	this month
uitgee	to give out, to spend (money), to publish	vandeesweek	this week
uitkap	to fell	vanielje	vanilla
		vanjaar	this year
		vanmiddag	this afternoon
		vanmôre	this morning
		vannag	tonight (after lights out)
		vanoggend	this morning

vanweë	because of, on account of	vereniging	society, organisation
variasie	variation	vererg	to annoy
vark	pig	verf	to paint (v.); paint (n.)
vars	fresh		
vas	firm	vergeet (van)	to forget (about)
vaster	<i>see vas</i>	vergeleke (met)	compared (to/with)
vat	to take		
vee	(live)stock; cattle	vergelyk	to compare
veel	much, many	vergis (jou)	to be mistaken
veg	to fight	verheug	pleased, glad
vel	skin; fur	verhit	to heat
veld	field	verhuis	to move house
veldbrand	bush fire	verjaar(s)dag	birthday
venster	window	verkeerd	wrong
ver	far	verkeerslig	traffic light
veral	especially	verkeersongeluk	traffic accident
verander	to change	verkiesing	election
veras	cremated (p.p.)	verklaar	to declare
verbeel (jou)	to imagine	verkleur- mannetjie	chameleon
verbetering	improvement	verkoop	to sell
verbind	to connect to	verkoue	cold, chill; suffering from a cold
verbode	prohibited	verkramp	narrow-minded
verbonde aan	connected to	verkry	to obtain
verbrand (tr.)	to burn	verlaat (trans.)	to leave
verbreding	widening	verlate	deserted
verbrou	to make a mess of, spoil	verlede	last, (~ jaar) last year
verby	past; at an end	verlief (op)	in love (with)
verdedig	to defend	verloor	to lose
verder	further	verminder	to decrease, to reduce, diminish
verdien	to earn	vermy	to avoid
verdra	to tolerate, endure	vernaamste	most prominent, important
verduidelik	to explain	vernederlandsing	'Dutchification'
verdwyn	to disappear	verniet	free (of charge)
vereiste	requirement, prerequisite	vernoem	to name after
verenig	to unite		
Verenigende Gereformeerde Kerk	Unifying Reformed Church		

verpleegster	nurse	verwarmer	heater
verplig	to compel	verwen	to spoil
verpligtend	compulsory	verwerk	to process
verpligting	obligation	verwerp	to reject
verruil	to exchange	vestig (jou)	to settle
versekering	insurance	vet	fat
verset teen (jou)	to resist	vetter	<i>see vet</i>
versigtig	careful	video	video
verskeie	several	vier	four
verskil	to differ	Vigs	Aids
verskillende	various	vind	to find
verskoning	excuse	vinger	finger
verskriklik	terrible	vinnig	fast
verskuil (jou)	to hide	viool	violin
verslaaf (aan)	addicted (to)	vir	for
verslaafde	addict	vis	fish
verslaafheid	addiction	vis-en-skyfies	fish and chips
verslaap (jou)	to oversleep	visserman	fisherman
versoek	to request	visueel	visual
versorging	care	vlae	plural of vlag
versprei	spread	vlag	flag
verstand	understanding, intelligence	vlak	facet; level
verstrek	to give, provide (details, information)	vlakvark	warthog
vertaal	to translate	vleis	meat
verteenwoordig	to represent	vlekkie	spot
verteen- woordiger	representative	vlermuis	bat
vertel	to tell	vlieg	to fly (v.); fly (n.)
vertoning	performance	vliegtuig	aeroplane
vertoon	to display	vloeidend	fluently
vertrek (intr.)	to leave	vloer	floor
vertrou op	to rely on	vlooii	flea
vertroue	confidence, trust	vloothou	navy blue
verveel (jou)	to be bored	vlug	flight (n.); to flee (v.)
vervelig	boring	vlugflou	jet-lagged
verversingspos	refreshment station	vlugteling	fugitive
verwag	to expect	vodde	rags
verwant (met)	related (to)	voeg (by)	to add to
		voel	to feel
		voël	bird
		voer	to conduct; to feed

voertuig	vehicle	vorentoe	towards the front; forward
voet	foot	vorig	previous
voetslaner	hiker	vorm	form
vol	full (of)	vou	to fold (v.); fold (n.)
voldoen	to satisfy		
volgende	next		
volgens	according to	vra (om)	to ask (for)
volk	people, nation	vraag	question
volledig	complete	vrae	plural of vraag
volstruis	ostrich	vreemd	strange
voltooi	to complete	vreeslik	dreadful
voltooiing	completion	vreet	to feed (on)
volwasse	adult	vrek	damned; to die miserly
voor	in front of, before	vreugde	joy, pleasure
voordat	before	vriend	friend
voordeur	front door	vriendekring	circle of friends
voorin	down/in the front	vriendelik	friendly
voorkom	to occur; to happen	vriendin	girlfriend
voorkom	to prevent	vriendskap	friendship
voorlē	to lie ahead	vroeë	<i>see vroeg</i>
voorlees	to read out loud	vroeër	earlier; formerly
voorlesing	reading	vroeg	early
voornaam	first name	vroeg-vroeg	very early, in the small hours
voorraad	supply	vroetel	to fidget
voorspel	to predict	vrou	woman
voorstad	suburb	vrouetyldkrif	women's magazine
voorstel	to suggest, to introduce (someone)	vrug	fruit
voortdurend	continual	vry	free
voortduur	to last, to continue	vryburger	free burgher
voortstrewend	progressive	Vrydag	Friday
voorval	incident	vryf	to rub
voorverhit	to preheat	vryheid	freedom
voorverlede jaar	two years ago	vuil	dirty
voorverlede week	the week before last	vul	foal
		vulpen	fountain pen
		vurk	fork
		vuur	fire
		vuurhoutjie	match
		wa	wagon

waai	to blow	weer	weather (n.); again (adv.)
waar	where	weerlig	to lighten
waarde	worth, value	weermag	military
waarheen	where (... to)	weersom-	weather
waarheid	truth	standighede	conditions
waarnatoe	where (... to)	weersvoor-	weather forecast
waarneming	observation	spelling	
waarom	why	wees	to be
waarsku	to warn	weet	to know
waarskuwing	warning	weg	road, way
waarskylik	probably	weggooi	to throw away
waarso	where	wegsit	to put away
waarvandaan	where ... from	weier	to refuse
waarvoor	what for	wel	well
wag	to wait	wel en wee	well and woe
wakker maak (trans.)	to wake (up)	welbekend	well-known
wakker word (intr.)	to wake (up)	welvaart	wealth
wandeling	hike, walk	wen	to win
wang	cheek	wenner	winner
wanneer	when	wens	to wish
want	because	werd	worth; worthy of
warm	warm, hot	wêreld	world
wat	what	werk	work
wat se	which	werker	worker, labourer
wat van	what about	werklikheid	reality
water	water	wes(te)	west
waterig	watery	Wes-Europa	Western Europe
wattel	wattle	wese	being
watter	which, what	wesens	plural of wese
watter soort	what kind/sort of a	weskus	west coast
		westerlik	western
		wet	law
web	web	wetenskaplike	scientist
wed	to bet	wie	who
wedren	race	wie se/s'n	whose
wedstryd	match; competition	wiel	wheel
		wig	wedge
weë	plural of weg	wil	to want to
weeg	to weigh	wild	wild
week	to soak	wildebees	gnu
weens	because of	wildehond	Cape wild dog

wildernisgebied	wilderness area	woord	word
wildtuin	game reserve	word	to become
wind	wind	wors	sausage
wingerd	vineyard	worshond	dachshund
winkel	shop	wortel	carrot, root
winsgewend	profitable	wraggies!	
winskopie	bargain	wragtig!	really, truly!
winter	winter	wreed	cruel
wissel	to change (foreign currency)	wyd	wide
wisselvallig	unpredictable	wydverspreid	widespread
wit	white	wyer	see wyd
Woensdag	Wednesday	wyk	to recede (v.), withdraw; area (n.)
woestyn	desert	wys	to show (v.), to point out; wise (adj.)
wolf	wolf	yskas	fridge
wolk	cloud	yskoud	freezing cold
wond	wound	yster	iron
wonderlik	wonderful	zink	sink

English–Afrikaans glossary

a	'n	advertisement	reklame
aboard	aan bord	aeroplane	vliegtuig
about (approximately)	omtrent	affair	affère
about	oor	afford, to	bekostig
(concerning)		after (prep.)	na
above, over	bo	after (conj.)	nadat
abuse, to	misbruik	afternoon, this	vanmiddag
academic	akademicus (pl. <i>akademici</i>)	again	weer
accent	aksent	against	teen
accept, to	aanneem	age	ouderdom
acceptance	aanname	ago	gelede
accessible	toeganklik	agree, to	ooreenstem, saamstem
accident	ongeluk	agriculture	landbou
according to	volgens	Aids	Vigs
account of (on ~)	vanweë	ail, to	makeer
acquire, to	aanskaf	ailment	kwaal
action	aksie	air	lug
activist	aktivis	airport	lughawe
actor	akteur	all	al, alle, almal
actress	aktrise	all day	heeldag
actual(ly)	rêrig, eintlik, feitlik	all sorts of	allerlei
add (to), to	byvoeg, voeg (by)	all year	die hele jaar
addicted (to)	verslaaf (aan)	allow, to	toelaat
addiction	verslaafheid	already	al, reeds
adhere to, to	aanhang	also	ook
admission	aanname	although	hoewel
adult	volwasse	always	altyd
advance, to	bevorder	amuse, to	amuseer
(a cause)		amused	geamuseer
		and	en
		angel	engel
		angry	kwaad

animal	dier	aspect	aspek
annoy, to	vererg	assume, to	aanneem
answer (n. and v.)	antwoord	at last	eindelik
answer, to	beantwoord (tr.)	at least	minstens
answering	antwoordmasjien	athlete	atleet
machine		attack	aanslag
ant	mier	attend classes, to	klasse loop
any	enige	attraction	aantreklikheid
anyone	enigiemand, enigeen	attribute, to	toeskryf
anything	enigiets	August	Augustus
appeal	appél	aunt	tannie
appealing	bekoorklik	autumn	herfs
appear (to be), to	lyk	avenue	laan
apple	appel	avoid, to	vermy
application form	inskryfform	award, to	toeken
appoint, to	aanstel	baboon	bobbejaan
appointment	afspraak	baby	baba
approach, to	in aantog wees	back (n.)	rug (pl. rûe)
approximately	naastenby, ongeveer	back (adv.)	terug
apricot	appelkoos	back (in the ~)	agterin
apricot (-coloured)	appelkooskleurig	bad	sleg
April	April	bag	sak
archive	argief	bakery	bakkery
area	gebied, wyk	balcony	balkon
around	om	ball	bal
arrive, to	aankom	banana	piesang
art	kuns	bank (of a river)	oewer
article	artikel	bank manager	bank- bestuurder(es)
artificial	kunsmatig	bar	kroeg
as	soos	barbecue	braaiyleis
as ... as	so ... soos	barbecue, to	braai
as if	asof	bargain	winskopie
as soon as	sodra	barge	sloep
as well as	asook	bark (of a tree)	bas
ask (for), to	vra (om)	bark, to (at)	blaf (vir/teen)
ask for advice, to	raad vra	bark, to (of baboons)	bôgom
asparagus	aspersies	basket	mandjie
		bat	vlermuis
		bath	bad
		be able, to	kan

be allowed to, to	mag	belt	gordel
be ashamed (of oneself), to	jou skaam	bend over, to	buk
be at hand, to	aanbreek	berry	bessie
be bored, to	jou verveel	best	beste
be called, to	heet	bet, to	wed
be mistaken, to	jou misgis, jou vergis	better	beter
be rid of, to	ontslae raak van	between	tussen
be sorry, to	spyt hê	beware of , to	oppas vir
be wrong with	makeer	bicycle	fiets
be, to	wees	big	groot
beach	strand	bill	rekening
beach buggy	duinebesie	billion	miljard
bean	boon	bill poster	plakker
bean salad	sousboontjies	bird	voël
beard	baard	birthday	verjaar(s)dag
beat, to	klop	biscuit	koekie, beskuitjie
because	omdat, want	bitch	teef
because of	vanweë, weens	bitter	bitter
become, to	word, raak	bitter, very ~	galbitter
bed	bed	black	swart
bedroom	slaapkamer	black (person)	swarte
beds	beddens	black (pitch ~)	stikdonker
bee	by	black and white	swart-en-wit
beer	bier	blanket	kombers
beetroot	beet	bleat, to	blér
before (conj.)	voordat	bless you!	gesondheid!
before (prep.)	voor	blessing	seën
beggar	bedelaar	blind	blind
beginning	begin	blouse	bloesie
behalf of, on	namens	blow, to	waai
behave oneself,	jou gedra	blue	blou
to		bluegum	bloekom(boom)
behaviour	gedrag	(eucalyptus)	
behind	agter	bluish	blouerig
beige	beige	board, on ~	aan boord
being	wese (pl. wesens)	boat	boot, skuit
believe, to	glo	body	liggaam
bell	bel	bon appetit	lekker eet, smaaklike ete
belong, to (to)	behoort	bone	been
		book	boek

book, to	bespreek	bully	boelie
boot	stewel	buoy	boei
border	grens	buried	begrawe
boring	vervelig	burn, to (food)	aanbrand
born	gebore	burn, to (trans.)	verbrand
borrow, to	leen	burn, to (intrans.)	brand
both	albei, beide	bus	bus
bothersome	lastig	bush fire	veldbrand
bottle	bottel	bush war	bosoorlog
bowl	bak	Bushman	Boesman
box	doos	bushy	ruig
boy	seun	businessman	besigheidsman
bracket	hakie	businessmen/	sakelui
brake	rem	women	
brandy	brandewyn	businesswoman	sakevrou
bread	brood	busy	besig
bread roll	broodrolletjie	but	maar
break off, to	afbreek	butcher's shop	slaghuis
breakfast	ontbyt, brekfis	butter	botter
breath	asem	buttock	boud
breathtaking	asemrowend	button	knoop
bride	bruid	buy, to	koop
bridegroom	bruidegom	buzz, to	gons
bridge	brug (pl. brûe)	by chance	toevallig
bright yellow	heldergeel	cable car	sweefspoor, kabelkarretjie
bring about, to	teweegbring		
bring along, to	saambring	café	kafee
bring, to	bring	caffeine	kafeien
brittle	bros	calf	kalf (pl. kalwers)
broad	breed	call (to give	luitjie
broadcast, to	uitsaai	someone a ~)	
broken	stukkend	call (out), to	roep
broom	besem	call, to (to name)	noem
brother	broer	calm(ly)	rustig
brother-in-law	swaer	can	kan
brown	bruin	cancer	kanker
buck	bok	candle	kers
bucket	emmer	Cape Flats	Kaapse Vlakte
budgie	budjie	Cape wild dog	wildehond
building	gebou	capital	hoofstad
building material	bouwmateriaal	capsicum (chilli)	rissie
built-in	ingegebou	car	kar

card	kaart	chatter	gepratery
card phone	kaartfoon	chauvinistic	chauvinisties
cardiologist	kardioloog	cheap	goedkoop
care	versorging	cheek	wang
care, to	sorg	cheeky	stuitig
careful	versigtig	Cheers!	Gesondheid!
carrot, root	wortel	chemist	chemikus
carry out, to	deurvoer	(scientist)	
carry, to	dra	chemist's shop	apteek
case	geval	cheque	tjek
cash	kontant	cherry	kersie
cat	kat	chest complaint	borskwaal
Catholic	Katolieke	chestnut	kastaiing
cattle	vee	chic	sjiek
cause	oorsaak	chicken	hoender
cause, to	aandoen	chicken (baby)	kuiken
(trouble)		chicken pie	hoenderpastei
cave	grot	child	kind
cedar tree	sederboom	(pl. kinders)	
ceiling	plafon	sjokolade	
cellular phone	selfoon	koor	
cent	sent	kies	
central	sentraal	kieskeurig	
century	eeu	Christen	
certain	seker	Christmas party	
certainly	sekerlik	church	
chain	ketting	church tower	
chair	stoel	chutney	
chameleon	verkleurman- netjie	cigarette	
		cigarette butt	
champagne	sjampanje	cinema	
chance	kans, toeval	circle of friends	
change, to	verander	circumstance	
change, to	wissel	citizen	
(currency)		city	
chap	kêrel, ou (pl. ouens)	civil	
		class	
characteristic	kenmerkend	claw	
charm	sjarme	clean	
charming	sjarmant, bekoorklik	clean, to	
chartered	geoktrooieerd	clear(ly)	
		clearing	

climb, to	klim	compared (to/with)	vergeleke (met)
closed	toe		
clothes	klere	compel, to	verplig
cloud	wolk	competent	bevoeg(de)
cloudy	bewolk	competition	wedstryd
clove of garlic	knoffelhuisie	complain, to	kla
club	klub	complete	volledig
cluck, to	kekkel	complete, to	voltooï
coarse	grof	completion	voltooïng
coast	kus	compulsory	verpligtend
coastal area	kusgebied	computer	rekenaar
coat	baadjie	concentrated	gekonsentreerd
coin phone	muntfoon	concern, to	betref
coincidence	toeval	condom	kondoom
cold (sickness)	verkoue	conduct, to	voer
cold, colder	koud, kouer	conference	kongres
collapse, to	ineenstort	confess, to	beken
colleague	kollega	confidence, trust	vertroue
collect, to	insamel	connect to, to	verbind
colonel	kolonel	connected to	verbonde aan
colour	kleur	conscience	gewete
column	rubriek	consequence	gevolg
comb (n. and v.)	kam	considerable	aansienlik
come, to	kom	considering	aangesien
come across, to	tref	consist of, to	bestaan uit
come along, to	saamkom	construction	konstruksie
come by, to	langskom	contain, to	bevat, inhou
come in, to	binnekom	contented	tevrede
come on!	toe!	continual	voortdurend
come out, to	uitkom	continue, to	voortduur
coming	komend	control, to	onder beheer
command, to	bevel		kry
commander	kommandeur	conversation	gesprek
commercial	kommersieel	cook	kok
commission	kommissie	cool	fris, koel
common	gemeen	coordinator	koördineerder
common (looking)	ordinêr	corner	hoek
community	gemeenskap	correct	juis, korrek, reg
company	geselskap	correspond, to	ooreenstem
company	maatskappy	correspondence	briefwisseling
compare, to	vergelyk	costume	kostuum
		cotton	katoen

cough, to	hoes	dachshund	worshond
could	kon	dad	pa
council	raad	damage, to	beskadig
count, to	tel	damn	dêm, (~ed) vrek
counter-offensive	kontra-offensief	dance	dans
country	land	danger	gevaar
country(side)	platteland	dangerous	gevaarlik
course	kursus	dare, to	durf
course (of a	gereg	dark	donker
meal)		dark green	donkergroen
court, courtyard	hof	darling	liefste
cousin (male)	neef	date	datum
cover, to	bedek	daughter	dogter
cow	koei	daughter-in-law	skoondogter
coward	lafaard	day	dag (pl. dae)
crawl, to	kruip	day after	oormôre
crayfish	kreef	tomorrow	
crazy	mal	day before	eergerister
crazy, mad	dol	yesterday	
cream(-coloured)	roomkleurig	days, these ~	deesdae
cremate, to	veras	dead	dood
cricket	krieket	dead as a	morsdood
crockery	skottelgoed	doornail	
crocodile	krokodil	dead person	dooie
cross	kruis	deaf	doof
cross, to	oorsteek	deaf as a post	stokdoof
crown land	kroongrond	dear	lief
cruel	wreed	Dear (in letter)	Beste, Geagte
crumble, to	krummel	dear (expensive)	duur
cry, to	huil	dearest (n.)	liefste
cucumber	komkommer	deceive, to	mislei
cup	koppie	December	Desember
cupboard	kas	decision	besluit
curl	krul	declare, to	verklaar
current	huidig	decrease, to	afneem,
curry	kerrie		vermindert
curtain	gordyn	deep blue	diepblou
cushion	kussing	defend, to	verdedig
custom	gewoonte	definitely	beslis
customer	klant	degree	graad
cut, to	sny	delay, to	uitstel
cycling trip	fietstog	delicious	lekker

demand, in ~	gewild	dispute	onenigheid
demand, to	eis	distant, far-off	afgeleë
democracy	demokrasie	distil, to	stook
demonstrate, to	aantoon	disturb, to	steur
dependent	afhanklik	ditch	sloot
depending	afhangend	do, to	doen, maak
descend, to	daal	doctor	doktor
desert	woestyn	doctrine	leerstelling
deserted	verlate	documentary	dokumentêr
desk	lessenaar	dog	hond
despite	ondanks	doll	pop, poppie
details	gegewens	dominate, to	oorheers
detect	agterkom	don't (imp.)	moenie (< moet nie)
devastate, to	teister		
develop, to	ontwikkel	donate, to	skenk
development	ontwikkeling	donkey	donkie
deviate, to	afwyk	door	deur
diamond	diamant	dove	duif
die (of), to	sterf (aan)	down/in the	agterin
die, to	omkom, vrek	back	
diet	dieet	dozen	dosyn
differ, to	verskil	drama class	toneelklas
difference	verskil	drawer	laai
different	anders	drawing	teken
difficult	moeilik	dreadful	aaklig, vreeslik
difficulty	moeilikhed	dream (n. and v.)	droom
diminish, to	verminder	dress	rok
dining-room	eetkamer	dressing gown	kamerjas
dinner	aandete	drink	drankie
direct(ly)	regstreeks	drink driving	drunkbestuur
dirty	vuil	drink up, to	opdrink
disagreement	meningsverskil	drink, to (booze)	suip
disappear, to	verdwyn	drive (n.)	rylaan
disappointed	teleurgesteld	drive, to	ry
discovery	ontdekking	drive crazy, to	mal maak
disease	siekte	drop, to	daal
dish	dis	(intrans.)	
dishes	skottelgoed	drought	droogte
disk, slide	skyf	drug	dwelm, dwelmmiddel
display, to	vertoon		
disposal	beskikking	drunk	dronk
dispose, to	besik	drunk (very ~)	papdronk

dry	droog	energy	energie
duck	eend	engaged	beset
dull	dof	engine	enjin
dump, to	stort	engineer	ingenieur
during	gedurende, tydens	enjoy, to	geniet
during the day	bedågs	enough	genoeg
Dutchification	vernederlandsing	enrol, to	inskryf
each	elk	envelope	inkom
each other	mekaar	epoch, era	koevert
car	oor	erect, to	rig
earlier; formerly	vroeër	especially	veral
early	vroeg	establish	stig
early, very ~	vroeg-vroeg	estimate,	skatting
earn, to	verdien	estimation	
earthly	aards	eucalyptus,	bloekom(boom)
easily	lag-lag, maklik	(blue) gum	
east	oos(te)	tree	
eastern	oosterlik	even	selfs, nog
easy	maklik	evening	aand
eat up, to	opeet	evening service	aanddiens
eat, to	eet	ever	ooit
eat, to (animals)	vreet	every	elk, ieder
economy	ekonomie	everyone	elkeen, iedereen, almal
edge	rand	everything	al, alles, als
effect	effek	exact	presies
egg	eier	exactly right	doodreg
eighty	tagtig	exam	eksamen
elbow	elomboog	excellent	uitstekend
election	verkiesing	except	behalwe
electrician	elektriëniën	exceptional(ly)	buitengewoon
elephant	olifant	exercise, to	oefen
elsewhere	elders	exchange, to	ruil, verruil
embroider, to	borduur	excited	opgewonde
emerald green	smaraggroen	exciting	opwindend, spannend
emigrate, to	emigreer	exclusive	eksklusief
empty	leeg	excursion	uitstappie
enchantment	bekoring	excuse	ekskuus, verskoning
encourage, to	aanmoedig		
end	einde		
endanger, to	in gevaar stel		
endure, to	verdra	exhaust, to	

exhibition	uitstalling	fawn	vaal
exist, to	bestaan	February	Februarie
exotic	eksoties	feed, to	voer
expansion	uitbreiding	feel like (doing/ having), to	lus hê/wees vir
expect, to	verwag	feel, to	voel
expensive	duur	feeling	gevoel
experience	belewenis, ervaring	fell, to	uitkap
experience, to	beleef, ondervind	festivity	joligheid
expert (adj.)	deskundig	fetch, to	haal
explain, to	verduidelik	few	min
explorer	ontdekkingstreisiger	few, a ~	enkele, 'n paar
extension	uitbreiding	fewer	minder
extinction	uitsterwing	fewest	minste
extremely	uiters	fidget, to	vroetel
eye	oog (pl. oë)	field	veld
fabric	stof	fight, to	baklei, veg
fabulous	pragtig	file	lêer
face	gesig	film	flik
facet	vlak	final	finaal
factory	fabriek	financial	finansieel
fair	regverdig	find oneself, to	jou bevind
fairy-tale	sprokie	find out, to	uitvind
faith	geloof	find, to	vind
fall down, to	neerslaan	finger	vinger
fall, to	val	finished	klaar
family	familie	fire	vuur
family (nuclear)	gesin	fire danger	brandgevaar
far	ver	firm, firmer	vas
far (as ~ as)	sover	first	eerste
farm	plaas	first name	voornaam
farm, to	boer	firstly	eerstens
farmer	boer	fish	vis
fast	vinnig	fish and chips	vis en skyfes
fat	dik, vet	fisherman	visserman
fate	lot	fit, to	pas
father	vader	fitting room	aanpasskamer
father-in-law	skoonvader, (-pa)	flag	vlag (pl. vlae)
favour	guns	flame up, to	opblaai
		flat (adj.)	plat
		flat (n.)	woonstel
		flea	vlooï

flee, to	vlug	friendly	vriendelik
flight	vlug	friendship	vriendskap
flock	trop	frog	padda
flood	oorstroming	from	van, uit
floor	vloer	front (in ~ of)	voor
flour	meel	front door	voordeur
flower	blom	frost	ryp
flower bed	bedding	fruit	vrug
fluently	vloeidend	fugitive	vlugteling
flute	fluit	full (of)	vol
fly (n. and v.)	vlieg	fund	fonds
foal	vul	funny	snaaks
fold (n. and v.)	vou	further	verder
following	eerskomende	further, to (a cause)	bevorder
food, meal	kos	future	toekoms
foot	voet	gain weight, to	gewig aansit
for	vir	game	spel
force, to	dwing	game reserve	wildtuin
foreign	buiteland	garage	motorhuis
country/ies		garden	tuin
foreigner	buitelaander	garlic	knoffel
forester	bosbouer	general	algemeen
forget (about), to	vergeet (van)	general (army)	generaal
fork	vurk	genuine	opreg(te)
form	vorm	germ	kiem
form (shape)	gestalte	get agitated, to	jou opwen
forward	vorentoe	get dressed, to	jou aantrek
found, to	stig	get off, to	afstap
fountain	fontein	get to know, to	leer ken
fountain pen	vulpen	get under control, to	onder beheer
four	vier	get undressed, to	jou uit trek
free	vry	get up, to	opstaan
free (of charge)	verniet	get well soon!	beterskap!
free burgher	vryburger	get, to	kry
Free State	Vrystaat	gift (talent)	gawe
freedom	vryheid	gift (present)	geskenk
freezing cold	yskoud	giggle, to	giggel
fresh	fris, vars	gill	kieu
Friday	Vrydag	ginger	gemmer
fridge	yskas	giraffe	kameelperd
friend	vriend(in)		

girl	meisie, nooi	great-	oumagrootjie
girlfriend	vriendin	grandmother	
give out, to	uitreik	green	groen
give, to	gee	greetings	groete
gladly	graag	grey	grys
gland	klier	ground	grond
glass	glas (pl. glase)	ground beef	maalvleis
glasses (spectacles)	bril	group	groep
gnome	kabouter	grow, to	aanwas
gnu	wildebees	growth rate	groeikoers
go around, to	omgaan	grumble, to	kla
go on foot, to	stap	guess, to	raai
go out, to	uitgaan	guest	gas
go shopping, to	inkopies doen	guilt	skuld
go, to	gaan	guilty	skuldig
goat	bok, bokkie	guitar	ghitaar
god	god	gutter	geut
gold	goud	hail	hael
golf	gholf	hair	hare
good	goed	halve, to	halveer
good gracious	goeie genugtig	hammer	hamer
goodbye	tot siens	hand	hand
goods	goedere	hand over, to	oorhandig
gooseberry	appelliefie	hang up, to	ophang
government	regering	happen to, to	gebeur (met)
grace (at meals)	tafelgebed	happen, to	voorkom
grain	graan	happy (adj.)	bly
grandchild	kleinkind	harbour	hawe
granddaughter	kleindogter	hard	hard
grandma	ouma	harrow	eg
grandpa	oupa	harvest	oes
grandson		(n. and v.)	
grape	kleinseun	hashish	hasjisj
grass	druif	hasty	haastig
grasshopper	gras	hat	hoed
grateful	grassprinkaan	have to, to	moet
grave	dankbaar	have, has	het
grease	graf	have, to	hê
grease, to	ghries	hawk	hawik
grease, to	smeer	hawker	smous
great-	oupagrootjie	hay	hooi
grandfather		he	hy

head (director)	hoof	homework	huiswerk
head (of body)	kop	honey	heuning
head of cattle	bees	hope, to	hoop
hear, to	hoor	horn	horing
heart	hart	horse	perd
heat, to	verhit	hospital	hospitaal
heater	kaggel, verwarmer	hospitality	gasvryheid
heatwave	hittegolf	hotel	hotel
heaven	hemel	hour	uur
heavy	swaar	house	huis
hectare	hektaar	household (adj.)	huishoudelik
hell	hel	housewife	huisvrou
help, to	help	hovel	pondok
hemisphere	halfmond	how	hoe
hens' teeth	hoendertande	how come	hoekom
her	haar	how much/many	hoeveel
herb	kruid	Huguenot	Hugenoot
herd	trop	Human Rights	Menseregdedag
here	hier	Day	
here and there	plek-plek	hump	boggel
heroic	heldhaftig	hundred	honderd
hessian	goiing	hunger	honger
hide, to	jou verskuil	hunt (n.)	jag
high	hoog	hunt, to	jag
hike	wandeling	hurry up, to	jou haas
hiker	voetslaner	husband	man
him	hom	I	ek
hip	heup	ice cream	roomys
hippopotamus	seekoei	ideal	ideal
his	sy, syné	idiom	idioom
historical	histories	illegal	onwettig
history	geskiedenis	imagine, to	jou indink, jou verbel
hit, to (aim)	raak	immediately	onmiddellik
hitch-hike, to	ryloop	immigrant	immigrant
hobby(-horse)	stokperdjie	impala	rooibok
hold, to	hou	important	belangrik
hole	gat (pl. gate)	impossible	onmoontlik
holiday	vakansie	impression	indruk
home (at ~)	tuis	impressive	indrukwekkend
home	tuiskom	improvement	verbetering
		in a moment	nou-nou

in power	aan die	ivory	ivoor
	~ bewind	jackal	jakkals
in the	smiddags,	jacket	baadjie
afternoon(s)	smiddae	jam	konfyt
in the evening	saans	January	Januarie
in(side)	binne	jelly	jellie
in, into	in	jerky	biltong
incident	voorval	jet-lagged	vlugflou
increase, to	toeneem	Jewish	Joods
increasing(ly)	toenemend	jog, to	draf
Indian	Indies	join, to	aansluit
indicate, to	beduie	joke	grap
industry	industrie	joke, to	jok
influence	invloed	journalist	joernalis
influence, to	beïnvloed	joy, pleasure	vreugde
infrastructure	infrastruktuur	judge	beoordelaar
ingredient	bestanddeel	judge (legal)	regter
inland	binneland	judgement	oordeel
inquiry	aanvraag	July	Julie
insect	gogga	June	Junie
insemination	bevrugting	just	pas, sommer
instance	instansie	just like	nes (< net soos)
instruction	aanwysing	kebab	sosatie
insurance	versekerig	keep on, to	aanhou
intelligence	verstand	key	sleutel
intelligent	intelligent	kid (little goat)	bokkie
interest, to	jou interesseer	king	koning
interested	geïnteresseerd	kitchen	kombuis
interesting	interessant	knife	mes
interior	binneland	knife handle	hef
internal	binnelands	knock over, to	omstamp
intersection	kruis	know, to	weet
interview	onderhoud	know, to	ken
introduce, to	instel, invoer	(someone)	
introduce, to	voorstel	known	bekend
(someone)		kudu	koedoe
intuitive	intuitief	ladder	leer
investment	belegging	lady	dame
invite, to	nooi, uitnooi	lamb	lam (pl.
iron	yster		lammers)
island	eiland	lamb chop	tjop
it	dit	land (n. and v.)	land

land, to (in a	beland	less	minder
ditch)		lesson	les
landscape	landskap	let, to	laat
language	taal	letter	brief
last	laas(te)	letter (of	letter
last (~ year)	verlede (~ jaar)	alphabet)	
last night (after	laasnag	lettuce leaf	slaaiblaartjie
lights out)		liberation	bevrydings-
last week	laasweek	movement	beweging
last year	laasjaar	library	biblioteek
last, at ~	eindelik	lie ahead, to	voorlê
last, to	duur	lie, to	lê
last, to	voortduur	life	lewe
lastly	laastens	lift up, to	optel
late	laat	light (n. and	lig
later	later	adj.)	
laugh (at), to	lag (oor)	light blue	ligblou
law	wet	light, to	aansteek
lawn	grasperk	lighten, to	weerlig
lay, to	lê	lightening	bliksem
lazy	lui	like (a lot), to	liefwees vir
lead (to), to	lei (na)	like, to	hou van,
leader	leier	liefhê	
leading	leidend	lime	lemmetjie
leaf	blaar	lion	leeu
lean	skraal	list	lys
learn, to	leer	little bit	bietjie
least	minste	little bit, a ~	ietsie
least (at ~)	tenminste	little brother	boetie
leather industry	leerlooinsky-	little lamb	lammertjie
	werheid	little ones	kleintjies
leave, to	los	live, to	leef
leave, to (trans.)	verlaat	live, to (i.e.	woon
leave, to (intr.)	vertrek	dwell)	
lecture	lesing	load up, to	oplaai
lecturer	dosent(e)	lobe	lel
left	links	loneliness	eensaamheid
leg	been	long time	lankal
leg (of animal,	poot	(for a ~)	
chair)		long, longer	lank, langer
lend, to	leen	look (at), to	kyk (na)
leopard	luiperd	look for, to	soek

look forward to, to	uitsien na	manage, to	bestuur
look like, to	lyk na/op	mandarin	nartjie
Lord	Here	many	baie, veel
lose, to	verloor	March	Maart
lot of, a	heelwat	market	mark
lot, a ~	'n klomp, 'n boel	marriage	huwelik
loud	hard	marry, to	trou
lounge	sitkamer	masculine	manlik
love	liefde	mat	mat
love (with), (in ~)	verlief (op)	match	vuurhoutjie
love of life	lewenslus	match (game)	wedstryd
love, to	liefhê, liefwees	mate	maat
lovely	heerlik, liefliek	material	stof
low, lower	laag, laer	matric	matriek
lucky, luckily	gelukkig	may	mag
lure, to	lok	May	Mei
lychee	lietsjie	maybe	misken
machine	masjien	mayor	burgemeester
madam	Mevrou	me	my
magazine	tydskrif	meal	maaltyd
magisterial district	landdrosdistrik	mean, to	bedoel
maiden name	nooiensvan	mean, to	bedoel, meen
main building	hoofgebou	meanwhile	intussen
maintenance	instandhouding	meat	vleis
maize	mielie	medicine	sangoma
major	majoor	wo/man	
majority	meerderheid	meet, to	ontmoet
make	maak	meeting	ontmoeting
make a mistake, to	jou misgis	member	lid (pl. <i>lede</i>)
make oneself at home, to	jou tuismaak	memory	herinnering
make, to (a bed)	opmaak	menu	menu,
male (adj.)	manlik		spyskaart
malignant	kwaadaardig	mercury	kwik
maltreat, to	mishandel	mess	gemors
man	man	metre maid	boetebessie

mill	meule	mother-in-law	skoonmoeder, (-ma)
minced meat	maalvleis	motivation	motivering
mine (pronoun)	myne	motor vehicle	motorvoertuig-
miner	mynwerker	insurance	versekering
minister	dominee, leraar	mountain	berg
(religion)		mouse	muis
minute	minuut	moustache	snor
miserly	vrekkerig	mouth	mond
Miss	Mej.	move house, to	verhuis
mist	mis	movement	beweging
mistake	fout	movie, film	rolprent
misuse, to	misbruik	mow, to	maai
mix, to	meng	Mr	Mnr.
mobile phone	selffoon	Mrs	Mev.
model	model	Ms	Me.
moderate	matig	musician	baie
moderate	middelmatig	much	baie, veel
modern	modern	much	musikus (pl. musici)
modest	beskeie	musician	
mole (i.e. beauty spot)	moesie	must	moet
moment		my	my
Monday	Maandag	nail	nael
money	geld	naked	bloot, kaal
monkey	aap	name	naam
month	maand	name after, to	vernoem na
month, this	vandeesmaand	name, to	noem
monument	monument	namely	naamlik
mood	stemming	narrow-minded	verkramp
moon	maan	nasty	lelik
more	meer	nation	volk
more expensive	duurder	national	nasional
morning	môre	native dwelling	kaia
morning	oggend	natural(ly)	natuurlik
morning (in the ~)	soggens	nature	natuur
morning, this	vanmôre, vanoggend	naughty	stout
		navel	naeltjie
		navy blue	vlootblou
		NB (= nota <i>bene</i>)	LW (= let wel)
		near	naby
		nearer	nader

nearest	naaste	notice	kennisgewing
neat	netjies	November	November
necessarily	noodwendig	now	nou
necessary	nodig, noodwendig	nowhere	nêrens
nectarine	nektarien	number	getal
need	behoefte	nurse	verpleegster
neighbour (female)	buurvrou	nursery	kwekery
neighbour (male)	buurman	nut	neut
neighbours	bure	oak(en)	eikehout
never	nooit	oaktree	akkerboom
nevertheless	nietemin, tog	oats	hawer
new (brand ~)	splinternuut	objection	beswaar
New Year's Day	Nuwejaarsdag	obligation	verpligting
new, newer	nuut, nuwer	observation	waarneming
news	nuus	obtain, to	verkry
newspaper	koerant, blad	occasion	geleenthed
next	eerskomende, volgende	occur, to	plaasvind, voorkom
next (to)	naas, langs	ocean	oseaan
next door	langsaaan	October	Oktober
nice	gaaf, mooi, oulik	of	van
niece	niggie	of course	mos, natuurlik
night	nag	off-white	naaswit
nine	nege	offer, to	aanbied
no	nee	office	kantoor
nobody	niemand	official	amptelik
noise	lawaai	often	dikwels
none	geen/geeneen	oil	olie
nonsense	nonsies, onsin, twak	ointment	salf
north	noord(e)	old (very ~)	oeroud, stokoud
north-easterly	noordooster	old bloke	oompie
northern	noordelik	old, older	oud, ouer
nose	neus	olive(-coloured)	olyfkleurig
nostalgic	nostalgies	on	op
nostril	neusgat	on top	bo-op
not	nie	one	een
not at all	hoegenaamd	one day	eendag
not one	geen/geeneen	onion	ui
nothing	niks	only	net
		only one	enigste
		open, to	oopmaak

operation	operasie	pale	bleek
opposite	teenoor	palm tree	(doodsbleek)
opposite side	oorkant	palm wine	palmboom
opposition	opposisie	pan	palmwyn
optimistic	optimisties	pants	pan
or	of	paper	broek
orange	oranje	paradise	papier
orchid	orgidee	paranoid	parady
order	bestelling	park	paranoïes
order, to (in shop)	bestel	park, to	park
organisation	organisasie, vereniging	part	parkeer
organise, to	organiseer	partially	deel
original(ly)	oorspronklik	participate, to	gedeeltelik
originate, to	ontstaan	participation	deelneem
ostrich	volstruis	parting	deelname
other	ander	party	skeiding
other side	oorkant	pass, to (at table)	party(tjie)
otherwise	anders	pass, to (time)	aangee
ouch!	eina!	passage	deurbring
ours	ons s'n	passenger	gang, deurweg
out (of)	uit	past	passasier
outside	buite	past, ended	verby
oven	oond	patch of fog	afgelope
over	oor	patient	miskol
overcome, to	oorkom	pattern	pasiënt
overeat, to	jou ooreet	paw	patroon
oversleep, to	jou verslaap	pay, to	poot
overwhelm, to	oorrompel	pea	betaal
own	eie	peach	ertjie
own, to	besit	peach brandy	perske
owner	eienaar	pear	mampoer
ozone	osoon	pearl	peer
PO box	Posbus	peer, to	pêrel
pacify, to	paai	pen	loer
packet	pakkie	people	pen
page	bladsy	pepper (chilli)	volk
paint (n. and v.)	verf	per cent	rissie
painting	skildery	perfect	persent
pair	paar	performance	perfek
pal	pêl	perhaps	vertoning
			miskien, dalk

period	tydperk	point	punt
periodical	periodiek	point in time	tydstip
permit, to	toelaat	point out, to	wys
person	mens	pole	paal
person of mixed race	kleurling	police	polisie
philanthropic	filantropies	policy	beleid
philosopher	filosoof	pondering	bepeinsing
phone	foon	poor	arm
photo	foto	poor, very ~	brandarm
photocopy, to	fotostateer	population	bevolking
photograph, to	fotografeer	porridge	pap
photographer	fotograaf	possession	besitting
piano	klavier	possible	moontlik
pick up, to	oplig, optel	post office	poskantoor
pick, to	pluk	post	pos
pick-up	bakkie	pot	kastrol, pot
picture	prent, beeld	pot hole	slaggat
piece	stuk	potato	aartappel
pig	vark	pour in, to	instroom
pill	pil	pour, to	giet
pillow slip	sloop	powder	poeier
pine tree	den	practical	prakties
pink	pienk	practise, to	oefen
pinnacle	hoogtepunt	pray, to	bid
pipe	leiding	prayer	gebed
pipe	pyp	precise	presies
pity	jammerte	predict, to	voorspel
place	plek	pregnant	swanger
plague	pes	preheat, to	voorverhit
plastic (n.)	plastiek	prepared	bereid
plate	bord	prerequisite	vereiste
play, to	speel	present	geskenk, present
plea	pleidooi	pretty	mooi
pleasant	aangenaam	prevent, to	voorkom
please	asseblief	previous	vorig
pleasure, fun	plesier	price	prys
plot (of ground)	erf (pl. erwe)	prickly pear	turksvy
plumber	loodgieter	primary	primêr
poaching	strobery	primary school	laerskool
pocket money	sakgeld	primitive	primitief
poet	digter(es)	prison	tronk
		private	privaat

private bag	privaatsak	push-bike	trapfiets
probably	waarskynlik	put away, to	wegsит
problem	probleem	put down, to	neersit
process, to	verwerk	put on, to	aantrek
proclaim, to	proklameer	quail	kwartel
produce, to	produseer	qualification	kwalifikasie
product	produk	qualified	bevoeg(de)
profit, to	baat	qualify, to	kwalifiseer
profitable	winsgewend	quality	kwaliteit
programme	program	quantity	kwantiteit
progressive	voortuitstrewend	quarrel	onenigheid, twis
prohibited	verbode	quarter	kwart
project	projek	quarter of an hour	kwartier
prominent	vernaam	queen	koningin
promise	belofte	question	vraag (pl. vrae)
promise, to	beloof, belowe	quit	deken
promotion	promosie	rabbit	haas, hasie
protect, to	beskerm	race	wedren
Protestant	Protestant	racist	rassis
proud	trots	radiant	stralend
prove, to	bewys	rag	lap
provide, to	verstrek	rags	vodde
(details)		railway platform	perron
province	provinsie	rain	reën
proximity	nabyheid	raincoat	reënjas
prune, to	snoei	rare	raar
PS (lit.	NS (lit. naskrif)	rat	rot
'postscript')		rather	taamlik
public	openbaar	rather	liewer(s)
public service	staatsdiens	ravage, to	teister
publish, to	uitgee	raven	raaf
pudding	poeding	raw	rou
pull to, to (door)	toetrek	razor blade	lemmetjie
pull, to	trek	reach, to	berek
pullover	trui	read out loud,	voorlees
pumpkin	pampoen	to	
pumpkin	pampoen-	read, to	lees
	kwekery	reading	voorlesing
pure	puur	reality	werklikheid
purple	pers	really	eintlik, feitlik,
purse	beursie		
pursue, to	agtervolg	rêrig	

really!	wragtig!, wraggies!	result in, to retain, to	tot gevolg hê
reason, to recede, to	redeneer	retirement	behou
receive, to	wyk	package	aftreepakket
receiver (phone)	ontvang	reward	beloning
recently	gehoorstuk	rhinoceros	renoster
recipe	onlangs, pas	rib	rib
recollection	resep	rice	rys
recommend, to	herinnering	rich	ryk
recover, to	aanbeveel	rich (stinking ~)	skatryk
rectifying	herstel	ridge	rif
red	regstellend	ridiculous	belaglik
reddish	rooi	right	reg
reduce, to	rooierig	right (opposite of left)	regs
reduction	vermindert		
reed	korting	right-hand side	regterhand, -kant
Reformation	riet		
refuse, to	Hervorming	right, exactly ~	doodreg
regards	weier	ring	ring
regime; authority	groete, groetnis	ring back, to	terugbel
reject, to	bewind	ring up, to	skakel, opbel
related (to)	verwerp	ring, to	bel
relative (adj.)	verwant (met)	rinse, to	afspoel
reliable	relatief	ripe	ryp
religion	betroubaar	rise, to	styg
rely on, to	godsdienst	rise, to (of the sun)	opkom
renew, to	vertrou op	river	rivier
repair, to	hernieu	river bed	bedding
repeat, to	herstel	road	pad (pl. paaie), weg (pl. weë)
repetition	herhaal	road works	padwerke
represent, to	herhaling	roast, to	braai
representative	verteenwoordig	robber	rower
republic	verteen-	roguish	skelm
request	woordiger	roof	dak
(n. and v.)	republiek	room	kamer
requirement	versoek	room (large)	saal
reserve, to	vereiste	rooster	haan
resist, to	bespreek	rose	roos
respects	jou verset teen	rough	ru
(in all ~)	in alle opsigte	round off, to	afrond

rounded	gerond	scissors	skêr
route	roete	scoop, to	skep
routine	roetine	scrap, to	skrap
row	ry	scrape, to	skraap
royal blue	koningsblou	scratch, to	krap
rub, to	vryf	screen	skerm
rubbish	rommel	sea	see
rudder	roer	seagull	meeu
rugged	ruig	seal	rob
rule	reël	search, to	deursoek
run around, to	rondhandoop	season	seisoen
run out, to	opraak	secondary	sekondêr
run, to	hardloop	secondly	tweedens
running shoes	têkkies	secret	geheim
rusk	beskuit	secretary	sekretaresse
rye	rog	see, to	sien
saddle	saal	seed	pit, saad
sale	uitverkoping	seek, to	soek
same, the ~	dieselvdé	seem, to	lyk
sanction	sanksie	self	self
sand	sand	selfish	selfsugtig
sandal	sandaal	sell, to	verkoop
sap	sap	sender	afsender
sardine	sardien	sense of hearing	gehoorsin
satisfaction	tevredenheid	September	September
satisfy, to	voldoen	serious	ernstig, (~ness, erns)
Saturday	Saterdag	service	diens
saucer	piering	service station	diensstasie
sausage	wors	servile	slaafs
saw	saag	settle, to	jou vestig
say (to), to	sê (vir/aan)	settlement	nedersetting
scab	roof	settler	kolonis, setlaar
scale (for weighing)	skaal	seven	sewe
scale (of fish)	skub	several	verskeie
scarce	skaars	shape	gestalte
scarlet	skarlaken	share	aandeel
scent	geur	shark	haai
sceptical	skepties	sharp	skerp
school	skool	shave, to	jou skeer
school mate	skoolmaat	she	sy
scientist	wetenskaplike	sheet	laken

sheet (of paper)	blad	skinny	skraal
shelve	rak	skirt	romp
ship	skip (pl. <i>skepe</i>)	sky	hemel
shirt	hemp (pl. <i>hemde</i>)	sky blue	hemelsblou
shoe	skoen	slave	slaaf
shoot dead, to	doodskiet	slaying	doding
shoot, to	skiet	sleep, to	slaap
shop	winkel	sleeve	mou
shopping list	inkopieslys	slice	sny
shortage	tekening	slide, to	skuif
shortly	binnekort	slim	slank
should	behoort	slow	stadig
shoulder	skouer	sly	slu
shout, to	skree	small	klein
show, to	wys	smell, to	ruik
shower (of rain)	bui	smile at, to	glimlag vir
shut, to	toemaak	smoke, to	rook
shy	sku	smoking	rokery
shy (shyer)	skugter, sku	smooth	glad
sick	siek	snail	slak
sick, very ~	doodsiek	snake	slang
side	kant	snow	sneeu
sign	teiken	so many	soveel
sign, to	onderteken	so that	sodat
silly	laf	soak, to	week
silver	silwer	soaking wet	papnat, sopnat
simple	eenvoudig	soap	seep
since	sedert	soapie	sepie
since then	sedertdien	social	sosiaal
sincerely (in letters)	hoogagtend	society	maatskappy
sinew	sening	society (club)	vereniging
sing, to	sing	sociologist	sosioloog
singer	sanger(es)	sock	sokkie
sink	zink	sod	sooi
sir	Meneer	soft, softer	sag, sagter
sister-in-law	skoonsuster	some ... others	party ... party, sommige ... ander
sit for, to (an exam)	aflê	someone	iemand
sit, to	sit	something	iets
skin	vel	somewhere	êrens, iewers

son	seun	station	stasie
son-in-law	skoonseun	stay up, to	opbly
song	lied	stay, to	bly
soon	gou	steep	steil
sorry	jammer	stew	bredie
sort	soort	stiff	styf
sought after	gesog(te)	stock exchange	beursverslag
sound	geluid	report	
sound, to	klink	stocking	kous
soup	soep	stomach	maag
sour	suur	stone	klip
south	suid(e)	stop, to	ophou
southern	suidelik	store, to	bêre
Southern Africa	Siider-Afrika	story	storie
Southern Cross	Siiderkruis	stove	stoof
southwards	suidwaarts	straight ahead	reguit
sow (pig)	sog	strange	vreemd
sparrow	mossie	straw	riet
special	spesiaal	(drinking ~)	
spectacular	skouspelagtig	strawberry	aarbei
spend (money), to	uitgee	street	straat
spend, to (time)	deurbbring	streetwalker	straatvrou
spice	spesery	stretch, to	strek
spite (in ~ of)	ondanks	strict	streg
spoil, to	verwen, bederf	strike	staking
spoilt	bederf	strip	strook
sponge	lepel	student	student
spot	kol, vlekkie	study, to	studeer
spouse	eggenoot	stupid	dom
spread, to (trans.)	versprei	subject	vak
spread, to (intr.)	uitbrei	suburb	voorstad
spring	lente	succeed, to	slaag
squat, to	plak	successful	suksesvol
squatter	plakker	such	sulk(e)
stamp (rubber ~)	tjap	such (a)	so'n
stand, to	staan	such (as ~)	as sodanig
standard	standaard	sudden(ly)	skielik
staple	krammetjie	suffer	ly
star	ster	sugar	suiker
state	staat	suggest, to	voorstel
state (of affairs)	toestand	suit, to	pas, skik
		suitcase	tas

summer	somer	tape recorder	bandopnemer
Sunday	Sondag	target	teenspoed
sunny	sonnig	taste, to (intr.)	smaak
sunshine	sonskyn	taste, to (trans.)	proe
superb	puik	tatters	toiings
supply	voorraad	teacher	onderwyser(es)
supply, to	lewer	teacher (female)	juffrou
support	steun	teacher training	kweekskool
(n. and v.)		college	
support, to	ondersteun	teapot	teepot
sure	seker	teenager	tiener
surgeon	chirurg	telephone	telefoon
surname (n.)	van	telephone (by ~)	telefonies
surround, to	omsingel	telephone book	telefoongids
surroundings	omgewing	telephone box	telefoonhokkie
suspicious	agterdogtig, bedenklik	telephone call	telefoonoproep
sweet	soet	telephone, to	skakel
sweet potato	patat	television	televisie
sweetie	liefie	television set	televisiestel
swim, to	swem	tell, to	vertel
swimming pool	swembad	ten	tien
symbol	simbool	tendon	sening
system	sisteem	tense	gespanne
table	tafel	terrible	verskriklik
tail	stert	territory	gebied
take along, to	meebring	terror	terreur
take an interest	belang stel	thanks	dankie
in, to		that (conj.)	dat
take care of, to	oppas	that/those	daardie
take in hand, to	aanpak	thatch roof	grasdak
take off, to	uittrek	the	die
take part in, to	deelneem	The Netherlands	Nederland
take pity on, to	jou ontferm oor	theirs	hulle s'n
take place, to	hom afspeel	then (in the	toe
past)			
take, to	neem, vat	theology	teologie
talk to, to	praat met	theory	teorie
talk, to	gesels	there	daar
tall, taller	lank, langer	there (direction)	soontoe, daarnatoe
tame, to	mak maak	they, them	hulle
tan	taankleurig	thief	dief
tank	tenk		

thin	dun, maer	today	vandag
thin, very ~	brandmaer	toddler	kleuter
(skinny)		toe	toon
thing	ding	together	saam
thing, little ~	dingetjie	toilet	toilet
thingummy	dinges	tolerate, to	verdra
think (of), to	dink (aan)	toll	tol
think, to	dink, glo, meen	tomato	tamatie
think over, to	nadink oor	tomorrow	môremiddag
thirdly	derdens	afternoon	
thirty	dertig	tomorrow	môreaand
this	dit	evening/night	
this side	duskant	tomorrow	môreoggend
this year, this	vanjaar	morning	
this/that		tongs	tang
this/these	dié	tongue	tong
thorn	doring	tonight	vanaand
thorn tree	doringboom	tonight (after lights out)	vannag
thought	gedagte	tooth	tand
thousand	duisend	toothbrush	tandeborstel
threaten, to	dreig	topical	aktuuel
(intr.)		torch	flits
threaten, to	bedreig	tortoise	skilpad
(trans.)		tourist	toeris
through	deur	towards the back	agtertoe
throw away, to	weggooi	towards the front	vorentoe
thumb	duim	towel	handdoek
thunderstorm	donderbui	tower	toring
Thursday	Donderdag	town	stad, dorp
tickle, to	kielie	town centre	dorpssentrum
tidy up, to	opruim	toys	speelgoed
time	tyd	trade	handel
time (first ~)	keer	trade in, to	inruil
time, at that ~	destyds	trade, to	handel dryf
timetable	diensreeëling	tradition	tradicie
tiny	piepklein	traffic accident	verkeersongeluk
tip	fooitjie	traffic light	verkeerslig
tired	moeg	tragic	tragies
tireless	onvermoeid	train	trein
tissue	snesie		
to	na		
tobacco	tabak		

trained	geskoold	undergo, to	ondergaan
tram	trem	undertake, to	onderneem
transferable	oordraagbaar	undoubted	onenigheid
transformation	transformasie	undoubtedly	ongetwyfeld
translate, to	vertaal	unfortunately	jammer genoeg, ongelukkig
travel agency	reisagentskap		
treat, to	behandel	unhappy	ongelukkig
tree	boom	uniformed	geüniformeerd
tremble, to	beef, bewe	unimaginable	onvoorstelbaar
tribe	stam	unite, to	verenig
triple	driedubbel	university	universiteit
trophy	trofee	unless	tensy
trouble	moeilikhed	unpleasant	onaangenaam
trough	trög (pl. tröe)	unpredictable	wisselvallig
truck, lorry	lorrie	unreal	irreël
truly!	wragtig!, wraggies!	until	tot(dat)
		unable	onbruikbaar
truly, indeed	sowaar	upholstered	oorgetrek
truth	waarheid	upstairs	boontoe
try on, to	aanpas	upwards	boontoë
try, to	probeer	us	ons
Tuesday	Dinsdag	use	gebruik
tune	melodie	use up, to	opmaak
turn around, to	jou omdraai	usable	bruikbaar
turn off, to	afskakel	usually	gewoonlik
turn on, to	aanskakel	utility van	bakkie
turn up, to	opdaag	utter, to	uiter
turn, to	draai, keer	vague	vaag, vae
turtle	skilpad	valley	dal
twine, rope	tou	value	waarde
two	twee	vanilla	vanielje
two years ago	voorverlede jaar	variation	variasie
type	tipe	various	verskillende
typewriter	tikmasjien	vegetables	groente
typist	tikster	vehicle	voertuig
tyre	band	velvet	fluweel
ugly	lelik	very	baie
umbrella	sambrel	village	dorpie
unbelievably	ongelooflik	vineyard	wingerd
uncle	oom	violin	viool
under	onder	visit (n.)	besoek
underestimate, to	onderskat	visit, to	kuier, besoek

visitor	besoeker	weather forecast	weersvoer-
visitor	kuiergas		spelling
visitors	kuermense	web	web
visual	visueel	wedding	bruilof
wage war, to	oorlog voer	wedding dress	trourok
wagon	wa	wedge	wig
wait, to	wag	Wednesday	Woensdag
wake (up), to	wakker word	week before	voorverlede
		last	week
(intr.)			
wake (up), to	wakker maak	week, this	vandeesweek
		weekend	naweek
walk	wandeling	weigh, to	weeg
walk along, to	afloop	weight	gewig
walk, to	loop, stap	weight loss	gewigsverlies
walk, to	stap	welcome!	plesier!
walking stick	kerie	(you're ~)	
wall	muur	well (for water)	put
wander about,	ronddwaal	well	wel
		well-behaved	soet
to		well-known	welbekend
wander, to	dwaal	west	wes(te)
want to, to	wil	west coast	weskus
war	oorlog	western	westerlik
wardrobe	klerekas	Western Europe	Wes-Europa
warm	warm	wet	nat
warn, to	waarsku	what	wat
warning	waarskuwing	what (adj.)	watter
warthog	vlakvark	what about	wat van
wash up, to	opwas	what for	waarvoor
watch (n.)	horlosie, oorlosie	what kind/sort	watter soort
		of a	
water	water	wheat	koring
watery	waterig	wheel	wiel
wattle	wattel	wheelchair	rolstoel
way	weg (pl. weë)	when	wanneer, as
we	ons	when (in the past)	toe
weak	swak	where	waar
weak (of tea)	flou	where (... to)	waarheen
wealth	welvaart	where (... to) from	waarnatoe
wear, to	dra	whether	waarvandaan of
weather	weer		
weather	weersom-		
conditions	standighede		

which	watter, wat se	word	woord
while	terwyl	work	werk
while (a little ~)	rukkie	worker	werker
whistle, to	fluit	world	wêreld
white	wit	worry	sorg
white (person)	blanke	worry, to	pla
white (pure ~)	spierwit	worth (n.)	waarde
who	wie	worth (adj.)	werd
whose	wie se/s'n	worthy of	werd
why	waarom	would	sou
wide	breed, wyd	wound	wond
widening	verbreding	write poetry, to	dig
widespread	wydverspreid	write, to	skryf
wild	wild	writer	skrywer
wildebeest	wildebees	wrong	verkeerd
wilderness area	wildernisgebied	year	jaar
will (v.)	sal	year, all ~	die hele jaar
will (n.)	testament	yellow	geel
win, to	wen	yesterday	gister
wind	wind	yesterday	gistermiddag
window	venster	afternoon	gisteraand
wine vinegar	druweasyn	yesterday	gisteraand
winner	wenner	evening	gisteraand
winter	winter	yesterday	gisteroggend
wipe out, to	uitwis	morning	tog
wire	draad	yet	juk
wise	wys	yoke	jou, u, julle
wish, to	wens	you (object)	jy, u, julle
with	met	you (subject)	jonk
withdraw, to	jou onttrek	young	sussie
within	binne	younger sister	Die uwe
without	sonder	Yours (in letter)	u s'n
wolf	wolf	yours	kwagga, sebra
woman	vrou	zebra	diereriem
women's magazine	vrouetylkskrif	zodiac	sone
wonderful	wonderlik	zone	soölogie
wood	hout	zoology	

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