Learn Ga Now: Lessons 1-5

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Visit our website for photos and more resources for learning about Ghana and the Ga language. We hope you enjoy learning Ga with us! www.learnganow.com

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Learn Ga Now: Lessons 1-5

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Tips for Using these Lessons

These audio and print lessons were designed to help you quickly begin to learn Ga. Before you dive in to these lessons, think about how you learned your own native language. First you listened. Next, you began speaking by repeating what you heard, then you tried to come up with words to convey your thoughts. Next was reading, then writing. Our brains are designed to learn language in this way, so use this order when learning Ga.

First, listen and speak

Begin by listening to the audio lessons. Then practice repeating everything you can. Try to mimic the words, the tones, the phrasing and the rhythms. After you've listened for awhile, try saying the words and phrases before the audio.

Then, add reading and writing

Once you're familiar with the sounds, then begin studying with the printed lessons. Listen to the audio, while you read the lesson. Then complete the written and oral activities.

Using language in context

As you're learning, you'll see that we present the information first in a conversation where possible. Then, we break it down into more manageable parts. Don't worry about learning the meaning of every word or trying to translate word for word. Remember, this is how you learned your language.

Resist translating

Learn more quickly by speaking and listening in Ga, resisting the temptation to translate into English! Practice with a friend saying what you can in Ga only. Move from controlled to freer activities to build confidence and skill.

Learn about Ghana too...

We also incorporated parts of daily life in Ghana in the lessons. For example in lesson 4, learn about names given based on the day of the week you were born.

Come back for more

Once you make it through and are ready for more, check back to www.learnganow.com for more lessons.

O kε ni kasemo jro!

...Enjoy your lessons!

Overview

Lesson 1: Ninmaa Okadii (Letters of the Alphabet)

In this lesson, learn the basic sounds of the Ga language, by learning the alphabet and the 2- and 3-letter consonant combinations (like 'gb'). And you'll learn a Ga word that illustrates each sound. Did you know that compared to English, Ga has some extra letters $(\varepsilon, \eta, \sigma)$, and others that are not used (c, q, x)?

Lesson 1 Outline

- a. Ga Alphabet
- b. 2 and 3-Letter Consonants Combinations

Exercises:

Exercise 1.1 Alphabet Practice

Exercise 1.2 Matching

Exercise 1.3 Fill in the Blank

Exercise 1.4 Multiple Choice

Exercise 1.5 Fill in the Blank

Answers to Exercises

Lesson 1: Niŋmaa Okadii (Letters of the Alphabet)

a. Ga Alphabet

Ga	Similar sound in English	Ga word example
Letters		
a	a in "far"	amε (they)
b	b in "ball"	bo (you)
d	d in "do"	duade (cassava)
е	a in "late", but shorter	ekome (one)
ε	e in "get"	εhεε or hεε (yes)
f	f in "fill"	fεο (beautiful)
g	g in "go"	gonti (thumb)
h	h in "help"	hɔmɔ (hunger)
i	ee in "seek" but shorter	mi (l, me)
j	j in "jump"	Jufo (Tuesday)
k	k in "keep"	kεε (say)
l	l in "lip"	leebi (morning)
m	m in "mean"	mli (in)
n	n in "neat"	nane (leg)
ŋ	ng in "long"	ŋai (charcoal)
0	o in "note", but shorter	ofainε (please)
Э	o in "lot"	wo (we)
P	p in "pit"	pii (many)
r	dd in "madder"	jara (market)
S	s in "seat"	sabola (onion)
t	t in "tea"	toi (ear)
u	oo in "too", but short	Ju (Monday)
٧	v in "veal"	voo (deep)
W	w in "well"	wolo (egg)
У	y in "yes"	yoo (woman)
Z	z in "zero"	zεro (zero)

Note: c, q, and x are not used in Ga.

b. 2 and 3-Letter Consonants Combinations

In addition to the single consonants, Ga uses these combinations of two or three consonants. It is difficult to get exact English sound equivalents for some of these, especially 'gb', 'kp', 'nm' and 'nw'.

Ga	Similar sound in English	Ga word example
Consonant		•
Combinations		
gb	gb in "tugboat" but with no pause between g and b	agbo (big)
gw	gu in "La Guardia"	gwanten (sheep)
hw	wh in "where"	hwanya (shake)
jw	dgew in "Edgewater", said quickly	ejwε (four)
kp	ckp in "stock pot", with no pause between k and p	kpawo (seven)
kw	qu in "aquarium"	kwε (look at, watch)
ny	ny in "own yoke", with no gap between n and y	nyε (you pl.)
ŋm	ngm in "wrong mop", with no gap between ng and m	ŋma (write)
ŋw	ngw in "wrong way", with no gap between ng and w	ηwεi (sky)
sh	sh in "she"	shia (house)
shw	schw in "Schweppes"	shwane (afternoon)
ts	ch in "chip"	tsofa (medicine)
tsw	chw in the middle of "each way", with no gap	tswaa (free)
	between ch and w	, ,

What letter What are the Can you say	ying the rs are the he exti y it wit	ne G miss ra le thou	ia alphabet. sing from the Ga alpl etters in the Ga alph		
word.	f the tw or num				e letter of the English meaning for each numbered Ga se "say" is the meaning of the Ga word "kεε".
		1	kεε	Α.	beautiful
			Jufo		Cassava
	,			о. С.	
			mi Loobi		yes hunger
		4.		E.	I, me
		5. 4	homo fεo	F.	in
		6.			
		7.	•	G.	morning
		8.	εhεε	Н.	one
		9.		I.	say
wasses	1	0.	bo		they
	1				thumb
		2.	mli		Tuesday
	1	3.	ekome	Μ.	you (singular
Set	· ·				
		1	iara	٨	charcoal
	<u></u>	1. 2	Ju		déep
			nane	С.	
		3. 4.		D.	
		4 . 5.	ŋai ofainε	E.	egg
				F.	leg
-		6.	•		many
		7.		G.	market
		8.	toi	H.	Monday
		9.	V00	I.	onion
	1	U.	wo .	J.	please
	1	1.	wɔlɔ	K.	we
	1	2.	yoo	L.	zero
	1	3	75TO	M	woman

Ex 1.3 Fill in the Blank

Write the missing **Ga word** for each letter of the Ga alphabet that has the English meaning shown. Example: The Ga word that uses 'a' and means "they" is "ame".

Ga Letters	Ga word	Word meaning in English
a	amε	they
b		you
d		cassava
е		one
3		yes
f		beautiful
g		thumb
h		hunger
i		I, me
j		Tuesday
k		say
l		morning
m		in, within
n		leg
ŋ		charcoal
0		please
Э		we
р		many
r		market
s		onion
t		ear
u		Monday
V		deep
w		egg
у		woman
Z		zero

Ex 1.4 Multiple Choice

For each numbered Ga word, look at the three English words to the right. Write the correct answer: a, b or c. Example: For 1, the answer is 'a', since "ejwe" means "four".

a	1.	ejwε	a.	four	b.	big	c.	thumb
******	2.	gwantɛn	a.	please	b.	hunger	c.	sheep
	3.	hwanya	a.	beautiful	b.	shake	c.	me
	4.	agbo	a.	four	b.	big	c.	in
	5.	kpawo	a.	seven	b.	afternoon	c.	morning
	6.	kwε	a.	deep	b.	egg	c.	look at
į.	7.	nyε	a.	you (plural)	b.	you (singular)	c.	ear
	8.	ŋma	a.	house	b.	write	c.	we
	9.	shwane	a.	afternoon	b.	many	c.	woman
	10.	shia	a.	we	b.	onion	c.	house
	11.	tswaa	a.	free	b.	four	c.	medicine
	12.	ηwεί	a.	ear	b.	zero	c.	sky
	13.	tsofa	a.	they	b.	medicine	c.	house

Ex 1.5 Fill in the Blank

For each consonant combination, write the missing **Ga word** that has the English meaning shown. Example: Write "agbo", since it uses 'gb' and means "big".

,	Ga Consonant Combinations	Ga Word	Word meaning in English
1.	gb	agbo	big
2.	gw		sheep
3.	hw		shake
4.	jw		four
5.	kp		seven
6.	kw		look at, watch
7.	ny		you (plural)
8.	ŋm		write
9.	ŋw		sky
10.	sh		house
11.	shw		afternoon
12.	ts		medicine
13.	tsw		free

Answers for Lesson 1: Niŋmaa Okadii

Ex 1.1 Alphabet Practice

Missing letters: c, q, x Extra letters: c, ε, η

Ex 1.2 Matching

	Se	t	1
--	----	---	---

Jel I.				
1	1.	kεε	A.	beautiful
L	2.	Jufo	В.	cassava
E	3.	mi	С.	yes
G	4.	leebi	D.	hunger
D	5.	homo	Ε.	I, me
A	6.	fεo	F.	in
K	7.	gɔnti	G.	morning
<u> </u>	8.	εhεε	Н.	one
J	9.	amε	I.	say
M	10.	bo	J.	they
B	11.	duade	K.	thumb
F	12.	mli	L.	Tuesday
H	13.	ekome	м.	you (singular)

Set 2

<i>301 2.</i>				
G	1.	jara	A.	charcoal
H	2.	Ju	В.	deep
E	3.	nane	С.	ear
A	4.	ŋai	D.	egg
J	5.	ofainε	E.	leg
F	6.	pii	F.	many
I	7.	sabola	G.	market
С	8.	toi	Н.	Monday
B	9.	V00	I.	onion
K	10.	CW	J.	please
D	11.	clcw	K.	we
M	12.	yoo	L.	zero
L	13.	zero	М.	woman

Ex 1.3 Fill in the Blank

Letter	Ga	English
a	amε	they
b	bo	you
d	duade	cassava
е	ekome	one
3	εhεε	yes
f	fεo	beautiful
g	gonti	thumb
h	homo	hunger
i	mi	I, me
j	Jufo	Tuesday
k	kεε	say
Į	leebi	morning
m	mli	in, within
n	nane	leg
ŋ	ŋai	charcoal
0	ofainε	please
Э	cw	we
р	pii	many
r	jara	market
S	sabola	onion
t	toi	ear
u	Ju	Monday
٧	V00	deep
W	wolo	egg
у	yoo	woman
Z	Zεro	zero

Answers for Lesson 1 (continued)

Ex 1.4 Multiple Choice

a	1.	ejwε
С	2.	gwanter
b	3.	hwanya
b	4.	agbo
а	5.	kpawo
С	6.	kwε
a	7.	nyε
b	8.	ŋma
a	9.	shwane
С	10.	shia
a	11.	tswaa
С	12.	ηwεί
b	13.	tsofa

Ex 1.5 Fill in the Blank

		Ga
1.	gb	agbo
2.	gw	gwanten
3.	hw	hwanya
4.	jw	ejwε
5.	kp	kpawo
6.	kw	kwε
7.	ny	nyε
8.	ŋm	ŋma
9.	ŋw	ŋwεi
10.	sh	shia
11.	shw	shwane
12.	ts	tsofa
13.	tsw	tswaa

Overview

Lesson 2: Meeting People

In this lesson, learn typical expressions for meeting people, by practicing three different conversations. As in other languages, the expressions vary depending on the formality or friendliness, and age of the people speaking. Notice how speaking to an elder takes on a different tone, then when greeting a friend or children.

Lesson 2 Outline

- a. Conversation: People of same age meet casually Kofi and Michelle are the same age. They casually meet and introduce themselves.
- b. Conversation: An American student meets two Ghanaian children John meets Esi and her brother Kwabena while out walking one day.
- c. Conversation: An American woman meets the schoolmaster Jane, an American, formally meets an elder, the school headmaster Nii Osabuh.
- d. Vocabulary and Expressions Summary

Exercises:

- Exercise 2.1 Conversation Practice
- Exercise 2.2 Order the Conversations
- Exercise 2.3 Fill in the missing column of new vocabulary and expressions
- Exercise 2.4 Matching Pronouns
- Exercise 2.5 Fill in the missing dialog: Friends meet casually
- Exercise 2.6 Fill in the missing dialog: An American student meets two Ghanaian children
- Exercise 2.7 Fill in the missing dialog: Meeting an elder
- Answers for Exercises

Lesson 2: Meeting People

a. Conversation: People of same age meet casually

Kofi and Michelle are the same age. They casually meet and introduce themselves.

K	Atsεs mi Kofi. Te atsεs bo tεε?	K	I'm Kofi. What is your name?
M	Atseo mi Michelle.	M	My name is Michelle.
K	Oh te a ŋmaa Michelle tεε?	K	Oh, can you spell Michelle?
M	M-I-C-H-E-L-L-E. Michelle.	M	M-I-C-H-E-L-L-E. Michelle.
K	Νεgbε maŋ nɔ ni ojε?	K	Where are you from?
M	Mi jε ekome feemo maŋ lε mli.	M	I'm from the United States.
K	Oh, Amerika nyo ji bo?	K	Oh, you are an American.
М	Ηεε, Amerika nyo ji mi. Ni bo huŋ?	М	Yes, I'm an American. How about you?
K	Ghana nyo ji mi. Afo mi yɛ Ga.	K	I'm Ghanaian. I was born in Accra.

b. Conversation: An American student meets two Ghanaian children

John meets Esi and her brother Kwabena while out walking one day.

J	Hee, mi gbεi John. Te atsεο bo tεε?	J	I'm John. What is your name?
E	Esi.	E	Esi.
J	Ogbei ji Esi?	J	Your name is Esi?
K	Ηεε egbei ji Esi. Mi nyεmi yoo fio ni.	K	Yes, her name is Esi. She's my younger sister.
J	Esi, oo tsɔɔ nεkε E-S-I? Esi.	J	Esi, you mean E-S-I? Esi.
K	Ηεε nakai noo ni.	K	Yes, that's right.
J	Agbens te atsso bo hu tss?	J	And what is your name?
K	Atseo mi Kwabena.	K	My name is Kwabena.
J	Mi mii eshε mi he akε wo kpe.	J	Nice to meet you both.

c. Conversation: Meeting an elder

Jane, an American, formally meets an elder, the school headmaster Nii Osabuh.

J	Ofaine, Mi gbɛi ji Jane.	J	Hello, my name is Jane.
N	Mi ji skull bii a onukpa Nii Osabuh.	Ν	I am Headmaster Nii Osabuh.
J	Nii Osabuh? Te aŋmaa lε tεε?	J	Nii Osabuh? How do you spell that?
N	N-I-I O-S-A-B-U-H. Nii Osabuh.	N	N-I-I O-S-A-B-U-H. Nii Osabuh.
J	Oh, oyi wala doη. Mi yε mii shεε.	J	Oh, thank you. Nice to meet you.
N	Νεgbε ojε Jane?	N	Where are you from, Jane?
J	Mi jε ekome feemo maŋ lε mli.	J	I'm from the United States.
Ν	Oh, Amerika nyo ji bo. Eyε mii shεε akε	N	Oh, an American. Nice to meet you.
	wo kpe.		
J	Oyi wala doŋ.	J	Thank you.
Z	Mii fala bo yε Ghana.	N	Welcome to Ghana.

d. Vocabulary and Expressions Summary

oyi wala doŋ	Thank you
O gbɛi ji	Your name is
ε gbεi ji	Her name is
Atseo mi, or, Mi gbei ji	My name is
Te atsερ bo tεε?	What is your name?
Negbe oje?	Where are you from?
Mi jε ekome feemo maŋ lε mli.	I'm from the United States.
Amerika nyo ji bo, or, O je Amerika	You are from America.
Amerika nyo ji mi	I am an American.
Ni bo huŋ?	What about you?
Ghana nyo ji mi.	I am a Ghanaian.
Afo mi yε Ga.	I was born in Accra.
Mi ji	I am
Mi nyεmi yoo fio ni.	She's my younger sister.
Ηεε	Yes
Nakai ni	That's right.
Bia nε	Now

Exercise 2.1 Conversation Practice

- Practice speaking the conversations with another person.
- Take turns being one or the other person.
- Practice a few times then turn your paper over.
- Can you try saying a conversation without looking?
- Try spelling your own name with the Ga alphabet.

Exercise 2.2 Order the Conversations

In each of the following, order the lines of the conversation as they appeared in the examples earlier in this lesson. Example: For the first conversation, (E) "Atsερ mi Kofi. Te atsερ bo tεε?" is the first line of the dialog.

Cor	าversat	ion A	
1.	E	A.	M-I-C-H-E-L-L-E. Michelle.
2.		В.	Mi jε ekome feemo maŋ lε mli.
3.		C.	Atseo mi Michelle.
4.		D.	Ghana nyo ji mi. Afo mi yɛ Ga.
5.		E.	Atsεο mi Kofi. Te atsεο bo tεε?
6.		F.	Oh, Amerika nyo ji bo?
7.		G.	Negbe maŋ nɔ ni oje?
8.	***************************************	Н.	Oh te a ŋmaa Michelle tεε?
9.		I.	Ηεε, Amerika nyo ji mi. Ni bo huŋ?
	versat		Ali mii aaba mi ba aka wa ka a
1.	D 	Α.	Mi mii eshε mi he akε wɔ kpe.
2.		В.	Agbens te atsso bo hu tss?
3.		C.	Ogbei ji Esi?
4.		D.	Hee, mi gbɛi John. Te atsɛɔ bo tɛɛ?
5.	***************************************	E.	Esi, oo tsɔɔ nεkε E-S-I? Esi.
6.		F.	Atseo mi Kwabena.
7.		G.	Hεε nakai noo ni.
8.		Н.	Esi.
9.		I.	Ηεε egbei ji Esi. Mi nyεmi yoo fio ni.

Convers	ation	C	
1.	D	A.	Oh, Amerika nyo ji bo. Ey ϵ mii she ϵ ak ϵ wo kpe.
2.		В.	Negbe oje Jane?
3.		С.	Mi ji skull bii a onukpa Nii Osabuh.
4.		D.	Ofaine, Mi gbɛi ji Jane.
5.		E.	Oh, oyi wala doŋ. Mi yε mii shεε.
6.		F.	Oyi wala doŋ.
7.		G.	Nii Osabuh? Te aŋmaa lε tεε?
8.		Н.	Mii fala bo yε Ghana.
9.		I.	N-I-I O-S-A-B-U-H. Nii Osabuh.
10.	·····	J.	Mi jε ekome feemo man lε mli.

Exercise 2.3 Fill in the missing column of new vocabulary and expressions:

Thank you
Your name is
Her name is
My name is
What is your name?
Where are you from?
I'm from the United States.
You are from America.
I am an American.
What about you?
I am a Ghanaian.
I was born in Accra.
l am
She's my younger sister.
Yes
That's right.
Now

Check your work, especially check your use of E or E, O or J, N or D

Exercise 2.4 Matching Pronouns

Can you figure these out from the sample conversations or from the vocabulary in lesson 1? In Ga, a pronoun can be abbreviated by leaving off the initial consonant (for example using 'o' instead of 'bo). For each of the two sets of words below, write the letter of the English pronoun for each numbered Ga pronoun.

Example: For number 1, ame means (D) they.

D	1.	amε	A.	we
	2.	nyε	В.	you (plural)
	3.	mi	C.	you (singular)
	4.	bo	D.	they
-	5.	lε	Ε.	I, me
-	6.	wo	F.	he, she, it

Exercise 2.5 Fill in the missing dialog: Friends meet casually

K		K	I'm Kofi. What is your name?
M	Atsɛɔ mi Michelle.	M	My name is Michelle.
K		K	Oh, can you spell Michelle?
M	M-I-C-H-E-L-L-E. Michelle.	М	M-I-C-H-E-L-L-E. Michelle.
K		K	Where are you from?
М	Mi jε ekome feemo maŋ lε mli.	М	I'm from the United States.
K		K	Oh, you are an American.
М	Ηεε, Amerika nyo ji mi. Ni bo huŋ?	М	Yes, I'm an American. How about you?
K		K	I'm Ghanaian. I was born in Accra.

Exercise 2.6 Fill in the missing dialog: An American student meets two Ghanaian children

J		J	I'm John. What is your name?
E	Esi.	E	Esi.
J		J	Your name is Esi?
K	Ηεε egbei ji Esi. Mi nyεmi yoo fio ni.	K	Yes, her name is Esi. She's my younger sister.
J		J	Esi, you mean E-S-!? Esi.
E	Ηεε hakai noo ni.	E	Yes, that's right.
J		J	And what is your name?
K	Atsεɔ mi Kwabena.	K	My name is Kwabena.
J		J	Nice to meet you both.

Exercise 2.7 Fill in the missing dialog: Meeting an elder

J		J	Hello, my name is Jane.
N	Mi ji skull bii a onukpa Nii Osabuh.	N	I am Headmaster Nii Osabuh.
J		J	Nii Osabuh? How do you spell that?
N	N-I-I O-S-A-B-U-H. Nii Osabuh.	N	N-I-I O-S-A-B-U-H. Nii Osabuh.
J		J	Oh, thank you. Nice to meet you.
N	Νεgbε ojε Jane?	N	Where are you from, Jane?
J		J	I'm from the United States.
N	Oh, Amerika nyo ji bo. Eyε mii shεε akε wɔ kpe.	N	Oh, an American. Nice to meet you.
J		J	Thank you.
N	Mii fala bo yε Ghana.	N	Welcome to Ghana.

Answers for Lesson 2: Meeting People

Ex 2.2 Order the Conversations

- Conversation A
 - 1. <u>D</u> 2. F
 - 3. B
 - 4. I
 - 5. A
 - 6. **G**
 - 7. <u>D</u>
 - 8. C
 - 9. H

Conversation B

- 1. <u>I</u>
- 2. **G C**
- 4. A
- 5. **E**
- 6. <u>H</u>
- 7. **F** 8. **B**
- 8. <u>B</u> 9. D

Conversation C

- 1. <u>D</u> 2. C
- 3. **G**
- 4. I
- 5. **E**
- 6. <u>B</u>
- 7. J 8. A
- 9. **F**
- 10. H

Ex 2.4 Matching Pronouns

ח	1	ams
B	2.	nyε
E	3.	mi
С	4.	bo
F	5.	lε
Α	6.	СW

For answers to all other exercises, refer to the sample conversations or table of expressions.

Overview

Lesson 3: Wo Yeo Aduawa (We Eat Fruit!)

In this lesson, use the verbs "ye" (to eat) and "he" (to buy) to learn about the simple present tense. Review pronouns, then learn the names of fruits. Put these all together in your own sentences.

Lesson 3 Outline

a. Ye: The Verb to Eat (Simple present tense)

Exercise 3.1 Vocabulary: Matching

Exercise 3.2 Pronouns: Fill in the Blank

Exercise 3.3 Present Tense: Fill in the Table

b. Fruit Names

Exercise 3.4 Plural Fruits: Fill in the blanks

Exercise 3.5 Translate the Sentences

Exercise 3.6 Make Your Own Sentences

Exercise 3.7 Guess the Rule for the Verb to Buy: he

Exercise 3.8 Write the sentences: "he" ks "ye"

Answers to Exercises

Lesson 3: Wo Yeo Aduawa (We Eat Fruit!)

a. Ye: The Verb to Eat (Simple present tense)

Mi yeɔ nii daa nεε.	I eat every day.	
Bo, oyeɔ nii daa nεε.	You eat every day.	
Lε, eyeo nii daa nεε.	She eats every day.	
Wo yeo nii daa nεε.	We eat every day.	
Nyε yeɔ nii daa nεε.	You (all) eat every day.	
Amε yeo nii daa nεε.	They eat every day.	

Mi yeɔ blɔfoŋme kome daa nεε.	I eat one pineapple every day.
Bo, oyeo akutu kome daa nεε.	You eat one orange every day.
Lε, eyes akwadui enys daa nεε.	He eats two bananas every day.
Wo yeo akwadui etε daa nεε.	We eat three bananas every day.
Nyε yeɔ akwadu kε pεya ekome-ekomei	You (all) eat one banana and one pear every
daa nεε.	day.
Ame yeo akwadui ete daa nee.	They eat three bananas every day.

In Ga, the verb to eat always takes an object. "Nii" means "things", or when used with the verb eat, it means "food".

Exercise 3.1 Vocabulary: Matching

Write the letter of the English word for each Ga word shown.

Example: 1. ekome means one, so write "b".

b.	1.	ekome	a.	three
	2.	enyo	b.	one
	3.	etε	c.	two
	4.	akwadu	d.	pear
	5.	akwadui	e.	banana
	6.	blofoŋme	f.	pineapple
	7.	blofoŋmei	g.	bananas
	8.	рεуа	h.	pineapples
	9.	akutu	i.	every day
	10.	daa nεε	j.	and
	11.	kε	k.	orange

Exercise 3.2 Pronouns: Fill in the Blank

Use the example sentences to help you fill in the missing pronouns in Ga.

Example: "mi" is the Ga word for I or me.

	English	Ga
Singular	I	mi
	you	
	he, she, it	
Plural	we	
	you	
	they	

Exercise 3.3 Present Tense: Fill in the Table

What is the rule for the present tense of the verb "ye"? Look at the example sentences on the previous page and fill in the missing word(s).

Pronoun	ye
mi	yeɔ
bo	
lε	
cw	
nyε	
amε	



b. Fruit Names

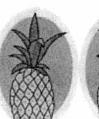
aduawa	fruit
akwadu	banana
akutu	orange
blofonme	pineapple
akookooshi	coconut
р€уа	pear
amadaa	plantain
maŋo	mango













blofonme kome

blofonmei enyo

blofonmei eta

Exercise 3.4 Fruits: Fill in the blanks

What is the rule for making a plural? Look at the first two examples below. Fill in the plural for the remaining fruits in the table.

aduawai	fruits
akwadui	bananas
	oranges
	pineapples
	coconuts
	pears
	plantains
	mangos

In Ga, the quantity goes before or after the noun?

Exercise 3.5 Translate the Sentences
1. Esi eats mangos. (she)
2. I eat fruit every day.
3. Ama and Kwabena eat two bananas every day. (they)
4. We eat three pineapples every day.
5. You eat one banana every day. (singular)
6. You (plural) eat coconuts every day.
Exercise 3.6 Make Your Own Sentences Using the vocabulary and the structure of the verb "ye", write eight sentences. 1
2
3.
4
5
6
7
8.

Exercise 3.7 Guess the Rule for the Verb: he

The Ga verb "he" means to buy, and follows the same form as "ye" in the present tense. Fill in the table below.

Mi heo	I buy
	You buy
	She buys
	We buy
	You (all) buy
	They buy

Exercise 3.8 Write the sentences: "he" k ϵ "ye" Use the verbs buy and eat. Write the following sentences.

1. Mi heo blofonmei.	I buy pineapples.
2.	You buy bananas every day.
3.	He buys oranges.
4.	We eat fruit every day.
5.	You (all) buy fruit every day
6.	They eat mangos every day.

Answers for Lesson 3: Wo Yeo Aduawa

Ex 3.1 Matching

В.	_ 1.	ekome	Α.	three
C.	2.	enyo	В.	one
Α.	3.	etε	С.	two
E.	4.	akwadu	D.	pear
G.	_ 5.	akwadui	Ε.	banana
F	_ 6.	blofoŋme	F.	pineapple
G.	_ 7.	blofoŋmei	G.	bananas
D.	_ 8.	рεуа	Н.	pineapples
K.	9.	akutu	I.	every day
I.	10.	daa nεε	J.	and
J.	10.	kε	K.	orange

Ex 3.2 Pronouns: Fill in the Blank

	English	Ga
Singular	I	mi
	you	bo
	he, she, it	lε
Plural	we	cw
	you	nyε
	they	amε

Ex 3.3 Present Tense: Fill in the Table

Pronoun	ye
mi	yeɔ
bo	oyeɔ
lε	eyeo
CW	yeɔ
nyε	yeɔ
amε	yeɔ

Ex 3.4 Fruits: Fill in the blanks

aduawai	fruits
akwadui	bananas
akutui	oranges
blofonme	pineapples
akookooshii	coconuts
рєуаі	pears
amadaai	plantains
maŋoi	mangos

Ex 3.5 Translate the Sentences

- 1. Esi eyeo manoi.
- 2. Mi yeo aduwai daa nee.
- 3. Ama kɛ Kwabena yeɔ akwadui enyɔ.
- 4. Wo yeo blofonme eta daa naa.
- 5. Bo, oyeɔ akwadu kome daa nεε.
- 6. Nyε yeɔ akookooshii daa nεε.

Ex 3.7 Guess the Rule for the Verb: he

Mi heo	I buy
Bo, oheo	You buy
Lε, eheɔ	She buys
Wo heo	We buy
Nyε hep	You (all) buy
Ame heo	They buy

Ex 3.8 Write the sentences: "he" kε "ye"

- 1. Mi heo blofonmei.
- 2. Bo, oheo akwadui daa nee.
- 3. Le, eheo akatui.
- 4. Wo yeo aduawai daa nεε.
- 5. Nye heo aduawai daa nee.
- 6. Amε yeɔ maŋoi daa nεε.

Overview

Lesson 4: Gbii le Agbeii (Names of the Days of the Week)

In this lesson, learn the names of the days of the week and words: yesterday, today and tomorrow. Learn how to talk about what day your were born, and what your local name is, based on your day born. Use the written and spoken exercises to practice and learn!

Lesson 4 Outline

a. Using a Calendar to Learn the Names of the the Days of the Week

Exercise 4.1 Gbii le Abgeii

Exercise 4.2 What day is it?

b. Nys, nmsns, wo (yesterday, today, tomorrow)

Exercise 4.3 Nyε, ηmεnε, wo

c. Names based on day born

Exercise 4.4 Gbεii Yoo kε Nuu

Exercise 4.5 Day-Born Names

Exercise 4.6 When were you born?

Exercise 4.7 Interactive Asking

d. Conversation: Talking about what day you were born

Exercise 4.8 Conversation Practice

Exercise 4.9 Order the Dialog

Exercise 4.10 Expressions

Answers to Exercise



Days of

Lesson 4. Gbii le Agbeii (Names of the Days of the Week)

a. Using a Calendar to Learn Names of the Days of the Week

In this lesson, we will use the calendar for a sample month to learn and practice the names of the days (gbii le agbɛii) of the week (otsi).

Hogbaa	Ju	Jufo	Sho	Soo	Sohaa	Нээ
e foelation				,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Exercise 4.1 Gbii le Agbeii

Write the Ga name for the days (gbii lɛ agbɛii) in the following table:

Hogbaa	Sunday
	Monday
	Tuesday
	Wednesday
	Thursday
	Friday
	Saturday

Exercise 4.2 What day is it?

For each problem, find the date on the calendar from the previous page. Write in the day (gbi) of the week (otsi). Example: The 4th falls on Ju (Monday). The 17th falls on Sunday (Hɔgbaa).

1.	Ju	4	7.	27	13.	23
2.	Hogbaa	17	8.	1	14.	30
3.		 28	9.	19	15.	24
4.		2	10.	6	16.	8
5.		 15	11.	7	17.	5
6.		29	12.	21	18.	3

b. Nye, ŋmene, wo

In this section, we will practice using the words today, yesterday, and tomorrow:

nyε	yesterday
ŋmεnε	today
cw	tomorrow

Exercise 4.3 Nys, ŋmsns, wo

Look at the information given for a row, and fill in the missing two blanks in that row. Example: If today is Sunday (Hogbaa), then yesterday was Saturday (Hoo) and tomorrow is Monday (Ju).

	nyε	ηmεnε	cw
1.	Нээ	Hogbaa	Ju
2.	Sho		
3.		***************************************	Нээ
4.	Ju		
5.			Soo
6.			Jufo
7.	Sohaa		

c. Names based on day born

The days of the week are very important to us since in Ghana we are named by the day of birth.

Traveling to Ghana? Make sure you know what day you were born. There are many website where you can enter your birth date, and find out what day of the week you were born.

Try this website:	http://www.onlin	econversion.com/	davborn.htm

Day	Girl names, born on this day	Boy Names, born on this day
Gbii	Yoo Gbεii	Nuu Gbeii
Hogbaa	Esi	Kwasi
Ju	Adjoa	Kojo
Jufo	Abina	Kobina, Kwabena
Sho	Ekua	Kweku
Soo	Yaa	Yaw
Sohaa	Efia, Afi	Kofi
Нээ	Ama	Kwame

Exercise 4.4 Gbeii Yoo ke Nuu

Look at the list of girl (yoo) and boy (nuu) names.
Think about the similarities and differences for names in each row.
Write down any general relationships between the girl and boy names.

Exercise 4.5 Day-Born Names

For each local name, write if it's feminine (yoo) or masculine (nuu). Then write the day-born for each name, in Ga and in English.

Example: Ama is a name for yoo (feminine) for someone born on Hoo (Friday).

Ghanaian Name	yoo/nuu	Day (Ga)	Day (English)
Ama	yoo	Нээ	Friday
Kofi Annan			
Kwame Nkruma			
Afi			
Kwabena			
Kojo			
Yaa			
Esi			
Kweku			
Kwasi			

Exercise 4.6 When were you born?

Write the questions in Ga using the examples as guides.

Ani Sho afo bo?	Were you born on Monday?
	Were you born on Tuesday?
Anguage de la constantina della constantina dell	Were you born on Sunday?
	Were you born on Thursday?
	Were you born on Friday?
	Were you born on Sunday?
Afo mi Hoo.	I was born on Saturday.
	I was born on Friday.
	I was born on Sunday.
	I was born on Monday.
	I was born on Tuesday.
	I was born on Wednesday.
	and the state of t

Exercise 4.7 Interactive Asking

Ask other people in your class a question that starts with "Were you born on...?" Answer yes (hεε, εhεε) or no (daabi), then say what day you were born.

Don't know what day you were born? Look it up on the internet!

d. Conversation: Talking about what day you were born

What day of the week were you born? Kofi and Sara talk about Sara's Ghanaian day-born name.

K	Meni gbi no yε otsi lε mli ni afo bo?	K	What day of the week were you born?
S	Afo mi Sohaa.	S	I was born on Friday.
K	Sohaa-fomobii agbei ji Afi ke ji yoo, ni keji	K	Friday-born are called Afi if you are a girl and
	nuu ni huε Kofi.		Kofi if you are a boy.
S	Wow, Βεε i 'Ghana gbεi ji Afi.	S	Wow, then my Ghanaian name is Afi. Thank you
	Oyi wala doη akε oha mi le enε.		for letting me know this.
K	Shi daa be.	Α	You are welcome.

Exercise 4.8 Conversation Practice

Practice the dialog above. Practice with a friend. Take turns being the other person. Try the dialog without looking.

Exercise 4.9 Order the Dialog

1.	C	Α.	Afo mi Sohaa.
2.		В.	Wow, Bee i 'Ghana gbei ji Afi. Oyi wala don ake oha mi le ene.
3.		C.	Meni gbi no yε otsi lε mli ni afo bo?
4.		D.	Shi daa bε.
5.		Ε.	Sohaa-fomobii agbei ji Afi ke ji yoo, ni keji nuu ni hue Kofi.

Exercise 4.10 Expressions

Fill in the Ga words for the expressions shown in English.

gbi	day
	you are welcome
	What day of the week were you born?
	thank you
	I was born on
- Control Cont	names of the days
	week

Answers for Lesson 4: Gbii le Agbeii

Ex 4.1 Gbii le Abgeii

Hogbaa	Sunday
Ju	Monday
Jufo	Tuesday
Sho	Wednesday
Soo	Thursday
Sohaa	Friday
Hoo	Saturday

Ex 4.2 What day is it?

1.	Ju	7.	Sho	13.	Hω
2.	Hogbaa	8.	Sohaa	14.	Нω
3.	Soo	9.	Jufo	15.	Hogbaa
4.	Нээ	10.	Sho	16.	Sohaa
5.	Sohaa	11.	Soo	17.	Jufo
6.	Sohaa	12.	Soo	18.	Hogbaa

Εχ 4.3 Νγε, ηπεπε, wo

	nyε		ŋmεnε		wɔ
1.	Нээ	1.	Hogbaa	1.	Ju
2.	Sho	2.	Soo	2.	Sohaa
3.	Soo	3.	Sohaa	3.	Нээ
4.	Ju	4.	Jufo	4.	Sho
5.	Jufo	5.	Sho	5.	Soo
6.	Hogbaa	6.	Ju	6.	Jufo
7.	Sohaa	7.	Нээ	7.	Hogbaa

Ex 4.4 Gbeii Yoo ke Nuu

Feminine and masculine names tend to have similar sounding endings. Female names usually start with a vowel sound. Male names often start with K. The exception for the initial sound is Thursday, where both start with Y: Yaa and Yaw.

Ex 4.5 Day-Born Names

Name	yoo/nuu	Day (Ga)	(English)
Ama	yoo	Нээ	Saturday
Kofi	nuu	Sohaa	Friday
Annan			
Kwame	nuu	Нээ	Saturday
Nkruma			
Afi	yoo	Sohaa	Friday
Kwabena	nuu	Jufo	Tuesday
Kojo	nuu	Ju	Monday
Yaa	yoo	Soo	Thursday
Esi	yoo	Hogbaa	Sunday
Kweku	nuu	Sho	Wednesday
Kwesi	nuu	Hogbaa	Sunday

Ex 4.6 When were you born?

	o milen mere you bom.
1.	Ani Sho afo bo?
2.	Ani Jufo afo bo?
3.	Ani Hɔgbaa afɔ bo?
4.	Ani Soo afo bo?
5.	Ani Sohoo afo bo?
6.	Ani Hɔgbaa afɔ bo?
7.	Afo mi Hoo.
8.	Afo mi Sohaa.
9.	Afo mi Hogbaa.
10.	Afo mi Ju.
11.	Afo mi Jufo.
12.	Afo mi Sho.

Exercise 4.9 Order the Dialog

- 1. <u>C</u>
- 2. A
- 4. B
- 5. <u>D</u>

Ex 4.10 Expressions

gbi	day
shi daa bε	you are welcome
Meni gbi nɔ yε otsi lε	What day of the week
mli ni afo bo?	were you born?
oyi wala doŋ	thank you
Afo mi Sohaa.	I was born on Friday.
gbii lε agbεii	names of the days
otsi	week

Overview

Lesson 5: Wo Yε Biε (We Are Here!)

In this lesson, use the verb "y ϵ " (to be) in the present, past and future tenses. Learn how to talk about when: yesterday, today, tomorrow and more. Put these all together in your own sentences, with written and discussion exercises. Then combine this with days of the week from lesson 4.

a. Verb: to be " $y\epsilon$ " (present, simple past and future tenses)

Exercise 5.1 Vocabulary: Fill in the blank

Exercise 5.2 Past, Present and Future of the verb "ye"- Fill in the Blank

b. Vocabulary: Time Words

Exercise 5.3 Time Words: Matching

Exercise 5.4 Always here: Writing sentences

Exercise 5.5 Interactive Discussion

Exercise 5.6 Write Sentences Using the Days of the Week

Exercise 5.7 Interactive Discussion with Days of the Week

Answers to Exercises

Lesson 5: Wo Ye Bie (We Are Here!)

a. Verb: to be "yε"

Tense: Simple Present

Telise. Simple Freschi	
Mi γε biε daa nεε	I am here every day.
Bo, oye bie daa nee	You are here every day.
Lε, eyε biε daa nεε	She is here every day.
Wo yε biε daa nεε	We are here every day.
Nyε γε biε daa nεε	You (all) are here every day.
Amε γε biε daa nεε	They are here every day.

Tense: Simple Past

TCHISC. SHIPPET USE	
Mi yε biε nyε gbεkε	I was here last night.
Bo, ογε biε nyε gbεkε	You were here last night.
Lε, eyε biε nyε gbεkε	She was here last night.
Wo yε biε nyε gbεkε	We were here last night.
Νγε γε biε nyε gbεkε	You (all) were here last night.
Amε γε biε nyε gbεkε	They were here last night.

Tense: Simple Future

renser simple ratare	
Ma hi biε wɔ	I will be here tomorrow.
Bo, obaa hi biɛ wɔ	You will be here tomorrow.
Lε, ebaa hi biε wɔ	She will be here tomorrow.
Wo baa hi biɛ wo	We will be here tomorrow.
Nye baa hi bie wo	You (all) will be here tomorrow.
Ame baa hi bie wo	They will be here tomorrow.

Exercise 5.1 Vocabulary: Fill in the blank

Write the Ga word for each English word or expression shown.

Example: For 1, "daa nɛɛ" means every day.

1.	daa nεε	every day
2.		last night
3.		tomorrow
4.		_ I
5.		you
6.		he/she/it
7.		we
8.		you (all)
9.		they
10. ¯		here

Exercise 5.2 Past, Present and Future of the verb "ye"- Fill in the Blank

Below, you will see the tables of present, past and future tenses of the verb "y ϵ ". Write in the missing word(s) to complete the tables.

Tense: Simple Past	Tense: Simple Present	Tense: Simple Future
Mi <u>yε</u> biε nyε gbεkε.	Mi biε daa nεε.	biε wɔ.
Bo, biɛ nyɛ gbɛkɛ.	Bo, biε daa nεε.	Bo, biε wɔ.
Lε, biε nyε gbεkε.	Lε, biε daa nεε.	Lε, biε wɔ.
Wɔ biε nyε gbεkε.	Wɔ biε daa nεε.	Wɔ biε wɔ.
Nye bie nye gbeke.	Nyε biε daa nεε.	Nyε biε wɔ.
Ame bie nye gbeke.	Ame bie daa nee.	Amε biε wɔ.

b. Vocabulary: Time Words

Time words are so useful! These words help us form a timeline. Some tell us clearly what tense to use.

> Time>		
Past	Present	Future
yesterday	now	tomorrow
last year	today	next year

With other time words, it depends on context. For example, 'this afternoon' may be past, present or future depending on what time it is now.

bianɛ	now
ฎฑะทะ	today
daa nεε	every day
leebi nεε	this morning
shwane nee	this afternoon
gbεkε naashi nεε	this evening
gbεkε nεε	tonight
daa Sohaa	every Friday

nyε	yesterday .
nyε gbεkε	last night
nyesee nyoon le	last month
nyεsεε afi lε	last year
СМ	tomorrow
wɔ leebi	tomorrow morning
wosee afi	next year

Exercise 5.3 Time Words: Matching

Write the letter of the English word for each Ga word shown.

Example: 1. wo means tomorrow, so write "d".

d.	1.	CW	a.	every Friday
	2.	shwane nεε	b.	next year
	3.	gbeke nee	с.	tonight
	4.	bianε	d.	tomorrow
	5.	wo leebi	e.	today
	6.	nyεsεε nyoon lε	f.	now
	7.	ŋmɛnɛ	g.	this evening
	8.	wosee afi	h.	yesterday
	9.	daa nεε	i.	every day
	10.	gbεkε naashi nεε	j.	this morning
	11.	nyε gbεkε	k.	this afternoon
	12.	daa Sohaa	ι.	tomorrow morning
	13.	nyε	m.	last night
	14.	leebi nεε	n.	last year
	15.	nyεsεε afi lε	ο.	last month
	_			

Exercise 5.4 Always here: Writing sentences

Look at the sentences in English. Write each sentence in Ga, as shown in the example.

1.	Mi ye bie nye.	I was here yesterday.
		I am here now.
		I will be here tomorrow.
2.		We are here every day.
		We were here last year.
		We will be here tomorrow morning.
3.		She will be here tomorrow.
		She is here today.
		She was here last month.
4.		They are here every Friday.
		They were here yesterday.
		They will be here tonight.
5.		You were here last year.
		You are here now.
		You will be here tomorrow morning.
6.		You (all) will be here tomorrow.
		You (all) were here last night.
		You (all) are every day.

Exercise 5.5 Interactive Discussion

Talk to each other. Practice the sentences.

- Describe who is here now.
- Who was here yesterday, last night or sometime in the past.
- Tell who will be here tomorrow or sometime in the future.

Exercise 5.6 Write Sentences l	Jsing the	Davs of	the We	ek
--------------------------------	-----------	---------	--------	----

In this exercise, we're taking some of the sentences from Exercise 5.4 and replacing the words for "yesterday" and "tomorrow" with the day of the week. If today is Tuesday, on the right, write in Monday for yesterday and Wednesday for tomorrow. Then write each sentence in Ga. (See lesson 4 for a reminder of the names of the days of the week.)

1.	I was here (yesterday).
2.	I will be here (tomorrow).
3.	She will be here (tomorrow).
4.	They were here (yesterday).
5.	You (all) will be here(tomorrow).

Exercise 5.7 Interactive Discussion with Days of the Week

Similar to Exercise 5.5, use the days of the week and the past, present and future tense of the verb "y ϵ ":

- Describe who is here now.
- Who was here yesterday.
- Tell who will be here tomorrow.

5: Wo Yε Biε

Answers for Lesson 5: Wo YE BiE

Ex 5.1 Vocabulary - Time/Pronouns

1.	daa nεε	every day
2.	nyε gbεkε	last night
3.	wэ	tomorrow
4.	mi	_ I
5.	bo	you
6.	lε	he/she/it
7.	cw	we
8.	nyε	you (all)
9.	amε	they
10.	biε	here

Ex 5.2 YE: Past, Present and Future

27. 3.2 10. 10.11.01.11.01.01.01				
Mi yε biε nyε gbεkε.	Mi yε biε daa nεε.	Ma hi bie wo.		
Bo, oyε biε nyε gbεkε.	Bo, oyε biε daa nεε.	Bo, obaa hi biε wɔ.		
Lε, eyε biε nyε gbεkε.	Lε, eyε biε daa nεε.	Lε, ebaa hi biε wɔ.		
Wo yε biε nyε gbεkε.	Wo yε biε daa nεε.	Wo baa hi biε wo.		
Nyε yε biε nyε gbεkε.	Nyε yε biε daa nεε.	Nyε baa hi biε wɔ.		
Ame ve bie nye gbeke.	Ame ye bie daa nee.	Ame baa hi bie wo.		

Ex 5.3 Vocabulary: Matching

d.	1.	WO	a.	every Friday
k.	2.	shwane nεε	b.	next year
c.	3.	gbεkε nεε	С.	tonight
f.	4.	bianε	d.	tomorrow
l.	5.	wɔ leebi	e.	today
0.	6.	nyεsεε nyooŋ le	f.	now
e.	7.	ŋmεnε	g.	this evening
b.	8.	wosee afi	h.	yesterday
i.	9.	daa nεε	i.	every day
g.	10.	gbεkε naashi nεε	j.	this morning
m.	11.	nyε gbεkε	k.	this afternoon
a.	12.	daa Sohaa	l.	tomorrow morning
h.	13.	nyε	m.	last night
j.	14.	leebi nεε	n.	last year
n.	15.	nyεsεε afi lε	ο.	last month

Miikase Ga

Answers for Lesson 5 (continued)

Fy 5 4 Always here: Writing sentences

1.	1. Mi yε biε nyε. I was here yesterday.			
١.		I was here yesterday.		
	Mi yε biε bianε.	I am here now.		
	Ma hi biε wɔ.	I will be here tomorrow.		
2.	Wo yε biε daa nεε.	We are here every day.		
	Wo yε biε nyεsεε afi lε.	We were here last year.		
	Wo baa hi biε wo leebi.	We will be here tomorrow morning.		
3.	Lε, ebaa hi biε wo.	She will be here tomorrow.		
	Lε, eyε biε ηmεnε.	She is here today.		
	Lε, eyε biε nyεsεε nyoon lε.	She was here last month.		
4.	Ame ye bie daa Sohaa.	They are here every Friday.		
	Amε yε biε nyε.	They were here yesterday.		
	Ame baa hi gbeki nee.	They will be here tonight.		
5.	Bo, oyε biε	You were here last year.		
	Bo, oye bie biane.	You are here now.		
	Bo, obaa hi biε wɔ leebi.	You will be here tomorrow morning.		
6.	Nyε baa hi biε wɔ.	You (all) will be here tomorrow.		
	Nyε yε biε nyε gbεkε.	You (all) were here last night.		
-	Nyε yε biε daa nεε.	You (all) are every day.		

Exercise 5.6 Write sentences using the days of the week

Answers vary depending on actual day of the week. Answers shown for today = Tuesday.

1.	Mi yε biε Ju.	I was here Monday.
2.	Ma hi biε Sho.	I will be here Wednesday.
3.	Lε, ebaa hi biε Sho.	She will be here Wednesday.
4.	Amε yε biε Ju.	They were here Monday.
5.	Nyε baa hi biε Sho.	You (all) will be here Wednesday.