

Comprehensive Guide to Learn Maa/Masai Language

Maa is the language spoken by the **Maasai, Samburu, and Camus** people of **Kenya and Tanzania**. It is part of the **Eastern Nilotic language group** and holds deep cultural significance in the daily lives of the Maasai people.

This guide by [Masai Mara Kenya\(MasaiMara.ke\)](#) provides an **in-depth** look into the Maa language, including **essential vocabulary, phrases, numbers, verbs, grammar, and cultural expressions**, making it an ideal resource for **travelers, researchers, and anyone interested in Maasai culture**.

1. Greetings and Basic Phrases

Common Greetings

English	Maa (Maa Script)	Transliteration
Hello	Supa	<i>Súpa</i>
How are you?	Supa	<i>Súpa</i>
I am fine	Pa	<i>Pá</i>
Good morning	Supa oleng	<i>Súpa oléng</i>
Good evening	Enkai enotoo	<i>Enkái enotóó</i>
Goodbye	Sidai oleng	<i>Sídai oléng</i>
Welcome	Karibu	<i>Karíbú</i>
See you later	Oltomono	<i>Oltómonó</i>

Politeness & Courtesy

English	Maa	Transliteration
Please	Sii sii	<i>Síí síí</i>
Thank you	Ashe	<i>Áshé</i>
Thank you very much	Ashe oleng	<i>Áshé oléng</i>
Excuse me	Towuo	<i>Tówuó</i>
I am sorry	Kayiolo	<i>Káyíoló</i>
Yes	Ee	<i>Éé</i>
No	Mayolo	<i>Máyíoló</i>

2. Essential Vocabulary

People & Relationships

English	Maa	Transliteration
Man	Oltung'ani	<i>Oltung'áni</i>
Woman	Enkitok	<i>Enkítók</i>
Boy	Olopeny	<i>Olopény</i>
Girl	Nashipae	<i>Náshipáé</i>
Child	Olelakani	<i>Olélakáni</i>
Mother	Nanyokie	<i>Nányókié</i>
Father	Baba	<i>Bábá</i>
Friend	Lting'alo	<i>Lting'álo</i>
Elder	Olng'uesh	<i>Olng'úesh</i>

Numbers & Counting

English	Maa	Transliteration
One	Eng'	<i>Éng'</i>
Two	Are	<i>Áré</i>
Three	Uni	<i>Úní</i>
Four	Ang'wan	<i>Áng'wán</i>
Five	Ime	<i>Ímé</i>
Six	Ile	<i>Ílé</i>
Seven	Oltu	<i>Óltú</i>
Eight	Sais	<i>Sáis</i>
Nine	Orob	<i>Órób</i>
Ten	Tomon	<i>Tómon</i>

3. Asking Questions

English	Maa	Transliteration
Who?	Ngoo?	<i>Ngóó?</i>
What?	Kejo?	<i>Kéjó?</i>
Where?	Kaji?	<i>Kájí?</i>
Why?	Anaa ijo?	<i>Ánáá íjó?</i>
How?	Kaja?	<i>Kája?</i>
When?	Ooju?	<i>Óójú?</i>
How many?	Aja?	<i>Ájá?</i>

4. Everyday Objects & Nature

Animals

English	Maa	Transliteration
Cow	Olosho	<i>Olóshó</i>
Goat	Ekine	<i>Ékiné</i>
Sheep	Enker	<i>Énkér</i>
Lion	Olamala	<i>Ólamálá</i>
Elephant	Oltome	<i>Óltómé</i>
Giraffe	Olosirwa	<i>Ólosírwá</i>
Zebra	Olchurai	<i>Ólchúrái</i>

Natural Elements

English	Maa	Transliteration
Water	Enkarre	<i>Énkárre</i>
Fire	Enkoisok	<i>Énkóisók</i>
Sun	Enkolong	<i>Énkólóng</i>
Rain	Entim	<i>Éntím</i>
Earth	Olgirigir	<i>Ólgírigír</i>

5. Verbs & Actions

English	Maa	Transliteration
To go	A-lo	<i>A-ló</i>
To come	A-isho	<i>A-ishó</i>
To eat	A-ende	<i>A-endé</i>
To drink	A-kiar	<i>A-kiár</i>
To sleep	A-oita	<i>A-óitá</i>

To walk	A-osotua	<i>A-osótua</i>
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To run A-rukaa *A-rukáá*

To see A-isho *A-ishó*

6. Basic Sentences & Phrases

Daily Conversations

English	Maa	Transliteration
I don't understand	Mayiolo	<i>Máyíoló</i>
What is your name?	Kejo enkarna?	<i>Kéjó enkarna?</i>
My name is...	Ingkarnai...	<i>Íngkarnáí...</i>
Where are you from?	Kaji oltung'ani?	<i>Kájí oltung'áni?</i>
I am from...	Nanooki...	<i>Nánóókí...</i>
I need help	Ayeu enkito	<i>Ayéú enkító</i>

7. Cultural Phrases & Traditions

English	Maa	Transliteration
The Maasai people	Il Maasai	<i>Íl Maasáí</i>
Maasai Warrior	Moran	<i>Mórán</i>
Maasai Elder	OIng'uesh	<i>OIng'úesh</i>
Traditional dance	Enkiama	<i>Énkiámá</i>
Sacred place	Enkura	<i>Énkúrá</i>

8. Practical Travel Phrases

English	Maa	Transliteration
How much is this?	Aja olchoto?	<i>Ájá olchóto?</i>
Where is the toilet?	Kaji oltoilet?	<i>Káji oltoílet?</i>
I need a taxi	Ayeu taxi	<i>Ayéú taxi</i>
I am lost	Mayiolo oltung'ani	<i>Máyíoló oltung'áni</i>

Conclusion

Learning the **Maa language** not only helps in communication but also **deepens cultural appreciation and respect** for the Maasai people. By practicing these words and phrases, visitors can **engage with locals more meaningfully**, fostering **mutual understanding and respect**.

The **Maasai language is rich, poetic, and deeply intertwined with their traditions and way of life**. Whether visiting **Maasai villages**, exploring **wildlife reserves**, or simply interacting with locals, knowing even a few words **enhances the experience immeasurably**.

Learn more and get more resources on [this Masai Mara Greeting Guide](#)

More Resources: [Maa Language Dictionary](#)

***Check More Resources on Masai Mara
National Reserve Knowledge Base on
MasaiMara.ke
<https://masaimara.ke/docs/>***