

Chita Pa Bay

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And others

Bryant C. Freeman, Ph.D.

Chita Pa Bay

**Elementary Readings in Haitian Creole
with Illustrated Dictionary**

Third Edition



**Institute of Haitian Studies
University of Kansas
Lawrence**

**Edisyon Bon Nouvèl
Pòtoprens
2004**

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Introduction

Once the beginning student of a foreign language has acquired its rudiments, the need is felt for elementary reading material to reinforce what has been learned. Unfortunately, very little material at this level exists in Haitian. The great majority of texts available are designed either for the native speaker just learning to read, or for the accomplished one who already reads Haitian with ease. Both categories, however, enjoy a wide range of vocabulary far beyond that of a beginning non-Haitian student. Thus it was to provide more relatively elementary readings, which we hope will be both interesting and challenging, that these selections were assembled.

The first edition in 1984 used the Pressoir-Faublas or ONAAC spelling system which was still in general use at that time. Subsequently the spelling system officially endorsed by the Haitian government has become widely accepted and is now used by journals such as *Bon Nouvèl* as well as by the great majority of those publishing in Haitian. The present revised edition has therefore been rewritten using the official system.

The principal selection here is our greatly abridged version of what is probably the only work of Haitian literature to have achieved the status of an internationally known classic: Jacques Roumain's novel written in French entitled *Gouverneurs de la Rosée* (*Masters of the Dew*). Its poignant message of hope and human solidarity has resulted in translations into some 17 languages and been adapted for both stage and cinema. It is followed by a sampling of Haitian proverbs, which are so eloquently expressive of the national character. Some have even stated that the language is worth learning if for no reason other than its rich repertory of proverbs: from much suffering has come much wisdom.

For fun, and of course learning, there is a section of ten jokes, followed by four tales concerning the two most famous characters of Haitian folklore, **Bouki** and **Ti Malis**. Next, there is a taste of another Haitian favorite, the riddle. Included also are some simple arithmetic problems intended both for practice in handling numbers as well as for reinforcing vocabulary. As a fitting close are the

Sermon on the Mount and the Lord's Prayer, from **Bib La**, the masterful translation under the direction of Father Roger Désir of both the Old and New Testaments. Whenever appropriate, there are questions after each section, which we hope will prove useful especially for oral practice in class.

A small dictionary illustrated by various Haitian artists presents some 210 terms essential to the Haitian scene. The Glossary gives English equivalents of all words and expressions contained in the text, including those of the illustrated dictionary. In addition, there are frequent "mini-glossaries" throughout the texts intended as a handy learning device for expressions - indicated by an asterisk - which may well be new to the beginner.

In using this text, we cannot stress enough the importance of attempting to *think in the foreign language*. Once the initial "decoding" of a passage has been accomplished, it is essential that the passage be read for a second and third time, *thinking it in Haitian*. These additional readings will prove far more useful than the first. It is in this way that reading material can be most effective in improving one's active use of a foreign language.

We wish to express our appreciation to Jowel Laguerre and Vania Sévère for assistance in editing the texts. Thanks go also to Father Roger Désir for resolving a number of problems. Kind permission was granted by Temps Actuels to adapt Jacques Roumain's *Gouverneurs de la Rosée*, and by Gérard-Marie Tardieu to reproduce a number of riddles from his *Tim? Tim? Bwa chèch!* Illustrations are by Astrel Gilles, Frantz Jean Mary ("Fanfan"), and B. Brice, with generous permission from the Ministry of Education of Haiti, *Bon Nouvèl, Boukan*, and the late Dr. Raphael G. Urciolo ("Fayo"). The cover drawing is by Astrel Gilles, from Fayo's *3333 Proverbs in Haitian Creole*. Finally, it is thanks to the direction of Father Henk Kaal ("**pè Anri**"), *Bon Nouvèl*'s able and energetic former director, that this work was initially published.

Lawrence, Kansas (USA)
June 2004

Bryant C. Freeman

Masters of the Dew, by Jacques Roumain (1907-1944), is almost certainly the best known masterpiece of Haitian literature.

Published posthumously in 1945, this novel has been translated into no fewer than 17 languages, has been adapted four times for the stage, and was the subject of an award-winning film. Its message of hope and human solidarity, related in a style of exceptional poetic beauty, has assured an appeal which transcends linguistic and cultural barriers.

Our greatly abridged version presented here in the Haitian language can serve as an introduction which we hope will encourage one to read either the original French version, **Gouverneurs de la Rosée** (Paris, 1946), or the excellent English translation by Langston Hughes and Mercer Cook (New York, 1947).

Men moun n ap jwenn nan Mèt Lawouze:*

Mannwèl jenn nèg* ki te deja pase kenzan nan
koupe kann* nan peyi Kiba*

Byenneme papa li

Delira manman li

Anayiz mennaj* li

Jèvilen pitit gason Doriska, e ki renmenAnayiz

*Epi de (2) moun ki mouri deja, men ki enpòtan
nan istwa a:*

Sovè frè Byenneme ki te mouri nan prizon
gen* lontan

Doriska papa Jèvilen; se Sovè ki te touye li gen*
dizan konsa



gen ago; to have

kann sugar cane

Kiba Cuba

men here is, here are;

hand; but

mennaj girlfriend; boyfriend

nèg man; black man

Chapit 1: Fonwouj



Nou nan yon ti bouk* pa twò lwen Pòtoprens. Bouk sa a rele Fonwouj. Li gen yon pwoblèm ki gwo anpil anpil: pa gen dlo. Pa gen dlo menm menm. Plant ap mouri, bèt ap mouri. Yon jou se moun ki ka mouri tou. Depi lontan lontan lapli pa tonbe. Tout bagay sèk, tout bagay tris. 5

Petèt* se paske yo te koupe tout pyebwa* yo, men sa ou vle? Yo te bezwen bwa a pou fè chabon*, pou fè kay, lantiray*, mèb*. Epi yo te bezwen tè a tou pou plante mayi*, pou plante pwa*, pou yo jwenn manje. Si yo pa travay tè a, yo p ap manje. 10

Devan yon ti kay pay* gen de vye granmoun ki chita*: yon nèg ki rele Byenneme, ak Delira, madanm li.

Byenneme

“Zafè nou pa bon. Tout bagay ap mouri. Bondye bliye nou nèt.”

Delira

“Pa pale konsa. Se pa byen, non. Deja nou pa gen lespwa*. Pitit gason nou an kite nou depi lontan, pou ale koupe kann nan peyi Kiba. Li p ap tounen. Non, se vre, pa gen lespwa.” 15

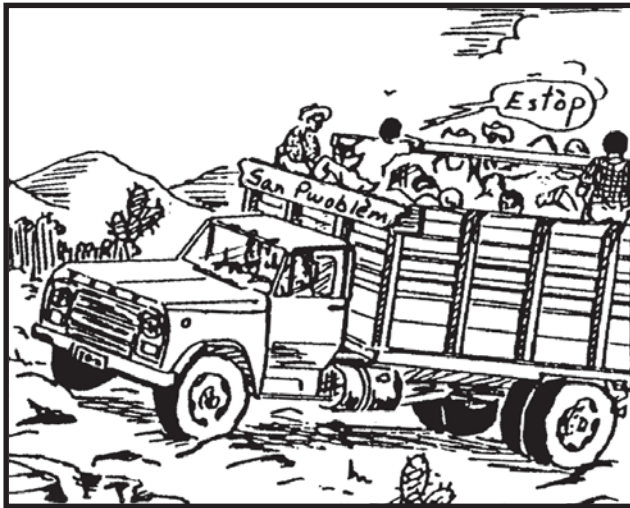
Chapit 1: Kèsyon

Reponn an kreyòl ak yon fraz konplèt:

1. **Ki kote ti bouk la ye?**
2. **Kijan bouk sa a rele?**
3. **Ki gwo pwoblèm li genyen?**
4. **Kisa k ap mouri?**
5. **Depi kilè lapli pa te tonbe?**
6. **Kisa moun yo te koupe?**
7. **Poukisa yo te bezwen bwa a?**
8. **Ki bagay yo te plante sou tè a?**
9. **Si yo pa travay tè a, sa k ap rive?**
10. **Ki kote de vye granmoun sa yo chita?**
11. **Kisa Byenneme di?**
12. **Epi kisa Delira reponn li?**
13. **Kote pitit gason yo a te ale?**
14. **Kisa li te fè la?**
15. **Yo kwè l ap tounen?**
16. **Èske yo kwè gen lespwa pou yo?**

bouk	village	mayi	corn
chabon	charcoal	mèb	furniture
chita	to sit down, be seated	pay	straw
lantiray	fence	petèt	perhaps, maybe
lespwa	hope	pwa	bean; pea
		pyebwa	tree

Chapit 2: Mannwèl Tounen



Sou gran wout la, yon gwo kamyon rete. Yon nèg desann. Li gen anpil fòs, li vanyan*. Li gade toupatou, li sezi*. Li te kwè li konnen peyi sa a, men gen lè se pa peyi pa l* la, li pa rekonnèt anyen. Tout bagay sèk, tout bagay tris. Li fè yon ti mache*, epi li wè yon bèl nègès*.

5

Mannwèl

“Bonjou! Kijan ou ye?”

Anayiz

“M pa pi mal, non.”

Mannwèl

“Mwen menm se natif natal* isit la. Gen kenzan konsa depi m te kite peyi a. M te ale koupe kann Kiba. Mezanmi! sa te rèd*!”

10

Anayiz

“Sa ou vle? Nou fèt* nan mizè, se nan mizè n ap mouri. Isit la, tè a sèk anpil. Epi sèl chans nou, se tè a. Se vre, wi. Men kounyeya, tè a pa* bay anyen ankò*. Lapli pa tonbe ankò.”

Yo kontre yon fanm ki di: “Bonjou, Anayiz!”

5

Mannwèl

“O! Se konsa yo rele ou, Anayiz! Mwen menm, yo rele m Mannwèl. M se pitit Byenneme ak Delira. Yo pa rete lwen isit la.”

Lamenm*, nègès la ale, san li pa di anyen. Nèg la sezi anpil. Li pa konprann anyen. “Li difisil pou konprann fanm!”

10

fè yon ti mache	to walk a bit
fèt	to be born; done, made, completed
lamenm	immediately
natif natal	native
nègès	woman
pa . . . ankò	no . . . longer
pa l	his (<i>possessive indicator</i>)
rèd	hard, tough
sezi	surprised
vanyan	robust; hard-working

Chapit 2: Kèsyon

Reponn an kreyòl ak yon fraz konplèt:

1. Kisa kamyon an fè?
2. Ki moun ki desann?
3. Kisa li fè lè l desann?
4. Poukisa li sezi?
5. Ki moun li wè?
6. Kisa li di l?
7. Kisa nègès la reponn?
8. Ki kote nèg sa a te ale?
9. Konben tan li te pase la?
10. Ki gwo pwoblèm yo gen isit la?
11. Ki sèl chans yo genyen?
12. Kijan yo rele nègès la?
13. Kijan yo rele nèg la?
14. Ki moun ki papa l?
15. Ki moun ki manman l?
16. Kisa nègès la fè lamenn?
17. Kisa nèg la di?

Numbers are important in every language!

1	youn	11	onz
2	de	12	douz
3	twa	13	trèz
4	kat	14	katòz
5	senk	15	kenz
6	sis	16	sèz
7	sèt	17	disèt
8	wit	18	dizwit
9	nèf	19	diznèf
10	dis	20	ven

Chapit 3: Mèsi, Bondye!



Nan yon lakou*, yon vye granmoun fanm chita. Li tris, li bouke ak lavi a, li pa gen lespwa. Bò kote li, yon vye granmoun gason chita ap fimèn* pip li. Li tris anpil tou.

Sanzatann*, yon vanyan gason antre nan lakou a. Delira gade, san li pa konprann anyen, epi:

5

Delira

“Pitit mwen, ay! pitit mwen!”

Delira kriye*, pip Byenneme tonbe. Yo pa ka kwè pitit gason yo a tounen lakay*. Sa fè kenzan depi li pati, kenzan depi y ap tann* li, san pran nouvèl li. Epi kounyeya, li rive, li la.

10

Delira

“Mèsi, Bondye! Mèsi, Iwa* yo! Pitit gason nou te pèdi a tounen vin jwenn manman I ak papa I!”

Delira ba li yon ti vè kleren*. Mannwèl bwè l.

Byenneme

“Sa ou ap fè la! Ou bliye lemò* yo! Chak fwa ou bwè, se pou ou lage* kèk ti gout* atè* pou lemò. Yo swaf tou!” 5

Delira

“Pitit mwen, m te pè* pou m pa mouri san m pa wè ou yon dènye fwa. Paske isit la tout bagay ap mouri, epi kretyen vivan* tou. Pa gen lapli menm. Bondye bliye nou.”

Mannwèl

**“Non, manman, se pa Bondye ki bliye nou, se nou ki bliye 10
tè a. Se nou ki koupe twòp pyebwa, se nou ki pa okipe*
tè a. Se nou ki mèt tè a, se nou ki mèt lawouze* tou.”**

Chapit 3: Kèsyon

Reponn an kreyòl ak yon fraz konplèt:

1. **Kibò vye granmoun fanm lan chita?**
2. **Èske li kontan anpil?**
3. **Ki lòt moun ki chita nan lakou a tou?**
4. **Sanzatann, sa k rive?**
5. **Kisa Delira fè lè l wè pitit gason li a?**
6. **Kisa Delira di?**
7. **Kisa Delira ak Byenneme pa ka kwè?**
8. **Depi konben tan Mannwèl te kite lakay li?**
9. **Kisa manman Mannwèl ba li pou l bwè?**
10. **Kisa Mannwèl bliye fè?**
11. **Poukisa pou li ta lage kèk ti gout atè?**
12. **Poukisa Delira te pè mouri san l pa wè pitit li a yon dènye fwa?**
13. **Dapre* Mannwèl, kisa yo te bliye?**
14. **Se fòt* ki moun?**
15. **Ki moun ki mèt tè a?**

atè	on the ground
dapre	according to
finen	to smoke
fòt	fault, mistake, error
gout	drop, drip
kleren	raw rum
kretyen vivan	human being
kriye	to cry, weep
lage	to let go, drop; to pour
lakay	home
lakou	yard, enclosure
lawouze	dew (<i>symbolic for water</i>)
lemò	the dead
lwa	Voodoo spirit
okipe	to take care of; busy
pè	fear; to be afraid
sanzatann	suddenly; unexpectedly
tann	to wait, wait for

Chapit 4: Chita Pa Bay



Yon lòt jou konmanse. Mannwèl chita nan lakou a. Manman l pote yon tas kafe ba li.

Mannwèl

“Manman, m pa konprann. Kijan nou fè pou n viv, si pa gen dlo, si pa gen mayi, si pa gen pitimi*?”

Delira

“Bondye bon, pitit mwen! Nou pa ka fè anyen.”

5

Mannwèl

“Non, non, manman. Chita pa bay.* Nou ka lapriyè sen* yo, lemò* yo, men yo p ap fè anyen pou nou. Si nou nan lamizè, se pa fòt yo, se fòt nou. Se nou menm ki pou donte* tè a, se nou menm ki pou ale jwenn dlo. Si nou pa regle* lavi nou, se pa lezòt yo k ap regle l. Pa* gen mirak ankò*, manman, se pou nou travay.”

10

Delira

“Ou konn* pale, pitit mwen, men pa bliye: se Bondye ki Granmèt, se li ki kòmande tout sen* yo, tout lwa yo.”

Mannwèl sòti nan kay la. Li vle mache nan plenn*, nan mòn, li vle wè ak de je l si pa gen dlo. Men, toupatou pa gen anyen. Tout kote sèk, sèk, sèk. Men, li di nan tèt li, 5
dèyè mòn gen mòn, epi nan mòn sa yo petèt gen dlo.

Sanzatann, li wè yon ti nèg lèd ki mande l:

Jèvilen

“Se ou ki Mannwèl, pitit Byenneme ak Delira?”

Mannwèl

“Wi, se mwen menm.”

Lè sa a, nèg la gade l ak rayisman*, epi l krache*. 10
Mannwèl pa konprann anyen.

Chita pa bay	Sitting around won't get you anywhere. (<i>proverb</i>)
donte	to tame, master
konn	to know how; to be in the habit of
krache	to spit
lemò	the dead
pa . . . ankò	no . . . longer
pitimi	millet
plenn	plain (<i>open country</i>)
rayisman	hate, hatred
regle	to regulate, guide, direct
sen	saint

Chapit 4: Kèsyon

Reponn an kreyòl ak yon fraz konplèt:

1. Kote Mannwèl chita?
2. Kisa manman l pote ba li?
3. Ki manje yo pa ka jwenn, san dlo?
4. Ki moun yo lapriyè?
5. Si moun Fonwouj nan lamizè, se fèt ki moun?
6. Kisa pou yo ale jwenn?
7. Si mirak pa fèt ankò, ki bagay ki ka sove yo?
8. Èske Delira dakò nèt ak pitit li a?
9. Poukisa Mannwèl sòti nan kay la?
10. Kisa li jwenn?
11. Men, kisa li di nan tèt li?
12. Ki moun li wè?
13. Kisa moun sa a mande l?
14. Kijan Mannwèl reponn?
15. Epi kisa lòt nèg la fè?

Numbers are still important in every language!

21 venteyen

31 tranteyen

22 vennde

32 trannde

23 venntwa

33 tranntwa

24 vennkat

34 tranntkat

25 vennsenk

35 trannsenk

26 vennsis

36 trannsis

27 vennsèt

37 trannsèt

28 ventwit

38 trantwit

29 ventnèf

39 trantnèf

30 trant

40 karant

Chapit 5: Yon Vye Istwa



Mannwèl

“Manman, papa, gen yon bagay m pa konprann. Jòdi a m te kontre ak yon ti nèg lèd ki te joure* m. M pa konprann poukisa li te fè sa. Epitou, lòt jou sou wout la m te kontre ak yon bèl nègès ki te vire do* kite m lè l te aprann ki moun m ye. Poukisa moun sa yo te fè sa? Gen yon bagay ki pa klè isit.” 5

Byenneme

“Enben, pitit mwen, se yon vye istwa ki te pase pandan ou te Kiba. Konsa, te gen yon gwo gwo zafè tè. Moun yo pa t ka dakò menm sou kijan pou tè a separe. Epi yon jou mouche yo rele Doriska a te vini sou tè a ak yon konbit*. Yo konmanse travay tè a. Frè m ki te rele Sovè a kouri al mande l sa l ap fè la a, paske tè sa a pa t pou li. Doriska joure Sovè, Sovè pran manchèt* li, epi li touye Doriska. Te gen yon gwo batay, te gen anpil san*. Pita, Sovè mouri nan prizon. Konsa, depi lè sa a, gen yon bò* bouk la ki rayi lòt bò a.” 10 15

Mannwèl kanpe. Li sòti nan jaden*. Tèt li chaje anpil. Kounyeya li konprann, se pa yon pwoblèm dlo ase* ki genyen, non. Gen de pwoblèm: moun rayi moun, moun pa vle travay nan tèt ansanm* - epitou, pa gen dlo. Sa vle di* se vre, pa gen lespwa, sa vle di tout bagay pèdi nèt. 5

Chapit 5: Kèsyon

Reponn an kreyòl ak yon fraz konplèt:

1. Ki moun Mannwèl te kontre jou sa a?
2. Kisa nèg sa a te fè?
3. Epi ki lòt moun li te kontre yon lòt jou?
4. Kisa nègès sa a te fè?
5. Kilè istwa Doriska ak Sovè a te rive?
6. Ki gwo gwo zafè ki te genyen?
7. Èske moun yo te antann yo* sou kijan pou tè a separe?
8. Kisa Doriska te fè yon jou?
9. Ki moun Sovè te ye?
10. Kisa Sovè te mande Doriska?
11. Epi kijan Doriska te reponn li?
12. Lè sa a, kisa Sovè te fè?
13. Te gen lòt moun nan istwa sa a tou?
14. Kisa ki te rive Sovè pita?
15. Depi lè sa a, kijan Fonwouj vin separe?
16. Poukisa Mannwèl chagren anpil lè l tande istwa sa a?

antann (+ <i>pronoun</i>)	to agree
ase	only; enough
bò	side; near
jaden	field; garden
joure	to insult, swear at
konbit	agricultural work team
manchèt	machete
nan tèt ansanm	as one, in union
san	blood; without; hundred
vire do	to turn one's back
vle di	to mean

Chapit 6: Travay Nan Tèt Ansanm



Yon jou swa*, vè senkè, Mannwèl al tann Anayiz sou mòn lan. Nèg la te kontre li nan bouk la, men* Anayiz pa t vle pale ak li. Mannwèl te di l li gen yon bon ti koze pou l pale ak li. Kounyeya, men* Anayiz k ap rive:

Mannwèl

“Anayiz, o! Mwen kontan anpil anpil ou vini.”

5

Anayiz

“Wi, men m pa gen dwa vini pale avè ou.”

Mannwèl

“Anayiz, èske ou pa bouke ak tout vye istwa rayisman ki nan bouk la?”

Anayiz

“Men wi! Se sa k mete n nan plis mizè: moun rayi moun.”

Mannwèl

“Tout bagay la, se dlo ki pa genyen, epi youn pa vle travay ak lòt.”

Anayiz

“Men, kisa nou ka fè nan sa?”

Mannwèl

“Nou ka jwenn dlo, fè dlo rive nan jaden nou, fè dlo rive nan bouk nou an pou jwenn lavi.”

5

Anayiz

“E moun ki gen fòs pou jwenn dlo a, se ou menm menm, Mannwèl!”

Mannwèl

“M pa konnen, m pa konnen. Men, si m resi* jwenn dlo a, fòk* ta gen anpil moun pou travay nan tèt ansanm, nan yon gwo konbit frè ak frè. E se pou sa m di m bezwen ou anpil, Anayiz.”

10

Anayiz

“Poukisa?”

Mannwèl

“Paske si m resi jwenn dlo a, tout moun bezwen travay ansanm. E ou menm, ou ka pale ak fanm yo. Se fanm yo ase ki ka rive chanje gason yo, fè yo konprann lè frè rayi frè, frè pa ka travay ak frè. Epi si youn pa vle travay ak lòt, tout moun ap mouri. Fòk nou chanje lavi nou ansanm.”

15

Anayiz

“O Mannwèl!” (*Yo bo*.*)

Chapit 6: Kèsyon

Reponn an kreyòl ak yon fraz konplèt:

1. Kilè Mannwèl al tann Anayiz?
2. Ki kote l ap tann li?
3. Se premye fwa Mannwèl te kontre li depi premye jou a?
4. Poukisa Mannwèl vle pale ak li?
5. Èske Mannwèl kontan wè li?
6. Men, kisa Anayiz reponn li?
7. Kisa Mannwèl vle di lè l pale sou “vye istwa rayisman ki nan bouk la”?
8. Dapre Mannwèl, poukisa moun nan bouk la pa gen anyen?
9. Kisa Mannwèl kwè yo dwe fè?
10. Dapre Anayiz, ki moun ki gen fòs pou jwenn dlo a?
11. Si l rive jwenn dlo, kisa lezòt yo dwe fè?
12. Epi kisa Anayiz menm ka fè?
13. Kisa fanm yo ka rive fè?
14. Sa k rive lè youn pa vle travay ak lòt?
15. Sa k rive nan fen chapit sa a?

bo	to kiss, embrace
fòk	it is necessary that
jou swa	evening
men	but; hand; here is
resi	to succeed

Chapit 7: Dlo!



Anayiz ap tounen lakay li, nan fènwa*. Sanzatann, li tande yon vwa*.

Anayiz

“Ki moun ki la?”

Jèvilèn

“Ou pa konnen? A! a! Se kouzen ou, Jèvilèn. Ou pa pè mache nan fènwa konsa? Epi, kisa ou ap fè la a? Ou kwè m pa te wè ou ak vakabon* sa a, neve* Sovè a?”

Anayiz

“Sa pa gade ou!*”

Jèvilèn

“Sa ou di la a, sa pa gade m! Sa gade m, wi! Ou gentan* bliye mwen te vle voye tonton* mwen mande manman ou pou ou? Èske ou chanje lide* ou depi lè sa a?”

Anayiz

“Bliye bagay konsa, monchè.”

Jèvilen

“Ou ap regrèt sa! Tonnè, fout*! Sanzave* sa a, Mannwèl, ap regrèt nèt li te jennen* Jèvilen, l ap regrèt li te fèt! Ou a wè! Ou a wè!”



Mannwèl ap mache nan mòn. Li gade adwat, li 5
gade agòch. Li toujou pa wè anyen. Solèy* la cho
anpil anpil... Sanzatann, li wè yon bann* zwazo*.
Li kouri vit vit kote yo fèk* sòti a. Li tonbe* koupe
raje* ki bare* wout li. Anfen li rive nan fon*
rakbwa* a. Li tonbe fouye* tè a. “Dlo, dlo, dlo! 10
Mèsi, Bondye, mèsi!”

Chapit 7: Kèsyon

Reponn an kreyòl ak yon fraz konplèt:

1. **Ki kote Anayiz ap tounen?**
2. **Kisa li tandè?**
3. **Ki moun ki la?**
4. **Poukisa Jèvilen mande l si l pa pè?**
5. **Kisa Jèvilen te gentan wè?**
6. **Èske Jèvilen renmen Anayiz?**
7. **Epi èske Jèvilen renmen Mannwèl?**
8. **Poukisa?**
9. **Ou kwè Anayiz pito* Jèvilen oubyen* Mannwèl?**
10. **Anvan li pati, kisa Jèvilen di?**



11. **Kote Mannwèl ap mache?**
12. **Sanzatann, kisa li wè?**
13. **Kote li kouri?**
14. **Poukisa?**
15. **Kisa li tonbe fè?**
16. **Epi, kisa li jwenn?**

bann	flock, band, group
bare	to block, obstruct
fèk	to have just (done something)
fènwa	darkness
fon	bottom, back
fouye	to dig
gentan	already
jennen	to disturb, annoy, get in the way of
lide	mind; idea
neve	nephew
oubyen	or
pito	to prefer
raje	underbrush
rakbwa	thicket
Sa pa gade ou!	That's none of your business!
sanzave	good-for-nothing, bum
solèy	sun
tonbe	to begin to; to fall
tonnè, fout!	damn!
tonton	uncle; old man
vakabon	good-for-nothing, bum, scoundrel
vwa	voice
zwazo	bird

Chapit 8: Yon Fil Ki Pa Janm Kase



Anayiz

“Se pa vre, Mannwèl? Ou jwenn dlo? Men, èske ou sèten gen ase dlo pou wouze* tout tè nou yo?”

Mannwèl

“Pa gen pwoblèm, Anayiz, gen dlo pou tout moun, tout bagay pral chanje kounyeya.”

Anayiz

“Ou fò, Mannwèl.”

5

Mannwèl

“Mwen pa fò, Anayiz, men m gen konfyans. Sa pi enpòtan.”

Anayiz

“Konfyans nan kisa?”

Mannwèl

“M gen konfyans nan lavi, konfyans moun p ap mouri. Natirèlman, tout moun gen pou* kite tè a yon jou. Men, ou wè, Anayiz, pou mwen lavi a menm ap kontinye, paske se yon fil* ki pa janm kase, ni ki pa janm pèdi. Ou konnen poukisa? 5
Se paske chak moun ki fè yon travay ki itil, se tankou* yon ne* li fè nan fil sa a, ki ranfòse l, ki fè lavi a pi bon pou tout lezòt yo k ap vini apre. Nou tout, se travayè nou ye, se frè nou ye. Youn ede lòt, menm apre lanmò.” 10

Anayiz

“Mannwèl, o! M renmen ou.”

Mannwèl

“M renmen ou, Anayiz! M vle bati yon kay, ak de pòt, de fennèt, epi yon ti galri - e tout sa pou ou, Anayiz.”

Anayiz

“Montre m dlo a, wi, Mannwèl.”

Mannwèl

“Ann al gade l ansanm, cheri.” (*Yo rive bò sous** 15
la.)

Anayiz

“O! li fè fre* isit la. O! li bèl! Gade dlo! gen dlo toupatou! Mannwèl, o!”

Epi yo tonbe atè. E la, bò dlo a, yo fè youn.

Chapit 8: Kèsyon

Reponn an kreyòl ak yon fraz konplèt:

1. Kisa Mannwèl te jwenn?
2. Ki kantite dlo ki genyen?
3. Poukisa Anayiz kwè Mannwèl fò?
4. Kijan Mannwèl diferan ak lòt moun Fonwouj yo?
5. Kisa tout moun gen pou fè yon jou?
6. Poukisa Mannwèl di lavi a, se tankou yon fil?
7. Epi, kisa sa ye, “yon ne” nan fil sa a?
8. Kisa sa kap fè pou lezòt yo k ap vini apre?
9. Kijan fè chak moun se frè youn ak lòt?
10. Kisa Mannwèl vle bati pou Anayiz?
11. Ki kalite kay li ta vle bati pou li?
12. Kisa Anayiz vle al wè kounyeya?
13. Èske li fè cho bò sous la?
14. Ou kwè Anayiz ak Mannwèl renmen youn lòt?
15. Poukisa?

fil	thread
fre	cool
gen pou	to have to
ne	knot
sous	spring (<i>of water</i>)
tankou	as, like
wouze	to water, irrigate

Chapit 9: Dlo Pou Ki Moun?



(Pip Byenneme tonbe.)

Byenneme

“Sa ou di la, pitit mwen? Ou te jwenn dlo! Se pa vre! Pitit mwen, o! Mwen rekonnèt san* mwen byen nan ou! Men, rakonte n: èske se yon ti gout dlo, oubyen èske gen dlo pou wouze tout jaden nou yo?”

5

Mannwèl

“Pa gen pàn,* papa! Genyen pou *tout* moun nan bouk la!”

Byenneme

“Men, lè ou di *tout* moun, ou pa vle di tout vye* moun sa yo ki lènmi* ak nou! Yo pa gen dwa sèvi ak dlo sa a, paske se ou menm menm ki te jwenn li!”

10

Mannwèl

“Non, papa, dlo a se pou tout moun li ye. Tout moun gen dwa sèvi avè l - epi pou dlo rive jouk isit la, fòk

anpil anpil travay fèt*. Fòk gen yon gwo konbit kote tout moun travay nan tèt ansanm. Fòk nou tout fouye yon gwo kannal. Yon sèl ti ponyen* moun pa ta kapab.”

Byenneme

“Non, non, non! Mwen p ap janm asepte travay ak 5
lezòt yo tou. Yo menm, se moun Doriska*, ki te vle pran tè ki te pou nou, ki te fè* Sovè, fre m lan, mouri* nan prizon. Mwen p ap janm asepte travay ak moun sa yo!” (*Li sòti.*)

Delira

“Ou wè, pitit mwen. Vye rayisman an la depi twò 10
lontan.”

Mannwèl

“Pa gen anyen lòt nou ka fè, manman. Fòk tout moun travay ansanm, oubyen n ap mouri ansanm. M pral pale ak gason yo, epi Anayiz ap pale ak fanm yo. Si tèt yo pa ta vle koute n, enben vant* yo a koute n. Mwen 15
konnen yo.”

fè . . . mouri	to cause . . . to die
fèt	done, made, completed; to be born
lènmi	enemy
moun Doriska	Doriska’s people
Pa gen pàn!	No problem!
ponyen	handful, group
san	blood; without; hundred
vant	stomach
vye	disgusting; hateful; old

Chapit 9: Kèsyon

Reponn an kreyòl ak yon fraz konplèt:

1. Kisa ki rive lè Byenneme tande nouvèl la?
2. Kijan nou konnen Byenneme kontan anpil ak pitit gason li a?
3. Ki kèsyon Byenneme mande Mannwèl pou konmanse?
4. Ki lòt moun ki te mande Mannwèl menm kèsyon sa a deja?
5. Lè Mannwèl di “tout moun,” kisa li vle di?
6. Dapre Byenneme, poukisa lènmi yo pa gen dwa sèvi ak dlo sa a?
7. Kijan Mannwèl reponn li?
8. Poukisa yo dwe fouye yon gwo kannal?
9. Epi ki pwoblèm ki gen nan sa?
10. Kisa sa ye, yon konbit?
11. Èske Byenneme dakò pou l travay ak lènmi?
12. Kisa Doriska te vle fè?
13. Kisa Sovè te ye pou Byenneme?
14. Kote Sovè te mouri?
15. Poukisa yo te mete l nan prizon?
16. Dapre Delira, poukisa moun Fonwouj yo p ap janm vle travay nan tèt ansanm?
17. Dapre Mannwèl, si tout moun Fonwouj pa vle travay ansanm, sa k ap rive?
18. Poukisa Mannwèl kwè moun Fonwouj yo ap koute l?

Chapit 10: Yon Koze Serye



Nouvèl Mannwèl te jwenn dlo a te gaye* toupatou nan ti bouk la. Teledyòl* mache vit! Anayiz te ale pale ak fanm yo. Tout moun ki lènmi Mannwèl yo ap reyini* pou diskite zafè sa a. Se lannwit. Sanzatann:

5

Mannwèl

“Onè!.*”

Lezòt

“Respè!* O! o! se Mannwèl! Sa ou vin chache isit la?”

Mannwèl

“Frè m yo, m vin pale ak nou. Vye istwa sa a ki mete youn lènmi ak lòt, li la depi twò lontan. Sa m ta vle fè kounyeya, se fè youn vin zanmi ak lòt. M te jwenn yon sous, se vre, men... li lwen anpil. Fòk nou tout travay

10

nan tèt ansanm, nan yon gwo konbit pou fè dlo a rive jouk isit. Sa yon men pa kapab fè, de ka fè l. Fòk nou bay lanmen*; ki avantaj ki genyen lè nou lènm? Gade timoun yo, gade plant yo. Se lanmò ki make sou yo. Frè 5 m yo, sèl jan pou nou sove tèt nou*, se pou nou tout fè youn. Tout moun se moun.* Youn bezwen lòt, youn ap mouri san lòt!”

Jèvilen

“Fout! Sa ou ap di nou la a? Ou vle achte nou pou yon ti gout dlo! San an te koule*, san papa mwen, nou pa 10 ka janm bliye sa! (*Pèsonn pa di anyen . . .*) M wè sa, nou tout kont mwen! Enben, m ale - men, Mannwèl, konsa ou frape m de (2) fwa. Yon sèl fwa deja, se te twòp!” (*Li sòti.*)

bay lanmen	to join hands, work together
gayè	to spread, spread out
koule	to flow
lajounen	daytime
onè	honor (<i>traditional request to enter home</i>)
respè	respect (<i>traditional reply to enter</i>)
reyini	to meet, get together
teledyòl	word-of-mouth, “coconut grapevine”
tèt nou	ourselves; yourselves
Tout moun	Everyone is equal. / Everyone
se moun	deserves to be treated as a human being. (<i>proverb</i>)

Chapit 10: Kèsyon

Reponn an kreyòl ak yon fraz konplèt:

1. Kisa teledyòl gaye vit nan ti bouk la?
2. Kisa Anayiz te ale fè?
3. Ki moun ki reyini pou diskite kounyeya?
4. Èske se pandan lajounen*?
5. Kisa Mannwèl di lè l rive devan kay la?
6. E kijan yo reponn li?
7. Kisa Mannwèl di sou vye istwa ki mete youn lènmi ak lòt?
8. Èske sous Mannwèl te jwenn lan bò bouk la?
9. Poukisa fòk tout moun travay ansanm nan yon gwo konbit?
10. Ki kèsyon Mannwèl mande yo?
11. Kisa sa vle di: “Tout moun se moun”?
12. Dapre Jèvilèn, kijan Mannwèl vle achte yo?
13. Ki moun ki te papa Jèvilèn?
14. Èske lezòt yo koute Jèvilèn?
15. Poukisa Jèvilèn di Mannwèl te frape l de (2) fwa?

Chapit 11: Lanmò



Mannwèl ap tounen lakay li. Li kontan. Tout bagay byen pase. Li sèten denmen y ap ba li yon bon repons. Tout moun ap rekonmanse viv tankou frè, tout moun ap rekonmanse travay ansanm. Yo sove, Fonwouj sove.

5

Sanzatann, nan fènwa a, gen yon bri*. Yon men rive nan do Mannwèl, yon men ak yon kouto*. Mannwèl tonbe. Li ret atè a pandan lontan. Li rele, men lavwa* li twò fèb*. Pèsonn pa tande anyen. Piti piti li konmanse rale*. Anfen, anfen li rive lakay li.

10

Delira

“Ki moun ki la?”

Mannwèl

“Manman, manman, se mwen.”

Delira

“Mannwèl, o! Sa k rive ou? Vini, non! Kite* m ede ou. Kouche* la. O! o! Apa* ou benyen san! Ki moun ki fè ou sa? Kite m ale fè plent kay lapolis touswit!”

Mannwèl

“Non, non, manman. M ap mouri. Dènye bagay mwen 5
mande ou, se pou ou pa di anyen. Di yo m te sot Kiba
ak yon vye lafyèv; se li ki touye m. Osinon*, vye istwa
moun rayi moun, youn pa vle travay ak lòt la, pral
kontinye - epi sa k pèdi a, se dlo a, se nou, se Fonwouj.
Anayiz a montre nou kote dlo a ye. Chante antèman* 10
m ak yon chante* konbit. M kite ou, manman.” (*Li mouri.*)

antèman	funeral, burial
apa	look how...!
bay manti	to lie, tell lies
bri	noise
chante	song; to sing
fèb	weak, feeble
kite	to let; to leave; to stop (doing something)
kouche	to lie down; to get into bed
kouto	knife
lavwa	voice
osinon	if not, otherwise
rale	to crawl; to pull

Chapit 11: Kèsyon

Reponn an kreyòl ak yon fraz konplèt:

1. Poukisa Mannwèl kontan?
2. Kisa sa vle di: “yon bon repons”?
3. Kijan Fonwouj ap sove?
4. Sanzatann, kisa ki rive nan fènwa a?
5. Lè Mannwèl rele, poukisa pèsonn pa tande l’?
6. Kijan li rive lakay li?
7. Kisa Delira mande lè l tande yon moun?
8. Epi kisa Delira di?
9. Ki moun Delira vle rele touswit?
10. Ki dènye bagay Mannwèl mande manman l’?
11. Kijan Mannwèl vle yo di li te mouri?
12. Poukisa li vle manman l ba* yo manti*?
13. Si yo rete toujou nan moun rayi moun, kisa k ap pèdi?
14. Kijan moun yo ka jwenn sous la?
15. Kijan Mannwèl vle yo chante antèman l’?

Chapit 12: Mèt Lawouze



Tout zanmi Mannwèl yo vini nan veye* a. Se kriye sèlman Delira ak Anayiz ap kriye. Byenneme rete la tankou yon nonm* soud*, yon nonm avèg*. Zanmi Mannwèl yo desann sèkèy* la tou dousman nan twou a. Youn di: “Ou ale vre, Mannwèl . . . Lè nou bouke, 5
lè nou chagren, lè n ap di: ‘Poukisa n ap debat*, lavi pa vo* lapenn*, n a sonje* ou, Mannwèl, n a sonje egzanp ou a. Nou kapab chanje lavi, nou se mèt lawouze.’”

Jou swa sa a, Delira te ale pou kont li* nan kay kote 10
“lènmi yo” te rasanble a. Yo sezi wè li.

Delira

“Se pitit mwen an, pitit mwen ki mouri a, ki voye m isit la. Li te kite yon mesaj pou nou. Men, dabò* se pou nou sèmante* nou p ap janm di anyen sou sa m pral

di aswè a. (*Yo sèmante.*) Nou tout konnen se Jèvilen ki touye gason m lan e nou konnen Jèvilen te gentan kite Fonwouj. (*Silans.*) Men, se pou nou pa di anyen. Se Mannwèl menm ki pa t vle yon lòt vye istwa moun rayi moun konmanse ankò. Deja nou tout te bay anpil sakrifis pou nou ka gen dlo: nou bay san poul, san kabrit*. Sa pa chanje anyen. Kounyeya, se Mannwèl ki bay san pa l pou nou gen dlo. Se pa poul yo oubyen kabrit yo k ap chanje lavi: se moun ase ki ka fè l. Li te bay lavi li pou Fonwouj ka viv. Li te vle lanmò li sèvi pou lavi. Respekte tèt li. M ale, frè m yo.”



Aprè yon mwa konsa, Delira ak Anayiz ap gade kannal konbit la te fouye a. Tanbou* ap bat, moun ap chante yon chante pou Mannwèl. Sanzatann, gen yon gran silans. Epi:

Anayiz

“Manman, o! Men dlo a, men dlo a!”

Delira

“O! o! Mannwèl, pitit mwen, poukisa ou pa la pou wè sa! Poukisa? Poukisa ou te mouri?”

Anayiz

“Li pa mouri nèt, manman. Mete men ou la a, sou vant mwen. Mannwèl ap viv ankò, Fonwouj ap viv ankò.”

Chapit 12: Kèsyon

Reponn an kreyòl ak yon fraz konplèt:

1. Kisa Delira ak Anayiz ap fè nan veye Mannwèl?
2. E Byenneme?
3. Nan ti koze zanmi Mannwèl la ap fè a, dapre ou menm, ki bagay ki pi enpòtan?
4. Jou swa sa a, ki kote Delira ale?
5. Poukisa yo sezi wè l'?
6. Poukisa li ale la?
7. Kisa yo dwe sèmante yo p ap di?
8. Kisa tout moun ki la konnen sou lanmò Mannwèl?
9. Kote Jèvilen kounyeya?
10. Poukisa Mannwèl vle zanmi li yo kwè se lafyèv ki te touye l'?
11. Ki sakrifis moun Fonwouj te fè deja?
12. Dapre Mannwèl, ki sèl jan moun ka chanje lavi?
13. Kijan lanmò li ka sèvi?



14. Apre yon mwa konsa, kisa Delira ak Anayiz ap gade?
15. Poukisa te gen yon gran silans?
16. Poukisa Anayiz di Mannwèl pa mouri nèt?

avèg	blind
dabò	first, first of all
debat	to struggle, endeavor
kabrit	goat
lapenn	effort, trouble; sorrow; suffering
nonm	man
pou kont	
(+ <i>pronoun</i>)	alone
sèkèy	coffin
sèmante	to swear, pledge
sonje	to remember
soud	deaf
tanbou	drum
veye	funeral wake
vo	to be worth

Kèsyon Jeneral

1. Nan istwa sa a, Jacques Roumain pa mete ni yon agwonòm* ki te sòti nan Pòtoprens, ni yon bann moun ki te sòti lòtbò dlo*, ki vini sove bouk la. Okontrè*, li mete yon nèg ki sòti nan bouk la ki tounen sove bouk li a. Poukisa?
2. Èske ou kwè Jacques Roumain te bezwen kanpe* nan *Mèt Lawouze* yon nèg ki te kite peyi l, anvan li ka tounen ede l? Poukisa?
3. Èske gen moun ki ta ka di se lwa yo ki voye Mannwèl ede Fonwouj?
4. Ou kwè Mannwèl te bezwen mouri nan istwa sa a?
5. Kilès* ki pi konsekan* nan istwa sa a: jwenn dlo, oubyen moun k ap travay nan tèt ansanm?
6. Kisa tit* la vle di: *Mèt Lawouze*?
7. Poukisa ou kwè yo mete istwa *Mèt Lawouze* nan anpil anpil lang lòtbò?

agwonòm	agronomist, agricultural expert
kanpe	to place, insert; to stand up, standing
kilès	which, which one
konsekan	important, of consequence
lòtbò dlo	from overseas, abroad
okontrè	on the contrary
tit	title

PWOVÈB

Not even a short selection of Haitian readings would be acceptable without a sampling of one of the most characteristic expressions of Haiti's culture: the proverb. Each can be uniquely revealing not only as a general truth, but as an insight into many of the underlying attitudes of this fascinating people.

Rather than furnish a literal translation, in most cases we prefer to suggest a broad interpretation. The reader is invited to find others as well. Proverbs are similar to parables: more than one meaning can be valid.

1. **Bondye bon.**

Whatever God does is for the best.

Whatever is, is good.

(Haiti's eternally optimistic fatalism.)

2. **Dèyè mòn, gen mòn.**

After one sorrow, more sorrows.

If it's not one thing, it's another.

There's more than meets the eye.

3. **Sak vid pa kanpe.**

No work gets done on an empty stomach.

You get out what you put in.

4. **Santi bon koute chè.**

A big front doesn't come cheaply.

5. **Kreyon* Bondye pa gen gòm.***

God makes no mistakes.

What God promises He will give.

What's traced for you is forever traced.

6. **Bèl fanm, bèl malè.**
A beautiful woman means trouble.
7. **Nèg di san fè, Bondye fè san di.**
Man talks, God acts.
8. **Pale franse pa di lespri pou sa.**
Fancy talk doesn't mean brains.
9. **Bèl larivyè, nanpwen* rad*.**
A beautiful situation, wasted.
All dressed up and no place to go.
10. **Milat* pòv se nèg, nèg rich se milat.**
Money is everything.
11. **Prese bon, dousman bon.**
There's more than one right way.
12. **Grangou dimanch pi rèd.**
Hunger is worse when others are feasting.
13. **Bon mache koute chè.**
Bargains are expensive.
14. **Tan ale, li pa tounen.**
We can never recapture the past.
15. **Fanm se kajou: plis li vye, plis li bon.**
Women, like wine, improve with age.

16. Sa nèg fè nèg, Bondye ri.

God does not trouble Himself with what man does to man.

17. Tout moun se moun.

Everyone deserves to be treated as a human being.

18. Anpil bèl bagay anmè*.

Appearances can be deceiving.

19. Si ou bay pòv, se Bondye ou prete.

Charity has its rewards.

20. Nanpwen* kòb, nanpwen manje.

You get what you pay for.

21. Pitit tig, se tig.

“The tiger’s cub can be dangerous too.”

(Jean-Claude Duvalier, 1975)

22. Ti nèg fè sa l kapab, grannèg* fè sa l vle.

Money and power are everything.

23. Tande pa di konprann pou sa.

Hearing is one thing, understanding is another.

24. Grannèg* se lalwa.

Might makes right.

25. Pitit se richès pòv malere.

A child is the poor man’s consolation.

26. **Piti piti zwazo fè nich* li.**
Everything takes time.
27. **Lanne pase toujou pi bon.**
The grass is always greener on the other side.
28. **Fanm pou yon tan, manman pou tout tan.**
Wife for a time, mother for all time.
29. **Pise marengwen ogmante larivyè.**
Every little drop counts.
30. **Lè ou krache* an lè, li tonbe sou nen ou.**
What goes around, comes around.
31. **Aprè dans, tanbou* toujou lou.**
After the excitement is over, life can be a drag.
32. **Kreyòl pale, kreyòl konprann.**
Creole (as opposed to French) means straight,
honest talk.
33. **Kouri lapli, tonbe larivyè.**
In avoiding one thing, we fall into something
worse.
34. **Bay kou bliye, pote mak sonje.**
The culprit forgets, the victim remembers.
35. **Po tè pa goumen* ak po fè.**
Know thyself.
36. **Entelijan twonpe* 'leve bonè'.**
The smart person figures the angles.

37. **Fanm se zanj, fanm se denmon.**

Can't live with 'em, can't live without 'em.

38. **CHITA PA BAY.**

Sitting around won't get you anywhere.

anmè	bitter
gòm	eraser
goumen	to fight
grannèg	“big shot,” person of importance
krache	to spit
kreyon	pencil
milat	Mulatto
nanpwen	(there is/are) no
nich	nest
rad	clothes
tanbou	drum
twonpe	to deceive, fool

Blag

1 *Gwo deblozay**

Te gen yon nèg ki te ale nan yon ba*. Li rele bamann* lan: “Vit, vit, pote yon ti vè wonm ban mwen anvan gwo deblozay la.” Bamann lan pote yon ti vè wonm ba li.

Nèg la di ankò: “Vit, vit, pote yon ti vè wonm ban mwen anvan gwo deblozay la.” Bamann lan pote yon dezyèm ti vè wonm ba li. 5

Nèg la di ankò: “Vit, vit, pote yon ti vè wonm ban mwen anvan gwo deblozay la.”

Bamann lan di: “O! o! ki gwo deblozay sa a?” 10

Nèg la reponn: “Ou pa konnen? Gwo deblozay sa a, se lè ou ap aprann m pa gen kòb pou peye ou!”

2 *Istwa yon bourik**

Te gen yon nèg ki fèk* marye. Nèg la moute ak madanm li sou bourik li.

Bourik la fè yon fopa*. Nèg la di: “Sa fè yon fwa.”

Bourik la fè yon dezyèm fopa. Nèg la di: “Sa fè de (2) fwa.” 5

Bourik la fè yon twazyèm fopa. Nèg la desann bourik la ak madanm li, epi li touye bourik la.

Madanm li di: “Poukisa ou fè sa?”

Nèg la di: “Sa fè yon fwa.”

ba	bar	deblozay	uproar, ruckus
bamann	bartender	fè yon fopa	to stumble
bourik	donkey	fèk	to have just (done something)

3 *Yon dènye sigarèt?*

Te gen yon nèg yo t apral* touye. Anvan yo touye li, yo mande l: “Èske ou ta vle fimen yon sigarèt anvan nou touye ou?”

Nèg la reponn: “Non, mèsì, bòs papa. Mwen fèk kite fimen! Li pa bon pou lasante m.” 5

4 *Boujwa ak abitan*

Te gen yon boujwa Petyonvil ki te sòti nan bèl machin li pou ale Ench. Lè l rive andeyò*, li pèdi wout li. Konsa li rete pou l mande yon abitan kijan pou l fè pou l rive Ench.

“Alo! konpè m! Ki kote pou m pase pou m ale Ench?” 5

Abitan an reponn: “M pa konnen.”

Nèg Petyonvil la mande l ankò: “Oke. Èske ou ta ka di m ki kote pou m fè pou m rive Mibalè?”

Abitan an reponn: “M pa konnen.”

Nèg Petyonvil la move*, li di lòt la: “Kifè, vye papa! 10
Ou pa konnen anyen?”

Abitan an reponn: “Se pa mwen menm ki pèdi, non.”

andeyò country(side), hills, backwoods, “sticks”

apral to be going (to)

move angry, annoyed; bad

5 *Degouden* pou Bondye*

Yon samdi swa, papa Ti Lifèt te ba li yon pyas*.

“Degouden, se pou bay legliz denmen maten. Ak lòt degouden an, ou mèt* al achte yon krèm*.”

Ti Lifèt kouri vit sòti lakay li. L ale nan boutik krèm lan, men, anvan li rive la, li tonbe: **bip!** Epi yon 5
degouden tonbe tou: **bling...** Yon gwo chen vale l!

Ti Lifèt di: “O! o! Erezman se degouden papa Bondye a chen an vale la a!”

6 *Yon moun Okap*

Yon moun ki sòti Pòtoprens te rive Okap. Lè l rive la, li mande yon moun Okap si se yon bon lavil Okap ye.

Moun Okap la reponn: “O wi, se sa nèt! Lè m te rive isit la, mwen pa te gen fòs pou m di yon sèl mo*; m 5
pa t gen cheve* nan tèt mwen ditou*; menm lè moun te vle ede m, mwen pa te kapab mache nan lari; tout tan ata* ede yo te ede m kouche, epi menm bagay tou pou lè m t ap leve.”

Moun Pòtoprens la di: “O! o! Se yon bèl bagay sa a! Depi kilè ou isit la?” 10

Moun Okap la reponn: “Mwen menm? Se isit la mwen fèt.”

ata	even	mèt	may (<i>permission</i>);
cheve	hair		master; owner; teacher
degouden	one-half of a gourde (formerly 10 cents U.S.)	mo	word
ditou	(not) at all	pyas	(<i>familiar expres- sion for</i>) Haitian
krèm	ice-cream		gourde (formerly 20 cents U.S.)

7 *Fanmi mwen*

Tijak: “Madanm souple, èske ou ta ka ban m twa goud pou m kap ale jwenn fanmi mwen, tanpri souple?”

Touris: “Pa gen pwoblèm, pitit mwen an, men twa goud. Konsa, ou ka ale wè fanmi ou. Men, ki kote fanmi ou ye?” 5

Tijak: (*l ap kouri chape poul li**) “Nan sinema, wi!”

8 *Mwen menm tou!*

Yon mèt lekòl telefonnen manman yon elèv:

Mèt: Bonjou, madanm. Kijan ou ye?

Manman: Byen, msye. E ou menm?

Mèt: M ap boule piti piti, wi. M telefonnen ou paske gen yon ti pwoblèm ak pitit ou a. Li te pran poul sou* yon ti zanmi li. 5

Manman: Poukisa ou di sa, Mèt?

Mèt: Gen de jou, msye ak ti zanmi li a te fè menm fòt nan egzamen m te ba yo a.

Manman: Mezanmi! Men, se pa pitit mwen an, non! 10
Se siman lòt la ki te pran poul sou li.

Mèt: M ap esplike ou, madanm. Mwen te ba yo yon ti egzamen kalkil*: “Konben de (2) plis senk (5)

chape poul (+ <i>pronoun</i>)	to clear out, take to one’s heels
ditou	(not) at all
kalkil	arithmetic
pran poul (sou)	to copy, cheat (<i>on test</i>)

fè?” Ti zanmi li a te ekri: “M pa konnen!” Pitit ou a te ekri: “Mwen menm tou!”

9 *Tout kalite* kafe*

De moun te vin chita nan yon gran restoran Petyonvil.

Aprè yo fin manje yon gwo dine*, gason an te mande: “Èske nou ta pito kafe ayisyen oubyen kafe ameriken?”

Fanm lan reponn: “Pote yon kafe ameriken ban mwen, souple.” 5

Epi msye a di: “Pote yon kafe ayisyen ban mwen, souple.”

Gason an reponn: “Touswit!”

Fanm lan di: “Ala* bon restoran, monchè! Yo gen tout bagay!” 10

Aprè yon ti moman, gason an rive ak de tas. Li bay fanm lan yon gwo tas, epi li bay msye a yon ti tas.

Epi, ak gran seremoni, li vide kafe a nan toude tas yo - sòti nan yon sèl kafetyè*. 15

ala...!	what a...!
dine	luncheon, noonday meal
kafetyè	coffee pot
kalite	kind, sort

10 *Mont* monpè**

Nan yon ti bouk te gen yon monpè ki te konn* kite mont li sou yon ban* nan legliz la, anvan li rantre nan konfesyonal la. Li te konn fè sa pou li pa t janm gen tantasyon gade lè pandan yon fidèl t ap konfese.

Yon jou, yon msye vin konfese. Li di: “Monpè, 5
padonnen m, m fèk vòlè yon mont.”

Pè* a di: “Sa pa ase pou ou mande padon, fò ou renmèt* mont la tou.”

Nèg la mande: “Ou vle l, monpè?”

Pè a reponn: “Mwen menm menm? Non, mwen pa 10
bezwen l. Se pou ou pote l bay mèt li.”

Nèg la reponn: “Enben, mwen ofri l li, men li pa vle pran l!”

Lè sa a, pè a di: “Oke, konsa pa gen pwoblèm. Ou 15
mèt pran mont la pou ou!”

Epi, li bay nèg la absolisyon.

Lè nèg la te fin ale, pè a voye je* sou ban an. Li mete de men nan tèt. Epi, maltèt* pran l lamenm!

ban	bench, pew
konn	to be in the habit of; to know how
maltèt	headache
monpè	Roman Catholic priest
mont	watch (<i>timepiece</i>)
pè	Roman Catholic priest; fear; pair
renmèt	to give back, return
voye je	to glance

Blag: Kèsyon

Reponn an kreyòl ak yon fraz konplèt:

1 *Gwo deblozay*

1. Ki kote nèg la te ale?
2. Kisa li te di bamann lan?
3. Epi kisa bamann lan te fè?
4. Apre dezyèm ti vè wonm lan, kisa bamann lan te mande l'?
5. Kilè ap gen yon gwo deblozay?
6. Rakonte tout ti blag sa a, san gade tèks la.

2 *Istwa yon bourik*

1. Kisa nèg la te fèk fè?
2. Ak ki moun li te moute sou bourik la?
3. Kisa bourik la te fè?
4. Lè sa a, kisa nèg la te di?
5. Apre twazyèm fopa bourik la, kisa nèg la te fè?
6. Kisa madanm li te mande l'?
7. Epi, kisa nèg la te reponn?
8. Rakonte tout ti blag sa a, san gade tèks la.

3 *Yon dènye sigarèt?*

1. Kisa yo t apral fè ak yon nèg?
2. Kisa yo mande l anvan yo touye li?
3. Kisa li te reponn?
4. Rakonte tout ti blag sa a, san gade tèks la.

4 *Boujwa ak abitan*

1. Kibò boujwa a te sòti?
2. Ki kote li te prale?
3. Poukisa li te rete pale ak yon abitan?
4. Pou ki de (2) vil li te mande l'?
5. Èske ou ka montre de (2) vil sa yo sou yon kat Dayiti?
6. Poukisa boujwa a move?
7. Epi kisa abitan an reponn li?
8. Rakonte tout ti blag sa a, san gade tèks la.

5 *Degouden pou Bondye*

1. Konben kòb papa Ti Lifèt te ba li?
2. Kilè sa te pase?
3. Kisa pou li fè ak yon degouden?
4. Epi kisa li mèt fè ak lòt degouden an?
5. Lamenn, kisa Ti Lifèt te fè?
6. Ki kote li te vle ale?
7. Men, sa k te rive l nan wout?
8. Kisa yon gwo chen te fè?
9. Degouden sa a te pou ki moun?
10. Rakonte tout ti blag sa a, san gade tèks la.

6 *Yon moun Okap*

1. Montre sou yon kat Dayiti ki kote Okap ye.
2. Kisa moun Pòtoprens la mande?
3. Lè moun Okap la te fèk rive la, èske li te ka pale?
4. Èske li te gen anpil cheve?

5. Èske li te kapab mache nan lari pou kont li?
6. Èske li te kapab kouche epi leve nan kabann pou kont li?
7. Depi kilè moun Okap la rete la?
8. Rakonte tout ti blag sa a, san gade tèks la.

7 *Fanmi mwen*

1. Konben lajan Tijak mande madanm lan?
2. Dapre Tijak, poukisa li bezwen kòb sa a?
3. Kisa fanm lan fè?
4. Epi, kisa fanm sa a mande l'?
5. Ki repons li bay?
6. Rakonte tout ti blag sa a, san gade tèks la.

8 *Mwen menm tou!*

1. Ki moun yon mèt lekòl te telefonnen?
2. E poukisa li telefonnen l'?
3. Ki jou mèt lekòl la te bay yon ti egzamen?
4. Èske manman an dakò nèt ak sa mèt lekòl la di l'?
5. Dapre manman an, ki moun ki te pran poul?
6. Ki kèsyon mèt lekòl la te ba yo nan ti egzamen sa a?
7. Kisa ti zanmi an te ekri?
8. Epi kisa lòt la te ekri?
9. Rakonte tout ti blag sa a, san gade tèks la.

9 *Tout kalite kafe*

1. **Ki kote de moun sa yo te ale manje?**
2. **Èske se dejnen*, dine, oubyen soupe* yo te pran?**
3. **Kisa gason an te mande yo, apre yo fin manje?**
4. **Kisa fanm lan ta vle bwè?**
5. **Epi kisa msye a ta vle bwè?**
6. **Poukisa fanm lan kwè restoran sa a bon nèt?**
7. **Ki kalite tas gason an bay chak moun?**
8. **Ki kalite kafe gason an bay chak moun?**
9. **Rakonte tout ti blag sa a, san gade tèks la.**

10 *Mont monpè*

1. **Ki kote monpè te konn kite mont li?**
2. **Kilè li te konn fè sa?**
3. **Poukisa li te konn fè sa?**
4. **Kisa yon msye te konfese yon jou?**
5. **Dapre monpè, kisa msye a dwe fè?**
6. **Kisa nèg la mande pè a?**
7. **Epi kisa pè a reponn?**
8. **Touswit apre, kisa nèg la esplike?**
9. **Konsa, kisa pè a te di nèg sa a mèt fè?**
10. **Apre nèg la te fin ale, kisa monpè a te fè?**
11. **Rakonte tout ti blag sa a, san gade tèks la.**

dejnen breakfast

soupe supper

Bouki ak Ti Malis

Two of the most enduring characters of Haitian folklore are the shrewd Ti Malis and his slow-witted companion Bouki. They are the subject of innumerable stories and jokes.

1 *Bouki ak chen li*

Yon jou Ti Malis te ale lakay Bouki. Li te sezi anpil lè l jwenn Bouki ki t ap jwe domino ak chen li. Apre Ti Malis te gade yo byen gade yon bon ti moman, li di: “M pa janm wè yon chen entelijan konsa, papa!”

Bouki reponn: “Ou kwè sa? Ou twonpe ou!* Nan kat pati* m bat* li twa fwa deja.”

2 *“Chiklèt* majik”*

Bouki

Kisa ou ap moulen* konsa nan bouch ou la, Ti Malis?

Ti Malis

Yo rele l “chiklèt majik” - plis ou moulen l, plis ou vin entelijan! M ap moulen yon lòt moso epi m a gen anpil bon lide!

Bouki

Ou pa ta gen yon lòt la pou mwen, tanpri souple?

Ti Malis

M gen yon sèl lòt la ki rete. M a vann ou li pou senk (5) pyas.

Bouki

O! o! konsa m ta vin entelijan! Oke. Men senk (5) pyas.

Ti Malis

Epi men “chiklèt majik” la.

Bouki

O! o! Li bon, papa! Konsa ou kwè mwen entelijan, mwen jwenn anpil lespri? . . . M pa konprann, non. M pa santi* m diferan. O! o! M kwè se yon blag ou ap ban m la a!

Ti Malis

Se konsa ou ap vin entelijan, ti papa!

3 *Marasa* ak marasa twa**

Bouki

M pa te di ou man* Jozèf te gen marasa twa, epi de senmenn pita li te gen marasa!

Ti Malis

Se pa posib sa a! Kijan sa te rive?

Bouki

Enben, youn nan marasa twa yo te al rete nan kay grann* li, konsa kounyeya man Jozèf gen marasa!

4 *Tande ak wè*

Ti Malis

Pa gen dout, se ou menm, wi, ki nèg pi sòt m konnen!

Bouki

Sa pou m fè? Mwen fèt konsa!

Ti Malis

Oke - se pou ou reponn m de (2) ti kèsyon. Kisa ki ta rive ou si yo te koupe yon zòrèy ou?

Bouki

Pa gen pàn. Mwen pa ta kapab tande anyen.

Ti Malis

Oke. Konsa, kisa ki ta rive ou si yo te koupe toude zòrèy ou?

Bouki

Enben, si se te konsa, mwen ta avèg*, m pa ta ka wè anyen.

Ti Malis

Sa ou di la? Si yo te koupe toude zòrèy ou yo, ou pa ta ka wè anyen?

Bouki

Enben, pa gen pàn, si m te pèdi toude zòrèy mwen yo, chapo m ta tonbe sou je m!

avèg	blind
bat	to beat
chiklèt	chewing gum
grann	grandmother
man	<i>title of address for woman with one or more children</i>
marasa	twins
marasa twa	triplets
moulen	to chew, grind
pati	game; to leave
santi	to feel (<i>reflexive</i>); to smell
twonpe	to be mistaken, be wrong (+ <i>pronoun</i>)

Bouki ak Ti Malis: Kèsyon

Reponn an kreyòl ak yon fraz konplèt:

1 *Bouki ak chen li*

1. Ki kote Ti Malis te ale yon jou?
2. Lè Ti Malis rive kay Bouki, poukisa li te sezi anpil?
3. Kisa Ti Malis te di?
4. Èske Bouki te dakò ak li?
5. Poukisa?
6. Rakonte tout ti blag sa a, san gade tèks la.

2 *“Chiklèt majik”*

1. Kisa Ti Malis t ap moulen nan bouch li?
2. Dapre Ti Malis, kisa “chiklèt majik” la ka fè pou ou?
3. Lè Bouki tande sa, kisa li vle?
4. Konben Ti Malis te vann li “chiklèt majik” sa a?
5. Èske Bouki kwè “chiklèt majik” sa a bon?
6. Men, èske Bouki kwè “chiklèt majik” la ap chanje tèt li?
7. Èske ou kwè Bouki te vin pi entelijan konsa?
8. Rakonte tout ti blag sa a, san gade tèks la.

3 *Marasa ak marasa twa*

1. Kisa man Jozèf te gen pou konmanse, epi kisa li te gen touswit apre?
2. Èske Ti Malis kwè sa posib?
3. Ki kote youn nan marasa twa yo te ale?
4. Rakonte tout ti blag sa a, san gade tèks la.

4 *Tande ak wè*

- 1. Ki premye kèsyon Ti Malis te mande Bouki?**
- 2. E ki repons li bay?**
- 3. Epi ki dezyèm kèsyon Ti Malis te mande l'?**
- 4. E ki dezyèm repons li bay?**
- 5. Poukisa Bouki ta avèg konsa?**
- 6. Rakonte tout ti blag sa a, san gade tèks la.**

Kont

*The riddle, or **kont**, is almost as popular in Haitian culture as is the proverb. When offering to tell (**tire**) a **kont**, one says “**Tim? tim?**” If the audience is willing to listen, the reply is “**Bwa chèch!**”*

1. **Kisa ki gen kat pat*, ki konn manje pay*, ki gen yon ke*, epi ki kap wè menm jan devan kou* dèyè?**
2. **Yo sèvi l manje, li kanpe sou kat pye, men li pa kapab manje.**
3. **Mwen rantre blan, mwen sòti milat.**
4. **Te gen twa (3) gwo moun kanpe anba yon sèl ti parapli*, men pyès moun* nan yo pa t mouye*. Poukisa?**
5. **Lè m chita, mwen pi wo* pase lè m kanpe.**
6. **Kisa tout moun lemonn* ap fè kounyeya menm menm?**
7. **Lè ou te pèdi yon bagay, poukisa se toujou nan dènye kote ou chache a, ou fin jwenn li?**
8. **Dezabiye mwen, ou a kouche.**
9. **Yo koupe m sou tab, men yo pa kapab manje m.**
10. **Senk (5) mennen kat (4) nan machin trannde (32).**
11. **Konben kokoye* ou ka mete nan yon makout* vid?**

12. **Dekwa* bwè, dekwa manje, dekwa jete.**
13. **Mwen gen yon ti zwazo: mwen mete li atè, li pa vole; kou mwen ba li dlo, mwen pèdi li.**
14. **Do ale, do vini.**
15. **Poukisa yon kwafè* ta pito fè tèt dis (10) moun ki sòti Okay, pase yon sèl moun ki sòti Pòtoprens?**
16. **Cache lavi, pèdi lavi.**

dekwa	something
ke	tail
kokoye	coconut
kou	when, as; neck
kwafè	barber
lemonn	world
makout	large straw bag
mouye	wet
parapli	umbrella
pat	foot (<i>of animal</i>)
pay	hay, straw
pyès moun	no one
wo	tall, high

1. Yon bourik avèg.
2. Yon tab.
3. Yon pen.
4. Lapi pa t ap tonbe.
5. Yon chen.
6. Y ap vin pi vye.
7. Paské lè ou jwenn li, ou pa chache l ankò.
8. Yon kabann.
9. Kat pou jwe.
10. Senk dwèt mennen yon fouchèt nan yon bouch.
11. Yon sèl - paské apre sa, makout la pa vid ankò.
12. Yon kokoye.
13. Yon kannòt.
14. Yon dodin.
15. Paské ak dis moun, li ta fè plis kòb.
16. Miyami.

Repons

Kèk Ti Pwoblèm Kalkil

Reponn an kreyòl ak yon fraz konplèt:

I

1. Lendi Jàn pran dis bokit dlo nan tiyo* a, mèkredi senk bokit, jedi sèt bokit, vandredi wit bokit, epi samdi yon bokit. Konben bokit dlo Jàn pran an tou?
2. Jan Klod ak zanmi li Tijo keyi* zoranj pou yo voye vann. Si Jan Klod keyi katòz zoranj, epi si Tijo keyi diznèf zoranj, konben zoranj yo voye vann an tou?
3. Filip te keyi vennkat mango. Li separe* yo bay kat pitit li yo egalego*. Konben mango chak timoun jwenn?
4. Jak te gen swasant chadèk*; li vann dizwit chadèk. Konben chadèk li rete?
5. M bay senk moun ki te ede m travay nan jaden m lan sanvennsenk fig mi*. Konben fig mi chak moun ap jwenn si m byen separe yo?

II

1. Papa te resevwa kenz goud. Li bezwen trannsenk goud pou li peye kay li. Konben kòb li manke?
2. Manman vann pwa nan mache pou karannsenk pyas. Ak lajan an li achte twal* ak

manje pou trannkat pyas. Ak konben kòb manman tounen lakay?

- 3. Kami vann zaboka pou trèz goud. Li vann pwa pou sèz goud, epi li vann diri pou nèf goud. Konben lajan Kami resevwa an tou?**
- 4. Ana fin vann pwa wouj pou swasannsenk goud. Si li achte twal pou senkant goud, konben kòb li pote tounen lakay?**
- 5. Jan vann twa pè* soulye pou swasannkenz goud bò legliz la. Li vann de pè soulye pou trant goud nan mache a. Konben pè soulye Jan vann an tou, epi konben lajan li jwenn?**
- 6. Grannèg la te peye Tijak katreven goud, men Tijak dwe bay swasanntwa goud pou peye dòktè. Konben pyas l a rete?**
- 7. Mòris te ale nan gagè* ak katreven-onz pyas nan pòch li, men li pèdi swasanndis pyas. Konben kòb li te gen lè l te tounen lakay li?**
- 8. Blan an rive nan Mache Fè a ak san goud nan pòch li. Li peye katrevenkenz pyas pou yon bèl ti tonton*. Konben kòb li rete lè l ale?**
- 9. Lè Ameriken an te rive èpòt, li te bay pòtè a twa pyas. Taksi a te koute l senkant goud. Konben lajan li bay an tou?**
- 10. Touris la te peye chanm li sanven goud, ak dejnen e soupe. Li te peye dine a karanteyen goud. Konben lajan li te bay an tou?**

III

*Prices in Haiti are (strangely) very often quoted in the non-existent “Haitian dollar” (**dola ayisyen**) worth five gourdes (**goud**). Repeat Section II, converting the **goud** into **dola ayisyen** - i.e., dividing the number of **goud** by five. (Converting the **goud** into U.S. dollars would be a meaningless exercise, since the exchange rate varies almost daily.)*

chadèk	shaddock (<i>small sweet grapefruit</i>)
egalego	evenly, equally
fig mi	banana
gagè	cockfight (arena)
keyi	to pick, gather
pè	pair; fear; priest; to be afraid
separe	to divide (up)
ti tonton	small carved wooden figure
tiyo	pipe; fountain
twal	cloth, material

(Matye 5: 3-11) [Sermon on the Mount]

- 3 Benediksyon pou moun ki konnen
se pòv yo ye devan Bondye,
paske peyi Wa* ki nan syèl la,
se pou yo li ye.**
- 4 Benediksyon pou moun ki nan lapenn,
paske Bondye va ba yo kouraj.**
- 5 Benediksyon pou moun ki dou,
paske y a resevwa byen*
Bondye te sere* pou yo a sou latè.**
- 6 Benediksyon pou moun ki anvi viv
jan Bondye vle l la,
paske Bondye va ba yo sa yo vle a.**
- 7 Benediksyon pou moun ki gen kè sansib*,
paske Bondye va fè yo wè
jan Li gen kè sansib tou.**
- 8 Benediksyon pou moun ki pa gen
move lide nan tèt yo,
paske y a wè Bondye.**
- 9 Benediksyon pou moun k ap travay
pou lèzòm viv byen youn ak lòt,
paske Bondye va rele yo pitit Li.**

- 10 Benediksyon pou moun ki anba pèsekisyon
lè y ap fè sa Bondye mande,
paske peyi Wa ki nan syèl la,
se pou yo li ye.**
- 11 Benediksyon pou nou lè moun va joure* nou,
lè y a pèsekite nou,
lè y a fè tout kalite manti sou nou,
paske se moun pa M nou ye.**

byen	possessions, goods, benefits
joure	to insult, swear at
sansib	sensitive, tender
sere	to reserve, save
wa	king

Lapriyè Granmèt la [Lord's Prayer]

Papa nou ki nan syèl la,
nou mande pou yo toujou respekte non Ou.

Vin tabli* gouvènman Ou,
pou yo fè volonte* Ou sou latè,
tankou yo fè l nan syèl la.

Manje nou bezwen an, ban nou l jòdi a.

Padonnen tout mal nou fè,
menm jan nou padonnen moun ki fè nou mal.

Pa kite nou nan pozisyon pou n tonbe nan
tantasyon,
men, delivre nou anba Satan.

Paske, se pou Ou tout otorite,
tout pouvwa ak tout lwanj*,
depi tout tan ak pou tout tan.
Amèn.

lwanj	praise
tabli	to establish, set up
volonte	will, wish

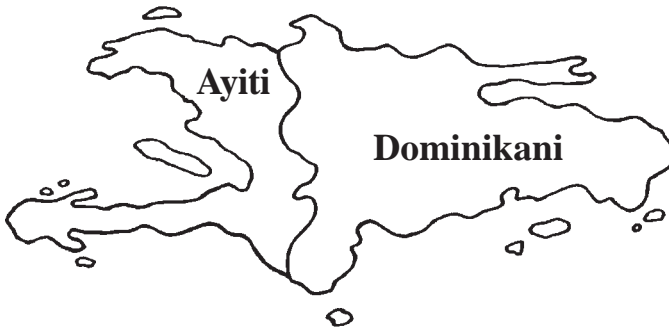
TI DIKSYONÈ



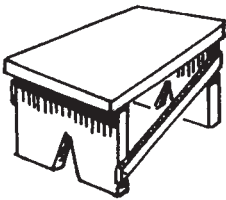
arenyen



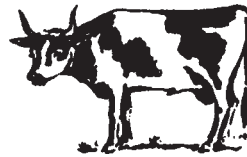
avyon



balenn



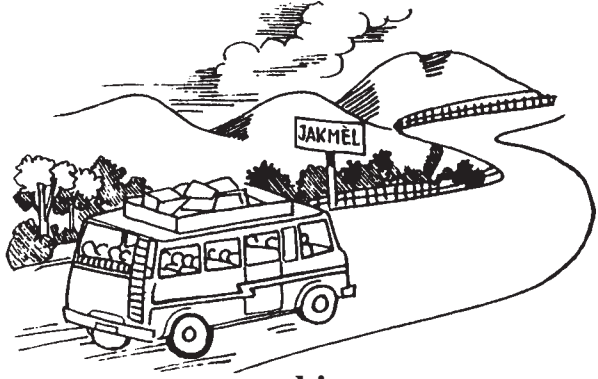
ban



bèf



bidon



bis



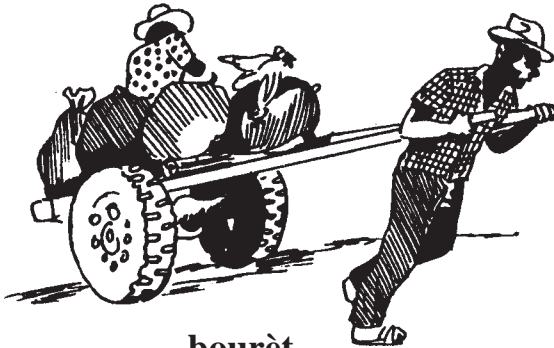
bisiklèt



blòk

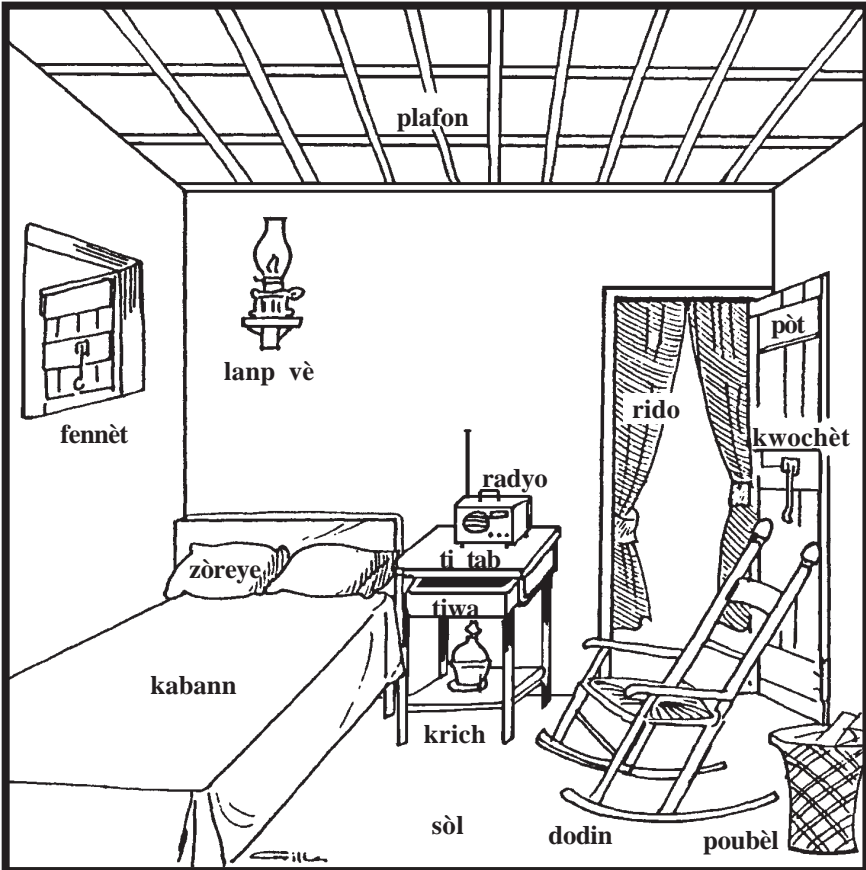


bokit

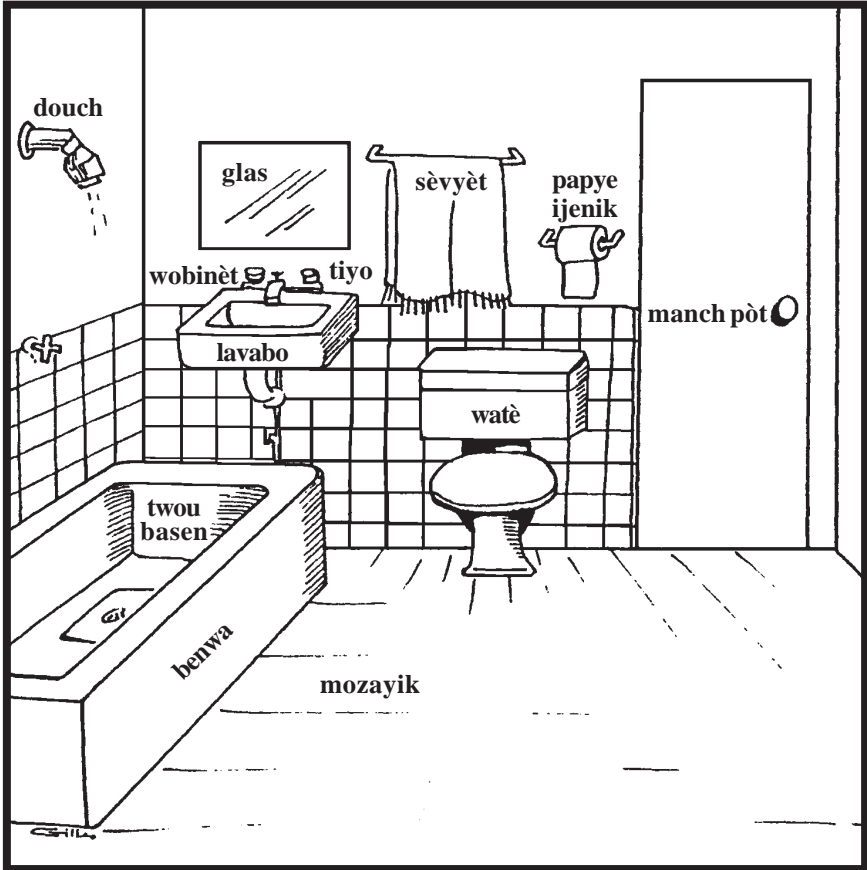


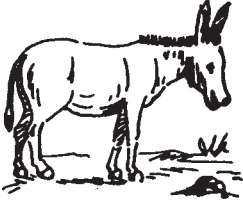
bourèt

chanm



chann twalèt





bourik



boutèy



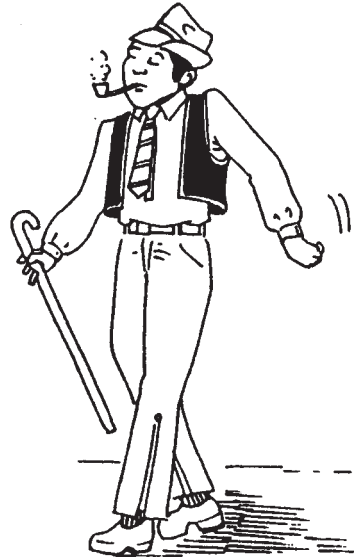
bwòs



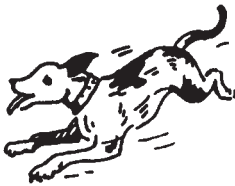
chalè



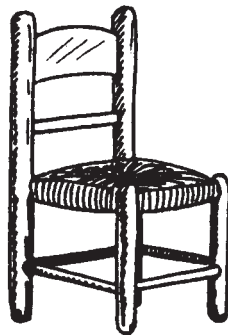
chat



yon chèlbè



chen



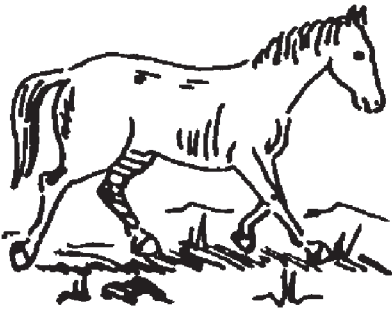
chèz



li chire twal la



chita



chwal



dife



de fanm ap koze



fatra



fèy

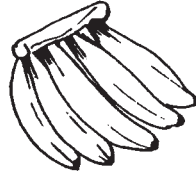


fig (mi)

figi



chagren



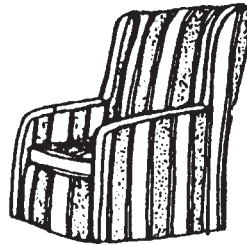
kè kontan



move



flè



fotèy



fouchèt



gèp

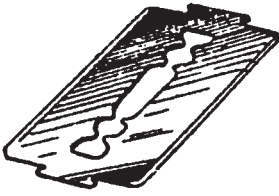
yon ti gason ak yon ti fi



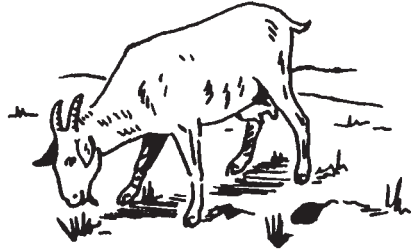
goud



yon abitan nan jaden li



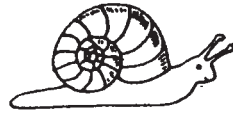
jilèt



kabrit



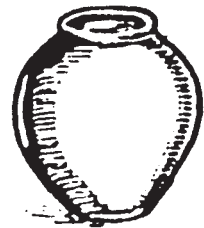
kafou



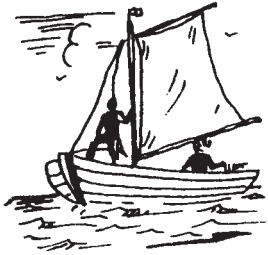
kalmanson



kamyon



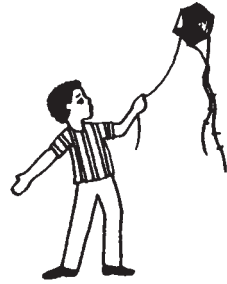
kannari



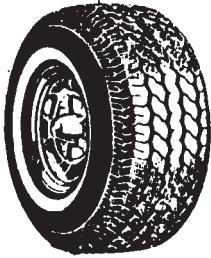
kannòt



kanpe



yon ti gason ap
moute yon kap



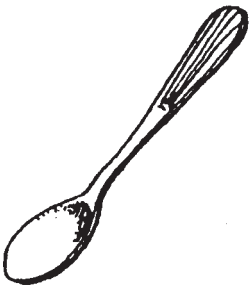
kawòtchou



kè



kivèt



kiyè

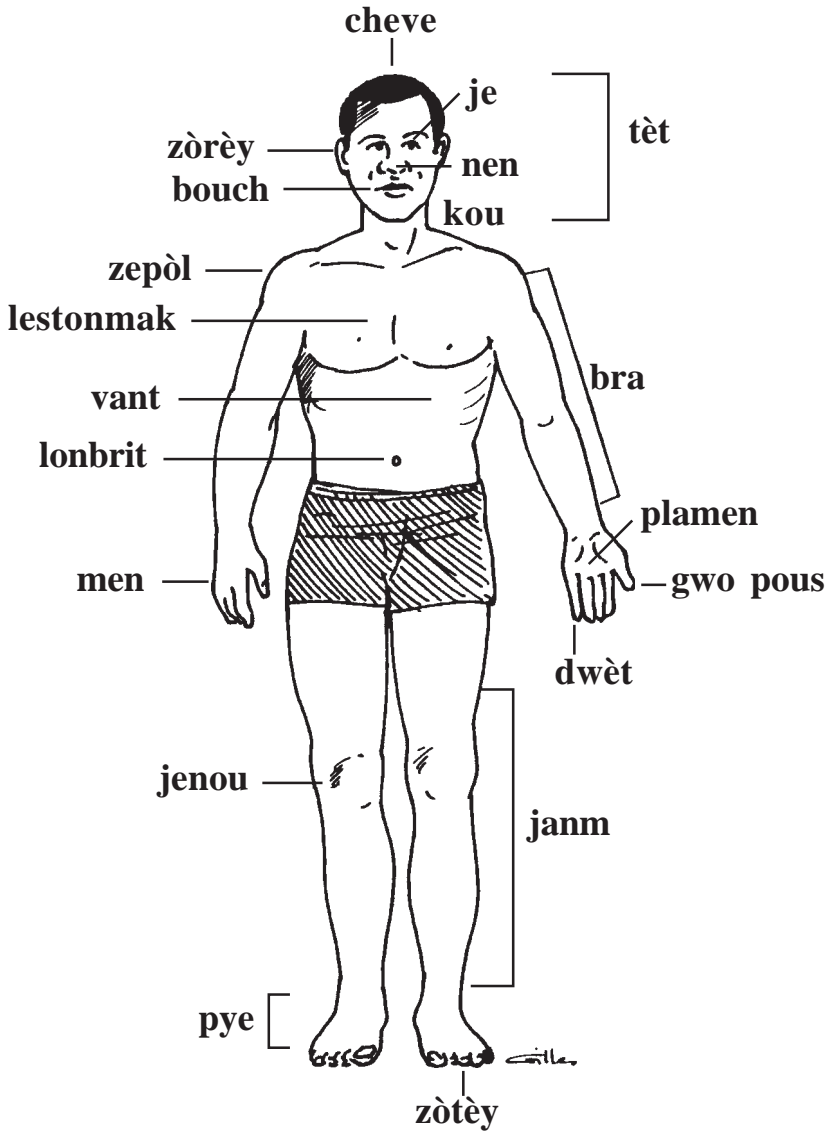


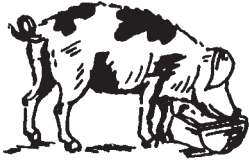
kle



kòb

kò moun





kochon



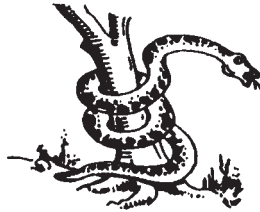
kòk



**kokoye sou
yon pye kokoye**



kouche



koulèv



ti fi a ap kouri



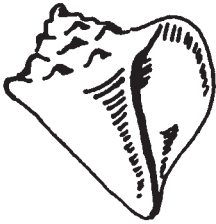
kouto



kreyon



lajan



lanbi



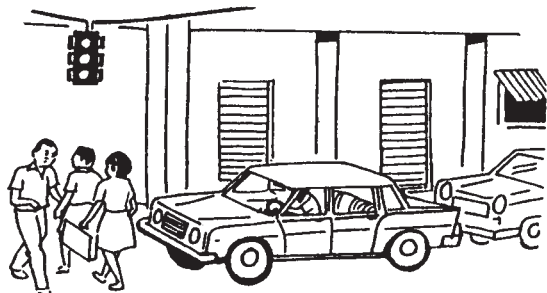
lanp



lantiray



mezanmi!
lapli ap tonbe!



moun k ap janbe lari



li dezè



li twazè eka



li senkè



li senkè
edmi



li witàè



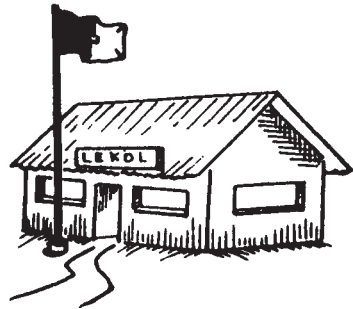
li dizè



li onzè
mwen ka



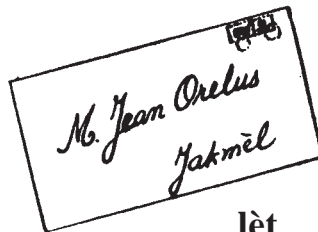
legliz



lekòl



lèt



lèt



**gason an ap
li yon liv**



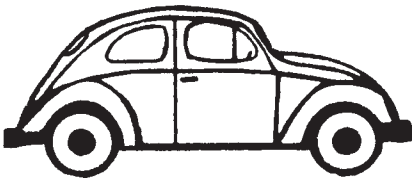
yon sèvis lwa



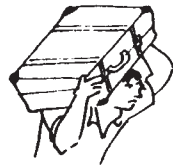
machann



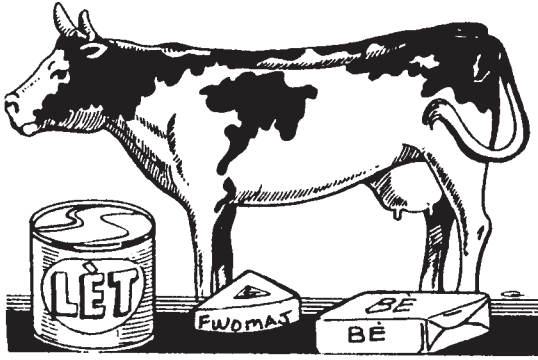
nan mache a



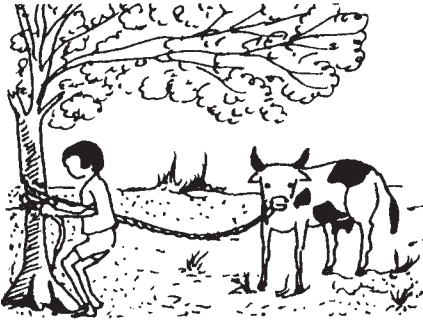
machin



**I ap pote
yon malèt**



manman bèf



ti gason an mare bèf la



marengwen



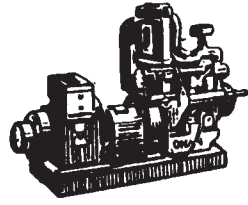
mayi



medam



mòn



motè



nich



panyen



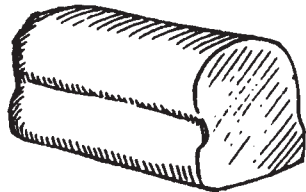
papa



papiyon



pèl



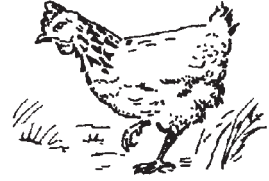
pen



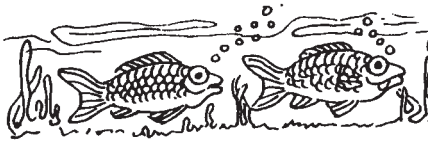
pentad



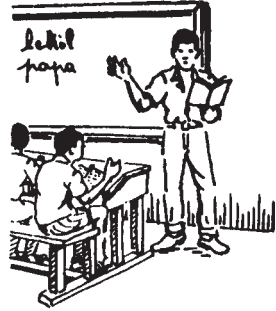
pile



poul



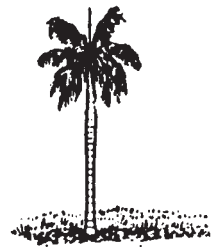
pwason



pwofesè a kanpe
devan klas la

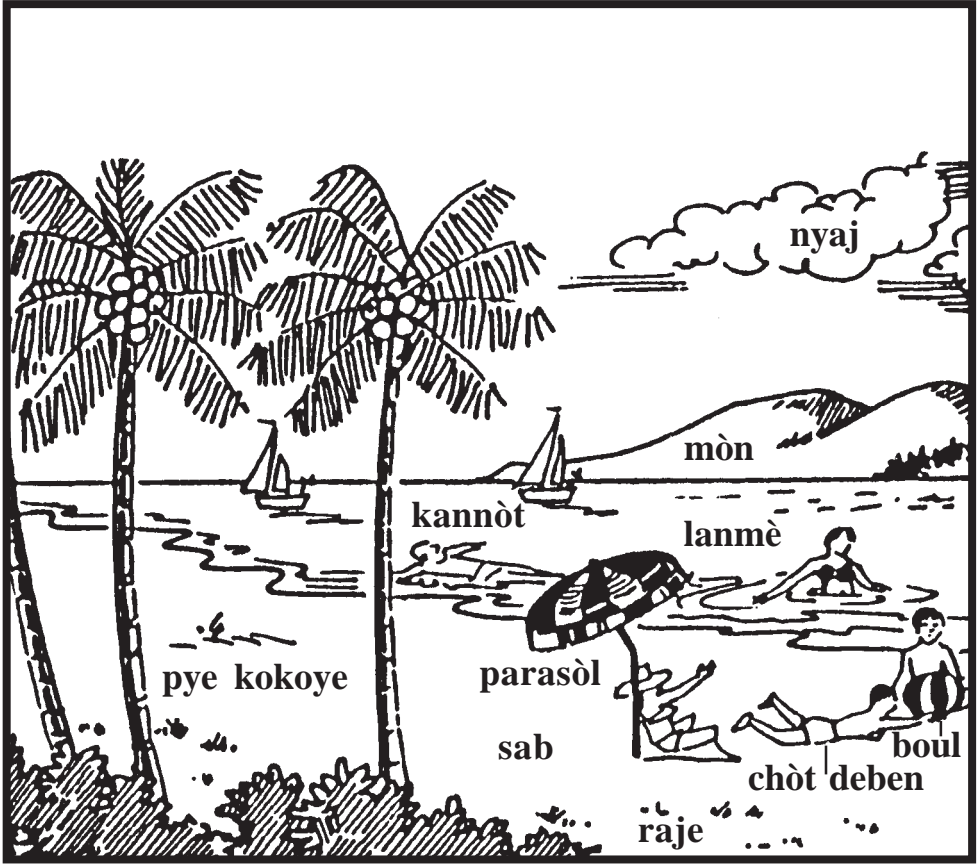


pyebwa



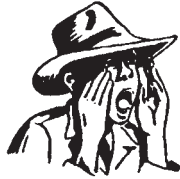
pye palmis

plaj

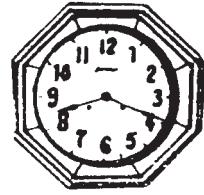




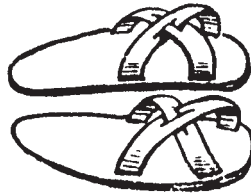
rach



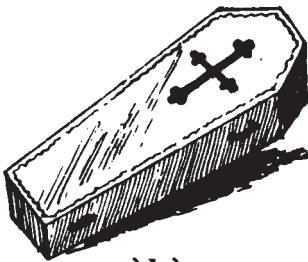
rele



revèy



sapat

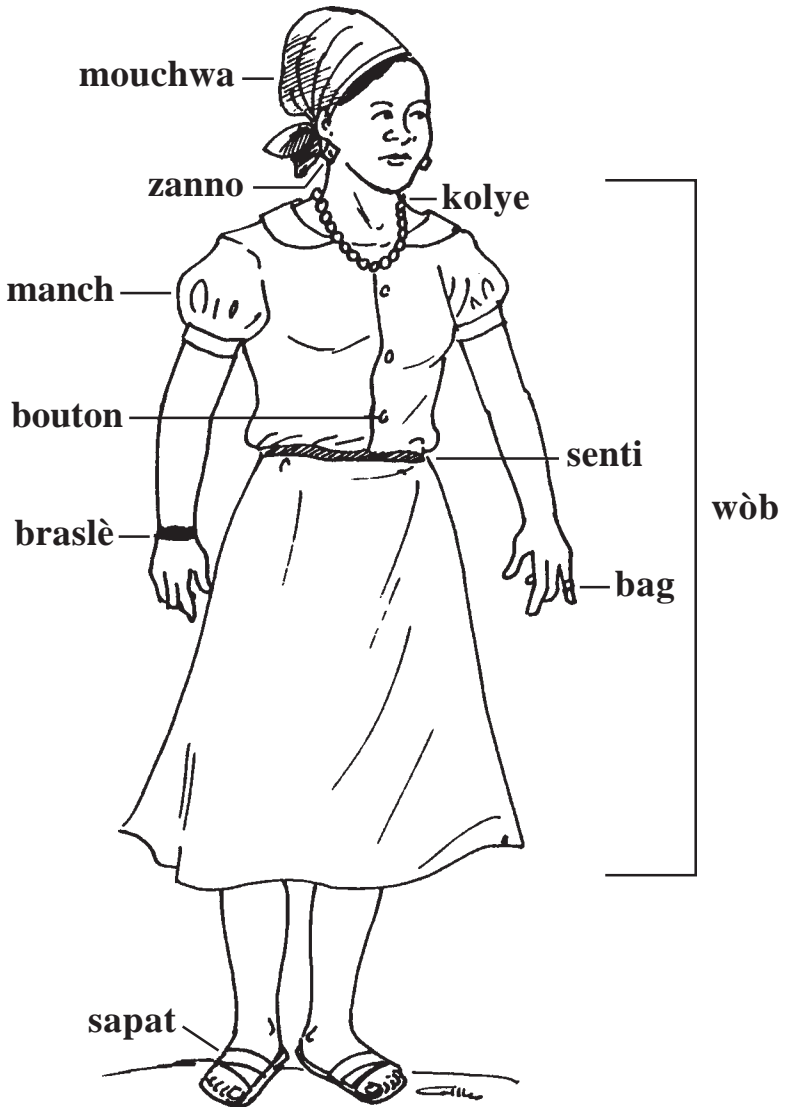


sèkèy

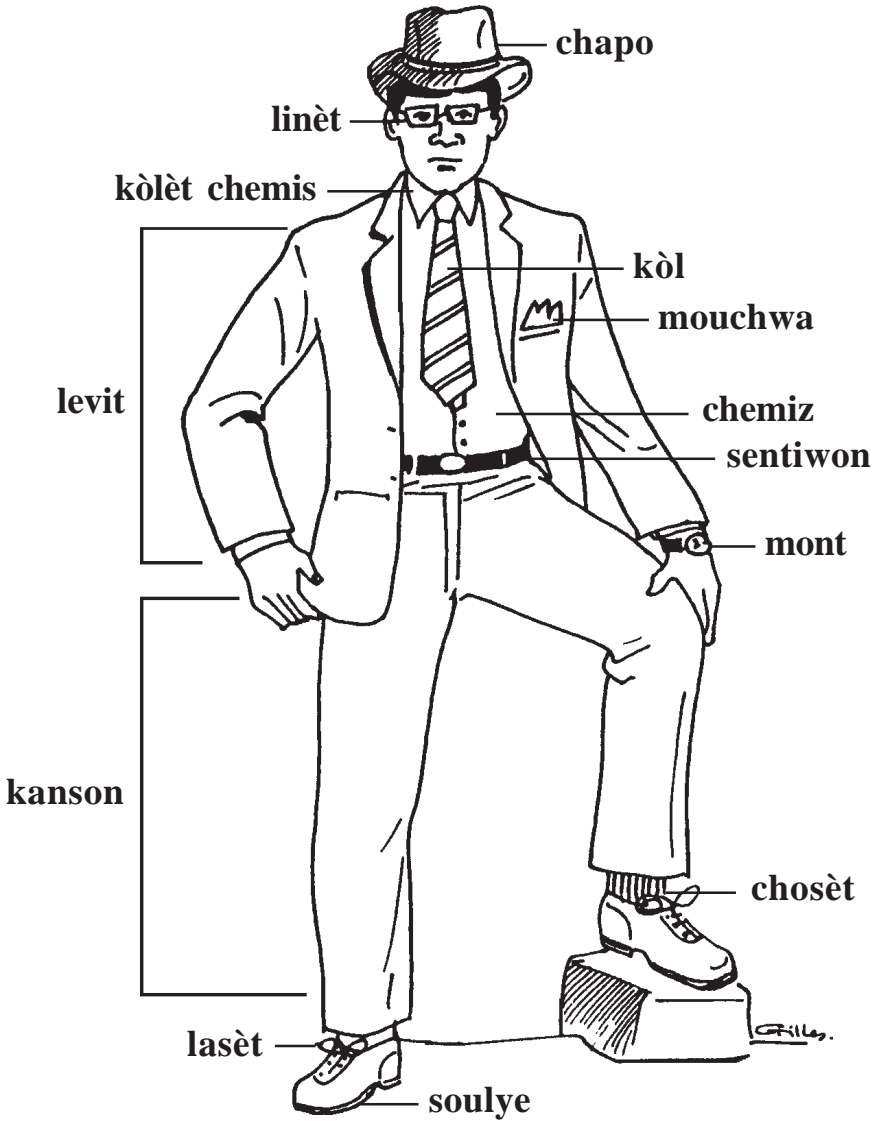


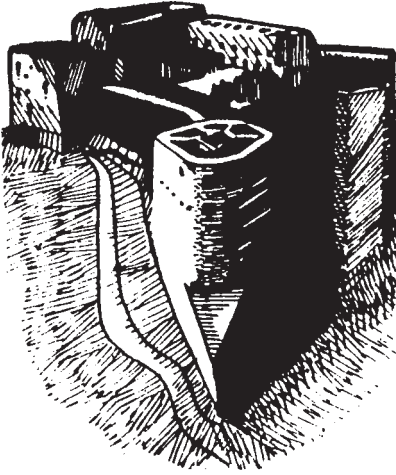
nèg la ap sekle tè

rad fi

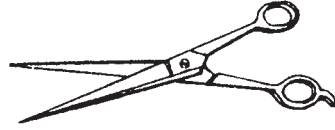


rad gason





Sitadèl



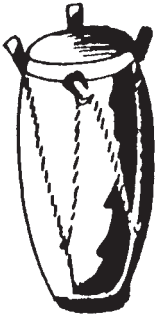
sizo



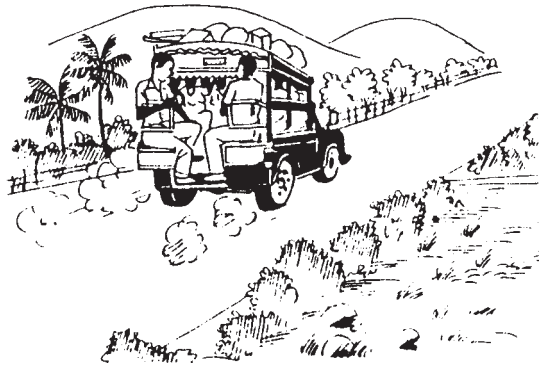
solèy



**nèg la ap fè
yon tablo**



tanbou



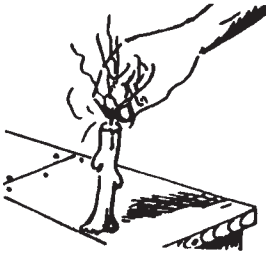
taptap



tas



telefòn



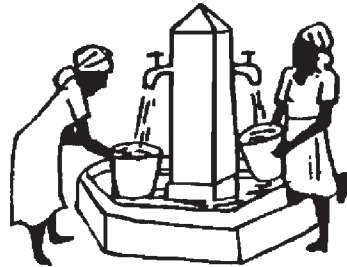
li tenyen balenn lan



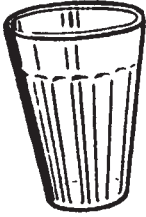
tete



tibebe



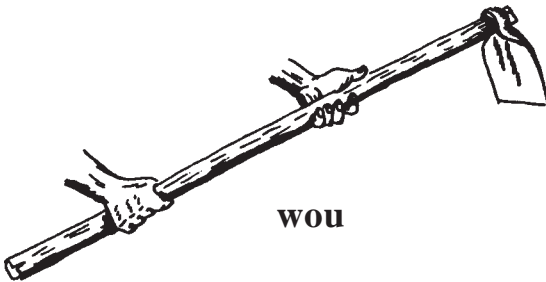
tiyo



vè



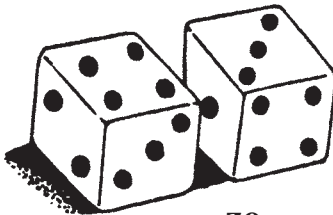
bare vòlè!



wou



zandolit



ZO



ZWAZO

Haitian - English Glossary

A

a the; ah!

a, va *future tense indicator*

abitan peasant, farmer

absolisyon absolution

achte to buy

adwat (to the) right

agòch (to the) left

agwonòm agronomist,
agricultural expert

ak, avè, avèk with; and; by

al, ale to go, leave

ala . . . ! what a . . . !

ale, al to go, leave

alo hello

amèn amen

Ameriken American

an the; in

Ana Anna; *short for Anayiz*

anba under, from under

andeyò country(side),
backwoods, hills, "sticks"

anfen finally

ankò still, yet; again

pa . . . ankò no longer

anmè bitter

ann, annou let us, let's (*first
person plural command*)

anpil much, many; very

ansanm together

nan tèt ansanm as one, in
union

antann (+ *pronoun*) to agree

antèman funeral, burial

antre to enter, come in

antye entire, whole

anvan before

anvi to want, desire

anyen nothing

ap "-ing" (*present progressive
indicator*); *see* **boule**

apa look how . . . !

apral, pral(e) to be going (to)

aprann to learn

apre after, afterwards

arenyen spider

ase only; enough

asepte to accept

aswè in the evenings

aswè a this evening, tonight

aswè sa a that evening

ata even

atè on the ground

avantaj advantage

avè, ak, avèk with; and; by

avèg blind

avèk, ak, avè with; and; by

avyon airplane

ay! oh!

Ayisyen Haitian

Ayiti Haiti

B

ba bar; *see* **bay**

bag ring

bagay thing

balenn candle

bamann bartender

ban bench, pew; *see* **bay**

bann band, flock, group
bare to block, obstruct, stop
basen tub
 twou basen drain
bat to beat
batay battle, fight
bati to build
batiman boat, ship
bay, ba, ban to give, produce;
 for; *see chita, lanmen*
bay manti to lie, tell lies
bè butter
bèf steer, ox
 manman bèf cow
bèl handsome; beautiful
benediksyon blessing
benwa bathtub
benyen to bathe, be bathed
bèt animal
bezwen need; to need
Bib Bible
bidon gas can
bip! plop! (*sound of a sudden fall*)
bis bus
bisiklèt bicycle
blag joke
blan white; White person;
 foreigner (*of whatever color*)
bling ping (*sound of metal*
 hitting pavement)
bliye to forget
blòk (cinder, cement) block
bo to kiss, embrace
bò near; side
 bò kote near
bokit bucket
bon good

bon mache cheap
Bondye God
bonè early
bonjou! good morning!
bòs *term of respect for an*
 artisan
bouch mouth
boujwa bourgeois (*member of*
 well-to-do class)
bouk village
bouke tired, exhausted
boul ball
boule to burn
 ap boule to be getting along
 fine
bourèt cart, wheelbarrow
bourik donkey
boutèy bottle
boutik shop
bouton button
bra arm
braslè bracelet
bri noise
bwa wood
 bwa chèch! *to indicate*
 willingness to listen to a
 riddle (cf. tim? tim?)
bwè to drink
bwès brush
byen well, good, fine;
 possessions, goods, benefits

CH

chabon charcoal
chache to look, look for, seek
chadèk shaddock (*small sweet*
 grapefruit)

chagren sad
chaje burdened, troubled, upset
chak each, every
chalè heat
chanje to change
chanm room; bedroom
 chanm twalèt bathroom
chans chance; luck
chante to sing; song
chape to escape
 chape poul (+ *pronoun*) to
 clear out, take to one's heels
chapit chapter
chapo hat
chat cat
chè expensive; dearly, at a high
 price
chèch dry; *see bwa chèch*
chèlbè “dude”; vain,
 pretentious
chemiz shirt
chen dog
cheri dear, darling
cheve hair
chèz chair
chiklèt chewing gum
chire to tear, rip
chita to sit down, be seated;
 sitting
 chita pa bay sitting around
 won't get you anywhere
 (*proverb*)
cho hot
chosèt sock
chòt debèn bathing suit (*man's*
 or woman's)
chwal horse

D

dabò first, first of all
dakò agreed, in agreement
dans dance
dapre according to
Dayiti (of) Haiti
de two
debat to struggle, endeavor
deben *see chòt debèn*
deblozay uproar, ruckus
degouden one-half of a gourde
 (formerly 10 cents U.S.)
deja already
dejnen breakfast
dekwa something
delivre to deliver, save
denmen tomorrow
denmon demon
dènye last
depi since
desann to descend, get off; to
 lower
devan in front (of)
dèyè behind
dezabiye to undress
dezè two o'clock
dezyèm second
di to say
 vle di to mean
dife fire
diferan different
difisil difficult, hard
diksyonè dictionary
dimanch Sunday
dine luncheon, noonday meal
diri rice
dis ten

disip disciple
diskite to discuss
ditou (not) at all
dizan ten years
dizè ten o'clock
diznèf nineteen
dizwit eighteen
dlo water
lòtbò dlo (from) overseas,
 abroad
do back
vire do to turn one's back on
 (someone)
dodin rocking chair
dòktè doctor, physician
dola dollar
Dominikani Dominican
 Republic
domino dominos (*game*)
donte to tame, master
dou gentle; peaceful
douch shower
dousman gently, quietly;
 slowly
dout doubt
dwa right, privilege
dwe must (*auxiliary verb*)
dwèt finger

E

e and
ede to help
edmi half (an hour), thirty
 (minutes)
egalego evenly, equally
egzamen exam, test
egzanp example

eka quarter past (the hour)
ekri to write
elèv pupil, student
en? eh? huh?
enben! well!
Ench Hinche
enpòtan important
entelijan intelligent
epi and
epitou and also
èpòt airport
erezman fortunately
èske is it that (*yes-no question*
indicator)
eskize to excuse
esplike to explain
estòp stop; to stop

F

fanm woman
fanmi family
fatra trash, rubbish
fè to do, make; iron; *see mache,*
Mache Fè
fè tèt to cut hair
fè + verb to have someone (do
 something)
fèb weak, feeble
fèk to have just (done
 something)
fen end
fennèt window
fènwa darkness
fèt to be born; done, completed,
 made
fèy leaf
fi woman

ti fi girl
fidèl faithful; parishioner
fig (mi) banana
figi face
fil thread
Filip Philip
fimen to smoke
fini, fin to finish; to finally (do something)
flè flower
fò strong; *see fòk*
fòk, fò it is necessary that
fon bottom, back
Fonwouj Fond-Rouge
fopa false step
fè yon fopa to stumble
fòs force, strength
fòt fault, mistake, error
fotèy armchair
fouchèt fork
foul crowd
fout damn!
fouye to dig
franse French
frape to hit, strike
fraz sentence
fre cool
frè brother
fwa time (instance)
fwomaj cheese

G

gade to look, look at; to concern
gagè cockfight (arena)
galri porch
gason boy, man; waiter
ti gason boy

gaye to spread, spread out
gen, genyen to have; ago; there is, there are
gen pou to have to
gen rezon to be right
genlè to seem, appear
gentan already
genyen *see gen*
gèp wasp, yellow jacket
glas mirror; ice
gòm eraser
goud gourde (*Haitian monetary unit, formerly equivalent to 20 cents U.S.*)
goumen to fight
gout drop, drip
gouvènman government
gran big, great; main
grangou hunger; hungry
Granmèt Lord, God
granmoun adult; old person
grann grandmother
grannèg “big shot,” person of importance
gwo big
gwo pous thumb

I

ijenik hygienic
papye ijènik toilet paper
isit here
isit la right here
istwa story
itil useful

J

ja (earthenware) jar

jaden field; garden
Jak James
Jakmèl Jacmel
jan way, manner; how
Jan John
Jàn Jane, Joan, Jeanne
janbe to cross
Jan Klod Jean-Claude
janm leg
janm, janmè never
je eye
 voye je to glance
jedi Thursday
jeneral general
jenn young
jennen to disturb, annoy, get in
 the way of
jenou knee
jete to throw, throw away
Jezi Jesus
jilèt razor blade
jòdi a today
jou day
 jou swa evening
jouk to, up to, until
joure to insult, swear at
Jozèf Joseph
jwe to play
jwenn to find, get, receive

K

k contraction **ki**
ka quarter (fourth), fifteen
 minutes; *see* **kapab**
kabann bed
kabrit goat
kafe coffee

kafetyè coffeepot
kafou crossroads
kajou mahogany
kalite kind, sort
kalkil arithmetic
kalmanson snail
Kami Camille
kamyon truck; bus
kann sugar cane
kannal canal, ditch
kannari earthenware jar (for
 water)
kannòt small boat
kanpe to stand up, standing; to
 place, insert
kanson pants, trousers
kantite quantity
kap kite; *see* **kapab**
kapab, ka, kap to be able; can,
 can be
karannsenk forty-five
karanteyen forty-one
kase to break
kat four; map; playing card
katòz fourteen
katreven eighty
katrevenkenz ninety-five
katreven-onz ninety-one
kawòtchou tire
kay house
ke tail
kè heart
 kè kontan happy, satisfied
kèk several
kenbe to hold
kenz fifteen
kenzan fifteen years

kèsyon question
keyi to pick, gather
ki, k who, which, what
ki kote where?
Kiba Cuba
kibò where?
kichòy something
kifè how come?
kijan how?
kilè when?
kilès which? which one?
kisa, sa what?
kite to leave; to let; to stop
 (doing something)
kivèt basin
kiyè spoon
klas class
kle key
klè clear
kleren raw rum
kò body
kò moun human body
kòb Haitian cent; money
*(familiar for money in
 general)*
kochon pig
kòk cock, rooster
kokoye coconut
pye kokoye coconut tree
kòl necktie
kòlèt chemiz collar
kolye necklace
kòmande to command
konben how much, how many
konbit agricultural work team
 (or session)
konfese to confess

konfesyonal confessional
konfyans confidence
konmanse to begin
konnn to know how; to be in the
 habit of
konnen to know, be acquainted
 with, be familiar with
konpè friend, buddy
konplèt complete
konpliman compliment,
 praise
konprann to understand
konsa approximately, about;
 like that, thus
konsekan important, of
 consequence
konsole to console
kont against; riddle
pou kont (+ *pronoun*) alone
kontan happy
kè kontan happy, satisfied
kontinye to continue
kontre to meet, encounter
kote side; where; place
bò kote near
ki kote where?
kou neck; hit, blow; when, as
kouche to lie down; lying
 down; to get into bed
koule to flow
koulèv snake
kounyeya now
koupe to cut
kouraj courage, strength
kouri to run
koute to listen to; to cost
kouto knife

kouzen cousin (male)
koze conversation, talk, chat; to chat
krache to spit
kras dirt
 (yon) ti kras (a) little bit
krèm ice-cream
kretyen Christian
 kretyen vivan human being
kreyòl Haitian Creole
kreyon pencil
krich pitcher
kriye to cry, weep
kwafè barber
kwè to believe
kwochèt latch

L

l *contraction li*
la the; there
 la a right there
lafyè fever
lage to let go, drop; to pour
lajan money
lajounen daytime
lakay home
lakou yard, enclosure
lalwa law, authority
lamenm immediately
lamizè misery, poverty, suffering
lan, a, an, la the
lanbi conch; conch shell
lang language
lanmè sea
lanmen handshake
 bay lanmen to join hands,

work together
lanmò death
lanne year
lannwit night
lanp lamp
 lanp vè oil lamp (with glass)
lantiray fence
lapenn effort, trouble; sorrow; suffering
lapli rain
lapolis police
lapriyè prayer; to pray
lari street
larivyè river
lasante health
lasèt shoelace
latè land, earth
lavabo washbasin
lavi life, existence
lavil town
lavwa voice
lawouze dew; *symbolic for water*
lè when; time (hour); air; appearance
 lè sa a then
lèd ugly
legliz church
lekòl school
lemò the dead
lemonn world
lendi Monday
lènmi enemy
lespri intelligence
lespwa hope
lestonmak chest
lèt milk; letter

leve to get up
levit coat, jacket
lèzòm men, mankind
lezòt others
li to read
li, l he, she, it; his, her, its; (to) him, (to) her, (to) it; *reflexive pronoun*
lide mind; idea
linèt (eye)glasses
liv book
lonbrit navel
lontan (for) a long time
lòt other, another
lòtbò abroad; foreign
lòtbò dlo (from) overseas, abroad
lou heavy
lwa Voodoo spirit
lwanj praise
lwen far, far from

M

m contraction **mwen**
M. abbreviation **msye**
machann merchant; market woman
mache to walk; to travel; market
bon mache cheap
fè yon ti mache to walk a bit
Mache Fè Iron Market (in Port-au-Prince)
machin machine; car
madanm madam; wife; lady
majik magic
mak mark, scar

make to mark, be marked
makout large straw bag
mal bad, badly; evil
malè misfortune
malere poor person, poor man
malèt suitcase
maltèt headache
man *title of address for woman with one or more children*
manch sleeve; handle
manch pòt doorknob
manchèt machete
mande to ask, ask for
mango mango
manje to eat; food
manke to lack, be missing
manman mother
manman bèf cow
manti lie, falsehood
bay manti to lie, tell lies
marasa twin
marasa twa triplet(s)
mare to tie, tie up
marengwen large mosquito
marye to marry, get married
maten morning
Matye Matthew
mawon untamed; *see Nèg*
Mawon
mayi corn
mèb (piece of) furniture; furniture
medam women, ladies
mèkredi Wednesday
men hand; but; here is, here are; game
men wi yes indeed, certainly

menm same; self; even; at all
(*with negative*)
menm menm *for emphasis*
mennaj boyfriend; girlfriend
mennen to lead, take, bring
merite to merit, deserve
mesaj message
mèsi thank you, thanks
mèt master; owner; teacher;
 may (*permission*)
mete to put, place
mezanmi! wow!; well! well!
mi ripe
fig (mi) banana
Mibalè Mirebalais
milat Mulatto
mirak miracle
Miyami Miami
mizè misery, poverty, suffering
mo word
mò dead person
moman moment
mòn mountain, mount, hill
monchè friend (*when
 addressing a male*)
monpè priest
mont watch (*timepiece*)
montre to show
Mòris Maurice, Morris
moso piece
motè motor
mouche man (*often pejorative*)
mouchwa bandanna, kerchief;
 handkerchief
moulen to chew, grind
moun person, people; character
kò moun human body

pyès moun no one
mouri to die
moute to mount, climb, go up;
 to fly (a kite)
mouye wet
move bad; angry, annoyed
mozayik tile floor
msye sir, man, gentleman,
 mister
mwa month
mwèn I, my, me; *reflexive
 pronoun*; minus, less

N

n *contraction* **nou**
nan in, on; from, from within
nanpwen (there is/are) no
natif natal native
natirèlman naturally
ne knot
nèf nine
nèg man; Black man
Nèg Mawon Escaped Slave
 (*Haiti's Unknown Soldier*)
nègès woman; Black woman
nen nose
nèt completely, thoroughly
neve nephew
ni (*with pa*) nor
ni . . . ni (*with pa*) neither . . .
 nor
nich nest
non no; name
nonm man
nou, n we, our, us; you
 (*plural*), your (*plural*);
reflexive pronoun

nouvèl news

nyaj cloud

O

o oh!

ò gold

santim ò U.S. cent, penny

ofri to offer

ogmante to increase, augment

Okap Cape Haitian

Okay (Les) Cayes, (Aux) Cayes

oke OK

okipe to take care of; busy

okontrè on the contrary

onè honor (*traditional request to enter home* - cf. **respè**)

onzè eleven o'clock

osinon if not, otherwise

otorite authority, power

ou you, your (*singular*);
reflexive pronoun

oubyen or

P

p contraction **pa**

pa, p not; *possessive indicator*

pa . . . ankò no longer

padon forgiveness

padonnen to forgive

paj page

pale to speak, talk

palmis, pye palmis (royal)
palm tree

pàn (mechanical) breakdown;
problem

pandan while, during, for

panyen basket

papa father; man! (*exclamation*)

papiyon butterfly

papye paper

papye ijenik toilet paper

parapli umbrella

parasòl parasol, umbrella

pase to pass, spend (time); to
go; to happen, take place; last,
past; than

paske because

pat foot (*of animal*)

pati to leave; game

pawòl (spoken) word

pay hay, straw

pè fear; priest; pair; to be afraid

pèdi to lose; lost

pèl shovel

pèlen trap

pen (loaf of) bread

pentad guinea fowl

pèsekisyon persecution

pèsekite to persecute

pèsonn no one

petèt perhaps, maybe

Petyonvil Pétion-Ville

peye to pay, pay for

peyi country

pi more, most

pile to crush, grind

pip pipe

pise urine

pita later

piti little, small

piti piti slowly, gradually

pitimi millet

pitit child; off-spring, cub

pito to prefer

plafon ceiling
plaj beach
plamen palm (of hand)
planche floor
plant plant
plante to plant
plenn plain (*open country*)
plent report, complaint
plis more; plus
 plis . . . plis the more . . . the more
po pot; skin
pòch pocket
ponyen handful, group
posib possible
pòt door
 manch pòt doorknob
pote to carry, bring, bear
pòtè porter
Pòtoprens Port-au-Prince
pou for; in order to; *to express necessity or obligation; to express possession; see gen pou, kont, se pou*
poubèl trash basket
poukisa why
poul chicken; *see chape poul, pran poul*
pous, gwo pous thumb
pouvwa power
pòv poor
pozisyon position, spot, place
pral, prale, apral to be going (to)
pran to take, get; to eat
pran poul (sou) to copy, cheat (*on test*)
premye first

prese in a hurry, rushed
prete to lend; to borrow
prizon prison
pwa bean; pea
pwason fish
pwoblèm problem
pwoche to approach, draw near
pwofesè professor, teacher
pwòp clean, pure
pwovèb proverb
pyas (*familiar expression for*) Haitian gourde (*formerly equivalent to 20 cents U.S.*)
pye foot; plant
 pye kokoye coconut tree
 pye palmis (royal) palm tree
pyebwa tree
pyès moun no one

R

rach ax
rad clothes
radyo radio
raje undergrowth, underbrush
rakbwa thicket
rakonte to tell, relate
rale to pull; to crawl
ranfòse to reinforce
rantre to enter; to return
rasanble to be gathered, be assembled
rayi to hate
rayisman hate, hatred
rèd hard, tough
regle to regulate, guide, direct
regrèt to regret, be sorry for
rekonmanse to begin again

rekonnèt to recognize
rele to call, call out; to be named
renmen to love, like
renmèt to give back, return
reponn to answer
repons answer
resevwa to receive, get
resi to succeed
respè respect (*traditional invitation to enter home - cf. onè*)
respekte to respect
restoran restaurant
rete, ret to stop; to live, dwell; to stay, remain; to retain, keep, still have
revèy clock (*of any type*)
reyini to meet, get together
rezon reason
gen rezon to be right
ri to laugh
rich rich
richès fortune, wealth
rido curtain
rive to arrive, arrive at; to succeed; to happen

S

sa that; what, whatever; *see*
kisa
lè sa a then
sa a this, that
sa yo these, those
sab sand
sak bag, sack
sakrifis sacrifice
samdi Saturday

san without; hundred; blood
sansib sensitive, tender
santi to smell; to feel (*reflexive*)
santim ò U.S. cent, penny
sanven one hundred twenty
sanvennsenk one hundred twenty-five
sanzatann suddenly, unexpectedly
sanzave good-for-nothing, bum
sapat sandal
Satan Satan
satisfaksyon contentment, happiness, satisfaction
se to be
se pou it is necessary that
sèk dry
sèkèy coffin
sekle to weed, clear off ground
sèl only, single; alone
sèlman only; really
sèmante to swear, pledge
sen saint
senk five
senkant fifty
senkè five o'clock
senmenn week
senti (*woman's*) belt
sentiwon (*man's*) belt
separe to divide (up)
sere to reserve, save
seremoni ceremony
serye serious
sèt seven
sèten certain
sèvi to serve
sèvi (ak) to use

sèvis service, ceremony
sèvis lwa Voodoo ceremony
sèvyèt towel
sèz sixteen
sezi surprised
si if
sigarèt cigarette
silans silence
siman surely, certainly
sinema movie theater, cinema
Sitadèl Citadelle La Ferrière
(huge fortress above Milot, near Cap Haitian, built c. 1806-1820 by Haitian King Henry Christophe - Haiti's most imposing monument)
sizo scissors
sòl ground, floor
solèy sun
sonje to remember
sòt stupid, dumb
sòti, sot to go out, leave
sou on, upon; out of
soud deaf
souke to shake
soulye shoe
soupe supper
souple please; *see tanpri*
sous spring (*of water*)
sove to save, be saved
swa, jou swa evening
swaf thirst; to be thirsty
swasanndis seventy
swasannkenz seventy-five
swasannsenk sixty-five
swasanntwa sixty-three
swasant sixty

swè evening
swivan following, next
syèl sky; heaven

T

t contraction **te**
ta would (*conditional indicator*)
tab table
tabli to establish, set up
tablo painting
taksi taxi
tan time
tanbou drum
tande to hear
tankou as, like
tanmen to begin to
tann to wait, wait for
tanpri please
tanpri souple (“pretty”) please
tantasyon temptation
taptap small passenger truck
tas cup
tchik *sound made when spitting*
te, t *past tense indicator*
tè land, earth; earthen
tè, latè land, earth
tèks text
teledyòl word-of-mouth, “coconut grapevine”
telefòn telephone
telefonnen to telephone
tenyen to put out, extinguish
tèt head; *reflexive indicator*
fè tèt to cut hair
nan tèt ansanm as one, in union

tete to nurse, breast-feed; breast
ti small, little; *see tonton*
(yon) ti kras (a) little bit
tibebe baby
tig tiger
Tijak Jim
Tijo Joey
tim? tim? *offer to tell a riddle*
(cf. bwa chèch!)
timoun child
tire kont to tell stories or
 riddles
tit title
tiwa drawer
tiyo pipe; fountain; spigot
tonbe to fall; to begin to
tonnè thunder
tonton uncle; old man
ti tonton small carved
 wooden figure
tou too, also; quite
an tou in all
toude both
toujou always; still
tounen to return
toupatou everywhere, all
 around
touris tourist
touswit right away,
 immediately
tout all, every
touye to kill
trannde thirty-two
trannkat thirty-four
trannsenk thirty-five
trant thirty
travay work; to work

travayè worker
trèz thirteen
tris sad
twa three
marasa twa triplet(s)
twal cloth, material
twalèt toilet
chanm twalèt bathroom
twazè three o'clock
twazyèm third
twò, twòp too much, too many
twonpe to be mistaken, be wrong
(reflexive); to deceive, fool
twòp, twò too much, too many
twou hole
twou basen drain

V

va, a *future tense indicator*
vakabon good-for-nothing,
 bum, scoundrel
vale to swallow
vandredi Friday
vann to sell
vant stomach
vanyan robust; hard-working
vè towards, around; glass
lanp vè oil lamp (with glass)
ven twenty
vennkat twenty-four
veye funeral wake
vi life, existence
vid empty
vide to empty; to pour
vil town
vini, vin to come; to become
vire to turn

vire do to turn one's back on
(someone)

vit fast, quickly

viv to live, exist

vivan alive, living

kretyen vivan human being

vle to wish, want

vle di to mean

vo to be worth

vodou Voodoo

vole to fly

vòlè to steal; thief

volonte will, wish

voye to send

voye je to glance

vre true; truly; really

vwa voice

vye old; disgusting; hateful

W

wa king

watè toilet

wè to see

wi yes

men wi yes indeed, certainly

wit eight

witè eight o'clock

wo tall, high

wòb dress

wobinèt faucet

wonm rum

wou hoe

wouj red

wout road, way

wouze to water, irrigate

Y

y contraction yo

ye to be

yo, y they, their, them; *plural indicator; reflexive pronoun*

sa yo these, those

yon a, an

youn one (*pronoun*)

Z

zaboka avocado

zafè business, affair

zandolit small lizard

zanj angel

zanmi friend

zanno earring

zepòl shoulder

zo bone; dice

zoranj orange

zòrèy ear

zòreye pillow

zòtèy toe

zwazo bird