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SURVIVAL CREOLE

Dedicated to those who would work to better the condition of the Haitian people, in the name of God, in the name of humanity — or of both.

Fifth Edition

Institute of Haitian Studies
University of Kansas

La Presse Evangélique
Port-au-Prince

2002


WHERE HAITIAN TEXTS CAN BE FOUND:

**In Haiti**

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SUGGESTIONS FOR USE

This work is intended as a brief, practical guide for speakers of English in Haiti on a short-term basis. As the title implies, you will find here only a very minimum of essentials concerning one of Haiti’s two official languages - but the only language spoken by all Haitians. It is hoped you will thus not be entirely at the mercy of an interpreter, who in any case will not always be available.

You may want first to familiarize yourself with the PRONUNCIATION GUIDE and TO HELP UNDERSTAND THE PHRASES, and then go through marking the expressions you think will be most useful to you. Of help also will be to listen to the tape and/or to enlist the aid of a Haitian speaker. (Note: Haitian pronunciation is much easier for an English speaker than is for example French or Spanish.)

The official Haitian government spelling system is used throughout. Included are some of the best-known proverbs, since they form an integral part of Haitian speech and culture, and when fully understood, can be a great source of wisdom.

You will probably find that speaking is easier than understanding. As with any language, many people tend to speak rapidly and run words together. At first you may have to rely mainly upon an occasional word, and hand signals. However these phrases are a start, and will at least give you some direct contact with Haiti’s greatest resource: its people.

Bòn chans, blan! (Good luck, foreigner!)

Lawrence, Kansas  Bryant C. Freeman
August 2002

Sa ki pa touye ou, li angrese ou.
That which doesn’t kill you, makes you fat.
PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

The pronunciation of Haitian is not a great problem for speakers of English. First, the language has few of the seemingly exotic sounds of French; and secondly, its almost phonetic spelling system is a clear guide.

HAITIAN IS SPELLED AS IT IS PRONOUNCED - AND PRONOUNCED AS IT IS SPELLED. EACH LETTER IS PRONOUNCED - AND EACH SOUND IS WRITTEN ONLY ONE WAY. Naturally to acquire a good accent, one will need to work with tapes and/or a Haitian teacher. You will find, however, that Haitians are flattered by those who want to learn their true language, and are only too willing to help.

Sounds which could initially puzzle the speaker of English are:

- **ch** - as in *show*: *chache* (to look for)
- **ò** - as in *paw*, *saw*: *fò* (strong)
- **e** - as in *aim*: *ede* (to help)
- **ou** - as in *food*: *ou* (you, your)
- **è** - as in *leg*: *mèsi* (thank you)
- **r** - *not* rolled, very soft, pronounced at back of throat: *respire* (to breathe)
- **g** - always “hard,” as in *go*: *gen* (to have)
- **s** - always pronounced as an “s,” never like a “z”: *prese* (in a hurry)
- **i** - as in *bee*: *isit* (here)
- **y** - as in *yes*: *yon* (a, an)
- **o** - as in *toe*: *yo* (they, their, them)
- **bagay* (thing)

NASAL SOUNDS are pronounced partially through the nose, but without the “n” itself pronounced. There are no real English equivalents, but are close to:

- **an** - somewhat like *alms*: *nan* (in)
- **en** - as in the name *Chopin*: *mwen* (I, my, me)
- **on** - somewhat like *don’t*: *bon* (good)

NOTES:
1) When a nasal sound is followed by a second “n” or by an “m,” pronounce the nasal sound as usual, plus the “n” or “m” separately: *senmenn* (week), *chanm* (room).

2) When **an**, **en**, or **on** are *not* meant to indicate a nasal sound, a grave accent (´) is placed over the vowel: *pàn* (mechanical breakdown), *Ayisyèn* (Haitian woman), *mòn* (hill, mountain).

3) The combination **in** never indicates a nasal sound: *gazolin* (gasoline) - the last syllable pronounced like “lean.”
TO HELP UNDERSTAND THE PHRASES

Haitian is a beautifully efficient, therefore quite sophisticated, language. It conveys meaning with a minimum of words, avoiding complicated forms and complex constructions.

1) Haitian words normally have only one form. **NOUNS** have no gender, and their plural is formed simply by adding **yo** after the word. The term for “a” or “an” is placed **before** the noun, the term for “the” **after** the noun:

- a house - **yon kay**
- the house - **kay la**
- the houses - **kay yo**

2) There are only five **PRONOUNS**:

- **mwen** - I, my, me
- **ou** - you, your
- **li** - he, she, it; his, her, its; him, her, it
- **nou** - we, our, us; you (plural), your (plural)
- **yo** - they, their, them

3) **VERB** tenses are expressed in five ways:

- **Present:** I eat - **mwen manje**
- **Present Progressive:** I am eating - **mwen ap manje**
- **Past:** I ate - **mwen te manje**
- **Future:** I will eat - **mwen pral manje**
- **Conditional:** I would eat - **mwen ta manje**

4) For the **NEGATIVE**, put **pa** in front of the verb forms:

- I do not eat - **mwen pa manje**
- I did not eat - **mwen pa te manje**

5) **POSSESSION** is shown by placing the person or thing possessed before the possessor:

- **kay David** - David’s house
- **papa mwen** - my father
HELLO! / BONJOU!

Good morning!  
Bonjou!

Good afternoon! / Good evening!  
Bonswa!

How are you?  
Kijan ou ye?

Not bad.  
Pa pi mal.

And yourself?  
E ou menm?

Great!  
Anfòm!

I’m getting along.  
M ap kenbe.

Hang in there!  
Kenbe, pa lage!

Have a good trip!  
Bon vwayaj!

Bye-bye.  
Babay.

See you (God willing).  
N a wè (si Dye vle).

Bondye bon.  
God is good.

(Whatever God does is for the best. / It’s God’s will. / What is, is good. - Haiti’s eternally optimistic fatalism - good for mental well-being, terrible for national development.)

Dèyè mòn, gen mòn.  
Behind the mountains, there are mountains.

(If it’s not one thing, it’s another. / There’s more there than meets the eye.)
### STARTERS / POU KONMANSE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Haitian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes. / No.</td>
<td>Wi. / Non.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanks (a lot)!</td>
<td>Mèsi (anpil)!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No, thanks.</td>
<td>Non, mèsi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please.</td>
<td>Souple.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You’re welcome.</td>
<td>Merite.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No problem.</td>
<td>Pa gen pwoblèm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OK.</td>
<td>Oke.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excuse me.</td>
<td>Eskize.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am sorry.</td>
<td>Mwen regrèt sa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I did not do it on purpose.</td>
<td>Se pa fòt mwen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is... / There are...</td>
<td>Gen...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is not / are not any.</td>
<td>Pa genyen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine.</td>
<td>Byen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That’s right!</td>
<td>Se konsa!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A lot.</td>
<td>Anpil.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There are a lot of...</td>
<td>Gen anpil...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Here. / There.</td>
<td>Isit. / La.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everything OK?</td>
<td>Tout bagay anfòm?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isn’t it? (Don’t you? etc.)</td>
<td>Pa vre?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I can (not).</td>
<td>Mwen (pa) kapab.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
You ready?  
Ou pare?  

Me too.  
Mwen menm tou.  

(Not) Many. / (Not) Very.  
(Pa) Anpil.  

(Not) Now.  
(Pa) Kounyeya.  

(Not) Always.  
(Pa) Toujou.  

(Not) Often.  
(Pa) Souvan.  

(Not) Everything.  
(Pa) Tout bagay.  

Everywhere.  
Toupatou.  

Nothing.  
Anyen.  

Almost.  
Prèske.  

Soon.  
Talè.  

Sometimes.  
Kèkfwa.  

Not at all!  
Ditou ditou!  

Exactly!  
Se sa menm!  

It is (not) true.  
Se (pa) vre.  

HELP! / ANMWE!  

Help!  
Anmwe!  

Watch out!  
Atansyon!  

Hurry!  
Prese prese!  

Fire!  
Dife!  

Help me, please.  
Ede mwen, souple.  

Give me a hand, please.  
Ban mwen yon koutmen, souple.  

I have lost...  
Mwen te pèdi...  

They have stolen...  
Yo te vòlò...
EVERYDAY PHRASES / SA YO KONN DI

NEEDS / BEZWEN

I need... Mwen bezwen...
We would like... Nou ta vle...
We are looking for... Nou ap chache...
Please give me... Souple, ban mwen...
Please bring... for us. Souple, pote... pou nou.
May we look at...? Èske nou mèt gade...?

MONEY / KÒB

Here is a little money for you. Men yon ti kòb pou ou.
I don’t have any small change. Mwen pa gen ti monnen.
Divide this among you. Separe sa ant nou.

TIME / LÈ

Yesterday / today / tomorrow. Yè / jòdi a / denmen.
For how long? Pou konben tan?
Just a moment, please. Yon ti moman, souple.
This morning. Maten an.
This afternoon. Apremidi a.
This evening. Aswè a.
Three days ago. Gen twa jou.
In four days (from now). Nan kat jou.

KNOWING / KONNEN

I (do not) know. Mwen (pa) konnen.
I (do not) think so. Mwen (pa) kwè sa.
I am (not) certain. Mwen (pa) sèten.
FEELING / SA OU SANTI
I (do not) like that. Mwen (pa) renmen sa.
That is (not) good. Sa (pa) bon.
We are (not) happy. Nou (pa) kontan.
I am hot / cold / tired. Mwen cho / frèt / fatige.
I am surprised! Mwen sezi!
I hope so. Mwen swete sa.

REACTIONS / SA OU PANSE
That does not matter. Sa pa fè anyen.
Too bad! Donmaj!
How beautiful! Ala bèl!

REQUESTS / DEMANN
Come in! / Sit down! Antre, wi! / Chita, wi!
Come! / Look! Vini, non! / Gade, non!
Let’s go! Ann ale!
Listen! / Hear! Koute! / Tande!
Wait for me! / Stop! Tann mwen! / Rete!
Do not worry! Pa chaje têt ou!
Do not forget! Pa bliye, non!

PROBLEMS / PWOBLÈM
There is a (little) problem. Gen yon (ti) pwoblèm.
Where are our suitcases? Kote malèt nou yo?
This is broken. Sa a kase.
Can they fix it? Èske yo ka ranje li?

TAXIS / TAKSI
I need a taxi. Mwen bezwen yon taksi.
Hey! Taxi! Woy! Taksi!
How much (does it cost) to go to...? Konben (li koute) pou ale...?
Stop here, please. Rete isit, souple.
### QUESTIONS? / KÈSYON?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Creole</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How much? / How many?</td>
<td>Konben?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why?</td>
<td>Poukisa?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where?</td>
<td>(Ki) kote?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What?</td>
<td>Kisa?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When?</td>
<td>(A) kilè?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who?</td>
<td>Ki moun?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How?</td>
<td>Kijan?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which?</td>
<td>Kilès?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is / Are there...?</td>
<td>Èske gen...?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you have...?</td>
<td>Èske ou gen...?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can you help us, please?</td>
<td>Èske ou ka ede nou, souple?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where can we find...?</td>
<td>(Ki) kote nou ka jwenn...?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where can we buy...?</td>
<td>(Ki) kote nou ka achte...?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can you tell me...?</td>
<td>Èske ou ka di mwen ...?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>give me...?</td>
<td>ban mwen...?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>show me...?</td>
<td>monstre mwen...?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who is there?</td>
<td>Ki moun ki la?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What do you want?</td>
<td>Kisa ou vle?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What are you doing there?</td>
<td>Kisa ou ap fè la?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is that?</td>
<td>Kisa sa a ye?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What do they do with that?</td>
<td>Kisa yo fè ak sa?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What’s going on?</td>
<td>Sa k pase?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What’s the matter?</td>
<td>Sa k genyen?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What must we do?</td>
<td>Kisa pou nou fè?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have you seen...?</td>
<td>Èske ou te wè...?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do you speak English / French?

Èske ou pale angle / franse?

Who here speaks...?

Ki moun isit ki pale...?

We need an interpreter.

Nou bezwen yon entèprèt.

I am / We are American.

Mwen se / Nou se Ameriken.

We are Canadian.

Nou se Kanadyen.

I do not speak Haitian.

Mwen pa pale kreyòl.

I speak only

Mwen pale sèlman

a little Haitian.
yon ti kras kreyòl.

I have problems understanding Haitian.

Mwen gen pwoblèm konprann kreyòl.

Repeat, please.

Repete, souple.

Slowly, please.

Dousman, souple.

You understand?

Ou konprann?

I (do not) understand.

Mwen (pa) konprann.

What does... mean?

Kisa... vle di?

What do they call that in Haitian?

Kijan yo rele sa an kreyòl?

How do they say... in Haitian?

Kijan yo di... an kreyòl?

Pale franse pa di lespri.
Speaking French doesn’t mean you’re smart.

Kreyòl pale, kreyòl konprann.
Creole spoken is Creole understood.

(Haitian means straight talk.)

WHICH WAY? / KI KOTE?
14 paj katòz

Where is..., please?  
the toilet, please?  
the road to..., please?  
the hotel, please?  
the post office, please?  
the telephone, please?  
the bank, please?  
Port-au-Prince, please?  
the beach, please?  
the gas station, please?

(Ki) kote..., souple?  
twalèt la, souple?  
wout..., souple?  
ôtèl lan, souple?  
lapòs, souple?  
televòn lan, souple?  
bank lan, souple?  
Pòtoprens, souple?  
plaj la, souple?  
ponp gaz la, souple?

I would like to go to...
Can you lead me to...?
I am / We are lost.
Where are we?
Where does this road lead?
Where must we turn?
We turn left or right?
Straight ahead?
It’s far?

Mwen ta vle ale...
Èske ou ka mennen mwen...?
Mwen / Nou pèdi.
(Ki) kote nou ye?
(Ki) kote wout sa a mennen?
(Ki) kote pou nou vire?
Nou vire agòch oubyen adwat?
Tou dwat?
Li lwen?

SOME ANSWERS / KÈK REPONS

Turn left / right.
Go straight ahead.
Go this way.
Go back to...
You are (not) on the right road.
Give me a ride, please.

Vire agòch / adwat.
Ale tou dwat.
Fè sa.
Tounen jouk...
Ou (pa) sou wout la.
Ban mwen woulib, souple.
GETTING TO KNOW YOU / POU KONNEN OU

What is your name?  
Kijan ou rele?

My name is...  
Mwen rele...

What is his / her name?  
Kijan li rele?

I am happy to know you.  
Mwen kontan konnen ou.

This is my wife.  
Se madanm mwen.

This is my husband.  
Se mari mwen.

This is my friend.  
Se zanmi mwen.

Where do you live?  
(Ki) kote ou rete?

I live in the United States / in Canada.  
Mwen rete Ozetazini / Okanada.

How old are you?  
Ki laj ou?

How old is he / she?  
Ki laj li?

How many brothers and sisters do you have?  
Konben frè ak sè ou genyen?

Where were you born?  
(Ki) kote ou te fèt?

Are you a student?  
Èske ou se yon elèv?

What is your occupation?  
Ki metye ou?

What is the occupation of your mother / your father?  
Ki metye manman ou / papa ou?

Do you have a girl friend / boy friend?  
Èske ou gen mennaj?

Do you have a wife / husband?  
Èske ou gen madanm / mari?

Do you have children?  
Èske ou gen pitit?

How many sons do you have?  
Konben pitit gason ou genyen?

How many daughters?  
Konben pitit fi?
How many grandchildren?  Konben pitit pitit?
You are very nice.  Ou janti anpil.
Your hair is beautiful.  Cheve ou bèl.
What a beautiful place!  Ala yon bèl kote!
Haiti is beautiful!  Ayiti bèl!
May I take your photo?  Èske mwen mèt pran foto ou?

BUYING / ACHTE

Do you sell...?  Èske ou vann...?
Where can I buy...?  (Ki) kote mwen ka achte...?
At what time do they open / close?  A kilè yo louvri / fèmen?

BARGAINING / FÈ JIS PRI

How much (does that cost)?  Konben (sa koute)?
It is (very) expensive!  Li chè (anpil)!
Too expensive (for me)!  Twò chè (pou mwen)!
If I give you...  Si mwen ba ou...
What is your last price?  Ki dènye pri ou?
Agreed!  Dakò!

Santi bon koute chè.
Smelling good is expensive.

(A big front doesn’t come cheaply.)
IN THE STREET / NAN LARI

No thanks, I do not need that. Non mèsi, mwen pa bezwen sa.

We do not need anything, thanks. Nou pa bezwen anyen, mèsi.

I have that already. Mwen gen sa deja.

I do not have any money (today). Mwen pa gen kòb (jòdi a).

I will give it to you tomorrow. Mwen ap ba ou li denmen.

We do not need a guide. Nou pa bezwen gid.

GO AWAY! / KITE MWEN TRANKIL!

Excuse us, we are in a hurry. Eskize, nou prese.

Leave me alone! Kite mwen trankil!

Do not do that to me! Pa fè mwen sa!

Get lost! Al fè wout ou!

Bay kou bliye, pote mak sonje.
The giver of the blow forgets, the bearer of the scar remembers.

Wòch nan dlo pa konnen doulè wòch nan solèy.
The rock in the water does not know the pain of the rock in the sun.

(There is no way fully to comprehend another’s pain.)
EATING AND DRINKING / MANJE AK BWÈ

We are looking for a restaurant, please.  
Nou ap chache yon restoran, souple.

We are (very) hungry / thirsty.  
Nou grangou / swaf (anpil).

What do you have to eat / drink?  
Kisa ou gen pou manje / bwè?

We would like breakfast.  
Nou ta vle manje maten an.

We would like lunch.  
Nou ta vle manje midi a.

We would like supper.  
Nou ta vle manje aswè a.

A little snack, please.  
Yon ti soloba, souple.

What sandwiches are there?  
Ki sandwitch ki genyen?

Do you have...?  
Èske ou gen...?

Give me (a)..., please.  
Ban mwen (yon)..., souple.

We would like (a)..., please.  
Nou ta vle (yon)..., souple.

There is not / are not any more.  
Pa gen(yen) ankò.

HOW MUCH / KONBEN

Only a little bit, please.  
Sèlman yon ti kras, souple.

A lot, please!  
Anpil, souple!

More..., please.  
... ankò, souple.

Nothing more, thanks.  
Anyen ankò, mèsi.

Is this Culligan [purified] water?  
Èske se dlo Kiligann?

I cannot eat / drink...  
Mwen pa ka manje / bwè...

Sak vid pa kanpe.  
Empty bags don’t stand up.

(No work gets done on an empty stomach. /  
You get out of something what you put into it.)
I NEED / MWEN BEZWEN
Waiter! / Waitress!
I need a..., please.
knife,
fork,
spoon,
soup spoon,
napkin,
paper napkin,
plate,
cup,
saucer,
straw,
I need salt, please.
pepper,
It is dirty. Li sal.

A small / large glass of..., please.
A bottle of..., please.
The same thing, please.

HOW / KIJAN
Hot / cold.
Toasted / spicy / iced.
Rare / medium / well-done.
Baked / grilled / fried.

COMPLAINTS / PLENT
Where are our drinks?
I did not ask for that.
I said...
This is not good.
This is cold / tough / stale.
Take this away, please.

Gason! / Madmwazèl!
Mwen bezwen yon..., souple.
kouto,
fouchèt,
kiyè,
gwo kiyè,
sèvyèt,
napkin,
asyèt,
tas,
soukoup,
chalimô,

Mwen bezwen sèl, souple.
da,

Yon ti / gwo vè..., souple.
Yon boutèy..., souple.
Menm bagay la, souple.

Cho / frèt.
Griye / pike / glase.
Pase sou dife / medyòm / byen kwit.
Kwit nan fou / griye / fri.
PAYING / PEYE

The check, please. Fich la, souple.
Is the tip included? Èske sèvis la ladann?
Keep that for you. Kenbe sa pou ou.

There is a math error in the check. Gen yon fôt chif nan fich la.
This is not the price (which was marked). Se pa pri sa a (ki te make).
I / We did not have... Mwen / Nou pa te pran...

THANKS / MÈSI

The food was very good! Manje a te bon anpil!
Thank you! Mèsi!
We will come back. Nou pral tounen.

Bwè dlo nan vè, respekte vè. (If you) drink water in the glass, respect the glass.
(Don’t bite the hand that feeds you.)

Si se Bondye ki voye, Li peye frè ou. If it’s God who sends (you), He’ll pay your expenses.
(The Lord will provide.)

Sa ou fè, se li ou wè. What you do is what you see.
ILLS AND PILLS / MALADI AK GRENN

Where is the restroom, please?
Kote twalèt la, souple?

I need toilet paper.
Mwen bezwen papye ijenik.

You OK?
Ou byen?

I am not (too) well.
Mwen pa (twò) byen.

I am sick.
Mwen malad.

He / She is (very) sick.
Li malad (anpil).

There was an accident.
Te gen yon aksidan.

He / She is hurt (badly).
Li blese (anpil).

Do not move him / her.
Pa deplase li.

We need a doctor / a nurse right away.
Nou bezwen yon dòktè / yon mis touswit.

Does the doctor speak English?
Èske dòktè a pale angle?

Where is the hospital?
(Ki) kote lopital la?

Where does it hurt you?
(Ki) kote li fè ou mal?

That hurts me (a little / a lot).
Sa fè mwen mal (yon ti jan / anpil).

It is not serious.
Sa pa grav.

It is better now.
Sa pi bon kounyey.

I am having my period.
Mwen gen règ mwen.

I have menstrual cramps.
Mwen gen kolik mwen.

She is pregnant.
Li ansent.

Do you have something for mosquitoes?
Ou gen bagay kont marengwen?

I have a headache / earache / sore throat.
Mwen gen maltèt / malzòrèy / malgòj.
I have pain in my arm / leg / here.
Mwen gen doulè nan bra mwen / in my nan janm mwen / isit.

I have something in my eye.
Mwen gen yon bagay nan je mwen.

My nose is bleeding.
Nen mwen ap senyen.

I cannot eat / sleep.
Mwen pa ka manje / dòmi.

DIGESTION / DIJESYON

I have no appetite.
Mwen pa gen apeti.

I ate too much.
Mwen te manje twòp.

I have indigestion.
Mwen gonfle.

I have diarrhea.
Mwen gen djare.

I feel nauseated.
Mwen anvi vonmi.

I vomited.
Mwen te vonmi.

I have a stomach ache.
Mwen gen vantfèmal.

I am allergic to that.
Mwen alèji ak sa.

I am a diabetic.
Mwen fè sik.

I have hay fever.
Mwen gen lafyèv sezon.

He / She has a (bad) cold.
Li anrimen (anpil).

I have the flu.
Mwen gripe.

FEVER / LAFYÈV

My whole body is hot.
Tout kò mwen cho.

I have fever.
Mwen gen lafyèv.

I am dizzy.
Mwen toudi.

He / She fainted.
Li endispoze.

Se mèt kò ki veye kò.
It is the owner of the body who looks out for the body.

(Take care of yourself. / Take care of that which is yours.)
DENTIST / DANTIS

I have a toothache.
Mwen gen maldan.

Where can I find a good dentist?
(Ki) kote mwen ka jwenn yon bon dantis?

DRUGSTORE / FAMASI

Where is the drugstore?
(Ki) kote famasi a?

Do you have sanitary napkins?
Èske ou gen kotèks?

I need something for this cut.
Mwen bezwen yon bagay pou blese sa a.

We want to buy Mercurochrome / iodine.
Nou vle achte mèkiwokòm / tentidyòd.

We need bandages / cotton.
Nou bezwen pansman / koton.

Adhesive tape / gauze / some Band-Aids.
Bann adezif / twal gaz / kèk ti pansman.

---

Bondye di ou: fè pa ou, M a fè pa M.
God says to you: do your part, I’ll do My part.

Ou wè sa ou genyen, ou pa konn sa ou rete.
You know what you’ve got, you don’t know what’s waiting for you.

Kreyon Bondye pa gen gòm.
God’s pencil has no eraser.

(God makes no mistakes. /
What God promises, He will give. /
What’s traced for you is forever traced.)
Where is the filling station? (Ki) kote ponp gaz la?
Fill the tank, please. Foul tank la, souple.
Ten dollars worth, please. Di dola, souple.
Back up. Fè bak.
Check the oil, please. Tcheke lwil la, souple.
   water,
   tires,
   spare tire,
   brakes,
   brake fluid,
   dlo a,
   kawòtchou yo,
   kawòtchou de rechanj la,
   fren an,
   lwil fren an,
   Konben pou siye machin mwen?
How much to wipe off my car?
Put distilled water in the battery, please. Mete dlo distile nan batri a, souple.
The battery needs to be recharged. Batri a bezwen chaje.
Grease the car, please. Grese machin lan, souple.
Change the oil, please. Chanje lwil la, souple.
Tighten / Loosen..., please. Sere / Desere..., souple.
Where must I leave my car? Kote pou mwen kite machin mwen?
TIRES / KAWÒTCHOU
I have a flat tire. Mwen pran pàn kawòtchou.
Can you change the tire, please? Èske ou ka chanje kawòtchou a, souple?
I need a tire man. Mwen bezwen yon kawòtchoumann.
They let out the air in the tire. Yo wete van nan kawòtchou a.
It is (not) punctured. Li (pa) gen twou.
STUCK / KOLE

Our car is stuck in the mud.

Machin nou kole nan labou.

Our car is stalled in the water.

Machin nou mouri nan dlo.

Can you help us push it?

Èske ou ka ede nou pouse li?

We have run out of gas.

Nou te pran pàn gaz.

Can you leave us at the nearest garage?

Èske ou ka lage nou nan garaj ki pi pre a?

I have lost the car key.

Mwen te pèdi kle machin lan.

I have locked the key in the car.

Mwen te fèmen kle a nan machin lan.

ENGINE TROUBLE / PWOBLÈM MOTÈ

There is a problem with my car / my jeep.

Gen yon pwoblèm ak machin mwen / djip mwen.

My car does not start.

Machin mwen pa estat.

The radiator leaks.

Radyatè a koule.

The motor is too hot / is knocking.

Motè a twò cho / gen frapman.

The oil / The gas is leaking.

Lwil la / Gaz la ap koule.

Can you change the spark plugs?

Èske ou ka chanje bouji yo?

We need a mechanic.

Nou bezwen yon mekanisyen.

Is it serious?

Èske sa grav?

Can you fix it?

Èske ou ka ranje li?

How much (will that cost)?

Konben (sa ap koute)?

How much time (will that take)?

Konben tan (sa ap pran)?

Can I drive it like that?

Èske mwen ka kondi li kon sa?

(We need it) right away!

(Nou bezwen li) touswit!
FOOD AND DRINK: ENGLISH - HAITIAN

alcohol  alkòl
almond  zanmann
apple  pòn m
apricot  zabriko
asparagus  aspèj
avocado  zaboka
bacon  bekonn
banana  fig (mi)
bean  pwa bèf
beer  byè
beet  bètwouj
bone  zo
brains  sèvèl
bread  pen
breadfruit  lamveritab
brown-sugar candy  rapadou
butter  bè
butterbean  pwa bè
cabbage  chou
cake  gato
candy  tablèt, sirèt
cantaloupe  melon frans
carrot  kawòt
cashew nut  nwa kajou
cassava bread  kasav
cauliflower  choufòlè
celery  seleri
cereal (dry)  kònfleks
cereal (hot)  labouyi avwàn
chayote squash  militon
cheese  fwonmaj
cherry  seriz
chicken  poul
chili pepper  piman pike
chips (usually plantain)  papita
chocolate  chokola
cinnamon  kanèl
cocoa  kakawò
cocoanut  kokoye
codfish  lanmori
coffee  kafe
conch  lanbi
cookie  bonbon
corn  mayi
cornmeal  mayi moulen
cornmeal pudding  akasan

egg  ze
fried egg  ze fri
hard-boiled egg  ze bouyi
poached egg  ze poche
scrambled egg  ze bwouye
soft-boiled egg  ze alakòk

eggplant  berejèn
fat  grès
fish  pwason
flour  farin
food  manje
frankfurter  sosis
French-fried potatoes  ponmdetè fri
French toast  pen pèdi
fritter (plain batter)  marinad
fritter (usually malanga)  akra
fruit  fwi
fruit juice  ji fwi
garlic  lay
goat  kabrit
gravy  sòs
grease  grès
greenbean  pwa tann
green pea  pwa frans
green pepper  piman dou(s)
guava  gwavò
guinea fowl  pentad
ham  janbon
hamburger  anbègè
herring  aran
honey  siwo myèl
hotdog  sosis
ice  glas
ice-cream  krèm (glase)
iced tea  te glase
jam  konfitì
Jello  jelo
juice ji
ketchup sòs tonmat, katchòp
kidney bean pwa wouj
langousté langous
lard mantèg
leek powo
leftovers manje dòmi
lentil lantiy
lettuce leti
lima bean pwa souch
lime sitwon
limeade sitwonad
liver fwa (di)
lobster wonma
macaroni makawoni
mango mango
manioc manyòk
margarine magarin
mayonnaise mayonèz
meat vyann
meatball boulèt
melon melon
milk lèt
  evaporated milk lèt vapore
  pasteurized milk lèt pasterize
  powdered milk lèt an poud
millet pitimi
mineral water dlo mineral
muffin ponmkèt
mushroom (small black) djondjon
mustard moutad
nut nwa
nutmeg miskad
oatmeal labouyi avwàn
octopus chatwouy
oil lwil
okra kalalou
olive zoliv
omelet lanmilèt
onion zonyon
orange zoranj
oyster zwit
pancake krèp
papaya papay
parsley pèsi
passionfruit grenadja, grenadin
pea pwa
peanut pistach
  peanut butter manba
peel po
pepper pwav
  green pepper piman dou(s)
  hot pepper piman pike
pickle kònichon
pie tat
pimento piman
pineapple zannanna
pizza pitza
plantain bannann
  plantain chips papita
  plantain slices fried in oil bannann peze
popcorn mayi pépèt
pork vyann kochon
  fried pork bits griyo
potato ponmdetè
  French-fried potatoes ponmdetè fri
  mashed potatoes pire
  ponmdetè
pumpkin jou(wou)mou
rabbit lapen
radish radi
raisin rezen sèk
raspberry franbwaz
relish (spicy) pikliz
rice diri
  rice and beans diri ak sòs pwa
  rice and beans cooked together diri (kole) ak pwa
roastbeef woti
roll pen won
rooster kòk
rum wonm
  raw rum kleren
  rum punch wonm ponch
salad salad
salami salami
salmon somon
salt sèl
sandwich sandwitch
sardine sadin
sauce sòs
sausage sosis
scallion echalòt
seafood bèt lanmè
seasoning epis
shaddock chadèk
Fanm se kajou: plis li vye, plis li bon.
Woman is like mahogany: the older, the better.

Fanm pou yon tan, manman pou tout tan.
Wife for a time, mother for all time.

Nèg di san fè, Bondye fè san di.
Man talks without doing, God does without talking.
FOOD AND DRINK: HAITIAN - ENGLISH

akasan  cornmeal pudding
akra (usually malanga) fritter
alkól  alcohol
aran  herring
aspéj  asparagus
bannann  plantain
  bannann peze  plantain slices fried in oil
bè  butter
bèf  beef
bekonn  bacon
berejèn  eggplant
bèt lanmè  seafood
bètwouj  beet
ble  wheat
bonbon  cookie
  bonbon sèl  cracker
boulèt  meatball
bouyon  stew
bwason  drink
byè  beer
chadèk  shaddock
chatwouy  octopus
chokola  chocolate
chouflè  cauliflower
desè  dessert
diri  rice
  diri ak sòs pwa  rice and beans
  diri (kole) ak pwa  rice and beans cooked together
djondjon  small black mushroom
dlo  water
  dlo distiye  purified water
  dlo Kiligann  Culligan water
  dlo mineral  mineral water
donmbreý  dumpling
dous  sweets
ehalôt  scallion
epis  spice; seasoning
espageti  spaghetti
estèk  steak
farin  flour
fig (mi)  banana
franbwaz  raspberry
fresko  snowcone
frèz  strawberry
fwa (di)  liver
fwì  fruit
fwonmaj  cheese
gato  cake
glas  ice
grenadin, grenadja  passionfruit
grès  fat; grease
griyo  fried pork bits
gwayav  guava
janbon  ham
jelo  Jello
ji  juice
  ji fwi  fruit juice
jou(ou)mou  pumpkin
kabrit  goat
kafe  coffee
kakawo  cocoa
kalalou  okra
kanèl  cinnamon
kann  sugar cane
kanna  duck
kasav  cassava bread
kwòt  carrot
kleren  raw rum
kòdenn  turkey
kòk  rooster
kokoye  coconut
kola  extremely sweet cola
konféti  jam
kònféks  dry cereal
kònichon  pickle
konkonm  cucumber
kowosòl  soursop
krab  crab
krèm  cream
  krèm (glase)  ice-cream
krèp  pancake
kribich  crayfish
labouyi  awwàn  hot cereal, oatmeal
lamveritab  breadfruit
lanbi  conch
lang  tongue
langous  langouste
lanmilèt  omelet
lanmorì  codfish
lantiy  lentil
lapen  rabbit
lay  garlic
legim  vegetable
lèt  milk
  lèt an poud  powdered milk
  lèt pasterize  pasteurized milk
  lèt vapore  evaporated milk
leïti  lettuce
leven  yeast
lwìl  oil
magarin  margarine
makawoni  macaroni
manba  peanut butter
mandarin  tangerine
mango  mango
manje  food
  manje dòmi  leftovers
mantèg  lard, shortening
manyòk  manioc
marinad  (plain batter) fritter
mayi  corn
  mayi moulen  cornmeal
  mayi pèpèt  popcorn
mayonèz  mayonnaise
melon  melon
  melon dlo  watermelon
  melon frans  cantaloupe
militon  chayote squash
miskad  nutmeg
moutad  mustard
nave  turnip
nwa  nut
  nwa kajou  cashew nut
papay  papaya
papita  (usually plantain) chips
patat  sweet potato
pen  bread
  pen griye  toast
  pen patat  sweet potato pudding
  pen pèdi  French toast
  pen won  roll
pentad  guinea fowl
pësi  parsley
pikliz  spicy relish
piman  pimento
  piman dou(s)  green pepper
  piman pike  hot pepper,
               chili pepper
pire ponmdetè  mashed potatoes
pistach  peanut
pitimi  millet
po  peel; skin
ponm  apple
ponmdetè  potato
  ponmdetè fri  French-fried potatoes
ponmkèt  muffin
poul  chicken
powo  leek
pwa  pea, bean
  pwa bè  butterbean
  pwa frans  green pea
  pwa souch  lima bean
  pwa tann  greenbean, string bean
  pwa wouj  kidney bean
pwason  fish
pwav  pepper
radi  radish
rapadou  brown-sugar candy
rezen sèk  raisin
sad  snapper
sadin  sardine
salad  salad
salami  salami
sandwich  sandwich
sèl  salt
seleri  celery
seriz  cherry
sèvèl  brains
sik  sugar
sirèt  candy
sitwon  lime
sitwonad  limeade
siwo  syrup
  siwo myèl  honey
sòbè  sherbet
sòl  sole
soloba  snack
somon  salmon
sòs  sauce; gravy
  sòs tonmat  ketchup
sosis  sausage; wiener, hotdog
soup  soup
tablèt  candy
tat  pie
te  tea
  te glase  iced tea
tizann  herbal tea
tonmat  tomato
tonnafich  tuna fish
tonnik  tonic water
tòti  turtle, tortoise
trip  tripe
vani  vanilla
vèmisèl  vermicelli
vinèg  vinegar
vyann  meat
  vyann kochon  pork
wonm  rum
  wonm ponch  rum punch
wonma  lobster
woti  roastbeef
yanm  yam
zaboka  avocado
zabriko  apricot
zannann  almond
zannanna  pineapple
ze  egg
  ze alakôk  soft-boiled egg
  ze bouyi  hard-boiled egg
  ze bwouye  scrambled egg
  ze fri  fried egg
  ze poche  poached egg
zepina  spinach
zo  bone
zoliv  olive
zonyon  onion
zoranj  orange
zwit  oyster
DAYS / JOU
Monday - lendi
Tuesday - madi
Wednesday - mèkredi
Thursday - jedi
Friday - vandredi
Saturday - samdi
Sunday - dimanch

MONTHS / MWA
January - janvye
February - fevriye
March - mas
April - avril
May - me
June - jen
July - jiyè
August - dawou
September - septanm
October - oktòb
November - novanm
December - desanm

SEASONS / SEZON
dry season - sezon sèk
rainy season - sezon lapli

COLORS / KOUŁÈ
black - nwa
blue - ble
brown - mawon
gray - gri
green - vèt
orange - oranj
pink - wòz
purple - mov, vyolèt
red - wouj
white - blan
yellow - jòn

NUMBERS / CHIF
0 - zewo
1 - en / youn
2 - de
3 - twa
4 - kat
5 - senk
6 - sis
7 - sèt
8 - wit
9 - nèf
10 - dis
11 - onz
12 - douz
13 - trèz
14 - katôz
15 - kenz
16 - sèz
17 - disèt
18 - dizwit
19 - diznèf
20 - ven
21 - venteyen
22 - vennde
23 - venntwa
24 - vennkat
25 - vennsenk
26 - vennsis
27 - vennsèt
28 - ventwit
29 - ventnèf
30 - trant
31 - tranteyen
32 - trannde
33 - tranntwa
34 - tranntkèt
35 - tranntsenk
36 - tranntsis
37 - tranntsèt
38 - tranntwit
39 - tranntnèf
40 - karant
41 - karanteyen
42 - karannde
43 - karantntwa
44 - karannkèt
45 - karannsenk
46 - karannsis
47 - karannsèt
48 - karantwit
49 - karantnèf
50 - senkant  
51 - senkanteyen  
52 - senkannde  
53 - senkanntwa  
54 - senkannkat  
55 - senkannsenk  
56 - senkannsis  
57 - senkannsèt  
58 - senkantwit  
59 - senkantnèf  
60 - swasant  
61 - swasanteyen  
62 - swasanne  
63 - swasanntwa  
64 - swasannkat  
65 - swasannsenk  
66 - swasannsis  
67 - swasannsèt  
68 - swasantwit  
69 - swasantnèf

60 - katreven  
61 - katreven-en  
62 - katreven-de  
63 - katreven-twa  
64 - katreven-kat  
65 - katreven-senk  
66 - katreven-sis  
67 - katreven-sèt  
68 - katreven-wit  
69 - katreven-nèf

70 - swasanndis  
71 - swasannonz  
72 - swasannoudouz  
73 - swasanntrèz  
74 - swasannkatòz  
75 - swasannkenz  
76 - swasansèz  
77 - swasandisèt  
78 - swasandizwit  
79 - swasandiznèf

80 - san  
81 - san en  
100 - san senkant  
150 - de san  
200 - senk san  
500 - mil  
1,000 - de mil

Lanne pase toujou pi bon.  
Past years are always better.

Sa k rive koukloulkoul a, ka rive kakalanga tou.  
What happens to the turkey, can happen to the rooster too.

(What happens to the dumb guy, can happen to the smart guy too.)

Nanpwen lapriyè ki pa gen “Amèn.”  
There is no prayer which does not have an “Amen.”

(There is an end to everything.)
SOME USEFUL ADDRESSES

United States Embassy (Consulate)
104, rue Oswald Durand - Port-au-Prince
Tel.: 222-1504 or 222-5726

Hôtel Oloffson
Box 260 - Port-au-Prince
Tel.: (011-509-1) 223-4000 or 223-4101 or 223-4102
FAX:  23-0919     Telex: 2030471

SECOM Car Rental
Coin de Delmas 68 - Pétion-Ville
Tel.: (011-509-1) 257-1913 or 257-2847
Telex:  2030403/SOMOTEL

Hôtel Roi Christophe
rue 24 B - Cap Haïtien
Tel.: (011-509-3) 62-0414
Bryant Freeman, Ph.D. Yale. Professor of French and African Studies; Founder and Director of Institute of Haitian Studies, University of Kansas. Has written or edited fifty-eight works concerning Haiti.

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<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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