

Malagasy/Antanosy Phrasebook

Some Useful Expressions

English	Malagasy Official	Antanosy
Hello	Salama (Shalama)	Salama (Shalama)
Thank you	Misaotra	Misaotra
Thank you very much	Misaotra betsaka	Misaotra betsaka
Thank you all	Misatra anareo	Misatra anareo
You're welcome	Tsy misy fisaorana	Tsy misy fisaorana
How are you?	Manao ahoana	
Good, thank you	Tsara fa misaotra	
What's new?	Inona vaovao?	Ino vaovao?
Nothing!	Tsy misy!	Tsy misy!
Yes	Eny	Eka
No	Tsia	Aha
Goodbye	Veloma	Veloma
Goodnight	Soava mandry	Soava mandry
Until tomorrow	Rahampitso e!	Maray
Until we meet again	Mandra pihaona	Maray koa
Bon Voyage	Soava Dia	Soava Dia
I don't understand	Tsy Azoko	Tsy Azoko/ Tsy
Mazava		
I don't know	Tsy fantantro	Tsy fantako
Excuse me/please	Azafady	Azafady
How much is this?	Hoatrinona ity?	Hotrino ity?
It's too expensive!	Lafo!	Lafo!
I don't want it, thank you!	Tsy mila/Tsy mividy/Efa nahazo	Tsy mila/Tsy
mividy/Efa nahazo		
I'm hungry	Noana aho	Resy zaho
I'm not hungry	Tsy noana aho	Tsy resy zaho
Enjoy your meal	Mazotoa misakafo	Mazotoa misakafo
Let's go	Andeha	Ando tsika
Wait	Andraso	Dignaso
Stop!	Ajanony	Azanogno
Congratulations	Fiarahabana	
What's your name?	Iza noanaranao?	Iza gnagnaranao?
My name...	Anarako...	Agnarako
Please pass...	Azafady, mba omeo	Azafady, mba omeo
I'm sorry (serious)	Mamela ahy	Azafady
Could I have...	Afaka manana ... zaho	Omeo ... zaho azafady
I'm happy to see you	Faly mahita anao aho	Faly mahita anao zaho
I'm happy to meet you	Faly mahalala anao aho	Faly mahafatatsy anao
zaho		
Give my best to ...	Mampamangy an'	Mampamangy an'
Good luck	Ho ambinin-tsoa	Bonne chance

Some Useful descriptive words

Expensive	lafo	lafo
Very expensive	lafo be	lafo be
Not expensive	tsy lafo	tsy lafo
Cheap/slow/easy	mora	mora
Thirsty	mangetaheta	mangetaheta
Hungry	noana	noana
Hot	mafana	mafana
Cold	mangatsiaka	mangatsiaka

Tasty/good	matsiro	matavy
Spicy	masiaka	masiaka
Long	lava	lava
Short	fohy	fohy
Here	eto	eto
Far	lavitra	lavitsy
Close	akaiky	mariny
Able	afaka	mahavita
Bad	ratsy	ratsy
Big	ngeza	lehibe be
Clean	madio	madio
Closed	mikatona	mihidy/mihily
Crazy	adaladala	sagnagna
Difficult	sarotra	sarotsy
Dirty	maloto	maloto
Early/before	aloha	aloha
Empty	foana	foa
Fat	matavy	vondraky
Fresh	vaovao	vaovao
Full	feny	feny
Good	tsara	soa
Happy	faly	faly
Hard	mafy	mafy
Heavy	mavesatra	mavesatsy
Light(weight)	maivana	meva
Mad/stupid	adala	mola
Old	antitra	antitsy
Open	misokatra	mivoha
Poor	mahantra	mahantra
Quick	haingana	malaky
Rich	manakarena	manakarena/vazaha
Rotten	simba	mavavo
Sad	malahelo	malahelo
Simple	tsotra	tsotra
Slow	miadana	moramora
Little	madinika	kely
Strong	matanjaka	matanjaky
Thin	mahia	mahia
Weak	malemy	malemy
Wrong	diso	diso
Young	tanora	tagnora
Colour	loko	loko
Green	maintso	mentso
Red	mena	mena
White	fotsy	fotsy
Black	mainty	menty
Blue	manga	manga
Yellow	mavo	jaune
Pink	mavokely	mavokely
Purple	volomparasy	volomparasy
Mustard yellow	tamotamo	tamotamo
Same	mitovy	mitovy
Sweet	mamy	mamy
Bitter	mangidy	mafaitsy
Salty	masira	masira
Sour	marikivy	mitsa

Some Useful Verbs

To drink	migoka/misotro	misotro
----------	----------------	---------

To cook	mahandro	mahandro
To wash/to invite	manasa	manasa
To dance	mandihy	mandihy/mitsinzaky
To eat	mihinana/misakafo	mihina/misakafo
To take a walk	mitsangatsangana	mitsangatsanga
To listen to music	mihaino mosika	miteno mosika
To take photos	maka sary	mangalaky sary
To look	mijery	magnenty
To write	manoratra	manoratsy
To sunbathe	mitanin'andro	mitanign'andro
To swim	milomano	milomagno
To see a movie	mijery sinema	magnenty sinema
To run	mihazakazaka	milomay
To give presents	manome fanomezana	manome cadeau
To go/to leave	mandeha	mandeha
To cut/to decide	manapaka	manapaky
To ask/to inquire	manontany	manontany
To help/ to give a hand	manampy tanana	magnampy tagna
To read/break/split	mamaky	mamaky
To shop	miantseña	manaobazary
To live	mipetraka	mipetraky
To see	mahita	mahita
To sleep	mandry	matory
To return	miverina	mipody
To come	tonga	avy
To need	mila	mila/mitadia
To ask	milako	
	magnotany/mangataky	
To speak	miteny	miresaky
To learn	mianatra	mianatsy
To understand	mahazo	mahazo
To have	manana	mana
Can do	mahay	mahay
To think	mihevitra	mieritseritsy
To prefer	aleo	te/tia
To like	tia	tia

Some Useful Nouns

Hair	Volo	Volo
Men	Lehilahy	Lehilahy
Table	Latabatra	Latabatsy
Bed	Farafara	Farafara
Mat	Kidoro	Kidoro
Pen	Sitilo	Sitilo
Paper	Taratasy	Taratasy
House	Trano Fonenana	Trano Fipetraha
People	Olona	Olo
Mother	Reny	Reny
Father	Ray	Ra
Child	Zanaka/Anaka	Zanaky/Anaky
Elder	Zoky	Zoky
Younger	Zandry	Zandry
Male	Lahy	Lahy
Female	Vavy	Vavy
Madame	Ramatoa	Madame
Sir	Rangahy	Monsier
Brother (Of Girl)	Anadahy	Analahy
Brother (Of A Boy)	Rahalaha	Rahalahy
Sister (Of A Boy)	Anabavy	Anabavy
Sister (Of A Girl)	Rahavavy	Rahavavy

Eyes	Maso	Maso
Ears	Sofina	Sofy
Nose	Orona	Oro
Mouth	Vava	Vava
Teeth	Nify	Nify
Arms	Sandry	Sandry
Legs	Ranjo	Ranjo
Stomach	Vavony	Vavony
Neck	Vozona	Vozo
Back	Lamosina	Lamosy
Fingers	Rantsan-Tanana	Rantsan-Tagna
Feet	Tongotra	Tomboky
Toes	Rantsan-Tongotra	Rantsa-Tonboky
Animal	Biby	Biby
Dog	Alika	Amboa
Cat	Saka	Piso
Cow	Omby	Agnomby
Pig	Kisoa	Lambo
Poultry	Vorona	Voro
Sheep	Ondry	Agnondry
Rabbit	Bitro	Rabitro
Wild Animal	Bibidia	Bibidia
Lemur	Babakoto	Gidro
Chameleon	Tanalahy	Sangorikit
	A/Tambarikosy	
Crocodile	Voay	Voa
Tortoise	Sokatra	Sokaky
Butterfly	Lolo	Lolo
Snake	Bibilava	Bibilava
Spider	Hala	Faroratsy
Tenrec	Trandraka	Tria
Gift	Kadoa	Fagnomezza
Dictionary	Raikiteny	
	Voambolana/Dictionaire	
Name	Anarana	Agnara
Language, Word	Teny	Fiteny, Zaka
Bowl	Tsatokavy	Boly
Glass	Vera	Vera
Cup	Kaopy	Kopy
Spoon	Sotro	Sotro
Fork	Forsety	Forsety
Knife	Antsy	Mesa
Stars	Kintana	Vasia/Kinta
Sun	Masondro	Masondro
Rain	Orana	Ora
Hands	Tanana	Tagna
Problem	Olana	Ola
Spouse	Vady	Valy

Food

Rice	Vary	Vary
Bread	Mofa	Mofa
Water	Rano	Rano
Cucumber	Kokombra	Kokombra
Salt	Sira	Sira
Pepper	Dipoavatra	Poivra
Potato	Ovy	Pomme De Terre
Banana	Akondro	Akondro
Papaya	Papay	Papay
Avocado	Zavoka	Zavoka

Peanut	Voanjo	Pistache/Kilitra
Beef	Henan Omby	Hena
Chicken	Akoho	Akoho
Pork	Henan Kisoa	Henan-Dambo
Juice	Ranomboankazo	Ranomboankazo
Beer	Labiera	Labiera
Rum (Bush)	Toakagasy	Toakagasy
Butter	Dibera	Dibera
Milk	Ronono	Ronono
Mango	Manga	Mangy
Fruit	Voakazo	Voakazo
Orange	Voasary	Voangy
Pear	Poara	Poara
Peach	Paiso	Peso
Grape	Voaloboka	Voaloboky
Pineapple	Mananasy	Manasa
Lychee	Lodsi	Lodsi
Honey	Tantely	Tantely
Corn	Katsaka	Tsako
Tomatoes	Voatabia	Tomatesy
Sugar	Siromamy	Siromamy
<u>Question Words</u>		

What	inona	ino
Where	aiza	aia
Why	nahoana	nagnino
Who	iza	iza
When(future)	rahoviana	ombia
When(past)	oviana	ombia
For whom	ho an'iza	ho an'ia
Whose	an'iza	an'ia
How many	firy	firy

Adding ve to a sentence generally turns it into a question.

Days and Months

Day(s)	Andro	Andro
Monday	Alatsinainy	Alatsinainy
Tuesday	Talata	Talata
Wednesday	Alarobia	Alarobia
Thursday	Alakamisy	Alakamisy
Friday	Zoma	Zoma
Saturday	Asabotsy	Sabotsy
Sunday	Alahady	Alahady
Month(s)	Volana	Volana
January	Janoary	Janoary
February	Febroary	Febroary
March	Martsa	Martsa
April	Aprily	Avrily
May	May	May
June	Jiona	Jiona
July	Jiolay	Jiolay
August	Aogositra	Aogositra
September	Septambra	Septambra
October	Oktobra	Oktobra
November	Novambra	Novambra
December	Desambra	Desambra

Time

Today(gone)	androany	adroany
Today(to come)	anio	adroany
Tonight	ranalina	adroany hariva
Tomorrow	rahampitso	maray/kaiky
Yesterday	omaly	omaly
Evening	hariva	hariva
Morning	maraina	maraindray

Pronouns

I/ me	zaho/aho	zaho
You	ianao	hanao
He, she, it	izy	izy
We, us	itsika	itsika
You	ianareo	hanareo
They, them	izy ireo	iereo

Adjective Pronouns

My	-ko	-ko
Your	-nao	-nao
His, her, its	-ny	-ny
Our	-nay	-nay
Your	-nareo	-nareo
Their	-ndreo	-ndro

These suffixes are added to the end of the noun

Possessive Pronouns

Mine	ahy	anaha
Yours	anao	anao
His, her, its	azy	azy
Ours	anay	anay
Yours	anareo	anareo
Theirs	azy ireo	azy ireo

Numbers

1	ray	raiky
2	roa	ro/roa
3	telo	telo
4	efatra	efatsy
5	dimy	dimy
6	enia	enina
7	fito	fito
8	valo	valo
9	sivy	sivy
10	fola	fola
11	rayamby folo	raikamby folo
50	diman polo	diman polo
100	zato	zato

1000	arivo	arivo
10,000	rayalina	rayaly
1,000,000	ray tapitrisa	ray tapitrisa
Plus	amby	amby
And	sy, ary	sy, ary

numbers begin with the unit

Prepositions and Adverbs -

At, in, inside	ao anaty	agnaty
Outside	ao hivelany	ivelany
Up	ambony	ambony
On, upon	eo ambony	ambony
Down	ambany	ambany
Under, beneath	eo ambany	eo ambany
In front	eo aloha	eo aloha
Before	taloha	taloha
Behind	ao aoriaana	afara
After	taoriana	tafara
During	mandritra	mandritsy
Also	koa	koa
Always	foana	foa
But	fa, kanefa	fa, kanefa
However	na izany aza	na izany aza
Very	tena	tena
And	sy, ary	sy, ary
With	sy, miaraka	sy, miaraka
Or	na, sa	na, sa
Now	izao	izao
Then	avy eo	no fa avy eo

Some notes on grammar -

The alphabet - There are only 21 letters in the alphabet. They only use the letters C, Q, U and W for words borrowed from other languages.

Pronunciation - Generally the stress is placed on the second to last syllable and the last one is only just whispered, but there are many exceptions to this rule.

Verbs - The verb does not change with the pronoun. There are only 3 tenses, past, present and future. Generally to change the tense the first letter changes.

N - past

M - present

H - future

Sentence Structure - Verb + Subject is the general sentence structure.

It is possible to have a sentence with no verb. Then the sentence structure is Adjective + Article + Noun.

There is no verb "to be" so you can just have a sentence without a verb, e.g. Faly aho (literally Happy I).

To form the negative, generally you add "Tsy" to the beginning of the sentence, e.g. Tsy faly aho.

There are many books around the house to give more detail about Malagasy phrases and grammar.