Presents a Mini isiXhosa learning Booklet for: Muzi Collective Minds

Pronunciation Essentials: Xhosa is phonetic. The sounds are always consistent. This makes learning the language sooooo much easier.

Ph is not pronounced ph as in the English word telephone but is pronounced p with the h indicating aspirance.

E.g. alive - phila well - philile

Th is not pronounced th as in the English word thought but rather as in the word for talk - thetha

Hl (keep front tip of tongue against palette whilst making a sh sound)

hlala not shlala hlala – live, sit

Well or beautifully - kakuhle

Rh eRhawutini - Gauteng/goud (as in Afrikaans)
The Clicks  
Are written as a X, C and Q. If you see these letters in the written language you know it’s a click. Don’t be lazy, always make an effort to put them in.

**TIP:** Practice each click alone and exhale the 5 vowels sounds, with a gap at first, then no gap!

**Click – X** (The horse-riding click)  
Tongue against side teeth.

The Xhosa language - isiXhosa  
Excuse me, peace, sorry - uxolo

**The C** click (The ticking clock click)  
Tongue behind front teeth.  
I request - ndicela*  
A little bit - kancinci

**The Q** click (The door knocking click)  
Tongue in roof of mouth.  
I understand - ndiyaqonda*  
I don’t understand - andiqondi

*Try change the prefixes in the following way:  
Ndi – I u – you u – he/she  
Si – we ni – you (pl) ba - they
Greetings:
(stretch the italicized bit)
Hello (to one person) – Molo (see titles below)
Hello (Plural) - Molweni everyone - nonke

Titles (always go with greetings)
Mother - molo, mama / nkosikazi (madam)
Father - molo, tata / mhlekazi (sir)
Sister - molo, sisi / dadewethu
Brother - molo, bhuti / mfowethu
(title above is roughly age relation to you)

Greetings to one person:

Person 1: Molo (title)
**Person 2:** Molo (title)
Person 1: How’s it? Kunjani?

**Person 2:** I’m fine, thanks ndiyaphila*, enkos
How’s it yourself? kunjani, wena?

Person 1: Fine too, thanks ndiyaphila nam, enkosi

Greeting more than one person:
Hi everyone - molweni nonke, (plus above)
How are you (pl) – ninjani?

* Variations:
Ndiphilile / (we) Siyaphila / Sikhona / Siphilile
Slang - Ndigrend / Ndimoja / Ndiryt (right)
Escape Phrases
Sorry - Uxolo
I speak a little bit - ndithetha kancinci
Only - nje

Clarification Phrases
I don’t understand - andiqondi
What are you saying? - uthini?
What say you in English - uthini ngesingesi?
Don’t speak fast - sukukhawuleza
Please repeat - khowuphinde
Please write it - ndicela ubhale

How do you say…… in Xhosa?
Uthini ....... ngesiXhosa?

How do you say…… in English?
Uthini ....... ngesiNgesi?

What is …… in Xhosa?
Yintoni ....... ngesiXhosa??
Introductions
I am…….… - Ndingu…
You are …….... - Ungu………

What is your name? - Ngubani igama lakho?
My name is …….... - Ngu..... igama lam
I’m pleased to meet you - ndiyavuya ukukwazi
Me too - Nam (ndiyavuya)

Some questions…?
Where do you originate from? - usuka/vela phi?
I originate from Cape Town - Ndisuka eKapa
Where do you live? - uhlala phi?
I live in ………... - Ndihlala e………..
Where is (a thing)? - iphi i……..?
Where is (a person) - uphi u………..?
Where are we doing? - siya phi?

Requesting politely:
I request …… - ndiyacela ……
I request to speak English/Afrikaans -
Ndicela ukuthetha isiNgesi/isiAfrikaansi

All good with gratitude:
Thanks a lot - enkosi kakhulu
I am grateful (also) - ndiyabulela (nam)
You are welcome - wamkelekile
Ok, its fine, all right, its good - kulungile
**Food Vibes:**

I am hungry - ndilambile
I am not hungry - andilambanga

I request … - ndicela ……

**To** drink something hot - ukuphunga

Do you serve vegetarian food?
- Ninako ukutya kwabantu abangatayi nyama?

It is cheap - Kutshipu
It is expensive - Kudulu

This food is delicious - Oku kutya kumnandi.
We had a good meal - sitye kamnandi.
We request food - Sicela ukutya

The food is nice - ukutya kumnandi
I have eaten - ndityile
I am full, thanks - ndihluti, enkos.
You cook nicely - Upheka kamnandi
I am stuffed - ndihluti mpu!

*(add your own)*
Good-byes
Have a nice day    - ube nemini emnandi
Go well (pl)       - hamba(ni) kakuhle
Stay well (pl)     - sala(ni) kakuhle
We will see each other - sobonana
Tomorrow           - ngomso
On…. Monday       - ngo…Monday
Byebye             - bhabhayi

Shap!

For a **FREE ONLINE ISIXHOSA COURSE**, see:

[http://www.learnxhosa.co.za/free-online-isixhosa-course/](http://www.learnxhosa.co.za/free-online-isixhosa-course/)

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