

Theme 7: Touring and Socialising

Touring

Where is the tourist office?	Kantoro ya baeng e kae?
I would like to see:	Ke batla go bona:
museums	dimuseumu
historic sites.	mafelo a hisitori.
the flea market.	flee makete.
the small streets of the town.	diterata tse dinnye tsa toropo.
the church.	kereke.
the hospital.	bookelo.
the forest.	sekgwa.
the mountain.	thaba.
the vineyard.	diterebeng.
the river.	noka.
the village.	motse.
the cemetery.	phitlong.
the beach.	bitšeng.
Where are you going?	O ya kae?
I am going to the Kruger National Park.	Ke ya bosireletsong ba diphologolo ba Kruger
I am going to Sun City.	Ke ya Sun City
<i>Socializing</i>	
Sorry, can you assist me?	Tshwarelo, a o ka nthusa?
Could you take our picture?	A o ka tsaya setshwantsho sa rona?
Smile!	Ngêba.
We're ready!	Re siame.
Where do you live?	O nna kae?
What's your name?	Leina la gago ke mang?
My name is Catherine.	Leina la me ke Catherine.
I'm from Brussels.	Ke tswa Brussels.
How old are you?	O bala dingwaga tse kae?
I'm 24.	Ke 24.
That's fantastic!	Go siame!
That's life!	Ke bophelo!
I love you!	Ke a go rata!
I like you.	Ke a go rata.
Do you love me too?	A le wena o a nthata?
I love you too.	Le nna ke a go rata.
I am pleased to see you.	Ke itumetse go go bona
Come in!	Tsena!
Are you married?	A o nyetswe (female) / A o nyetse (male)
Yes, I am married.	Ee, ke nyetswe (female) / Ee, ke nyetse (male)
I agree.	Ke a dumela
I have good news.	Ke na le molaetsa o o monate
Congratulation!	Maitumelo!

Today is my birthday.	Gompieno ke la botsalo la me
Good luck!	Tsela tsweu
May God bless you.	A Modimo a go tlokomele
I am so glad.	Ke itumetse jang
My deepest sympathy.	Matlhoko
There is something I want to tell you.	Go na le sengwe se ke batlang go go bolela
I forgot.	Ke lebetse
Wait a little.	Ema gannye
You are beautiful.	O montle
I will try.	Ke tla leka
Wait for me!	Nkemele!
What is wrong?	Go senyegile eng?
No problem!	Ga go na mathata!

COMMENTS:

Like and love

In Setswana the word for 'like' and 'love' is the same verb –rata. If one says *Ke a go rata* it can mean 'I like you' or 'I love you'.

Names in Setswana

Most Setswana names have a meaning. Names are given to children according to factors such as the circumstances of birth, which may include the day of the week, or when or where the birth took place; e.g. for a female *Mmapula* (Mother of Rain) and a male *Lesego* (Luck). Events or achievements in the history of a family may also be a contributing factor, e.g. *Kgololesego* (freedom).

Slang language in South Africa

South Africa is a multi-cultural, cosmopolitan society where slang is used by many as a *lingua franca*. Street language may be called *Isicamtho*, 'flaai-taal' or 'tsotsi taal' and incorporates Africanised articulations of English and Afrikaans. Some slang borrowings from the African languages are:

aikona - No way, absolutely not. From Nguni language meaning "No".

babalaas – Hangover. From the Zulu word *ibhabhalazi*.

bra - my brother, mate.

chana - my mate (from Zulu, 'my nephew' *umshana*).

eish! - an interjection expressing resignation, surprise, bewilderment or shock.

eita! - a greeting: "eita bra!" Originated in the townships among the youth.

hhawu! - expression of disbelief.

hhayi bo! - wow! (from Zulu, 'definitely not').

majita – men.

spaza - an informal trading-post/convenience store found in townships and remote areas.

toyitoyi - protest-dancing; used in mainstream South African English.

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A: Tourist	
B: Setswana speaker	
A: Dumela sesi!	Hello sister!
B: Ahee, dumela!	Yes, hello!
A: Le kae?	How are you?
B: Re teng. Lona le kae?	I am fine. How are you?

A: Ke na le maikutlo a a monate. Gompieno ke letsatsi la botsalo ba me!	I have good news. Today is my birthday!
B: Go pila! Ke itumetse, tsala ya me. O je letsatsi le le monate.	That is fantastic! Congratulations, my friend! Enjoy!
A: Ke a leboga!	Thank you!
B: O na le dingwaga tse kae?	How old are you?
A: Ke na le dingwaga tse di masomepedinne.	I am 24 years old.
B: A Modimo a go tshegofatse!	May God bless you!