

## Theme 2: Asking for Help, Emergencies

### Asking for help

Excuse me, Sir.	Uxolo, Mnumzane.
Excuse me, Miss.	Uxolo, Nkosazana.
Do you speak English?	Uyakwazi ukukhuluma isiNgisi?/ Ukhuluma isiNgisi?
Yes.	Yebo.
No.	Cha /Qha.
I'm sorry.	Ngiyaxolisa.
I'm sorry but I don't understand.	Ngiyaxolisa, kepha angiqondi.
I don't speak Zulu.	Angikhulumi isiZulu.
I don't understand.	Angiqondi.
I understand a little.	Ngiqonda kancane.
Yes, I understand.	Yebo, ngiyaqonda
Please speak more slowly.	Ngicela ukhulume ngokunensa / kancane.
Could you please speak more slowly?	Awukhulume ngokunensa kakhudlwana.
Please repeat.	Awuphinde /ngicela uphinde.
Can you please help me?	Ngicela ungisize.
Okay.	Kulungile.
Of course.	Kunjalo.
Where is ...?	Ikuphi? / likuphi?/ zikuphi?
I'm lost, could you help me please?	Ngilahlekile ngicela ungisize / ngidukile, ngicela ungisize.

### Emergencies

Fire!	Umlilo! Kuyasha!
Hurry!	Shesha!
Help!	Ngisize/ yelekelelani bo!
Call the fire department!	Biza umnyango wezomlilo!
Stop, thief!	Vimba, isela!
Stop him!	Mvimbe!
Leave me alone!	Ungangithinti / awungiyeke!
Where is the police station?	Sikuphi isiteshi samaphoyisa?
I want a lawyer.	Ngifuna ummeli.
Someone stole my car!	Kukhona umuntu owebe imoto yami!
... my watch	... owebe iwashi lami
... my wallet	... owebe iwalethi yami
... my passport	... owebe iphasiphoti yami
... my belongings	... owebe izimpahla zami
Thanks for your help!	Ngibonga usizo lwakho!
It's my pleasure!	Kubonga mina!

### COMMENTS:

#### Friendly requests

Zulus are very friendly and hospitable people and will assist anybody asking for help. However, in Zulu there is no actual word for 'please'. The notion of 'please' is expressed by starting the sentence with *Ngicela* (I request...). For example, *Ngicela iCoke* (Coke please), *Ngicela ibhotela* (Butter please), *Ngicela ubisi* (Milk please). When a verb is used it also changes to accommodate the meaning of 'please', e.g. *Ngicela ulethe ushintshi* (Please bring me the change), *Ngicela uhlale phansi* (Please sit down). Note that the verb ends in – e to denote a request.

**Expressing the negative**

In order to say something in the negative, one usually adds an *a-* in front of the positive form and let the verb end in *-i*, e.g. *Angiqondi* (I do not understand) and *Angikhulumi* (I do not speak). When giving a command for one person, the verb is used as is, e.g. *Gijima!* (Run!), *Biza uThandi!* (Call Thandi!)

<b>A: Tourist</b> <b>B: Zulu speaker</b>	<b>Theme 2: Asking for Help, Emergencies</b>
<b>A: Uxolo, Mnumzane. Uyakwazi ukukhuluma isiNgisi?</b>	Excuse me, Sir. Do you know how to speak English?
<b>B: Cha, ngikhuluma isiZulu.</b>	No, I speak Zulu.
<b>A: Ngicela ungisize.</b>	Can you please help me.
<b>B: Kulungile. Ngingakusiza ngani?</b>	Alright. How can I help you?
<b>A: Ngilahlekile. Sikuphi isiteshi samaphoyisa?</b>	I am lost. Where is the police station?
<b>B: Unenkinga na?</b>	What is the problem?
<b>A: Yebo, iwaleti yami yebiwe yisela!</b>	My wallet was stolen!
<b>B: Isiteshi sikhona laphaya.</b>	The station is over there.
<b>A: Ngibonga usizo lwakho!</b>	Thank you for your help!
<b>B: Kubonga mina!</b>	It's my pleasure!