

## Basic Krio and Temne Vocabulary

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NOTE: The writing system used here for both Krio and Temne is the recommended orthography used in schools and colleges in Sierra Leone. The orthography uses phonetic symbols for some vowel sounds in the two languages. An important thing to note is that each symbol represents ONE and only ONE sound, and each sound is represented by only ONE symbol. The vowel sounds are usually the problem. Below is a guide to the pronunciation of the vowels of both Krio and Temne:

1.     ε        as in English 'bed.'
2.     e        as in English 'day'
3.     ɔ        as in English 'cot'
4.     ʌ        as in English 'cut' (not found in Krio)
5.     ə        as in English 'among' (not found in Krio)
6.     o as in English 'bowl' or 'boat'
7.     u        as in English 'fool'
8.     ɪ        as in English 'seat'

Also, the velar nasal sound, ŋ, as in English 'King,' is used in Krio 'fulɔp piŋ' (full to the brim), and in Temne 'kʌ lɛŋ' ( to grow grey hair).

## Krio and Temne words and phrases

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>KRIO</u>	<u>TEMNE</u>
Afternoon	santɛm	rəyaŋ
Alcohol	rɔm/ɔmɔle	mɔber
Bar/Pub	ba	ɔŋ ba
Bargain	bagin	fɔf mɔɔ
Beard	biabia	ɔ kek
Be careful	tek tɛm	ɔ kəthɛgbɛ
Bed	bed	kɔ fənt
Biscuit/cookies	biskit	kɔ biskit
Blind	blɛn	fith
Bobby/cop	polis	ɔ polis
Bonnet/Hood	bɔnɛt	ɔŋ bɔnɛt
Boy	bɔy	wath runi/wanth uruni
Rubbish	botobata	yathri
Braids	plant	mɔ ru
Bread	bred	kɔ bo

Bus	bɔs/podapoda	λη bɔs/podapoda
Candy/sweet	swit	κλ swit
Car	mɔtoka	λη lɔri
Child	pikin	ɔ wath
Cholera/Dysentry	rɔnbɛɛ	λη runt
Circle/roundabout	tɔntɛbul	λη tɔntɛbul
Coconut	koknat	κλ gbara
Cross Roads/Junction	jɔnkshɔn	λη jɔnksɔn
Door	domɔt	κλ dare
Drunk	chak	κλ tis
Dust bin/Trash can	dɔti bɔks	λη muru
Ear	yes	λη lɛns
Enough	I du so	beki
Excuse me	kɔmɔt na rod	κλβλri mi
Finish	dɔn	κλ pɔŋ
Flip Flops/Slippers	afbak	ε afbak
Food	it	da rɛdi
Friend	padi	ɔ yathki

Gas/Petrol	petrol	λη pɛntrol
In the open	gbamgbaode	gberkethe
Bold/fearless	gbakanda	gbakanda
Girl	titi	wath bɛra
Good Bye	a de go	ɔwa
Grill	kolpɔt	λη kolpɔt
Happy	gladi	ɔ bɔnɛ (mi)
Head tie	ɛnkincha	λη gbasa
Hello	kushɛ/kabɔ	sɛkɛ
Help me	ɛp mi/una kam o	mar mi/der nu
House	os	λη seth
How are you?	Aw yu du?	To pɛ mu-a?
How do I ?	Aw fɔ ?	to mɛ ?
How much does it cost?	ɔmɔs fɔ am ?	mɔɔɔ-a ?
How old are you ?	ɔmɔs yu ol ?	mɔɔɔ tɛren ɛj ba-a ?
Hurry up	mekes	bɔsɛr
I am fine	a wɛl	min yenki
I am full	a bɛful	min nɔmɔɔ

I am going home	a de go na os	l kɔnɛ ro seth
I am going to Xyz	a de go XYZ	l ti/tə kɔ ro XYZ
I am on my way	a de kam	l yi rə roŋ
I am sorry	a beg pardon	l nɛmθɛnɛ
I am XYZ/my name is...	a nɛm XYZ	minɛ yi XYZ
I don't have	a nɔ ɡɛt	l baɣɛ
I know	a sabi	l tɪrɪ
I'd like to go to XYZ	a wan fɔ go XYZ	l ɣɛma kɔ ro XYZ
I'll be back	a de kam	l tə kɪl der
Leave me alone	lɛf mi	tɛy mi/ɡbɛrɛ mi
Man	man	wanduni
Market	makit	ro ɣɔrɔwa
Maybe	sɔntɛm	ɪ lɔkɔ lɔm
Medication	mɛrɛsin	lɛ tɔl
Money	kɔrɔ	lɛ kala
Mosquito	maskita	lɛ mis
Mouth	mɔt	kɪ sɛŋ
Neighbour	neba	ɔwɛ sɛ flɪlɪnɛ-e

Night	nɛt	ɾɹ fɔɣ
Onions	yabas	κɹ yaba
Orange fruit	ɔrinch	ɹɥ lemre
Outside	na do	ɾo kaɥ
Peanut	granat	ɱɹ κɹntər
Please	duya	maɾi
Plenty	bɔku	gbɹthi
Poor	pɔ	ɱɔnɛ
Power outage	blakawt	ɹɥ sum
Provinces	ɔplayn	ɾo gbɹɥ
Rich	ɡɛntri	ɣola/ɾɹ ɣola
Sand	sansan	κɹ sɛnt
Shoe	sus	ɹɥ kɔfthɹ
Shop/Store	shap	ɾo shɔp/ɾo sɛthɔr
Shout/Yell	ala	sɔnkɔ
Sit down	sidɔm	ɣiɾɹ
Snacks	mumunɣɛɛ	ɹ kɔnɣɛ
Sneakers/Trainers	krep	ɛ krep

Soda/pop/Soft drink	sɔft drink	λη sɔf dərɪnk
Stand up	timap	təmΛ/yokanɛ
Stop	lɛf	tey
Street	trit	λη trit
Tailor	telaman	ɔ thela
Take me go	kɛr mi go	kerΛ mi
Tap	pɔmp	λη pɔmp
Taxi/Cab	taksi	λη taksi
Thank You	tɛnki	mΛmo
Thief	tifman/ayampi	ɔ key
Today	tide	thonɔŋ
Tomorrow	tumara	nɪnλη
Female Trader	makit uman	ɔ tread
Tree	tik	Λ kənt
Trouser	trɔsis	ɛ yankra
Trunk/Boot	bakbut	λη but
Uniform	ashɔbi	ɛ ashɔbi

Upset	vɛks	bansɔ
Walk	waka	kɔth
Water	wata	ɔ mɔnt
What are you doing ?	wetin yu de du ?	ko mɔŋ yɔ-a ?
What ?	wetin ?	ko-a ?/ko rɛka-a ?
What's your name ?	wetin yu nem ?	ŋes ɔmu-a ?
When ?	ustɛm ?	ɔ ɔkɔ-a ?
Window	winda	ɔŋ wɪnda/kɔ fenk
Woman	uman	wunibom