ChiChewa is a Bantu language of the Benue-Congo branch of the Niger-Congo family and is the national language of the Republic of Malawi in southeast Africa. It is a dialect of chiNyanja that developed from contact with Zulu.

ChiChewa Consonants:

Fortis: p t ts tf k
Lenis: b d dz dʒ q
Aspirate: pʰ tʰ kʰ
Implosive: ɓ ɗ
Fricatives: f s
Glides: v ʃ z
Nasals: m n n̩ ṇ
Liquids: l (r) j

Vowels Encountered:

i u

æ o

æ a

I. Word Lists

Consonants:

1  p  [pusi]  “cat”
2  pʰ  [pandza]  “outside”
3  pʰiɾi  “mountain”
4  t  [teŋa]  “take”
5  tok  “pick up”
6  tʰiɾi  “body”
7  tʰeŋogo  “forest”
8  b  [bulu]  “donkey”
9  bwato  “canoe”
10  d  [dula]  “cut”
11  dɪso  “eye”
12  ts  [tsiku]  “day”
13  dz  [dzira]  “egg”
14  dzuwa  “sun”
15  tfiua  “cough”
16  k  [komano]  “but”
17  kufu  “want”
Chichewa (Malawai)

18 [kɔ] [kɔsi] "neck"
19 [kɔtu] "ear"
20 [g] [galu] "dog"
21 [goni] "sleep" (imperative)
22 [f] [fupa] "bone"
23 [s] [siŋa] "medicine man"
24 [z] [zoona] "truth"
25 [ziŋo] "thanks"
26 [i] [li] "another"
27 [m] [mubvi] "arrow"
28 [mwo] [mwendo] "leg"
29 [msana] "back"
30 [n] [nama] "animal; meat"
31 [numb] "house"
32 [n] [nombe] "cow"
33 [nom] "drum"
34 [mawu] "tomorrow"
35 [iwo] "they"
36 [j] [jakuda] "a black one"
37 [uju] "this person"

Vowels:
1 [pusi] "cat"
2 [piri] "mountain"
3 [mwendo] "leg"
4 [t'engo] "forest"
5 [maji] "mother"
6 [tauta] "god"
7 [kaka nono] "small"
8 [moto] "fire"
9 [utu] "honey"
10 [muwu] "hippopotamus"

II. Spontaneous Speech

References: