



Survival Khmer: *Your Bridge to New Adventures*

by Lynn Thigpen

Cooperative Services International (CSI)

wlthigpen@mailcentral.biz

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Survival Khmer was written with you, the English speaker, in mind. You don't have to be able to read the Khmer script in order to learn the language, but this manual contains the Khmer script so that your tutor or other language resource person can help you. The Khmer words are also expressed in English phonetics. But don't worry! You don't have to know the International Phonetic Alphabet or any other phonetic system. *Survival Khmer* is designed to reduce your level of stress in introductory language learning.

Khmer is easier than many other languages. There is no need to conjugate verbs, as in French or Spanish. A few key words in a conversation will let you know whether the action is presently occurring or happened in the past. In addition, Khmer is not a highly technical language, in that many terms are mainly descriptive, such as a *chef* or *cook* in Khmer is *someone who makes food*. And Khmer is not tonal, like its neighboring languages, Thai and Vietnamese. So count your blessings on these points!

Most Khmer words are short, mono-syllables. The longer words usually come from Sanskrit and Pali. As you travel, you will hear different accents throughout the country. You will also notice four sets of vocabulary: one for use with equals; one for use with respected people, such as the elderly and superiors; one for addressing monks; and one for addressing royalty. (You can learn more royal language in *Christian Survival Khmer* and more language for addressing monks in *Buddhist Survival Khmer*.)

The purpose of this manual is to provide a quick inroads for newcomers and visitors to gather a basic, but meaningful vocabulary in Khmer. In order for this to happen, you must understand a number of things. There are a number of sounds in the Khmer language that do not exist in English. So, any means of writing out these sounds (other than in Khmer or the International Phonetic Alphabet) will not be entirely accurate. That means that the phonetics we have provided for you are as simple as possible, but limited. For

that reason, you should listen to the accompanying audio CD to determine the differences.

As for the phonetics, simply read the text as if you were reading English. For example, the Khmer word for *this* is pronounced *knee*. The Khmer word *knee* sounds just like the thing that bends in the middle of your leg. And your *pants*? In Khmer, the word is pronounced a lot like the four-legged animal that gives milk - *cow* - but not exactly! There are other Khmer words that sound like English words. But not every pronunciation is that simple.

The Khmer language has many more vowel sounds than the English language. (Linguists call this a "vowel intensive" language.) Again, what I have written for you in English phonetics just doesn't quite do the job. Write a note beside that sound that concerns you or record the sound on a digital recorder or listen to the accompanying CD. For example, *how much* in Khmer is written out phonetically as *bpone-mahn*. When you see a *b* and a *p* together, in Khmer that means you need to make a sound like a *b* and a *p* spoken together. (The same is true when you see *d* and *t* written together.)¹ And notice that the *mahn* is not written *man*. That's because the sound is more like the way an Englishman would say *man*, instead of the American pronunciation. Every time you see a word that looks familiar to you, but contains an additional *h*, put on your British accent and you will sound fine.

There are several other combination sounds, like in the word *to go*, which in Khmer sounds a bit like one of those little things at the end of your feet - a *toe* - but not exactly. It has a bit of an additional ending vowel sound that is made much like clinching your teeth together. That's why we've written the Khmer word as *toe-oo*. And that's why you will see words written phonetically like *die-ee*, the word for *arm* or *hand*. Say *die*, then clinch your teeth together on the final *ee* sound.

I hope your teeth-clinching experiences are great ones! Fortunately, language is not all bookwork. It's fundamentally about people and relationships. So I really hope you get to know the Khmer people and build great friendships in the land of Cambodia.

¹ **Note:** The Khmer language has aspirated and unaspirated consonants. We have these in English and don't really think very much about them. For instance, the modern way of writing the capital city of Cambodia is *Phnom Penh*. We don't pronounce the *h* in this spelling. We don't say *F'nom*. The *h* was added there to give us notice that this *p* should have a breath of air with it (aspirated), not pronounced like the *ph* in *phone*. For these and many more reasons, we advise you learn to read Khmer just after you have mastered some survival language. You will be happier in country by doing so, and studying reading will help correct any pronunciation problems.

May I give you a few solid hints on learning Khmer? First thing, go over a lesson with a Khmer friend or a tutor, or listen to the audio CD of this resource. Encourage your language helper to correct you so you get the sounds right. (I have mispronounced words for years because no one corrected me!) This gathering of new material might take as much as one hour or more each day. Then, go out and practice what you just learned. Daily practice is the key to language learning! If you learn ten new items each day and practice them with ten people, you will etch each day's lesson in your mind. Each lesson is designed to use this method. First, practice with a friend or tutor by making sentences out of your new words. Change sentences around, substituting every subject and every verb you know. There are helps at the end of each lesson for this practice. For example, at the end of Lesson 6 when you go to the market, take your digital recorder and tape every conversation you have. What you don't understand, cover with your tutor the next day. Make notes of new words, and pretty soon you will have mastered *Survival Khmer!*

Other resources in the *Survival Khmer* family:

Christian Survival Khmer (with audio CD)

Medical Survival Khmer (with audio CD of learning helps, videos, etc.)

Buddhist Survival Khmer (with audio CD)

Note: Every effort has been made to ensure that these resources are error-free. If you find a correction that needs to be made, please contact us at wlthigpen@mailcentral.biz or wlthigpen@mac.com. We also welcome suggestions on improving these resources.

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Lesson 1 Greetings	6
Language Learning Hints	
Lesson 2 People and Pronouns	9
Lesson 3 Terms of Address	11
Lesson 4 Numbers and Ordinals	14
Lesson 5 Travel	16
Lesson 6 Going to the Market	18
Lesson 7 Studying	21
Lesson 8 The Five W's	23
Lesson 9 Verbs	25
Lesson 10 Verbs, Continued	27
Lesson 11 Time & Meals	30
Lesson 12 Day & Time Words	33
Lesson 13 Seasons & Months	36
Lesson 14 The Verb <i>To Be</i>	38
Lesson 15 Prepositions & Conjunctions	40
Lesson 16 Work & Home	42
Language Learning Pictures	44
Lesson 17 Using Classifiers	46
Use of the Word <i>Owey</i>	47
Lesson 18 Verbs & Noun Forms	48
Lesson 19 Comparisons	49
Lesson 20 Conditions and Health	51
Appendix Khmer Consonants	53
Khmer Vowels	54
Khmer Prepositions, Conjunctions, etc.	55

(Using this word at the beginning of your sentences is very polite, but it also helps the listener know that you are asking him/her a question.)

end of question word/end of negative sentence word

	<i>tday</i>	ទេ
to be	<i>gee-uh</i>	ជា
(But be careful about this verb. In Khmer, this verb is usually followed by a noun. Most Khmer adjectives include the "to be" aspect and don't require the use of the verb <i>gee-uh</i> .)		
I	<i>k'nyome</i>	ខ្ញុំ
mine	<i>row-bah k'nyome</i>	របស់ខ្ញុំ
one's self	<i>clue-un aing</i>	ខ្លួនឯង
to be fine/healthy/happy	<i>sok sah-buy</i>	សុខសប្បាយ
OK (male speaker)	<i>baht</i>	បាទ
(Only means that you heard the person and acknowledge his/her speaking.)		
OK (female)	<i>jah</i>	ចាំ៖
I am fine.	<i>baht/jah k'nyome sok sah-buy</i>	បាទ/ ចាំ៖ ខ្ញុំសុខសប្បាយ
No	<i>aht-tay</i>	អត់ទេ
not	<i>aht/mun</i>	អត់ / មិន
not to be fine	<i>mun sok sah-buy tay</i>	មិនសុខសប្បាយទេ
	<i>aht sok sah-buy tay</i>	អត់សុខសប្បាយទេ

(Notice here where to put your negative words in your sentences. How would you say "I have not eaten yet"?)

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITY:

Try greeting a number of people you don't yet know. Don't be afraid to "get your feet wet." Everyone you meet will think you have been here many, many years!

LANGUAGE LEARNING HINT:

At this point we want to interject a secret into your language learning. There is one major hint to language learning; and if you follow it, you will see success. Anyone can do it. It does not depend on being smart or having linguistic ability. It only depends on your persistence and dedication and attitude. Language learning is NOT a "book" activity. It is a "life"/"people" activity. The best and most efficient way to learn a language is to "get" a little bit everyday and use it a lot. One language coach advises learners to use the "10 to 10" model. Learn 10 new bits of information each day, put that information in meaningful sentences, then go out and tell it to 10 different people. If you follow this, you are certain to succeed in learning the Khmer language.

Successful Language Learner's Day

- **Laboratory: Language Discovery with language helper/tutor(s) 2-3 hrs.**

Work on the topic for the day	45 min.
Pronunciation - 1 problem sound	5 min.
Comprehension Activity- PILAT	20 min.
Pronunciation - 1 problem sound	5 min.
Comprehension Activity - PILAT	20 min.
Pronunciation - 1 problem sound	5 min.
Review topic of the day	
Miscellaneous Activity - PILAT	20 min.
Pronunciation - 1 problem sound	5 min.
End RWA (Ready, willing, and able to participate in the Main Event)!	

- **Private: Process new information 1 hr.**

- **Main Event: Share your new information in community (with at least 10 people) 2 hrs.**

- **Debrief: Evaluate what you need to learn tomorrow
Read cultural materials, Explore cultural sites
Listen to language that you can comprehend 1-2 hrs.**

Check out the differences in what successful language learners do and what students of a language do in the article that follows.

Lesson 2 – People & Pronouns

he/she	<i>go-ah</i>	គាត់
his/hers	<i>row-bah go-ah</i>	របស់គាត់
it	<i>vee-ah</i>	វា
(How would you say the possessive form of <i>it</i> in Khmer?)		
we	<i>yung</i>	យើង
	<i>poo-ik (group) yung</i>	ពួកយើង
they	<i>gay</i>	គេ
	<i>poo-ik (group) gay</i>	ពួកគេ
theirs	<i>row-bah gay</i>	របស់គេ
man	<i>b'raw</i>	ប្រុស
woman	<i>s'ray</i>	ស្រី
mother	<i>m'dah-ee</i>	ម្តាយ
father	<i>oh-poke</i>	ឪពុក
wife	<i>b'raw-pbone</i>	ប្រពន្ធ
husband	<i>b'day</i>	ប្តី
child	<i>goan</i>	កូន
daughter	<i>goan s'ray</i>	កូនស្រី
son	<i>goan b'raw</i>	កូនប្រុស
brothers & sisters/siblings	<i>bong p'own</i>	បងប្អូន
older sister	<i>bong s'ray</i>	បងស្រី
younger sister	<i>p'own s'ray/own s'ray</i>	ប្អូនស្រី/ អូនស្រី
older brother	<i>bong b'raw</i>	បងប្រុស
younger brother	<i>p'own b'raw/own b'raw</i>	ប្អូនប្រុស/ អូនប្រុស
family	<i>crew-ah-sah</i>	គ្រួសារ
name	<i>ch'moo-ah</i>	ឈ្មោះ
people	<i>mun-new</i>	មនុស្ស

What is your name?

(formal/polite) ___* *ch'moo-ah ah-way?* ___ ឈ្មោះអ្វី?

(informal) ___ *ch'moo-ah aye?* ___ ឈ្មោះអី?

(Most Khmer people don't refer to one another by name. They call one another according to what they would be in the family. It's OK to ask names, especially of younger people. You'll learn more about this in the next lesson.)

My name is ___ *k'nyome ch'moo-ah* ___ ខ្ញុំឈ្មោះ: ___

to have *mee-un* មាន

Do you have brothers and sisters?

tie-uh ___ *mee-un bong p'own tay?* តើ ___ មានបងប្អូនទេ?

to be married/have a family *mee-un crew-ah-sah* មានគ្រួសារ

Are you married?/Do you have a family?

tie-ah ___ *mee-un crew-ah-sah howey?* តើ ___ មានគ្រួសារហើយ?

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITY:

Ask your new acquaintances about their family.

Lesson 3 – Terms of Address

How old is the person you want to address? Is he/she older than you or younger? Is he/she old enough to be your older brother/sister or your aunt? When addressing him/her, use the Khmer term for that family member (in informal situations).

older brother/sister	<i>bong</i>	បង
(Not to be used by a woman to a man other than her husband.)		

younger brother/sister	<i>own</i>	អ៊ូន
	<i>p'own</i>	ប៊ូន
(Not to be used by a man to a woman other than his wife.)		

aunt	<i>ming</i>	មីង
(To a woman slightly younger than your mother)		

uncle	<i>pboo</i>	ពូ
(To a man slightly younger than your father)		

grandmother (informal)	<i>yay</i>	យាយ
(formal)	<i>gee doan</i>	ទីដួន

to a woman older than your mother:

<i>ohm</i>	អ៊ុំ
<i>ohm s'ray</i>	អ៊ុំស្រី

grandfather (informal)	<i>ohm</i>	អ៊ុំ
(formal)	<i>gee tah, tah</i>	ទីតា តា

to a man older than your father

<i>ohm b'raw</i>	អ៊ុំប្រុស	
(formal)	<i>loke ohm</i>	លោកអ៊ុំ

cousin	<i>bong p'own gee doan muy</i>	បងប្អូនពីជូនមួយ
niece/nephew	<i>k'moo-ey</i>	កូន
Mr. (formal)	<i>loke</i>	លោក
Ms. (formal)	<i>neyeck s'ray</i>	អ្នកស្រី
	<i>loke s'ray</i>	លោកស្រី
teacher - male	<i>loke crew</i>	លោកគ្រូ
pastor - male	<i>loke crew</i>	លោកគ្រូ
teacher - female	<i>neyeck crew</i>	អ្នកគ្រូ
you (unknown)	<i>neyeck</i>	អ្នក

(It is perfectly fine in Khmer culture to ask someone his/her age. Many people will ask you in order to know what to call you. And it is OK for you to ask them so that you know what to call THEM.)

age	<i>ah-yoot</i>	អាយុ
How old are you?	<i>ah-yoot bpone-mahn?</i>	អាយុប៉ុន្មាន?

(Please see Lesson 4 for counting and numbers, and how to answer this question.)

to call (someone a name)	<i>how-oo</i>	ហៅ
should	<i>goo-ah tdie</i>	គួរតែ

What should I call you? *k'nyome goo-ah tdie how __ yahng make?*
ខ្ញុំគួរតែហៅ__យ៉ាងម៉េច?

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITY:

Practice greeting people/sellers you meet in the market with their proper term of address, along with a proper informal greeting.



Above pictured is a family - 2 grandparents, a son, a daughter-in-law, and three grandchildren. Can you name them? In addition, if you met each of them, what would you call them?

Lesson 4 – Numbers & Ordinals

0	<i>sewn</i>	សូន្យ	០
1	<i>muy</i>	មួយ	១
2	<i>pbee</i>	ពីរ	២
3	<i>bay</i>	បី	៣
4	<i>boo-un</i>	បួន	៤
5	<i>prahm</i>	ប្រាំ	៥
6	<i>prahm muy</i>	ប្រាំមួយ	៦
7	<i>prahm pbee/prahm pull</i>	ប្រាំពីរ/ ប្រាំពីល	៧
8	<i>prahm bay</i>	ប្រាំបី	៨
9	<i>prahm boo-un</i>	ប្រាំបួន	៩
10	<i>dop</i>	ដប់	១០

12	<i>dop pee</i>	ដប់ពីរ
	<i>pee dun dop</i>	ពីរដណ្តប់
13	<i>dop bay</i>	ដប់បី
	<i>bay dun dop</i>	បីដណ្តប់
20	<i>m'pay-ee</i>	ម្ភៃ
30	<i>sahm-sup</i>	សាមសិប
40	<i>sigh-sup</i>	សែសិប
50	<i>hah-sup</i>	ហាសិប
60	<i>hock-sup</i>	ហុកសិប
70	<i>jet-sup</i>	ចិតសិប
80	<i>buy-it-sup</i>	ប៉ៃតសិប
90	<i>cgow-oo-sup</i>	កៅសិប

100	<i>m'roy / muy roy</i>	ម្រយ / មួយរយ
1000	<i>muy poe-un</i>	មួយពាន់
10,000	<i>muy mun</i>	មួយម៉ឺន
100,000 (colloquial)	<i>dop mun</i>	ដប់ម៉ឺន
how many	<i>bpone mahn</i>	ប៉ុន្មាន
How many children do you have?	<i>tie-uh ___ mee-un goan bpone mahn neyeck?</i>	តើ ___ មានកូនប៉ុន្មាននាក់?
I have one child.	<i>k'nyome mee-un goan muy neck. (spoken - m'neyck)</i>	ខ្ញុំមានកូនមួយនាក់ ។
How many brothers and sisters do you have?	<i>tie-uh ___ mee-un bong p'own bpone mahn neyeck?</i>	តើ ___ មានបងប្អូនប៉ុន្មាននាក់?
first	<i>tee muy</i>	ទីមួយ
	<i>dom bong</i>	ដំបូង
	<i>moon gay (before all)</i>	មុនគេ
second	<i>tee pbee</i>	ទីពីរ
last	<i>jong k'rowey</i>	ចុងក្រោយ
number	<i>lake</i>	លេខ
number three	<i>lake bay</i>	លេខបី
number ten	<i>lake dop</i>	លេខដប់

Now you will be able to answer the question "How old are you?" from the last lesson:

I am thirty years old. *k'nyome ah-yoot sam-sup ch'nahm* ខ្ញុំអាយុសាមសិបប្អូន

LANGUAGE LEARNING TIP:

Count with some children in your neighborhood! Be sure to ask them all their ages.

Lesson 5 - Travel

to make a journey	<i>twer dome-nigh-uh</i>	ធ្វើដំណើរ
to be far	<i>no-oo ch'ngie-ee</i>	នៅឆ្ងាយ
Is it far?	<i>vee-ah no-oo ch'ngie-ee tay?</i>	វានៅឆ្ងាយទេ?
near	<i>jit</i>	ជិត
straight	<i>t'rong</i>	ត្រង់
Go straight.	<i>toe-oo t'rong</i>	ទៅត្រង់
Turn left.	<i>bot chwang (rhymes with twang)</i>	បត់ឆ្វេង
Turn right.	<i>bot sah-dahm</i>	បត់ស្តាំ
to be in front of	<i>no-oo kahng moke</i>	នៅខាងមុខ
behind	<i>k'rowey</i>	ក្រោយ
turn around	<i>bot k'rowey</i>	បត់ក្រោយ
here	<i>tee knee</i>	ទីនេះ
to be here	<i>no-oo tee knee</i>	នៅទីនេះ
there	<i>tee new</i>	ទីនោះ
Stop.	<i>chope</i>	ឈប់
now	<i>aye-loe-knee</i>	ឥឡូវនេះ
to go	<i>toe-oo</i>	ទៅ
Please go slower.	<i>soam buy-uck yoot yoot</i>	សូមបើកយឺតៗ
street/road	<i>ploe</i>	ផ្លូវ
Be careful!	<i>braw-yaht!</i>	ប្រយ័ត្ន
fast	<i>luuh-un</i>	លឿន
slow	<i>yoot</i>	យឺត
on the way	<i>tdahm ploe</i>	តាមផ្លូវ
Stop here.	<i>chope tee knee howey</i>	ឈប់ទីនេះហើយ
	<i>soam chope tee knee howey</i>	សូមឈប់ទីនេះហើយ

How much does it cost to go to ____ (place)?

toe-oo ____ t'lie-ee bpone-mahn? ទៅ ____ ថ្លៃប៉ុន្មាន?

to take someone somewhere	<i>june</i>	ជូន
airplane	<i>yooh hah</i>	យន្តហោះ
airport	<i>vee-ul yooh hah</i>	វាលយន្តហោះ
Please take me to ____ (place). <i>Soam june k'nyome toe-oo ____</i>		សូមជូនខ្ញុំទៅ _____

Please take them to the airport.

soam june gay toe-oo vee-ul you-un hah

សូមជូនគេទៅវាលយន្តហោះ

motorcycle	<i>moto</i>	ម៉ូតូ
motorcycle taxi	<i>moto-dope</i>	ម៉ូតូឌុប
to drive	<i>buy-uk</i>	បើក
to ride	<i>gee</i>	ជិះ
car	<i>lahn</i>	ឡាន
driver	<i>neck buy-uk lahn</i>	អ្នកបើកឡាន
bicycle	<i>kawng</i>	កង់
bus	<i>lahn k'rong (city car)</i>	ឡានក្រុង
taxi	<i>lahn ch'new-ul (rented car)</i>	ឡានឈ្នួល
to walk	<i>die-uh</i>	ដើរ
to come	<i>moke (colloquial = mao)</i>	មក
to come back	<i>moke viñ</i>	មកវិញ
to come from	<i>moke pee</i>	មកពី
to arrive	<i>moke doll (toward speaker)</i>	មកដល់
	<i>toe-oo doll (away from speaker)</i>	ទៅដល់
to get lost	<i>vong vang ploeh</i>	វង្វេងផ្លូវ

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITY:

Try to make your own sentences and practice them with your friends and neighbors! Make a journey to a place you haven't been before. Try going to the Olympic Market - *p'sah oh-lim-pick* near the stadium. But check your map and watch the roads the motodope takes. Tell HIM where to turn. But please don't *vong vang ploeh*!

Lesson 6 – Going to the Market

market	<i>p'sah</i>	ផ្សារ
where?	<i>no-oo I nah?</i>	នៅឯណា?
Where is the market?	<i>p'sah no-oo I nah?</i>	ផ្សារនៅឯណា?
house	<i>p'tay-ah</i>	ផ្ទះ
to buy	<i>tiñ</i>	ទិញ
to sell	<i>loo-uk</i>	លក់
How much?	<i>t'lie-ee bon-mahn?</i>	ថ្លៃប៉ុន្មាន?
This item costs how much?		
How much does this item cost? _____ (item) <i>t'lie-ee bon-mahn?</i>		_____ ថ្លៃប៉ុន្មាន?
to be expensive	<i>t'lie-ee</i>	ថ្លៃ
to be cheap	<i>towk</i>	ថោក
That is too much.	<i>t'lie-ee pake</i>	ថ្លៃពេក
	<i>t'lie-ee nah</i>	ថ្លៃណាស់
	<i>t'lie-ee m'leh !</i>	ថ្លៃម៉្លេះ!
	(I never expected it to be THAT expensive!)	
money	<i>looey/prahk</i>	លុយ / ប្រាក់
flower	<i>p'kah</i>	ផ្កា

clothes	<i>cow ow-oo</i>	ខោអាវ
shirt	<i>ow-oo</i>	អាវ
T-shirt	<i>ow-oo yoot</i>	អាវយឺត
pants	<i>cow</i>	ខោ
skirt	<i>som-put</i>	សំពត់
shoes	<i>s'bike jung</i>	ស្បែកជើង
pair	<i>goo</i>	គូរ
a pair of shoes	<i>s'bike jung muy goo</i>	ស្បែកជើងមួយគូ

color	<i>poe-uh</i>	ពណ៌
white	<i>poe-uh saw</i>	ពណ៌ស
black	<i>poe-uh k'mao</i>	ពណ៌ខ្មៅ
blue	<i>poe-uh kee-o</i>	ពណ៌ខៀវ
yellow	<i>poe-uh luuh-ung</i>	ពណ៌លឿង
fast	<i>luuh-un</i>	លឿន
green	<i>poe-uh buy-tong</i>	ពណ៌បៃតង
red	<i>poe-uh craw-hom</i>	ពណ៌ក្រហម
brown	<i>poe-uh t'nowt</i>	ពណ៌ត្នោត
	<i>poe-uh sock-o-lah</i>	ពណ៌ស្លូតូឡា
gray	<i>poe-uh bpro-peh</i>	ពណ៌ប្រផេះ
pink	<i>poe-uh p'kah chook</i>	ពណ៌ផ្កាឈូក

(Note: The color words above are printed in their actual colors in original versions.)

Thank you	<i>aw-gkoon</i>	អរគុណ
You are welcome	<i>ah t' aye tday</i>	អត់អីទេ
	<i>mun aye tday</i>	មិនអីទេ
Excuse me./I'm sorry.	<i>soam-tdoe</i>	សូមទោស
to look for something	<i>roke</i>	រក
to find something	<i>roke kuh-uhn</i>	រកឃើញ
to lose something	<i>baht</i>	បាត់
to look at something	<i>mull</i>	មើល
to need	<i>t'row-gah</i>	ត្រូវការ

to want something	<i>jahng bahn</i> + thing	ចង់បាន
to want to do something	<i>jahng</i> + verb	ចង់
to want somebody to do something	<i>jahng owey</i> ___(person) + verb	ចង់អោយ
I want a shirt.	<i>k'nyome jahng bahn ow-oo muy.</i>	ខ្ញុំចង់បានអាវមួយ
I want to buy a shirt.	<i>k'nyome jahng tiñ ow-oo muy.</i>	ខ្ញុំចង់ទិញអាវមួយ
I want him to buy a shirt.	<i>k'nyome jahng owey go-aht tiñ ow-oo muy.</i>	ខ្ញុំចង់អោយគាត់ទិញអាវមួយ
for	<i>soam-wrahp</i>	សំរាប់
I want to buy a shirt for him.	<i>k'nyome jahng tiñ ow soam-wrap go-at.</i>	ខ្ញុំចង់ទិញអាវសំរាប់គាត់

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITY:

Go to the market and buy something for yourself! You deserve it!
Be sure to bargain and ask for your favorite color.

Lesson 7 - Studying

school	<i>sah-lah</i>	សាលា
	<i>sah-lah ree-un</i>	សាលារៀន
to learn	<i>ree-un</i>	រៀន
to teach	<i>bong-ree-un</i>	បង្រៀន
lesson	<i>may ree-un</i>	មេរៀន
teacher	<i>crew bong-ree-un</i>	គ្រូបង្រៀន
to read	<i>ahn</i>	អាន
	<i>mull</i>	មើល
Can you read?	<i>jeh ahn tay?</i>	ចេះអានទេ?
letter (alphabet)	<i>ak-saw</i>	អក្សរ
Can you read Khmer?	<i>jeh ak-saw k'my tay?</i>	ចេះអានអក្សរខ្មែរទេ?
to speak	<i>nee-yay</i>	និយាយ
What did you say?	<i>_____ * nee-yay tah make?</i>	_____និយាយថាម៉េច?
again	<i>m'dong tee-ut</i>	ម្តងទៀត
please	<i>soam</i>	សូម
Please say it again.	<i>soam nee-yay m'dong tee-ut</i>	សូមនិយាយម្តងទៀត
to understand	<i>yule</i>	យល់
Do you understand?	<i>tie-uh _____ * yule tay?</i>	តើ _____យល់ទេ?
I understand.	<i>k'nyome yule</i>	ខ្ញុំយល់
language	<i>pee-uh-sah</i>	ភាសា
Khmer language	<i>pee-uh-sah k'my</i>	ភាសាខ្មែរ
English language	<i>pee-uh-sah awng-glax</i>	ភាសាអង់គ្លេស

slow	<i>yoot</i>	យឺត
Please speak slowly.	<i>soam nee-yay yoot yoot</i>	សូមនិយាយយឺតៗ
clear	<i>ch'bah</i>	ច្បាស់
Please speak clearly.	<i>soam nee-yay ovey ch'bah</i>	សូមនិយាយអោយច្បាស់
loud	<i>klahng</i>	ខ្លាំង
Please speak loudly.	<i>soam nee-yay ovey klang</i>	សូមនិយាយអោយខ្លាំង
book	<i>see-o-poe-oo</i>	សៀវភៅ
student	<i>knee-sut</i>	និស្សិត
	<i>suh</i>	សិស្ស
hand	<i>die-ee</i>	ដៃ
pencil	<i>k'maow die-ee</i>	ខ្មៅដៃ
pen	<i>bick</i>	ប៊ិច
paper	<i>k'raw-dah</i>	ក្រដាស
to erase	<i>lope jowl</i>	លប់ចោល
blackboard	<i>k'dah kee-un</i>	ក្តារខៀន
table/desk	<i>tdock</i>	តុ
to write	<i>saw-say</i>	សរសេរ
to hope	<i>song-come</i>	សង្ឃឹម
Bible	<i>pray-ah come-pbee</i>	ព្រះគម្ពីរ
to give	<i>ovey</i>	អោយ
Please give me the pen.	<i>soam ovey bick doll k'nyome.</i>	សូមអោយបិចដល់ខ្ញុំ
sentence	<i>c'lee-uh</i>	ឃ្លា
word	<i>pee-uk</i>	ពាក្យ

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITY:

Now, practice asking people for things and asking them whether they can read. You'll be surprised how many people cannot read!

Lesson 8 – *The Five W's*

to be	<i>gee-uh</i>	ជា
	<i>goo jee-uh</i>	គឺជា
I am a student.	<i>k'nyome jee-uh suh</i>	ខ្ញុំជាសិស្ស
to have	<i>mee-un</i>	មាន
I have a mother.	<i>k'nyome mee-un m'dah-ee</i>	ខ្ញុំមានម្តាយ
to be able to	<i>bahn</i>	បាន
I can ride a bike.	<i>k'nyome gee kawng bahn</i>	ខ្ញុំជិះកង់បាន
to know how to	<i>jeh</i>	ចេះ
I know how to ride a bike.	<i>k'nyome jeh gee kawng</i>	ខ្ញុំចេះជិះកង់
there is/are	<i>mee-un</i>	មាន
a lot/many	<i>j'rye-un</i>	ច្រើន
There are many students here.	<i>mee-un suh j'rye-un no-oo tee knee</i>	មានសិស្សច្រើននៅទីនេះ
to be at	<i>no-oo</i>	នៅ
to be inside	<i>no-oo kahng k'nong</i>	នៅខាងក្នុង
to be on	<i>no-oo luuh</i>	នៅលើ
The pen is on the table.	<i>bick no-oo luuh tdock</i>	ប៊ិចនៅលើតុ
what (formal/polite)	<i>ah-way</i>	អ្វី
(informal)	<i>aye</i>	អី
(colloquial/NOT polite)	<i>s'aye</i>	ស្តី
where	<i>no-oo I nah?</i>	នៅឯណា?
which one	<i>muy nah</i>	មួយណា
when	<i>pale nah</i>	ពេលណា

when/in the time that	<i>no-oo pale dial</i>	នៅពេលដែល
when did	<i>pee awng call</i>	ពីអង្គុល
why (formal/polite)	<i>hidte away</i>	ហេតុអ្វី
(informal)	<i>hidte aye</i>	ហេតុអី
	<i>make gaw</i>	ម៉ែចក់
who	<i>neyeck nah</i>	អ្នកណា
	<i>no nah</i>	នរណា
whose	<i>row-bah neyeck-nah</i>	របស់អ្នកណា
how	<i>yahng make</i>	យ៉ាងម៉េច
this	<i>knee</i>	នេះ
that	<i>new</i>	នោះ
not to have	<i>aht mee-un</i>	អត់មាន
have you ever/used to	<i>tie-uh ___ * t'low-ahp</i>	តើ ___ ធ្លាប់
more than	<i>jee-ung</i>	ជាង
more (additional)	<i>tee-ut</i>	ទៀត
Who is he?	<i>go-aht jee-uh neyeck nah?</i>	គាត់ជាអ្នកណា?
What is this?	<i>knee jee-uh away?</i>	នេះជាអ្វី?

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITY:

Now, you have enough tools to go out and ask a lot of questions.
Who is it you are most curious about? Go out and ask away!!

Lesson 9 - Verbs

One of the most wonderful things about the Khmer language is you DO NOT have to conjugate verbs. The tense of the verb is understood from the time words and other helping words in the sentence. See Lessons 11 and 12 for some of these time words.

to carry		
in a vehicle	<i>duck</i>	ដឹក
in hand	<i>gahn</i>	កាន់
on head	<i>tool</i>	ទូល
on shoulder	<i>lee</i>	លើ
on back	<i>spee-aye</i>	ស្ពាយ
in arms	<i>bay</i>	បី
by handle	<i>you-ah</i>	យូរ

to think	<i>gut</i>	គិត
to remember	<i>jahm</i>	ចាំ
to forget	<i>pleck</i>	ភ្លេច
to sit	<i>awng-kgoeey</i>	អង្គុយ
to like	<i>jole-jut</i>	ចូលចិត្ត
to meet	<i>jew-up</i>	ជួប
don't	<i>goam</i>	កុំ
It's not necessary to	<i>mun bike</i>	មិនចាំបាច់
to see	<i>kuuh-un</i>	ឃើញ
to watch/look at	<i>mull</i>	មើល
to drive/open/turn on	<i>buy-uk</i>	បើក
to close/turn off/stick to	<i>but</i>	បិទ
to start (doing something)	<i>jahp-ah-die-um</i>	ចាប់ផ្តើម

to count	<i>row-up</i>	រាប់
to think	<i>gut</i>	គិត
to think that	<i>gut tah</i>	គិតថា
to think about	<i>gut ohm-pee</i>	គិតអំពី
to sleep	<i>gang</i>	គេង
(informal)	<i>dake</i>	ដេក
to change	<i>dough</i>	ផ្លូវ
	<i>plah-pah-dough</i>	ផ្លាស់ផ្លូវ
to touch	<i>pbah</i>	ប៉ះ
to live at	<i>roo-ah no-oo</i>	រស់នៅ
to take	<i>yoke</i>	យក
to enter	<i>jole</i>	ចូល
to leave	<i>jañe</i>	ចេញ

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITY:

You are almost halfway through Survival Khmer. Use what you learned today, but go back and review all your previous lessons. Review and repetition is a key to language learning success.

Lesson 10 – Verbs, Continued

to still be doing something	<i>no-oo tie + verb</i>	នៅតែ
to be doing something (continuous action)	<i>gome-pong tie</i>	កំពុងតែ
should	<i>goo-uh tie</i>	គួរតែ
can/able to	<i>bahn/ike</i>	បាន/អាច
will/shall (future)	<i>nung</i>	នឹង
did (past)	<i>bahn</i>	បាន

Tomorrow I will go to the market.

t'ngie-ee s'ike k'nyome nung toe-oo p'sah ថ្ងៃស្អែកខ្ញុំនឹងទៅផ្សារ

You should wash your hands.

___ * *goo-uh tie lee-ung die-ee* ___ គួរតែលាងដៃ

I can go tomorrow.

k'nyome ike toe-oo t'ngie-ee s'ike bahn ខ្ញុំអាចទៅថ្ងៃស្អែកបាន

I did read the book yesterday. *m'sell miñ k'nyome ban ahn see-o-poe*

ម្សិលមិញខ្ញុំបានអានសៀវភៅ

I am still eating.

k'nyome no-oo tie nyahm buy ខ្ញុំនៅតែញាំបាយ

I am eating.

k'nyome gome-pong tie nyahm buy ខ្ញុំកំពុងតែញាំបាយ

to know (a person)	<i>skoe-awl</i>	ស្គាល់
to know (information)	<i>dung</i>	ដឹង
to know (how to do something)	<i>jeh</i>	ចេះ

to stand

choe

ឈរ

Please stand up.	<i>soam k'rowk choe</i>	សូមក្រោកឈរ
to ask (a question)	<i>sue-uh</i>	សួរ
question (noun)	<i>som new-uh</i>	សំនួរ
to ask a favor	<i>soam</i>	សូម

to look at	<i>mool</i>	មើល
to look for	<i>roke</i>	រក
to find	<i>roke kuuh-un</i>	រកឃើញ
to look after	<i>tie-wreck-sah</i>	ថែរក្សា

to listen to	<i>s'dahp</i>	ស្តាប់
to hear that	<i>luuh tah</i>	លឺថា
to hear about	<i>luuh om-pee</i>	លឺអំពី

to wear (from waist up)	<i>slee-it</i>	ស្លៀក
to wear (from waist down)	<i>pay-ek</i>	ពាក់
to wear (in general)	<i>slee-it pay-ek</i>	ស្លៀកពាក់

to borrow	<i>k'jay</i>	ខ្ចី
light (in color)	<i>k'jay</i>	ខ្ចី
dark (in color)	<i>jah</i>	ចាស់
unripe (fruit)	<i>k'jay</i>	ខ្ចី
ripe	<i>tome</i>	ទុំ

to light a fire	<i>dot</i>	ដុត
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to talk together	<i>nee-yay k'nee-ah</i>	និយាយគ្នា
to lie to	<i>nee-yay k'hock</i>	និយាយកុហក់
to joke	<i>nee-yay ling</i>	និយាយលេង
to wash (totally wet)	<i>lee-ung</i>	លាង

to wash face	<i>lee-ung moke</i>	លាងមុខ
to take a shower	<i>moot duck</i>	មុជទឹក
to wash clothes	<i>bowk cow ow-oo</i>	បោកខោអាវ
to clean up	<i>jute soam aht</i>	ជូតសំអាត
to correct	<i>guy-ee</i>	កែ
to protect	<i>gah pee-uh</i>	ការពារ
to try to do something	<i>p'jee-ah yee-um</i>	ព្យាយាម
to try on (clothes)	<i>loe mull</i>	លរមើល
to be free (not cost)	<i>aht gkut loo-ey</i>	អត់គិតលុយ
	<i>aht gkut t'lie-ee</i>	អត់គិតថ្លៃ

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITY:

Quiz yourself to see if you remember all your new vocabulary. Cover the Khmer and the phonetics to see whether you know the word/sentence. If you are married, have your spouse quiz you. This is also a good lesson to "play" with your tutor. Have them do a version of "Simon Says," and "command" you according to the various verbs you have learned.

Lesson 11 – *Time & Meals*

morning	<i>pale pruck</i>	ពេលព្រឹក
this morning	<i>pruck knee</i>	ព្រឹកនេះ
hour	<i>mowng</i>	ម៉ោង
minute	<i>knee-ah-tee</i>	នាទី
watch/clock	<i>knee-ah-lay-gkah</i>	នាឡិកា
now	<i>a-low knee</i>	ឥឡូវនេះ
time	<i>pale</i>	ពេល
7:00 am	<i>mowng pram pee pruck</i>	ម៉ោងប្រាំពីរព្រឹក
breakfast	<i>m'hope ah-hah pale pruck</i>	ម្ហូបអាហារពេលព្រឹក
	<i>buy pale pruck</i>	បាយពេលព្រឹក
What time is it?	<i>mowng bpone-mahn?</i>	ម៉ោងប៉ុន្មាន?
How many hours?	<i>bpone-mahn mowng?</i>	ប៉ុន្មានម៉ោង?
noontime	<i>t'ngie-ee t'rong</i>	ថ្ងៃត្រង់
lunch	<i>m'hope ah-hah t'ngie-ee t'rong</i>	ម្ហូបអាហារថ្ងៃត្រង់
afternoon	<i>pale roe-seal</i>	ពេលរសៀល
3:00 pm	<i>mowng bay roe-seal</i>	ម៉ោងបីរសៀល
evening/night	<i>pale yope</i>	ពេលយប់
6:00 pm	<i>mowng pram-muy yope</i>	ម៉ោងប្រាំមួយយប់
dinner	<i>m'hope ah-hah pale yope</i>	ម្ហូបអាហារពេលយប់
food	<i>m'hope</i>	ម្ហូប
	<i>ah-hah</i>	អាហារ
	<i>m'hope ah-hah</i>	ម្ហូបអាហារ
last night	<i>yope miñ</i>	យប់មិញ

Khmer food	<i>m'hope k'my</i>	ម្ហូបខ្មែរ
water	<i>dtuck</i>	ទឹក
ice	<i>dtuck-gkawk</i>	ទឹកកក

to eat (familiar)	<i>nyahm</i>	ញាំ
(more formal)	<i>hope</i>	ហូប
(formal)	<i>pee-sah</i>	ពិសារ
to eat (an animal eats)	<i>see</i>	ស៊ី
to drink	<i>puck</i>	ផឹក
	<i>nyahm</i>	ញាំ

to taste	<i>mee-un ruh jee-ut</i>	មានរសជាតិ
taste (noun)	<i>ruh jee-ut</i>	រសជាតិ
tasty	<i>ch'nguñ</i>	ឆ្ងាញ់
Does it taste good?	<i>ch'nguñ tay?</i>	ឆ្ងាញ់ទេ?
smell (noun)	<i>klun</i>	ក្លិន
smells	<i>tome klun</i>	ធំក្លិន
smells tasty	<i>tome klun ch'ngoo-ey</i>	ធំក្លិនឈ្ងុយ

rice (cooked)	<i>buy</i>	បាយ
rice (uncooked)	<i>ang-kaw</i>	អង្ករ
rice (with husk)	<i>s'row</i>	ស្រូវ

chair	<i>cow-aye</i>	កៅអី
drinking glass	<i>cgow-oo</i>	កែវ
bread	<i>noom-pahng</i>	នំប៉័ង

kitchen	<i>p'tay-ah buy</i>	ផ្ទះបាយ
rice soup	<i>baw baw</i>	បបរ
plate/dish	<i>jahn</i>	ចាន
fork	<i>sawm</i>	សម
vegetables	<i>bon-lie</i>	បន្លែ
fruits	<i>ply-chuuh</i>	ផ្លែឈើ
meat	<i>sike</i>	សាច់
animal	<i>saht</i>	សត្វ
chicken (animal)	<i>saht mow-un</i>	សត្វមាន់
chicken (meat)	<i>sike mow-un</i>	សាច់មាន់
fish	<i>t'ray</i>	ត្រី
beef	<i>sike go-oo</i>	សាច់គោ
cow	<i>saht go-oo</i>	សត្វគោ
egg	<i>pong mow-un</i>	ពងមាន់

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITY:

Try a new Khmer restaurant and order a dish you've never eaten! You might wish to try the Khmer Surin just off Sihanouk Road and around the corner from the Goldiana Hotel. For the first part of the lesson you will also wish to work with your tutor and a clock or watch and learn to tell time in Khmer. The second part of the lesson you can review by taking eating utensils to class and reviewing the terms as well as performing the actions.

Lesson 12 – Day & Time Words

day	<i>t'ngie-ee</i>	ថ្ងៃ
10 days	<i>dahp t'ngie-ee</i>	ដប់ថ្ងៃ
the 10 th day	<i>t'ngie-ee tee dahp</i>	ថ្ងៃទីដប់
today	<i>t'ngie-ee knee</i>	ថ្ងៃនេះ
yesterday	<i>m'sell miñ</i>	ម្សិលមិញ
tomorrow	<i>t'ngie-ee s'ike</i>	ថ្ងៃស្អែក

Sunday	<i>t'ngie-ee ah-tut</i>	ថ្ងៃអាទិត្យ
Monday	<i>t'ngie-ee jahn</i>	ថ្ងៃចន្ទ
Tuesday	<i>t'ngie-ee ahng-key-uh</i>	ថ្ងៃអង្គារ
Wednesday	<i>t'ngie-ee put</i>	ថ្ងៃពុធ
Thursday	<i>t'ngie-ee prah-hoe-uh</i>	ថ្ងៃព្រហស្បតិ៍
Friday	<i>t'ngie-ee sok</i>	ថ្ងៃសុក្រ
Saturday	<i>t'ngie-ee sow</i>	ថ្ងៃសៅរ៍

week	<i>ah-tut</i>	អាទិត្យ
this week	<i>ah-tut knee</i>	អាទិត្យនេះ
next week	<i>ah-tut k'rowey</i>	អាទិត្យក្រោយ
next Saturday	<i>t'ngie-ee sow-oo k'rowey</i>	ថ្ងៃសៅរ៍ក្រោយ
this Saturday	<i>t'ngie-ee sow-oo knee</i>	ថ្ងៃសៅរ៍នេះ
birthday	<i>t'ngie-ee koop goam nigh-ut</i>	ថ្ងៃខួបកំណើត
holiday	<i>t'ngie-ee chope soam-rahk</i>	ថ្ងៃឈប់សំរាក

Good morning	<i>arun sue-ah-sa-day</i>	អរុណសួស្តី
Good night	<i>ree-ah-t'ray sue-ah-sah-day</i>	រាត្រីសួស្តី
See you another day.	<i>joop k'nee-ah t'ngie-ee k'rowey</i>	ជួបគ្នាថ្ងៃក្រោយ
Have good health.	<i>soam mee-un sok-ah-pee-up l'aw</i>	សូមមានសុខភាពល្អ

before	<i>pbee moon</i>	ពីមុន
finally	<i>jong k'rowey</i>	ចុងក្រោយ
at last	<i>no-oo pale jong k'rowey</i>	នៅពេលចុងក្រោយ
usually	<i>tome-ah-dah</i>	ធម្មតា
always	<i>tyng tie</i>	តែងតែ

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITIES:

Talk with your neighbors about what they did last Sunday. Ask them when they celebrate their birthdays. Most Khmer people "celebrate" theirs on Khmer New Year.

Practice making new sentences with the last five new words.

You will also wish to practice new vocabulary in this lesson with your tutor using the following calendar page.

In addition, you may want to laminate the clock picture in order to draw the correct time on the clock, as your tutor dictates.

January 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



Lesson 13 – Seasons & Months

month	<i>ky</i>	ខែ
weather	<i>ah-kah-sah-tee-ut</i>	អាកាសធាតុ
season	<i>ro-doe-oo</i>	រដូវ
cold	<i>t'raw</i> (rhymes with straw)- <i>jayek</i>	ត្រជាក់
hot	<i>k'dow</i>	ក្តៅ
hot season	<i>ro-doe-oo k'dow</i>	រដូវក្តៅ
rain	<i>plee-ung</i>	ភ្លៀង
rainy season	<i>ro-doe-oo plee-ung</i>	រដូវភ្លៀង
What month does rainy season begin?		
	<i>ro-doe-oo plee-ung jahp-pa-die-um ky nah?</i>	រដូវភ្លៀងចាប់ផ្តើមខែណា?
umbrella	<i>chaht</i>	ជ័ត្រ
year	<i>ch'nahm</i>	ឆ្នាំ
2 years	<i>pee ch'nahm</i>	ពីរឆ្នាំ
2 years ago	<i>pee ch'nahm moon</i>	ពីរឆ្នាំមុន
2 years from now	<i>pee ch'nahm tee-ut</i>	ពីរឆ្នាំទៀត

March	<i>ky tee bay</i>	ខែទីបី
(The months have other names, but it is much easier to use this form in the beginning.)		
December	<i>ky tee dahp pee</i>	ខែទីដប់ពីរ

once	<i>m'dong</i>	ម្តង
once a month	<i>muy ky m'dong</i>	មួយខែម្តង
once a week	<i>muy ah-tut m'dong</i>	មួយអាទិត្យម្តង
once in awhile	<i>yew yew m'dong</i>	យូរៗម្តង
twice a week	<i>muy ah-tut pbee dong</i>	មួយអាទិត្យពីរដង
every year	<i>ree-ung row-all ch'nahm</i>	រៀងរាល់ឆ្នាំ
every day	<i>ree-ung row-all t'ngie-ee</i>	រៀងរាល់ថ្ងៃ
sometimes	<i>pale k'lah</i>	ពេលខ្លះ
seldom	<i>mun sew</i>	មិនសូវ
already	<i>rue-ick howey</i>	រួចហើយ
not yet	<i>mun tdoe-un</i>	មិនទាន់

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITY:

You've had some very long lessons previously, so you deserve a short one here! Take time to review and practice conversing on the topics in Lessons 11, 12, and 13.

Lesson 14 – *The Verb To Be*

to be	<i>goo jee-uh</i>	គឺជា
to have free time	<i>tome nay</i>	ទំនេរ
free time	<i>pale tome nay</i>	ពេលទំនេរ
to be hungry	<i>clee-un</i>	ឃ្នាន
to be busy	<i>row-vull</i>	រវល់
to be easy	<i>s'rew-ul</i>	ស្រួល
To speak Khmer is easy.	<i>nee-yay pee-ah-sah k'my srew-ul.</i>	និយាយភាសាខ្មែរស្រួល
to be pretty	<i>s'ah</i>	ស្អាត
The house is pretty.	<i>p'tay-ah s'ah</i>	ផ្ទះស្អាត
to have a pleasing sound	<i>pee-rue-ah</i>	ពិរោះ
He speaks well.	<i>go-at nee-yay pee-rue-ah</i>	គាត់និយាយពិរោះ
to be worried	<i>proo-ey jut</i>	ព្រួយចិត្ត
I am worried.	<i>k'nyome proo-ey jut</i>	ខ្ញុំព្រួយចិត្ត
to be difficult	<i>pee-bahk</i>	ពិបាក
to be big	<i>tome</i>	ធំ
It's too big.	<i>tome pake</i>	ធំពេក
very	<i>nah</i>	ណាស់
It's really big!	<i>tome nah!</i>	ធំណាស់
to be small	<i>toe-ik</i>	តូច
to be high/tall	<i>k'poo-uh</i>	ខ្ពស់
to be short(height)	<i>tee-up</i>	ទាប

to be long	<i>wayng</i>	វែង
to be short	<i>c'lay</i>	ខ្លី
to be old	<i>jah</i>	ចាស់
to be new	<i>t'may</i>	ថ្មី
to be thin	<i>s'kome</i>	ស្អុម
to be fat	<i>toe-aht</i>	ធាត់
to be stubborn/hard-headed (idiom)	<i>k'ball rung</i>	ក្បាលរឹង
to be impossible	<i>aht ploé</i>	អត់ផ្លូវ
to be crazy	<i>aht grope duck</i>	អត់គ្រប់ទឹក
(Just don't call anyone this to their face!)		
to be heavy	<i>t'ngone</i>	ធ្ងន់
to be light (weight)	<i>s'rahl</i>	ស្រាល
to be good	<i>l'aw</i>	ល្អ
to be bad	<i>ah-crock</i>	អាក្រក់
to be right	<i>t'roe</i>	ត្រូវ
to be wrong	<i>koh</i>	ខុស
to be empty/used up	<i>ah</i>	អស់
strength	<i>gkome-lahng</i>	កំលាំង
to be tired	<i>ah-gkome-lahng</i>	អស់កំលាំង
I am tired.	<i>k'nyome ah-gkome-lahng</i>	ខ្ញុំអស់កំលាំង

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITY:

By now you've learned that one Khmer word can include the "being" portion and doesn't need an additional verb. So go out and describe everything you can!

Lesson 15 – Prepositions & Conjunctions

maybe/about	<i>pro-hile</i>	ប្រហែល
usually	<i>jee-uh toe-mah-dah</i>	ជាធម្មតា
with	<i>jee-uh muy</i>	ជាមួយ
from	<i>bpee</i>	ពី
by/to be done by	<i>dowey</i>	ដោយ
because	<i>bpee proo-uh</i>	ពីព្រោះ
and	<i>nung</i>	និង
but	<i>bun tie</i>	ប៉ុន្តែ
or	<i>rue</i>	រឺ
every	<i>row-all</i>	រាល់
if	<i>buy-uh</i>	បើ
	<i>buy-uh sun jee-uh</i>	បើសិនជា
in (place)	<i>no-oo</i>	នៅ
in (inside)	<i>k'nohng</i>	ក្នុង
in (language)	<i>jee-uh pee-ah-sah</i> ___ (language)	ជាភាសា
from ___ (place) to ___ (place)	<i>pee</i> ___ <i>tow-oo</i> ___	ពី ___ ទៅ ___
before doing something	<i>moon pale</i> ___ (verb)	មុនពេល
before	<i>pee moon</i>	ពីមុន
I read that book before.	<i>k'nyome ahn seo-poe new pee moon</i>	ខ្ញុំអានសៀវភៅនោះពីមុន
before a time	<i>moon</i> ___ (time word)	មុន

after	<i>k'rowey</i>	ក្រោយ
in front of	<i>no-oo kahng moke</i>	នៅខាងមុខ
behind	<i>kahng k'rowey</i>	ខាងក្រោយ
near	<i>jit</i>	ជិត
under	<i>k'rowm</i>	ក្រោម
not yet	<i>mun toe-un</i>	មិនទាន់
because	<i>pee proo-ah</i>	ពីព្រោះ
so/therefore	<i>doe ch'neh</i>	ដូច្នេះ
until	<i>row-hote doll</i>	រហូតដល់
as/like	<i>dough-it</i>	ដូច
such as	<i>dough-it jee-uh</i>	ដូចជា
to act as if	<i>twer dough-it jee-uh</i>	ធ្វើដូចជា

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITY:

Now, you can make your sentences longer by using these new connecting words. Practice combining all the words you know, making complex sentences.

Lesson 16 – *Work & Home*

TV	<i>too-rah-too-uh</i>	ទូរទស្សន៍
watch/clock	<i>knee-ah-lay-kah</i>	នាឡិកា
picture/photo	<i>roop taught</i>	រូបថត
telephone	<i>too-rah-sahp</i>	ទូរស័ព្ទ
hand phone	<i>too-rah-sahp die-ee</i>	ទូរស័ព្ទដៃ
office	<i>gah-ray-yah-lie-ee</i>	ការិយាល័យ
staff	<i>boke-ah-luck</i>	បុគ្គលិក
organization	<i>ahng-kah</i>	អង្គការ
embassy	<i>s'tahn toot</i>	ស្ថានទូត
ministry office	<i>grah-sue-ung</i>	ក្រសួង
ministry of health	<i>grah-sue-ung soak-ah-pee-ball</i>	ក្រសួងសុខាភិបាល
to work	<i>twer gah</i>	ធ្វើការ
work (noun)	<i>gah-ngee-uh</i>	ការងារ
with	<i>jee-ah muy</i>	ជាមួយ
I work with him.	<i>k'nyome twer gah jee-ah muy go-ah</i>	ខ្ញុំធ្វើការជាមួយគាត់
to play	<i>layng</i>	លេង
hospital	<i>monty pbet</i>	មន្ទីរពេទ្យ
doctor/health professional	<i>pbet</i>	ពេទ្យ
	<i>crew pbet</i>	គ្រូពេទ្យ
to be sick	<i>chew</i>	ឈឺ
to die	<i>slup</i>	ស្លាប់
accident	<i>grew-ah t'knahk</i>	គ្រោះថ្នាក់
key	<i>goan sow</i>	កូនសោ
lock	<i>sow</i>	សោ

to be locked	<i>jahk sow</i>	ចាក់សោ
door	<i>twee-ah</i>	ទ្វារ
desk	<i>tdock</i>	តុ
chair	<i>cow-aye</i>	កៅអី
to rent	<i>jewel</i>	ជួល
to fix/repair	<i>jew-ah jewel</i>	ជួសជុល
room	<i>bahn-tope</i>	បន្ទប់
bedroom	<i>bahn-tope gang</i>	បន្ទប់គេង
living room	<i>bahn-tope toe-two-all p'ñee-oh</i>	បន្ទប់ទទួលភ្ញៀវ
to receive	<i>toe-two-all</i>	ទទួល
guest	<i>p'ñee-oh</i>	ភ្ញៀវ
bathroom	<i>bahn-tope duck</i>	បន្ទប់ទឹក
toilet	<i>bong-koon</i>	បង្គន់
dog	<i>ch'guy</i>	ឆ្កែ
cat	<i>ch'mah</i>	ឆ្កា
mosquito	<i>moo</i>	មូស
to bite	<i>kahm</i>	ខាំ

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITY:

Can you name everything in your room? If don't find sufficient vocabulary here, you can consult an *Oxford Picture Dictionary* and go from there to name anything you want! But you can also try calling the following pictures their proper terms in Khmer. (You may have to review previous lessons.)

Language Learning Pictures

(You should be able to identify all of these after studying *Survival Khmer*.)





What colors are these flowers and how many are there of each color?

What about this hot air balloon? What colors do you see?



Lesson 17 – Using Classifiers

The Correct Placement of Numbers/Using Classifiers:

How many children do you have? *tie-uh ___ * mee-un goan bpone-mahn neyeck?*

តើ __ មានកូនប៉ុន្មាននាក់?

How many books do you have?

*tie-uh ___ * mee-un see-o-poe bpone-mahn k'ball?*

តើ __ មានសៀវភៅប៉ុន្មានក្បាល?

candy

s'kaw grow-ahp

ស្ករគ្រាប់

How many pieces of candy do you have?

*tie-uh ___ * mee-un s'kaw grow-ahp bpone-mahn grow-ahp?*

តើ __ មានស្ករគ្រាប់ប៉ុន្មានគ្រាប់?

The Khmer language has special terms for expressing the number of something, for instance *a pair of shoes* in Khmer would translate as *shoes, one pair* or a student might have three papers, or in Khmer *paper, three sheets*.

For books, cattle, horses, buffalo, enemy soldiers	<i>c'bahl</i>	ក្បាល
For one member of a pair	<i>m'kahng</i>	ម្ខាង
For buildings	<i>k'nawng</i>	ខ្នង
For pairs	<i>goo</i>	គូ
For seeds, pills, grains, bullets	គ្រាប់	<i>grow-ahp</i>
For motorized vehicles	គ្រឿង	<i>grung</i>
For copies, letters, newspapers	ច្បាប់	<i>ch'bahp</i>
For something sold by the bottle	ដប	<i>dawp</i>
For pieces or lumps of something	ដុំ	<i>dome</i>
For things that are long and thin, such as pencils, sticks, guns	ដើម	<i>die-um</i>
Ordinary people	នាក់	<i>neyeck</i>
Fruit	ផ្លែ	<i>ply-ee</i>
Respected people, pictures statues	រូប	<i>roop</i>
Buddhist monks	អង្គ	<i>awng</i>
Sheets or leaves (paper)	សន្លឹក	<i>sawnluck</i>

Threads, sinews, strands	សន្លឹក	<i>saw-sigh-ee</i>
Letters of the alphabet, characters in a movie	តួ	<i>too-ah</i>

Use of the Khmer Word *Owey* - អោយ

- To give
- Preceding another verb, it means to cause, make, let, or allow.

ម្តាយអោយកូនទៅសាលារៀន ។	<i>m'dah-ee owey goan toe-oo sah-lah ree-in</i>
	<i>The mother allowed her child to go to school.</i>
លោកគ្រូអោយសិស្សធ្វើលំហាត់ ។	<i>loke crew owey suh twer lome-haht</i>
	<i>The teacher let (or made, allowed, had) the student do his homework.</i>
- Can precede an adjectival verb with the meaning "causing it to be...., making it...." Such constructs can best be translated by adverbs in English.

សូមលោកពន្យល់អោយច្បាស់ ។	<i>soam loke pon-yool owey ch'bah</i>
	<i>Literally: Please sir explain, making it clear.</i>
	<i>Please clearly explain, sir.</i>
សូមលោកនិយាយអោយខ្លាំងៗ ។	<i>soam loke nee-yay owey klahng klahng</i>
	<i>Literally: Please sir, speak, making it loud.</i>
	<i>Please speak loudly, sir.</i>
- For, on behalf of (familiar)

សូមបើកទ្វារអោយខ្ញុំផង ។	<i>soam buy-uk twee-ah owey k'nyom pong</i>
	<i>Please open the door for me.</i>
ម្តាយទិញសៀវភៅអោយកូន ។	<i>m'dah-ee tiñ see-owe-poe-oo owey goan</i>
	<i>The mother bought (or buys) a book for her child.</i>

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITY:

Can you ask questions with "how many" and "owey" and answer them in the correct form?

Lesson 18 – Verbs & Noun Forms

to translate	<i>bok brie-ee</i>	បកប្រែ
translator	<i>neck bok brie-ee</i>	អ្នកបកប្រែ
to volunteer	<i>smahk jut</i>	ស្ម័គ្រចិត្ត
volunteer (noun)	<i>neck smahk jut</i>	អ្នកស្ម័គ្រចិត្ត
to help	<i>jewey</i>	ជួយ
help (noun)	<i>joom-new-ey</i>	ជំនួយ
helper	<i>neck jewey</i>	អ្នកជួយ
to answer	<i>ch'lau-ey</i>	ឆ្លើយ
answer (noun)	<i>jome lau-ey</i>	ចំលើយ
to question/ask	<i>sue-ah</i>	សួរ
question (noun)	<i>soam new-ah</i>	សំណួរ
to work	<i>twer gah</i>	ធ្វើការ
work (noun)	<i>geck-gah</i>	កិច្ចការ
	<i>gah-ngee-ah</i>	ការងារ
worker	<i>neck twer gah</i>	អ្នកធ្វើការ
to work (idiom)	<i>roke see</i>	រកស៊ី
worker/business man	<i>neck roke see</i>	អ្នករកស៊ី
to cook	<i>twer m'hope</i>	ធ្វើម្ហូប
cook (noun)	<i>neck twer m'hope</i>	អ្នកធ្វើម្ហូប
to drive a car	<i>buy-ak lahn</i>	បើកឡាន
driver	<i>neck buy-ak lahn</i>	អ្នកបើកឡាន

You can make a lot of these yourself.

Lesson 19 - Comparisons

better than	<i>l'aw jee-ung</i>	ល្អជាង
best	<i>l'aw jee-ung gay</i>	ល្អជាងគេ
the same	<i>dough-it</i>	ដូច
the same thing	<i>daw dial</i>	ដដែល
different	<i>kaw-kah-knee-uh</i>	ខុសគ្នា
different from	<i>kaw-kah-knee-uh pee</i>	ខុសគ្នាពី
similar to	<i>s'raw dee-ung k'nee-uh</i>	ស្រដៀងគ្នា
same time same place	<i>mowng daw dial, gun-lieng daw dial</i>	ម៉ោងដដែល កន្លែងដដែល
The two houses are the same.	<i>p'tayah pee dough-it k'nee-uh</i>	ផ្ទះពីរដូចគ្នា

To make an adverb from an adjective:

strong	<i>c'lahng</i>	ខ្លាំង
strongly	<i>yahng c'lahng</i>	យ៉ាងខ្លាំង
also	<i>die-ee</i>	ដែរ
too much	<i>pake</i>	ពេក
enough	<i>l'mome</i>	ល្មម
sufficient	<i>grope grow-un</i>	គ្រប់គ្រាន់
both	<i>tayang pee</i>	ទាំងពីរ
all (things)	<i>tayang ah</i>	ទាំងអស់
all (people)	<i>tayang ah k'nee-ah</i>	ទាំងអស់គ្នា
already	<i>rue-ik howey</i>	រួចហើយ

even though/if	<i>two-ah bay jee-uh</i>	ទោះបីជា
the bigger the better	<i>gahn tie tome, gahn tie l'aw</i>	កាន់តែធំកាន់តែល្អ
getting older, getting forgetful	<i>gahn tie jah, gahn tie playk</i>	កាន់តែចាស់កាន់តែភ្លេច
experience (noun)	<i>baht pee-sowt</i>	បទពិសោធន៍
what else?	<i>away p'sayng tee-ut?</i>	អ្វីផ្សេងទៀត?
who else?	<i>neck nah p'sayng tee-ut?</i>	អ្នកណាផ្សេងទៀត?
besides	<i>k'row-oo pee</i>	ក្រៅពី
no one	<i>k'mee-un neyeck nah</i>	គ្មានអ្នកណា
everywhere	<i>grope tee gun-lieng</i>	គ្រប់ទីកន្លែង
everything	<i>away away grope yahng</i>	អ្វីៗគ្រប់យ៉ាង
no one else	<i>k'mee-un neyeck nah p'sayng tee-ut</i>	គ្មានអ្នកណាផ្សេងទៀត

LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITY:

Now you can go out and make LOTS of comparisons!

Lesson 20 – Conditions & Health

friend	<i>mut/mut pay-eck</i> <i>pook-mahk</i>	មិត្ត/មិត្តភក្តិ ពួកម៉ាក
friendship	<i>mut-tah-pee-up</i>	មិត្តភាព
free	<i>say-ray</i>	សេរី
freedom	<i>say-ray-pee-up</i>	សេរីភាព
peace	<i>son-tay-pee-up</i>	សន្តិភាព
ability	<i>lat-tah-pee-up</i>	លទ្ធភាព
to love	<i>s'raw (rhymes with raw) lahñ</i>	ស្រឡាញ់
love (noun)	<i>seckaday s'raw-lahñ</i>	សេចក្តីស្រឡាញ់
to forgive	<i>aht toe owey</i>	អត់ទោសអោយ
forgiveness	<i>gah aht toe</i>	ការអត់ទោស

health	<i>sok-ah-pee-up</i>	សុខភាព
to hurt/be sick	<i>chew</i>	ឈឺ
to have a cold	<i>p'dah sah-ee</i>	ផ្តាសាយ
fever	<i>g'roon</i>	គ្រុន
disease	<i>jom ngew</i>	ជំងឺ
head	<i>k'bahll</i>	ក្បាល
nose	<i>j'raw-moh</i>	ច្រមុះ
mouth	<i>mow-aht</i>	មាត់
eye	<i>p'nake</i>	ភ្នែក
ear	<i>t'raw-jee-uk</i>	ត្រចៀក
neck	<i>gaw</i>	ក

teeth	<i>t'mañe</i>	ធ្មេញ
stomach	<i>poo-ah</i>	ពោះ
leg	<i>jung</i>	ជើង
What's wrong with ____ (body part)?	<i>chew away?</i>	ឈឺអ្វី?
What is the sickness?	<i>mee-un jom-ngew away?</i>	មានជំងឺអ្វី?



LANGUAGE LEARNING TIP:

Be sure you know where to go if you have an accident. Check out a doctor's office and a hospital.

See if you can name the images and body parts above.

Appendix

The Khmer Consonants:

The Khmer alphabet came from South India around the sixth century. There are 33 consonants, 21 dependent vowels symbols (which have two different sounds depending on the register of the consonant with which they presented), and 12 independent vowel symbols. The Khmer consonants have two registers, which make each group sound differently. Subsequently, the inherent vowels that “travel” along with those consonants make different sounds as well. Those in black end with an “aw” sound, while those in red end with a long “o.” There are many resources for learning these: *We Learn Khmer* university books, the *Khmer Alphabet CD* (Jean Luc Lebrun), *Colloquial Cambodian* (somewhat), *Everyday Khmer*, *Introduction to Cambodian* (somewhat), *Cambodian for Beginners*, etc.

A consonant may also be written below another consonant, called a *jung* ជើង or *foot* in Khmer.

The following chart shows both the consonant and its foot. You will also notice that some consonants have a superscript *h*, which means that they are aspirated sounds. We have printed in blue the most difficult sounds for most foreigners studying Khmer.

				
gaw	k ^h aw	goe	k ^h oe	ngoe
				
jaw	chaw	joe	choe	nyoe
				
daw	dt ^h aw	doe	dt ^h oe	naw(gnaw)
				
daw	t ^h aw	dtoe	t ^h oe	no
				
baw	p ^h aw	bpoe	p ^h oe	moe
				
		yoe	roe	loe
				
		voe		
				
saw	haw	law	aw	

The Khmer Vowels:

The Khmer vowels are shown below with the consonant *gaw* (black), then the consonant *go* (red.)
 (Independent vowels are not listed here.) Consult the alphabet CD produced by the Lebruns to learn these.
 (The consonant sound below is a hard *g* sound like the *g* in *garden*.)

កា	កិ	កឺ	កុ	កូ
gah	geh(ck)	gay	guh	guuh
ក្រ	ក្រូ	ក្រូ		
go(ck)	goe	goo-ah		
កើ	កើ	កើ		
guy-ah	guuh-ah	gee (rhymes with key)-ah		
កៃ	កៃ	កៃ	កៅ	កៅ
gay	guy	guy-ee	gow	gow-oo (close teeth)
កំ	កំ	កាំ		
gome	gohm	gahm (rhymes with jam)		
កៈ	កៈ	កៈ	កៈ	
gah	goh	geh	gah	
កា	កិ	កឺ	កុ	កូ
gee-ah (rhymes with key)	gi(t)	gee (rhymes with key)	goo(t) (rhymes with put)	goo (rhymes with boot)
ក្រ	ក្រូ	ក្រូ		
goo	guu	goo-ah		
កើ	កើ	កើ		
guu	guuh-ah	gee-ah		
កៃ	កៃ	កៃ	កៅ	កៅ
gay	geh-eh	gay-ee	goe	goe-oo
កំ	កំ	កាំ		
goom	goom	goe-ahm		
កៈ	កៈ	កៈ	កៈ	
gayah	gooh	geh	goo-ah	

Khmer Conjunctions, Prepositions, etc.

1. From (time/place), at (past time), about, concerning	<i>pbee</i>	ពី
2. Ever since	<i>tayahng pbee</i>	តាំងពី
3. After	<i>krowey pbee</i>	ក្រោយពី
4. At, on (time/date)	<i>no-oo</i>	នៅ
5. About, concerning, out of (made out of)	<i>ahm-pee</i>	អំពី
6. At, to, as for	<i>jom-poo-ah</i>	ចំពោះ
7. With regard to, as to, as for	<i>jom-nike eye</i>	ចំណែក
8. On the part of	<i>jom-nike kahng</i>	ចំណែកខាង
9. In front of	<i>no-oo make</i>	នៅមុខ
10. Go near	<i>ipe kahng</i>	ជិតខាង
11. Towards	<i>toe-oo</i>	ទៅ
12. Almost (time/place)	<i>jit doll</i>	ជិតដល់
13. Around	<i>joom veeñ</i>	ជុំវិញ
14. By (future time, i.e. “by next week”)	<i>moke doll</i>	មកដល់
15. Until, as far as, towards	<i>doll</i>	ដល់
16. Until, all the time until, as far as	<i>row-hote doll</i>	រហូតដល់
17. All the time until	<i>row-hote make doll</i>	រហូតមកដល់
18. Or	<i>rue</i>	ឬ
19. And, with	<i>howey nung</i>	ហើយនិង
20. Together with	<i>tayahng</i>	ទាំង
21. All	<i>tayahng ah</i>	ទាំងអស់
22. And, at the same time as, together with	<i>brome tayahng</i>	ព្រមទាំង
23. With, and	<i>nung</i>	និង
24. Instead	<i>joom new-ah</i>	ជំនួស
25. In	<i>k'nong</i>	ក្នុង
26. On	<i>luuh</i>	លើ
27. Under	<i>krowm</i>	ក្រោម
28. Behind, after (time/place)	<i>krowey</i>	ក្រោយ
29. Directly on, towards	<i>trong</i>	ត្រង់
30. Before (time)	<i>moon</i>	មុន

31. Following, by, along	<i>tahm</i>	តាម
32. Along	<i>dowey</i>	ដោយ
33. Like	<i>dough-ik</i>	ដូច
34. As, being	<i>gee-ah</i>	ជា
35. Together with	<i>gee-ah muy nung</i>	ជាមួយនឹង
36. In excess of, exceeding, to a greater extent, more	<i>gee-ahg</i>	ជាង
37. Every	<i>row-awl</i>	រាល់
38. Every	<i>sahp</i>	សព្វ
39. Every	<i>grope</i>	គ្រប់
40. The whole of, all of the	<i>ah</i>	អស់
41. Even if	<i>too-ah buy-uh</i>	ទោះបី