

Contents

1.	Shona – the language	7
1. 1.	Own name	7
1. 2.	Area spoken	7
1. 3.	Origin of the name Shona	7
1. 4.	Sociolinguistic status	7
1. 5.	Linguistic status	7
1. 6.	Dialects of the language	8
1. 7.	Orthography of the language	8
2.	Phonology and phonetics	8
2. 1.	The vowel system	8
2. 2.	Consonants	10
2. 3.	The development of the Shona consonant system from Urbantu	12
2. 4.	Prosodic character of Shona	17
2. 5.	Syllable structure	18
3.	The parts of speech of Shona	19
4.	Independent nominals	20
4. 1.	The substantive	20
4. 1. 1.	Noun classes	20
4. 1. 2.	Independent pronouns (substitutes)	28
4. 2.	Dependent nominals	30
4. 2. 1.	Adjectives	30
4. 2. 2.	Enumeratives	31
4. 3.	Pronouns	34
4. 3. 1.	Verbal pronouns	34
4. 3. 2.	Interrogative pronoun	35
4. 3. 3.	Quantitative pronouns	36
4. 3. 4.	Demonstrative pronouns	36
4. 3. 5.	The connective construction	38
4. 3. 6.	Possessive pronouns	39
5.	The verb	40
5. 1.	Non-verbal predicates	41
5. 1. 1.	-rì "to be"	41
5. 1. 2.	Stabilization with ndí- "it is", "that is"	42
5. 1. 3.	Stabilization by tone /H/	43
5. 1. 4.	Constructions with -né (-ná) "be with", "have"	43
5. 1. 5.	Constructions with -ngè (-ngà) "be like", "be still"	44
5. 2.	Verbal predicates	45
5. 2. 1.	Indicative forms	45
5. 2. 1. 1.	Present with infix -nó-	46
5. 2. 1. 2.	Present with infix -ó-	46

5. 2. 1. 3.	General past with infix -àká-	46
5. 2. 1. 4.	Past of today (recent past) with infix -à-	46
5. 2. 1. 5.	Future with infix -chá-	47
5. 2. 1. 6.	Construction -rì + infinitive	47
5. 2. 1. 7.	Constructions with infix -chí-	47
5. 2. 1. 8.	Infix combination -àì-	48
5. 2. 1. 9.	Remnants of the Urbantu perfect	48
5. 2. 1. 10.	The infinitive replacing a finite verbal form	48
5. 2. 1. 11.	'Impersonal' verbal forms	49
5. 3.	Further moods	49
5. 3. 1.	Imperative mood	49
5. 3. 2.	Subjunctive mood	50
5. 3. 3.	Hortative mood	50
5. 3. 4.	Conditional mood	49
5. 4.	Secondary infixes	51
5. 4. 1.	Marking of phases of action	51
5. 4. 2.	Quantification of action	52
5. 4. 3.	Manner of action	52
5. 5.	Object infigation into the verbal complex	52
5. 6.	Verbal root extensions	54
5. 6. 1.	The passive	54
5. 6. 2.	Reflexive verbs	55
5. 6. 3.	Associative-reciprocal verbs with infix -an-	55
5. 6. 4.	Applicative verbs with infix -ir- (-er-)	55
5. 6. 5.	Intransitive-stative verbs with infix -lk- (-ek-)	56
5. 6. 6.	Causative derivations with infix -ls- (-es-)	56
5. 6. 7.	Less productive derivations	57
5. 6. 8.	Combined derivations	57
5. 7.	The relative construction	57
5. 8.	Enclitics	58
6.	Adverbs	59
6. 1.	Adverbs of grade	59
6. 2.	Adverbs of manner	59
6. 3.	Adverbs of time	60
6. 4.	Locative adverbs	60
7.	Prepositions	60
8.	Conjunctions	62
9.	Interjections, Ideophones	62
10.	List of abbreviations and signs	63
	Chart I: The consonant phonemes of Shona	64
	Chart II: Pronominal constructions	65
	Linguistic literature on Shona	66