

LESSON TRANSCRIPT

Intermediate S1 #1 Nailing a Job Interview in Kenya

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INTRODUCTION

John: Hi everyone, and welcome back to SwahiliPod101.com This is Intermediate Season 1 Lesson 1 - Nailing a Job Interview in Kenya, John Here.

Medina: Hamjambo, I'm Medina.

John: In this lesson, you'll learn about job interviews and more on conjunctions. The conversation takes place at an office.

Medina: It's between Mark and Rehema.

John: The speakers are strangers, therefore, they will speak formal Swahili. Okay, let's listen to the conversation.

DIALOGUE

Mark: Tafadhali nijulishe kukuhusu.

Rehema: Jina langu ni Rehema Wema kutoka Kisiwa cha Zanzibar.

Mark: Ulisomea kozi gani katika chuo kikuu?

Rehema: Nilisomea uhandisi kompyuta pamoja na biashara.

Mark: Je, unaujuzi katika udhibiti wa miradi?

Rehema: Sina lakini ninaweza kujifunza haraka.

Mark: Je, unaweza thibitisha ujuzi wako?

Rehema: Jitihada na adabu iliniwezesha kutengeneza tovuti tano za kampuni tofauti.

Mark: Sawa, nitaangalia zaidi kuhusu kuhitimu na ujuzi wako.

Rehema: Natumai kusikia kutoka kwako.

John: Listen to the conversation with the English translation

Mark: Could you tell me about yourself?

Rehema: My name is Rehema Wema. I'm from the island of Zanzibar.

Mark: What course did you study in university?

Rehema: I studied computer engineering and business.

Mark: Do you have experience in project management?

Rehema: No, but I can learn quickly.

Mark: What have you accomplished with your skills?

Rehema: Hard work and discipline enabled me to create five websites for different companies.

Mark: Well, I'll look further into your qualifications and experiences.

Rehema: I look forward to hearing from you.

POST CONVERSATION BANTER

John: It seems like Rehema has big chances to get the job! Medina what can you tell us about job hunting in Kenya?

Medina: Searching for jobs in Kenya is very competitive because of the high rate of unemployment.

John: I see. Can you give us some tips?

Medina: Of course! Well this doesn't apply to only Kenya, but in general, when searching for a job, polish your resume and list experiences that could be relevant to the job.

John: Knowing the details on your resume in order to avoid gazing at it during the interview is also good.

Medina: Right, be familiar with what the company does and be confident in your answers.

John: What if you're asked about your weaknesses?

Medina: If asked, use one that would be an advantage to the company instead or state how you will improve.

John: What about clothes? How should you dress for an interview in Kenya?

Medina: To be safe, your best bet is to wear a suit.

John: Finally, what is the Swahili word for "resume"?

Medina: wasifu

John: Okay, now onto the vocab.

VOCAB LIST

John: The first word is...

Medina: julisha [natural native speed]

John: to inform

Medina: julisha[slowly - broken down by syllable]

Medina: julisha [natural native speed]

John: Next we have..

Medina: Kisiwa cha Nzanzibar [natural native speed]

John: Island of Zanzibar

Medina: Kisiwa cha Nzanzibar[slowly - broken down by syllable]

Medina: Kisiwa cha Nzanzibar [natural native speed]

John: Next we have..

Medina: jitihadi [natural native speed]

John: to work hard

Medina: jitihadi[slowly - broken down by syllable]

Medina: jitihadi [natural native speed]

John: Next we have..

Medina: mtaalamu [natural native speed]

John: expert

Medina: mtaalamu[slowly - broken down by syllable]

Medina: mtaalamu [natural native speed]

John: Next we have..

Medina: kozi [natural native speed]

John: course

Medina: kozi[slowly - broken down by syllable]

Medina: kozi [natural native speed]

John: Next we have..

Medina: tengeneza [natural native speed]

John: to make

Medina: tengeneza[slowly - broken down by syllable]

Medina: tengeneza [natural native speed]

John: Next we have..

Medina: tovuti [natural native speed]

John: website

Medina: tovuti[slowly - broken down by syllable]

Medina: tovuti [natural native speed]

John: Next we have..

Medina: ujuzi [natural native speed]

John: skill

Medina: ujuzi [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Medina: ujuzi [natural native speed]

John: Next we have..

Medina: udhibiti wa miradi [natural native speed]

John: project management

Medina: udhibiti wa miradi[slowly - broken down by syllable]

Medina: udhibiti wa miradi [natural native speed]

John: And last..

Medina: adabu [natural native speed]

John: discipline

Medina: adabu[slowly - broken down by syllable]

Medina: adabu [natural native speed]

KEY VOCAB AND PHRASES

John: Let's have a closer look at the usage of some of the words and phrases from this lesson. The first word is..

Medina: kukuhusu

John: meaning "about yourself"

Medina: This word can be broken down into two parts: ku and kuhusu. Ku is the pronoun for "you," and kuhusu means "about." -husu is a root verb from which other expressions can be derived.

John: Can you use a similar expression to refer to someone else?

Medina: If it was about someone else, we would use m instead of ku. For example, it'll be kumhusu for "about him or her." This would change to kuwahusu for "about them" in plural.

John: Can you give us an example using this word?

Medina: Sure. For example, you can say.. Laiti ningelijua yeye ni mfitini, singemweleza kukuhusu.

John: ..which means "If only I had known she gossips, I wouldn't have told her about you."

John: Okay, what's the next word?

Medina: unaujuzi

John: meaning "you are experienced"

Medina: Unaujuzi can be broken into three parts: u is the pronoun for "you," na is the verb marker, and ujuzi stands for "experience." Together, unaujuzi literally means "you have experience."

John: You can also use it as a question to mean "are you experienced?"

Medina: It is a common phrase used when talking about work experiences, either in an interview or in a normal conversation.

John: Can you give us an example using this word?

Medina: Sure. For example, you can say.. Unaujuzi wa hali ya juu katika udaktari.

John: .. which means "You are highly skilled as a doctor."

John: Okay, what's the next phrase?

Medina: adabu na jitihadi

John: meaning "discipline and hard work." Medina can you break the phrase down?

Medina: Well, adabu means "discipline," and na is the conjunction "and." Finally, jitihadi means "hard work."

John: When can you use this phrase?

Medina: This phrase is important when proving that you can work with or without supervision, individually or in a group.

John: I guess that these words can be used independently in any form or setting.

Medina: Yes, that's correct because they have different meanings.

John: Can you give us an example using this word?

Medina: Sure. For example, you can say.. Watoto wake wote, isipokuwa yule mdogo, wana adabu na jitihada.

John: .. which means "All her children, except for the little one, are disciplined and hardworking."

John: Okay, now onto the lesson focus.

LESSON FOCUS

John: In this lesson, you'll learn about job interviews and more on conjunctions. Let's start by explaining what conjunctions are.

Medina: Besides connecting words and sentences, conjunctions can also

connect phrases, thoughts, join lists and ideas.

John: Do we need to conjugate them?

Medina: Usually conjunctions in Swahili don't change.

John: Ok, let's see a few together.

Medina: The first two are pamoja na and pamoja na hayo

John: meaning "together with" and "moreover" respectively. They are both used to indicate addition from what was previously done and was present.

Medina: Pamoja na is commonly used for two or more things that are actively involved, while pamoja na hayo implies in addition to what was previously mentioned.

John: Where should we place them?

Medina: Usually, it should be placed after the first clause in the sentence.

John: Can you give us some sample sentences?

Medina: Sure, for example you can say Mama alienda harusini pamoja na dadangu.

John: "Mom went to the wedding together with my sister."

Medina: Anawatoto wakumi, pamoja na hayo anafuga mbwa, paka na nguruwe.

John: "He has ten kids; moreover, he is taming a cat, a dog, and a pig."

Which conjunctions will we see next?

Medina: We have three, laiti, "if only," ijapokuwa, "even though," and ilhali, "whereas."

John: Let's explain how to use them and give some examples.

Medina: Laiti expresses a kind of regret after something has happened. It usually comes at the beginning of the sentence, for example Laiti ningejua

sitamuona tena, ningemwongelesha kila siku.

John: which means “If only I’d known I wouldn’t see him again, I’d talk to him every day.” What about the conjunction meaning “even though”?

Medina: Ijapokuwa can be used in the same way as in English. It can be placed at the beginning of a sentence or before the second clause. For example, Ijapokuwa yeye ni mgonjwa sana, alihudhuria mazishi.

John: “Although she is very sick, she attended the funeral.”

Medina: Ilhali meaning “whereas” can be used to disapprove an event that occurred earlier and it usually comes after the first clause in a sentence. For example, Anapenda kujisifu, ilhali hana wema wowote.

John: meaning “He likes boasting, yet does no good.” What’s the last group of conjunctions we’ll see in this lesson?

Medina: Mradi and isipokuwa.

John: Respectively meaning “provided that” and “except.” They’re commonly put at the center of a sentence.

Medina: Right. Mradi expresses a condition that has to be completed before one realizes a result, for example, Atapata kazi nzuri mradi asome kwa bidii.

John: “He will get a job, provided he studies hard.”

Medina: Isipokuwa is used to indicate that there are favorable conditions, except one, for example you can say Ningezuru Amerika isipokuwa sina hela.

John: “I would have toured America, except that I don’t have money.”

OUTRO

John: Okay, that’s all for this lesson. Thank you for listening, everyone, and we’ll see you next time! Bye!

Medina: Tuonane!