Haitian Creole – English Dictionary

with
Basic English – Haitian Creole Appendix

Jean Targète
and
Raphael G. Urciolo
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Second Printing
A variety of glossaries of Haitian Creole have been published either as appendices to descriptions of Haitian Creole or as booklets. As far as full-fledged Haitian Creole-English dictionaries are concerned, only one has been published and it is now more than ten years old. It is the compilers’ hope that this new dictionary will go a long way toward filling the vacuum existing in modern Creole lexicography.

Innovations

The following new features have been incorporated in this Haitian Creole-English dictionary.

1. The definite article that usually accompanies a noun is indicated. We urge the user to take note of the definite article singular (a, la, an or lan) which is shown for each noun. Lan has one variant: nan.

2. Most English words that are of the same origin as Creole words are marked with an asterisk (*). This feature will help users to recognize more easily Creole words that are identical or close to their English counterparts.

3. An English translation is supplied for the numerous Creole sentences that serve as examples. In addition to the regular examples, selected literary illustrations are provided. These are sentences taken from eighteen selected works of Creole literature (novels, plays, poetry, religious writings, etc.).

The following is a list of the reference codes assigned to these works in this dictionary, followed by the names of the authors, the titles in italics, and the year of publication:

BEAUBRUN/A..........................Beauprun, Théodore, Anna (1962)
BEAUBRUN/L..........................Beauprun, Théodore, La Haine au Service de l’Amour (1963)
CELESTIN-MEGIE/2.................Célestin-Mégie, Emile, Lanmou pa gin Baryè, part II (1977)

FARDIN..................................................Fardin, Dieudonné, *Sept Fleurs Soleil* (1963)


FRANKETIENNE/D..............Franketienne, *Dézafi* (1975)


MORISSEAU-LEROY/D........Morisseau-Leroy, Félix, *Diacoute* (1953)

ONEC/N.................................Onec, *N’ap Li* (1964)


SYLVAIN.................................Sylvain, Georges, *Cric? Crac?* (1901)

Alphabetical Order

The alphabetical order for the Haitian Creole and the arrangement of the dictionary is:

A  B  Ch  D  E  F  G  H  I  J  K  L  M  N  O  P  R  S  T  U  V  W  Y  Z

Headwords and Variants

Because the process of standardization of Haitian Creole is not complete, many headwords have several variants, and often the compilers have had to decide which ones to choose.

Superscript numbers (\(^1\)\(^2\)\(^3\)) placed next to certain successive headwords indicate that they are homonyms or simply the same word in different contexts or grammatical roles.

Parts of speech
Abbreviations used to indicate the parts of speech will be found in the list of abbreviations which immediately precedes the entries of the letter “A”. Only two observations are necessary.

a) French and Creole dictionaries designate some verbs as pronominal verbs (abbreviation: vpr). The user of this dictionary should remember that vpr stands for vèb pronominal (pronominal verb).

b) Creole uses as descriptive adjectives many of the French descriptive adjectives and has created others which are easily identifiable. But in Creole a great number of other words or groups of words are treated as descriptive adjectives by commonly being used with an attributive function. In the present state of research, one cannot always tell with absolute certainty those Creole words used as attributives, which are purely descriptive adjectives, and those which are not. For instance, Félix Morisseau-Leroy wrote in his play Antigone, Gan chèf ki chèf pase chèf (There are chiefs who are more chief than other chiefs). Evidently, while the word chèf in the middle is attributive, it is not a descriptive adjective but a noun. However, not all cases are as clear-cut as this one. More research on Creole’s descriptive adjectives is necessary. In the meantime, we borrow from a predecessor the designation attrib for both descriptive adjectives and closely related words used as attributives.

Single and compound words

While single words will be easy to find in any Creole dictionary, it is a different matter when it comes to compound words. The difficulty lies with the fact that some concepts which are expressed in French by compound words (arc-en-ciel = rainbow) or by groups of words (mal de tête = headache) become a single word in Creole (lakansyèl, maltèt). There is a general tendency for writers to put together as one word in Creole all of these groups of French words that form one single concept or one tightly connected expression, but the process is still on-going. What one author writes as one word, another still considers as two. Sometimes the same author connects or disconnects the parts of a compound word or of an expression according to the inspiration of the moment. For instance, the great innovator Franketienne wrote the following sentences. In his play, Pèlin-Têt: Ou konn gou dyòl ou. Ou pa tap janm ale lan you estasyon soulèzèl. In his novel, Dézafi: Sou lèzèl, nou ravitaye lan pousyè nan labou anba solèy anba lapli. In the play, he wrote soulèzèl as one word; in the novel, as two. Until Creole becomes fully standardized, each lexicographer will have to make choices.

Other Features
a) In the cases when we use the (’) sign between single letter personal pronouns and the following or preceding word (e.g., $M’a	ext{ }wè’l = I’ll	ext{ }see	ext{ }him$), other authors use a hyphen (-) or no sign at all.

b) We have used the Creole spelling $Vodou$ in the English definitions in place of the English word $voodoo$, because we are referring to the Vodou religion and not the hocus pocus of magic and witchcraft attached to the English word $voodoo$.

c) The standard form of Haitian Creole is the one spoken in Port-au-Prince, the capital. A few colloquial words from other areas (the North, the city of Jérémie in the South) have been added.

We gratefully acknowledge the help we received from Emile Célestin-Mégie, Rev. Roger Désir, Mrs. Jacqueline Julien Targète, and many others.

Any corrections or suggestions will be taken into account and gratefully acknowledged in a future edition.

Bibliography


FAYO (See Urciolo, Raphael G.)


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abiman an

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abi, abite, abitye

abite, abitwe, abitye

abizan attrib Abusive* (person).

abize vt To abuse*, to take advantage of (excessively).

ablabla V blabla

abó adv Aboard*, on board*; in or on a boat. Monte abó To go aboard, on board.

abobo, ayibobo interj Exclamation used in Vodou ceremonies to express joy. Hallelujah! Amen!

abode, bôde vt To come near, to approach.

abôdjo, bôdýô n Stupid, a stupid person.

aboli vt To suppress, to abolish*.

abonder la, labonders la, bondens la

abonden la

abonotcho, abonocho, abwenotcho interj Damn you! I renounce you, satan! FRANKETI-ENNE/P-33: Yo voye ou. Abonotcho! PAURIS-36: Li bat abonotcho déyè ré malien.

abou 1 attrib At the very end, at my wit’s end. At the end of one’s patience.

abou 2 Pale an abou To speak in parables.

aboupòtan adv At close range, point-blank. Tire yon moun aboupòtan To shoot s.o. point-blank.

abouti, bouti vi 1 To result in. Malgré tout efôl, li pa abouti a anyen In spite of all his efforts, he didn’t get anywhere. 2 To succeed, to end (to ripen). Abse a abouti The boil is ready to pop. 3 To arrive at a destination.

abreje vt To help, to be of assistance (to s.o.).

abri a  n  Shelter.

abriko  V zabriko

absan, apsan  attrib  1. Absent*, away.  2. Absent-minded.

abse a, apse a  n  Abscess*. Mete klou sou abse

absent la, labsent la, lapsent la  n  1. Absinthe*. Artemisia absinthium L.  2. Type of beverage.

absoliman, apsoliman  adv  Absolutely*.

abse a, apse a  n  Abscess*. Mete klou sou abse

achtè a  n  Buyer. Achtèdfigi

achte  vt  To abstain*.

achtè a  n  Buyer.

achtè a, achte afè a  n  One who gets involved in everything, even when it doesn’t concern him at all.

achtè a  n  Buyer. Achtèdfigi

achtè a  n  Buyer. Achtèdfigi

adapte  vt  To adapt*.

adefo, a defo  prep  In the absence of.

adezif la  n  Adhesive* tape.

adibitòm  V adlibitòm

adiltè a  n  Adultery*.

adipopo  V adipopo

adisyon an  n  Addition*.

adissonnen  vt  To add.

adjahountò a, adjountò a  n  Largest of the drums of the rada rite.

adjewidan  V adyewidan

adjipopo a, adipopo a, azipopo a, djipopo a  n  Misfortune, magical trap, evil ways, something that forces you to lie and wait, something that you cannot get rid of. A problem without a solution.

adjo  V adyo

adjwen an  n  Assistant, aid.

adlibitòm, adibitòm  adv  Lat. In great quantity, as much as you wish, to your heart’s content.
afêmaj la, afêmay la  n  Renting, leasing, letting by contract a house, a farm.

afese attrib  Depressed, down.

afiba a  n  1. Local food consisting of meat, (usu) small strips of pork.  2. Worthless person or thing.

afich la  n  Poster.

afiche vt  1. To post, to hang (up) in a public place.  2. To make a show of.  *Lap afiche richès li* He is showing off his wealth.  3. To speak evil of, to defame.  4. *Afiche avèk* To appear in public with.  *Li afiche (afiche'l) ak fi a* He appears in public with the girl; he exposes his relations with the girl.

afîksyon  V  lafîksyon

afòs conj  Because of, as a result of (by overdoing), by dint of.

afre attrib  Ravenous, gluttonous; more specifically one who devours (eats, grabs) large amounts of food.  *V aloufa, gouman, saf, voras.*

afreman an  n  Gluttony.


afron an  n  Affront*, offense.  *Li fè'm afron* He offended me.

afyò a, apio a  n  Net-grass, coco-grass. *Cyperus rotundus* L.  A potato-like vegetable.  It is placed on the skin to help heal burns.

agans an, agranman an  n  Contention, argument*, thesis.  *PAURIS-124: Li pral pouse yon agiman.*

agante vt  To seduce, to charm, to attract.

agasan attrib  Irritating, annoying.

agase vt  To needle; to incite, to get on s.o.'s nerves, to tease, to irritate.

agida a  n  Drumstick.

agiman an  n  Contention, argument*, thesis.

ago interj  Exclamation denoting joy, consent, approval.

agôch, aço n  adv  1. To the left, on the left.  2. (attrib) Awkward, clumsy.

agogo adv  Plentiful.

agoni 1  vi  To be in the agonies* of death.

agoni an, agonnì an 2  n  Agony*.  *Malad la an agonì, li san le mourí* The sick person is in the death agony.  *He could die any minute.*

agonyon an  n  Old bachelor or spinster.

agraf la  n  Hook, clamp, fastener, agraffe* (for garments).

agrandi vt  To enlarge, to widen.

agrandisman an  n  Enlargement.

agranliyèn, a gran liyèn, agrandliyèn adv  In large quantity, in abundance.

agranman  V  agranman

agrayab attrib  Agreeable*, nice, lovely, pleasing, pleasant.

agreye vt  To polish, to adjust, to shape (wood).

agrikiltè a  n  Farmer.

agrikiltì a, lagrikiltì a  n  Farming, agriculture.

agrikòl attrib  Agricultural*.

agronòm nan, agwonnòm nan  n  Agronomist*, agriculturalist.

agwe  n  Vodou deity.

ah interj  Exclamation denoting admiration, approval, surprise, etc.

aha V  anhan

ajan an 1  n  Agent.

ajan an 2  n  Silver.  *V lajan.*  *Rwa Kristòf tiye tèt li ak yon bal an ajan* King Christopher killed himself with a silver bullet.  *Kiyè a an ajan* The spoon is made of silver.

ajans la  n  Agency*.

ajenou, a jenou adv  Kneeling.

ajisman an  n  Act, action, behavior, deed.

ajitasyon an  n  Excitement, agitation*.

ajite attrib  Restless.

ajouve, a jouve adv  Kneeling.

aji vi  To act.  *Agi ak* To treat, to handle.  *Li byen aji* He acted well.  *Li mal aji ak mwen* He didn’t act right (properly) with me.  *Aji sou* To affect.  *Sa aju sou li plis passe li te panse* That affected him more than he thought.

ajiil attrib  Agile*.

ajisman an  n  Act, action, behavior, deed.

ajiste vt  To adjust*, to fit.

ajitasyon an  n  Excitement, agitation*.

ajele attrib  Restless.

ajouve, a jouve 1  Up to date.  2. Ready.  *M’poko ajouve ak kouti a* I am not finished with the sewing (or) The sewing is not ready.

ajoupa a, joupa a  n  A country hut.  A straw hut used since colonial days and made simply with some poles and palm or coconut leaves.  (usu) They consist of one room only.

ajoute vt  To add (on).

will start looking like something made for everybody.

1. Of, from, out. Li fèt ak farin It is made from flour.

2. Of, from, out. Li fèt ak farin It is made from flour.

Li fèt ak farin It is made from flour.

2. Of, from, out. Ak toto akipasyon li gen tan pou etidye. In spite of all he has to do, he has time to study.

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2. Of, from, out. Ak toto akipasyon li gen tan pou etidye. In spite of all he has to do, he has time to study.
They are going aimlessly, with uncertainty.

Dominican.

You think he’s going to give it to you; yet, I know that he won’t.

You are overdoing it. Mon chè, ou al trò lwen kounyea.

The comings and goings. Ale sèlman

They make you go (to the toilet). Prin, li fè ou ale fasilman

You may go. Ale prese

You are overdoing it. Mon chè, ou al trò lwen kounyea.

The comings and goings.

The man is too bold; he is more daring than he.

He is quite active.

I don’t have much to say to him.

The man is too bold; he is more daring than he.

Active.*

He happened to arrive too late. L’al rive trò ta, papa’l te gen tan mouri.

He happened to arrive too late. L’al rive trò ta, papa’l te gen tan mouri.

To worry s.o. To alarm.*

To worry s.o. To alarm.*

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To worry s.o. To alarm.*

To worry s.o. To alarm.*
aleka adv Apart, by oneself, separate(ly).
alekè adv Level, plum-level, square*.
alekile adv 1. Now, nowadays. 2. Thus, so. Se sa ou di! Alekile, m’pap bo ou sa ou manre a Is that what you said! So, I won’t give you what you asked for.
alekout adv Mete zorè alekout To listen attentively.
alèkile adv 1. Now, nowadays. 2. Thus, so.
Se sa ou di! Alèkile, m’pap ba ou sa ou mande a That what you said! So, I won’t give you what you asked for.
alèlè attrib Blah, blah. Bouch alèlè, lang alèlè
Indiscreet mouth, indiscreet tongue, blab bermouth. Pa rakonte Mari sekrè ou, li gen dyòl alèlè Don’t tell Mary your secrets. She talks too much. She is a blabbermouth.
alèkout adv Mete zorè alekout To listen attentively.
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amigdal la, amidala n Tonsils.
amilpye a, amilpye a, amippe a, milpye a, milpat la n Millipede*, centipede.
amitye a, lamitye a n 1. Friendship. 2. Type of parasitic plant similar to Spanish moss.
amize, anmize vt To amuse*, to entertain. vi To enjoy one’s self. Li te amize’l anpil He had a good time.
amizman an, anmizman an n 1. Entertainment, amusement. 2. Roasted peanuts.
amò, a mò adv Very much, exceedingly. Li renmen fi a amò He really loves this girl.
amonika a n Harmonica*.
amonyòm nan, amonnyòm nan n Harmonium*.
amòse vt 1. To prime. 2. To begin.
amòti vt To damp(en), to deaden.
amòtif la n Pus of an abscess.
amou V lanmou
amoure V anmore
amourèz V anmorèz
amwa V lamwa
amwenske conj Unless.
an1 def art Determiner used after nasal vowels (an, on, en) or one of the sounds mi, mou, ni, nou. Mi an ro The wall is high. MORISSEAU-LEROY/A-7: Gen yon malediksyon k’ap pousi fanmi an

There is a curse that is haunting the family.
an2 prep In, into, as, from, of. An ajan Silver. An à Gold. Dimanch an uit A week from Sunday. Also used in the expressions: an premye (first), an dènye (last), etc.
an3 interj Oh!, Ah!, Oh well!
an4 n Year. Senk an Five years. De zan (or) Dezan Two years.
an sòtan (While) going out.
anache vt To harness* (a horse, a mule).
anachman an n Harness*, trappings, gear.
analyze vt To analyse*.
anana a, zannanna a, annanna a n Pineapple.
anasi a, annasi a n Type of spider.
anba1 adv 1. Below, down; downstairs. SYLVAIN-11: Se ou k’amò, mauvemm anba It’s you who are above, I am below. 2. What’s below, the lower part. Anba anba Sly, sneaky.
anba2 prep Below, beneath, under, underneath, through, with the aid of, at the bottom of.

amibra a, anba bra a n Armpit.

anbachal adv Secretly.
anbake vt To embark*, to put on board, to load on board. vi To leave. Sa’k pa kontan, anbake If you don’t like it, (take the boat and) leave.
anbakman an n Embarkment*, going on board.

anbalan attrib Hesitant.
anbale vt To pack.
anbandisyon attrib In rebellion.
anbandoulyè attrib Slung over the shoulder.
anbara a n Embarrassment*.
anbarasan attrib Cumbersome, embarrassing*.
anbarasman an n Difficulties, financial or other.
anbasad la n Embassy. Pran anbasad To take refuge in an embassy and ask for asylum.
anbasadè a n Ambassador*.
anbativant la, anba tivant la n Abdomen.
anbeka anbemòl Willy-nilly. (syn) Ou vle, ou pa vle.
anbeli vt To beautify. vi To become more beautiful; to clear up (weather).
anbeli a n Improvement in the weather. Depi maten lapli ap tonbe, fèk gen yon ti anbeli In has been raining since this morning; the sky has just cleared.
anbelisman an n Beautification.
anbès, an bès attrib Faltering.
anbetan, enbetan attrib Annoying, troublesome; teasing; boring. Lò maren ga ap rele nan tèt ou, sa anbetan anpil When mosquitoes are buzzing all around you, it’s very annoying. Moun anbetan People who tease, pain in the ass, sprite, elf, leprechaun, goblin.
anbete, enbete vt To annoy, to bug, to tease, to trouble. Pa anbete’m Don’t bother me.
anbetman an n Problems, troubles. Sa se yon anbetman, mon chè That’s a (big) problem.
anbilans la n Ambulance*. Chak minit, anbilans ap monte desann nan lari a Every minute ambulances go up and down the street.
anbiskad la, biskad la n Ambush*.
anbisye, anbisyez attrib Ambitious*.
anbisyon an, lanbisyon an n Ambition*, greed, covetousness, pretentiousness.
anbonmen, bonmen vt 1. To perfume; to permeate with a bad smell. 2. To embalm* (a dead person).
anbouchi V lanbouchi
anboulatcha attrib Troubled, topsy-turvy.
anboulin adv Full speed ahead.
anboulvès attrib Troubled, topsy-turvy.
anbouteyay la n Bottleneck* (of traffic in a road), traffic jam.
anbouteye vt To deceive through trickery causing problems to s.o.
anbouye vt To entangle, to embroil*.
anboulvès attrib Troubled, topsy-turvy.
anbouteyay la n Bottleneck* (of traffic in a road), traffic jam.
anbouteye vt To deceive through trickery causing problems to s.o.
anbouye vt To entangle, to embroil*.
anbranl, an branl attrib Start moving.
anbrase vt To hug, to embrace*, to kiss.
anbrenzeng, sou brenzeng attrib Drunk, intoxicated. Li sou brenzeng li He is drunk.
anbreyay la, anbreyaj la n Gear (auto).
anbreye vi To put in gear, to engage the gears.
anbrizi attrib Sicky, peaked, shabby, out of shape; broke, penniless.
anbyans la n Atmosphere, ambiance*.
anbye, anbyè, an byè adv On a bias*, diagonally.
anchezaji vt To commission, to entrust, to charge s.o. with a task. To be in charge*.
anchezaja a n The person in charge. Proxy.
anchalè, an chalè attrib In heat.
anchantpent, an chat pent adv Stealthily.
anchenmen vt To chain*.
ancheri vt To cherish*, to fondle, to like.
anchikèt, an chikèt adv One by one, sparingly, little by little (holding back).
anchmé, an chimè attrib Moody, capricious, sullen, chimerical*.
andaki adv In parables, in code. Pale andaki To speak in code.
andanmis adv Secretly, furtively.
andeddanman, an debòdman attrib Overflowing.
andan V anddan
andefas, an de fas adv Hypocritical.
andeke, an deské attrib Shabby. (syn) anbrizi, delala, dekonstonbre.
andemon, an demon attrib Excited, out of one’s mind, bold, obstinate.
andénye, an dénye adv Last.
andetay, an detay adv 1. In detail*. 2. Retail.
andéy, an déy attrib In mourning, bereaved.
andeyò, andèrò, an deyò adv In the country, in the countryside. Moun andeyò Peasant. prep Outside of. Yo rete andeyò lavil la They live outside of town.
andekò, an dezakò attrib In disagreement. Yo andekò They disagree.
andezay V antdezay
andezo V antdezo
andi V andui
andirans la n Endurance*.
andire 1 vt To endure*, to suffer.
andire, ondire 2 vt It seems.
andizan, an dizan (While) saying. Andizan sa, sa ou te fe apre? Since you mention it, what did you do afterwards?
andeljenikon an, oundjenikon, onjenikon n A person who has been initiated and has received training in Vodou songs and dances, and serves as an assistant in the ceremonies. Choirmistress.
andjoze V andyoze
andomaje V domaje
andòmi vt 1. To put to sleep, to anesthetize. 2. To make numb. Koulev andòmi Type of snake.
andose vt To endorse* (a check).
andoub, an doubt attrib In duplicate*.
andouyèt V andui
andoye vt 1. To baptize in an emergency. 2. To mark cards in order to be able to cheat.
andui a, andwi a, andouyèt 1 n Type of meat preparation, also called andouyèt. Chitterlings.
andui a, andwi a, andi a, randui a 2 n A coating of plaster, plastering, wall finish.
andui, randui 3 vt To coat, to plaster.
andwa, an dwa prep phr To have the right to. Li an dwa fe sa He has the right to do it.
andyable attrib Uncontrollable, ferocious, out of bounds.
andyoze, andjoze vt To lure, to seduce, to entice, to cajole.
ane a, anne a, lane n Year. Ane pase Last year. V an.
anemi an n Anemia*. Yo tout gen feblès anemi All of them are anemic.
anetwale a, annetwale a n (Star) anise*, (Chinese) anise (a spice).
anfale vi To collapse, to crumble, to fall down, to subside (a building). Kay la gen yon bò ki anfale The house has a side that has crumbled down.
anfannkè a n Altar boy, censer-bearer, choirboy*, acolyte.
anfanten, anfantin n Kindergarten.
anfarinay, an farinay attrib Muffled, low (voice, etc.)
anfas, an fas 1 prep Opposite, facing*, across (from). Gen dife anfas otèl la There is a fire across from the hotel.
anfas, an fas 2 adv On the opposite side.
anfavè prep In favor* of.
anfè V lanfè
anfèje vt To corner, to do away with, to give a hard time (to). Lavi ap anfèje'm Life has not been very good to me.
anfèmen, afèmen vt To lease. M'afèmen kay mwen an ak Rene I leased my house to Rene. Anri afèmen yon kay nan men nonk mwen Henry leased a house from my uncle.
anfen adv At last, finally*.
anfinal, an final adv Finally*, in the end.
anflajele, anfrafleje vt To destroy, to ruin, to make mincemeat of.
anflamasyon an, enflamasyon an n Tumefaction, swelling, inflammation*.
anflèch, an flèch adv Fast and furious.
anfòm, an fòm attrib Comme il faut; well developed, shapely, in shape; all set; properly.
anfondre vi To tumble down, to crumble, to sink.
anfonse vt To drive in (a nail), to knock down.
vi To sink. Chak pa l’fe lanfonse plis With each step he sank more.
anfoudwaye, anfoudraye vt To drive s.o. crazy, to ruin.
anfounen vt To put in(to) the oven, to bake.
anfouraye, anfouaye vt To misplace, to lose.
anfouye vt To misplace. Misplaced, lost among many other things. Cf. anfouraye.
anfrafleje V anfrafleje
ang la n Angle*.
angaje attrib Bound, in a jam, in difficult straits, short of cash. M’beuzen prete di dola, m’angaje I have to borrow ten dollars, I’m in a bad fix. Also Vodou term. V angajman.
angajman an n 1. Obligation, promise, undertaking; troubles, difficulty. 2. Contract with Baka, with the devil.
angaway adv In disorder.
angi V zangi
angiz, an giz 1 prep Instead of, in place of.
angiz, an giz 2 conj Instead of. (syn) olye, pase pou. PRESSOIR-9: Angiz yo bouche soley la Instead of hiding the sun.
angle a, angèla 1 n English (language). Angle waf Street English (acquired by practice only, not formally).
angle a, angèla, angèlez la 2 n Englishman*, Englishwoman*.
angle, angèla 3 attrib English*.
angogay adv In abondance. (syn) agogo. DYE-SIFO: Nou gen pwa rouj angogay We have plenty of red beans.
angôje attrib To be blocked, obstructed. Tete madan’m nan angôje. Li pa kabab bay ti bebe a tete The woman’s breasts (teats) are blocked, and she can’t breastfeed her baby.
angoudi vt To render dull, sleepy, numb, dormant.
angran attrib Presumptious, impudent, arrogant, disrespectful.
angranman adv Haughtily.
angrave V agrave
angre a, angrè a n Fertilizer.
angren, an gren attrib Granulated, shelled.
angrenaj la n Gear.
angrese vt To fatten (animals).
angro, an gro adv Wholesale.
angrosi vt To get a woman pregnant.
angwas la n Anguish*.
anhan, aha interj So! (May have various inferences depending on intonation).
anikla, annikla a n Arnica*. Tenti danika Tincture* of arnica. (Arnica: a plant of Europe).
anile, annile vt To cancel, to render void, to nullify*.
animal la, animal la, zannimo a n Beast, animal*.
anizèt la, annizèt la n Anisette* (liqueur).
anj la, lanj la, jany la, zanj la, lezanj n Angel*. Manje lèzanj Special Vodou ceremony held for the loas. Lanj gadyen Guardian angel.
anjandre attrib 1. Violent, completely crazy. 2. Possessed by the devil.

anjandreman an n Pact, engagement with the devil.

anjelis la, lanjelis la n Angelus*. Dusk.

anjeneral, an jeneral adv In general*, generally.

anjwèt, an jwèt adv In jest, jokingly.

anka, oka, sianka, sioka, sizoka conj If, in case.

ankachèt, an kachèt adv Secretly.

ankadre vt To frame.

ankadreman an n Frame for pictures, framing.

ankatimini, an katimini adv Secretly, underhandedly.

ankave attrib Badly infected and full of pus.

anka, oka, sianka, sioka, sizoka conj If, in case.

ankè V antye

ankenn V okenn

ankese vt To catch and hold tight (a ball, etc.).

ankèt la n Investigation, inquiry, inquest*. Fè ankèt To investigate, to inquire*.

ankete a n Investigator.

anklim nan n Anvil.

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anklim nan n Anvil.

ankonbre vt To crowd.

ankonbreman an n Crowding.

ankouraje vt To promote, to uphold, to cheer on, to incite, to encourage*. Si ou pran yon volè ou pa pinn, se ankouraje v’ap ankouraje’l If you catch a thief, and you don’t punish him, it’s as if encouraging him.

ankourajman an n Encouragement*.

ankriye a, lankriye a n Inkwell.

anlagan adv In the beginning, from the start.

anlé a, an lè a 1 n Upper part, top.

anlé, an lè 2 adv Above, on top, on high, (up) in the air*.

anlé, an lè 3 attrib Frivolous, flighty.

anlé, an lè 4 prep Above, on top of. Gade anlé kay la, w’a we tòl la Look on top of the house and you’ll see the tin.

anmadwe V amadwe

anmatè V amatè

anmè, amè attrib Bitter. Anmè kon fyèl (or) amè kon latwa Bitter as hell.

anmèdan, anmègdan attrib Troublesome, annoying.

anmède, anmègde, anmèkde vt To annoy, to irritate, to tease, to bother, to nag. Not so strong as its French cognate meaning ‘to shit around’. Pa anmède’m Don’t bother me, let me alone.

anmèd a n A bothersome person, a meddler, a pain in the neck.

anmèdman an n Nuisance. Sa se yon anmèdman It’s a pain in the neck.

anmèn attrib Unsatiated, unsatisfied (food, love, etc.).

anmèntan, an menm tan adv At the same time, simultaneously.

anmidonnen vt To starch. V lanmidon, anpeze.

anmize V amize

anmizman V amizman

anmore a, amoure a, anmorere a n Lover, sweetheart, boyfriend.

anmorèz la, amourèz la, anmèrèz la n Sweetheart (fem), girlfriend. (Used mainly in the Jérémie region: DYESIFO).

anmwe, amnre interj Help!

an’n v marker Let’s (particle used to form the imperative of the first person plural). Also: an-nou, an nou. MORISSEAU-LEROY/D-2: An’n seye sa’n gan la a pou’n wè sa k’a rive Let’s try what we have to see what will happen. V annou.

annachis la, anachis la n Anarchist*.

annafè (ak), an afè (ak) prep phr 1. In business with. 2. Involved with, to have an affair* with.

Li di li pat annafè ak fi a He denies that he had any sexual relations with that woman.

annanfans attrib Senile.

annanna V ananna

annannant V kannannant

annantye, an anye adv Whole, entirely*.

annaryè, an aryè, anèryè adv In the back, behind.

annatand an, an atand an adv Meanwhile; until.

annavan, an avan adv Ahead, in front. Annavan! Let’s go!

annand, anedan 1 adv Inside, indoors, inward. Li te bòli net sou annand The interior was very beautiful.

annand, anedan 2 prep Inside of, within, into.

annèfè, an efè adv In fact, indeed, really.
**annegad, annegad** prep phr 1. With regard to, regarding. 2. As far as, as far as ... is concerned.

**annékay, an ekay** attrib Made of shell.

**annékò, an nekò** attrib Flooding, overflowing.

**annère** V annaryè

**annèryè** V

**annik, nik** adv Only, just. Annik di 'men mwen', l'a konn se ou Just say 'Here I am', and he'll know it's you. M'annik vini, Pyè mete deyò As soon as I come, Peter leaves.

**annile** V

**annimal** V

**annipye** V

**annivre** V

**annòd** adv In order.

**annou, an nou, an'n** 1 v marker Let's...(Particle used to form the imperative of the first person plural). V an'n. An nou li Let's read.

**annou, an nou** 2 interj Come on! Let's go! An nou wè! Come on!

**annui an, annwi an** 1 n Trouble, problem. Neve'm ap ban'm anpil annui My nephew is causing me a lot of troubles.

**annuiyan, annwiyan** attrib Annoying.

**annuiye, annwuiye** vt 1. To annoy, to bother. 2. To be bored, to be weary.

**anonse, annonse** vt To announce, to notify.

**anpàn, an pàn** attrib 1. Out of order, stuck. 2. Short of.

**anpare** vt To take possession of, to invade, to fill, to seize. Grangou fin anpare'm I am really hungry.

**anpase** vpr To do without. Li pa kab anpase'lı de yo He cannot do without them.

**anpatan, an patan** adv To start with, in the first place.

**anpaye, paye** vt To stuff, to cover with straw or any other stuff (a chair, etc.).

**anpeche** vt To prevent, to hinder.

**anpechman** n Hindrance, impediment, financial difficulties.

**anpenpan, an penpan** attrib Swell, beautiful, O.K., smart, elegant (neologism).

**anpeny** n Vamp (upper part of a shoe).

**anpeste** vt To permeate (evil odor).

**anpetre** attrib Slow, not at ease, indolent.

**anpeze** vt To starch.

**anpil** 1 attrib Numerous, many, scores of, a good deal of, plenty of. Anpil noun Many people. Anpil fwa Many times.

**anpil** 2 adv Very (when “anpil” is placed after an attrib or a v). Yo bèl anpil They are very nice.

**anpil** 3 attrib Insolent (mostly applied to children). Timoun nan trò anpil, ou pa ka kontrôle'lı That child is just too much (insolent); you can’t control him.

**anpile** vt To pile *(up)*.

**anpire** vi To worsen.

**anplasman** n Lot, a plot of land for building purposes; concession of land; a location, a site. M'achte yon anplasman nan simityè I bought a cemetery lot.

**anplat** n Plaster cast.

**anplimdezwu** attrib Elegantly dressed.

**anplis, an plis** adv Besides; additionally, in addition; more.

**anplwaye** 1 vt To hire, to engage (in employment); to utilize, to employ*.

**anplwaye** 2 n Clerk, employee*.

**anpòte** 1 vt To seize. Somèy anpòte'm I fell asleep.

**anpòte** 2 attrib Angry.

**anpoul** n Bulb (electric).

**anpremye, an premye** adv First. Li rive an premye He arrived first.

**anprint** n Print (finger).

**anpresman** attrib In rags. 2. Penniless.

**anprent** adv Late.

**anrichi** vt To enrich*.

**anrimen** To have a runny or stopped up nose. To have or catch a cold.

**anro a, anwo a** 1 n Upper part, top.

**anro, anwo** 2 prep On, over, on top of, above. Anro kay la Over the house. In southern Haiti ‘anro’ also means ‘about, concerning’. Sa w'ap di anro'm nan? What are you saying about me? Anro lavil Uptown, in the upper part of town.

**anro, anwo** 3 adv Upstairs, above, up, upward.
anrole, anwole vi To enlist (in the armed forces, etc.).
anrout, an rout adv En route*, on the way.
ansan V lansan
ansann adv Together. Mete ansann To assemble*, to put together, to unite. Ansann avèk With, together with.
ansann nan n Ensemble*, band.
ansanswa a n Censer*, thurifer.
ansanm 1 adv Together. Mete ansanm To assemble*, to put together, to unite. Ansanm avèk With, together with.
ansanm nan 2 n Ensemble*, band.
ansanm avèk With, together with.
ansanm nan 2 n Ensemble*, band.
ansanm avèk With, together with.
ansanswa a n Censer*, thurifer.
ansanm nan 2 n Ensemble*, band.
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ansanm avèk With, together with.
ansanm nan 2 n Ensemble*, band.
antravè, avan av. Crosswise, obliquely, across.

Li kouche antravè sou kabann nan He lay across the bed.

antre 1 vi To enter*, to come in, to get in, to penetrate, to step in. Antre nan chann nan To enter the room. Kouri antre Dash in. Fé antre To show in, to let in. Antre nan pe To go into the convent. Yon antré nan lòt One takes care of (compensates for) the other. Antre sou moun To become (too) familiar.

antretni

antrot, antròt

antretni

antretnakt, antre tan adv Meanwhile, in the meantime.

antreti vi To maintain, to keep. Li antreti kay li byen He keeps his house well. Anri ap antreti Jozefin Henry keeps Josephine as his mistress.

antrot, antròt By the way.

antye, ankè attrib Entire*, whole. An antye In its entirety, entirely. Yo manje yon kodenn antye They ate a whole turkey.

antyèman adv Completely, entirely*.

antyoupwi, antoupwi, antchoupwi attrib Restless, nosy, excited. (syn) antyoupwi.

antouyoupi, antchouchoupi attrib Restless, excessively curious, excited. (syn) antyoupwi.

anvan, avan 2 conj Before. Anvan w'ale, di'm Tell me before leaving. Avan soley kouche Before sundown.

anvan, avan 3 adv Before; first. Vini anvan To come first.

anvayi 1 vi To invade*, To crowd in, to surround in great numbers.

anvayi 2 attrib To be flooded (carburator).

anve, an ve attrib Bound by a vow*.

anvenimen V anvilmen

anverite, an verite adv Frankly, verily*, in God’s truth.

anvi 1 vi To yearn for, to desire, to wish, to want. Ou pa konn sa m’ani fè? Don’t you know what I want to do?

anvi 2 n 1. Desire, craving. Gen anvi To have an appetite for, to have a mind to. 2. Envy*. 3. Birthmark which is the result of a woman’s craving during her pregnancy. Anvi kochon A birthmark with hairs on it.

anvi, an vi 3 attrib Alive. Yo te kuè li te mouri men li anvi They thought he had died but he is (still) alive.

anvité, an vítè adv Fast, in a jiffy.

anvizeje vt To consider, to envisage*.

anvilmen, anvenimen vi To get worse; to fester (a wound, a scab). To swell.

anviop la n Envelope*.

anvoute vt To cast a spell, to hex. To be possessed. Li anvoute He has been possessed by a bad spirit.

anve 1 vi To envy, to be jealous of.

anve (m), anvye (f) 2 attrib Envious*.

anve attrib Hoarse.

any interj Exclamation denoting disgust, disapproval.

anyen indef pron Nothing. Sa pa fè’m anyen It’s all the same to me. Sa ou wè laba a? Anyen What do you see over there? Nothing.

anzingdekontraryete, an zing de kontrarye-te attrib Moody, in a bad mood, angry.

ap v marker Auxiliary of the present progressive. V ape, pe. ONEC/N-19: Depi nou fèt se sou tè a n'ap viv Since we were born it is on this land we have been living. ONEC/N-5: Lo yon sitwayen ap pase devan drapo li When a citizen is passing before his flag. PRESSOIR-10: M’konnen m’ap mouri asou I know I shall die tonight.

apa, a pa 1 attrib Particular, private, apart*, special.

apa, a pa 2 prep Beside, apart* from.

apa, a pa 3 adv Separately.
Apa, epa interj Introductory particle used in semi-exclamatory, semi-interrogative sen-
tences. Apa li menm ki te ba ou’! Was it not he who gave it to you? Apa w’ap etidy  
etalyen! So you’re studying Italian, eh! Apa li, papa? Did I not tell you so?

apach attrib Greedy.

apagon attrib Avaricious.

apantay la n Surveying.

apante vt To survey (land).

apante a n (Land) surveyor.

aparans V laparans

aparèy la n Tool, instrument, device, gear, appliance (electric); penis.

aparantajodi, aparantajodi adv Henceforth.

apati de prep Starting from, as of.

apati a n Apartment*.

ape v marker Auxiliary of the present progressive tense. SYLVAIN-14: M’ape chante  
depi de jou I have been singing for two days. MORISSEAU-

apel la n (Law) Appeal*; invitation to convene.

apel a, apel a n (Law) appeal.

apelé, apelé adv Nearly, about, approximately.

apeléman adv Nearly, about, approximately.

apelé a 1 vt To get a glimpse of, to perceive*.

apelé a 2 n Preview, glimpse.

apelé, lapelé a n Appetite*. Pa apeti pou For love of. Ak apeti Heartily.

api a, apui a n Support. M’ap pran api sou ou I’m leaning on you, and using you to prop me up. Apui chèz (or) do chèz Back of a chair.

apik, a pik attrib Steep, abrupt, precipitous. Apik panno Very steep, almost vertical.

apiye, piye, apuiye vi To lean. Apiye sou To lean on.

aplani, plani, planni vt To level.

aplakasyon an n Application*.

aplakat attrib 1. Aggressive. 2. Eager (for). (syn) akrèk.

aplo di vi To applaud*. (syn) bat bravo.

aplo disman an n Applause*, cheer.

apopleksi a n Apoplexy*. Apopleksi se yon maladi ki pa ra Apoplexy is not a rare sickness.

apot la, apot la n Apostle*.

apotikè a n Pharmacist, druggist.

apoura attrib 1. Gluttonous. (syn) saf, afre. 2. Greedy and aggressive.

apôy 1 attrib 1. Aggressive, bold, unscrupulous. 2. Eager.

apôy, pôy 2 attrib Lèt apôy Last milk taken from a cow during a session. FRANKE-TIENNE/B-17: Yon melanj lèt apôy ak siro myèl siro loja.

aprale, apral, prale, pral Am, is, are going (Progressive present of the verb ale, to go). SYLVAIN-26: Kote ou aprale? Where are you going? FARDIN-17: Kote ou prale? Where are you going?

aprann vt 1. To learn. 2. To teach.

aprant a n Apprentice*.

aprantisay la n Apprenticeship*.

apray, pray Northern forms of apral and pral.

apre, aprè, aprwe 1 prep After. Apre demen Day after tomorrow. Apre midi Afternoon.

apre, aprè, aprwe 2 conj After.

apre, aprè, aprwe 3 adv Afterwards, subsequently, next.

apredemen, apre demen adv Day after tomorrow.

apredye a n Money.

apremidi a, apre midi a n Afternoon.

apresye vt To appreciate*.

aproche V proche

apropode, apropo de prep Concerning. Apropo de sa nou tap pale a Concerning what we were talking about.

aprouve vt To approve*, to be in accord.

apsan V absan

apsoliman V absoliman

apwal, a pwal, apwèl adv Bareback.

apwentman an n Salary, pay, wage(s), earnings.

apye, a pye adv On foot.

Arab la n Arab*.

aran an n Herring*.

aranbarik la, aran barik la n Kipper.

aranje vpr To manage, to arrange*.

aranjman an n 1. Agreement, settlement, arrangement*. Pito ou fè yonaranjman pase ou fè yon prosè It’s better to make a settlement than to undergo a law suit. 2. Border, trimming (of clothes).
aransèl la n Dried, salted herring* (different from aransò, undergoes a distinct process. Also known as ‘aranbarik’).
aransò a n Kippered, red herring*, which has turned brownish by a special process.
ararout la, alarout la n Arrow-root*. A tropical plant the rhizomes of which yield a nutritious starch called sagou flour, used in puddings.
arebò prep At the edge of.
arendal la n Connections, prestige. Livelihood, means.
arenyen V areye
arèt la 1 n 1. Rest*, arrest*, respite. 2. Means of defense, protective magic (string with knots) placed around a child’s neck or arm. 3. Guard for the (wedding) ring.
arèt la 2 n Fish bone. Li manje trò vit, arèt pwason koke nan gòj li He ate too fast; a fish bone stuck in his throat.
arete vt To arrest*, to put in jail, to detain, to apprehend.
arètkòl la, arèt kòl la n Tie clasp.
areye a, zarenyen an, arenyen an n Spider.
areyeakrab la, zarenyen a krab, krabaren-yen n Tarantula. Also: krab areye.
arimen vt To pile up, to stack one on top of the other in a specific manner, to stow.
aristokrat la n Aristocrat*.
aritmetik la n Arithmetic*.
arive vi To go as far as to. Li arive di’m sekrèl He went as far as to tell me his secret.
arivis la n Newly-rich, parvenu, upstart.
aroutchapatcha a n Arab, levantine.
arouya a n Hick, stupid person, fool.
aroyo attrib Violent. Li fin arayo He is furious, wild.
arýé 1 adv Back, rear*. Amnaryè, amnèryè In the back. Alaryè To the rear.
arýé a 2 n Fullback (soccer).
arýen V anyen
aryennafè a n Idle person, lazy bum.
aryere attrib Backward, old-fashioned.
aryoplan nan n Airplane*. V avyon.
as V las
asafetida a, safetida a n Asafetida*.
Asansyon an n Feast of the Ascension*.
asen an, ansasen an, asen an n Murderer, assassin*.
assyi vt To assault*.
ase adv 1. Enough, only, alone; somewhat. Se pa pen ase ki fè moun viv Man liveth not by bread alone. 2. Stop, enough of. Ase pale Stop talking. (Enough is enough).
Asefi n Name given to a female child when parents wish no more daughters.
Aselôm n Name given to a male child when parents wish no more sons.
asenik la, lasini an, asini an n Arsenic*.
asepte V aksepte
asetòn nan n Acetone*.
asetsèzè adv At this (unduly) hour.
asezonnen, sezonnen vt To season*.
asezonman an n Seasoning*.
asfalt la, alfat la n Asphalt*.
asfalte vt To asphalt*, to pave.
asid la n 1. Acid*. 2. Condiment (vinegar, lemon, etc.).
asidròp la n Lemon punch.
asipoze prep phr Supposing*, suppose*, let us suppose (that).
asire vt 1. To assure*, to guarantee. Asire ou Make sure. Asire pa sèten Unreliable. 2. To insure* (a house, a car, etc.)
asireman adv Surely*.
asistan an n Helper, assistant*.
asistans la n 1. Attendance, audience. 2. Aid, assistance*.
asiste vt 1. To be present at, to attend. 2. To assist*, to help.
asiyason an n Subpoena, summons (to court).
asiyen vt To summon(s), to subpoena.
aso a 1 n 1. Assault*.
aso a 2 n A (beating) board used for striking at a percussion instrument (COURLANDER).
ason an n  The cult priest’s ritual rattle with external strikers (COURLANDER). Liturgical tchatcha.

Asonmsyon an, Asonpsyon an n  Feast of the Assumption*.

asorosi V  sorosi

asosye 1 vpr To associate one’s self.

asosye a 2 n Partner, associate*. An nou koupè asosye  Let’s become real partners; let’s play partners. A children’s game in which two children join their little fingers, then strike the juncture with the other hand.

asòtò a n  Assotor* drum, the largest of the drums, of African heritage, used as a liturgical instrument. A ritual dance is performed around it.

asoupi n 1. Nap. 2. Sleepiness, drowsiness. CELESTIN-MEGIE/1-60: L’ap fè yon ti asoupi  He is taking a nap, he is dozing. (syn) kabicha.

aspiral la, spiral la n  Spiral* (of a watch, etc.).

aspèj la n  Asparagus*.

aspirin nan n  Aspirin*.

aswè adv Tonight, at night, in the evening. Aswè a This (coming) evening. Yon aswè One evening.

atenn vt To reach.

ateri vi 1. To land (airplane). 2. To wind up somewhere.

aticho a n 1. Artichoke*. 2. Type of loaf (bread).

atife adv Slowly, gradually.

atik la n  Article*.

atiran attrib Appealing, attractive*.

atrans la n  Attraction*.

atire vt To entice, to pull, to attract*, to draw. Atire ansyon sou  To call attention to.

atis la n  Artist*.

atiyayo a n  Medicinal plant (Ocimum gratissimum L.). It is used to combat dizziness and common colds.

atizan an n  Artisan*.

atè, a tè adv On the ground; ashore. Domi atè  To sleep on the floor. Pye atè  Barefoot. Met atè  To give birth (or) to put something on the ground.

ate a n  Atheist*.

ate a tô adv On time.

atenn vt To reach.

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atizan an n  Artisan*.
avan an, avannsant la\(^1\) n Forward (soccer).
avan V anvan\(^2\)
avangou a n Foretaste, preview. (syn) apèsi.
avanjou, avan jou adv Before dawn.
avansant V avan

avanpòs la n Outpost\(^*\) (military).

avans la n 1. Down payment, advance\(^*\) payment. 2. Advance, attentions. **Anri ap fé fi a avans** Henry is making amorous advances to the girl. 3. Alvans, davans In advance, in anticipation of. **Depi davans** Beforehand. **M’te pale ou davans** I told you in advance. I forewarned you.

avanse, vanse vt To bring forward, to move forward. **Avanse chèz la** Move the chair forward ; to bring forward (a date). vi To advance\(^*\), to step forward, to approach, to go forward, to draw near. **Vanse sou** Going toward, getting closer to.

vantaj la, vantay la n Advantage\(^*\), profit, benefit.

avantage vt 1. To do favors for, to favor. 2. To give.

avanti a n Adventure\(^*\).

avanvèy la, lavanvèy la n Two days before. **Li rive lavanvèy lantèman an** He arrived two days before the burial.

avanyè, avantyè, avanzyè adv The day before yesterday.

avap, avape v marker Auxiliary of the progressive future. **M’awap manje lè sa a** I shall be eating then.

ave a\(^1\) n A plant. Petiveria alliacea L. It is given to patients suffering from fever.

ave a\(^2\) n Admission of wrongdoing. **Li fè ave lan trinètal la** He confessed in open court.

avè V avèk

avètisman an n Warning.

avi a\(^1\) n Notice, communique.

avi, a vi\(^2\) attrib For life, lifetime.

avèti, vèti vt To inform, to let s.o. know, to advise.

avètisman an n Warning.

avyan an, lavun\(^2\) n Future. Destiny.

avoka a n Lawyer, attorney.

avoran, devoran attrib Greedy, grabbing, biting; grasping.

avòtman an n Abortion\(^*\). **Fè avòtman** To have an abortion.

avril n April\(^*\).

awwa a n Possession(s).

awwàn nan n Oats, oatmeal.

awwe vt To confess, to acknowledge, to recognize, to avow\(^*\).

avysyon an n Airport; aviation\(^*\).

avyatè a n Airplane pilot, aeroplane pilot.

avyon an n Airplane.

awo V aro

awona V arona

awousa V arousa

awoutsayd, awoutsay Off side\(^*\) (games).

awwe V rouze

ay\(^1\) interj Ouch!

ay V ale\(^2\)

ayayay interj Wow! Exclamation expressing various feelings (joy, disappointment, surprise, etc.).

ayè V yè

ayèla n Ancestor.

ayeroplan nan, areyoplan nan n Airplane\(^*\).

ayeropò a n Airport\(^*\).

ayibobo V abobo

Ayida n A woman who has very short hair by nature.

Ayida-Wèdo n Vodou deity.

ayik attrib 1. Exhausted. **Li tèlman pale, m’ayik** He spoke so much, I am exhausted. 2. Sick (from overeating).

ayiyè n Haitian.

Ayiti cheri, Haiti cheri A Haitian song by Othello Bayard expressing the nostalgic feeling of Haitians for the homeland.

Ayiti, Haiti n Haiti. **Se nan peyi Ayiti Toma ou ye** You’re in the country of Haiti Thomas; that’s where
**aza a**  

**azade** vpr To dare, to venture, to take the liberty to.

Azaka Vodou deity.

**azaman** adv Rarely, accidentally (pop).

**azaman nan** n Gambler.

**azaryen an** n Gambler.

**azible a** n Breadfruit that has suffered from sunstroke. **V azòzòt.**

**azaman** adv Rarely, accidentally (pop).

azamann nan n Gambler.

azaris la n Gambler.

**azaris la** n Gambler.

**azakòkò a** n A sickness for which there is no cure. A problem you can not get rid of. **V akòkò, pongongon.**

**azakòkò a** n A sickness for which there is no cure. A problem you can not get rid of. **V akòkò, pongongon.**

**azal la** n Shelter. Cf. E. asylum.

**azal la** n Shelter. Cf. E. asylum.

**azireya a** n Worthless, ignorant person. (syn) sanzave, vakabon.

**azizwèl la** n Strumpet, loose woman, kate; worthless person.

**azobato** attrib Exhausted, faded. **V dekrenmen, defrechi.**

**azobòkò a** n Coffin.

**azounou nan** n Sickness of the eyes.

**azòzòt la** n Breadfruit that has suffered from sunstroke and which has not fully ripened.

### B

**ba** 1. *attrib* Low, short (in stature), low (in spirit, health).

**ba** 2. *adv* Low. **Pale pi ba** Speak in a lower tone.

**ba** 3. n Helm, tiller (boat's).

**ba** 4. n Kiss. **Fè ba pou** To give a kiss to (children) **V bo a.**

**ba** 5. n Stocking. **Li mete ba pou fredi a** She wears stockings because of the cold weather.

**ba** 6. n Bar*, iron bar, soap bar; wooden or iron bar to close a door.

**ba** 7. n Pack-saddle.

**ba, bar la** 8. n Line (with a pen, a pencil).
badinen, badnen  vi To jest, to play, to joke, to talk foolishly, to play around; to fool around, to trifle.
badji a n In a Vodou temple, the room where the altar is.
badjikan an n A bòkò’s helper (folklore).
badnen V badinen
baf la n Slap.
baflay la n Slap on the face. V sabò. Si ou pa pe, m’ap ba ou yon baflay If you don’t shut up, I’m going to slap your face.
bafe V bafre
bafon an n Ravine; low, poor sections of a city.
bafray la n Bluff, deceit.
bafre, bafle vi To deceive.
bafre, bafle vi To stuff one’s self with food, to gobble.
bafrezè a n Liar, bluffer, cheater.
bafwe, bafre vi To deceive.
bagèt la n Stick, rod, wand, drum stick; type of drum. Bagèt ginen Episcopal ring.
bagas la n Crushed sugar cane, refuse. Bagasse*.
bagay la n 1. Varicose ulcer (esp) on feet. 2. Evil spirit; a Vodou animal, usually a large black dog. Baka makaron Ugliest creature possible. Ou sanble baka sou lajan! Boy, you are extremely ugly!
bakakloreya a n Final examination in a secondary school.
bakalal la, bakannal la n Orgy, bacchanal*.
bakle vi To botch (up), to work fast and carelessly, to dash (something) off.
bakoko Yon bakoko A heap, a pile, a lot. Yon bakoko rad lesiv A heap of clothes to clean (laundry).
bakon an n Huge shed where products are temporarily stored before shipping.
bakonye a n Con man, schemer, woman-chaser, one who tries to trick women; trickster in general.
bakoulou a n Crook, pilferer; con man, wily liar, trickster, deceiver, cunning double-dealer, particularly where women are concerned. An under-handed fellow who knows what’s what. Cf. bakonye. Ti medam yo pa vale koute msey; yo konmen li se bakoulou The girls won’t pay attention to that man. They know he is an impostor, a foreflusher, where women are concerned.
bakoulouz la n Same as ‘bakoulou’ but used for female beings. V bakoulou.
baksayd la n Backside*, behind, rear, buttocks.
bajou a, bajòl la, majòl la v To deceive.
bajou, bajal, lak 2 n Double chin.
bak la 1 n 1. Ferryboat, flat-bottom boat. 2. A wooden tray carried on the head by vendors of clothes, candies, etc. Jisten pa mennen bak li byen Justin doesn’t run his business well. He doesn’t behave properly.
bak, bak annaryè 2 adv As in ‘Fè bak’, to back*, away; not to fulfill a promise or an engagement; to go into reverse, to go backwards. Li taprale pa bak It was going backwards.
baka a n 1. Varicose ulcer (esp) on feet. 2. Evil spirit; a Vodou animal, usually a large black dog. Baka makaron Ugliest creature possible. Ou sanble baka sou lajan! Boy, you are extremely ugly!
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19 B
balerina a n A type of woman’s shoe. <It. ‘bal-
erina’.

balerouze, bale rouze Fé yon balerouze To make a clean-up, to make a clean sweep; to dismiss (fire) a large number of employees. Minis la fè yon bale rouze lapòs The minister fired many employees in the post office.

balis la n Balustrade*, baluster*, banister*. Kay sa a te dwe gen balis nan balkon an This house should have a balustrade in the balcony.

balistrad la n Balustrade*, banister*, rail, railing.

balizay la n The action of cutting trees, shrubs, etc. and clearing same in order to establish the boundary line (generally between two pieces of real estate). Mét balizay The person in charge of a ‘balizay’ operation.

balize vt To clear the land. 2. To devastate, to lay waste. Van balize tè a The wind cleared the land. Siklòn nan balize peyi a The hurricane devastated the country.

balkon an n Balcony*. Kay balkon House with an upper story and a balcony.

bal a n Bale*. (syn) bal.

balon an 1 n Balloon*. bal an 2 n Ball* (soccer, volley ball).

balonnen vi To be puffed up, full, swollen, bloated.

balonnman an n Bloated stomach.

bamann nan n Barman*, bartender*.

ban V bay 1

ban an 2 n Bench, seat. M’kòmèn pase’l; m’kab mete’l sou ban I know more than he does; I could teach him one or two things. V bankrich.

ban an 3 n Ban*, marriage bans. Pibliye ban To publish the marriage bans.

banbi a n 1. Buttocks. 2. Banquet, celebration, party.

banbilay la n Party, celebration. Li pa se ekonomi; tout lajan’l pase lan banbilay He can’t save any money; he spends all of it on parties.

banbile vi To enjoy one’s self merrily; to go on a spree, to revel; to lead a fast life, to carouse. V banboche.

banbòch la n Feast, revelry, celebration, party.

banboche vi To rejoice, to celebrate; to enjoy one’s self, to have a good time.

banbochè a n Carouser, reveler, dissipated person.

banbolo a n Feast, revelry, celebration, party.

banbou a n 1. Bamboo*. 2. Also a musical instrument made from bamboo. Soufle lan banbou To piddle away one’s time. V vaksin.

banboula a n 1. A drum used by inhabitants of the Caribbean. 2. A dance. 3. Loud merrymaking, dancing and singing.

banda 1 attrib Elegant, superb, show-off; in stylish fashion. Fé (gran) banda To show off. To act big. Li taye banda li jan li vle He does what he pleases. Pale banda To be a good speaker, to express one’s self elegantly.

banda a 2 n Dance rhythm (folklore).

bandaman adv Elegantly.

banday la, bandaj la n Bandage*.

bande 1 vi To Bandage*. bande 2 vi To get an erection. Li bande alaryè He went out of bounds, he was so angry.

bandi a n Bandit*, rascal; cruel, ruffian.

bandisyon V anbandisyon

bando a n Hairband.

bandol V bandròl

bandonnen V abandonnen

bandoulèy a n Shoulder strap. An bandoulèy Slung across one’s shoulder.

bandròl la 1 n Whipping, spanking.

bandròl la, bandòl la 2 n Banner. An bandòl Slung across the shoulder.

bandyo a, bandjo a n Bandjo*.

banj la n ‘Tops’, authority (on a subject).

bank la 1 n 1. A bank (in gambling). Bank bòlèt Counter where bòlèt (popular lottery) tickets are sold and redeemed. 2. Drinking table (gathering of drinkers). (usu) bank tafya. 3. Fé bank To make a lot of noise, a mess, a fuss, a scandal, to cause a rompus. Timoun yo ap fé bank The children are making a lot of noise.

bank V labank 2

bankal attrib Bandy-legged; rickety or arched (legs). Jann bankal (or) pye bankal Legs that open outward, like a gorilla’s. Yo bankal They are shaky (Said of objects with uneven legs)

banke (avèk, sou) vi To meet (by chance). M’banke avèl lan kafou a I met him at the corner.

bankèt la n Small wooden bench (for one or two persons).

bankkrich la n A piece of furniture with two or more holes specially made to hold water jugs (krich).

banye V labanye

banya a n 1. Musical instrument similar to a banjo. 2. Bow to shoot arrows.

banna mn an n Plantain. (The banana fruit is called ‘fig’ in Creole; what is called ‘fig’ in English, is usually called ‘fran fran’ in Creole). There are many types of plantains in Haiti. 

bannann mi an, bannann mi an n A small bird that is yellow and black. Icterus domini-censis. Also a fish.

bannannmi an, bannann mi an n A Small bird. (Note: The name of the bird is not mentioned in the text.)

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bate 1 vi To wear long stockings. Li fe fredi, anpil noun bate It’s quite cold; many people are wearing stockings.

bate 2 vt To put a pack-saddle on a donkey or mule.

batèm nan, batenm nan n Baptism*; blessing (of a house, a boat, etc.).

batey la n Sugar cane plant (enterprise), particularly in the Dominican Republic.

batèz la n Egg-beater.

bati vt To build, to construct. Bati yon ak To draw up an official document.


batis la 1 n Baptist*.

batis la 2 n Construction, building, house.

batisman an n (Large) building, construction. Nan tout batisman yo, ganyen ki pa solid In all these buildings, there are some which are not solid.

batistè a n 1. Birth certificate, baptistery*. Mon- tre’m batistè ou Show me your birth certificate. 2. Act (certificate) of recognition (affiliation). Papa’l rekonèt li; li ba li batistè His father has officially recognized him as his son (He granted him the certificate of affiliation, an official legal act).

batize vt 1. To baptize*, to be the godfather or the godmother (of). Se li menn ki te batize’m He is my godfather (or) He baptized me (priest), Batize yon maryaj He is my godfather (or) He baptized me (priest). 2. To improve on the taste by adding something. For instance, to add one finger of whisky to a glass of tea. To add a little salt to a food that was cooked without salt for a sick person would be expressed by: batize manje a ak yon ti sèl.

batize manje a ak yon ti sèl

batman an n Beating, beat. Batman pou Pulse beat.

batmandkè a n Heartbeat, heart tremor.

bato a n (Large) boat, craft. V batiman.

baton an n Stick, staff, rod, (policeman’s) billy, cudgel; cane. Kout baton Blow with a club, beating. Pitit mwen sa a se baton veyès mwen This child of mine will provide for me in my old age, Bay baton, simen baton To beat with a stick, to spank. Baton ka Tail. Baton lakre Piece of chalk. Ou ret chita sou baton rozet ou You remain listless and indifferent when you have a duty to act.

batonnen vt To beat with a stick.

batri a n 1. (Car) battery*, electric battery. 2. Magic spell or object sometimes designed to harm. Yo voye yon batri wanga sou li They cast a spell on him. 3. A group of drums (percussion). 4. Batri kuizin Cooking utensils. 5. An batri At work, in use.

batri a n Ups and downs (physical and figurative). Anvan ou rive Jakmel, fok ou fe anpil batriba Before reaching Jacmel, you go through lots of ups and downs.

batwa a, batwè a, batwèl la n Bat*, batter*, paddle. A large board to beat clothes while washing them.

batwèl V batwa

bay la, bave a n Slobber, foam at the mouth.

bave vi To foam, to drivel, to drool. Lò timoun ap fe dan, yo bave anpil When little children are teething they drivel a lot.

batev la n Bib.

bawo V baro

bay la 1 n One bushel.

bay la 2 n Large bucket, (wash)tub, usually wooden, with handles.

bay, ba, ban 3 vi To reach. Rob li ba’l sou jenou Her dress reaches her knees. Bay sou To overlook, to face. Fenèt mwen bay sou lakov a My window overlooks the yard.

bay, ba, ban 4 prep When bay is used as a preposition, it means ‘to’, ‘for’. M’ap pote yo ba ou I am bringing them to you. Ouvri pot la ban mwen Open the door for me.

bay, ba, ban 5 vt Ba is used instead of bay before one of these indirect object personal pronouns: ou, w, li, l, yo. Nou ba’l youn We gave him one. Ban is used before one of these indirect object personal pronouns: ‘mwen’, ‘m’, ‘nou’, ‘n’ which begin with a nasal sound. Ex. Ban’m sa a Give me this one. Although in this last case some people use ba (ba’m youn), the form ban is more natural. 1. To give. 2. To yield, to produce. 3. To give away, to distribute. 4. To vacate (a house), to clear (an area). 5. To tell (a story). 6. To denounce, to betray. Examples and expressions: Bay baton, bay chaplèt To cudgel. Bay lòd To order, to command. Bay manti To lie (tell a falsehood). Bay travay To employ, to give work (to). Bay lannmen To shake hands. Bay kout lang To backbite. Bay odyans To tell stories, to chat. Bay hou To strike, to hit, to beat. Bay demisyon To resign. Ban’m la! Get out! Se mwa ki bay anpil lapli It’s a month that produces rain. Se mwen ki pou bay (It’s) My deal! (during card games). Ban’m lé la a Make room for me! Get out! Ban’m nouwil ou How are you? What’s new? Bay chalè To tease. Bay fon To shape. Bay bouden To tell lies; to deceive. Bay chans 1. To bring luck. 2. To give a break. Bay chenn 1. To wind (a watch). 2. To prod, to encourage s.o. to reveal something by insinuation. Bay dyapòt To vomit. Bay egseyat To release (a patient from a hospital). Bay baryè To put obstacles to, to hamper, to block. Bay fil 1. To help s.o. get ahead. 2. To give s.o. enough rope to hang himself. Bay gabèl To give odds, to give a head start, an advantage. Bay jif 1. To give a peek 2. To expose what was
not supposed to be seen. Bay koutba To deceive, to fail s.o. Bay kout tét To bow one's head repeatedly while doing off. Bay lebra To extend one's arm to. Bay legen To give up. Bay payêt To show off. Bay poto To stand s.o. up. Bay siro To turn the rope slowly in the children's game of jump rope. Bay vinég To turn the rope fast in jump rope. Bay roulib To give a ride (in a vehicle). Bay zoko 1. To give a blow with one's knuckles. 2. To be unfaithful to one's spouse.

bayakou a n 1. A person employed by a city to clean outhouses. 2. The morning star.

bayaronn nan n Bayahonda*, mesquite, thorn acacia. Prosopis juliflora (Sw.) P. DC.

baye vi 1. To yawn. 2. To be wide open.

bayè V baryè.

bayila vi To dance.

baynèt la, bayonèt la n 1. Saber, bayonet*. Spanish blade. Nan tan bayonèt During the time before the American occupation of Haiti. 2. (bot) Yucca aloifolia L. Spanish bayonet.

baz la n Base*, basis*.

baza a n Bazaar*, store.

baze vpr To base*, to found. M'te baze'm sou oloj legliz la I relied on the church clock.

bazilik la n (Common) Basil*. Ocimum basilicum L. A medicinal herb used to make tea; as a narcotic, to bring good luck.

bazoudi vi To stun, to daze. Nouvel la bazoudi'm The news stunned me.

be attrib Bay*. Chwal be Horse.

bè³ interj Bleating of a goat.

bè a² n Butter*. V mantèg. Pwa bè A type of bean.

bè a³ n Baby* (geogr).


bèbè attrib Mute. In Jérémie: boubou. (fig) spellbound, amazed, dumbstruck, speechless. Li rete bèbè devan fi a ki te si telman bèl She was so beautiful, he was dumbstruck.

bèbèl la n 1. Beauty; garnishment, decoration. 2. Something pretty, smart-looking, gratious, sugar-coated. Se fet li demen, m'pral fe yon bèbèl ak li It's her birthday tomorrow. I'm going to do something nice for her. Yo fe sa pou bèbèl They do that for decoration. Fè bèbèl ak To be very kind to, to go out of one's way to please.

bebidòl la n Babydoll*. Also: a short negligé.


bèfchenn nan n Helper, jumper on a truck; one who works hard. Sekretè is also used, because many jumpers do not like to be called 'bèfchenn'.

bèfsipa a n Zebu (Indian humped ox). So called because it was imported into the country by the S.C.I.P.A. organization.

bege vi To stammer, to stutter. Moun bege Stuttering people. Moun bege enève fasil People who stutter become easily irritated. Pa vin bege ban mwen Stop mumbling and tell me what's what.

begle vi To bellow, to moo, to roar.

bègwè attrib A bewildered fool, idiot, simpleton. (fig) Cuckold. Ou sanble ak yon bègwè You look like a simpleton.

bèj attrib Beige*.

bèj a n Shepherd. (syn) gadô.

bèk la n Beak*. Mouth (pej). Also: prepuce (extra long skin). Bay bèk To snap at, to rebuke, to rebuff. Fé yon bèk To succeed, to hit, i.e. to mark up a point. (Fe) bèk atri To fall, to fail, to be down and out, to go down. Rete bèk sech To be left with nothing. Siye bèk atri To swear never to repeat the offense. Soulye a ap fe bèk The point of the shoe has turned upward. Ouwi bèk ou Talk! Open your darn mouth (pej). Yon bèk fe (bèkfè) An old person.

bekàn nan n Bike. V bisiklèt.

bekasin nan n Snipe, sandpiper (bird).

beke vtr 1. To strike with the beak, to peck (at). 2. To answer curtly, to be rude, to snap at. Gran se a ap beke ti sè a tout tan The older sister is always cutting her younger sister short, scolding her.

bèkèkè attrib Empty-handed. DEJEAN-64: Yo ret bèkèkè They were empty-handed, dumbfounded.

bèki a n Crutch. Li gen yon pye kase, li oblîje mache sou bèki He broke his foot; he has to use crutches.

bekin nan n Fish similar to barracuda. Sphyraena barracuda.

bekon an n Bacon*. The more common word is la(r).

bèl attrib Lovely, beautiful, fair, fine, pretty, good looking, attractive, nice. Fé bèl To be pregnant. Fé yon bèl ak To show kindness to, to do something nice for s.o.

bélantre a n An approach to an entrance in the form of an arch. Also applied to a large gap between teeth.

bèldenui an n Four-o’clock (flower).
bèldriv, bèl driv adv Long ago.  Gen bèldriv depi l’ale He left a long time ago.

bèlen an n Sore (hard to heal).

bèletwèl la, bèletwèl la n Girl with easy (loose) morals.

bèlí a n Daughter-in-law; stepdaughter.  Bèl ti bèlí la His beautiful stepdaughter.

bèlmè a n Mother-in-law; stepmother.

belsè a, bélso a n Sister-in-law.  Sè madanm mwen se bélse’m My wife’s sister is my sister-in-law.

bèl a n Beauty*, splendor, magnificence.

bèlvolay la, bèl volay la n Beauty*, splendor, magnificence.

bètrav la, bètrouj la n Buck, ram.  V bouk.

bèt an, beny lan 1 n Bath.  V bendmè.  Ben vapè Bath in a tub of hot water with medicinal leaves.

bèt V byen 2

benbo Depi lan tan benbo A long, long time ago.

bendmè a, beny mè a n Swim or bath in the sea.

benediksyon an, labenediksyon n Blessing, benediction*.

benefis la n Profit, gain, benefit*.  Cf. E. benefice*.  Tout moun fè komès pou fè benefis Everybody gets into business to derive some profit from it.

benefisye vi To profit (by), to benefit*.

benevolman adv Listlessly, without care.

benezwèl la, benndezwèl la n Type of fighting cock, without feathers on parts of the body (neck, legs, etc.). Originally from Venezuela*.

beng Ding (onom).  Sound of a bell.

beni vt To bless.  Bondye va beni ou God will bless you (reward).  Beni bag To marry.

benis Dye benis  God bless you.  (Phrase which is generally uttered when one sneezes).


benitye a, bennitye a n Holy-water basin; baptismal font.

benlengendeng nan n Junk, paraphernalia, odd objects, useless possessions.

benn vt 1. To bend*.  Yo benn li ak manti They packed him with lies.  2. To beat hard, to give a good thrashing.

beny lan n  (Same as ben an) Bath.  Also: ritual bath.  Beny chans A special bath to bring you luck.

benyè a n Person who gives the last bath to the deceased.

benyen 1 vt To bathe, to give a bath to.  vi To take a bath, to bathe.

benyen an 2 n Fritter, beignet*.

benywa a, beywa a  n Washtub, bathtub.  (usu) Refers to a metal, portable one. The bathtub which is a concrete fixture is called ‘basen’.

benzolive a, benzoliv la n Horseradish tree.  Moringa oleifera Lam.

bere vt 1. To butter*.  L’ap bere pen’l He is buttering his bread.  2. (fig) To butter up, to treat well, to pamper.  Lé m’fin bere mseye, m’ap pran sa m’vle nan men’l  After I’ve buttered the man up, I get what I want from him.

berè a, bere a n Bonnet.  Beret*.

berejèn nan, berejenn nan n Eggplant.

bese vt To lower, to minimize. To put down, to reduce.  Bese volim nan Put the volume down.  vi To decline, to sink, to diminish, to go down. To subside (floodwater). It is also said of a sick person whose health is deteriorating:  Malad la ap bese The patient’s health is deteriorating.

beseleve To perform various chores in a house.  Samdi se jou beseleve Saturday is the day to take care of the chores at home.

bèso a n Cradle.

bestyo n Cattle.

bèt 1 attrib Stupid.

bèt 2 n Beast*, animal.  (pl) cattle.  Ti bèt Insect.  Fè bèt  To be plentiful, to abound.  Nan jaden’, pye mango fè bèt In his garden, mango trees are plentiful.  Bèt chay Beast of burden.  Pran bèt 1. To acquire knowledge.  2. To copy from s.o. else’s paper during an examination, to cheat.  Also:  pran poul.

betiz la n Nonsense, foolishness, absurdity; obscenities; insults.  Mete nan betiz  (or)  Pase nan betiz  To ridicule, to sneer (at).  Si ou pa rete, m’ap di ou kèk betiz  If you don’t stop, I’m going to cuss (curse) you out.

betize vt To kid, to joke, to ridicule.  vi To talk foolishly; to fool around.

betize a n Kidder, one who is not serious, one who raves on.

beton an, breton an n Cement, concrete, beton*; pavement.  Beton ame Reinforced concrete.  Koule beton sou kay la Cover the roof with concrete.  Li sou beton an He is walking the streets (or) He is out of work.

bètrav la, bètrouj la n Beet*.

bètrouj V bètrav

bètseren an, bèt seren an n 1. Soldier, guard.  2. Night owl (person).

bètvolay la, bèt volay la n Fowl.

bèzè a n Fop; vainglorious, conceited ass.

bezig la n Bezik* (card game).
bezwen vt To need, to have to. *Ou pa bezwen plenn* There is no need to complain.

bezwen an n Need, necessity. (euph) for haka. *Fè bezwen* To defecate.

bi a n Aim, target, purpose. *Nan ki bi ou fe sa?* What did you do that for?

bi a n Goal (in soccer). (syn) gòl.

bib V labib bibi attrib Sick, ailing (baby talk).

bib a n Biceps.

bibikrankran an n Something hard to get rid of. (syn) pongongon. *Fi sa a se yon bibikrankran pou li* He is stuck with that woman.

bibit interj (onom)  Boom! (Sound of something falling, of heavy footsteps).

bibliyotèk la, bibyotèk la, biblotèk la n Library.

biblo a n Small decorative statue in a room. *Fann nan se yon biblo* That woman is a beauty.

bibon an, bibron an n Baby’s bottle with the nipple.

bich la n Chunk, a big piece.

bichèt la n Round tray made chiefly of palm leaves or reeds.

bichèt la n Baby’s bottle with the nipple.

bikabonat la n Baking soda. Bicarbonate*.

bikini an n Bikini* (two piece bathing suit for women).

bikwach la n Type of bread made from manioc. It is also called *bobori*.

bil la n Bubble*. *Bil savon* Soap bubble.

bil la n Bile*. *Brase bil* (or) *bouyi bil* To torment, to trouble. *Tout parol sa yo tap chofe bil mwen* All these words were getting me hot (angry).

biling nan n Building*, edifice, structure, house.

biliwin nan, bilirin nan n Alcoholic beverage, liquor. *Li anba biliwin* He is drunk.

bilten an n Report card (elementary school).

bilye V bliye

bimen vt To beat, to hit, to thrash, to pound, to rough up, to smash, to crush mercilessly, to kick a person with a vengeance. *Li bimen nonm nan lan gou’l* He beat the man to his heart’s content.

bip interj (onom) Boom! (Sound of something falling, of heavy footsteps).

biren an n Chisel.

biro a, biwo a n Bureau*; office; desk.

bis la n Bust* (of a statue). *Gen yon bis Desalin nan mize a* There is a bust of Dessalines in the museum.

bisèp la n Biceps*.

bisiklèt la n Bicycle*, bike. V bekàn.

biskad V anbiskad

biske vt 1. To lurk. Also: biske kò. 2. To powder up, to beautify one’s self.

biskèt la n Cartilage at the lower end of the sternum (breastbone). Xiphoid appendix. Cf. Fr. brechet* and E. brisket*. *Biskèt tonbe* Displacement of the sternum causing vomiting, fever, etc. *Kèl sou biskèt* He was extremely anxious and worried at what would happen.

biskuit la, biswit la, bisuit la n Roll (never sweet), consequently, perhaps not to be translated as ‘cookies’ which one would usually call ‘biskuit dous’ or ‘bonbon’. *Biskuit sale* Crackers. Also Biscuit*.

bisuit V biskuit

bit attrib Huge. *Yon gro bit chen* A huge dog.

bit la n Mound; hilly place.

bitad la n Misstep, tripping.

bitasyon n A lot of, many.

bitasyon V abitation
bitay la n Stumbling, fall.
bitch la n Beach* (American neologism). V plaj.
bite vt To bank up earth around a plant, to prop. vi To stumble, to trip. Mwen bite, m’manke pran yon so I tripped; I almost fell. Bite sou To stumble upon, to run into, to bump into (by chance).

biten an 1 n Booty*.
biten an 2 n Things, belongings.
biva a n Blotting (absorbing) paper.
bivèt la n Bar where refreshments are served at a dance. V kanniz.
biy la n Marble (toy).
biya a n Billiards *, pool (game). Bel pati biya It’s wonderful! FRANKETIENNE/D-275: Bel pati biya, lè men nou kwazè kontre ak zakhél!
biye V abiye 2
biyot la n Block of wood (usu) used as a seat.
biza attrib Bizarre*, queer.
bizango a n Evildoer belonging to a group (folklore). FRANKETIENNE/D-251: Bizango danse kalinda nan kalfou.
bizayèl la, bizawèl la n Great greatgrandparent.
biznaw n Something. Ban’m yon ti biznaw Give me a little something. Pa yon biznaw Nothing at all.
biznis la n Business*; (usu) illegal profit, contraband, black market.
biznismann nan n Businessman* (Often pejorative).
blabla, ablabla, rablabla, blablabla vi To talk nonsense, to trifle; to babble.
blad la n 1. Bladder*. Also: blad pise, blad pipi. 2. (play) Balloon.
blag la n Joke, figment of the imagination, story, fib. Fe blag (or) Blage To joke. Blag apa I’m not kidding. This is no joke. This is for real. Ban’m yon blag Tell me a joke.
blage vi To talk, to chat, to tell stories, to joke. Yo pito blage pase yo travay They like to chat more than to work.
blagè a n Teller of tall stories.
blakaout la, blakawout la n Black-out*, power failure.
blakbòl la, plakbòl la n Shoe polish.
blakin nan n Shoe polish. From E. Blacking*.
blam nan, blanm nan n Blame*, censure, rebuke.
blame, blamen, blammen vt To scold, to blame* severely, to reprimand, to chide, to rebuke.
blan 1 attrib White. Dra blan White sheet, shroud. kite’l an blan Leave it (in) blank. Blan tankòu dan zonbi White as snow.
blanbaleln nan, blan balenn nan n Candle made from whale blubber.
blanch attrib White. (Used in certain phrases only). Faum blanch White woman. Dan blanch White teeth.
blanchi vt To whiten, to bleach*. To kill with a bullet. vi 1. To turn pale. Tout rouj blanchi Everything red fades. 2. To have gray hair. M’wè ou fin blanchi I see your hair has turned gray.
blanchisri a n Laundry.
blanm V blam
blanmen V blame
blanpoul la, blan poul la n Breast (of chicken).
blanze a, blan ze a n White of eggs.
blayi 1 vt 1. To spread. To spread the wash to dry, usually on white stones, to bleach in the sun. 2. To knock s.o. down with a hard blow. M’wè nèg la blayi atè a I saw the man lying on the ground.
blayi a 2 n Stone pile where one spreads the linen (wash) to dry. Tann rad yo sou blayi a pou yo sa seche Spread the clothes on the pile to dry.
blayisman an n Spreading, spread; influence. Stasyon radyo sa a gen anblayisman This radio station has widespread influence.
blaze attrib Faded (clothes); faded out (person).
ble 1 n & attrib Blue*. Ble maren Navy blue. Ble digo Indigo blue. Gro ble Blue material to make clothes.
ble 2 vt To overwhelm. Li ble’m anba manti He filled me up with lies. He made me (black and) blue*.
ble a 3 n Wheat.
bléég la n Trouble, problem. Chomaj lage’m lan blég My unemployment is causing me trouble.
blende vt To fill up s.o. with, to give plenty. M’blende’l ak hou I beat the hell out of him. Li blende ak lajan He is filthy rich.
blennm, blèm attrib 1. Pale, colorless. 2. Boring, simple, uninteresting. Ou fe tròp tenten, ou blennm You do too many foolish things; you’re boring.
blero a, bleyo a, bliyo a n Shaving brush.
blese vt To wound, to hurt, to injure; to offend; to wound one’s self. *Nan tranbleman tè ki fet la, gen twa mil moun ki blese* As a result of the earthquake, 3000 persons were wounded.

blesi a n Wound, sore, injury.

blije V oblije

bliyadò a n Forgetful person.

bliye, bilye (pop) vt To forget. Bliye kò: To forget one’s self.

bliyo V bliero

blo a n Blow*, hit.

blof la n Blow*, natural stone block; building material, block*, such as cinder block. *Blòk glas* Block of ice. *M'chita sou yon blòk* I’m cool as a cucumber. I’m not worried. I keep calm. Also used in the meaning of ‘to form a solid block’; ‘blockade’; ‘street block’, square. *Blòk motè* Motor block. *Blòk bwa* Block of wood. Also: madriye.

blofe vt To bluff*.

blofè a n Bluffer*.

blofèt la n Block*, natural stone block; building material, block*, such as cinder block. *Blòk glas* Block of ice. *M'chita sou yon blòk* I’m cool as a cucumber. I’m not worried. I keep calm. Also used in the meaning of ‘to form a solid block’; ‘blockade’; ‘street block’, square. *Blòk motè* Motor block. *Blòk bwa* Block of wood. Also: madriye.

bloke vt To block* (in soccer game); to hamper; to stop.

blokis la n 1. Roadblock*. *Gen blokis, m’pa kab al Kalfou* There is a roadblock; I can’t go to Kalfou. 2. Problem, hindrance.

blon an n A blond* (man).

blond lan n A blond* (woman).

blouz la n Blouse*; doctor’s uniform.

blouzon an n Shirt (for children).

bo 1 vt To kiss, to embrace. *Youn bo lòt* They kiss(ed) each other. vi To kiss. Also a noun: a kiss.

bo 2 adv In vain, in spite of. *Yo bo di’l* They told him in vain (a thousand times). *Li bo eseye* Try as he may.

bò 1 prep Is used as a preposition, an adverb, etc. As a preposition, it means close to, by, beside, near. It is often associated with the word ‘kote’ and the complete preposition is ‘bò kote’ or ‘bò kot’. Here are some expressions with the word ‘bò’.* Abò, a bò* On board*, aboard*. *Bò isi, bò isit, bò isi a, bò isit la* Here, this way, on this side. *Bò la a* Over here. *M’pa sou bò ou* I ain’t bothered about you. *Lòt bò, lòt bò a* Yonder, over there, on the other side. *Kibò ou rete?* Where do you live?

bò a 2 n Side, edge; half (of an object); part, section.
bòk la  n  1. (bot) Peduncle, tail (of a banana stalk). 2. The entire apparatus for administering an enema.

bokal la  n Jar.

bòkè a, bòkyè a  n  Hardening of saliva at the corners of the mouth. It may result from cheilosis, an abnormal condition of the lips, characterized by scaling of the surface and fissuring of the corners of the mouth. FRANKE-TIENNE/B-55: \textit{Li touyen yon albinòs je veron, dyòl bòkyè...}

bòkèt  Klou bòkèt Nail with a large head.

bokit la  n Metal or wooden bucket*, pail. \textit{Yon bokit... A lot of... many}

boko a  n Cask. \textit{Yo achte yon boko lanmori They bought a barrel of codfish.}

bòkò a  n Witchdoctor, medicine man, sorcerer.

bòkote, bòkot, bò kote, bò kot  prep Near, beside, close to; in comparison with. PRESSOIR-21: \textit{Li vole bòkote lamp la It flew close to the lamp. V bò.}

bokou  adv Much. It is heard in the expression: \textit{Mézi bokou Thank you very much. CELESTIN-MEGIE/3-43: Wi, mis, mézi bokou.}

bòks la  n Boxing*. \textit{Yon match bòks A boxing match.}

bokse, boske  vi To box*, to fight.

boksè a  n Boxer*.

bòkyè  V bòkè

bòl 1  attrib Bald*. \textit{Poul bòl} Chicken with plucked tail. \textit{Tet bòl} Bald-headed.

bòl la  n Bowl*, basin. \textit{Li nan bòl li He is in his own ball park; things are looking good for him. Plen bòl To give to the fullest. FRANKETIENNE/B-41: Plen bòl mwen ra dyòl.}


bòlé t la  n Lottery. Numbers game. Sp. boleta.

bolid la, bolit la  n  1. Bolid*, fireball. 2. A genius, a brilliant person.

bolin nan  n Revolver.

bolit la  n Jargon used by young people (In the city of Gonaïves).

boliva a  n Bag, sack (straw).

boloze  vi To joke, to babble, to ramble. (syn) ranse.

bòlwivèla la  n Bolwivel*. This insect is found mostly in cotton bushes.

bòmdèvi a, bonmdèvi a  n A medicinal plant.

bon an 1  n Leap, jump.

bon, bòn  2  attrib (The form bòn is used with some Creole words which are feminine in French). Good, fine, proper, suitable; well. \textit{Santi bon To smell good. Se bon pou li It serves him right. Bon lan bouch Delicious, yummy. A kwa bon? What’s the use? Pi bon Better, best. (‘Miyò’ is somewhat antiquated). Tout bon In all seriousness, in earnest. Si'l bon, di’l bon Isn’t that wonderful. Bon kou Many, a lot, much. Te gen bon kou moun There were a lot of people. Li se bon jan kriminèl He is a real criminal. Se bon It serves you right (It is also used to express a slight threat). Bon mache Cheap. Bòn chans Good luck. Li se yon bòn pèsòn She is a good person. Bòn ane Happy new year. Yon bòn fwa Once and for all. Bòn konduit Good behavior. ‘Bon nouvèl: Name of a monthly publication in Haiti of 35,000. Has been in existence for four decades; entirely in Creole, directed by Pè Joris Ceuppens until his death in 1983 and continues till today.

bònnan 1  n Milestone, boundary, marker.

bonnan 2  n Maid, servant girl; nurserymaid (of babies).

bònatoufè a  n All purpose maid.

bònatout la  n All purpose maid.

bonbade  vt To bomb*, to shell.

bonbe, rebonbe  vt To puff out, to distend (one’s chest, etc.). \textit{Msye bonbe do’l pou’l pote chay la This man arches his back in order to carry the load.}

bonbon an  n Cake, candy, cupcake, cookies, sweet rolls, goodies, bonbons*.

bonbon siro  n Cake, candy, cupcake, cookies, sweet rolls, goodies, bonbons*.

bonbon fwa  n Type of cake that looks like gingerbread.

bonbonfle 1  attrib Puffed (up), swollen.

bonbonfle 2  n 1. An insect that stings. 2. A slight threat.

bonboun  n 1 Type of cake that looks like gingerbread.

bonboun fle 1  attrib Puffed (up), swollen.

bonboun fle 2  n 1. An insect that stings. 2. A worthless person. FRANKETIENNE/P-14: \textit{Mwen grandi lan yon katye bade ak bigay, bonbonfle.}

bonbonyen an  n A medicinal plant. Lantana aculeata L.

bona V bounda

bondans  n  \textit{Yon bondans A lot of, an abundance* of.}

bonde  attrib Filled with, full of; full to overflowing.

bondi  vi To jump. \textit{Boni sou To jump upon.}


bòne  vt  1. To mark the boundary. To limit. 2. Restricted (limited in intelligence).

bòné a 1  n Luck, fortune, happiness.

bòné a, bonèt la, bonèt la 2  n Bonnet*.

bòne, bonne, bòné  3  adv Early. \textit{L’a vini madi maten bonè He will come early Tuesday morning.}

bònfwa a  n Goodwill. CELESTIN-MEGIE/2-118: \textit{Fòk...ou al prouve ou genyen plis bòn-fwa.}
bonga a, boga n A toad.
bonis la, bonnis la n Bonus*.
bonit la, bonnit la n Frigate mackerel (a fish).
Auxis thazard.
bonjou n Good morning. Greetings. Dîl bonjou pou muen Give my regards to him (or) Say ‘hello’ to him.
bonjou parenn n Said in describing clothes, hats or shoes that do not fit.
bonkè a n Kind heart, compassion.
bonkou, bon kou adv Much, plenty, quite a few. Li gen bonkou lajan He has a lot of money.
bonmache, bon mache, bôme mache attrib Cheap (inexpensive).
bonmas la n Good people. Dyab mele ak bonmas All types of people, good and bad.
bonmaten, bon maten adv Early in the morning.
bonmen V anbonmen
bonnanj la, bôn anj la n Common sense.
bonnas attrib Overly good, naive.
bonnonm nan, bonôm nan n Person, man, fellow.
bonsans la, bon sans la n Common sense*, intelligence. Kote bonsans ou? Where is your common sense?
bonswa interj Good afternoon, good evening, good night.
bonswadannm nan n 1. Last dance of a ball. 2. (fig) Very late in a procedure. FRANKE-TIENNE/D-178: N’ap regle sa menm lan bonswadann.
bonite a n Kindness, goodness. Nonm nan pa rich, men se bonte’l ki konte The man is not rich, but his kindness is overwhelming.
bônvolonte a, bôn volonte a n Willingness.
bonvoulwa a, bon vouwa a n Good disposition. Benevolence. M’pat oblije fè sa pou ou, se bon vouwa’m si’m fe’l I was not obliged to do that for you; I did it only out of the goodness of my heart.
bopè a, bôpè a n Father-in-law; stepfather.
borôm nan, bôwom nan n Superman, bouncer (pej). In some secret societies, e.g. the ‘sanpewl’, the person whose job it is to put to test new members.
bòs la 1 n (antîq) Buggy.
bòs la 2 n Hump, bump.
bosal 1 attrib Wild, untamed; not yet broken in (of animals); rough and tough, uncouth; said also of a person who has not been baptized.
bosal la 2 n The bridle (bit) with blinkers with which to train young horses.
bosi 1 attrib Hunchback.
bosi a 2 n Hunchback.
boske V bokse 1
boske V bouske 2
bosko Hunchback(ed). Ou vle geri bosko ou sou muen You want to find solace in s.o. else. You want to become well-off at my expense.
bòt la 1 n Boot*. Also: bòt soulye.
bòt la 2 n Blow, thrust, hit. Bòt salyè Blow on the shoulder blade.
botay V brotay
bote a n Beauty*; a handsome person. Se yon bote She is a beauty. Trou bote Dimple.
botin nan n Small boot*.
bouboun nan n 1. Bottom, end, buttocks. 2. Vagina. (usu) Refers to the genitals of a young girl.
boubout la n Girl friend; darling, beloved.
boubou la, bouboul la n Soursop juice.
boubay la n Any mixed up matter.
bouch la n Mouth, spout. V dyôl. Bouchdensandi Fire-plug. Bouch latrin Toilet seat. Pe bouch ou Shut up. Machin nan chavire bouch anba lan ravin nan The car turned upside down in the ravine, with the four wheels in the air. Bouch muen chape It escaped me; it slipped out; I said it unintentionally. Gen bouch (or) Gen lang To have a foul tongue (to speak evil about people). Bouch be Baffled, surprised. Mete bouch, fourou bouch To add one’s two cents’ worth, one’s personal opinion; to meddle. Fè bouch yon moum To coach s.o., to tell him what to say to a third party. Pa ban’m bouch (or) Pa mete bouch ou sou muen Don’t mention such evil things, they might happen (to me). Ou pat ban’m bouch pou m pale You didn’t give me time to speak. Sa’k rive a si grav m’pa gen bouch pou m pale What happened is so serious I can’t even talk about it. Fè kwa sou bouch ou Swear never to say it again. Li gen bouch dous He is very convincing; he can sweet-talk you. Li gen bouch aîlêe He is indiscreet, he can’t keep a secret. He’s a blabbermouth.
bouche 1 vt To clog, to stop up; to block (the view), to hide. PRESSOIR-9: An giz yo bouche soley la Instead of blocking the sun. Li bouche figi’l ak men’l He hides his face in his hands.
bouche a ² n  Mouthful. Li fè yon sèl bouche avèl’ He made one mouthful out of it.
bouche a ³ n  Butcher*.
bouchi V lanbouchi
bouchon an n  Stopper, bottle cap. Bouchon radyaṭe Radiator cap.
bouchonnen vt  To close with a stopper, a cork or a cap.
bouchri a n  Slaughterhouse.
bouda V bounda
boude vi  To pout, to be sulky; to be discontented.
bouden an n  1. Arse. Bouden’m ap rache anba travay I’m exhausted from overwork. 2. The insides of the stomach, of a fruit. 3. Type of blood sausage. 4. Lie, trickery, falsehood; fib, white lie. M’pap pran bouden sa a I won’t swallow that. Bay bouden To lie, to deceive; to tell fibs. Bouden gri 1. A lie. 2. A despicable person. Espèès bouden gri You! Good for nothing!
boudich la n  Bucktooth.
boudonnen vi  To buzz.
boufi attrib Swollen, puffed up.
boug la, bouk la n  Bugger*, fellow, guy, chap.
bougalong nan n  Type of venereal disease causing a constant drip.
bougenvilye a n  (bot) Bougainvillea*. Named after L. A. de Bougainville (1789).
bougon an n  Corn cob.
bougonnen ¹ vi  To mumble, to grumble (protest) under one’s breath.
bougommen an ² n  Sweet ball of popcorn (like a round mass of candy with syrup). Also called: bougonnen granmoun, bougonnen mayi.
bouje vi  To move, to shift; to budge*. Pa bouje Stand still.
boujonnen vi  To sprout, to bud, to shoot out, to burgeon*.
boujwa a (m), boujwaz la (fem) n  Aristocrat. Cf Bourgeois*. MORISSEAU-REMY/D-25: Ga boujwaz k’ap monte nan machin ou There are aristocrat women getting into your car.
boujwazi a n  Aristocracy.
bouk ¹ Piman bouk, a very pungent hot pepper.
bouk la ² n  Billy-goat. Santi bouk To stink like a goat. Also: bouk kabrit, mal kabrit. Cf. E. buck*.
bouk la ³ n  Buckle*, curl, ringlet. Boukdorèy la Ear-ring.
bouk la ⁴ n  Village, bourg*.
boukan an, boukanidife a n  Outdoor open fire of twigs, etc.; barbecue (pit). Formerly temporary quarters for buccaneers*.
boukannen vt  To roast (strips of meat, corn, etc.) on an open fire, to barbecue, to grill. V kannen. Je boukannen Eye without eyelashes. Mayi boukannen Roast corn.
boukantay la n  Exchange, barter, swap. Cf. trôk.
boukante vt  To exchange, to swap.
boukara a n  Rocky soil.
bouke ¹ attrib Tired, wearied, fatigued, pooped (out). Li bouke ak fann sa a He’s tired of (fed up with) that woman.
bouke ² Stop...(Imperative). Bouke pale moun mal Stop talking bad about people. Bouke rele Stop shouting.
bouke a ³ n  Bunch of flowers, bouquet*.
boukèt la n  Group, gathering, clump. Boukèt raje (ou) touf raje Small grove.
bouki n  Bouki, the name of a legendary stupid, foolish person in Haitian folklore. Any stupid person can be called ‘bouki’.
boukle ¹ vt  To buckle*; to clasp, to curl (hair). Nou nan tan di, nou fèt pou boukle ren nou We’re going through difficult times; we have to tighten our belts. Also: mare ren nou.
boukle ² attrib Sterile, barren. Kabrit la boukle The goat cannot bear young.
bouklèt la n  Small curl (of hair).
boukman n  Chèfboukman: the local representative of a political candidate.
boul la n  Ball* (toy; round object); pimple, boil, bump; clot; lump. Labouyi a boulbou The porridge is full of clots. Boul grès Grease bubble. Boul lazi Wax bubble. Boul nan do Bump on the back. Boul san Blood clot.
boula a n  The smallest drum of the rada group of drums. Boula boulou ou Do your thing. Ban’in boula ou (or) Kouman w’ap boula? How are you?
boulanje a n  Baker.
boulanjri a n  Bakery.
boulatecha Anboulatecha Troubled.
boulay la n  1. Each round (match) of a cock fight. 2. Odd job (DYESIFO).
boulboulo attrib Lumpy (food). Labouyi a boulbou The porridge is lumpy.
bouldimas V boulmas
bouldozè a n  Bulldozer*.
boule, brile  vt  To burn, to consume.  vi  To blow out (a bulb); to flunk an examination; to exert oneself; to get burned; to burn up; to do one’s thing; to get along; to deal (with).  Examples and expressions:  Alkôl sou blesi boule  On a wound, alcohol stings.  Kay mwen pran dije, li boule  My house caught on fire and burned down.  Kouman madanm ou ap boule avèw?  How is madame treating you?  Fè ti dije boule  To incite two parties to fight.  Boule boulew  Do your thing.  Boule zen ‘Burning the pot’; the name of a ritual in which the ‘hounsi’ is elevated to the rank of ‘kanzo’ (COURLANDER).


boulin nan  n  Great speed, velocity.  FARDIN-17:  Yo ale yo tounen tout boulin They’re going and coming as fast as possible.  Li pete yon boulin He dashed out.

boumasas, bouldimas la  n  Type of medicinal plant. Rhoeo discolor.

boulòk la, laboulòk  n  An unsatisfactory, confused explanation.

boulon an  n  Bolt, pin.  Sere boulon  To tighten a bolt.  (fig)  To clamp down (on someone).

boullonen  vt  To bolt, to pin.

boulpik la  n  1. Main marble used in a marble game.  2. One’s preference, passion, thing, love.

bouskile  vt  To shove, to hussle.

bouskay la, brousay la  n  Brushas.  3. Scholaship (study award).

bouse a  n  Small inside pocket in the front of the trousers.  Cf. E. Gusset.

bousòl la  n  Type of hard candy.

boulym  interj  Boum!

boumba a  n  Canoe carved out of a tree-trunk.  Mwen nan boumba  I’m in a hull of a boat.  I’m in trouble.

bouda a, bonda a, bouda a  n  Buttocks, arse, ass, rectum, the behind, rear, bottom.  V bouboun.  Bounda ouvè  Without limit, all the way.  Tou sa se bounda nini  It’s a lot of nonsense.  Bounda’t rov, li vle pete kare  He wants to swallow more than he can chew.  He wants to go beyond his limits.

bourad  n  Push, shove, thrust; boost.

bourad  vt  To push, to shove.  Li bourad do’m  He shook me on the back.

bourara a  n  Raucous, noise.
boute, broute vi To graze, to nibble.

boutèy la n Bottle*.

bouti a n Cutting (from a plant).

bouti V abouti 2

boutik la n Shop, boutique*, general store. A large store is a magazen.


boutonnen vi To button*. vi To sprout (buds).

boutonnyè a, boutonyè a n Button-hole*.

bouva a n A young bull (ox), calf.

bouya a, brouya a n Fog.

bouyay la, brouyay la n 1. Predicament, difficulty, trouble. Li te trè byen men yo lage li nan bouyay He was all right, but they put him in a lot of trouble. 2. Interference (static); noise.

bouye vt To confuse, to mix up, to embroil*. W'ap bouye'm You are confusing me.

bouyi 1 vt To boil*. Bouyi dlo To boil water. vi To boil. Dlo bouyi vit Water boils fast. To rumble (stomach).

bouyi a V labouyi 2

bouyivide a n Said of carelessly and hastily prepared food.

bouyon an n 1. Broth, soup (generally very thick, with meat, plantains, yams, cresses, carrots, radishes, etc.). 2. Draft (rough). Elev yo fè dèvwa yo o bouyon anvan yo mete’l a o pròp The students make a rough draft of their homework before the finished (good) copy.

bouyonnne vi To bubble (culin).

bouzen an n 1. Prostitute. 2. Loose woman, one who goes after men. V arona.

bouziye vt To daub.

bouziyèt la, breziyèt la n Type of medicinal plant. Comocladia glabra Spreng.

bow interj Bang!

bòy attrib One-eyed; blind.

boya a n Mason’s hawk (to carry mortar).

bòykote vt To boycott*.

boyo a, bwayo a n 1. Bowels, intestines, guts. 2. Courage, guts. 3. Type of cheap rubber shoes.

bòzò attrib Elegant. Fè bòzò To show off, to parade.

bra 1 Variant of bua. PAURIS-63: Seren pran zo bra tèt pou piyay.

bra a n Arm. Kase bra To discourage. Move nouvèl sa a kase bra’m This terrible news put me down.

brabako V babako

braban an n Cotton cloth (from Brabant*).

brade vt To clamp.

bradsi bradsou adv Arm in arm.

bragèt la, bwagèt la n Fly (of trousers).

brake 1 vt To sweeten somewhat (e.g. coffee).

brake 2 vt To aim and point at. Li brake revòlvè sou mwen He pointed a revolver at me. Brake ak To meet, to bump into.

branch la n 1. Bough, branch* (tree), limb. 2. Specialty, field.

branka a n Stretcher, litter. Cf sivyè.

brankèt la n Stand (vendor’s).

branl anbranl, an branl In motion, agitated.

branrany, branhany attrib Sterile.

bras la, bwas la n Stroke (swimming); batch (of mortar); span of the arm (measurement); fathom.

brasa a n Armband.

brase vt To stir, to mix. Brase afè To stir up (handle) business. Brase kat yo byen Mix the cards well. Brase mòtye a Mix the mortar.

brasèdafè a n Broker, wheeler-dealer. Cf. koutye.

brasle a n Bracelet*, armband, wristband.

braslemont la n Wrist-watch.

brassyè a, brasye a n Swaddling clothes with long sleeves which are put on newborn babies.

brav attrib Valiant, brave*, courageous.

bravedanje To be brave*, audacious, fearless. Ala moun bravedanje That person is really flirting with danger.

bravo a n Bravo*, cheer, applause. Universally used Italianism. Bat bravo To cheer, to applaud, to agree, to clab (hands).

bravou a n Bravery*.

brè V bwè

breche attrib Notched. Kouto a te breche The knife was notched.

brèf attrib Curt, rough, fiery. Nan pwen moun brèf tankou’l No one snaps at you like that.
bren\(^1\) attrib Brown*.

bren an, brenn nan, brin nan, fébren\(^2\) n Twilight. *Nou lan fébren* It’s dusk.

bren nan \(n\) Young man, young woman. *Yon gran bren nan, l’ap aji tankou timoun* That big so-and-so is acting like a little child.

brennan, bwenn nan \(n\) Intelligence, brains*.

brenn nan, bwenn nan \(n\) Young man, young woman. *Yon gran breng konsa, l’ap aji tankou timoun* That big so-and-so is acting like a little child.

brennen \(V\) brannen

brenzeng, brennzeng, bwenzeng \(n\) Irritated, exasperated, temperamental.*

breson \(V\) bwason

brès \(V\) bwat

brete \(V\) bwate

bretèl la \(n\) Suspenders.

breton an, breton mayi \(n\) A type of hard candy similar to nougat or peanut taffy made of pop-corn and sugar cane syrup.

brevay la \(n\) Beverage*.

brevè \(n\) Diploma awarded for at least two years beyond elementary school (brevè semp) or three years (brevè siperyè). *Ou se yon mantè, m’ba’w brevè w* You are a master liar; I take my hat off to you.

brevyè \(n\) Breviary*.

breziyèt la \(n\) Merriment during a wake.

brik \(n\) Brick*, bar. *Brik savon* Bar of soap.

brigo a \(n\) (Cigarette) lighter.

brile \(V\) boule

brili a \(n\) Burn.

brimad la \(n\) Torment, trouble(s), misery.

brin \(attrib\) Brown (woman). (syn) brinèt.

brinèt la \(n\) Black skinned (brown) woman. *FARDIN-16: Vivan kon you souri brinèt* As lively (brilliant) as the smile of a brunette.

brini \(vt\) To darken.

bris \(n\) Tens and aces in a card game called ‘bezig’. *Konbyen bris ou fé? How many tens and aces (briscole) do you have?*

briskeman \(adv\) Suddenly.

brit \(attrib\) Crude, brute*.

brital \(attrib\) Violent, rough, brutal*, brute*, dangerous (a curve, for instance).

brivan \(attrib\) Brilliant*, bright, intelligent.

briz la, labriz \(n\) Breeze*. *Labriz vante tou le swa* There is a breeze every evening.

brize \(vt\) To break. (fig) kraze brize.

brizfe a \(n\) Destructive individual. A person who can’t handle an object without ruining it.

bròch la \(n\) Brooch*.

broche a, brochét la \(n\) Pike (fish). Centropomus pectinatus.

brod \(Fè bròd\) To be ostentatious, to show off, to want to be catered to.

brode, bode \(vt\) To embroider*.

bròdè \(attrib\) Chic, elegant, coquettish, ostentatious. *Fè bròdè* To show off, to be ostentatious (Not pej).

bròdri a \(n\) Embroidery*.

bròkèt Klou bròkèt Tack (small nail).
bronchit la n Bronchitis*.
bronze la n Bronze*.
brose vt To brush*.
brotay la, botay la n The act of changing residence, moving, transporting. Bét brotay Beast of burden.
L'ap fe brotay aswè a He is moving tonight.
brote, bote vt To carry, to take away. vi To move (to another house).
broute V boute
brouyay la V brouyay la
bwa a n 1. Wood, board, lumber, timber; woods, forest, backwoods. 2. Penis, dick. 3. Beating. 4. V brà=arm. Examples and expressions: Li pran bwa; li bwaze He ran away, he has taken to the hills, he left in a hurry. ‘Bwa’ is also used in the vocative in the meaning of ‘man’, ‘person’. Bwa, kote ou prale? You there, where are you going? Kase bwa nan zòrèy yon moun To whisper sweet nothings into s.o.’s ear. Gro bwa Man of importance. Rak bwa Thicket. Even a small forest. Souch bwa Stump, log. Poud bwa Wood dust from worm holes or termite holes. Ba li bwa Give it all you got. Bat bwa Knock on wood. Bwa bale Broomstick. Bwa dife Burning stick of wood. Bwa tèt, so bwa tèt Skull. Bwa kou, so bwa kou Neck, neck bone. Bay yon moun yon bwa jouman To curse out s.o., to insult vehemently s.o. Bwa bourik A bamboo trumpet, also known as vaccines (COURLANDER). Bwa chabon Wood for making charcoal. Bwa chapant Building timber. Bwa chèch Dry wood V krik krak. Bwa chat (or) Bwachat In ‘al bwachat’, to die. Malad la al bwachat The sick man died. Bwa dan Toothpick (It’s really a vine which is used by peasants to clean their teeth). Fe yon moun sèvi bwa dan To abuse s.o., to mistreat s.o., to humiliate s.o. Bwa flo Light log out of which rafts are made (V pipirit). Bwa fouye (or) Bwa ron Dugout, canoe (A boat carved out of a tree trunk). Bwa lan nen Card game in which a pince-nez is placed as a punishment on the loser’s nose or ear. Bwa linèt Frame of eye-glasses. Bwa nif Part of a field or forest where all plants have been cut. Bwa pi ro (or) Bwa san fey Tall and skinny person.
bwa fe a n Ironwood, leadwood. Krugiodendron ferreum (Vahl) Urban.
bwa feblan an n (bot) Coffee colubrina. Colubrina arborescens (Mill.) Sarg.
bwa imòtèl la n (bot) Coral tree, mountain immortal. Micropteryx poepiggiana (Walp.) O. F. Cook.
bwa kochon an n 1. A plant. Tetragastris balsamifera (Sw) O. Ktze. 2. A beverage made of leaves of that plant, crushed in ‘kleren’ and considered an aphrodisiac. Such drinks are called ‘tranne’.
bwa mabi a n Soldier wood. Colobrina reclinata Brong.
bwa majò a n (bot) Piper aduncinata L. Joint wood.
bwa mit la n (bot) Spiceberry eugenia. Eugenia rhombea, Krug. and Urb.
bwa pal la n Swamp bloodwood. Pterocarpus officinalis Jacq.
bwa pen an n Pine* tree; brushwood, pine sticks to start a fire (It’s a resinous wood that burns easily and is used as a torch).
bwa pini a, bwa pina a n White-prickle. Martinique prickly-ash. Fagara martinicensis Lam. This tree is full of thorns.
bwa pwazon an n Bitterbush. Picramia pentandra Sw. Other name: vanyan gason.
bwa rouj la n American muskwood. Guarea trichilioides Sw.
bwa savonèt la n Wingleaf soapberry. Other names: grenn kannik, savonèt peyi. Sapindus saponaria L.
bwa sèd la n Cedar* tree.
bwa trompèt la n Trumpet tree. Cecropia peltata L.
bwadchenn nan, bwatchenn n Oak. V chèn.
bwadenn franse a n Bay-run tree. Pimenta racemosa (Mill.) J.W. Moore.
bwadòm nan n (bot) West Indian elm.
bwason an, bweson an, breson an n Drink; alcoholic beverage, alcohol. Li desann anpil bwason yè swa; li vin sou He drank a lot last night; he got drunk.
bwasonyè a, bwesonyè a, bresonyè a n Heavy drinker, guzzler, drunkard. V tafyatè.
bwat la, bwèt la, brèt la n 1. Box. 2. Tin can (milk, sardines, etc.). Bwat feblan Tin can. Gro bwat Crate. Bwat sekè Piggy bank.
bwate, bwete, brete vi To limp, to be lame, to hobble. Also: mache bwete.
bway la, ti bway la n Young boy*, lad.
bwaze, bweze vi To run away, to go into hiding, to go to the forest (bwa). Souvan le chat we chen li bwaze Often when a cat sees a dog, she runs away.
bwe a, bre a n Buoy.
bwè, brè vt 1. To drink, to absorb. 2. To drink alcoholic beverages. Li te konn bwè He used to drink. 3. To kill a fetus, to have an abortion. 4. To deceive. Examples and expressions: M’bwè pwa (or) M’bwèl I can’t guess it; I give up (Phrase used in answering riddles). M’ta di’w wi, men m’bwèl pou ou I could give you an answer,
but I’ll swallow it for now. DYESIFÔ: \textit{Bwè yon kafe annē ak yon moun} To have a showdown with s.o., to take revenge.

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textit{bwesōn} V bwason
  \item \textit{bwesonyè} V bwasonyè
  \item \textit{bwēt} V bwat
  \item \textit{bwete} V bwate
  \item \textit{bwi} V bri
  \item \textit{bye a} n Bias*, (slant) strip in dress making. \textit{An bye} On a bias.
  \item \textit{bye} a n Beer*.
  \item \textit{bye}l la n Connecting-rod (cars).
  \item \textit{byen} an \textit{1} n 1. Property, possessions, wealth. \textit{Moun rich gen anpil byen} Rich people have plenty of property. \textit{Byen san sue} Something for nothing. 2. Real estate (lot, house, etc.). 3. Welfare, good. \textit{Se pou prôp byen’w} It’s for your own good (welfare).
  \item \textit{byen} an \textit{2} adv & attrib. 1. Well, all right, very well. 2. Good, fine; in good health. \textit{Li te malad, men konnyea li byen} He was sick, but now he is in good health. 3. Quite, very, really. \textit{M’byen kontan} I am very happy. 4. On friendly terms, intimate. \textit{An’n byen ankò} Let’s make peace. Let’s be friends again.
  \item \textit{byenfè} a n A good deed.
  \item \textit{byenfèt} a n Benefactor*.
  \item \textit{byenke} conj Although, though. V kwak.
  \item \textit{byennere} attrib Carefree, blissful, free from (financial) worries. \textit{Ou se yon byennere Sen Jan Batis} You’re a happy fellow. You have no worries.
  \item \textit{byennèrèz} attrib Fortunate, happy. (Applied to female beings).
  \item \textit{byennêt} la n Well being, welfare, prosperity. The state of being well-off. \textit{Li nan byennêt li} He is well-off, things are looking good for him.
  \item \textit{byeye} vi To slant; to beat around the bush. \textit{Ase byeye, di bagay la karenman} Stop beating around the bush; give me a straight answer. CELESTIN-MEGIE/2-114: \textit{Yon moun ki pòp byeye dowvan blan ameriken}.
\end{itemize}

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textit{chabon} an n Charcoal, coal. \textit{Chabon dife} Burning coal.
  \item \textit{chabrak} la n 1. Saddle-cloth. 2. Old, rough garment. 3. \textit{Gro chabrak} Big shot, important person.
  \item \textit{chache} V chèche
  \item \textit{chadap} vi To shut up*. \textit{Chadap!} Shut your mouth!
  \item \textit{chadek} la, \textit{chadêt} la n Shadock*, type of pear-shaped grapefruit, smaller at one end. \textit{Citrus maxima} Merr.
  \item \textit{chadron} an, \textit{chadon} an n Sea urchin; thistle.
  \item \textit{chagren} an n Grief, sorrow, heartbreak. DEJAN-33: \textit{Nanm mwen chagren} My heart is full of sorrow. PRESSOIR-11: \textit{Lòt la di’l: chagren va tiye’m} The other one said to him: my heart is breaking. \textit{Bay chagren} To grieve.
  \item \textit{chagrenman} an n Sorrow, grief, heartbreak.
  \item \textit{chajè} a n Loader, hauler.
  \item \textit{chajman} an n Load, freight, cargo*, shipment (goods shipped). \textit{Chajman tèt} Worry, concern, problem, bother.
  \item \textit{chak} indef adj, pron Each, every; each one, everyone, everybody. \textit{Chak bagay la} To be overloaded (Some people say: chaj kou Legba) 2. To charge (a battery). \textit{Chajè tèt} To attack illegally in sports. 4. \textit{Chaje tèt} To trouble (s.o.)
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\begin{itemize}
  \item \textit{chal} la n Shawl*. \textit{Anba chal} Secretly, furtively. \textit{Tanzantan, l’ap gade’m anba chal} From time to time she casts furtive glances at me.
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  \item \textit{chalan} an n 1. Type of small boat without mast or sail used for transferring passengers and merchandise to a ship anchored in deep waters. 2. Police car used for transporting prisoners.
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  \item \textit{chalanta} n A mistress who is in a lower social level than her man.
  \item \textit{chalsoka} n A character parading at carnival time (Chales Oscar).
  \item \textit{chalot}, \textit{echalot}, \textit{zechalot} n Shallot*, scallion.
  \item \textit{chalou} la n Small boat, launch.
  \item \textit{cham} nan n 1. Charm*, grace. 2. Philter, love potion given to a man by a woman in order to
\end{itemize}
make him become attached to her.  

Yo bay nég sa a yon chams  
This man has been bewitched, charmed.

chame  vt To charm*, to seduce, to bewitch.

chamwa  n  Chamois*, shammy* (material).

chan  n  Field.  Cf. E. Camp*.  
Yon chan mayi  
A corn field.  Also: Yon jaden mayi.

chanbran la, chanbrann nan  
Frame (of door).

chanbre  n  Chambray* (a type of material to make dresses).

chanbrey  n  Vulner, loose woman; prostitute.

chanbrin la  n  Heavy sweater, pullover.

chandèl la  n  Candle*.  
M’ap mache nan fènwa;  
mwen pa wè.  
Limen yon chandèl pou mwen  
I’ve been walking in the dark.  I can’t see; light a candle for me.  
Ekonomi bout chandèl  
Poltry savings (practicing economy by saving candle butts).  
Limyè chandèl  
Candlelight.  
Bou chandèl  
Torchwood, candlewood.  
Amyris elemifera L.

chandelye  n  1. Candelabra*, chandelier*.  
2. Type of cactus.  
V  kandelab, rakèt.

chandriyon  V sandriyon

chanje  vi  To change*, to vary.  vt  To change*; 
to alter; to exchange*, to switch, to swap.  
Examples and expressions:  
Chanje vités  
To shift gears.  
Chanje bèt  
To change pastures.  
Chanje plas  
To change places, to move, to shift.  
Chanje lide  
To change one’s mind.  
Chanje yon chèk (or)  
Toouche yon chèk  
To cash a check.  
Chanje po  
To shed one’s skin.

chanjman  n  Change* (alteration).  
Pa gen okinn chanjman ki fèt nan proje  
A There were no changes made in the project.  
Chanjmanèd  
Change of climate (scenery, milieu).  
Chanjman vités  
Change of gears (car).

chank  n  Chancre*; skin ulcer, sore.  
Chankanèt  
Cancer sore on children’s lips.

chankre  vi  To take a side route, away from the 
straight path, to deviate.  
Li kom sa’l fe; li chankre  
sou kote pou’m pa we’l  
He knows what he has done.  
He went sideways so I wouldn’t see him.  vt  
To make a circular cut (sewing).  
3. To trim the hair on the forehead.

chamm  n  Room, bedroom.  
Yon bout chamm  
Kay  
One room apartment.  
Chanm gason  
Bachelor apartment.

chanpay  n  Champagne*.

chanpèt  attrib  Frivolous, loose (woman).

chaprèl, sanprèl, sanpèl, chanpwèl  
Secret group of evil doers (folklore).

chanpyon  n  Champion.*

chans  n  Luck, piece of good luck; chance*.  
Jou chans  
Lucky day.  
Li gen chans; li fèt ak kwaf  
He is lucky (he was born that way).  
(Neap. E nato cu la camisa).  
Se yon chans ou pran  
You are taking a gamble.  
Fann chans li  
A woman who brings good luck to him.

chanson  n  Song.  
Tout lajounen se yon sèl chanson  
The whole day long, he talks about the same thing.

chantay la, chantaj la  n  Blackmail, threat of 
slander, bluff.

chante  vt & vi  To sing, to chant*.  
Chante gam,  
fè gam  To boast.

chante  n  Song; singing; chirping, crowing.

chantè  n  Singer.

chantyion  V echantiyon

chantonnen  vt  To saw, to cut out in profile.

chantrèl  n  Female singer in a folkloric group (rara, Vodou).  
Renn chantrèl (or)  
Larenn chantrèl  
Leading singer in a folkloric singing group.

chantye  n  Construction site, place where building 
is in progress.

chanwan  n  1. Wood-owl.  
Lèd tankou chango  
Ugly and dirty as the devil.  
2. Secret group of evil doers (folklore).

chany  n  1. Shoe shine* (boy).  
Boat chany  
Shoe shine box.  
2. Riffraff.

chap  n  A brief absence, a short run (usually 
surreptitiously).  
Yon ti chap se touche tounen  
It’s touch and go.

chapant  n  1. Frame-work, timber, carpentry*.  
2. (Boss) chapant:  
Carpenter*.

chapantye  n  Carpenter*.

chapchawon, chapchawe  n  Filthy hangout, dirty 
meeting place, skidrow, ‘across the tracks’.

chape  vi  1. To slip away, to escape*.  
Li chape  
apre krim nan  
He got away after the crime.  
2. To survive.  
M’te gen senk pitit; twa mouri, de chape  
He knows what he has done.  
He went sideways so I wouldn’t see him.  vt  
To make a circular cut (sewing).  
3. To trim the hair on the forehead.

chapél  n  Chapel*, small church.

chapi  V chèpi

chapit  n  Chapter*.

chapiti  n  Soothsayer, fortune teller.  (Used 
mostly in the North).  V divinò.

chapito  Yon chapito  
A lot of, many.  V anpil.

chapel  n  Rosary.  
L’ap di chapel’  
He is saying the rosary.  
L’ap pase chapel  
He is fingering the beads while saying the rosary.

chapplèt  n  1. Dandruff on children.  
2. Cudgel, club, bludgeon, shillelagh; 
big, knotted stick.
chatbâ, chalbâ, chalbâr k n Mock serenade, tin-kettle music, discordant noise. Rele (fé) chatbâ To razz, to make a racket in disapproval. Yo rele chatbâ dèyè kondida a, paske yo pâ vie’l They razzed the candidate because they don’t like him.

chatboute a, chapchoute a n Sharpshooter*

chatiman an n Punishment, chastisement*. Tout moun ki fe krîm, fôk yo juenm chatiman All those who commit crimes must be punished.

chato a n Castle*; also said of any huge mansion.

chatouye vt To trouble, to tickle (the mind).

chatouyèt, satouyèt, zatouyèt, chatiyèt vt To tickle.

chatray la n Castration*. Sîzo chatray Scissors used in castrating animals.

chatre vt To castrate*.

chatrouj la, chatrouy la n Squid, calamary.

chtsourit V chôvsourit

chaviray la n A blow that knocks s.o. down.

chavire vt & vi To capsize, to topple, to turn over; to knock over, to keel over, to overturn.

chawa a n Porter.

chawaye vi To carry away. To move (cart) furniture to another house. V broke.

chay la, chaj la n Cargo*, load, freight; responsibility; illegal attack (in sports). Yon chay A lot of.

chayman an n Cargo*, load, freight.

ché 1 attrib 1. Costly, expensive, high priced. Soulè yo ché The shoes are expensive. 2. Dear (as in Dear Sir) Monchè, machè My dear. Chè se, ma chè sè My dear sister (nun). Liv sa a rele’m chè mèt chè mètrès This book belongs to me only. Chè tout muèn My darling.

ché a 2 n Pulpit. Pè a monre sou chè, l’al prèch The priest went on the pulpit to preach.

ché a, lachè 3 n Flesh. Chè lan nen Polyp in the nose. Chè lan goj Tonsillitis.

chéch V sèk

chéche V seche

chéche, chache vt 1. To look for, to search*. M’ap chache liv muèn ki pèdi I’m looking for my lost book. Chèche kont To look for a quarrel. 2. To look up. Chèche mo sa a lan diksyonè a Look this word up in the dictionary. 3. To try to. Chèche mwayen ale Try and go. 4. Ale chache To fetch.

chéchrès V sechrès

chédepoul la n Goose bumps.

chéf la n Chief*, boss, headman, leader. Chèf kanbiz V kanbiz. Fé chef To act as if one was a boss.
chèfboukman V boukman
chèfseksyon an n Sheriff, chief of rural police.
chèk la n Check*, pay-check*. Chèk san proviyon Bad check (insufficient funds).
chéka a n Government employee, one who receives a monthly check*.
chela a n Bag with a shoulder strap.
chèlbè attrib Pedant, show-off, the great Shelby*. Fe chèlèbè To show off, to strut.
chèlèn nan n Type of marble used in the game of marbles.
chemen an, chimen an n Road, lane, path, route, tract (lane), way. Chemen dekoupe Short cut. Li fè chemen dekoupe pou li kab rive an’enn’ He took a short cut to get there before me. Gran chimen Highway. Chemen rat Empty spots left on the head as a result of a bad haircut. Chemen dlo The water road by which a loa comes to and departs from the scene of a service (COURLANDER).
cheminen an, chemine a n Chimney*.
chemiz la 1 n A folder for documents.
chemiz la, chimiz la, chimiy la 2 n Shirt, blouse.
chemizdenui an n Nightgown.
chemizét la, chimizèt la n Undershirt.
chen an, chyen an n 1. Dog. 2. Servile person. Ti chen Puppy. Mal chen Male dog. Femèl chen (or) Mannman chen Female dog, bitch. Yo kon chen ak chat They are always fighting. Se chen manje chen To be at each other’s throat.  It’s a ‘dog eat dog’ life. Se chen m’ap leve pou’m kouchè I’m really down and out. I don’t have a pot to piss in. Fe chen lan pye yon moun To show s.o. excessive attention in order to gain favors. Mèsi chen Said to s.o. who forgets to say Thank you. Ou se so bouke chen You have no shame. Nothing can cure you. Chen san mèt Loafer. Frèt kon nen chen Cold as hell.
chèn nan, chenn nan n Oak. (usu) Bwadchenn Oak wood. Pye bwadchenn Oak tree.
chenèt, chinnèt Li gen dan chenèt He is gap toothed.
chien an, chini an n Caterpillar.
chenn nan n Chain*. Chenn kou Necklace. Bay chenn To encourage (s.o.) to speak. Pran chenn To create a fuss, to get angry.
chente vi To beg shamelessly (with baseness).
chêpi a, chapi a n Rags.
cheran attrib One who sells at high-prices, is demanding (as far as price is concerned whether for services or merchandise).
cheri n Beloved, darling. Chéri’m My sweet.
chetif attrib Emaciated, lean, weak.
chétout Chè tout mwen My one and only (endearing term).
cheval V chwal
cheve a, chive a n Hair. Cheve filas Very fine, thin hair. L’al koupe cheve’l He went to get a haircut. Koupe cheve To give (or) to get a haircut. Cf Fé têt. Fo cheve Wig. Cheve grenn Kinky hair. Cheve sua, cheve siro Straight hair.
chevi a n 1. Ankle. 2. Bolt.
chevon an n Wooden beam.
chévèt la, chèvrèt la n Shrimp. V kribich.
chéy V chèz
chèz la, chèy la n Chair*, seat. M’ap ba ou sa sou de chèz I’ll give you that in a jiffy, with ease. Chèz long Lounging chair.
chi interj (onom) To shoo (chickens). Chi! Poul, ale! Go away, chickens.
chich attrib Avaricious, stingy, penurious, tight-fisted. Li chich pase devan prizon (or) Li chich pase kayimit He is really stingy.
chichadò, chicha attrib Stingly.
chichote vi To whisper.
chichotman an n Whispering.
chif la n Number, cipher*.
chifon an n Rag used to clean blackboards.
chifonnen vi 1. To wrinkle. 2. To trouble. Problèm nan ap chifonnen’m That problem is bothering me.
chik 1 attrib Swell, chic*, elegant, smart.
chik la 2 n Chigger* (Tiny parasites that perforate the skin under the foot and lay eggs).
chika a n A sharp movement of the pelvis while dancing. It usually occurs in ‘bay chika.’
chikannen vi To bother, to annoy, to talk behind s.o.’s back.
chikata a n A person whose feet are badly infected by chiggers.
chike vi To chew tobacco.
chikin nan 1 n Jiggle, jerk.
chikin, chikin 2 vi To rock backwards and forwards (Shaking*). Chikin oto a, pouse’l ale, pouse’l vini Rock the car, shake it back and forth.
chiklet la n Chewing gum.
chiknòd la n Strike on the ear with the thumb and the middle finger.
chirkiti a n Foolishness, silliness, capriciousness. Fé chirkiti To act silly, capriciously.
chimè a n Bad humor, nervousness.
chimen V chemen
chimi 1 vi To shimmy* (car tires, e.g.).

chimi an 2 n Chemistry*.

Chin, Lachin n China*. Poul Chin Type of hen or rooster.

chinen vt To beat s.o. soundly (in gambling or games).

chini V cheni

chini do a n Area of the spine.

chinen vt To beat s.o. soundly (in gambling or games).

chiniyè a, chògyè a n Kettle, (iron) pot. Cf. E. Cauldron. Se vye chodyè ki fe pi bon manje An old pot makes the best soup.

chodin nan n A ‘hot’ woman, supposedly a sensuous one.

chodpiskòde a n A severe venereal disease.

chodyè a, chògyè a n Kettle, (iron) pot. Cf. E. Cauldron. Se vye chodyè ki fe pi bon manje An old pot makes the best soup.

chofay la n Heating.

chofe vt To warm (up), to heat, to keep warm, to reheat (food). Chofe trop To overheat.

chôfè a n Driver, chauffeur*. Chofe lanfè A crazy driver, one who drives very fast.

chôfèt la n Chill, shivers; inflammation of the lungs, pleurisy.

chôfsourit V chôvsourit

chogyè V chodyè

chòk la n Shock*.

chôk absòbè a, chôk la n Shock absorber*.

choke vt To shock*, to offend, to be shocked by s.o.’s language, actions, or attitude.

chofèt la n Shock absorber*.

chokola 1 attrib Brown.

chokola a 2 n Chocolate*, cocoa.

chomay la, chomaj la n 1. Unemployment. 2. Holiday.

chomè a n Jobless, unemployed person.

chomeko n Travay nan chomeko To be jobless, unemployed.

choneje V sonje

chôp la n Shop* (store), workshop.

chose vi To wear shoes. Konbyen ou chose? What size shoes do you wear?

chosèt la n Sock.

choson an n Booties (knitted baby shoes).


chou 1 interj A call to shoo* away pigs and even chickens. Chou kochon! Go away, pigs!

chou a 2 n Cabbage. Chou karayib Colocasia esculenta Scott. Chou palmis The heart of the royal palm tree, which resembles in taste the heart of the artichoke (Rostonea regia Cook) 2. Bun (hairdo). Ti chou Darling.

chou karayib V karayib

chou palmis la n Heart of a palm.
**chouboulout** n  Darling, sweetheart.

**chouch** V ouch
**chouchoun** V choun

**chouchoutay** la  n  Caress, cuddle, sweet nothing.

**chouchoute** vi 1. To shower with love.  2. To spoil (a child)

**chouflè** a  n  Cauliflower*

**chouk** la, souch la  n  Tree-stump; stub, stump (of tooth); stub (of a check).

**chouke** attrib  Rooted. *Byen chouke* Well rooted.

**choukèt** la  n 1. Latch, stump.  2. A short person.  3. A small bench on which a woman lies when delivering a baby.

**choukètlarouze** a, soukètlarouze  a  n  The deputy, the second in command to the ‘chèf seksyon’ (rural police officer).

**Choukoun** n  Title of a poem written by the Haitian poet Oswald Durand in 1883; it became a song that was rendered in English as ‘Yellow Bird’.

**choumounou** n  Dwarf.

**choun** nan, chouchoun nan  n  (euph) for ‘bouboun’.

**choupèt** la  n  Tuft, clump (of trees), cluster, bunch. *Choupèt kòk* A clump of coconut palm trees.  2. An endearing term like ‘kòkòt, chou, cheri’.

**chout** la  n  Shoot* (kick in football or soccer).  *Li gen chout serye* He has a powerful shot.  *Li fè chout* He took a shot at the ball (with his foot).

**chòv** attrib  Bald.

**chòvsourit** la, chòfsourit, chatsourit, chòchòl  n  Bat (mammal).

**chòy** V chòz

**chòz** la, lachòz, chòy la  n  Thing. *M’vin cheche ti chòz la* I came to get that little, you know what (secret).

**chuichui** vi  To murmur, to whisper*.

**chuichui, chwichwi, chuichuichui** n  Whispering (gossiping).

**chwa** a  n  Choice*.


**chwale** vi  To ride as if on a horse.  *Chwale sou bwa bale* To ride a broomstick.

**chwazi** vi  To choose*, to pick up.

**chwe** V echwe

**chwèt** la  n  1. (Screech) owl.  2. An ugly, homely person.

**chwichwi** V chuichui

**chye** vi  To shit, to defecate, to have a bowel movement.

**chyen** V chen


**chyente** vi  1. To beg.  2. To lower one’s self in order to obtain a favor.
**Dan**  
*n* Tooth; claw. V kòk, krake, kraze, krás, krók, fobó, griyen, mal, mazora, rache, ratelé, souch, sirèt. *Kouto a gen dan* The knife is notched, jagged. *Dan doukla* Gag tooth, wolf’s tooth in horses; one tooth on top of another. *Dan koulèv la* Snake’s fangs. *Sere dan ou pou pran kou* Brush yourself to receive the blows; resign yourself. *Dan krab* Claws of a crab. *Dan fouchèt* Prongs of a fork. *Dan let* The first teeth (which will fall to make room for the second so-called permanent teeth); milk teeth. *Dan sajès* Wisdom tooth. Also ‘dan zòrèy’. *Sou dan* To be under pressure at a critical moment; to have much to do. *L’ap chanje dan* His teeth are falling and new ones are growing. *Politik gen dan* Politics is hard and full of surprises. *Lè poul va fè dan* Never, never (when a hen grows teeth). *Li gen dan gate* He has bad (carious, decayed) teeth. *Dan yon angrenaj* Teeth of a gear. *Genyen yon dan kont yon moun* To have something against s.o. *Pou dan ri, pou dan Anri* In vain, for nothing. *M’gen yon dan k’ap fè’m mal* I have a tooth that’s hurting me. *M’gen mal dan* I have a toothache. *Li gen yon dan ki souke* He has a loose tooth. *Manje dan* To grind one’s teeth, to swallow one’s teeth (fig). *Li tap manje dan’l konsa* He was raging with anger. *M’tap manje dan’m pou’m pa rele* I swallowed my teeth so as not to cry out. *Nan dan ou* To hell with you (usu) said in reaction to an insult. *Pe dan ou* Shut up. Shut your mouth. (This expression is stronger than the more common *Pe bouch ou*, which is more like *Keep quiet*). *Pitit la ap fè dan* The child is teething. *Rache dan* To extract a tooth, to have a tooth pulled. *Bay gro kout dan* To take big bites. *Gro dan* Coarse tooth (of a comb). *Ti dan* Fine tooth (of a comb). *Dan devan* Incisors.

Danbala *n* Vodou deity.

danble *attrib* Good, strong, straightforward, correct, able, O.K. (pop).

dane *vt* To damn*.

danfans la *n* Bang(s).

dangoye *vi* 1. To walk with difficulty, slowly, to limp, to hobble. 2. To get along. *N’ap dangoye* We are getting along as well as we can.

danje a *n* Danger*, distress, peril. *Mwen an danje de mò* I’m furious (upset).

danjere, danjre *attrib* Dangerous*, unsafe. (Sometimes with a word that is feminine in French: danjrèz).

danlemonnantye In the whole world.

damn nan *n* Stamper, grader (an implement).

danmari *V* dalmari

danmen *vt* To stamp, to hammer upon.

danmjann nan, danmijann nan *n* Demijohn*.

danno a *n* Type of hard wood tree. It is often used to make cudgels.

danre a *n* Commodity; food, (gen) vegetables, coffee, bananas, etc., not meat.

dans la *n* Dance*. Also refers to a ritualistic dance. *FARDIN-16: Bèl kon yon dans fendane* Wonderful as a New Year’s ball (dance).

danse *vi* To dance*. *PRESSOIR-46: Yo pran danse They started to dance. Ou cho pase leve danse You are too anxious and excited, calm down.

dansè a *n* Dancer*.

dansing nan *n* Cafe, dancing* hall.

dantèl la *n* Lace.

dantis la *n* Dentist*. *Se pou m’al hay dantis jedi* Thursday, I have to go to the dentist’s (office).

dantisyon an *n* Teething.

dantle *attrib* Notched, dented*. 

danvi *attrib* To have sexual desire (pop).

daomen *n* Dahomey; type of dance rhythm.

dauou *V* out

dapiyanp, dapiyan, dappiyanp *Fè dapiyanp (sou)* To grab everything, to seize.

daplon *attrib* Steady, straight, even, fitting.

dapre *prep* According to; because of. *Dapre papa’m* According to my father.

daprezawwa *conj* Because, since, for.

darati *attrib* (pej) Old. Refers to a person who is older than he looks. The common expression is: *Darati kon siye* Old as an old ox (Derogatory, not necessarily old). Cf. rasi.

daso *Bay daso* To take something away by deceiving s.o. *Pran daso* To crash (a party). *Yo pran fet la daso* They crashed the party.

dasosann nan *n* Gate-crasher.


dat la *2 n* A disease characterized by sores on the skin.

dat la *3 n* Date* (fruit). Phoenix dactylifera L.

davans *adv* In advance*.

davwa *conj* For, because, as, since. (pop) More common is ‘paske’. *Davwa fi sa yo pinn’l* Because he did that they punish him.

dayè *adv* Besides, furthermore.

**Dayiti Toma, Dayiti Tonma** *n* Haiti. *M’se moun Dayiti Toma* I am from Haiti. This expression is frequently used.
deblozay la n Uproar; noise, fuss, tumult, brawl, squabble, disorder.

debobinen vt To unrelax, to unwind.
debôch la n Debauchery*. Katye sa a se yon zon debôch; pa pase ladanl' That's a bad section (debauchery); don't go in there.
debocche vt To debauch*. Debauched*.
debôde vi 1. To run over, to overflow, to go over-board* (with excitement), to get beside one’s self, to lose one’s mind. 2. To protrude, to overhang. Attrb: Daring, bold, impudent; enraged, furious. V dechennen. Dépi maten li debôde, li vle joure Since this morning, she has been dying to blow her top (fight verbally).
debôdman an n Extention of the roof that extends beyond the wall. Eaves.
debon Something worthwhile. Fè debon To be pregnant.
debonde vi To relieve one’s self by means of a laxative; to empty.
debou, debout, doubout attrib Straight, standing, upright, in good health. V kanpe. Choukoun te gen tete doubout Choukoun had two firm, pointed, upright breasts.
debouche vt To unstop, to uncork, to open up (a bottle); to unlog.
deboude vi To stop pouting, to stop frowning.
deboule vi To fall rolling like a ball; to run off.
deboulinen vi To tumble down.
deboulonnen vt To unbolt. Si ou pa deboulonnen rou machin nan, ki jan pou ou fe leve pan nan? If you don’t remove the bolts of the wheel of the car, how can you fix your flat tire?
deboundare attrib Bottomless.
deboure vt To remove the contents (clothes, bags, etc.).
debouse vi To spend, to pay, to disburse*.
deboutonnen vt To unbutton*. Manje vant deboutonnen To eat to one’s heart’s content and more.
debouya attrib Resourceful.
debouyay la n Savoir faire, tact (in getting out of a difficult situation), resourcefulness.
debouye vpr To manage, to get along, to find a way out. Mon chè, debouye ou pou marye ak fi a My dear fellow, find a way to marry the girl.
debranche vt To prune, to trim, (lit) to cut off excess branches from a tree.
debraye attrib Wide open, unbuttoned (shirt); careless, untidy (about one’s clothing).
debreye vi To throw (or) to put out of gear.
debri a n Waste, junk, debris*, trash.
debride vt To unbridge*; to relieve. Dyôl debride Free reign in speech, ‘unbridled lips’.

dayiva a n Good swimmer. From E. diver*.
de 1 num Two. In liaison: dez; for instance dezè two o'clock; desan two years; desôm two men, etc. De twa, desoutwa Some, a few. L’al envite desoutwa moun He went to invite a few people. De twa moun movan Fast, in a jiffy. De jou a viv Only two days to live, life is short. Li pa fè ni de ni twa He lost no time. He went straight ahead. The only thing he did was...
de 2 prep Of, from, about. Youn de yo, youn nan yo One of them. Li pale’m de yo He told me about them.
de 3 Some. Gen de moun ki... There are some people who... Gen de Jou... There are days when...
de a 4 n Thimble (to sew).
de a 5 n Canopy. Mache anba de To parade under the canopy, to receive honors.
dè (rare) Some, a few. M’pa wèl depi dè jou I haven’t seen him for days.
de twa V desoutwa
debaba vt 1. To devastate, to lay waste. 2. To mow down.
debabouye vt To wash up s.o.
debagaje vt To move (out), to remove the contents of a house.
debake vi To disembark*, to land, to go ashore. vt To unload.
debale vt To unpack.
debalize vt To uproot everything from the ground. Siklòn pase, li debalize tout bannann The cyclone uprooted all the banana trees.
debanday la, debandad la n Confusion, disorder. An debanday In disorder, in disorderly fashion, helter-skelter. Tonbe nan debanday To become debauched, to acquire loose morals.
debande vi To lose one’s erection.
debarase vt To rid (one’s self of), to free; to put in order (a table, a room).
debare vt To clear (a road, etc.); to remove (an obstacle); to move out of s.o.’s way or vision. Debare’m pou’m kab we Move out of my way, so that I may see.
debat vi To struggle, to get along, to wrestle. M’ap debat I’m getting along.
debinen vi To slander, to libel.
deblatere vi To talk badly behind s.o.’s back. Medam yo ap deblatere sou do zanmi yo The women gossipers are talking badly about their friends.
debleye vt To clear away, to shovel away. Debleye tab la Clear the table.
deblozay la n Uproar; noise, fuss, tumult, brawl, squabble, disorder.
defann  
attrib  
Good-natured, swell, proper.  
Li defann  
He is O.K.

defaj  
vt  
1. To dump, to unload.  2. To discharge* (batteries, etc.).  
vi  
To ejaculate.

defaflay  
vt  
To do damage, to demolish, to handle violently.

defechar  
vt  
1. To take away the frame of a door.  
Pot la defechar  
The frame of the door is gone.  
2. To cause s.o. to lose his bearings (control).

defeche  
vt  
To shred to pieces, to tear apart; (fig) to disparage.

defeche  
vt  
To decipher*.

defeche  
vt  
To make thin, sickly.

defen  
vt  
To remove the bottom.  
1. To dump, to unload.  2. To dis... (hair, clothes).  
Li vini isit la ak rad li tou defet  
He came here with his clothes all messed up.

defe  
vt  
1. To forbid, to ban, to prohibit.  
2. To defend*.  
Chak moun dwe defe defann peyi'l  
Every person should defend his country.  
Avoka a pral defann yon kriminèl  
The lawyer is about to put up a defense for the criminal.  
Kouman ou ye? M'ap defann mwen  
How are you? I am getting along.

defans  
n  
1. Prohibition.  
Pran defans yon moun  
To defend s.o.

defason  
In such a way that.  
Fè defason pou ou vini a le  
See that you come on time.

defè, defet  
vt  
To undo.  
Li hab fe e defe  
He can do and undo (He is all powerful).  
Li defèt tout travay moun yo te fe, paske li pat bon  
He undid all the work that those people had done because it was not good.

defen  
vt  
Late (deceased).  
Cf. E. Defunct*.  
Used only in phrases like  
Defen rwa Edip  
The late king Oedipus.  
Li gen memm karaktè ak defen papa'l  
He's just like his late father used to be.

defet  
1. vt  
To undo, to mess up.  
attrib  
Deteriorated, become worse (in looks, health, etc.).  
‘Messed up’ (hair, clothes).  
Li vin isit la ak rad li tou defet  
He came here with his clothes all messed up.

defat  
2  
n  
Defeat*.

defa  
n  
Challenge, defiance*.  
V dezafi.  
Mete an defi, bay defi  
To defy*, to dare.

defigire  
vt  
To disfigure*, to deface.

defile  
1  
vi  
To parade, to march past.

defile  
2  
vt  
To dull (a knife).

defile a  
3  
n  
Parade.

definitif  
attrib  
Definite*.  
An definitif  
After all, finally.  
Ban'm yon repons definitif  
Give me a definite answer.

defis  
n  
Deficit*.

defo  
n  
Fault, bad habit, failing, defect.

defomason  
n  
Deformation*.

defome  
vt  
To put out of shape, to deform*, to distort.

defonse  
vt  
1. To break down, to batter, to break in, to smash down so as to gain access to the interior.  
2. To remove the bottom.

defouke  
attrib  
Ripped at the crotch.  
Kanson'm defouke  
My pants are ripped at the crotch.

defouk  
vt  
To take out of the oven.

defouni  
attrib  
Sparse (hair, etc.).

defrech  
attrib  
Wasted, wilted.

defresiye  
vt  
To disembowel.

defriye  
vt  
1. To uncrumple, to smooth out.  
2. To insult.  
3. Frayed (ragged).

defroke  
attrib  
Outcast.

defwa, dèfwa  
At times.  
Gen defwa  
There are times (when).

defyan  
attrib  
Defiant*, daring (rare and learned).

defa  
1  
n  
Damage.  
Waste.
### dega, dèzega

**Mank dega** Lack of respect. Manke dega, manke dèzega To lack proper regard* for, to be discourteous.

### degagannen

vt To attack, to grab by the throat. *Li mande’m lajan; m’pa ba li.* Li vle degagannen’m He asked me for money. I didn’t give him any. He wanted to grab me by the throat.

### degajan

attrib Resourceful.

### degaje

vt To free, to release; to disengage*. vpr To manage, to do well. **Degaje’n** Do your best. Find a way out of your difficulty. *Si ou pa degaje’n, w’ap mouri* If you don’t find a way out, you’re going to die.

### degay

vt To mess up, to put in disorder.

### degenn

n 1. Manner (style) of walking, term which is used to describe mostly old persons. **Gade degenn tonton an** Look at that old man’s gait (antics). (Not pej, merely surprising). 2. Ways, activities. **Moun pa konn tout degenn ou** People do not know your hidden side.

### degennan

vt To Unsheath.

### degépi

vi To move out. *Y’ap kraze kay la, yo mande pou tout moun degépi* They’re going to tear the house down, they asked (told) everyone to leave.

### degi

a, dyegi a n (A little) Extra, for good measure; supplement. V. barad, ranje. **M’achte, li pa ban mwen degi** I made a purchase, but he didn’t give me anything for good measure.

### degize

vt To disguise*, to mask. **Bal degize** Costume ball.

### degizman

n Disgust*; costume.

### degobe

V degobye

### degobyay

la n Belching.

### degobyede, degobe

vi To belch, to burp, to bring up. Cf. gaz, rote.

### degòje

vt To cut the throat.

### degonble

vt To deflate.

### degonmen

vi To detach (unglue), to come off. V. dekole, gonmen.

### degou

n Loathing, aversion, disgust*. V degoutans.

### degoudi

vt To take off the chill or numbness. **Degoudi ko’w** Stretch your legs.

### degouspa

vi To budge.

### degout

la n Drip. **Twa degout** Type of poison.

### degoutan

attrib Disgusting*.

### degoutans

la n Disgust*, aversion, loathing. V degou.

### degoute

1 vt To hate, to disgust*, to be disgusted* with. **Anpil moun degoute’n pou té té pa serye** Many people dislike him, because he is not serious.

### degoute, goute

2 vi To drip, to drain. V gout. **Kite rad la degoute** Let the garment drip a while.

### degraba

**Nan degraba** Penniless.

### degradan

attrib Degrading*, sickening.

### degrade

vt 1. To demote, to downgrade, to degrade*, to reduce in rank. Also: Vodou term.

### degrape

vt To pick fruit from bunches, to snatch.

### degrase

vt To remove the fat, to slenderize. V grese.

### degriji

vt To unpleat, to unwrinkle.

### degrosi

vt To refine, to become refined. **Mal degrosi** Rough, still unrefined (countrified).

### dehèl

From English ‘What the hell!’ **Sitiyasyon dehèl!** Situation? What ‘the hell’ are you talking about?

### dejà, díja

adv Already. **M’manje dejà, pa ban’n ankò** I’ve already eaten; don’t give me anymore.

### dejene

V dejnen

### dejenere

vi To degenerate*.

### deje

**Yon deje** A lot of.

### dejnen, dejene

1 vi To eat breakfast.

### dejnen an, dejene a, dejennan

2 n Breakfast.

### dejouke

vi To come down from the roost.

### dejwe

vt To corrupt; to be morally degraded, corrupted, played out. **Lò ou bwè tropp tafya, ou vin dejwe** When you drink too much, you become corrupted. You lose your will power.

### dejwente

vt To dislocate. Dislocated, disjointed*, out of joint*. **Jen’ou l dejwente** He twisted his knee.

### dèk

V dèke

### dekabès

la n Term used in games (e.g. dominos). In Spanish: dos cabezas.

### dekachte

vt To open up (a letter). V kachte.
**dekage** vt & vi To put a chair in its upright position (after having leaned it backward against a wall, a tree, etc.).

**dekale** vt To chip off, to peal off, to skin. *Savon sa a fé men’m dekale* That soap made the skin come off my hands.

**dekalyon** Yon dekalyon A great deal of, a great many.

**dekamèt la** n Tape measure.

**dekape** vt To carve. To cut to pieces. *Yo dekape vyann bèf la, chak moun pran moso* They cut up the beef and everybody took a piece.

**dekape** vi To go away, to move away. *V deplase.*

**dekapotab** attrib Convertible (car).

**dekaphale** vt To copy a drawing from a model.

**dekapotab** attrib Convertible (car).

**dekapiya** vt To cut up, to prune; to break into pieces.

**dekaptyle** n Type of bean (Pwa dekayèt).

**dekate** conj phr As soon as.

**dekilakèl** V kilakèl

**deklanie** vt To activate, to start, to launch.


**dekحفظ** vi To pull out the nail; to become unnailed.

**deklòte** ² attrib With bare neck and shoulders.

**deklòte** a ² n Plunging neckline.

**dekòmante** vt To annul an order.

**dekonekte, dekonèkete** vt To disconnect*, to cut off.


**dekoryon an** n Decoration*.

**dekorè** vt To adorn, to decorate*.

**dekoròm nan** n Manners, propriety. *San dekoròm Unmannerly, vulgar, indecent.*

**dekou a** n The waning phase of the moon. *Nan dekou Diminishing, waning.*

**dekorile** attrib Cunning, sly, tricky. (syn) rizèz.

**dekouche** vi To sleep out.

**dekrase** vt To empty a container completely by cleaning it up and by removing each particle therefrom. To scrape.

**dele** n No good, ragged, worthless, cheap, bad thing. Old jelopy. (syn) bogota.

**dekoupre** vi To decade, to rot, to decompose*. *Kadav la tap dekonpoze* The body was decomposing.

**dekoukòle** vi To unhook and open (a door).

**dekove** vt To unhook. *Li lè pou dekoke potre a nan mi an* It’s time to take down the picture off the wall.

**dekule** vt To unglate, to detach itself from. *V kole, gommen.*

**dekòle** ³ attrib Lewd, spicy, smutty; insolent, shameless.
dekrote vt To clean, to scrape.

dekwa n Means, wherewithal. It’s enough that, it’s the reason for, so that, as a result of that. Ak dekwa For good reason. Se dekwa pou yo kondane ou That’s enough for them to convict you. Pa gen dekwa It doesn’t matter. Don’t mention it.

dekwaze vt To uncross.

dekwennen vt To skin, to scrape, to excoriate, to strip off the skin.

delage vt 1. To let loose. V lage. 2. Dejected.

delakè a n 1. Said about a fish that removes the bait without getting hooked (fish).

delale attrib Pooped out, exhausted, down and out, weakened, shabby.

delase vt To untie (laced* shoes).

delatètopye From head to toe.

delè a n Reprieve, extension of time.

deleze vt To smooth out, to plane, to trim a board.

delij la n 1. Deluge *. 2. Great quantity.

delika attrib Delicate*.

delire vi To be delirious*.

delivrans la, ladelivrans n Delivrance *, salvage.

delivre vt 1. To set free, to deliver*. 2. To save, to salvage. Ou delivre’l nan yon ka You saved him from that difficulty. 3. To give birth.

demach la n 1. Proceeding, step (toward). Fè demach To take steps towards. 2. Gait, manner of walking.

demachware attrib With a dislocated jaw.

demachwele vt To smash s.o.’s jaw.

demagòg la n Demagogue*.

demagoji a n Demagogy*.

demake vi To slip away furtively, to leave.

demakònen vt To untangle.

demanbre vt To batter, to weaken. Exhausted, battered; dismembered*, maimed. Refers to someone who has lost a limb, an invalid.

demanche vt To take away (or lose) the handle.

demajè pou In order to, so as to.

demare vt To untie, to loosen. vi 1. To start off. 2. To become clear (cloudy sky).

demaronnen vt To disentangle.

demaske vt To unmask*.

demaye vt To undo the links of a chain.

demèfle attrib Down and out, weakened, lifeless, exhausted.

demefyan V mefyan
demelanjé vt To unmix.

demele vt To untangle, to unravel, to disentangle, to extricate one’s self, to clear up. vpr To get along, to strive. V degaje, mele. M’ap demele’m pou m’rive alè I’m doing my best to get there on time.

demen, denmen adv Tomorrow, the following day, the day after. Demen, si Bondye vle Tomorow, Deo volente.

demenaje vi To move, to change one’s residence.

demenajman an n Moving (out), removal. L’ap fe demenajman He is moving out.

deméplè attrib Vulgar, gross, disagreeable, repugnant. Disagreeable person.


demisyon an n Resignation (from a position).

demisyonnen vi To resign (from a job).

demòd vi To renege, to retract.

demokrasi a n Democracy*.

demoli vt To demolish*, to tear down.

demon an, denmon an n Type of devil, evil; demon*. V dyab, satan. An demon Ready for anything, good or bad.

demonstrasyon an n Demonstration*. Tou sa l’ap fe la a se demonstrasyon He’s not for real; he was just trying to show off; he was just pretending.

demontè pou la The wind knocked the door down. Bra’l demonte His arm is dislocated.
verted, odd, not of the same kind.
depareye vt To split up, to separate, to make uneven, to make odd.
depasay Passing by.
depase vt To surpass*, to exceed, to go beyond, to overtake. Sa depase'm It’s beyond me. (The word depase is sometimes used for pase). De jou depase More than two days.
depasyante vi To lose patience.
depate vt To take apart each banana of a hand.
depatman an n Department*, section.
depata 1 vt To cut up; to destroy.
depata, depatcha 2 attrib Shabby, in bad condition. Li fin depata He is at his wits’ end; he has become shabby, emaciated.
depaye vt To remove the bracts (straw, husks) from any grain-bearing vegetables, hence to shuck (corn), to shell (peas), to clean (coffee beans), etc.; to take the straw apart; to come apart (straw objects).
depèch la n Telegram, dispatch*. M’resevwa depèch ki di li mouri depi avanyè I received the telegram which said that he’s been dead since the day before yesterday.
depèche vpr To hurry, to dispatch*. Di’l depeche’l Tell him to hurry it up.
depenn vt To describe.
depenn 2 To mess up one’s hair. Van tèlman soufle fo, li depenyn tout tèt li The wind blew so hard, it messed up all his hair.
deperi vi To decay, to dwindle away, to perish. M’pa rouze flè yo; yo fin deperi I didn’t water my flowers, and they are wilting.
depetre vt To disentangle, to extricate one’s self from; to come loose.
depewaye vi To expatriate, to leave one’s country. (fig) To feel strange, out of place.
depi, denpi conj Since; as long as; after, as soon as, once. Depi’l leve lan kabann li, l’ap babye The minute he gets out of the bed, he starts grumbling.
Pressoir-31: Depi yo fet Since they were born. Depi gen tanpet, tek bato koule Once there is a storm, some ships sink. prep Since, from. Yo mache depi Pòtoprens sis Petyonvil They walked from Port-au-Prince to Petionville.
depète a n Deputy*, congressman.
deplase vt To displace* (something); to move, or to change places. M’pa renmen moun deplase afe’m I don’t like people to move my things. vi To go out somewhere. M’ap deplase I am going out. attrib: Out of place, incongruous, excessive. Pa di’m okenn mo deplase Don’t tell me any improper (insolent) words.
deplé vt To displease*.
deplezi a n Displeasure*.
depliye vt To unfold.
deploge vt To unfold.
deplostonnen vt 1. To unwind (a spool). 2. To disengage after an embrace.
deploye vt To unfold.
depo a n Storeroom, storage; deposit. Mete an depo To store, to deposit. Fè yon depo To make a deposit (in the bank).
depole vi To dislocate, to become out of joint (shoulder), disjoined.
depôte vt To deport*.
depotwa a n Trash deposit, dump.
depoze vt 1. To put, to place, to deliver; to deposit*, to put down. Depoze yon lét lapòs To mail a letter. 2. To make a deposit* (for a lay deposit*, to put down.
depozisyon an n Deposition*, testimony. Fè depozisyon To testify.
deprende attrib Perverse (perverted), depraved*.
depreferans adv Rather.
depri attrib Untangled (an animal).
deranje vt To disturb, to annoy; to upset (physically or mentally); to damage, to disarrange*, to cause disorder. Li pran yon so, jann li deranje He fell and the bones in his leg were dislocated.
deranjman an n Disturbance, trouble; stomach upset; mechanical defect, malfunction.
derapan An derapan Upon starting, at the beginning.
derape, derap vi To get off, to start (car), to take off (airplane); to start, to move by itself (auto). N’ap derape We’re going to start, to get under way. Bato a derape The ship has weighed anchor (and left).
derapin nan n 1. Type of hoe with a long blade. Abitan travay di, yo voye derapin toulejou Farmers work hard; they hoe the ground everyday. 2. (attrib) Shameless, restless street girl.
derasinen vt To pull out plants by the roots, to uproot, to root out.
deraye vi To derail*, to be derailed*; to be very angry, to talk nonsense. Dépî yè, li fin deraye Since yesterday, she hasn’t been making sense (she hasn’t been herself).
derechany prep phr Spare. Vire touwen ou bezwen pyës derechanj From time to time one needs spare parts.
derefize vt (pop) for refize, to refuse*. Li derefize monte abò He refuses to go aboard.
deregile attrib Unruly; out of order; libertine. Also used for irregular (referring to a woman whose period is irregular). Si grammoun goumen ak timoun, li deregile If an adult fights with a child, he must be out of his mind. Dépi kék tan, l’ap mennen vi deregile For some time now, she’s been leading a loose life.
derespektan attrib Disrespectful*, insolent.
derespektè vt To be disrespectful* (towards).
derezonnen vi To be disrespectful* (towards).
deriv la n Drift. A la deriv Drifting.
derö V deyò
deronte attrib Shameless.
deroule vt To unree, to unroll*, to develop, to display.
deryè V déyè
deryen prep phr Moun deryen Insignificant, worthless person; plebeian.
desandans la n Offspring, descendant*.
desann nan n December*.
desann, disann vi 1. To get down, to step down, to go down, to come down, to get off (passenger), to descend*. 2. To overflow (river). 3. To stop (overnight), to lodge. vt To eat, to gobble down. Examples and expressions: Monte desann To go up and down. Larivèy desann There is high water in the river. Desann ou Don’t be so fresh, so arrogant. Li pral desann lan bakalorea He is going to the final exams (high school).
desant 1 Fè desantdeye To visit the scene (officially).
desant V ladesant 2
desè a n Dessert*.
desèle vt To unsaddle*.
desen an n Drawing, design*, sketch.
desepsyon an n Disappointment, deception*. Pран desepsyon To be rebuffed. Fè desepsyon To rebuff s.o.
desere vt To loosen. Desere dan ou Say something (stop pouting).
desèvi vt To clear the table.
desèvis, de sèvis prep phr On duty.
desi attrib Deceived*, disappointed.
deside vi 1. To resolve, to decide*. 2. (vpr) To make up one’s mind. Resolute, determined.
desideman adv After all, in truth, really, finally. Desideman, sal’ di a vre After all, what he said is true.
desinen vt To draw, to design*.
desiskole a  n  Homosexual.
desitire, desitye  vt  To get rid of, to reject. To keep s.o. away from a place (where he was formerly tolerated).
desizyon an  n  Decision*.
deské  conj  Since, because.
desoude  vi  To become unsoldered. To reopen (soldered seam).
desoule  vi  To sober up.
desounen  vt  To stun, to make groggy, to wheedle. Also Vodou term.

desten an  n  Fate, destiny*.
destine a  n  Destiny*, fate.
destriksyon an  n  Destruction*.
det la  n  Debt*.
detache  vt  To loosen, to detach*, to untie, to unbind. vi  To come off, to (be)come loose.
detake  vt  To unlatch, to open (to unbolt only).
detan  conj  While, as. Detan Jezikri tap pale  As Jesus was speaking. V etan.
detay la  n  Detail*; retail; superfluous details. An detay  In detail; retail. Tou sa se detay  Come to the point.
detaye  vt  1. To retail, to sell at retail. Li pa vle detaye  She won't sell retail. 2. To examine s.o. meticulously as if searching for faults. To scrutinize. 3. To narrate with minute details*.
detektif la  n  Detective*.
detenn  vi  To fade, to discolor. Detenn (sou)  To run (into), to spread. Rad rouj la ap detenn sou rad blan an  The red dress runs into the white dress. Pyè ap detenn sou ou  Peter is giving you his bad manners (or) You are getting to be like Peter. Ble detenn  Faded blue.
detere  vt  To unearth, to dig up.
deteryore  vi  To deteriorate*.
detestab  attrib  Hateful.
deteste  vt  To hate, to detest*.
detire  vi  To stretch one’s self.
detou a  n  Detour*, deviation; subterfuge.
detounasyon an  n  Corruption.
detounen  vt  To lead astray. To divert. M’nonnen non ou, m’pa detounen ou  (a popular saying used when the name of a deceased person is mentioned).
detoufason  adv  Anyhow, in any event.
detres la  n  Distress*.
detrese  vt  To unbraid (hair); to unravel (rope).
detripe  vt  To gut. To draw (carve) an animal; to rip apart.
detru, detwi  vt  To destroy*, to do away with.
detyedi  vt  To make lukewarm.
devale  vt  To run down a slope.
devalize  vt  To rob s.o. of everything he was carrying, or that was in his home; to rifle, to plunder.
devan an 1  n  1. The front, what’s in front. M’pa gen devan, m’pa gen déyè  I’m alone in the world. 2. Penis, genitals.
devan, douvan 2  prep & adv  Before, in front (of), opposite, ahead (of). Devan déyè  The front part in the back, hindpart foremost. Sa ki devan? Who’s leading? Pi devan kay la  Beyond the house. Pran devan  To go first, to lead, to precede, to walk ahead.
devanti a  n  Front (of a building), facade.
devantre  vt  To disembowel.
devas la  n  Disaster, act of God (storm, flood, etc.).
devaste  vt  To devastate*, to lay waste.
devégorie  attrib  Shameless, vulgar.
devenn nan  n  Bad luck, misfortune. Pa mete dyòl sou mwen pou ou pa ban’m devenn  Don’t say such things about me or you might give me bad luck.
devi a  n  Estimate.
device  vt  To empty.
devine, divine  vt  To guess, to devine*.
devinè  V divinò
devinèt la  n  Riddle, puzzle, enigma.
devire 1  vi  To make a turn; to turn off, to turn aside. vt  Devire yon koze  To misquote (s.o.) changing the meaning of his words.
devire a 2  n  Errand, short absence. Li fé yon ti devire lan katye a  He is taking a short walk in the neighborhood; he went to visit some friends in the vicinity.
devise  vt  To unscrew.
devizaje  vt  To give one the once over, to stare in order to ascertain what s.o. can measure up to.
devlope  vt  1. To develop*, to increase in strength. 2. To unfold, to unwrap.
devlopman an  n  Development*.
devni  vi  To become. Sa’l devni? What has become of him? What happened to him?
devore  vt To devour*, to eat up; to slander, to disparage.

devouman an  n Devotion.

dewa a  n Duty, task; obligation; homework (school).  
Li konn dewwa’l  He really knows his duties (both material and moral). Also: a Vodou term.

dewale  vt To unveil*, to discover (uncover, reveal).  
BEAUBRUN/A-33:  Pa janh dewvale sa  Never reveal the secret.

devwe  attrib  To be devoted* to.  Devoted*. Said of a person who is always ready to render service to anyone.

deyè  vi To swerve, to ricochet, to deviate*.  Fè dèyè  To deflect.

dey la  n Mourning, bereavement.  An dèy  In mourning.  Pran dèy  To mourn.  Pote dèy  To wear mourning clothing.

deyè a  n 1. Behind, back, rear*; bottom, buttocks; backing (support).

deyè, deryè  2 prep  Behind, back of, in the rear of; after, in pursuit of.  Deyè mòn gen mòn  Behind each mountain there are still more mountains.  L’al dèyè yo  He went after (pursued) them.

deyè, deryè  3 adv  Behind, back, rear.  Rete dèyè  To lag behind.  Janm dèyè yo  The hind legs.  Pa dîyè  Back(wards).  Chèz la pati pa dèyè  The chair fell back(wards).

deyèdo a  n 1. Bitter (medicinal) plant used for stomach aches, etc. The name comes from sori on the back side of the leaves.  2. A beverage made with the leaves soaked in kleren (white, raw rum).

deyò a  n 1. Exterior, outside.

deyò, derò  2 adv  Out, outside, away, outward.  Sou deyò  Outwardly.  Li deyò pou  He has the intention to; he is making plans for.  Cf. E. He is out to...  An deyò  In the country, away.  Moun an deyò  Country folks.  Mete deyò  To put out, to let out, to eject, to throw out; to depart, to go out, to leave, to get away.

dezabitye  vi  To lose the habit* of.

dezabiyi  vt  To undress.  DEJEAN-36:  Yo dezabiyi’l  They undressed him.

dezablaza  a  n Party, revelry, bash.

dezafi a  n 1. Cockfight; challenge in a cockfight; entire cockfighting season.  2. Title of a delightful novel entirely in Creole by Frankétienne.

dezagrafe  vt  To unhook.

dezagreman an  n Trouble, problem, unpleasantness.  Evitèm dezagreman  Don’t give me any trouble.  Machann dezagreman  Quarrelsome person.

dezagreyab  attrib  1. Disagreeable*, unpleasant.  2. Grumpy, moody.

dezakò a  n Discord*, dissension, disagreement, misunderstanding.  An dezakò  In disagreement.  Yo an dezakò  They disagree.

dezame  vt  To disarm*.

dezan  Depi dezan  For a long time.  M’pa wèl depi dezan  I haven’t seen him in ages.

dezanfle  vi  To go down (swelling), to disinflate*.  Machwa a dezanfle  The swelling of the jaw has gone down.

dezangoudi  vi  To revive, to sensitize, to excite.

dezannuie, dezannouye  vt  1. To rid one’s self of boredom, to cheer up.  2. To relieve somebody’s boredom.

dezanpare  vpr  To get rid of.  San dezanpare  Without stopping, immediately.  M’bezwen dezanpare’m de li  I need to get rid of him.

dezapiye  vi  To stop cleaning.

dezapram  vt  To forget what one has learned.

dezaprouve  vt  To disapprove*.

dezas la  n Disaster*.

dezavantaj la, dezavantay la  n Disadvantage*, drawback.

dezè a  n Desert*.

dezekilibre  attrib  Out of sorts, out of balance; disequilibrated*.  BEAUBRUN/L-31:  Sèvo li ki dezekilibre  His mind which is off balance.

dezenfekte  vt  To disinfect*.  Avan ou rete lan kay la, desenfekte’l  Before you move into the house, disinfect it.

dezespere  vi  To despair*.

dezespwa a  n Despair*.

dezi  a  n Desire*.

dezinyon an  n Dissension.  Yo vin mete dezinyon nan fami an  They caused dissension in the family.

dezipe  vt  To unzip*.

dezire  vt  To desire*.

dezobeyi  vt  To disobey*.

dezobeyisan  attrib  Disobedient*.

dezoblijan  attrib  Nasty, disagreeable. Sometimes refers to a person who never helps anybody.

dezòd  1 attrib  Disorderly*, unruly.  Ou dezòd  You’re a mess.  You’re disorderly.

dezòd la  2 n Disorder*. Misbehavior, blameworthy (or) reprehensible act; promiscuity, loose morals.  Ti fi a tonbe lan dezòd  The girl has become a loose woman.

dezòdone  attrib  Disordely (person).

dezole  vt  To desolate*.  

**dezonè a, deznonnè a n Dishonor*, disgrace.**

**dezose ¹** attrib Boneless; bone-dry, emaciated, very thin.

**dezose ²** vt To remove the bones of fish, chicken, etc. *Yo sèvi pwason dezose They served boneless fish.*

**dezoutwa, dezonatwa, de twa** A few, two or three.

**dezyèm num** Second.

**dezyèmman adv** Second(ly). In the second place.

**di ¹** attrib Hard, durable*, strenuous; (adv) firmly. *Vin di To harden.*

**di ²** vt To say, to tell; to pronounce. *Vle di To mean. Pa vle di (or) pa di Doesn’t mean.* PRESSOIR-10: *Papiyon an di’l: Mwen renmen ou The butterfly said to her (the dragonfly): I love you. Di orevwa To bid farewell.*

**dibout** V doubout

**dibreyis la n** Rags. Ragged old clothes.

**dibyen** (Some) good, favor. *Li fe’m dibyen He did me some favor(s).* *Medikaman an fe’m dibyen The drug did me some good.*

**dichay** attrib Discharged*. V dechaje.

**dife a n** Fire, fire-brand; sensation. *Dife! Fire! Pouse dife To incite, to instigate. Gro dife Blaze. Dife jenès Acme. Mete dife To ignite.*

**diferans la** attrib Different*.

**diferans la** n Difference*.

**difilite a n** Hardship, difficulty*.

**difiyilte a n** Difficult*, hard (not easy). MORISSEAU-LEROY/D-25: *Laliy se bagay ki di-difiyilte Being a taxi driver is not an easy matter.*

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**dirantan, diranpandan** adv All the time, continuously; for a long time.

**dire ¹ vi** To last, to endure*.

**dire ²** Kòm ki dire As if, that is to say, one would say. 2. *On dire, an dire It seems. An dire se li It seems is he.*

**dikdantan adv** A long time (ago).

**diksysone a, diksysonnè a n** Dictionary*.

**dikte ¹** vt To dictate*.

**dikte a ²** n Dictation*.

**dilatasyon an n** Expansion. *Fè dilatasyon To bring about an abortion in a particular manner.*

**dilijans la, delijans la n** Diligence*. *Fè di-lijans pou mwen Do it fast, please hurry for my sake.*

**dimal, di mal** Evil. *Fè yon moun dimal To harm s.o.*


**dimaténi, di maten adv** In the morning, A.M.

**diminyè, diminwe vt** To reduce, to diminish*, to abridge, to decrease.

**dimoman, di manman adv** From the moment when; as soon as. *Dimoman li vini, m’a fe ou konnen As soon as he comes, I will let you know.*

**dinamik attrib** Dynamic* (person).

**dinamit la, dilamit la n** Dynamite*.

**dinaza a n** One’s best suit.

**dine a n** Dinner*. In Haiti, (usu) refers to ‘noon meal’ and not ‘supper’.

**dinen, dine vi** To lunch, to dine*, to eat.

**diplom nan n** Degree, school diploma*. *Pran diplom To graduate.*

**diplomat la n** Diplomat*.

**dirab attrib** Solid, strong (that which lasts a long time), lasting, durable*.

**diran prep** During*. *Diran peryòd eleksyon sa a During this electoral period. Lavi diran For life, lifelong.*

**dirantanan, diranpandan** adv All the time, continuously; for a long time.

**dire ¹ vi** To last, to endure*.

**dire ²** Kòm ki dire As if, that is to say, one would say. 2. *On dire, an dire It seems. An dire se li It seems is he.*

**direk ¹ attrib** Direct*, straightforward. (adv) directly*.

**direk la ² n** Short form of the word *direk*.

**direksyon an n** Direction*. *Li chanje direk-syon He went in another direction.*

**dirèktè a, dirèk la n** 1. Director* (of an office). 2. Principal (of a school).

**dirèkteman adv** Directly*, naturally, surely, clearly.
direktрис la n (fem) Principal of a school. Cf. E. director*.

diri a n Rice*. Тет дири Rice husk.

dirije vt To direct*; to head, to be in charge of.

dis num Ten. In liaison, the letter s becomes voiced to a z. Dizan Ten years. Fi a gen dis dwèt li (or) dis dwèt li relel pa'lı This woman is a hard worker; she is skillful with her fingers.

disèt 1 Disèt lajè Very big, very wide.

disèt 2 num Seventeen.

disèt la Disèt lajè

disip la n Disciple*.

disiplin nan n Discipline*.

diskisyon an n Quarrel, disagreement, argument. Discussion*.

diskite vi To haggle, to argue, to discuss*.

diskotèk la Discotheque*.

diskou a n (Formal) speech, discourse*.

diskoze vt To dislocate*.

disoud vt To dissolve*.

dispansè a n Dispensary*.

disparèt vi To disappear*; to vanish, to go away. vt To cause to disappear. Disparèt ou devan'm Get out of my sight.

dispoze attrib Disposed*. Byen dispoze Well disposed.

dispozisyon an n Disposition*; feeling (for); temper, character. Pran dispozisyon To take steps.

dists la n Distance*.

distenge 1 vt To distinguish*; to make out (in the meaning of ‘to distinguish’ only).

distenge 2 attrib Distinguished* (manners).

distraksyon an n Fun, pastime, diversion, distraction*.

distrè, distrèt attrib Inattentive, absent-minded; distracted*. Slightly off balance. When ‘distrè’ is used, it applies to females.

distribisyon an n Distribution*. Фè distribisyon To distribute*.

distribye vt To distribute, to give out.

distrik la n District*, canton.

diswa, di swa adv In the evening. Uit è di swa Eight o’clock P. M.

dite a n Tea* (word used in the North). V te a.

ditò V to
djevo a, dyavo a  n  Sanctuary in a hounfò (Vodou temple).

dip la  n  Jeep®.

dipopo  V  adjipopo

dobe  V  dyobe

doke  V  dyoke

dol  V  dyol

dôle  V  dyolè

djondjon  V  dyondyon

djondonnen  V  dyondyonnen

djougan  V  dyougan
dlololo, kyololò attrib Watery (food). Manje a dlololo That food is nothing but water.
do 1 aux v  Variant of dwe.
do 2 vt  Word used in the knucklebone game. V oslè.
doa 3 n  Back (person, animal, chair); roof, top. Do kay la koule, se pou yo mete mastik sou li The roof of that house is leaking; you have to put roof coating on it. Li vire do ban muen He turned his back on me. Li vire do’, l’al fe rout li He turned and went away. Yo fe pil sou do’m (or) Yo bay sou do’m They’re talking behind my back. Chinen do bourik la The spine (backbone) of the donkey. Cf. E. chine. Pa apiye, do chèz la kase Don’t lean backward; the back of the chair is broken. Yo mete nou dosado They caused us to become enemies.
dob la  n  Stew, daube*. A big fat piece of meat, particularly good for stewing.
dodin nan  n  Rocking chair.
dodinen  vi  To rock, to swing, to balance.
dodo  vi  To sleep. Also: Fè dodo. Dodo ti titit manman’l. Si ti titit la pa dodo chat maron an va manje’l Sleep baby, sleep. If mommie’s little baby doesn’t sleep, the wild-cat will eat him. (Well known lullaby).
dodomea  vi  To rest; to swing slowly, to lull, to slumber. Li fin travay; l’ap dodomea He’s through working; he’s taking a rest.
dök  V  doktè
doki a  n  First son born after twins. Also: dosou.
dokiman an  n  Document*, official paper.
dola a  n  Dollar* (USA).
dole  vt  1. To slice thin; (syn) filange. 2. To get along. M’ap dole I am getting along.
doliv  Luil doliv Olive oil*.
döllmann nan  n  A heavy jacket (coat).
dôleto  vt  To cuddle, to caress, to baby, to cherish.
domaj la, donmaj la  n  Damage*; infirmity. Se domaj! What a shame! Too bad!
domaje, donmaj, andomaje  vt  To disfigure, to damage*. Moun domaje Lane, cripple.
domenn nan  n  Property, land, field, domain*.
domestik la, donnestik la  n  Servant, domestic*.
dömèz la, donmèz la  n  Type of lounging chair (long, light, folding chair).
dòmi 1 vi  To sleep. M’pa dòmi reve sa I completely forgot about that.
domine, dominen  vt  1. To make one’s self master of; to dominate*. 2. To get the upper hand; to get (have) control. 3. To boss over. Pa kite problem nan domine’w Don’t let it get the better of you. Li kite madann li do-mine’l He lets his wife boss him.
domino a  n  Dominoes (game).
don an, donn an 1 n  Crop, yield of a plant or tree.
don an, grandon an 2 n  Big, wealthy landlord.
donab, donnab, donan  attrib Generous, liberal.
donan donan  Reciprocal giving. It means: If you give me one, I’ll give you one. Nothing for nothing. Ak Pyè se donan donan Peter won’t give you anything, unless you give him something also.
doneson an  n  Harvest, rendering, yield.
donk  conj  Consequently, therefore.
At a card game, if you win 4 straight games.

*M'donnè*  I won  4.

1. To yield a harvest (fruit).

*Pyewa sa a pa donnen ankò*  This tree doesn't produce anymore fruit.  
2. (fig) To fool around, to lose time.  
*M'pa vin donnen isit*  I didn't come here to stay (too long).  
3. To show an outgrowth (malignant pustule or pimple).  
*Vyann donnen*  Outgrowth of flesh and skin.

1. Sorcery.  
2. A loa (Don Pedro).

1. Girl.  
2. Wench, loose girl.

*Dorado*, gilthead (fish).  
*Chabin dore*  A prostitute.

1. To brown (cooking); to frost (cake).  
2. Golden, gilded.  
*Bèl ti zèl dore*  Beautiful golden wings.  
*Chabin dore*  A woman with light skin and golden yellow hair.

2. The first boy born after twins. Also:  
*doki.*  If a girl:  dosa.

1. Record, dossier.  
2. Back (of a chair).

1. Dowry.  
2. Second copy.  
*Ain dou bòm w a sou.*  I have a story to tell you.

1. Standing, erect.  
*Tete doubout*  Pointed (erect) teats.  
2. Fresh, insolent.

1. Enamel paint for metal.  
2. To paint (a car, a refrigerator).

*Duco* (trade name).

1. A milk based confection. Types:  
*dous lèt, dous makòs,* etc.

1. Pain, ache.  
2. Grief, anguish.  
*Zanmi'm gen doulè vant*  My friend has a stomach ache.

1. To have a peculiar, bad smell, like the smell of a fish.  
2. To eye s.o. expressing love and admiration (an invitation).

1. To tame, to break in (an animal).  
(fig) To take hold of a person, i.e. to take the devil out of him, to make him behave henceforth, to tame him.

1. To sweeten.  
2. Sweet.

*A milk based confection. Types:  
*dous lèt, dous makòs,* etc.

Delicate (person).

1. Twelve.  
2. Dozen.  
3. A milk based confection. Types:  
*dous lèt, dous makòs,* etc.

1. To begin, to start (over) again (rain, etc.).  
2. To repeat a grade (in school).  
3. To have a second helping (food).  
4. To reline clothing.  
5. To repeat; to reinforce; to line (a garment); to overtake (pass) a vehicle; to have a second helping (food).  
6. To pass, to overtake a car.  
7. To doubt *.

1. Standing, erect.  
*Tete doubout*  Pointed (erect) teats.  
2. Fresh, insolent.

1. Slowly; quietly.  
2. To doubt *.

1. To tell (read) cards from marks on their back or edges.
dwa ¹ Kom sa dwa, komsadwa As it should be.

dwa ² n 1. Right. Li gen dwa pa, di verite He has the right to talk, to say the truth. Li gen dwa pa we sa Maybe he didn’t see that. Bay dwa To entitle. Li an dwa fe sa He is within his rights. An dwa = gen dwa.

dwa ³ n Tax. Dwa lannò Tax(es) paid by an heir to legalize and transfer his inheritance on the records.

dwa ⁴ n Inch; finger (a measurement).

dwa, ledwa ⁵ n Law. Fè ledwa To study law. V lwa”a.

dwany lan n Paterfamilias. Doyen.


dwategòch attrib & adv Mixed-up. Soulye li dwategòch He has the wrong shoe on the wrong foot.

dwatèt Pa dwatèt Should not, must not. Gason konsa pa dwatèt pote pantalon Such men should not wear pants (From a song).

dwayen an, dweyen an n Dean*.

dwe ¹ vi 1. Should, must, ought, to have to; may, to be possible. Li pa vin travay, li dwe malad He didn’t come to work; he may be sick. Le a rive, ou dwe ale The time has come; you must go now. PRESSOIR-22: Memm si yo dwe boule zèl yo Even if they have to get their wings burnt. MORISSEAU- LEROY/A-18: Sa’l pat dwe fè What he should not have done.

dwe ² vi To owe. Konbyen ou dwe’m How much do you owe me?

dwèl la n Stave (of a cask).

dwèt la n Finger. Dwèt jouda Index finger. Se koupe dwèt! It’s so delicious! Gen dwèt long To be thievish. Yon chat dis dwèt A thief.

dyab la, gyab la n Demon, devil*. Depi dyab te kaporal A long time ago, for a long time. V demon, satan.

dyabèt la n Diabetes*.

dyablès la n She-devil, female ghost, demon.

dyage, djage vi To stab. Pol te gen kont ak fi a, li dyage’t Paul got into an argument with the girl; he stabbed her.

dyagonal, dyagonal, djagonal la n Diagonal*. An dyagonal Diagonally. Kwense yon moun lan dyagonal To corner s.o., to get s.o.


dyake, djake vi To jack* up (car). (fig) To lift up (s.o.). Dyake’m Help me out; jack me up.
dyakoukoul la, dyakoukout la  n  Type of torture whereby a person is jacked up and beaten.
dyakout la  n  Matted straw bag to be thrown over the shoulder. It is smaller than a ‘makout’.
dyakpôt la, dyapôt la, djakpôt la  n  Jackpot*; slot machine. Also:  big success. Bay dyakpôt To vomit. V vomi.
dyal la, djal la  n  Girl* (friend), gal*.
dyaman an  n  Diamond*.
dyandyan, djandjan  attrib  Many-colored, gaudy.
dyanm, djanm  attrib  Firm, solid, well-built, robust. Kay isi sanble yo dyanm The houses here seem solid, strong.
dyare a  n  Diarrhea*.
dyaz la, djaz la  n  Jazz*; band (popular music). Fè dyaz To vomit.
dyaze, djaze  vi  To ramble, to talk nonsense; to gossip.
dyazmann nan  n  Member of a musical band.
dyesèlmevwa a  n  Masturbation. Cf. laponyèt (bat).
dyèt la  n  Diet* (restricted feeding). Doktè mete’m nan dyèt The physician put me on a restricted diet.
dyevo  V djevo
Dyo  n  Joe, Joseph.
dyob la, djob la  n  Employment, trade, work, task, job*; racket, graft.
dyobe, djobe, gyobe  vi  To do a piece of work, to do a job.
dyobè a, djobè  n  Jobber*.
dyòk la, djòk la  n  Evil spell. V maldyòk.
dyoke, djoke  vi  To bewitch. To cast an evil spell (on).
dyol la, djol la, gyol la  n  Snout, mouth (of animals), face. Nan dyol ou! Oh Yeah! The same to you. Li gen bon dyol He likes to eat; he is a gourmet. Senatè a gen dyol dous The senator can soft (sweet) talk you. Yo rete dyol ouwri They were flabbergasted, dumbfounded. Li rete dyol loulou With his mouth wide open in astonishment and admiration. Lonje dyol To pout. Youn krache lan dyol lòt They agreed to tell the same story (falsehood).
dyola a, djola a  n  Straw sack, bag. V dyakout.
dyondyon an, djondjon an  n  Mushroom in general and specially a species of small black mushroom. Boletus aereus.
dyondyonnen, djondjonnen  vi  To proliferate.
dyougan, djougan  attrib  Active, energetic, vivacious.

E  con  And. (Used between two clauses and not between two words). Pyèbaa a tonbe e nomn nan blese The tree fell and the man was injured.
è  n  Hour*; o’clock. Inè One o’clock (or) One hour. Senkè Five o’clock (or) Five hours. M’ap rive a katrè I shall arrive at 4. M’ap rive nan katrè I shall arrive in four hours.
ebenis la, ebennis la  n  Cabinet maker. Also: böb ebennis. Yon ebenis fèt pou l’gen rap li pou travay A cabinet maker must have his grater to do his work.
ebete, enbete  attrib  Idiotic, dazed, bewildered, muddled, stupid. Rann ebete To dull, to render stupid. Cf. E. hebetate.
eboulman an  n  Landslide.
ebyen  V enben
echalôt  V chalôt
echantiyon an, chantiyon  n  Sample.
echapman an  n  Exhaust. Tiyo echapman oto The exhaust pipe in a car.
echwe, chwe  vi  1. To fail, to flunk, to fall through. 2. To run aground (ship). 3. To end up (someplace).
ed la, lèd la  n  1. Aid*, help, relief. 2. Helper. Li ban’m yon ti èd He helped me out a little.
ede, ride, rende, jende, ide, ende  vi  To help, to aid*, to assist.
edikasyon an, ledikasyon an  n  Instruction, education; good manners, breeding, upbringing.
edike  vi  To educate*, to bring up. Well-bred, educated*.
edisyon an  n  Edition*.
efarouche  vi  To frighten.
efas la  n  Eraser. V gòm.
efase  vi  To erase.
efé a  1  n  Effect*, consequence. An efé Indeed. Tretman an pa fe efè The treatment didn’t have any effect.
efé a  2  n  Belongings.
efektivman  adv  Effectively*. 
Effort*, endeavor.
To endeavor, to strive.

To endeavor, to strive.

Custard.

vi To collapse, to give way.

attrib Fantastic, extraordinary, marvelous.

You are more frightful than beautiful.

Equal*; smooth, even (of surfaces), level.
Evenly, equally, at par, even.

Stephen.

Unequal.

To smooth, to even up, to equal*, to equalize *.

Give me the scraper so that I can even up this board.

Cut some more hair on this side.

Stupid, naive, dumbfounded, gaping, amazed, bewildered (off the track, staggered).
So that they don’t take us for fools.

Sewer, drain.

Selfish.

Egoist*; egoism.

Acidity of the stomach, sour stomach.

To overdo, to exaggerate *.

Exact*, precise, accurate.

Exactly*.

School exam *; test; inquiry.

Worries.

To examine*, to explore, to review, to go over, to look into, to investigate, to survey; to ponder.

Nobody is exempt.

Example*.

For instance.

To spare, to avoid (exempt), to shun. Don’t give me any trouble.

Permit (to leave a hospital after treatment). Lat. legal term: (Ne) exeat.

To release from hospital.

To release from hospital. Also: bay egzeat.

To carry out, to fulfill instructions; to execute*; to kill.

Eczema*.

You are acting crazy.
ekoulman an n Gonorrhea, claps (colloquial).
ekran an n Screen* (cinema).
ekri vt To write.
ekriti a, lekriti a n Handwriting, writing, penmanship; official document. Pase ekriti To note down, to make a record of. Cf. E. Scripture*.
ekrito a n Poster, notice, sign.
eksepsyon an, esepsyon an n Exception*.
eksepte, esepte prep Except* for. Eksepte ke Except that.
eksetera, etsetera And so forth, etc. Also: eksetera era.
eksite vt To rouse, to arouse, to excite*, to incite; to get excited* (from anger, enthusiasm).
eksè a n Excess*.
eksepsyon an, esepsyon an n Exception*.
ekspedisyon an, espedisyon an n 1. Shipment, expedition*. 2. Curse. Aggressive magic in which a loa or a spirit is sent out by the houngan to work against some person.
ekspedye, espedye vt To ship, to dispatch, to expedite*. Also: Vodou term.
ekspriyans la, esperyans la n 1. Experience*. San eksperyans Without experience. 2. Experiment.
eksprikasyon an, esplikasyon an n Explanation, description. Fè eksperyans To go in anger to s.o. and demand an explanation for his words or acts.
ekspoze, espoze vt To expose*, to display, to exhibit.
ekspozisyon an, espozisyon an n Display, show, fair, exhibition. Exposition*. Fè yon eks-pozisyon To exhibit (paintings, etc.).
ekstèminen, estèminen vt To exterminate*.
elají V laji
elan an n Pran elan To get set.
elastik la n Rubber band. Cf. E. elastic*.
elatriye Etc., and so forth.
elèf an n Elephant*.
elégen attrib Smart, elegant*.
elégen la n Elegance*. V gangans.
eléksyon an n Election*. MORISSEAU-LEROY/D-5: Lage’m avan elekisyon Set me free before the elections.
eléktrik la n Electricity*. Vil la gen elektrik The town has electricity.

elektrisite a n Electricity*.
elektrisyen an n Electrician*.
eleman an n Element*. 2. A character (person).
elementè attrib Elementary* (class).
elèv la n Pupil, student. Li se elèv papa’l He is a chip of the old block; he is acting like his father.
elevasyon an, levasyon an n (pop) Education, rearing, instruction. Poud elevasyon Yeast.
eli n Elias*.
elikoptè a n Helicopter*, chopper.
elimine vt To eliminate*, to do away with.
elit la, lelit n Elite*
elòj la n Praise. Fè elòj To praise.
elve vt To breed, to bring up, to raise, to rear, to train, to educate (children). Byen elve Well-trained, polite, well brought up, well-bred. Mal elve Rude, not properly trained, not well brought up, unruly.
emab attrib Amiable*, friendly, kind.
eman V leman
emay la n Enamel*.
emaye attrib Enamelled*
emoraji a n Hemorrhage*.
emosyon an n Emotion*. Fè emosyon To suffer an emotion, to get emotional.
en num One. Used in set phrases, for instance: en an, emman One year. In a liaison, ‘en’ is pronounced ‘enn’. In counting, ‘youn’ is also used. En, de, twa (or) youn, de, twa = One, two, three.
en, hen interj What!
enb attrib Humble*.
enben, ebyen, anben interj So, well then.
enbesil attrib Stupid, dummy, fool, imbecile*. V sôt.
enbesilite a Foolishness.
enbetan V anbetan
enbete V ebete, anbete
ende V ede
endèks la n Index* finger. Also: dwèt jouda.
endependan attrib Independent*.
endependans la, lendependans n Independence*.
endesan attrib Indecent* (of persons), improper, lewd.
endesans la n Indecency*.
endiferan attrib Indifferent.*
endiferans la n Indifference*.
endigo V digo
endijan attrib Indigent*, very poor.
endijes attrib 1. Indigestible*. 2. Intolerant, irritable (person).
endijestyon an, endijesyon n Indigestion*.
endikasyon an n Direction, indication*.
endike vt To indicate*. (Also a variant of ‘edike’).
endirèkteman adv Indirectly*.
endiskrè attrib Indiscreet*.
endispoze vt 1. To make nauseous. To upset (emotionally). 2. To faint, to get ill. Indisposed*.
endispozisyon an n Sudden sickness; fit, stroke, loss of consciousness, fainting spell, attack (illness). Indisposition*. Li fe yon sèl en-dispozisyon yè swa; li manke mouri. Sè na bou ch anne li sòti He had a violent attack last night. (He passed out) and almost died. He escaped from the fangs of death.
endistri a n Industry*.
endividi a, dividi a n An individual*, a character.
endiyasyon an n Indignation*.
endiye attrib Indignant*, angry, outraged.
endont attrib Untamed, not broken in (animal). Chwal endont A horse that has not been broken in.
endyèn nan n Printed calico, Indian* cloth.
enèji a n Energy*.
enèvan an, nèvan attrib Irritating.
enève, nève vt To upset, to get on s.o.’s nerves*, to irritate.
enfeksyon an n Infection*.
enfekte vt To infect*.
enferyè attrib Lower (in quality); inferior*; vulgar, unrefined, contemptible, gross, rude.
enfim attrib Cripple, sickly, infirm*. V estropye. Li enfim depi aksidan oto a He has been a cripple since the car accident.
enfimyè a n Nurse (for sick people). Metye enfimyè Nursing.
enflamasyon an, anflamasyon n Swelling, inflammation*.
enfliyans la n Influence*.
enfòmasyon an n Information*. Pran enfòmasyon To enquire, to inquire.
enfòme vt To inform*; to acquaint, to notify; to inquire.
enfranjit la, lenfranjit la n An illness characterized by swollen feet.
impatience, eagerness. Ak en-pasyans impatiently, eagerly.

A little, some, somewhat, a few, a bit of; many, much.

enpè a n Blunder. Komèt yon enpè To commit a blunder.

Impatiently*, eagerly.

little, some, somewhat, a few, a bit of; many, much.

enpe, en pe

A little, some, somewhat, a few, a bit of; many, much.

enpè a

enpe, en pe

A little, some, somewhat, a few, a bit of; many, much.

Komèt yon enpè To commit a blunder.

Impertinent*.

Impertinence*.

V

epi

epi

Tax.

Impossible*.

Important*.

Importance*.

To import*.

To import*.

Imprudent*. Careless.

Imprudence*.

To expose one’s self to sickness.

To print*.

Printing* plant.

Fire, conflagration, blaze.

Uncertain*.

Incertitude*, uncertainty*.

Incident*.

Insult*, affront, abuse.

To insult*, to abuse.

Unbearable.

To Insist*.

Amen.

Stupid, worthless.

To register, to write in, to enroll, to inscribe*.

Registration.

Impertinent, insolent*, impudent, scornful, insulting (applies to persons).

Insolence*.

Insolence*.

Insolence*, insult*.

Insolence*, impertinence, disrespect. More frequently heard is ensolanste.

Inspection*.

To inspect*, to survey.

Inspection*.

Installation. 2. Facilities.

To install* (in office). 2. To settle down. Lò m’fin enstale, m’a envite’w lakay. When I’m settled, I’ll invite you to come to my house. 3. To knock down. Si ou fe’m fache, m’ap enstale’w ak yon kou If you get me angry, I’ll knock you down on the ground. 4. To install* one’s self.

Instinct*.

Instruction*, education.

Instrument*.

Intelligent*.

Intelligence*, understanding, instinct.

International*.

To hospitalize. Also: Entène lopitai.

To invoke, to call (a minister before parliament).

1. Interpreter*. 2. One who is always ready to add an explanation.

Interest*.

Interesting*, important, profitable, amusing. 2. Fè enteresan To act big, to show off, to put on airs, to try to be funny.

To interest*. To interest* one’s self in. Interested*.

To interrogate*, to cross-examine, to question.

To interrupt*.

Intestine*.

Interview*.

Intimate*.

To intimidate*.

Intimacy*.
enterije  vt To oblige, to compel.
entrig la  n Intrigue*, plot.
entrigan an  n Schemer, intriguer*.
entrouvab  attrib Hard to find, not to be found.
entrañe  vt To oblige, to compel.
entrigan  in Intrigue*, plot.
entrigan an  n Schemer, intriguer*.
entrouvab  attrib Hard to find, not to be found.
entrouvab la, envalu la  n Invalid*, cripple.
entrouvab, envalu  attrib Idle, lazy.
envansyon an  n Invention*.
envante  vt To invent*, to devise.
envantè a  n Inventory*.
envazyon an  n Invasion*.
envesti  vt To invest*.
envizib  attrib Invisible*.
envizib la  n Invisible spirits, ancestors, the spiritual world.
envizib la  attrib Invisible*.
envizib la  n Invisible spirits, ancestors, the spiritual world.
epa  V apa
epay la  n Savings. Fè epay To save, to economize.
epe a, nepe a, lepe a  n Sword.
epè, epe  attrib Thick.
epeng  V zepeng
epesè a  n Thickness.
epi 1, enpi  conj And, then, and thereupon.
enpì 2 mayi a, zepi a  n Ear of corn.
epidemi an, pidemi an  n Epidemic*.
epis la, zepis la  n Spice*. Manje a gen anpil epis The food is spicy.
epitou, epi tou  conj Therefore, as a matter of fact.
eple  vt 1. To spell*.  2. To read with difficulty.
epok la, lepok  n Time, epoch*, period. Nan chak epok In each period.
epok la  n Sponge*.
epoustè  vt To dust, to rub down.
eprov la, zeprov  n 1. Trials and tribulations, hardship. 2. Printing proofs.
er  attrib Happy.
esklav la n Slave*. M’tê trò esklav traváy la, m’kite sa I was too tied down (dedicated) to that job, so I quit.
esklavaj la, lesklavaj n Slavery*. Mete nan esklavaj To enslave*.
eskonbrit la n Mess, noise, commotion.
eskont la n Advance payment of salary (at a discount*). Anplwaye a nan eskont The employee regularly gets paid in advance (suffering a discount*).
eskonte 1 vi To intend (to), to expect (to), to hope.
eskonte 2 vi To get (paid) one’s salary in advance (less a discount*).
eskòpyon V eskòpyon
eskòt la n 1. Escort*. 2. An association of loas, related or otherwise, who assist each other in their work (COURLANDER).
eskòte vt To escort*.
eskout V skout
eskwd la n Squad*, squadron* (group of soldiers, workers, etc.) V kôve, koumbit.
esoufle attrib Panting, short-winded.
espadon an n Swordfish.
Espay, Lespay n Spain*.
espant la n Surprise blow, hard blow, cut, causing unexpected physical damage. Pran yon espant lan batay To receive a hard blow in a fight. Cf. bôt.
espante attrib Astonished, overpowered, surprised; wonderstruck, startled.
espán Yö, panyö n Spaniard; Spanish*. Nan panyö In Santo Domingo, in the Dominican Republic.
espas la n Space*; gap, hole.
espè a n Expert*.
espedisyon an, ekspedisyon n Evil spell.
espedye, ekspedye vt 1. To send, to forward. Cf. To expedite*. 2. To exorcise.
espekilatè V spekilatè
espektak V spektak
espektatè a, spektatè a n Spectator*.
esperans la n Expectation, hope.
espere vi 1. To hope, to expect, to trust. 2. (pop) To wait for. V tann. Gen inè depi m’ap espere’w I’ve been waiting for you an hour.
esperyans V eksperyans
espesyal, spesyal attrib Special*.
espesyalman, spesyalman adv Especially*.
espionnen vt To spy* on.
espirit la n Spiritism*. Seyans espirit Seance.
esplandè a, splandè a n Splendor*, beauty.
esplikasyon V eksplikasyon
eslike V ekslike
esplozon an, eksplozyon an n Explosion*, blast. Fè esplozyon To explode.
espò V spò
espòte, ekspòte vt To export*.
espoze, ekspoze vt To expose*, to exhibit.
espre adv On purpose, specially, expressly*. Yon fètespre A voluntary act. Pa espre Purposely, on purpose.
esprès Fè esprès To jump on a running vehicle (car, train, etc.).
espri V lespri
espwa a, lespwa n Hope, trust.
espwennfil, springfil n Springfield* rifle.
espyon an n Spy*.
estad la, stad la n Stadium*.
estannbay, stannbay, estennbay vi To stand* by, to wait.
estasyon V stasyon
estat V stat
estatè V statè
estati V stati
estekoun nan n 1. Second hand clothing. 2. Servant.
estèmine, estèminen vt To exterminate*.
estènen V étènue
estetoskòp la, stetoskòp la n Stethoscope*.
estimasyon an n Assessment, estimate*. Fè yon estimasyon To give an estimate.
estime vt To esteem*.
estimè a, stimè a n Steamer*, steamship*.
estòk V stòk
estomak V lesto mak
estomake, estonmake attrib To be offended, hurt. To be angry because of injured pride, because your feelings have been hurt. V fwase.
estòp V stòp
estope V sto pe
estrad la n Platform, stage.
estrovag an attrib Extravagant*.
estrovags la n Extravagance*. 
estròdinè, estraòdinè attrib Unusual, extraordinary.
estropye, stropye vt To maim, to cripple, to mutilate.
estwòdè a n Show-off, pompous ass.
estyèm, etchyèm interj Kerchoo! (onom). V etènue.
esta a 1 n State*, condition. Liv la an movèz eta The book is in bad condition. Eta sivil la Registry office (of births, marriages, etc.). Ofisye eta sivil Registrar of vital statistics (births, marriages, etc.).
esta 2 V leta

etablí a, tablí a 1 n Workbench.
etablí, tablí 2 vt 1. To establish*.  2. To settle down.  3. To cohabit with a woman.
etaj la, letaj n Floor, storey.  A letaj On the first floor. Kay la gen senk etaj The house has five floors.
etajè a, letajè a n Shelf.
etale vt 1. To spread. Li etale machandiz yo sou trotwa a He spread the merchandise on the sidewalk. 2. To display. Li etale tout afèl nan lari He lets everybody know his business. 3. To knock down. M’a etale ou I’ll floor you (knock you down).
etalon an n Stallion*.
etan 1 V letan

etan, antan 2 conj While (at the time when). Etan n’ap di sa, nou bese tèt nou While saying that, we bow our heads. V detan.
etanda a n Standard*, banner.
etandòt And so many others.
etann, tann vt To extend*, to stretch out.
etanp la n Branding iron, stamp.
etanpe V tanpe

Etazini n United States*.
ete a, lete n Summer. An ete In the summer.
eten an, leten an, ten an n Tin*.
etenn, tenyen vt To put out (extinguish*) a fire; to turn out, to switch off (light).
etensèl la, tensèl la n Spark.
etènue, etènye, estènen, etennèn vi To sneeze, to snort (animals).
eti, ti interj Please! Yes! (in answer to a call). Cf. plètil.
etid la n Study*; education. Yo fè anpil etid They have studied a great deal.
etidyan an n Student*.
etidye vt To study*; to examine, to consider.
etikèt la, letikèt n Sticker, label. Cf. E. ticket*.
etòf la n Cloth; stuff*.
etone vt To amaze. To be amazed, surprised, astonished.
etoudisman an, toutisman an n Dizziness, vertigo.
etoufman an n Suffocation.
etranj attrib Strange*.
etranje 1 attrib Foreign, imported.
etranje 2 n Foreigner; guest; stranger*. Aletranje Abroad, in foreign countries.
etriye a, zetriye a n Stirrup*.
etsetera, eksetera, esetera, etc adv Et cetera, etc. Also: etsetera era.
etwa, etwat, etwèt attrib Narrow, tight. Cf. E. Strait*. V jis.
etwal V zetwal

etyò, entyò, entchò attrib Bourik etyò A large donkey kept for breeding.
evake, evakwe vt To evacuate*.
evajil n Gospel.
evantay la, vantay n Fan (hand held device cooling the air near one’s face).
evapore vi To evaporate*. Lèt evapore Evaporated milk.
evèk la n Bishop. V monseyè.
evéman an, levéman n A (rare) event*, happening; calamity. Provèb la di: Nèg sòt se évéman The saying goes: A stupid person is a terrible thing.
evite, envite vt To avoid*, to spare; to avert.
evolue, evolye vi To develop, to evolve*.
eyè a, zeye a n Carnation.
ezeman adv Easily*.
Ézili, Zili n Erzulie* (goddess). Ézili-je-rouj is evil. Ézili-Freda is benevolent.
ezitasyon an n Hesitation*, hesitancy*.
ezite vi To hesitate*, to sway.

fa a 1 n Make-up (for the face). Fard*.
fa a 2 n Lighthouse.
fab la n Fable*, fairy-tale, a made-up story, product of the imagination, joke.
F

fabrik la n Factory.

fache attrib Angry, discontented. Pa fach pou sa Don’t take offense at that. Sa fe’im fache anpi That infuriates me. Fache ak To fall out with. Koupe fache To break off relations, or a friendship.

fachin nan n (single) Faggot, small branches of dry wood. Fasincé.

fachman an n Falling out (rupture of relationship); anger, discontent.

fad attrib Tasteless, insipid, boring. (usu) Applied to insufficiently spiced food, without enough salt. Jodi a manje a fad, li pa gen bon gou Today, the food is tasteless, it doesn’t have a good taste.

fado a n Load, burden.

faksyon an n Guard duty.

faksyonè a n Sentry.

fakti a n Bill, invoice.

faktori a n Americanism for the more usual  izin.


falez la n Cliff, precipice.

famasi a, fanmasi, fonmasi n Pharmacy*, drugstore. Kouto famasi Two-faced hypocrit.

famasyen an, fonmasyen an n Pharmacist*, druggist.

familaryite a n Familiarity*. Ou fe’i trop familaryite avèl You are too familiar with him.

fanal la, fannal la n Lantern. Also: Part of a calabash cut at the top in which a candle is placed (stuck in a little mud) and placed in the sea so that the fisherman may see the fish at night. Also: A type of cardboard lantern used around Christmas time and carried in the streets. It has designs cut out of the cardboard, particularly in the Jérémie area, where kids parade them, shouting ‘Viv Nwèl’.

fanatik la n Fan, fanatic*.

fanbre attrib Woman chaser, womanizer.

fandanman attrib Spoiled, smelly (meat). V foundang.

fane, fannen vi To fade, to wither.

fann nan n Woman; wife; mistress. V fi. Fann hay The woman that you regularly live with (either legally married or as a concubine) as opposed to ‘fann deyò’, ‘fann sou kote’ (mistress). Fann manye (Legal) wife as opposed to ‘fann plase’. Outside this context, ‘wife’ is translated by ‘madanm’. Mete fann sou ou Act with determination as a mature woman.

fannmi an, fami an, lafannmi n Family*. Kin, relative(s). Se yon afè lafannmi It’s a family affair. Se fann’m It’s a relative of mine.

fanmitay la n Family relationships.

fanmòt la n Effeminate, pusillanimous man; weakling like a woman; sissified man.

fanmsay la, fanmsaj, famsay, famchay n Midwife. Also: safam, akouchèz.

fann nan siyay yon moun To follow in s.o.’s trail; to go after.

fannal V fanal

fannen V fane

fantezi a n Whim, fancy*.

farandolè a n Braggart, pompous ass.

farin nan n Flour. Farin frans Wheat flour. Farin Ginen Powder used to draw the ceremonial ‘vèvè’. Farin manyok Tapioca. Farin diri Rice powder.

farinay la n Light rain, drizzle, mist. Also: farinay lapli.

farinen, farine vi To drizzle, to be misty. Kite’m al lakay mwen, lapli ap farinen. Let me go home; there is a slight drizzle. (It’s raining lightly).

farizyen an n Hypocrit.

farouche, efarouche vt To frighten.

fas la 1 n Face*, Fas pou fas (or) Fas a fas Face to face. An de fas Two-faced, hypocritically. Bay fas To face. An fas Opposite. Ou pa fouti kanpe an fas mwen pou ou pale konsa You couldn’t face up to me and talk that way.

fas la 2 n Farce*, joke. Pa pran’m fe fas Don’t fool around with me, don’t kid around with me.

fasad la n Front, facade*. Kay la gen bèl fasad men li pa solid The house has a pretty front, but it’s not very sturdy.

fasè a n Joker, undependable.

fasi vt To stuff (food).

fasil attrib Easy, facile*; easygoing. (adv) Easily.
faisilite¹ vt To give, to make something available to s.o.

faisilite² a n Ease. Ak faisilite Easily.

fason an n Way, manner.

fatig la n Fatigue*, tiredness.

fatigan attrib Strenuous, tiresome, tiring, fatiguing*.

fatige vt To tire, to tire out; to get tired, to get weary. Ou fatig'm You're making me tired; you're boring me; you're pesterin. Pa fatige kò'w 1. Don't tire yourself out. 2. Don't worry.

fatra a n 1. Waste matter, garbage, trash, rubbish, junk, filth, refuse. 2. (fig) Low, despicable person.

favè a n Favor*. Li fe'm antil favè, fòk mwen ride?jodi a He did me a lot of favors; I have to help him today.

fay V flay

faya Tonbe faya To be exhausted, to be down and out.

fayans la n China, crockery (refined pottery originally from Faenza, Italy).

fayit la n Bankruptcy*. Fè fayit To go bankrupt, to fail.

fayminit adv Fast, in a jiffy, in just five minutes*.

fe a¹ n Energy, urge, drive (pep), fire*. Kase fe To break s.o.'s back (will, energy).

fe a² n Ridge (of a house).

fe¹ vt 1. To do, to make, to perform, to produce, to provide; to manufacture, to achieve. 2. To take in (money). 3. To read, to learn (law, etc.). 4. To give birth. 5. To have sex. 6. To take in (money). 3. To read, to learn (law, etc.). 4. To give birth. 5. To have sex. 6. To take in (money). 3. To read, to learn (law, etc.). 4. To give birth. 5. To have sex. 6. To take in (money). 3. To read, to learn (law, etc.).

fe² a n Iron (metal). 

fè a¹ n Farm*. Fe men ak kadna Fè men ak kadna He is reading (studying) law. 

fè a² n Iron (metal). 

fè a² n Iron (metal). Li chich pase do kiyè fè He's stinger than hell. (A wooden spoon might give something, but nothing sticks to the iron spoon). 2. Iron (for pressing clothes). Pase fè sou yon ròb To iron a dress. A fè is called karo in some parts of Haiti.

fe a, fet la³ n Fact*.

fèb attrib Weak, delicate, faint. Feeble*. M'fèb pou sigarèt mwen Cigarettes are my weakness; I am partial to cigarettes.

fèblan an n Tin can; tin-plate, metal container.

fèblantye a n Tinsmith.

fèbles la, fèbles la n Weakness; anemia, fainting, swoon. Tonbe fèblès To swoon from hunger, illness, etc.

fèbli vi To wean, to lose strength.

fedatifis la n Fireworks.

fèfoje a n Wrought-iron.

fèk, fènk aux v To have just. V ferenk. Li te fèk Fèk He was just born. M'fèk di sa I just said that. Fèk kare To make a fresh start (after having been at it for a long time). Chantè a fèk kare chante The singer has been singing for a long time (and now he is starting with greater vehemence).

fèkal attrib Faecal*. Only in matyè fèkal, faecal matter, stool (medical term).

fèle vi To crack, to fracture. Cracked, fragile. Vè a fèle; pa buè ladan'l That glass is cracked; don't drink from it. Tifè sa a se fèle; pa jue avè'lw That girl is very fragile; don't play with her. Even when she is touched lightly, she cries.

fèm¹ attrib Firm*, steady, solid, sturdy, strong, fresh. Kenbe fèm Hold tight.

fèm nan² n 1. Farm*. 2. Lease.

fèmantè vi To ferment*.

fèm may la n Annual rent, Farm* rent.


fèmen¹ attrib Shy.

fèmen² vt 1. To close, to shut, to shut in, to stop. 2. To imprison. 3. To close in, to hem in (to prevent s.o. from passing). Fèmen ak kadna To padlock. Li fèmen kò'nan yon koum He confines himself; he isolates himself.

fèn an¹ n End. San fèn Endless, ceaseless, incessant, infinite*. Lan fèn fèn In the very depths of, in the thick of, in the furthest part. Fen daz Fen daz Year's end. Alafen In the end, at last, finally. Alafendèfen (or) Anemank In the final analysis; when everything is said and done; at long last, finally. Mete yon fèn (lan) (or) Fè yon fèn (ak) To terminate; to put an end (to).
fen, fin 2 attrib 1. Thin. 2. Fine*, delicate, refined, beautiful. Zél yo te fin The wings were delicate. 3. Dressed up, elegant, smart. (adv) Impeccably, beautifully.

fenèt la, fennèt la n Window, window-frame.

feneyan, feneyen attrib 1. Lazy, good-for-nothing, sluggish. 2. Cowardly, lightheartedly.

fenk V fek

fenn vt To feign*, to make out.

fennen vi 1. To fade, to wither. 2. (fig) To be shabby. FARDIN-17: Tif tâm fatige, tâm fennén She was never tired, never shabby. Fè a pa rouze, li fennén The flower has not been watered; it has faded.

fenomèn nan n ‘Character’, one who commits stupid, incredible acts.

fent la n Ruse, stratagem, trickery, feint*. Ti gason sa a gen fent That boy is tricky; he needs watching.

fente vi To pretend, to be tricking.

fentè attrib Cunning, tricky, devious.

fenwa a, fenwè a n Darkness; ignorance. V labrin.

fenyan V feneyan

feray la n Scrap iron.

feraye vi To work hard.

fere vt To shoe (a horse). To put cleats on shoes. Pye fere Calloused feet. Fere lèt To dip a piece of iron into a bowl of milk in order to protect children from diarrhea.

fèrenk, ferenk aux v To have just; scarcely. Li ferenk sòti He just left. (Used mostly in the North). V fek.

feros attrib Fierce, ferocious*.

fese vt To throw down, to hurl to the ground (in a fight). Chual la fese’l sou do The horse threw him on his back.

festibal V fistibal

fet n Felt*. Soulye fet Felt shoe.

fèt 1 attrib 1. (To be) born. 2. To take place, to occur, to happen. 3. Made, done, produced. Fèt e founi Labor and material. Se konsa pou sa ta fet That’s how that should be done. Ou pa fet pou ou travay le dimanch You are not supposed to work on Sunday. Ki poko fet Unborn. MORISSEAU-LEROY/D-7: Sa fet vre That really happened.

fèt la 2 n 1. Party, feast*. 2. Anniversary. 3. Holiday. Se yon jou fet It’s a day of celebration. Fe fet To celebrate, to feast.

fèt la, fè a 3 n Fact*. Se yon fèt akonplè It’s all over with.

fetay la n 1. Crest, rafters, ridge, ridge-piece in a house where the staves come together.

fèt demò n All Souls’ day.

fete vt To feast*, to celebrate.

fèt e founi, fèt e founi Everything included (labor and material).

fèt kòz Pran fèt kòz pou To take sides with.

fètich la n Charm, fetich*.

fètè a n Ridge-piece (of a house).

fèvriye n February*.

fey la n 1. Leaf. 2. Sheet, page. 3. Often accompanies the name of a flat object. Fey planch Board, plank*. Fey liv Page of a book. Yon fèy zòrèy An ear. Fey hat A playing card. Kase fèy kouvir sa Let’s forget about it, let it be, let’s just cover it up.

feyay la n Al lan feyay To consult the ‘dòktè fèy’, herb doctor.

fèzè a, fèzè a 1 n Scandal-monger, enterprising (pej), braggart. Fèzè jan ou ka pab, se pa pase jako No matter how much you exaggerate, you won’t beat the parrot.

fèzè a, fèzè a 2 n Maker, producer. FAYO-155: Fèzè nat fè nat, li domi atè The mat-maker makes mats, yet he sleeps on the ground.

fèzèdmal, fèzèmal n Evildoer.

fi a, fiy la Woman.

fich la n Ticket, slip, token.

fidèl attrib True, faithful, loyal.

fif M’nan fis ou I am going to get you. V fitiwann.

fifiy la n Maiden, young girl.

fitiwann n Buttocks. M’nan fitiwann ou I am going to get you.

fig la n Banana. Also: fig bannann. Fig Frans: fig.

Figaro n Figaro. Se kòkòt ak Figaro They are inseparable friends.

figi a 1 n Face; figure*. Roze figi To make up, i.e. to enballish one’s face with make-up. M’pap achte figi I’m not saying it just to please you; I mean it. Mare figi To frown, to put on an angry face.

figi a 2 n Picture cards (kings, queens and jacks).

figire vpr To imagine, to figure*.

figye modi, figye maron n Autograph tree; fig* tree (wild fig). Clusia rosea Jacq.

fiks attrib Firm, fixed*, permanent. (adv) Intently, fixedly*.
fikse, fiske vt To stare at, to fix* one's gaze upon. FAYO-368: Si ou pa tap fiske leyél, ou pa tap we lèsetwal ap desann If you were not looking at the sky, you wouldn't know that the stars were falling.

fil la 1 n Hymen, maidenhead (cherry).

fil la 2 n Thread, line, yarn, string, fiber. Fil fe, filè Wire, barbed wire. Fil a plon, filaplón Plumb* line. Plòt fil Ball of thread. Mango fil Type of mango full of fibers (stringy). Fil vi* Thread of a screw. Fil arenyen Collabw. Pran fil To get to know one’s way around. Pran lan fil To con, to trap. Pèdi fil To lose one's influence, one's position. Baw fil To give (s.o.) the proper connections.

filacha a n Brass wire, binding wire.

filalang, lafilalang Fe filalang To stick one’s tongue at someone, to tempt, to mock. L’ap fe’m filalang He eats in such a manner (purposely) so as to make my mouth water.

filaligati a n Binding wire, flexible wire used in construction work.

filanegui One thing leading to another, progressively.

filang nan n Tiny slices (strands of meat, etc.). Rad li filang His clothes are tattered.

filange vt 1. To slice very thin. To notch. V dole. 2. To give s.o. a severe thrashing, to beat him badly.

filas attrib Thread-like. Cheve filas Very thin fine hair.

filati a n Weaving factory, spinning mill.

filbobin nan n Bisexual.

file 1 attrib Sharp. Kouto a pa file The knife is not sharp (or) The knife is dull. File kon razwa Sharp as a razor.

file 2 vt 1. To sharpen, to file*. 2. To spin (yarn). 3. To slip away, to dash off. 4. To court. 5. To stick through (thread in a needle). 6. To follow, to watch, to prepare to catch (a criminal). 7. To meet out (thread, rope). (With the Creole verb 'file', we have a concomitance of Fr. filer, afiler). Examples and expressions: File move koton To be on the wrong track. File kouto To sharpen a knife. File cat To deal cards. File zegi To thread a needle. Kat la mal file There is a misdeal. Yo tap file voilè a depi lontan They watched and followed the thief closely for a long time. Andre file yon kòd anba pou Pyè ka monte Andrew let a rope come down so that Peter could climb up. File zepou ou Get ready for the task, i.e. sharpen your spurs. vi To shoot (star); to go fast. M’wè yon zetwal ki file I just saw a shooting star.

filè a 1 n Suitor.

file a, filèt la 2 n 1. Net (fish, hair, tennis, etc.). 2. Filet* (food).


filè a, fil fe a n Barbed wire. Filè ligati Bind wire (very thin wire used for binding).

film nan, fim nan n Film*, roll of film (photography); picture (movies, cinema).

filozòf la n Philosopher*. Pa fe filozòf ou sou mwen Don’t act high hat with me.

filozofia a, filo a n Philosophy*. One additional year of schooling after ‘retorik’ (which is the last year of high school). Bouki fe filozof Now everyone is enlightened. Today there are no more fools.

filt la n Filter*.

filyè a n 1. Screw-thread. Boulon an pa gen filyè The bolt is not threaded. 2. Connections, manner. M’pa wè pa ki filyè pou m’pase pou’m ka juenn dyob a I don’t see how I’m going to get that job.

fin V film

fimen vt To smoke.

finye a n Manure.

fin aux v Auxiliary denoting the termination of an action. (As a shortened form of ‘fini’, the word 'fin' is never placed at the end of a sentence).

Ou fin bout You have reached your limit. V fini.

finach Se finach That’s final, that’s it.

final adv An final Finally*.

finalman adv Finally*.

finans la n Finance*.

finès la n Elegance, finesse*; fine quality merchandise.

fini, fin vt To end, to finish*, to end up with, to destroy; to expire; to run out; to exterminate. V fin. Pitit ou fin gran Your children are grown up. Fèt la prèt pou fini The party is about to end. Mal pou fini To drag along. Kijan sa fini? How did it all end? (‘Fini’ can be made more emphatic by the addition of ‘nêt’).

finisman an n End, ending, finish*. Nan finisman istwè a nou aprann li mouri At the end of the story, we learned that he died.

fisèl la n String, twine.

fiske V fikse

fisibal la, festibal, pistibal n Sling (shot).

fiy V fi

fiyansay la n Betrothal. Engagement (to marry).

fiyanse 1 vi To become engaged.

fiyanse a 2 n Bridegroom; bride, fiancé*.

fiydonè a, fidonè a n Bridesmaid.
fïyèl la, fïyôl la n Godson, goddaughter, godchild. 
*Tout fïyôl mwen se fi All my godchildren are girls.

fïyét lalo a n A woman character in Haitian folklore. This word has been used in a political context these past few years.

fïyôl V fïyèl

fïzi a n Rifle, gun.

fïzik la n Physics*; physique*.

fïziye, fïzye vt To execute with a rifle; to shoot (even in its vulgar meaning).

flach la n Flash* light, flash lamp. *Anpoul flach Flash bulb.

flache vt To throw the light on someone. To flash*.

flakon an n Bottle, phial, flask*.

flaman an, flanman an n 
1. Flamingo* (bird).
2. Type of big ant. *Flanman rouj Type of red ant.

flan an n Side, flank*.

flanban adv Flanban nèf: Brand new.

flanbe vt To singe, to apply a flame* to something (to sterilize a needle, to singe the down on poultry, etc.). To go up in flames.

flanbwayan an n Flame tree (*Flamboyant*). Royal Poinciana, Delonix Regia (Bojer) Raf.

flanèl la, flanèl la n Flannel*.

flâk la n 1. Flame*. 2. Whiz (very brillant person). PRESSOIR-22: *Li travèse flannèt la It was crossing the flame of the little lamp.

flann nan n 1. Flame*. 2. Whiz (very brillant person). PRESSOIR-22: *Li travèse flannèt la It was crossing the flame of the little lamp.

flanman V flaman

flann nan n Walk, stroll.

flannè a, flanè a n Idler, loafer.

flannen vi To idle along, to dawdle, to loiter, to take a stroll, to loaf around.

flate vt To flatter*, to cajole.

flâtè a n Flatterer*. (syn) Sousou, souflanchou, achtèdfigi. V achtè.

flatri a n Flattery*.

flay vi To go by plane, to fly*.

flay, fay 1 attrib Weak, thin; light (weight). *Bwaat katon sa a trô flay; m'bezwen yonk pou kenbe bagay ki lou That paper carton is too weak. I need one to hold something heavy.

flay, fay 2 Fe flay To miss, to fail. *M'tire swazo a epi m'fe flay I shot at the bird and missed.

flè a n Flower*, bloom. *Flè sezon An inconstant person, one who changes with the seasons. *Flè soley Sunflower. *Fe flè To flirt. *Pyè mango yo an flè The mango trees are blooming.


fléch vi To bend, to flinch*.

flégédék attrib Thin, meager.

flenn nan, flèm nan n Mucus, phlegm*.

fleri vi To bloom, to blossom, to flower*.

flit la 1 n Flit* (a container used to spray insecticides).

flit la 2 n Flute*.

flite vt To spray insecticides with a device called ‘flit’*.

flo a n Troubles, worries, misery, suffering. *L’ap pase yon flo ak bèlmèl’ He’s having so much trouble with his mother-in-law (Pase flo = pase tray = pase mizè). *Yon flo A lot of.

flóbôp V fobo

flôch la n 1. Flush* (at cards). 2. (attrib) On the same level. *Youn flôch ak lòt They are on the same level.

flôk attrib Baggy, loose.

flonn nan n Sling. *Kon yon flonn As fast as an arrow. *Yon flonn A lot of, a great deal of.

flonnen vt To sling.

flote vi To float*, to wave. *Twa kadav tap flote sou lamè a Three corpses were floating on the sea.

Chak jou, drapo flote sou tèt biro yo Every day, the flags wave on the top of the offices.

fo attrib False*, fake. (Limited use; more often: ‘pa vre’). *Fo cheve Wig. *Fo dan Denture. *Fo non False name. *Fo pèz False weight.

fò 1 attrib 1. Strong. 2. Loud. 3. Intelligent, knowledgeable. (adv) Strongly. *Koutiryèz la fò That seamstress is really good. *Li fò nan manje He is a good eater; he eats a lot. *Pi fò nan yo The greatest portion of them, most of them. *Pa pale fò avè’m Don’t raise your voice at me. *Pale fò To speak loudly. *Li santi fò He smells bad.

fò 2 n Fort*, fortress*.

fô 3 It is necessary (that, to). *Jodi a fô mwen pati Today I’ll have to leave.

fobo, flóbôp, fôbôp attrib Toothless, gap-toothed.

Nonm sa a gen dyòl fobo That man has no teeth. V kôk, mazora.

fôfè a n Bad action, evil deed, crime.
fofîle vt 1. To baste, to tack.  2. Fofîle kò: To make one’s way. M’fofîle kò’m nan foul moun yo pou’m pati  I made my way through the crowd in order to leave.

fôj la n Forge*, smithy.

fôje vt 1. To forge* (a check), to invent, to falsify.  2. To work at a blacksmith’s shop, to forge (Rare).  V fôjô.

fôjron an, fôjôn an n Blacksmith.

fôk V fôkôl la, fôkole a n (Detachable) Collar*.

fôkòp vt To ruin, to spoil. (From E. fuck up*).

fôkseli a n Other name for veritab (breadfruit).

fôl attrib Crazy (woman).

fol a n Madness, folly*, mania.  Foli damou Love sickness.

fôlòp la n Escapade (furtive). Unauthorized absence from one’s station of duty (milit). Cf. chap.

fôm nan n 1. Form*, shape.  2. Shoe tree, shoe last.  Mete soulye yo nan fôm Put the shoes on the shoe last.  Pran fôm To change, to get transformed.

fômidab attrib Formidable*.

fon 1 Contraction of fè yon make one, do one.

fon 2 attrib Deep, profound*.  Vin pi fon To deepen.  Dlo ki pa fon Shallow water.

fon an 3 n Bottom, depth; back.  Foundation*.  Fè fon To sink, to go under.  Lan fon lamnè a In the depth of the ocean.

fon an 4 n Funds*.

fondalnatal attrib Real native (neologism). Fundamental.

fondasyon an n Foundation*.

fondè a, profondè a n Depth.

fondre vi To topple down.

fonksyonnè a n State employee.

fonksyonnen vi To function*, to work.

fonmasi V famasi

fonmi V foumi

fonn vi To melt, to vanish, to disappear, to sneak away.  Li fonn kon bon bè He disappeared in a hurry; he sneaked away like smoke.

fonograf la n Phonograph*, record player.  V toundis.

fonse 1 vt 1. To hammer down, to drive into.  2. To wrinkle, to knit (one’s eyebrows).  Li fonse soui’l He frowned.  3. To gather (a dress).  4. Fonse sou: To jump on.

fonse 2 attrib Dark, deep (color).  Rouj fonse Deep red, dark red.

fonsi a n Blackness, folly, mania.

fondsalye a n Grave digger.

fonse la 1 n Force*, strength, pressure.  Li fèl ak fonse kouraj li He did it by his brute strength and stamina.  Li vin vòlè pa fonse Pressure and circumstances made him a thief.

fonse la 2 n Grave, tomb, hole dug in the ground to bury s.o.  Chak ane, l’al sou fôs papa’l Every year, he goes to his father’s grave.

fôse vt To force*; to compel, to coerce; to strain one’s self, to force one’s self.  M’te kanpe nan koridò a; li fôse m antre I was standing in the corridor; he forced me to come in.

fôse a, fore a n Forest*.

fôpa a n Faux pas*.

fopaplis, fô pa plis Perfect! Tops! Excellent! No need to go further.

fopwen an n Brass knuckles.

forè a, fore a n Forest*.

fôs la 1 n Force*, strength, pressure.  Li fèl ak fôs kouraj li He did it by his brute strength and stamina.  Li vin vòlè pa fôs Pressure and circumstances made him a thief.

fôs la 2 n Grave, tomb, hole dug in the ground to bury s.o.  Chak ane, l’al sou fôs papa’l Every year, he goes to his father’s grave.

forsè a, fore a n Forest*.

fôsè a, fore a n Forest*.

fôsèt la, fôsèp la n Forceps*.  Dokè a te oblije pran pitit la ak fôsèt The doctor had to use forceps in order to deliver the baby.

fôskote a n A pulling to the side, a force* that causes a swerve.

fôskouch la n Miscarriage.  Fè fôskouch To have a miscarriage.  Fôskouch makak (Strong insult) You’re the ugliest bastard in the world.

fôt la 1 n Fault*, guilt.  Se pa fôt mwen It’s not my fault.

fôt la, fot la 2 n Mistake, error.  M’ap vini san fot I am coming for certain.

fotèy la n Armchair.

fôtifyan an n Fortifiers* (vitamins).

fôtin nan n Fortune*, riches.

fôto a n Photo*, photograph*, snapshot.  Fè yon fôto To take a picture.
fotograf la n Photographer*. founi a, fonmi a, fomi an, fro(n)mi an n Mad, crazy; foolish*. Foumi fou Type of ant which goes in all directions. Moun fou Lunatic, crazy people. Ki  pa  fou Sane. Rann fou (or) Fe fou To drive s.o. crazy. Renmen yon moun fou pou To be crazy about s.o. fou a 2 n Oven, furnace*. fou a 3 n Tern (bird). fouacho a, founacho a n Lime-kiln. V lacho. foub a la n Trickster. (attrib) Cheating, deceitful, two-faced. foubi vt I. To rub (down), to furbish*, to polish. V frote. Anwou ou fé manje nan chody a, se pou ou foubi? Before you cook in that pot, rub it clean. 2. To scold. Maten an, madann msey foubi’l byen foubi This morning, his wife let him have it. She really scolded him. fouch la n Prop, fork*. V foux. Bay bannann nan fouch To put a prop on the banana plant. fouchèt la n Fork*. Dan fouchèt Prongs of a fork. foufoun nan n Vagina. fougonnen vt To mishandle, to ruin, to handle brutally. foujè a n Fern*. fouk la n 1. Fork* (place where the thighs come together). 2. The part of the trousers that cover this spot: crotch. fouke vt To grab s.o. by the rear of his trousers. Jandam nan fouke vòlè a The policeman grabbed the thief by the pants (and marched him away). foul 1 vt 1. To fill*. Foul tank mwen Fill my tank. 2. Full*. Tank machin mwen te foul My gas tank was full. foul la 2 n Crowd, mob. Yon foul A lot of, a great number of. foula a n Scarf, silk kerchief, foulard*. foulay la n Sprain, strain. V fouli, antòs. foule 1 vt To spray, to twist. Li foule pyèl He sprained his foot. foule 2 vt To pile up, to compress, to pack tightly (sack); to trample (tread) upon. Sack la byen foule The sack is well packed. Pyéro kout, li byen foule Pierrot is short and stocky. fouli a n Sprain, strain. V antòs, foulay. foulstitid n A lot of, lots of. DYESIFÔ: Kisa pou li di nan mitan foulstitid moun k’ap ranni tribò babò a? What can he say in the middle of all these people who are shouting like crazy? [Haiti-Progrès, November 23, 1988]. foumi an, fonmi an, fomi an, fro(n)mi an n Ant. Fromi (a) zèl Winged ant. Some other types: foumi rouj, foumi fou, foumi pikan, foumi flanman. Common saying: M’kite yon po kann ak tout foumi pou li. founacho V fouacho founda V foundang foundang, founda attrib Spoiled, smelly (meat). founde a n Rice flour used to make porridge in some districts of the South of Haiti. founen an n Ovenful. founi vt To supply, to furnish*; to be plentiful, thick. Foumi je gade To look, to get an eyeful. founiti a n Supplies, parts, material (as opposed to labor). founo a n Oven, hearth. fouradò, fouradon V foubidò fouraje vi To rummage, to forage*. fouraye, anfouraye vt To misplace. foure vt To insert, to put, to poke, to stick (in), to shove in, to stuff, to reach into. M’foure men’m nan pòch mwen, m’pran yon dola I reached into my pocket and took a dollar. fouri a n Fur*. Manto fouri Fur coat. fouro a n Scabbard, sheath, case. V genn. fout 1 vt To give, to cause to have; to put, to place. Marengwen mòde’l; yo fout li lafyèv Mosquitos bit him; they gave him fever. Yo fout li atè They threw him on the ground. fout 2 interj Damn it! What! (Interjection denoting anger). Fou! Tomne! Damn it! To hell! Wi fout! Wow! (denothing surprise). foubôl la n Soccer (not American ‘football’). foubôle a n Soccer player. fouti aux v 1. May. Ou fouti tonbe Careful, you may fall. 2. (In negative sentences) Can, to be able. DEJEAN-64: Yo pa te fouti repom anyen pou sa They weren’t able to answer that at all. MORISSEAU-LEROY/D-3: Nou pa fouti mouri We can’t possibly die. fouy la n Digging, searching. Fe fouy To dig, to excavate. founyadò, fouradò, fouradon attrib Busybod; indiscreet, meddlesome person (one who can’t refrain from touching everything, and from medduling). V foubapòt. founyapot, friiapòt attrib Busybod, an excessively curious, meddlesome person, one who asks too many questions about other people’s business; meddler, snoopy, Nosy. V foubadò. Nan founyapot, li je u moun ak zo grann li; se sa’k pou ta rive? In nosing around, he got into trouble. He got what he deserved. fouye vt 1. To bore, to dig, to excavate. 2. To search for, to examine thoroughly. 3. To frisk.
4. To harass with endless questions. To an inquisitive person you say: *An se fouvèm, m'pa patat* Stop asking me so many questions. Stop digging me. You’re not digging for sweet potatoes. V fwayne.

*fouyè a* n Digger, ditchdigger. *Fouyè fos* Grave digger.

*frajil* attrib Fragile*, delicate, brittle.

*fran* attrib Frank*, loyal, sincere, honorable, straightforward, complete. *Twa jou fran* Three complete days.

*franj la, frany la* n Fringe*.

*franjipay la, franchipay la, franjipàn nan* n Frankgipan*.

*Frans* V Lafrans

*franse* \(^1\) attrib French*.


*fransèz la* n French* woman.

*frape la* n Striking power, hit.

*frape, fwape* vt 1. To hit, to strike, to knock; to tap; to swat, to stomp, to bump; to collide (with). 2. To affect, to strike. 3. To hurl (atè: to the ground). *Frap e pye* To stomp one’s feet. *Bouton* frape Type of covered button. *Li frape kostim naa’l la jodi a* Today he’s wearing his black suit. *Pa frape lan pòt la* Don’t knock on the door. vi 1. To collide. *De machin frape* Two cars collided. 2. To cool (a beverage). *Mete koka frape nan frijide a* Put the cokes in the refrigerator to cool.

*frapman an* n 1. Knocking (noise in a car). 2. Relations, activities. *Se fè ki gen gro frapman* This woman is moving in high circles; she is a heavyweight.

*fraz la* n 1. Sentence. 2. Joke, joking.

*fre* \(^1\) attrib Fresh*, cool, fresh looking; spruced up (person). V frèch.

*fre* \(^2\) n Smell, scent, flair*, odor. *Pran fre yon manje* To sniff (smell) a dish of food.


*frè a* \(^2\) n Expense. *Ki moun k’ap fè frè?* Who is going to pay the expenses? Who is paying?

*french* attrib Fresh* in appearance, (usu) applied to women or sometimes to words that in French are of the feminine gender. *Dlo fre* (or) *Dlo frèch* Cool water. To a woman: *Ala frèch ou frèch!* You look delightfully cool, clean and attractive. The E. word ‘fresh’ in the meaning of ‘impudent’ is ‘frèkan’ in Creole.

*frechè a* n 1. Freshness*; coolness, fresh air. *L’al mete yon ti frechè* She went to spruce up. 2. Rheumatism. 3. Neologism for ‘whore’.

*fredi a, fwedi a* n Coolness, chill, cool, cold. *Ala fredi!* What cold weather! *M’pè fredi* I’m sensitive to cold.

*fredite a* n 1. Cold weather. 2. Sickness supposedly caused by cold weather.

*fregat la* n Frigate* (bird).

*frekan* attrib ‘Fresh’, forward, impertinent, insolent, impudent, pretentious. *Fè frekan ak* To get fresh with. *Li frekan kon chen* He is too familiar, too fresh. He’s got too much nerve.

*frekansite a* n Impertinence. *Ala frekansite!* What impertinence!

*frekantasyon an* n Relationship (persons with whom one socializes).

*frekante* vt To socialize with, to frequent*, to associate with. *M’pa frekante yo* I don’t associate with them.

*frejni vi* To shiver, to shudder.

*fren an* n Brake (on a vehicle). *Fren a men* Emergency or hand brake. *Mete fren* To put a stop to.

*frengan* attrib Active, energetic, vivacious, spirited.

*frennan* \(^1\) n Friend*.

*frennan, fwenn nan* \(^2\) n Dagger, lance, a sharp stick, harpoon, cutlass; any pointed object that can be used as a dagger.

*frenmen, fwennen* vt 1. To put on the brake(s). 2. To strike, to stab with a ‘frenn’.

*fresi a* n Liver (animal’s).

*fresko a, frisko a* n Snowball (grated ice on which one pours a fruit syrup).


*frete* vt To lease, to charter, to hire (boat, plane). *M’fret yo yon yon m’al Jakmèl* I hired a car to go to Jacmel.

*freyè a* n Fright, fear, dread, terror.

*fréz la* n Strawberry.

*frezè* V frize

*fri* \(^1\) vt To fry*. *Fri sèk* Fried and dried (fish, meat, etc.). *Fri nan sos* Fried in a sauce (gravy). *Mon chè, ou fri* My friend, you are done for, your goose is cooked.
fri 2 V frui a
fridòdòy la n 1. Snack food usually sold on the street. Al lan fridòdòy To go buy and eat any old food on the street.
früjde a n Refrigerator, frigidaire*. (fig) Frigid woman.
frìkase vt To fricassee*, to sauté.
frìksyon an n Rubbing, friction*.
frìskyonnen vt To massage, to give a rubdown, to rub with oil, lotion. Ba li grenn pou lafyèv la epì frìksyonnen’l Give him some pills for his fever and massage him.
frison an n Shiver(s). Lafyèv frison Chills accompanied with fever.
frisonnen vi To shiver.
frìtay la n Fried* food, fish-fry.
frìte vi To roam about in search of food.
frìti a n Fried food, particularly fried fish, fried bananas, fried* pork. Machann frìti Saleswoman of fried food.
friyan (pou) attrib Crazy (about), very fond (of).
frìze 1 vt To curl (hair).
frìze a, freze a 2 n Barn-owl, screech-owl.
fromaj la, fromay la n Cheese.
fromajye a n Indian mulberry, painkiller. This tree is also called ‘doulè’ in Creole. Morinda citrifolia L.
fròn an n Forehead, brow. Ou gen fròn You have the nerve, you have the audacity (to).
fronmi V foumi
fronte 1 attrib Audacious, insolent, shameless, impertinent, impudent, smart(y).
fronte a 2 n Sexual intercourse. L’ap fè youfronte He is having intercourse; he is getting a piece.
froute vt To rub, to scrub. V foubi. Pantalon an merite frote nan dlo The trousers (pants) should be scrubbed in water.
frotman an n 1. Rubbing. 2. Contact(s) (the habit of frequenting people).
frui a, fri a, fwi a n Fruit*.
fruit la, fwi t la n Small leak. Chanm bisiklèt la gen fuit The bicycle innertube has a leak.
fuiya a n Runaway.
fwa a, fwa di 1 n Liver. Fwa mou Lights, lungs (of slaughtered animals).
fwa a, lafwa 2 n Faith, trust. Li gen movèz fwa He is not bona fide, he is acting in bad faith.
fwa a, lafwa 3 n Time, turn. Yon fwa Once. De fwa Twice. Gen de fwa There are times... Fwa sa
a This time. A la fwa At a time, simultaneously. Te gen yon fwa Once upon a time. Yon lòt fwa Another time, on another occasion. Yon fwa ankhò Once more, one more time. Anpil fwa Over and over. Lafwa pase, lafwa denyè Last time. Yon fwa pou tout Once and for all.
fware vt To strip (screws).
fwayne a, fouye a n 1. Hearth. Also: fwayne dile, (usu) made with three stones. 2. Household.
fwego a n Virility, vigor, potency, heat (sexual). Sp.
fwenk interj Damn it! Interjection expressing discontent and disgust. DYESIFO: Remèt mwen kòb la, fwenk! Damn it, give me back the money!
fwenn V frenn
fwennen V frefenn
fwèt la, frèt la n Lash, whip, horse whip. V Rigwaz, kash, matinèt. Bat ak fwèt To flog. Voye fwèt sou tout moun To thrash right and left.
fwi V frui
fwi V fuit
fyasko a n Fiasco*. International Italianism.
fye vt To trust (in), to confide* (in), to have confidence (in).
fýe, fyèr attrib Proud.
fyèl la n Gall; gallbladder; stamina, courage, resistance, endurance. Gen fyèl To be courageous; i.e. to be able to take it. Rann fyèl To break one’s back doing something. M’ap pete fyèl li I’m going to split him wide open. M’n an travay, se pete fyèl I’m doing very hard work. Anmè kon fyèl Bitter as gall.
fyète a n Pride.
fyèv V lafyèv
fyòn Fè fyon To show off, to be boasting.
fyouch la n Fuse* (electrical).

G

gà a n (Railway) Station; (bus) Terminal.
gabadin nan n Gabardine*.
gabèl la n Advantage, head start, edge, concession. An’n kòmanse kous la; pran devan; m’ba ou gabèl Let’s begin the race; start now; I’ll give you a head start.
gabotaj la, gabotay la n Operation of national ships along the coasts of Haiti.
gachèt la n Trigger.
gad 1 vt Elliptical form of ‘gade’. Gad sa l’ap fè Watch what he’s doing. Pa gad sou figi moun (You) don’t judge by one’s facial expression.
gad la 2 n 1. Guard*, orderly, policeman, soldier. 2. Amulet. V gadyen, gado. M’pa konn kote m’gad I don’t know where I stand (guard); I don’t know what my situation is.
gadavou At attention. Mete ou o gadavou Stand at attention.
gadè V gadò
gade, gad 1 vt 1. To look (at), to behold, to glance (at). 2. To watch, to watch over, to attend to. 3. To keep; to store up. 4. To raise (animals). Examples and expressions: Gade atè To look down. Gade depè To look back. Gade depò To look outside. Gade anlè To look up. Gade! Gade non! Pay attention! Listen! Be careful! Be on your guard! PRESSOIR-44: Chat kouri man ganlè To leave, to slip away unceremoniously, sometimes furtively.
gagit, gadjit Klou gagit A small nail used for example to nail sole to shoe.
gagòt la, gagotay la n Fé gagòt; fé gagotay To spill water, food or anything in a slovenly fashion. Timoun, ase fé gagòt sou tab la Children, stop spilling everything on the table.
gagite V gagot
gagote vi To spill water, food or anything in a slovenly fashion.
gaj la n Contractual obligation with the Vodou priest. Cf. angajman.
gal V lagal
galan attrib Courtly, courteous, ladies’ man. Cf. E. gallant*.
galè a n Wood plane (tool).
galeri V galri
galèt la n 1. Pebble(s), stone(s) found in a riverbed. 2. (Dry) Riverbed with pebbles.
galipòt la, gayipòt, galpòt n 1. Mythical animal like a werewolf. 2. A person who moves fast like a werewolf. PRESSOIR-45: Yo kouri bò gadjàtè la They run toward the cupboard.
galipòt la, gayipòt, galpòt n 1. Mythical animal like a werewolf. 2. A person who moves fast and can be at two places at the same time. 3. Witch, sorcerer.
galize V egalize
galonnen, garyonnen vi 1. To gad about, to revel, to prance around. 2. To decorate (with ribbons, bands, medals) or to promote (military).
galop vi To gallop*, to run fast.
galpòt V galipòt
galri a, galeri a n Porch, gallery*, veranda.
galta a, galata a, gay(i)ta (North) n Attic, loft; store-house, granary.
gam Fé gam (or) Chante gam To boast.
gan an 1 n Glove. M’pa nan gan blan avèk li I’m not going to treat him with kid gloves; I’m not going to give him any special treatment.
gan 2 V gen
gangan an, garga a n Vodou priest.
gangans la n Elegance*. Ala yon gangans! How elegant!
gangozye V grangozye
gangren nan, kangren nan n Gangrene*.
gangrennen, kangrennen vi To gangrene*, to become gangrenous.
gani vt To garnish*.
ganiti a n Ornaments, trimming(s) used by seamstresses, garnishings*.
ganmèl la, gamèl la n Wooden basin, washtub, washbowl; trough, platter, wooden pan.
gany lan, gen an, djen an n Winnings from a bet or competition, prize; profit, earning, gain*, rake-off. Bay gany; bay legen To concede, to accept defeat. FRANKETIENNE/B-55: Enben, nou bwa li!...Nou ba ou ganyen

gany la n Game cock. (Sp. gallo).
gay la n Game cock. (Sp. gallo).
gay la n Game cock. (Sp. gallo).
gayak la n 1. Type of hard wood. Gayacum officinale, Lignum vitae. L. Jamaica: gayacum-wood. 2. Cudgel (stick) made from this wood.
gaye 1 attrib Dumbstruck in amasement, bewildered, mixed up.
gaye 2 vt To disperse, to scatter, to spread (out). Liv yo te byen ranje, ou gaye yo The books were in proper order and you have mixed them up. Nouvel la gaye The news has spread. Plon gaye Buck-shot.
gaz la 1 n Gas*, stomach gas. Se yon gaz ki kenbe’m It’s gas in my stomach which is causing me all kinds of trouble. Rann gaz To burp, to belch.
gaz 2 la n Gauze* Also: twal gaz.
gaz 3 V gazolin

gazel la n Heifer, cow. Also: gazèl bèf.
gazolin nan, gazolin nan, gaz la n Gasoline, petrol. Fè gaz (or) Fè gasolin To put gasoline in a motor vehicle, to fill up. Oto a pran pàn gaz The car is out of gas.
gazon an n Lawn, sod.
gazoy la n Diesel fuel.
ge attrib Merry, gay*; tipsy.
gede, legede n Vodou spirit. Supernatural spirit associated with the dead.
gen, gan, genyen, ganyen 1 impers v There is, there are (to exist). Gen de lè... There are times when... Gen lè... It looks like... It seems... Gen moun There is company; there are people. Gen de moun ki... There are some people who... Mete pase genyen To exaggerate (to put more than there is). MORISSEAU-LEROY/A-9: Gen yon gro fôtey pay devan yon ti kay There is a big straw armchair in front of a small house.
gen, gan, genyen, ganyen 2 vt 1. To have; to earn, to gain*, to possess, to win*. (‘Gen’ and ‘gan’ cannot be placed at the end of a sentence; in this case the long forms ‘genyen’ and ‘ganyen’ are used). M’gen youn I have one. Sa li genyen? What is the matter with him? Gen pou To have to, must. MORISSEAU-LEROY/D-1: M’gan 2 ou 3 bagay pou’m di I have two or three things to say. M’pa gen anyen sou machandis la I don’t make any profit on that merchandise.
gengenn Fè gengenn To strut, to parade, to walk gracefully.
gen nan, djenn nan n Girdle, corset; sheath, scabbard, case. V fouro.
genyen V gen
gèp la, djèp la n Wasp*, yellow jacket.
geri  vt  To cure, to heal; to get well.  DEJEAN-7:  
Li geri domestik yon ofisyè  He cured the servant of 

gerit  la   n  Sentry box.

gerizon  an   n  Cure, recovery.

gét 1  interj  What!  Wow!  (Exclamation denoting 
surprise).

gèt  la  2  n  Clitoris.  V  krèk, langèt.

gèt  la, djet  la  3  n  Legging(s), gaiter*.  Gèt jandam  
Policeman’s leggings.  Débouye (demele) gèt ou  Find 
a way out.  Get a move on.

gete  1  vt  To watch, to look at, to view.

gete  a  2  n  Joy, gayety*.

gi  a  n  Mistletoe (bot).

giche  a, giche  a  n  Cashier’s window.

gid  la  n  Guide*.

gidon  an  n  1.  Handle-bar of a bicycle.  2.  Hoop 
stick.  Lage de gidon dèyè yon moun  To go after 
s.o., to pursue s.o. relentlessly for a specific purpose.

gigit  la  n  Penis (child’s language).  Also:  ti gigit.

gildiv  la  n  Distillery, still to process sugar cane 
to ‘kleren’, ‘tafya’, rum, alcohol, etc.

gilmòv  la, gîmòv  la  n  Marshmallow plant.

Ginen, Gine  n  Guinea*; Africa.  Depi nan Ginen  Since 
the time we were in Africa; traditionally; from 
olden times.  Farin Ginen  Flour with which the 
‘vèvè’ is drawn (outlined) on the ground.

gita  a  n  Guitar*.

giyon  an  n  Jinx, bad luck.

giyonnen  vt  To nag, to pester, to tease, to goad; 
to bring bad luck to.  Kite’m trankil; ase giyonnen’m  Leave 
me alone; stop picking on me; stop bothering 
me.

giyonnman  an  n  Goading.

glann  nan  n  Gland*.

glas  la  n  1.  Pane, glass*.  2.  Mirror.  3.  Ice, icicle  
V glason.  4.  Stone in a riverbed.  Glas la fè  
m’en’angoudi  The ice made my hand numb.

glase  vt  1.  To chill.  2.  To freeze.  Frozen, icy, 
cold, iced.  Dlo glase  Iced water.

glasi  a  n  Threshing floor; a floor with a hardened 
surface.  Glasi kafe  Cement floor for drying coffee.

glason  an  n  Ice cube.  V  glas.

glasyè  a  n  Ice-box, freezer.

glayèl  la  n  Gladiolus*.

glè  a  n  Phlegm.  V  flenm.

glisad  la  n  Slip (slipping).

glise 1  vi  To slide, to slip, to glide.

glise 2  attrib  Slippery.

glisyè  a  n  Track (of a sliding door).

glo  V  dlo

ban’m glòb nan men  The burn on my hand gave me 
a blister.

glos  la  n  Small bottle used as a measure for 
liquids (cooking oil, etc.).

gloktoglotét  adv  In one gulp, fast in one swallow.  
Li vale’l gloktoglotét  He gobbled it up fast.

glwa, lágwà  n  Glory*.

gòb  la  n  A piece, a large portion.

gobe  vt  To guzzle, to eat greedily.  V  bafre, tifle.

gobè, gobèt  la  n  Goblet*; A small cup (usu) 
smaller than a ‘gode’, without handle.  V  gobe.

goch  attrib  1.  Left.  2.  Clumsy, awkward.  Vire a 
goch  To turn left.

gochè  attrib  Left-handed.  Li goche; li pa ka ekri 
ak men dwat  He is left-handed; he can’t write with 
his right hand.

gode  a  n  Cup, mug.  V  goble.

gode  a  n  Cup, mug.  V  goble.  A gro gode  In 
abundance, abundantly.

godèm  interj  God damn*.  Often:  Gòdèm sala-mabit  
God damn!  Son of a bitch*.

godèt  la  n  Goblet*, cup.  Afè ou nan ti godèt  You 
are in straits; your situation is not clear; you’re in 
trouble.  M’ap ba ou sa nan bon ti godèt  I am going 
to tell you the story as it is.

godrin  V  goudrin

godron  V  goudron

gògnagòg  n  A grand mixup, promiscuity, disorder.  M’pa jann nan gògnagòg ak moun  I don’t 
get too familiar with people; I don’t mix in with 
people.

gój  la  n  Throat.  Mal gój  Sore throat, laryngitis.  
Gój li sere  He can’t talk; he’s so upset.  V  pòtgój.

gòje  a  n  Sip, gulp, swallow, draft.

gòjèt  la  n  Throat.

gòl  la  1  n  Goal* (sports).  Ekip ki bay plis gòl la 
genyen  The team which scores the most goals wins.

gòl  la  2  n  Long, thin pole, stick.

golinèn  vt  To intertwine with long sticks (gòl) 
while constructing a house.

gòlkìpè  a  n  Goal keeper*.

golyon  an  n  A tall and thin person.

gòm  nan, gonn  nan  1  n  Glue, gum*, resin paste.  
V lakol.  Pran lan gonn  To trap, to dupe; to get 
trapped.
gòm nan, gonm nan\(^2\)  n  Eraser (rubber).
gòmen  V  gonmen

gomye a, gonmye a  n  West Indian gum-tree\(^*\), acacia-gum. Gonmye: name of a place in the Grand'Anse province. \textit{Sa m'wè pou ou, Antwàn nan Gomye pa wè'l} If you only knew what's hanging over your nose; the sword of Damocles is hanging over your head. (Literally: Not even Anthony, the 'voyeur' who lives in the Gonmye region, can foresee what I foresee for you).
gon 1  Contraction for \textit{gen yon} There is a. Cf. fon (fè yon), son (se yon).
gon an\(^2\)  n  Hinge.
gonbo a  n  Okra, Gumbo\(^*\). Hibiscus esculentus L.
gonde  V  gronde
gondoye  vi  1. To scull (to propell a boat with a stern-oar). 2. To hobble along, to walk with difficulty.
gonflé  vt  1. To cause indigestion. \textit{Roma a gonflé'l} The lobster gave him indigestion. 2. To inflate, to blow up (balloon, tire, etc.). 3. To swell, to puff up, to distend. \textit{Ma-chwa'l gonfle} His jaw is swollen.
gonfléman an  n  Indigestion, (literally) swelling.
gongòlò a, kongòlò, ngongòlò, gangòlò  n  Congololo\(^*\) (a species of centipede that rolls itself up when touched).
gonm  V  gòm
gonmen, gòmen  vt  1. To put glue on. \textit{Rebò anvlòp la deja gonmen} The edges of the envelope (already) have glue on them. 2. To be sticky, gluey, viscous.
gonmye  V  gomye
gou 1  attrib  Tasty, delicious, yummy, attractive. \textit{Manje a gou} The food is delicious.
gou a\(^2\)  n  Taste, flavor. \textit{Manje a gen gou pike}; \textit{manje a pike} The food is hot (because of the hot pepper in it). \textit{Nan gou'l} As he please; to his liking.
goud la  n  Unit of the Haitian monetary system originally equivalent to 20 U.S. cents.
goudan an  n  1/4 Goud\(^*\) or 25 Haitian cents. (Originally 5 U.S. cents).
goudi a  n  Stern oar.
goudiye  vi  To scull (to row with the stern-oar).
goudrin nan, godrin nan  n  Beverage made from pineapple rinds soaked in water for several days.
goudron an, godron an  n  Tar, pine tar, asphalt.
goudronnen  vt  To tar, to pave, to asphalt.
gouf la  n  1. Abyss, bottomless hole. 2. \textit{Yon gouf} A lot of. \textit{Yon gouf noun} A lot of people, a crowd.

graje  vi  1. To grate, to grind.  2. To squirm, to fidget, to be uneasy.  *Li tap graje sou chez dantz la* He was squirming in the dentist's chair.

grai a  n  Insolent, impertinent, ‘fresh’ person.


gramè a  n  Grammar*.


grand  attrib  Rare except in certain phrases.  *De grand tay* Tall.

grandan  n  Big talker, show-off  V farandolè.

grandè a  n  1. Size.  2. Grandeur*, pretentiousness.  *Li gen foli grandè* He has illusions of grandeur.

grandèt  (usu) Grandé tiff An adolescent girl.

grandi  vi  To grow, to increase.  *Pitit tap grandi* The child was growing up.  *Pa grandi sou mwen! Don’t act big with me!*

grandon  n  Big landowner.

grandou a  n  Large kite (for flying).  V kap, sèvolan.

grandfrè, gran frè a  n  Elder brother.

grangou a  n  Hunger, starvation.  *Dòmi grangou* (To go) to sleep on an empty stomach.  *M’pa grangou I’m not hungry.*

grangozye a, gangozye, gangouzye  n  1. Pelican.  2. (fig) Glutton.

grangran nan, gran grann nan  n  Great grandmother.

grangranpapa a, gran gran papa a  n  Great grandfather.

grannmè a  n  Grandmother*. (The usual word is ‘grann’).

grannes, granmès, gremes  prep  Thanks to.  *Pou granmesi* In vain, for nothing.

grannèt la, gran mét la  n  God, Great Master.  V Bondye.  *M’sou kont Granmèt la* I’m under the protection of the Lord; I’m in His hands.

granmatten, gran maten, granm tì maten  adv  Very early in the morning.

grannmoun nan  n  1. Adult, grown up.  *Timoun pa betise (jive)* ak grannmoun  Children should not joke with adults.  *Se grannmoun ki non’t* He is a person of experience.  2. Old person, elderly.  3. Adult responsible for a child.  *Al chèche grannmoun ou* Go fetch the person responsible for you.  4. (fig) Old.


grannlìjen, grandlìjen, agrandlìjen  adv  Abundantly, on a large (grand) scale.

grapanpan  attrib  Pedant, show-off.

granpapa a, gran papa a  n  Grandfather.

grapè, gran pé a  n  Grandfather (rare).

granse a, gran sè a  n  Elder sister.

granthalè, granchalè a  n  Gonorrhea.  V ekouman, chòlpiskòde.

grap la  n  1. Bunch, cluster.  *Pran ak grap* To rebuff, to give a bad reception, to lash out at someone, to let someone have it.  2. *Yon grap* A lot of.  *Yon grap zwazo* A lot of birds.

grapday la  n  Bit, small piece; small salary.  *M’ap cheche yon ti grapday nan lari a I’m looking for a little something out there on the street; I am broke.*

grape  vi  To grab, to seize.

grapen an  n  Hook.  *Pose grapen sou* To take hold of, to grab.

grapiyay la, grapyay la  n  System of farming whereby a peasant plants many types of crops instead of limiting himself to one export crop.

grapiyen  vi  To gather (from a garden).  V gra-piyay.  2. To grab.  *Chat la grapiyen de sourit* The cat caught two mice.

grapji  Something ugly.


graset  attrib  (Pleasingly) Plump.

grasye  vi  To pardon (a prisoner).

grat la  n  Scraper.

grate  vi  1. To scratch, to scrape, to grate*.  2. To itch.  3. To flee, to scram(ble).  *Men gòch mwen ap grate’m* My left hand is itching.  *M’di ou peye’m, w’ap vin grate tèt ban mwen I am telling you to pay me and you are telling me you don’t have the money.

gratè a  n  Impertinent, insolent, young punk; gate crasher.

gratèl la, lagratèl  n  1. Itch, a skin disease characterized by itching.  2. Poison ivy.  3. Jelly fish.
graten  V graton

gratis  attrib  Free (of charge), gratis*.

graton an, graten an  n  The crust at the bottom of a pot of rice, ground of corn, etc.  Tèt graton
Sparse kinky hair.

gratwa  a  n  Scraper.

great  attrib  Grave*, serious, critical.

great  vt  To engrave*; to scratch (leaving a mark).
Li grafe vèrèt  He has pox marks.

grawman  adv  Gravely*, seriously.

grawa  a  n  Gravel*.

graye  a  n  Gravel*.

grebete  V krebete

gredè  a  n  Grader* (for road building).

grefe  la  V grèf la

grèk  la  n  Greek* (people, language).

grebi  a  n  Greek* (color).

grenad la, grennad la  n  1. Grenade*.  2. Pomegranate*.

grenadin nan, grenadin nan  n  Grenadine* (a tropical fruit). Passiflora quadrangularis L.

grenadya  a  n  A Haitian fruit from which a delicious juice is extracted.

grenelle  V degrenelle

grenn 1  attrib  1. Kinky (hair).  2. Ke’m grenn  I am sad, melancholic, apprehensive.

grenn 2  n  1. Grain*, berry, seed.  2. Testicle.  3. Pill.  4. Ti grenn  Girl, chick. Also: A speck. Examples and expressions:  Yun ti grenn sab  A grain of sand.  Yun grenn  Just one; a single one.  Pa yon grenn  Not a single one.  Yon grenn senk  A person without protection, an isolated person, a person by himself.  Li gen gren  He has guts.  Grenn vant  Womb.  Grenn chaple  Rosary bead.  Grenn kolye  Pearl (pearl necklace).  Li renmen’m tanbou de grenn je nan tèt li  She loves me as her own two eyes.  Grenn maldyòk  A seed on a string placed around the neck of a child falling on the stomach to ward off evil.  Li gen gren pelempenpen  He is restless.

grennen, grènen  vt  To shell (mayi corn); to say (chaple the rosary); to count out one by one (grain* by grain); to produce a great amount of. Examples and expressions: Grennen piti  To have (produce) many children one after the other.

Also:  Simen piti.  Grennen lajan  To overwhelm with money.  Lese grennen  Let it be, let it alone.  Yon grennen bal sou li  They riddled him with bullets.

grenou la, gounou la  n  Frog.  V krapo.

grenpe  vt  To climb (up, on), to scale, to ascend.

grenye  a  n  Attic, loft.

grep  V grèg


grese  vt  To fatten; to grease*, to lubricate, to oil.  Grense sere yon oto  To tighten and lubricate a car.  Grense pat yon moun  To grease one’s palm.

greton an  n  Fried pork (word used in Jérémie for the more common ‘griyo’. Cf. Fr crétou.

grèv la  n  Strike.  Fè grève  To go on strike.

gri 1  attrib  1. Gray*.  2. Inebriated, drunk.  Gri kon po silabè  Drunk as a kite.  N.B. The best known Haitian primer (silabè) has a gray cover.

gri 2  n  Bird of prey.  See Roger Nelson’s  Zwafo Ayiti yo, page 52.

gri, griy la 2  n  Grill* (for cooking).

gridap  attrib  Used mostly in the expression  tèt gridap  kinky, short, nappy hair.  Lamp tèt gridap  refers to a kerosene lamp (tin lantern) with a handle.

grif la 1  n  Claw.

grif 1  n  A crossing between a mulatto and a person with dark skin.

grifonn nan  n  Woman of mixed blood.  V grif.

grifonn, grinònen  vt  To claw, to scratch with the finger nails or the claws.  V grafouyen.

grigri 1  n  Charm (Vodou term).


grifou 1  n  Charm (Vodou term).


grigli 1  n  Charm (Vodou term).


grij la  n  Fold, furrow, wrinkle.

griji  vt  To pleat, to sew very close, to wrinkle, to gather (material).

grimas la  n  Grin, wry face; monkey tricks, grimace*.

Fè grimas  To make faces.


grimo  a  n  Person with light skin and kinky hair.  V grimèl. Variant: grimèl chode.

grinback la, grimbak la  n  Money, greenback*.

grip la  n  Cold, grip* (sickness), influenza.

gripe  attrib  To have a cold.  V anrimen.  Ou gripe?  You have a cold?

griyad la  n  Grilled* meat.

griye  vt  To broil; to roast, to toast, to grill*.
griyen vi To laugh. Griyen dan To grin*, to smile wryly, to grimace, to smile ironically; to gnash one’s teeth menacingly.

griyo a ¹ n Small pieces of minced roast pork (highly spiced), fried pork chunks. MORISSEAU-LEROY/D-10: Tout mond ap fe griyo Everybody is making ‘griyo’.

griyo a ² n Story-teller. Also: mèt kont.

grizon an n Graybeard. Type of marble (toy). Roch grizon Type of stone with many holes on its surface.

grizonnen vi To turn gray (hair). To have gray hair (person).

gro, gwo attrib Big, large, enormous, considerable, extensive. Gro ble Denim (cheap blue material used to make clothes). Yon gro devenn A big misfortune.

grond, gonde, gwonde vi To roar, to grumble, to growl, to rumble. Motè a gronde The motor is humming. Loray ap gronde The thunder is rumbling.

gronyen vi To grumble.

gròs ¹ vi To make pregnant; to knock up (pop).

gròs, gòs ² attrib Pregnant, enceinte. (For animals, the usual word is ‘plenn’). Fi a gròs senk mwa The woman is five months gone (pregnant).

grosè a n Size; bigness.

grosèla n Pregnancy.

grosi vi To get fat, to enlarge, to swell.

grosomodo, grosomo modo Roughly; carelessly.

grosoulie, grosoulé attrib Crude, unrefined person.

grosye attrib Rough, nasty, gruff, gross* (person).

grot la, lagrot, gwòt la n Cave, grotto*.

group la n Group*, cluster, troup.

grovant attrib Pregnant. Fi ki grovant pa due monte chwal A pregnant woman should not ride on horseback.

grozo attrib Big, brawn.

groztòey, gro zòtèy attrib Rough, crude, ‘country hicks’.

groztobre, gro zotrebe n Big shot.

gwagwa a n Jalopy. From Sp.

gwangul la n Raintree. Pithecellobium saman (Jacq.) Benth.

gwannan n 1. Needle. 2. Type of drum. 3. Pole, for example palm tree, upon which bunches of ears of corn are hung tied in strings. 4. Tree the fiber of which is used to make hats, ropes, etc.

gwap attrib Brutal, brute.

gwayabèl la n Type of jacket worn in tropical countries (Cuba, Haiti).

gwayav la, gouyav la n Guava*. Psidium guajava L.

gyòl attrib Peasant (figuratively), hick, uncouth, vulgar.

gwenf attrib Gluttonous, heavy eater. Cf. afre, aloufa.

gyèl V dyèl

gyòlè V dyolè
I

i pers pron He, she, it (used in the North). I manje He ate.

ibis la n Ibis*.


idantite a n Katdidantite Identification card.

ide 1 V ede

ide 2 V lide

idòl la, zidòl la n Idol*.

idyòt attrib Idiot*.

igwàn nan, igwann nan n Iguana*.

ijan attrib Urgent*.

ijyèn nan, lijyèn n Hygiene*, cleanliness, Hygienics*.

il la, lil, zile, zil n Isle*, islet*, island*. V zilo.

ilanilan an n Ylang-Ylang. Cananga odorata (Lam.) Hook. F. and Thoms.

ilfo V fò

ilizyon an n Illusion*.

ilse a n Ulcer*.

imaj la, imay la n Portrait, image*.

imajinsyon an n Imagination*.

imajinen, imajine vt To imagine*.

imè a n 1. Humor*. 2. Inflammation, pus.

imedyatman adv Immediately*.

imid attrib Humid*, damp.

imidite a n Humidity*.

imigrasyon an n Immigration*. Biro imigrasyon Bureau of immigration.

imilyasyn an n Humiliation*.

imilye vt To humiliate*, to put down.

imite vt To imitate*; to ape.

imoral attrib Immoral*.

imoralite a, limoralite n Immorality*.

ini vt To unite*. United*. Rann ini (or) defripe To smooth out.

iniföm nan n Uniform*.

inisyal la n Initial* (letter).

inite a n Unity*.

initil attrib Useless, vain, fruitless, unnecessary, pointless.

initilman adv Uselessly.

inivësite a n University*, college.

inondasyon an n Flood. Fè inondasyon To overflow (river).

inonde vt To flood.

inoni, inonni attrib Gaga, senile. (syn) Entatad.

inoptize V ipnotize

inosan, nosan attrib Innocent*; naive. Cf. Neap. nuzende innocent.

inyon an n Union*; unity*, harmony.

inyore vt To be ignorant* of.

inyore konnen vt Not to know, not to be cognizant of. M’inyore konnen bagay konsa Am I supposed to know that? (or) I don’t know about that.

ipnotize, inoptize vt To hypnotize*.

ipokrit attrib Hypocrit*, hypocritical*.

ipokrizi a n Hypocrisy*.

ipoteke, poteke vt To mortgage.

irigasyon an n Irrigation*.

iriten, irinen vi (rare) To urinate*, to piss. V pipi, pise.

iritasyon an n Irritation*.

irondèl la n Swallow (bird).

ise vt To hoist, to raise. vi To stand on tiptoe. V rose.

isi, isit, isi a, isit la adv Here. Anba isit Down here, in these parts. Isit, lavi a di anpil Life is very difficult here. Moun isi People of this country, of this place. Bò isi, bò isit Here, around here.

isitkay adv Here in this country, here at home.

isterik attrib Histerical*.
istwa, listwa n Story*, tale. History*.
Itali n Italy*.
italyen attrib & n Italian*.
itil attrib Useful, beneficial, handy.
itilite a n Use. Li pa gen an kem itilite It’s of no use.
itilize vt To utilize*.
ivè a, livè n Winter. An ivè In winter, in the winter.
izin nan, lizin n Factory. Te gen yon sèl izin nan zòn nan, li fè men There was only one factory in the area; it closed up.
izole vt To isolate*.

J

ja a, dja a n Pot, jug, vat, jar*. Ja lajan Buried treasure.
jadendanfan an n Nursery school.
jagon an n Jargon*. Yo pale jagon pou’m pa konfram kisa yo vle di They spoke in a jargon, so that I wouldn’t understand what they were saying.
Jak n James*, Jack*.
jakèt la n Formal coat with swallow tail; morning coat. Also a rebuke. Yo ba’l yon jakèt They rebuked him.
Jakmèl n Port town in southern Haiti.
jax, jax a n Parrot. Fè jax pye vèt To play the part of a gallant. Nen jax Aquiline nose.
jakorepèt la n A stupid person who, like a parrot, repeats everything he hears.
jal n Short form for jeneral.
jalou attrib Jealous*.
jalouzi a n 1. Jealousy*; envy. Fi a ap fè jalouzi pou mari’l The woman is jealous of her husband. 2. Type of venetian blind.
jalè V janm
jan an n Manner, way; disposition; type, kind, sort. Li gen bon jan He has a good disposition. Menm jan yo te rakonte’l ya In the same manner as they told it. Ki jan ou vle kafe a? Hau do you want the coffee? Yon ti jan Sort of, kind of, like, slightly. Jan ou vle As you wish. Nenpòt ki jan In any manner. Jan’l te rich He was so rich. Pou jan ou bon, m’pat kwè ou ta fe sa You are so good and kind, I would have never believed you would do that. Li yon jan dekouraje He is somewhat discouraged. Ki jan fe... How come... Pran bon jan van To stay in the breeze; to enjoy a good breeze.
janbe vt To cross over a street, a stream, or any object, to straddle; to go to. Lakay li ak pa’m, ou nèk janbe It’s only a jump from his house to mine. Janbe minui After midnight.
janbèt la n Small knife or pen-knife with a wooden handle.
janbon an n Ham*.
janbyè a n Leggings.
janchwa a n Anchovy.
jandom an n Policeman, police officer; soldier. Gendarme*.
jandomri a n Police, constabulary.
jannm nan 1 n Leg. Li pran hou; li rale sou yon janm He was beaten; he’s hobbling on one leg.
jannm, jamè, jannen 2 adv Never, ever. Ou pap jannm kapab You will never be able. Mare jamè fache To pledge never to become enemies (fall out). Jannm is used only pretonically.
jansiv la n Gum (mouth).
janti attrib Fine, kind, pleasant, gentle*, nice. Pa janti Unkind, not nice.
janye a n January*.
jany V anj
jap la n Bark, yapping*.
jape vi To bark, to yelp, to yap. Chen an jape tout lannuit The dog barked all night.
japman an n Barking.
jarèt la n Ham, bend of the knee (in man), hock (of horse, etc.). Bay jarèt To strengthen.
jasmen an, jasmendenui n Jasmine*.
jatyè a n Garter.
java a n Ulcer, a malignant sore. V maleng. Li gen desan ak yon java nan pye’t He’s had a terrible sore on his foot for two years.
jaze vi To talk (badly) about, to fuss.
jazman an n Fussing, rambling, idle talk.
je a 1 n Deck, set. Yon je kat A deck of cards. Yon je baton A good thrashing. Yon je souti A set of tools.
je a, jye a 2 n Eye. Je boukannen Without eyelashes. Kale je To turn the eyelids inside out. Ou gen je sèch You are shameless. Bat je To wink. Je pou je Face to face. Dlo je Tears. Li gen je chire He has slanted eyes (or) He is squint-eyed. Je klè Awake. Rèv je klè Daydream. Voye je To glance, to look. Voye yon ti je sou To keep an eye on. Li gen je’l byen ouvè You can’t fool him. H
Je pichpich  Bready eyes, with eyes half open and seemingly winking. Sa je pa vè, ké pa tounen What you don’t see doesn’t turn your stomach. Je pye Ankle bone. Je veron (or) je viroon Cross-eyed, eyes that turn inward. Li gen je kleré He is bright-eyed, he is smart; you can’t fool him. Li mouri pou je’l He died in vain. M’pa gen je’m I don’t have my glasses. I can’t read. Li gen je pète He is blind. Kout je A haughty look, scorn, disregard with supercilious attitude. Koute pòt je To look at a person, and then (when confronted with the other person’s eyes) to look the other way disdainfully.

Jebède, jebède  vi To talk nonsense, to rave. (syn) Rance, radote.

Jebichèt la, zebichèt la  n Type of sieve, screen used in the preparation of cassava.

Jebourik la  n Type of plant that produces a large seed.

Jedaz  n Gambling.

Jedi  n Thursday.

Jedo  a  n Waterworks.

Jefò a, jèfò a  n 1. Effort. Cf. efò. 2. Greed, persistence, boldness. Ou gen trop jefò You are too greedy. You want too much.

Jèjè vi To ramble, to talk nonsense, to speak incoherently.

Jelatin nan  n Gelatine*

Jele a  n Jelly*. Jele guayav Guava jelly.


Jèm 2  V jèmen

Jemeka  n Conceited ass.

Jèmén 1  vi To sprout, to germinate*. Nou plante mayi a depi de semèn, li pa jèmén We planted the corn two weeks ago, but it didn’t sprout.

Jèmèn 2, jèm  attrib Kouzen jèmèn First cousin (male). Sometimes: jèm.

Jemèn  attrib Kouzen jèmèn First cousin (female).

Jen V jên

Jèn nan 1  n Restraint, shyness. Pa fi jèn Don’t be shy.

Jèn nan 2  n Fasting.

Jende V ede

Jènen V jennèn

Jeneral la, jenernal la, jil la  n General*.

Jenèrasyon an  n Generation*. Relatives.

Jenès la, jennès la  n 1. Youth. 2. Loose woman. Fi sa a se jènès This woman’s trade is prostitution.

Jenô  a  n Young girl, maiden.

Jenga  V zenga

jenifleksyon an, jounoufleksyon an  n Genuflexion*.

Jenipaye a  n Genipa*. Also: jènpa.

Jenjanbrèt la  n Ginger ale*.

Jennam nan, jènann nan  n Ginger*.

Jenjeral la  n Ginger ale*.

Jenn, jèn  attrib Young. Pi jenn nan Junior*, the youngest one, the younger one.

Jennis, jèn 1  attrib Narrow, uncomfortable. M’pa rennen mache nan rout ki jennis I don’t like to walk on narrow lanes. Se lèn chemen jennèn yo kòm chwal malen It’s on a narrow path that you catch a sly horse.

Jenn, jenen 2  vi 1. To hamper, to bother, to hinder, to disturb, to corner, to inconvenience, to embarrass. Pantalon an jennen’m My trousers (pants) are too small. 2. (vpr) To restrain one’s self. Pa jennen’w Make yourself quite at home. Don’t bother. Li pa jenen’l? He takes liberties.

Jennjan an  n Young man.

Jennôm V jennôm

Jennou V jenou

Jennôm nan, jennôm nan  n Young man, youth.

Jenou an, jounou, jinou, jennou  n Knee. A jenou On one’s knee(s). Nou te pliyen jounou douvan mèt la We knelt before the master.

Jenouye, ajenouye  vi To kneel.

Jeran an  n Caretaker, manager; one in charge of a plantation. Se m’sye ki jeran lakou a He is the yard man. Ti a gen de jeran The plantation has two overseers.

Jeronons, Jerônès, jonnons  Religious term (Abrenuntio).

Jerôf V jirôf

Jès la 1  n Gesture*, movement; pantomime; a generous act, special attention. Fe jès To make movements, gestures.

Jès 2  V zès

Jete vi 1. To throw away, to discard; to throw, to cast. Tou sa ki pa bon merite jete Everything that is not good should be thrown away. Jete you dlo To urinate. MORISSEAU-leroY/D-25: Mjete’m nan lalìy Pòtoprens I became a taxi driver in Port-au-Prince. 2. To sprout. Pye bannann kòm nan plante The banana tree is beginning to sprout. 3. To do away with. Fi sa a jete sa pètòt deyò That woman has already had three abortions. Voye jete To cast away. 4. Jete vè (or) ranm vè To evacuate body worms.

Jeyan an  n Giant*.

Jèze a  n Garment of wool, silk, or the like. Kilòt jèze Jersey slip.
jis, jous, jouk \(^3\) conj Till, until. Jis li kapab Until he can. Jis le Until. Jis le ou a rive Until you arrive. Jis tan, jouk tan Until. Rete la jis tan \(\text{m'touen}\) Stay there until I come back.

jiska \(\text{prep}\) Till, until, up to. Jiska twazè Until three o’clock.

jiskaske \(\text{conj} \) Until, till. Jiskaske m’touen Until I return(ed).

jistem \(\text{adv}\) As a matter of fact, indeed; just. Jistem konneya Just now.

jistis \(\text{V}\) lajistis

jizye \(\text{V}\) zizye

jodi \(\text{adv}\) Today (as opposed to the following day) in general. Ou kab rich jodi, pov demen You may be rich one day, poor the following day. Se jodi li rive It’s a long time since he arrived. V jodia.

jodia, jodi \(\text{a} \) \(\text{adv}\) Today (this very day). M’wèl jodi a I saw him today (this very day).

jof \(\text{la}\) \(\text{n}\) Pran jof To peek, to take a glimpse of. Bay jof To give a peek. To expose what was not supposed to be seen.

jofi \(\text{a}\) \(\text{n}\) Garfish, sea-pike (Strongylura raphidoma).

jofre \(\text{vi}\) To peek, to steal a glimpse.

joke \(\text{a}\) \(\text{n}\) Jockey.

jokma \(\text{a}\) \(\text{n}\) 1. A shy lover. 2. A dumbell, an imbecile.

jon \(\text{an}\) \(\text{1}\) \(\text{n}\) Reed. Cattail. Typha domingensis.

jon \(\text{an}\) \(\text{2}\) \(\text{n}\) Ornate baton. V majòjon.


joni \(\text{vi}\) To become yellow, yellowish.

jonis \(\text{V}\) lajonis

jonons \(\text{V}\) jeronons

jônze, jôn ze \(\text{a}\) \(\text{n}\) Egg yolk.

jou \(\text{1}\) \(\text{Mete yon moun an jou}\) To aim at s.o.

jou \(\text{a}\) \(\text{2}\) \(\text{n}\) Hemstitch.

jou \(\text{a}\) \(\text{3}\) \(\text{n}\) Day, daylight. V lajounen. Yon jou One day; some day. Li jou It’s daylight. Kou lourri At the break of day. Nan pwen jou pou sa rive It’s not possible for that to happen. Katran, jou pou jou Four years to the day. De jou an jou, li tap vin pi malad From day to day he was getting sicker and sicker.

jouda, jida \(\text{n}\) Gossip. Spy(ing), slandering. Dwèt jouda The index finger (the pointing, betraying finger). Fè jouda To spy (on neighbors, etc.) and gossip about it. Ou se jouda; pa pale ave’m You’re a traitor; don’t talk to me.
joulan an  n  New year’s day. New year’s garment
(gift).

joujou a  n  Toy, plaything, joke. Pa pase’m nan
joujou  Don’t play around (foot, joke) with me.

joujou lakomedi a  n  Puppet.

jouk 1  adv  Even. Jouk ou tou  Even you. V jis
(prep & conj).

jouk la 2  n  Post (stake, picket). 2. Roost. 3. Yoke.

joukase  n  Daybreak.

jouke vi  To roost, to perch. Kòk la jouke sou
pyebwa a  The rooster perched on the tree. vi  To
hoist (flags); to fetter, to tie an animal (tightly).
Jouke chwal  To tie a horse close to the post.

joukensi, jiskensi, jiskisi  adv  Until now, up to
now, hitherto.

jouman an  n  Oath, profanity, insult, abuse.

joumou an, jironmou, jomou, jourmoun  n  Species
of pumpkin. Cucurbita moschata. Soup joumou
Pumpkin soup.

joumal  n  Newspaper (daily, weekly, monthly).
Cf. E. journal *. V lafèy.

jounal ho  n  Newspaper (daily, weekly, monthly).

jounal ho  n  Journalist *.  V lafèy.

jounalye a  n  Day laborer.

jouen an, joune a  n  Day. V jajounen. Tout la
sent jouen  The whole day long. Malad la pase yon
bon joune  The patient had a good day.

jounou  V jenou

jounoufleksyon  V jenifleksyon

joupa  V ajoupa

joure 1  vi  To insult, to abuse, to curse, to taunt;
to scold, to grumble at, to reprimand, to rebuke.
Depi maten ou ap joure’m  You’ve been
grumbling at me since (this) morning. Li joure
vwaen an byen joure  He really lambasted his neighbor. He
really gave his neighbor a piece of his mind. vi  To
quarrel. Y’ap joure  They are quarreling.

joure a 2  n  Insult; argument.

jouroumou  V joumou

jous  V jis

jouvajouyen, jou va jou vyen  The days come
and go (time does not stand still).

juen, jen  n  June*.

juif la, jwif la  n  Jew*.

juýè, jiyè, jye  n  July*.

jwa, lajwa  n  Joy*.

jwe 1  vt  1. To play. 2. To gamble. Jwe sou  To bet
on. M’ap jwe sou ou  I am betting on you. Jwe
dwèt ou ladan l joue ou la louvre I wiggle your
finger in it till you open it.

jwé a, jwa a  n  Player, gambler.

jwen 1  n  Means, manner, way, mode. M’pat gen
jwen poum fe sa  I didn’t find a way to do that.

jwen an 2  n  Opening, crack.

jwenn  vt  To find; to discover; to obtain; to
meet; to locate. To join* up with. Jwenn ak  To
meet (up) with, to encounter. An’n al jwenn papa
ou  Let’s go meet (go) to your daddy. Ou a jwenn ak
zo gramm ou You are too curious, you will find
what you are not looking for.

jwenti  a  n  Joint* (connecting bones), articulation.

jwéta  l  n  1. Toy. 2. Play(ing) game, joke, diversion,
amusement, prank, entertainment. 3. Game of
chance, gambling. Examples and expressions:
Kay jwéta  Doll house (also: kay pope). Fè jwéta
To be kidding. Non jwéta  Nickname, pet name. Sa
se you jwéta  It’s a joke; it’s not serious; you must be
kidding. Jwéta kay  (or) Jwéta kay wari  Children’s
game played with pebbles or ‘wari’ seeds. (Haitian
version of the game known in West Africa by
such names as Wari and Mungolla: COUR-
LANDER). Pran yon moun fe jwéta  Not to take s.o.
seriously; to kid s.o. Jwéta la gate  It’s time for a
show-down, the kidding is over. (Said when the
government is going down).

jwi  vt  To enjoy. vi  To reach orgasm.

jwif  V juif

jwisans la  n  Enjoyment.

jwisè a  n  Reveller, carouser, one who always
puts pleasure above work.

k  Contraction of ki  (subject relative pronoun).

BEAUBRUN/Â-32: Wi, se Maris k’ap pale avèk
ou la  Yes, it’s Marise who is talking to you.

ka 1  vi  To be able (to). Ou pa ka reyisi  You can’t
succeed. Also: kab, kapab.

ka 2  n  Short form of kay  at the house of. M’pral
ka Andre  I am going to Andre’s (house). Ka
may not be used before a possessive adjective; lakay
is used instead. M’pral lakay mwen  I am going
home. V kay, lakay.

ka a 3  n  1. Case* (situation, instance, circumstance).
2. Mishap, death, misfortune, crisis, trouble. 3. Case* (legal). Examples and expres-
sions: An ka  In case that. An tou ka  In any
event (case). Se you ka ri ra  It’s a rare case. Se lò
don moun nan ka ou konn vè zanmi ou  It’s when
you’re in trouble that you discover your real friends.
M’pa fe ka’l  I don’t pay any attention to him.
M’konpram ka yo  I understand their situation.

ka a 4  n  1. Quart*. 2. Quarter*. Yon ka dé  A
quarter of an hour.
| cab 1 vi | To be able to. V ka, kapab. | kabo Citation | kabouya a, kaboyay la | n | Rompus, loud noise, public scandal, quarrel, dispute. *Fè kabouya To raise a storm, to cause a big fuss. Li pete yon kabouya avèm He started a quarrel with me. |
| cab la 2 n | Maneuver, fake (in sports). | kabouyatik | attrib | Quarrelsome, boisterous. |
| kaba vt | To finish, to exhaust, to put an end to; to be all gone, exhausted. From Sp. acaba(1, do). *Jouk sa kaba Till the very end. |
| kabal la | n | Raucous, row (quarrel), uproar, commotion, cabala* (universal Hebraism). V lobo, eskandal. |
| kabale attrib | Noisy, boisterous, argumentative. | kabalez attrib | Boisterous, noisy. (Used for women). |
| kabann nan | n | Bed, bedding. *Kabann nan doux The bed is soft and sweet. *Ranje kabann To make the bed; to prepare one’s future, to plan, so as to be sure to succeed. |
| kabinat | la | 1. Practice (of a lawyer), office. 2. Cabinet (ministry). |
| kabin nan | n | Small room, hut (rare), cabinet* (on a boat), booth. |
| kabin V | okabine | kabinè | a, kabine a | n | 1. Practice (of a lawyer), office. 2. Cabinet (ministry). |
| kabinèt la | n | Small room, office, cabinet*. |
| kabirat a | n | Carburator* |
| kaboch la, kabos la | n | Head. Also: kaboch têt. |
| kabon nan | n | Carbon* paper. Also: papye kabon. |
| kabonat la | n | Baking soda. |
| kabos 1 V | kaboch | kabos la 2 n | Cocoa-pod, chocolate-nut. V ka-labous, gous. |
| kabotay | la | gabotay la | n | Coastal traffic transporting people and merchandise by boat within the country. |
| kabourèt la, kabrèt la, kabwèt la | n | A two or three-wheeled cart. When three-wheeled, it has one wheel in front and two in rear, similar to a wheel-barrow. |
| kache n | Snooze, nap. |
| kach la 1 n | Paté consisting of bread with aransò in it (Jérémie region). |
| kach la 2 n | Serving tray, platter, saucer. |
| kach la 3 n | Cash*. *Peye cash To pay cash. |
| kachic la 1 vi | To take a nap, to doze, to take a rest. Cf. Sp. cabecear(1); Neap. cabezzià, lit. with the head drooping. *Li pa domi yè suw; l'ap ka-bicha He didn’t sleep last night; he’s dozing off (napping). |
| kachic la 2 n | Snooze, nap. |
| kachi a, kachè a | 1 n | Hiding-place. *An kachèt Secretly. |
| kachim an | n | Sweetsop. Annona squamosa L, Annona reticulata L. *Gen plizyè kalite kachiman There are various types of sweetsop: kachiman kannèl, kachiman lachin, kachiman kò bèf, etc. |
| kachimbo a | n | Rustic smoking pipe. |
| kachkach la 1 n | Secret hiding place. 2. *Fwèt kachkach The game of ‘hide and seek’. *Kachkach li ben sere li ben Children’s game in which an object is hidden in the hand of one of the players. The other players must guess in whose hand the object is hidden in the hand of one of the players. |
| kachte vt | To seal an envelope. *Kachte ou Button up, bundle up. V dekachte. |
| kad 1 n | Trundlebed, which can fold up. |
| kad 2 n | Frame. | Kad la 3 n | Frame. |
kadache V kodase
kadans la, lakadans n Cadence*, rhythm, manner of movement.
kadanse vi To go back and forth in cadence.
kadav la n Body, corpse, cadaver*; self. M’pral repose kadav moun I am going to rest my body.
Nan lağè se sou kadav moun mache During war times, you walk on corpses.
kadejak la, akadejak la n Rape, assault. Li fe kadejak sou tifi a He raped the girl.
kaderik la n Cooking pot (used in the North).
kadinal la n Squirrel fish.
kadna a n Padlock.
kadnase vi To padlock.
kado a n 1. Gift, present. Fè kado To make a present, to give away, to give out. 2. White spot on a fingernail.
kadre vi To center and frame. Matched, fitted. Yo byen kadre They’re well set; they match (each other).
kafetyè a, kafyè a n Coffee pot.
kafou a, kalfou a n Crossroad, street corner, intersection. Kalfou tenten Fool’s corner, the juncture in life where everything goes wrong.
kage vi To recline, to sit leaning the chair against a tree or a wall.
kagou attrib Depressed, sad, weak, lifeless. Sa ou genyen ou kagou konsa? Gee but you look sad! What’s the matter with you?
kagoul la n Hood, mask.
kaj la n Cage* (for large animals). Much more common is kaløj which (usu) means bird cage.
kajou a, akajou a n West Indies mahogany.
kajou a, póm kajou a Cashew* (Anacardium occidentale L.). Nwa kajou Cashew nut.
kaka 1 vi 1. To shit, to defecate, to have a bowel movement. 2. To fail. Cf. okabine, poupou, tata.
kakade vi To fart around, to bullshit, to talk nonsense.
kakadja vi To criticize, to speak evil of.
kakajako attrib Yellowish green.
kakan an n A wooden yoke used to prevent animals from passing through a hedge; it consists of a triangular piece of wood placed around the neck with a horizontal bar.
kakao a, kakaro a n Cocoa*.
kakarat la n Tiny sugar grains in various colors used to decorate cakes.
kakarèl la n Diarrhea.
kakas la n Carcass*; skeleton of a paper kite. V zosman.
kakatwè a n A person, (usu) a child, who soils himself.
kakaye vi To cackle (hens). V kodase.
kaki a n Khaki*.
kakit (euph) for ‘kaka’. To fail. Finished, done for. Yo fè mwey kakit They’ve done him in.
kaklika n Trouble, problem. Ala de kaklika! What troubles!
kako a n 1. Small, stinging type of insect, found in latrines without water or in other unsanitary places. 2. Revolutionary. Name given to a group of people who many years ago participated in a revolt against American occupation forces and in the civil wars that took place in the beginning of this century.
kakòn nan n 1. Type of plant. Mimosa scandens L. Kakòn jenou Knee bone.
kal la 1 n 1. Beating, thrashing, defeat. 2. The hard peal of a fruit or grain. 3. Fish scales. 4. Flake (paint). Fè kal To peel off (paint). 5. Dandruff. 6. The hard covering of the rapadou (hardened syrup). 7. Yon kal, yon ti kal A tiny bit, a scrap, a tiny piece, a crumb.
kal la 2 n Hold of a ship. Sometimes: lakal.
kalalou  a  n  Okra. In some regions of Haiti, kalalou  is called gonbo. Ase fouye zo nan kalalou. Stop asking questions, stop being indiscreet.

calao  interj  Damn it! Hispanism from Santo Domingo or Cuba. Sp. carajo!

kalapat  V  karapat

calbas  la  n  Calabash*; gourd. Crescentia cujete. L. Tét kalbas  Big head. Kalbas gran dyl  Big talker, one who can’t keep a secret, a big mouth.

kalbendi  a, kalbasik  la  n  A green fruit with a hard covering.

kalbenday  la  n  Loafing, waste of time.

kalbese, kalose, kolboso  vt  To dent, to bump, to bruise, to crack, to get out of shape, to chip. Machin mwen kalbese  My car got dented.

kale  vt  1. To flog, to whip, to spank, to lash, to beat up. 2. To win over, to defeat. 3. To peel, to skin (bananas, sugar cane), to shell (peas), to cover, to skin (stamps), to shave s.o.’s head. 4. To produce, to give birth to (as in kale pitit  to give birth to many children. 5. To be carjacked. 6. To produce, to give birth to (as in kalalou). 7. To stall, to konk out (engine, car). 8. To waste time when working, to loaf. 9. To stall, to loaf around, doing nothing; to work slowly or lazily, playing-like. Tout lajounen ou pap travay; ou ap kalewès  All day long you’re not working; you’re loafing and loitering.

kale wès, kale wès  vi  To loaf around, doing nothing; to work slowly or lazily, playing-like. Tout lajounen ou pap travay; ou ap kalewès  All day long you’re not working; you’re loafing and loitering.

kalfou  V  kafoou

kalib  la  n  Caliber*. Li kalib  It works O.K.

kaliko  a  n  Calico* (cloth).

kalimet  la  n  Straw (for drinking). Kalimèt pip  Pipe stem.

kalinda  a  n  Calenda*, type of dance imported from Africa. Lè chat pa la, rat bay kalinda  When the cat’s away, the mice are at play. Bay kalinda  To frolic.

kaliptis  V  ekaalptis

kalite  a  n  1. Quality*. Kòk kalite  Quality game cock. 2. Variety, kind, type, sort. Kalite bat yo te konn bat li  They used to beat him so much.

kalkil  la  n  1. Computation, account, calculation*, reckoning, consideration; arithmetic. 2. Mental problem, worry. Si ou panse tròp, ou gen kalkil  If you think too much (by yourself in your corner), you’ll have a psychosis. 3. Gallstone.

kalkilasyon  an  n  Reflection, worry.

kalkile  vt & vi  To reckon, to compute, to figure (out), to count, to consider, to ponder over, to calculate*. M’ap kalkile kote m’prale  I’m pondering over where I’m going.

kalm 1  attrib  Calm*, quiet, peaceful.

kalm nan 2  n  Calm*, quiet.

kalma  vi  To calm* down.

kalmason  an, kalmanson  an  n  1. Snail. 2. Core of a boil, the central mass of necrotic tissue. V pi, amòtif.

kalme  vt  To calm*, to appease, to calm down, to soothe. vpr To calm down; to subside (storm).

kalmi  an, akalmi  an, lakalmi  n  Stillness, calm*; lull in business.

kalòj  la  n  Cage (for small animals, especially birds). Kalôj pijon  Loft.

kalomèl  la  n  Calomel* (Mercurous chloride).

kalonnen  vt  To stone, to throw stones at, to pelt with stones.

kalòt  la  n  Box on the ears; a slap on the head with the open hand.

kalote  vt  To slap s.o. on the head.

kalsitran  V  rekalsitran

kalson  an  n  Drawers, underwear, briefs.

kalvé  a  n  1. Calvary*. 2. Suffering, difficulties, problems. Se yon kalvé n’ap passe ave’l  We’re really having a hard time with him.

kamarad  a  n  Comradeship*.

kamerad  an, kamnarad  an  n  Friend, mate, companion, comrade*. Kostim mwen an pa kanmarad pa ou la  My suit is better than yours.

kamaradri  a  n  Comradeship*.

kaminize  vpr  Kaminize ou  Fork it over. Give me all you’ve got.

kamizòl  la, kanmizòl  la  n  Undershirt worn by small children.

kamomi  an, kamomin  nan  n  Camomille*. Medicinal plant.

kamouflaj  la, kamouflay  la  n  Camouflage*.


kamyonèt  la  n  A type of jitney, a cross between a small truck and a car; station-wagon. V taptap.
kan conj When. Kan m'rive, m'pa wèl When I arrived, I did not see him.
kan an n 1. Edge (of doors, beds, etc.).
kana a, kanna a n 1. Duck. 2. Harvest fish.
kandalab la, kannel la, kannèl la, kannèt la, kannèt la, kannè a, kannè a Kandyo
kandyanroun nan, kandyanhoun nan 1. Mardi-gras, carnival*. kanlake V kannale
kanape a n Sofa, lounge.
kanari a, kannari a n Small, earthen jar, clay-pot, terra-cotta earthen vessel. ‘Kanaris’ also enter into ritual use. They are sung into, tapped with sticks, and on some occasions are covered with goatskin heads and played like a drum’ (COURLANDER).
kanaival la n Mardi-gras, carnival*.
kabanizye a n Steward’s mate. One who serves (or sells) food at a kanbiz. Also: chèf kanbiz.
kabral attrib Bowlegged. One with arched legs. Mache kabral To hobble along, to walk in a funny manner, perhaps because of a defect in one’s legs.
kabre attrib Arched, bowed. Pye kabre Bent, bowed, arched, curving legs.
kandelab la, kandelam nan n A type of cactus so-named because of its shape. Euphorbia lactea.
kandida a n Candidate*.
kandidati a n Candidacy*. Li poze kandidati’l He is running for office.
kandyannoun nan, kandyanhoun nan n A type of cactus so-named because of its shape. Euphorbia lactea.
kanfeti, kanti conj (pop) Even if, if. Kanfeti ou ta peye’m, m’pap fè sa Even if you would pay me, I wouldn’t do that.
kangrenn V gangrenn
kangrennen V gangrennen
kanif la, kannif la n Penknife, pocket-knife.
kani k, kannik la n 1. Marble (play). 2. A small, spherical black fruit used for playing marbles.
kandistè a, kannistè a n Tin container used to measure flour, grain, salt, etc. Mostly used in the North.
kanivo a, kannivo a n Channel-stone, gutter.
kankanen vi To burn thoroughly, to char.
kankou V tankou
kanmenm, kamenm adv Anyway, in any case, just the same.
kann nan n Sugar cane*. Kann kale Sugar cane with the bark removed. Se ak kann yo fè sik ak siro They make sugar and syrup out of sugar cane.
kannale, kanale vi To go. Kannale dèyè To follow in the wake of. Kannale monte To go up (the way).
kannanant, annannant attrib Lifeless, listless, without energy.
kannay la n Scoundrel. Sometimes refers to an old man who runs after young girls. Granmoun kannay Old rascal, dirty old man.
kanni vi To mildew, to become old and mouldy. Also: to get gray hair.
kanno V kanon
kannot la n (Small) boat, canoe*.
kantè a n Flimsy, unseaworthy boat used for clandestine trips, mostly to the US.
kanon a, kannon an, kanno a n Big gun, cannon*.
Nég sa a se kanno That fellow is a genius (sometimes pej.).
kany la, kanpany la n 1. Campaign*. Li pèdi lan kanpay fi a He was madly in love with the girl. 2. Lakanpay Countryside.
kane vi 1. To stand up, to rise; to be standing, to be erect. 2. To stop walking. Après sa li kanpe After that, he stopped walking. Mete bwat la kanpe Stand the box on end.
kanepech la n Campeachy* wood, logwood. Haematoxylum campechianum L.
kankan nan n A beverage which is supposed to restore virility.
kantepwen an n Moth balls. Also: An evil-smelling herb, and a lotion made from an ammonia base, used to chase away evil spirits.
kanpo a n Rest (repose). Bay kanpo To relieve s.o. Pran kanpo To take a rest.

kansè a n Cancer*.

kanson an n Pair of pants, trousers, shorts. Walking shorts are usually called pantalon kout or chôt. M'achte senk kanson yè I bought five pairs of pants yesterday. Yon gason kanson A real man.

kantale a n Pair of pants, trousers, shorts. Walking shorts are usually called pantalon kout or chôt. M'achte senk kanson yè I bought five pairs of pants yesterday. Yon gason kanson A real man.

kantakala a n Cantaloup*.

kanti V kanfeti

kantamwa attrib Presumptious, haughty, pretentious.

kantiki, kántiki la n Hymn, canticle *. MORISSEAU-LEROY/D-10: Tout ti medam ap al chantè kantik All the young ladies are going to sing religious hymns.

kantite a n 1. Quantity*, amount. 2. A good deal of, plenty of, a lot of, scores of. DEJEAN-55: Fè yo fè sa li li dè a, yo pran yon gran kantite pwason Once they had done what he had said, they caught a lot of fish. Ki kantite kòb li genyen? How much money does he have?

kantin nan 1. Canteen* (establishment) where free meals are served. 2. A holder for several plates to transport food.

kantite a n 1. Quantity*, amount. 2. A good deal of, plenty of, a lot of, scores of. DEJEAN-55: Fè yo fè sa li li dè a, yo pran yon gran kantite pwason Once they had done what he had said, they caught a lot of fish. Ki kantite kòb li genyen? How much money does he have?

kanton an n District, canton *. FARDIN-10: Se kanton'm, apantè This is my district, surveyor.

kantite a n 1. Quantity*, amount. 2. A good deal of, plenty of, a lot of, scores of. DEJEAN-55: Fè yo fè sa li li dè a, yo pran yon gran kantite pwason Once they had done what he had said, they caught a lot of fish. Ki kantite kòb li genyen? How much money does he have?

kap la 1 n Paper kite (for flying). M'ap monte kap I'm flying my kite. V sèvolan, grandou.

kap la 2 n Cape (Geog). Mete kap sou To head toward.

kap la 3 n A plant whose leaves are used as a remedy to cure jaundice. Tribulus cistoïdes L.

kap la 4 n 1. Flaky crust on the head of a new-born baby. 2. Dandruff.

kap la 5 V kapab

kapab, kab, kap, ka vi To be able, can; may. Pa kapab Unable, not able. Anyen pa kapab fè yo chanje Nothing could make them change.

kapital la, lakapital n Capital city.
karang nan  n  1. Type of body lice that suck blood.  2. Common jack. Caranx hippos, a gray and white fish.

karanklo u a n Vulture.  Led kon karanklo Ugly as a vulture.  Manje kou karankloon To swallow like a glutton.

karandīseas la n  Type of venereal disease (The person has various individual diseases).

karannkat la  n  Revolver.

karant num  Forty.

karantyèm num  Fortieth.

karapat la  n  1. Louse, tick.  2. A person who is a pain in the ass.

karata a n  Type of agave or sisal.  Agave intermixta Trel.


karavachè a  2. Type of torture in a jail.  one who concedes, or shies away).

kase 1  attrib  Outspoken, straightforward, frank.  Cf. He is a square shooter.

kase 2  attrib  Square*.

kase 3  vi  1. To bring face to face, to sick on, to match (two game cocks); to match (a man and a woman).  2. To put one’s mind to, to go at it.  Nou fek kare manje We have been eating, and we have plenty more to go.  3. Kare kò To settle one’s self comfortably.


karèm nan  n  Lent.

karèn nan, karen nan  n  Keel (of a boat).  Mete yon batiman an karèn To keel a ship.

karès la  n  Caress*.

karesan  attrib  Caressing*.

karese  vt  To fondle, to cajole, to cuddle, to caress*, to hug, to pet.

kare 1  attrib  Temporarily submissive (applied to one who concedes, or shies away).

karèt la 2  n  1. Large, edible sea-tortoise, water-turtle.  2. Type of torture in a jail.

kareti a  n  Breadth across the shoulders.

kari a  n  Breadth of back and shoulders.  Nonm nan gen bèl kari  The man has broad shoulders.  He is well built.

karao a  n  1. Diamond (cards).  2. Iron (for pressing clothes) (The word karao is used only in some parts of Haiti. In the capital, the name is fe).  3. Any square window pane, or floor tile.  4. Strip of land measuring about 3.19 acres.

karosri a  n  Chassis.

karòt la  n  Carrot*.

karotay la  n  Bumping (of a moving vehicle).

karousèl la  n  Carousel*.

karyann nan  n  A terrain full of rocks, stones, etc.

karye  vt  To carry.

karyoka a  n  Low, flat shoe with leather straps.  V sandal, sapat.

karyöl la  n  Wagon, van, cart.

karyonnen, kayonnennen  vi  To ring, to chime, to peel (bells).

kas la 1  n  Cassia* (a plant the seeds of which are used as a medicene).

kas la 2  n  Helmet.

kasav la, kasab la  n  Cassava*.  Yo fé kasab ak manyòk They make cassava with manioc.

Kasayöl  n  Name of a wise man often mentioned in Haitian proverbs, sayings, etc.  Cf. E. Confucius say(s).

kase 1  vt  1. To break; to break to pieces; to break (a large bill); to pick (corn).  2. To dismiss, to fire (from a job).  3. To burglarize (a house).

kase 2  vi  To break, to give way.  Examples and expressions:  Kase tét tounen To turn back and go in the other direction, to turn about.  Chwal la kase kòd The horse snapped the rope.  Malad la kase kòd The patient died (kicked the bucket).  Kase bra To break an arm (or) To discourage s.o.  Kase zòtèy To stump one’s toe.

kas la 1  n  Cassia* (a plant the seeds of which are used as a medicene).

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kase 2  vi  To break, to give way.  Examples and expressions:  Kase a gòch To turn left.  Kase a gòch To begin again, to continue, to go on.  Chapo’l kase byen ba sou je’l His hat was pulled down over his eyes.  Kè kase Surprise, deep emotion, causing the heart to beat fast.  Lè jou ap kase At the break of day.

kasèdkay la  n  Burglar, housebreaker.

kasik la  n  American Indian native chief.  Big boss (pejorative and rare).

kaskad la  n  Waterfall.

kaskayèt la  n  Castanet*.
kaskèt la  n  Cap, particularly for officers.

kastrol la, kastrol la  n  Pan, saucepan, casserole*.

kastonnen, kastonnen  vi  1. To give a new shape to a hat by twisting it.  2. To dress (train) a horse.

kat ¹  num  Four. (before a vowel: katr)
Katran  Four years.

kat la ²  n  1. Card*; identification card*.  M’ba ou kat blanch I give you full authority to act.  2. Map.  3. Ticket (admittance).  Li ban’n de kat sinema This house ruins the neighborhood.

katpostal la  n  Post card*.

katchapika a  n  Long knife, dagger.

katouch la  n  Cartridge*.

katorak la  n  Quail*.

kay, ka ³  prep  At the home of, at -’s.  Li mouri kay yon notab He died at the home of a well-known, important person.  Cf. lakay.

kaye ¹  vi  To clot, to curdle.  Cf. coagulate.  Fredi a kaye deyò a It’s very cold outside.

kaye ²  a  Notebook, copybook.

kayman an  n  Caiman* (type of crocodile, related to the alligator).

kayimit la, kaymit la  n  Common star-apple, soft and pulpy, green or violet in color (tropical fruit).  Chrysophyllum caimito L.

katèk la  n  Post card*.

katpostal la  n  Post card*.

katreven  num  Eighty.

katreven dis  num  Ninety.

katriyèm  num  Fourth.

kay sa a fè katye a lèd This house ruins the neighborhood.


kavèn nan  n  Cave, cavern*.

kavo a  n  Grave, burial vault, tomb with burial vault.

kaw la  n  Crow (large black bird).  Mèg kon kaw To be very skinny.

kay la ³  n  House; hut.  Kay tòl House with tin (corrugated) roof.  Kay channmot Two-storey house.

kaw la  n  Crow (large black bird).  Mèg kon kaw To be very skinny.

kayiman an  n  Cashmere* (fine material used to make clothes).

kazak la  n  1. Robe, gown, large shirt.  2. A baby’s gown, swaddling clothes.

kazèn nan  n  Barracks (Milit).

kazimi an  n  Cashmere* (fine material used to make clothes).

kazino a  n  Casino* (gambling place).
### kazuèl, kazwèl  
*attrib* Apathetic, casual*, listless, timid with women; lazy; clumsy at shooting marbles.

**ke** 1 *rel pron* That, which, whom. *M’tande paròl (ke) ou di yo* I heard the words (that) you said. (Object relative pronoun *ke* may be omitted).

**ke** 2 *conj* That (it may be omitted). *M’te kwè (ke) ou tap vini* I thought (that) you were coming.


**kè a, tyè a, tchè a** 1. Heart, courage. *Se kè m’pran ki fe m’pa houiri* I took courage and did not run away. *Kè kontan* joy, peace, happiness. *Kè sere, kè gren* Chagrin, sorrow. *Nouvel la ban’m kè plen* That news made me lose my appetite. *Nan kè’m* To myself. *Kè’m te sou bikèt mween* I was so anxious, so apprehensive. *Li gen kè cho* He is very impatient. *Li gen bon kè* He is kind-hearted, good-hearted. *Li gen kè di* He is hard-hearted. *Apron pa kè* To memorize, to learn by heart (from memory). *Odè a ban’m kè toum* The bad smell turned my stomach. *Nèg sa a kèpòpò* This man is relaxed, completely at ease; he has no worries. 2. Choir. 3. Heart(s) (cards).

**kechat la** 1. Cat’s tail. (Ornamental plant with a long stem).

**kèk** 1 *adv* About. *Senkant e kèk* About fifty, a little more than fifty.

**kèk** ² *indef adj* Some, a few. *Kèk moun* A few people. *Kèk fwa* A few times.

### keksyon

**keksyon** V kestyon

**kelkeswa, kèlkanswa** *indef adj* Whatever.

**kelkilanswa** *adv* At any rate.

**kèlkènkon** *indef adj* Some, any, whatever.

**kèmès la** 1. Bazaar (fair most often organized by schools).

**kenbe** *vt* 1. To hold, to grasp, to grip, to take hold of. 2. To contain, to hold. 3. To keep, to store. 4. To capture. 5. To withhold. Examples and expressions: *Kenbe klé a* Hold the key. *Kenbe, pa lage* Hold tight; don’t let go. *Ke sou ou kenbe kò ou* You have to refrain yourself. *Pipi kenbe’m* I have to take a leak. *Maryaj kenbe*’l The idea of getting married has got him. *Ou ap ban’m kenbe* You are putting me on. *Kenbe yon moun nan kè* To have a grudge against s.o.

**kenedi a** 1. Second hand (clothing, shoes, etc.). From E. Pres. Kennedy*.

**kenèp la, kennep la** 1. Tropical fruit with a large seed. Melicocca bijuga L.

**kenkay la** 1. Odds and ends. *Bak kenkay* A tray full of all kinds of articles for sale.

**kenken** Fè kenken To abound, to be plentiful.

### Kenskòf

**Kenskòf** n Village on the heights of Port-au-prince. Delightfully cool in summer.

**kente** *vi* To have a straight (sequence of five cards).

**kenz** *num* Fifteen.

**kenzèn nan** 1. Fortnight (15 days).

**kepi a** 1. Military cap, kepi*.

**kèpòpòz** *attrib* Relaxed, tranquil, without worries, completely at ease.

**kèròzin nan** 1. Kerosene*.


**kesekwann kesedyo** And so on, and so forth, endless litany. From Sp.

**keseswa** Be it...

**keston an, kesyon an, keksyon** 1. Question*.

**Mande keston** (or) *Mande kesyon* To ask a question. 2. Subject, matter.

**kestonnen, kesyonnen, kesyone** *vt* To question*.

**kèye a** 1. Cashier*.

**kèt** 1 *interj* Wow! Gee whiz! An exclamatory expression of admiration. *Kèt! Gad yon bebe! Se pa jwèt!* Wow! What a beautiful girl! She’s something!

**kèt la, lakèt** 2 *n* Collection (in a church). *Fè kèt* To take up the collection.

**kete** *vi* To take up a collection.

**keyi** *vt* To pick, to gather (fruit).

**ki** 1 *rel pron* Who, which, that. (Subject relative pronoun *ki* may be contracted to *k* before or after a vowel sound). *M’wè youn ki bèl* I see one that is beautiful. *Se ou k’a sovet* It’s you who will save him.

**ki** ² *interrog adj* What, which. *Ki kau ou wè?* Which house do you see?

**ki** ³ *V kiy*

**kichòy, kibò, ki bò** *interj* What! (Interjection denoting surprise).

**kichòy, kibagay** *interj* What! (Interjection denoting surprise).

**kichòy** *interj* 1. Interjection denoting surprise. *M’ap ba ou kichòy* I’m going to give you something. *M’wè youn ki bèl* I see one that is beautiful. *Se ou k’a sovet* It’s you who will save him.

**kichòy** *interj* Much less, let alone. *Yo pa gen manje pou tèt yo, ki dire pou nouri chen* They have no food for themselves, let alone for dogs.

**kidirapou, ki dire pou, kèl dira pou** Much less, let alone. *Yo pa gen manje pou tèt yo, ki dire pou nouri chen* They have no food for themselves, let alone for dogs.

**kidirapou** *vt* To kidnap*.
kidonk  1. So, consequently. Kidonk, n’apral Leyog-an, pa vre? Well, we are going to Leogane, right?  2. That is to say.
kifèlaa, ki fè la a  So, consequently.
kifik  Tit for tat.
kijan, ki jan  adv  How. Kijan ou te fè? How did you manage? Kijan fe...? Why...? How come...? Kijan yo rele is a? What’s the name of this place?
kikinan, ankikinen  vt To trouble, to bother.
kikit  attrib  Elegant, pointed. Talon kikit Extremely high heels, spiked heels.
kikonk  infield pron  Nobody, anybody.
kijan, ki jan  adv  Where. Kikote nou ye la a? Where are we?
kikoteswa, pèkseswa, kikeseswa  indefinite pron  Whoever, nobody, anybody.
kilakèl de, kilakyèl de, dekilakèl  adv  Keel (of a ship).  2. Bowling pin, ninepin. Kilakèl de liv ou te prete’m? When did they lend me? (You know you did not lend me any book!)
kilè, ki lè  adv  When. Kilè yo vini? When did they come?
kiyè  adv  Keel (of a ship).  2. Bowling pin, ninepin. Kikote nou ye la a? Where are we?
kibitay la  n  Stumbling, staggering.
kibite  vi  To stumble, to tumble, to stagger, to totter, to be unsteady, to fall over.
kile, ki lè  adv  When. Kile yo vini? When did they come?
kilomèt la  n  Kilometer*.
kilòt la  n  Woman’s slip, panties.  V pantalèt.
kilti la  n  Worship, cult*.
kiltivatè a  n  Farmer. Si kiltivatè pa travay, pa gen manje If the farmer doesn’t work, there’s no more food.
kilitve  vt  To cultivate*.
kim  n  Foam, froth. Scum*. Kim savon Lather, sud. Fè kim To bubble.
kimen, tschimen  vi  To foam, to lather, to froth, to make sud. Also: Fè kim. Bouch bèf la kimen The cow is frothing at the mouth. M’ap lave men’m asek savon an, li pa kimen; li pa bon savon I am washing my hands with soap; there is no foam; the soap is not good.
kimono a  n  Kimono*, Japanese dressing gown.
kikote, ki kote  adv  Where. Kikote nou ye la a? Where are we?
kineswa, pèkseswa, kikeseswa  indefinite pron  Whoever, nobody, anybody.
kilakèl de, kilakyèl de, dekilakèl  interrog adj  What, which. Kilakèl de liv ou te prete’m? What book did you lend me? (You know you did not lend me any book!)
kit  attrib  1. Quits, even. Nou kit We are even (or) We’re quits (debt).  2. Kit pou Even though, even if (as a result). L’ap manje dyondyon, kit pou’l malad apre He’s eating mushrooms, even if he’ll get sick from them.
kibitay la  n  Stumbling, staggering.
kit...kit...  conj  Whether...or. Kit ou ale kit ou rete, se menm bagay Whether you leave or stay, it doesn’t matter.
kita  M’pap fè yon pa kita, yon pa nago I won’t make a move; I won’t budge; I am staying right here.
kite  vi  1. To leave, to let. Kite moun ki mouri an pè Leave the dead be (in peace). Kite boul la tonbe Drop the ball. Kite enpe pou demen Leave some for tomorrow.  2. To abandon, to forsake. M’kite sa I give up. Yo kite madann yo They left their wives.  3. To allow, to let, to permit. M’kite’l ale I let him go. vi To call it quits*, to part. Yo te renmen anpil, men yo kite They loved each other very much but now they have called it quits.
kite, te  v  Marker (auxiliary) of the imperative. Kite is sometimes shortened to Te. Kite’m chante (or) Te’m chante Let me sing.
kitéks la, kitès la  n  Nail polish. Brand name: cutex*.
kivèt la  n  Wash basin, wash hand basin.
kivyè  V  kiyè
klake  vt  To snap (one’s fingers).
klaksom mar  n  Automobile horn, klaxon*.
klaksomnen  vi  To blow the car horn, to hoot, to honk. FARDIN-17: Yo klaksomnen, yo fè pousyè They blow their horn and raise dust.
klistèt la  n  Clarinet*.
klastrən la n 1. Classroom, schoolroom. Fini klas (or) Fin fe klas To finish school (not to drop out or quit). 2. Class*, sort, type.

klase vt To classify*. Al klase bōdro yo File all the bills.

klasik attrib Classical*. Mızik klasik Classical music.


klib la n Club* (group).

klima a n Climate*.

klon an n Type of cinder-block.

klonti la n Clutch*.

klotira vt To fence in, to enclose*. Achte filè, m’a klotire tè a pou ou Buy some wire, I’ll fence in the land for you.

klou a 1 n Blister, boil, abscess. Li gen yon gro klou sou bra’l He has a big blister on his arm. Mete klou sou abse To add insult to injury; to make matters worse. Se klou sou maku klou That’s adding insult to injury.

klou a 2 n 1. Nail, tack. Klou gagit, klou bökët Types of nails. 2. Klou jirôf Clove.

kloun nan n Clown*.

kloure vt To nail (down), to pin down. Souye kloure Shoes which are nailed (tacked) rather than sewn.

klawazon an n Partition, interior wall.

kö a 1 n 1. Body. Wete kò’w (or) Rale kò’w Get out of here. Li kenbe kò’l mal He has a bad posture. Fann nan kò yon moun To go after s.o. with a vengeance. Nèg sa a gen kò lage (or) kò kraz This man is listless, indolent, slow, apathetic. 2. Corpse, body. 3. Self (kö refers to the physical self. It is used to form reflexive verbs). Kö’n Myself. Men li kache kò’l But he hid himself. Souke kò’w Get a move on. Köm pa bon I feel sick. Pa bat kò’w Don’t worry. Pou kò’m, pou kò’l, etc. By myself, by himself, etc., alone. 4. Kö kay Household, inside of a house. Ou mete moun nan lan kò kay ou epi li trayi’w You take s.o. into your household and he betrays you.

kö a 2 n Corn* (excruciation or induration of parts of the skin on the feet), callus.

kob a 1 n 1. Cent, old copper* penny (From Sp. cobre). 2. Money. Nonm sa a gen anpil kòb This man is very rich.

kobaniza attrib Thin, emaciated, feeble.

kobèy la n Basket. Yon kobèy fle’ A basket of flowers.

kobiya a n Hearse.

kobóy la n Cowboy*.

kôche 1 vt To scratch, to scrape, causing a small injury to the skin.

kôche a 2 n Scratch (wound).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>French</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kokèt la n A low blow, a foul, a hook in boxing. Same origin as E. crochet*. <strong>Tout jwèt se jwèt, kokèt pa ladan’l</strong> No foul play, please.</td>
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<td>kòk la 1 n Rooster. <strong>Kon kòk chante</strong> When the cock crows, i.e. early in the morning. <strong>Kòk san bèk</strong> Person with missing teeth, gap-toothed person.</td>
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<td>kòk le 2 attrib Bent, curved, crooked. <strong>Zepeng nan kroch</strong> The pin is bent. 2. (adv) <strong>Out te tande kroch</strong> You misunderstood. <strong>Pale kroch</strong> To say things one should not (for instance about people in power).</td>
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kolorin nan, kòlèt la n A person who sucks money from others. This word is often applied to prostitutes and stingy people.

kolomi V ekonomi
Kolon n Columbus*.


kolombos V kalbose

kolonèl la, kolo a n Colonel*.

kolonley an n Collision*. Fé kolizyon To collide*; to run into each other.

kolkramnan n Cold-cream*.


kòkòt ak Figaro Inseparable friends. Kòkòt, kole ou ye? Darling, where are you?

koreksyon an n Collection* (stamps, coins, but not church collection). Fè koleksyon To collect (stamps, etc.).

kolerin nan, kolorin nan n Cholerine* (disease characterized by diarrhea, vomiting, cramps and presence of blood in the stools).


kolorin nan, kolorin nan n Type of lamp (Coleman*; a trade name).

kolekent la n A person who sucks money from others. This word is often applied to prostitutes and stingy people.

kolomi V ekonomi
Kolon n Columbus*.

kolonèl la, kolo a n Colonel*.

kolonley an, lakolon n Colony*. Depi nan tan lakolon Since colonial times.

kolonn nan, kolòn nan n Column*; squad. Yon kolonn A great number of, a bunch of (things), a band of (persons). Yon kolonn moun A lot of people. Senkyèm kolòn Fifth column.

kolonn vètebral la n Spine, backbone, spinal column*.

köloròch la n Tiny edible mollusk that clings to rocks by the seaside. Tét köloròch Hard head.

kölos la n Colossus*. Yon kölös gason A huge man.

költa a n Coal tar*.

költe vt To button up. Li byen költe He is well covered around the neck. Yon rad költe A dress with a high neckline.

köylye a n 1. Necklace. 2. Collar* (e.g. dog collar).

kóm conj As, whereas, since. Kóm li gen lajan, li vwayaje anpil Since he has a lot of money, he travels extensively. Kóm si, konmsi As if, as though. Fé kóm si ou dakò Pretend you have agreed. Kóm ki dire, konkidire As if. Kóm il fo, kömilfo OK, correct. Kóm nou dizon As we agreed; as agreed.

kóm prep As.

koma a, konma a n Top hat used for formal wear by the higher echelon.

koma V akoma

komabo, koumabo interj Exclamation showing surprise, astonishment, amazement. Komabo! Gade tigason an andre epi li pa di bonjou Golly! Look at that boy. He comes in and doesn’t even say Good morning.

koman, kouman interrog adv How. Kouman ou ye? How are you? Kouman fé... How come... Also: kijan fé...

kòmkidire, konkidire adv 1. As if. 2. As though.

kömandan an, konmandan an n Commander*.
kòmè a, konmè a
L’ap pran poz kòmè a What a bossy person!

komè a, konmè a
vi To communicate* (ak: with), to contact. M’pa konminike ak Lwi depi twa semèn I haven’t talked with Louis for three weeks.

komisè a, konmisè a
n Also: Komisè gouvènman.
(An officer appointed by the government as its representative in the court system of every major town).

komisyon an, konmisyon an
n 1. Errand; message.

komisyonè a, konmisyonè a
n Messenger. Cf. E. Commissionnaire*.

komite a, konmite a
n Committee*, council.

kòmèt, konmèt
vt To commit*. Kòmèt yon fot To make an error. Also: Fé yon fot.

kòmèt la, konmèt la
n Toilet, water closet, W.C. Komòd la santi The toilet stinks. Today this term has been mostly superceded by watè, latrin.

kòmèt la, konmèt la
n Comet*.

komèt, konmèt
vt To commit*. Komèt yon fot To make an error. Also: Fé yon fot.

kòmèt la, lakomèt
n Comet*.

komèt, konmèt
vt To commit*. Komèt yon fot To make an error. Also: Fé yon fot.

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n Comet*.
konble  **vt**  1. To fill up, to heap up.  2. To surround, to press close.  *Konble yon moun* To crowd someone.  *DEJEAN-55: Pèp la te p konble fezi pou li houte parol Bondye a* The people were crowding around Jesus to hear the word of God.

konbyen, konben, konbe  **adv**  How much? How many?  *Konben liv nou ganen?* How many books do we have?  *Di'm konbyen ou achite kay la?* Tell me how much you paid for the house?

kon danasyon an  **n**  1. The (legal) sentence.  *Kon danasyon a mò* Death sentence.  2. (fig) The cause of your misfortune.  *Sa ou fe la a se kon danasyon ou* Your last move did you in; that’s what got you.

kondane, kondanne  **vt**  To condemn*, to convict.

kondanse  **vt**  To condense*.  *Lèt kondanse* Condensed milk.

kondi  **V kondui**

kondisip la  **n**  Fellow-student.

kondisyon an  **n**  1. Condition*.  *Ki kondisyon yo?* What are the conditions?  A *kondisyon... On condition that...*  2. State, status.  *Lan ki kondisyon machaniz la rive?* In what condition did the merchandise arrive?

kondui, kondwi, kondi  **vt**  1. To drive (a car).  2. To lead, to guide, to direct, to accompany.  *Li te kondui maryaj mwen* He was the best man at my wedding.  *vt* To behave.  *Li kondui’l byen* He behaves himself.

kondit la  **n**  Conduct*, behavior, deportment.  *Movèz kondit* Misconduct*.

konè a  **n**  Corner* kick (at a game of soccer).

konèksyon an  **n**  Connection*.

konèkte  **vt**  To connect*, to plug.

konèn  **vi**  To tingle, to wheeze, to buzz; to fuzz. To blow a horn (or other instruments sounding like it).  *Bato a ap konèn* The ship’s horn is blowing.  *Gen yon moun k’ap pale’m mal; zòrèy mwen ap konèn* Someone has been saying bad things about me; my ears are burning (tingling).


konesè a  **n**  A knowledgeable person, connaisseur*.

kônèt la, konè a  **n**  1. Receiver (telephone).  2. Cone  *Yon konèt krèm* An ice cream cone.  3. Paper cup.

konferans la  **n**  Lecture (formal speech).  Cf. E. conference*.

konfese  **vt**  To confess*.  **vt**  To confess* ( sins).

konfesyon an  **n**  Confession*.  *Bay yon moun abolisyon san konfesyon* To be fooled into thinking that a person is an angel because of his or her demeanor.

konfi  **a**  Mixture of vinegar, hot pepper, and vegetables used for seasoning after cooking. Also:  *piman konfi*.  Cf. pikliz.

konfidsa la  **n**  Confidence*.  *Li fe’m konfidsa* He confided in me. He told me his secrets.

konfimasyon an  **n**  Confirmation* (religious).

konfimen  **vt**  To confirm* (religious).

konfiske  **vt**  To confiscate*.

konfiti a  **n**  Marmelade, jam, preserve.

konfizyon an  **n**  Confusion*.


konfôme  **vpr**  To conform*.  *Li konfôme’l* He got in line; he complied.

konfon  **vt**  To confuse, to confound*.

konfysans la, lakonfysans  **n**  Confidence*, trust.  *M’gen konfysans nan yo* I trust them.

konfyè  **vt**  To entrust.

konfyolo a  **n**  Scheme, plot.

kong nan  **n**  Conger*, conger-eel*. A leptocephalous fish.  *Li move kon kong* Boy! He is angry!


konichon an, konnichon an  **n**  1. Gherkin.  2. Cigarette lighter.

konje  **a**  Leave, vacation, day off, congee*.  *An konje* On vacation.

konjesyon an  **n**  Congestion*.  *Konjesyon serebral* Congestion of the brain, stroke.

konjige  **vt**  To conjugate*.

konkirans la  **n**  Competition.  *L’ap fe’m konki-rans* He is trying to equal, beat, compete with, surpass me. He is trying to match whatever I do.

konkou a  **n**  Assistance, help, aid.

kom nan  **n**  Roof, peak.

komma  **V koma**

konmanman, kòmanman  **interj**  Jesus-Christ! Oh my!

kommanse  **V kòmanse**

komè  **V komè**

konminike  **V kominike**
konpliman an | impers v | It sometimes happens that. The verb ‘konn’ usually precedes the impersonal verb ‘gen’ (there is, there are). Konpliman lan Kensfòf Sometimes there is hail in Kensfòf.

konn 2 | aux v | To be in the habit of. Li te konn vini chak dimanch He used to come every Sunday.

konplike | n | Complexion.

konplikasyon an | n | Complication. Gen tròp konplikasyon; m’kite sa There are too many complications; I give up.

konkle | n | Suit (of clothes).

konpliste | n | Accomplishment.

konplote vi | To plot*, to conspire.

konpòtman an | n | Behavior.

konpoze vt | 1. To make, to write, to compose*. Li konpoze bèl mizik He writes beautiful music. 2. To mix (drugs, drinks). Dol konpoze A mixture of water, herbs and leaves used for medicinal purposes (popular). Kleren konpoze White raw rhum mixed with other ingredients. vi | To take an exam. M’pral konpoze maten an I am going to take an exam this morning.


konprann 1 | vt | To grasp, to make out, to understand, to comprehend*. Mal konprann To misunderstand. vi | To believe, to think. M’té konprann ke... I thought that... Li konprann mwen te retounen He thought I had come back.

konprann 2 | n | Understanding. Fi a san konprann That woman doesn’t know any better.

konprès la | n | Compress*.

konpromèt vt | To compromise*.

konpromi an | n | Compromise*.

konsa adv | 1. So, such, like that, thus, in this way, in that manner; just like that. Se toujou konsa It’s always like that. 2. Circa, about, roughly. Li gen sèz an konsa She’s about sixteen. Sometimes, it’s not translated. Yo di’m konsa al fè rout mwen They told me to leave.

konsanti vi | To consent*, to accept, to assent.

konsantman an, konsantiman an | n | Accord, agreement, consent*.

konsante | vt | To concentrate*, vi | To concentrate*. Konsante sou sa wap fe Concentrate on what you’re doing.

konsè a | n | Concert*.

konsèn | n | 1. Important, consequential*. 2. Logical.

konséns la | n | Concession*.

konsève vi | To store, to preserve, to conserve*. Konsève fòs ou Conserve your strength.
konsevwa  vt  To conceive*.
konsey la  n  Advice, counsel*.  Pa ban’m konsev
Don’t give me any advice.
konsaye  vt  To advise.
konsaye  a  n  Counselor*, adviser.
konsiderasyon an  n  Consideration*.
konsidere  vt  To consider*, to regard.
konsil la  n  Consul*, consular* officer.
konsila a  n  Consulate*.
konsilasyon an  n  Consultation*.
konsilite  vt  1. To consult* (a lawyer).  2. To examine (a patient).
konsiyen  vt  1. To consign* (merchandise).  2. To forbid access to, to close.  Andre pat ele resevwa
moun; li konseisyon pot li  Andrew didn’t want to see anyone; he closed the door to everybody.  3. To confine.
Lyetnan an te konsiyen pandan de semèn  The lieutenant was confined for two weeks.
konsolasyon an  n  Consolation*, comfort.
konsole  vt  To console*.  Pitit li mouri, yap konsole’w  His child died; they’re consoling him.  Madann ou kité’w; konsole’w  Your wife left you; console yourself.
konsón nan  n  Consonant.
ksonsonmen  vt  To eat (in a restaurant).  Li fin konsonmen He is through eating.
ksonsonmen an, konsome a  n  Soup, consomme*, bouillon, broth.
kspirasyon an  n  Plot, conspiracy*.
kspire  vi  To plot, to conspire*.
ksta a  n  On the spot check.  Lapolis vin fé konsta  The police came to make a report.
kstatasyon an  n  Observation.
kstate  vi  To notice, to observe, to ascertain.  M’konstate li pa vini  I noticed that he did not come.
kstipasyon an  n  Constipation*.
kstipe  attrib  Conspituated*.
kstitisyon an  n  Constitution*.
kstrukisyon an  n  Construction*.
kstrui, konstri  vt  To build, to construct*.
konsyans la  n  Conscience*; knowledge.  M’pat gen konsyans m’te fè sa  I didn’t realize I had done that.
konsyansye  attrib  Conscientious*.
kont  prep  Against.  M’pa gen anyen kont li  I have nothing against him.  M’kont sa  I object to that; I am opposed to that.
kontrarye vt 1. To hinder, to prevent. *La pli a kontrarye jou e la That the rain prevented the game. 2. To upset, to put s.o. in a bad mood.

kontraryeye a, kontraryeyezon an n Hindrance, problem, nuisance, disappointment. *M’apral nan simena; m’vin gen yon kontraryete. M’pa ale anhò I was going to the movies, but a problem arose. So I didn’t go. An zing de kontraryete Moody, in a bad mood.

kontravansyon an n Traffic ticket.

kontre, rankontre vt To meet, to encounter*, to find. *Kibò m’kontre’w yè? Where did I meet you yesterday? *Se byen jwenn byen kontre Both foes are ready for each other (or) I’m ready for you.

kontré V onkontré

kontrebann nan n Contraband*, smuggling. *Fè kontrebann To smuggle.

kontredi vt To contradict*.

kontremèt la n Foreman, contractor.

kontribisyon an n Tax office. Also: *biro kontribisyon.

kontrol la n 1. Control*, supervision. 2. Verification, check.

kontrole vt To check, to examine, to control*, to verify, to oversee.


kontwa a n Counter*.

konvenk vt To convince*.

konvenki attrib Convinced*. *Li pat konvenki He was not convinced.

konvèsayon an n Conversation*.

konvèti vt To convert*.

konviksyon an n Acceptable, suitable, convenient*.

konvin V onkonvni

konvans la n Decency. *Li san konvans He has no manners.

konvni vi 1. To suit, to fit. 2. To be convenient*.

konvoke vt To summon (legally).

konwè, kouwè, kon wè, kou wè conj As, as...as. *Fi a bèl konwè lakansyèl That woman is as beautiful as a rainbow.

kon yapis la n Master cocksmans. (Also applied to women).

konyen vi To have sexual intercourse. vt To fuck (to screw). Also: *rase, koupe, pran, plimen, taye. In the North: *kroke.

kopi a n Copy*, duplicata.

kopye vt To copy*. *Kopye sou To copy from.

koralen an n Small boat used near coral reefs. Native canoe used by fishermen along the Haitian coast.

koray la n Coral*.

kore vt 1. To steady, to tie, to fasten (so something won’t fall), to hold in place, to wedge, to stop a wheel with an object, to prop, to strengthen. 2. To stuff (with food). *Mwen byen kore I have fortified myself by eating a good meal.


koreksyon an n Correction*.

kôrèkteman adv Correctly*, properly, comme il faut.

koresponn vi 1. To correspond*. 2. Koresponn avèk To answer to s.o. for. *Si ou fè sa, se ave’m w’a koresponn If you do that, you’ll have to answer to me for it (you will have to face me).

koridò a n Passage, aisle, hall, hallway, corridor*. *Li gen lespri koridò He has a one-track mind, usually on sex.

koriye vt 1. To correct*. 2. To punish, to reprimand.

kôripsyon an n Corruption*.

kôronp vt To corrupt*, to deprave.

kôronpi attrib Corrupt*. *Dlo kôronpi Stagnant, filthy, foul water.

kôrósòl la n Soursop. Annona muricata L.

kôryas attrib Old and tough, hard. *Vyann nan rete trò lontan sou dife; li vin kôryas The meat was cooked too much; it became tough. Cf. E. coriaceous* (of or like leather).

kös V ekôs

kôsaj la, kôsay la n Upper part of a dress, separate from the skirt, blouse, corsage* (bust). *Kôsaj li te bèl Her blouse was beautiful. (fig) *Pòl ap chèche antre nan kôsaj mwen Paul is trying to play up to me (or) to get on my good side. *Wête nan kôsay To get rid of (an undesirable person, a former friend or associate).

kôse a, kôsè a n Corset*.

kostim nan n Suit (of clothes). *Kostim sa a tròp pou mwen (or) *Kostim sa a vale’m This suit is too big for me.

kostimdeben an, kostim de ben an n Bathing suit, swimsuit.

kostime attrib To wear a suit. *Msye te byen kostime He had a nice suit on. Cf. E. costume*.

kòt la, lakòt 2 n Coast*. Moun lakòt People from the coast as opposed to ‘moun mòn’ (peasants in general), and moun Pòtoprens (inhabitants of the capital). Fi a te fé lakòt That woman used to make the rounds.

kòtakòt, kòt a kòt attrib Side by side.

kote 1 adv 1. Where. M’a chita kote m’èle I will sit down where I want. Kote m’kalel’se lan naje Swimming is the one thing I do better than he does. M’pa konmen kote yo ye I don’t know where they are. 2. Where? (Other variants are: ki kote? bò ki kote?) Kote ou pral? Where are you going? Ki kote li soti? Where does he come from?

kote 2 rel pron Where, in which, from which. Kay kote li tap viv la The house where he was living.

kote a 3 n 1. Side. Pa dòmi sou kote ou gen blesi a Do not sleep on the side where the wound is. 2. Place; room, space. Nan pwaen kote lèz a pou mete lot liv There is no room here for you to put more books. 3. Venue. Y’ap cheche yon kote pou fé revinyon an They are looking for a venue to convene the meeting. Yon kote A place, somewhere. Yon lot kote Somewhere else. Okenn kote Nowhere.

kote, kot 4 prep Beside, near, next to; in comparison to. M’al chita kote l’I went to sit down next to him. The forms ‘bò kote’ and ‘bò kot’ are also used. ‘A kote’ and ‘sou kote’ mean ‘next to’, ‘at the side of’. Ou pa anyen kot (bò kot) nonm sa a In comparison to this man, you are nothing. M’pral kot Pòl I am going to see Paul, to talk to him.

kòtè f n Cliff by the shore.

kotizasyon an n Collection (of money), share, contribution. Bay kotizasyon To contribute, to make a subscription.

kòtòf Kòtòf lestomak. V kòf.

koton an n Cotton*. Cheve koton Nappy hair.

kou a 1 n 1. Blow, stroke, hit (V kout). Bay kou To beat, to hit. 2. Time. Kou sa a This time.

kou a 2 n Course*, class. M’gen yon kou angèl a midi I have an English class at noon.


kou, kon 1 prep Like, as. Li naje kou pwason He swims like a fish.

kou, kon 3 conj 1. As. Piti kou’l piti Small as he may be. 2. When, as soon as. Koul’ midi As soon as it’s noon. 3. As well as. Fanm kou gason Women as well as men.

koub la n Curve*. Kase koub To make a curve.

koubaba, koubabi, kòbèbè interj Jesus-Christ! Oh my!

koubati a n Pain in the back, lumbago.

koube vt To bend. vi To bend (one’s self), to bow, to curve. (fig) To give way, to bend over.

koubouyon an n Type of fish soup.


kouchadò a n Sleepyhead.

kouche vi 1. To lie down. 2. To go to bed. Kouche day To sleep out. 3. To set (sun).

kouchèt la n 1. Diaper. 2. Bunkbed (on a ship, etc).

kouchkouch la n Couscous*. (Made with a special flour from the root of dry manioc).

koud 1 vt To sew.

koud la 2 n Elbow.

koudam nan n Shot, gunshot.

koudèy la n Glimpse, glance.

koudyay la, koudjay la n 1. Animated public dancing, cavorting, feasting, revelry, sometimes during political rallies. 2. The name of a dance. It signifies ‘fast’ or ‘agitated’ (COURLANDER).

koujin V kuizin

kouk a n Owl, cuckoo*. Lèd kou koukou Ugly as a cuckoo.

koukouman V akoukouman

koukoun nan n Cunt, pussy, natura muliebris.

koukourouj, koukourouy Fè koukourouj : Expression used in the game of ‘hide and seek’ (lago kache) meaning that everyone playing will go and try to find the person(s) in hiding, when the person who was ‘it’ (bouche) was unable to find him (them). Fè koukourouj déyè yon moun To go all out after s.o.

koukout Darling. Also: cheri koukout.

koukouy la n Firefly, firebug. Chak koukouy klere pou je’l Each man for himself.


koulangèt, koulanbwèt, koulégèt interj Oh God! Oh my! (Exclamation denoting surprise). Koulangèt manman’w! (or) Langèt manman’w! Mother f*cker!

koulant la n Stinkweed. Eryngium foetidum L.

koule vt 1. To sink (a boat). Soumaren an koule twa bato The sub sank three boats. 2. To filter (coffee). 3. Koule beton To pour cement. vi To flow (blood, river); to be leaky (container); to
trickle, to drain (water); to duck, to go to the ground. **Se koup a ki sove?** It's the fact that he ducked that saved him. To sink, to go down (boat); to flunk an exam. **Li koup nan konposisyon an** He failed the examination. Examples and expressions: **Koulè tèt** To pour water over one’s head to cool off. **Fè cho; al koulè tèt ou** It's hot; go pour water on your head. **Mango a koulè** The mango dropped off before ripening.

**koulè a** n Color*

**kouléba** adv To capacity. **Chaje kouléba** Loaded, filled to capacity. Also: **kou Legba.** (V)

**koulév la** n Snake. **Koulév anondi** Type of snake found in Haiti.

**koulibèt la** n Blabbering.

**koulis la** n A long machete.

**koulout, ti koulout** attrib Very stingy. **Ou trò ti koulout** You are pinching pennies. You are very stingy.

**koulwa a** n Corridor, passage, aisle, hall, hallway.

**koulweya, kounyea, kou nou ye a** adv Now, immediately. **M’té grangou; koulweya vant mwen plen I was hungry; now I’m full.**

**kouma-boo** interj Wow! (Exclamation of surprise and admiration).

**koumanman, komanman** interj Oh hell!

**koumanse** V kòmanse

**koumansman** V kòmansman

**koumapiston** interj Wow! What a surprise!

**koumasyal la** n Court marshall*

**koumatiboulout** interj Oh God!

**koumbit la, konbit la** n Cooperative bee among country folk. V kôve.

**kounan** attrib Bow-legged, knock-kneed. **Pye kounan** Bow-legged.

**kounouk la** n Tiny hovel, wretched hut, 'dirty hole', straw hut, shack.

**kounyea V koulweya**

**koul la** 1 n 1. Cut (cards). **Se koup mwen** (or) **Se mwen ki pou koupè** It's my cut (turn). 2. Haircut.

**koup la** 2 n 1. Cup*, goblet. **Yon koup chanpay** A cup of champagne. 2. Cup*, trophy (in sports).

**koup V kroup**

**koupab** attrib Guilty. **Deklare yon moun koupab To convict s.o.**

**koupe** vt 1. To cut, to nip off, to snip; to clip (hair). 2. To cut (to dilute). 3. To have intercourse (with). 4. To interrupt (a speaker). 5. To cut (in a card game). 6. To cut off (a telephone conversation). Examples and expressions: **Koupé ase** To make a formal contract of partnership (or simply) To become partners. **Kouto a koupé anpli** The knife is very sharp. **Li tét koupè ak papa’I** He is the spitting image of his father. **Mango sa a se koupè dvét** This mango is delicious. **Koupe pye** To stop going somewhere (or) Not to set foot anymore somewhere. **Chemen koupé** (or) **Chemen dekoupe** Shortcut. An’ koupé fache Let’s break off (our friendship). (Children’s talk). **Tout diskisyon koupe sèk** The discussion was abruptly terminated.

**koupè a** n Cutter (of wood, sugar cane, etc.)

**koupédgoj la** n Bandit, assassin, throat-cutter.

**koup** V akoupi

**kouple a, kouplè a** n Verse, refrain (of a song).

**koupon an** n 1. Coupon* (lottery, etc.). 2. Cutting, fabric necessary for a dress or suit.

**koupye a, poupye a** n Purslane. Portulaca oleracea L.

**koupyon an** n Rump (animal’s).

**kouran an** n Current* (electric, water, etc.). **Ou toujou bezwen nan gran kouran** You always want to be in the (big) act, in important circles.

**kourandè a** n Draft. **Pa chita nan kourandè a Don’t sit in the draft. Pòch mwen gen kourandè I am ‘broke’.**

**kouray la, kouraj la** n Courage*; strength. **Pran kouraj Take heart. M’pa gen kouray pou’m leve I don’t have the strength to get up. Pran kouraj ou ak de men Get yourself together and resolve to act (get going).**

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**kourè a** n Boar. Also: **koure kochon, mal kochon.**

**kouri 1** vi 1. To run, to run away. **Kouri dèyè To run after, to make after. M’té kouri sou senkant an I’m approaching 50. Ou pa ka kouri ak mwen You can’t run with me. Vant kouri (or) Vant menmè Diarrhea, running stomach. Lè m’wè kalite desè sa a, bouch mwen kouri dlo When I saw that delicious dessert, my mouth was watering. 2. To go fast (ship, car). **Ala oto kouri This car is a speedster.** 3. **Kouri’** is sometimes used as auxiliary. **Kouri ale To go somewhere fast. Kourè antre To come in running. Kouri travèse To run across.**

**kouri 2** n Stampede, panic causing everyone to run out fast. **Te gen yon kouri lavil la, lè bonn nan eklate a There was a panic downtown when the bomb exploded. It was everybody for himself.**

**kourón nan** n Crown*.

**kouronnent** vt To crown*.

**kous la** n 1. Run. **Tout kous At full speed. Li pati yon kous He dashed away. Also: kous-kouri.**

**kous-la 2 n** Stampede, panic causing everyone to run out fast. **Te gen yon kouri lavil la, lè bonn nan eklate a There was a panic downtown when the bomb exploded. It was everybody for himself.**

**kous la** n 1. Run. **Tout kous At full speed. Li pati yon kous He dashed away. Also: kous-kouri.**


kousen an n Cushion*. **Kousen otomobil** Car seat.

kousikui a n Short circuit*.

kouskouri a n Running, dash. *Pete yon kous-kouri To dash (out), to start running.*

kout 1 attrib Short, small.

kout 2 n From Fr. 'coup de'. Blow. **Kout kouto Knife gash. Kout lang Slander. Kout pye A kick. Bay kout pye To kick. Koupe kout je To snub noticeably, to give a scornful look. Kout kout Rounds, sessions (cards). An’n fe de kout kat Let’s play a few hands of cards. Bay kout ba To renew on one’s word, to lock it to s.o., to deceive, to let s.o. down. Bay kout tét To drop one’s head from time to time when dozing off. Kout dan Bite. Bay yon kout men To give a hand (help), to land a helping hand. Bay kout pitit To bear a child by a man other than the husband. Bay yon kout ponya To lend money at a usurious rate. Pran kout ponya To borrow at a usurious rate. Fé kout san To have a stroke (as a result of anger). Kout tan Severe weather, sudden storm. Yo te fe de kout zo They shot some dice.

koutay la, koutaj la n 1. Commission. 2. Illicit gain.

koute 1 vt To listen, to hear. **Ti zwezo tape koute The birds were listening. Li pat koute konsey mwen He didn’t heed my advice. Pa koute kold ou Don’t give vent to your anger, let it cool off.**

koute 2 vi To cost*. **Sa a koute de dola This one costs two dollars.**

kouti a n Sewing, needle-work, dressmaking, seam. **Ros al nan kouti Rose is learning needlework, learning to sew.**

koutim nan n Custom*, habit.

koutiryè a, koutiryèz la n Seamstress.

kouto a n Knife. **Li rale kouto sou mwen He pulled a knife on me. Ti bout kouto A small knife; a piece of knife with a short blade. Kouto digo Sickle. Kouto bouche Cleaver. Kouto de bò (or) Kouto famasi Hypocrite, false two-faced person.**

koutwazi a n Courtesy*.

koutye a n Broker, real estate agent, middleman.

kouvan an n Convent*. **Antre nan kouvan To enter a convent.**

kouve vi To sit, to brood (hen). **Poul la ap kouve The hen is sitting (on eggs).**

kouve 1 attrib Overcast, covered* (sky).

kouve 2 n Place setting. **Mete kouve Set the table.**

kouveți a n Cover*; sheet, bedclothes; lid; toilet seat top.

kouvreli a n Bedspread.

kouvri vt 1. To cover*. 2. To cover* (or) to mate with (animals).

kouwa a n Strap; fan belt.

kouwè V konwè

kouyadinay la n Stupidity.

kouyan an n 1. Intimate friend. 2. A person who hobbles, limps.

kouyan kouyan, gouyan gouyan adv Hobbling along, limping along.

kouyanbiz la n Friendship; familiarity. **M’pa nan kouyanbiz ak ou Keep your distance; don’t get too familiar.**

kouyè V kuiyè

kouyon an n Stupid fool, dumb person. Cf. It. coglione.

kouzen an n Cousin* (male). **Kouzen jèmen First cousin. Kouzen soujèmen Second cousin. Rwa pa kouzen’l (He thinks that) not even the king is his cousin. He’s nothing but a big show-off.**

kouzin an n (Female) Cousin*.

kòve a n 1. Work group in the country. V koubit. 2. Hard labor, forced labor; any difficult and painful task. **Wap fe’me fe kòve You’re making me work very hard.**

koyibe vt To prohibit*, to eliminate. **Yo koyibe’l nan jwèt la. Li pa fouti jwe ankò They put him out of the game. He can’t play anymore.**

koyo a n An awkward person, particularly as far as women are concerned. Sometimes applied to a cuckold.

kòz la, lakòz n Cause*, motive, reason. **Se li ki te kòz ke... It was he who was responsible that... Pou kòz For reason of, because of. Pou kòz maladí Because of an illness. Avoka move kòz! You are always defending the wrong cause! Ou fè pou ou responsab kòz ou You are responsible for your action.**

koze 1 vi To chat, to talk, to converse. **Nou rete koze lontan We were chatting a long time. Koze ak To chat with.**

koze 2 n 1. Chat, talk, conversation. 2. Situation, event. **M’pa konn anyen lan koze sa a I don’t know anything about this matter.** 3. Story. **Vin tande yon koze Come and listen to this story (gossip). Cf. kozman.**

kozè a n Big talker.

kozman an n Story. **M’vin ba ou yon kozman I come to tell you a story (or) I come to tell you what happened.**

krab la n 1. Crab*, land-crab*. **Krab mal zòrèy A type of crab that sticks to rocks, poles, etc., near the seashore. Dan crab Claws. Aou krab Hairlip. Fé ti Jezi nan po krab To be a little Jesus (sham innocence). Ou mare kon yon krab You are encumbered, mixed up and awkward like a crab. 2. Yaws.**
kraze 1 vt 1. To chew (up). Vale san kraze To swallow whole. 2. To run down, to run over. 3. To break to pieces, to smash, to shatter, to crush, to squash, to demolish. Kraze ak dan To grind with the teeth. Kraze yon kays To demolish a house. Kraze (tye) mouch To swat flies. Kraze rak (or) Kraze raje To disappear, to get lost, to go away (and hide) in view of danger. Li tap kraze yon dōmi He was sound asleep. L’ap kraze yon manje He is savouring his food. Kraze brize To vandalize, to break up to pieces. Nan pwen moun kraze brize konsa There is no one who breaks up things more than that person does. Ou te mèt kraze brize, yo pap obeyi ou No matter what (the hell) you do, they won’t obey you.

kraze 2 attrib Shabby, exhausted, down (person).

kraze a, ti kraze a 3 n A little change, a bit of money. Ban’n yon ti kraze Give me some money.

krè Variant of the verb ‘kwè’ used in some regions.

krebete, grebete a n Scrawny, one who is insignificant, unimportant, small; (usu) refers to children. Often: ti krebete.

krèch la n Manger, crib.

kredi n Credit*. Vann kredi To sell on credit. Achte kredi To buy on terms. Bay kredi To allow (s.o.) to purchase on terms.

krèk la, krèt la n Clitoris. V langèt.


kremas la n An alcoholic beverage.

kremol attrib Apathetic, slow, not on the ball, wishy washy. Ou lan kremol You can’t get going; you are fooling around.

krenn vt To fear. Li krenn papa? He is afraid of his father. Cf. pè.

krent la n Fear.

krentitid la n Fear.

krepí vt To roughcast (a wall).

krepin nan n 1. Funnel, measure. 2. Filter in a car.

krepisay la n Roughcasting.

krespôl la n Rubber usually used to make soles for shoes and balls for children.

kreson an n Water cress*, Nasturtium aqua-ticum L.

krèt la n 1. Crest*, comb of a cock (cock’s comb). 2. As E. ‘crest’, ‘krèt’ is also used to designate the ‘clitoris’. V krèk.

kreten attrib Slow learner; stupid fool, moron. Cf. E. cretin*.

krètkòk la n Cockscomb* (flower).
krètkèt la, kwètkwèt la  n  Red-legged thrush, a type of tiny bird.

kretòn nan  n  1. Type of ornamental plant. 2. Type of fabric for dresses.

kreyon an  n  1. Christian*.  2. Human being, person (as in many Romance languages and dialects).  
*Kreyten vivan Living soul.  

kreyon ak, krikèt la  n  1. Cricket* (insect).

kribich la  n  Shrimp.  

kribich chode  n  Earthen (water) jug, pitcher without handles, and with a thin neck.

kriko 1 la  n  Creole* language. MORISSEAU-LEROY-1:  
*M'ap ekri yon liv kreyòl I am writing a book in Creole.  

kreekon an  n  Pencil. Cf. E. crayon*.  
Fè pwent kreyon an Sharpen the pencil.  
Kreyon adwaz Special pencil used for writing on a slate.

kriyèl 1 a  n  Creator*.

kriyèl a  n  Creature*.

kreye  vt  To create*.

kreyòl 1 la  n  Creole* language. MORISSEAU-LEROY-1:  
*M'ap ekri yon liv kreyòl I am writing a book in Creole.  

kreyòl 2 attrib  Indigenous, native.

kreyon an  n  Pencil. Cf. E. crayon*.  
Fè pwent kreyon an Sharpen the pencil.  
Kreyon adwaz Special pencil used for writing on a slate.

krik an  n  1. Criminal*.  2. (attrib)  
*Bal kriminèl An ultra riské, libertine dancing party.

kriminen  vt  To incriminate*.

kriyèl 2 attrib  1. Raw, not cooked.  2. Violent, crude*.

kristè a, klistè a  n  1. Enema, clyster*.  Common word is 'lavman'.  
The recipient for enema is commonly called (named) 'bòk.  
2. Bay kristè, bay klistè To drive (someone) crazy, to pester, to haunt, to bother.

kriyèl 2 attrib  Ruthless, cruel*.

krik 1 a  n  Scream, shout.  
Li pouse yon kri He screamed.

krik 2 attrib  1. Raw, not cooked.  2. Violent, crude*.

kripe  v  To close, to shut a door tight with a hook.

krone a  n  Crochet*.


kroche V kochi

krochma V kochma

kroche V kochi

krochete  vt  To close, to shut a door tight with a hook.

krók 1 la  n  1. Fork of a plant, or a tree.  A small one is used as part of a slingshot (fistibal).  
2. Hook, huge, monstrous tooth, fang.  
*Yon gro kròk dan A very big tooth.  
3. Triangular wooden collar placed around an animal’s neck to make it extremely difficult for it to cross hedges, etc.  
4. Difficulty, encumbrance.  
*Gade yon kròk ou mete nan kò ou Look at how much trouble you’re causing yourself.  
5. Li ban’m yon kròk He did me a dirty trick.  
He tripped me.  6. Zepeng kròk Safety pin.

krak 1 la  n  Embrace.

krokay la  n  Emboss.

kroke V koke
kwadi a n Group, squad* working with picks. The synonym “esquad” is also making headway.

kwachyòkò a, kwatchyòkò V kwache, l'ap kwa kwa ak krós fizi a He struck them with the butt end of his rifle.

kròt attrib I ill-kempt, not combed, curly, woolly, kinky, dirty. Tét mwen kròt My hair is kinky.

kroup 1 la n Croup* (illness).

kroup 2 la, koup n Croup* (of a horse). Lan koup Behind (on the back of the horse).


krogen nan, kwenn n Porkrind, pig skin with some fat left on to be cooked.

kwape vt To rebuff. To reject completely.

kwans sa conj Nevertheless, in spite of that. Nou fe prese, kwak sa nou rive an reta We hurried, nevertheless we arrived late.

kwawan nan, kwenn n Porkrind, pig skin with some fat left on to be cooked.

kwè, krè vt To believe. M'pa kwè sa I don't believe that. vi 1. To be a believer. Tou sa ki kwè ap sove All those who believe will be saved. 2. To think. M'kwè l'ap vinè I think he is coming.

kwèn an n Corner, angle. Kwen kay A tiny, little house or a room. Kwen bouch Commissaire, corners of the lips. M'rete tròp nan kay la; se pou m'al wè kote lari fe kwen I have stayed too long in the house; I have to take to the street now.

kwense vt To squeeze; to push into a corner, to jam; to arrest. DEJEAN-59: Yo pral kwense ou tout kote They are going to drive you into a corner. M'kwense semenn sa a I'm broke this week.

kwè a, tchwi a n Bowl, container consisting of half of a “kalbas” or gourd. Pran kwi To go begging. Kwi pòv Beggar’s wooden bowl.

kwè a, kuyere n Spoonful.

kwè a, kuyere n Spoonful.

kwaf la, kwèf n Caul, secondina. Li fet ak kwaf He was born lucky, with a silver spoon in his mouth. To be born with a caul.

kwafè a n Hairdresser, barber.


kwafè a n Hairdo, coiffure*.

kwak, kwake conj Although, altho, tho. V byenke. Li vini, kwak li te malad He came, although he was sick.

kwak sa conj Nevertheless, in spite of that. Nou fe prese, kwak sa nou rive an reta We hurried, nevertheless we arrived late.

kwèpe, tuipe, kwipe, tchipe vi To smack one’s lips audibly for several seconds to show disdain, indifference, or contempt. Pa kwipe; m'pa fe ou anyen la a pou w fache Don’t smack your lips at me; I didn’t do anything to make you angry. (Typical Creole word).

kwè a, kwi n Leather, hide. Kui tèt Scalp. Also: po tèt.

kwen an n Corner, angle. Kwen kay A tiny, little house or a room. Kwen bouch Commissaire, corners of the lips. M’rete tròp nan kay la; se pou m'al wè kote lari fe kwen I have stayed too long in the house; I have to take to the street now.

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kyoule V rekile

L

1. pers pron He, she, it (Contraction of li). Si’ll ve le ale If he wants to go.

1. poss adj His, her, its. Papa’l His (her) father.

la 1. def art Determiner used postpositively, as in Romanian, Swedish, and many African languages, after a noun or phrase; roughly equivalent to the English definite article. V a, an, nan.

The table.

la 2. adv There, here. Jouk la Up to there, as far as there. La menm Immediately, on the spot. Se la pou ou la You have to be there. M’la Here I am. I am getting along. I’m still here (there).

The table.


Is your father still alive? No, my father died.

la 4. adv There, over there, down there, (down) yonder. 2. Abroad, in those (foreign) places.

labab V bab

labalèn V balèn

labank, Bank la n Bank*.

labanyè a, banyè a n Banner*, standard. Nan madigra moun ki pote labanyè toujou devan During the Mardi Gras parade, those who carry the banners are always in front. Pote labanyè To excel, to be recognized as the best.

labapan an n Name of a plant (Artocarpus incisa) which was once mistaken for the breadfruit plant. V veritab.

labatwa a n Slaughterhouse, abattoir*.

labenediksyon V benediksyon

labet la n Type of card game.

labib, bib la n The Bible*.

labim V abim

labitasyon V abitasyon

lablanchèt la n (pej) Woman with a very light skin. Also kribich chode.

laboratwa a n Laboratory*.

laboryèz attrib Hard-working (fem).

labou a n Mud, dirt.

laboulèk V boulèk

laboure vt To plow.

labourè a n Farmer.

labouyi a, bouyi a n Porridge, pap, pudding. (fig) Anything that can be mashed and contains a liquid. Gen labouyi mayi, labouyi lamidon, labouyi bannan There is ground corn porridge, starch, and banana porridge. Li fe aksidan; oto pase sou figi’l, figi’l toujou labouyi He had an accident. A car ran over his head. His face looked like pap.

labrin nan, labrenn n Dusk, twilight, crepusculo. V fenwa. Mari te sòti a labrin diswa, le solely tap kouché Mary had gone out at dusk, when the sun was setting.

labsent V absent

labveritab V veritab


lachanm nan n House of Representatives (House of Deputies, Lower House).

lacharite, lacharit, charite a n Alms, charity*. Fè lacharite, bay lacharite To give alms.

lachas, chas n Hunting, hunt.

lache vt 1. To loosen, to slacken, to untie. 2. To let down, to diminish. Lafyèv la lache’m My fever has abated, has diminished.


lachte a n Cowardice. Fè lachte To commit an act of cowardice.

ladan prep, adv In, therein, inside. M’mete ladan’l soléy Dayiti I put in it Haiti’s sunshine. Ou antre nan kay sa a deja? Non, m’panko antre ladan’l Did you go into the house? No, I didn’t go in yet. Mete ladan To include.

ladelivrans V delivrans

lademann n Formal proposal of marriage. Fè lademann To make the formal request of the parents so as to obtain official permission to marry.

ladanyè, ladennyè n Last trick (at a card game).

ladesant, ladesant n 1. Descent*. 2. Stay. Fè ladesant To stay somewhere (in a friend’s house, for instance) during a trip. M’ap vwayaje, m’ap fè ladesant kay kouzen’m, m’pa pral a lotèl I’m going to take a trip; I’ll stay at my cousin’s (house). I won’t stay in a hotel.

ladobè Fè ladobè To walk with the head and shoulders bent forwards.

ladoulous V doulous

ladrès, adrès la n Address*, skill, adroitness, tact. Li gen ladrès He is skillful.

ladwann nan, ladwàn nan n Customs, customs house.
ladyablès la, dyablès la n She-devil, witch; wife of the devil.
lafanmi V fanmi
lafendimonn End of the world.
lafey la n Newspaper.
lafimen an n Smoke.
lafliksyon an, aflksyon an n Affliction*.

Lafrans, Frans n France*. Lafrans se yon gran peyi France is a great country. Fè lafrans To flirt, to kid around, to put on airs, to be snobbish. An Frans In France. (In some contexts, e.g. when used with the preposition an, la is omitted). Farin Frans Imported white flour. Fig Frans fig.

lafrik V Afrik

lafwa n Faith. Conviction, determination. M’a bat ou ak lafwa I will give you a real thrashing. Cf. Iwa a.
lafyant la n Feces, excrement, shit.
lafèy la n Freshness (of the air), cool(ness).
lafrech n Freshness (of the air), cool(ness).
lafrechè a n Prostitute.

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lafrik V Afrik

Lagonav Island of Lagonave. Ban’m van pou m’al Lagonav Leave me alone, please. L’al Lagonav He has lost his virility.
lagonn an, agoni an n Death throes, agony*.
lagonn, lagoni, agoni vi To be in death throes.
lagoum nan n Mucous in a horse’s mouth.
lagratèl la n 1. Jelly fish. 2. Type of plant similar to poison ivy.
lagrlè la, lagrenn nan n Hail.
lagrenn V lagrlè
lagrikilti V agrikilti
lagròt V grót

laj 1 la, lay la n Age*. De timoun sa yo gen menn laj men yo pa menn otè Those two children are the same age, but they are not the same height. Ki laj ou? How old are you? Yo pap ba’l laj li He doesn’t look his age.
laj 2 attrib 1. Wide, broad, large*. Kay la trè laj The house is broad. Vin pi laj To broaden. 2. Generous.
lajantri V ajantri
laje a n Width, breadth. Bouch li louvri tout lajè His mouth is wide open.
lajenès n Youth (childhood).
laji, elaji vt To spread, to widen, to enlarge*, to broaden. vi To become wider.
lajistis, jistis la n Justice*, legal tribunal. M’pral lajistis avèk ou pou’m konnen si ou pap renmèt mwen lajan’m I’m going to take you to court to see if you won’t give me back my money.
lajonis, jonis la, lajonnis n Jaundice*.
lajounen an, jounen an n Daytime, day. Gro lajounen In broad daylight. Lajounen yo re ren anba féy In the daytime they stay under the leaves.
lajwa V jwa
lak 1 la n Lake*.
lak 2 la n 1. Trap. Ou ap eseye pran’m lak You are trying to trick me (or) to take me in a trap (or) to trap me. 2. Bait. V delake.
lakadans V kadans
lakal V kal
lakalmi V kalmi
lakanpay, lakanpany n The countryside. L’ap bat lakanpany He is dying. He is in the throes of death.
lakansyèl la n Rainbow. MORISSEAU-LEROY/D-23: Tout lannuit nou pral reve lakansyèl We'll dream of rainbows all night long.

lakapital V kapital

lakat n Pèdi lakat To become disoriented, to lose control of one's self. Pinokyo pèdi lakat, li mete bege Pinocchio lost control of himself, and started to stammer.

lakataw n Thunder. Lakataw fe taw, nan Ginen tande'l The thunder is growling; you can hear it as far away as Africa (Haitian riddle).

lakay n Home, house, at the house of. Dépimaten m'chita lakay mwen I have been sitting at home all morning. M'pral lakay papa'm I'm going to my father's house. M'pral lakay I am going home. V kay.

Lakayè V Akayè

lakèt V kêt

lakilbit la n Somersault. Fé lakilbit To do a somersault.

lakiliti a, kilti a n 1. Culture*. 2. Farming, agriculture*. Tout riches yon peyi se nan lakiliti li ye All the wealth of a nation lies in its agriculture.

lakizin V kuizin

lakobat, akrobat la n 1. Acrobatics*, performing of stunts. 2. Acrobat*. All the wealth of a nation lies in its agriculture.

lakolèt la n Collection (in a church). Also kêt.

lakoloni V koloni

lakomèt V komèt

lakomin nan n Town hall, city hall.

lakominyon an n (Holy) Communion*.

lakonpayi Mesye dam lakonpayi Ladies and gentlemen.

lakot Li fe lakot She is a prostitute. V kôt.

lakou 1 a n 1. Yard, courtyard*, enclosure. Bale lakou a To sweep the yard. Li se gran tifi nan lakou madan plètèl She looks naive, but she is more "experienced" than you think she is. 2. A group of houses, usually facing a common courtyard, housing related families constituting a unit, a small hamlet into itself, with adjacent cemetery, etc. Gro lakou Huge household, one big family. 3. Group of shacks built along a narrow crooked alley inside a city block, for instance "lakou Brea", in Port-au-Prince.

lakou 2 Fé lakou To court, to try to seduce.

lakoubèt Fé lakoubèt To bow; to bow excessively, to lower one's self.
lanfè a, anfè a
lanèt la, lannèt la
lanèj la, nèj la
lane
landrèt, landwat
landmen
lanbouchi a, anbouchi a, bouchi a
lanbisyon
lanbè a
lanbe
lanbè a
lanbi ¹ a
lanbi ² a
lanèt la, lannèt la
lanèj la, nèj la
lanèt la, lannèt la
lanèj la, nèj la
lane
landrèt, landwat
landmen
lanmou an, amou an
lanmè a, lamè a, mè
lanmè a, lamè a, mè
lanmò a, lamò a
lanmèd, nanmèd, mèd
lanmè a, lamè a, mè
lanmè a, lamè a, mè
lanmò a, lamò a
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lapenn nan, lapèn
lapèch la, pèch
lapè
lapatitye a
lapat
laparòl
laparèy
lantouraj la, pèch
lantiray
lantouraj la, antouray
lansan an, ansan an
lanvè (cloth, etc.).
lanse
lanp la
lannuit la, lannwit
L 112
me immensely.
grieve; to distress.
grief, sorrow.
He had a good catch today.
Cf.  pat.
Mete (poze) lapat sou
To lay hands on, to grab.
address (a group), to start talking.
To become speechless.
To cause sorrow, to grieve; to distress.
Ala lapenn!
Fè lapenn
To cause sorrow, to grieve; to distress.
Sa fe'm lapenn anpil
It grieves me immensely.
lapenn prepare'l pou ou
I took the trouble to prepare it for you.
Sa pa vo lapenn
It's not worthwhile, it's not worth the trouble.
laperèz
Fear.  Bay laperèz
To make someone be afraid, to scare.
lapas la, pès
Pest.*
lapèsonn nan
The individual in question.
lapet V apeti
lapipe a, lapepi
Pip* (contagious disease of birds, in particular, poultry).
lapipe a pa dire
The hen got rid of the pip.
laplaj V plaj
laplanche  Fè laplanche
To float on one’s back in the water.
laplats, plas la
Public square.  Plas dam
Piazza*, square.  Sou plas la
In the main square.
laplats la
Shortened form of komandan
plas.  The military man in charge of the town with full powers.
2. Chief assistant to the houn-gan, similar to a master of ceremonies.
laplenn nan, laplèn, plèn
Plain*.
lapli a, laplui
Rain.  Lapli tonbe san retè
It's raining nonstop.
Dlo lapli
Rain water.  Sezon
lapli
Rainy season.  Lapli a tonbe a gro droum
(or) A gro gode; a roulo
It’s raining cats and dogs.
lapolos
Police*, police station.
Lapolòy
Poland*.
Chaje kon Lapolòy
To be really loaded down.  To be carrying heavy loads.  Cf.
chaje kon Legba.
laponyèt
Bat laponyèt
To masturbate.  (syn) “fè dye sèl mevwa”
lapos la
1. Postal* service, post* office.  Mete
you lèt lapòs
To mail a letter.  M'ap rive lapòs
I am going to the post office.
2. Holes in one’s stockings.
lapotitye a
Pharmacist, druggist.
lapoud V poud
lapousinyè a
Pleiades (stars).  Li gran pase
lapousinyè
He's very, very old.
laprit
interj
Ale ou laprit!
(or simply) “Laprit!”
Go to hell!
lapriye a, priye a
Prayer*.  M'konn you priye ki
trè bon  I know a prayer which is very good.
lapriye
vi
To pray*.
lapròptay
To clean up.
laprosesyon an, posesyon an
Procession*.
larad la, rad la
laraj V raj
laras V ras
larat la  n Spleen (anat).
larèn nan, larenn, renn  n Queen. *Fann sa a se renn bouzen* (or) “manman bouzen” This woman is a real whore.

lareverans, reverans  n Greetings; respect.

larezone, larezonnen  Happy New Year. *Fo m’al sweèt’l larezone* I have to go wish him a Happy New Year.

lari a, ri a  n Street. Pran lari To go out. *Se yon ri* out of the house. *Lari a blanch* The street is empty.

lari a, ri a  n Street. Pran lari To go out. *Li lè pou m’al wè kote* It’s time for me to go out on the street, out of the house.

larevans, reverans  n Greetings; respect.

larezenn nan, larenn, renn  n Queen.

Fanm sa a se renn bouzen (or) “manman bouzen” This woman is a real whore.

larezon, rezon  n Happy New Year.

larezon, lareonnen  Happy New Year.

Fo m’al sweèt’l larezone I have to go wish him a Happy New Year.

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larevans, reverans  n Greetings; respect.
laverite V verite

lavéy la n The night before, eve. Cf. E. Vigil*

lavi a, vi a n Life. Anvi, anvi Alive. L’ap fe vi’l He gets along, he earns a living. Ban’m you ti lavi Give me a little something to live on. Rann you moun lavi di To make it hard for someone; to give someone a hard time.

laviktwâ V viktwa

lavil la n In town, to town, town. V vil. M’pral lavil I’m going into town. Li te lavil lò lapli a komanse She was downtown when the rain started.

lavironn nan n Runaround, turn, pirouette, a complete turn made while participating in certain children’s games. Fè lavironn To keep making turns.

lavironn dede n Children’s game in which they turn around and around.

lavman an n Enema. V klístè.

lavoum interj Go to the devil! The heck with you!

lavwa Gen lawa To have the right to talk. Oú pa gen lawa Keep quiet.

Lavyèj, Lavyèy n Virgin* Mary.


lay V laj

laye vt To winnow. V vannen.

laye (kò) vt To stretch out.

laye a V layo a

layite vt To display. To spread. Nouvèl la ap layite The news is spreading. Layite machandiz To display merchandise.

layo a, laye a n Winnowing basket or tray.

le On, the (French definite article used in Creole to indicate dates). Le 4 avril On April fourth; the fourth of April.

le (French definite articles used in Creole in set phrases). Le matin, le sua In the morning, in the evening. Tou lè maten Every morning. MORISSEAU-LEROY/A-13: Toulede se te frè’m Both were my brothers. Lè sen, lè mò The saints, the dead. Le sua, le solèy la frèt In the evening, when it’s cool.

le a n Time (hour, moment). Li gen le’l He has his good and bad moments. Li san le’l pou l’rive He can arrive any minute now. Yon le’l konsa Once in a while, rarely, seldom. A le On time. Ki le li ye? What time is it? Li le li tan It’s high time. “Lè” is often replaced by “lo”. Dépi lò a (or) Dépi lò a Since then, since that time.

le a 1 n 1. Air*. 2. Appearance. 3. Musical tune. Examples and expressions: Nan le In the air. An le, anlè Above, in the air, high. Ban’m le Give

me room, get out, get going. Pou chase tout move le (sè) To chase away all evil spirits. Gen le It seems that, it appears that. Anlè anlè Flighty, listless, scatter-brained. Tifi sa a anlè anlè This girl is too flighty, not serious enough. Ou gen le ou fou; ou ban’m kon pou anyen It seems that you’re crazy; you hit me for no reason at all. Pran le To get some fresh air.

le 3 conj When, at the time when. Lè li te rive When he arrived. V lò.

lebra Bay lebra To give someone one’s arm when walking

lèch la n Thin slice, piece.

lèch la n Lèch bannann Dry banana leaf.

lèd la, èd la n Aid*, help.

lèd attrib Ugly, homely. Ala lèd moun sa a lèd! He is horrible. He’s a fright. Boy, he’s ugly! Li lèd a mò He’s ugly enough to scare you. Lèd tankou foskouch makak Ugly as a monkey!

lèdè a, laledè n Ugliness.

ledikasyon V edikasyon

ledven V leven

ledwa V dwa

lèfini, lè fini, lòfini, lò fini adv Then, further, and then, afterwards. Li manje, lèfini li kouche He ate, then he went to bed.

lèg la, èg la n Eagle*.

legal attrib Proper(ly), correct(ly); legal*.

Legba n Vodou god. Chaje kou Legba To be overloaded, to be carrying heavy loads. (Also “chaje koule ba”)

legede V gede

legen Bay legen To give up, to concede victory.

legim nan n Vegetable, greens.

legliz la, egliz la n Church.

legoyin V goyin

leje, lejè attrib Light (in weight).

lejitim attrib Legitimate*, normal.

lekiri V ekiri

lekòl la, ekòl n School, college, school building; class. Mete lekol 1. To put in school. 2. To pawn. 3. To found a school. Se lekol lage. There is no more restraint; now you do as you please.

lekonsa, lekonsa la, ekonsa adv At those times; by now. Li move souvan, lekonsa li kraze tout bagay He gets angry very often and in those times he smashes everything. Si ou te ale, lekonsa ou la deja rive If you had left, you would be there by now.

lekòntrè The opposite. Okontrè On the contrary*.

lekí V ekíri
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>lekti a</td>
<td>n Reading.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lektrik</td>
<td>V elektrik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lektrisite</td>
<td>V elektrisite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lelandmen, landmen, landemen, nandemen</td>
<td>The following day. <strong>Lelandmen maten</strong> The following morning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lele a</td>
<td>n A plant with an edible fruit (Area of Corail near the city of Jérémie).</td>
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<tr>
<td>lelit</td>
<td>V elit</td>
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<tr>
<td>lelmi</td>
<td>V énmi</td>
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<tr>
<td>lemal</td>
<td>n Evil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leman an, eman, lèman</td>
<td>n Magnet; charm against evil spirits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lemente vt</td>
<td>To attract. <strong>Dlo lemente</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lemye</td>
<td>n Bridegroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lemetik</td>
<td>Mete lemetik sou lepika To make matters worse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lemo</td>
<td>Yo bay lemo They have an understanding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lèmò</td>
<td>n The dead. <strong>Manje lèmò</strong> A Vodou ceremony in which food is offered to the dead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leman At the moment when...</td>
<td><strong>Se pa leman</strong> At the moment when I dreamt that...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lemonn</td>
<td>n World. <strong>Li fe antre nan lemonn</strong> She made her debut.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lèn</td>
<td>V lenn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lenba a</td>
<td>n Charm, spell, magic. <strong>Mare yon lenba</strong> To prepare a charm, to obtain magical powers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lendeng</td>
<td>n, nandeng attrib Persistent, pestering person.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lenba a</td>
<td>V endepondans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lene</td>
<td>The eldest. Usually “pi gran”. <strong>Lene piti mwen yo</strong> My eldest child.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lenflanjet la, enfrenjat la</td>
<td>n An illness characterized by swollen feet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lengratid</td>
<td>V engratid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lenj la</td>
<td>n Sanitary napkin for women. Kotex. Cf. kôt. Also called twal san.</td>
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<tr>
<td>lenkonduit</td>
<td>V enkonduit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lenkyetid</td>
<td>V enkyetid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lènmi V</td>
<td>énmi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lenn 1</td>
<td>nan, lèn n Wool, woolen covering, woolen bed cover.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lenn 2</td>
<td>nan, lèn n Groin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lenèl V</td>
<td>no</td>
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<tr>
<td>lenpresyon</td>
<td>V enpresyon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lento a</td>
<td>n Lintel*.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lèp 1</td>
<td>la, lalèp n Leprosy*.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lèp 2</td>
<td>Double six in dice; doubleton. <strong>Mfè lèp I won with double six.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lepe V</td>
<td>epe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lepè n</td>
<td>Old man. <strong>Kot lepè?</strong> Where is the old man?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lepèdan an</td>
<td>n Looser.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lepèt</td>
<td>Nothing. <strong>Li kwè li se you gro zafè, li pa you lepèt</strong> He thinks he is a big shot but he is nothing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lepika</td>
<td>Mete lemetik sou lepika To make matters worse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lepit la, epit</td>
<td>n Epistle*, story, narration.  <strong>Li ban’m tout lepit fanmi ou</strong> He told me the whole story of your family.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leplisovan, le pli souvan</td>
<td>adv Mostly, more often than not.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lerè V</td>
<td>erè</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lèrèn</td>
<td>Late (unreasonable) hour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leritaj</td>
<td>n Eritaj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lerouj</td>
<td>Type of game of chance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lès 1</td>
<td>la n Ballast. <strong>L’ap fe lès</strong> He is relenting somewhat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lès 2, èst</td>
<td>n East*.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lese vt 1</td>
<td>To leave, to quit, to abandon; to let, to allow. <strong>Lese grennen</strong> Let it be. Pay it no mind. Forget it. <strong>Lese pase</strong> To overlook. <strong>Lese frape</strong> To push, bang and shove each other during the carnival times usually. 2. To depart (from), to go away (from).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lesèk</td>
<td>Dry season.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lesen Bay lesen</td>
<td>To breastfeed. Usually bay tete.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lèsen</td>
<td>n The saints*, the spirits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lesepase a</td>
<td>n Pass*, official permit to cross over. <strong>Si ou pa gen lesepase, yo pop kite ou travèse</strong> If you don’t have a pass, they won’t let you cross over.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lesyè V</td>
<td>Seyè</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lesiv la</td>
<td>n Laundry. <strong>Fè lesiv</strong> To wash clothes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lesivyè a</td>
<td>n Washerwoman, laundress. V lavandyè.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leskalye</td>
<td>V eskalye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leson an</td>
<td>n Lesson*.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lespri a, espri</td>
<td>n Spirit*, ghost; intelligence. <strong>Moun lespri</strong> A wise, intelligent, educated person.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lespwa V</td>
<td>espwa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
leste vt To ballast*.

le stomak la, lestonmak, estomak n Stomach*, chest, breast. Pa pote lestonmak ou bay lénmi ou Don’t expose yourself to your enemies.

leswa, le swa At night, in the evening.

lèt 1 la n Milk; sap. Lèt bèf Cow’s milk. Lèt kaye Curdled milk. Lèt koko ay Coconut milk. Kou lèt ak sitron Like milk and lemon juice. They don’t mix. They don’t get along. Lèt poko so t lan nen’l He is still young and inexperienced. Lèt la toum The milk is turning (sour). Nouri le san lèt The young mother is dry. She can’t nurse her child. Lèt metsiyèn Latex (sap) from the ‘metsiyèn’ tree used as a laxative. Lèt kondoanse Condensed milk. Nouri le pa kap bay piti li tete anko, li gen lèt pase aprèl te fè kòlè The young mother cannot nurse her child any longer; her milk went bad after an emotional stress.

lèt 2 la n Letter* (of the alphabet).

lèt 3 la n Letter* (a written message).

leta a n Government authority. Official of the state*.

leta sivil, eta sivil Bureau of vital statistics. Ofisye eta sivil Registrar of vital statistics (births, deaths, etc.).

letajè V etajè

letan an, etan an n Pond, lake, pool. Letan sèl Salt lake.

letanp la V etanp.

leten V eten.

letènèl n God. Also pè etènèl.

leti a n Lettuce*. Tèt leti Head of lettuce.

letikèt V etikèt

letouf la, letoup la n Oakum, tow, cotton waste, caulking.


levasyon an n Rearing (of children). Fé levasyon timoun To rear children (pop).

leve vi 1. To get up, to awaken, to wake. 2. To rise. vt 1. To lift, to raise. 2. To rear, to educate. 3. To remove an employee in order to transfer him to another post. Examples and expressions: Li tonbe l’ève He fell and rose again. Leve pye ou Get a move on. Let’s go, let’s start. Hurry. Raise your hind pot. Mal leve To get up in a bad mood. Leve you pàn To repair, to get a motor started after a breakdown. Li papat leve ni lou ni leje He is lazy. Also He is unemployed.

levche a n Bishopric; Bishop’s residence.

leven an, ledven, lelyn n Leaven*, yeast, baking powder.

levennman V evènman

levit la n Jacket; a formal short coat, elegant lounging jacket. Also vès, palto.


léwa a, lewa n Epiphany (Jan 6). M’pral pase lèwa Gonayiv I’m going to spend Epiphany at Gonayves.

lèy Fè yon lèy To glance, to peep, to peek. Move lèy Evil eye. Malocchio.

leyèt la n Baby linen, layette*.

lèz 1 la n Edge.

lèz 2 la n Very thin slice of meat, wood, cloth; a piece of material, gore. You lèz nyam A slice of meat. You lèz twal A piece of material. Jip an lèz A skirt made out of different pieces of material.

lèz 3, zèz Ease*. Pran lèz To have a good time, to make one’s self comfortable.

leza a n Iguana, lizard*. V aganman, mabouya, zandolit.

lezam n Weapons. Yo pran lexam They revolted and took up arms*.

lezanj V anj

lézèl Sou lézèl, soulèzèl 1.) Secondary. FRANKETIENNE/P-8: Ou konn gou dyo ou. Ou pa tap janm ale lan yon estasyon soulèzèl 2.) Informally, with difficulty, indirectly. FRANKETIENNE/D-114: Sou lézèl nou ravitaye lan pousyè nan labou anba solèy anba lapli.

lèzo V kase

lèzôm, lezôm n Mankind, men.

lezôt indef adj & pron Other, the other...(pl). V lôt.

li 1 pers pron Third person singular personal pronoun, as subject or as object. It may be translated as he, him; she, her; it. Before or after a vowel, it may contract to la. Se pa li ki fe sa It’s not he who did that. M’di li non I told him no! Kisa li ye? What is it?

li 2 poss adj His, her, its. Kay li His house.

li 3 vt To read. SYLVAIN-3: Mwen kom enn li I know how to read. Moun ki pa konn li ni ekri Illiterate.

lib attrib 1. Free. M’pa lib pou... I am not at liberty to... Bay you rou lib To give someone a ride. 2. Unoccupied. 3. Loose (morally).

libera a n Libera*. Chant used in a church service for the deceased.

liberal attrib Liberal*.

libète a n Liberty*, freedom.

liberi a n Bookstore, bookshop.

lide a, ide n Idea*, opinion, purpose, instinct. Ide sa a pa bon This idea is not good. M’chanje lide I changed my mind. Lide’m pa di’m... My
intuition (instinct) tells me not to... M’te fè lide ale, men apre sa, m’deside rete At first I had the intention to go, but, afterwards I decided to stay. Ki lide ou? What’s your intention? What are you up to? Sa pa vin nan lide’m It did not occur to me.

lidè a n Leader* (political).

liyèn V iyèn

likè a n Liqueur*. (fig) smooth.

likid 1 attrib Fluid. Ale likid To have diarrhea.

likid 2 la n Liquid*.

likidasyon an n Clearance sale. An likidasyon On sale.

likide vt To liquidate*, to bargain away (to sell at a lower price).

likoptè V elikoptè

likou a n Halter, leash (of dogs, etc.).

likis la n Luxury*.

lil V il

liłèt la n Small island. V il.

lim nan n File (tool).

limen 1 vt To file (with a tool).

limen 2 attrib Frayed. Vès la limen The jacket is threadbare.

limen 3 vt To light, to ignite, to turn on, to switch on. Limen chandèl déjà you moun To jinx someone.

limenm pers pron (He) himself, (she) herself, itself. Li fè travaay la limenm He did the work himself.

limero V nimero

liminen vi To light a candle and pray.

limit la n Boundary, limit*.

limon 1 an n Moss.

limon 2 an n Sour lime*.

limonad la, limonnad n Lemonade*.

limoralite V imoralite

limyè a n Light, guiding light; flash. Se ou’k limyè nou You are our guiding light.

lin 1 n Moon. Gen plèn lin aswè a There is full moon tonight. V lalin.

lin 2 n Menstruation, menstrual period. Usually rég.

lindemyèl la, lin de myèl la n Honeymoon.

linèt la n (Eye) glasses, spectacles. Monti linèt Eyeglass frame. Vè linèt Lens (of eyeglasses). Linèt solèy Sunglasses.
lobé la, lonn, lôm, lòlòj la, lokopèt la, lokobe, lokosy an, loksyon, lodè V odè
lodyans V odyans
lòfini V lefini
lofis la n 1. Lodging(s)*. Pran lojman To secure lodging. "Bay you moun lojman" To lodge* someone.
lojman an n Lodging(s)*. Pran lojman To secure lodging. "Bay you moun lojman" To lodge* someone.
lok la n A strong medicine, laxative.
lokal la n Place, locale*.
lokatè a n Tenant, lessee.
lokazyon V okazyon
loke attrib Loony, crazy.
lokipsyon V okipsyon
loko attrib Crazy, mad, mentally deranged. Sp. loco. Also Vodou term.
lokobe Bat lokobe To go through a rough time.
lkopèt la n Scandal monger, loudmouthed person.
lolo vt To flatten, to cajole, to softsoap, to wheedle.
lolôj lôn, lôlôy la, olôj la n Clock. Löloj lakomin City hall clock.
lolôj 2 la, lôlôy la, oloj la n Pa fatige lôlôy mwen Don't bug me. Let me be. Leave me alone. Yo te prèt pou fin vire lôlôy li They almost made her crazy. Pedi lôlôy To lose one's senses.
lôm, ôm n Mankind, men. Tout ôm se lôm Every man is (to be treated as) a human being. Reziyasyon fè lôm One must do what one has to do.
lôn V lonn
lonbraj la, lonbray n Shadow, shade. “Lonn” is also used.
lonbrit la, nonbrit, lonbrik n Navel, belly button. Ak ki sa yo te loup lounbrit li? With what did they cut his umbilical cord? V kôd (lonbrit).
long attrib Long*; slow. Li long nan tou sa l'ap fè He is slow by nature in everything. Long kon (yon) ke pis li tap tonbe lan trou a By a hair's breadth he missed falling into the hole.
longan an n Salve, ointment. Longan gri Gray ointment. (A double pomade (mercury compound) to kill crab lice).
longanis la n Type of large sausage.
longè a n Length*. Ou pa komn longè tigason sa a You don't know what that boy is capable of.
longvi a, lonnvi n Binoculars.
lonje 1,alonje, ralonje vt To lengthen.
lonje 2 vt To stretch out, to reach. Lonje... bay To hand, to pass. Lonje'l ban'm Pass it to me. Mandyan lonje men yo pou mande charite Beggars stretch out their hands to ask for alms. Lonje kô To stretch out, to lounge. M'ap fe you ti lonje kô'm ou gazon an I'm lying on the lawn for a while. Lonje dyol To put out. Lonje dweòt sou To point at.
lonn nan, onn n Shade, shadow.
lonnen V nonnen
lonn nan, lôn nan, ôn n Haitian yard measure (45"), ell*. Yon lonn, dezòn, tawozon, katr ôn, senk ôn, etc. (fig) Yon lonn A lot of, much.
lonnen vt To measure by the ell. V lonn.
lontan adv A long time, for a long time, long*; long ago, a long time* ago; much, by a long shot, by far. Gen lontan de sa A long time ago. Nan tan lontan A long, long time ago. Li gro lontan pase ou He is much bigger than you. Ki pa fè lontan Recent.
lôpit la, opital n Hospital*.
lôraj la, loray n Thunder, storm. Tout moun di li se loraj kale Everybody says she's a terrible, scandalous, bad woman.
lorye a n Oleander*.
lóryon an n Lorgnette*, monochrome.
losti a, osti n Host* (consecrated wafer).
lostogo a, ostrogo n Host* (consecrated wafer).
losyè You ti losyè A little something. Ban'm yon ti losyè Give me a little bit.
lôsyon an n Perfume, lotion*. V pafen.
lôt 1, dôt, lezôt indef adj Other*; else, next. De lôt moun, de lezôt moun Two other persons. Dôt fwa Sometimes, other times. Lôt kôl Elsewhere, somewhere else. Yon lôt bagay Something else.
lôt 2 indef pron Other* one, others*. Senk lôt yo The five others.
lot 3 Youn...lot Each other*, one another. Youn tiye lòt They killed each other.

lota a n Spot on the skin, skin sickness.
lòtbò, lòtbò a adv Yonder, over there, beyond. Lòtbò dlo Abroad.
lote vt To divide into lots, piles.
lotè, lotè n Cause, reason. Se ou ki lotè sa You are responsible for that; you are the cause.
lotè V otè
lotèl 1 n Altar*. lotèl 2 V otèl
lotorite V otorite
lòtrejou The other day, recently.
lou 1 a n Wolf.
lou 2 attrib 1. Heavy. 2. Corpulent. Vin pi lou To put on weight.
louch 1 n Ladle, dipper. louchèt n Spade.  Iron bar, flat at one end, used to dig holes in the ground.
loulu a n Type of toy marble (game).
loup n Magnifying glass (or) lens. 2. Blister or scar following a contusion. loupin n Loop* the loop (airplane aerobatics).
louvri V ouvri
loveye vi To maneuver into the right position (a ship).
löyen vt To eye, to ogle, to squint (at).
lozèy la n Sorrel.
luel la, lwil n A god, divinity, spirit which possesses a person during a Vodou ceremony. MORISSEAU-

MEROY/D-30: N’a sonnen ason pou rele lwa yo We’ll ring the ‘ason’ to call the lwa. Manje lwa The ensemble of Vodou service, plus the dancing and eating. Gan lwa Ginèn ak lwa kreyol There are African spirits and new world spirits. Lwa zenga A deaf spirit (lwa), one without ears.
lwa 2 a, la lwa n Law; Gospel. Gen lwa, gen lawa To have the right (to), to be authorized (to).

lwanj la n Praise.
lwanje vt To praise.
lwanjè attrib Boastful.
lwayne a n Rent, the price of the room. Hire. BÉAUBRUN/A-22: Se mwen ki toujou peye lwayne I’m the one that’s always paying the rent.
lwe vt To rent, to let, to lease, to freight.
lwen adv Remote, far, far off; far (from), far away; away from base, i.e. absentminded(ly). Lwen ak isit Far from here. Voye’t jete lwèn ou Throw it far away from you. Byen lwèn, trè lwèn Very far, far out. Pi lwèn Farther; beyond.
lwès, wès n West*.
lwido a n Type of bird (Euphonia musica).
lwikanboje n Quarrelsome person, one who wants to have his way, someone who wants to be dictatorial.
lwil satan n Booze, alcoholic beverages.
lyan attrib Resilient, pliable, flexible.
lyann nan, lya n Creeper, liana* (a rope-like, climbing plant or vine). There are many types of liann. “Lyann” also means “flexible”. Pran lyann To go away, to disappear.
lye a n 1. League* (4 kilometers). 2. Place. Li lan lye verite’l He is dead. Fè vizit de lye, fè desant de lye To make a report in loco.
lwen n Type of bird (Euphonia musica).
lwèj la n Cork. Bouchon lwèj Cork (top).
lwentan a n Lieutenant*.
lýèv la n Hare.
lylon a n Lion*.
mabh a n Mast*. Ma drapo Flagpole, flag mast, flag staff.
mab a n Puddle. Ma labou Mud puddle.
mab la n 1. Marble* (limestone). 2. Marble(s), children’s game. Also called ‘kanik’ (North).
mabi a n 1. Cheap, foamy beverage made from the ‘mabi’ plant. 2. attrib Disturbed, troubled, befuddled. Tét mwen mabi I am troubled, I have problems.
mabouya a n Tiny, lizard-like animal often seen in and around stone walls, bigger than the ‘zan-dolit’ (V) but smaller than the ‘aganman’.
mabyal attrib Surly, grumpy; harsh.
machal la n 1. Walk, marching*; gait. 2. Step (of a stair).
maccha la n Blacksmith. Cf. E. marshall*.
machanday la n Bargaining.
machande vt To bargain, to barter. Lô ou ap achatse se pou ou machande When buying you must bargain. Lô you gason enfim san kôb, fanm pa machande li When a man is sick and broke, women don’t fool with him.
machandiz la n Merchandise*.
mache 1 a n Market*. Ale nan machè To go to the market. Mache an fé The big iron-market in downtown Port-au-Prince. Bon machè Cheap.
mache 2 vi 1. To walk. Mache bwate To limp. Mache pale you monj mal To go around speaking evil about someone. Mache pi douman pou ou pa bouke Walk more slowly, or you’re going to get tired. Mache ansann a. To match. b. To walk together. 2. To work (function). 3. To get ahead. 4. To march* along. 5. To work out (to go well). 6. To go along, to agree, to get along.
mache 3 vt To chew, to masticate*.
machè My dear (when talking to a female).
machin nan n 1. Machine*; implement, engine. 2. Auto, car. M’pa gan machin I don’t have a car.
machinaekri a n Typewriter.
machinakoud la, machin nan n Sewing machine.
machokèt la, machoukèt la n Blacksmith, tinker, potter. Anyone not skilled in the use of the tools of the trade.
machonnen vt To munch. Ou ap machonnen manje a nan bouch ou You’re chewing your food in your mouth.
machpye a n Stoop, steps to the house, running board of a car, runway.
machwa a, machwè n Jaw. Bann machwa A chin band. (A brace or strap extending from the neck to the jaw used to keep the mouth closed. It is also used on corpses whenever the jaws won’t stay closed).
mandam V madanm
madan 1 n Mrs. (must be followed by a noun). Madan Pol Mrs. Paul. Madan mango Type of large tomb shaped like a chapel. V madann.
madan 2 sara a, madansara a n 1. Small, yellowish and black and green bird that is constantly chirping. These birds build their nest almost anywhere and can cause havoc in rice fields. Ploceus cucullatus. 2. A talkative woman. Usually refers to travelling merchant women who go from one town to another to buy and sell, generally in trucks and usually gabbing.
madan 3 yass, madanyas n Jerusalem thorn. Parkinsonia aculeata L.
madann nan, madam nan n 1. Wife, mate. 2. Woman, lady. “Madann” and “madam” are also used in the vocative, in which case no article is used. Examples: Madann Pol mourir Paul’s wife died. Madam nan te gen you rad nwa The lady wore a black dress. Bonjou, madann Good morning, ma’am*.
madi n Tuesday.
madichon an, malediksyyon n Curse, malediction*, bad luck. MORISSEAU-LEROY/A-7: Gen you male diksyon k’ap pousiou fanm an There’s a curse that’s haunting that family. Grammoun nan ap ba ou madichon si ou derepkept’l The old man will cast a curse upon you, if you don’t respect him.
madichonnen vt To curse.
madigra a n 1. Mardigras*. Bann madigra Carnival group. Twa jou madigra The last three days of Carnival, just before Ash Wednesday. 2. A masked person in a carnival parade, masquerade. 3. (fig) A person with too much make-up, and/or poorly matched clothing. Li gen tèt madigra He looks very ugly, horrible, with non-matching clothes.
madivinèz la, madivin nan n Lesbian.
madlèn n Type of snake.
madmwazèl la, matmwazèl la n Girl, young woman; Miss. V mannwèl, manzè.
madoda a n Homosexual.
madoken an n Earthen cook pot.
madou a n An item that is illegally placed at the bottom of a container so that the content will be less than the regular legal capacity (pound, gallon, etc.)
madougoun nan n Hernia, hydrocele. Cf. mak-loulou.
madoulè attrib Huge and ugly. Sèkèy madoulè A heavy, rough casket to bury an indigent person.

madra a n Kerchief for the head.

madre, madwe attrib Cunning, clever, tricky. Tousen Louwètì te nèg madwe Toussaint Louverture was a very cunning man.

madriye a n Block of wood, beam.

maestro a, mayestro n Head of a musical ensemble. Maestro *.

mafi My child (used when talking to a young woman).

mafweze, mafwezi, mafreze attrib Very ugly, cripple, disfigured.

mafya a n 1. Gangster. 2. Mafia *.

magazen an n Shop, store. Cf. E. Magazine*, world-wide Venetianism; later a Gallicism in Italy.

magoul la, magoulèt la n Double chin. V majòl, bajou.

magouy la n Trick(s), scheme.

magouyè a n Trickster, schemer.

magre V malgre

magrit 1 la n Marguerite* (flower).

magrit 2 la n Angelfish.

majè attrib Of age, older.

maji a n Magie*.

majigridi a, jigridi a n Scribbling, doodling.


majò a n Major*. 2. Type of sugar cane.


majòl la, majò a n Double chin. V magoul, bajou.


majorite a n Majority*. An majorite In the majority.

mak la n Mark*, sign, type; brand, trademark; scar. Pote mak To bear a scar. Scoreboard (in card games). Portion (marked by the seller).

makak la n 1. Macaco*, ape, monkey. Fè makak To clown. Ti nèg sa a toujou ap fè makak The little boy is always clowning, and making faces. Mal makak Hangover. 2. Big stick, club, cudgel. Jandam nan simen makak sou volè a Using his club, the policeman showered the thief with blows.

makakri a n Monkeys, uncles, stupidity, foolishness.

makanda a n Werewolf. “A specific kind of aggressive magic” (COURLANDER). Also applies to an awkward and ugly person.

makaron V maskaron

makaroni an n Macaroni*.

make vt To mark*, to notice, to leave a mark, to put down (to write down). Make konpa To mark time (in a dance rhythm). Make pa To keep (mark) time, to keep in step.

makèt la n Supermarket* (generally a large grocery store).

makiye vi To make up (face). Li makiye tankou madigra His bad makeup makes him look like a Carnival type.

maklokou an n Expert rider, trainer, horse-dealer.

maklouklou a, makouklou, makoukou n Hydrocele, hernia. Also madougoun.

makoklen an n Sissy, homosexual.

makomè 1 a, gason makomè n Sissy, homosexual, or simply one who behaves like a woman.

makomè 2 V kómè

makòn nan, makonn nan n Bundle, herd, flock. Yon makòn poul A lot of hens.

makonnen, makonnen vt To tie together (by the horns). To tangle, to entangle, to lock horns (steers).

makonnè V kómè

makou a, matou a n Tom-cat, thief. Makou chat Big tom-cat; thief. V chat.

makoubi attrib Deformed, in bad shape, ugly.

makoubi a

makout 1 la V tonton makout

makouti a n A small “makout” (bag).

makrèl la n Procuree, procurer. Kay makrèl House where you bring a woman and pay for the use of a room.

makrèy, krèy Yon makrèy (or) Yon krèy A lot of, a bunch of, a pile of. Yon krèy timoun A lot of children.

makro a, makiyo a n Mackerel*; procurer (rare). V makrèl.

makwali, makwal attrib Inelegant(ly), awkward, unrefined, clumsy. One who doesn’t wear his clothes properly.

| mal 2 la n | Trunk (luggage), suitcase. |
| mal 3, lemal n | Evil; harm. *Fè yon moun mal* To cast a spell on s.o. |
| mal 4 la n | Ache, pain; sickness. *Fè mal* To hurt. |
| mal 5 attrib 1. Sick, in bad shape. *Li byen mal,* l’ap mouri He is very sick; he is dying. 2. Clumsy, ignorant. Mal pou Hard to, reluctant to. Li mal pou receye It’s hard for him to wake up. Moun pa mal pou mouri People die so easily. Malè pa mal Misfortune strikes so easily. 3. Badly, poorly, improperly, wrong. Mal fet Sloppy, poorly made. Pale yon moun mal To speak evil of s.o. Malelve Ill-bred. |
| malad attrib & n | Sick. Patient, sick person. *Gen you salamanjè pou doktè yo,* ak you lòt pou malad yo There is a dining room for physicians, and a separate one for the patients. *Li mal pou mouri* He is moribund. Ou ap mande si malad vle bwè bouyon! You’re asking if a sick person wants to drink broth! (He won’t say no to that. It’s so good, ou ap mande si malad vle bwè bouyon! You’re asking if a sick person wants to drink broth! (He won’t say no to that. It’s so good, | Maladi pwatrin Sickness; but jealousy is. |
| maladrès la n | Lack of skill, awkwardness. |
| maladwa attrib | Awkward. |
| malagêt la n | Guinea-pepper, *Pimenta officinalis* Lindl. |
| malagòch attrib | Clumsy, awkward. |
| malaka n | Musical instrument. Maraca*. |
| malandouran, malandiran attrib | Ill-bred, ill-mannered, rude, impolite, discourteous. V malapri. |
| malandren an n | Bandit, bum, wrongdoer, widespread Neapolitanism. *Li pito rennen ak malandren pase li rete ave’m* She prefers to love a vagabond bum rather than stay with me. |
| malangòl n | Trunk (luggage), suitcase. |
| malangòla n | Taro (edible tuber) *Colocassia xanthosoma* P. In the South, they use the word “tayo” instead of “malanga”. |
| malantandi a n | Misunderstanding. |
| malapri attrib | *Li pa malelve,* li malapri He was not improperly reared; he just wouldn’t learn. |
| malari a n | Malaria*. Cf. lafèv. |
| malatchonn, malatchong n | Junk, worthless object, something of inferior quality. |
| malchans la n | Bad luck. |
| maldamou, mal damou n | Lovesickness. |
| maldan an, mal dan an n | Toothache. (Popular usage prefers ‘moldan’). |
| maldanfan n | Labor pain, travail. *An maldanfan* In labor. |
| maldon n | Misunderstanding. *Gen maldon* There’s a misunderstanding. Something is wrong. |
| maldyòk la n | The evil eye, evil spell, malocchio. (Knock on wood). *Ou a ba’l maldyòk* You’ll give him the evil eye. *Grenn maldyòk* A seed on a string (kolye) placed around the neck of a child to keep away the evil eye. V pwa maldyòk. |
| maldyoke, dyoke vt | To cast a curse on someone, to wish an illness or calamity on someone. |
| malè a n | Misfortune, woe, catastrophe, accident, bad luck, calamity. *Male pa mal* A mishap can easily occur. |
| malediksyon an n | Curse. |
| malediksyonnen vt | To curse. |
| malefis la n | Evil spell, malefice*. |
| malelve, malelve, mal levè attrib | Ill-bred, ill-mannered, rude, impolite, discourteous. V malapri. |
| malen attrib | Astute, clever, sagacious, shrewd, sly, artful, cunning, one who is not easily caught. |
| maleng nan n | Sore, ulcer, malignant* wound. V bouton, kalmas. |
| malène attrib | Afflicted with many sores. |
| malere attrib & n | Poor, unfortunate, poverty-stricken, unhappy, miserable, penniless, pauper. |
| malèrèz attrib & n | Poor, wretched. (Applied to female beings). |
| malerezman adv | Unfortunately. |
| malesite a, malsite a n | Abject misery, poverty. *Li te nan malsite* He was in dire straits. |
| malèt la, malsite a n | Abject misery, poverty. *Li te nan malsite* He was in dire straits. |
| malèt la, malsite a n | Abject misery, poverty. *Li te nan malsite* He was in dire straits. |
| malèt la n | Small trunk, valise, suitcase. *M’ap fè malèt mwen I am packing.* |
| malèt la n | Small trunk, valise, suitcase. *M’ap fè malèt mwen I am packing.* |
| malivet, malefètè a n | Villain, criminal, evildoer; malefactor*. |
| malfezan attrib | Nasty, evil, harmful, wicked; mischievous. *Li fè’m malfezan* He played a dirty trick on me. n Evildoer. |
| malfini an n | Hawk, chicken hawk, vulture, bird of prey. |
| malfouti attrib | Ugly, badly shaped, deformed (person); badly dressed. |
| malgòj la n | Sore throat. |
| malgre 1', magre prep | In spite of; despite. *Malgre tou sa m’fè pou ou After all I have done for you.* |
| malgre 2, magre conj | Although. *Malgre li te malad Although he was sick.*
malisyòs attrib Deceitful, malevolent, malicious.
malkadi a n Epilepsy. Pòm malkadi A small fruit.
malmakak la, mal makak la n Hangover.
malmman adv Badly. Li pale angle malmman He speaks English with difficulty.
malmennen vt To rough up, to treat roughly.
malmouton an Mumps.
maloblijan attrib Not (very) obliging*. Tigason sa a maloblijan, li pa ram moun sévis That boy is not very obliging; he’ll never do you a favor.
malocho attrib Clumsy, gruff.
malonèt, malonnèt attrib Dishonest*, unkind, crook, unobliging, impolite, unfair, dishonestable. Fè malonèt To be very discourteous, to give a cool reception to someone; to rebuff.
malpròp n Not (very) obliging*. Kids, children.
malpalan attrib Slanderous, disparaging (person).
malpròpte a n Filth.
malsite V malesite
malswenan n 1. Sea hog. 2. Sickly person.
maltaye attrib Badly-made. You kostim maltaye A badly tailored suit. Fè yon kont maltaye To make a private arrangement; trade off. (A take-off from Fr cote mal taillée)
maltchò n Evil, heartless person.
maltèt la, malotèt n Headache. Also tètfèmal.
maltrete vt To mistreat, to maltreat*.
malveyan attrib Wicked, rascally, malevolent*, spiteful. DEJEAN-68: Ala domestik malveyan What a wicked servant.
malveyans la n Malevolence*.
malvini attrib Rachitic, stunted, underdeveloped, puny.
mamay la, manmay, maymay n Kids, children.
mamè V mè

mamit la n Tin can, pot, kettle; measuring can. “Kanistè” in the North.
mamonnen vi To mumble.
mamòte, mammòte vi To mumble, to speak hesitantly.
man n Short for ‘manman’ (Mom*). Used only pretonically.
manadjè a n Boss, manager*.
manba a n Peanut butter.
manbo a n Vodou priestess.
manbre attrib Strong, robust, solid. Macho. Li byen manbre He has a big organ; he is well-endowed.
manch la n Handle, stem; sleeve, wing. Manch picolon Stamper, pestle. Manch pip Pipe stem.
manche, manchte vt To grab by the handle; to provide with a handle; to put a handle to (a tool, etc.). Li manche plim li pou’l ekri He grabbed his pen to write. Nonn sa a byen manche This man has a big dick. CELESTIN-MEGIE/1-173: Tanbouye yo manche bagèt yo.
manchèt la n 1. Machete*. Pou koupe kann ou bezou manchèt You need a machete to cut sugar cane. 2. Male sexual organ. 3. Cuff. 4. Type of fish (Trichiurius Lepturus).
manchte V manchte
mand a n Mandate*, written authorization; citation to court, subpoena, warrant.
mandarin nan Tangerine.
mandate vt To empower, to authorize (legally).
mande vt 1. To ask, to request, to beg, to inquire; to require. 2. To wonder. 3. To charge. Examples and expressions: Mande you travay To apply for a job. Konbyen ou mande pou sa? How much do you charge for that? M’ap mande’m sa’l vle I wonder what he wants. Mande pou To ask for. Li te mande ananje He was furious.
mandrinen vt To crush, to smash, to gnaw.
mandy an Beggar, mendicant*.
mandyannen vi To beg, to ask for alms.
mandyansite a n Begging. Se devan legiz la l’ap fè mandyansite He is begging in front of the church.
manfouben attrib Lazy, carefree, careless, lethargic, inconsiderate, negligent.
mang nan Mangrove*. There are white, black, and red varieties.
mango a n Mango*. Mangifera indica L. Varieties of mangoes: fransik, kòn, kannèl, blan, fil, kodok, rozali, batis, kakòn, miska, etc.
mangonmen, mangonmen vi To become complicated, entangled, involved. Bagay la mangonmen
The situation has become critical.

mangoua a n A badly dressed person.

mangouyan attrib Lame, with distorted body, ugly.

mani an n Bad habit, craze, mania*. Li gen mani buè trop dlo lè l’ap manje He has the habit of drinking too much water when he’s eating.

maniboula a, manouba, maniboula n Musical instrument.

manigans la n Bad trick, connivance, tricky ways used to obtain one’s goal. Li fè tout vye manigans pou’l gen promosyon He is using all kinds of devious tricks to gain his promotion.

maniganse vt To plot, to scheme, to contrive (something). Li maniganse tròp move safe; li fini pa pran prison By plotting so many underhanded deals he ended up in prison. vi Maniganse kont... To plot against...

manigét V manigét

manje a n Food, nourishment, meal, dish, dinner, feed (animals). Manje lwa A feast for one or more loas. Manje marasa Feast for twins. Manje mò Feast for the dead. Manje kuit Cooked (prepared) food. (fig) Li renmen manje tou kuit He wants his (anything) already prepared for him. (fig) Li manje manje bliye He is very forgetful, ungrateful. Manje maten Breakfast. Also dejene, dejnen. Manje midi Lunch. Manje aswè Dinner. (Also “soupe”) Supper.

manje vt 1. To eat. Manje sote To eat sparingly, poorly, to eat one day and skip the next because of poverty. L’ap manje mizè He is so poor. Blisi a ap manje’m The wound is “eating” me (is hurting badly). Manje dan To grind one’s teeth. 2. (fig) To destroy. To hurt (s.o.).

manjé a n Eater, one who eats a great deal. Msy se gran manjé, li pa vle travay The gentleman is a big eater; he won’t work.

manjédòd n Loose woman, bitch.


manke vt To lack, to miss, to run short of; to barely miss, to almost miss. Nan jwe, mwen manke kase jann li During a game, I almost broke his leg. Kafe ou te ban mwen an te manke dous The coffee you have given me didn’t have enough sugar. Manke dega To disrespect. Manke yon jey To have a screw loose. Seevèt la lave, men li manke pròp The towel has been washed but it’s not completely clean. Ou manke sou gason ou You’re not man enough.

manke 2 vi To be missing, to be lacking.

mankan an, manken an n Model (woman); dummy, plastic manikin*, mannequin*.

mann nan n Limb, member*. Ou pa gen mann, ou pa manbre. You are not strong. You mann intil A useless person.


manman 2 penba a n 1. Sly, malicious woman. 2. The largest cannon of the “Citadel”. 3. (fig) Someone’s defense and strength. M’a lage manman penba’m sou ou I will blast you.

mannel la n Teat, udder. V tete. Gro manmèl Big bosom, no longer beautiful.


mannôte V mamôte

mannzel la n Girl, young woman (usually pej).

mannan attrib (usu) Blan mannan Poor, wretched, worthless, white person. Also blan poban.

mannèv la, manèv la n Maneuver*. Helper in construction work.

manniba V marimba

manningét la, manigét la n Influence, trump, maneuvering; a good word. Fè manningét To play one’s trump cards. i.e. To do one’s best, to make use of one’s assets to achieve a goal. V piston.

mannivel la, manivel la n (Automobile crank) handle; any handle used to make a circular movement.

mannyè V mènyè

manpenba a n 1. Type of drum. 2. Fat, plump.

manseniye a n Florida poison tree. Metopium toxiferum (L) Krug and Urban.

mant la n Mint* (herb).

mantè a, mantò a n Liar.

mantèg la, mantèk la n Lard. Cooking grease. V bè.

mantèz la n Liar. Used with (fem) beings.

mantri a n Falsehood, lie. Fè mantri (or) bay manti To tell a falsehood, to lie. Fè fo manti To tell a bad lie. Si ou fè fo manti sou mwen, m’ap tiye ou If you fabricate stories (lies) about me, I’ll kill you.

mantri 2 vi To lie, to tell a falsehood.
mantyi la, manti a n Mantilla*.

manto a n Coat.

mantó a n 1. Lie, falsehood. 2. Liar.

manton an n Chin.

mânyak attrib One who has set ways. Eccentric, peculiarly settled in one’s ways.

mânye a, mannye a n Manner*. Li gen move mânyè He has bad manners. Se pa la mânyè It’s not the proper way. This is not proper (right). Li san mannyè He has no manners.

mânyè adv A little, somewhat; fairly, more or less. (It mitigates and renders friendlier and kindlier which follows). Li manyè sou He is slightly drunk. Manyè manje Eat a little. Come on. Force yourself to eat something. Chen an pa fin aveg net; li manyè we The dog is not completely blind; he can see a little.

manyen vt 1. To feel, to touch, to handle; to manipulate. Pa manyen’m, men ou sal Don’t touch me; your hands are dirty (soiled). 2. To do harm to someone by slandering or hexing him. Y’ap manyen nég la They are causing problems for that man.

mânyezi a n Milk of Magnesia*. Also lèt mânyezi.

mânyifik attrib Splendid, grand, magnificent*, fine.

manyok la n Manioc*, cassava. Manyok amné is the poisonous variety. Manyok doué is the edible variety. Rache manyok nou, bay iè a blanch Go away, clear the land. (Bishop Romelus, 1987).


manyen vt 1. Lie, falsehood. 2. Liar.

mapotcho 1 a, mapotyo n Large fish which is also called kana or wodo.

mapotcho 2, mapotyo n Of huge stature, obese, fat person. Fanm zanmi’m se you mapotyo My friend’s wife is huge.

mapou a n Ceiba, (silk) cotton tree. Ceiba pentandra L.

mapyang Wanderer, good-for-nothing. Bouke maché tou patou kon yon mapyang Stop wandering around.

marabou n Person of mixed blood with smooth, brown skin and straight hair.

marande vt To tangle, to entangle; to be tied together.

marasa a, masa a n Twins.

mare vt 1. To tie, to bind, to strap, to fasten, to attach, to secure. 2. To put a jinx (on). 3. Tied up, embarrassed, clumsy; overcast (sky). Examples and expressions: Mare yo pakèt pa pakèt Tie them in bundles. An nou mare’l Let’s put a jinx on him. An’n mare lapli a Let us put a hex on the rain (to prevent it from starting (or) to stop it). (fig) Mare men (or) mare pye To hinder. Li mare kon you krab He is dumb struck, embarrassed. Mare laa To tie (i.e. to hex) a loa, to prevent him from entering one’s head (COURLANDER). Fann nan mare msye, li pa fouti kite’l That woman charmed that man, he just can’t leave her. Mare taa pli nan foun To frown, showing hostility. Mare min (or) mare figi To frown. Tan an mare jodi a It looks like rain. Se pou tout manman piti mare vant yo Every mother must prepare herself for the worst. (tighten her belt and make sacrifices, resign herself).

marekay la, marekaj la n Swamp.

marèl la n Hopscotch.

maren an n Sailor, marine*. Ble maren Navy blue.

maren V maren

marengwen an, mayengwen n Guat, mosquitoes. Marengwen jwenn van, l’al Lagonav That person took advantage of the situation. Tanbou marengwen String musical instrument (rudimentary type).

maren nan, maren n Godmother. Marèn nòs Maid of honor.

mari a n Husband, spouse, mate. Also msye marye.

marimba a, malimba, manimba, manniba n Popular musical instrument, marimba*.

marinad la n Batter, pancake, fritter made of flour, pork, salt, vinegar, hot pepper, thyme and other spices. Nadmarinad Nothing at all, zilch.

marinen vi To marinate* (culin). To tangle up.

marinèt pye chèch n Vodou spirit.

maro a n Mahoe*. Maro fran Mahoe, sea hibiscus.

maroday la n Looting, theft, marauding*.

marodè a n Looter, thief, marauder*.

marodêm, mahodemn, marodenn nan n Kapok. (Ochroma pyramidalis Kapok). Also called koton flè.

maroka a, mayoka a n Caterpillar.

maron 1 n (light) Brown.

maron 2 attrib Wild, undomesticated; runaway, used to describe one who stays away from a place where he used to go. Chat maron Wild cat, as contrasted with chat kay Domestic cat, house cat. Nég maron Runaway slave, maroon*. Zèb maron Wild plants (grass). Bal maron Stray bullet. Li lan maron He took to the woods.

maron 3 vt To run away (from), to evade, to stay away (from), to keep away (from). Depi apre kal la, li maron kay la; li pa jann toune After that beating, he ran away and never returned to that house. Pyè maron pou Jozèf Peter is keeping away from Joseph.
maronay la  n  Running away.
maronnen  vi  To entangle, to become entangled.
maronye  a  n  Looter, marauder.
maronyen  vi  To maraud.
maroule  a  n  1. Herdsman, one who drives cattle to the slaughterhouse. 2. Filthy person who sleeps outside, anywhere.

Maryaj la, maryay la  n  Marriage*, wedding feast.  
Maryy sivil  Civil marriage.

Marye, maye  vi  To wed, to get married, to marry*.  
Edip te marye ak manman*l  King Oedipus was married to his mother.  
A midi tanbou maye, abitan pran danse  At noon the drums started; people began to dance.  
Maryy sivil  To get married with a civil ceremony but not in a church.

Mas 1 la  n  Mask*.

Mas 2 la  n  Sledge hammer.  Cf. E. Mace*.

Mas 3 la  n  People who inhabit the poor inner cities; mass*, as opposed to the élite.

Mas 4 la  n  Mass* (solid).  
Fe mas ak  To associate with.

Mas 5  n  March*.

Masaj la, masay  n  Massage*.

Masak la  n  Massacre*, slaughter (of people).

Masakre  vt  To massacre*, to butcher, to murder.

Kwafè a masakre'm jodi a  The barber ruined me (my hair).

Masif  attrib  Big, stout, full, heavy, thick; solid, substantial, massive*; heavy-set.  2. Gross, rough.

Mass* (solid).

Massacre*, slaughter (of people).

Massacre*, slaughter (of people).

Massage*.

Massacre*, slaughter (of people).

Match 1  vt  To curb, to harness, to hold down, to subdue.  M'ap mate'l  I'll set him straight.

Match 2  vi  To protrude, to bounce.  Boul la mate  The ball bounced.

Matematik  la  n  Mathematics*.

Maten  n  Morning.  You bon maten, yo tap manje.  Very early in the morning, they were eating.  
Grann maten  At dawn.  Di maten  a.m.  Pi bonè se grann maten  The best time is now.

Materyèl  attrib  Gross, materialistic*.

Materyèl  attrib  Gross, materialistic*.

Matay a  n  (Building) material(s)*.

Matay a  n  (Building) material(s)*.

Matat  n  Misery, painful situation; torture; martyrdom*.  Mari'l tap fe'l pase mati  Her husband really made her suffer.  He was continually making her suffer.  Li mouri mati  He suffered martyrdom.

Matinal  attrib  Early rising.

Matine  a  n  Morning, forenoon.

Matinét la  n  Cat-o'-nine-tails, whip with three pieces of leather at the end.  V rigwaz.

Matirize  vt  To torture, to treat cruelly, to mistreat, to martyr*.

Matla  a  n  Mattress*.

Matlasye  a  n  Mattress*-maker.  Also fezè matla.

Matlo a  n  Sailor.

Matlot la  n  Rival (woman who is the rival of another woman, only where a man is concerned).

Matmwažel  V matmwažel

Mato a  n  Hammer.  Tet mato  Dumbell; novice, awkward, unskilled person.

Maton  attrib  Adroit; skilled at shooting marbles.
matoral la n Prairie.
matou V makou
matris la n Womb.
matè a n Matter*; purulent matter; fecal matter.
may la n Link in a chain.
mayas Santi mayas To have a disagreeable odor (feet).
mayengwen V marengwen
mayestro a V maestro
mayèt la n 1. Mallet*. 2. Clout, blow. 3. Authority, power.  
Mayèt la nan men ou The matter now is in your hands; it's up to you.
mayetizè a V maestro
mayi a n Corn, maize*.  
Mayi moulen Ground corn, cornmeal, mush, polenta.  
Mayi ole Fresh tender corn.  
Mayisena Corn flour.  
Mayi diven Violet colored corn (North).  
Pye mayi Corn stalk.
mayilò a, maylo n Game in which a child pivots around.
maymay la n mamay
mayo a n Teeshirt, jersey, sweater, polo shirt; swimsuit.  
Also mayodben.  A special shirt worn to counteract the evil eye or some other magic (COURLANDER).

mè a, mamè n Nun, mother, sister (Religious)).  
Also Sè.  
Antre nan mè To go into a convent.
meble vt To furnish.
mèch la n Furniture.
mèl 1 la n Whetstone, grindstone.
mèl 2 la n Blackbird (Quiscalus niger).
mèl 3 A variant of “mele” in the expression “Ki mèl mwen? (or) Ki mele mwen?” I don’t care.
mèl 4 la n Mix, blend, mixture.  
Pa fè melanj Don’t mix your drinks.
melanje  vt To blend, to mix, to mingle; to confuse.

melas la  n Cheap beverage made from sugarcane. Molasses*.

mele  vt To mingle, to mix, to confuse, to entangle, to mix up; to be confused, embarrassed, awkward; to be concerned with, to have to do with. vi To interfere, to meddle with. Examples and expressions: Kod yo te mele The ropes were entangled. Nom m mele kon you krab The man is all mixed up like a crab. Ki mele’m I don’t care, it’s not my concern. Who cares? Pa mele nan sa Don’t meddle in that.

melè a  n Deceiver.

melimelo a  n Pawnshop; junkshop, bric a brac (store); troublesome situation particularly under promiscuous circumstances, mess.

melis la  n Balm (plant).


melyasin nan  n Type of machete.

memwa a, memnwa  n Memory*.

men 1 an  n Hand. Li mouri penso’l nan men’l He died with the paint brush in his hand. Fêt la men Made by hand; handmade. Bat men To applaud. Bay lamen To shake hands. Lave men siye atè To do useless things, to defeat one’s purpose. Nan men From. M’pran tou sa m’te jwenn nan men’l I took everything I could find from him. Ban’m you kout men Lend me a hand. Leve men sou yon moun To hit, to strike, to lay one’s hand on s.o. Lave men nan figi yon moun To slap s.o. repeatedly. Pran men ou ak mwen Keep your distance from me; watch your step.

men 2 adv Here is, here are; look here, behold. Men kijan sa pase Here’s how that happened.


men 4 pers pron In some areas of the South (e.g. Jérémie), the personal pronoun ‘men’ is used instead of ‘mwen’.

menaj la, mennaj, mennay  n 1. Household work. Fè menaj To do housework. 2. Lover, fiancée, boyfriend, girlfriend, sweetheart. V boubout. L’ap pale ak menaj li She is talking with her boyfriend.

menaje  vt To be careful not to hurt or offend; to spare someone. Jeran ou lan malad, se pou ou menaje’l Your servant is sick; you’ll have to spare him.

menajè a  n Cleaning woman, housekeeper. V bón.

menas la, mennas  n Menace*, threat.

menase, mennase  vt To threaten, to menace*.

menm attrib Identical, same, exact, self-same. (adv) Very, precisely, as for; at all; even. Examples and expressions: La menm Immediately, on the spot, right there. Se sa menm Naturally; of course. Menm si Even if. With a negative “menm” means “at all”. Mwen pa menm kay sa a menm I don’t like that house at all. Jodi a menm This very day. MORISSEAU-LEROY/A-18: Rwa Kreyon menm As for King Creon. PRESSOIR-11: Menm fè yo pat si bèl anhò Even the flowers were no longer so beautiful. Li menm menm As for him. Kan menm Anyway. Se li menm That’s he, she, it (self). Se sa menm That’s it. Se Pyè menm m’tè wè It’s Peter himself I saw.

menmman, mèmman adv Equally, same. Often in the expression: Menmman, parèyan It’s the same thing, likewise.

memw a V memwa

mennaj V menaj

mennas V menas

mennase V menase

mennen  vt To lead; to take away. To drive (a car) (rare). M’a mennen ou la I’ll take you there. Mennen’l vini Bring him here to me. Vant mennen Diarrhea.

menòt la, mènòt n Handcuffs.

menote, mennote  vt To handcuff.

mens attrib Slim, thin, fine, small.

mensi vi To become thin.

ménuizye a, ménwizye, minizye  n Carpenter, cabinet maker, joiner.

meprize  vt 1. To despise, to scorn, to slight, to have contempt for, to spurn. 2. To ignore.

mera a  n Poison. Manje mera Poisoned food. Pran nan mera To get trapped, to fall for it. To bite the hook.

merengue* (The Haitian national dance).

merès 1 la  n Dye used in the treatment of leather.

merès 2, rés M’fè merès pou konvenk li I did my best to convince him.

meriken V ameriken


merit n Merit*.

merite  vt To deserve, to need, to merit*. Li merite you ti kouch penti It needs a coat of paint. Ki pa merite Unworthy.

mès 1 n Habits, customs, manners. Movez mès, move mès Bad manners.
mès la, lamès, lamès n Ecclesiastical mass*. Bay chante you mès To have a Mass celebrated. Sèvi lamès To serve a Mass. Mès nwa Black mass.

mesaj la n Message*.

mesajè a n Messenger*. V komisyonè.

mèsi n Thanks, appreciation. Di mèsi To thank, to say thanks.

mesken attrib Narrow, petty, mean, niggardly.

mesye a n The man, the gentleman. Mesye yo Messrs*, men, gentlemen. V msye.

mesye dam (la sosyete) n Ladies and gentlemen.

met Contracted form of mete to put. “Met” may not be placed at the end of a sentence. Met li la sou tab la Put the book on the table.

mèt la 1. Master*. 2. Owner. 3. Teacher, instructor. 4. Title of respect. Examples and expressions: Mèt kay la Host, owner. Mét dam Sly, crafty, sharp, trickster; one who can buy and sell you. Mouche telman métam, pèsonn pa ve wè! The man is such a trickster, nobody likes him. Mèt kont (Professional) storyteller. Mèt jèn The person in whose premises a game is taking place. Mèt kay la Landlord. Mèt ti Landowner. Mèt boutik la Shop owner, store keeper.

mèt la 2. Meter*.

mèt 3 (gen) an auxiliary. To be able, to be can. Ou mèt vini You may come. M’mèt di ou, ou papa kuèm I can tell you, but you will not believe me. Ou fin ak travay la, ou mèt ale You finished the work; you can go. Lapli mèt tonbe, m’pral sòti maten an Even if it rains, I’ll go out this morning.

mèt 4 a koulis la, métakoulis n Tape measure.

metal la n Metal*.

metalik attrib Twal metalik Wire gauze. Douko metalik Metallic* paint (car).

metba V miba

mete vt 1. To put, to insert. 2. To wear, to get on, to put on. 3. To begin, to start to. Examples and expressions: Mete deyò (trans) To kick out; (intrans) To go away, to make away. Mete àtè To bear (animals), to foal, to calve, etc.; to fire from a job, to abandon; to put (something) on the ground. Pa mete To omit. Mete pase genyen To exaggerate. Mete ak To compare with. Ou pa ka met sa a ak sa a You can’t compare this with that. Odèt mete chante Odette began to sing. Mete (hò) ou sou kote Get over to one side. Mete’l nan plas li To put someone in his place. Mete a jenou To kneel. Mete avek To take sides with, to associate with. Mete namn The process of restoring a soul that has been taken from a body (COURLANDER). M’mete deyò = m’ale I’m going away. (fig) To translate. Mët la sou tab la Put the book on the table.

mèt la, metrè la n Mistress*, proprietress. V mèt. MORISSEAU-LEROY/A-8: Metrè ti kouchon v la reziye’l. The owner of the little pig will resign herself. Mèt redam nan Sly, crafty woman, one who can buy and sell you. Kay sa a rele’m “ché mèt chè mèt” This house is really all mine.

mètrè vt To squeeze, to bruise (fruit, etc.). Pa mèt tomat yo Don’t bruise the tomatoes.

mètrize vt To overpower.

metsiyan V mètsiyan

metye a n Occupation, profession, trade, business, job, craft; habit, custom. Se you metye apa That’s a separate and distinct (i.e. special) trade. Ki metye ou? What’s your line (of work)? Se metye li chak you jete fatra nan lari a He makes a habit of littering the street. De nèg sa yo nan metye Those two are homosexuals.

mèvéy la n Marvel*, wonder. Bèl mèvéy Wonderful thing.

mèvéyè attrib Wonderful, fantastic, marvelous*.

mezanj la n Chickadee, titmouse.

mezami*! mezami! n (My) friends. Lord no! Oh boy, oh boy, oh boy! O non, mezami; sa pa kab fet Oh no! Heavens no. This is impossible; you can’t do that!

mezè a, mizè a n Measure*, means, ability. Measurement*. Mezi lajan ou (se) mezi wanga ou Your magic potion will be in proportion to your pocketbook. Mezi renmen mari’l te renmen’l And her husband loved her so much. He loved her to such a degree. Manje mezi ou kapab Eat as much as you can.

mezere, mizere vt To measure*, to try on for size. Mezere parol ou Watch what you’re saying. Don’t go too far.

mezondafè a n Pawnshop.

mi 1 attrib Ripe, old, mature*. Jouk mayi mi Till the cows come home (or) Till hell freezes over; a long time. Pou yo kab mi So they can ripen.

mi 2 an n Wall. V miray.

miba, metba, medba, mete ba vi To give birth, to bear (animals).
mich la, mit la n Inside (white) part of bread as opposed to the crust. Usually mich pen, mit pen.
michan attrib 1. Wonderful, beautiful, stupendous, fine. 2. Terrible, exceptional. Antre lan michan Now it’s serious business; the difficult part is starting. V mechan.
midi a n Noon, midday. A midi At noon. Apre midi In the afternoon, this afternoon. Pran midi To take a break, to take a rest. Travayè dwe pran midi Workers should take a break at noon.
midonnen V anmidonnen
migan⁰ an n Magical power which is supposed to make people invisible.
migan², miganm An migan (or) an miganm In pieces. Asyèt la tonbe, ti krazè an miganm The plate fell down and broke to pieces.
migèl, migelik attrib Complicated, hard.
migren nan n (Mild) Migraine*, headache. V tèt-fèmal.
mijonnen vt To plot.
mikalaw Fè mikalaw To abound, to be plentiful. Moun te fè mikalaw nan antèman an There were very many people at the burial ceremony.
mikro a n Microphone*.
mikròb la n Germ, microbe*, mikte vt To moisten.
mil⁰ la n Mule*. More common: milèt.
mil² num Thousand. Depi mil an For (since) a long time.
mita la n Mulatto* (man).
mitatris la n Mulatto* woman
milatris The phrase “a la milatris” is used in the game of spinning a top. Also melatris.
mile a n Type of fish. Agonostomus monticola.
milet la n Mule*.
milsyen an n Militia* man.
milita a n Army man, soldier. Pyè leve sou de pye militè’l Peter woke up in a bad mood, ready for anything. Lekol militè’l Military* academy.
militon an n Type of vegetable. Sechium edule.
milpat V amilpye
milpye V amilpye
miliplikasyon an n Multiplication*.
milipliyè vt To multiply*.
milye n About a thousand.
milyon num Million*. Milyon ven A large quantity. Li koute milyon ven It is very expensive.
milyonè a n Millionaire*.
mimi an n Pussy cat, kitten.
mim a n Minor*.
mifen vt 1. To wear down, to undermine, to eat away. Yon maladi k’ap minen ou A sickness that is slowly killing (eating) you. 2. To mine* (dig).
minis la n (Cabinet) Minister*. Minis lajistis Attorney general.
ministè a n Palace of Ministries. Ministry*.
minisyon an n Munitions*.
minit la n Minute*.
minti a, minit la, minwi, minwit n Midnight. Lè minit sonnen When the clock struck midnight. Minit la pase, anyen pa rive It’s after midnight and nothing happened.
mirak la n Miracle*. Gen you mirak ki rive; tout sik tounen sèl A miracle happened; all sugar turned to salt.
miray la n Wall, partition. V mi².
mis⁰ la n 1. Nurse in a hospital. 2. Lady. Cf. E. miss*.
mis² la, misk la n Muscle*.
miskad la n Nutmeg. Degaje miskad ou Get a move on! Do something.
miskaden an n Potion, love potion, charm.
miske In “bannann miskè”. One of at least 28 types of bananas of Haiti.
mistè a n 1. Secrecy; mystery*. 2. The supernatural in the Vodou cult. 3. The spirit with which one becomes possessed, (usu) during a Vodou ceremony.
misye V msye
misyonè a n Missionary*.
mit la n 1. Mite*, moth (in clothes, etc.). 2. Inside (soft) part of bread as opposed to the crust. Cf. mich.
miting nan, mitin n 1. Rally, political gathering. 2. (Rarely) meeting*.
mitonnen  vi  One stage of the cooking process.  
Pea a ap mitonnen; tale li pral kuit  The beans are boiling; so they'll be ready.

mitrayèz la  n  Machine-gun.

miyèt, myèt n  Tiny piece, small part, crumb.  An miyèt moso  In tiny pieces.  Ti miyèt ankò, li mori  By a hair's breadth, he escaped death.

mizayàn vi  To loiter.

mizè, miz-la  n  Bet, stake (money placed as a bet).  V pari.

mizadò attrib  Slow, loitering.  n  Sluggish fellow. Usually refers to a child or servant who upon being sent on an errand takes too much time before returning.

mize 1 a n  Museum*.

mize 2 vi  1. To stay late, to delay (intrans. only), to loaf, to waste time.  2. To stake (in games), i.e. to place money as a bet. Examples and expressions: M'pap mize  I won't stay long.  Mize nan chemen  To Boiler. Mize sou sèt  Place your bet on number seven (ex. roulette); put it on number seven.  Li mize nan tou sa l'ap fe  He is slow in everything he does.

mizè, lamizè, lamnizè n  Poverty, misery*, trouble (s), misfortune.  Fè you moun pase mizè  To give (s.o.) a hard time, to mistreat (s.o.).  Ala mizè mari'l ap fe'l pase  What a hard time her husband is giving her.

mizèrere a n  1. Miserable*, indigent.  n  Poor soul.


mizerikòd 1 la n  Euphemism for sex organs.

mizerikòd 2, la mizerikòd n  1. Mercy.  Interj My God!  Misericordia!*  Le yo nan malè, yo rele gras, mizerikòd  When they have a misfortune, they cry for mercy.

mizik la n  Music*, tune.

mizisyen an n  1. Musician*.  2. Type of singing bird.

mo 1 a n  Word.  Di gro mo  To curse, to use bad words.  (fig) To be vulgar.  Tou sa se mo  Those are just words.  You can't prove it.  A lot of hot air.

mo 2 n  Pain, ache.  M'gen moldan  I have a toothache.

mò 1 a  n  1. Death.  Se pou ou chèche komin ki mò ki tiye la prè  You must find out why.  2. Dead person, corpse, cadaver.  Fèt lèmò, fèt dè mò  All Souls’ day.  Manje lèmò  Term used in Vodou ceremonies; a special food offering in memory of the dead.  We mò  To be extremely angry, to go out of bounds.

mò 2 n  Evil spirit, death spell.  Yo voye mò sou li  They cast a death spell on him.

mò 3 a n  Bit, i.e., bridle, horse’s bit.

mò 4 attrib  1. Numb.  Mte yon si gro la kratp, pye’m te mò  I had such a bad cramp, my feet were numb.  2. Dead (in the game of marbles).

mòd la, lamòd n  Mode*, fashion, style.  Alamòd  In the fashion, in vogue, fashionable.  Li pa alamòd  He is old-fashioned.  Li gen you mòd, li...  He has the bad habit of...

mòdè vt  To bite (into), to sting.  PRESSOiR-26:  Pou lòt pa mòdè ou  So that the other won’t bite you.  Sa mòdè (or) sa mache  It was successful.

mòde soule  V soufle mòde

modèl la n  Model*, pattern, design.

modèn attrib  Modern*.

modès attrib  Reticent, modest*.

modi vt  To damn, to curse. Also: Damned, accursed.

modôd la n  Rallying word, signal, order*.

mòg la n  Morgue*.

moke vt  To mock*, make fun of.

mòksis attrib  Somber, in a bad mood, angry.

molas attrib  1. Soft.  2. Listless, not energetic, too soft.

moldan an, mal dan n  Toothache.


moleste vt  To reprimand, to rebuke.

mòlèt la n  Calf (of leg).

moli vt  To soften, to slacken.

mòlmèk 2  To abound, to be plentiful.

mòlòkòy, molas.

molyann attrib  Sluggish, slow moving, indolent, listless.  (syn) mòlòkòy, molas.

moman an n  Moment*, instant.  Nan you moman  Presently (soon), in a moment; in a jiffy (fast).

mon My (Is used only with certain nouns and expressions).  Mon chè, monché  My dear.

mòn nan n  Hill, mountain.  Morne*.  Moun mòn  Hillbillies. Also: Abytan mòn.  Nan mòn, yo fe boukan pou chouze lò gen fredi  In the hills they build a fire when they feel cold.

monben an n  Spondias monbin L.

monfi, monfis Sonny, my son, my child.

mongonmen, manganmen vi To be mixed up (situations, things; not persons).  (attrib) Mixed up, complicated.  Bagay la mongonmen The situation is complicated.

monté a n Teacher in adult education programs.

monkonmon attrib Idiot, stupid, dumb (Jérémie).

monkonpè V konpè

monnen an n Change (money*).

monnonk V konpè

monkon mon

monitè a n Upright (post of a door).

m'monte sou do ou Go back and forth, to go up and down.

monche, mon chè My dear.  (Applied to males).

My dear.  (Applied to males).

mori V lanmori


mòtalite a n Case of death.  Cf. E. mortality*.

Gen mòtalite kay vawan an Someone died in the neighbor’s house.


mòtèz la, mòtwaz, montwèz, montwaz n Mortise* joint (wood).

mosokłèt la n Motorcycle*.

mòtsezon an n Off-season*, slack season*.

mòtye a n Mortar*.

mou attrib Tender, soft, mellow (fruit), sensitive.  Mwen pat sa kouri, paske pye’m mou I couldn’t walk, because my feet were too sensitive.

mouch la n Fly.

mouchamyèl la n Bee.  V mouch, myèl.

mouchavè a n Green fly which buzzes and feeds on dead animals or near outhouses.

mouche 1 vi To blow one’s nose.

mouche 2 V msye

mouchwa a, mouchwè a n (Pocket) Handkerchief.  Mouche kòu Kerchief, small shawl.  Also Vodou term.

mouka a n Kerchief (head).

moul la n Mould*, cast.

moule vt To mold*, to fit closely.  Byen moule Well molded, in beautiful shape.

moulen 1 an n Mill, grindstone.  Tirwa moulen Kneading-trough.

moulen 2 vt 1. To grind; 2. To chew, (past part) ground.  Mayi moulen Ground corn.

moulenvan an n Windmill.

moumou an n Moumou* (loose fitting African dress).

move attrib 1. Bad, wicked. Applied to females or with a few nouns which are feminine in French.
    Li gen movèz fwa He acts in bad faith.
movezè, move zè n Evil spirit.
movèzte a n Badness. Wickedness.
möyökö, möyököy attrib Listless, sluggish, too soft. Cf. molas, molyan, kòkraz.
mozyaik la n Ceramic tile. Mosaic*.
mren V mwen
msye a, mouche, misye n Sir, gentleman, master; husband; Mister*, Mr. Gro mouche Big shot.
    Msye marye Bridegroom, (after marriage) married man.
wm a n 1. Month. Mwa daou Month of August.
    2. (monthly) menstruation. Li gen mwa'l She has her monthly (period). The form “mwad” is used before the name of the month. Mwad janzye The month of January.
mwaty a, lamwatye n Half. De mwatyè The sharecropper (who has to give one-half of the produce (yield) to the owner of the land). Ban'm lamwatye Give me half.
mwayen 1 attrib Medium-sized, average (occurs after a noun). Li se yon élèv mwayen He is an average student.
mwayen 2 an, moyen an n Means, financial means, wherewithal; possibility, way. Nan pwen mwayen pou fèl There is no way to do it.
mwayen 3 an n The middle-sized Arada drum (COURLANDER).
mwayèn 1 nan, mwèyenn, lamwayèn n Average. Li pat fè moyèn li He didn’t make the passing grade.
mwayèn 2, mwèyenn attrib Middle-sized, ordinary. You ti mwèyenn bèf A middle-sized ox.
mwazi V mwezi
mwèl la, mwal la n 1. Marrow. 2. Core.
mwen 1, mren, men pers pron First pers sing personal pronoun: I, me. It may be used prepositively or postpositively. Di mwen Tell me. Se sa ou repoum mwen! So that’s the answer you give me! Mwen ak Jan Me and John (the more usual and popular form of “John and I”). In the Southern region of Haiti, “men” is used instead of “mwen”.
mwen 2 poss adj My (sing or plur). “Mwen yo” plur. Nan lang mwen In my language. Nan lang pa mwen In my own language. Se pa fòt mwen It’s not my fault. Toulede se te frè mwen Both were my brothers.
mwen 3, mwens adv Minus*. Midi mwen ven Twenty minutes to twelve.
mwenmenm pers pron Me, I, myself.
mwenn **attrib** The least, the smallest. *Mwenn ti van* The slightest wind.

mwens **adv** Fewer, less, minus*. (superlative: the least). *Mwens ke* Under, less than.

mwezi, mwazi **attrib** Mildewy, moldy, musty. *Pen an rete nan imidite, li vini mwezi* The bread was in a damp place; it became moldy.

mwik, mwék **onom** Anything at all. *Li pa di mwik* He didn’t open his mouth.

myanna, lanmyann **interj** Go to hell!

myaw **interj** (onom) Meow*, the cry of a cat.

mye **adv** Better; improvement. *Fè mye* To feel better. *Malad la fè mye jodi a* The patient feels better today. *Li fè yon ti mye* He feels slightly better.

myèl **n** Bee. The usual word for honey is *siro myèl*. *Maten an fi a move tankou myèl* This morning the woman is mad as hell. *Bwat myèl* Beehive in a wooden box.

myèt **V** miyèt

myoukmyouke **vi** To scintillate, to twinkle.

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**N**

1 **pers pron** Contracted, conjunctive form of pers pron *nou*. We, us (1 pl); you (2 pl). *N’achete* We bought. *Sa’ni vle?* What do you want?

2 **pass adj** Our (1st pers plur), your (2nd pers plur). *Men’n* Our hands, your hands. *Po’n* Our skin, your skin. (Some people use *n* by assimilation instead of the regular *l* (short form of *li*)) his, her, its; him, her, it. This usage is not recommended because it creates a confusion between *n* and *l*. *Li netwaye dan’n* *He cleaned his teeth.* [Instead of “dan’n”].

nachon **V** nasyon

nadmarinad, nad marinad **Nothing at all.**

nago 1 **n** Type of dance rhythm (Haitian folklore). 2. African ethnic group. *M’pap fe ni yon pa kita ni yon pa nago* I’m staying here, I won’t budge.

naj **A la naj** Swimming. *M’kapab al Lagona a la naj* I can swim to La Gonave. *An naj* (or) *nan naj* Drenched to the bones.

naje **vi** To swim.

najè **n** Swimmer. *Gran najè pa di pwason pou sa* Being a fine swimmer doesn’t mean you are a fish.

nak **n** Mother of pearl. *Li gen you kostim ki gen hat bouton nak* He has a suit with four mother of pearl buttons.

nan 1, lan **def art** Determiner, definite article sing: the. It is used after nasal consonant sounds or after a consonant preceded by a nasal vowel sound. *Telegram nan* The telegram. *Endepondans lan* The independence. *V a, la, an.*

nan 2, lan **prep** In, into, within, among, from.

The terms are synonymous. FRANKE-TIENNE/D-114: *Sou lèzèl nou raviyate “lan” pou syèl “nan” laborou... Se nan fè espriyante li mouri* His imprudence (his being imprudent) was his downfall. After *‘youn’, “nan (lan)”* is translated as “of”. *Youn lan pitit sa yo One of these children. Chans sa a sòt nan syèl pou mwen* That opportunity comes from heaven for me. *Ou pran abiti sa a nan ras* You get that habit from your family. *Diò nan maten* Ten o’clock in the morning.

nan 3 **mitan** **prep** Among, between, amid, amidst.

Also *Lan mitan* In the middle of. *Nan sans* Toward, in the direction of.

nan-chon **V** nasyon

nademen **V**elandmen

nannan **n** Soul; spirit. *Mete nannan sou ou* Be alert! Watch what you’re doing. *San nannan* Without energy. *Pran nannan* To bewitch, to put under a spell. *Wete nannan* To take away one’s spirit, to stamp, to make numb.

nannèd **V** lannèd

nannan 1 **n** The inside(s), the pulp or meaty part of a fruit or nut; the entire inside of the eye exclusive of the brow or lashes; (fig) substance of the brain. *Nannan koko ye* Copra. *Map foure pinman an nannan je ou* I’ll put pepper in your eyes. *Ou san nannan* You have no guts.

nannan 2 **an** Food (child’s language).

nannan 3 **vi** To eat (child’s language).

nannize **vi** To speak with a nasal twang.

nannwit **V** lannuit

nanpami **V** pami

nanpwen, nan pwen **There is no... there isn’t any...** *Nan pwen anyen* There’s really nothing. MORISSEAU-LEROY/A-14: *Nanpwen you sèl jan pou soti nan sa* There is no possible way out.

nap **n** Tablecloth. *Yo te mete bél nap sou tab la lò maryaj la* They had placed a beautiful tablecloth on the table for the wedding.

napron an, napon **n** Doily, table napkins. *Napon yo sal, lave yo* The napkins are dirty; wash them.

nas **n** (Fish) trap.

nasyon an, nachon, nanchon 1 **n** Race, nation*. 2. The entire loa family or tribe. *Nanchon nou pa konsa, tout moun rekonèt la-loa* Our nation is not like that; everybody respects the law.

nasyonal **attrib** National*.

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All entries are in dictionary format, providing definitions, examples, and usages in Haitian Creole. The phrases are translated into English for clarity. The document includes a variety of terms, from basic words like “naj” (swimming) to more complex expressions involving cultural and social contexts. There are also glosses for related terms, such as “nannan” and “nannan 1,” to help understand the nuances of Haitian Creole language.
neglijans vt To neglect*, to omit. Mwen pa neglijye travay, m’bezwen lajan I don’t neglect my work. I need the money.

negosyan an n Businessman, merchant, wholesaler.

nèke, nèk adv Only, as soon as, once. Chèf la nèke pale, tout moun obeyi Once the chief has spoken, everyone obeys.

nekò a n A deep water stretch between two reefs.

nemoni an n Pneumonia*.

nen 1 an n Nose, nostrils. Nen bouche Stuffed up nose. Nen kraze, nen plati Flat nose. Nen jako Aquiline nose. Ou gen nen jen You have a sharp nose; you have a flair for (you’re smart). Ou san nen nan figi ou You’re shameless, without honor. Pòtoprens ak Leogàn se nen ak je, tèlman yo pre Port-au-Prince and Leogane are like (your) nose and (your) eyes; they are so close. Trou nen Nostril. Frèt pace nen chen Colder than a dog’s nose. Fwa nan nen Nasal twang. Pale nan nen To snuffle, to speak with a nasal twang.

nen 2 an n Dwarf, midget.

nennenn nan, nènèn, nèn n Godmother. Nennenn mwen di’im l’ap ban’m you bisiklèt pou Nwèl My godmother told me she was going to give me a bicycle for Christmas.

nenpòt, nenpòt ki indef pron Any. (It matters not which). Nenpòt kilès Anyone, either, either one. Nenpòt ki sa l’di’im Anyone, either, either one. Nenpòt ki le, m’ap pò’tèl pou ou No matter what time, I’ll bring it to you. Nenpòt ki jan fò’m ale Anyway (anyhow), I have to go. Nenpòt (ki) moun Whoever, whosoever, anyone, any person. Nenpòt (ki) sa Whoever, whatever, anyone. Nenpòt (ki) bagay Whatever, whatsoever. Nenpòt ki kote Anywhere.

nesans la n Birth, nature (characteristic). Li pale kon manman l’; li pran sa nan nesans She talks like her mother; she got it from her mother since the day she was born.

nesesè attrib Necessary*. Sa pat nesesè That was unnecessary. Se nesesè pou ou ale wè manman ou jodi a You have to go see your mother today. Prezans ou nesesè; rantre tou suit Your presence is necessary. Come immediately.

nesesite a n Necessity*, need. Moun ki nan nesesite pa gaspiye lajan People who are in need don’t squander their money.

nèspa Is it not so? Ou te lekol nèspa? You went to school, didn’t you? (syn) pa vre?

nestri a n Saddlecloth.

nèt 1 adv 1. Altogether, completely, definitely, entirely, thoroughly; once and for all, for real, quite, absolutely. M’pè nèt I am really scared. Nan kanaval la, dans medam yo te bèl nèt At carnival time the women really danced beautifully.
Net ale, Net al kole All the way, completely. Asuè a m ap banboche n et al kole This evening, I’m going all out in the celebration.

nèt  adj Tidy, clean, neat.*

netche V netye

netwayaj la n Cleaning

netwaye vt To clean, to make things nice and neat. To make a clean sweep of, to run off, to overcome; to swab out; to cure. To clean, to evicerate. (fig) To make unfavorable report on someone. Examples and expressions: M’al jwenn bòs li, epi m’netwaye’il I went to his boss and cleaned him out (made a complete unfavorable report). Netwaye diri To clean rice by removing all foreign particles, stones, etc. Netwaye pawason To clean and prepare fish. Netwaye soulye ou byen, sinon fe chany lan netwaye’il pou ou anvan ou soti Clean your shoes (well), or have the shoeshine boy clean them for you before you go out.

netye, netche vt 1. To chastise, to beat, to destroy, to fix. M’ap netye ou I’ll fix you. 2. To clean. Netye yon jaden To clean a garden. 3. To take to one’s heels.

nèvan V enèvan

neve a n Nephew*.

nève attrib Nervous*.

nevèn nan, levèn, nevèn n Novena*.

nevèm num Ninth.

neye V nwaye

ngan V oungan

ngangan V oungan

ngongòlò V gongòlò

ni  attrib Naked, bare, nude*. It’s rarely used except in fixed phrases. Much more common are “toutouni, toutni”.

ni  Variant of “li”. Manman ni His mother. Use “li” instead.

ni  conj Nor, (not)...or. Yo pat manje ni bwe They didn’t eat nor (or) drink.

ni  conj Both... and; Either... or; Neither... nor (usually with pa). V ou...ou Ni grannoun ni timoun, tout moun ap peye hat yo anvan yo antre Both old and young everyone will pay for his ticket before going in. Li pa fe ni de ni twa Without further ado, without doing anything else. Ni Joséf ni Pòl pa vini Neither Joseph nor Paul came. Kilès ki mouri lan de yo? Ni yon ni lòt Which one of the two died? Neither one.

ni tou, nitou conj But also, further, apart from that. Furthermore. Ou di’im ou se mekanisyen. Se pa re. Niitou ou pa kapab fè travay sa a You tell me you’re a mechanic. It’s not true. Furthermore, you can’t even do that work.

nich la n 1. Nest. 2. Doghouse. 3. Mistress. Tonbe nan yon nich founi To fall into danger (Cl. E. to fall into a hornet’s nest.). Ti zewaz fe nich nan branch bua The little bird builds its nest on the tree branch.

niche vt To lick*, to lap. V lanbe.

nichè a n Licker*, lapper, sucker. V lambè.

nil attrib Worthless, good for nothing, awkward, useless; void. Fé match nil The score is tied. Fé mouwman nil To make a useless effort (movement).

nim nan n Type of African mahogany grown in Haiti.

nîmero a, limero a n Number*, lottery number, measure, size. Ki nîmero kostim ou pote? What size suit do you wear? Ouvè jeografi a nan pa jwèt, nîmero twa Open the geography book on page nine, number three. Chak li jwenn, li promèt yo maraj. Msye se you nîmero He promises to marry every girl he meets; but he’s a foreflusher (character). M’konn nîmero’il I know what he can do (pej). Fé (or) “pase” you nîmero telefon To dial a telephone number.

Nini n Nini (a proper name). Se bounda Nini Who cares? It’s nothing. It doesn’t amount to a hill of beans.

nivo  a n Level (including “level”, mason’s tool). A nivo (or) o nivo Horizontal, on the same level. Ki nivo l’ap rive What level will it reach? Si you mason pa gen nivo’lli pa ka travay If the mason doesn’t have his level, he can’t work.

nivo  attrib Novel, fresh, brand new. Kafe nivo Coffee that is brand new; the first bag of the harvest season. It is not so strong as regular coffee. Nan sezon sa a, ap gen anpil mayi nivo In this season there will be much new corn.

nivre, annivre Bwa annivre Tephrosia toxicaria Pers. Plant claimed to be an aphrodisiac.

nò a, lenò n North*. Nan nò In the North. Moun nan nò pa pale menm jan ak moun nan sid People in the North speak in a different way from those in the South. Gen lapli nan nò jis tan moun pa sa sòti It rains (so hard) in the North till people can’t go out.

nòde a n Northeast* wind, nor’easter. Kan nòde soufle, lannè move When the nor’easter blows, the sea becomes rough.

nofraj la n Shipwreck. Fé nofraj To sink, to go under (ship).

nòkaout vt To knock-out* (in boxing).

nòmal attrib Normal*.

nominasyon an n Appointment to a position.

non  a n Name. Li pote non’il He lives up to his name. Yo ba li you ti non “koukou” paske li lèd They nicknamed him “koukou” because he is so homely. Ti non, non jwèt, non gate Nickname. Bay non To give a bad name, to slander.
non² adv No. Ou ap vini? Non Are you coming? No. Pran bwa t la pou mwen. Non, m’pa kapab Take the box for me. No, I can’t.

non³ adv No (Expletive. Often used to strengthen the negation already expressed by ‘pa’. Sometimes best left untranslated. “Non” is also used not as a negation, but rather for emphasis only. Vini non Come, won’t you. Pa kriye non! Don’t cry! Pa mize nan chemen non Don’t loiter on the road. Mwen pa renmen sa non No, I don’t like that.

nouga a, nounga a n Nougat*. V tablèt.
noumenm pers pron 1. Ourselves. 2. Yourselves.
nouiri vt To feed, to nourish*. M’byen nouri, m’pa santi feblè I’m well nourished. I don’t feel any weakness.
nourisan attrib Nutritious*, nourishing*. Pa gen anyen ki nourisan kon lèt There is nothing so nourishing as milk.
nouritii a, lanouriti n Food. Nourishment*. V manje. Si timoun yo te jaoum pis nouriti, yo la pi gro If the children had more nourishment, they would be bigger.
nouvo attrib New*, recent. Gen nouvo pè nan legiz la There’s a new priest in the church.

Nouyòk, Nyouyòk n New York*.
novanm n November*. Lapli tonbe tout mwa nouvanm nan The rain fell during the whole month of November.
now adv No*. Now, m’pa kapab No! I just can’t. Now, m’pap aksepte sa Nossuh, I can’t accept that.

noyo a n Kernel, pit (seed).
nuaj la, nyaj, nway n Cloud. Syèl la chaje ak nuaj; lapli pral tonbe The sky is full of clouds, it’s going to rain. Nuaj sigaret Cigarette puff (smoke).
nui, nwi vt To harm, to hurt, to cause a nuisance*, to tease, to torment, to bother, to annoy. Ret trankil, pa nwi’m Be quiet; don’t bother me.
nuit la, lannuit, nwit n Night. Li pase nuit blanch He had a sleepless night. Li pa dòmi lannuit He doesn’t sleep at night. Tout lannuit All night long.
nuizans la, nwizans n Nuisance*, trouble, problem, damage; teasing, vexation. Se you nwizans pou mwen It’s a worry for me.
nuizib, nwizib attrib Annoying, pestering, vexing, nagging, teasing, harmful (causing damage). Chat la nuizib, pa kite’l la a The cat is pestering (harmful); don’t leave her there.
nwa¹ a n Nut, walnut, cashew (nut). Po nwa Nutshell.

nwa² a, fenwa a n M’pap mache nan nwa pou kont mwen I won’t walk in the dark alone. Nan fenwa In the dark.

nwa³, nwè attrib Black. “nwè” is stronger than “nwa”. Usually means very black or jet black. Fè nwa It is dark. M’wè ou an nwa. Ou te gen moun mour? I saw you wearing a black dress. Did some relative of yours die? Nwè kon lank Pitch black. Also Nwè kon dèyè chodyè.

nwakou a, nwa kou n Nape of the neck.

nwè³  V nwèl

nwasi vi To blacken, to darken.

nway, neye vi To drown, to get drowned. (Both forms are used everywhere). M’wè ou ap antre nan dlo fon, si ou pa konn naje ou ap neye I see you’re going in deep water; if you don’t know how to swim, you’ll drown.

nwazèt la n Nut.

nwè⁴  V nwèl la, nwal

nwè³a, nwèl na Christmas.

nyapad vt To deny*, to abandon. It has also the meaning of ‘reject’. Ou pa kab nye ou pat di sa You can’t deny you said it. Poutèt li fe kòz sa a, tout fammi’l nye’l On account of his terrible deed his entire family disowned him.

nyè attrib Simple, foolish, stupid, ridiculous, silly.

nyès la n Niece*. Nyès mwen an pral marye My niece is going to get married.

nyezri a n Foolishness.

nyouz la n News*. Monchè, ban’m ti nyouz ou What’s new with you?

O

O¹ interj Oh*! Interj. of surprise.

O² interj Piti o, sa ou ap fe kon sa? Son, what’s this I heard that you’ve been doing?

O³ At, to. O gadavou At attention.


obeyi vt To obey*.

obeyisan attrib Obedient*, obliging.

obeyisans la n Obedience*.

obligason an n Obligation*.

obligatwa attrib Obligatory*, compulsory.

oblijan attrib Obliging*. Ou mal oblijan; ou pa vle rann mwen sèvis You are mean; you won’t help me at all.

oblige, bije, blieje vt To oblige*. To be obliged*, to be constrained, forced, required.

obsèvasyon an, opsèvasyon n Scolding, reprimand, reproach. M’fèl obsèvasyon I reprimanded him.

obsève vt 1. To observe*. 2. To reprimand, to scold.

ochan n Salutation, honors, national hymn. Bel ochan pou jenèral A musical greeting for the general.

ôd V lòd

odas la, lodas n Daring, boldness, audacity*. Ou gen odas di ou pat fe sa You have the gall to say you didn’t do it.

odasye attrib Shameless, insolent, impudent, dishonest, insistent in telling a lie. (Said of one who is insistent, regardless of incontrovertible evidence to the contrary; one who has a “nerve” or a lot of courage. Si ou pa odasye ou pa reyisi nan lavi If you don’t go after the impossible, you won’t get anywhere. “Odasyèz”: Applied to females.

odè a, lodè n Odor*, scent, smell; bad smell; perfume. V sant, santò. There are good and bad smells. Bon odè Fragrance.

odyid la n Used clothing that are sold.

ôdinè attrib Vulgar, coarse, ordinary*, of inferior quality.

odle a, òdeli a n Orderly* to an officer, aide de camp.

ôdonans la n 1. Aide de camp, soldier, orderly to an officer. 2. Doctor’s prescription.

ôdone vt To order, to command.

odyans la, lodyans n Jokes, chatting, chit-chat, talk, conversation; stories (true or otherwise). Bay odians To chat, tell stories.

odyanse a n 1. A fine conversationalist who knows and tells many stories. 2. One who is a big talker and does nothing.

ôf ¹ Of* vt To be absent from work. Li ôf jodi a He is off* today.

ofanse vt To offend*.

ôfelen an, ôflen n Orphan*.

ôfet adv Actually, in fact*.

ôfev la n Jeweler.

ofiamze, fiamezi As; progressively.

ofis la, lofis n Scullery, supply room; pantry, kitchen cabinet. Office*.
officer a n Officer* (in the army).

ofisyesayet viv la n Registrar of vital statistics.

ofisyel attrib Official*. By extension “official car”. MORISSEAU-LEROY/D-26: Li pa gan lè pou' ap roule nan ofisyèl He can roll around in the official car any time he wants to.

ofisyèlman adv Officially*.

ofirnan n Offering*.

ofiri vt To offer*.

ôg la n Organ* (musical instrument).

ôgadavou At attention (Milit).

ogan an n The metal percussion device that accompanies the Arada drums. Traditionally, a forged iron bell, but it may be a hoe blade or any other piece of resonant iron or steel (COURLANDER).

ògàn nan n Gen gran ògàn To have a loud voice.

òganizasyon an n Organization*.

òganize vt To organize*.

ogatwa a, rogatwa, wogatwa n Oratory *, altar.

ògey la, lògey n Pride, anger, arrogance, conceit. Se ògèy ki tiye'l Pride killed him. Li refize; l'ap fè ògèy He refused because his pride was hurt.

ògeye attrib Haughty.

ogmantasyon an, lokmantasyon n Increase, raise. Yo bay ogmantasyon mwa sa a There is an increase in salary this month.

ogmante vt & vi To step up, to increase, augment*.

Ogoun n Vodou deity.

ookasnak a, akabine a n Feces, excrement.

ookabine 1 vi To have a bowel movement. Malad la pa okabine ditou The patient didn’t have a bowel movement. V poupou.

Okap n City of Cape-Haitian.

Okay n Third largest city in Haiti. It is a seaport in the South.

okayon an, lokayon n Occasion*, chance, opportunity, means of transportation. M'ap voye lajan an ba ou semen pwoch; pral gen ou okayon I’ll send you the money next week; there’s a fine occasion (It happens that somebody is coming there next week). Se yon okayon It’s a bargain.

oke adv O.K.*; all right. Also: Interjection. Universal Americanism.
onè a, lonnè, onnè  n  Honor*; (Used also as a greeting before entering. The answer is usually respè.)
onèkte  V onètte
onneman an  n  Ornament*.
onèt, onnèt  attrib  Honest*, upright, honorable, polite. BEAUBRUN/A-13: Mwen se you fi onèt I'm an honorable woman.
onètte a, onèkte  n  Honesty*, complaisance, politeness, good breeding.
onivo  V nivo
onjenikon  V andjenikon
onondipè a  n  Sign of the cross. (In the name of the Father...) Lò n'ap antre legliz, nou fe onondipè Upon entering the church, we make the sign of the cross. (syn) sinakwa
onorab  attrib  Honorable*.
onore  vt  To honor*.
ons la  n  Ounce*.
onz, ronz  num  Eleven. In card games the knave or jack.
op a  1. Word used in the game of marbles. 2. In step. Mache opa  To be in step.
opalè a  n  Loudspeaker.
operasyon an  n  (medical) Operation*.
operatè a  n  Operator* (telephone). Projectionist (of movies).
opere  vt  To perform surgery, to operate*; to be operated on, to undergo surgery. More frequently used is “fé operasyon”.
opinyon an  n  Opinion*.
opital  V lopital
oplita  adv  At the latest.
opozan an  n  Opponent*.
opoze (vpr)  To oppose*, to be against. M’opoze’m a sa  I am opposed to that.
opozisyon an  n  Opposition*. Mete opozisyon  To be opposed to, to veto.
opresyon an  n  Asthma, breathlessness.
opwen  To the point where. Also: opwenke.
or  conj  Now, but, well. The r is pronounced by careful speakers for purposes of clarity or emphasis.
oran  Fresh, bold.
orespè, orespe  “Excuse my French”, with due respect*.
oretva  Goodbye, “bye bye”. Di orevwa  To bid farewell.
orezon an  n  Prayer. Di orezon  Say a prayer.
ose, rose  vt  Ose zepòl  To shrug one's shoulders.
osekou  interj  Help! V anmwe.
oseraye  adv  Seriously. Pran... oseraye  To take... seriously.
ositou  conj  As a matter of fact, furthermore, well, therefore, thus, also*.
oslè a, zosle  n  Jacks (Goat knee bone used in children’s game). Jwèt osle  Knuckle bone game.
oson  V osinon
osti  V losti
ostre  attrib  1. Haughty, high-hat. 2. Angry, mad.
oswa  1  conj  Or, or rather.
oswa  2  Yè oswa  Last night.
otan  1  1. That’s enough. 2. As you were (milit).
otan  2  As much as, as. Otan... otan  As... as. Otan li gen lajan, se otan li mecan  He is as bad as he is rich.
otantik  attrib  Real, genuine, authentic*.
ote  V rote
ôtè  2  a, rotè, wotè, larotè  n  1. Height. 2. High place. Moun ki ret nan otè People who live on the hills.
otèl la, lotèl  n  Hotel*.
oto a  n  Car, auto*, vehicle, automobile*.
otobis la  Bus*.
ötograf la  n  Spelling.
ôtolan an, zòtolan, zètolan  n  Meadow lark, garden bunting, bobolink. Common ground dove bobolink (Columbina passerina).
ottomatik  attrib  Automatic*.
ottomobil la  n  Automobile*, car.
otòn nan  n  Autumn*, fall.
otopsi a, topsi  n  Autopsy*.
otorite a, lotorite  n  Authority*, official authorities*; armed officials. Te gen anpli otorite lan seremoni an There were many government officials present at the ceremony.
otorizasyon an  n  Authorization*, permission.
otolize vt To authorize.

otremen adv Otherwise.

ou 1 pers pron You, yourself, one. Unlike E. “You”, which is plural in form but may be used to address one or more persons, ou is used when addressing one person only. *Ou menm You, yourself. As E. ‘you’, ‘ou’ can be used to mean ‘one’ (Fr. on, It. uon, Germ. man, etc.)

“Ba ou” “to you” is often written barou. *M’ba ou chemiz la. *Ou pa pran’. *Poukisa? I give you the shirt, and you don’t take it, why? *M’pap bliye, *m’ap pote kob la pou ou I won’t forget; I’ll bring the money for you. *‘Wou’ and ‘w’ are variants of ‘ou’.

ou 2 poss adj Your (second pers. sing). *Lajan ou Your money. Also: *lajan’w.

oubyen, ouswa conj Or, (or) rather; ou ... ou Either ... or. *Ou byen Or else, or rather. *Ou byen ... ou byen either ... or.

oublia n Oversight.

oubyen V ou

oumenm pers pron You, yourself. oundjenkon V andjenkon

oungan an, houngan, rougan, gangan, ngan, nga-ngan n Vodou priest who is sometimes also a magician or physician. MORISSEAU-EROY/D-28: *M’pral pale gangan’m pou yo I’m going to complain to my houngan about them. African word.

oungfò a, hounsi a n The highest grade of the *hounsi (COURLANDER).

oungsi a, onsi, hounsi Female apprentice or consecrated assistant to the Vodou priest (houngan).

oungsi bosal, hounsi bosal n The lowest grade of the hounsi (COURLANDER).

oungsi kanzo n The highest grade of the *hounsi.

ouwsa V ou

out, daou (pop) n August.

ouvè vt To open. V ouvri. Ouvè jeografi a nan *paj twa Open the geography book on page 3. attrib 1. Overly frank and above board. 2. Fresh, impertinent. Sa’k fe ou ouvè konsa? Why are you so fresh?

ouvéti a n Opening.

ouvri, louvri vt To open, to unlock, to turn on. *Tì zèl yo louvri Their wings spread. Depi jou te louvri Since sunrise. V ouvè.

ouviye a n Workman.

ovèròl la, oveòl n Overhaul* (car, motor).

ozabwa attrib Desperate, troubled.

ozanj, ozany attrib Ultra happy, in heaven, overjoyed.

oze vi To dare. *M’pa oze di’l sa I don’t dare tell him that.

ozetazini In the U.S.A.


pa 2 That of, the one of, the property of. “Pa” helps to form the emphatic possessive adjective and the possessive pronouns. *Pa mwen; *pa’n My; mine. *Pa ou Your; thine, yours. *Pa li, *pa’l His, her, its; his, hers. *Pa nou, *pa’n Our; ours. Your, yours (plur). *Pa yo Their; theirs. *Soulye *pa’m My own shoes. Ban’m *pa’m san dous Don’t put any sugar in mine. *Se pa nou li ye It’s ours. From Fr. part.

pa 3 *Fe pa To give a chance, to concede a favor, to have compassion for. *Fè pa’m Give me a chance. *Isit nan pa mwen moun pa Around here there is no favoritism. *Menn lafan gen moun pa Even in Hell you’ll find people on your side (partisan). *L’ap pase pa’l He’s having his troubles. From Fr. part.

pa 4 interj Sometimes “pa” has the same meaning as “apa, “nèspa”, “se pa”.


pa 6 a n Step. *Pazapa Step by step, slowly. *M’pa vle vèl (a) de pa I have a strong dislike for him. Pandan l’ap danse li pèdi pa He got out of step while dancing. Mache *opa To be in steps. From Fr. pas.

pacha a, bacha n An important peasant, a wealthy landowner. Cf. E. Pasha*. V don.

pachat la n Escapade.

pachiman vt To ruin, to make a mess of, to botch. Ruined, in bad shape.

padesi a, padsi n Raincoat, overcoat.

padon an n Pardon*, forgiveness. *Mande padon To excuse one’s self, to ask for forgiveness.

padonab, padonnab attrib Pardonable*.

padonnen, padònen vt To pardon*, to forgive.

pafè attrib Perfect*.
pafen an  n  Perfume*.  V losyon, odè.
pafouten an  n  Whiskers, sideburns.
pafwa  adv  Sometimes, occasionally, from time to time.
paj la  n  Page*.  Li alapaj  He’s up to date.
Pak 1 la  n  Easter.
pak 2 la  n  Pigsty, corral, playpen, park*.  Pak hochon Pigpen.  Pak chwal Horse stable.  Pakanpak Thru and thru.  Bal la traverse pbyewa a pakanpak The bullet went thru the tree from one side to the other.
pake 1 a, pakè  n  Package*, parcel.  Faktè a pote you pake pou ou  The mailman brought a package for you.
pake 2 vt & vi  To park* (a car).
pakèt la  n  Package*, parcel, bundle.  Pa pakèt  In bundles.  Yon pakèt  A great deal of.  Yon pakèt moun  A large number of people.  Mare pakèt ou Pack up (and go).  Cf.  pake.
pakin nan  n  Parking*.
pako  V  pokò
pakoti a  n  Cheap wares.  Fè pakoti  To deal in goods of inferior quality.
pal  attrib  Pale*.  You ble pal  A pale blue.
palab la  n  Conversation, chatter, endless talk.
palabrè a  n  Chatterbox, big talker.
paladò a  n  Talker, prattler.  (adj) Talkative.
palan an  n  Slaughterhouse.  Cf.  labatwa.
palavire a  n  Slap; a box in the ear.  Pèdi palavire  To dare, to forget one’s self (and do something).
pale 1 a  n  Palace*.  Very big house.  Residence of the president of Haiti.  Kay sa a se you pale  That house is a mansion (large and sumptuous).
pale 2 a  n  Talker.
palèt 1 la  n  Palate*.
palaét 2 la  n  1. Thigh (of pig, sheep etc.)  2. Long wooden scoop (spoon) used to stir pots.  3. A noise-making device made of paper glued to the string of a Haitian kite which vibrates when the kite is flying.
palfwenye a  n  Vagrant, vagabond, low-class.
pali  vi  To turn pale*.  

palidis la  n  Malaria.
palisad la  n  Wooden barrier or fence; wall.
palmante vi  To discuss, to parley*.
palmaskriti a  n  Palma Christi*, palm-oil.
palmis la  n  Royal palm* tree.  Roystonea regia Cook.  Chou palmis  =  Ke palmis  Stem, stalk of the palm tree.  Fey palmis Palm leaves.  “Palmis” ou “Tonton Nò”?  Heads or tails?  (On one side of many Haitian coins, one finds the head of President Nord Alexis, popularly called “Tonton Nò”).  Zawo palmis  Type of bird living in palm trees.
palpitations an  n  Li gen palpitasyon  He has an abnormal noisy heart beat.
palto a  n  Coat, jacket.  V levit, vès.
pambitch, panmbitch  n  Palm Beach*, cloth, material.
pami, nanpami  prep  Among, amid, amidst, in the midst.  V nan mitan.
pan 1 an  n  Peacock.
pan 2 an  n  Side of a bed frame.
pàn nan  n  Breakdown, defect, disability.  Pran pàn  To have a breakdown (machine).  Oto’m an pàn  I have car trouble.  Leve pàn  To fix the trouble, to get started after a breakdown.  Nou pran pàn gáz  We’re out of gas.  Pàn kaotchou  Flat tire.
panama a, palama a  n  Panama* (hat), straw hat.
panari a, pannari a  n  Whitlow, felon (inflammation of a finger, a toe, etc.).
panche  vt & vi  To lean (over).
pandan, pannan  conj  While;  prep  During.
pandil la  n  Clock.  V  ôlòj.
pandye  vi  To hang, to suspend*, to dangle.  Rete pandye nan bouch yon moun  To listen to s.o.’s speech with undivided attention.
panik la  n  Panic*.
pankat la  n  Placard, sign, poster.
panko  V  pokò
pamen vi  To have spasms*, to faint.
pann nan 1 n  Belly, stomach (of cow, pig, etc.).
pann 2 vt & refl  To hang, to hang up.  Legliz pa chante lantèman you moun ki pann tèt li  The church will not celebrate the last rites of a person who hanged himself.
pannan  V  pandan
Pannkòt  n  Pentecost*.
pako a, panno a  n  1. Wall of a house.  2. Rudimentary substitute saddle made of straw or dried banana leaves.  Apik panno  Very steep.
panpan Fe gran panpan To be a big show-off, to act as a big shot.

pans la n Belly, stomach, gut, paunch*.

panse 1 vi To think, to believe, to conceive.

panse 2 vt To dress (a wound).

pansman an n Grooming; dressing down; what you put on the wound to help it heal.

pansyon an n 1. Lodgings, boarding house. Li an pansyon He’s in a boarding house. 2. Pension* (retirement).

pansyonè a n Boarder (in a school).

pant la n Slope. File you move pant To be on a bad course (track).

pantalôt la n Panties* (for women). (syn) kilôt.


pantan attrib Startled; stupefied, surprised. V sezi. M’tap fe you ti habicha, li fe m’pantan I was taking a little snooze when he startled me. M’al pantan sou li I was startled to meet him unexpectedly.

pantouf la n Slipper. (Soft) slippers made of one piece of leather and blue denim material.

pantoufouye a n Type of aggressive shark.

pântyè a, panyen an n Basket, hamper; nest-box. Cf. E. pantry*.

pânyeye, panyen an n Basket, hamper; nest-box. Cf. E. Pannier*.

panyôl la n Of the Dominican Republic; Spanish*; Spaniard*. Nan panyôl Land where Spanish is spoken. Usually refers to the Dominican Republic. Gen panyôl nan kay la Hush! The person we’re talking about is here. Watch what you’re saying. The expression “ir al Françé”, for “to the Western part of the Island, i.e. Haiti”, is quoted by Carlos Esteban Dieve in “Vodò y Magia en Santo Domingo”, page 387.

panzou a n 1. Slap on the hand in a children’s game called “koupe panzou”. “Bay panzou” means to give a slap on the hand to cause what’s in it to fall; also to bring about a coup d’etat. 2. Vetch (or) tare (small plant of the bean family).

pap 1 Contraction of pa + ap = Am not, is not, are not; shall not, will not, won’t.

pap 2 la n Pope*. Pap seyè Potentate. Li se sèl pap lan kay la He is the dominant (main) figure in the house.

pap 3 sis Not to succeed, to fail. Ou pap sis You’ll not succeed.

papa a n 1. Dad, daddy, father, progenitor. Title of respect. Papa*. Papa’m ak manman’m My parents. Papa! (May be used as an exclamation of amazement). 2. Type of large drum (COURLANDER). 3. Just as “manman”, “papa” may serve as an augmentative prefix before some nouns. The word then means ‘huge’.

papalwa a n Vodou priest. Same as oungan. From the Yoruba word ‘babalalao’ (COURLANDER).

papay la n Papaya*.

papi, papit n Dad, daddy.

papizon an n Butterfly, moth.

papiyòt la n Paper roller, curler. Cf. bigoudi.

papòt la n Threshold (of a door). Doorstep.

papou attrib Refers to one who needs a haircut badly. Ou trò papou, al kay kwafè You need a haircut; go to the barber shop.

papye a n Paper*; paper money; official legal papers*. Papye sable Sandpaperr. Papye tè Land title, title to real estate. Papye tenbre Special type of stamped, sealed paper used for official government documents. Fuse papye To sign a legal instrument such as a marriage certificate, a deed.

parabôl la n Parable*. Pale an parabôl To beat around the bush; to speak indirectly. V paroli.

parachit la n Parachute*.

parad la, laparad n Parade*.

paradi a n Heaven, paradise*.

paraj la n Neighborhood, place; vicinity.

paralize vi To paralyze*; paralyzed*.

paralizi a n Paralysis*.

paran an n Relative, kin; (rarely) parent(s).

parantay la n Family, relatives.

parapli a n Umbrella.

parapò, parapòt prep Because of.

parasòl la n Parasol*, umbrella.

paravan an n Screen, folding-screen.

parazit la n Parasite*.

pare vt 1. To ward off, to face, to extend. Cf. E. Parry*. 2. To prepare, get ready. Examples and expressions: Pare (you) hou To ward off a blow. Pare lapli To take shelter; to take cover from the rain. Tan an pare It is threatening to rain. Pare men ou Extend your hand. Pare lajan ou Get your money ready. Li pare He is ready.

parenn nan n Godfather; best man (at a wedding).

parès la n Laziness.

paresè attrib Lazy. V paresèz.

paresèz attrib Lazy (applied to females). Paresèz kon chat plenn Lazy as hell.
paresol, parasol n White manjack. Cordia sulcata DC.
parespre adv On purpose. V espre.
paret vi To appear, to seem; to show one’s self, to come on. Li pa paret tet li He did not show.
parèy Such a ...; similar, like. Li pa mante parèy ou He’s not a liar like you. San parèy Unmatched. CELESTIN-MEGIE, /1-154: Yon kokraz san parèy.
parèyman adv Likewise, the same to you (as an answer to “best wishes”). Mennman parèyman It’s the very same thing.
Pari n Paris*.
parokèt la, pèrokèt n Type of bright colored fish.
paròl la n Words, saying, statement, talk; sentence; speech. Paròl is also a Vodou term. M’pa gen de paròl I’m not two-faced. I keep my promises. Paròl gramoun lontan The sayings of long ago. The wisdom of the ages. V laparòl.
paroli, pawoli n Parable*. Pale an paroli To speak in parables.
parwas la, pawas n Parish*.
paryaj la n Bet. More pop. for pari.
parye vi & vt To bet.
pas 1 la n 1. Pass* (in sports, at cards). 2. Ford, passage* way. (fig) Situation, difficulty. Cf. E. He has come to a pretty pass*. L’ap passe yon pas (or) Li tonbe lan yon pas He’s in a bad situation.
pas 2 Granted. Pas pou de, men twa, se tròp I’ll concede you two, but three is too much.
pasab attrib Passable*, so so. Sa a man’ve pasab At least this one will do.
pasaj la, pasay n 1. Misery, annoyance; tribulation. 2. Passage*, passageway. V traka. Ala pasay pou moun kokobe What trials and tribulations the poor cripples go through. Pasaj dalyans A method for divining a guilty person by means of a ring suspended on a string (COURLANDER). Pitit la lan pasay The baby is coming out (is being born).
pasaje a, pasaje n Passenger*; fare.
pasan an n Loop (in trousers to hold the belt).
pase 1 vi 1. To pass*. 2. To lay, to put. Pase men’w sou zepló mwen Lay your hand on my shoulder. 3. To take effect (laxative). 4. To iron (clothes, hair). 5. Pase maladi To experience a sickness. 6. Pase bè sou pen To butter one’s bread. 7. To befall. 8. To sift, to sieve. 9. To give, to administer (a beating). 10. To show (a movie). vi 1. To pass, to go through. 2. To die. 3. To pass* (card game, sports). 4. To succeed (at an exam). 5. To occur, to come about, to happen. 6. To pass* by, to stop by, to go by. Examples and expressions: Pase chaple To say the rosary. Pase cheve To curl (do one’s hair with a hot instrument). Pase mizè To suffer from bad treatment or from poverty. To have a hard time. Sa kap pase? What is going on? Sa’k pase? What has happened to him? Pase nan betiz To make fun of, to ridicule. Pase pou To pass for. Yo télman sanble, youn kab pase pou lôt They resemble each other so much, that one can pass for the other. Dlo sèlman ki pou fè swaf mwen pase Only water will quench my thirst. Maladi a poko pase The sickness is not over. Pase sou sa Disregard that, pass over that. Medsin nan poko pase’l The laxative hasn’t taken effect yet. Me’grangou tèt a; konnyea grangou a pase I was hungry a moment ago; now I’m not hungry anymore. L’ap passe pa’l He’s having his troubles. Lagè sivil ameriken se you bagay ki pase lontan The American Civil War took place many years ago. Oto a pase sou li The car ran over him. M’a passe ou we ou a midi I’ll stop by to see you at noon. Pase twal mounye To mop, to dust with a wet towel. Nou pase kondisyon We came to an agreement under specific conditions. Nouis la télman fè kolè, lèt pase’l lan san The nursing mother was so angry, that the breast milk got into her blood. Pase bale 1. A method for divining a guilty person by the use of a specially prepared chair (COURLANDER). 2. To sweep.
pase 2 Past*, last. Mua pase Last month.
pase 3 conj 1. Than, more than; instead of. Pi ... pase (or) pli ... pase More ... than. M’gran pase ou I am older than you. Li gen senkant an pase He is more than fifty years old. 2. For, because. Pase pou Instead of, rather than.
pase 4 V paske
pasipala adv Here and there.
paske, pase conj Because.
paspatou a n Passkey*.
paspò a n Passport*.
paspouki Fè paspouki To play favorites. M’ap trete tout kandida yo mëm jan; m’pap fè paspouki pou pèsonn I’m going to treat all applicants in the same fashion. I’ll do no special favors.
pastè a n Parson, pastor*, (Protestant) minister.
paswa a n Strainer, sieve, colander.
payan attrib Patient*.
paysan la n Patience*.
paysans la n Patience*.
pasyante vi To be patient*. To wait patiently*.
pasyon an n Passion*. Pale san pasyon To speak impartially.
pat 1 la n Paw, foot; hand (of a banana stalk). Li mete pat men li sou tab la He puts his great big hand on the table. Grese pat To grease the palm (to bribe). Pat men Large hand, hand. Pat pye (or) Pat zago Big foot. Bay ou mouye yon pat gagann To grab s.o. by the throat. Cf. lapat.
that he would reach such heights). Also said about s.o. who is boasting about some new acquisition.

patoje vi To wallow, to splash and flounder (in puddles, mud, etc.). Patojè nan labou To splash and wallow in mud.

patojy V patrouy

patri a, lapatri n Fatherland, nation.

patriyòt la n Patriot*.


patrouy la, patousy n Patrol*. Fè patrouy To patrol*.

paveni an n Newly-rich.

paviyon an n Flag; the court of the hounfo (COURLANDER). Cf E. pavillion*.

pawëze vi To parade.

pawol V paroli


pay attrib Very light.

payas la n Straw mattress. Cf. pagliaccio*.

payaya a n Worthless, insignificant person.

paydefè a n Steel wool.

paye V anpaye

payën an n Pagan*.

payêt la n Spangle, paillette*. Bay payêt To show off to someone else.

payyal la n Fè yon payyal To take a walk. Cf. Sp. Pasear, Dominicain dialect pzial.

pe a n Altar in a Vodou temple.

pe vi To shut up, to be quiet, to hush. Pe bouch ou Shut your mouth. Pe la! Shut up!

pe "Pe" is an auxiliary form of the progressive present used in the South. Elsewhere ap, ape.

pe pa Cannot, can’t. One of the rare cases in which “pa” follows the verb.

pe a, lapè n Peace*. An pe In peace. Kite l an pe (or) Kite l tran ki Leave him alone.

pè a, lapè n Pair*, couple. Lapè pijon vann you dola A pair of pigeons sells for a dollar.


pè vt To fear, to dread. vi To be afraid, to be scared. Fè pè To frighten (s.o.). Li pa pè pop He fears nobody. Li pè kon chat He is scared as a cat.

pè savann n Bush priest.
peape  V  pezape
pèch 1 la  n  Peach*.  *Pyè pèch Peach* tree.
pèch 2  V  lapèch
peche 1 a  n  Sin.  *Fe peche To commit a sin.
pèche 2  vt & vi  To fish.
pèche a  n  1. Fisherman.  2. Sinner.
pechinen, penchennen  vt  To pinch*.  V  peche, pichkannen.
pèd la  n  Loss.  (variant of *pèt 2).  Ou lan pèd
You lost.
pedal la  n  Pedal*.
pedale  vi  To pedal*.
pedan  attrib  Pedant*, vain, pretentious braggart, show-off.
pèdi  vt  To lose.  To be lost.  *Pèdi pa To slip.  *Pèdi pye
1. Fisherman.  2. Sinner.
pechinen, penchennen  vt  To pinch*.  V  peche, pichkannen.
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1. Fisherman.  2. Sinner.
pechinen, penchennen  vt  To pinch*.  V  peche, pichkannen.
pèse 2 la n Pint* (measure).

pent 2 attrib Mottled, speckled, a type of color.  
Kòk pent Speckled rooster.

pentad la n Guinea-hen, Guinea-fowl. (fig) Shy and cowardly.

pentadin nan n A crossing between a hen and a Guinea-fowl.

penti a n Paint*; painting*.  Se papa’an penti He is a spitting image of his father.  (syn) Se papa’ krache.

pentire vt To paint*, to color.

pentle, penkle attrib Of various colors.  Kok pentle Rooster of various colors.

penyen n Combr.

penyen vt ñ vi To comb (one’s self).  Penyen lage a. To let one’s hair down.  b. To become negligent, to abandon one’s self.  (Usually applied to women who have abandoned themselves to loose morals).

pèp la n People*, populace*.

pepe Bon pepe He who pays his debts regularly.

pèpet 1 la, pètpèt, pèt n Fart.  Pèpet mayi a Popcorn.

pèpet 2 vi To fart.  Also pete.

pepinyè a n Nursery (hort).

peple vi To reproduce, to beget children, to populate*.

pere, pèrez attrib Shy (animal), timid, fearful.

pèrez la, lapèrez n Fear, phobia.

peri vi To perish*, to be destroyed, to be killed.  Denye solda yo peri nan batay la Every single soldier died in that battle.  Tout machandiz yo peri nan batiman ki oule a All merchandise was lost in the boat that sank.  M’ap peri, mwen sou kont ou Things are really bad, I am in your hands.  I am counting on you for help.

perik la n Wig.  Also fo cheve.

peripesi a n Hardship.

peristil la, perestil n The roofed court of the hounfò (COURLANDER).

pèrokèt V parokèt

peròl la n Payroll*.

peron an n Stoop (floor of a porch).  Pòv yo chita sou peron legiz la The poor sit on the church steps.

peryòd la n Period* (time, menstruation).  Ou vin nan you move peryòd  You came at a bad time.

pès la n Malicious (person).  Pest*.  V lapès.

pèse vt To pierce*, to penetrate; to bore, to drill (hole).  Pèse zorèy To pierce one’s ears.  vi 1. To become noticeable, to be on the way up.  Nèg sa a pa vle we nèg pèse  This man does not like to see another man make progress.  2. To appear, to arrive.  Soley la pèse  The sun appeared.

pésekison an n Persecution*.

pésekite vt To persecute*.

pésepté a n Tax collector.

pèsi a n Parsley*.  Petroselinum sativum Hoffm.

pèsestan attrib Stubborn, insistent, persistent*.

pèsistans la n Persistence*.  Ak pèsistans Persistently*.

pèsistè V To persist*.

pèson n Person*.  Se you bòn pèson She is good-natured.  An pèson Personally.

pèsonaj la, pèsonnay n An elderly person* of distinction, personage*.

pèsonalite a n Personality*.  Li san pèsonalite He has no personality.  He is a weak character.

pèsonèl attrib Personal*.  Egotistical.

pèsonn 1 indef adj No, not any (human being).  Pèsonn moun Not a soul, nobody.

pèsonn 2 indef pron Nobody, anybody; no person*.  Pa pèsonn No one.  M’ale lot bo a m’rape pòt la, pèsonn pa repom I went to the other side, I knocked on the door, nobody answered.

pèsonnay V pèsonnaj

pèsuade, pèswade vt To persuade*, to convince.

pèsyén nan, plasyén n Venetian blind.

pèt 1 la V pèpet la

pètè 2 la, pèd n Loss.  Myò pèt  I lost money (on the deal).

pèt 3 Nothing, not at all.  Li pa pèt doktè  He is no physician at all.  M’pap ba’l pèt  I will give him nothing.

peta a n Fire-cracker, petard*.  Se pa peta!  It is no trifling matter!  How nice!  Wow!  Tire peta To shoot fire-crackers.

petadò a n A person who farts often.

petas tisale a n Salt pork.

pete vt 1. To break.  2. To flatter, to fool, to cheat, to deceive.  vi 1. To burst out ... (doing something), to start.  Pete danse  To start dancing.  2. To fart.  3. To burst, to explode, to break.  Examples and expressions:  Pete fjal To crush (s.o.), to kill.  Pa pete fjal ou lan travay Do not kill yourself by working too hard.  Kòd la pete  The rope broke.  Pete achtè  To cheat a purchaser.  Je pete Blind person.  Pete moun nan juvèt To cheat at games.  Pete kriye  To burst into tears.  Pete hou To break one’s neck.  Pete je  To cause s.o. to become blind.
petè a n Inveigler; one who lies convincingly.

petèt adv Perhaps, maybe. San di petèt Without a doubt, most certainly.

petevi a n Weakening, sickly; completely lacking in energy. Sa'l sable? L'ap mache tankou you petevi Look at that man? He looks like he is going to fall any minute.


petri vt To knead, to squeeze.

petro n Type of Vodou rite; dance rhythm. V rada, kongo.

pèvè attrib Perverse*.

pèvèsyon an n Perversion*.

pèvèti vt To corrupt, to pervert*.

pèy la n Pay*, wage. Li se move pèy He is a bad pay; he does not pay his debts.

pèye vt & vi To pay*. L'a pèye ou le poul fè dan He will pay you when a hen grows teeth, i.e. never. Fè pèye trop To overcharge. Fè pèye To charge. Pèye trop To overpay.

pèyè a n Payer*.

pèyi a n Country, district, region, fatherland. Nan pèyi pedí In the (uncivilized) wilderness. Peyi frèt All is calm. Se moun pèyi'm He is my countryman. Peyi san chapo Land of the dead. As an adj. it means ‘domestic’ as opposed to foreign. Diri pèyi Domestic rice.

pèyizan an n Peasant*, farmer (Rare). The common word is abitan*.

pèz la n 1. Weight. 2. Scale.

pezape, peape Little by little.

pezè vb 1. To weigh; to squeeze; to press. 2. To hold down. Ou se moun mwen epi ou ap pezè'm After all, you are my friend; and still, you are going against me. Banann peze Pressed, fried bananas. vi To weigh; to be heavy. Pèze lou To be heavy. “Pèze” sometimes is used in conjunction with another verb to indicate continuous effort or ardor in performing the action mentioned in that other verb. Pèze desann To hurry down. Peze monte To hurry upwards.

pezib attrib Peaceful*.

pèzlèt la n Milk-tester (instrument).

pi ¹ a n Pus*.

pi ² attrib Pure*.

pi ³ V pui

pi ⁴, pli adv More. ‘Pi’ is used pretonically and usually precedes an adjective or an adverb. Ban’m youn ki pi chè Give me one that is more expensive. An’n ale pi lwen Let us go farther. Liv ou a pi gro pase pa’m nan Your book is bigger than mine. Pi bon Better. Pi mal Worse.

pi ⁵ adv Most, the most. Se li ki pi entelijan lan tout He is the most intelligent of all of them.

piblik attrib Public*, official. Word identifying taxis.

piblisite a n Publicity*.

pibiye vt To publish*, to make public.

pichkannen, piskannen, piskanyen vt To pinch*. Ti jan piskannen Mari nan bra Johnny pinched Mary on the arm. Cf. pechinen.


pichpich Li gen je pichpich His eyes are usually seen almost closed, as if squinting.

pidè a n San pidè Shameless.

pidemi V epidemi

pifò Most, the majority.

piga ¹, pinga (Negative auxiliary of the imperative) Don’t, be careful not to... Pinga ou buè tafia Do not drink liquor. Ou di fi a move paròl. Pinga! You said bad words to the girl. Don’t. Beware!

piga ², pinga Watch out for, look out for. Pin ga jandam Watch out for the police. Pinga pikan Be careful of the thorns. Mete (you moun) sou pinga’l To give (s.o.) a warning. Cf. prigad.

pigaseren an n Type of poison which is supposed to take effect in case the person who has taken it goes out at night (folklore).

pij la n Laxative. (Rare) Usual word is “medsin”.

pijama a n Pijama*.

pijè ¹, prije vt To act as a laxative. More common is”pase”.

pijè ² v prije

pjon an n Pigeon*, dove. ‘Pjon’ has also the meaning of male organ (particularly that of a young boy), ‘birdie’.


pik ² In the expression “e pik” = - and some. Sp.

pikan an n Thorn, bramble; stinger (of a bee); sharp bones of fish, bristle. Pyebwa a gen pikan; pa moute li The tree has thorns, do not climb it. Pikan kwenna Types of common thorn.

pîke ¹ vt 1. To pick*; to sting, to bite (insects); to stab, to stick, to prick; to burn (as when you put alcohol on a wound); to make s.o. itch; to prickle. Bab ou pike’l Your beard pricks her. Pike yon kriz To throw a fit, to have an attack (of anger). Vant mwen ap pike’m I feel a sharp pain in my stomach. Pa gen plas pou pike zepeng The
place is filled to capacity. *vi* 1. To go into a dive (airplane); to swoop down (sou, on). 2. To hurry to, to go in a hurry to. *M'pike kay papa'm I hurried to my father's house.* 3. To go. *Li pike devan He went towards the front.* 4. To burst out, to start to. *Timoun nan pike kriye le li pa we manman'! The child started to bawl when he did not see his mother.*


pikèt la n Stake. Post, picket ⁵, a pointed wooden or bamboo stake sharpened on one end. Also: A piece of sharpened bamboo or hard wood; its point is dipped into poison, and it is placed in the ground, sharpened end up (COURLANDER).

pik a n Shot, injection.

pikliz la n Hot pepper dressing. The word comes from E. Pickles ².

pikotman an n Itch; pungent pain on the side.

pikwa a n Pick-axe ⁸, mattock.

pil la n 1. Heap, pile ¹, stack. *Fè pil To heap up, to pile up, to cluster, to assemble.* *Yo vann sel pa pil They sell salt in piles.* *Pil sou pil Piled up.* *Yon gro pil... A big pile of... Yon pil A lot of.* 2. Battery (for flashlights, toys, etc.).

pile *vt* To step on, to stomp on, to tread, to trample, to crash; to pound, to grind into mortar; to peel, husk. *Toutmoun pile li atè a Everybody stepped over him.*

pilil la n Pilr*. 


pillonnen *vt* To stomp one’s feet on, to tread on (someone’s foot) vigorously. Cf. pile.

pilot la n Pilot*.

pileye a n Pillar*, pole. *Pileye gason = poto mitan A big strong man.*

piman an n Hot pepper, chili pepper, Cayenne pepper, Capsicum annuum L. *Piman dou Green pepper.* Other types of piman: piman bouk, piman zwazo, piman sanba, etc.

pimantad la n Hot sauce made with hot pepper, vinegar, etc.

pimpe *vt* To send, to fling. *Lè ou rive lakay ou, pimpe liv la ban mwen When you get to your house, send me the book right away.* *Li pa ve travay, mwen pimpe'l lakay li He did not want to work, so I sent him home.*


pine V bwa pini

pinèz la n Bed-bug, bug.

pinga V piga

pingpong nan n Ping-pong*.

pini ¹ *vt* 1. To punish*. 2. To dare, to defy.

pini ² V bwa pini

pinisyon an n Punishment*.

pip la n Pipe*. *Li pa vo pip tabak It is not worth snuff.*

pipi ¹ a n Urine; peeppee*. *Blad pipi Bladder.*

pipi ² *vi* To urinate, to pee, to piss, to make peeppee*. Also *pise, irinen, fe pipi.*

pipich la n Word used by children to designate the male organ. Birdie.


pipit la n Penis.

pire ¹ a n Puree*, mash.

pire ² *vt* To squeeze (lemon, blister).

pirouli a n Lolly-pop.

pirwèt la, piwèt la n Pirouette*, turn, movement.

pirwete, piwete *vi* To make pirouettes*, to turn and turn.

pis la n Flea. *Long kou ke pis Just a little bit more, and _ by a hair’s breadth. Long kou ke pis, li tap tonbe lan trou a He barely missed falling into that hole.*

pisannit la n One who wets his bed.

pisans V suisans

pise *vi* To piss*, urinate. *Tèt mwen frape nan mi an; li pise san My head banged against the wall; it was spurting blood.*

pisin nan n Swimming pool.

piske V puiske

piskèt la n Tiny fish found in some areas of Haiti, for instance the South.

pistach la n Peanut, Arachis Hypogaea L. *Pye pistach Peanut vine.* V pistach dézend.

pistach dézend la n Panama tree. Stereculia apetala (Jacq.) Karst. Huge tree which produces a nut reminding one of a peanut.

pistole a n Pistol*.

piston an n 1. Piston*. 2. Influence, pull, a helping hand. *Jak gen anpil piston Jack has many influential people who will put in a good word for him.* V mannigèt. 3. Penis.

pistonnen *vt* To promote, to sponsor, to put in a good word for.

piswa a n Urinal.
pita Later

piten an n Whore (rare).

piti attrib Small, little, slight, meager, thin, lean. V ti. Pou pi piti For at least. Piti piti Little by little, gently, quietly, gradulally; very small. Pi piti Younger, less, lesser, feaster. Before a noun, usually “t”. You ti A bit of, some. Ban’im you ti glas Give me a little ice. Vin pi piti To lessen, to decrease, to become smaller.

pitimi an, ptimi, timi n Millet*. Pitimi chandél Type of pitimi. Pitimi san gado A person without a protector, such as a woman without a husband. (syn) of chen san mêt.


Piti 1 vt To prefer. M’pito rete I prefer to stay. M’ta pito dòmi I would rather go.

pito 2 It is preferable that; it is better to. Pito ou vini It is better that you come. It is preferable that you come.

pituit la n Continuous sneezing, catarrh.

pitye a n Pity*

piwèt V piwèt

piwete V piwete

piyajè a n Looter, pillager*, one who grabs anything he can get his hands on.

piyay la n Pillage*, looting; free for all. Te gen piyay lavil la There was looting in the city. Piyay! Here it is! Come and get it! (Said when someone comes and brings a lot of goodies and he throws them up in the air, and they are for the grabbing). Cf. E. pillage. Yo di ou se piyay m’ap bay? Did they tell you it was all free or that I was giving it away? Ou acthe bèl soule sa a pou ven dola? Se piyay You bought those beautiful shoes for twenty dollars? It is a bargain. Tét chòv bay kwafè piyay A bald head is a boon to the barber.

piye vt To loot, to rob, to plunder; to pilfer, sack, steal. Pillage*. vi To aim and throw in order to see who goes first (games of marbles, jacks, etc.). Vin piye Let us see who goes first.

pla a n Platter*, dish; (food).

plafon an n Ceiling.

plafonnen vt To put on a ceiling.
plasaj la, plasay n Common law marriage, common-cubinage. System whereby a man hooks up with a woman or different women (whether he be married or not) and they live as man and wife, without the benefit of clergy.

plasdam nan, plas la n Town square.

plase vt To place*. M’plase lajan’m alenterè labank I deposit my money in the bank in an interesting-bearing account. Plase you mo To put a word in.

plase (a)ki vi To find a place for a woman in a house, and live with her, and bear her expenses (without benefit of clergy). Li plase ak yon fann He is shocking up with a woman (as his concubine). V plasaj.

plasman an, anplasman n Location, lot.

plastè a n (Mustard) plaster*. V anplat.

plastik la n Plastic*.

plat la n Plate*, plateful of food, tray. Li nan plat li He is in his own ballfield, things are looking good for him.

plat n Plaster*, plaster* cast.

plat* attrib Flat; shallow. Kouch plat Horizontal.

platfòm nan n Platform*. Platfòm soulye Inner sole of a shoe.

plati vt To flatten, to even off.

platin nan n 1. Hotplate (e.g. for preparing cassava). 2. Platinum*.


platon an n Plateau*.

plè vt To please*. Ou pa kab plè toutmoun You can’t please everybody.

plèd la n Competition. Fé plèd To compete.

plieday la n Competition. Fé, leve pleyay To compete.

plede vt 1. To plead*, to argue (you kòz a case). 2. “Pled” plus infinitive equals “to keep on (and on) doing something, to repeat it, to continuously do it. Pledé pèdi To keep on losing.


plen vt To fill. Full, satiate(d); full of, covered. Plen kòk sou pye kòk la The coconut tree is full of fruit.

plenn 1 attrib With calf, pregnant (said of animals, whereas “gròs” and “ansent” are used for women). Plenn lin Full moon.

plenn 2 nan, laplenn n Plain*, lowland.

plent la n 1. Moaning. Pouse plent To moan. 2. Complaint*. M’ap pote plent ba ou I am complaining to you. Pote plent (kont) To bring a charge (against), to lodge a complaint.

plenyadò a n Habitual complainer.

plenyen vt To complain*, to lament. M’pa renmen rete kote moun kap plenyen tout tan I do not like to stay with people that are always grumbling.

pleresi a, plirizi n Pleurisy*.

plét, plèti Yes! (in answer to a call). Here I am. V eti. Lan lakou madan plét An imaginary place where people are well informed. Se gran tif lan lakou madan plét This girl knows more about life than you think.

plezante vi To joke, to jest, to kid.

plezantri a n Joke, pleasantry*. Fé plezantri To joke, to jest.

plezi a n Pleasure*.

pli 1 V pi

pli 2 a n 1. Fold, crease. Tigason sa a fin pran move pli This boy has acquired bad habits. Kat pli mare lan fron’l He is frowning (or) he knits his brow in anger. Yo ba’l yon pli makak They thrashed him for good. 2. Wrinkle.

pliche vt To brandish, to pull out, to unsheathe, to hold, to take hold of. Pliche’m lajan’m Fork over the money! (syn) Kale’m lajan’m.

plim nan n 1. Feather, fleece, hair (on the body), pubic hair. Plim chen Dog’s hair. Plim pa gouye Not a hair moves. All is quiet. Plim je Eyelashes. M’pa fe yon plim I did not score; I came empty-handed. 2. The (writing) pen. Bwa plim Penholder. Ti plim Steel pen (point). Plim a rezèvwa Fountain pen.

plimatwa a n Writer.

plimay la n Plumage*.

plimeank Educated.

plimen vt 1. To pluck (feathers); to skin, to peel, to shell. Plimen poul a. To pluck the feathers of a chicken. b. To take advantage of a situation. 2. To go to bed with, to copulate, to have intercourse with, to screw.

plimo a n 1. Feather duster. 2. Powder-puff.

pliri V plerezi

plis 1, piplis adv More, beyond, further, plus*. (Usually it precedes nouns and follows verbs). Ou ba’l plis You gave him more. Nou vie plis lajan We want more money. Plis pase More than. Senk plis de Five plus two. Sa a yo pese plis These weigh more. An plis In excess, besides.
plis \textsuperscript{2}, pi plis \textit{adv} The most. \textit{Nan twa elèv sa yo, se Andre ki etidyè plis} Of these three pupils, it is Andrew who studies the most.

plis \textsuperscript{3} ... plis \textit{The more ... the more.}

plise \textit{vt} To plait, pleat, quill. To fold; to wrinkle. \textit{Figi'l plise} His face is wrinkled.

pliske \textit{V puiske}

pliyé \textit{vt} To bend, to fold, to crease. Folded, creased. \textit{Pliyé let la byen pou mete'l nan anvlop} Fold the letter well to put it in the envelope. \textit{Pa ekri let ak paþye sa a; li pliyé} Do not write a letter on this paper, it is wrinkled. \textit{V ploye.}

plizyè \textit{indef adj} Several, many, various, some.

plòg la \textit{n} Plug*

plöge \textit{vt} 1. To plug* in. \textit{vi} 1. To hold tightly while dancing.

plon an \textit{n} Lead (metal). Bullet. \textit{Plon gaye} Buck-shot. \textit{Liayplon} Plumb* line\textsuperscript{e}.

plonbe \textit{vt} To fill (a tooth). Word also used in the game of marbles.

plonje \textit{vi} 1. To fall into, to dive, to dip, to plunge.* 2. To dip, to immerse.

plop plop \textit{adv} Quickly, fast, in a jiffy.

plòt \textit{1 n} A roll (or) a ball (of thread). \textit{M'achte yon plòt fil pou'm monte kap} I bought a ball of string to fly my kite.

plòt \textit{2 n} A small pile of mud.

plotonnay la \textit{n} Mixing of people, things; fusing.

plotonnen \textit{vt} To roll up, to reel in, to wind (thread, string). To wrap (around).

ploum \textit{A la ploum} In the (special) Fachsprache of the cockpit, matching one’s cock “alaploum” (thread, string). To wrap (around).

ploum \textit{a la ploum} In the (special) Fachsprache of the cockpit, matching one’s cock “alaploum” (thread, string). To wrap (around).

ploum \textit{a la ploum} In the (special) Fachsprache of the cockpit, matching one’s cock “alaploum” (thread, string). To wrap (around).

ployme \textit{vt} To bend (over), to fold. V pliyé.


po \textit{2 a, pòt la} \textit{n} Pitcher, pot*, vase. \textit{Po flè Flower pot*. Pòt tè Earthen pot.}

pò a \textit{n} Harbor, port*.

poban an \textit{n} Small bottle, jar, flask, vial. Slang: Head, person. \textit{You ti poban luil pa kont pou fe manje a} That little oil container is not enough to cook that meal.

pobèm \textit{V problèm}


pochen \textit{V prochen}

podyab, pòv dyab \textit{What a pity! Poor devil!}

poèm nan, pwèm \textit{n} Poem*.

pofesè \textit{V profesè}

pofite \textit{V profite}

poje a, po je \textit{n} Eyelid. \textit{Li mouri pou poje’l} He died for nothing.

pòk \textit{Paralyzed, crippled (hand). Li gen men pòk His hands are paralyzed.} (The word is also used in the game of marbles).

pokè a \textit{n} Poker* (card game).

poko, panko, pako, ponko \textit{Not yet; not ... yet. Pat ko (past tense). Ou poko tande sa? Have you not heard it already? Lè nou te rive, midi pat ko sonnen When we arrived, it was not yet noon.}

poli \textit{1 vt} To polish*, to smooth.

poli \textit{2 attrib Polite*.

polis la \textit{n} Policeman*.

politès la, lapolitès \textit{n} Politeness*.

politik \textit{1 la} \textit{n} Politics*.

politik \textit{2 attrib Political*.

politisyen an \textit{n} Politician*.

polyo a \textit{n} Polio*.

pòm \textit{1 nan, pomm} \textit{n} Apple. \textit{Chou a fe pomm} The cabbage has grown into a round head.

pòm \textit{2 kajou a} \textit{n} Cashew Apple. Anacardium occidentale L.

pòm \textit{3 lyann nan} \textit{n} A yellow fruit the size of an almond or plum, full of seeds, which are sucked and taste like grenadines, to which they are relat-ed.

pòm \textit{3 malkadi a} \textit{n} Tiny fruit the size of a cherry, (edible) but not a delicacy.

pomad la, ponmad la \textit{n} Ointment, pomade*.

pòmdetè a, ponmè \textit{n} Potato. Solanum tuberosum, L. \textit{Pòmdetè fri} French fries.


ponko \textit{V poko}
ponm  V  pòm
ponmad  V  pomad
ponmen  vi  To blow up, to inflate.  To grow to a head.  Chou a ponmen  The cabbage has grown into a round head.  Ou ponmen kon flè  You are filling up like a flower.
ponmkêt  la  n  Cupcake.  (Round, flat cake made of flour, eggs, milk, sugar, baking powder, can-nelle, cinnamon, and baked in a buttered pan).  Cf.  E.  plum cake*.
ponn  vi  &  vt  To lay eggs; to be setting.  M'fè ou ponn  I socked it to you,  I got you.
ponp  la  n  Pump*.
ponp  gazolin  nan  n  Gas* station.
ponpadò  attrib  Stamping (to beat the ground forcibly).  You chwal ponpadò  A horse that likes to jump up and down as if buckjumping.  V  ponpe.
ponpe  vt  1. To draw (water from a pump*).  2. To inflate a tire, to pump* air into it.  vi  1. To jump up and down (for joy, out of anger, etc.).  2. To buckjump (horses).  3. To gash (blood, water, etc.).
ponponm  Promenade*, walk.  Fè you ti ponponm  To take a walk.  V  prommad.
ponpye  a  n  Fireman.  Kanyon ponpye  Firetruck.
ponya  a,  pwaya  a  n  1. Dagger.  Nèg sa a se you pona  This man is a bluffer, you cannot confide in him.  2. A usurious loan.  M'pral pran you pona  I am going to get a loan at an usurious rate.  Afè'm pa bon, m'bezwen you pona  Business is not good, I need a loan shark.  Cf.  E.  poniard.
ponyade  vt  To stab.
ponyen  1  an  n  Handful.
ponyen  2  vt  To grab (by handfuls).
ponyèt  la  n  Wrist.  Touse ponyèt  To roll up one's sleeves (and get ready for work).  Bat laponyèt  To masturbate.
ponyèt la  n  Eyelid.
pooro a,  pwaro  n  Leek.  Allium porrum L.
Port-au-Prince  V  Pòtòprens
pòs la  n  Police station.  N'apral nan pòs  We are going to the police station.  Fè pòs  To stand guard.
pon  V  pòn
posede  vt  To own, possess*.
posesyon  V  prosesyon
posèvèbal  V  prosèvèbal
posib  attrib  Possible*.  Sa pa posib ditou  It is out of the question.
pòslèn  nan  n  Porcelain*, china.
poste  vt  To mail, to post* (letter), to post* (sentry).
postim  nan  n  Pus.
posyon  an  n  Potion*.
pòsyon  an  n  Portion*, part.
pot  Shortened form for pote.  It can never end a sentence.  Pot lie la pou mwen  Bring me that book.  Carry the book for me.
Pòt  la  n  Door.  Port*.  Pòt an pòt  From door to door.  Pòtakoulis  Sliding door.
potèl  la,  potay  la  n  Entrance, portal*, gate.
pottanta  a  n  Potentate*.
potao  a  n  Jug (for water).
potchay  la  n  Luggage rack, trunk (of cars).
pòte  a  n  Litter.
pote,  pòte,  pot  vt  To carry, to have, to bring.  Pote bagay sa a ban mwen  Bring that thing to me.  Pote'l tounen ba yo  Bring it back to them.  Pote bagay sa a a ban mwen  Bring it back to them.
postim  nan  n  Portion*, part.
potakoulis  n  Sliding door.
postim  nan  n  Porcelain*, china.
poporto  a  n  Fireman.  Kanyon ponpye  Firetruck.
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Port-au-Prince  V  Pòtòprens
pòs la  n  Police station.  N'apral nan pòs  We are going to the police station.  Fè pòs  To stand guard.
Pòtoprens Port-au-Prince, capital of Haiti.
potorik attrib Strong, hefty. You potorik gason A big, strong, hefty man.
pònplim nan n Penholder.
pònray la n Chest. You pònray gason A big, strong man.
pòtre a n Snapshot, picture, photo. Portrait*. MORISSEAU-LOREY/D-12: Pa pran pòtre bèt mwen Do not photograph my animal. 2. Like, in the manner of. L’ap ri pòtre yon idyo He is laughing like an idiot.
pou 1 a n Louse. Pou bwa Woodlouse.
pou 2 a n Pulse*. Dokti a pran poul The physician took his pulse.
pou 3 prep For, for the benefit of, s’ (possession), as for, for the sake of. Lamèt sa se sòt è pou set è The mass is from six to seven o’clock. Sa a pou mwen This one belongs to me. Se pou li m’fè sa 1 did it for his sake. Pou di... Is it possible that, would you say that... Pou sa Because of it, on account of it.
pou 4 conj So that, in order that.
pou 5 dan anri, pou dan ri For a trifle, for nothing.
pou 6 grannesi In vain; for nothing.
poubwa a n Tip (gratuity).
pouchen V pousen
poud la, lapoud n Powder*; gunpowder. Poud kafe Ground coffee. Poud elevasyon Yeast; baking powder. Poud mache prese Magical powder.
poudayè, pou dayè Besides. Cf. dayè.
poubwa a, poul bwa a n Termite.
pouding nan n Pudding*.
poudre vi To powder*. Pye poudre Wanderer, one who likes to walk, who never sits down; he is always on the move (go).
poudriye a n Powder* box.
pouf attrib Flabby, fluffy, soft.
pouki interrog adv Why.
poukisa interrog adv Why. Cf. pouki.
poukò, pou kò In “poukò’m, poukò’l”, etc. alone, by one’s self.
poukont, pou kont In “poukont mwen, poukont li”, etc. alone, by one’s self.
poul 1 la n Hen, fowl, chicken. Manman poul Hen. Ti poul Chick. Poul pa chante devan kòk When the rooster is around, the hens cannot cackle. People must bow to authority. Lè poul va fè dan Never (when hens grow teeth). M’wètè poul mwen I got myself out of a bad situation. Mouri poul To take it easy, to hide one’s time. M’ap mouri poul mwen annatan dan m’fè diferaman I am biding my time before I do anything else. An nou chape poul nou Let us get out of here quickly, and save our skin. Poul pent A black and bespeckled hen. Poul kaye (Ennery) A hen of two different colors. Kite’l ale. L’ap (re)tounen. Se poul koy Let her go. She will come back. She belongs here.
poul 2 la n Answers to questions obtained by cheating during an exam. Pran poul To obtain the answers. Bay poul To give them.
poulajoli a n Heron. Nan rebò riyè Lenbe a te gen poulajoli ki tap flammen At the edge of the river at Limbe there were herons sauntering about.
poulaye a n 1. Chicken-house, hen-roost. 2. The top-most section of a theatre where the cheapest seats are. Cf. It. piccionaja.
poulalo a, poul dlo a n Coot.
poul en n Colt, stallion.
pouèt la n Pullet*, hen, chicken, young chick; girl.
pouli a n Pulley*.
poulich la n Filly (young mare).
poumouye, pou mouye n Coward.
poulpoul la n Chicken flea.
poum nan n Fart. (Polite form) V pete.
poum an n Lungs. (Pulmonary*).
poupe V pope
poupou 1 a n Shit, excrement, bowel movement, poopoo*. Fè poupe To defecate. V kaka.
poupou 2 vt To shit, to defecate.
poupye V koupye
pouri vi To rot, to decay; to spoil. vt To corrupt. Rotten; spoiled, corrupted, perverted; infested. Cf. E. Putrid*. Chez la pouri ak pinèz The chair is infested with bed bugs. Tigason sa a fin pouri This is a spoiled child; he knows so many dirty things.
pouriti a n Decay. An pouriti Putrid*. Yo pa metè sel ak pwann nan cyan nan, li an pouriti They did not put salt and pepper on the meat; it has gone bad.
pouryanis la, pouryanis n Free from care, unmindful, unconcerned person.
pouryen an n Unmindful, free from care, unconcerned person.
pous la n Thumb; inch; a bit. Also Gro pous Thumb. M’se gro pous I am separate and distinct; I will not get involved.
pousad la n Push*, shove.
pousade vt To push*, to shove.
pousan Percent*.
pran vt 1. To push* (away). 2. To urge, to induce, to incite. Pouse dife To sow disension. 
vi To grow, to come out (plant). Mayi a pa pouse The corn (plant) did not grow.
pousen an, poushen an n Chick.
pouso a n Pig. Cf. E. porker*.
pousuiv, pouswiv, poussiv vt To pursue*, to go after, to follow, to make (go) after, to persecute.
pousyè a n Dust.
poutan conj Nevertheless, however.
poutèt 1 prep Because of, due to, on account of, owing to; for the sake of.
poutèt 2 conj Because, since.
pouvi Provided, so long as. V depi.
pouwva a n Power*.
pòv, pò attrib Poor*, beggar. Pò pitiit Poor child. Podyab, pò dyab Poor devil, what a shame! What a pity! Moun pòv Poor folks. “Pòv” may be used an an adj. or as a noun. Pòv tifi a, papa'l mouri Poor child, her father died.
powèt la n Poet*.
pòy 1 la n Cigarette butt (or) stub.
pòy 2 la n 1. Fighting cock, game cock. 2. Match, equal. Li pi piti pase ou, li pa pòy ou He is smaller than you, he is no match for you.
pòy 3 la n The milk which remains in the cow's teat after milking.
pòy 4 la n Core (of a boil). The central mass of narcotic tissue.
pòz 1 la n Stop, halt, rest, pause*. Pran you pòz To take a rest.
pòz 2 la n Attitude, pose*, posture. Li pran pòz gran nèg He is putting on airs like a big shot.
poze 1, repoze vi To rest, to repose.
pozisyon an n Place; position*. San pozisyon Anxious, restless. Fè pozisyon To settle down, to take a spouse. Cf. plase.
pozitif adv Just (now) positively* yes (pop).
pral V prale 
prale, pral To be going to. M'pral legli I am going to church.
pran vt 1. To take, to get, to seize, to choose, to catch. vi 1. To copulate, to have intercourse. 2. Used together with another verb to express the durative of the verb which follows: to begin to, to start. Li pran ri He burst out laughing.

pran ak de bra To welcome with open arms. Pran kote (or) pran bo kote To take after. Pran plèzi To enjoy. Pran ranseyman To inquire. Pran bòt To dismiss summarily. Pran responsabilite To assume responsibility. Pran revanch To get revenge. Pran vwa To imitate (s.o.'s voice). N'ap pran Mòn Tapyon talè We will arrive at the Tapyon mountain in a moment.

M'pa pran nan ti plan konsa I will not be taken in (by that scheme, trick). Plan sa a pap pran That scheme will not work. Ki bò ou ap pran? Where are you going? Pran you moun fé fas To fool somebody. To make fun of s.o. Pran you je baton To receive a thrashing. Pran you moun pou you lòt To mistake s.o. for s.o. else. Nenpòt sa li fé ou, se rete pran Whatever he does to you, you have to take it. Pran men ou avèm Get in line, conform yourself, do not fool around with me. Yo pran danse They started to dance. Ble pa pran isnit Wheat will not grow here. Yo pran'lan nan pòyè They caught him in a trap.

pratik la n (Regular) customers, clientele, patient, client; dealer. (adj) Practical*, handy. Fè pratik (ak) To deal regularly with s.o.; to establish a buyer-seller relationship on a regular basis.

pray (syn) (North) pral = To be going to.

pre 1, prè, pwe prep Close to, near; against. (adv) Close, near. Tou pre (quite) Close, quite near. De pre Closely. Lè m'gade'l de prè When I looked at him at close range. Ou pa sanble'l de prè ni de lwen You don't resemble him at all.

pre 2, prè, pwe attrib Ready. Mwen pre pou nenpòt ki bagay I am ready for anything. Ayon an pre pou pati The plane is ready for departure.

pré a n Loan (rare). V ponya.

prèch la n Sermon.

preche vt To preach*.
predi vt To predict*, to foretell.
predikatè a n Preacher*.
prefè a n Prefect*.
preférs la n Preference*. De preférs Rather.
prefere vt To prefer*. The ordinary word is “pito”.

prejije a n Prejudice*. Fè prejije (kont) To discriminate (against).

prékosyon an n Precaution*, caution*. Pran prékosyon To look out.

prela V pwela

premye 1, prenmye, premyè First, eldest. Cf. E. Premier* (minister). Se premyè fwa It is the first time.

premyè a n Inner sole (shoe).

premyèman adv First, in the first place.
prenè a  n  Taker, buyer.  M’jwenn you prenè pou kay la  I found a buyer for the house.
prenon an  n  First name, baptismal name.
prens la  n  Prince*.
prensès la  n  Princess*.
prensip la  n  Principle*. Habit, custom.
preparasyon an  n  Preparation*.
preparatwa  attrib  Preparatory*. Li lan klas preparatwa  He is in a preparatory class.
prepare  vt  To prepare*; make ready.  Prepare ou Make yourself ready, get ready.  V pare.
prepoze a  n  Tax collector, revenue agent.
près pou  V prêt pou
presbîtê a  n  Rectory, parsonage, presbytery*.
prese  vt  To press* (clothes).  vi 1. To hurry, to be in a hurry, to rush.  Mache prese  To walk hurriedly.  Prese pati  To hurry to leave, to go in a hurry.  Prese (pou)  To be anxious (to), to be eager (to).  Fé prese  To rush.
presipsis la  n  Precipice*.
presizeman  adv  Precisely*.
presizyon an  n  Precision*, accuracy.
préske  adv  Almost.
preskri  vt  To prescribe*.
preskripsyon an  n  Prescription*.
prestij la  n  Prestige*.
presyon an  n  1. Pressure*, press*, stress.  Fé presyon sou  To exert (put) pressure on someone.  2. Gripper (button), snap.  Also bouton presyon.
prêt pou, pwèt pou, près pou  About to, close to.  Li pat prèt ni pretann pou marye  She was in no way ready to marry.
pretann  vi  To claim, to pretend*, to contend.  Li pretann di  He says (that is his version).
pretansye  attrib  Vain, proud, conceited, haughty, pretentious*.
pretansyon an  n  Pretension*.
prete  vt  To lend; to borrow (without specifying to whom or from whom).  Prete (nan men)  To borrow (from).  Nou prete senk dola lan men yo  We borrowed five dollars from them.  Nou prete yo senk dola  We lent them five dollars.  Mande prete  To ask for a loan.  Ofri prete  To offer to lend.
preêks la  n  Pretext*, pretense.
prèv la  n  Proof*, evidence.

prevnans la  n  Kindness, consideration, attention.  Fé you moun yon prevnans  To do s.o. a special kindness (unexpectedly).
prevni  vt  To notify (in advance), forewarn.
prevwa  vt  To forecast, foresee.
prevyen  De ki prevyen  What caused it?  (or) What is the origin of it?
prezan  attrib  Present*.
prezans la  n  Presence*.
prezantab  attrib  Presentable*.
prezantasyon an  n  Presentation*.
prezante  vt  To present*, introduce.  vi 1. To show up.  2. Byen prezante  To make a good appearance.  Mal prezante  To make a bad appearance.
prezidan an  n  President*. Chairperson, chairman.
pri 1  a  n  1. Price*, cost, value, charge, rate.  2. Prize*.  3. Fare (taxi, bus, etc.).  Fé pri  To bring a good price (a merchandise).  Fé pri, fé jis pri  To give a better price, (for merchandise).
pri 2  Caught, trapped, taken.  Ou pri  You are done for.
priday  attrib  Prudent*, cautious.
pridans la  n  Prudence*.  Ak pridans  Cautiously.
prigad, pringad  Warning.  Bay prigad  To give a warning.  Mete yon moun sou pringad li  To warn s.o.
prije, piye  vt  To squeeze, to mash.  Si papa ou pran ou, li va piye ou tankou zoranj  If your father catches you, he will mash you like an orange.
prim nan  n  Premium* (cut) taken by the owner of a gambling establishment or place.
primè  attrib  Primary* (school).
prin nan  n  Plum, prune*.
pringad  V prigad
prive  attrib  Private*.
privilèj la  n  Privilege*.
privye a, prevey a  n  1. Fish net.  2. Sparrow hawk.  V malfini.
prive  To pray; to beg fervently, request ardently.  M’priye ou an gras  I sincerely beg you, please.
priyè a, lapriyè  n  Prayer*; prayer meeting.  Bay priyè  To argue for or in behalf of, to sweet-talk, to try to convince with nice words.  L’ap fl (di) you ti priyè  He is saying a prayer.  He is praying.  Li bay fi a priyè pou l sa bon  He sweet-talked the girl in order to seduce her.  Pran priyè  To give in to s.o.’s request or insistence.
priz la  n  1. Electric socket.  2. Priz tabak  Pinch of snuff.  3. Hold.  Gen priz sou  To have a hold on.
**prizon an** n Jail, prison*.  *Mete lan prizon* To imprison*, to jail, to incarcerate, to put away.  *Pran prizon* To go to prison.

**prizonye a, prizonnye a** n Prisoner*, convict.

**probab** attrib Probable*.

**problièm nan, pobjlèm nan** n Problem*, difficulty, puzzle.

**proche, aproche** vi & vt To come near; to bring close.  *Aproche chèz la bò tab la* Bring the chair near the table.  *M'vle moutre ou you bagay, proche* I want to show you something, come near me.

**prôn** To go to prison.

**prizonye a, prizonnye a** n Prisoner*, convict.

**probable** attrib Probable*.  *Tifi a promèt* It looks like that girl will be beautiful.

**promnad la, promnad la, promnad** n Walk, stroll, excursion.  Promenade*.  V ponpronm.

**promosyon an** n Promotion*.  *Bay you promosyon* To promote* (an employee).

**pronnenn** V promennn

**pronnès** V pronmès

**promèt** V promèt

**prononse** vt To pronounce*.

**prononsasyon an** n Pronunciation*.

**prop** 1 attrib Proper*; clean, pure, tidy, neat.  Good at, good for.  *Flannen sèlman ou pròp* You are only good at loafing.  When preceding the noun, “pròp” means “own”.  *Pròp papa*l His own father.

**pròp** 2, pwòp Completely, through and through; really.  *Yo bat li pròp* They gave him a good thrashing.  They beat him savagely.  *Ou konnen byen pròp* And yet you know.  You know very well.

**propagann nan, popagann nan** n False information, propaganda* (usu) pej; publicity.

**propoze** vt To propose*.

**propozisyon an** n Proposal*.

**propriètè a, propyetè a** n Owner, proprietor*, landlord, landowner.

**propte** 1 a n Cleaning, cleanliness.  *Pròpte mwen nèt, tanpri* Clean me up completely, please.

**propte** 2 vt To clean.  *Pròpte mwen nèt, tanpri* Clean me up completely, please.

**prospere** vi To prosper*.

**protèj la, potèj** n 1. Protection*.  2. Condom.

**protèjtè a** n Protector*.

**protestan an, potestan an** n Protestant*.

**proteste** vi To object, to protest*.

**protektè a** n Protector*.

**protestan an, potestan an** n Protestant*.

**proteste** vi To object, to protest*.

**protokòl la, potokòl la** n 1. Protocol*.  *San protokòl* Lax in his attire and manner.  Kenbe
provoke vt To provoke*.  
provèb la n Proverb*, saying.

provens la n Province*; any place other than the capital.  
Nou rele provens tout kote ki pa capital yon peyi We call provinces any region of a country which is outside its capital Moun provens People outside the capital, people not from Port-au-Prince.

provizyon an n 1. Provision* (s) (food);  2. Backing.  
Pòl ban’ni you chèk san provizyon Paul gave me a rubber check (no funds to cover it).

prouve vt To prove*.

pti Small (used pretonically).  
Yon vye pti moun A very small child.  Petty*.

puiske, piske, pwiske, pliske attrib Powerful.

puisan, pisans attrib Powerful.

puisanla, pwisan, pisans n 1. Power.  2. Vitality (sexual power).

pwa 1 a n Weight.  
Pran pwa To put on weight.  
Pèdi pwa To lose weight.  
Pwa senkant a) Fifty pound weight used on scales.  b) Feeling of uneasiness caused by a problem.  
Problèm sa a mete yon pwa senkant sou lestomak mwen This problem looms heavy on my heart.

pwa 2 a, pra a n Bean, pea*.  
Pwa rouj (Dry) red beans.  
Pwa tann Fresh string beans.  
Pwa kase Lentils.  
Poa maldyòk Horse bean, sword bean.  Canavalia ensiformis DC.  
Mbëw pwa I give up.  I cannot guess.  
Other types of peas:  
Pwa blan, pwa nwa, pwa enkoni, pwa endyen, pwa boukousou, pwa kouri.  
Pwa chich Chick peas = Ciceri.  
Poa frans Peas.  Pismum sativum L.  
Pwa kongo Cajanus indicus.  
Pwa souch (chouch) Phaseolus lunatus.  
Butter bean(s).

pwal la, pwèl, prèl n Hair (on the body).  
Pubic hair.  
Pwèl raz Short pubic hair.  
Pwal je Eyelashes.  
Monte you cheval a pwal To ride bareback.

pwar la n Pear*.

pwaro V poro

pwarson an, pweson an n Fish.  
Pwason fri Small-fry.  
Pwason volan, pwason zèl Flying fish.  
Pwason ame Porcupine fish.

pwartray la n Breast (of a horse).

pwartrin nan n Breast, bosom.  
By ext.  Breast.  
Maladi pwatirin Tuberculosis.

pwartriné attrib Tubercular, consumptive.  One who has tuberculosis.

pwav la n Pepper*.  
Pwav Ginen Guinea-pepper.

pwaya V ponya

pwazon an, pwezon n Poison*.

pwanzonnen V anpwazonnen

pwèl 1 V pwal

pwèl 2 V pwelon

pwela a, prela n Cloth cover for a truck, tarpaulin.

pwelon an, pwèl la n (Frying) pan.

pwelyèm Tiny bit.  
Pou yon pwelyèm By a hair’s breadth.

pwèm V poèm

pwèn 1 an n Fist.  
Kout pwèn A blow with the fist, punch.

pwèn 2 an n Full stop (grammar); point (at cards); stitch; dot on the vowel i; grade(s), marks in school; degree, extent.  Examples and expressions:  
Ki pwèn ou? How are you?  
Pwen fèb Failing, weak point.  
Se pwèn sansib li He is very touchy on that subject.  
Mete yon pwèn final To put an end to.

pwenn No; there is no -.  
Pwenn fè pa No special favor, nothing doing.

pwenson an n Shoemaker’s awl.

pwènt 1 la n Tip, point*.  
Sou pwènt pye On tip toe.  
Mache sou pwènt pye To tip toe.  
Chita sou yon pwènt kabann To sit on the edge of a bed.

pwènt 2 la n Tire pwènt, voye pwènt To make allusions (pej), to insinuate, to hint, to speak indirectly, in parables, to cast insults indirectly.

pwénte vi 1. To point* (at, sou).  
Dwèt mwen te pwénte sou li My finger pointed at him.  2. To appear, to show up.  
Yon bato pwente lan larad la A ship appeared on the horizon.

pwénti 1 a n Measurement (shoes).  
Ki pwénti ou? What size (shoes) do you wear?  For suits see nimero.

pwénti 2 attrib Puckered, pointed*; sharp (needle, etc.).  
Pa pwénti Dull.

pwèès, pwas attrib Thick; unrefined, rough.

pweson V pwason

pwezi a n Poetry*.

pwezon V pwason
pyafe vi To stomp, to stamp, to paw the ground (jumping up and down and making a lot of noise).

pyan an n Yaws (generally crab yaws, an infectious tropical skin disease characterized by strawberry-like excrescences mostly on the feet but particularly by hyperkeratoses with fissuring and ulcer formation).

pyange vi To get along, to struggle, to eke out a living.

pyanis la n Pianist*.

pyano a n Piano*. One of many Italian musical terms used almost universally. The complete Italian word is: pianoforte. Some languages adopted 'piano', some 'forte'. Italian, being the originator of the word, always kept the full form.

pyapya a, tipyapya a n Little people, small child.

pyas la n 1. Gourde ($0.20). Piastré*. Monetary unit of exchange originating in Italy and spreading throughout the world. 2. Also kind of disease of the scalp.

pye 1 a n Foot (limb, measurement), hoof. A pye On foot. Pye bèf Cow's foot. Pye chik Sore feet. Pye ni Barefoot. (Rare for "pye a tè"). Sou pye Standing. Je pye Ankle bone. Leve sou de pye milièt (V militè). Manje a kwase pye sou lestonmah mwen That meal gave me an indigestion. M'èi pye sa'm manje m'pa ba ou I immediately started to run like crazy. Plan pye Sole of the foot. Wete klou nan pye chwal la Pull the nail out of the horse's hoof. Li gen pye poudre He loves to walk (He has dusty feet). Koupe pye Not to go anywhere where one used to go. Tout moun danse sou yon pye Join in, follow the crowd. Trese pye To walk crooked. Pa mete pye yon kote Not to go somewhere. Pye a tè Barefoot.

pye a tè

pye bèf Cow's foot.

pye chik Sore feet.

pye chik Sore feet.

pye koton Cotton tree.

pye kokoye Coconut tree.

pye 1 a n Flint, flintstone.

Pyè 2 Peter*.

pyè 3 tonnè n Thunderstone, flint. Oungan gen pyè tonnè nan peristil li poul fe renmèd The Vodou priest has thunderstones in the peristyle to effect the cure.
et. Pat gen kont diá; sa fe pwa a rabi There was not enough fire; that caused the peas not to be well cooked.

rablabla V blabla

rabo a n Plane (tool), scraper. Cf. rap.

rabo day n Popular carnaval group in Port-au-Prince.

rabanen vt To botch up (hair). Kwafè a rabanen tèt mwen The barber gave me a bad haircut.

rabote vt To plane, to polish; to stomp, to spade. Travayè yo rabote tè a pou yo plante pwa The workmen spaded the ground in order to plant peas. Ou rabote pye'm ak gro soulye ou la You stomped my foot with your big shoe.

raboure vt To plow, to scratch the ground; to turn up dirt as pigs do. To scold with harsh words. Machann nan raboure madanm nan poutèt li achtè nan menl, li pa payèl? The saleswoman scolded the lady, because she bought from her, and did not pay her.

rach la n Ax (for felling trees). Cf. Hatchet.

rache vt To tear out, to chop up, to cut up, to grind, to extract (tooth), to uproot. To snatch; to pluck (feathers).

rachèt la n Hatchet.

rachitik, rachetik attrib Rickety*, sickly.

rachonnen, rachennen, ranchonnen vt To hack, to chop up (into small pieces), kill, assassinate. Yo rachonnen msey ak moun ki te sou li They knifed the man to death, because he would not give them the money he had on him.

rachot la n Type of hatchet.

rad la n Clothes, dress, garb, garment. Rad la griyen danl The clothes are really thread-bare. Rad mò a The shroud. Rad makak Convict’s uniform. Ala bèl rad ou gen sou! Konben ou achte’l! They sliced the man to death, because he would not give them the money he had on him.

rada a n Vodoun dance rhythm; type of Vodoun gods. From: Arada.

radada vi To babble, to talk nonsense.

radas la n Razine. Cf. bafon.

radi 1 a n Radish*. Raphanus sativus L.

radi 2, hadi attrib Impudent, bold, insolent, impertinent, disrespectful. Hardy*. Ou pa manke radi You sure got a nerve.

rado a n 1. Raft. 2. You rado A large amount, a great number, a flock of, a lot of, a great deal of. M’ap ba ou you rado kout pwen I am going to beat the hell out of you with my fist.

radòt la n Nonsense, nonsensical idea. Fè radòt To rave. Fokisa tout radòt sa yo? M’pa konprann anyen What is all that nonsense? I do not understand a thing. M’pa nan radòt, kenbe mo ou, pa ban’ni mante I am not fooling. Keep your word and stop lying.

radotay la n Blabbering.

radote vi To rave, to dote*, to talk nonsense. Nan diskou li a, li radote plis pase li di bagay serye In his speech all he did was ramble. Si ou radote nan zorey mwen ou fèm pa chita kote ou If you keep on talking nonsense, I will not sit next to you.

radote a n Big talker, one who talks a lot (but will not do anything; one who talks nonsense).

radyatè a n Radiator*.

radyès la n Insolence, impertinence, effrontery, rudeness. Sa se radyès pèmèt This is the height of insolence.

radyo a n Radio*, radio set.

radyografi a n X-ray (picture).

raf la n Raffle*.

rafal la n Gust (of wind), blast, hail (of bullets). Yon rafal Lots of, a great quantity of.

rafistole V rapistole

rafle vi To raffle*

rafrechi 1 a n Refreshing herb drink. Refreshment*. Kokoye se bon rafrechi Coconut milk is a good refreshment.

rafrechi 2 vt To freshen*, to refresh*, to cool off. Rafrechi lizè To clear again the boundary of a property (or) to repair the fence. Rafrechi tèt A ritual bath for refreshing the loa in one’s head (COURLANDER). vi To become (get) cooler.

rafrechisan attrib Refreshing*.

rafrechisman an n Cool drink.

ragou a n Stew, ragout*. Fè you ragou To make a stew.

raj la, laraj, laray n 1. Madness, rage*, fury. Se laraj! It is terrible! It is extraordinary. Se laraj lè de moun renmen It is wonderful when two persons are in love. Pa konprann ou ap pase raj ou sou mwen Do not think that you are going to spill your venom on me. 2. Rabies*.

raje a n Underbrush, bush, shrub, weeds; thicket. V bousay, matoral. Yo kraze raje They took to the woods. They ran away. Ale nan raje pran kék fèy pou fè te pou li Go in the bushes and pick some leaves so that I can make him some tea.

rajeni vi To become, look younger. Li vin rajeni; m’pa rekonèt li He looks so young; I did not recognize him.

rak 1 la n Brushwood. Rak bua Bush, forest. Tout gason lan zòn nan kraze rak All the men in the area ran away. Li te al chase nan rak la He went hunting in the bushland. Pran rak To take to the hills, to flee.
You always have to get into the act.  

I went hunting this morning; I shot six wood pigeons.

Another so as to lengthen it, to lengthen.

One thing led to the other, until...

He walks), he drags one foot.

To massage.

To pull, haul.

To pull up (water from a well, etc).

A medicinal plant.

To be in the throes of death, to rattle.

When I arrived I found him in the throes of death.

If you do not study your lesson, I will give you a good thrashing before going to school.

To repair; to manage; to straighten out; to poison; to give a surplus, a little extra (for good measure).

My radio is working well.

Stay in line.

To stuff, pad (a chair).

To fix (in all meanings), to arrange, to settle; to prepare; to repair; to manage; to straighten out; to poison; to give a surplus, a little extra (for good measure). Examples and expressions:  

Ranje l ban mwen Give me good measure.  

V barad, degi.  

Byen ranje Neat.  

Ranjè la, randisay n Coating, wall finish; plastering. Also randúi, andisay.


To reinforce*, to fortify, to strengthen.

Row, line (chairs, etc.).

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To pick up, to gather, to collect; to put aside, hoard.  

Ranmase tout mango yo byen vit, lapli pral tonbe  Gather up all the mangos, it is about to rain.

To make the bed.  

Ou panko ranje kouvè pou nou manje  You did not set the table for us to eat.  

Manje a ranje  The food has been 'fixed'; it can harm or even poison.

To mark, to cause to be; to give back; to vomit.  

A bit of mango

To visit, to call on. Examples and expressions:  

Doktè a ba li yon renmè pou lann pwazon li te buè a  The doctor gave him a
rantre vi To bring something back in, to put inside, to put in. Rantre vant ou Pull your stomach in. 

ranse vi To chatter, to be kidding, to joke, gossip. Ou kwè se ranse m’ap ranse? You think that I am joking? Timoun pa ranse ak parol ki soti nan bouch granmoun, ou konprann? Children do not make fun of words spoken by adults, do you understand?

ransè a n Joker, person who is no good, a babbler, not serious. Tout moun konnen li se ranse. Everybody knows he is not serious.

ransaye vt To give information.

ransèyman an n Information. Pran ransèyman sou To inquire (about), seek information concerning, to make inquiries (about).

rant la n Revenue, income (other than salary).

rantre vt To bring something back in, to put inside, to pull in. Rantre vant ou Pull your stomach in. vi To reenter*, to go back in, to return; to get in, to enter even for the first time. Often a synonym for “antre”. Si ou ale ozetazini semen sa a, kilè ou ap rantre an Ayiti ankò If you go to the United States this week, when will you come back to Haiti? Yon bagay ki konn rantre tankou zong chat Something which can pull in like a cat’s paw.

ranvèse vt To spill over, to run over; to knock down.

ranvwa a n Belch. Fè you ranvwa 1. To belch. 2. To cast a spell on someone, to send him away. (Vodou term).

ranvwaye, ranvoye vt 1. To dismiss (maid, employee), to send away, to chase away. 2. To postpone, to adjourn, to defer, to put off. Also Vodou term.

ranyon an n Tattered rags, trash. An ranyon Ragged (clothed in rags).

rap la n Scraper, snowball scraper; rasp*, grater for grinding nutmeg, manioc, etc. Cf. rabo, graj.

rapadou a n Sugar cane syrup. Hard rolls made from syrup (by boiling sugar cane). In many places it serves as a substitute for sugar. Ban’an pa’m san dous; m’a mete rapadou ladan Give me mine without sugar; I will add “rapadou” to it. (A takeoff from a famous song).

rapas attrib Greedy.

rapè a n Litter (of animals). 3. Yield, income. 4. Burp, belch. Examples and expressions: Kabrit la The (nanny) goat lost (aborted) the kid. Pa fèm rapò Do not tell me about him; do not tell on him (her, them). M’pral fe rapò pou ou lapolis pou tèt ou bat nomm nan I am going to report you to the police because you beat that man. Pa rapò a As compared to, in comparison with. Pol pa gen anpil lajan; men pa rapò a jan, li rich Paul does not have much money, but in comparison to John he is rich.

rapé vt 1. To rebuff, to snap back gruffly. 2. To seize (violently), snatch, nab. Poukisa ou rape mont la nan men’im konsa? Why did you snatch the watch from my hand? 3. To grate (ice). Otherwise “graj” is used (pepper, nutmeg, manioc).

rapèl la n Call to work, made with the drums (COURLANDER).

rapid attrib Speedy, fast, swift, rapid*.

rapidfaya adv Extremely fast. V rapidopresto.

rapidite a n Swiftness, speed.

rapidman adv Fast, quickly, swiftly, rapidly*. V vit.

rapidopresto adv Fast, quickly, swiftly, rapidly*.

rapin n L’ap fè rapin He is grabbing everything. He is looting.

rapistole, rafistole vt To mend, patch up. Li rapistole vye souye’l He patched up his old shoes.

raple (vpr) To remember, to recollect, to recall. M’raple’m I remember.

rapò a n 1. Report*, story. 2. Relation, connection. 2. Litter (of animals). 3. Yield, income. 4. Burp, belch. Examples and expressions: Kabrit la pèdi rapò li The (nanny) goat lost (aborted) the kid. Pa fèm rapò Do not tell me about him; do not tell on him (her, them). M’pral fe rapò pou ou lapolis pou tèt ou bat nomm nan I am going to report you to the police because you beat that man. Pa rapò a As compared to, in comparison with. Pol pa gen anpil lajan; men pa rapò a jan, li rich Paul does not have much money, but in comparison to John he is rich.

ranpli vt To fill; to fulfill; to comply with (a duty). Li ranpli tout fom yo He made out all the forms.

ranplase vt To replace*, to substitute; to stand for.

rans 1 la n Nonsense, joke, trivialities. Ase di rans Stop talking nonsense. Ase fè rans Stop acting funny (make up your mind).

rans 2 attrib Rancid, stale, spoiled, sour (butter); stupid (person). Li gen yon gou rans It has a stale, rancid taste. Blag la rans The joke is not funny.

ransèyman an n Information. Pran ransèyman (sou) To inquire (about), seek information concerning, to make inquiries (about).

rekon pli an fòm yo He surrendered.

rekon san rann li kont li He did it unconsciously.

rekon tèt li He surrendered. Tigason an rann vè The boy evacuated some worms. vi To produce, to yield. Rekòt la pa rann The harvest did not produce much.

rante a n Flatterer, bootlicker.

rantman V randman

rantre a n Revenue, income (other than salary).

rantre a n Rich. Paul does not have much money, but in comparison to John he is rich.

rantre a n Revenue, income (other than salary).

rantre a n Revenue, income (other than salary).
rapôte vi To yield (fruit, etc.); give (render), produce, bring in; to report*, repeat. *L’al rapôte bay patron an lou sa ouvrye yo fe* He went to report to the boss everything the workers did.

rapôte a n Spy, informer.

rapouswiv 1 la n A type of ‘tablet’ (type of coconut cake).

rapouswiv 2 vt To pursue (to go after). vi To continue, to go on.

raproche vt To bring near.

rapya a, rapyay la n Worthless, ordinary, vulgar person. *Ti rapya* Small children.

rara a n 1. Rattle, noise maker; Also rarabwa and rarafèblan. 2. Popular street dance during the Holy week, the Lenten festival. *Vwa rara* Raucous, loud harsh voice. *Tonbe nan rara* To fall on evil days. *An Ayiti se Leyogàn ki gen pi bon rara* In Haiti the best rara takes place in Leogane. (fig) *Yon rarabwa* A very talkative person.

rarabwa V rara

ras la, lara s 1. Race*. *Ras blanch* White race. 2. Breed, kind, species. Relatives, family. *Gen bon ras moun, men se lè ou viv ak yo ou konnen yo* There are good people, but it is only when you live with them, that you get to know them. *Malfini manje tout ras poul ki te genyen* (or) *malfini kaba ras poul* The hawk exterminated all the chickens. *Yon ras* A lot, a large quantity, a great number.

rasanble, sanble vi To gather, to convene, to get together, to assemble*, to cluster, to congregate. vt To collect, to put together. *Pou ou kuit manje, fo ou sanble dife* To cook a meal, you have to gather the fire (to pile up the coal or sticks and start the fire).

rasanbleman an n Gathering, assembling*, rallying.

rasazye attrib To be filled with food (person); to get tired of, to be fed up with. Cf. E. satiated*.

rasi attrib Stale. Also applied to a person who is physically not fully developed for his age; under-developed.

rasin nan n Root; origin.

rasire vt To reassure*.

raso a n Whip.

rasyon an n Rations*.

rat la n Rat; loose woman. *Kwafè a fe chemen rat lan tèt mwen* The barber bunched up my hair. *Rat mode soufle* Hypocrite. *Pale angle pasè rat* To speak English like a native. *Rat, rat, rat, mi’voye you bon dan ba ou. Voye you move dan pou mwen* This is what a child is taught to say when a tooth has fallen out. In Cuba they say *Ratoncito, ratoncito, toma tu diente y dame el mio* It seems that in India, and many, many other countries similar sayings exist. In Salerno, children are taught to say *Titte, titte, titte, (‘tetto’), t’èccoti lu stuorto, e mènami lu dritto.* (R.G.U.).

rata You rata A lot of, many.

ratatouy la n Canaille, people of no consequence, insignificant person.

rate 1, a, rarte n Scarcity, shortage. Rarity*.

rate 2 vt To miss. *Rate kou* (or) *manke kou* To lose an opportunity.

ratelye a n Denture. Also *fo dan*.

ratman an n Misfire. *Bay ratman* To misfire.

rato a n Rake.

ratresi, retresi, tresi vi To contract, shrink, recede, take in (clothes), to become narrower, smaller. *Kon mwa mas rive larivyè ratresi*; *lapli pa tonbe* When March rolls around, the stream gets drier and drier (shrinks), because there is no rainfall.

ratè a n Rat*trap.

ravaj la n Damage. *Fè ravaj* To cause damage, to lay waste.

ravaje vt To lay waste, rave*, decimate, pillage, sack, beat up.

ravajè vt To pursue (to go after). *Ti rapya la* To reassure*.

ravèt la n Cockroach (the large type common in U.S.). *Ravèt blanch* Albino.

ravin nan n Ravin*, hollow, gulley.

ravitatey vi To collect, to gather what is needed. To amass, store food. *Myèl yo ap ravitatey* The bees are gathering pollen to make honey.

rawn nan n Round* (in boxing).

ray la n Track. *Tren an pédi ray, l’al frape you kamyon sou rout li* The train left the track and collided with a truck in its path.

rayi vt To hate*. *Youn rayi lòt* They hate each other.

rayisab attrib Selfish, egotistical; hateful. *L’ap fè rayisab* He acts in a selfish manner. *Se moun rayisab* He is an envious person.

rayisman an n Hate, envy.

raz attrib 1. Boring, worthless, uninteresting, annoying, dull. 2. Short. *Puel raz* Short pubic hair. 3. prep Close to. *Li pase raz mi an* He passed close to the wall. Cf. ra.

raze vt 1. To shave; to come very close to while passing, to brush by. *Oto a raze trotwa a* The car was traveling close to the sidewalk. *Avyon an raze tèt bay yo* The plane flew close to the housetops. 2. To have intercourse with.

razè attrib Broke, out of funds, miserable, destitute. *Mrazè jodi a; m’pa konnen ki rout pou’m fe pou’n jwenn you kòb prete* I am really broke today; I do not know where to turn to borrow some money.
razibis  vt  To grab, to steal.
razwa  a  n  Razor*.
re  a  n  Ray*, skate (a fish).  Pwason re gen bon gou, pechè yo pa pote semen sa a  Rays are tasty, but the fishermen did not bring any this week.
rebat  vt  To reshuffle.
rebèl  attrib  Reticent, rebellious*.  Fé rebèl  To refuse, to be reticent, to rebel violently.  Tfi a pa vie obeyi’m anhò, l’ap fe rebèl  The girl does not obey me anymore. She has become rebellious.
rebelyon an  n  Rebellion*, uprising.  Li an rebelyon He is rebelling.
rebise  vi  To repeat once again.
rebitan  attrib  Disgusting, sickening.
rebite  vi  To be repelling (to somebody).  Soup la rebite’m The soup is repelling to me.
rebò a  n  Edge, rim, brim.  Border*.  Rebò fenèt  Window-sill.  Rebò fenèt la  The rim, so I won’t get burned, because it’s hot.
rebondi  vi  To bounce* back (rubber ball).  Moris choute boul la nan mi an, li rebondi; li pran’l pa boule pa paske’l cho  I hold the plate of porridge on the rim, so I won’t get burned, because it’s hot.
rebyen  To become friends again, to make up.  Nou te byen, nou fache, nou rebyen  We were friends; now we are friends again.
rechajè  vt  To recharge*, to reload.
rechamp  n  Salvation.  San rechamp  No escape; without salvation.
rechèch la  n  (Re)search*.
rechinya  attrib  Whimpering, sniveling, mumbling.  Used to describe children who mumble (cry) for no reason at all.  Ala timoun rechiya, you tihou muen ba li, li rele pou grannesè  Look at that crying baby.  I barely touched him, and he keeps on crying for nothing.
rechiyen  vi  To cry, to be sullen.  Poukisa piti la ap rechiyen tout tan?  Li gen lè malad Why is that child always crying?  Maybe he is sick.
recho a  n  Trivet, brazier, charcoal burner, stove.  Ou nan recho  You are in trouble.  Pa akte recho ki fet ak tòl; yo pa bon  Do not buy a brazier made out of tin; they are not good.
recholeye a  n  Stove maker, coppersmith who makes braziers.
reedengòt la, rendengòt  la  n  Frock-coat.  Cf. E. Riding coat*.
redesann  vi  To come down again.
redi 1  vt  To pull.  vi  To strive, to work hard (at).
redi 2  attrib  Drawn in (face).
redi 3  vt  To say again.
reditil  attrib  Hardheaded, disobedient, stubborn.
redonn, rendong, rondong  attrib  Hardheaded, disobedient, rebellious.
redui, redwi  vt  To reduce*, to curtail.  vi  1. To decrease.  2. To become emaciated.
refè  vt  1. To do again, to remake; to reproduce.  Refè travay la; li pa bon  Redo the work, it is not good.  2. To heal, to restore, to make one feel better after an illness, to make one get well and recover.  Se medikaman sa a ki refè’m  It was this medicine that restored me.  M’refè apre twa mwa maladi  I am recovered now after being ill for three months.  Yon ti refè An amelioration (after an illness).
refi a, refiz la  n  Refusal*.
refijye, refije  vi  To take refuge*.
refijye, refije  vi  To refuse, to be unwilling to, to reject, to refuse.  Refize bay  To withhold.  Boulon an refize sòti  The bolt just would not come out.
reflect* vi  To reflect, to ponder.  Sa ou ap reflect konsa?  What are you thinking about?
reflection*; thought.  M’tande’l fè you refleksyon  I heard him express a thought.
refwadi, refredi  vi  To cool (off), to chill.
refwadisman an  n  Chill (sickness).
reg a  n  Look.
regadan  attrib  Said of someone who will not give you anything unless you give him something; or if he gives you something, he wants something in return.
regade, gade  vt  To concern.  V konsène, gade.  Sa pa gade’m (or) Sa pa regade’m  That does not concern me.
regilye  attrib  Regular*.
regle  vt  1. To settle, put in order.  2. To get at, to get even with (take vengeance on).  3. To check, to count, to reckon.  4. To regulate*.  Li
People do not like to see children they can ripen.  2. Crude.

To make happy.

To collect money to see if it is enough.

To be sorry, to regret.

I no longer serve them.

I rejected the Vodou gods; all the faithful to reject all heretical beliefs.

To reward, to recompense.

Ane sa a gen you bèl rekòt kafe nan nò
This year they had a fine coffee harvest up North.

To harvest, reap.  Also fè rekòt.

Kouzen Andre rekòlte anpil mayi ak pitimi
Cousin Andrew harvested a lot of corn and millet.

To advertise, to promote, to boast about.

To lay claim to, to claim one’s due.

To recognize *, to detect.

Doktè’m mete’m nan rejim
My doctor put me on a diet.

To be sorry, to regret.

You rejiman
Many a, a large group of, a lot of.

Joseph harvest his crops.

I hear weeping in the hills; it seems that sister Antoinette died.

When the owner asks for his property, you must give it to him.

To advertise, i.e. settlement of accounts; regulation.

He was quite angry.  He put the woman out, and said he would fix her.  ‘Nap regle kob la pou nou wè si’l kont  We will count the money to see if it is enough.

To reject *.

To show out (a visitor).

To recommend *.

To start again, to resume, to begin again.

To make up, to reconcile *

Bon nouvèl sa a rejvi tout moun nan peyi a
The good news made everyone rejoice.

To move back, to retreat, step back, walk back(wards), back up.

To reward, to recompense *.

To reward (in a religious sense).

There occurred a formal campaign by the Catholic church asking Joseph harvest his crops.

Many other farmers are helping Joseph harvest his crops.

Many other farmers are helping Joseph harvest his crops.

To make happy.

To start a formal campaign by the Catholic church asking Joseph harvest his crops.

To start a formal campaign by the Catholic church asking Joseph harvest his crops.

To make happy.

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remèt, renmèt
remèsye, remèsi
remèsiman an
remere
remedye
remake
relasyon an n Important connections; relation*, relationship*. Kí relasyon ou ak li? How do you get along with him? What are your connections with him?
relendo a, rèl do a n Area of the spine. V chini do.
rele, ele vi 1. To yell, to shout, scream, to cry (out). 2. To be called, to be named. vt 1. To call, to name s.o. 2. To hail* (a taxi, car, etc.). 3. To call (to summon). Examples and expressions: Ka sa ou rele yo? What do you call them? Kòman ou rele? What is your name? Lajan’m rele’m se pa’m I can do what I went with my own money. Rele fô To roar, shout. Yo rele’m Fayo My name is Raphael. Se pou ou rele sou kò ou You have to make an effort, to strive, to force yourself. Rele sou... To shout at, to yell at... Dyôl li rele’l se pa’l He is a good talker. He is master of his tongue. He does whatever he wants with his mouth. Rele dèyè To get after (to tell someone to behave).
releng 1 lan n A strip, a small piece. Also filang. An releng 1. In rags. 2. Furtively.
releng 2 refl v To hide one’s self from s.o. Li due mekaniyen an, se pou ou l’ap releng kò li He owes the mechanic some money; that is why he is hiding from him.
relije attrib Religious*, pious, devout.
reliyon an n Religion*.
relimen vt To put back on the light. Relimen lanp la (ankò) Put on the light (again); rekindle.
relye vt To bind (book).
remak la n Observation, remark*. Fè remak To observe, notice. Lapli a bay remak tonbe jodi a It looks like rain today. Figi li bay remak li malad He looks like he is sick.
remake vt To notice, to observe. To remark*. Ki sa ou remake? M’remake li fe kék jou li pa vini lakay Did you notice anything? I noticed that he has not visited you in the last few days.
remèd la, renmèd n Cure, remedy*, medicine. Remèd fey A natural country herb medicine, remedy* (as opposed to pharmaceuticals). Re se remèd kò Calm down for your own good.
remedye vi To take medicine, to take drugs.
remere Vant a remere Sale with option to repurchase.
remèsi V remèsyen
remèsiman an n Thanks.
remèsyen, remèsi vt To thank.
remèt, renmèt vt To deliver, to remit*, to return, to surrender, to give back, to get even with. Remèt kou To return the blow. Remèt monnen To give back the change. Yo remèt mouan monnen I got change in return. Bay se bay, prete se prete; si ou prete, fo ou remèt Giving is one thing, borrowing is something else; if you borrowed it, you must return it.
remete vt 1. To put back, to restore. Remete lòd To restore order. Remete you bagay lan plas li To put something back (where it was before). 2. To wear again (clothes, hats).
remiz la n Garage to store automobiles.
remize vt 1. To park (to store) a vehicle in a garage. Li remize machin nan bonè jodi a He stored the car in the garage very early today. 2. To discard, to doff, discontinue using. Souye sa a pa bon anklou; li le pou remize li Those shoes are no longer any good; it is time you throw them away.
remò a, renmò a n Remorse*.
remôke vt To tow, to tug.
remonte vt 1. To boost, to rehabilitate. Se pou ou remonte moral li You will have to boost his morale. Manje a remonte lestomak mwen The meal has restored my strength. 2. To recondition (shoes). Lè soule ou la chire, pote’l kay you kòdnomye lavil la pou remounter l pou ou If your shoes are coming apart, take them to the shoemaker in town, so that he can repair them for you. 3. To climb up again, to bring up again. M’mon mòn nan you fwa, m’pa ka remontel ankò I climbed that mountain; I cannot climb it again. vi To go up again. Li plonje, li pa remonte He took a dive and did not get up again.
remwe, remye vt To scratch, to stir, to agitate. Remwe tè a awan ou plante pwa ladan pou ou ka gen bon rekòt Scratch the earth in order to get a good crop.
ren an n Loin(s), hip(s), kidney(s). Yo pete (kase) ren’l They fired him. Ren pou ren Equally, in equal parts, half and half.
ren 1 nan, renn, laren n Queen. Renn bouzen A real whore. Rèn chantrel Principal female singer in a popular religious singing group or choir.
ren 2 nan, renn nan n Reins* (for riding horses).
rende V ede
rendengòt V redengòt
renk Any, the slightest; only. Renk ti van kab koule bato sa a The slightest wind can capsize that boat. Renk Bondye ki komenn sa Only God knows that.
renka 1, ranka attrib Fearful, sly; apprehensive, hesitant. Chual la te renka The horse was sly.
renka 2, ranka refl V To move, to move backwards. Renka kò ou Move along.
renmèd V remèd
renmen 1 an n Love affair. Renmen an pat dire The love affair did not last.
renmen 2 vt 1. To love. To like, to cherish, to be fond of. M’pa renmen figi’l ditou I do not like his looks at all; maybe he is sick. Pa renmen To
dislike. 2. To love to, to be in the habit of. Li rennen gen mallett He often has headaches. vi To be in love, to love each other. Yo rennen They love each other. Renmen ak To be in love with.

renmèt V remet
renn nan V ren (1 & 2)
rennen 1 vt To hold back (the reins*). Rennen chwal la, li galope tòp, ou a tonbe Hold back the horse; he is galloping too much; you will fall down.
rennen 2 To stiffen one’s hips.
renome a n Reputation, fame, renown*.
renonse vt & vi 1. To ask again. 2. To answer, respond*, reply. Reponn pou To answer for, to take responsibility for. 2. To affect, to have a reaction. Bri a reponn mwen nan tèt The noise had a reaction on my head.
repons la n Answer, response*.
repose 1 vi To grow again.
repose 2 vi To push* away, to repulse*, to repel.
repouse 1, poze vi To rest, to repose*.
repouze 2 vt To ask again. Li repouze kesyon an He asked the question again.
repouze 2, poze vi To rest, to repose*.
repouze 2 vi To grow again.
repouse 1 vt To push* away, to repulse*, to repel.
repose 2 vi To grow again.
repouse 1 vi To grow again.
repouse 2 vi To grow again.
repouze 2 vi To grow again.
repouse 1 vi To grow again.
repouse 2 vi To grow again.
repouse 1 vi To grow again.
repouse 2 vi To grow again.
repouze 2 vi To grow again.
reparation an n Reparation.*
restore, to repair*, to mend; to make amends.
repare vt To restore, to repair*, to mend; to make amends.
reparé v To reappear*, to recur.
replice vt 1. To iron (clothes, hair). 2. To review, to go over (one’s lessons). vi To pass* again.
repli la n Ironing woman.
repli la n Ironing woman.
replik a n Republic*.
repitason an n Reputation*, repute*.
repit a attrib Notorious (for), if ill repute, generally means ‘renowned’. Li repit pou sa He has that reputation.
repil a attrib Sickening, nasty (taste), repugnant*.
repiyan a attrib Sickening, nasty (taste), repugnant*.
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retake a  n  Cuttings, i.e. pieces of material left over after cuttings; scraps, remnant. Li koud tout ti moso retay ki te ganyen, li fé you dra She sewed all pieces of material that had been left over and made a beautiful sheet with them.

re, re  vi To remain, to stay, to halt, stop, to continue to be; to live, inhabit; to be left (over); to wait, to make a stop-over; to last. Examples and expressions: Rete! What! (Interj. denoting surprise). San rete Over and over. Rete déyè To fall behind. Ki bò ou rete? Where are you staying? Where do you live? Rete avèk To live in with (as a servant). M'pa ret avè ou I do not have to listen to you; I am not your servant. Rete dat To fix a date. Rete pran To accept one’s fate; to stand for. M’di ou li pral fé sa; rete gade, ou a wè I tell you he is going to do that. Wait and see; you will find out. Yon kay ki pa rete ak kay A house superior to all others (beyond comparison). Tann you ti moman, m’rete tua sak Wait a moment, I have only three bags left. vi To stop. Si ou wè you machin, rete li If you see a car, stop it.

retif  attrib Unmanageable, restive*.

retire, wete  vt To get out, to put off, to take away, to get off; to take off (clothes, shoes), to remove, to strip. Cf. E. retire*. To pull (out of). To withdraw. To subtract. Retire nan hôsaj To get rid of (an undesirable person). Retire bale sa a nan mitan chemen an Move that broom from the middle of the road; move the broom out of the way. Retire nanm The act of removing the soul from a body (COURLANDER).

retni  vt 1. To retain*. 2. To stop, to restrain, to hold back, to hold up.

reto V retorik

retrorik la, reto  n Rhetoric* (senior year in high-school).

reto a  n Return*. Biye ale retou Round trip ticket.

retonen, tounen  vi To return*, to come back, to go back, to get back.

retresi V ratsesi

retre la  n Retreat*; retirement, pension. Pran retrè To retire from work.

retrete  vi To retire. Li mouri desan apre li te fin retrete He died two years after having retired.

retrouse  vt To turn up (one’s sleeves).

rèv la  n Dream. Rèv je klè Daydream.

revañch la, revanji  n Revenge*, vengeance*. Pran revanç To take revenge.

revandë a (male), revandez la (fem)  n Retailer, vender*, salesperson.

revandikasyon an  n (Just) Demand(s).

revann  vt To resell.
reve vi & vt To dream. *Sa ou reve? What did you dream about?


revenan an n The ghost of a dissatisfied person who comes to haunt the living.

reverans la V lareverans

revèy 1 la n Alarm clock.

revèy 2 Ant somèy e revèy Still half asleep.

reveyon an n Christmas day party.

revi a n Magazine, review*.

reviv vt To revive.

revni, revini vi To revive after fainting. To come to. To regain consciousness. V konesan.

revokasyon an n Revocation*, dismissal, repeal.

revolte, revolte vi To revolt*, to rebel, to rise (kont, against).

revolvè a n Gun, revolver*.

You kout revolvè A gunshot.

reyaji vi To react*.

reyaksyon an n Reaction*.

reyalite a n Reality*. An reyalite Actually.

reyalize vt To accomplish, to materialize, to achieve, to carry out (project), to bring about.

Anvan ou reyalize gro proje sa a ou gen pou fe anpil efò Before succeeding in that project, you need to exert a great effort. 2. To realize*. Ou pa reyalize sa li di la a You do not realize what he said.

reyèl attrib Actual, real*, authentic, effective.

reyèlman, reyèlteman adv Really*. Reyèlman wre In truth, truly.

reyini vi To put together, to assemble, to collect, to gather. vi To come together, to unite*, to meet, to congregate, to assemble, to collect, to get together.

reyinyon an n Meeting, reunion*.

reyisi, resi vi To succeed, to be successful, to "finally make it". *Se jodi m'ap soufrì; m'esi fini ak lekol sa a I have been suffering such a long time; I finally finished school. Planl yo pa reyisi His plans fell through. Li reyisi lan kòmès He prospers (succeeds) in business.

reyon 1 an n Ray*, beam.

reyon 2 X n X ray*.

reze vt 1. To raise* (in poker). 2. To con, to sock it to s.o., to deceive with subterfuge.


rezistans la n Resistance*.

reziste vi To resist*, to withstand.

reziyen vpr To submit, acquiesce, to resign* one's self.

rezolisyon an n Resolution*.

rezon an, larezon n Reason*, motive. *Gen rezon To be right, to have the upper hand. *Tire yon rezon To draw lots. *Se pa rezon pou There is no cause to...

rezonab attrib Reasonable*.

rezone V rezonnen

rezonnen 1, rezone vi To reason*. *Li rezonnen byen; li pa di tenten He reasons well; he is not talking nonsense.

rezonnen 2, rezone vi To resound*.

rezoud vt To resolve*, to solve* (a problem). To overcome (difficulties).

ri 1 a n Street. *Ri senp One way street. V lari.

ri 2 a n Laughter, laugh.

ri 3 vi & vt To laugh, laugh at; to be hilarious. Yo ri'm They laugh at me. M'tèlman kontan nouvel sa a, m'ri, m'ri jouk mwen kriye "I was so happy about what happened that I laughed "till I cried".

Liv sa a fe moun ri anpil This book is very funny.

riyan an n Ribbon*.

riyanbèl Revealing, feast. *Fè riyanbèl To celebrate, to carouse.

rich attrib Wealthy, rich*. Used only as an adj. As a subs., use Moun rich A rich person. Tout
moun fè pou viv, menm si li pòv, menm si li rich
Everyone has a right to live, be he rich or poor.

richa a  n  A very rich* person.
riche a  n  Rich, wealthy.
riche la  n  Wealth, riches*.
rid la  n  Furrow, wrinkle.
ride V ede
ridikil attrib  Ridiculous*, ludicrous.
rido a  n  Curtain.
rip la  n  (Jack) plane (tool).
rigol la  n  Ditch, canal, trench, gutter, drain.
rigwaz la, rigwèz n  Whip, lash, horsewhip. V fwèt.
rikannen
rigweze vt  To whip, to lash.
rikennen vi  To laugh, to grin.
rim nan  n  Head cold.
rimatis la  n  Rheumatism*.
rimay Fè rimay  To make a movement, a gesture; to make a move (toward).
rinen 1 vi  To urinate*. (usu) pise, pipi.
rinen 2 V ruinen
rip la  n  Chips, wood shavings. Lè bòs la fin rebote planch yo, pran rip yo mete yo nan glas la pou’l pa fonn  When the carpenter finishes planing the boards, take the shavings and put them around the ice, so it will not melt.
ripay la  n  Shavings.
rial attrib  Rural*.
risk a, ris n  Risk*.
riskan attrib  Dangerous, risky*.
riske vt  To venture, to risk*, to run a risk*, to hazard, to imperil, to dare. Joseph riske vi'l pou'lv sove papa'lv  Joseph risked his life to save his father.
rive vi 1. To happen, to occur, to take place, to come about.  2. To arrive*; to get to (a place), to reach (a place).  3. To befall.  4. To succeed (in doing). Examples and expressions: Lè l’rive Upon his arrival. Mwenn te preshe rive lakay mwen I almost reached my house. Rive yon lè  There came a time, at one point. Nou rive genyen We finally won. Fè yon rive  To go for a moment to a specified place, to stop by.
rivet la  n  River*.
rivèy a, larivèy a  n  River*, stream, current, brook, creek.
riz la  n  Trick, ruse*. Tout timoun gan riz  All children are artful and clever. Li aji ak riz  He is tricky.
rize attrib  Cunning, tricky, wily, clever.
rizè attrib  Cunning, tricky (female).
rizib attrib  Funny, laughable; ridiculous*. Bon, pa fè rizib O.K. Stop playing around. M’ap di ou yon bagay serye, ou ap fè rizib ak mwen  I am telling you something serious, and you are joking with me. Yo pase’lv nan rizib  They made fun of him.
ro, wo attrib  High, tall; loud. Mwen pi ro pase ou I am taller than you. Pye hwaedchenn nan ro, m’pa konm otè’l  The oak tree is tall but I do not know its height.
ròb la, wòb la  n  Dress. Cf. E. robe*. Pran ròb  To take the veil, enter religious orders. Ròb jip a kòsaj  A two piece dress (blouse and skirt).
robinèt la, robinè, wobinèt la  n  Faucet, tap.
robis, wobis attrib  Angry, rebellious, hard-headed. Fè robis  To be ill-bred, capricious, peevish. Ti gason an robis; kon ou di’l you bagay, li toujou move  The boy is ill-mannered; if you say something to him, he becomes moody.
ròch la, wòch la  n  Stone, rock, pebble. Ròch galèt la  Pebble; usually found in riverbeds.
ròchayè a, ròch a pyè  n  Silex.
rodaye, wodaye vi  To keep prowling, to run around, to walk around. Vôle yo ap rodaye bò kòsaj  The thieves are prowling around the house.
rode, wode vi  To prowl.
rodonn, redonn, wodonn attrib  Hard to handle, churlish. Fè redonn  To be disobedient, rebellious.
ròdpòte, wòdpòte, ròd, wòd adv Extremely, too much, excessive; too far out of line. Anvan li fè ti travay sa a, li pale ròd pòtè, li paresè  Before doing this little piece of work, he talks a lot. He is just lazy.
rogatwa V ogatwa
rökèt la, okèt, wokèt  n  Hiccup.
rôklò, wôklò attrib  Rebellious, difficult, recalcitrant. Fè rôklò  To be rebellious.
ròl la, wòl la  n  Part, role*. Fè rôl ou (or) Rete nan rôl ou  Keep your distance. Do not get out of place. Do not bother me. Yo pèdi rôl yo  They acted in a manner unbecoming to their station in life.
rololoy Beautiful! Magnificent!
ròm V ronm
roma a, ronma, woma, oma  n  Crayfish, lobster.
roman an, woman  n  Novel.
romans la  n  Love song.
romaren an, womaren  n  Rosemary* (plant).
ron 1 an, won an  n  1. Ring, circle.  2. Dance.  3. A game: ring around the rosie, etc. Vire ron  To turn around* and around. Antre lan ron  To get in step, to do as the others are doing.
ron ², won, attrib Round*. Bwaron an A dugout (canoe).
ron ³, won adv Sharp, exactly (time).
ronèl la, wonèl la n A round* slice; (tech) washer.
rondì, arondì vt To give a round* shape, to round* out.
rondonmon, wondonmon Fè rondonmon To be rebellious, to refuse to obey. Lè timoun fé rondonmon se pou pini’l When a child refuses to obey, he should be punished.
ronf lan, ronfle a, wonf lan, wonfle a n Snoring.
ronfle ¹, wonfle vi To snore.
ronfle ², wonfle vt To beat up.
ronje, wonje vt To gnaw.
ronm nan, ròm, wonn n Rum*.
ronma V roma
ronn nan, wonn n Round* (s); circle. Fè ronn pye bwa a Go around. Rомн hou Neck (of an animal).
ronpi, wonpi vt To beat angrily and savagely. Si ou pa koute sa m’di ou m’ap ronpi ou If you do not listen to what I tell you, I will give you a good thrashing.
ronronnen, wonwonnen vi To purr.
rons la, won la n Briar, bramble.
ront ¹ la, hont, wont n Shame, disgrace. Used as an adjective: To be ashamed, shy, timid. Mouri ront To die of shame. M’ront vin kote ou anka, telman ou rann mwen sevis I am ashamed to come to you again; you rendered me so many services. Fè ront To shame, to put to shame.
ront ² la, wont la, hont n Shame-weed, sensitive, Mimosa pudica L.
ronte Shameful.
rontèz la, wonètz la, laronètz n Shame.
ronyay, wonyay A la ronyay On the sly. Li tap mache a la ronyay pou moun pa wè si’l te la He walked on tip toes, so people would not know if he had been there.
ronyen, wonyen vt To gnaw, to nibble (on). To clip, to pare by chewing off a bit at a time. Li pito ronyen pen an pase li manje’l you sèl kou He prefers to chew off the bread bit by bit rather than eat it all at once. Cf. ronje.
ronz refl v To move, to budge. Nou ronz kò nou We move ourselves.
roroli a, hoholi, wowoli n Sesame seed. ‘Jijiri’ in Southern Haiti; Sesamum orientale L.
ròròt, wòròt attrib 1. Childish, inexperienced. 2. Said of a fruit that has not yet reached its full shape or maturity. Cf. Rèk, mi, jòn, vèt.
rôs la, wòs n 1. Increase, hike (in height, price, etc.). 2. Lift in a shoe (movable sole).
rose, ose, wose vi To stand up on tiptoe (to become taller momentarily by raising one’s self either on tipoes or on a prop). vt To shrug. Rose zepòl To shrug one’s shoulders. V ise.
rosiyl la, resiyol, wosiyol n Nightingale. Resiyol manje korosol Nightingales eat sour sops (From a popular children’s song).
rote, ote, wote vi To eruct*, to belch, to burp. Cf. degobyè. Rote si To belch, causing a sour taste.
rotè a, wotè n Height. Lan rotè In the mountains.
roti ¹, woti vi To roast*.
roti ² a, woti n Roast*.
rou ¹ a, wou n Wheel, tire. Rou de rechanj Spare tire. Kapo rou Hubcap.
rou ² a, wou a n Hoe*.
rouchin nan, wouchin n Whip (Long, thin, flexible stick with all its branches used as a whip). Si ou fe dezod m’ap ba ou yon rouchin If you do not behave, I am going to whip you.
rouj ¹, wouj attrib Red. Limyè a vin rouj The (traffic) light turned red.
rouj ² la, wouj n Rouge* (lipstick). Creole uses also: roujalev.
roujalev, woujalèv n Rouge* (lipstick).
rouji, wouji vi 1. To redden, become red. 2. To blush. vt Rouji bouch To put lipstick on.
roukay la n Howling, crying, lamenting.
rouke, wouke vi According to folklore, the howl of the dog when it thinks that it sees an evil spirit. Chen an rouke tout lannuit; m’pa konn sa’l te wè The dog howled all night long; I do not know what it saw.
roukou a, woukou n Annatto, lipstick tree. Bixa orellana L. Chany yo fè lank rouj ak roukou pou netvuey souye Shoeshiners make red ink polish from “anatto” to clean shoes.
roul Fè roul To roam about, to loiter, to have a good time. Chak jou li sove nan klas, l’al fè roul nan Bisantèn Every day he skips (leaves) class and goes loitering in the Bicentennial Quarter.
roule, woule vi 1. To roll*, to drive around. vt 1. To deceive. Yo roule’l He was taken in. Cf. colloquial E. Do not let him roll* (deceive) you. 2. To grind (corn). 3. To roll (a person on the ground, etc.).
roulèt la, woulèt n Hem (of clothes).
roulib la, woulib
n 1. Coasting. Fè roulib To coast. 2. Lift, free ride. Mande roulib To ask for a free ride, to hitchhike. Bay roulib To give a free ride, a lift.

roulo 1 a, woulo
n Roll* (film); roller*; reel* (cinema). L’ap mete roulo lan cheve’l She is putting her hair in rollers. V roulo konpresè.

roulo 2 konpresè a, woulo konpresè n Steamroller.

roulong nan, woulong
n Mongoose. Roulong manje poul The mongoose eats chickens.

roussetay la, woussetay la
n Protest. Fè roussetay To protest.

roussete, woussete
vi To protest, to complain.

rout la, wout la, larout
n Road, way, trip, track, route*. Al fè rout ou! Get out of here! An rout En route, on the way. Fè rout (larout) avèk To accompany s.o. on a trip or a walk.

 routin nan, woutin
n Routine*, practice. Li fè’l pa routin He did it without studying, by practice, by ear.

rouy 1 la V larouy

rouy 2, wouy
interj Ouch!

rouye, wouye
vi To rust.

rouzay la, arozay
n Watering.

rouze , aroze, awoze, wouze
vt 1. To water, to irrigate, to sprinkle, to baste. Rouze jaden an pou fe bèl rebòt Water the garden, so you will have a good crop. 2. To add sauce to a platter of food. 3. To beat up.

roy, woy
Ouch! Alas!

royon an, ronyon, noyon
n Kidney (animals).

royroy, woywoy
attrib Raucous, uproar. Moun royroy Boisterous people. Nan royroy sa a m’pa konn sa pou’rn fe With all that raucous, I do not know what to do.

roz la 1, ròz la, woz la
n Rose*. Roz yo bèl nan lakou a, plante joujou yo ha anpil The roses in the garden are beautiful; plant some more so you will have plenty.

roz 2, ròz, woz
attrib Rosy*, pink. Manmzèl abiye an roz jodi a, se pa ti bèl li bèl Mademoiselle is all dressed up in pink today; she really looks beautiful.

roze, wozè vt To redden. Roze bouch To apply rouj to the lips.

rozè a, wozè a
n Rosary* (prayer). V chaple.

rozét la, wozèt la
n Bow-tie. Ou ret chita sou baton rozét ou You remain listless and indifferent when you have a duty to act.

rozo a, wozo a
n Reed (plant). Ginerium sagittatum.

ruin nan
n Ruin(s)*.

ruinen, rinen, winen
vt To wreck, to ruin*.

ryen
n Nothing. (Restricted use). Yo tiye’l pou ryen They killed him for nothing (for no reason). V anyen. Ou fe tou sa pou ryen You did all that to no avail.

sa 1
demons pron 1. That. M’pa renmen sa I do not like that. 2. “Sa” is sometimes used for “that person, that one”. Sa konprenm li konn tout bagay, li pa konn anyen He thinks he knows everything; he does not know anything. PAURIS-113: Kote sa ap mache, tout hò li ap balanse labadans.

sa 2
vi To be able (the modal auxiliaries “can,” “may”). “Sa” is used especially in negative phrases. M’pa sa ale I cannot go.

sa 3, sa...a
What, that which. Sa ou fe’m nan, m’ap fe ou li tou What you did to me, I will do to you also. DEJEAN-44: Sa li deklare a vre What he stated is true.

sa 4

sa a 1
demons adj sing This, that. Foto sa a This photo.

sa a 2
demons pron sing This, that, this one, that one. Sa a pat mouri This one did not die.

sa a yo 1, sa yo
demons adj plur These, those. Rob sa a yo These dresses.

sa a yo 2, sa yo
demons pron plur These, those. M’renmen sa a yo I like these.

sab 1 la
n Sand. Sab lamè ak sab larivyè pa mennen; sab larivyè pa sale, li pi bon mòtye Sea sand and river sand are not the same; river sand is not salty and makes the better mortar.

sab 2 la
n Saber*, sword.

sable
vt To sand, to smooth with sandpaper. “Papye sable” “Sanded paper’; sandpaper. In the North (usu) “katapoli”.

sablïye a
n Sand-box tree. Hura crepitans L.

sabo a
n Type of shoes.

sabò a
n A slap with the back of the hand. Cf. souflièt, pataswèl. Si ou pa fèmen dyòl ou, m’ap fout ou yon sabò If you do not shut your mouth, I am going to slap you down.

sabote
vt To slap.

sache a
n Paper bag, sachet*. Fè yo mete rad yo nan sache pou yo pa sal Have them put the clothes in a paper bag, so they won’t be soiled.

sad la
n Snapper (fish).

sadin nan
n Sardine*.
fake

saf
tag Gluttonous, glutton, insatiable, greedy. Cf. aloufà, afre.
safetida V asa

safran an n Saffron* (spice).
safrete a, safte a n Gluttony, greed.
safte V safrete

sagou a n Sago*. Arrow root flour made from the soft interior of the trunk of various palms and cycads. Used in puddings, cookies, etc.
saj

sakzòrye a, sak zorye a

sakristen an n Sacristan*, sexton*.
sakrivosis la n Sacrifice*.
sakrivye

vt To sacrifice*.
sakristen an n Sacristan*, sexton*.
sakristi a n Sacristy*.
saksofon nan, sakstofon nan n Saxophone*.
sakzorye a, sak zorye a n Pillowcase.
sal 1 la n Room, hall. V lasal.
sal 2 vt To soil, to stain.
sal 3 attrib Dirty, filthy. Sal kon dan peny To be very dirty (like the teeth of a comb).
salad la n Salad*.
salamabit interj Son of a bitch!*
salamanje a, sal a manje a n Dining room.
saldeben an, sal de ben an n Bathroom.
sale 1 vt 1. To salt*. 2. To insult, to let s.o. have it.
sale 2 Salty*. Salted*. Sale tankou lannèJakmel Salty as the sea of Jacmel.
salè a n Salary*, wages. Cf. apwentman.
salez la n Salt(ed)* food (meat, fish).
salezon an n Salt(ed)* meat. Yo prepare bon salezon nan restoran an They prepare good salt meat in the restaurant.
sali vt To soil. (rare for) sal.
salin nan n Salt-mine*, salt* works, salt* marsh, salina*.
salisang attrib Easily soiled.
salmanaza n Monkey business, a flop.
salon an n Living room (house), lounge (hotel).
salòp la

n 1. Slovenly, dirty, filthy, vile individual. 2. Immoral, unscrupulous individual. Li kite nèg la poutèt li salòp She left that man because he was a filthy and vile individual.
salope vt To soil, to botch.
salopèt la n 1. Dungaree (overalls usually with zipper). 2. Loose woman, dirty woman.
saloprika n 1. Base behavior, dirty trick. 2. Scoundrel, rascal, scamp, trash (person).
salte a n 1. Dirt, filth. 2. A degraded person. M'wè de fi ki fache nan lari a; yo di kont salte I saw two angry women in the street; they blurted out a lot of filthy words.
saltenbank la n Rascal.
salue, salye, salve vt To greet, to salute*, to render a salute. Salue Pol pou mwen Give my regards to Paul. Salye lasoyete To get married.
samdi a n Saturday. Le samdi On Saturdays. Samdi dio benit Holy Saturday. Baron samdi, Baron lakwa n Vodou god.
san 1 an n Blood. Fe move san To rage, to become irritated, furious; to be upset, to get angry. You analiz san Blood test. Pose san ou Take it easy. San'm ale avèl I like him (or) her, I go for him (or) her. Jwenn yon moun nan bon sanl To catch someone in a good humor. Pran san To draw blood; to take a blood sample. Yo gate sanm They made me angry. Li sou sanl He is in a good mood. Lèt pase lan san manman pitit la The nursing mother’s milk turned sour. Mizik la mache lan sanm The music enthralled me, it got to me. Nou sue san We sweat blood. Mete san ou ou (or) Pran san ou Get yourself together. Calm yourself. Take it easy. Don’t rush. San’m tap manje’m I was boiling over with anger; I was irritated. Ti boul san Blood-clot.
Gen san cho To be impatient, restless. Ou mèt kriye san You can cry your eyes out. Jwèt la make san The way things are going, a tragedy is imminent. Benyen san To be covered with blood.
san, san sa  Otherwise, were it not for that.  *Sante l pa trô bon; san sa li tap fe you bon sekretè* Her health is not good; were it not for that, she would be a fine secretary.

sansantiman, san santiman  attrib Shameless. Cf E. sentiment*.

sansasyon an  n Sensation*.

sanse  Supposed (to).  *Ou pa sanse fe sa* You are not supposed to do that.

sansi a  n Leech, blood sucker.

sansib adj  Sensitive*, ticklish; sympathetic, compassionate.  *Sansib pou* To be very fond of.  *Li sansib anpil pou ti boutèy li* He cannot get away from his bottle (booze).  *Li touche kod sansib mwen* He struck a chord (tender spot) with me.

sanskini, ans inik  One way.  *Ri sansikin* One way street.

sansipòtan, san sipòtant  Pa gen san sipòtan To be impatient, intolerant.


sant 2 la  n Center, centre*. At Port-au-Prince the word is used synonymously for “small hospital”, “dispensary”.

santans la  n 1. Legal sentence*. 2. Consequence, fate.

sante a, lasante  n Health.  *M'ìa ale men m'pa gen lasante* I would go there, but my health isn’t too good.  *Sante li pa bon, pa kite'l ale* He is not well, don’t let him go.  *Li an sante* He is in good health.

santèn  About one hundred.

santi 1 vt  To smell; to feel, to perceive.  *Ban’m santi*’l Let me smell it.  *M’santi’m pi byen kounyea* I feel much better now. vi To stink, to smell, to exude an odor.  *Santi bon* To smell good.  *Santi move* To smell bad, to stink.  *Dlo a santi* The water is foul.  *Ti santi pise* Kid; small, insignificant person.

santën  About one hundred.

santí 1 vi  To smell; to feel, to perceive.  *Ban’m santi*’l Let me smell it.  *M’santi’m pi byen kounyea* I feel much better now. vi To stink, to smell, to exude an odor.  *Santi bon* To smell good.  *Santi move* To smell bad, to stink.  *Dlo a santi* The water is foul.  *Ti santi pise* Kid; small, insignificant person.

santim nan  n Centime*, cent*. (Haitian currency).

santiman an  n Sentiment*, feeling.


santinèl la  n Sentry*.

santò a  n Bad smell, stench, stink.

santre  vt  To center*.

santye a  n Path (rare).

sanvègòy, san vègòy  attrib Shameless, shameful.

sanvatann  Unexpectedly.
sanzave  a  n  Shameless, scoundrel.  Good for nothing.  V vakaban.

sapat la, chatapat la  n  Cheap, rough sandals worn by peasants or the poor consisting simply of the sole of the shoe plus a strap.  Cf.  karyoka, sandal, soulaye.

sapata  vt  To mistreat, to beat up, to give a blow.

sapatonn nan  n  A hard blow, a whack.

sapen an  n  Fir.

sapotè, sapotiy la  n  Sapodilla* (a fruit).  Sp. sapodilla.  Achras zapota L.  (syn) Manilkara zapotilla (Jacq.).

saranpyon an, charanpyon  n  Measles.

sasinen  V ansasinen.

satan an  n  Satan*.  V devil, demon.

saten an  n  Satin*.

satisfaksyon an  n  Satisfaction*.  Mande satisfaksyon  To request a favor.  Bay satisfaksyon  To render a favor, to grant someone's wish.  Ki bay satisfaksyon  To be satisfactory.

satisfè  vt  To satisfy*.  Ki pa satisfè  Unsatisfied.

satisfèt  V chatouyèt

savan an  n  Learned person, savant*.


save  attrib  (pop)  Enlightened, one who is cultured and educated.  Se moun ki save  This man is educated.

savon an  n  Soap.  V savonèt.  Kim savon  Lather.  Savon lesiv (or) savon lave  Detergent.

savonèt la  n  1. (pop)  Toilet soap.  2. Bwa savonèt  A plant which is used to wash when there is no soap.  In the Artibonite, it is called ‘lyann savon’.  Froto (lyann savon) bwa savonèt pou lave rad yo  Rub the clothes with the ‘soap’ plant to wash them.

savonnay la  n  Admonition, verbal abuse, insults.

savonnen  vt  1. To soap.  Savonnen tout kò ou depi nan tèt jis nan pye ou  Soap your body from head to foot.  2. (fig)  To insult vociferously, to bawl out, to reprimand.

savwa a  n  Knowledge.

sayibòd la  n  Sideboard*, Cupboard.

se  1  vi  Form of the verb “to be”.  Mostly used when predicate is a noun or pronoun.  Li se doktè  He is a physician.

se  2  Li pa be, li pa se  He didn’t say a word.

se  3  Used impersonally as an introductory word, “se” is not accompanied by a subject.  Besides, it precedes the negative adverb ‘pa’.  Se It is;  Se te It was;  Se va  It will be;  Se ta (va)  It would be.  Se you bon bagay It is a good thing.  “Se you” is sometimes contracted to “s’ou”.  Se pa pou  It is necessary that (to have to...).  Se pa pou ...  It is forbidden to ...  Se pa pou moun gen trop ògèy  One shouldn’t be too haughty.

sè  a, sò a  n  1. Sister*.  V sese.  Gran sè  Any older sister.  M’pral sè sò Mari kapab fèl pou mwen  I’m going to see if sister Mary can make it for me.  M’regre sò pou ou, sò’m  I’m sorry for you, sister.  2. Nun, sister*.

sè  2  ‘These’.  Sè jou si  These days.  Sè dam yo  These ladies.  “Sè” and ‘sè...si’ are only used in set phrases.

sè ke  The fact is that... (widely used).

sèch  V sek

seche, cheche  vt  To dry.  Maladi’l la seche’l  His illness has emaciated him, has made him become a skeleton.

sechrès la, chechrès  n  Drought, dry spell.  Ane sa a gen sechrès; rekòlt gate  This year there was a drought, and the harvest was lost.

sèd la, sèd espayol  n  Spanish-cedar.  Cedrela odorata L.

sede  vi  To yield, to give in, to give way.  vt  To let someone have something for a price, although it is not officially for sale.  M’kômen lamp la pa pou vann; men èske ou vle sede’m li?  I know the lamp is not for sale; but will you let me have it for a price?

sedüi, sedi  vt  To charm, seduce*, allure.

sefwe, sefre  vi  To go away.

segon  Second*, 2nd (Rare).  V deyzém.

segonè  attrib  Secondary* (school).


segretè  V sekrete

sèjan an  n  Sergeant*.

sejou a  n  Sojourn*.

sèjousi, sè jou si  These days.

sek  1, sèch, chèch  attrib  1. Dry.  2. Skinny.  3. Empty (pocket).  Examples and expressions:  Pòch mwen sech, m’pa gen hòb  My pockets are empty; I have no money.  Li chèch kou bwa bale  He’s skinny as a broom stick.  Kase sek, pete sek  To snap off, to break off with a snap.  Malè sek  Sudden, unexpected misfortune.  Nan sek (or) Nan tan sek  In the dry season.  When it’s not raining...  as opposed to ‘nan tan lapli’.  Gen je chèch  To have a (hell of) nerve, to be unashamed.  Rad yo sèch; antre yo  The clothes are dry; bring them in.
sèk ² la n 1. Circle*; ring. **Evite sèk li** Avoid his company. 2. Hoop. **L’àp roule sèk** He is pushing the hoop.

sekatè a n Shears (two shears).

sèk V sèkè

sèkèy la n Coffin, casket.

sekife Consequently; and so.

sekile V sikile

sekiritè a n Security*.

sèkle ³, sakle ² vt To weed; to cut with a sickle or machete. **Sèkle ak rou** To hoe. **Lakou a merite sèkle** The yard should be weeded.

sèkle ², sèke ² vt To encircle*, to head off. **Yo sèkle énmi an, epit yo machè pran’l** They encircled the enemy and closed in on him.

sekou a, soukou a n Help, relief. **O sekou!** Help! Au secours*.  V anmwe.

sekoup V soukoup

sekouri, sekoure ² vt To help.

sekous la, soukous n 1. Shaking, tremor. 2. Reaction, action. **M’a fé ou konnen sekous mwen I will let you know who I am and what I can do.**

sekrè a, segre n Secret*. **Sèkra a deyò** The secret is out. **An sekrè Secretly.**

sekretè a, segretè a n Secretary*; personal helper. **M’bezwen you sekretè pou lave machin pou mwen I need a helper to wash my car.**

seksyon an n Section*, division. **Chèf seksyon an** Sheriff of a small rural district.

sektanm V septanm

sekwa attrib Pretentious.

sekwe V souke

sèl ³, disèl n Salt*; salts* (laxative). **Sèl depsonn** Epsom’s salts. **Gro sèl** Non-refined, rough salt. **Sèl fen** Powdered salt. **Aran sèl** Salt(ed) herring. **Trou sèl** Salt marsh.

sèl ² attrib Lonely, lonesome; alone; only; exceptional, violent, particular. **Gen you sèl lapli ki tonbe yè sava** There was such a rainfall last night. **Trou sèl Only.** **Se limenn tou sèl li konnen** He is very selfish; he only knows himself. **M’tal vizite teren an; nan pwèn té, se ròch tou sèl I went to visit the land; there is no dirt, it is only rocks.**

sèl ³ la n Saddle. **Bay kout sèl** To scheme, to get money from someone by giving him a hard luck story.

sela V sesi sela

sele ³ Poze sele To seat* (the door of a building by a court order).

sele ² vt To saddle (a horse). **Sele bride** Fully harnessed. The word “sèle” is also used when a spirit mounts (comes up) a person who then is supposed to be his horse. That spirit is the “loa”. **Lwa Ogoun sele fi a** Ogoun has “mounted” the woman. N.B. When the spirit has gone away, they say Li desele.

sele ³ vt To talk someone into giving or lending you money with a hard luck story.

selebre ² vt To celebrate*.

selebride a n A cheap beverage used by the poor.

selera a n Villain, rogue, scoundrel.

seleri a n Celery*.

selibatè a n Bachelor (m), spinster (f).

selina a n Elderly woman. Cradle snatcher, an older woman who prefers very young men.

selino a n Old man.

sèlman adv Only, merely, but; nevertheless.

selon prep Depending on, according to. **Se selon** It depends. **M’ap fè ou sa ou mande’m pou’m fé pou ou, cheri, se selon jan ou mennen tèt ou I will do whatever you ask me to do for you, darling, it depends on how you act.**

sèman an Oath. **Fè sèman** To swear.

semans la n Seeds for planting.

sèmante vi 1. To swear, to curse. 2. To swear (to state under oath).

semèl la, semèl n Sole (of a shoe). **Doub semèl** Double soles.

semèn nan, semenn n Week. **Semèn pase** Last week. **Semèn sent** Passion week, Holy week.

sen ¹ an n Breast. V tete.

sen ² an, sent la n Holy, Saint. “Sent” is used only in phrases such as (la) **Sent Vyèj.** **Sen Jozèf SaintJoseph. Timoun sa a gen you sen pouze deyèl! That child is acting compulsively and naughtily and irresponsibly, as if moved by an evil spirit.**

sen ³ attrib Healthy.

sene sòf, sennesòf Safe (and sound).

sen ¹ nan, sen n Scene*, stage.

sèn ² nan, semm nan n Fish-net, seine*, triangular drag-net. **Pèch soukou sey la, li pran ampli pawan** The fisherman spread his fishing-net; he caught a lot of fish.

sena a n Senate*.

senatè a n Senator*.

senbòl la n Symbol*.

sendenden an n Worthless, insignificant person.
senti a n The employee who has the responsibility for turning the irrigation system off and on.

sendika a n Labor union.

Sendomeng, Sendonmeng n 1. Former name of Haiti (until 1804). 2. The Dominican Republic.

sene a n Senna* (medicinal plant).

sènen, sènè vt To encircle, to hem in.

senèryen An senèryen Too casually. Ou ap aji an senèryen You are acting too casually.

senjòj la n 1. A millipede. 2. An invocation to Saint George* when one sees a millipede; or makes a simple request for aid. V amilpye.

senk num Five. San senk Penniless, broke. M’te kon you grenn senk I was all by myself, lonely.

senkant num Fifty.

senkyèm num Fifth.

senmafo a n 1. A tall pole. 2. A tall, thin person.

senmenn V semèn

senn V sèn

sennen V To cast nets, to set traps for fish.

senp 1 la n Formula, incantation, ritual with prayers which is supposed to effect an immediate cure. Ban’m fè you senp pou ou pou ou pa gen tèt fe mal ankò Let me give you a simple remedy (formula) so you won’t have a headache anymore.


senpati a n Liking, feeling, congeniality, fellow-feeling.

senpatik attrib Likeable, pleasant, lovable, congenial, friendly. Li lèd, men li senpatik He’s ugly but has a pleasant personality.

senpatize avek vi To feel for, to sympathize* with.

senpleman, senpman adv Simply*, only.

sensè attrib Sincere*.

sensèman adv Sincerely*, truly. M’di ou sa sensèman I am telling you sincerely.

sent V sen

sentespri a n Holy Spirit*.

sentetyèn nan n Type of knife, originally from Saint Etienne, France.

senti a n 1. Belt. 2. Middle, waist. Manman, m’gen you doulé lan senti; se pa ti kras fe mal Mommé, I have a pain in my side; it really hurts. Li mete de men’l nan senti’l pou’l moute môn nan She puts her two hands on her waist while climbing the hill. Mare senti ou Make sacrifices. Be ready to suffer. An plèn senti Pregnant.

sentiron an n Belt (man’s). Sentiron pa vann chè Belts aren’t expensive. Si ou fe dezòd, m’ap fout ou senk kout sentiron If you don’t behave, I’ll belt you five times.

sentoma a, sen toma n incredulous person, doubting Thomas*.

sentre vt 1. To fit tight, to tighten, surround. 2. To harass (grill) someone with endless questioning; to corner, to put the heat on, to catch. V fouye, sere.

sentrebas, sentre bas To keep after (s.o.), to corner.

senyen vi To bleed. vt To draw blood, to bleed.

sèp la n Wooden triangular collar placed around an animal’s neck which prevents it from getting out of an enclosure. (syn) kròk.

sèpan an n Serpent*.

sepandan conj However, yet, nevertheless.

sèpantye a, charpantye a n Woodpecker.

separasyon an n Separation*.

separe vi To part, to divide, share, to dish out (food), distribute, separate*. Separe cheve ou Part your hair. vi To get separated. Mwen ak madann mwen nou pa sa viv ansanm, n’ap separ My wife and I can’t live together; we just have to have a separation.

sèpèt la n Sickle. Also kouto digo.

sèpida a n Bad character (fem).

septanm, sektanm n September*.

seramik la n Ceramics*.

sèra seta V seta sera

sere 1 attrib Tight, close-fitting, close-fisted, constipated. (Adv) tightly.

sere 2 vt 1. To tighten (a screw, etc.), to clench (teeth). 2. To hide, to conceal, to secrete, to lock up. 3. To economize, to save, to lay away, to put away. 4. To corner (s.o.) with questions. To pump s.o. Examples and expressions: Yo sere koj la anba te They hid the strong box in the ground. M’gen kòf la anba te They hid the strong box in the ground. M’gen lèd I have a heavy heart; I’m troubled; I am apprehensive. Goj muen te sere I had a lump in my throat. Li sere He is constipated. Sere boulon V boulon.

seremoni an n Ceremony*. Also Vodou term. Seremoni maji, seremoni pwen. (COURLANDER).

seren an n Evening dew, evening mist. Piga seren Type of poison.

serenad la n Serenade*.

sereng nan n Syringe*.

seri 1 a n Lock. Trou seri a Keyhole.

seri 2 a n Series*, group.
sèvi la n Service*, favor. 2. Duty, service*. De
sèvis, sou sèvis On duty. 3. Protestant ecclesiastical
service*. 4. Vodou ceremony.
sèvis 2 la n A group of tin containers which fit
into each other when empty (in order to conserve
space) and used to carry various foods. Extensively
used in Haiti.
sèvity a n Servant*.
sèvo a n Brain. V sèvèl. Papa’m te you nonm ki
tegén sèvo My father was a very smart man. Pa fe
sèvo ak mwen Don’t try to act smart with me. M’fe
you kout sèvo I used my ingenuity (in a flash of
genius). Nèg sa ou le la a se you sèvo, li konn
pale tout lang That man you see there is a brain; he
can speak any language.
sèvolan an n 1. Paper kite (for flying). V kap,
grandou. Sèvolan pa’m nan moute pi ro My kite
flew higher. 2. Also stag-beetle
sèvre vt To be obliged to, to have to.
sètoblije To be obliged to, to have to.
sèsida i.e., That is to say.
sèse a n Clothes hanger.
sèt enfant Seven.
sàni i.e., That is to say.
sètrole je To be astonished, startled, taken by
surprise.
sètrole la n A group of tin containers which fit
into each other when empty (in order to conserve
space) and used to carry various foods. Extensively
used in Haiti.
sètrole man adv Seriously*, in earnest.
sètrole sèvèl la attrib Serious*, solemn, trustworthy, earnest,
reliable. Also séréz (applied to females). (Adv)
In earnest.
sètroleze man adv Seriously*, in earnest.
sèso 1 n Sister; aunt. Generally Ti sèso Sis. Often
an apocope for any girl’s name beginning with
Se. Sesilia, Selina, Seramiz, etc. Bonjou sèso
Good morning, sis. M’pral ka sese Roz I’m going
to aunt (sister) Rose’s.
sètrole sèla This and that.
sèsèten a n Clothes hanger.
sèt n Sixteen.
sètrole ak mwen man To be astonished, startled,
taken by surprise.
sètrole ak mwen la n A group of tin containers which fit
into each other when empty (in order to conserve
space) and used to carry various foods. Extensively
used in Haiti.
sèvèl ak moun akade In six months.
sèvi la n Service*, favor. 2. Duty, service*. De
sèvis, sou sèvis On duty. 3. Protestant ecclesiastical
service*. 4. Vodou ceremony.
sèvis 2 la n A group of tin containers which fit
into each other when empty (in order to conserve
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sèvity a n Servant*.sèvo a n Brain. V sèvèl. Papa’m te you nonm ki
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you kout sèvo I used my ingenuity (in a flash of
genius). Nèg sa ou le la a se you sèvo, li konn
pale tout lang That man you see there is a brain; he
can speak any language.
**si**

1. *conj* If; whether. *Si se pat pou... Were it not for...*

2. *adv* So, so much. SYLVAIN-150: *Timoun mwen yo mwen si renmen* My children (whom) I love so much.

**sianka**

*V anka*

**sibi**

*vt* To undergo, to suffer, to experience.

**sibit**

*attrib* Sudden. *Li mouri mò sibit, tout moun sezi* He died a sudden death to everyone's surprise.

**sibitman**

*adv* Suddenly.

**sibréka a, soubriké a** *n* Second in charge on a ship.

**sid 1**

*n* South*. *Nan sid In the South. Moun sid Southerner. Moun nan sid, langaj yo pa menm ak pa moun nan nò* The speech of the people in the South is not the same as that of those in the North. *Sid es Southeast. Sid wès Southwest.*

**sid 2**

*n* Cider*.

**sidody a**

*n* Pillow case. (Rare). *V todoreye.

**sife, sifè**

Indeed, yes, truly, in fact, it's true. *Sife, li pa manti* No, he's not lying.

**sifilis la**

*Syphilis*.

**siflè**

*V soufle*

**sifoke, sivoke**

*vi* To suffocate*, to gasp for air, to choke.*

**siga a**

*n* Cigar*.

**sigal**

*V lasigal*

**sigalye a**

*n* (Rare) Cigar* maker.

**sigrant la**


**sige**

*vi* To go away. Cf. Spanish ‘sique’.

**sigjere, sijere**

*vt* To suggest*.

**sigjesyon an, sijestyon an**

*n* Suggestion*.

**sije a**

*Subject*. *Frèl la se move sije* His brother is a bad character.

**sijte**

*vi* To overcast (in sewing).

**sik 1**

*n* Circus*.

**sik 2**

*n* Sugar*. *Sik rouj Brown sugar. Jan fé sik John is diabetic.*

**sikdoy la**

*n* Type of candy.

**siklasyon an**

*n* Traffic (street).

**sikile, sekile**

*vi* To get about (news, person). To keep moving, to move on, to circulate*. *Jan-dam nan di foul la: Sikile The policeman said to the crowd: Get going. Dokté a di jenòm nan: Se*
sinema a, silema a  n Cinema®, movie house. “Movies” is usually “film”, “fin”. *Sa se sinema That’s not real. It’s hypocrisy, pretense, make-believe.  *Se sinema gratis It’s a free show! It’s a laugh.

sinik attrib Cynical®.

sinis la  n Gray rooster. < Sp.

sinistre a  n Disaster victim. *Lèt sinistre Milk sent to disaster victims.

sinon conj Otherwise.

sioka V sizoka

sipèb attrib Superb®, haughty.

siperyèe attrib Excellent, very good; of superior quality. Comparative is “pi siperyèe” Better, finer, best, superior.  *M’acht de soulye ki siperyèe I bought some excellent shoes.

sipèstisyon an  n Superstition®.

sipèvèzè a  n Supervisor®.

sipèls la  n Tortment, torture.

sipèlyèe, soupèryèe  vt To beg, entreat, insist. Not for ‘beg pardon’ = *mande padon.


sipòtan attrib *Gen san sipòtan To bear up with, to be tolerant.

sipòte  vt To endure, to stand, to support®, to uphold.

sipòze 1  vt To suppose®; to assume, to surmise.

sipòze 2  1. Supposed® to.  2. Supposing that, just suppose that.

sipozisyon an  n Supposition®.

sipozon Let’s suppose®.

siprann, souprann  vt To surprise®. To take by surprise®, to catch in the act. V bare, sezi.  *M’siprann tigason an ap fimen I caught the boy who live at the expense of others.

siprime  vt To have an adverse effect on one’s growth (particularly during puberty). Not to have one’s (monthly) period.  *Yo di yon jènfi va siprime si’l manje tròp sitron They say that a girl will stop menstruating, if she makes too great a use of lemons.

sipriz la  n Surprise®.

siray la  n Shoe-polish.

sire  vt To shine, to wax. *Sire soulje a Shine the shoe.  *Tèt li byen sire, ou a di se you glas His hair is so shiny, it looks like a mirror.  *Pantalon an trò sire, lave’l These pants are too dirty, wash them.

sirèn nan  n Siren® (horn).

sirèt 1 la  n Sugar candy. *Ti machann sirèt Candy peddler.  *Metye’l se fe sirèt He’s a confectioner.

sirèt 2 attrib Sourish®. *Dan’m vin sirèt My teeth are sensitive to the wind; they are sourish, on edge.

siri a  n Saw-mill®, lumber mill.

sirik la  n 1. Water crab.  2. (fig) Stingy, tightwad.

siro a  n Syrup®. V kann, myèl.  *Gen pliyè kalite siro kann, siro myèl, siro bètrav, etc. There are several kinds of syrup: sugar cane, honey syrup, beet syrup, etc.  *Siro myèl Honey.  *Bay siro To turn the rope slowly in jump rope.

sirodlin Syrupy; silky; sweet, velvety, smooth.

sirote, siwote  vt To savor, to absorb, to drink slowly (with pleasure).

siro:  siro kann, siro myèl, siro bètrav, etc.  (Excessive) Tolerance, complacency.

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siro:  siro kann, siro myèl, siro bètrav, etc.  (Excessive) Tolerance, complacency.
sitirè a n One who condones, forgives too often, or is overtolerant.
sitirèz la n Same as ‘sitirè’ but applied only to women.
sitiyasyon an, sitiysyon, sitirasyon n Situation*.
sito conj As soon as.
sitou adv Especially, mostly. M’renmen frui anpil, sìtou mango ak pòm I like fruit a lot, especially mangoes and apples.
sitronèl la, sitronnèl la n Citronella*. sitrouy la n Type of vegetable similar to a pumpkin, gourd.
sitwayen an, sitoyen an n Citizen*.
sitwe a n Southwester* (wind).
siv la n Chives*, Welsh onion. Allium schoenoprasum L.
siveyan an n Watchman, overseer, foreman; monitor (school).
siveyans la n Surveillance*.
siveye, souveye vt To watch (over); to oversee; to spy on.
sivil 1 la n Civilian*.
sivil 2 attrib Civil*, civilian*. V ak sis Maryaj sivil Civil ceremony (wedding). Marye sivil To wed (civil ceremony only).
sivilizasyon an n Civilization*.
sivoke V sIFOKE
sivyè a n Stretcher. V branka.
siwa n Southwest*.
siyad la n A light contact, brushing against.
siyal la n Signal*.
siyalale vt To signal*, to mention.
siyalman an n Description (e.g. of a presumed murderer).
siyati a n 1. Signature*. 2. (pop) Surname, family name. Li poze siyati He signed. Mete siyati ou anba papye a anm an ou voye’l ale Sign at the bottom of the document before you forward it.
siyay la n The wake of. Fann lan siyay yon moun To go after s.o., to pursue, to follow in the traces of (s.o.).
sonj la n Dream. Mwè ou nan sonj I dreamed about you.
sonje, chonje vi To recollect, to remember; to think of. Mpa sonje ki paj I can’t remember what page. Fé m sonje pou m ale Remind me to go. vt 1. To remember. N ap sonje ou anpil We’ll miss you. Ou pa sonje m You forgot all about me.
somm, somb attrib Dull, sombre*, sad, dark.
sommè V somèy
sonnan, sond lan n Stethoscope, sounding* instrument.
sonen vt & vi To ring; to sound*.
sopthey V sopthey
sore a, sowa a n Bum, good for nothing.
sorosi, asorosi, sosi a n Bitter medicinal plant used to make infusions for stomach aches, fever. Momordica charantia L.
sos la n Gravy, sauce*, juice. Sòs pwa Bean soup with the beans removed. Pwa an sòs Bean soup (with the beans in it). Sòs tomat Catsup. Sòs pike Hot sauce. Sòs mango Mango juice. Ou lan tout sòs You meddle into everything.
sosi V sorosi
sosison an n Large sausage*.
sôsye a, chôchyé, choche n Witch, sorceress*; wizard, sorcerer*. V bôkô.
sosyete a, lasosyete n 1. Society*. Mesye dam lasosyete, bonsua Ladies and Gentlemen (and people) everybody, good evening. 2. Combine, group, company.
sôt, sot V sôti
sôt 2 attrib Dummy, foolish, dumb, stupid, illiterate, silly. Pa fe sôt ave m Don’t get funny with me. Moun sôt di sa li konnen; moun lespri konnen sa l di Stupid people say what they know; smart people know what they’re saying. Sôt tankou panyen pèse Stupid as a jack-ass.
sote 1 vi To jump (over). Ou mèt sote ponpe! Nothing doing! vt 1. To skip. Manje sote To eat at irregular intervals. 2. To fry, to saute*. 3. To blast. Sote tèt To behead. Yo sote pon an They blasted the bridge. 4. To jump. Sote kòd To jump rope.
sote 2 To be startled, surprised. Fé you moun sote To startle s.o.
sòti 1, soti, sòt, sot vi 1. To go out, to get out, to step out. 2. To come from. 3. To become, to come out as. 4. To have just (in this case ‘sòti’ is used as an auxiliary). Examples and expressions: Nou sot manje We just ate. Ou sòti sove m You just saved my life. Ou pa sa fe san soti nan roch You can’t get blood out of a turnip. Soti...al From...to...(From one place to another). Soti
deyò To get out (news). Soti...rive From..to (place, time, etc.). (The forms ‘sot’ et ‘söt’ cannot be used at the end of a sentence).

sötì 2, soti Stroll, outing. M’ap fè yon soti I am going out for a while.

sotiz la n Foolish act, foolishness, silliness, blunder.

sou 1 prep On, over, above, up; in the presence of; over and interested in. Examples and phrases: Mete vè a sou tab la Put the glass on the table. Li frape sou frape; m’pa louvè He knocked over and again, but I didn’t open. Yo atake sou atake men yo pa reyisò They kept on attacking, but they were unsuccessful. Zanmi’m di’m: M’sou ou lan you moman My friend said to me: I’ll be with you in a jiffy (in a moment). M’te vle al nan sinema ak sè’m. Li refize, li pat sou sa I wanted to go to the movies with my sister. She refused, she wasn’t in the mood. She didn’t feel like it. Fi a pa sou bò ou The girl is not interested in you. Soubreka V sibreka

souch la, chouch n Stump, root; socket; stub. Souch bua Stump. Rache souch To dig up stumps. Souch dan The visible remains of a broken tooth, root. Pwa souch (or) pwa chouch Butter bean(s).

souce attrib (Well)-rooted, established, founded. Byen souche Well protected, well established, (or a person) having good connections.

soud 1 la n A lizard, larger than the zandolit but smaller than the mabouya. Soud soley, soud loray, etc.

soud 2 attrib Deaf. Soud bèbè Deaf-mute.

soude vt To solder*, weld.

soudè 1 a n A deaf person.

soudè 2 a n Welder, solderer*.

soudi a n Welding.

soudin nan n A mute, sordino*. V ansoudin.

souf 1 la n Breath, puff; blowing. Pran souf To take a breather. Lè m’pral Sitadél, anvan m’rive m’toujou pèdi souf nan mòn nan When I go to the Citadelle, before arriving I’m always out of breath on the mountain. Rann san souf To harass.

souf 2 la n Sulphur*.

souflantchou a n Lackey, flatterer, bootlicker (servile).

souflè 1, sifle vi 1. To whistle. 2. To blow (the wind). Van soufle, bua tonbe The wind blows, the trees fall. 3. To breathe, to pause, to rest. Kite’m soufle Let me rest (breathe). M’pa vin soufle lan banbou I didn’t come here for nothing.

soufle 2 vt To blow; to whisper (information). Yo pa soufle’m anyen They didn’t tell me a thing. Soufle bouji a Blow the candle.

souflemôde, mòdesoufle attrib Hypocrite. Gen anpil moun se rat souflemôde yo ye There are many people who are two-faced. (The rat bites and then blows on it so that you don’t feel the pain.) (syn) kouto de bò.

soulét 1 la, siflet la n Whistle. Moun yo soufle soulétnan rara tou They blow whistles during ‘rara’ times too.

souflet 2 la n Slap on the face.

souflete vt To slap.

soufrans la n Suffering*, misery, abeyance, anguish.

soufri 1, ti soufri n Weakling. Li pòtre ak yon ti soufri He looks like a starving, suffering child.

soufri 2 vi To suffer*, to ail; to endure. Mwen tou ap soufri soufri’m I got my own troubles. I’m suffering.

soufrisken an n Starving and suffering person.

soujemen, soujém attrib Second (cousins). Cf E. Cousin-german*.

souke, sekwe vt To shake, to shake out, to agitate, to wag. Souke kò ou, se nan bal ou ye Shake a leg, you’re at a dance, you know. Fè you moun souke pèy mango a pòu mango mi yo ka tonbe Make somebody shake the mango tree so that the ripe mangoes can fall down. Chen an ap souke ke’l The dog is wagging its tail. vi 1. To shake (be shaking). Féy yo ap souke lan van an The leaves are shaking in the wind.

soukétlarouze V choukétlarouze

soukou V sekou

soukoup la, sekoup n Saucer.

soukous V seokus

soulaje vt To relieve (pain); to soothe, to comfort, console, cheer up.

soulajman an n Relief.

soulasèlèdédọ Flat on one’s back. M’jwenn li kouche sou lasèlèdédọ I found him lying flat on his back.

soulay la n Tipsiness, drunkenness.

soule 1 vt To get (slightly) drunk, to make drunk (tipsy). You sèl vè poinch m’bèvè, m’soule One glass of rhum punch and I’m tipsy.

soulezèl V zèl
soulezon an  n  Tipsiness, drunkenness.
souliyen  vt  To underline (to draw a line under).
soule  vt  To raise, to lift.
soulwe  vt  To sublet.
soumèt  vt  Submit*.
soumoun  attrib  Fresh, impudent, forward.
soup 1  la  n  Soup*.  M’bwè soup sou têt ou  I’m much taller than you.
soup 2  attrib  Supple*.
soupe 1  a  n  Supper*, the (evening) meal.  Soupe pare, an’ al a tab  Supper is ready, let’s sit at the table.
soupe 2  vi  To eat supper*.
soupi 1  a  n  Sigh.  Pouse soupi  To sigh.
soupi 2  a  n  Type of pastry.
soupoudre 1  a  n  A salted meat preparation.
soupoudre 2  vt  To sprinkle (sugar, etc.).
soupriye  V  sipliye

sousè a  n  Blood-sucker*, parasite.
sousetrennen, souse trennen  n  Parasite (a person who live off others).
sousoi 1  a  n  Eyebrow.
sousoi 2  a  n  Care, concern.  San sousi  Without any care whatsoever, complete relaxation.
sousi 3  a  n  Marigold.
sousôl la  n  Basement.
sousou  a  n  Flatterer, sycophant, boot-licker.
stasåynonnen, estasåynonnen vi To park.

stat, estat vt To start* (a car). vi To start, to run. Machin mwen pa vle stat My car won’t start.

statè a, estatè n Starter* (auto). Pàn statè Starter trouble.

stati a, estati n Statue*.

stick la n Officer’s leather billet. Cf. E. stick*.

stipid, estipid attrib Stupid*, dummy.

stòk la, estòk n Stock*.

stòp, estòp interj Stop! International anglicism.

stope, estope vt & vi To stop *, to halt.

stropye V estropye

swe, swe vi To sweat. Ou trò renmen byen san swe You like something for nothing.

sue, swe n Sweat, perspiration. Se swe n nan fron’l ki ba li manje It’s the sweat of his brow that feeds him (He works for a living).

swe a, swe, laswè n Sweat, perspiration. Se swe n nan fron’l ki ba li manje It’s the sweat of his brow that feeds him (He works for a living).

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swè a, swèt la n Wish.

swèf V swaf

swèl 1 la n Blow with a spur in a cockfight. V pataswèl.

swèl 2 attrib Tight. Pantalon swèl Tight pants.

swen 1 an n Care. Yo te ba li bon swen They took good care of him. Pran swen To look after.

swen 2 vt To take care of, to care for.

swente V suente

swenyan, swayè vt To care for, to take special care of (administering medicine, etc.).

swèt 1 la n South-eastern wind.

swèt 2 la V swè

swete vt To wish. M’swete ou you bon Nwèl I wish you a merry Christmas.

swif V suif

swiv V suiv

syann nan n Type of fabric.

syans la, lasyans n Science*.

syèk la n Century; a long while. Gen yon syèk depi’m voye tigason an al achte sigarèt pou mwen It’s been a long, long time since I sent the boy to buy cigarettes.

syèl la, lesyèl n Sky, heaven.

syès la n Siesta*. Sp.

swètè a, swètè n Sweater*.

swètè a, swètè n Sweater*.

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swètè a, swètè n Sweater*.

swètè a, swe, suè

swè a, swèt la n Wish.

swèf V swaf
tab la n Table*. Tab bouche Butcher shop, meat counter. Tab jouet Gaming table. Chita, mete ou a tab Sit (down) at the table.

tabak la n Tobacco*. Nicotiana tabacum L. Ou a kaka tabak You won’t get a darn thing. Yo pa ban’m pa tabak They didn’t give me a darn thing.

tabatye a n Snuff-box.

tabliti a n Vicissitude, problem, scandal, trouble. Nan fe tablati, goumen mete pye Scandal leads to fighting. Non sa a kab mete ou nan tablati That man can get into you trouble.

tablèt la n Cake or tidbit like a nougat. Flat pieces of peanut butter candy, peanut brittle. Here are some types of tablèt: tablèt mwa, tablèt pistach, tablèt roroli, tablèt koko, (North) = tablèt kokoye, etc. When they are sticky, they are called tablèt lakòl.

tabli 1 V etablì

tabli 2 a n A device consisting of two poles and a crossbar to which are hung bunches of corn ears for storage.

tablìye a, tablìye n Apron.

tablo a n Board, blackboard; table*, tableau*; painting, canvas.

tabòk la n Smack, slap.

tach 1 n Speck, stain, spot, blemish. Li bezwen pomad pou figi’l ki gen tach He needs an ointment for his spotty face. San tach Stainless (spotless).

2 (palmis) n The withered peduncle (the hard stem or back end) of a palm leaf, which is detached from the palm tree. Depi tach la sech nan palmis la, li pral tonbe When the palm leaf dries up, it will fall.

tache 1 vt & vi To pin (up), attach*, tie on, affix, fasten; to be tied or fastened. V mare. Pran you sepeng nan kwafè la, tache robou ou ki chire Take a safety pin on the dressing table and pin up your dress which is torn.

2 vt To make a spot, stain, to mark, to leave a spot. (attrib) Spotted i.e. with spots. Gen anpil frui ki tache rad, pa egzanp zamann, zabrika, kokoye... There are many fruits which can stain clothes, such as almonds, apricots, coconut (milk)...

tafya a n Tañia*. (An alcoholic beverage distilled from sugar cane). Sa’m te ba ou la, se te you parol tafya What I said to you was the result of liquor. Tafya blan White (raw) rum.

tafyaté a n Guzzler, drunkard, tippler, boozier. V tafya, sou, bwosonyè, karavache, grôgmann.

tak, titak Drop (of liquid). Used as a partitive particle. Cf. Tigout. (usu) Titak A bit of, some. Li pa ban’m tak He didn’t give me a bit.

3 adv So, so much (used to express an indefinite figure). M’eye tan pou liv la I paid so much (a certain amount) for the book.

takantak V tenkantenk
tan⁴ V tanpou

... tan⁵ adv So much as, as much as. Tan l’manje se tan l’buè He eats as much as he drinks.

tanbou a n Drum. Ou kom bon bat tanbou? Do you play the drum? Gen tanbou djas, tanbou madiga, tanbou marengwen, tanbou asòto, etc, etc.

tanbouren an n ‘Mosquito drum’. A miniature two-headed drum (COURLANDER).

tanbournè a n Drummer.

tanbouye a n Drummer.

tandans la n Tendency*. Li gen tandans vomi lò’l fin manje He has a tendency to vomit after eating.

tandantan Yesteryear, a long time ago. Depi tandant Ande ages ago.

tande¹ a n Hearing. Tande zòrèy la Inner part of the ear.

tande² vt & vi 1. To hear; to understand; to listen; to overhear. 2. To obey, to heed (a warning), to listen.

tandiske conj While, whereas.

tânë a n Tanner*

tanga a n (pop) Loin-cloth, pagne, old skirt, waist-piece for peasants. Pov tifi a! Li pa gen rad, li oblige mete you moso tanga sou li Poor girl! She doesn’t have a dress. She’s obliged to wear a waist-piece for peasants. Poor girl!

...  tanpou adv From a long time.

tank la¹ n Tank*.

tank², tan So, so much; as long as, while, inasmuch as. Tank... tank The more... the more.

tankou, kankou As, like (prep). Fè tankou l Do as he does. 2. As if (conj). Li fè tankou li pa we’l He pretended he didn’t see him.

tanmen vi To begin and continue to do something (followed by a verb). vi To initiate, to start.

tamm¹ attrib Tender*. Pwa tamm Green beans (still in the pods).

tamm² vt & vi To wait (for), expect. Cf. E. Attend*. Li fèl pou l tann He has to wait.

tamm³ vt To extend*, stretch, to display, spread. Mari ap tamm rad nan solèy Marie is spreading the clothes to dry in the sun. Tamm (ranje, fe) kabann To make the bed. Tamm you pyéj To set a trap.

tamndat Depi tamndat For a long time (in the past). Depi tamndat m’ap tam ou I have been waiting for you for such a long time.

tannen vt To tan* (skin).


tanpe, etanpe vt To mark, to brand (an animal). Stamp*.

tanperaman an n Temperament*, character.

tanperati a n Temperature*. Does not mean ‘fever’. V lafyèv.

tanpet la n Tempest*, storm.

tanpete vi To raise a storm, to make a big fuss.

tanpi Too bad, so much the worse.

tanpon an n Pad, stamp-pad, wad.

tanponnen, taponnen vt 1. To dab, to dampen. 2. To mark with a rubber stamp.

tanpou, tan pou Instead of.

tanpri Please! V souple.

tànri a, tannri n Tannery*

tansèlman But (only). Amizèn, viv lavi, tansèlman pa bliye gen demen Enjoy, live it up but don’t forget there is a tomorrow.

tansyon an n 1. Stress, tension*. Li sou tansyon He’s under pressure, hard-pressed. 2. Blood pressure.

tant¹ la, matant, tantin, tantant n Aunt*, auntie*.

tant² la n Tent*.

tantasyon an n Temptation*. Bay tantasyon To tempt*.

tante vt 1. To tempt*, to entice. 2. Tante chans To try one’s luck.

tantin¹ nan n Auntie*. Tantin tann tonton Trap supposedly with magical powers used by the peasants to protect their gardens.

tantin² meyèt n A go-between (female adult) specially between young people.

tanzantan adv From time to time.

tanzaòt adv From time to time, once in a while.

taode, tarode vt To plane a board, to cut (thread) (a pipe). Pou ebenis yo kole de moso planch, yo taode toulede byen taode pou youn byen chita sou lòt In order for cabinet makers to glue two planks of wood, they plane them ‘til they shine so that one can sit well on the other.

tap¹, tape, te ap Auxiliary of the progressive past tense. M’tap vini lò’l ale I was coming when he left.

tap² la n A tap, slap (usu) on the hand with the open hand. Mamman l’ba’l you tap nan déyè His mother gave him a slap on his behind.

tapaj la n Row (noise). Fè tapaj To talk, making a lot of noise; fuss, trouble.

tapajè attrib Loudmouth, roudy, quarrelsome, noisy.
tapan  adv Exactly, sharp.  A senkè tapan  At five sharp.

tape  vt 1. To slap, to beat, to hit, to tap*.  Ti gason an ap mache tout tan; papa’l di’l, m’ap tape ou si ou pa’l chita  The boy walks all the time. His father says to him: I’m going to beat you, if you won’t sit down.  2. To type.  Aprem m’ap tape a la machin; l’a til ou  Learn to type; it will be useful to you.

tape, tap, tep  Auxiliary of the progressive past tense.  Li tape mange  He was eating.

tapi a  n Rug, carpet.

tapisri a  n Tapestry*.  Lontan yo te konn fe bèl tapisri  A long time ago they used to make beautiful tapestries.  Fè tapisri  To be a wall flower, i.e. not to be invited to dance.

tapral, taprale  Was (were) going (to).

taptap  la  n Bus, a type of jitney bus, pick-up bus, which originally went from Port-au-Prince to Carrefour (suburb). Each one is gay, carefree, and on-the-go. More important for philologists is that each one has a name, picturesque, indicative, and suggestive. Each small truck has wooden benches adapted to them.

taptap  adv Fast, in a jiffy.

tapyoka a  n Tapioca*.

tarode  V taode

tas  vt To tamp, pack (earth, etc). To shake down objects in a box, etc.

tase  vt To make poopoo, to defecate, to shit.

taso a  n Dried meat. Meat which has been seasoned, allowed to dry in the sun, and then grilled. Cf. Sp. tasajo.  Meg kou taso las-kwendeng  To be skin and bones, to be very thin, emaciated.

tata  a  n Stool (excrement), shit.  Fè tata  To have a bowel movement. V okabine, kaka.

tata  vi To make poopoo, to defecate, to shit.

tatawéla  n Great, great grandmother. Sp. tatarabuela. V grangrann.

tate  vt To feel, to touch in order to check and verify, to finger.  Abitan an tate poul la pou we si’l gen se  The farmer fingered the hen to see if she had eggs.

tatonnen  vt To grope, to feel one’s way around.

tava  Would, should. Auxiliary of the conditional. V ta.  Ou tava d’im pouli  You would tell me why.

taveno, tabéno  n Species of hardwood which takes a beautiful polish and consequently is highly prized for furniture. Lysiloma latissilqua (L.) Benth.

tavle  Poud tavle  Charm, magic (love) potion.

tay  la  n 1. Size, height.  2. Hip, waist.  3. Tay ba  Low hips, a dance posture  (COURLANDER).

4. Yon tay...  A huge...  Yon tay moun  A huge person.

tay  la  n Pencil sharpenener.

taye  vt 1. To cut (out), to chop, to prune, to clip, to trim.  2. To spank, to whip, to flog.  3. To overcome, beat, win (in a game).  4. To go to bed with, to screw.  5. To cut (square stones).  6. To sharpen (pencil).  Taye banda  To walk elegantly, to cut capers, to show off.


tayo a  n Type of vegetable (South). In Port-au-Prince it is called “malanga”.

taza a  n Kingfish, cero (a fish of the mackerel family).

tchak  la, latchak  n Disease of chickens.

tchak  attrib Old fashioned and strict (Neol). Disagreeable.

tchaka a  n Pounded corn (cooked food) which mixed with other ingredients become a soup. Cf. Sp. machaca.

tchakade  vt To assassinate, to chop to pieces.  Ansasen an tchakade madamn nan ak kouto pou’l pran lajan’l  The assassin murdered the lady with a knife to get her money.

tchake  vt To pick, to stab; to cut up, to chop (up).

tchaketchak  vt To pierce, chop repeatedly.

tchala a  n Reference book for “bòlèt” players.

tchanpan an, tyanpan  n 1. Junk.  2. Junk food. Worthless food.  Li manje tout vye tyanpan  He eats all kinds of bad food.

tchanse, tyanse  vi To talk nonsense, to babble.

tchap la  n Cap, forage cap.

tchatcha  a  n 1. Lelbek (Albizia lelbek) (L.) Benth. A tree, the seeds of which, when dry and shaken, make a noise similar to the chacha rhythm.  2. A musical instrument made with seeds inside a gourd to which a handle has been attached.

tchatcha  vi To get along, to make a living.  Kouman sa?  M’ap tchatcha  How are you? I’m getting along.

tchaw  la  n Cheap food, junk food.


tche  V ke

tchè  V ke

tchek la  n Check* (control).

tcheke, tyèke  vt To check*.

tchêkòp la  n Check-up* (medical, etc).
tèl la n Small change. Sp.
tchenkon An tchenkon Piece by piece, piecemeal, partly.
tchimén V kimen
tchipe V kuîpe
tchit V kit
tchôbôl la n Trouble, problem, difficulty.
tchôka vt To shell coffee beans in a mortar.
tchôtchôwè attrib Good for nothing, nosy.
tchôu a n Rectum, rear, behind, anus. Tchou boutey Bottom of a bottle.
tchoubouloung Mess, disarray. Lage yon peyi lan To put a country in disarray, upside down.
tchouboum V tyouboum
tchoul V tyoul
tchoule V rekile
tchouloulout la, tchouloulou a n Diarrhea.
te 1, t Past and pluperfect marker. Was, were; has, had been. Yè m’te we ou lavil I saw you downtown yesterday. M’tal dòmi lakay I had gone to sleep at home.
te 2 Apocope of “kite” used as imperative only. Te’m wè Let me see.
te 3 a n Concoction, tea, infusion. The variant “dite” is used in the North.
tèdoreye a, têt doreye, sak zoreye n Pillow case.
tèk 1 la n Fillip, a slight flick made with the thumb and forefinger (or middle finger). Fè you tèk Make a shot at marbles. Jan ban’m you tèk nan zorèy John gave me a snap on the ear.
tèk 2 Nothing, no, none. Ou a tèk You will get nothing. FRANKETIENNE/D-125: Apre sa, pa tèk! After that, nothing!
tek vt 1. To hit (barely). 2. (Term used in the game of marbles, etc). To shoot (marbles) with the thumb, or to kick slightly a ball (in a soccer game).
tèkîtégèdèk Firm, steadfastly. Cf. tennfas.
tèl indef adj Such, such a. You tèl bagay Such a thing. De tèl istwa Such stories.
teldî télfe No sooner said than done.
teledyòl la n Transmittal of news by words of mouth; bush telegraph.
téléfon nan n Telephone, phone.
telefone, telefonen vt To telephone, to phone, to call up.
telegraf la n Telegraph.
telegrafye vt To cable, to telegraph.
telegram nan n Telegram.
téléka, teleka, tèl le ka Supposing, if for instance...
televizyon an n Television, TV.
tèlman, si tèlman adv So. Yo si tèlman rich They are so rich.
èm attrib Sound, ok.
tèmès la n Thermos bottle.
temwen an n Witness.
ten 1 V eten
ten 2 an n Thyme.
tenbre V papy
tenèb la n 1. Darkness. 2. Tenebrae*. 3. On Good Friday at 3:00 p.m., children will “Bat tenèb” or strike any metal object continuously.
tenis la n Lawn tennis*. (Soulier) tennis, tennis shoes.
tenkantenk, takantak adv Tit for tat.
tenm nan, tenb n Postage stamp, tax stamp.
tenmpla, templaw On the same level, in agreement.
tenn vt To dye, to stain. Li tenn chevèl trò souvan She dyes her hair too often.
tenmès la, tenès n Tenesmus*. (An urgent desire to urinate or defecate without ability to do so).
tenfas adv Firmly, steadfastly.
tensep V etensèl
teniten an n Nonsense, ridicule; something of no value. Tenten! Nothing doing, no go! M’pa lan tenten avè ou I’m not in the mood to joke with you. Ou rive lan kalfo tenten Now you’ve become ridiculous. Fè tenten To act silly, to misbehave.
tenennnad la n Stupid behavior; a flop; nonsense.
tenî a n Dye.
tentidyòd la n Tincture of iodine.*
tenyn nan, lateny n Scab, scurvy.
tenyen vt (pop) To turn off, to extinguish*, to put out. Tenyen bouji a Put out the candle. Tenyen je To close one eye temporarily in the manner of
calling the attention of someone to something; to wink. Tèt la la avèn ou domi Turn off the light before going to sleep. V etenn.

tep la n 1. Popular in hotels, restaurants etc. for tip. 2. Tape* (recording tape, Scotch tape). V tip.

tepe vt To tape*.

teras la, lateras n 1. Terrace*, open space; plateau. 2. Highway, main road. Yo mete kafe seche sou teras They put the coffee beans on the terrace to dry.

terasman an n 1. Digging, tamping, rolling of the earth for roadwork or construction. 2. Road.

tere V antere

terebantin nan n Turpentine*.

teren an n Field, plot of ground. Terrain*.

teri, ateri vi To end up (at).

terib attrib Terrible*, dreadful, awful.

terin nan n Earthen pan, crock, terrine*. V kanari, terrine*

teritwa an n Territory*.

testaman an n Will, testament*.

teste vt To check, check on (somebody), to try, to make a test*, to verify.

tét la n 1. Head. 2. Self. 3. Top. Examples and expressions. Té tòm Mountain top, mountain peak, summit. (“Té” followed by the possessive adj corresponding to the subject = “self” preceded by the respective pronoun, in reflexive verbs). Tét moun M’self. Tét a T’selves. L’ap té tèt li He committed suicide (not merely ‘He killed himself accidentally’). L’ap tiye té tèt li He tried hard. He is killing himself with work. Ou fatige tét ou trep You’re worrying too much. Tét kaj Roof (“do kaj” is more commonly used). Sou té t On top of. Tét chaje Troubles; troublesome person. M’pa vle gen tét chaje avèk bagay ou yo I don’t want any trouble with your business. Yo domi tétanke Both of them sleep in one bed; the head of one is next to the other’s feet. Tét kale 1. A person who is completely bald-headed or with close-shaven head. 2. Also a person of no importance (usu) vye tèt kale. Yon ti tét kale A small fry (as opposed to ‘a big shot’). Tét fouspe Splitting image. Tét nig Expensive. Yo mande tét nig pou yon zaboka Avocado pears are very expensive. Tét sòtèy The tips (heads) of the toes. Tét pabayen Crazy. Poutét sa For that reason, therefore. Tét dlo a The source (head) of the river, spring. Gade you tèt pay; li pa penyen Look at that straw head; he didn’t comb himself. Lanno pitit li a potel li an tèt His child’s death was too much for him and made him ill. Tét kojolo Empty-headed person, or one with very little hair on his ill-shaped head. M’pa gen tét I can’t remember. Cf. Neap. Nun tengo capo id. Tét zerye Pillow case (confused with “tèdoreye*”). FRANKETIENNE/D-197: Filojen hase tòt toum Filojen turned back. Tét poul Forgetful

teta a n Chub, tadpole.

tetanos la n Tetanus*.

tete 1 a n Breast(s), bosom, teat*, breastfeeding. Bouton tete Breast nipple. Timoun nan tete Infant (one not yet weaned, still nursing). Li bay pitit la tete 18 mwa She nursed the baby for 18 months.

tete 2 vt To suck, to suckle. Tete kryon ou Make a note of it. Wet your pencil. vi To nurse, to breastfeed. Piit teta de fiya deja The baby has been breastfed twice already.

têtefemal la n Headache.

teti attrib Obstinate, stubborn.

tètun nan n Nipple of child’s baby bottle.

tetyè a n Head-stall (harness); baby bonnet.


ti 1 (Prefix) small, little. V piti.

ti 2 Here, please? Yon fiya ou di “ti”, ou pa dwe di ou pa la Once you say “yes” you can’t say you’re not there. (“Ti” is a shortened form of ‘pléti’).

tib la n Tube*.

tribe a, ti bebe n Baby*, infant.

tribikilo la n Consumption, tuberculosis*, T.B.*.

tribèt la n Insect, small animal.

tribilan attrib Turbulent*, unruly.

tribom n Type of mint. Mentha arvensis L. Mentha nemorosa Willd.

icht la, ti chat la n Kitten.

icheremen an n Track, path.

itchen an n Puppy.

tidejene a n Breakfast.

tidiféboule n Provocation (Prodding two persons to fight).

tif la n Tuff*, tufa*, clay soil. (usu) tè tif.
tifis a n Girl. *Tifi a pral fe premyè kominyon*’ni *mwa prochen* The girl will make her first communion next month.

tifis attrib Virgin. *Li te tifi toujou* She was still a virgin.

tifl e vt To eat too much. *V gobe, bafre.*

tifoyid la n Typhoid*. *Fyèt tifoyid Typhoid* (fever).

tig la n Tiger*. *Chen tig* A dark brown dog with black or dark brown spots.

tigason an, ti gason n Boy, lad.

tigigit n Penis, birdie (small boy’s).

tigout, ti gout A bit, a little bit. *V enpe, (ti) kras.*

tigranmoun, ti granmoun attrib Child who speaks and acts like an adult (pej).

tigèt la n Stem.

tijezi n Godchild. *Tijezi nan po krab* A hypocrite, one who is acting like a saint but is really dishonest.

tij la n New garment worn on New Year’s Day. *Any Sunday best suit.*

tik la n Tick* (parasite). *Zòrèy chen an plen tik* The dog’s ears are full of ticks. 2. Tic* (twitching).

tikè a n Ticket*. Perhaps used more frequently than ‘biye’ (V).

tikochon an n Piglet, little pig.

tikòk la n Penis, birdie.

tikoulout, koulout attrib Penis, birdie.

timè a n Tumor*.

timéda yo, ti medam n Girls, young ladies.

timesye yo, ti mesye n Young men, youngsters.

tipla n Screen (metallic); tull* (fabric).

tilapya a n A fish living, among many other places, in Letan Bwanèf near the city of St. Marc.

tilip la n Tulip*.

tiloulout la n Penis, birdie.

tilyon an, ti Lyon n (Lion) cub.

timal n Young man, guy (familiar).

timalis, ti malis n 1. Popular hero of Haitian folk tales. 2. Type of banana of superb taste and the size of your middle finger. *Fig timalis vann de pou 5 kob* Ti malice banananas cost two for a penny. 3. Cunning person.

time a n Tumor*.

timedam yo, ti medam n Girls, young ladies.

timesye yo, ti mesye n Young men, youngsters.
títit la n Baby. (syn) ti bebe.
tito a n Type of candy.
tiwa V tirwa
tiwèl la n Trowel*.
tiye, touye, tchwe vt 1. To kill, to slay. 2. To put out, to quench, to extinguish (a fire). 3. To turn out, to switch off, to put out (a light). 4. Refl. Li tiye tét li He killed himself. Yo pat hab soufri ankö, yo touye tét yo They could not suffer anymore, so they killed themselves.
tiyo a n Pipe, flue, tube, pipe-line.
tiyon 1 an n Headband.
tiyon 2 an n Haitian hairdo made with a kerchief forming a beautiful tail in the back of the neck.
tizàn nan, tizann n Infusion of a watered herb tea, decoction.
tizon an n 1. Firebrand. 2. A person who likes to torment (tease) others. Madan’m ki metrèz hay sa a se you tizon pou lokatè yo; li pa vle yo fè anyen nan lakou a The lady, the owner of that house is a torture for the tenants. She doesn’t want them to do anything in the yard.
tizonnen vt To egg on, to keep urging, annoy.
tò a n Gen tò To be wrong. Fè ditò To harm.
tobi a n Mule.
tòchon an n 1. Rag (for cleaning in the kitchen), dish-cloth, dish-towel. 2. Dish cloth gourd, vegetable sponge, a climbing plant which, when dry is used for cleaning purposes.
tòchonnenn vt To soil, to make dirty.
tòde, tôdye vt To twist, bend, wring (clothes). Lapli mouny tout rad li; konnyea l’ap tôde’l pou’l seche’l The rain soaked her dress; now she’s wringing it to dry it. vi Li tap tôde anba vant fè mal He was twitching (twisting, suffering) with a belly ache.
tôk la n Pack-saddle. V ba a.
tokay la n Of the same first name. Cf. Sp. "tocayo". Yo se tokay They have the same first name. “Nou nan tray tokay” We are in trouble, partner (title of a play in Creole by Roni Lucien Angomar).
toke attrib Crazy. V toloke.
tôket V tròket
 tôktôk attrib Crazy. “Tetched”.
tol 1 la n Corrugated sheet iron; metal container (4-5 gallons).
tol 2, tôltôl attrib Crazy, out of one’s mind. Tout bruï sa yo ap fem tol All that noise is driving me out of my mind. Rann youn mountôtôl To drive s.o. crazy.
tolalito n Children’s game. Fè totalito To go on a wild goose chase.
toleran attrib Tolerant*.
tolerans la n Tolerance*.
tolere vt To tolerate*, to endure, to stand for.
tolit la n Song of a small lizard (zandolit) V.
toloke vt To drive (s.o.) crazy.
tôlôkôto attrib Blabbermouth. Jako tôlôkôto Talkative parrot (well-known song).
tolomonèl la n Cocktail made with lemon and ‘kleren’.
tôltôl V tôl
tomat la, tonmat la n Tomato. Tonmat vèt! What the hell! Jesus Christ! Good grief!
ton 1 an n Tone* (of the voice, of a song).
ton 2 n Apocope for ‘tonton’, uncle. Ton Alfred Uncle Alfred.
ton 3 an n Tuna*.
tôn nan n Ton*. You kanyon de tôn A two-ton truck.
tonbe vi To fall (down), to fall over, to trip, to tumble, to collapse, to give way, to sink; to fall in love; to subside (wind). Examples and expressions: Maladi tonbe Epilepsy. Li tonbe sou chwal la He fell from the horse. Tonbe feblès To fall from weakness, from sickness. Tonbe sou To run into, to bump into, to meet unexpectedly. Tonbe nan To take on, to fall into (the habit of). When ‘tonbe’ is followed by another verb, it indicates the commencement and continuity of the action expressed by the following verb. Tonbe danse To start dancing. Kon mizik frape ayisyen tonbe danse At the sound of the music, Haitians start dancing. Tonbe pou To fall for, to fall in love with. Fi a tonbe pou nomm nan She fell for the man, i.e. She fell in love with him.
tonbola a n School or church gathering, where games are played, such as bingo, grab-bag, etc.
tonbolokoto attrib Huge, enormous.
tonôdez la n Clippers for hair.
tonèl la, tonnèl n 1. Shed covered with leaves or straw. 2. Bower, arbo(u)r, a covering on stakes over the “hounfò” court.
tonm nan n Tomb*, grave stone.
tonmaren V tamaren
tonmat V tomat
tonntomnan n n Food made from breadfruit to which okra (gumbo) is usually added. (This word is used mostly in the Jérémie area).
tonn vt To clip. Tonn tét To clip the hair completely.
tonnè  Means “lightning, thunder”.  *Tomné kraze*m,  
tonnè boulé*m  (May lightning strike me!)  *Tomné!  
Damn it!

tonnèl  V tonèl

tonnis  interj  1.  Darn it!  (euph) for ‘tonnè’.

tonpe  V tonpe

tonton 1  an  n  Uncle; old man (as in many  
languages).  Also means huge, very large.

tonton 2  makout la  n  1. Bogeyman (folklore).  
2. Applied in the last few years in a political  
context.

Tonton 3  Nwèl  n  Father Christmas.  Santa Claus.

tope  vi  To agree, consent, be in accord; to  
shake hands as an indication of accord. *An’n  
tope  Let’s shake on it.  Agreed.

topi a, toupi a  n  Spinning top.

topinanbou  a  n  Jerusalem artichoke.  Calathea  
allouia Lindl.

topsi  V otopsi

toro a  n  1.  The bull.  More frequently ‘toro bèf’  
2.  Awe-inspiring, unbeatable person.  3.  *Kann toro Type of 
sugar cane.

torya  a  n  Especially in the expression Voye torya  
To speak in parables, cast allusions.  Sp.

tôt  attrib  Perfect, good, OK, comme il faut.  Cf.  
total kapital.

total 1  la  n  Total.

total 2  attrib  Perfect, first-rate.  Total kapital  
Outstanding, absolutely perfect.  (syn)  *ki bon nèt.

toti 1  a  n  Sea turtle.  Toti lannè  Sea turtle.  V  
karèt.

toti 2  a  n  Torture.

totire  vt  To torture.

totolo  a  n  A far away, high place.

tòtòt 1  la  n  Teat.  V tete.  Fè tòtòt  To suck  
(e.g. the juice of a mango, after having pricked a  
hole in it, and after having softened it).

tòtòt 2  vt  To suck, to drink in.

tòtòy  Je tòtòy  Squinting, sickly eyes.  Janm tòtòy  
Bow-legged.

tou 1  Also, too.  Popular French uses “itou”, and  
Canadian French uses “itou” and “tou”.

tou 2  adv  1.  Once and for all, at the same time.  
An’n tou manje, nou pa bezou tann pita  Let’s eat  
onece and for all, let’s not wait till later.  2.  Altho,  
even tho.  *Deniz pran chante chante a, tou bèbe li ye a  
Denise starts singing the song, even tho she can’t  
even talk.

tou 5  V trou

tou 4  a  n  1.  Tour*, walk; turn.  *Fè tou kay la  Go  
around the house.  2.  Trick.  Li jwe*m you move  
tou  He played a dirty trick on me.

tou 5  All.  Tou sa  All that.  Tou lòt jou  Recently, a  
few days ago.  Tou piti  Tiny, all so tiny.

toub  V troub

toubiyon an, toubouyon  n  Whirlwind.

toubiyonnen  vi  To whirl (around), to swirl  
(around), to become turbulent*.

touch  la  n  Throw-in (soccer).

touchatou  (Little) meddling, who can’t keep his  
hands off things.

touche 1  vt  To earn, to collect (money), to cash  
(a check).  vi  To get paid.

touche 2  vt  1.  To touch*.  Se touche tounen  It’s  
touch and go.  2.  To affect, to touch*.

toudabò  adv  In the first place.

toude  Both (of them).  Also  toulede.

toudenkou  adv  Suddenly.

toudi  vt  To daze, stun.  Lò ou travay nan solèy  
cho, li toudi ou  When you work in the hot sun, it  
makes you dizzy.

toudin, latoudin  n  M’gen latoudin  My head is  
spinning.

toudinpyès  All in one piece*.

toudisman  V etoudisman

toudwat, toudret  adv  Straight ahead.

touf la  n  Clump, tuft*, pile, flock.  Chak swa you  
touf zwaou vini domi  Every night a flock of birds  
perch on the tree; they go to sleep.

toufa vamalore  interj  The hell with you!  (a  
curse).

toufe  vt  1.  To suffocate, to smother, to choke,  
to stifle, to strangle.  2.  To steam, to stew, to  
perch on the tree; they go to sleep.

toufe  vt  1.  To suppress (scandal).  vi  To  
suffocate, to choke.  Si mwen pa rele, m’a toufe  
Sharply, a few days ago.

toufe you manje  To 
steak; stew food in a closed vessel.  Toufe berejenn  
Eggplant stew.  3.  To suppress (scandal).  vi  To  
steak; stew food in a closed vessel.  Toufe berejenn  
Eggplant stew.  3.  To suppress (scandal).  vi  To  
steak; stew food in a closed vessel.  Toufe berejenn  
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steak; stew food in a closed vessel.  Toufe berejenn  
Eggplant stew.  3.  To suppress (scandal).  vi  To  
steak; stew food in a closed vessel.
toulongsayd 1. Straight ahead without stopping. 2. In its full length#, flat on its side#.

touman an, touman la n 1. Torment#, pain. 2. Adversity, misfortune, problems, difficulty.

toumante vt To torment#. (attrib) Tormented#, fidgety, uneasy, disturbed, restless.

toundis la n Record player, phonograph.

tounen 1 an n A round of. Li ofri yon tounen gròg He offered a round of grog.

tounen 2 vi 1. To get back, to return#, to come back, to go back. 2. To turn#. 3. To turn* into, to become, to be transformed into. Chini te tounen yon bèl papiyon The caterpillar had become a beautiful butterfly.

tounen 3 vi To become sour, to turn* sour (milk).

touni V toutoni

tounvis la, tounavis la n Screw-driver. Tounvis zetwal Phillip’s screw-driver.

toupatou adv Everywhere.

toupiz vi To pound, to beat the hell out of.

toupi V topi

tous la, latous n Cough.

touse 1 vi To cough. M’touse anpil yè swa I coughed very much last night. Li gen maladi touse He has tuberculosis. Moun touse A consumptive person (with tuberculosis) who is constantly coughing. Li mouri touse He died of tuberculosis.

touse 2 V trousse

tousi a n Cuffing of trousers.

tousuit, toutsuit, toutsuit indef pron Immediately, right away.

tout 1 indef adj All, every; whole. Tout ayisyen Every Haitian. Tout kay yo All the houses.

tout 2 indef pron All. Tout vini All came.

tout 3 See the compound words tousuit, toutafè, toutalantou, toutale, toutale a, toutbagay, toutbon, toutespre, toulasentjounen, toutispatatis, toutjan, toutmoun, touttan, toutotou.

toutafè adv Altogether, completely, quite.

toutalantou adv (All) around.

toutale V talè

toutale a V talè a

toutbagay, tout bagay indef pron Everything.

toutbon adv Really, for good.

toutespre adv Expressly#.

toutispatatis la n A person who takes undue advantage of everything.

toutjan, tout jan Anyway. Toutjan toutmannyè Anyway whatever.

toulasentjounen, tout la sent jounen adv All day long.

toutmoun, tout moun indef pron Everybody.

toutokontrè On the contrary#, just the opposite.

toutotan As long as.

toutotou prep All around.

toutou a, tousus la n 1. Small dog, puppy. 2. Darling.

toutoun nan n Tiny girl’s vagina. Also a nickname.

toutouni, touni, ni attrib Naked, nude#.

toutouniste a n Nudity#, nakedness. Lè li te lan toutouniste When he was poor.

toutous V toutou

toutrèl la n Turtle*-dove.

toutsuit V tousuit

touttan, tout tan adv Always, forever, for all seasons; as long as.

touyatwa, tiyatwa attrib Exacerbating, killing.

touye V tiye

touyelanp, touye lanp (Lamp-extinguisher) Name given to a huge, oversize, very heavy ill-fitting coat.

towtow adv Rapidly.

tradiktè a n Translator.

tradui vt To translate.

trafik la n Traffic#. Li te fé trafik Nouyòk She traveled back and forth to New York for business purposes. Move trafik Machinations, underhanded schemes.

trajè a n (Length of) journey.

trak la n Political leaflet, flyer.

traka a n Difficulty, trouble, worry, anxiety, nuisance, bother, hardship. M’bay kò’m traka fèl pou ou I took the pains to do it for you.

trakase vt To pester, to bother.

trakasite a n Trouble, problem(s).

traktè a n Tractor#.

trakstè la Scandal.

tralala a n Scandal.

tranblad V latranblad

tramble vi To tremble#, to shudder, to shake, to quiver, to shiver. Le vole a we lapolis, li tramble konfey bua ak lapè When the thief saw the policeman, he shivered like a leaf from fear.

trandleman an n Trembling#, shaking. Tranbleman tè Earthquake.
tranche 1 a n 1. Shoemaker’s knife. 2. Labor pains.

tranche 2 vt To cut into slices, to slice, to cut up.

tranchman an n Pain.

trangle vt To strangle*, choke. M’ap trangle ou si ou nui’m I’ll choke you, if you bother me. vi To choke. L’ap manje kann, yon pay an tre nan gof li, li trangle He was eating sugar cane, a straw got into his throat, he got choked.

trankil attrib Quiet, tranquil*. Kite pitit la trankil Leave (let) the kid alone. Kite’m trankil, m’okipe Leave me alone; I’m busy.

trankilite a n Tranquility*.

trape, trapde adv Li moye trape He’s soaking wet. Cf. alatranp.

trape 1 a n A beverage made by soaking several roots in alcohol, brandy, or absinthe. Drink it, and brother! Said to be an aphrodisiac. This is understandable if a lot of absinthe is used together and brother! Said to be an aphrodisiac. This is understandable if a lot of absinthe is used together and strength desired.

trape 2 vt To soak, to dunk, to dip. To marinate.

trans la n Trance*.

transfe a n Transfer*.

transfere vt To transfer*.

transfôme vt To transform*.

transplante vt To transplant*.

transpòte vt To transport*, to freight.

trant num Thirty.

trantyèm num Thirtieth.

tranzaksyon an n Transaction*.

trap V trape

trapde adv Fast, quickly, in a jiffy.

trape, trap vt To catch; to find.

tras la n Trace*, track(s).

trase vt To draw, trace* out, lay out. Trase cheve To part the hair. Trase you egzanp To set an example. Trase rout To lay out the road, to show the way.

travay 1 la n Work, task, job, employment. Bay travay To employ, to engage (to hire).

travay 2 vt & vi To work. Nan ki sa ou ap travay? What’s your line (of work)? Fè tèt ou travay Use your head. Maladi pitit li a ap travay li tròp His child’s illness is troubling him too much. Travay kon bourik To work like a horse. Li travay pou fye li pete He works like a horse. Li travay te He cultivates the land.

travay an attrib Hard-working, industrious.

travayè a n Laborer, worker. Travayè yo rekòle tout mayi nan jaden an The workmen harvested all the corn in the garden.

travayèz la n Female worker.

travè Chemen travè Short-cut.

travès la n 1. Crossbeam. 2. Shortcut. 3. Passage, crossing.

travèse vt To cross, to cross over, to pass over, pass through, travel thru, to get through; get over (wall, etc). Kouri travèse To run through. Cf Traverse*.

tray la n Difficulty, problem, trouble, vicissitudes.

Fi a ap passe you trav ak mari’l The woman’s husband is causing her a lot of difficulties.

trai vt To betray, to give up (quit).

trayizon an n Treason*.

trè 1 a n Line (with a pen); feature(s).

trè 2 adv Very; quite.

trèt 1 la n Clubs (in card game).

trèt 2 la n Clover, trefoil*.

tren an n 1. Train*. 2. Penis, cock. 3. Fè tren To make a lot of noise. Ki moun k’ap fè tren nan kay la? Who is making noise in the house?

treng nan n Rod, beam; triangle* (arch).

trenaye vi To loaf around, to loiter.

trennen 1 vt To haul, to pull, to tow, drag along, to tug, help along.

trennen 2 vi To wander, to lag, to linger, to loaf around.

trennen 3 Drawling (voice).

trepase vi To die.

très la n Braid, tress*. Penyen de très To have two pig tails. Très fi yo konn mete sou rad yo The braids women used to put on their clothes.

tresayi vi To thrill, curdle. San’im tresayi My blood curdled.

tresè vt To weave, plait, braid. An Ayiti yo tresè panye ak banbou sitou In Haiti they weave baskets mostly with bamboo.

tresi V ratsresi

trèt la n Traitor*. An trèt Treacherously, by trickery.

tret 1 vt To treat*, to care for. Se doktè Toussaint ki te tretèl It was doctor Toussaint who treated him.

tretè 2 vt Trete de To call (names). Li tretè Pòl de manted He called Paul a liar.

tretman an n Treatment*. Move tretman an Mistreatment.
trote a n Trestle*.
trèz num Thirteen. Ou a retouen sou trèz jou You'll come back in 13 days. Lè ou gade nan mont ou, ou a ouè li trèz è When you look at your watch, it will be too late.
trezò a n Treasure*; treasury*.
trèzìmèm num Thirteenth.
tribilasyon an n Vexation. Tribulation*, hardship.
tribinal la n Tribunal*, court of law. M'ap pran Bondye an temwen, si ou pa remni mwen kòb mwen, m'aprè nan tribinal avèk ou As God is my witness, if you don't give me my money back, I'm going to sue you.
tribòbabò, tribò babò adv On all sides. Also babòtribò babò.
trik la n Trick*, ruse.
triko a n Knitting.
trimen vi To toil, drudge, to work hard.
trimèś la n Quarter (3 months), trimester* (school term).
triminay la n Trouble, problem, tribulation.
triminen, tribinen vt To disturb, to bother, to trouble.
trip la n Intestines, bowels, guts, tripe*. Gro trip Large intestine. Ti trip Small intestine.
tripay la n 1. Tripe*. 2. Offal (waste in butchery).
tripòt attrib Nosy, gossiping, inquisitive (pej). Fe tripòt To gossip; to slander, to talk behind one's back.
tripotay la, tripotaj la n Gossip, tattle tale, intrigue, under-handed dealing. L'al fe tripotay sou mwen He told things on me.
tripote vt To finger (pej), to touch.
tripotye a n Gossiper.
tris attrib Sad, sorrowful.
tristès la, latristès n Sorrow, sadness, gloom.
trivyal attrib Foul-mouthed, gross.
triyèz la n Sorter. Trivyèz kafe Coffee sorter.
trò, tro adv Too. Trò piti Too small. Trò kuit Overcooked.
tròk la n Barter. Cf. boukantay.
troke vt To exchange, to swap. An nou troke Let's swap. Troke kon To fight (to lock horns).
tròkèt la, tôkèt, tôtchèt n Pad, cushion. (Any old rag (or leaves) twisted to form a head cushion to be placed on the head before carrying a heavy load). Old French word “torquette” de tabac (Paul Moral).
tron an n Trunk*.
tronpe, tonpe vt To deceive, to mislead, to abuse, to foul. V pete. Mwen an reta, dòmí tronpe'm I'm late, I overslept. vpr To err, to be mistaken.
tronpèt la n 1. Trumpet*, bugle. Met zòrèy ou an tronpèt Listen attentively. Be alert. 2. Type of tree with huge leaves (Cecroia peltata). Medicinal plant. 3. Type of fish.
trons la n Section of a roughly cylindrical object.
tronse vt To cut (hack) into rough chunks.
tròp adv Too much, too many. It is usually placed after a verb or before a noun. Ex M'manje tròp I ate too much.
tropizi, toupizi vt To smash, break to pieces. V kofre, kraze. Si ou ranse ak mwen, m'ap toupizi ou If you fool around with me, I'll smash you to pieces.
trotinèt la n 1. Type of scooter. 2. Walker with four wheels for children.
trotwa a n Sidewalk.
troubl 1 la n Confusion, disorder, trouble*.
troubl², toub attrib Muddy, fuzzy, blurred, murky, blurry, turbid*. Wè troub To have blurred vision, to see things dimly, (or) as if in a mist.
trouble, touble vt To confuse, to trouble*. Uneasy, confused, disconcerted; muddled, turbid.
troubote a n Dimple.
trouhing nan, touhing n Dark, cavernous hole in the ground. Cf. A bottomless hole.
trous la n 1. Kit; doctor's kit. Trous kle Key holder. 2. (fig) M'nan trou ou I'm after you. I'm at your heels. Lapolis nan trou li The police are at his heels (are going after him).
trouse, touse vt To roll up, to tuck up, turn up (trousers).
trouso a n Trouseau*. Trouso kle Key-holder.
trouve ¹, touve vt 1. To find; to feel; to think; to meet. Ou trouve sa? Do you think so? Ki jan ou touve'm? How do you like me? What do you think of me? Ou trouve di You did say.
trouve², touve (Impersonal). It happens that. Trousse le limem mi sove chef la. It happened that it was he who saved the boss.

tuil la, til la n Tile.

tuipe V kuipe

tuit M'gen tuit an An expression that people jokingly attribute to older women who prefer not to divulge their exact age. “Tuit” is the last part of the words for 28, 38, 48, etc. Like comedian Jack Benny who remained 39 years old all his later life! Jack Benny te toujou gen ‘tuit an’.

twa num Three (Before vowels twaz). Twas an, twazan Three years. Twa rwa Orion’s belt (constellation). Pran nan twa rwa To be (caught) in a jam. Nou moute bourik la a twa All three of us got on the donkey.

twadegout, twa degout n Type of poison.

twaka, twa ka 1. Three quarters. Pantalon twaka Pants that barely cover the knees. 2. Almost. Ou twaka tonbe You are about to fall.

twal la, twel la n Fabric, cloth, linen. Twal ayat Dish-towel. Twaq asyèt Gauze.*

twi a, tri, tire (North) n Sow (female hog). Also called manman kochon.

tyanpan V tchanpan

tyanse V tchanse

tyap la n Soft cap* of the military.

tyas la n Style of haircut for men.

tye V ke

tyè V kè

tyèd attrib Lukewarm.

tyedi vi To become lukewarm. Cf. E. tepid®.

tyouboum, tchouboum n 1. Mess, trouble, predicament. Tonbe nan tyouboum To go down the drain. Lage you moun nan tyouboum To put s.o. in a big mess. 2. Splash! Li tonbe tyouboum lan do a He splashed into the water.

tyoul la, tchoul, kyoul n Factotum, guide, one devoted to another’s whims; pimp; servant (pej). Sp.

tyoule V rekile

uiye a, isye a n Process-server, deputy ‘marshall’ in federal jurisdictions.

uit num Eight. M’achte uit liv I bought eight books. Sometimes “uit” may become “ui” when it multiplies the noun that follows it. Ex. Uit fwa (or) ui fwa Eight times. Bebe a pese uit liv (or) ui liv The baby weighed eight pounds. V tuit.

uiyèm num Eighth.

v Contracted form of va. V’al - “va ale” (will go). Ou v’al bonè You will go early.

va¹ (ava, a) Will, shall. Auxiliary used to form the future tense. Si ou jwe ak kouto ou va blese If you play with a knife, you’re going to get hurt. V tava.

va² a n 1. Pick, spear. 2. Fè yon va sou To jump on, to attack. 3. Curse. Ou gen lè gen kèk va déyè ou You look like you have a curse upon you.

vach la n Cow.

vaeyyen, vateyen Movement to and fro; coming and going (of persons).

vag¹ attrib Vague®.

vag² vt To ignore, to give a vague answer on purpose.

vagabon V vakabon

vakabon, vagabon attrib Vagabond®; woman chaser; vagrant; boisterous, unruly, dishonest, shameless.

vakabonday la, vagabonday n 1. Vagrancy. 2. Prostitution, streetwalking.

vakans la n Vacation®.
vaksen an n Vaccination*, vaccine*. L'ap pran vaksen demen He is going to get vaccinated tomorrow.
vaksin nan n Vaccine*. A musical instrument made from bamboo. A bamboo trumpet; also known as ‘bwa bourik’ (COURLANDER).
vaksinen vt To vaccinate*.

don't push me. Leave me alone. Give me time.

valtay, lavaltay n Waltz*. The child is really giving me trouble.

valeryann n Fake, faking, buckling. L'ap bay valeryann He is walking hesitatingly with uncertain movements. Also to stop and go on a bicycle or a show of skill.

valiz la n Handbag, suitcase, luggage, briefcase.

valse vi To waltz*. Pitit la ap fè’m valse The child is bragging too excited, easily moved.

valtay, lavaltay n Servant, domestic; worthless person.

valtourinen vi To wander about, to loaf.

van an 1. Wind, air. M'gen van nan zòrey I have a buzz in my ears. Fèmen chemiz li pou l'pa pran van Button his shirt so that he won’t be exposed to the cold air. Vane van To waste time, to do nothing, to loaf. M'pa tande van'l I have no news of him. Pa bliye bay kaotchou a van Don’t forget to put air in the tire. Ban'm van pou m'al Lagonav Don't push me. Leave me alone. Give me time. Fé van a) To fart, to break wind (pop). b) The wind is blowing.

van nan, vann nan n Valve, sluice-gate, flood-gate.

vander a n Seller.

vandredi a n Friday. Vandredi Sen Good Friday.

vani an, vaniy la n Vanilla*. Esans vani Vanilla* extract.

vanjans la n Vengeance*.

vanje vi To avenge*. V revanch.

vanjou, douvanjou Before daybreak.

vann vt 1. To sell. M'vann oto a I sold the car.
2. To betray. Pa vann mwen Don’t betray me. vi To sell. Kafe pa vann Coffee doesn’t sell at all these days. Konbyen sa a vann How much does this cost (sell for)? Tifi a gen rad chire sou li, l'ap vann The girl is wearing a torn dress, her slip is showing.

vannen vt To winnow. Yo vannen vòlè a anba baton They beat (or) maltreated the robber with a stick.

vanse 1 adv Almost. Li vanse mouri He almost died.

vanse 2 v avanse

vant la n Belly, stomach. Gro vant Pregnant. Yon gro vant A pot belly. Fann nan gro vant The woman is pregnant. Bat vant yon moun To make s.o. talk (by asking him questions indirectly). Soti nan vant To be born. Manje vant debutonan To eat aplenty, to eat to one's heart's content. Vantfèmal la Stomach ache, belly ache. Mete vant aè pou ri To double up laughing.

vant mennen an n Diarrhea. Also vant, vant pase, brikouri. Manje gat konn bay vant mennen Spoiled food sometimes causes diarrhea. Li gen vant (or) vant mennen He has diarrhea.

vante vt To blow; to fan. Vante dife a; dlo a pokho cho Fan the fire; the water’s not hot yet. vi 1. To blow, to be windy. Van ap vante anpil It’s very windy. 2. To evaporate; to go flat (wine) (this word is used when a liquid loses its bouquet or smell). 3. To leak out (news, a story). 4. To lose one’s appeal (a woman).

vante 2 vt To vaunt*, to praise; (Refl.) To brag, to boast. Li vante tèt li tròp He is bragging too much, he is boasting.

vantilatè a n Fan (engine), ventilator*.

vantouz la n Cupping glass. Poze vantouz pou you malad To cup a patient.

vantrés la, vantrèz n Part of the leaves of a banana tree, which is used to make straw mats.

vanyan 1 attrib Valiant*, brave, courageous, strong, hard-working, healthy.

vanyan 2 gason n (Bot) Bitter bush. Picramnia pentandra, Sw. PN.

vap interj Ke’m fè vap! My heart went “boom, boom” from the excitement. Vap vap! Fast, rapidly. Presto!

vapè a n Steam, mist, vapor*. Batiman vapè Steam boat.

vapore 1 vt To stun, to astonish, to surprise.

vapore 2, evapore attrib Excited, easily moved.

vare vt To pierce with a spear; to gore. Vare sou To jump on.

varez la n A loose-fitting robe, a hospital blouse or robe.
varye 1  attrib 1. Raving, crazy, cuckoo; ‘tetch’ in the head; ‘off the track’. 2. Out of order. 3. Spoiled (merchandise).

vare 2 vi (Rare) To change, to vary*.

vat V adyovat

vav la n Valve*.

vavit la n Diarrhea.

vaz la n Chamber pot.

vazlin nan n Vaseline*.

ve 1 a n Vow*. Madam nan pran (pote) ve pou’l vè s’l ka byen. Li malad trôp The lady is wearing dark clothes, as a consequence of a vow she had made, to see if she can get well. She had been sick for such a long time. Li an ve He has made a vow. Fè yon ve To make a vow.


ve 1 a n Worm, maggot, parasite. Vètè Earthworm. Vè solitè Tapeworm. Rèn ve, jete vè To pass worms.

ve 2 a n Verse*.

vè 3 a n 1. Glass (drinking, substance). 2. Eye-glass(es). Yo pote vè (or) yo pote linèt They wear eyeglasses.

vè 1 prep Towards, about, around. Vè minui At about midnight.

vèb la n Verb*.

vèble a n Acne.

vèdegri a n Verdigris*.

vèdek la, vendik n Verdict*.

vèf la n Widower.

vegle vt To blind. Also vegle je.

vejetè vi To vegetate*, to barely survive, to hang on. Ban’m nouvel ou? M’ap vejete I barely get along.

vekse vt To offend, to vex*, to insult.

vèmin nan n 1. Worms. 2. Vermin*, bugs. 3. Said of a person who is a pest; foul-tongued (used also as an insult).


ven, venn, vent num Twenty. Milyon ven A very large quantity.

vèn 1 an n Varnish*; calumny. M’bay soulye a yon bon vèn I gave my shoes a good polish. Lage vèn = pale mal = To speak ill of.

vèni 2 vt 1. To discredit, to talk bad about, to speak evil of, to talk behind someone’s back. = pale mal. M’pa konprann anyen, chèf sèvis la ap vèni direktè a I don’t understand a thing, the foreman talks bad about the director. 2. To varnish*. Glazed, polished; varnished*. M’bezwen yon tab vèni I need a varnished (polished) table. Soulye vèn Varnished shoes (patent leather shoes).

venkann nan, ven kann nan n Sugar cane* juice before boiling.

vèni = pale mal = yon bon vèni I gave my shoes a good polish.

vèni = pale mal = vèni 1. Twenty four hours. 2. Scorpion fish. venkattrè 1. Twenty four hours. 2. Scorpion fish. 3. It has also been used in reference to a plant, a spider and other venomous animals.

ventan 20 years.

venteen n Twenty-one.

ventèn nan n About twenty.

ventyèm num Twentieth.

vèp la n Vespers*.

vepa, ve pa To refuse, not to want. (Rarely used, like ‘pepa, pe pa’). Usually the adverb “pa” (“not”) precedes the verb, as in the common Creole phrase “pa vle”.

vèrèt la n Smallpox. Epidemi pase, li kite anpit moun grave vèrèt When the epidemic was over, it left a lot of people pock-marked.

verife vt To verify*, to try, to ascertain.

veritab 1 la, lam veritab, labveritab, lam nan, lan-veritab n Breadfruit. Artocarpus incisa (Thun.) L.; Artocarpus altulis (Parkinson) Fosberg; Artocarpus communis. J.R. & G. Forst. Other names for the same tree: fòkseli, selipi.

veritab 2 attrib True, real, veritable*.

verite a, laverite n Truth. Verite toujou ofanse The truth always hurts. “An verite” The complete form is “An verite Bondye”. This last expression is considered blasphemous, and, consequently, to be avoided. To use it would imply that you are taking God’s name in vain.

veron V je

vès la n Coat (jacket) V levit, palto.

vèse vt 1. To pour. 2. To make a payment. M’vese senkant dola, m’rete due 200 I paid 50 dollars, I still owe 200. vi To vomit (used in the North).

vèse a n The verse*. Verset*.

vesel la, vèsel n Plates and dishes; crockery. Vessel*.

veselye a n Dresser, sideboard.

vesi a n Bladder (in a tire or a soccer ball).

vèsman an n 1. Payment, installment. 2. Vomit.
the hell out of him (with a stick).
I told him everything. I opened my heart to him and I insulted him to no end. He was emaciated and old.

Watch out! The atansyon! Mis an pral vide nan, vide nan, vide nan. A symbolic ritualistic geometric design traced on the ground with sand, flour, etc. as an emblem of the divinity that one wishes to invoke. At Ibo Beach, they were traced in the concrete, which became hardened, for the purpose of decorating the resort.

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vironn nan, lavironn n Turn, complete turn around something. Fe vironn (or) fe lavironn To go around. Fe yon vironn dede To go for a stroll, to go about.

vironnen vt To surround, to go all around, to encircle, to circle.

vis 1 la n Screw.

vis 2 la n 1. Greed. 2. Tendency to vice, crime, inclination to theft. 3. Vice*, crime. Lan vis Licentious, dissolve, profligate. Tout vis tout kondisyon Anything goes (in games).

vise vt To screw.

visye n, attrib Thievish, cheater, crook, greedy, glutinous, crooked, dishonest, vicious*, spoiled, one who has a tendency to steal. Applied for men only. Le gason visye, jamn pa respekte yo When men are greedy, women have no respect for them.

visyez attrib Dishonest, greedy, vicious*; one who has a tendency to steal. Applies to women only.

vit 1 la n Glass, (window) glass, pane.

vit 2 adv Fast, quickly, swiftly. Fe vit Hurry.

vitametènam adv Forever, eternally*, in vitam aeternam*.

vitamin nan n Vitamin*.

vités la n Velocity, speed, haste; rate. Chanje vités To change gear. Derape (pati) tout vités To dash off. Fe vités Speeding.

vitman adv Quickly.

vitrin nan n Show window, display window, shop window; glass cabinet.

vitrin e a n Glazier. Papa ou pa vitriye You are not made of glass (you are obstructing my view).

vitiyol la n Vitriol*.

vityelo n M’vini sou de vityelo’m I walked. I came here on foot (on the shoes I bought at Vitiello’s). Vitiello was the owner of a big shoe store in Port-au-Prince. His is one of c.25 Italian families from Teora, Avellino, Italy, about 5 miles from Materdomini, where San Gerardo Majella died and is buried.

viv 1 la n Food, provisions (but usually refers to vegetables only). Nou gen vyann, men nou pa gen viv We have meats, but we don’t have vegetables.

viv 2 vi 1. To live, to inhabit. Mwenennm ak famin’ni n’ap viv nan mem kay la My family and I live together in the same house. 2. To live, to exist. Viv chef la! Long live the chief! Apre aksidan an m’pa wèl? Li papa viv anko? After the accident, I haven’t seen him. Isn’t he still living?

viv 3 la n Weever* (Type of fish).

vivan 1 attrib Alive, living; lively.

vivan 2 an n Human being, living soul (Also, kreyten vivan). Ras kreyten vivan Mankind.

vive a n Fast liver, bon vivant.

viza a n Visa*.

vizavi Opposite.

vize vt To aim (at).

vizè n Sharp-shooter; skillful at shooting marble.

vizib attrib Visible*. In the open, publicly.

vizit la n Visit*. Rann yon visit To call on, to visit. Visit doktè A short visit. Li okipe, li gen vizit He is busy, he has a visitor.

vizite vt To visit*, to pay a visit*. Visite you kay To take a look at, to examine a house.

vizité a n Visitor*.

vizyon an n Vision*.

vizyonnen V To have a vision*, to envision*.

vle vt To want, will, wish; to lean toward. Chandel yo pa vle limen The candles won’t light. Yo pa vle vini They do not want to come. Lapli vle tonbe It looks like it’s going to rain. Sa ou vle’m fe? What do you want me to do? Vle pa vle Willy nilly. Whether you want it or not, like it or not. Vle di To mean, to signify.

vlen an n Waste (of meat); the white fibrous part of meat, particularly near the nerves. Bay chen an tout vlen vyann nan Give the dog all the waste off of the meat.

vlengebendeng n Band of evil doers who supposedly roam at night casting their magical spells.

vlengeinden attrib Inelegant, without substance, nonchalant.

vlope vt To fold, to wrap, to envelop*, to embrace, to cover, to put in a sack. (fig) To deceive, to out-smart.

vlou a n Velvet*.

vo 1 a n Calf, veal*. Also used is ti bèf.

vo 2 vt To be worth; to equal. Konbyen l’vo? How much is it worth?

Vodou a n 1. A cult of Haiti. 2. Rites and beliefs of the Arada “nation”. 3. The loas and spirits (The English word “voodoo” usually has the meaning of black magic and is not to be confused with Haitian Vodou).

voksal 1 n Scandal, raucaus, shameful, degrading situation. Fe voksal To use foul language.

voksal 2 attrib Huge, enormous.

völ la n 1. Larceny, theft, robbery. Yo te fe you gran völ lavil la There was a big theft in the city. 2. Airplane flight. Völ 301 Flight 301. Pran völ To become airborne, to take off.
volan an  n  1. Steering wheel. 2. Flounce (decoration of dresses).

volay la, bèt volay  n  Fowl.

vole 1  Yon vole  A lot of, a great deal of, many. Yo bay vòlè a you vole baton  They gave the thief a thrashing.

vole 2  vi  1. To fly, to fly away. 2. To leave (depart). Vole (sou)  To jump, to leap. Vole gage To flee from a difficult situation (to flee the coop). M’vole nan kou’l  I rushed to embrace him.

vòlè 1  a, vòlò  a  n  Robber, thief, burglar, crook.

vòlè 2, vòlò  vt  To rob, to steal, to lift, to burglarize, to make away with. Vòlè je gade  To eye furtively.

vòlèz la  n  Thief. (Applied to females). Vòlèz kon li vòlèz  Thieving as she may be.

volim nan  n  Volume*. Monte volim nan  Raise the volume. Yon volim  A lot of, many.

volkan an  n  Volcano*.

volò  V vòlè

volonte a  n  Will, determination.

volontè  attrib  Obstinate, stubborn, willful, self-willed, insistent, one who wants his own way. Poukì sa ou volontè konsa?  Se toujou sa ou ele ki pou fèt? Why do you always want to have your own way? (or) Why do other people always have to do what you want?

voltije  vi  To hop, to jump; to spring, to spurt, to spatter, to flutter.

vomi 1  an, vomni  n  Vomiting*.

vomi 2, vomni, vronmi, vromi  vi & vt  To vomit*, throw up. Cf. dyakpòt.

vomisman an  n  Vomiting*, vomit*.

vovon an  n  Vomiting*, vomiting*.

vonan  n  A large insect similar to a bumble bee.

vora  attrib  Ravenous, greedy, glutinous, voracious*. V afre, saf, aloufa, gouman. Ou voras tripè  You’re too greedy.

voryen an  n  A good for nothing, worthless person.

vòt la  n  Vote*.

vote  vi  To vote*. Al vote  To go to the polls.

voulwa 1  a  n  Will. Bon voulwa  Goodwill. M’pat oblije fe sa pou ou: se bon voulwa’m si’m fèl  I was not obliged to do that for you; I did it only out of the goodness of my heart. Selon voulwa’l  According to his wish.

voulwa 2  Pou voulwa m’dìl’la, sa fache  Just because I told him that, he got angry.

voum 1  (onom) A sound. Tout voum se do  (In case of necessity) anything will do.

voum 2  Also “Ale ou voum! The devil with you!”

voum 3  Yon voum  A lot of, much, many. Yon voum manje  A lot of food.

voumtak 1  la  n  Umbrella.

voumtak 2  Yon voumtak  A big (one).

voup  interj  Exclamation denoting suddenness.

vouzan  interj  Scram! Go away! Git! (Also Ale ou vouzan! ) M’té gan kont ak li; li di’m vouzan  I had a quarrel with him; he told me to get the hell away. Vouzan pou  To hell with.

voie  vt  1. To throw. 2. To send, to ship, to refer. Cf. E. Envoya*. Voye anlè  To hurl. vi  To ejaculate. Cf. vini, jwi, dejahé. Examples and expressions: Voye chèche  To send for. Yo voye yon liv ban mwen  They sent me a book. Voye pale  To inform. Mesye yo ap voye kout pikwa nan lakou a pou fouye trou a  The men are usingicks to dig the hole in the garden. Voye ale  To dismiss. Ou bezeen voye’an ale de pye devan? Do you want to kill me? Timoun yo ap voye rôch sou pyebwa  The children are throwing stones on the trees. Voye jete  To throw away. Voye pran  To fetch, to send for. Voye pye  To kick. Voye je (sou)  To watch, to keep an eye (on). Voye men (bay)  To wave (at). Voye mó (sou)  To cast a (death) spell (on). Voye peuent  To make insinuations. Voye tounen  To return, send back. Yo te voye lèt la tounen ban mwen  They returned the letter to me.

vre, vrè  attrib  True, real, genuine; really, truly, actual(ly). Se vre  That’s true. Li se you vrè mantè  He is a real liar.

vrèman adv  Really, truly.

vwa 1  a  n  1. Voice*. 2. Vote (election). Eske ou tande vwa’ni? Did you hear my voice?

vwa 2  vt  To see (North)  V wè.


vwala  Once upon a time; ... and, here it is that... 

vwalye a  n  Sail boat.

vwati a, vveti a  n  Automobile, car, vehicle. Coach, carriage. Pou ti Jan se you sèl bagay ki bon, se houiri vwatí tout jounen  For Johnnie, driving a car all day long is the only good thing to do.

vwayaj la, voyaj  n  Voyage*, trip.

vwayaje  vi  To travel, to take a trip.

vwayajè  a  n  Traveler.

vwayout  a  n  Neighbor. Moun ki rete pre ou la se vwazen ou li ye  The person who lives close to you is your neighbor.

vwazen an, vwezen  n  Neighbor. Moun ki rete pre ou la se vwazen ou li ye  The person who lives close to you is your neighbor.

vwazin an  n  Neighbor (Applied to females).

vwazinaj la, vwazinay, vwezinnay  n  Neighborhood; neighborhood; vicinity*.

vyèj la, vyèy n The Virgin*. *Vyèy pete je’m May thunder strike me.

vyeron a 1. Old man, old timer, with experience and know-how. *Msye se you vyero lavil la, li kab fe ou jouenn tou sa ou bezwen achte* This man is an old-timer in the town; he can find for you anything you need to buy. Sp. viejo. 2. Any Haitian man who has spent a long time abroad, particularly as a laborer in the sugar cane plantations of Cuba or Santo Domingo.

vyèy fi a n Spinster, old maid, unmarried.

vyeyès la, lavyeyès n Old age.

vyeyi vi To become old, to age.

vyèy timenn mwen interj My gosh! By golly!

vyelan attrib Violet*.

vyole vt To rape, to violate*. V kadejak.

vyolèt 1 la n Violet* (flower).

vyolèt 2 attrib Purple, violet*.

vyelon an, vyelon an n Violin*. *Se vyelon lan men blan* He is a master of his trade, he performs with the greatest of ease.
wayal la, rwayal la  n  Type of sandwich made with cassava, peanut butter and water cress (Jérémie).

wayòm nan, rwayòm nan  n  Kingdom.

wazif  attrib  Idle.

wazipay la  n  Worthless person.

we  vt  To beat up.  Si sa ta rive, m'ta we ou anba makak  If that should happen, I would beat you up to my heart’s content.

wè  vt  1. To see, to look at.  2. To comprehend.  Examples and expressions:  Loulou te avèg; li pat wè kote li prale  Louis was blind; he couldn’t see where he was going.  Wè mò To see red, to be furious, to be daring.  Gaston move, li wè mò jodi a Gaston is furious today.

wèl 1  interj  Well*!  O.K.

wèl 2  M’nan wèl ou  I am out to get you; I am after your ass.

wès  n  West*.  Lò ou pa la, ouvriye yo “kale wès”  When you’re not there; the workmen fluff off (don’t work).

wete, wet  vt  To remove.  To withdraw, to take away, to take out, to get out.  Li wete rad li  He takes off his clothes.  Li wete chapo’l devan Pyè  He takes off his hat to Peter i.e. (He recognizes Peter’s ability, skill, etc.).  Si ou wet youn, konbyen k’ap rete  If you take one away, how many will be left?  Wete ko ou  Move away.  San wete san mete  Exactly; without adding or subtracting; that’s the exact truth.  Wete moun nan nan kòsay ou  Don’t keep on being too intimate with that person; keep your distance.

wey  Yes.  Cf. wi.

wi  Yes!  Li di’m “wi”  She said ‘Yes” (or) She assented.  In some cases, “wi” is used as an expletive and is almost meaningless.  Ex.  M vlel wi  (Yep)  I want it.

wichin nan  n  Switch, rod, whip made from a tiny branch.

widan  In the expression “adye widan”  Oh God!  What a pity!

wifout, wifou  interj  What!  (Interjection denoting surprise).

winen  V ruinen

wipip  interj  Wow!  The deuce!  The dickens!  Boy, oh boy!  Gee whiz!  Exclamation of surprise or admiration.  Wipip!  Gade yon bebe!  Wow!  What a beautiful chick.

wiski a  n  Whiskey*.

wistiti a  n  A very ugly person.  A monkey.

witi, oti  Where?  Witi ou?  Where are you?  M’pral witi Pòl  I am going to Paul’s.


woti V roti
wou V rou
wouch V rouch
wouchin V rouchin
wouj V rouj
woujâlev V roujâlev
wouki V rouki
wouke V rouke
woukou V roukou
woul V rou
woulawoup la n Hula hoop*
woule V roule
woulet V roulet
woulib V roulib
woulo¹ V roulo
woulo² konpresè V roulo konpresè
woulong V roulong
wouspetay V rouspetay
wouspete V rouspete
wout V rout
woutin V routin
wouy V rouy
wouye V rouye
wouze V rouze
wowell V roroli
wòwôt V rôrôt
oyo V roy
woyom V royon
woywoy V royroy
woz V roz
woze V roze
wozè V rozè
wozèt V rozèt
wozô V rozó
wòwòt V rôrôt
wòwòt Y

y V yo

yanm nan n Yam*. Yanm oubyen bannann, sa ou pito? As between yams and plantains, which do you prefer?

yanvalou a n Type of popular Vodou dance rhythm.

yas la n Bump on the road. Also bump with the belly while dancing.

yatch la n Yacht*.

yay Aplenty and cheap. Cf. piyay.

yaya vi To circulate, to walk softly, silently.

ye vi To be. Jak di’m frèl malad anpil. Ale wè ki jan li ye James told me his brother is very sick. Go (and) see how he is.

yè, ayè adv Yesterday. Se yè lagè fini The war ended yesterday. Sa ou te fè yè swa? What did you do last night? V avanyè.

yen yen¹, nyennyen attrib Slow, peevish, whining, spineless. Timoun yen yen Cry-baby.

yen yen² vi To complain, to whine, to moan, to cry for no reason.

yès Ok, all right. Li pa fin trò yès He is a little off; he lost some of his marbles.

Yët n Yetta*. Henrietta. Sò Yët Name given to the prototype of a low class woman.

yi¹, i He, she, it (3rd person personal pronouns used in the North).

yi² interj (Exclamation used by peasants to prod their animals) Giddiyap!

yik, nyik Bitty (tiny piece). (usu) Yon ti yik A very tiny bit, a small quantity.

yîngyang V hinghang

yo¹, y pers pron 1. They, them. Yo vini They came. (Before a word beginning with a vowel it is usually contracted to 'y'). Y'ale They went away. Yo chak Each of them. Yo youn None of them. (Always used with the negative marker 'pa'). 2. One (indefinite pronoun used to translate Fr. on, Germ. man, E. they, etc.)

yo² def art plur The. Zetwal yo The stars.

yo³ poss adj Their. Non yo Their names.

yôd V tentidyôd

yomenm, yo menm Themselves. Yo vini yomenm They themselves came.
Z

yon, you, on indef art A, an. Yon nonn A man. Yon diven A wine. Yon tèl manti Such a lie. Sometimes “yon” contracts with the preceding word and becomes ‘on’. S’on (Si yon) If a. Sé t’on (Se te yon) It was a. Te g’on (Te gen yon) There was a...

you V youn

youn, yonn, you, num One. ‘Youn’ is used only when standing alone; when it modifies or multiplies the word that follows ‘yon’ (you) is used. Yon liv, de liv One book, two books. Mete vòlè yo youn déyè lòt Put the thieves in line, one behind the other. Yon pa youn One by one. Yon lòt Either, either one, one or the other. Yon... lòt One... another, each other. Yon touye lòt They killed each other. Yon vous lòt Either, either one, one or the other.


yòyò Kòde yòyò To reel in pain, to bow down with pain.

Z

zabelbòk V zaboka

zaboka a, zabelbok, zavoka n Avocado*, alligator pear: Persea Americana Mill. P. “Bwa zaboka”: Answer to “Tim, tim”. Also “Bwa chech”.

zabriko a, abriko a n Apricot*, mamey apple. Mammea Americana L. Pye zabriko Apricot tree.

zafè Business, affairs*. Zafè ou Hell, that’s your worry; so much the worse for you. V afe.

zago a n Hoof, paw. (pej) Foot (human).

zagoudi a n Small animal larger than a rat that eats chickens. Agouti*.

zagribay la n Culls; small and insignificant ones, residue.

zak V ak

zakato a n Magnet. A Vodou charm that is magnetic.

zalantou Surroundings. V alantou.

zalèn V alèn

zalimèt V alimèt

zam nan n Weapon, arm*. O zam! To arms. Menm kouto se you zam li ye Even a knife is a weapon.

zandèzan Depi zandèzan For a long time, it’s been years since.

zandolit la n Small, climbing green lizard. Fr. anoli. Cf. mabouya. Zandolit domi sou pyebla, li chante le swa The lizard sleeps on trees; he sings in the evening.

zang a, ang a n Eel. Gen zang anba roch There’s something going on there. (Not pejorative. Said among friends).

zanj V anj

zanna a n Residue of a fruit after squeezing (e.g. oranges). Fann sa a se zanna a ki rete Only the shadow of this woman still remains.

zannam nan, zamam nan n Almond*. Terminalia catappa L. Sou tout rout Kafou, depi ou kite Pòtoprens, gen anpil pye zannam When you leave Port-au-Prince, the entire route to Carrefour is lined with almond trees.

zanmi an, ami n Friend, companion, mate. ‘Ami’ is used in set phrases such as ‘mon ami’. You zanmi gason A male friend. Bon zanmi Buddy, chum, pal. The common word for ‘friend’ is zanmi.

zanmitay la, zanmiray n Friendship.

zanmore V anmore

zannana V anana

zannimo 1 a n Animal*, beast; cattle.

zannimo 2 attrib Gross, beastly, savage.

zanno a n Earring.

zanpoud la, zanpoul la n Blister.

zansèt V ansèt

zantray la n Intestines, bowels, entrails*, ‘innards’. Ou pa gen zantray yon manman You don’t feel the great pains that a mother goes through.

zapata, sapata vt To smash, to mistreat badly.

zarenyen V arey.

zaviron an n Oar, paddle.

zavoka V zaboka

ze a n Egg. Ze trè chè kounyea paske yo fè anpil bagay ak li, kon wè: gato, bonbon, chanpou ak manje Eggs are very expensive these days, because, they are used to make so many things, such as cakes, candies, shampoos, as well as food. Jòn ze Yolk.

zebichèt la, jebichèt la n A round, wicker tray (usu) used to clean rice or beans of impurities; (usu) shortened to “bichèt”.

zechalòt la, echalòt, chalòt, jechalòt n Scallions, shallot*. Allium ascalonium L. P.
zege a  n  Type of insect, akin to the scarabaeid beetle.

zegrè V  egrè

zegui a, egui, zegi, zegwi  n  Needle. Je zegui The eye of a needle. File zegui To thread a needle.

zeklè a, ekè a  n  Lightning.

zekòs la, ekòs  n  Tree bark.

zekourèl la  n  Stiff neck.

zekribich la  n  Scorpion.

zèl la  n  Wing (bird, plane); fin (fish). You zèl kat A single playing card. Zèl nen Exterior of the nose. Zèl ou vin lounè, ou pè tande konse. Now that your wings are spread; now that you know your way around, you don’t listen to advice. L’ap trennen zèl li nan Pòtoprens He’s eking out a living in Port-au-Prince; he is hardly surviving. Sou zèl (or) sou lezèl (or) sou lezèl On the side.

zèlvèt la  n  Worthless woman, not necessarily a prostitute.

zen 1  an  n  Fishhook. Pran nan zen To get caught in a trap.

zen 2  an  n  Gossip. Pa mete’m nan zen Don’t get me into trouble with them. V tripotay. Kote je’m fé zen an Wherever my eyes indicate.

zen 3  an  n  The iron (or clay) pot used in Vodou ritual (COURLANDER). Boule zen A Vodou ceremony.

zenbou a  n  Rebuff, reuke. Bay zenbou To rebuff.

zenga 1, jenga  attrib  Speckled. Kòk zenga Rooster with black and white specks.

zenga 2  Lwa zenga A deaf spirit (loa), one without ears.

zenglen an  n  Little pieces of glass-ware and broken bottles. They are often tied to the tails of kites by children.

zenk la  n  Zinc*.

zèp la  n  Fè zèp To play leap-frog.

zepav la, zepab la  Pound (for animals).

zepeng nan, epeng nan  n  Pin. Zepeng kroko Type of pin. Kroki zepeng To twist, to bend a pin. Zepeng cheve Hairpin. Zepeng krasav Tie pin. Zepeng nounris Safety pin. Zepeng ti tèt Ordinary straight pin. Pa gen kote pou pike zepeng The place was jammed to capacity. There was no room for one more person.

zepi a  n  Ear of corn.

zepina a  n  Type of spinach*. Amaranthus paniculatus, L. et al.

zepis  V  epis

zepòl la  n  Shoulder. Rose zepòl To shrug one’s shoulder.

zepòlèt la  n  Epaulet*.

zepon an  n  Spur* (of roosters, rider’s metal spur).

zeponnen, zepronnen  vt  To spur (a horse).

zeprèv la, eprèv  n  Ordeals, trials and tribulations.

zero a  n  Zero*, nought. Gato sa a se zero fot This cake is excellent; it lacks nothing, it’s faultless.

zhès la, jès la  n  The juice (liquid) that spurts out of the peeling of oranges.

zesèl la  n  Armpit.

zètòk la, zetòk la  n  Down (soft, fine hair or tiny feathers of birds).

zetrenn nan, zetren, etren  n  (New year’s) Gift. Otherwise use “kado”.

zetriye  V  etriye

zetwal la, etwal, zetwèl  n  Star. Zetwal lamnè Starfish. Zetwal file Falling star.

zèv la  n  Deed, act; charities. Bon zèv Good deed.

zee ye a  n  1. Eyelet, shoe-hole, belt-hole, etc. 2. Carnation. V eyè.

zèz la  n  Pleasure, comfort, ease*. L’ap pran zèz Li He’s making himself comfortable. He’s taking his good time.

zejwa, ze zwa  Fen kon zezwa Very elegant.

zidòl la, idòl  n  Idol*.

zigonnen  vt  To prick, to pick.

zigzag  Zigzag*. Fé zigzag To zigzag*.

zikak la  n  1. Coco plum tree. A type of fruit with a berry similar to a cherry 2. Jerking back and forth movement (bicycle). 3. Nothing (at all). Li pa di anyen, li pa fé sikak He didn’t say a word, he didn’t budge.

zile a, zilo a  n  Tiny island, Islet*.

zilo  V  zile

ziltik  n  Turks* island. Jis nan ziltik As far as Timbuktu.

zing, zin  A little (bit of), some. (syn) ti bren, ti kras, ti gout, ti miyèt. Ban’e m you zing dlo; m’pa bezwen anpal Give me a little water; I don’t need much. You zin pen pa ase pou li A little bit of bread won’t satisfy him. An zing de kontraryete Moody, in a bad mood.

zingzing  vt  To pester, to bother.

zip la  n  Zipper*.

zipe  vt  To zip*.

zirondèl la, irondèl  n  Swallow (bird).

zizani an  n  Bickering, discord, dissension. Ou ap mete’m nan zizani ak moun You’ll get me in trouble with people.
zizi *Bonbon zizi* Type of sweet.

zizye a, jizye a n Gizzard*. *Pete zizye* To kill. (syn) *pete fyèl*.

zo 1 a n Bone; fishbones. *ou se zo bouke chen* You’re absolutely shameless, you are a pain in the -. *Ve ye zo ou* Watch out for yourself. *Souse yon zo* To have a good thing going for now. *zo tèt, zo bwa tèt* Skull. *zo tèt ou pi di pase fe* Your skull is harder than iron. *zo jenou* (or) *zo jounou* Knee-cap. *zo solèy* Romp (of a fowl).

zot You (Rare nowadays). Cf. Fr. vous autres. *Nou, nou menm zôt, sa pou’m fè ak nou?* *Nou pale troup* (Say) you (all) there, what shall I do with you? You all talk too much.

zotyè la n Toe. *Gro zotyè* Big toe. *Kase zotyè* To bump one’s toe.

zotobre n Big shot, authority. (usu) *gro zotobre*.

zotolan V *òtolan*

zouti a n 1. Tool. 2. Penis.

zouzoun n *Gro zouzoun* Big shot. V zotobre.

zozo ³ a n A leather whip used on horses and burros. (lit) ‘bull cock’ (COURLANDER).

zozo ³ la, zwit n Oyster.

zwa a n Goose. Cf. zezwa.

zwazo a, zwezo n Bird. *Zwazo palmis* Common birds living in palm trees.

zwezo V *zwazo*

zye V *je*
Basic English – Haitian Creole Appendix
Note to Users

In Creole spelling, W and R are interchangeable in some cases. Therefore, some words written with a W in this appendix may have been written with a R in the Creole-English section - and vice versa.
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B

baby  tibebe
baccalaureate  bakaloreya
back (n.)  do
back  aryè
(go) back  retounen
(moving) back  rekile
bad  move
bad faith, insincerity  movèz fwa
bad luck, misfortune  devenn, giyon
bag  sak; valiz, makout
balance sheet, score  bilan
ball  boul
ballot  biten
balsam apple  asosi, asorosi
bandit  bandi
baptize  batize
bar / saloon  bar, kafe
barbed wire  filfè
baron  bawon
barracks  kazèn
bath  ben; beny
bathroom  saldeben, watè, komòd, twalèt
battle (n.); fight (vb.)  batay
battlefield  chand batay
bay, gulf  bè, labè
de  ye, se
de able, can  kapab, kap, ka
de afraid, fear  pè
de deceived, taken in  wè nan boutèy nwa
de going  prale, pral, apral
be necessary, must  fò (+ subj. + vb.)
de obliged (to do something)  blije, oblije, dwe
de published, appear  parèt, pibliye
be right, be correct  genyen rezon
be very careful  mache sou pinga-ou
beard  bab, labab
beat, whip  kale

(to) beat (someone) up  maspinen
beauty  bète
because  paske, poutèt, pase
because of  akòz de, poutèt
become  vin
become  devni
become aware  pran konsyans
bed  kabann
beer  byè
before  anvan, avan
before, faced with  douvan, devan
beggar  mandyan
begin  koumanse, kòmanse
beginning (n.)  kòmansman
behave like a coward  fè lachte
behavior  konpòtman
behind  dèvè
belly  vant
below (in text)  pi ba
below, under, underneath  anba
belt  senti (woman’s), sentiwon (man’s)
benefit (n.)  benefis, profi
betray  trayi
between  ant
bicycle  bisiklèt, bekàn
big guy, powerful person  gwo palto
big landowner  grandon
big, important  gwo
bigshot  gwo zotobre, gwo chabrak, grannèg
bigwig  gwo zouzoun
bilingual  bileng
bishop  monseyè, evèk
bit, piece  mòso
bite (vb.)  mòde
bite the dust, die  ale bwa chat, mouri
bitter  anmè
black  nwa
blanket  dra, kouvèti
blast  eksplozyon
bleed  senyen
blessing  benediksyon
block (vb.) bloke
blood san
blow (n.) kou
boat bato
body; corpse kò
bomb bonm
bone zo
blood pressure, tension tansyon
book liv
bookstore libreri
border, frontier fontyè
both toude, toulede
bottle boutèy
bottom, depths fon
boulder gro ròch
bower tonèl
boy, young man, fellow tigason, bway; gason
braceros (Sp.) brasewos
break (the law), violate vole
break (vb.) kase, kraze, brize
break out, burst pete
breakdown (vehicle, machine) pàn
breakfast dejnen, manje maten
breast tete, sen
breath alèn, souf
breathe (v.) respire
bridle brid
bring, carry pote
broadcast radyodifize
broken down an pàn
brother frè
brotherly fratènèl
bud (n.) boujon
bud, blossom (vb.) boujonnen
bug pinèz
build bati, konstwi
building bilding, gro kay
bulldozer bouldòzè
bullet bal
burn (n.) brili
burn (vb.) boule
burst (n.) rafal
bury antere
bus otobis, bis
but men
butter bè
buy (vb.) achte
by misfortune pa malè
by; per pa

calculate kalkile
calendar kalandrye, almanak
call (vb.) rele
call to order raple alòd
call, appeal (n.) apèl
calm kal, pèzib, tranlik
camera kodak
camp (n.) kan
can, be able kapab, kab, gen dwa
Canada Kanada
candle bouji
cannon kannnon
canteen (for food) sèvis
capital kapital
captain kapitèn, kaptenn
card kat
care (n.) swen
Caribbean Karayib
carry, transport pote, pot
case ka
cash kach
cassock soutàn
castor oil plant, palma christi makristi, palmakristi
cat chat
cat tongue langchat
catholic katolik
cause (n.) lakòz
cave trou wòch, kavèn
cayman, alligator kayiman
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<td>concern (vb.), be (someone’s) business</td>
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<td>crooked, winding</td>
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<td>cross (vb.)</td>
<td>janbe, travèse</td>
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<td>crossroads</td>
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<td>crush, step on</td>
<td>pile</td>
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<td>Cuba</td>
<td>Kiba</td>
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<td>custom, habit</td>
<td>mès, abitid, manyè</td>
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<td>custom office</td>
<td>ladwann</td>
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<td>cut (vb.)</td>
<td>koupe</td>
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<td>cut to pieces, kill with machete or axe</td>
<td>rache, rachonnen</td>
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<td>cut, trim (vb.)</td>
<td>taye</td>
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<td>damage (n.)</td>
<td>dega</td>
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<td>dance (vb.)</td>
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<td>darkness</td>
<td>fè nwa</td>
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<td>darkness, evil</td>
<td>tenèb</td>
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<td>date, day</td>
<td>dat</td>
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<td>day</td>
<td>jou</td>
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<td>day, daytime</td>
<td>lajounen</td>
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<td>dead (n.)</td>
<td>mò, moun mouri</td>
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<td>dead</td>
<td>mouri</td>
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<td>dead (my late father)</td>
<td>defen (defen papa’m)</td>
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<td>dead-end street</td>
<td>enpas</td>
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<tr>
<td>deal with</td>
<td>boule ak</td>
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<td>death</td>
<td>lanmò</td>
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December desanm
decent, adequate anfòm, konvnar
decide deside
decision desizyon
declare deklare
declare, decree (vb.) dekrete
decorations dekorasyon, bèbèl
decrease (n.) bès, diminisyon
decree (n.) arete
deep fon
defend; prevent defann, entèdi
defense defans
deficit defisi
definite defini
definitely, totally nètalking

deflect pare
degraded degrade, avili
degree degre
deliver rennèt, delivre
demand (n.) revandikasyon
demand (vb.) egzije, reklame
democracy demokrasi
democrat demokrat
democratic demokratik
denotes action involving following noun kout
denounce, inform on denonse
dentist dantis
deny demanti
department (geographical division) depatman
deport depòte
deportation depòtasyon
depot depo; deposit
derail deraye
deserve merite
desk biwo
despise meprize
destroy (with rage) detwi, depatya, kaba
destructive destriktè, kraze brize
detail detay
determination detèminasyon
determiner (grammatical) detèminan
develop devlope
devoid of denye, prive (de)
devote konsakre
devoted devwe
diagnosis dyagnostik
dialogue dyalog
diarrhea dyare, vant mennen, vant pase
dictate dikte
dictator diktatè
dictatorship diktati
die mouri, fè vwel pou peyi san chapo
difference differans
different diferan
different, various divès, plizyè
difficulty difikite
dig fouye
diminished diminye
dinner dine
diphtheria difteri
diploma diplòm
direct dirèk
direction; leadership, direksyon
directly dirèkteman
director direktè
dirty sal
disagree pa dako
disappear disparèt
disarm dezame
discipline (vb.) disipline
discuss diskite
disease, illness maladi
disobey dezobeyi
display, show off etale, layite
distribution distribisyon
dive plonje
divide, separate divize, separè
dizzy gen vètij
do, make fè
do again, (done again) refè, (refèt)
doctor doktè
dog chen
dollar dola
dominican republic lan panyöl, sen domeng, repiblik dominikèn

dominican, of the dominican republic dominiken
don't, do not pa, piga, pinga
door pòt
dose dóz
down with aba
downtown (n. and loc.) lavil
draw up dresse
draw, attract atire
drift (vb.) drive, drivaye
drifter drivayè
drink (vb.) bwè
drive around, stroll around vire, vire ron
driver chofè
drop (n.) gout, degout
drop (v.) lage
drown neye
drug dwòg
drunck sou, gri
dry chèch, sèch
dry (v.) seche
dugout (boat) bwa fouye
dull (adj.) (not sharp) defile; (boring) raz
dusk labrin, labrenn
dust pousyè
dutch olandè
duty devwa
dynamite dinamit
economic ekonomik
ecumencial ekimenik
education edikasyon
effect efè
effort jefo, efò
egg ze
eggplant berejenn
eight uit
eighteen dizuit
eighty katreven
either ... or ... swa ... swa ..., oubyen ... oubyen
elect (vb.) eli
election eleksyon
electric, electrical elektrik
electrical generator delko
electricity elektrik, elektrisite
elementary (school) primè
eleven onz
eliminate elimine
embark, go aboard anbake
embarrass anbarase, jennen
embassy anbasad
employee anplwaye
end (n.) fen, finisman
end (vb.) kaba
enemy lennmi, lenmi
engineer enjenyè
english angle
enjoy jwi
environment anviwonman, milye
episcopal episkopal
equal egal
equally egalman
erect (vb.) mete kanpe
erosion ewozyon
especially espesyalman, sitou
establish etabli, tabli
estimate (vb.) estime
et cetera, etc. etsetera, e latriye
Europe Ewòp
evaluate evalwe
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Creole</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>even (adv.)</td>
<td>menm</td>
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<tr>
<td>even if</td>
<td>menmsi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>evening</td>
<td>sware</td>
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<tr>
<td>in the evening</td>
<td>diswa</td>
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<tr>
<td>event</td>
<td>evenman</td>
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<tr>
<td>every single + n., all the</td>
<td>mezi + n.</td>
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<tr>
<td>every, each</td>
<td>chak</td>
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<tr>
<td>everyone</td>
<td>tout moun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>everywhere</td>
<td>tout kote, toupatou , tribòbabò</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>evidence, proof</td>
<td>temwayaj</td>
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<td>exactly</td>
<td>egzakteman, ekzakteman</td>
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<tr>
<td>exactly the same</td>
<td>menmman parèyman</td>
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<td>examination</td>
<td>egzamen</td>
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<td>example</td>
<td>ekzanp</td>
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<tr>
<td>example</td>
<td>egzanp</td>
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<tr>
<td>except</td>
<td>sòf</td>
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<td>execute</td>
<td>egzekite</td>
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<td>executive</td>
<td>ekzekitif</td>
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<tr>
<td>exist</td>
<td>egziste, ekziste</td>
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<td>existence</td>
<td>egzistans</td>
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<td>exodus</td>
<td>ekzòd</td>
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<td>expect, wait for</td>
<td>tann</td>
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<td>expensive</td>
<td>chè</td>
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<td>exploit</td>
<td>eksplwate</td>
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<td>exploitation</td>
<td>eksplwatasyon</td>
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<td>exploiter</td>
<td>eksplwatè, esplwatè</td>
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<td>expose the truth</td>
<td>mete ... deyò</td>
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<td>extradition</td>
<td>ekstradisyon</td>
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<td>eye</td>
<td>je, zye</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<td>fall (vb.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>fall through, fail</td>
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<tr>
<td>false</td>
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<tr>
<td>family</td>
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<td>family name, surname</td>
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<td>fancy, elegant</td>
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<tr>
<td>farm (n.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>farmer; peasant</td>
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<tr>
<td>fast (adj.)</td>
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<td>fast (adv.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>fat (adj.)</td>
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<td>fat (n.)</td>
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<td>father</td>
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<td>favor</td>
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<td>fear (n.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>fed up, tired</td>
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<td>feet</td>
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<td>female</td>
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<td>fence (n.)</td>
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<td>fever</td>
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<td>field</td>
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<td>fifteen</td>
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<td>fifty</td>
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<td>fifty seven</td>
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<td>fight, struggle (n.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>fight, struggle (vb.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>film</td>
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<tr>
<td>find (vb.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>find, ascertain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>finger</td>
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<tr>
<td>fingerprint</td>
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<td>fir tree</td>
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<td>fire</td>
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<tr>
<td>fire, dismiss</td>
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<tr>
<td>firefly</td>
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<tr>
<td>firm (adj.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>first</td>
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<td>first-rate</td>
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<td>firstly</td>
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<td>fish (n.)</td>
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<td>five</td>
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<td>flag</td>
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<td>flame (n.)</td>
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<td>flashlight</td>
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<td>flat (adj.)</td>
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<td>flesh</td>
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<td>flesh, meat</td>
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<td>follow</td>
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<td>food</td>
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<tr>
<td>foot</td>
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<tr>
<td>for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for (period of time in past), since, from (in time expressions)</td>
</tr>
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<td>for any reason at all</td>
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<td>for example</td>
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<td>for nothing, in vain</td>
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<tr>
<td>for, in that case</td>
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<td>force, strength</td>
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<td>foreign, exterior</td>
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<td>foresee</td>
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<td>forest (woods)</td>
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<td>forget</td>
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<td>form (n.)</td>
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<td>form (vb.)</td>
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<td>fort, fortress</td>
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<td>free, at liberty</td>
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<td>free, no charge</td>
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<td>from, since</td>
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<td>full, busy</td>
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<td>furthest, extreme</td>
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G

gallon galon
gallop, run around gallope
game (animal) jibye
game (amusement) jwèt
garage garaj
garden, field jaden
gargle gagari
garlic weed ave
gas station ponp gazolin, stasyon gazolin
gate baryè, pòtay
gather rasanble
gather ranmase
gauge gedj
general jeneral, polivalan
general headquarters gran katye jeneral
generally jeneralman
Geneva Jenèv
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<th>Haitian</th>
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<td>germ jèm</td>
<td>pwatann</td>
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<td>get bigger vin pi gwo</td>
<td>boutik, episri</td>
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<tr>
<td>get deeper apwofondi</td>
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<tr>
<td>get down, go down; stay (overnight) desann</td>
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<tr>
<td>give bay, ban, ba</td>
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<tr>
<td>give a gift fè kado</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>give back remèt</td>
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<tr>
<td>give up, let go, let out, release; leave, go away lage</td>
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<tr>
<td>given (that) etan done, kôm</td>
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<td>glance at voye je sou</td>
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<td>glove(s) gan</td>
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<td>go ale</td>
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<td>go in, enter antre, ranitre</td>
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<tr>
<td>go out, come out, leave sòti</td>
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<tr>
<td>go up, get in (vehicle) monte</td>
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<td>go with, (they match) mache ak (youn ale ak lôt)</td>
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<td>God Bondye</td>
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<td>goddaughter fiyòl, fiyèł</td>
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<td>godfather parenn</td>
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<td>godmother marenn, nennenn</td>
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<td>godson fiyòl, fiyèł</td>
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<td>good bon</td>
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<td>good (at doing sth.) fò</td>
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<td>good (n.), wellbeing byen</td>
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<td>goodness! (interj.) mezanmi!</td>
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<td>gospel levanjil</td>
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<td>gourd kalbas</td>
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<td>gourde (Haitian currency) goud</td>
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<td>government gouvènman</td>
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<td>grace lagras</td>
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<td>grain grenn (grain of sand: grenn sab)</td>
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<td>grandfather granpapa, granpè</td>
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<td>grant (vb.) akòde</td>
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<td>greedy visye, ava</td>
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<td>green vèt</td>
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<td>H</td>
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<td>hair (on head) cheve</td>
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<td>hair (on body) pwal</td>
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<td>Haiti Ayiti</td>
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<td>Haitian ayisyen</td>
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<td>Haitian (fem.) ayisyèn</td>
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<td>half demi</td>
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<td>half mast, half staff demi ma</td>
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<td>hammer mato</td>
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<td>hand (help) koutmen</td>
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<td>hand (n.) men</td>
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<td>hand grenade grenad</td>
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<td>handful ponyen</td>
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<td>hang down pandye</td>
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<td>happen pase, fèt, dewoule</td>
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<td>happy, pleased kontan</td>
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<td>hard (not soft) di</td>
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<td>harvest rekòt</td>
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<td>hat chapo</td>
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<td>have genyen, gen, ganyen, gan</td>
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<td>have + vb. (perfective) fin</td>
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<td>have just sòt</td>
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<tr>
<td>have just fin</td>
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<td>have to oblije</td>
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</table>
have to + vb.  sètoblize + vb.
(to) have to do with  genyen ... a revwa ak
he  li
head  tèt
head office  syèj
head, leader  chèf, alatèt, antèt
headache  tèt fè mal, maltèt
headlight  grantlimyè
headquarters  katye jeneral
health  sante
healthy  an sante, gaya
hear  tande
heart  kè
heavy  lou
heel  talon
helicopter  elikoptè
hell  lanfè
helmet  kas
help! (as exclamation)  anmwe!
help (vb.)  ride, ede
help, aid (n.)  sekou
her  li, l
here  isi, isit, pa bò isit
here is  men
hide (vb.)  kache
high heels (of shoes)  talon kikit
higher  siperyè, pi ro
highway  gran rout, rout
hill, mountain  mòn
him  li, l
historic  istorik
hit (v.)  frape, bay kou
hold out, stretch out  lonje
Holland  Peyi Ba, La Holand
holy  sen; sakre
home  lakay, kay
honest  onèt
honor  onè, lonè
hook  kochèt (door), zen (fish hook)
hope (n.)  espwa
hope (v.)  espere
horrible, ugly  yve
hospital  lopital
hot (of temperature)  cho
hot, spicy (of food)  pike
hot; in a hurry, worked up (person)  cho
hotel  otèl
hour  lè, è
house (n.)  kay
House of Representatives  lachanm
housing development; in Haiti, often slum areas site
how  ki jan
how much, how many  konbyen
how; what (asking for repetition)  kòman
however  sepandan
human rights  dwa moun
hundred  san
hunger, hungry  grangou
hunt (n.)  lachas
hunt (v.)  chase
hurricane  siklòn
hurry, hasten  fè vit, prese
husband  mari, mouche
hymn, anthem  ochan
hyphen  tirè

I

I  m, mwen
ice  glas
idea  lide
identification  idantifikasyon
idiot  idyo, bèkèkè
if  si
illegal  ilegal
immature  wòwòt
imperialist  enperyalis
importance  enpòtans
improve  amelyore
in  nan, lan; andidan
in (followed by language name) an
in a hurry prese
in a jiffy nan 2 tan 3 mouvman
in a tight spot antrave
in addition to anplis de
in common, public an komen
in order an règ
in spite of malgre
in the air anlè
in the course of, during pandan, okou
in the morning (after time of day) dimaten
in the name of onon
in tiny pieces an miyèt moso
in trouble nan ka
in, to nan
inaugurate inogire
inch(es) pous
including, up to (vb. used with prep. function) rive
incompetence enkonpetans
incompetent, incapable enkapab
increase, augment ogmante
indeed, in fact an efè
industrial; industrialist endistriyèl
infantry enfantry
infected enfekte
influence (n.) enfliyans
information enfòmasyon, ransèyman
injection piki
injured in an accident aksidante
injustice lenjistis
innocent inosan
inquiry ankèt
inside anndan
inspiration enspirasyon
instead of olye
institute (n.) enstiti
institution enstitisyon
interest (n.) enterè
interior enteryè
international entènasyonal
intervene, intercede entèvni
investigation rechèch
invite envite
iodine
irrigate irige, fè irigasyon
island il, lil
issue (vb.) lanse
it is necessary fòk

J
jack (playing cards) valè, djak
jack (tool) djak
jack (v.) djake
jacket vès, palto
January janye
Jesus Jezi
jet djèt
jitney bus taptap
job djob
join together, stick together pote kole
join, put together mete ak, mete ansanm
journalist, journalism jounalis
joy lajwa
judge (vb.) jije
judiciary jidisyè
juice ji
jump (vb.) sote
jump, hitch a ride fè eksprès
juncture konjonkti
just (+ vb.) annik
just, fair; just, merely jis
justice jistis, lajistis

K
keep, conserve konsève, kenbe
kick (n.) kout pye
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Haitian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kick (v.)</td>
<td>bay kout pye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kidnap</td>
<td>kidnape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kill</td>
<td>tiye, touye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kilometer</td>
<td>kilomèt</td>
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<tr>
<td>kind (adj.)</td>
<td>janti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kind, variety</td>
<td>varyete, kalite, jan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>knife (generic)</td>
<td>kouto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>knock (vb.)</td>
<td>frape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>knot (on rope)</td>
<td>ne</td>
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<tr>
<td>know</td>
<td>konnen, konn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>knowledgeable, scientific, scholarly</td>
<td>save</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lack of discipline</td>
<td>endisiplin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lack of security</td>
<td>ensekirite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lamb (baby sheep)</td>
<td>ti mouton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lamp</td>
<td>lanp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>land (n.)</td>
<td>të</td>
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<td>landslide</td>
<td>eboulman</td>
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<td>language</td>
<td>lang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>last (adj.)</td>
<td>dènye</td>
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<tr>
<td>late</td>
<td>ta; anreta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td>Amerik Latin</td>
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<td>latitude</td>
<td>latitid</td>
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<td>law</td>
<td>lwa, lalwa</td>
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<td>lawyer</td>
<td>avoka</td>
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<td>lead (position)</td>
<td>devan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lead (vb.)</td>
<td>kondwi</td>
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<tr>
<td>lead, direct</td>
<td>dirijen</td>
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<td>leader</td>
<td>lidè, dirijan</td>
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<td>leaf</td>
<td>féy</td>
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<td>league</td>
<td>lig</td>
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<td>learn</td>
<td>aprann</td>
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<td>leather</td>
<td>kui, po</td>
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<tr>
<td>leave</td>
<td>kite, lese</td>
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<tr>
<td>leave, depart</td>
<td>pati, derape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leave, go out, come out</td>
<td>sot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>left</td>
<td>gòch; agòch</td>
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<tr>
<td>legal</td>
<td>legal</td>
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<td>legislative</td>
<td>lejislatif</td>
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<tr>
<td>less</td>
<td>pi piti, mwens</td>
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<tr>
<td>let's (+ vb.)</td>
<td>annou</td>
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<tr>
<td>let, allow</td>
<td>kite</td>
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<tr>
<td>letter</td>
<td>lèt</td>
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<td>level</td>
<td>nivo</td>
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<td>liberation</td>
<td>liberasyon</td>
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<tr>
<td>liberty</td>
<td>libète, la-libète</td>
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<tr>
<td>lie (down)</td>
<td>kouche</td>
</tr>
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<td>lie (n.)</td>
<td>manti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lie, tell untruths</td>
<td>fè manti</td>
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<td>lieutenant</td>
<td>lyetnan</td>
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<td>light (n.)</td>
<td>limyè</td>
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<td>light (vb.)</td>
<td>limen</td>
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<td>light up, clear</td>
<td>klere</td>
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<td>lightning</td>
<td>zeklè</td>
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<td>like (prep.)</td>
<td>kou, kon, kouwè</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>like (vb.)</td>
<td>renmen</td>
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<td>lip(s)</td>
<td>po bouch</td>
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<td>listen</td>
<td>koute</td>
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<tr>
<td>literacy</td>
<td>alfabetizasyon</td>
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<tr>
<td>little</td>
<td>ti, piti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>little street</td>
<td>riyèl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>little, a bit</td>
<td>ti kras</td>
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<tr>
<td>live (vb.)</td>
<td>viv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>live, inhabit</td>
<td>demere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>living, livelihood, life</td>
<td>lavi</td>
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<tr>
<td>load (n.)</td>
<td>chay, chajman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>load (v.)</td>
<td>chaje</td>
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<tr>
<td>locate</td>
<td>lokalize</td>
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<tr>
<td>lodge (vb.), lodging (n.)</td>
<td>loje</td>
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<tr>
<td>lodging</td>
<td>lojman</td>
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<tr>
<td>long</td>
<td>long</td>
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<td>(for a ) long (time)</td>
<td>lontan</td>
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<td>longitude</td>
<td>lonjitid</td>
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<td>look at</td>
<td>gade</td>
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<tr>
<td>lose</td>
<td>pèdi</td>
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<tr>
<td>loud</td>
<td>fò</td>
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<tr>
<td>love (n.)</td>
<td>lanmou</td>
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<tr>
<td>low</td>
<td>ba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lower (vb.)</td>
<td>bese</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
machete manchét
machine-gun mitrayèz, mitrayèt
madden, enrage anraje
made fèt
maggot, worm vè
mail (n.) lèt
mail (v.) poste
mainly, mostly prensipalman
majority pi fò
majority majorite
make a pronouncement pwononse
make big money mare gwo mago
make contact pran kontak
make easy, facilitate fasilite
make fun of someone pase youn moun nan betiz
make success of, be successful reyisi
makeshift bridle, muzzle baboukèt
malaria palidis, malarya
man gason, nonm
man; Mr msye
manage administré
manage (to do something), succeed (in doing something) resi, arive
manipulate manipile
many anpil, yon makòn, yon digdal, yon dal, yon bann
March mas
march, walk (n.) mach
mark, signature siyati, paraf
market mache
marriage maryaj
marriage of convenience maryaj enterè
martyrdom, martyr mati
mass (quantity) mas
massacre (n.) masak

mast ma
Master (title for lawyer) mèt
material materyèl
matter, affair zafè
matter, business afè
time, subject matyè
mattress matla
maturity matirite
may mèt
May (month) me
mayor majistra, majistra kominal
me m, mwen
meal (of food) repa, manje
mean (vb.) vle di
means (n.) mwayen
meanwhile antretan, pandanstan
measles saranpyon
measure mezi
mechanic mekanisyen
media, press laprès
medical medikal
medicine medikaman, medsin
medium-sized mwayenn
meet reyini
meet kontre
meeting reinyon
member manm
memory memwa
memory (of event) souvni
men, Messrs. msye (pl.)
mercenary mèsenè
merchant, shopkeeper komèsan
mesquite bayawonn
mess, disorder gagòt
message mesaj
method metòd
Mexican meksiken
Mexico Meksik
microphone mikro
midst, middle mitan
military; soldier militè
militate milite
mine pa’m, pa’m nan, pa’m yo
mine (explosive) min
minibus (covered pickup or van), jitney bus tap tap
minister minis
ministry ministè
minute minit
misfortune malè
miss (target) rate, manke
mission misyon
mistake (n.) fot, erè
mistreat maltrete
mix (vb.) melanje
mobilize mobilize
moment moman
Monday lendi
money (small amount, earned with difficulty) tchotcho
money, wages lajan
month mwa
moon lalin
moral moral
more (= adj.), adj. + -er pi (+ adj.)
more severely, stubbornly pou pi rèd
more than plis pase, plis ke
more, in addition an plis
morning matine
mortar (for grinding) pilon
mortar (type of cannon) mòtye
mortar (building material) mòtye
mosquito moustik, marengwen
most often leplisouvan
mother manman
motorcycle motosiklèt
mountain mòn, montany
mourning dèy
mouth bouch, dyòl
move (vb.) deplase
move around sikile
movement mouvman
mud labou

mumps malmouton
murder (v.) ansasinen, sasinen
muscle mis
music mizik
musician mizisyen
mute bèbè
my mwen, m; mwen yo, m yo

N

nail (n.) klou
nail (v.) kloure
name non
narrow etwat, jis
nation nasyon
national nasyonal
native natif natal
natural natirèl
nature lanati
navy lamarin, marin
near pre
necessary nesesè
neck kou
need, necessity nesesite
need, want (vb.) bezwen
needle egui, zegui
negative + verb marker [+ anterior] pat
negative marker + verb marker [+ progressive] pap
neighbor vwazen
neighborhood, block blòk
nephew neve
net (catch fish) filè
network rezo
never janmen
never, not ... ever janm, jamè
new nouvo
news nouvèl
newspaper jounal
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English Word</th>
<th>French Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>next, afterwards</td>
<td>antwit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nickname</td>
<td>non jwèt, ti non</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>niece</td>
<td>nyès</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>night</td>
<td>nwi, lanwiti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nine</td>
<td>néf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ninety</td>
<td>katreven di</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ninety five</td>
<td>katreven kenz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>no</td>
<td>non</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>no + n., not ... any</td>
<td>pa ... ankenn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>no longer, not ... any more</td>
<td>pa ... ankò</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>noise, rumor</td>
<td>bri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>none, not ... any</td>
<td>pa ... okenn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>neither ... nor</td>
<td>ni ... ni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nor</td>
<td>ni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>normally</td>
<td>nómalman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>north</td>
<td>nò</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>Nodèès</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>northwest</td>
<td>nòdwès</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>not (verb negation)</td>
<td>pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>not ... at all</td>
<td>pa ... ditou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>not anybody, nobody</td>
<td>pa ... pèsonn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>not be able to make ends meet</td>
<td>manje vach anraje</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>not to be right, the way it should be</td>
<td>pa fin kodyòm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>not yet</td>
<td>ponko, pokò</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>note</td>
<td>nôt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nothing, not ... anything</td>
<td>anyen, aryen</td>
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<tr>
<td>notice (n.)</td>
<td>avi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>notice (vb.)</td>
<td>remake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>novanm</td>
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<tr>
<td>now</td>
<td>kounyeya, koulveya, kounye a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>now, but, well</td>
<td>ò</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>numb</td>
<td>angoudi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>number</td>
<td>nimewo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nurse</td>
<td>enfimyè</td>
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<tr>
<td>obey</td>
<td>obeyi</td>
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<tr>
<td>observe</td>
<td>obsève</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>observer</td>
<td>obsèvatè</td>
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<td>occasion</td>
<td>okazyon</td>
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<td>of a commune</td>
<td>kominal</td>
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<td>of August</td>
<td>out, daou</td>
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<td>of course</td>
<td>byen antandi</td>
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<td>of Haiti</td>
<td>Dayiti</td>
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<td>of love</td>
<td>damou</td>
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<td>office</td>
<td>biwo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>officer</td>
<td>ofisyè</td>
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<tr>
<td>official</td>
<td>ofisyèl</td>
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<td>oil (n.)</td>
<td>lwil</td>
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<td>old (object)</td>
<td>vye</td>
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<td>old (person)</td>
<td>gran, granmoun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>old spinster</td>
<td>kaprina</td>
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<td>on edge (person)</td>
<td>andemon</td>
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<tr>
<td>on foot</td>
<td>a pye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on the ground</td>
<td>atè</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on the side of</td>
<td>arebò</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on the side of, next to</td>
<td>sou kote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on their own</td>
<td>pou pwòp kò pa yo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on their own</td>
<td>pou kont yo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on their own</td>
<td>pou kont kò pa yo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>one (numeral)</td>
<td>en</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>one (pron.)</td>
<td>yonn, younn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>one and the same thing</td>
<td>50 kòb ak 2 gouden kole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>one quarter of a gourde</td>
<td>gouden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>only (adj.)</td>
<td>sèl</td>
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<tr>
<td>only (adv.)</td>
<td>sèlman</td>
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<td>open</td>
<td>ouvri, louvri, ouvè</td>
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<td>opening</td>
<td>ouvèti</td>
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<tr>
<td>openly</td>
<td>kareman</td>
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<td>operation</td>
<td>operasyon</td>
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<td>opinion</td>
<td>opinyon</td>
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<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td>ou, oubyen</td>
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<tr>
<td>orange</td>
<td>zoranj</td>
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<td>orchestra</td>
<td>òkès</td>
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<td>order (vb.)</td>
<td>kòmande</td>
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<td>organise</td>
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<td>organization</td>
<td>òganizasyon</td>
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<td>other</td>
<td>lòt</td>
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<td>English Appendix 18</td>
<td></td>
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<td>---------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>others</strong></td>
<td>zob</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>others</strong></td>
<td>lezöt (pl. only)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>otherwise</strong></td>
<td>ousnon, otreman</td>
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<td><strong>outlaw</strong></td>
<td>sanmanman</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>outside (loc. phrase)</strong></td>
<td>deyò a</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>oven</strong></td>
<td>fou</td>
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<td><strong>overthrow (vb.)</strong></td>
<td>ranvèse</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>own (adj.)</strong></td>
<td>pwôp</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>owner</strong></td>
<td>pwopriyetè</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>owner, boss</strong></td>
<td>patwon</td>
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<td><strong>pain, sorrow</strong></td>
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<td><strong>paint (n.)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>paint (v.)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>paper</strong></td>
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<td><strong>paralyze</strong></td>
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<td><strong>pardon, grace</strong></td>
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<td><strong>participate</strong></td>
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<td><strong>participation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>particularly, especially</strong></td>
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<td><strong>party (political)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>pass (vb.)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>passing by, via</strong></td>
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<td><strong>patriot</strong></td>
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<td><strong>patrol (n.)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>pay (vb.)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>peaceful</strong></td>
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<td><strong>pee, urinate</strong></td>
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<td><strong>peep (utterance)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>pen (for animals)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>pen (for writing)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>people (vs. élite)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>pepper</strong></td>
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<td><strong>per hour</strong></td>
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<td><strong>period, menses</strong></td>
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<td><strong>person, human being</strong></td>
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<td><strong>phone call</strong></td>
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<td><strong>physical (examination)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>picture, photo</strong></td>
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<td><strong>piece</strong></td>
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<td><strong>piece of, length of</strong></td>
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<td><strong>pig</strong></td>
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<td><strong>pile (n.)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>pilot</strong></td>
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<td><strong>pink pig (as opposed to creole pig)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>pistol</strong></td>
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<td><strong>pity, shame</strong></td>
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<td><strong>place (n.)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>place, space</strong></td>
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<td><strong>plain (flat land); rural area not far from the city plenn</strong></td>
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<td><strong>plant (n.)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>plant (vb.)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>play (vb.)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>play a role</strong></td>
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<td><strong>please</strong></td>
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<td><strong>pleasure</strong></td>
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<td><strong>pledge, involve</strong></td>
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<td><strong>plot (n.)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>pocket</strong></td>
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point  pwen
(to) point a finger at  lonje dwèt sou
poison (as chemical)  pwazon
police  lapolis
policeman  jandam, polis
polio  polyo
political  politik
politics  politik
polling station  biwod vòt
poor  pòv
poor man  malere
poor woman  malerèz
popular  popilè
population  popilasyon
port / harbor  pò
portion  pòsyon
pose (n.)  pòz
position  pozisyon
position, post  pòs
possessive  posesif
possibility  posibilite
possible  posib
postposed  retresi
poverty, misery  mizè, lamizè
powder, (by extension) drugs  poud
power  pisans, mayèt, pouvwa
practically  pratikman
practice (n.)  pratik
prank, absurdity  betiz
prayer  priyè
precaution  prekosyon
precisely  presizeman
pregnant  ansent
prejudice (n.)  prejije
premises, headquarters  lokal
preparation  preparatif, dispozisyon
present (time)  prezan
present (vb.) (on radio and television)  voye moute
present, gift  kado
president  prezidàn
press (n.)  près
pretty, good  bèl
prevent  prevni
prevent  anpeche
prevention  prevansyon
price  pri
priest, father (in church)  pè
prison  prizon
prisoner  prizonye
private  prive
problem  pwoblèm
process (n.)  pwosesis
procession  pwosesyon
profession  metye
professional  pwofesyonèl
proficiency  konpetans
profound, basic  fonadalnatal
program  pwogram
program, broadcast  emisyon
progress  pwogrè
progressive  pwogresis
project  pwojè
promise (n.)  pwomès
promise (vb.)  pwomèt
pronoun  pwonon
propose  pwopozè
prosecutor  komisè
prostitute  bouzen, jenès
protect  pwoteje
protection  pwoteksyon
protest  pwoteste
protestant  pwotestan
prove oneself  fè prèv li
proverb  pwovèb
province  pwovens
public  piblik
publish  pibliye
Puerto Rico (DOKA: Pòtoriko)  Pòto Riko
pull (v.)  rale
pump (n.)  ponp
pump (v.)  ponpe
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<td>mete</td>
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<td>put</td>
<td>met</td>
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<td>put out, publish (causative)</td>
<td>fè soti</td>
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<td>qualified</td>
<td>konpetan</td>
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<td>quantity</td>
<td>kantite</td>
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<td>quarrel, disagreement</td>
<td>kont, lòbèy</td>
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<td>quarter</td>
<td>ka</td>
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<td>question</td>
<td>kesyon, keksyon</td>
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<td>question marker</td>
<td>èske</td>
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<td>quickly</td>
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<td>reason (n.)</td>
<td>rezon, kòz</td>
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<td>reason, cause</td>
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<td>receive</td>
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<td>recently, lately</td>
<td>dènyèman</td>
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<td>record, disk</td>
<td>plak</td>
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<td>record, register (vb.)</td>
<td>anrejistre</td>
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<td>recovery</td>
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<td>recruiting, hiring</td>
<td>anbochay, anbochaj</td>
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<td>rectory</td>
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<td>reflect</td>
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<td>rejoice</td>
<td>banbile</td>
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<td>release, let go</td>
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<td>relijèz</td>
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<td>remain, stay</td>
<td>rete, ret</td>
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<td>remèd</td>
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<td>reorganize</td>
<td>reyòganize</td>
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<td>repeat, do (X) again</td>
<td>repete</td>
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<td>replace</td>
<td>ranplase</td>
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<td>report (n.)</td>
<td>rapò</td>
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<td>report, article</td>
<td>repotaj</td>
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<td>reporter</td>
<td>repòtè</td>
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<td>resignation</td>
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<td>English Appendix</td>
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<td>resist reziste</td>
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<td>rest repo</td>
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<td>rest (vb.) repoze</td>
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<td>restaurant restoran</td>
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<td>retreat (v.) reki, fè back, batba</td>
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<td>return tounen</td>
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<td>return (vb.) retounen</td>
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<td>revolutionary revolisyonè</td>
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<td>rice diri</td>
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<td>rich rich</td>
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<td>rifle fizí</td>
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<td>right (n.) dwa</td>
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<td>right away touswit</td>
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<td>right now koulye laa, kouwèl ye la a</td>
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<td>right of asylum dwa dazil</td>
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<td>ringleader chèf de bann</td>
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<td>riot dezòd, manifestasyon</td>
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<td>risk (vb.) riske</td>
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<td>river rivyè, lariyè</td>
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<td>road wout</td>
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<td>robbery vòl</td>
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<td>role wòl</td>
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<td>room chanm, pyès</td>
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<td>root rasin</td>
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<td>rough brital, grosye</td>
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<td>route, circuit sikwi</td>
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<td>rowboat kannòt</td>
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<td>rubella, German measles laroujòl</td>
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<td>ruin (n.) ruin</td>
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<td>ruin (vb.) fini ak, depafini</td>
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<td>ruin, rag ranyon</td>
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<td>rule (n.) règ</td>
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<td>run (vb.), spread (vb.) (of rumor) kouri</td>
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<td>rural riral</td>
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<td>rush down degrengole</td>
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<td>rythm rit</td>
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**S**

| sacrifice (v.) sakrifye |
| sadness tristès |
| sail (n.) vwel, vwal |
| salt (n.) sèl |
| salt (v.) sale |
| salvation sali |
| sand sab |
| satisfy satisfè |
| Saturday samdi |
| sauce sòs |
| save sove |
| savings, fortune avwa, ekonomi |
| say di |
| say, clarify presize |
| scholarship, grant bous |
| school lekòl |
| science lasyans |
| scoundrel vakabon, move je |
| scratch (vb.) grate |
| screwdriver tounvis |
| search fouye |
| search for chèche |
| second (adj.) dezyèm |
| secondary segondè |
| secondly dezyèmman |
| secret sektrè |
| secretariat sekretarya |
| section chief, rural sheriff chèf seksyon |
| section, subdivision seksyon |
| sector sektè |
| secure, support (vb.) kore |
| security sekirite |
| see wè |
| seed (for planting) grenn, semans |
| seek, look for chèche |
seem  sanble
seem  genlè
seize, grasp  sezi
sell  vann
seminar  seminè
send  voye, espedye
send a message  voye yon mesaj
sense, meaning  sans
sentence (n.)  fraz
September  septanm
sergeant  sèjan
series, some  seri
serious, seriously  serye , grav
seriously  oserye
serve  sèvi
set fire  mete dife
set up (vb.)  mete sou pye
settle  regle
seven  sèt
seventeen  disèt
seventy four  swasant katòz
several  plizyè
shadow  lonbray
shall  a. va. ava (marker of the future)
shallow  plat, pa fon
sharp (as of blade)  file
sharpen  file
shave  fè labab
she  li, l
sheep  mouton
sheet (of bed)  dra
sheet (of paper)  fèy
shell (n.)  kokiy
ship  batiman, bato
shirt  chemiz
shoe  soulye
shooting, shoot  tire
shore  rivay
short  kout
should, must  dwe, do, fèt pou
shoulder  zepòl, epòl
shout (n.)  rèl
shovel  pèl
show (vb.)  montre
show off  taye banda
shower  douch; gro lapli
sick  malad
sign (n.)  siy
sign (vb.)  siyen
signal (vb.)  siyifye
signature  siyati
silence (n.)  silans
simple, mere  senp
sin  peche
sing  chante
single unit  yon grenn
sister  sè
sit, stay; be situated  chita
situation  sitirasyon
six  sis
sixteen  sèz
sixty  swasant
size  dimansyon, grosè
slave  esklav
slave away  trimen
slavery  esklavaj, lesklavaj
sleep  dòmi
slow  lant, lan
small sea craft, "boat-people" boat  kanntè
small town  bouk
small truck (for inter-urban public transportation)  kamyonèt
small, little  ti, piti
smash  kraze
smell  santi
smell bad, stink  santi fò, santi move
smell, odor  odè
smoke (n.)  lafimen
smoke (v.)  fimen
so  alò, alòs
so that  defason
so; alias; to wit  kidonk
society sosyete
soldier sòlda
solid solid
solidarity solidarite
solution solisyon
solve the problem for, do something for, help fè on jan pou
solve your problems in a jiffy ba w sa sou 2 chèz
some kèk, kèlke, de
group chante
sophisticated weapon zam fann fwa
sore throat mal gòj
soul nanm
sound (n.) son
sound (vb.) sonnen, kònen
source sous
south sid
southeast sidès
southwest sidwès
sow, scatter simaye
space espa
Spanish (language); person from Dominican Republic panyòl
speak, talk pale
special espesyal
speech diskou
speed vité
spelling, orthography òtograf
spend (money) depanse
spin, run around, beat toupizi
spirit lespri
spiritual espirityèl
split, crack (vb.) fann
spoil, waste (vb.) gate
spread (vb.) etann
spring (of water) sous, tèt dlo
spy espyan
stabilize estabilize
stage (theater) sèn
stage, point stad
stamina, bile fyèl
stand (still); stand up kanpe
stand; endure, stay firm; hold, support; keep; capture kenbe
starting from apati
state (n.) leta
statement deklarasyon, kominike
station estasyon
stay, remain; still have rete, ret
steps (to achieve sth.), attempt demach
stick (n.) baton
stick (vb.) kole
stiffen redi, fè vin rèd
still (adv.) ankò, toujou
still not pokò
stomach vant
stomach ache vant mòde
stop! (interj.) stòp!, rete!
stop (vb.) bouke, sispann
store magazen
storm tanpèt
story istwa
stream riyè
street ri, lari
strike (n.) grèv
strong fò
struggle (n.) batay, lit
struggle, fight penpennen
student etidyan
stuff (vb.) boure
stupid sòt, stipid, enbesil
subject (n.) sijè
success siksè, reyisit
such as tèlke
such as, like tankou
suffer soufri
suffering (n.) soufrans, tray
sufferer soufri
suffering (n.) soufrans, tray
suffocate toufe
sugar harvest (Dominican Republic) zafra
sugarcane kann
sugarcane workers' camp batèy
suggest sijere
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<td>sun</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
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<td>sunrise</td>
<td>(at sunrise: lè solèy ap leve)</td>
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<td>sunset</td>
<td>(at sunset: lè solèy ap kouche)</td>
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<td>superstitious</td>
<td>sipèstisye</td>
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<td>supper</td>
<td>soupe</td>
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<td>supply (vb.)</td>
<td>founi</td>
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<td>supply depot</td>
<td>depo founiti</td>
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<td>support, back (vb.)</td>
<td>apiye</td>
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<td>supposedly, that is to say</td>
<td>kôm ki dire, kôm kwa dire</td>
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<td>surely</td>
<td>siman</td>
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<td>surname, family name</td>
<td>non, siyati</td>
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<td>surprise (vb.)</td>
<td>etone, siprann</td>
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<td>rann têt</td>
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<td>surrounding; around, at about</td>
<td>ozanviwon</td>
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<td>vale</td>
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<td>gonfle</td>
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<td>swell, grow larger</td>
<td>gwosi</td>
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<td>swelling, inflammation</td>
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<td>Switzerland</td>
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<td>senpatizan</td>
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<tr>
<td>synthetic, artificial</td>
<td>sentetik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>system</td>
<td>sistèm</td>
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<tr>
<td>systematic</td>
<td>sistematik</td>
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<th>T</th>
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<tr>
<td>table</td>
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<tr>
<td>tail (generic)</td>
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<tr>
<td>take</td>
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<tr>
<td>take (on) again, start again</td>
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<tr>
<td>take from, take off, remove</td>
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<td>take pleasure, have fun</td>
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<td>take revenge</td>
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<td>take the opportunity</td>
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<td>take the/a chance</td>
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<td>take, lead, conduct (vb.)</td>
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<td>talk (n.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>tank (gas tank)</td>
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<td>tank (armored)</td>
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<td>tape (n.)</td>
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<td>taste (n.)</td>
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<td>taste (v.)</td>
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<td>tax</td>
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<td>taxi</td>
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<td>teacher</td>
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<td>team</td>
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<td>tear to pieces</td>
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<td>technician</td>
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<td>telephone (vb.)</td>
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<td>television</td>
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<td>ten</td>
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<td>tendency</td>
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<td>territory</td>
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<td>terrorist</td>
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<td>tetanus</td>
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<td>than (in comparative construction)</td>
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<tr>
<td>thank (vb.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>thanks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thanks to</td>
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<tr>
<td>thanks, thank you</td>
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<tr>
<td>that (compl.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>that is (to say)</td>
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<tr>
<td>that, those (pronoun)</td>
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<tr>
<td>the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the latter</td>
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<tr>
<td>the orders</td>
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<td>the other day</td>
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<td>their</td>
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<td>theirs</td>
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<tr>
<td>them</td>
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<tr>
<td>there (loc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>there is/are no/none</td>
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<tr>
<td>they</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thing</td>
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<tr>
<td>things are difficult</td>
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<tr>
<td>think</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>think, believe</td>
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<tr>
<td>third</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
third (fraction) tyè
thirdly twazyèmman
thirty trant, trann
this sa a
this, that sila a
those sa a yo
those who sa k(i)
thoughtful, aware konsekan
thousand mil
three twa
throw jete
thus, like this konsa
tie (up), tether an animal mare
tie together makònen
time lè; tan
time, occasion fwa
timetable orè
timidly timidman
tiny bit zing
title tit
to/in the south osid
today jodi a
toe zòtèy
together ansanm
toilet twalèt, komòd, watè	
tomorrow demen
too (+ adj. or adv.) trò, twò (+ adj. or adv.)
too much + n. tròp, twòp + n.
tool zouti
toothless person mazora
torrent lavalas
torture, make a martyr of matirize
totally, completely nèt
tour (n.) vire
tower tour
town vil
townhall meri
track tras
trade, commerce kòmès
tradition tradisyon
traffic trafik

train (n.) tren
training fòmasyon
transportation transpò
trap (n.) pèlen
trash fatra
tavel (vb.) vwayaje
travel, journey vwayaj
tray kabare
treat (n.) trete
treatment, care tretman, laswenyay
tree pye bwa
trial jijman
trip (n.) vyayaj
trouble-maker bagarè
tuck kamyon
truly tout bon vre
trumpet twonpèt
truth verite, laverite
try (to do); seek chache
try (vb.) eseye
Tuesday madi
turn (into), become tounen
turn away detounen
twenty nine ventnèf	
twenty one venteyen
two de
typing daktilogrāfi

ugly lèd
unacceptable inakseptab
undergo, suffer sibi
undertake antreprann
unemployed person chomè
unemployment, idleness chomay, chomeko
ungrateful engra
uniform inifòm
union inyon
union (labour) sendika
unit inite
United Nations Nasyonzini
United States Etazini
university inivèsite
unload dechaje
unpaid servant (child) restavèk
until jis, jouk
until (conj.) jouskaske
up to the present jouskaprezan
up to, until jiska
uproot dechouke, derasinen
urgence ijans
us nou, n
use (vb.) itilize, sèvi, anplwaye
(to) use something sèvi ak yon bagay
usually dabitid
usually + vb., be in the habit of + vb. abitye + vb.

V

vaccinate vaksinen
vaccination vaksinasyon
vaccine vaksen
valley vale
valuable empòtan, valab
value valè
vb. + usually, often konn + vb.
vehicle, car machin
vendor machann
veranda galri
verb vèb
vice, deputy (prefix) vis
victim viktim
victory laviktwa
village bouk
violation, breach vyolasyon
violence vyolans
violent quarrel deblozay
vodou practicing vodouyizan
vodou priest ougan
vodou spirit lwa
vomit (n.) vomi
vomit (v.) vomi, rejte, bay djapòt
vote (n.) vòt
vote (vb.) vote

W

wagon kabwèt; wagon
wait tann, espere
walk ; work, function (vb.) mache
want vle
war lagè
ward (administrative district) awondisman
warehouse depo
warm (of temperature) cho
wash (generic) lave
waste time pèdi tan
watch out! (warning) atansyon!
watchful, careful veyatif
watchful, vigilant vijilan
watchword, call (to do something) modòd
water dlo
way rout, vwa
way, manner fason, jan
we nou, n
weak fèb
wealth richès
weapon, arm zam
week semèn
week before last semèn pase an wo
weep kriye
weight, cargo chay
well (interj.) ebyen
west lwès
wet mouye
what sa’k
whatever kèlkeswa
wheel wou
when lè, lò
when kou
when (interr.) ki lè
where kote
whereas, while alòske
whether ... or else kit ... ou byen
which k, ki, ke
while antan, pannan
white (person), foreigner blan
who (rel. pro.) ki, k
whooping cough koklich
why pouki, poukisa
wild sovaj
will, desire, willingness volonté
will ava, va, a (markers of the future)
win genyen
wind van
wine diven
with ak, avèk, avè
with head down, upside down tètanba
without san
witness temwen
woman fi, fanm
woman of light complexion grimèl, milatrès
womb matris, zantray
wood bwa
word, lyrics pawòl
work (n. and vb.) travay
worker ouvriye, travayè
works zèv
world lemonn
would ta (conditional marker)
wound (n.) blesi, plè
wound, injure blese
wretched, rotten mafreze
wrist ponyèt
write ekri
writing ekriti

X
x-ray reyon x

Y
year an. Five years; Senk an
year ane, anne, lanne
yellow jòn
yes wi
yesterday yè
you (sing.) ou, w
you (pl.) nou, n
young jèn
your ou, w
yours pa nou, pa’n; pa’n yo
youth, young people jenès

Z
zero zewo
zone zòn