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WOLOF LEXICON AND GRAMMAR

Wolof Lexicon and Grammar

By Sana Camara
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Wolof Lexicon and Grammar is written for speakers of English who are learning Wolof. Since many learners are not familiar with grammatical terminology used in their textbooks, this book explains the basic terminology and concepts of English grammar that are necessary for understanding the grammar of Wolof. It assumes no formal knowledge of English grammar and is written in very simple language.

As the most widely spoken language of Senegal, Wolof is used not only in the regions of Bawol, Kajoor, Jolof, Waalo, and Saakum, but is also employed an important section of the Gambian population. Today, the language has spread far and wide, and is indeed spoken by more than ten million people in countries such as Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, and Mauritania. In Senegal it is the principal language used in the mass media as well as by many other ethnic groups. Wolof is both a spoken and a written language. In fact, it is the only Senegalese language which enjoys written literature.

Wolof Lexicon and Grammar is a comprehensive reference work which addresses an important area of scholarship that is long overdue. It consists of three sections: the first is a grammar section which includes: Abbreviations, Wolof Spelling and Pronunciation Rules, and Elements of Wolof Grammar. The second is the Wolof - English Dictionary, while the third is the English-Wolof Dictionary. The "Abbreviations" section follows the standard system that is acceptable to most dictionaries. The "Spelling and Pronunciation" section deals with Wolof phonology and morphology. It provides all the possibilities of spelling and pronunciation in the language.

In the "Wolof-English Dictionary" section, each word is followed by all its grammatical functions; and for each entry, sentence examples are available to assist in the understanding of the significance of the word. The dictionary contains over 8,000 entries, which are however minus the nominal and verbal suffixes. It also contains many scientific words provided by some of the leading Wolof professionals, giving the book greater contemporary relevance.

Main Features

Part of Speech: This book is designed to help you understand the part of speech such as noun, pronoun, and the adverb, the meaning and function of the Wolof forms that you will be learning.

Coherence: The grammar book presents the underlying structure of Wolof in a coherent and orderly manner.

Real Needs: The study of grammar is tied to real needs of learners both to help them better understand course materials and to expand their accuracy and fluency in Wolof.

Train station in Dakar, Senegal

387 pages, paper back and paper cover
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