



Twi Greetings Cheat Sheet for Diasporans & Foreigners

Quick Reference for Beginners

March 2026

Why Greetings Matter in Twi

Greetings are extremely important in Ghanaian culture. Always greet first — even shopkeepers, taxi drivers, or strangers. Use respectful responses based on age/relationship.

Basic Greetings & Responses

English	Twi (Common Form)	Pronunciation Guide (approx.)
Hello / General greeting	Agoo	Ah-goh
Welcome	Akwaaba	Ah-kwaa-baa
I welcome you	Mema wo akwaaba	Meh-mah woh ah-kwaa-baa
Good morning	Maakyɛ (short) Mema wo akyɛ (full)	Maa-chyeh / Meh-mah woh ah-chyeh
Good afternoon	Maaha (short) Mema wo aha (full)	Maa-haa / Meh-mah woh ah-haa
Good evening	Maadwo (short) Mema wo adwo (full)	Maa-jwoh / Meh-mah woh ah-jwoh
How are you? (very common)	Wo ho te sen? ete sen? (more casual)	Woh hoh teh sen? Eh-teh sen?
I'm fine	Me ho yɛ	Meh hoh yeh
I'm fine, by God's grace	Onyame adom, me ho yɛ	Oh-nyah-meh ah-dohm, meh hoh yeh
Thank you	Meda wo ase	Meh-dah woh ah-seh
Thank you very much	Meda wo ase paa	Meh-dah woh ah-seh paa
Please	Mepa wo kyew	Meh-pah woh chew
Excuse me / Sorry	Mepa wo kyew	Meh-pah woh chew
My name is ...	Me din de ...	Meh deen deh ...
What is your name?	Wo din de sen?	Woh deen deh sen?
Good night	Da yie	Dah yee-eh

Common Respectful Responses to Greetings

(Use these when someone greets you first — choose based on who is speaking)

If greeting an ...	Say:
Elderly man / father figure	Yaa agya (Yaa gyah)
Elderly woman / mother figure	Yaa ena (Yaa eh-nah)
Sibling, friend, colleague, age-mate	Yaa nua / Yaa anua (Yaa noo-ah)
General (multiple people)	Yaanom

Quick Tip: When in doubt, say **Maakye** (morning), **Maaha** (afternoon), or **Maadwo** (evening) + smile — then follow with **Wo ho te sen?** It shows respect and opens conversation.

Mini Dialog Example

Foreigner: Maakye! Wo ho te sen?

Ghanaian elder: Yaa agya. Me ho ye, onyame adom. Na wo nso ε?

Foreigner: Me ho ye. Meda wo ase!

About Twi Orthography

Twi uses special characters including:

- ε (open e) – as in "sen" (how)
- ɔ (open o) – as in "kɔ" (go)
- ky – as in "akye" (morning)
- gy – as in "agynamoa" (cat)
- hy – as in "hye" (wear/put on)
- tw – as in "twen" (wait)

Happy learning — *Ɛye wo de se wobɛ sua Twi!* (It's nice that you want to learn Twi!)