

Swahili nouns 5/6 and 9/10 in Helsinki Corpus of Swahili:

Books

Preface

Swahili language has several nouns that are classified alternatively into classes 9/10 and 5/6. The class 9/10 is considered the default class when a new noun is introduced to the language. However, there are hundreds of nouns that are also used according to the rules of the class 5/6. The reason for this variation is not known. One could guess, however, that because the class 5/6 is often used for augmenting the basic meaning of the noun, augmentation might be one of the reasons for using this class.

This is a list of such nouns that are classified into classes 5/6 and 9/10. The words were extracted from Helsinki Corpus of Swahili with 25 million words from the section of **Books**. In the first column is the number of occurrences. In the second column is the Swahili word. In the third column is the noun class. In the fourth column is the gloss in English.

Num	Word	Class	Gloss
22	baa	5/6	disaster
57	baa	9/10	bar
250	badiliko	5/6	change
3	badiliko	9/10	change
1	bafu	5/6	bathroom
9	bafu	9/10	bathroom
5	baibui	5/6	pardah
4	baibui	9/10	pardah
5	baki	5/6	remainder
6	baki	9/10	remainder
18	balaa	5/6	calamity
22	balaa	9/10	calamity

31	bandari	5/6	harbour
15	bandari	9/10	harbour
2	bango	5/6	placard
1	bango	9/10	mud guard of a car
12	bao	5/6	goal
16	bao	9/10	timber
55	bara	5/6	continent
60	bara	9/10	continent
102	barabara	5/6	road
7	barabara	9/10	crowned horn bill
120	barabara	9/10	highway
55	baraza	5/6	council
154	baraza	9/10	council
40	basi	5/6	bus
35	basi	9/10	bus
24	bati	5/6	metal sheet
16	bati	9/10	metal sheet
9	benki	5/6	bank
26	benki	9/10	bank
7	bia	5/6	earthenware vessel
55	bia	9/10	beer
3	birika	5/6	kettle
4	birika	9/10	kettle
3	bohari	5/6	godown
5	bohari	9/10	godown
25	boma	5/6	enclosure
51	boma	9/10	enclosure
2	bua	5/6	stalk
1	bua	9/10	stalk
22	buibui	5/6	spider
14	buibui	9/10	spider

5	bundi	5/6	owl
7	bundi	9/10	owl
11	bunduki	5/6	gun
64	bunduki	9/10	gun
9	bunge	5/6	parliament
1	bunge	9/10	parliament
2	burashi	5/6	brush
4	burashi	9/10	brush
2	burudisho	5/6	entertainment
2	burudisho	9/10	refreshment
28	chaka	5/6	clump of trees
4	chaka	9/10	clump of trees
2	chango	5/6	small intestine
2	chango	9/10	womb
1	chanuo	5/6	comb
1	chanuo	9/10	comb
1	chapati	5/6	pastry
1	chapati	9/10	pastry
2	chenza	5/6	tangerine
1	chenza	9/10	tangerine
2	chicha	5/6	remains of grated coconut
1	chicha	9/10	remains of grated coconut
4	chizi	5/6	person with bad habits
2	chizi	9/10	profligate person
183	chozi	5/6	tear
2	chozi	9/10	sunbird
3	chuchu	5/6	nipple
5	chuchu	9/10	nipple
21	chui	5/6	leopard
11	chui	9/10	cruel person
6	chui	9/10	leopard

13	chupa	5/6	amniotic membrane and waters
128	chupa	9/10	bottle
34	daftari	5/6	copybook
11	daftari	9/10	copybook
4	dafu	5/6	unripe coconut
2	dafu	9/10	unripe coconut
74	dai	5/6	assertion
2	dai	9/10	assertion
1	dalili	5/6	sign
112	dalili	9/10	sign
6	dansi	5/6	dance
26	dansi	9/10	dance
27	daraja	5/6	bridge
44	daraja	9/10	bridge
126	darasa	5/6	class
61	darasa	5/6	classroom
76	darasa	9/10	class
19	dari	5/6	ceiling
13	dari	9/10	ceiling
1	dasturi	5/6	bowsprit
3	dasturi	9/10	bowsprit
17	dawa	5/6	medicine
218	dawa	9/10	medicine
21	dhambi	5/6	sin
54	dhambi	9/10	sin
3	dharau	5/6	contemp
52	dharau	9/10	scorn
25	dini	5/6	religion
233	dini	9/10	religion
1	dodoki	5/6	loofah fruit
4	dodoki	9/10	loofah fruit

1	dola	5/6	dollar
6	dola	9/10	dollar
17	dola	9/10	state
3	dosari	5/6	blemish
34	dosari	9/10	blemish
21	dua	5/6	prayer
27	dua	9/10	prayer
2	dude	5/6	despicable person
3	dude	5/6	unknown massive thing
5	embe	5/6	mango
12	embe	9/10	mango
45	fahari	5/6	bull
55	fahari	9/10	glory
15	faili	5/6	file for keeping papers
10	faili	9/10	file
3	fikara	5/6	fancy
37	fikara	9/10	fancy
15	fikira	5/6	thought
173	fikira	9/10	fancy
8	fisi	5/6	hyena
17	fisi	9/10	greedy person
3	fisi	9/10	hyena
11	fujo	5/6	disturbance
49	fujo	9/10	disturbance
48	fumbo	5/6	parable
22	fumbo	9/10	leadership rank
11	fumo	5/6	broad tipped spear
19	fumo	9/10	king
13	funda	5/6	mouthful
3	funda	9/10	mouthful
12	fundo	5/6	knot

9	fundo	9/10	knot
1	fungamano	5/6	alliance
1	fungamano	9/10	alliance
146	funzo	5/6	teaching
5	funzo	9/10	learning
5	fuu	5/6	skull
4	fuu	9/10	skull
10	ganda	5/6	skin
5	ganda	9/10	skin
302	gari	5/6	car
237	gari	9/10	car
19	gauni	5/6	dress
11	gauni	9/10	dress
1	gereji	5/6	garage
1	gereji	9/10	garage
7	ghala	5/6	storeroom
20	ghala	9/10	storeroom
3	ghorofa	5/6	storey
10	ghorofa	9/10	storey
80	giza	5/6	darkness
129	giza	9/10	darkness
26	gofu	5/6	ruin
1	gofu	9/10	golf
8	goli	5/6	goal
7	goli	9/10	goal
13	gome	5/6	bark
1	gome	9/10	bark
24	gongo	5/6	club
15	gongo	9/10	local spirit
33	guni	5/6	free verse
20	guni	9/10	carpenters' square

1	hando	5/6	pancake dipped into boiled sugar
1	hando	9/10	copper vessel
4	hela	5/6	money
71	hela	9/10	money
21	hema	5/6	tent
5	hema	9/10	tent
3	hifadhi	5/6	protected area
31	hifadhi	9/10	protected area
4	hitimisho	5/6	end
6	hitimisho	9/10	conclusion
7	hongo	5/6	bribe
57	hongo	9/10	bribe
1	hori	5/6	creek
2	hori	9/10	creek
18	hospitali	5/6	hospital
137	hospitali	9/10	hospital
17	hoteli	5/6	hotel
55	hoteli	9/10	hotel
8	hotuba	5/6	speech
81	hotuba	9/10	speech
3	idara	5/6	division
68	idara	9/10	department
9	ini	5/6	liver
6	ini	9/10	liver
12	jabali	5/6	rock
17	jabali	9/10	raised line of needlework
6	jadi	5/6	tradition
26	jadi	9/10	tradition
4	jando	5/6	circumcision rites
16	jando	9/10	circumcision rite

52	jaribio	5/6	test
3	jaribio	9/10	test
115	jasho	5/6	sweat
51	jasho	9/10	sweat
45	jawabu	5/6	answer
35	jawabu	9/10	answer
11	jela	5/6	prison
33	jela	9/10	prison
158	jibu	5/6	answer
78	jibu	9/10	answer
32	johari	5/6	jewel
49	johari	9/10	jewel
40	joto	5/6	heat
34	joto	9/10	heat
1	jua	5/6	sun
335	jua	9/10	sun
6	juba	5/6	jellaba
2	juba	9/10	chisel
50	jukumu	5/6	responsibility
13	jukumu	9/10	responsibility
3	juzuu	5/6	chapter of Quran
7	juzuu	9/10	volume
43	kaa	5/6	charcoal
11	kaa	9/10	crab
18	kabati	5/6	cupboard
16	kabati	9/10	cupboard
138	kabila	5/6	tribe
61	kabila	9/10	tribe
57	kafara	5/6	offering
44	kafara	9/10	sacrifice
2	kago	5/6	charm

2	kago	9/10	cargo
1	kala	5/6	kind of wild cat
3	kala	9/10	kind of wild cat
8	kamasi	5/6	nose mucus
3	kamasi	9/10	nose mucus
35	kamati	5/6	committee
612	kamati	9/10	committee
2	kambi	5/6	cambium
14	kambi	9/10	camp
31	kampuni	5/6	company
38	kampuni	9/10	company
20	kamusi	5/6	dictionary
60	kamusi	9/10	dictionary
1	kandili	5/6	lantern
7	kandili	9/10	lantern
2	kangaja	5/6	type of long grass
1	kangaja	9/10	mandarin orange
1	kano	5/6	large sinew or tendon
1	kano	9/10	ligament
13	kanuni	5/6	rule
210	kanuni	9/10	rule
15	kanzu	5/6	cassock
106	kanzu	9/10	cassock
4	karakana	5/6	workshop
1	karakana	9/10	workshop
29	karatasi	5/6	piece of paper
105	karatasi	9/10	paper
1	kayamba	5/6	rattle
2	kayamba	9/10	rattle
1	keki	5/6	cake
1	keki	9/10	cake

33	kelele	5/6	noise
114	kelele	9/10	noise
5	kesha	5/6	vigil
5	kesha	9/10	vigil
2	kesi	5/6	case
63	kesi	9/10	case
42	kofi	5/6	slap
6	kofi	9/10	exorcising dance
1	kofia	5/6	hat
43	kofia	9/10	hat
94	kokoto	5/6	grit
2	kokoto	9/10	grit
2	koleo	5/6	pincers
6	koleo	9/10	pincers
20	koloni	5/6	colony
11	koloni	9/10	colony
2	komamanga	5/6	pomegranate
1	komamanga	9/10	pomegranate
6	komba	5/6	bushbaby
12	komba	9/10	bushbaby
14	kombe	5/6	shallow shell
1	kombe	9/10	shell-fish
1	kome	5/6	stick used in special functions
1	kome	9/10	shell fish
4	kondo	5/6	war
7	kondo	9/10	war
9	konokono	5/6	snail
2	konokono	9/10	custard apple like fruit
4	koo	5/6	throat
2	koo	9/10	trachea

1	kope	5/6	eyelid
13	kope	9/10	burnt end of a wick
2	korija	5/6	score
2	korija	9/10	score
2	korongo	5/6	gully
8	korongo	9/10	stork
4	korosho	5/6	cashewnut
11	korosho	9/10	cashewnut
8	kovu	5/6	scar
3	kovu	9/10	scar
6	kozi	5/6	outer husk of coconut
1	kozi	9/10	course of studies
1	kozi	9/10	east African goshawk
1	kumba	5/6	braided coconut leaf
9	kumba	9/10	kind of tilapia
2	kumbi	5/6	outer fibrous husk of coconut
7	kumbi	9/10	chamber
1	kunde	5/6	cow pea
12	kunde	9/10	cow pea
9	kunguru	5/6	crow
19	kunguru	9/10	crow
5	kupe	5/6	tick
2	kupe	9/10	exploiter
2	kupe	9/10	tick
114	kusudi	5/6	purpose
3	kusudi	9/10	purpose
11	kusudio	5/6	intention
2	kusudio	9/10	intention
56	kuti	5/6	palm leaf frond
3	kuti	9/10	food
2	kwapa	5/6	arm pit
15	kwapa	9/10	arm pit

17	lawama	5/6	blame
47	lawama	9/10	blame
5	lepe	5/6	drowsiness
9	lepe	9/10	drowsiness
7	likizo	5/6	holiday
34	likizo	9/10	vacation
9	liwazo	5/6	consolation
1	liwazo	9/10	serenade
13	nazi	5/6	coconut
64	nazi	9/10	coconut
4	ngumi	5/6	punch of a fist
20	ngumi	9/10	fist
10	noti	5/6	bank note
22	noti	9/10	bank note
1	nundu	5/6	hump
1	nundu	9/10	hump
7	nyanya	5/6	tomato
8	nyanya	9/10	grandmother
4	nyanya	9/10	tomato
31	nyasi	5/6	grass
16	nyasi	9/10	grass
1	nyumba	5/6	big houses
909	nyumba	9/10	house
6	nyundo	5/6	big hammers
12	nyundo	9/10	hammer
24	ofisi	5/6	office
349	ofisi	9/10	office
2	omo	5/6	forepart of ship
2	omo	9/10	bows
144	onyesho	5/6	exhibition
25	onyesho	9/10	exhibition

6	panda	5/6	forehead
3	panda	9/10	split
30	panga	5/6	machete
15	panga	9/10	machete
9	panya	5/6	rat
11	panya	9/10	rat
3	panzi	5/6	flying fish
9	panzi	9/10	grasshopper
10	pembe	5/6	horn
106	pembe	9/10	corner
78	pembe	9/10	horn
39	pepo	5/6	spirit
92	pepo	9/10	demon
46	pepo	9/10	paradise
7	pikipiki	5/6	motorcycle
20	pikipiki	9/10	motorcycle
9	pindi	5/6	time
22	pindi	9/10	time
1	plastiki	5/6	plastic
2	plastiki	9/10	plastic
14	plau	5/6	plow
3	plau	9/10	plough
1	pochi	5/6	wide bangle
3	pochi	9/10	purse
43	pombe	5/6	alcoholic drink
280	pombe	9/10	local brew
9	popo	5/6	bat
8	popo	9/10	bat
4	porojo	5/6	light conversation
3	porojo	9/10	chitchat
2	posho	5/6	allowance

5	posho	9/10	allowance
7	povu	5/6	foam
3	povu	9/10	bubble
6	pua	5/6	nose
83	pua	9/10	nose
2	pukusa	5/6	gift given to nubile girl
3	pukusa	9/10	gift given to nubile girl
15	punda	5/6	donkey
27	punda	9/10	donkey
83	radhi	5/6	disease
50	radhi	9/10	contentment
17	raha	5/6	bliss
155	raha	9/10	bliss
3	redio	5/6	radio
57	redio	9/10	radio
2	ripoti	5/6	report
96	ripoti	9/10	report
12	saa	5/6	clock
270	saa	9/10	hour
3	saburi	5/6	patience
38	saburi	9/10	patience
8	sanamu	5/6	idol
46	sanamu	9/10	idol
2	sefu	5/6	safe
22	sefu	9/10	matchet
4	semina	5/6	seminar
37	semina	9/10	seminar
9	shada	5/6	bundle of flowers in hair
4	shada	9/10	cluster
207	shaka	5/6	doubt
79	shaka	9/10	doubt

14	shambulio	5/6	attack
5	shambulio	9/10	attack
14	shangwe	5/6	rejoicing
33	shangwe	9/10	rejoicing
41	shavu	5/6	cheek
8	shavu	9/10	cheek
55	shindano	5/6	competition
5	shindano	9/10	competition
14	shingo	5/6	neck
92	shingo	9/10	neck
17	shughuli	5/6	activity
312	shughuli	9/10	activity
13	shuka	5/6	bed sheet
38	shuka	9/10	bed sheet
95	shule	5/6	school
817	shule	9/10	school
54	sikitiko	5/6	sadness
3	sikitiko	9/10	grief
11	silaha	5/6	weapon
62	silaha	9/10	weapon
31	simulizi	5/6	story
4	simulizi	9/10	story
3	sinia	5/6	platter
13	sinia	9/10	platter
6	skuli	5/6	school
62	skuli	9/10	school
5	sofa	5/6	sofa
10	sofa	9/10	sofa
1	soga	5/6	idle chatter
4	soga	9/10	chat

321	somo	5/6	teaching subject
29	somo	9/10	namesake
194	suala	5/6	issue
17	suala	9/10	issue
1	sufi	5/6	kapok
3	sufi	9/10	kapok
8	sufuria	5/6	metal pot
26	sufuria	9/10	metal pot
16	suluhisho	5/6	solution
6	suluhisho	9/10	reconciliation
27	swala	5/6	problem
6	swala	9/10	gazelle
1	swala	9/10	prayer
424	swali	5/6	question
109	swali	9/10	question
3	sweta	5/6	sweater
1	sweta	9/10	sweater
58	tabaka	5/6	class
46	tabaka	9/10	layer
1	tairi	5/6	tyre
1	tairi	9/10	tyre
2	takataka	5/6	rubbish
24	takataka	9/10	rubbish
30	tamko	5/6	statement
7	tamko	9/10	pronouncement
44	tanga	5/6	formal mourning period
10	tanga	9/10	sail
7	tani	5/6	ton
4	tani	9/10	ton
1	tanuri	5/6	kiln
1	tanuri	9/10	kiln

10	tao	5/6	arch
1	tao	9/10	arch
13	tapo	5/6	troupe
4	tapo	9/10	areca nut-like fruit
2	tarakimu	5/6	numeral
2	tarakimu	9/10	numeral
6	tari	5/6	small drum
1	tari	9/10	small drum
2	tasa	5/6	metal bowl for washing
1	tasa	9/10	metal bowl for washing
1	taya	5/6	jaw
3	taya	9/10	piece of sail cloth
17	teka	5/6	captive
2	teka	9/10	catcher
2	tete	5/6	reed
1	tete	9/10	slag
2	tezi	5/6	stern
2	tezi	9/10	gland
9	thibitisho	5/6	proof
3	thibitisho	9/10	proof
1	tini	5/6	fig
3	tini	9/10	fig
18	tofali	5/6	brick
2	tofali	9/10	brick
23	tone	5/6	drop
20	tone	9/10	bad effect
20	tope	5/6	mud
12	tope	9/10	mud
2	tufani	5/6	hurricane
15	tufani	9/10	hurricane
3	tuko	5/6	x

13	tuko	9/10	episode
1	tume	5/6	commission
33	tume	9/10	commission
21	tundu	5/6	hole
17	tundu	9/10	hole
3	tunzo	5/6	reward
3	tunzo	9/10	reward
40	tusi	5/6	insult
1	tusi	9/10	coffin
14	tuta	5/6	terrace
4	tuta	9/10	scavenger beetle
3	tuzo	5/6	prize
24	tuzo	9/10	prize
7	ua	5/6	fence
115	ua	5/6	flower
74	umbile	5/6	nature
1	umbile	9/10	creature
6	ungamo	5/6	confession
1	ungamo	9/10	confession
32	ungo	5/6	joint
2	ungo	9/10	joint
16	vuguvugu	5/6	movement
3	vuguvugu	9/10	movement
3	vumba	5/6	bad smell associated with fish
6	vumba	9/10	fish smell
46	vumbi	5/6	dust
44	vumbi	9/10	loess
10	wadi	5/6	hospital ward
6	wadi	9/10	ward
18	wilaya	5/6	district
359	wilaya	9/10	district

1	ziara	5/6	sacred place
22	ziara	9/10	visit
6	zuo	5/6	prohibition
3	zuo	9/10	obstruction