

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

Bunge

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 **Parliament discussions**. 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
167	ajabu	5/6	wonder
39	ajabu	9/10	wonder
1	ajenti	5/6	agency
1	ajenti	9/10	agent
66	baa	5/6	disaster
24	baa	9/10	bar
3081	badiliko	5/6	change
9	badiliko	9/10	change
3	bafu	5/6	bathroom
4	bafu	9/10	bathroom
1	baibui	5/6	purdah
1	baibui	9/10	purdah
85	baki	5/6	remainder

5	baki	9/10	remainder
65	balaa	5/6	calamity
62	balaa	9/10	calamity
581	bandari	5/6	harbour
1168	bandari	9/10	harbour
113	bango	5/6	placard
11	bango	9/10	mud guard of a car
8	bao	5/6	goal
17	bao	9/10	timber
325	bara	5/6	continent
322	bara	9/10	continent
2422	barabara	5/6	road
168	barabara	9/10	crowned horn bill
12333	barabara	9/10	highway
532	basi	5/6	bus
218	basi	9/10	bus
175	bati	5/6	metal sheet
102	bati	9/10	metal sheet
4	batobato	5/6	coloured spots
2	batobato	9/10	coloured spots
2510	benki	5/6	bank
3247	benki	9/10	bank
5	bia	5/6	earthenware vessel
124	bia	9/10	beer
20	bidhaa	5/6	merchandise
3061	bidhaa	9/10	merchandise
6	birika	5/6	kettle
2	birika	9/10	kettle
37	bohari	5/6	godown
52	bohari	9/10	godown
13	boksi	5/6	box

2	boksi	9/10	box
412	boma	5/6	enclosure
29	boma	9/10	enclosure
63	boti	5/6	boat
226	boti	9/10	boat
4	buibui	5/6	spider
3	buibui	9/10	spider
3	buku	5/6	book
5	buku	9/10	book
2	bundi	5/6	owl
3	bundi	9/10	owl
14	bunduki	5/6	gun
95	bunduki	9/10	gun
13777	bunge	5/6	parliament
2221	bunge	9/10	parliament
3	bungo	5/6	fruit with saplike Indian rubber
1	bungo	9/10	beetle
49	bura	5/6	muscat cloth
1	bura	9/10	muscat cloth
2	buti	5/6	boot
4	buti	9/10	traditional coastal dance
35	chanjo	5/6	vaccination
236	chanjo	9/10	vaccination
2	chekeche	5/6	sifter
1	chekeche	9/10	sifter
2	chenza	5/6	tangarine
1	chenza	9/10	tangarine
1	chicha	5/6	remains of grated coconut
1	chicha	9/10	remains of grated coconut
123	chozi	5/6	tear
1	chozi	9/10	sunbird

15	chui	5/6	leopard
6	chui	9/10	cruel person
6	chui	9/10	leopard
9	chujio	5/6	filter
4	chujio	9/10	filter
4	chupa	5/6	amniotic membrane and waters
70	chupa	9/10	bottle
440	daftari	5/6	copybook
70	daftari	9/10	copybook
4	dafu	5/6	unripe coconut
1	dafu	9/10	unripe coconut
13	dalili	5/6	sign
302	dalili	9/10	sign
2	dansi	5/6	dance
5	dansi	9/10	dance
1777	daraja	5/6	bridge
406	daraja	9/10	bridge
583	darasa	5/6	class
1057	darasa	5/6	classroom
331	darasa	9/10	class
3	dari	5/6	ceiling
1	dari	9/10	ceiling
842	dawa	5/6	medicine
2428	dawa	9/10	medicine
31	dhambi	5/6	sin
78	dhambi	9/10	sin
5	dharau	5/6	contemp
20	dharau	9/10	scorn
4	digrii	5/6	degree
43	digrii	9/10	degree
199	dini	5/6	religion

482	dini	9/10	religion
1	dini	9/10	spiritual belief
1	dodoki	5/6	loofah fruit
1	dodoki	9/10	loofah fruit
8	dodoso	5/6	questionnaire
8	dodoso	9/10	diagnosis
32	dosari	5/6	blemish
155	dosari	9/10	blemish
21	dua	5/6	prayer
254	dua	9/10	prayer
2	dude	5/6	despicable person
8	dude	5/6	unknown massive thing
1	dutu	5/6	small hill
1	dutu	9/10	substance
30	embe	5/6	mango
6	embe	9/10	mango
33	fahari	5/6	bull
9	fahari	9/10	glory
2	figo	5/6	kidney
3	figo	9/10	kidney
13	fisi	5/6	hyena
22	fisi	9/10	greedy person
19	fisi	9/10	hyena
2	friji	5/6	fridge
11	friji	9/10	fridge
18	fujo	5/6	disturbance
84	fujo	9/10	disturbance
5	fumbo	5/6	parable
1	fumbo	9/10	leadership rank
5334	funzo	5/6	teaching
11	funzo	9/10	learning

26	ganda	5/6	skin
1	ganda	9/10	skin
3734	gari	5/6	car
970	gari	9/10	car
95	gati	5/6	dock
131	gati	9/10	dock
4	gauni	5/6	dress
1	gauni	9/10	dress
8	gereji	5/6	garage
18	gereji	9/10	garage
542	ghala	5/6	storeroom
88	ghala	9/10	storeroom
99	ghorofa	5/6	storey
334	ghorofa	9/10	storey
23	giza	5/6	darkness
73	giza	9/10	darkness
11	godauni	5/6	godown
3	godauni	9/10	godown
81	gofu	5/6	ruin
10	gofu	9/10	golf
43	goli	5/6	goal
11	goli	9/10	goal
42	goma	5/6	type of hard skinned fish
1	goma	9/10	type of hard skinned fish
27	gongo	5/6	club
34	gongo	9/10	local spirit
41	greda	5/6	grader
17	greda	9/10	grader
3	hekari	5/6	hectar
18	hekari	9/10	hectar
94	hela	5/6	money

1021	hela	9/10	money
1	helikopta	5/6	helicopter
28	helikopta	9/10	helicopter
3	helkopta	5/6	helicopter
5	helkopta	9/10	helicopter
19	hema	5/6	tent
8	hema	9/10	tent
72	hifadhi	5/6	protected area
2042	hifadhi	9/10	protected area
23	hitimisho	5/6	end
37	hitimisho	9/10	conclusion
2	hongo	5/6	bribe
23	hongo	9/10	bribe
274	hospitali	5/6	hospital
3206	hospitali	9/10	hospital
198	hoteli	5/6	hotel
390	hoteli	9/10	hotel
135	hotuba	5/6	speech
7171	hotuba	9/10	speech
3	hundi	5/6	cheque
64	hundi	9/10	cheque
78	idara	5/6	division
2385	idara	9/10	department
12	ini	5/6	liver
10	ini	9/10	liver
6	jabali	5/6	rock
1	jabali	9/10	raised line of needlework
20	jadi	5/6	tradition
44	jadi	9/10	tradition
71	jalada	5/6	cover of a book
8	jalada	9/10	cover

9	jalala	5/6	dump
3	jalala	9/10	dump
1	jando	5/6	circumcision rites
4	jando	9/10	circumcision rite
398	jaribio	5/6	test
4	jaribio	9/10	test
52	jasho	5/6	sweat
39	jasho	9/10	sweat
70	jawabu	5/6	answer
54	jawabu	9/10	answer
403	jedwali	5/6	table of statistics
105	jedwali	9/10	table of mathematics
18	jela	5/6	prison
80	jela	9/10	prison
28	jenereta	5/6	generator
70	jenereta	9/10	generator
4574	jibu	5/6	answer
641	jibu	9/10	answer
48	joto	5/6	heat
58	joto	9/10	heat
4425	jukumu	5/6	responsibility
157	jukumu	9/10	responsibility
65	kaa	5/6	charcoal
9	kaa	9/10	crab
27	kabati	5/6	cupboard
10	kabati	9/10	cupboard
183	kabila	5/6	tribe
55	kabila	9/10	tribe
2	kafara	5/6	offering
3	kafara	9/10	sacrifice

1	kafi	5/6	paddle
1	kafi	9/10	scull-cap top
3	kaki	5/6	bread-sticle pores
2	kaki	9/10	khaki
323	kamati	5/6	committee
12567	kamati	9/10	committee
414	kambi	5/6	cambium
3112	kambi	9/10	camp
1552	kampuni	5/6	company
2502	kampuni	9/10	company
1	kamusi	5/6	dictionary
18	kamusi	9/10	dictionary
296	kandarasi	5/6	contract
69	kandarasi	9/10	contract
163	kanuni	5/6	rule
2870	kanuni	9/10	rule
1	kanzu	5/6	cassock
9	kanzu	9/10	cassock
26	karakana	5/6	workshop
67	karakana	9/10	workshop
105	karatasi	5/6	piece of paper
315	karatasi	9/10	paper
16	karo	5/6	wash-basin
36	karo	9/10	tuition fee
1	keki	5/6	cake
41	keki	9/10	cake
20	kelele	5/6	noise
91	kelele	9/10	noise
33	kemikali	5/6	chemical
307	kemikali	9/10	chemical
3	kesha	5/6	vigil

1	kesha	9/10	vigil
163	kesi	5/6	case
1740	kesi	9/10	case
28941	kofi	5/6	slap
5	kofi	9/10	exorcising dance
6	kofia	5/6	hat
29	kofia	9/10	hat
5	kokoto	5/6	grit
63	kokoto	9/10	grit
4	koleo	5/6	pincers
6	koleo	9/10	pincers
2	koma	5/6	fruit of the hyphaene or dwarf palm
2	koma	9/10	spirit of the dead
53	komba	5/6	bushbaby
89	komba	9/10	bushbaby
50	kombe	5/6	shallow shell
3	kombe	9/10	shell-fish
8	kome	5/6	stick used in special functions e.g. dances
5	kome	9/10	poisonous creeping plant used to poison arrowheads
3	kome	9/10	shell fish
62	kompyuta	5/6	computer
541	kompyuta	9/10	computer
3	kondo	5/6	war
5	kondo	9/10	war
104	kongwa	5/6	slave yoke
348	kongwa	9/10	kernel
5	kopa	5/6	dried cassava
28	kopa	9/10	heart in playing cards
3	koroboi	5/6	oil lamp
17	koroboi	9/10	small oil lump
1	korokoro	5/6	worthless thing

1	korokoro	9/10	dice gambling game
61	korongo	5/6	gully
4	korongo	9/10	stork
177	korosho	5/6	cashewnut
925	korosho	9/10	cashewnut
35	kozi	5/6	outer husk of coconut
171	kozi	9/10	course of studies
62	kozi	9/10	east African goshawk
4	kumba	5/6	braided coconut leaf
3	kumba	9/10	kind of tilapia
7	kumbi	5/6	outer fibrous husk of coconut
37	kumbi	9/10	chamber
1	kunde	5/6	cow pea
18	kunde	9/10	cow pea
35	kupe	5/6	tick
11	kupe	9/10	exploiter
25	kupe	9/10	tick
801	kusudi	5/6	purpose
43	kusudi	9/10	purpose
114	kusudio	5/6	intention
6	kusudio	9/10	intention
12	kuti	5/6	palm leaf frond
1	kuti	9/10	food
17	lawama	5/6	blame
127	lawama	9/10	blame
29	likizo	5/6	holiday
154	likizo	9/10	vacation
12	nazi	5/6	coconut
64	nazi	9/10	coconut
2	ngumi	5/6	punch of a fist
31	ngumi	9/10	fist

17	noti	5/6	bank note
160	noti	9/10	bank note
88	nyanya	5/6	tomato
36	nyanya	9/10	grandmother
28	nyanya	9/10	tomato
55	nyasi	5/6	grass
32	nyasi	9/10	grass
227	ofisi	5/6	office
6112	ofisi	9/10	office
396	onyesho	5/6	exhibition
2	onyesho	9/10	exhibition
46	paa	5/6	roof
13	paa	9/10	gazelle
2	paji	5/6	gift
2	paji	9/10	forehead
4	panda	5/6	forehead
9	panda	9/10	split
37	panga	5/6	machete
65	panga	9/10	machete
3	pantoni	5/6	ferry-boat
42	pantoni	9/10	ferry-boat
38	panya	5/6	rat
63	panya	9/10	rat
2	panzi	5/6	flying fish
4	panzi	9/10	grasshopper
8	pembe	5/6	horn
90	pembe	9/10	corner
199	pembe	9/10	horn
5	pepo	5/6	spirit
65	pepo	9/10	demon
557	pepo	9/10	paradise
59	pikipiki	5/6	motorcycle

286	pikipiki	9/10	motorcycle
183	pindi	5/6	time
187	pindi	9/10	time
2	piramidi	5/6	pyramid
2	piramidi	9/10	pyramid
20	plastiki	5/6	plastic
113	plastiki	9/10	plastic
8	plau	5/6	plow
20	plau	9/10	plough
1	pochi	5/6	wide bangle
4	pochi	9/10	purse
5	popo	5/6	bat
3	popo	9/10	bat
5	porojo	5/6	light conversation
23	porojo	9/10	chitchat
73	posho	5/6	allowance
718	posho	9/10	allowance
5	pua	5/6	nose
24	pua	9/10	nose
30	punda	5/6	donkey
36	punda	9/10	donkey
2	pungu	5/6	float of a fishing net
1	pungu	9/10	type of eagle
3	pure	5/6	dish of boiled maize grains and beans
3	pure	9/10	dish of boiled maize grains and beans
384	radhi	5/6	disease
26	radhi	9/10	contentment
16	raha	5/6	bliss
89	raha	9/10	bliss
61	redio	5/6	radio
466	redio	9/10	radio

24	ripoti	5/6	report
571	ripoti	9/10	report
68	saa	5/6	clock
531	saa	9/10	hour
84	sahihisho	5/6	correction
4	sahihisho	9/10	correction
14	sakata	5/6	chaos
6	sakata	9/10	chaos
6	sanamu	5/6	idol
37	sanamu	9/10	idol
133	semina	5/6	seminar
1076	semina	9/10	seminar
12	sepetu	5/6	shovel
2	sepetu	9/10	shovel
307	shaka	5/6	doubt
62	shaka	9/10	doubt
4	shangwe	5/6	rejoicing
9	shangwe	9/10	rejoicing
2	shavu	5/6	cheek
2	shavu	9/10	cheek
421	shindano	5/6	competition
1	shindano	9/10	competition
2	shingo	5/6	neck
20	shingo	9/10	neck
52	shinikizo	5/6	pressure
20	shinikizo	9/10	pressure
156	shirikisho	5/6	federation
45	shirikisho	9/10	federation
90	shughuli	5/6	activity
6237	shughuli	9/10	activity

14	shuka	5/6	bed sheet
20	shuka	9/10	bed sheet
814	shule	5/6	school
8542	shule	9/10	school
1	sigiri	5/6	x
4	sigiri	9/10	x
71	siha	5/6	health
308	siha	9/10	health
225	silaha	5/6	weapon
942	silaha	9/10	weapon
1	skuli	5/6	school
6	skuli	9/10	school
1	sofa	5/6	sofa
7	sofa	9/10	sofa
4	soga	5/6	idle chatter
11	soga	9/10	chat
1217	somo	5/6	teaching subject
70	somo	9/10	namesake
17240	suala	5/6	issue
908	suala	9/10	issue
2	sufuria	5/6	metal pot
7	sufuria	9/10	metal pot
31	suluhisho	5/6	solution
45	suluhisho	9/10	reconciliation
82	swala	5/6	problem
5	swala	9/10	gazelle
4	swala	9/10	prayer
7767	swali	5/6	question
2232	swali	9/10	question
1	sweta	5/6	sweater
2	sweta	9/10	sweater

100	tabaka	5/6	class
30	tabaka	9/10	layer
56	tairi	5/6	tyre
19	tairi	9/10	tyre
20	takataka	5/6	rubbish
80	takataka	9/10	rubbish
331	tamko	5/6	statement
270	tamko	9/10	pronouncement
14	tanga	5/6	formal mourning period
19	tanga	9/10	sail
74	tani	5/6	ton
1609	tani	9/10	ton
108	tanki	5/6	tank
10	tanki	9/10	tank
13	tanuru	5/6	kiln
4	tanuru	9/10	kiln
2	tao	5/6	arch
3	tao	9/10	arch
3	tarakimu	5/6	numeral
33	tarakimu	9/10	numeral
7	taulo	5/6	towel
8	taulo	9/10	towel
70	tegemezi	5/6	expectation
11	tegemezi	9/10	dependence
25	televisheni	5/6	television
260	televisheni	9/10	television
5	tenga	5/6	bamboo basket
4	tenga	9/10	type of ray fish
3	tengo	5/6	outrigger of canoe
2	tengo	9/10	outrigger of canoe
9	tete	5/6	reed

4	tete	9/10	slag
6	tetemeko	5/6	tremble
5	tetemeko	9/10	tremble
3	tetesi	5/6	whisper
22	tetesi	9/10	rumour
5	tezi	5/6	stern
3	tezi	9/10	gland
81	tofali	5/6	brick
9	tofali	9/10	brick
22	tone	5/6	drop
5	tone	9/10	bad effect
64	tope	5/6	mud
34	tope	9/10	mud
22	tozo	5/6	fine
34	tozo	9/10	fine
8	trafiki	5/6	traffic
1	trafiki	9/10	traffic
22	tuko	5/6	x
203	tuko	9/10	episode
180	tume	5/6	commission
2844	tume	9/10	commission
35	tundu	5/6	hole
5	tundu	9/10	hole
121	tunzo	5/6	reward
5	tunzo	9/10	reward
46	tusi	5/6	insult
1	tusi	9/10	coffin
134	tuta	5/6	terrace
15	tuta	9/10	scavenger beetle
21	tuzo	5/6	prize
127	tuzo	9/10	prize

1	ua	5/6	fence
277	ua	5/6	flower
36	umbile	5/6	nature
1	umbile	9/10	creature
8	ungo	5/6	joint
2	ungo	9/10	joint
21	vuguvugu	5/6	movement
2	vuguvugu	9/10	movement
35	vumbi	5/6	dust
60	vumbi	9/10	loess
1	wadi	5/6	hospital ward
7	wadi	9/10	ward
9	wodi	5/6	ward
194	wodi	9/10	ward
70	zahanati	5/6	dispensary
1059	zahanati	9/10	dispensary
3	zana	5/6	honey-comb
694	zana	9/10	tool
37	ziara	5/6	sacred place
622	ziara	9/10	visit
6	zuio	5/6	prohibition
19	zuio	9/10	obstruction