

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

### Old News

#### 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 **Old News**. 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
339	ajabu	5/6	wonder
71	ajabu	9/10	wonder
11	ajenti	5/6	agency
7	ajenti	9/10	agent
179	baa	5/6	disaster
491	baa	9/10	bar
2624	badiliko	5/6	change
19	badiliko	9/10	change
9	bafu	5/6	bathroom
38	bafu	9/10	bathroom
6	baibui	5/6	purdah
15	baibui	9/10	purdah

207	baki	5/6	remainder
11	baki	9/10	remainder
412	balaa	5/6	calamity
139	balaa	9/10	calamity
512	bandari	5/6	harbour
613	bandari	9/10	harbour
5	bandeji	5/6	bandage
13	bandeji	9/10	bandage
1	bangili	5/6	bangle
7	bangili	9/10	bangle
326	bango	5/6	placard
28	bango	9/10	mud guard of a car
2687	bao	5/6	goal
683	bao	9/10	timber
1	bapa	5/6	blade
3	bapa	9/10	blade
1011	bara	5/6	continent
2103	bara	9/10	continent
1058	barabara	5/6	road
130	barabara	9/10	crowned horn bill
4274	barabara	9/10	highway
1866	basi	5/6	bus
269	basi	9/10	bus
172	bati	5/6	metal sheet
25	bati	9/10	metal sheet
831	benki	5/6	bank
2800	benki	9/10	bank
37	bia	5/6	earthenware vessel
557	bia	9/10	beer
19	bidhaa	5/6	merchandise
2702	bidhaa	9/10	merchandise

4	birika	5/6	kettle
8	birika	9/10	kettle
26	bohari	5/6	godown
26	bohari	9/10	godown
43	boksi	5/6	box
20	boksi	9/10	box
188	boma	5/6	enclosure
22	boma	9/10	enclosure
37	boti	5/6	boat
211	boti	9/10	boat
13	buibui	5/6	spider
10	buibui	9/10	spider
5	bukta	5/6	shorts
5	bukta	9/10	light shorts
10	buku	5/6	book
3	buku	9/10	book
12	bundi	5/6	owl
20	bundi	9/10	owl
101	bunduki	5/6	gun
878	bunduki	9/10	gun
4914	bunge	5/6	parliament
1062	bunge	9/10	parliament
27	bungo	5/6	fruit with saplike Indian rubber
18	bungo	9/10	beetle
8	bura	5/6	muscat cloth
12	bura	9/10	muscat cloth
11	buti	5/6	boot
16	buti	9/10	traditional coastal dance
3	chango	5/6	small intestine
2	chango	9/10	womb

27	chanjo	5/6	vaccination
248	chanjo	9/10	vaccination
1	chanuo	5/6	comb
1	chanuo	9/10	comb
4	chicha	5/6	remains of grated coconut
3	chicha	9/10	remains of grated coconut
7	chizi	5/6	person with bad habits
6	chizi	9/10	profligate person
1	chonge	5/6	canine tooth
2	chonge	9/10	canine tooth
471	chozi	5/6	tear
3	chozi	9/10	sunbird
16	chuchu	5/6	nipple
15	chuchu	9/10	nipple
31	chui	5/6	leopard
29	chui	9/10	cruel person
7	chui	9/10	leopard
4	chujio	5/6	filter
1	chujio	9/10	filter
200	chupa	5/6	amniotic membrane and waters
277	chupa	9/10	bottle
169	daftari	5/6	copybook
48	daftari	9/10	copybook
29	dafu	5/6	unripe coconut
3	dafu	9/10	unripe coconut
5459	dai	5/6	assertion
36	dai	9/10	assertion
29	dalili	5/6	sign
892	dalili	9/10	sign
26	dansi	5/6	dance
108	dansi	9/10	dance

984	daraja	5/6	bridge
850	daraja	9/10	bridge
512	darasa	5/6	class
769	darasa	5/6	classroom
463	darasa	9/10	class
45	dari	5/6	ceiling
19	dari	9/10	ceiling
109	dege	5/6	large bird
8	dege	9/10	stomach pains
192	dhambi	5/6	sin
315	dhambi	9/10	sin
19	dharau	5/6	contemp
98	dharau	9/10	scorn
5	digrii	5/6	degree
45	digrii	9/10	degree
449	dini	5/6	religion
2973	dini	9/10	religion
5	dini	9/10	spiritual belief
29	disko	5/6	discotheque
63	disko	9/10	discotheque
44	dodoso	5/6	questionnaire
8	dodoso	9/10	diagnosis
41	dosari	5/6	blemish
286	dosari	9/10	blemish
48	dua	5/6	prayer
316	dua	9/10	prayer
1	dude	5/6	despicable person
4	dude	5/6	unknown massive thing
6	dunga	5/6	borer
3	dunga	9/10	covered bamboo basket
8	ekari	5/6	ecre
180	ekari	9/10	acre

26	embe	5/6	mango
5	embe	9/10	mango
62	fahari	5/6	bull
27	fahari	9/10	glory
13	fataki	5/6	seducer
5	fataki	9/10	fire work
1	fikara	5/6	fancy
8	fikara	9/10	fancy
2	fikira	5/6	thought
27	fikira	9/10	fancy
51	fisi	5/6	hyena
81	fisi	9/10	greedy person
27	fisi	9/10	hyena
12	fiji	5/6	fridge
26	fiji	9/10	fridge
132	fujo	5/6	disturbance
472	fujo	9/10	disturbance
14	fulana	5/6	undershirt
122	fulana	9/10	undershirt
35	fumbo	5/6	parable
14	fumbo	9/10	leadership rank
3	funda	5/6	mouthful
1	funda	9/10	mouthful
22	fundo	5/6	knot
5	fundo	9/10	knot
19	fungo	5/6	fasting period
18	fungo	9/10	civet cat
2568	funzo	5/6	teaching
22	funzo	9/10	learning
55	ganda	5/6	skin
2	ganda	9/10	skin

2	ganja	5/6	type of two masted vessel
2	ganja	9/10	rolled up marijuana
7212	gari	5/6	car
2125	gari	9/10	car
31	gauni	5/6	dress
13	gauni	9/10	dress
15	gereji	5/6	garage
82	gereji	9/10	garage
175	ghala	5/6	storeroom
57	ghala	9/10	storeroom
104	ghorofa	5/6	storey
266	ghorofa	9/10	storey
46	giza	5/6	darkness
91	giza	9/10	darkness
1	glovu	5/6	glove
9	glovu	9/10	glove
9	godauni	5/6	godown
1	godauni	9/10	godown
36	gofu	5/6	ruin
34	gofu	9/10	golf
3	goigoi	5/6	exorcising dance
1	goigoi	9/10	exorcising dance
245	goli	5/6	goal
90	goli	9/10	goal
1	gololi	5/6	cornea
2	gololi	9/10	cornea
125	goma	5/6	type of hard skinned fish
19	goma	9/10	coastal stick-dance
28	goma	9/10	type of hard skinned fish
723	gome	5/6	bark
1	gome	9/10	bark

173	gongo	5/6	club
224	gongo	9/10	local spirit
15	greda	5/6	grader
5	greda	9/10	grader
4	gunda	5/6	horn
4	gunda	9/10	voluntary work
4	hando	5/6	pancake dipped into boiled sugar
6	hando	9/10	copper vessel
27	hangaiko	5/6	anxiety
2	hangaiko	9/10	anxiety
19	hela	5/6	money
126	hela	9/10	money
33	helikopta	5/6	helicopter
307	helikopta	9/10	helicopter
1	helkopta	5/6	helicopter
38	helkopta	9/10	helicopter
116	hema	5/6	tent
30	hema	9/10	tent
328	hesabu	5/6	arithmetic
371	hesabu	9/10	account
99	hifadhi	5/6	protected area
1012	hifadhi	9/10	protected area
33	hitimisho	5/6	end
23	hitimisho	9/10	conclusion
17	hongo	5/6	bribe
104	hongo	9/10	bribe
1	hori	5/6	creek
1	hori	9/10	creek
420	hospitali	5/6	hospital
4976	hospitali	9/10	hospital



212	hoteli	5/6	hotel
1729	hoteli	9/10	hotel
17	hotuba	5/6	speech
1594	hotuba	9/10	speech
50	hundi	5/6	cheque
319	hundi	9/10	cheque
81	idara	5/6	division
2702	idara	9/10	department
32	ini	5/6	liver
27	ini	9/10	liver
31	jabali	5/6	rock
8	jabali	9/10	raised line of needlework
10	jadi	5/6	tradition
46	jadi	9/10	tradition
223	jalada	5/6	cover of a book
38	jalada	9/10	cover
29	jalala	5/6	dump
19	jalala	9/10	dump
1	jando	5/6	circumcision rites
21	jando	9/10	circumcision rite
1082	jaribio	5/6	test
57	jaribio	9/10	test
190	jasho	5/6	sweat
111	jasho	9/10	sweat
39	jawabu	5/6	answer
21	jawabu	9/10	answer
12	jedwali	5/6	table of statistics
13	jedwali	9/10	table of mathematics
345	jela	5/6	prison
559	jela	9/10	prison
10	jenereta	5/6	generator

45	jenereta	9/10	generator
4	johari	5/6	jewel
10	johari	9/10	jewel
151	joto	5/6	heat
127	joto	9/10	heat
2528	jukumu	5/6	responsibility
177	jukumu	9/10	responsibility
65	jumuisho	5/6	generalisation
1	jumuisho	9/10	generalisation
95	jumuiya	5/6	club
3357	jumuiya	9/10	community
2	juzuu	5/6	chapter of Quran
8	juzuu	9/10	volume
48	kaa	5/6	charcoal
9	kaa	9/10	crab
39	kabati	5/6	cupboard
37	kabati	9/10	cupboard
1554	kabila	5/6	tribe
459	kabila	9/10	tribe
7	kadi	5/6	caddy
1085	kadi	9/10	card
27	kafara	5/6	offering
69	kafara	9/10	sacrifice
5	kaki	5/6	bread-sticle pores
2	kaki	9/10	khaki
2	kala	5/6	kind of wild cat
6	kala	9/10	kind of wild cat
13	kamasi	5/6	nose mucus
21	kamasi	9/10	nose mucus
88	kamati	5/6	committee
5417	kamati	9/10	committee

371	kambi	5/6	cambium
2719	kambi	9/10	camp
2078	kampuni	5/6	company
6347	kampuni	9/10	company
6	kamusi	5/6	dictionary
76	kamusi	9/10	dictionary
146	kandarasi	5/6	contract
28	kandarasi	9/10	contract
72	kanuni	5/6	rule
1441	kanuni	9/10	rule
11	kanzu	5/6	cassock
34	kanzu	9/10	cassock
54	karakana	5/6	workshop
47	karakana	9/10	workshop
131	karatasi	5/6	piece of paper
356	karatasi	9/10	paper
32	karo	5/6	wash-basin
51	karo	9/10	tuition fee
1	kayamba	5/6	rattle
2	kayamba	9/10	rattle
6	keki	5/6	cake
36	keki	9/10	cake
50	kelele	5/6	noise
202	kelele	9/10	noise
25	kemikali	5/6	chemical
300	kemikali	9/10	chemical
3	kesha	5/6	vigil
7	kesha	9/10	vigil
265	kesi	5/6	case
7766	kesi	9/10	case

459	kofi	5/6	slap
206	kofi	9/10	exorcising dance
13	kofia	5/6	hat
121	kofia	9/10	hat
7	koja	5/6	garland of flowers
40	koja	9/10	garland of flowers
15	kokoto	5/6	grit
56	kokoto	9/10	grit
2	koleo	5/6	pincers
7	koleo	9/10	pincers
127	koloni	5/6	colony
19	koloni	9/10	colony
35	koma	5/6	fruit of the hyphaene or dwarf palm
4	koma	9/10	comma
2	koma	9/10	spirit of the dead
104	komba	5/6	bushbaby
269	komba	9/10	bushbaby
2	kombati	5/6	combat
2	kombati	9/10	combat
2952	kombe	5/6	shallow shell
120	kombe	9/10	shell-fish
5	komeo	5/6	bolt
1	komeo	9/10	creek
105	kompyuta	5/6	computer
888	kompyuta	9/10	computer
113	kondo	5/6	war
74	kondo	9/10	war
15	kongwa	5/6	slave yoke
63	kongwa	9/10	kernel
35	kopa	5/6	dried cassava
29	kopa	9/10	heart in playing cards

9	koroboi	5/6	oil lamp
4	koroboi	9/10	small oil lump
6	koromeo	5/6	larynx
17	koromeo	9/10	larynx
42	korongo	5/6	gully
12	korongo	9/10	stork
29	korosho	5/6	cashewnut
164	korosho	9/10	cashewnut
48	kovu	5/6	scar
4	kovu	9/10	scar
11	kozi	5/6	outer husk of coconut
182	kozi	9/10	course of studies
60	kozi	9/10	east African goshawk
7	kreti	5/6	crate
17	kreti	9/10	crate
13	kumba	5/6	braided coconut leaf
5	kumba	9/10	kind of tilapia
14	kumbi	5/6	outer fibrous husk of coconut
104	kumbi	9/10	chamber
3	kumbo	5/6	shove
2	kumbo	9/10	shove
11	kunde	5/6	cow pea
23	kunde	9/10	cow pea
17	kunguru	5/6	crow
35	kunguru	9/10	crow
7	kupe	5/6	tick
1	kupe	9/10	exploiter
4	kupe	9/10	tick
454	kusudi	5/6	purpose
4	kusudi	9/10	purpose
120	kusudio	5/6	intention
11	kusudio	9/10	intention

111	kuti	5/6	palm leaf frond
13	kuti	9/10	food
4	kwapa	5/6	arm pit
25	kwapa	9/10	arm pit
80	lawama	5/6	blame
471	lawama	9/10	blame
1	lepe	5/6	drowsiness
3	lepe	9/10	drowsiness
27	likizo	5/6	holiday
250	likizo	9/10	vacation
57	nazi	5/6	coconut
78	nazi	9/10	coconut
90	ngumi	5/6	punch of a fist
454	ngumi	9/10	fist
26	noti	5/6	bank note
386	noti	9/10	bank note
61	nyanya	5/6	tomato
38	nyanya	9/10	grandmother
32	nyanya	9/10	tomato
76	nyasi	5/6	grass
26	nyasi	9/10	grass
3	nyigu	5/6	kind of insect for killing pests
2	nyigu	9/10	wasp
232	ofisi	5/6	office
6734	ofisi	9/10	office
690	onyesho	5/6	exhibition
9	onyesho	9/10	exhibition
82	paa	5/6	roof
26	paa	9/10	gazelle
43	paji	5/6	gift
3	paji	9/10	forehead

3	pakiti	5/6	packet
14	pakiti	9/10	packet
6	panda	5/6	forehead
20	panda	9/10	split
544	panga	5/6	machete
156	panga	9/10	machete
5	pantoni	5/6	ferry-boat
36	pantoni	9/10	ferry-boat
38	panya	5/6	rat
95	panya	9/10	rat
8	panzi	5/6	flying fish
2	panzi	9/10	grasshopper
4	para	5/6	bald patch on head
2	para	9/10	simsim cake
36	parokia	5/6	parish
849	parokia	9/10	parish
16	pembe	5/6	horn
259	pembe	9/10	corner
512	pembe	9/10	horn
51	pepo	5/6	spirit
110	pepo	9/10	demon
47	pepo	9/10	paradise
22	pikipiki	5/6	motorcycle
180	pikipiki	9/10	motorcycle
332	pindi	5/6	time
394	pindi	9/10	time
1	pingo	5/6	barrier
5	pingo	9/10	barrier
9	pipi	5/6	sweet
47	pipi	9/10	sweet
15	plastiki	5/6	plastic

81	plastiki	9/10	plastic
17	pochi	5/6	wide bangle
23	pochi	9/10	purse
3	popo	5/6	bat
7	popo	9/10	bat
10	porojo	5/6	light conversation
50	porojo	9/10	chitchat
68	posho	5/6	allowance
703	posho	9/10	allowance
11	povu	5/6	foam
12	povu	9/10	bubble
30	pua	5/6	nose
178	pua	9/10	nose
463	punda	5/6	donkey
35	punda	9/10	donkey
13	puto	5/6	balloon
3	puto	9/10	balloon
826	radhi	5/6	disease
127	radhi	9/10	contentment
57	raha	5/6	bliss
240	raha	9/10	bliss
4	rijali	5/6	man with sexual powers
2	rijali	9/10	man with sexual powers
65	ripoti	5/6	report
2758	ripoti	9/10	report
332	saa	5/6	clock
1952	saa	9/10	hour
13	saburi	5/6	patience
7	saburi	9/10	patience
443	sakata	5/6	chaos
76	sakata	9/10	chaos



17	sakramenti	5/6	sacrament
192	sakramenti	9/10	sacrament
80	sanamu	5/6	idol
120	sanamu	9/10	idol
11	sefu	5/6	safe
26	sefu	9/10	matchet
6	sega	5/6	honeycomb
36	sega	9/10	honeycomb
64	semina	5/6	seminar
1520	semina	9/10	seminar
18	sepetu	5/6	shovel
4	sepetu	9/10	shovel
31	shada	5/6	bundle of flowers in hair or clothes
10	shada	9/10	cluster
710	shaka	5/6	doubt
449	shaka	9/10	doubt
2827	shambulio	5/6	attack
263	shambulio	9/10	attack
19	shangwe	5/6	rejoicing
98	shangwe	9/10	rejoicing
1	shata	5/6	lees
3	shata	9/10	lees
29	shavu	5/6	cheek
27	shavu	9/10	cheek
3409	shindano	5/6	competition
12	shindano	9/10	competition
21	shingo	5/6	neck
241	shingo	9/10	neck
467	shinikizo	5/6	pressure
170	shinikizo	9/10	pressure

1266	shirikisho	5/6	federation
252	shirikisho	9/10	federation
49	shughuli	5/6	activity
4804	shughuli	9/10	activity
76	shuka	5/6	bed sheet
63	shuka	9/10	bed sheet
759	shule	5/6	school
8118	shule	9/10	school
7	siha	5/6	health
30	siha	9/10	health
273	sikitiko	5/6	sadness
8	sikitiko	9/10	grief
1052	silaha	5/6	weapon
5743	silaha	9/10	weapon
20	simulizi	5/6	story
48	simulizi	9/10	story
10	sinagogi	5/6	synagogue
5	sinagogi	9/10	synagogue
5	sinia	5/6	platter
5	sinia	9/10	platter
18	skendo	5/6	scandal
3	skendo	9/10	scandal
10	skuli	5/6	school
18	skuli	9/10	school
9	sofa	5/6	sofa
17	sofa	9/10	sofa
1	soga	5/6	idle chatter
6	soga	9/10	chat
1585	somo	5/6	teaching subject
110	somo	9/10	namesake
11150	suala	5/6	issue

431	suala	9/10	issue
2	sufi	5/6	kapok
2	sufi	9/10	kapok
20	sufuria	5/6	metal pot
55	sufuria	9/10	metal pot
350	suluhisho	5/6	solution
211	suluhisho	9/10	reconciliation
6	sururu	5/6	pickaxe
5	sururu	9/10	curlew
5	susu	5/6	hammock
2	susu	9/10	hammock
555	swala	5/6	problem
77	swala	9/10	gazelle
214	swala	9/10	prayer
1838	swali	5/6	question
464	swali	9/10	question
5	sweta	5/6	sweater
2	sweta	9/10	sweater
157	tabaka	5/6	class
89	tabaka	9/10	layer
149	tairi	5/6	tyre
28	tairi	9/10	tyre
40	takataka	5/6	rubbish
169	takataka	9/10	rubbish
738	tamko	5/6	statement
162	tamko	9/10	pronouncement
32	tanga	5/6	formal mourning period
12	tanga	9/10	sail
1	tangamano	5/6	togetherness
7	tangamano	9/10	togetherness
32	tani	5/6	ton

826	tani	9/10	ton
35	tanki	5/6	tank
5	tanki	9/10	tank
9	tanuri	5/6	kiln
5	tanuri	9/10	kiln
6	tanuru	5/6	kiln
4	tanuru	9/10	kiln
16	tao	5/6	arch
13	tao	9/10	arch
1	tapo	5/6	troupe
1	tapo	9/10	areca nut-like fruit
6	tarakimu	5/6	numeral
128	tarakimu	9/10	numeral
10	taulo	5/6	towel
17	taulo	9/10	towel
20	taya	5/6	jaw
14	taya	9/10	piece of sail cloth
28	tegemezi	5/6	expectation
4	tegemezi	9/10	dependence
15	tegu	5/6	tapeworm
2	tegu	9/10	tapeworm
93	televisheni	5/6	television
1296	televisheni	9/10	television
31	tenga	5/6	bamboo basket
50	tenga	9/10	type of ray fish
49	tete	5/6	reed
57	tete	9/10	slag
124	tetemeko	5/6	tremble
17	tetemeko	9/10	tremble
14	tetesi	5/6	whisper
119	tetesi	9/10	rumour

17	tezi	5/6	stern
3	tezi	9/10	gland
10	thibitisho	5/6	proof
13	thibitisho	9/10	proof
3	tikiti	5/6	watermelon
56	tikiti	9/10	ticket
104	tofali	5/6	brick
12	tofali	9/10	brick
32	tone	5/6	drop
15	tone	9/10	bad effect
101	tope	5/6	mud
42	tope	9/10	mud
7	toroli	5/6	trolley
2	toroli	9/10	trolley
5	tozo	5/6	fine
3	tozo	9/10	fine
35	trafiki	5/6	traffic
11	trafiki	9/10	traffic
67	treni	5/6	train
785	treni	9/10	train
3	tufani	5/6	hurricane
7	tufani	9/10	hurricane
7	tuko	5/6	x
38	tuko	9/10	episode
4	tumba	5/6	bud
12	tumba	9/10	bale
122	tume	5/6	commission
3890	tume	9/10	commission
72	tundu	5/6	hole
25	tundu	9/10	hole

110	tunzo	5/6	reward
32	tunzo	9/10	reward
283	tusi	5/6	insult
10	tusi	9/10	coffin
48	tuta	5/6	terrace
4	tuta	9/10	scavenger beetle
50	tuzo	5/6	prize
368	tuzo	9/10	prize
9	ua	5/6	fence
161	ua	5/6	flower
213	umbile	5/6	nature
18	umbile	9/10	creature
54	ungo	5/6	joint
2	ungo	9/10	joint
20	uru	5/6	monitor lizard
3	uru	9/10	diamond
94	vuguvugu	5/6	movement
9	vuguvugu	9/10	movement
49	vumbi	5/6	dust
50	vumbi	9/10	loess
8	wadi	5/6	hospital ward
19	wadi	9/10	ward
295	wilaya	5/6	district
10931	wilaya	9/10	district
118	wodi	5/6	ward
454	wodi	9/10	ward
34	zahanati	5/6	dispensary
558	zahanati	9/10	dispensary
10	zana	5/6	honey-comb
500	zana	9/10	tool
77	ziara	5/6	sacred place

2926	ziara	9/10	visit
10	zindiko	5/6	protection charm
2	zindiko	9/10	protection charm