Chichewa Lesson 5

Making Verbs into the Negative

Present tense: Add Si- to the beginning of the verb, except for 3rd person singular and plural add Sa-

Sindikufuna. I don’t want.

Sindikupika. I don’t cook.

Sakuyenda. He doesn’t walk.

Sakulankhula. He doesn’t talk

Sitikudziwa. We don’t know.

Make the negative form for these 5 sentences in the present tense:

We don’t laugh.

They don’t sing.

He doesn’t sit down.

She doesn’t farm corn.

You don’t want to dance? (remember that questions begin with the word Kodi)

Past Tense: Add Si- (or Sa-) to the beginning of the verb. Change the last vowel of the verb to E.

Sindinafune.

Sindinapike.

Sanayende.

Sanalankhule.

Sitinadziwe.

Write the following sentences in the past tense:

We didn’t laugh.

They didn’t sing.

He didn’t sit down.

She didn’t farm corn.

You didn’t want to dance?

Write a short conversation of three sentences that you want to say to someone. Share your conversation and translate.