

Glossary of Nigerian Terms

Education

- Nursery 1/Pre-Primary 1: Pre-school
- Nursery 2/Pre-Primary 2: Somewhat similar to kindergarten
- Primary 1-6: 1-6th grade
- Junior Secondary 1-3: 7-9th grade
- Senior Secondary 1-3: 10-12th grade
- Certificate: A few courses beyond secondary school. An example would be a certificate for hair styling.
- Diploma: Similar to an associates degree
- National Certificate of Education (NCE): A 3-year program that qualifies one for teaching primary school
- Degree: A Bachelor's Degree
- Post-Graduate Diploma: Between a bachelor's and Masters
- Masters Degree
- PhD

Commonly Used Terms

- Bride-price: The price a husband's family pays the bride's family. An engagement is typically not announced until the bride-price has been agreed upon.
- Goto: A Nigerian dish made of maize pounded so finely that it turns into a soup. Other vegetables can then be added.
- Kulo: A drink made of pounded corn.
- Naira: 120 Naira currently converts to \$1. However, the naira has risen in recent years while the dollar has dropped. When looking at the bride-prices, view a current conversion as you would view the value of the dollar in the 1920s.
- Minerals: Soda pop
- Soup and Tuo: Typical Nigerian meal. Tuo is a starch product. Soup is a stew-like dish. It is typically eaten by grabbing a chunk of tuo with your hands and then dipped into a bowl with soup. Tuo can be made by pounding corn, wheat, rice, or yams.
- Uniform: All Nigerian students have to wear uniforms to school.
- Wrapper: A strip of traditional Nigerian cloth. Women then wrap it around their waist for a skirt. Wrappers are also used as towels.