



Fante Handbook for Beginners

by Catherine Flaatten, ProGhana Volunteer 2009-2010

Lesson 10: Future Negation

In future negation, *mm* is never used; *nn* is taken by every verb between the pronoun and the future negative syllable, which replaces the future syllable. For the conjugation, refer to the chart below:

First Person Singular Pronoun	Future Syllable	Future Negative Syllable
me	<i>bɛ</i>	<i>kɛ</i>
mo	<i>bɔ</i>	<i>kɔ</i>
mi	<i>be</i>	<i>ke</i>
mu	<i>bo</i>	<i>ko</i>

I know this sounds confusing, so let's break it down with some examples in first person singular:

Verb	Present	Future	Future Negative
da	<i>meda</i>	<i>mɛbɛda</i>	<i>mɛnnkɛda</i>
kɔ	<i>mokɔ</i>	<i>mɔbɔkɔ</i>	<i>mɔnnkɔkɔ</i>
dzi	<i>midzi</i>	<i>mibedzi</i>	<i>minnkedzi</i>
su	<i>musu</i>	<i>mubosu</i>	<i>munnkosu</i>

So to review, take the future tense of a verb. Add *nn* immediately after the pronoun. Then change the future syllable (*bɛ*, *bɔ*, *be* or *bo*) to the corresponding future negative syllable (*kɛ*, *kɔ*, *ke* or *ko*).



Fante Handbook for Beginners

by Catherine Flaatten, ProGhana Volunteer 2009-2010

To make sure this is clear, here are a couple of full future negative conjugations as examples.

Fow (*to climb*):

- monnkɔfow (*I will not climb*)
- yɛnnkɔfow (*we will not climb*)
- ennkɔfow (*you will not climb*)
- hom nnkɔfow (*you [all] will not climb*)
- ɔnnkɔfow (*he will not climb*)
- wɔnnkɔfow (*they will not climb*)

Siw (*to pound*):

- minnkesiw (*I will not pound*)
- yennkesiw (*we will not pound*)
- innkesiw (*you will not pound*)
- hom nnkesiw (*you [all] will not pound*)
- onnkesiw (*he will not pound*)
- wonnkesiw (*they will not pound*)

Notes:

