**EWE Semantic Primes, with English equivalents (May 2017)**

Felix K. Ameka and Rachel Thompson, 2017 (cf. Ameka 1994)

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|  **NYE~ME-, WÒ~(N)È, AME(ÁÐÉ), NÁÐÉ~NÁNÉ, AMEWÓ, LAME** | substantives |
| i, you, someone, something~thing, people, body |
| **TƆGBI, AKPA(ÐE)** | relational substantives |
| kinds, parts |
| **SIA, NENEMAKE, BUBU** | determiners |
| this, the same, other~else |
| **ÐEKA, EVE, EÐE, KATA~PETEE, GEÐE~GBOGBO, SUE** | quantifiers |
| one, two, some, all, much~many, little~few |
| **NYO, BAÐA**~**VƆ**  | evaluators |
| good, bad |
| **GA, VI** | descriptors |
| big, small |
| **NYÁ, BU (TAME), DÍ, GBÉ, SE LE LÃ ME, KPƆ, SE** | mental predicates |
| know, think, want, don’t want, feel, see, hear |
| **GBLƆ~BÉ, NYA, NYATEƑE** | speech |
| say, words, true |
| **WƆ, DZƆ, ƲA** | actions, events, movement |
| do, happen, move |
| **LE~NƆ (AFIÁÐÉ), LI**-**LEE~NƆ ANYI, NYE (AMEAÐE/NAÐE)** | location, existence,specification |
| be (somewhere), there is, be (someone/something) |
| **TƆNYE** | possession |
| (is) mine |
| **NƆ~LE AGBE, KU** | life and death |
| live~LIVING, die |
| **ESI~ƔEKAYI, FIFIA, HAFI, MEGBE, ƔEYIYI DIDI AÐE, ƔEYIYI KPUI AÐE, NA ƔEYIYI AÐE, AĐABAƑOƑO**† | time |
| when~time, now, before, after, a long time, a short time, for some time, moment |
| **AFIKA~TEƑE, AFII, DZI~TAME, GƆME, DIDI, TE ÐE, AKPA, EME, KASI** | place |
| where~place, here, above, below, far, near, side, inside, touch |
| **ME…O, ÐEWOMAHI, TEŊU, -TA, NE** | logical concepts |
| not, maybe, can, because, if |
| **ŊUTƆ, GA** | intensifier, augmentor |
| very, more |
| **ABE** | similarity |
| like |

Notes about Ewe exponents: • Dialect variation in Ewe is extensive. For some primes, the nominated exponent may be appropriate only for some dialects. • Additional allolexes may be needed for some primes. • Some primes are commonly expressed in portmanteau forms, e.g. *ale* ‘like this’, *esiata* ‘because of this’. † AĐABAƑOƑOis appropriate only in some regions and for some contexts. In other regions, ƔEYIYImay be the more suitable. The optimal exponent(s) for MOMENT need more exploration.

General Notes: • Exponents of primes can be polysemous, i.e. they can have other meanings in addition to the semantically primitive meaning • Exponents of primes may be words, bound morphemes, or phrasemes • They can be formally complex • They can have combinatorial variants or “allolexes” (indicated with ~). • Each prime has well-specified syntactic (combinatorial) properties.