

Classroom Words: Dominican

- Sit down – siéntate/siéntense
- Stand up – levántate/levántense
- Raise your hand – levanta la mano
- Put the chairs in order – Arreglan las sillas
- Sit properly – siéntate/siéntense bien
- Behave – compórtate/compórtense bien
- Do it quietly or without talking – Hazlo or Haganlo en silencio/sin hablar
- Do it again – Hazlo or Haganlo de nuevo
- Pay attention – Presta atención
- Get in line (to a student) – Ponte en la fila/Pongase en la fila
- Get in line/make a line (to the group) – Hagan una fila
- Follow me – sigueme/siganme
- Wait/Hold on – Espera, Esperate, Dame un segundo/minuto
- Did you hear me? – Oíste? Estás escuchandome? Me escuchas?
- Do you understand? – Me entiendes? Me explico?
- If you hear my voice, clap once - Si escuchen mi voz, dame un aplauso
- Later – luego, más tarde, no ahora
- Don't do that/Don't say that – No haga eso/No diga eso
- Give me that – Dame eso
- We are going to review... - Vamos a repasar....
- We are going to take attendance – Vamos a tomar la asistencia
- Good job/Well done – buen trabajo/bien hecho
- Good effort – Buen esfuerzo
- You're working hard/you're a hard worker – Estás trabajando duro/eres muy trabajador/a
- You are behaving very well – Estás comportándote/portandote muy bien
- Thank you for behaving yourself – Gracias por portarte bien

Classroom Words: Kreyol

- Sit down here / there – Chita isit / la
- Stand up – Kanpe
- Raise your hand – Leve men ou
- Come here – Vini
- Stop – Rete
- Let's go – Ann ale
- Go (quickly) – Ale vit
- Please – Souple / Sivouple
- Wait – Tann
- Later / Not now – Pita / Pa Kounyeya
- Do you understand? – Ou kompran?
- Don't do that – Pa fe sa
- Give me that – Bamsa
- Be Quiet / Don't speak – Payla / Pa pale
- Good job – Byen travay
- You are working well – Ou ap travay byen/ W'ap travay byen
- I (do not) like that – Mwen (pa) renmen sa
- Maybe - Pet tét

And the most useful words of all....NO, GRACIAS, and MESI :)

Dominican Slang

- Ahora – right now
- Ahorita – in a little while
- Alante - (similar to adelante) to move ahead, go forward, to call the next person in a line

- A su orden - "Your welcome" or "It's nothing"
- Bago - person that does not like to work
- Bomba - gas station
- Encullillarse - to have a bad itch
- Eringarse - (verb) describes the Dominican way of borrowing money, spending it, borrowing more without paying it back.
- Hacer dichos – name-calling
- Cobrador - fare collector on a guagua
- Qué lo que? (abbreviated KLK) – What's up? (response: tranquilo/a)
- un chin – a little bit (un poco)
- pila – a lot
- poloche – t-shirt
- pote – water bottle
- calizos/chancletas – sandals/flip flops
- Lambón – freeloader
- medias – socks
- Funda – bag (bolsa can also mean ballsack—they will laugh at you if you use it!)
- Freco - To get fresh (sexually or verbally), smart mouth (really spelt fresco meaning fresh but usually said without the 's')
- Jeepeta-SUV truck
- vaina – a vague and very slang way to refer to just about anything (e.g. odio esa vaina!) Not very proper and is somewhat offensive in other Spanish-speaking countries although not as strong in the DR. It's not something a teacher should use with their students. Please don't use it with the kids, but they will use it a lot.
- Vacano, jevi, chevere, chulo – cool
- Manin/hermanao – greeting between guy friends (kind of like hey man/brother)
- tiguere – description of a player type guy
- papi chulo/papi champu/mami chula/mami champu – guys/girls that are all that and more, can be used in an endearing manner (she's my mami chula) or with an eye roll to describe the guy that catcalls you every day on the way to work.
- Sanky panky – man who looks for relationships with foreigners with the end goal of getting money or a visa. Use of this word can be a sensitive subject and very offensive to certain male residents of the batey. It should never be used to describe anyone, even in a joking manner.
- Si Dios Quiere - If God wants. Many Dominicans say this after saying anything to show they are not arrogant.
- Tinaco - large tank on the roofs of many buildings used to hold water for the times when the water runs out.
- Vacano - something is cool. "That's cool" = "ta vacano"

Kreyol Slang

- Sak pase? / Sak ap fet? – What's up? (response: tranquil, byen;)
- N ap boule – literally means "we're burning"—slang response to Sak pase?
- Koman ou rele? – what's your name?
- Mwen rele... – My name is....
- Kouman ou ye? – How are you?
- Mwen byen – I'm well
- M' poze – I'm chilling (also response to Sak pase?)
- N a we – See you later, goodbye
- Ann ale – let's go
- bagay – thing
- bon bagay – a good thing
- Mezanmi! – oh my gosh!

