

Toki Pona
The Simplest Language in the World
Grammar and Vocabulary Lessons

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These lessons (first edition 2004) are based on the lessons of jan Pije (2003) and
the official Toki Pona book (first English edition 2014) of Sonja Lang [\[15\]](#)

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1.2 Alphabet, Punctuation Marks

Consonants

Except for *j*, all the consonants are pronounced like in English. *j* is always pronounced just like the letter *y*.

letter	pronounced as in
k	kill
l	let
m	met
n	net
p	pit
s	sink
t	too
w	wet
j	yet

Vowels

Toki Pona's vowels are quite unlike English's.

Toki Pona's vowels are quite unlike English's. Whereas vowels in English are quite arbitrary and can be pronounced many different ways depending on the word, Toki Pona's vowels are all regular and never change pronunciation. If you're familiar with Italian, Spanish, Esperanto, or certain other languages, then your work is already done. The vowels are the same in Toki Pona as they are in these languages.

letter	pronounced as in
a	father
e	met
i	peel
o	more
u	food

The More Advanced Stuff

All official Toki Pona words are never capitalized. They are lowercase even at the beginning of the sentence! The only time that capital letters are used is when you are using unofficial words, like the names of people or places or religions.

Special Characters

.	<i>separator</i> : A declarative sentence ends with a full stop.
!	<i>separator</i> : An imperative or an interjection sentence ends with an exclamation mark.
?	<i>separator</i> : An questions always ends in a question mark.
:	<i>separator</i> : A colon is between an hint sentences and a sentences.
,	<i>separator</i> : A comma is used after an 'o' to address people. Optionally, it can be inserted before a preposition.