

Toki Pona  
the language of good – the simple way of life

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These lessons are based on the lessons of jan Pije and  
the official Toki Pona book of Sonja Lang [\[12\]](#)

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1.2 Pronunciation and the Alphabet

There are **fourteen letters** in the Toki Pona alphabet.

Consonants (9)

Except for *j*, all the consonants are pronounced like any person who speaks a European language would expect them to be. As you might have noticed, *j* in Toki Pona isn't pronounced like the English *j*. Instead, it's always pronounced just like the letter *y* in English.

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

Vowels (5)

Toki Pona's vowels are quite unlike English's. Whereas vowels in English are quite arbitrary and can be pronounced tons of 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 cut out for you. 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

These special characters are used in Toki Pona: . ! ? , : " ' `

## 1.3 Basic Sentences

### Vocabulary

mi	I, we, me, our
sina	you, your
jan	somebody, anybody, person
li	separates a 3rd person subject from its verb
pona	good, simple, to fix, to repair
moku	food, eat, drink
suno	sun, light, to shine
telo	water, liquid
suli	big, tall, long, important
,	to be (unofficial)

### The Ambiguity of Toki Pona

Do you see how several of **the words** in the vocabulary **have multiple meanings**? For example, *suli* can mean either "long", "tall", "big", "important" or "the size". By now, you might be wondering, "What's going on? How can one word mean so many different things?" Welcome to the world of Toki Pona! The truth is that lots of words are like this in Toki Pona. Because the language has such a small vocabulary and is so basic, the ambiguity is inevitable. However, this vagueness is not necessarily a bad thing. Because of the vagueness, a speaker of Toki Pona is forced to focus on the very basic, unaltered aspect of things, rather than focusing on many minute details.

Another way that Toki Pona is ambiguous is that it **can not specify** whether a word is **singular** or **plural**. For example, *jan* can mean either "person" or "people". If you've decided that Toki Pona is too arbitrary and that not having plurals is simply the final straw, don't be so hasty. Toki Pona is not the only language that doesn't specify whether a noun is plural or not. Japanese, for example, does the same thing.

Toki Pona has no Tenses. The verbs don't change. If it's absolutely necessary, there are ways of saying that something happened in the past, present, or future.

### Sentences with *mi* or *sina* as the subject

Simply state *mi* or *sina*, then complete the sentence with a verb. These are the absolute simplest type of sentences in Toki Pona. A declarative sentence ends with a full stop. Toki Pona has no nested subordinate clauses and nearly no commas.

mi moku.	I eat.
sina pona.	You fix.

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## Compound sentences

### multiple *li* technique

There are **two ways** to make compound sentences in Toki Pona; one way involves using *li*, and the other way involves using *e*. Since you've now studied both of these words, we'll cover how to use both of them to make compound sentences.

pipi **li** lukin **li** unpa. | The bug looks and has sex.

By putting *li* before each verb, you can show how the subject, which is *pipi* in this case, does more than one thing.

mi moku **li** pakala. | I eat and destroy.

While *li* is still omitted before *moku* because the subject of the sentence is *mi*, we still use it before the second verb, *pakala*. Without the *li* there, the sentence would be chaotic and confusing. Compound sentences with *sina* follow this same pattern. *li* phrases are not nested. You can change the order.  
ona **li** moku **li** pona. = ona **li** pona **li** moku.

### multiple *e* technique

The other type of compound sentence is used when there are several direct objects of the same verb.

mi moku **e** kili **e** telo. | I eat/drink fruit and water.

*e* is used multiple times because *kili* and *telo* are both direct objects, and so *e* must precede them both.

mi wile lukin **e** ma **e** suno. | I want to see the land and the sun.

*e* phrases are not nested. You can change the order.  
mi moku **e** moku **e** telo. = mi moku **e** telo **e** moku.

## Practice 4 (Answers: Page 52)

Try translating these sentences.

I have a tool.  
She's eating fruit.  
Something is watching me.  
He wants to squish the spider.  
Pineapple is a food and is good.  
The bug is thirsty.

mi lukin **e** ni.  
mi wile unpa **e** ona.  
jan li wile jo **e** ma.  
mi ' jan li ' suli.

1.5 Adjectives and Adverbs

Vocabulary

ike	bad, evil, complicated
jaki	dirty, nasty, trash
lawa	main, leading, head; to lead
len	clothing, clothe
lili	little
mute	many, a lot
nasa	crazy, stupid, silly, weird, drunk, strange
seli	warm, hot, to burn
sewi	high, superior, sky
tomo	house, building, construction
utala	war, battle, to fight

Adjectives

Toki Pona has a very minimal vocabulary. Many words do not exist in this language. Therefore, we often have to combine various words together. For example, there is no word that means "friend".

jan pona	friend (good person)
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As you can see **the adjective** (which was *pona* in the above example) **goes after the main noun**. This will undoubtedly seem incredibly awkward to you if you only speak English. However, many languages do this.

jan pakala	an injured person, victim, etc.
ilo moku	an eating utensil (fork/spoon/knife)

You can add until three adjective to a noun. One adjective should not be used more than once.

jan utala	soldier
jan utala nasa	stupid soldier
jan utala nasa <b>mute</b>	many stupid soldiers
jan utala nasa <b>ni</b>	this stupid soldier

As you might have noticed, ***ni* and *mute* as adjectives come at the end of the phrase**. The reason for this is that the phrases build as you go along, so the adjectives must be put into an organized, logical order. Notice the differences in these two phrases.

jan utala nasa	stupid soldier
jan nasa utala	fighting fool

Here are some handy adjective combinations using words that you've already learned and that are fairly common.

ike lukin	ugly
pona lukin	pretty, attractive
jan ni li pona lukin	That person is pretty.
jan ike	enemy
jan lawa	leader
jan lili	child
jan sewi	saint, God, Flying Spaghetti Monster

... <b>wan</b>	<i>adjective numeral</i> : 1
<b>wan</b>	<i>noun</i> : unit, element, particle, part, piece
<b>wan</b> (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to unite, to make one
... <b>waso</b>	<i>adjective</i> : bird-
<b>waso</b>	<i>noun</i> : bird, bat; flying creature, winged animal
... <b>wawa</b>	<i>adjective</i> : energetic, strong, fierce, intense, sure, confident
... <b>wawa</b>	<i>adverb</i> : strongly, powerfully
<b>wawa</b>	<i>noun</i> : energy, strength, power
<b>wawa</b> (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to strengthen, to energize, to empower
... <b>weka</b>	<i>adjective</i> : absent, away, ignored
<b>weka</b>	<i>noun</i> : absence
<b>weka</b> (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to remove, to eliminate, to throw away, to get rid of
<b>wile</b>	<i>noun</i> : desire, need, will
<b>wile</b> (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to want, need, wish, have to, must, will, should
<b>wile</b> ...	<i>verb pre</i> : to want, need, wish, have to, must, will, should



... poka poka ..., poka ...	<i>adjective</i> : neighbouring <i>noun</i> : side, hip, next to <i>preposition</i> : in the accompaniment of, with
poki poki (e ...)	<i>noun</i> : container, box, bowl, cup, glass <i>verb transitive</i> : to box up, to put in, to can, to bottle
... pona ... pona pona! pona pona la ... pona (e ...)	<i>adjective</i> : good, simple, positive, nice, correct, right <i>adverb</i> : good, simple, positive, nice, correct, right <i>interjection</i> : great! good! thanks! OK! cool! yay! <i>noun</i> : good, simplicity, positivity <i>noun</i> : if good, if simplicity, if positivity <i>verb transitive</i> : to improve, to fix, to repair, to make good
... pu pu pu ... pu pu (e ...)	<i>adjective</i> : buying and interacting with the official Toki Pona book <i>noun</i> : buying and interacting with the official Toki Pona book <i>verb pre</i> : to buying and interacting with the official Toki Pona book <i>verb intransitive</i> : to read (the official Toki Pona book) <i>verb transitive</i> : to apply (the official Toki Pona book) to ...
... sama ... sama sama ..., sama ... sama (e ...)	<i>adjective</i> : same, similar, equal, of equal status or position <i>adverb</i> : just as, equally, exactly the same, just the same, similarly <i>noun</i> : equality, parity, equity, identity, par, sameness <i>preposition</i> : like, as, seem <i>verb transitive</i> : to equate, to make equal, to make similar to
... seli ... seli seli seli (e ...)	<i>adjective</i> : hot, warm, cooked <i>adverb</i> : hot, warm, cooked <i>noun</i> : fire, warmth, heat <i>verb transitive</i> : to heat, to warm up, to cook
selo selo (e ...)	<i>noun</i> : skin, outer form, bark, peel, shell, skin, boundary, shape <i>verb transitive</i> : to shelter, to protect, to guard
seme	<i>question word</i> : what, which, wh- (question word)
... sewi ... sewi sewi sewi sewi (e ...)	<i>adjective</i> : superior, elevated, religious, formal <i>adverb</i> : superior, elevated, religious, formal <i>noun</i> : high, up, above, top, over, on <i>verb intransitive</i> : to get up <i>verb transitive</i> : to lift
... sijelo ... sijelo sijelo sijelo (e ...)	<i>adjective</i> : physical, bodily, corporal, corporeal, material, carnal <i>adverb</i> : physically, bodily <i>noun</i> : body (of person or animal), physical state, torso <i>verb transitive</i> : to heal, to heal up, to cure
... sike ... sike sike sike (e ...)	<i>adjective</i> : round, cyclical, of one year <i>adverb</i> : rotated <i>noun</i> : circle, ball, cycle, sphere, wheel; round or circular thing <i>verb transitive</i> : to orbit, to circle, to revolve, to circle around, to rotate

## 1.6 Prepositions, Transitive and Intransitive Verbs

### Vocabulary

lon	to be in/at/on, to exist; in, at, on
kepeken	to use, with, using
tawa	to go to, to move, to, for
kama	to come, to happen, to cause
kiwen	stone, rock, hard like a rock
kon	air, atmosphere, spirit, wind
pana	to give, to send, to release, to emit
poki	container, bowl, glass, cup, box, etc.
toki	language, to talk, to speak

### Prepositions

A preposition describes a relationship between other words in a sentence and usually stand in front of nouns. In Toki Pona prepositions start a prepositional object. A prepositional object stands at the end of a sentence. It is recommended that you put a comma before a preposition.

### Transitive Verbs vs. Intransitive Verbs

In the sentence "I'm going to my house," the speaker simply went home. He did not do anything to his house. "go" is an intransitive verb here. In the sentence "I'm building a house." is an **object** (house) and "build" is an transitive verb. In Toki Pona an *e* follow a **transitive verb**.

### lon

mi <b>lon</b> tomo.	I'm in the house.
mi moku, <b>lon</b> tomo.	I eat in the house.

In the first example, *lon* is used as an intransitive verb; in the second, it is used as a preposition. *lon* can be used as both a **verb** and a **preposition**. Optionally, a comma can be inserted before a preposition.

suno li <b>lon</b> sewi.	The sun is in the sky.
mi telo e mi, <b>lon</b> tomo telo.	I bathe myself in the restroom.
kili li <b>lon</b> poki.	The fruit is in the basket.

### Using *lon* with *wile*

Because *lon* can be used as either a preposition or a intransitive verb, the meaning of the sentence can be a bit confusing when used with *wile*.

mi <b>wile lon</b> tomo.	I want to be at home. / I want in a house.
--------------------------	--

The sentence has two possible translations. The first translation states that the speaker wishes he were at home. The second translation states that the speaker wants to do something in a house. **It's best to split this sentence up by a colon.**

mi **wile** e ni: mi **lon** tomo. | I want this: I'm at home.

**Toki Pona often uses this *e ni*: trick. Before and after the colon has to be complete sentences.** Toki Pona has no nested subordinate clauses.

sina toki **e ni** tawa mi: sina moku. | You told me that you are eating.

## kepeken

### Using *kepeken* as an intransitive verb

Don't use an **e** after *kepeken*.

mi **kepeken** ilo. | I'm using tools.  
sina wile **kepeken** ilo. | You have to use tools.  
mi **kepeken** poki ni. | I'm using that cup.

### Using *kepeken* as a preposition

mi moku, **kepeken** ilo moku. | I eat using a fork/spoon/  
any type of eating utensil.  
mi lukin, **kepeken** ilo suno. | I look using a flashlight.

## tawa

### Using *tawa* as a intransitive verb

Like *lon*, **tawa** as a intransitive verb doesn't have an *e* after it.

mi **tawa** tomo mi. | I'm going to my house.  
ona mute li **tawa** utala. | They're going to the war.  
sina wile **tawa** telo suli. | You want to go to the ocean.  
ona li **tawa** sewi kiwen. | She's going up the rock.

### *tawa* as a transitive verb

Do you remember how I said *tawa* doesn't have an *e* after it because nothing is being done to an object? Well, that's true, **but *tawa* can have objects**, like this.

mi **tawa e** kiwen. | I'm moving the rock.  
ona li **tawa e** len mi. | She moved my clothes.

*tawa* can be used as an action verb in these situations because there is an object. Something has done an action on something else; that was not the case with *tawa* in other example sentences.

### Using *tawa* to mean "to"

As I said a moment ago, *tawa* is often used as a **preposition**.

mi toki, **tawa** sina. | I talk to you.

**open la ...**  
**open (e ...)**  
**open ...**

*noun*: at the opening, in the beginning  
*verb transitive*: to open, to start, to begin, to turn on  
*verb pre*: to begin, to start

**... pakala**  
**... pakala**  
**pakala!**  
**pakala**  
**pakala**  
**pakala (e ...)**

*adjective*: destroyed, ruined, demolished, shattered, wrecked  
*adverb*: destroyed, ruined, demolished, shattered, wrecked  
*interjection*: damn! fuck!  
*noun*: blunder, accident, mistake, destruction, damage, breaking  
*verb intransitive*: to screw up, to fall apart, to break  
*verb transitive*: to screw up, to ruin, to break, to hurt, to injure, to damage

**... pali**  
**... pali**  
**pali**  
**pali**  
**pali (e ...)**

*adjective*: active, work-related, operating, working  
*adverb*: actively, briskly  
*noun*: activity, work, deed, project  
*verb intransitive*: to act, to work, to function  
*verb transitive*: to do, to make, to build, to create

**... palisa**  
**palisa**  
**palisa (e ...)**

*adjective*: long  
*noun*: long hard thing; branch, rod, stick, pointy thing  
*verb transitive*: to stretch, to beat, to poke, to stab, to sexually arouse

**pan**  
**pan (e ...)**

*noun*: cereal, grain; barley, corn, oat, rice, wheat; bread, pasta  
*verb transitive*: to sow

**... pana**  
**pana**  
**pana (e ...)**

*adjective*: generous  
*noun*: giving, transfer, exchange  
*verb transitive*: to give, to put, to send, to place, to release, to emit, to cause

**... pi ...**

*separator*: "pi" is used to build complex compound nouns.  
"pi" separates a (pro)noun from another (pro)noun that has at least one adjective.  
After "pi" could only be a noun or pronoun.  
Don't use "pi" before or after  
the other separators "e", "la", "li", "o", ".", "!", "?", ":".

**... pilin**  
**... pilin**  
**pilin**  
**pilin**  
**pilin (e ...)**

*adjective*: sensitive, feeling, empathic  
*adverb*: perceptively  
*noun*: feelings, emotion, feel, think, sense, touch,  
*verb intransitive*: to feel, to sense  
*verb transitive*: to feel, to think, to touch, to fumble, to fiddle

**... pimeja**  
**pimeja**  
**pimeja (e ...)**

*adjective*: black, dark  
*noun*: darkness, shadows  
*verb transitive*: to darken

**... pini**  
**... pini**  
**pini**  
**pini (e ...)**  
**pini ...**

*adjective*: completed, finished, past, done  
*adverb*: ago, past, perfectly  
*noun*: end, tip  
*verb transitive*: to end, to stop, to turn off, to finish, to close  
*verb pre*: to stop, to finish, to end, to interrupt

**pipi**

*noun*: bug, insect, spider



## The Spatial Nouns *anpa*, *insa*, *monsi* and *sewi*

### nouns

Although you might be tempted to use these words as prepositions, but they are not.

ona li <b>lon</b> sewi mi.	He is in my above, i.e. he is above me.
pipi li <b>lon</b> anpa mi.	The bug is underneath me.
moku li <b>lon</b> insa mi.	Food is inside me.
mi moku <b>lon</b> poka sina.	I'm eating beside [or with] you.

So you see, these words as used here are nouns, and *mi* is a possessive pronoun meaning "my". And since these words are merely nouns, you must still have a verb; in the above examples, *lon* is acting as the verb. **Don't forget to include a verb!**

Since these words aren't prepositions, they are free for other uses, just like any other noun/adjective/verb.

### *monsi* as a body part

monsi	back, butt
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### *anpa* as a verb

mi <b>anpa</b> e jan utala.	I defeated the warrior.
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## Practice 7 (Answers: Page 53)

Try translating these sentences.

My friend is beside me.	
The sun is above me.	
The land is beneath me.	
Bad things are behind me.	
I'm okay because I'm alive. *	
I look at the land with my friend.	
People look like ants.	
poka mi li ' pakala.	
mi kepeken poki li kepeken ilo moku.	
jan li lon insa tomo.	

\* *lon* as a verb by itself means to exist, to be real, etc.

<b>kili</b>	<i>noun</i> : fruit, pulpy vegetable, mushroom
<b>...kin</b>	<i>adjective</i> : indeed, still, too kin can be the very last word in an adjective group.
<b>...kin</b>	<i>adverb</i> : actually, indeed, in fact, really, objectively, kin can be the very last word in an adverb group.
<b>kin!</b>	<i>interjection</i> : really!
<b>kin</b>	<i>noun</i> : reality, fact
<b>kin la ...</b>	<i>noun</i> : if reality, if fact
<b>kipisi</b>	<i>noun</i> : section, fragment, slice
<b>kipisi (e ...)</b>	<i>verb transitive</i> : to cut
<b>...kiwen</b>	<i>adjective</i> : hard, solid, stone-like, made of stone or metal
<b>...kiwen</b>	<i>adverb</i> : hard, solid, stone-like, made of stone or metal
<b>kiwen</b>	<i>noun</i> : hard thing, rock, stone, metal, mineral, clay
<b>kiwen (e ...)</b>	<i>verb transitive</i> : to solidify, to harden, to petrify, to fossilize
<b>ko</b>	<i>noun</i> : semi-solid or squishy substance; clay, dough, glue, paste, powder, gum
<b>ko (e ...)</b>	<i>verb transitive</i> : to squash, to pulverize
<b>...kon</b>	<i>adjective</i> : air-like, ethereal, gaseous
<b>...kon</b>	<i>adverb</i> : air-like, ethereal, gaseous
<b>kon</b>	<i>noun</i> : air, wind, smell, soul
<b>kon</b>	<i>verb intransitive</i> : to breathe
<b>kon (e ...)</b>	<i>verb transitive</i> : to blow away something, to puff away something
<b>...kule</b>	<i>adjective</i> : colourful, pigmented, painted
<b>kule</b>	<i>noun</i> : color, colour, paint, ink, dye, hue
<b>kule (e ...)</b>	<i>verb transitive</i> : to paint, to color
<b>...kulupu</b>	<i>adjective</i> : communal, shared, public, of the society
<b>kulupu</b>	<i>noun</i> : group, community, society, company, people
<b>kulupu (e ...)</b>	<i>verb transitive</i> : to assemble, to call together, to convene
<b>...kute</b>	<i>adjective</i> : auditory, hearing
<b>kute</b>	<i>noun</i> : hearing, ear
<b>kute (e ...)</b>	<i>verb transitive</i> : to hear, to listen,
<b>...la ...</b>	<i>separator</i> : A "la" is between the context phrase and the main sentence. A context phrase can be sentence, half sentence or noun. Don't use "la" before or after the other separators "e", "li", "pi", ".", "!", "?", ":", ",", ".
<b>...lape</b>	<i>adjective</i> : sleeping, of sleep, dormant
<b>...lape</b>	<i>adverb</i> : asleep
<b>lape</b>	<i>noun</i> : sleep, rest
<b>lape</b>	<i>verb intransitive</i> : to sleep, to rest
<b>lape (e ...)</b>	<i>verb transitive</i> : to knock out
<b>...laso</b>	<i>adjective</i> : bluish, bluey
<b>laso</b>	<i>noun</i> : blue, blue-green

A.6 Toki-Pona – English Dictionary

.	<i>separator</i> : A declarative sentence ends with a full stop. Don't use a full stop before or after the other separators "e", "la", "li", "pi", ". ", "!", "?", ":".
!	<i>separator</i> : An imperative or an interjection sentence ends with an exclamation mark. Don't use an exclamation mark before or after the other separators "e", "la", "li", "pi", ". ", "!", "?", ":".
?	<i>separator</i> : An questions always ends in a question mark. Don't use a question mark before or after the other separators "e", "la", "li", "o", "pi", ". ", "!", "?", ":".
:	<i>separator</i> : A colon is between an hint sentences and a sentences. Before and after the colon has to be complete sentences. Don't use a colon before or after the other separators "e", "la", "li", "pi", ". ", "!", "?", ":".
,	<i>separator</i> : A comma is used after an "o" to addressing people. Optional you can putdone, finished, completed, ended, close a comma before a preposition. Don't use a comma before or after the separators "e", "la", "pi", ". ", "!", "?", ":".
"	<i>separator</i> : Quotation marks are used for words with original spelling or for quotes.
'	<i>unofficial</i> : For clarification the missing verb "to be" can be marked with an apostrophe.
#	<i>unofficial</i> : Number sign
a	<i>interjection</i> : ah, ha, uh, oh, ooh, aw, well (emotion word)
a a a!	<i>interjection</i> : laugh
... akesi akesi	<i>adjective</i> : amphibian-, reptilian-, slimy <i>noun</i> : reptile, amphibian; non-cute animal
... ala	<i>adjective</i> : no, not, none, un-
... ala	<i>adjective numeral</i> : 0
... ala	<i>adverb</i> : don't
ala!	<i>interjection</i> : no!
ala	<i>noun</i> : nothing, negation, zero
... alasa alasa alasa (e ...)	<i>adjective</i> : hunting-, -hunting, hunting <i>noun</i> : hunting <i>verb transitive</i> : to hunt, to forage
... ale	<i>adjective</i> : all, every, complete, whole (ale = ali), (deprecated)
... ale	<i>adjective numeral</i> : 100 (official Toki Pona book)
... ale	<i>adverb</i> : always, forever, evermore, eternally (ale = ali), (deprecated)
ale	<i>noun</i> : everything, anything, life, the universe, (deprecated)
... ali	<i>adjective</i> : all, every, complete, whole (ale = ali)
... ali	<i>adverb</i> : always, forever, evermore, eternally (ale = ali)

1.9 Gender,Unofficial Words,Addressing People, Interjections, Commands

Vocabulary

a	ahh, ha!, umm, hmm, ooh
awen	to wait, to pause, to stay; remaining
mama	parent
meli	woman, wife, girlfriend, female
mije	man, husband, boyfriend, male
mu	woof, meow, moo, any animal sound
nimi	name, word
o	used for vocative and imperative
pona	yay!, cool, good
toki	language; hey!

Gender

Toki Pona doesn't have any grammatical gender like in most Western languages. However, some words in Toki Pona (such as *mama*) don't tell you which gender a person is, and so we use *mije* and *meli* to distinguish.

mama	a parent in general (mother or father)
mama meli	mother
mama mije	father

Unofficial words

Take a moment to look over the Toki Pona dictionary in the Appendix (Page 77). There are no words for the **names of nations**; there are also aren't any words for **religions** or even other **languages**. The reason that these words aren't in the dictionary is because they are "unofficial". Before using an unofficial word, we often **adapt the word to fit into Toki Pona's phonetic rules**. So, for example, America becomes *Mewika*, Canada becomes *Kanata*, and so on. **Now the thing about these unofficial words is that they can never be used by themselves. They are always treated like adjectives**, and so they have to be used with a noun.

ma Kanata li ' pona.	Canada is good.
ma Italija li ' pona lukin.	Italy is beautiful.
mi wile tawa ma Tosi.	I want to go to Germany.

Do you remember that *ma tomo* means "city"?

ma tomo Lantan li ' suli.	London is big.
ma tomo Pelin	Berlin
ma tomo Alenta	Atlanta
ma tomo Loma	Rome
mi kama tan ma tomo Pelin.	I'm from Berlin.

If you want to talk about a **language**, you simply use *toki* and then attach the unofficial word onto it.

toki Inli li ' pona.	The English language is good.
ma Inli li ' pona.	England is good.

<b>toki</b> Kanse		French language
<b>toki</b> Epelanto		Esperanto

If you want to talk about a **person** who is from a certain place, you just say **jan** and then attach the unofficial word at the end, like this.

<b>jan</b> Kanata		Canadian person
<b>jan</b> Mesiko		Mexican person

Of course, you can use other nouns to describe certain people, too. For example, you can use the **mije** and **meli** that you learned a few minutes ago.

<b>meli</b> Italiija		Italian woman
<b>mije</b> Epanja		Spanish man

Now suppose you want to talk about someone using their name. For example, what if you want to say "Lisa is cool"? To say a **person's name** in Toki Pona, you just say **jan** and then the person's name.

<b>jan</b> Lisa li ' pona.		Lisa is cool.
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Like for the names of countries, we often adapt a person's name to fit into Toki Pona's phonetic rules. Keep in mind that no one is going to pressure you to adopt a tokiponized name; **it's just for fun**.

<b>jan</b> Pentan li pana e sona, tawa mi.		Brandon teaches to me.
<b>jan</b> Mewi li toki, tawa mi.		Mary's talking to me.
<b>jan</b> Nesan li ' musi.		Nathan is funny.
<b>jan</b> Eta li ' jan unpa.		Heather is a whore.
pana e sona		to teach (give knowledge)

This is the way to say your name.

<b>mi</b> ' <b>jan</b> Pepe.		I am Pepe.
------------------------------	--	------------

Nobody is forcing you to use a name in Toki Pona style. This is pure fun. If you use the original spelling, please put it in quotation marks.

Addressing People

Sometimes you need **to get a person's attention** before you can talk to him. When you want to address someone like that before saying the sentence, you just follow this same pattern. **jan (name) o (sentence)**.

<b>jan</b> Ken <b>o</b> , pipi li lon len sina.		Ken, a bug is on your shirt.
<b>jan</b> Keli <b>o</b> , sina pona lukin.		Kelly, you are pretty.
<b>jan</b> Mawen <b>o</b> , sina wile ala wile moku?		Marvin, are you hungry?
<b>jan</b> Tepani <b>o</b> , sina ike tawa mi.		Steffany, I don't like you.

Although it's not essential, you should try to remember to put the **comma after the o**.

Commands

You simply say **o** and then whatever you want the person to do. An imperative sentence (command) ends with an exclamation mark.

<b>o</b> pali!		Work!
----------------	--	-------

kena sulini pana e kosi seli		a volcano is erupting
------------------------------	--	-----------------------

nena lili (unpa) meli	clitoris
nena meli	breasts
olin e jan mute	to be polyamorous
palisa	penis-shaped thing, e.g. dildo
palisa (mije)	penis
palisa tawa	vibrating dildo
palisa uta	tongue
pana e palisa lon lupa	to penetrate
pana e palisa uta lon	to lick
pana e telo (walo) mije	to ejaculate
uta e	to kiss, to osculate,
pana e uta lon palisa	to fellate
pana e uta lon lupa (meli)	to perform cunnilingus
pana wawa	BDSM
pilin	to feel, touch
pilin wawa (unpa)	orgasm
pini pi nena mama	nipples
pini palisa	glans, head of the penis
pona unpa	sexy, good in bed
selo lon pini palisa	foreskin
sike mije (tu)	testicles, balls
sitelen unpa	visual erotica, porn
telo (walo) mije	sperm, come
tomo unpa	sex place, e.g. bedroom, boudoir, brothel, etc.
unpa nasa	kinky sex
unpa sama soweli	doggy style
unpa uta	oral sex
wile unpa	horny
wile unpa e meli	to be sexually attracted to women
wile unpa e meli e mije	to be sexually attracted to women and men
wile unpa e mije	to be sexually attracted to men
unpa li pona	sex is good, I like sex
mi wile unpa e sina	I want to have sex with you
palisa sina li kiwen	your cock is hard
mi ken ala ken pilin e monsi sina?	may I touch your butt?
(mi meli.) mi olin e meli.	I am a lesbian
(mi mije.) mi olin e mije.	I am gay (male)

### A.5.16 Time

tenpo	time
tenpo seme?	when?
tenpo ni	now
tenpo suno	day
tenpo pimeja	night
tenpo suno ni	today
tenpo suno kama	tomorrow
tenpo suno pini	yesterday
tenpo suno sin	morning
tenpo lili	soon, moment, briefly
tenpo sulì	long time
tenpo mute	often, many times
tenpo kama	future
tenpo pini	past

## 1.10 Questions using *seme*

### Vocabulary

olin	to love affectionately, as of a person
seme	what, which (used to make question words)
sin	new, another, more
supa	any type of furniture
suwi	sweet, cute; candy, cookie

### Questions, Questions

seme?	Pardon?
-------	---------

### What – Subject

We talked about how to ask questions that can be answered with a "yes" or "no". However, we didn't talk about questions that require more in-depth answers. Well, to ask questions like these in Toki Pona, we have to use the word *seme*.

seme li utala e sina?	What attacked you?
seme li moku e kilì mi?	What is eating my fruit?
seme li lon poka mi?	What is beside me?
seme li lon tomo mi?	What is in my house?
seme li ' pona, tawa sina?	What do you like?

### What / Where – Object

Okay, this next part is probably going to seem rather confusing at first, and so I'm going to ease you into it by using things that you've already learned.

sina lukin e pipi.	You're watching a bug.
--------------------	------------------------

Now we're going to turn that sentence into a question.

sina lukin e seme?	What are you watching?
--------------------	------------------------

Both *pipi* and *seme* are treated as plain nouns, and the word order of the sentence does not change even when the sentence is a question.

sina pakala e seme?	What did you hurt?
sina lon seme?	Where are you?
ona li jo e seme?	What does he have?

### Who(m)

Since you're asking about a person, you use *jan*, then add *seme* to make into a question word.

jan seme li moku?	Who is eating?
jan seme li tawa, poka sina?	Who went with you?
sina lukin e jan seme?	Whom did you see?
sina toki, tawa jan seme?	Whom are you talking to?

Which

ma <b>seme</b> li ' pona, tawa sina?	Which countries do you like?
sina kama, tan ma <b>seme</b> ?	Which country do you come from?

The only reason that this concept might seem difficult is because you’re tempted to move the word orders around, because many languages (including English) do it. **One neat little trick you can do to check a translation is to think of the question as a plain statement, and then replace the word *seme* with *ni*.**

Why

*seme* is also used to make what equals the English word ”why”. Also, don’t forget that ***tan*** as a preposition means ”because of”.

sina kama, <b>tan seme</b> ?	Why did you come?
------------------------------	-------------------

Miscellaneous

*supa*

*supa* means **any type of horizontal surface or furniture**.

<b>supa</b>	table, chair, sofa, ...
<b>supa</b> lape	bed

*suwi*

*suwi* means ”**sweet**”, ”**cute**”, ”**candy**” or some other type of sweet food. It **don’t mean that it’s sexy, attractive**, or anything like that.

jan lili sina li ' <b>suwi</b> .	Your baby is cute.
telo kili ni li ' <b>suwi</b> .	This fruit drink is sweet.
mi wile e <b>suwi</b> !	I want a cookie!

*sin*

sin as an **adjective** and simply means ”**another**” or ”**more**”.

jan <b>sin</b> li kama.	More people are coming.
mi wile e suwi <b>sin</b> !	I want another/more cookie(s)!

*olin*

This word is used to mean ”**love**”. However, it only refers to affectionate love, like **loving people**. For example, you might *olin* your girlfriend or your parents, but you don’t *olin* baseball. You can’t *olin* things or objects.

mi <b>olin</b> e sina.	I love you.
------------------------	-------------

jo e mani mute	to be rich
jo e pilin pona	to have positive feelings, be mentally healthy
jo e sijelo pona	to be (physically) healthy
lili	small, short, thin, young
nasa	crazy, foolish
nasa lukin	funny-looking
pona lukin	beautiful, pretty, handsome
suwi	sweet
suwi lukin	cute
sona mute	smart, intelligent, wise
suli	big, tall, fat

A.5.14 Religion

nasin sewi	religions
nasin sewi	religion, spiritual path
nasin sewi Patapali	Pastafari
nasin pona	Taoism, simple or good path
nasin pona Juju	Unitarian Universalism
nasin pona Lasapali	Rastafarianism
nasin sewi Jawatu	Judaism
nasin sewi Kolisu	Christianity
nasin sewi ma	earth religion, e.g. Native American beliefs
nasin sewi Puta	Buddhism
nasin sewi Silami	Islam

A.5.15 Sex

unpa	sex, to have sex, to fuck
ilo unpa	sex toy
jan pi jan unpa mute	promiscuous person
jan (pi pali) unpa	sex worker
jan unpa	sexual partner
jo ala e selo lon pini palisa	circumcised, cut
jo e selo lon pini palisa	uncircumcised, uncut
lupa	hole, orifice
lupa (meli)	vagina, pussy
lupa monsi	anus
kama	to come
kama jo e lupa meli	to get genital reconstruction surgery as a women, i.e. vaginoplasty
kama jo e palisa mije	to get genital reconstruction surgery as a man, i.e. metoidioplasty
kama jo e sinpin lawa meli	to get facial feminization surgery
kama jo e sinpin mije	to get male chest reconstruction surgery
meli (insa)	person who identifies as female, e.g. male-to-female transsexual person
meli li lon sewi mije	woman on top
meli mije	masculine girl, butch, tomboy
meli unpa	female sexual partner
mije (insa)	person who identifies as male, e.g. female-to-male transsexual person
mije li lon sewi meli	missionary position
mije meli	feminine guy
mije unpa	male sexual partner
monsi	butt, ass



pilin ike wawa	to have intense negative feelings, be pissed off, furious
pilin nasa	to feel silly, strange, weird, crazy, drunk, high
pilin pona	to feel good, happy, content, enjoy oneself, comfortable
pilin pona mute	to feel great, amazing, awesome
pilin pona tan	to feel good because of, to enjoy
pilin wawa	to feel strong, energetic, excited, confident, proud
pona e pilin jan	cheer up, make somebody happy
toki ike	to say negative things
toki ike lon	to say bad things about, complain about
toki ike tawa	to say bad things to, insult, speak rudely to
toki pona	to say nice things
toki pona lon	to say good things about, praise
toki pona tawa	to say nice things to, compliment
toki utala tawa	to argue with, criticize
weka e ike jan	forgive somebody
wile	to want, desire, would like, hope
wile e pona tawa jan	to wish somebody well
wile ike	to have negative intentions, malevolent
wile lape	to be tired, sleepy, wanting to rest
wile lawa	to be dominant
wile moku	to be hungry
mile moku e telo	to be thirsty
wile moli	suicidal
wile moli e jan	homicidal, wanting to murder
wile mute	to crave, really want
wile mute ike	to want too much, greedy
wile pali e ijo	bored, wanting to do something
wile pana e pona (tawa jan)	helpful (to someone)
wile pona	to have good intentions, mean well
wile unpa	horny, lustful

### A.5.8 Food

moku	food, meal, to eat, to drink
moku e telo	to drink
wile moku	hungry
wile moku e telo	thirsty
ilo moku	utensil, fork, spoon, knife, etc.
kala	fish, seafood
kala lete	raw fish, sushi
kasi	herb, plant
kasi wawa	spice
kili	fruit, vegetable
kili lili kiwen	nut
kili palisa	long fruit or vegetable, e.g. carrot, banana, cucumber
moku lili	snack, small ingestible item
moku suwi	sweets, candy, chocolate, etc.
moku telo	liquid food, e.g. soup
moku walo	whiteish food, e.g. rice
pana e moku tawa	to feed, nourish
poki	glass, cup, bottle, bowl, container
poki lete	refrigerator
poki seli	oven, microwave
tenpo moku	mealtime

### *pi* and possessives

If you wanted to say "my house" you say *tomo mi*. Similarly, "your house" is *tomo sina*. If you want to name a specific person who owns the house, you have to use *pi*. Note that you can not say *tomo Lisa*. That changes the whole meaning.

tomo <b>pi jan</b> Lisa	Lisa's house
kili <b>pi jan</b> Susan	Susan's fruit
ma <b>pi jan</b> Keli	Keli's country
len <b>pi jan</b> Lisa	Lisa's clothes

Also, if you want to use the plural pronouns you have to use *pi*.

nimi <b>pi mi</b> mute	our names
tomo <b>pi ona</b> mute	their house

### Opposites with *pi* and *ala*

We also use *pi* and *ala* to express the opposite of some words. This could change the word type. In the first examples *wawa* is a adjective. But after *pi* is *wawa* a noun.

jan wawa	a strong person
jan wawa ala	No strong people.
jan <b>pi</b> wawa <b>ala</b>	a person with weakness, a weak person

### Several *pi*-Phrases for one Compound Noun

Similar to the other separate words *li* and *e* you can use several *pi*. All additional *pi*-phrases are connected to the first noun as well. *pi* phrases are not nested. You can change the order. However you should avoid several *pi* if you can. In the next lesson we will learn a way to avoid several *pi*.

kulupu <b>pi</b> kalama musi <b>pi</b> ma Inli li pona.	The English rock band is good.
kulupu <b>pi</b> ma Inli <b>pi</b> kalama musi li pona.	The English rock band is good.

### Common mistakes with *pi*

**After *pi* have to be at least two words. The word immediately after *pi* is a noun or pronoun, followed by an adjective. Do not separate adjectives, numbers or verbs by *pi*.**

jan ~~**pi wawa**~~ pi pona mute li kama. | **Wrong!**

Another mistake is that people use *pi* when they should use *tan*.

mi kama **tan** ma Mewika. | I come from America.

At the beginning *pi* is unfamiliar. But it helps to understand a sentence. **A *pi* shows that after the *pi* can only be a noun or pronoun.**

Miscellaneous

*kalama*

Okay, *kalama* is used to mean "sound" or "noise".  
**kalama** ni li ' seme? | What was that noise?

*kalama* is usually combined with the word *musi* to mean "music" or "song".  
**kalama musi** li ' pona, tawa mi. | I like music.

*kalama musi* precedes the **names of specific songs**.  
**kalama musi** "Jingle Bells" li ' | I like the song "Jingle Bells".  
pona, tawa mi.

And we can use *pi* to talk about **music by a certain group or artist**.  
**kalama musi pi** jan Elton-John li | Elton John's music is odd.  
' nasa.

Finally, *kalama* can be used as a **verb**.  
mi **kalama**, kepeken ilo. | I make noise using an instrument.  
o **kalama** ala! | Don't make noise!

Using *nasin seme* to make "how"

sina pali e ni **kepeken nasin seme**? | **How** did you make this?

Practice 11 (Answers: Page 54)

Keli's child is funny. I am a Toki Ponan. He is a good musician. The captain of the ship is eating. Meow. Enya's music is good. Which people of this group are im- portant? Our house is messed up. How did she make that?  pipi pi ma mama mi li ' lili. kili pi jan Linta li ' ike. len pi jan Susan li ' jaki. mi sona ala e nimi pi ona mute. mi wile toki meli. sina pakala e ilo, kepeken nasin seme? jan Wasintan [Washington] li ' jan lawa pona pi ma Mewika. wile pi jan ike li pakala e ijo.	
---	--

kasi sona telo seli wawa tenpo suno sin ale la sina moku e telo seli pimeja telo wawa sitelen lape	intoxicating plant used in meditation, e.g. marijuana coffee Every morning I drink coffee.  energy drink dreams
---	--

A.5.6 Family

kulupu mama mama kulupu mama mama meli mama mije mama pi mama mi jan olin meli (olin) mije (olin) jan sama meli sama mije sama jan lili meli lili mije lili	family mother, father, parent family mother father my grandparent significant other, partner wife, girlfriend husband, boyfriend sister, brother, sibling sister brother child, daughter, son daughter son
---	--

A.5.7 Feelings

pilin sina pilin seme? a a a! ale li pona awen pona kama olin kepeken utala lawa e pilin lukin mi olin e sina olin (ona) li ike (ona) li pona pali e ike tawa pana e kon (pi pilin) pona pana e pilin pona tawa pana e telo oko pilin pilin ala pilin e ike jan pilin e moli jan pilin e weka jan pilin ike pilin ike tan pilin ike tawa	feelings how are you? how are you feeling? ha ha ha! all is well, I feel calm, I am at peace patient fall in love with to use violence to master one's feelings, be composed aware, attentive I love you to love (a person) (she/he/it) is bad, I don't like (her/him/it) (he/she/it) is good, I like (him/her/it) to do bad things to, to show disrespect for to laugh to send positivity to, make feel good to cry, weep feelings, emotions, to feel, heart indifferent, unfeeling to pity somebody, feel bad for somebody to mourn somebody to miss somebody to feel bad, sad, depressed, unhappy, bitter, discontented, grumpy be afraid of, sad because of, regret, be offended by to have negative feelings for, be upset at, angry at, hate, resent
--	--

## Other Languages

These are languages which don't belong to a specific nation, and so they can't be named after the country that they developed from.

toki Alapi	Arabic
toki Apikan	Afrikaans
toki Awasa	Hausa
toki Epelanto	Esperanto
toki Ewantal	Ewantal
toki Inli pona	Basic English
toki Insi	Hindi
toki Intelinka	Interlingua
toki Inu	Inupiaq, Inuktitut, Eskimo
toki Ipo	Igbo
toki Ito	Ido
toki Iwisi	Hebrew
toki Jolupa	Yoruba
toki Kalike	Scots Gaelic
toki Kantun	Cantonese
toki Kisawili	Swahili
toki Kuwenja	Quenya, Elvish
toki Lolan	Loglan
toki Loma	Latin
toki Losupan	Lojban
toki Lunasimi	Quechua
toki Malasi	Marathi
toki Nosiki sin	Norwegian Nynorsk
toki Olapu	Volapük
toki Pansapi	Punjabi
toki Pasiki	Fyksian
toki Pasuto	Pashto
toki Pitaha	Pirahã
toki pona	Toki Pona
toki Sami	Laplander
toki Sankitu	Sanskrit
toki Sinan	Klingon
toki Tamasiko	Berber, Tamazight
toki Tami	Tamil
toki Teluku	Telugu
toki Utu	Urdu

## Religions

nasin sewi Jawatu	Judaism
nasin sewi Kolisu	Christianity
nasin pona Latapali	Rastafarianism
nasin pona	Taoism
nasin sewi Puta	Buddhism
nasin sewi Silami	Islam

## Temperature and *pilin*

If you've forgotten, *seli* means "hot" or "heat". We can use this word to talk about the weather. In this lesson, you also should have learned that *lete* means "cold". Now the thing about these phrases is that they're only used to talk about the **temperature of the surroundings** in general.

<b>seli</b> li lon.	It's hot.
<b>lete</b> li lon.	It's cold.

You can also use *lili* and *mute* to be more specific.

<b>seli mute</b> li lon.	It's very hot.
<b>seli lili</b> li lon.	It's warm.
<b>lete mute</b> li lon.	It's very cold.
<b>lete lili</b> li lon.	It's cool.

If you're referring to a **certain object** that is cold, irregardless of the surrounding environment, you use ***pilin***. Suppose you grab an axe and you discover that the handle is cold.

ilo ni li ' lete <b>pilin</b> .	This axe feels cold.
---------------------------------	----------------------

Also, just like with the *lon* phrases, the *pilin* phrases can use *mute* and *lili* to intensify the descriptions.

ni li ' lete <b>pilin</b> mute.	This is very cold.
ni li ' seli <b>pilin</b> lili.	This feels warm.

## Other uses of *pilin*

You also use *pilin* to describe how a person or an animal is **feeling**.

mi <b>pilin</b> pona.	I feel good. / I feel happy.
mi <b>pilin</b> ike.	I feel bad. / I feel sad.
sina <b>pilin</b> seme?	How do you feel?

It can also mean "**to think**".

mi <b>pilin</b> e ni: sina ike.	I think this: You're bad.
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When you ask someone "What are you thinking about?" in Toki Pona, the "about" part is removed.

sina <b>pilin</b> e seme?	What are you thinking?
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However, when you **answer** to say what you're thinking about, the "about" part gets added back in. Use ***pi*** if needed (see Page 33).

mi <b>pilin</b> ijo.	I'm thinking (about) something.
mi <b>pilin pi</b> meli ni.	I'm thinking about that woman.

**Practice 12 (Answers: Page 54)**

Try translating these sentences.

Do you want to come or what?  
 Do you want food, or do you want water?  
 I still want to go to my house.  
 This paper feels cold.  
 I like currency of other nations.  
 I want to go, but I can't.  
 I'm alone. \*  
 Do you like me?

mi olin kin e sina.  
 mi pilin e ni: ona li jo ala e mani.  
 mi wile lukin e ma ante.  
 mi wile ala e ijo. mi lukin taso.  
 mi pilin lete.  
 sina wile toki, tawa mije anu meli?

\* Think: "Only I am present."

Pisi	Fiji
Piten	Britain, UK
Pokasi	Bulgaria, Bulgarian
Posan	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bosnian
Posuka	Poland, Polish
Potuke	Portugal, Portugese
Samalino	San Marino
Sameka	Jamaica, Jamaican Patoi
Samowa	Samoa
Sasali	Algeria
Sawa	Java, Javanese
Sawasi	Swaziland
Seki	Czech (Republic)
Seneka	Senegal
Setapika	South Africa
Sile	Chile
Sinita	Trinidad and Tobago
Sipusi	Djibouti
Sonko	China, Chinese
Sopisi	Serbia, Serbian
Sukosi	Scotland, Scots
Sulija	Syria
Sumi	Finland, Finnish
Sutan	Sudan
Suwasi	Switzerland, Swiss
Tansi	Denmark, Danish
Tawi	Thailand, Thai
Toko	Togo
Tominika	Dominican Republic
Tona	Tonga, Tongan
Tosi	Germany, German
Tuki	Turkey, Turkish
Tunisi	Tunisia
Tuwalu	Tuvalu
Ukanta	Uganda
Ukawina	Ukraine, Ukrainian
Ulukawi	Uruguay
Uman	Oman
Utun	Jordan
Wanuwatu	Vanuatu
Wasikano	Vatican
Wensa	Sweden, Swedish
Wije	Vietnam, Vietnamese

If a nation has a \* beside it, that means that the word can also be used to describe that nation's language.

Phonetic Guidelines

- Voiced plosives become voiceless. (Example: b = p, d = t, g = k)
- v becomes w.
- f becomes p.
- The trilled or tapped [r] of most world languages becomes l.
- The approximant r of languages like English becomes w.
- Any uvular or velar consonant becomes k, including the French or German r.
- At the end of a word, The sh sound may be converted to si. (Example: Lush = Lusi)
- The schwa can become any vowel in Toki Pona and is often influenced by neighbouring vowels for cute reduplication.
- It is better to keep the same number of syllables and drop a consonant than add a new vowel. (Example: Chuck = Sa, not Saku)
- When dealing with consonant clusters, the dominant plosive is generally kept, dropping fricatives such as [s] and laterals such as [l] first. (Example: Esperanto = Epelanto) You may also choose to keep the consonant at the head of the new syllable (Example: Atling = Alin).
- Approximants like [j] and [w] in consonant clusters can either be converted into a syllable of their own (Swe = Suwe; Pju = Piju) or dropped entirely (Swe = Se; Pju = Pu).
- In some cases, it is better to change the letter order slightly, rather than dropping a sound. (Ex: Lubnan = Lunpan, not Lupan or Lunan)
- Dental fricatives such as English th can either convert to t or s.
- The illegal syllables ti, wo and wu convert to si, o and u. (Example: Antarktika = Antasika)
- Affricates generally convert to fricatives. (Example: John = San, not Tan)
- Any nasal consonant at the end of a syllable converts to n. (Example: Fam = Pan)
- Nasal vowels (in French and Portuguese) also convert to syllable-final n.
- If necessary to preserve proper syllable structure, the consonant w or j can be inserted as a euphonic glide. (Example: Tai = Tawi; Nihon = Nijon; Eom = Ejon) It may also be possible to relocate a consonant that would have otherwise been dropped in the conversion. (Example: Monkeal = Monkela, not Monkeja; Euska = Esuka)
- Voiceless lateral consonants convert to s.
- If necessary, you may want to tweak a word to avoid a potentially misleading homonym. (Example: Allah = jan sewi Ila, not jan sewi Ala no God). If possible, use a related word in the source language rather than introducing an arbitrary change. (In Arabic, Allah actually means the God, whereas Illah means God.)

1.14 Living Things

Vocabulary

soweli	mammal
waso	bird, bat
akesi	reptile, amphibian
kala	fish or an animal that live in water
pipi	any type of bug
kasi	plant
moli	death; to die, to kill
alasa	hunt, gather
namako	spice, something extra, food additive, accessory
pan	barley, maize, rice, etc. or foods made from such plants
monsuta	monster, monstrosity, fearful thing, fright, mythical creature

Ambiguity of Names of Living Things

soweli

soweli is basically for all types of **mammals**. If you're **eating meat** that comes from a *soweli* (such as beef or pork), it is still called *soweli*.

soweli ni li 'pona moku.		This cow is good to eat.
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waso

waso includes all **birds** and **flying animals**.

mi wile moku e waso.		I want to eat chicken.
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akesi

akesi covers all of the **reptiles**, **amphibians**, **dinosaurs** and **monsters**.

akesi pi telo moli		venomous snakes, poisonous frogs
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kala

kala is used to talk about **fish** and **other animals that live in water**. Also, *kala* can be used as an **adjective**.

jan kala		mermaid.
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pipi

pipi is used for all types of **bugs** (**spiders**, **ants**, **roaches**, **butterflies**, ...).

*kasi*

*kasi* is used to talk about all **plants** and plant-like things.

<b>kasi</b> kule	flower
<b>kasi</b> suli	trees, big shrubs
<b>kasi</b> anpa	grass
ma <b>kasi</b>	forest, jungle
kasi nasa / kasi sona	hemp

*pan and namako*

<b>pan</b> ni li moku ' ike.	This pasta is unappetizing.
o pana e <b>namako</b> , tawa mi.	Give me some spice.

*moli*

It can be used to say that **something is dead, dying or killing**.

pipi li ' <b>moli</b> .	The bug is dead.
soweli li <b>kama moli</b> .	The cheetah is dying.
jan li <b>moli</b> e waso.	The person killed the bird.

*alasa*

jan li alasa e soweli.	Somebody hunt a buffalo.
jan alasa pona li ' wawa.	A good hunter is strong.

*monsuta*

monsuta waso pi pan linja li pali e ali.	The Flying Spaghetti Monster has created the world.
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## Practice 14 (Answers: Page 55)

I want a puppy.  
 Ahh! The dinosaur wants to eat me!  
 The mosquito bit me.  
 Cows say moo.  
 Birds fly in air. \*  
 Let's eat fish.  
 Flowers are pretty. \*\*  
 I like plants.

mama ona li kepeken kasi nasa.  
 akesi li pana e telo moli.  
 pipi li moku e kasi.  
 soweli mi li kama moli.  
 jan Pawe o, mi wile ala moli.  
 mi lon ma kasi.

\* Think: "Birds go in air."

\* Think: "Colorful plants are good to see."

## A.3 Tokiponization Guidelines

To create the Toki Pona version of a foreign name, you may use the following guidelines. Also see Alphabet and sounds (Page 9) for rules on what Toki Pona syllables and words are possible. You can find a tool for transliterate of names in [tokipona.net](http://tokipona.net) [15].

- It is always better to translate the "idea" of a foreign word before attempting to create a new phonetic transcription that may not be recognizable by everyone. (Example: Jean Chrétien, Prime Minister of Canada = jan lawa pi ma Kanata, rather than jan Kesijen)
- Use the native pronunciation as a basis, rather than the spelling.
- If more than one language is spoken locally, use the dominant one.
- If it does not belong to any one language, use an international form. (Example: Atlantik = Alansi)
- Use the colloquial pronunciation that locals actually and commonly use, rather than the "proper" or standard pronunciation. (Example: Toronto = Towano, not Tolonto)
- If a person chooses to have a Toki Pona name, he can choose whatever he wants and does not necessarily have to follow these guidelines.
- Names of nations, languages, religions have already been established. If one is missing from the official list, make a suggestion on the Toki Pona discussion list.
- If possible, find a common root between the name of the nation, the language and the people. (Example: England, English, English(wo)man = Inli)
- Cities and locations can be given a Toki Pona name, but they will only have an official name if they are internationally known.
- If full Tokiponization would compromise intelligibility, you can always leave a foreign name as is.

## Syllables of Unofficial Words

- Every syllable consists of a consonant and a vowel, plus an optional *n*.
- The next syllable after a optional *n* cannot start with a *n*.
- The first syllable of a word does not need to begin with a consonant.
- The syllables *ti* and *tin* become *si* and *sin*.
- The consonant *w* cannot appear before *o* or *u*.
- The consonant *j* cannot appear before *i*.

A.2.28 jan lawa lete

meli ike pi mani ala li jo e meli lili tu. ona li pana e ijo mute tawa meli lili ona. taso ona li pana e ike taso tawa meli lili pi jan ante. ona li pilin e ni: meli ona li pona. meli pi jan ante li ike li pali e ike ale. tenpo mute la meli lili pi jan ante li ike pilin. oko ona li telo li loje. mama meli li ike kin! mama meli li toki e ni tawa mama mije pi meli lili: "jan pi sin ala o weka e ona. mi wile ala lukin e ona li wile ala kute e toki ona. o weka e ona tan tomo ni."

mama mije li wile awen e meli lili ona. taso meli ike li wile wawa weka e ona. mije li ken ala toki utala tawa meli ona la ona li pana e meli lili ona tawa poki tawa li tawa ma suli. mije li weka e meli lili ona lon ni li pana ala e len seli tawa ona. ona li uta lili e meli lili ona li tawa weka. oko ona li telo. taso ona li lukin monsi ala.

meli lili li tawa selo pi ma kasi li anpa lon poka kasi li telo tan oko. ona li lukin sewi tan kalama. ona li lukin e jan lawa lete. jan lawa lete li tawa sewi pi kasi wan li tawa sewi pi kasi ante. ona li lon kasi pi meli lili la ona li anpa. ona li kama e lete lon sinpin pi meli lili li toki e ni: "sina sona ala sona e mi? mi jan lawa lete."

meli lili li toki e ni: "jan lawa wawa o, sina pona!" uta ona li lupa lukin. "sina tawa ala tawa e mi?"

jan lawa lete li toki e ni: "meli pona o, sina seli ala seli?"

meli lili li toki e ni: "seli. jan lawa lete o, mi seli mute." taso selo ona li tawa lili.

jan lawa lete li kama e lete lon poka ona. kon li lete mute. ona li toki sin e ni: "meli pona o, sina seli ala seli?"

uta pi meli lili li ken ala tawa suli. ona li toki e ni: "jan lawa lete o, mi seli."

jan lawa lete li kama e lete suli wawa. kon li lete mute kin! oko ona li suno musi. ona li toki e ni: "meli pona o, sina seli ala seli? tenpo ni la sina awen ala awen seli?"

meli lili li ken ala toki mute tan lete. taso ona li kama jo e kon lili li toki e ni: "jan lawa lete o, mi awen seli."

meli lili li awen pona li toki utala ala. tan ni la jan lawa lete li pana e pona tawa ona. ona li len e meli lili kepeken len mani suli pi kiwen walo en kiwen jelo. meli lili li suno mute li pona lukin. jan lawa lete li pana e ona tawa poki tawa ona li pana e len seli soweli tawa ona. soweli suli luka wan li tawa e poki tawa ona kepeken tenpo lili.

mama meli ike li lon tomo li pali e moku sike. ona li weka e sijelo pi meli lili la ona li wile jo e moku mute. ona li toki e ni tawa mije ona: "o tawa ma suli. o kama jo e sijelo pi meli lili sina." mije li kama tawa.

taso soweli pi lon anpa supa li mu e ni tawa ona: "meli lili sina li moli ala. meli lili ona li moli wawa."

meli ike li pakala e soweli li pana e moku sike tawa ona. meli li toki e ni: "o toki e ni tawa mije mi: "meli lili sina li moli lete. meli lili ona li jo e mani mute."

soweli li pini moku la ona li mu e ni tawa meli ike: "meli lili ona li jo e mije. meli lili sina li moli lete."

meli ike li pakala sin e soweli li pana e moku sin tawa ona. taso ni li suli ala tawa soweli. ona li awen mu sama. lupa tomo li open. poki suli pi mani jelo

1.16 Numbers

Vocabulary

ala	zero
wan	one; to unite
tu	two; to divide
luka	five
mute	many, several, very, 20 (Is rarely used.)
ali	all, every, complete, 100 (Is rarely used.)
nanpa	number, numeral, to count, to reckon
weka	away; to remove, to eliminate
esun	marketplace, store

Use Numbers Sparingly!

The method that you're about to learn for making higher numbers should be avoided as much as possible.

Cardinal Numbers

There are only few number words in Toki Pona. When we need to make higher numbers, we combine these numbers together.

wan	1
tu	2
tu wan	2 + 1 = 3
tu tu	2 + 2 = 4
luka	5
luka wan	5 + 1 = 6
luka tu	5 + 2 = 7
luka tu wan	5 + 2 + 1 = 8
luka tu tu	5 + 2 + 2 = 9
luka luka	5 + 5 = 10
luka luka wan	5 + 5 + 1 = 11
luka luka tu	5 + 5 + 2 = 12
luka luka tu wan	5 + 5 + 2 + 1 = 13
luka luka tu tu	5 + 5 + 2 + 2 = 14
luka luka luka	5 + 5 + 5 = 15
mute wan	20 + 1 = 21 (Is rarely used.)
ali tu	100 + 2 = 102 (Is rarely used.)

These numbers are added onto nouns just like **adjectives**. When used together with other adjectives, numbers are inserted at the end. Only pronouns can used after numbers. You can insert unofficially a # before numbers.

jan # luka tu	7 people
jan lili # tu wan	3 children

As you can see, it can get very confusing if you want to talk about numbers higher than 14 or so. However, Toki Pona is simply not intended for such high numbers. It is a simple language.

## Use *mute*. Conserve the Numbers.

Okay, so it's a bad idea to use the numbers when you don't absolutely need them. So, instead, we use *mute* for any number higher than two.

jan <b>mute</b> li kama.		Many people came.
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Of course, this is still pretty vague. *mute* in the above sentence could mean 3 or it could mean 3 000. Fortunately, *mute* is just an adjective, and so we can attach other adjectives after it. We have learned that you should not repeat a word. *mute* and *lili* are exceptions some people repeat it up to three times to represent higher numbers. This is not a good style. Better is to use *mute kin*.

jan <b>mute kin</b> li kama!		Many, many, many people are coming!
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More than likely, that sentence is saying that at least a thousand people are coming. Now suppose that you had more than two people but still not very many. Let's say that the number is around 4 or 5. Here's how you'd say that.

jan <b>mute lili</b> li kama.		A small amount (of) people are coming.
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## Ordinal Numbers

If you understood how the cardinal numbers work, the ordinal numbers only require one more step. Like I said, if you understood the cardinal numbers, it's easy because you just stick *nanpa* in between the noun and the number.

jan <b>nanpa</b> tu tu		4th person
ni li jan lili ona <b>nanpa</b> tu.		This is her second child.
meli mi <b>nanpa</b> wan li ' nasa.		My first girlfriend was crazy.

## Other Uses of *wan* and *tu*

*wan* can be used as a **verb**. It means "to unite".

mi en meli mi li ' <b>wan</b> .		My girlfriend and I got married.
jan pali pi ma ali o wan!		Proletarians of all countries, unite!

*tu* used as a **verb** means "to split" or "to divide".

o <b>tu</b> e palisa ni.		Split this stick.
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## The Meaning of Life

ali li ' seme?		The Ultimate Question of Life, the Universe and Everything.
ni li ' <b>mute mute tu</b> .		The answer is 42.

kon mute li kama li pana wawa e telo mute, tawa ma, tawa seli. nena suli pi meli Mapuwika li seli ala. meli Mapuwika li jo ala e wawa mute. taso ona li awen pali. ona li weka e selo seli pini tawa jan Mawi. selo li tawa ala jan Mawi li tawa kasi. ona li lon insa kasi Mapo li lon kasi Totala li lon kasi Patete li lon kasi Pukateja li lon kasi Kawikomako. kasi ni li pona pilin li pilin e ni: seli pi meli Mapuwika li ijo suli.

jan Mawi li tawa ma tomo ona la ona li jo ala e seli. taso ona li jo e luka pi kasi Kawimako li pana e sona pi open seli tawa jan pi ma tomo. jan pi ma tomo li pona pilin mute tan ni: ona li ken seli e moku li ken awen seli lon tenpo pimeja lete.

jan Mawi li jan sona. taso ante li kama la ken la jan Mawi li moli. selo anpa pi waso wawa Kapu pi ma Ajotejalowa li loje tan ni: tenpo pini la jan Mawi li ken moli.

ni li toki ni: jan Mawi li pana e seli tawa ma.

jan Mawi li pana e seli tawa ma.		How Maui brought fire to the world.
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*jan Mali li pali e ni. [6]*

### A.2.27 kasi kule loje lili

tenpo pini la kasi kule lili li lon tomo lili pimeja pi lon anpa ma. tenpo suno wan la ona taso li lon ni. ala li tawa. ona li kute e kalama "TAPU TAPU TAPU" tan lupa tomo. ona li toki e ni: "seme li lon?" ijo li toki e ni: "telo sewi li lon. mi wile e ni: mi lon insa pi tomo sina." kasi kule lili li toki e ni: "o lon ala insa pi tomo mi." tenpo suli la ala li tawa. kasi kule lili li kute e kalama "LASU ISUPA ISUPA". kasi kule lili li toki e ni: "seme li lon?" ijo li toki e ni: "suno li lon. mi wile e ni: mi lon insa pi tomo sina." kasi kule lili li toki e ni: "o lon ala insa pi tomo mi." tenpo sin la ona li tawa ala. ona li tawa ala li kute e kalama "TAPU TAPU TAPU" e kalama "LASU ISUPA ISUPA". kasi kule lili li toki e ni kepeken kalama mute: "seme li lon?" ijo tu li toki e ni: "telo sewi en suno li lon. mi tu li wile e ni: mi tu li lon insa pi tomo sina!" kasi kule lili li toki e ni. "a! sina tu li lon! mi wile e ni: sina tu li lon insa pi tomo mi." kasi kule lili li open lili e lupa tomo. telo sewi en suno li lon insa pi tomo ona. telo sewi li kama jo e luka wan pi kasi kule lili. suno li kama jo e luka ante pi kasi kule lili. ona tu li tawa sewi li lon sewi ma. ona tu li toki e ni tawa kasi kule lili: "o kama! o tawa sewi!" kasi kule lili li tawa sewi li lon sewi ma. ona li lon insa pi ma kasi pona. tenpo pi seli lili li lon. lawa pi kasi ante ali li lon sewi ma. kasi kule lili li kasi kule pona a!

kasi kule loje lili		The Little Pink Rose
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*jan Mali li pali e ni. [6]*



A.2.19 jan laso lili

jan laso o  
kalama sulil!  
soweli sina  
li lon ma kili.  
jan soweli  
li lon seme a?  
ona li lape  
li kute ala.

jan laso lili | If Little Boy Blue

jan Mali li pali e ni. [6]

A.2.20 kala li kalama la ma kala li kama!

kala li kalama la ma kala li kama!  
kala ma li kama la ma kala li kama ala!  
ma kala li kalama la kala ma li kala ala!  
kala li kama kala ma la ma kala li ma ala!

A tongue twister (substitute for Peter Piper)

jan Mali li pali e ni. [6]

A.2.21 tenpo pini la ma ni li lon ala.

tenpo pini la ma ni li lon ala. ale li pilin li lape. ale li lape la jan lili Elu li pali e ma. ona mute li tawa e kiwen lili pi kule ale. taso kiwen mute ni li sulil tawa jan lili Elu. nena mute li lon. taso ona mute li awen pali li sona e ni: ona mute li pali e ma pi lon ale. tenpo kama la kiwen lili li lon insa ale. ala li lon insa pi kiwen lili li jo e ale. jan lili Elu li tawa e kiwen lili li kalama. kalama pi ona ale li lon insa pi kiwen lili ale. tenpo ni la kalama pi jan lili Elu li lon insa sina. ala en ale li lon insa pi soweli ale. ala en ale li lon.

A creation myth.

jan Elu | elf

jan Mali li pali e ni. [6]

A.2.22 jan li toki e ni.

jan li toki e ni: jan ala li ken pali sama ona!  
jan li toki e ni: jan ala li pali sulil sama ona!  
jan li toki e ni: jan ala li pali wawa mute sama ona!  
jan li kama sona e ni: ona li jan ilo la jan li pilin e ni. ni li ken ala!

”The Most Successful Man in the World” by Daniel Slaten

jan Mali li pali e ni. [6]

Now, you can stick these phrases before *la* to tell **when something happened**.

<b>tenpo</b> pini <b>la</b> mi ’ weka.	In the past, I was away.
<b>tenpo</b> ni <b>la</b> mi lon.	At this time, I am here.
<b>tenpo</b> kama <b>la</b> mi lape.	In the future, I’ll sleep.
<b>tenpo</b> pimeja pini <b>la</b> mi kama nasa.	Last night, I became drunk.

We also use a *tenpo la* phrase to talk about age.

tenpo pi mute seme la sina sike e suno?	How old are you?
---	------------------

Birthdays come once a year, and each time you have a birthday, you have gone around the sun one complete time. **To answer** and tell someone how old you are, just replace the *pi mute seme* with your age.

<b>tenpo</b> tu tu <b>la</b> mi sike e suno.	Four times ( <i>la</i> ) I circled the sun.
--	---

The prepositional object after the preposition **lon** can be placed before **la** with the same meaning.

mi moku e telo <b>lon</b> tenpo ni.	I drink now.
tenpo ni <b>la</b> mi moku e telo.	I drink now.

Expressing if/when with *la*

mama mi li ’ moli <b>la</b> mi pilin ike.	My parents die, I feel bad.
---	-----------------------------

In casual English, we’d translate this as ”If my parents were to die, I’d be sad.” All *la* phrases follow the same order as that example. If you like formulas and patterns, here’s a good way to think about it.

1 la 2.	If/when 1 happens, then 2 happens also.
mi lape <b>la</b> ali li ’ pona. sina moku e telo nasa <b>la</b> sina nasa. sina ’ moli <b>la</b> sina ken ala toki. mi pali mute <b>la</b> mi pilin ike. sama pi ni en ona <b>la</b> mi wile jo e ni tu. tawa mi <b>la</b> mi pilin pona. tan ni <b>la</b> mi sona e nasin. lon ona <b>la</b> mi ken lukin e ona.	When I’m asleep, everything is good. If you drink beer, you’ll be silly. If you are dead, you can’t speak. When I work a lot, I feel bad. If this and that is the same, I want both.  Am I in motion, I feel good. If this is the cause, we know the solution. If it has suchness, we can see it.

It is possible to use *la* two times in a sentence. But please not more than two.

ken <b>la</b> tenpo pimeja <b>la</b> ni li ’ pona.	Maybe in the night it will be ok.
--	-----------------------------------

*la* is a word to separate phrases. Commas together with *la* are neither necessary nor useful.

Miscellaneous

comparative and superlative

Now to use this concept in Toki Pona, **you have to split your idea up into two separate sentences**. Here’s how you’d say ”Lisa is better than Susan.”

jan Lisa li ' pona mute. ...		Lisa is very good. ...
... jan Susan li ' pona lili.		... Susan is a little good.

Make sense? You say that one thing is very much of something, while you use another object as the basis for comparison and say that it's only a little bit of something.

mi ' suli mute. sina ' suli lili.		I'm bigger than you.
mi moku mute. sina moku lili.		I eat more than you.

## Headlines

Headings can be incomplete sentences and do not end with a punctuation mark.

*tenpo mun nanpa luka luka wan*  
 tenpo ni li ike kin, lon ma Tosi.  
 suno li suli lili kin.  
 telo li kama, lon sewi.  
 kasi li moli.  
 waso li tawa.  
 tenpo seli o kama!

## Practice 17 (Answers: Page 56)

Try translating these sentences.

Maybe Susan will come. Last night I watched X-Files. If the enemy comes, burn these papers. Maybe he's in school. I have to work tomorrow. When it's hot, I sweat. * Open the door. The moon is big tonight.		
---	--	--

ken la jan lili li wile moku e telo. tenpo ali la o kama sona! sina sona e toki ni la sina sona e toki pona!		
--	--	--

\* Think: "Heat is present, I emit fluid from my skin."

## A.2.15 jan lawa

mi pana ala tawa sina.  
 o pana e mani tawa mi!  
 mi jo e kiwen pona mute.  
 o pana e mani tawa mi!  
 mi jo ala e sona mute.  
 o pali e toki mi!  
 tenpo ali la mi pali e ike.  
 o pali e toki mi!  
 o tawa e utala.  
 o olin e mi!  
 mi moku e pan pi ma sina.  
 o olin e mi!

*jan "Michael F." pali e ni. [1]*

## A.2.16 mi seme e jan telo nasa?

mi seme e jan telo nasa?  
 mi seme e jan telo nasa?  
 mi seme e jan telo nasa  
 lon tenpo suno ni?

ilo li kama sewi!  
 ilo li kama sewi!  
 ilo li kama sewi  
 lon tenpo suno ni!

mi seme e jan telo nasa?

| What Shall We Do With The Drunken Sailor?

*jan Mali li pali e ni. [6]*

## A.2.17 jan Toni Kena

jan Toni Kena li sona e ni:  
 mi olin e ona. jan Toni li sona.  
 jan Toni Kena li sona e ni:  
 mi olin e ona.

jan Toni Kena

| Tony Chestnut

*jan Mali li pali e ni. [6]*

## A.2.18 sina pona pilin la o luka!

sina pona pilin la o luka!  
 sina pona pilin la o luka!  
 sina toki e ijo pi pilin pona sina  
 la o toki kepeken luka!

sina pona pilin la ...

| If You are Happy ...

*jan Mali li pali e ni. [6]*

## A.2.9 toki tan toki pi jan Pokakijo

### tenpo nanpa luka tu tu toki nanpa tu

ma Lonpaki li jo e tomo meli pi nasin sewi. tomo ni li suli mute li sewi mute. meli wan pi tomo ni li suli li pona lukin mute. ona li meli Isapela. tenpo wan la ona li lukin e miye wan li olin e ona. miye li lukin e pona ona li olin sama e ona. tenpo suli la ona mute li pilin ike tan ni: olin ona li pali ala. tenpo lili la miye li kama sona e nasin. ona li tawa meli kepeken nasin pimeja. tenpo mute la ona mute li unpa.

tenpo pimeja wan la meli ante li lukin e weka pi miye ni. meli Isapela en miye li sona ala. tenpo wan la meli ante li wile toki e meli suli pi tomo meli. tenpo tu la ona li wile e ni: meli suli li lukin e unpa.

meli Isapela li unpa e miye. meli ante mute li sona li tu e kulupu tu. kulupu wan li lukin e tomo pi meli Isapela. kulupu tu li toki e meli suli. "o kama! meli Isapela li jo e miye lon tomo ona!"

taso tenpo pimeja ni la meli suli li unpa kin e miye ante pi nasin sewi! miye ni li tawa ona kepeken poki. meli suli li wile ala e ni: kulupu li kama e tomo ona li lukin e miye ona. ona li kama li len lon pimeja. ona li pilin e ni: ona li len e len pi meli sewi. taso ona li pana e len pi noka miye li len e lawa ona! ona li weka li toki e ni tawa kulupu. "meli ike ni li lon seme?"

kulupu li wile e ike tawa meli Isapela li lukin ala e len pi meli suli tan ni. ona li kama e tomo pi meli Isapela li pakala e lupa li lukin e unpa ona. jan olin li lukin li ken ala tawa tan pilin ike. kulupu li jo e meli Isapela li pana e ona tawa tomo lili. miye li awen. miye li len li wile lukin e ni: seme li lon? miye li pilin e ni. "kulupu li pali e ike tawa meli la mi pakala e ona li pana e meli li weka!"

meli suli li kama lon tomo lili. kulupu pi meli suwi li lukin e meli Isapela taso. meli suli li toki ike tawa ona. "pali sina li pakala e nimi pona pi tomo meli ni!" jan ante li toki pakala e ona.

meli Isapela li sona ala e ni: ona li ken toki e seme? ona li toki ala. "ken la kulupu li pilin ike tan ni." meli suli li toki kin. meli Isapela li lukin e len lawa ona li toki. "meli suli o pona e len lawa sina!"

meli suli li sona ala e ni: jan Isapela li toki e seme? "sina soweli ike! sina toki e len lawa seme? sina musi ala musi? sina pilin e ni: pali sina li ijo musi."

meli Isapela li toki tu. "meli suli pona o pona e len lawa sina!"

kulupu pi meli sewi li lukin e meli suli. ona li pilin e len lawa ona li sona e ni: ona li pali kin e ike.

ona li toki e ni. "tenpo ijo la meli li ken ala pakala e pilin olin e pilin unpa."

ona li toki kin. "ali li ken unpa lon pimeja sona la ali li ken unpa."

meli suli li weka e miye ona. meli Isapela li weka e miye ona. meli ante ijo li pilin ike tan ni: ona li wile e miye li jo ala e miye!

toki tan toki pi jan Pokakijo	Giovanni Boccaccio's Dekameron
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jan "Michael F." pali e ni. [1]

mi tawa tomo toki. ona li ' pona, tawa mi.	I go the chat room. It is good for me.
---	--

sina kama jo e jan pona, lon ni.	I like to go to the chat room. You will get friends there.
----------------------------------	---

### Other Prepositions

My friend is beside me. The sun is above me. The land is beneath me. Bad things are behind me. I'm okay because I'm alive. I look at the land with my friend. I look at the land with my friend. People look like ants. poka mi li ' pakala. mi kepeken poki li kepeken ilo moku. jan li lon insa tomo.	jan pona mi li lon poka mi. suno li lon sewi mi. ma li lon anpa mi. ijo ike li lon monsi mi. mi ' pona, tan ni: mi lon. mi lukin e ma, poka jan pona mi. mi lukin e ma, lon poka pi jan pona mi. jan li lukin, sama pipi. My hip hurts. I'm using a bowl and a spoon. Somebody's inside the house.
---	--

### Negation Yes/No Questions

You have to tell me why. Is a bug beside me? I can't sleep. I don't want to talk to you. He didn't go to the lake. sina wile ala wile pali? wile ala. jan utala li seli ala seli e tomo? jan lili li ken ala moku e telo nasa. sina kepeken ala kepeken ni? sina ken ala ken kama?	sina wile toki e tan, tawa mi. pipi li lon ala lon poka mi? mi ken ala lape. mi wile ala toki, tawa sina. ona li tawa ala, tawa telo. Do you want to work? No. Is the warrior burning the house? Children can't drink beer. Are you using that? Can you come?
---	--

### Gender, Unofficial Words, ...

Susan is crazy. Go! Mama, wait. I come from Europe. Hahaha! That's funny. My name is Ken. Hello, Lisa. F-ck! I want to go to Australia. Bye! mu! mi wile kama sona e toki Inli. jan Ana o pana e moku, tawa mi! o tawa musi, poka mi! jan Mose o lawa e mi mute, tawa ma pona! tawa pona!	jan Susan li nasa. o tawa! mama meli o awen! mi kama, tan ma Elopa. a a a! ni li ' musi. mi ' jan Ken. jan Lisa o, toki! pakala! mi wile tawa, tawa ma Oselija. mi tawa! meow, woof, moo, etc. I want to learn English. Ana, give me food. Dance with me! Moses, lead us to the good land.
	Good bye (spoken by the person who's staying)

### Questions using *seme*

What do you want to do? Who loves you? Does it sweeten? I'm going to bed. Are more people coming?	sina wile pali e seme? jan seme li olin e sina? ni li suwi ala suwi? mi tawa supa lape. jan sin li kama ala kama?
---	---

Give me a lollipop!  
 Who's there?  
 Which bug hurt you?  
 Whom did you go with?  
 He loves to eat.  
 jan Ken o, mi olin e sina.  
 ni li ' jan seme?  
 sina lon seme?

mi lon, tan seme?

jan seme li ' meli sina?  
 sina tawa ma tomo, tan seme?  
 sina wile tawa, tawa ma seme?

o pana e suwi, tawa mi!  
 jan seme li lon? / jan seme li lon ni?  
 pipi seme li pakala e sina?  
 sina tawa poka jan seme?  
 moku li pona, tawa ona.  
 Ken, I love you.  
 Who is that?  
 Where are you?  
 (lit: You in what?)  
 Why am I here?  
 (lit: I exist because-of what?)  
 Who is your girlfriend/wife?  
 Why did you go to the city?  
 What place do you want to go to?

### pi

Keli's child is funny.  
 I am a Toki Ponan.  
 He is a good musician.  
 The captain of the ship is eating.  
 Meow.  
 Enya's music is good.  
 Which people of this group are important?  
 Our house is messed up.  
 How did she make that?  
 pipi pi ma mama mi li ' lili.  
 kili pi jan Linta li ' ike.  
 len pi jan Susan li ' jaki.  
 mi sona ala e nimi pi ona mute.  
 mi wile toki meli.  
 sina pakala e ilo, kepeken nasin seme?  
 jan Wasintan [Washington] li ' jan lawa pona pi ma Mewika.  
 wile pi jan ike li pakala e ijo.

jan lili pi jan Keli li ' musi.  
 mi ' jan pi toki pona.  
 ona li ' jan pona pi kalama musi.  
 jan lawa pi tomo tawa telo li moku.  
 mu!  
 kalama musi pi jan Enja li ' pona.  
 jan seme pi kulupu ni li sulif?

tomo pi mi mute li ' pakala.  
 ona li pali e ni, kepeken nasin seme?  
 The insects of my homeland are small.  
 Linda's fruit is bad.  
 Susan's clothes are dirty.  
 I don't know their names.  
 I want to talk about girls.  
 How did you break the tool?

Washington was a good leader of America.

The desires of evil people mess things up.

### Conjunctions *kin* Temperature

Do you want to come or what?  
 Do you want food, or do you want water?  
 I still want to go to my house.  
 This paper feels cold.  
 I like currency of other nations.  
 I want to go, but I can't.  
 I'm alone.  
 Do you like me?  
 mi olin kin e sina.  
 mi pilin e ni: ona li jo ala e mani.  
 mi wile lukin e ma ante.  
 mi wile ala e ijo. mi lukin taso.  
 mi pilin lete.

sina wile toki, tawa mi je anu meli?

sina wile kama anu seme?  
 sina wile e moku anu telo?

mi wile kin tawa, tawa tomo mi.  
 lipu ni li ' lete pilin.  
 mani pi ma ante li ' pona, tawa mi.  
 mi wile tawa. taso mi ken ala.  
 mi taso li lon.  
 mi ' pona, tawa sina anu seme?  
 I still love you. / I love you too.  
 I think that he doesn't have money.  
 I want to see other countries.  
 I don't want anything. I'm just looking.  
 I'm cold.  
 (lit. "I feel cold.")  
 Do you want to talk a male, or a female?

ni li ike mute.  
 jan sewi li lon tan ni.

### toki tan nasin ante

jan mute kin li pilin e ni: nasin sewi Kolisu li lon ala.  
 ni li pona tawa jan sewi lili ike.  
 jan sewi li lon tan ni.

### toki tan moli

jan ijo li pilin e ni: jan sewi li lon ala. ona li moli.  
 tenpo ni la ona li sona e ni: ona li nasa!  
 jan sewi li lon tan ni.

### toki tan olin

jan sewi li olin e sina.  
 sina pilin e ni: ona li lon ala. sina jan ike li jan pi pakala olin!  
 jan sewi li lon tan ni.

### toki tan nasin pi jan Jon Kalapin

jan sewi li lon la ni li lon: tenpo ali la mi ken lukin e pakala sina.  
 ni li pona li musi tawa mi.  
 jan sewi li lon tan ni.

### toki tan ilo moku

ilo moku li toki wawa ala e jan pali pi ilo moku!  
 jan sewi li lon tan ni.

### toki tan nasa

jan pi nasa ala li ken ala pali e nasin sewi Kolisu.  
 nasin sewi Kolisu li lon tan ni.  
 jan sewi li lon tan ni.

### toki tan mani pi jan sewi

ma pi nasin sewi Kolisu li jo mani mute.  
 jan sewi li lon tan ni.

### toki tan tenpo suli

tenpo suli la kulupu Katoli li lon.  
 jan sewi li lon tan ni.

### toki tan mute

mi jo e toki mute. ona li toki e ni: jan sewi li lon tan seme?  
 mi pilin e ni: toki wan li lon tan ona!  
 jan sewi li lon tan ni.

### toki tan olin

tenpo wan la sina olin ala olin?  
 olin.  
 a! olin li ala tan jan sewi la ona li tan seme?  
 jan sewi li lon tan ni.

jan Eliku Kulaputon	Eric Clapton
jan Sipi Wanta	Stevie Wonder
jan Jon Kalapin	John Calvin

jan "Michael F." pali e ni. [1]

A.2.4 tenpo lili

tenpo lili la ali li jo e moku.  
tenpo lili la pakala sijelo li weka.  
tenpo lili la moli li weka kin.  
tenpo lili la jan li wile ala pali tawa lon li ken pali taso tawa pona pilin.  
tenpo lili la moku li kama ala tan ike pilin pi soweli ante.  
tenpo lili la jan li ken olin e mije e meli lon ma ali.  
tenpo lili la jan li toki e ijo la ala li pakala e ona.  
tenpo lili la kulupu pi kule ante li unpa li wan la toki ike kule li weka.  
tenpo lili la sona ali li mute la nasin sewi li lili.  
tenpo lili la jan ali li jo e mani li ken pilin e ante mani li ken lon.  
ken la toki mi ni li toki pi musi ike.  
ken la toki mi li lon.

tenpo lili | in a while

jan ” Michael F.” pali e ni. [1]

A.2.5 toki utala pi pimeja soweli

tenpo sulɩ pini la jan li jo e soweli tawa pi nena kute sulɩ. jan ni li wile esun e soweli li tawa esun. jan ante li lukin e soweli li toki e ni.

- sina wile e mani seme tan soweli ni?
- ni li kiwen mani tu tu.
- mute. mi pana ala e ni.

suno li tawa sewi. seli mute li lon. jan li kama tawa jan esun e soweli li anpa lon pimeja soweli. lete li lili a! ni li pona.

- sina pali e seme? ni li soweli mi!
- seme?
- ni li soweli mi kin. o pana e mani tawa mi!

ona li open e toki utala. ona li tawa jan sona. jan sona li toki e ni.

- sina toki utala tan seme?
- jan sona o, jan ni li kepeken soweli mi. taso ona li wile ala pana e mani tawa mi!
- ni li lon ala lon?
- jan sona o, mi kepeken ala soweli ona. mi kepeken pimeja taso.
- pimeja li ijo seme?
- mi kepeken pimeja pi soweli ni.
- pona! mi sona. sina tu o kute! sina kepeken pimeja soweli la o kama jo e mani sina tu tu. ... o nanpa e ona kepeken luka. sina ante o kute! jan ni li kepeken pimeja pi soweli sina. tan ni la sina kama jo e kalama pi mani ona.

toki utala pi pimeja soweli | a donkey’s shadow

jan Ote li pali e ni. [7]

Appendix A  
  
Appendix

A.1 Proverbs

**toki sona**  
**nasin ale**  
nasin pona li ' mute.  
ante li kama.  
mi pona e ale mi la mi pona e mi.  
ike li kama.  
ale li jo e tenpo.  
ale li ' pona.  
nasin ante li ' pona, tawa jan ante.  
sina pana e ike la sina kama jo e ike.  
suno li lon poka pimeja.  
kili li tawa anpa, poka kasi.  
pali pona li lawa, tawa lon.  
tenpo li tawa la sona li kama.  
pini li ' pona la ale li ' pona.  
waso li ken ala lukin la ona li ken kin jo e kili.  
**jan**  
o olin e jan poka.  
jan li ' suli mute. mani li ' suli lili.  
jan lili li sona ala e ike.  
utala li ' ike.  
mi weka e ike jan la mi weka e ike mi.  
**meli en miije**  
lupa meli li mama ale.  
palisa miije li lawa e miije.  
meli li nasa e miije.  
olin suli li ' awen.  
**sona**  
sin en ante li sin e lawa li pana e sona.  
jan sona li ' jan nasa.  
weka lili li ' pona, tawa lawa.  
wile sona li mute e sona.  
**pali**  
o sona ala. o pali.  
pali li pana e sona.  
o sona e sina!  
**toki**  
toki li ' pona.  
toki pona li toki pona.  
**ike**  
nasin mani li ' ike.  
jo ijo mute li ike e jan.  
jan utala ali li ' nasa  
**ma**  
o pana e pona tawa ma.  
**sijelo**  
telo li ' pona.  
lape li ' pona.  
wawa li lon insa.  
pilin pona li pana e sijelo pona.  
tenpo li sijelo e sijelo ike ale.

**proverbs**  
**The Way of Life**  
The good ways are many. There are many right ways of doing things.  
Change comes. Times change.  
When I improve all areas of my life, I am making myself good.  
Bad comes. Shit happens.  
There is a time for everything. Everything in its right context.  
All is good. Life is beautiful. Everything will be OK.  
Different ways are good for different people.  
If you give evil, you will receive evil.  
Light is beside darkness. Opposites are interconnected. Yin and yang.  
The appel drops not far from the tree.  
Good work is most importand in live. / Order is the half of the live.  
Time comes – advice comes.  
Is the end good – everything is good.  
A blind chicken can find a corn too.  
  
**People**  
Love thy neighbour.  
People are more important than money.  
Children are innocent.  
Conflict is bad.  
When I forgive somebody’s wrongdoings, I cleanse myself of negativity.  
**Gender**  
A woman’s womb is the mother of all things.  
A man’s penis control him.  
Women will drive men crazy.  
Old love never rusts.  
**Wisdom**  
Novelty and change freshen the mind and bring insight.  
A wise man is a fool. A genius thinks unconventionally.  
Temporary isolation is good for meditation.  
Curiosity feeds wisdom. One learns by asking questions.  
**Work**  
Stop thinking. Do stuff.  
One learns by experience.  
Know thyself!  
**Language**  
communication is good.  
Toki Pona is a good language.  
**Bad**  
Capitalism is negative.  
A lot of possession corrupts.  
All soldiers are stupid.  
**Ecology**  
Love the earth. Take care of our planet.  
**Health**  
Water is good.  
Sleep and rest are good.  
Energy comes from inside. Youth is all in the heart.  
Positive feelings grant good health. Mind over matter.  
The time heals every wounds.

A.2 Texts - nimi mute

A.2.1 ma ante

mi wile tawa ma ante.  
mi wile tawa la tenpo ni.  
ma sin ni li pona li jo e musi ala pini.  
ken la sina wile kama kin.  
  
o kute e mi! o kute e mi!  
o tawa la tenpo kama lili.  
mi jo ala e mani. taso mi wile e ni:  
sina wile kama kin.  
  
mi wile tawa ma ante.  
ma sin li pona tan ni:  
mi wile tawa ma ante.  
ma sin li pona tan ni:  
jan li pilin e seli. jan li pilin e olin.  
ken la sina wile kama kin.

jan Mata li pali e kalama musi ni. [10, 11]

A.2.2 sike tu li pona

sike tu li pona  
li pona tawa mi  
li pona tawa ma.

sike tu		bicycle
---------	--	---------

jan "Paul Goguen" pali e kalama musi ni. [2]

A.2.3 meli pona

meli pona o a!  
sina lape lon poka mi.  
linja jelo sina li lon luka mi.  
  
mi pilin e sijelo sina.  
mi pilin e seli sina.  
mi lukin e oko laso sina.  
mi lukin e insa sina.  
  
ike! ike!  
suno li kama.  
sina wile tawa.  
meli mi o, mi olin e sina!  
sina pona mute!  
meli mi o tawa pona.  
o tawa pona.

jan Pije li pali e ni. [9]

Numbers

I saw three birds.  
Many people are coming.  
The first person is here.  
I own two cars.  
Some (but not a lot) of people are coming.  
Unite!  
mi weka e ijo tu ni.  
o tu.  
mi lukin e soweli luka.  
mi ' weka.

mi lukin e waso tu wan.  
jan mute li kama.  
jan pi nanpa wan li lon.  
mi jo e tomo tawa tu.  
jan mute lili li kama.  
  
o wan!  
I got rid of those two things.  
Break up. Split apart.  
I saw five mammals.  
I was away.

la

Maybe Susan will come.  
Last night I watched X-Files.  
If the enemy comes, burn these papers.  
Maybe he's in school.  
I have to work tomorrow.  
When it's hot, I sweat.  
Open the door.  
The moon is big tonight.  
ken la jan lili li wile moku e telo.  
tenpo ali la o kama sona!  
sina sona e toki ni la sina sona e toki pona!

ken la jan Susan li kama.  
tenpo pimeja pini la mi lukin e sitelen tawa X-Files.  
jan ike li kama la o seli e lipu ni!  
  
ken la ona li lon tomo sona.  
tenpo suno kama la mi wile pali.  
seli li lon la mi pana e telo, tan selo mi.  
o open e lupa!  
tenpo pimeja ni la mun li ' suli.  
Maybe the baby is thirsty.  
Always learn!  
Figure this one out for yourself. :o)

A.2.6 nasin tawa pi jan Nuton

**nasin nanpa wan**  
ijo awen li awen.  
ijo tawa li tawa.  
ijo awen li tawa tan wawa.  
ijo tawa li awen tan wawa.  
**nasin nanpa tu**  
wawa pi ijo lili li lili.  
wawa pi ijo suli li suli.  
ijo li tawa lili la wawa ona li lili.  
ijo li tawa suli la wawa ona li suli.  
**nasin nanpa tu wan**  
ijo wan li wawa e ijo tu la ijo tu li wawa e ijo wan.  
wawa tu li sama.

nasin tawa pi jan Nuton | Newton's Laws

jan "Michael F." pali e ni. [1]

A.2.7 tenpo pi ma ali

ali li open.

tenpo pini mute kin la ala li lon. ma li lon ala. kon li lon ala. telo li lon ala. pimeja taso li lon.  
a! ijo suli li kama! kon li kama tan ijo suli ni. kon li mama ali. tenpo suli li pini. sike kon suli li lon. sike kon suli ni li seli mute li pana e suno. tenpo pimeja la sina ken lukin sewi e sike kon ni!  
tenpo suli la sike kon taso li lon. seli mute li lon sike kon ni. seli en kon li kama e ni: kiwen li lon. kiwen mute li wan la ma li lon. pona! sama la seli en kon li kama e telo.

kasi pi nanpa wan

kiwen mute li wan li kama e ma ni. telo li lon kin. taso kasi li lon ala. kala en soweli en pipi li lon ala. ike.  
tenpo suli la ala li kama. suno li tawa sewi. suno li tawa anpa. tenpo suli la ala li ante. waso li kalama ala musi. jan lili li musi ala. kalama ala li lon. ali li ike. tenpo li pini la ijo lili li wan li kama e ijo sin. ijo sin ni li kasi pi nanpa wan! kasi ni li lon telo taso.  
tenpo mute li pini. kasi ni li ante mute kin li suli. kala li kama kin. tenpo li pini la pipi en soweli en ijo sin mute li kama:

ijo mute li moli.

akesi suli li lon. ona li wawa. taso kiwen suli li kama tan sewi li moli e akesi suli ali e ijo sin mute.  
kiwen li pakala e ijo mute. jaki li tawa sewi li awen lon kon. jaki ni li kama e ni: kasi li ken ala kepeken suno. kasi li moli. soweli li ken ala moku e kasi li moli. ijo mute li moli. pipi lili taso en soweli lili li lon.

soweli li suli. jan li kama.

akesi suli li moli la soweli li ken suli. ni li pona tan ni: jan li soweli! o lukin e sitelen ni:  
jan li lon! pona! jan li pali e seme? sina wile sona la o tawa lipu ni [9].

jan Pije li pali e ni. [9]

### A.2.8 jan sewi li lon tan seme?

toki musi ni li tan lipu pona ni.

#### toki tan pona lukin

jan lili ni li pona lukin anu seme?  
kili ni li pona lukin anu seme?  
jan kasi ni li pona lukin anu seme?  
jan suno ni li pona lukin anu seme?  
jan sewi taso li ken pali e ona.  
jan sewi li lon tan ni.

#### toki tan ijo sewi

sijelo pi mama mi li pakala.  
jan pi pona sijelo li pali e ike mute tawa ona.  
ona li toki e ni tawa jan sewi: o pona e mi!  
ona li pona.  
jan sewi li lon tan ni.

#### toki tan pilin ike mute

jan sewi li lon ala la mi ken moli.  
ni li lon la mi pilin ike mute.  
jan sewi li lon tan ni.

#### toki tan wawa

sina lukin ala lukin e ilo moli mi?  
jan sewi li lon tan ni.

#### toki tan nanpa

jan mute kin li pilin e ni: jan sewi li lon.  
ali li ken ala pilin e lon ala!  
jan sewi li lon tan ni.

#### toki tan wawa pi ilo musi

jan Eliku Kulaputon li jan sewi.  
jan sewi li lon tan ni.

#### toki nanpa wan tan lukin ala

jan li pilin e ni: jan sewi li lon ala.  
ona li ken ala lukin.  
jan sewi li lon tan ni.

#### toki nanpa tu tan lukin ala

jan sewi li olin.  
olin li ken ala lukin.  
jan Sipi Wanta li ken ala lukin.  
jan Sipi Wanta li jan sewi.  
jan sewi li lon tan ni.

#### toki tan sona ala

sona jan li ike.  
jan li ken ala pakala e toki ali tan ni.  
mi toki e ni: jan sewi li lon.  
jan sewi li lon tan ni.

#### toki tan pakala pi ali ala

tomo tawa kon li pakala. jan mute mute li moli.  
jan lili wan li moli ala. ona li seli mute taso.  
jan sewi li lon tan ni.

#### toki tan ali ante

ali li ante la ali li ante.

### Colors

I don't see the blue bag.  
A little green person came from the sky.  
A little green person came from the sky.  
I like the color purple.  
I like the color purple.  
The sky is blue.  
Look at that red bug.  
I want the map.  
Do you watch The X-Files?  
Which color do you like?  
suno li ' jelo.  
telo sulì li ' laso.  
mi wile moku e kili loje.  
ona li kule e tomo tawa.  
ma mi li ' pimeja.  
kalama ala li lon  
mi lape. mi sona.

mi lukin ala e poki laso.  
jan laso jelo lili li kama, tan sewi. /

jan jelo laso lili li kama, tan sewi.

kule loje laso li ' pona, tawa mi. /  
kule laso loje li ' pona, tawa mi.  
sewi li ' laso.  
o lukin e pipi loje ni!  
mi wile e sitelen ma.  
sina lukin ala lukin e sitelen tawa X-Files?  
kule seme li ' pona, tawa sina?  
The sun is yellow.  
The big water [ocean] is blue.  
I want to eat a red fruit.  
He's painting the car.  
My land is dark.  
No sound exists.  
I sleep. I know.

### Living Things

I want a puppy.  
Ahh! The dinosaur wants to eat me!  
The mosquito bit me.  
Cows say moo.  
Birds fly in air.  
Let's eat fish.  
Flowers are pretty.  
I like plants.  
mama ona li kepeken kasi nasa.  
akesi li pana e telo moli.  
pipi li moku e kasi.  
soweli mi li kama moli.  
jan Pawe o, mi wile ala moli.  
mi lon ma kasi.

mi wile e soweli lili.  
a! akesi li wile moku e mi!  
pipi li moku e mi.  
soweli li toki e mu.  
waso li tawa, lon kon.  
mi mute o moku e kala!  
kasi kule li ' pona lukin.  
kasi li ' pona, tawa mi.  
His mother used pot.  
The snake emitted venom ("deadly fluid").  
Bugs eat plants.  
My dog is dying.  
Forrest, I don't want to die.  
I'm in the forest.

### The Body

Kiss me.  
I need to pee.  
My hair is wet.  
Something is in my eye.  
I can't hear your talking.  
I need to crap.  
That hole is big.  
a! telo sijelo loje li kama tan nena kute mi!  
selo mi li wile e ni: mi pilin e ona.

o pilin e uta mi, kepeken uta sina!  
mi wile pana e telo jelo.  
linja mi li ' telo.  
ijo li lon oko mi.  
mi ken ala kute e toki sina.  
mi wile pana e ko jaki.  
lupa ni li ' suli.  
Ahh! Blood is coming from my ear!

My skin wants this: I touch it.  
This is how we say that our skin itches.  
Touch the button.  
Kill the roach with the stick.  
My hands are dirty. I want to wash them.  
Give the ball to me.  
I feel your bodily warmth.

o pilin e nena.  
o moli e pipi, kepeken palisa.  
luka mi li ' jaki. mi wile telo e ona.  
o pana e sike, tawa mi.  
mi pilin e seli sijelo sina.



## 1.19 Answers

### Basic Sentences

People are good.	jan li ' pona.
I'm eating.	mi moku.
You're tall.	sina ' suli.
Water is simple.	telo li ' pona.
The lake is big.	telo li ' suli.
suno li ' suli.	The sun is big.
mi ' suli.	I'm important. / I'm fat.
jan li moku.	Somebody is eating.

### Direct Objects, Compound Sentences

I have a tool.	mi jo e ilo.
She's eating fruit.	ona li moku e kili.
Something is watching me.	ijo li lukin e mi.
He wants to squish the spider.	ona li wile pakala e pipi.
Pineapple is a food and is good.	kili li moku li pona.
The bug is thirsty.	pipi li wile moku e telo.
mi lukin e ni.	I am looking at that.
mi wile unpa e ona.	I want to have sex with him/her.
jan li wile jo e ma.	People want to own land.
mi ' jan li ' suli.	I am somebody and am important.

### Adjectives, Compound Nouns Adverbs

mi jo e kili.	I have a fruit.
ona li ' pona li ' lili.	It is good and is small.
mi moku lili e kili lili.	I nibble (eat a little) the small fruit.
The leader drank dirty water.	jan lawa li moku e telo jaki.
I need a fork.	mi wile e ilo moku.
An enemy is attacking them.	jan ike li utala e ona mute.
That bad person has strange clothes.	jan ike ni li jo e len nasa.
We drank a lot of vodka.	mi mute li moku e telo nasa mute.
Children watch adults.	jan lili li lukin e jan suli.
mi lukin sewi e tomo suli.	I am looking up at the big building.
seli suno li seli e tomo mi.	The sun's warmth heats my home.
jan lili li wile e telo kili.	Children want fruit juice.
ona mute li nasa e jan suli.	They drove the adults crazy.

### Prepositions I

I fixed the flashlight using a small tool.	mi pona e ilo suno, kepeken ilo lili.
I like Toki Pona.	toki pona li ' pona, tawa mi.
We gave them food.	mi mute li pana e moku, tawa ona mute.
This is for my friend.	ni li tawa jan pona mi.
The tools are in the container.	ilo li lon poki.
That bottle is in the dirt.	poki ni li lon jaki.
I want to go to his house using my car.	mi wile tawa tomo ona, kepeken tomo tawa mi.
They are arguing.	ona mute li utala toki.
sina wile kama, tawa tomo toki.	You should come to the chat room.
jan li toki, kepeken toki pona lon tomo toki.	People talk in/using Toki Pona in the chat room.

## A.2.10 toki musi pimeja pi jan lili

### pilin ike

mi lon pimeja.  
waso ike li tawa sike lon lawa mi.  
pipi jaki li moku lili e noka mi.  
mi wile e pini.

### wan taso

ijo li moku e mi.  
mi wile pakala.  
pimeja li tawa insa kon mi.  
jan ala li ken sona e pilin ike mi.  
telo pimeja ni li telo loje mi, li ale mi.  
tenpo ale la pimeja li lon.

*jan Pije li pali e ni. [9]*

## A.2.11 soweli pi poki sinpin

soweli pi poki sinpin li lon ma Oselija. ona li lon ma supa. ona li anpa e sinpin ona li kama jo e kasi kepeken uta. ona li sewi e sinpin ona li moku e kasi. kasi li pona tawa ona. taso jan li kama jo e soweli ni la ona li ken moku e kili.

luka ona li suli ala. taso noka ona li suli li wawa. ona li wile tawa mute la ona li kepeken noka taso. monsi linja ona li suli li wawa. soweli pi poki sinpin li ken anpa lon monsi linja ona li utala kepeken noka wawa. jan li wile utala e ona la ona li ken utala e jan.

meli pi soweli ni li jo e poki lon sinpin ona. ni li nasa. soweli sin li kama lon tan mama la ona li lili sama pipi suli. ona li pilin e kon pi telo mama tan poki insa. tan ni la soweli lili li tawa poki. ona li moku lon poki insa li lape lon poki insa. mama li tawa lon ma la soweli lili li awen lon poki insa. soweli lili li tawa ala tan poki insa.

soweli lili li kama suli. tenpo mun tu li pini la soweli li tawa e lawa ona tan poki mama. ona li kama jo e kasi li moku. tenpo kama la ona li tawa tan poki tawa ma. ike li lon la ona li tawa weka tawa poki insa. soweli ike li ken ala kama jo e ona. ni li pona. soweli lili li pilin e ni. "mama mi li suli li wawa. ona li tomo mi."

soweli pi poki sinpin		kangaroo
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*jan Ote li pali e ni. [8]*

## A.2.12 toki!

nimi mi li Nikita. ni li lipu mi pi toki pona. sina ken sona e toki ni la sina sona e toki pona. sina ken ala la o tawa lipu ni. ona li tomo pi toki pona en tomo pi nanpa wan! jan mute li toki e ni: toki pona li lili ike. ni li lon ala! lon la toki pona li lili. taso ona li lili ike ala. jan li ken toki kepeken toki pona. jan li ken pali e toki musi kepeken ona. mi pali e toki musi mute. sina ken lukin e ona lon lipu ni.

*jan Pije li pali e ni. [9]*

A.2.13    jan Kitopokolonpo

ni li tenpo suno pi jan Kitopokolonpo (Christopher Columbus). jan Kitopokolonpo li suli li pona tawa ma Elopa.

jan Kitopokolonpo li jo e jan sama mute. jan li pana ala e sona tawa ona. taso ona li lukin sona e toki awen mute li kama sona kepeken nasin ni.

telo suli li pona tawa jan Kolonpo. taso jan li utala lon telo. jan Kolonpo li lon tomo tawa telo la jan Kanse li utala e tomo tawa ona! tomo tawa li tawa anpa. jan Kolonpo li jo ala e tomo tawa li tawa lon telo.

jan Kolonpo li tawa ma tomo Lisapon. ona li pali e sitelen ma. ona li kin tawa ma Elopa mute kepeken tomo tawa telo.

jan Elopa li sona e ni: jan pi ma Asija (Asians) li jo e mani mute. taso ni li ike: jan li wile tawa ma Asija la ona li tawa mute kin. sina tawa lon poka pi ma Apika. ni li ike.

jan Kolonpo li toki e ni: "mi wile ala tawa lon poka pi ma Apika. mi wile ala tawa kepeken nasin ni. mi ken tawa nasin ante."

jan Kolonpo li tawa jan lawa pi ma Potuke li toki e ni: "mi ken tawa ma Asija kepeken nasin ante. mi ken kama jo e mani mute li ken pana e mani tawa sina. taso mi wile e tomo tawa telo. sina pana ala pana e tomo tawa telo tawa mi?" jan lawa pi ma Potuke li pilin e ni: jan Kolonpo li nasa. ona li pana ala e mani tawa jan Kolonpo.

jan Kolonpo li toki e ijo sama tawa jan lawa pi ma Epanja. jan lawa ni li pana e mani tawa jan Kolonpo. pona! jan Kolonpo li jo e tomo tawa Ninja e tomo tawa Pinta e tomo tawa Santamalija.

tenpo suli la jan Kolonpo li tawa. "ma Asija li lon anu seme?" jan pali ona li toki e ni: "mi mute li jo ala e moku mute! sina tawa ala ma Elopa la mi mute li moli e sina!" taso jan Kolonpo li tawa...

ona li lukin e ma Amelika! pona mute! jan Elopa mute li kama tawa ma sin ni. jan Kolonpo li suli mute.

jan Kitopokolonpo | Christopher Columbus

jan Pije li pali e ni. [9]

A.2.14    sina suno mi

sina suno mi.  
a! sina suno mi.  
sina lon la  
mi pilin pona.  
sina sona ala  
e olin suli mi.  
o weka ala e suno mi!

sina suno mi. | You are My Sunshine.

jan Kulisa li pali e ni. [4]

1.18    Conclusion

tenpo ni la sina sona e toki pona. toki pona li pona anu seme? mi wile e ni: ona li pona tawa sina.

tenpo ni la sina ken pali. o pana e sona pi toki pona tawa jan ante. o toki kepeken toki pona! mi wile e ni: jan mute li sona e ona.

o pona!

1.17 la

Vocabulary

la	A "la" is between the context phrase and the main sentence.
mun	moon, lunar
open	to open, to begin, to turn on
pini	end; to end, to stop, to turn off
tenpo	time
kipisi	to cut

la

la Preceded by a Single Word

Let's look at a regular sentence and the same sentence with a *la* phrase attached.

ilo li ' pakala.	The tool is broken.
ken la ilo li ' pakala.	Maybe the tool is broken.

*la* phrases come at the beginning of the sentence. The word or phrase that will affect the sentence comes first, then *la*, and then finally comes a complete main sentence.

A *la* phrase can consist of a single word. This single word can only be a noun or pronoun. A *la* phrase can be a composite noun or Pronoun. That is, the noun or pronoun followed by one or more adjectives or *pi* phrases. Optionally, a conjunct (*anu, en, taso*) can be used before the noun or pronoun. A *la* phrase can also be a complete sentence.

The noun *ken* means "possibility". *ken la* therefore means "If there is a possibility" or better "Maybe".

ken la jan Lisa li jo e ona.	Maybe Lisa has it.
ken la ona li lape.	Maybe he's asleep.
ken la mi ken tawa ma Elopa.	Maybe I can go to Europe.

Time and la

Before we can actually learn how to use *tenpo* with *la*, we need to learn about *tenpo* first. It acts just like any other noun.

tenpo suno	day (sun time)
tenpo pimeja	night (dark time)
tenpo ni	the present (this time)
tenpo suno ni	today (this sun time)
tenpo pimeja ni	tonight (this dark time)
tenpo kama	the future (coming time)
tenpo kama lili	soon (little coming time)
tenpo pini	the past (past time)
tenpo suno pini	yesterday (past sun time)
tenpo pimeja pini	last night (past dark time)
tenpo suno kama	tomorrow (coming sun time)
tenpo mute	often (many times)

A.2.23 jan wile

mi mije li jo ala e meli. mi sin tawa ma tomo ni. tenpo ala la mi jo e meli. sijelo mi li ike ala. mi wile olin e meli.

mi mije. mi wile e jan pona. anu mi wile e ni: jan li ken pana e sona pi ma tomo ni, tawa mi.

mi mije li wile moku li wile lukin e sitelen tawa poka jan. sitelen tawa ale li pona.

mi mije li ken pali pona e moku tawa sina.

mi wile tawa ma pi tomo tawa kon. jan wan en poki li tawa.

"The Seeker" by Joey To

jan Mali li pali e ni. [6]

A.2.24 meli pi pana moku

meli pi pana moku li tawa mije li toki e ni: "sina wile e seme?"  
mije li lukin sewi ala li toki e ni: "mi wile moku taso." lawa ona li anpa.  
"sina wile e moku seme?"  
"mi wile moku sike."

meli li pilin e ni: "mije ike pi kute ala li lukin ala e mi a!" ona li pana lili e telo uta tawa moku pi mije pini ona.

"Customer Service" by Rachel Burns

meli pi pana moku	waitress
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jan Mali li pali e ni. [6]

A.2.25 ale li jo e tenpo.

ale li jo e tenpo ona.  
tan ale kin li jo e tenpo, lon anpa sewi.

tenpo pi lon sin, tenpo moli  
tenpo pali, tenpo moku  
tenpo pakala, tenpo pona  
tenpo musi, tenpo ike

tenpo pali sin, tenpo pakala  
tenpo tawa, tenpo awen  
tenpo pi kiwen ala, tenpo pi kulupu kiwen

tenpo ike, tenpo olin  
tenpo utala, tenpo pona  
tenpo pi ken pilin, tenpo pi ken ala pilin

tenpo sewi, tenpo anpa  
tenpo pakala, tenpo pona  
tenpo ike, tenpo olin  
tenpo pona li ken kama sin a.

"Turn, Turn, Turn" Pete Seeger

jan Mali li pali e ni. [6]

## A.2.26 jan Mawi li pana e seli tawa ma.

tenpo pimeja wan la jan Mawi li anpa lon poka pi seli ona li lukin e seli. seli li tawa nasa li tawa musi. jan Mawi li pilin e ni: "seli li kama tan seme?" jan Mawi li jan pi wile sona. tenpo pimeja la jan ante li lape la jan Mawi li tawa ma ale li telo e seli ale. seli li lon ala. jan Mawi li tawa tomo ona li awen.

tenpo suno kama la jan ale li kalama mute. mama wan li toki e ni: "mi ken seli e moku kepeken nasin seme? seli li lon ala!" mama ante li toki e ni: "mi awen seli lon tenpo pimeja lete kepeken nasin seme?" jan ale li toki e ni: "seli li lon ala la mi ale li ken ala lon!"

jan pi ma tomo li ike pilin mute. ona li toki e ni tawa jan lawa Talana: "mi mute li pali e seme?" jan lawa Talana li toki e ni: "jan li wile tawa meli sewi suli Mapuwika li wile kama jo e seli tan ona." jan ala li wile tawa meli Mapuwika tan ni: meli Mapuwika li lon nena suli seli. taso jan Mawi li tawa meli Mapuwika. ona li pona pilin lon insa tan ni: ona li ken kama sona e tan pi seli ale. jan lawa Talana li toki e ni. "tawa pona! pali pona! meli Mapulika li mama pi kulupu mama sina. taso sina ike tawa ona la ona li ike tawa sina." jan Mawi li toki e ni tawa mama ona: "mi tawa meli mama suli Mapuwika li pana e seli tawa ma."

jan Mawi li tawa nena suli seli lon pini ma kepeken toki pi mama ona. ona li lukin e lupa lon anpa nena. ona li toki sewi kepeken kalama lili tan ni: ona li wile awen lon. taso ona li tawa lupa la ijo suli wawa li lon.

meli sewi Mapuwika li tawa sewi. sijelo ona li seli. linja lawa ona li seli. luka ona li open. oko ona li lon ala li lupa pimeja taso. ona li kama jo e kon. ona li toki e ni: "sina lon tomo mi a. jan ma ni li jan seme?" jan Mawi li toki e ni: "mi jan Mawi pi jan Talana." meli Mapuwika li toki suli e ni. "a! sina jan Mawi pi jan Talana anu seme?" "a! jan sama ale mi li suli tawa mi. mi jan Mawi Sikisiki A Talana." meli Mapuwika li toki e ni. "o sina kama pona tawa ma pi seli ale! jan lili pi jan lili mi o kama pona." meli Mapuwika li tawa jan Mawi li kama jo e kon ona. jan Mawi li awen. taso seli pi meli Mapuwika li seli mute! meli Mapuwika li toki e ni: "sina kama tan seme?" jan Mawi li toki e ni: "seli li lon ala ma. mi kama tan ni: mi wile e seli." meli Mapuwika li kute pona e toki pi jan Mawi li toki musi e nimi. "a a a!" ona li pana e selo pi palisa luka wan tawa jan Mawi. ona li toki e ni: "o pana e seli ni tawa kulupu sina. o pilin e ni: seli ni li suli sama mi." jan Mawi li jo e selo seli li tawa weka.

jan Mawi li tawa lon nasin la ona li pilin e ni: "meli Mapuwika li jo ala e seli la ona li kama jo e seli sin tan ma seme?" jan Mawi li jan pi wile sona. ona li weka e selo lon telo tawa li tawa tomo pi meli Mapuwika. jan Mawi li toki e ni: "mi tawa li anpa a. o pana e selo sin tawa mi." meli Mapuwika li pona pilin. tenpo suli la ona li toki ala tawa jan. jan Mawi li pona tawa ona. ona li pana e selo sin tawa jan Mawi.

taso jan Mawi li telo e selo ni kin li tawa meli Mapuwika li toki e ni: "mi tawa lon telo tawa la kala li pana e telo tawa seli mi." meli Mapuwika li pana e selo sin li pilin ala e ni: jan Mawi li toki e ijo pi lon ala.

jan Mawi li awen pali sama ni. meli Mapuwika li pana e selo ale pi palisa luka ona e selo mute pi palisa noka ona. jan Mawi li kama sin li wile e selo sin la meli Mapuwika li ike pilin mute. ona li sona e ni: jan Mawi li toki e ijo pi lon ala. ona li weka anpa e selo wan pi palisa noka.

seli li sike e jan Mawi. jan Mawi li tawa weka. ona li kama waso wawa li tawa sewi. taso seli li suli mute li seli e anpa pi selo ona. jan Mawi li tawa telo tawa li kama kala. taso seli li seli wawa e telo. jan Mawi li toki tawa mama Tapilimateja pi tenpo pini. "jan sewi wawa pi kon en sewi o pana e pona tawa mi!"

## Miscellaneous

Today's word is *weka*. As a verb, it just means "to get rid of", "to remove", etc.

o <b>weka</b> e len sina.	Remove your clothes.
o <b>weka</b> e jan lili, tan ni.	Remove the kid from here
ona li wile ala kute e ni.	He shouldn't hear this.

*weka* is also used very often as an **adjective** and an **adverb**.

mi ' <b>weka</b> .	I was away.
mi wile tawa <b>weka</b> .	I want to leave.

It can also be used to mean the equivalent of "far" or "distant".

tomo mi li ' <b>weka</b> , tan ni.	My house is away from here.
ma Elopa li ' <b>weka</b> , tan ma Mewika.	Europe is away from the USA.

And add *ala* to mean that it's somewhere **closeby**.

ma Mewika li ' <b>weka ala</b> , tan ma Kupa.	The USA is not away from Cuba.
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## esun

mi nanpa e mani mi, lon esun suli.	I count my money at a supermarket.
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## Practice 16 (Answers: Page 56)

Try translating these sentences.

I saw three birds.  
Many people are coming.  
The first person is here.  
I own two cars.  
Some (but not a lot) of people are coming.  
Unite!

mi weka e ijo tu ni.  
o tu.  
mi lukin e soweli luka.  
mi ' weka.

Bodily Fluids and Wastes

telo walo mije	The fluid that a man releases during <i>unpa</i> .
telo sijelo loje	blood (red bodily fluid)
telo jelo	urine (yellow fluid)
mi pana e telo jelo.	I peed.
ko jaki	feces
mi pana e ko jaki.	I crapped.

*ko* is not used very much at all, except to say *ko jaki*. However, you can say "porridge" by saying *ko moku*.

kute

<b><i>kute</i> can also be used a verb</b>	
mi kute e toki sina.	I hear your talking.
mi kute e kalama musi.	I'm listening to music.

A Song

Here the version of "Heads, shoulders, knees and toes" translated in Toki Pona from jan Mali and used in her nice video Toki Pona lessons [5]. As you can see these are not exact grammar sentences because it is lyric.

lawa, sewi luka, palisa noka, palisa noka  
lawa, sewi luka, palisa noka, palisa noka  
en oko en nena kute en uta en nena kon  
lawa, sewi luka, palisa noka, palisa noka

Practice 15 (Answers: Page 55)

Try translating these sentences.

Kiss me. *	
I need to pee.	
My hair is wet.	
Something is in my eye.	
I can't hear your talking.	
I need to crap.	
That hole is big.	
a! telo sijelo loje li kama, tan nena kute mi!	
selo mi li wile e ni: mi pilin e ona.	
**	
o pilin e nena.	
o moli e pipi, kepeken palisa.	
luka mi li ' jaki. mi wile telo e ona.	
o pana e sike, tawa mi.	
mi pilin e seli sijelo sina.	

\* We sorta have an idiom for this. Think: "Touch my mouth using your mouth."  
\* This sentence is sorta idiomatic. Look at the answer if you can't figure it out.

mute li tawa insa tomo. meli lili pona li kama. ona li jo e len suno pona. mama tu li lukin e ona.

mama meli ike li sona e kama la ona li toki e ni tawa mije ona: "tenpo pini la sina weka e meli lili sina tawa ma suli. o weka e meli lili mi tawa ma suli sama." mije li weka e meli lili li tawa tomo ona.

tenpo lili la jan lawa lete li kama. ona li toki e ni: "meli lili o, sina seli ala seli?"

meli lili li toki utala e ni: "noka mi en luka mi li lete kin! sina sona ala e ni la sina jan nasa!"

jan lawa lete li tawa musi lon poka ona li kama e lete li awen toki e ni: "meli lili o, sina seli ala seli?"

meli lili li kalama utala li toki e nimi ike tawa jan lawa lete. jan lawa lete li lete e nimi pi lon uta ona. ona li moli lete.

mama meli li awen lon tomo. ona li toki e ni tawa mije ona: "o kama jo e meli lili mi. taso o kama jo e poki suli mani kin."

soweli pi lon anpa supa li mu e ni: "meli lili sina li lete li moli li wile ala e poki suli mani."

meli ike li pakala e soweli. lupa tomo li open. ona li tawa meli lili ona li tawa mani ona. ona li jo e sijelo lete kepeken luka. lete sijelo li moli e meli ike kin.

jan lawa lete | King Frost

jan Mali li pali e ni. [6]

A.2.29 kala kule mute

insa pi telo suli la kala kule mute li wan li jo e selo pona mute. tenpo la kala laso lili li toki e ni: "sina wile ala wile pana e wan pi selo suno sina tawa mi?" kala kule mute li toki e ni: "ala!" kala ante li tawa weka tan ona. kala kule mute li wan.

ona li tawa lukin e kala luka mute li lukin kute e toki pona. kala luka mute li toki e ni: "o pana e selo suno sina. nasin ni la sina jo ala e selo pona mute. taso sina pilin pona." kala kule mute li toki e ni: "mi ken ala pali e ni!"

tenpo nanpa tu la kala laso lili li kama li toki e ni: "mi wile e wan pi selo suno sina. mi ken ala ken jo e wan?" kala kule mute li toki e ni: ona li ken pana e wan lili taso tawa kala laso lili. kala kule mute li pilin pona kin tan ni: kala laso lili li pilin pona kin. a! ona li pana e selo suno ona tawa kala ante. taso ona li awen e wan. ona li jo e kala pona kin. kulupu kala tawa la ona li pilin pona mute a.

kala kule mute | The Rainbow Fish

jan "Marcus Pfister" pali e ni. jan Sasin li sitelen e ni, kepeken toki pona.

A.2.30 kalama musi pi tenpo pimeja pi jan tawa

lape li lon  
sewi pi nena ali.  
sina pilin lili e kon  
lon lawa pi kasi suli.  
waso li kalama ala  
lon ma kasi. o awen.  
tenpo kama lili la  
sina kin li lape.

Wanderer’s Nightsong IIJohann Wolfgang von Goethe

jan Jon li pali e ni. [3]

1.15 The Body

Vocabulary

ko	semi-solid substance (glue, powder, etc.), to squash
kute	to hear
linja	line, hair
luka	arm, hand
lupa	hole, orifice, door, window
nena	bump, hill, extrusion
noka	leg, foot
oko	eye
palisa	rod, stick, pointy thing
selo	skin, external surface of something
sijelo	body
sike	circle, ball
sinpin	wall, chest
uta	mouth

Body Parts

All the words that you see above in the vocabulary list are used to make the name of a body part. However, some of the words have other uses as well.

oko	eye
nena kute	ear
nena kon	nose
uta	mouth
ijo uta walo	teeth
linja lawa	hair (of head)
lawa	head
anpa lawa	neck (bottom of head)
luka	hand, arm
len luka	gloves, mittens
poka	hip
noka	leg, foot
len noka	shoe, pants
sinpin	chest, abdomen, face
nena sike meli	female breasts
lupa meli	vagina
palisa mije	penis
sike mije	man’s testicles
monsi	a person’s back
selo	skin

Miscellaneous

sitelen

sitelen as a **noun** means "picture" or "image". As a **verb**, it means to "draw" or to "write". *sitelen* is most useful for the **compound nouns** that you can make with it.

<b>sitelen tawa</b>	movie, TV show
<b>sitelen tawa</b> "Fahrenheit 9/11" li pona, tawa mi.	I like the movie "Fahrenheit 9/11".
<b>sitelen tawa</b> "Bowling for Columbine" li pona kin.	The movie "Bowling for Columbine" is also good.
<b>sitelen ma</b>	map
o pana e <b>sitelen ma</b> , tawa mi.	Give me the map.

Practice 13 (Answers: Page 55)

Try translating these sentences.

I don't see the blue bag.
A little green person came from the sky.
I like the color purple.
The sky is blue.
Look at that red bug.
I want the map.
Do you watch The X-Files?
Which color do you like?*
suno li ' jelo.
telo suli li ' laso.
mi wile moku e kili loje.
ona li kule e tomo tawa.

\* Think: "Which color is good for you?"

And now try reading this Toki Pona poem.

ma mi li ' pimeja.
kalama ala li lon
mi lape. mi sona.

A.4 Unofficial Words

Continents

ma Amelika	the Americas
ma Amelika lete	North America
ma Amelika seli	South America
ma Antasika	Antarctica
ma Apika	Africa
ma Asija	Asia
ma Elopa	Europe

Countries and National Languages

Akanisan	Afghanistan
Alan	Ireland, Irish Gaelic
Alensina	Argentina
Anku	Korea, Korean
Antola	Andorra
Awisi	Haiti, Haitian Creole
Ekato	Ecuador
Elena	Greece, Greek
Epanja	Spain, Spanish
Esi	Estonia, Estonian
Esuka	Basque Country, Basque
Ilakija	Iraq
Ilan	Iran, Persian
Inli	England, English
Intonesija	Indonesia, Indonesian
Isale	Israel
Isilan	Iceland, Icelandic
Italija	Italy, Italian
Jamanija	Yemen
Kalalinuna	Greenland, Greenlandic
Kana	Ghana
Kanata	Canada
Kanse	France, French
Katala	Qatar
Katelo	Georgia, Georgian
Katemala	Guatemala
Kenata	Grenada
Kepeka	Quebec
Keposi	Cyprus
Kilipasi	Kiribati
Kinla	Wales, Welsh
Konko (pi ma tomo Kinsasa)	Congo, Dem. Rep.
Konko (pi ma tomo Pasawi)	Congo, P. Rep.
Kosalika	Costa Rica
Kosiwa	Côte d'Ivoire
Kupa	Cuba
Kusala	Gujarat, Gujarati
Kuwasi	Kuweit
Lanka	Sri Lanka

Lesi	Brittany, Breton
Lipija	Libya
Lisensan	Liechtenstein
Lomani	Romania, Romanian
Losi	Russia, Russian
Lowasi	Croatia, Croatian
Lowenki	Slovakia, Slovak
Lowensina	Slovenia, Slovenian
Lunpan	Lebanon
Lusepu	Luxemburg
Luwanta	Rwanda
Maketonija	Macedonia
Malakasi	Madagascar, Malagasy
Malasija	Malaysia, Malay
Malawi	Malawi
Mali	Mali
Malipe	Morocco
Masija	Hungary, Hungarian
Masu	Egypt
Mesiko	Mexico
Mewika	USA, American
Mijama	Myanmar
Motowa	Moldova
Mulitanija	Mauritania
Namipija	Namibia
Naselija	Nigeria
Netelan	Netherlands, Dutch
Nijon	Japan, Japanese
Nise	Niger
Nosiki	Norway, Norwegian Bokmål
Nusilan	New Zealand
Ontula	Honduras
Osalasi	Austria
Oselija	Australia
Pakistan	Pakistan
Palakawi	Paraguay
Palani	Bahrein
Palata	India
Panama	Panama
Panla	Bangladesh, Bengali
Papeto	Barbados
Papuwanijukini	Papua New Guinea
Pasila	Brasil
Pawama	Bahamas
Pelalusi	Belarus, Belarussian
Pelu	Peru
Pemuta	Bermuda
Penesuwela	Venezuela
Penin	Benin
Pesije	Belgium
Pilipina	Philippines, Tagalog
Pilisin	Palestine

1.13 Colors

Vocabulary

kule	color, to paint, to color
sitelen	picture, image, to draw, to write
jelo	yellow
laso	blue
loje	red
pimeja	black, dark
walo	white

Color combinations

jelo, laso, loje, pimeja and walo as adjectives

You can **mix different colors**. Toki Pona is about simplicity, so keep it basic.

laso loje	purple (reddish blue)
laso jelo	green (yellowish blue)
loje jelo	orange (yellowish red)
loje walo	pink (whitish red)
walo pimeja	grey (dark white)

Keep in mind that colors by themselves can't really follow any sort of logical pattern, so you're free to mix them around as you like.

laso loje / loje laso	reddish blue (purple)
laso jelo / jelo laso	yellowish blue (green)

Using colors with *pi*

Suppose that you have a shirt that have pattern with different colors (red and blue). However, you can't call it *len loje laso*, because that means "purple shirt". So, we have to **use *en* to separate the two colors**, and then we have to use ***pi*** to show that the even though there are two different colors, they both modify the word "shirt". *loje* and *laso* are nouns here.

len <b>pi</b> loje <b>en</b> laso	shirt of red and blue
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*kule*

<b><i>kule</i> as a noun</b> ni li ' <b>kule</b> seme?	What color is that?
---	---------------------

<b><i>kule</i> as a verb</b> mi <b>kule</b> e lipu	I'm coloring the paper.
---	-------------------------



Also note that **en** is not used to connect two whole sentences, even though this is common in English. Instead, use the multiple-*li* technique (Page 13) or split the sentence into two sentences.

mi moku e kili ...	I'm eating fruit, ...
... li toki, kepeken toki pona.	... and I'm speaking in/using Toki Pona.
mi moku e kili.	I'm eating fruit, ...
mi toki, kepeken toki pona.	... and I'm speaking in/using Toki Pona.

**en** can also be used with **pi** if two people own something together.

With *en* you can avoid several *pi* phrases.

jan lili <b>pi</b> jan Ken <b>en</b> jan Lisa li ' suwi.	Ken and Lisa's baby is sweet.
--	-------------------------------

## *taso*

### *taso* as conjunction

Start a new sentence when you want to use *taso*. Do not use a comma!

mi wile moku. <b>taso</b> mi jo ala e moku.	I want to eat. But I don't have food.
mi wile lukin e tomo mi. <b>taso</b> mi lon ma ante.	I want to see my house. But I'm in a different country.
mi ' pona. <b>taso</b> meli mi li ' pakala.	I'm okay. But my girlfriend is injured.

### *taso* as adjective

jan Lisa <b>taso</b> li kama.	Only Lisa came.
mi sona e ni <b>taso</b> .	I know only that. (That's all I know.)

### *taso* as adverb

mi musi <b>taso</b> .	I'm just joking.
mi pali <b>taso</b> .	I just work. (All I ever do is work.)
mi lukin <b>taso</b> e meli ni! ali li ' pona.	I only looked at that girl! Everything's okay.

## *kin*

*kin* it can occur after almost any word in a adjective or adverb group.

A: mi tawa, tawa ma Elopa.	I went to Europe.
B: pona! mi tawa <b>kin</b> .	Cool! I went too.
A: mi mute o tawa.	Let's go.
B: mi ken ala. mi moku <b>kin</b> .	I can't. I'm still eating.
A: a! sina lukin ala lukin e ijo nasa ni?	Whoa! Do you see that weird thing?
B: mi lukin <b>kin</b> e ona.	I see it indeed.

## A.5 Thematic Vocabulary

### A.5.1 Body

sijelo	body
anpa lawa	neck, throat
anpa pi sinpin lawa	chin
ko jaki	shit, feces, pooh
ko jaki lon nena sinpin	boogers
kule lon palisa luka	nail polish
linja (lawa)	hair
linja lili oko	eyebrows, eyelashes
linja sinpin	beard, facial hair
linja uta	moustache
luka	hand, arm
lupa	hole, orifice
lupa jaki	anus
lupa kute	ear
lupa meli	vagina
lupa monsi	anus
lupa nena	nostrils
lupa pi telo jelo	urethra
monsi	back, behind, butt
nena (lawa)	nose
nena lili pi nena mama	nipples
nena lili (unpa) meli	clitoris
nena mama, nena meli	breasts
noka	foot, leg
olin e meli	to love women
olin e mije	to love men
olin e meli e mije	to love women and men
oko	eye
palisa lili noka	toes
palisa luka	finger
palisa mije	penis
palisa uta	tongue
pana e ko jaki	to pooh, to shit
pana e telo jelo	to pee, to urinate
pilin	heart
poki kon	lungs
sewi monsi	upper back, shoulders
sewi pi sinpin lawa	forehead
sinpin (lawa)	face
telo e mi	to shower
telo jaki lon nena sinpin	snot
telo jelo	urine, pee
telo loje	blood
telo (loje) mun	menses
uta	mouth
walo uta	teeth
wan sijelo	body part
oko sina li pona lukin	you have beautiful eyes
oko mi li lukin pona	my eyes see well

A.5.2 Buildings

tomo	buildings
tomo mani	bank
tomo moku	grocery store, restaurant
tomo pi telo en moku pana.	restaurant
tomo pali	work(place), office, factory, etc.
tomo sona	school, university
tomo unpa	brothel, sex house

A.5.3 Clothing

len	clothes, article of clothing, cloth, fabric
len lawa	hat, hood, bonnet, headdress

A.5.4 Colours

kule	colour
walo	white, light
pimeja	black, dark
loje	red
jelo	yellow, light green
laso	blue, blue-green
loje walo	light red, pink
laso pimeja	dark blue
pimeja laso	blueish black
loje laso (pimeja)	(dark) blueish red, purple
len ni li kule seme?	What colour is this article of clothing?

A.5.5 Drugs

ilo nasa	drugs
ilo lape	sleeping pill
ilo lape soweli	animal tranquilizer or anesthetic, e.g. ketamine
ilo nasa wawa	energy-giving drug, e.g. amphetamine
kepeken kasi nasa	to smoke pot
kepeken ike e ilo nasa	to abuse drugs
kepeken lili e ilo nasa	to use drugs in moderation
ko (walo) wawa	cocaine
moku e telo nasa	to drink alcohol
moku lili	pill
moku lili pi pilin pona mute	strong euphoric drug taken orally, e.g. MDMA
pilin nasa	drunk, high
telo nasa	alcohol, e.g. beer, wine, whisky
telo nasa wawa	vodka, whisky,
telo nasa pi wawa ala	weak beer, US American beer
kasi nasa	intoxicating plant, e.g. marijuana

1.12 Conjunctions and Temperature

Vocabulary

anu	or
en	and
taso	but, only
kin	indeed, still, too
ante	other, different
pilin	feel, think, touch
lete	cold; to freeze
lipu	paper, sheet, page, ticket, etc.
mani	money, currency

The conjunctions *anu* and *en*

*anu*

*anu* is used to make **questions** when there is a **choice** between two options.

jan Susan <b>anu</b> jan Lisa li moku e suwi? sina jo e kili <b>anu</b> telo nasa?	Susan or Lisa ate the cookies?  Do you have the fruit, or is it the wine that you have?
sina toki, tawa mi <b>anu</b> ona?	Are you talking to me, or are you talking to him?
ona <b>anu</b> jan ante li ' ike?	Is he bad, or is it the other person who's bad?

Do you know how sometimes in English we say stuff like, "So are you coming **or what?**".

sina ' pona <b>anu seme?</b> ona li ' mama <b>anu seme?</b> sina kama <b>anu seme?</b> sina wile moku <b>anu seme?</b> sina wile e mani <b>anu seme?</b>	Are you OK? Is she a parent? Are you coming <b>or what?</b> Do you want to eat <b>or what?</b> Do you want the money <b>or what?</b>
--	--

*anu* can be used in declarative sentences also.

mi lukin e mije <b>anu</b> meli.	I see a man or a women.
----------------------------------	-------------------------

*en*

This word simply means "**and**". It is used to **join two nouns in the subject** of a sentence together.

mi <b>en</b> sina li ' jan pona. jan lili <b>en</b> jan suli li toki. kalama musi <b>en</b> meli li ' pona, tawa mi.	You and I are friends. The child and the adult are talking. I like music and girls.
--	---

**Note that *en* is not intended to connect two direct objects.** For that, use the multiple-*e* technique (Page 13).

mi wile <b>e</b> moku <b>e</b> telo.	I want food and water.
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1.11 Compound Nouns with *pi*

Vocabulary

pi	separates two nouns with their adjective
kalama	sound, noise; to make noise,
	to play an instrument
kulupu	group, community, society
nasin	road, way, doctrine, method

*pi* separates a noun from another noun that has at least one adjective.

Until now we have learned to combine a noun and adjectives. Now we will learn how to combine two nouns including their adjectives into a composite noun. *pi* is probably the most misused word in this language. At any rate, if you get frustrated while trying to learn about this word, just relax, try your best. After *pi* have to be at least two words. For example *pi* + noun + adjectiv or *pi* + pronoun + adjectiv. *pi* and *li* or *e* stand never together.

Compound words with *pi*

Now, you might remember that *tomo telo* ("water room") is used to mean "restroom". You should also recall that *nasa* means "crazy", "silly", "stupid", and so on. Now, let's look at this sentence.

mi tawa tomo telo nasa.	I went to the crazy restroom.
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Okay, I think you'll agree with me when I say that that is just plain weird. It makes me think about some creepy restroom with neon lights lining the floor and a strobe light in every toilet stall. Now, the person who said this sentence had actually been trying to say that he had gone to a bar. As you probably recall, *telo nasa* is used to mean "alcohol". So, a *tomo* with *telo nasa* would be a "bar". The only problem is that you can't fit *tomo* and *telo nasa* together, because it will mean "crazy restroom," as you just studied. The only way to fix this problem is to use *pi*.

tomo <b>pi</b> telo nasa	building for alcohol; a bar, pub
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We're going to go over a bunch of examples using *pi*; but, you need to be familiar with some of the compound noun combinations that we've learned.

jan <b>pi</b> ma tomo	a city-dweller
kulupu <b>pi</b> toki pona	the Toki Pona community
nasin <b>pi</b> toki pona	the ideology behind Toki Pona
jan lawa <b>pi</b> jan utala	commander, general
jan lawa <b>pi</b> tomo tawa kon	a pilot
jan <b>pi</b> nasin sewi Kolisu	a Christian
nasin sewi	religion
jan <b>pi</b> pona lukin	an attractive person
jan <b>pi</b> ike lukin	an ugly person
jan utala pi ma Losi li ike tawa ma ali.	Soldiers of Russia are bad for the world.

tomo moku	dining room, kitchen, grocery store, restaurant
kili	vegetable, fruit
kili lili	small vegetable, fruit, e.g. berry, olive
kili loje	reddish fruit or vegetable, e.g. tomato
kili ma	earth vegetable, e.g. potato
kili suwi	(sweet) fruit
pona moku	delicious, tasty
sike mama waso	egg
soweli	meat from a mammal, e.g. beef, pork
supa moku	dinner table
telo	water, beverage, liquid, sauce
telo kili	juice
telo kiwen	ice
telo mama soweli	cow milk
telo nasa	intoxicating liquid, e.g. alcohol
telo seli	hot beverage, e.g. coffee
telo seli jelo	green tea
telo seli wawa	coffee
telo pi lape ala	coffee
telo seli pimeja pi lape ala	coffee
mi wile sin e telo pi lape ala.	I need more coffee.
telo wawa	energy drink
waso	chicken, poultry

A.5.9 Household Things

ijo lon tomo	household things
ilo musi	toy, thing used for entertainment
ilo pi sitelen toki	pen, pencil
ilo pi sitelen tawa	TV
ilo sona	smart tool or machine, e.g. computer
ilo suno	lamp
ilo toki	communications device, e.g. telephone, online chat
kule lon palisa luka	nail polish
lipu toki	paper with written information, document, text, book
lupa (tomo)	window, door
poki lete	refrigerator
poki seli	oven, microwave
poki telo	sink, bathtub
supa lape	bed
supa lawa	pillow
supa monsi	chair, couch
supa pali	work desk
tomo lape	bedroom
tomo telo	bathroom
tomo unpa	bedroom, boudoir

A.5.10 Languages

toki	language
toki kepeken toki ...	to speak in a language
toki pona e toki	to speak a language well
sona e toki	to know, speak, understand a language
sona pona e toki	to master a language

lukin e toki	read
sitelen e toki	to write
toki sitelen	written language
sitelen toki	writing
toki nanpa wan	primary language

A.5.11 Occupations

pali	occupations
jan pali	worker, employee
jan lawa	leader, boss, master, chairperson, president, director
jan lawa ma	president of country, governor of state, premier of province
jan lawa pi ma tomo	mayor
jan pi kama sona	student
jan pi musi sijelo	athlete
jan (pi pali) moku	chef, cook
jan (pi pali) unpa	sex worker, prostitute
jan pi pana sona	teacher
jan pi pona pilin	good psychotherapist
jan pi pona sijelo	good doctor, healer
jan pi tomo pali	office worker, etc.
jan sona	knowledgeable person, wise person, educated person, academic, specialist
jan sona sijelo	doctor, physician
jan sona nanpa	mathematician
jan sona pilin	psychologist
lon tenpo pi pali ala	to be taking a sabbatical, break from work
lukin jo e pali	to be looking for a job
pali ala	not working
tomo pali	work(place), office, factory, etc.

A.5.12 People

jan	person, people, inhabitant, member
jan ike	bad person, jerk, negative person, enemy
jan kulupu	member of a group
jan lili	small, short, thin or young person, child
jan nasa	strange, foolish, unconventional or crazy person
jan olin	loved one
jan pona	good person, friend, positive person
jan pi ma ante	foreigner
jan pi ma sama	fellow citizen of same country or land
jan pi tomo sama	housemate, roommate
jan sama	similar person, counterpart, peer, person in same situation, sibling
jan sulì	big, tall or fat person, adult
jan toki	speaker, messenger, person communicating

A.5.13 Personal Traits

jan li seme	personal traits
(ona) li seme?	what is (she/he) like?
ike lukin	ugly
jo e linja mute	to be hairy

Practice 10 (Answers: Page 53)

What do you want to do?
Who loves you?
Does it sweeten?
I'm going to bed.
Are more people coming?
Give me a lollipop!
Who's there?
Which bug hurt you?
Whom did you go with?
He loves to eat. *
jan Ken o, mi olin e sina.
ni li ' jan seme?
sina lon seme?
mi lon tan seme?
jan seme li ' meli sina?
sina tawa ma tomo, tan seme?
sina wile tawa, tawa ma seme?

\* Think carefully! This one is tricky.

## Practice 9 (Answers: Page 53)

Try translating these sentences.

Susan is crazy.  
Go!  
Mama, wait!  
I come from Europe. \*  
Hahaha! That's funny!  
My name is Ken.  
Hello Lisa!  
F-ck!  
I want to go to Australia. \*\*  
Bye! \*\*\*

mu!  
mi wile kama sona e toki Inli. \*\*\*\*  
jan Ana o pana e moku tawa mi!  
o tawa musi, poka mi! \*\*\*\*\*  
jan Mose o lawa e mi mute, tawa ma  
pona!  
tawa pona!

\* Europe = Elopa

\* Australia = Oselija

\*\* spoken by the person who's leaving

\*\*\* *kama sona* = learn. This is similar to how *kama jo* = "get", like we learned in lesson six.

tenpo ale	always, all the time
tenpo ala	never
tenpo mun	month
tenpo sike	year
tenpo sin	again
tenpo lete	winter
tenpo seli	summer
tenpo telo	rainy season
suno li lon	it is day
pimeja li lon	it is night
tenpo lili la mi wile weka	I must leave soon
tenpo seme la ona li kama lon	When is he coming to your house?
tomo sina?	
kulupu pi tenpo suno luka tu	days of the week
tenpo suno nanpa wan	Monday
tenpo suno nanpa tu	Tuesday
tenpo suno nanpa tu wan	Wednesday
tenpo suno nanpa tu tu	Thursday
tenpo suno nanpa luka	Friday
tenpo suno nanpa luka wan	Saturday
tenpo suno nanpa luka tu	Sunday
kulupu pi tenpo mun	Month
tenpo mun nanpa wan	January
tenpo mun nanpa tu	February
tenpo mun nanpa tu wan	March
tenpo mun nanpa tu tu	April
tenpo mun nanpa luka	May
tenpo mun nanpa luka wan	June
tenpo mun nanpa luka tu	July
tenpo mun nanpa luka tu wan	August
tenpo mun nanpa luka tu tu	September
tenpo mun nanpa luka luka	October
tenpo mun nanpa luka luka	November
wan	
tenpo mun nanpa luka luka tu	December

## A.5.17 Towns

ma tomo	town
ma tomo lawa	capital
sina lon ma tomo seme?	What city do you live in?
sina lon ala lon ma tomo	Do you live in Vancouver?
Wankuwa?	
mi lon.	Yes, i do.
ma tomo Solu	Seoul (South Korea)
ma tomo Asina	Athens (Greece)
ma tomo Sakata	Jakarta (Indonesia)
ma tomo Telawi	Tel Aviv (Israel)
ma tomo Loma	Rome (Italy)
ma tomo Milano	Milan (Italy)
ma tomo Napoli	Naples (Italy)
ma tomo Pilense	Florence (Italy)
ma tomo Wenesija	Venice (Italy)
ma tomo Alawa	Ottawa (Canada)
ma tomo Towano	Toronto (Canada)

ma tomo Kakawi	Calgary (Canada)
ma tomo Monkela	Montreal (Canada)
ma tomo Alipasi	Halifax (Canada)
ma tomo Sensan	St. John's (Canada)
ma tomo Manten	Moncton (Canada)
ma tomo Sawi	Sackville (Canada)
ma tomo Sesija	Shediac (Canada)
ma tomo Sije	Dieppe (Canada)
ma tomo Wankuwa	Vancouver (Canada)
ma tomo Paki	Paris (France)
ma tomo Akajela	Cairo (Egypt)
ma tomo Mesiko	Mexico City (Mexico)
ma tomo Ele	Los Angeles (USA)
ma tomo Sanpansiko	San Francisco (USA)
ma tomo Kenpisi	Cambridge (USA, GB)
ma tomo Pasen	Boston (USA)
ma tomo Nujoka	New York City (USA)
ma tomo Polan	Portland (USA)
ma tomo Alana	Atlanta (USA)
ma tomo Putapesi	Budapest (Hungary)
ma tomo Ansetan	Amsterdam (Netherlands)
ma tomo Iwesun	Hilversum (Netherlands)
ma tomo Osaka	Osaka (Japan)
ma tomo Tokijo	Tokyo (Japan)
ma tomo Lanten	London (England)
ma tomo Peminan	Birmingham (England)
ma tomo Pesin	Beijing, Peking (China)
ma tomo Esupo	Espoo (Finland)
ma tomo Lesinki	Helsinki (Finland)
ma tomo Tanpele	Tampere (Finland)
ma tomo Tuku	Turku (Finland)
ma tomo Sene	Geneva (Switzerland)
ma tomo Kunte	Bangkok (Thailand)
ma tomo Anpu	Hamburg (Germany)
ma tomo Minsen	Munich (Germany)
ma tomo Pelin	Berlin (Germany)

### A.5.18 Weather

kon en sewi	weather
seli li lon	it's warm or hot
lete li lon	it's cold
suno li lon	it's sunny
telo li kama	it's raining
ko lete li kama	it's snowing
telo kiwen lili li kama	it's hailing
tenpo lete	winter
tenpo seli	summer
tenpo telo	rainy season
nasin li jo e telo kiwen	the roads are icy
telo lili li lon kon	it's humid
kon sewi li jo e walo	it's cloudy
mun li sike (ale)	it's full moon
mun li pimeja (ale)	it's new moon
mun li pimeja e suno	solar eclipse

### 1.9. GENDER, UNOFFICIAL WORDS, ADDRESSING PEOPLE, INTERJECTIONS, COMMANDS?

o awen!	Wait!
o lukin e ni!	Watch this!
o tawa ma tomo, poka jan pona sina!	Go to the city with your friend!

We've learned how to address people and how to make commands; now let's put these two concepts together. Suppose you want to address someone and tell them to do something. Notice how **one of the o's got dropped, as did the comma**.

jan San o, ...	John, ...
... o tawa tomo sina!	... go to your house!
jan San o tawa tomo sina!	John, go to your house!
jan Ta o toki ala, tawa mi!	Todd, don't talk to me!
jan Sesi o moku e kili ni!	Jessie, eat this fruit!.

The *o* replaces the *li*. After *mi* and *sina* it is also used.

sina o telo e sina!	Wash yourself!
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This structure can also be used to make sentences like "Let's go".

mi mute o tawa!	Let's go.
mi mute o ' musil	Let's have fun.

### Interjections

An interjection sentence makes also conveys excitement and ends with an exclamation mark. I'm going to split the interjections into two groups so that they're easier to explain. The first group is very straight-forward.

jan Lisa o, toki!	Hello Lisa!
pona!	Yay! Good! Hoorah!
ike!	Oh no! Uh! oh! Alas!
pakala!	F-ck! D-mn!
mu!	Meow! Woof! Grrr! Moo! (sounds made by animals)
a!	Ooh, Ahh! Unh! Oh!
a a a!	Hahaha! (laughter)

*a* adds emotion or emphasis. It can be used at the end of a sentence.

sina suli a!	You are so tall!
--------------	------------------

*o* and *a* only used when the person makes you feel really emotional. For example, you might use the *a* when you haven't seen the person for a very long time or when having sex.

jan Epi o a!	Oh Abbie!
--------------	-----------

The second group of interjections are kind like salutations.

toki!	Hello!, Hi!
suno pona!	Good sun! Good day!
lape pona!	Sleep well! Have a good night!
moku pona!	Good food! Enjoy your meal!
mi tawa	I'm going. Bye!
tawa pona!	(in reply) Go well! Good bye!
kama pona!	Come well! Welcome!
musi pona!	Good fun! Have fun!

<b>ali</b>	<i>noun:</i> everything, anything, life, the universe
<b>...anpa</b>	<i>adjective:</i> low, lower, bottom, down
<b>...anpa</b>	<i>adverb:</i> downstairs, below, deep, low, deeply
<b>anpa</b>	<i>noun:</i> bottom, lower part, under, below, floor, beneath
<b>anpa</b>	<i>verb intransitive:</i> to prostrate oneself
<b>anpa (e ...)</b>	<i>verb transitive:</i> to defeat, to beat, to vanquish, to conquer, to enslave
<b>...ante</b>	<i>adjective:</i> different, dissimilar, changed, other, unequal, differential
<b>ante</b>	<i>noun:</i> difference, distinction, differential, variation, variance, disagreement
<b>ante la ...</b>	<i>noun:</i> if difference, if variance, if disagreement
<b>ante (e ...)</b>	<i>verb transitive:</i> to change, to alter, to modify
<b>...anu ...</b>	<i>conjunction:</i> or (used for decision questions)
<b>...awen</b>	<i>adjective:</i> remaining, stationary, permanent, sedentary
<b>...awen</b>	<i>adverb:</i> still, yet
<b>awen</b>	<i>noun:</i> inertia, continuity, continuum, stay
<b>awen</b>	<i>verb intransitive:</i> to stay, to wait, to remain
<b>awen (e ...)</b>	<i>verb transitive:</i> to keep
<b>...e ...</b>	<i>separator:</i> An "e" introduces a direct object. Don't use "e" before or after the other separators "e", "la", "li", "pi", "o", ".", "!", "?", ":", ";", ",".
<b>...en ...</b>	<i>conjunction:</i> and (used to coordinate head nouns)
<b>...esun</b>	<i>adjective:</i> marketable, for sale, salable, deductible
<b>esun</b>	<i>noun:</i> market, shop, fair, bazaar, business, transaction
<b>esun (e ...)</b>	<i>verb transitive:</i> to buy, to sell, to barter, to swap
<b>...ijo</b>	<i>adjective:</i> of something
<b>...ijo</b>	<i>adverb:</i> of something
<b>ijo</b>	<i>noun:</i> thing, something, stuff, anything, object
<b>ijo (e ...)</b>	<i>verb transitive:</i> to objectify
<b>...ike</b>	<i>adjective:</i> bad, negative, wrong, evil, overly complex
<b>...ike</b>	<i>adverb:</i> bad, negative, wrong, evil, overly complex
<b>ike!</b>	<i>interjection:</i> oh dear! woe! alas!
<b>ike</b>	<i>noun:</i> negativity, badness, evil
<b>ike la ...</b>	<i>noun:</i> if negativity, if badness, if evil
<b>ike</b>	<i>verb intransitive:</i> to be bad, to suck
<b>ike (e ...)</b>	<i>verb transitive:</i> to make bad, to worsen
<b>...ilo</b>	<i>adjective:</i> useful
<b>...ilo</b>	<i>adverb:</i> usefully
<b>ilo</b>	<i>noun:</i> tool, device, machine, thing used for a specific purpose
<b>...insa</b>	<i>adjective:</i> inner, internal
<b>insa</b>	<i>noun:</i> inside, inner world, centre, stomach
<b>...jaki</b>	<i>adjective:</i> dirty, gross, filthy, obscene

...jaki	<i>adverb</i> : dirty, gross, filthy
jaki!	<i>interjection</i> : ew! yuck!
jaki	<i>noun</i> : dirt, pollution, garbage, filth, feces
jaki (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to pollute, to dirty
...jan	<i>adjective</i> : human, somebody's, personal, of people
...jan	<i>adverb</i> : human, somebody's, personal, of people
jan	<i>noun</i> : person, people, human, being, somebody, anybody
jan (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to personify, to humanize, to personalize
...jelo	<i>adjective</i> : yellowish, yellowy
jelo	<i>noun</i> : yellow, light green
...jo	<i>adjective</i> : private, personal
jo	<i>noun</i> : having, possessions, content
jo (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to have, to contain
kama jo (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to get
...kala	<i>adjective</i> : fish-
kala	<i>noun</i> : fish, marine animal, sea creature
...kalama	<i>adjective</i> : noisy, loud, rowdy
kalama	<i>noun</i> : sound, noise, voice
kalama	<i>verb intransitive</i> : to make noise
kalama (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to sound, to ring, to play (an instrument)
...kama	<i>adjective</i> : coming, future
...kama	<i>adverb</i> : coming, future
kama	<i>noun</i> : event, happening, chance, arrival, beginning
kama	<i>verb intransitive</i> : to come, to become, to arrive, to happen
kama ...	<i>verb pre</i> : to become, to mange to
kama (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to bring about, to summon
...kasi	<i>adjective</i> : vegetable, vegetal, biological, biologic, leafy
kasi	<i>noun</i> : plant, vegetation, herb, leaf
kasi	<i>verb intransitive</i> : to grow
kasi (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to plant, to grow
ken	<i>noun</i> : possibility, ability, power to do things, permission
ken la ...)	<i>noun</i> : if possibility, if ability, if permission
ken	<i>verb intransitive</i> : can, is able to, is allowed to, may, is possible
ken ...	<i>verb pre</i> : to can, may
ken (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to make possible, to enable, to allow, to permit
kepeken	<i>noun</i> : use, usage, tool
..., kepeken	<i>preposition</i> : with
...	
kepeken	<i>verb intransitive</i> : to use
kepeken ...	<i>verb pre</i> : to use
...kili	<i>adjective</i> : fruity
...kili	<i>adverb</i> : fruity

## 1.8 Negation, Yes/No Questions

### Vocabulary

ala	not, none; nothing, negation
ali	everything, all
ken	can, to be able to; possibility
lape	to sleep; sleep
musi	to have fun, to amuse; game, fun
pali	to do, to make, to work; activity, work
wawa	strong, intense; energy, power

### Negation

#### ala as an adverb

In English, you make a verb negative by adding "not" in front of the verb. Toki Pona **puts its negative word, *ala*, after the verb.**

mi lape <b>ala</b> .	I'm not sleeping.
mi musi <b>ala</b> .	I'm not having fun. / I'm bored.
mi wawa <b>ala</b> .	I'm not strong. / I'm weak.
mi wile <b>ala</b> tawa musi.	I don't want to dance.
tawa musi	dance (move entertainingly)
mi wile <b>ala</b> pali.	I'm lazy.

#### ala as an adjective

jan <b>ala</b> li toki.	Nobody is talking.
-------------------------	--------------------

There's nothing wrong with putting *ala* after the verb (which is *toki* in this sentence), and in fact that's the more common way of doing it. However, you do have the option of using *ala* after nouns, and so I just wanted to point that out.

However, if you do that, try to remember **not use *ala* with *ijo***. If not behind a verb, *ala* already essentially means nothing by default, and so using *ijo* just doesn't fit in.

<b>ala</b> li ' jaki.	Nothing is dirty.
-----------------------	-------------------

### *ali*

However, despite the differences in meaning, *ala* and *ali* as adjectives are used the same way.

jan <b>ali</b> li wile tawa.	Everybody wants to travel.
ma <b>ali</b> li ' pona.	All nations are good.
jan utala <b>ali</b> li ' nasa.	All soldiers are stupid.

Also like *ala*, it's best **not to use *ijo* and *ali* together**. By the way, *ali li pona* is one of the Toki Pona proverbs, if you didn't know that.



ni li tomo. mi pana e ni tawa sina. | This is a house. I give it to you.

## kama

### kama as a intransitive verb

We've already briefly touched on this word, but it is quite common, and so we need to look at it a little more closely. First, **it's used with *tawa***, like this.

ona li **kama tawa** tomo mi. | He came to my house.

### kama as a transitive verb

It can also be used as an action verb. It means "to cause" or "to bring about".

mi **kama e** pakala. | I caused an accident.  
sina **kama e** ni: mi wile moku. | You caused this: I want to eat.  
You made me hungry.

### kama as Auxiliary Verb

It can also be used as auxiliary verb. One of the most common infinitives that it is used with is *jo*, so we'll just cover it for now.

kama jo | get  
mi **kama jo e** telo. | I got the water.

## Practice 6 (Answers: Page 52)

Try translating these sentences.

I fixed the flashlight using a small tool.  
I like Toki Pona.  
We gave them food. \*  
This is for my friend.  
The tools are in the container.  
That bottle is in the dirt.  
I want to go to his house using my car.  
They are arguing.

sina wile kama tawa tomo toki.  
jan li toki, kepeken toki pona lon tomo toki.  
mi tawa tomo toki. ona li ' pona tawa mi.  
sina kama jo e jan pona, lon ni. \*\*

\* If you got that one wrong, think of the sentence like this: "We gave food to them." It means the same thing.

\* *lon ni* means either "here" or "there". Can you figure out what it literally means?

... <b>ma</b> <b>ma</b>	<i>adjective</i> : countrified, outdoor, alfresco, open-air <i>noun</i> : land, earth, country, (outdoor) area
... <b>mama</b> <b>mama</b> <b>mama (e ...)</b>	<i>adjective</i> : of the parent, parental, maternal, fatherly, motherly, mumsy <i>noun</i> : parent, mother, father <i>verb transitive</i> : to mother sb., to wet-nurse, mothering
... <b>mani</b> ... <b>mani</b> <b>mani</b>	<i>adjective</i> : financial, financially, monetary, pecuniary <i>adverb</i> : financially <i>noun</i> : money, material wealth, currency, dollar, capital
... <b>meli</b> <b>meli</b>	<i>adjective</i> : female, feminine, womanly <i>noun</i> : woman, female, girl, wife, girlfriend
<b>mi</b>	<i>pronoun</i> : I, we, my, our
... <b>mije</b> <b>mije</b>	<i>adjective</i> : male, masculine, manly <i>noun</i> : man, male, husband, boyfriend
... <b>moku</b> ... <b>moku</b> <b>moku</b> <b>moku (e ...)</b>	<i>adjective</i> : eating <i>adverb</i> : eating <i>noun</i> : food, meal <i>verb transitive</i> : to eat, to drink, to swallow, to ingest, to consume
... <b>moli</b> ... <b>moli</b> <b>moli</b> <b>moli</b> <b>moli (e ...)</b> kama <b>moli</b>	<i>adjective</i> : dead, dying, fatal, deadly, lethal, mortal, deathly, killing <i>adverb</i> : mortally <i>noun</i> : death, decease <i>verb intransitive</i> : to die, to be dead <i>verb transitive</i> : to kill <i>intransitives Verb</i> : dieing
... <b>monsi</b> <b>monsi</b>	<i>adjective</i> : back, rear <i>noun</i> : back, rear end, butt, behind
... <b>monsuta</b> <b>monsuta</b>	<i>adjective</i> : fearful, afraid <i>noun</i> : monster, monstrosity, fearful thing, fright, mythical creatures, fear
... <b>mu</b> ... <b>mu</b> <b>mu!</b> <b>mu</b> <b>mu (e ...)</b>	<i>adjective</i> : animal noise- <i>adverb</i> : animal noise- <i>interjection</i> : woof! meow! moo! etc. (cute animal noise) <i>noun</i> : animal noise <i>verb transitive</i> : to make animal noise
... <b>mun</b> <b>mun</b>	<i>adjective</i> : lunar <i>noun</i> : moon, lunar, night sky object, star
... <b>musi</b> ... <b>musi</b> <b>musi</b> <b>musi</b> <b>musi (e ...)</b>	<i>adjective</i> : artful, fun, recreational <i>adverb</i> : cheerfully <i>noun</i> : fun, playing, game, recreation, art, entertainment <i>verb intransitive</i> : to play, to have fun <i>verb transitive</i> : to amuse, to entertain

... mute	<i>adjective</i> : many, very, much, several, a lot, abundant, numerous, more
... mute	<i>adjective numeral</i> : 20 (official Toki Pona book)
... mute	<i>adverb</i> : many, very, much, several, a lot, abundant, numerous, more
mute	<i>noun</i> : amount, quantity
mute (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to make many or much
... namako	<i>adjective</i> : spicy, piquant
namako	<i>noun</i> : spice, something extra, food additive, accessory
namako (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to spice, to flavor, to decorate
nanpa ...	<i>adjective numeral</i> : To build ordinal numbers.
nanpa	<i>noun</i> : number, numeral
nanpa (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to count, to reckon, to number
... nasa	<i>adjective</i> : silly, crazy, foolish, drunk, strange, stupid, weird
... nasa	<i>adverb</i> : silly, crazy, foolish, drunk, strange, stupid, weird
nasa	<i>noun</i> : stupidity, foolishness, silliness, nonsense, idiocy, obtuseness, muddler
nasa (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to drive crazy, to make weird
... nasin	<i>adjective</i> : systematic, habitual, customary, doctrinal
nasin	<i>noun</i> : way, manner, custom, road, path, doctrine, system, method
... nena	<i>adjective</i> : hilly, undulating, mountainous, hunchbacked, humpbacked, bumpy
nena	<i>noun</i> : bump, hill, extrusion, button, mountain, nose, protuberance
ni	<i>pronoun</i> : this, that
nimi	<i>noun</i> : word, name
nimi (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to name
... noka	<i>adjective</i> : foot-, lower, bottom
... noka	<i>adverb</i> : on foot
noka	<i>noun</i> : leg, foot; organ of locomotion; bottom, lower part
o!	<i>interjection</i> : hey! (calling somebody's attention)
... o, ...	<i>interjection</i> : addressing people
o ...!	<i>subject</i> : An "o" is used for imperative (commands). "o" replace the subject.
... o ...!	<i>separator</i> : An "o" is used for imperative (commands): "o" replace "li".
... oko	<i>adjective</i> : optical, eye-
oko	<i>noun</i> : eye
... olin	<i>adjective</i> : love
olin	<i>noun</i> : love
olin (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to love (a person)
ona	<i>pronoun</i> : she, he, it, they
... open	<i>adjective</i> : initial, starting, opening
open	<i>noun</i> : start, beginning, opening

ona li lawa e jan, <b>tawa</b> ma pona.	He led people to the good land.
ona li kama, <b>tawa</b> ma mi.	He's coming to my country.

In Toki Pona, to say that you (don't) like something, we have pattern, and the pattern uses *tawa* as a preposition.

ni li ' <b>pona</b> , <b>tawa</b> mi.	That is good to me. / I like that.
ni li ' <b>ike</b> , <b>tawa</b> mi	That is bad to me. / I don't like that.
kili li ' pona, <b>tawa</b> mi.	I like fruit.
toki li ' pona, <b>tawa</b> mi.	I like talking. / I like languages.
utala li ' ike, <b>tawa</b> mi.	I don't like wars.
telo suli li ' ike, <b>tawa</b> mi.	I don't like the ocean.

Keep in mind that *e* can only come after the verb of the sentence. **Toki Pona does not use clauses.** So for example, if you wanted to say "I like watching the countryside," it's best to split this into two sentences.

mi lukin e ma. ni li ' pona, <b>tawa</b> mi.	I'm watching the countryside. This is good to me.
--	---

Of course, you could choose to say this same sentence using other techniques.

ma li pona lukin.	The countryside is good to look at.
-------------------	-------------------------------------

### Using *tawa* to mean "for"

Okay, so *tawa* essentially means "to go" to or simply "to", right? Not exactly. It can also mean "for", as in this sentence.

mi pona e tomo, <b>tawa</b> jan pakala.	I fixed the house for the disabled man.
---	---

Unfortunately, the trick of letting *tawa* mean both "to" and "for" isn't without its drawbacks. Keep reading to see why.

### Using *tawa* as an adjective

*tawa* is used as an adjective to make the phrase we use for "car", "boat" or "airplane".

tomo <b>tawa</b>	car (moving construction)
tomo <b>tawa</b> telo	boat, ship
tomo <b>tawa</b> kon	airplane, helicopter

### Ambiguity of *tawa*

I want you to think about the following sentence for a few moments before continuing on. See if you can think of different meanings that it might have.

mi pana e tomo <b>tawa</b> sina.	?
----------------------------------	---

If *tawa* is used as an adjective, then this sentence says "I gave your car." If it is used as a preposition, though, it could mean, "I gave the house to you." You can put a comma before *tawa*. Better is to write it in a different way.

mi jo e tomo tawa sina. mi pana e ni tawa sina.	I have your car. I give it to you.
---	------------------------------------

## Practice 5 (Answers: Page 52)

Firstly, see how well you can read the following poem.

mi jo e kili.  
ona li ' pona li ' lili.  
mi moku lili e kili lili.

Try translating these sentences.

The leader drank dirty water.  
I need a fork.  
An enemy is attacking them.  
That bad person has strange clothes.  
We drank a lot of vodka.  
Children watch adults.

mi lukin sewi e tomo sulī.  
seli suno li seli e tomo mi.  
jan lili li wile e telo kili.  
ona mute li nasa e jan sulī. \*

\* Notice how even though *nasa* is typically an adjective, it is used as a verb here.

... sin	<i>adjective</i> : new, fresh, another, more
... sin	<i>adverb</i> : regenerative
sin	<i>noun</i> : news, novelty, innovation, newness, new release
sin (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to renew, to renovate, to freshen
sina	<i>pronoun</i> : you, yours
... sinpin	<i>adjective</i> : facial, frontal, anterior, vertical
sinpin	<i>noun</i> : face, foremost, front, wall, chest, torso
... sitelen	<i>adjective</i> : figurative, pictorial, metaphorical, metaphorisch
... sitelen	<i>adverb</i> : pictorially
sitelen	<i>noun</i> : picture, image, representation, symbol, mark, writing
sitelen (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to draw, to write
... sona	<i>adjective</i> : knowing, cognizant, shrewd
sona	<i>noun</i> : knowledge, wisdom, intelligence, understanding
sona	<i>verb intransitive</i> : to know, to understand
sona (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to know, to understand, to know how to
kama sona (e ...)	<i>transitives Verb</i> : to learn, to study
sona ...	<i>verb pre</i> : to know how to
... soweli	<i>adjective</i> : animal
soweli	<i>noun</i> : animal, especially land mammal, lovable animal, beast
... sulī	<i>adjective</i> : big, tall, long, adult, important
... sulī	<i>adverb</i> : big, tall, long, adult, important
sulī	<i>noun</i> : size
sulī (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to enlarge, to lengthen
... suno	<i>adjective</i> : sunny, sunnily
... suno	<i>adverb</i> : sunny, sunnily
suno	<i>noun</i> : sun, light
suno (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to light, to illumine
... supa	<i>adjective</i> : flat, shallow, flat-bottomed, horizontal
supa	<i>noun</i> : horizontal surface, e.g furniture, table, chair, pillow, floor
... suwi	<i>adjective</i> : sweet, cute
suwi	<i>noun</i> : candy, sweet food
suwi (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to sweeten
... tan	<i>adjective</i> : causal,
tan	<i>noun</i> : origin, cause
..., tan ...	<i>preposition</i> : from, by, because of, since
tan	<i>verb intransitive</i> : to come from, originate from, come out of
... taso	<i>adjective</i> : only, sole
... taso	<i>adverb</i> : only, just, merely, simply, solely, singly
... taso ...	<i>conjunction</i> : but, however

... tawa	<i>adjective</i> : moving, mobile
... tawa	<i>adverb</i> : moving, mobile
tawa	<i>noun</i> : movement, transportation
..., tawa ...	<i>preposition</i> : to, in order to, towards, for, until
tawa	<i>verb intransitive</i> : go to, walk, travel, move, leave
tawa (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to move, to displace
...	
... telo	<i>adjective</i> : wett, slobbery, moist, damp, humid, sticky, sweaty, dewy, drizzly
... telo	<i>adverb</i> : wett, slobbery, moist, damp, humid, sticky, sweaty, dewy, drizzly
telo	<i>noun</i> : water, liquid, juice, sauce
telo (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to water, to wash with water, to put water to, to melt, to liquify
...	
... tenpo	<i>adjective</i> : temporal, chronological, chronologic
... tenpo	<i>adverb</i> : chronologically
tenpo	<i>noun</i> : time, period of time, moment, duration, situation, occasion
...	
... toki	<i>adjective</i> : speaking, eloquent, linguistic, verbal, grammatical
... toki	<i>adverb</i> : speaking, eloquent, linguistic, verbal, grammatical
toki!	<i>interjection</i> : hello, hi, good morning,
toki	<i>noun</i> : language, speech, tongue, lingo, jargon,
toki	<i>verb intransitive</i> : to talk, to chat, to communicate
toki (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to speak, to talk, to say, to pronounce, to discourse
...	
... tomo	<i>adjective</i> : urban, domestic, household
... tomo	<i>adverb</i> : urban, domestic, household
tomo	<i>noun</i> : indoor constructed space, e.g. house, home, room, building
tomo (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to build, to construct, to engineer
...	
... tu	<i>adjective numeral</i> : 2
tu	<i>noun</i> : duo, pair
tu (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to divide, to double, to separate, to cut in two
...	
... unpa	<i>adjective</i> : erotic, sexual
... unpa	<i>adverb</i> : erotic, sexual
unpa	<i>noun</i> : sex, sexuality
unpa	<i>verb intransitive</i> : to have sex
unpa (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to have sex with, to sleep with, to fuck
...	
... uta	<i>adjective</i> : oral
... uta	<i>adverb</i> : orally
uta	<i>noun</i> : mouth, lips, oral cavity, jaw, beak
uta (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to kiss, to osculate, to oral stimulate, to suck
...	
... utala	<i>adjective</i> : fighting
... utala	<i>adverb</i> : fighting
utala	<i>noun</i> : conflict, disharmony, fight, war, battle, attack, violence
utala (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to hit, to strike, to attack, to compete against
...	
... walo	<i>adjective</i> : white, whitish, light-coloured, pale
walo	<i>noun</i> : white thing or part, whiteness, lightness
walo (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to whiten, to whitewash

jan suli	adult
jan unpa	lover, prostitute
ma telo	mud, swamp
ma tomo	city, town
mi mute	we, us
ona mute	they, them
telo nasa	alcohol, beer, wine
tomo telo	restroom
ilo suno	flashlight

## Possessives

You use pronouns (my, your, his, hers, its,) like any other adjective. If there are several adjectives the pronoun stands at the end.

tomo pona <b>mi</b>	my nice house
ma <b>sina</b>	your country
telo <b>ona</b>	his/her/its water

Other words are treated the same way.

len <b>jan</b>	somebody's clothes
seli <b>suno</b>	the sun's heat

## Adverbs

**The adverb simply follows the verb that it modifies.** You can add until three adverb to a verb. One adverb should not be used more than once.

mi lawa <b>pona</b> e jan.	I lead people well.
mi utala <b>ike</b> .	I fight badly.
sina lukin <b>sewi</b> e suno.	You look up at the sun.
ona li wile <b>mute</b> e ni.	He wants that a lot.
mi mute li lukin <b>lili</b> e ona.	We barely saw it.

## 1.4 Direct Objects, Compound Sentences

### Vocabulary

ona	he, she, it
kili	fruit, vegetable
e	introduces direct object
wile	to want, to need, to have to, desire
ilo	tool, device, machine
ijo	something, anything, stuff, thing
ni	this, that
pipi	bug, insect, spider
ma	land, country, region, outside area
jo	to have, ownership, possession
lukin	to see, to look at, vision, sight
pakala	mess up, destroy, accident
unpa	have sex with, sex, sexual

### Direct objects using *e*

We saw how phrases such as *mi moku* could have two potential meanings. "I'm eating" or "I am food". There is one way to specify that you want to say.

mi moku <b>e</b> kili.		I eat fruit.
------------------------	--	--------------

Whatever is getting action done on itself is the "direct object," and in Toki Pona, **we separate the verb and the direct object with *e***.

ona li lukin <b>e</b> pipi.		He's watching the bug.
-----------------------------	--	------------------------

Also we discussed how *sina pona*, like *mi moku*, has two possible meanings. "You are good" or "You're fixing". Normally, it would mean "You are good" simply because no one really says "I'm fixing" without actually telling what it is that they are trying to fix.

ona li pona <b>e</b> ilo.		She's fixing the machine.
mi pona <b>e</b> ijo.		I'm fixing something.

### Direct objects using *e* with *wile*

If you need to say that you want to do something, follow this example.

mi <b>wile</b> lukin <b>e</b> ma.		I want to see the countryside.
mi <b>wile</b> pakala <b>e</b> sina.		I must destroy you.
ona li <b>wile</b> jo <b>e</b> ilo.		He would like to have a tool.

As you can see, ***e* doesn't come until after the infinitive** in these two sentences, rather than before it.

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## 1.3. BASIC SENTENCES

### The Lack of the verb "to be"

One of the first principles you'll need to learn about Toki Pona is that there is **no form of the verb "to be"** like there is in English. That is why after a *mi* or *sina* can follow a noun or an adjective also. The missing verb "to be" is in these lessons marked with an apostrophe.

mi moku.	I eat.
mi ' moku.	I am food.
sina pona.	You fix.
sina ' pona.	You are good.

Because Toki Pona lacks "to be", **the exact meaning is lost**. *moku* in this sentence could be a verb, or it could be a noun; just as *pona* could be an adjective or could be a verb. In situations such as these, the listener must rely on context. After all, how often do you hear someone say "I am food"? I hope not very often! You can be fairly certain that *mi moku* means "I'm eating".

### Sentences without *mi* or *sina* as the subject

For sentences that don't use *mi* or *sina* as the subject, there is one small catch that you'll have to learn. Look at how *li* is used. *li* is a grammatical word that **separates the subject from its verb. It's only used when the subject is not *mi* or *sina***. Although *li* might seem worthless right now, as you continue to learn Toki Pona you will see that some sentences could be very confusing if *li* weren't there.

telo li pona.	Water is cleaning.
suno li suno.	The sun is shining.
moku li ' pona.	The food is good.

Because of the lacks of "to be", after *li* can not only be a verb, it can follow a noun or an adjective as well. The missing verb "to be" is here marked with an apostrophe.

### Practice 3 (Answers: Page 52)

Try translating these sentences.

People are good.	
I'm eating.	
You're tall.	
Water is simple.	
The lake is big.	

suno li suli.	
mi ' suli.	
jan li moku.	

## 1.1 Introduction

Sonja Lang created the language Toki Pona in the year 2001. Her aim was the minimalism. Toki Pona consists of only about 120 words, which are not altered. In accordance with the position in the sentence, the words can vary their significance. To describe more details you have to combine the words.

It is not the goal of Toki Pona to describe complex issues. Dissertations and scientific papers will never be written in Toki Pona. Lawyers, bureaucrats, theologians and politicians are warned of the side-effect of this language.

It is not the aim of Toki Pona to solve the communication problems in the world. But you can learn this language in a month. Toki Pona is easy in an intelligent way and yoga for the brain. People who hate nested subordinate clauses and commas will certainly have fun with Toki Pona.

Toki Pona has evolved since 2001. There are also slangs, which hinder the understanding. Therefore these lessons are based on the official Toki Pona book [12] by Sonja Lang (2014) and the updated tutorials from BJ Knight (jan Piġe) [9].

So have fun with the lessons and learning of Toki Pona. For learning vocabulary helps Memrise [13]. Related Links Toki Pona can be found on the website [16]. A dictionary can be found here [16].

You can use the tool *Toki Pona Parser* ([17]) for spelling, grammar check and ambiguity check of Toki Pona sentences

Maybe only one natural language can be compared to Toki Pona. It is the language of the Pirahá ([14]). For example this language has no recursion.

*toki pona li pona, tawa sina.*

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## Chapter 1

## Lessons



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