

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

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

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1.2 Alphabet, Punctuation Marks

Consonants

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

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

Vowels

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

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

## Separators

In these lessons, special characters are referred to as separators. Separators separate phrases from each other. For example, a dot separates a sentence from the next sentence. In Toki Pona also special words serve as separators.

## Types of Sentences

Toki Pona has how many languages, different types of sentences.

Most sentences are declarative sentences and end with a period. Declarative sentences make statements or an assumptions.

Question sentences are interrogative sentences that formulate a question. They end with a question mark.

Imperative sentences are sentences that formulate a command. They end with an exclamation mark.

Exclamatory sentences (interjections) are sentences that express admiration or astonishment. This also includes greetings. They end with an exclamation mark or a period.

Headlines (titles) are usually not complete sentences and do not end with a punctuation mark.

Please always pay attention to correct punctuation marks. Wrong or missing Punctuation marks impair the intelligibility.

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A.6.30 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. [4]

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.

As you can see in the vocabulary list, most words can be used in different word types. They remain unchanged. The word type is derived from the position in the sentence. In this lesson, we will deal with nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives and a special separator.

A noun is a word for a person, place or thing. An adjective is a word that describes a noun. A verb describes an action.

Pronouns are proxies for different types of words. They are used in the same place as the word to be represented and have the same grammatical characteristics as this one. Pronouns are not words of content, but they denote persons or things by referring to the context. Personal pronouns (I, you, ...) represent nouns. Possessive pronouns (my, your, ...) represent adjectives. In the next few lessons we will learn more about other types of pronouns.

The Personal Pronouns *mi* or *sina* as Subject

With the personal pronoun *mi* or the personal pronoun *sina* at the beginning and a subsequent verb a simple sentence in Toki Pona is already complete. 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.

In these sentences personal pronouns *mi* and *sina* are in each case the subject phrase. In Toki Pona, a subject phrase is always at the beginning of the sentence. In these examples, the subject phrases consist of only one subject (*mi* or *sina*).

The subject is the carrier of the action, process or state. It is the most important addition to the verb in the sentence, a complete sentence always contains a subject. You ask for the subject with whom or what.

Verbs as Predicates

The verbs *moku* and *pona* form the predicate phrase in these examples. The predicate is a core element in a sentence and is the statement of the sentence.

In most languages, a predicate is formed by a verb, but this is not mandatory in all languages. As we will soon see, in Toki Pona the predicate is not necessarily formed by a verb. The difference between verb and predicate is that verb designates a word part and predicate designates a grammatical function. A predicate and possible objects form a predicate phrase.

Nouns or Adjectives as Predicates

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's why the verb slot can be empty and after *mi* or *sina* can follow also a noun or adjective. In these lessons, the term 'slot' is used to indicate a valid position of a word type in the sentence.

Regular sentences can also be formed in other languages without a verb appearing in them. Examples are Russian and Arabic. These languages are called no-copula languages.

A noun then functions as a predicate noun or an adjective serves as predicate adjective. But this noun or adjective does not become a verb. An empty verb slot cannot, however, form a predicate phrase on its own. A noun or adjective must follow. That is, directly after *mi* or *sina* the sentence cannot be finished yet.

In no-copulalanguages, the word form usually indicates whether the predicate is a verb, noun or adjective. This is not possible in Toki Pona. In these lessons an apostrophe is used to indicate a subsequent noun or adjective. Damit wird der leere Verb-Slot gekennzeichnet. But that's not an official rule.

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'.

The Separator *li*

For sentences that don't use the personal pronouns *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 phrase from the predicate phrase. The predicate marker *li* is only used when the subject is not *mi* or *sina*. Although the separator *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.
---------------	--------------------

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
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jan Mali li pali e ni. [8]

A.6.29 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
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jan "Marcus Pfister" pali e ni. jan Sasin li sitelen e ni, kepeken toki pona.



A.6.26    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 Mapuwija li seli mute!    meli Mapuwija 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!"

1.4    Direct Objects

Vocabulary

...e ...	<i>separator:</i> An 'e' introduces a direct object.  Don't use 'e' before or after the other separators.
...ijo ...tjo tjo tjo (e ...)	<i>adjective:</i> of something  <i>adverb:</i> of something <i>noun:</i> thing, something, stuff, anything, object <i>verb transitive:</i> to objectify
...ilo ...tlo tlo	<i>adjective:</i> useful  <i>adverb:</i> usefully <i>noun:</i> tool, device, machine, thing used for a specific purpose
...jo jo jo (e ...)	<i>adjective:</i> private, personal  <i>noun:</i> having, possessions, content <i>verb transitive:</i> to have, to contain
...kili ...tli tli	<i>adjective:</i> fruity  <i>adverb:</i> fruitly <i>noun:</i> fruit, pulpy vegetable, mushroom
...lukin ...tulin lukin tulin lukin (e ...) tulin ...	<i>adjective:</i> visual(ly)  <i>adverb:</i> visual(ly) <i>noun:</i> view, look, glance, sight, gaze, glimpse, seeing, vision <i>verb intransitive:</i> to look, to watch out, to pay attention <i>verb transitive:</i> to see, to look at, to watch, to read <i>auxiliary verb:</i> to seek to, try to, look for
...ma ma	<i>adjective:</i> countrified, outdoor, alfresco, open-air  <i>noun:</i> land, earth, country, (outdoor) area
...pakala ...taka pakala taka pakala (e ...)	<i>adjective:</i> destroyed, ruined, demolished, shattered, wrecked  <i>adverb:</i> destroyed, ruined, demolished, shattered, wrecked <i>noun:</i> blunder, accident, mistake, destruction, damage, breaking <i>verb intransitive:</i> to screw up, to fall apart, to break <i>verb transitive:</i> to screw up, to ruin, to break, to hurt, to injure, to damage
...unpa ...tupa unpa tupa unpa (e ...)	<i>adjective:</i> erotic, sexual  <i>adverb:</i> erotic, sexual <i>noun:</i> sex, sexuality <i>verb intransitive:</i> to have sex <i>verb transitive:</i> to have sex with, to sleep with, to fuck
wile wile (e ...) wile ...	<i>noun:</i> desire, need, will  <i>verb transitive:</i> to want, need, wish, have to, must, will, should <i>auxiliary verb:</i> to want, need, wish, have to, must, will, should

Transitive Verbs, the Separator *e* and Direct Objects

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 e kili. | I eat fruit.

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 e ilo. | She's fixing the machine.  
mi pona e ijo. | I'm fixing something.

Only a (composite) verb can stand in front of the *e*. More specifically, it is a slot for a transitive verb. Transitive verbs are verbs after which a direct object (accusative object) can stand. A transitive verb does something to the direct object.

The separator *e* preface the direct object. An object is an optional record supplement. A direct object is most strongly influenced by the action (i. e. the predicate). Your can ask for direct object (accusative object) by 'Who' or 'What' ('What does she repair?'). The direct object is part of the predicate phrase.

In the direct object is the first slot after the separator *e* always a noun or pronoun slot. In the above examples the noun slots were filled with *kili* and *ijo*.

Reflexive Pronouns

A reflexive pronoun represents the subject in the direct object. So a slot for a reflexive pronoun is located after the separator *e*. In the following example, *ona* is a reflexive pronoun, since it refers to the subject *jan*.

jan li telo e ona. | A person washes himself.

In this sentence the first *mi* is a personal pronoun. The *mi* after the *e* is a reflexive pronoun.

mi telo e mi. | I wash myself.

Here a sentence with *sina* as personal and reflexive pronouns

sina telo e sina. | You wash yourself.

Here a sentence with *ona* as personal and reflexive pronouns

ona li telo e ona. | She washes herself.

Compound Sentences

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.

Several *li* Separators for Several Predicate Phrases

It is possible to use the separator *li* several times in a sentence. Each separator *li* starts a new predicate phrase. This allows you to assign several actions or properties to one subject.

A.6.23 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, lon 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. [8]

A.6.24 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

jan Mali li pali e ni. [8]

A.6.25 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. [8]

A.6.13    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.    [11]

A.6.14    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.    [5]

1.5    Verbs, Adverbs, Auxiliary Verbs

Vocabulary

... ike ... ike ike ike ike (e ... )	<i>adjective:</i> bad, negative, wrong, evil, overly complex  <i>adverb:</i> bad, negative, wrong, evil, overly complex <i>noun:</i> negativity, badness, evil <i>verb intransitive:</i> to be bad, to suck <i>verb transitive:</i> to make bad, to worsen
... jaki ... jaki jaki jaki (e ... )	<i>adjective:</i> dirty, gross, filthy, obscene  <i>adverb:</i> dirty, gross, filthy <i>noun:</i> dirt, pollution, garbage, filth, feces <i>verb transitive:</i> to pollute, to dirty
... lawa ... lawa lawa lawa (e ... )	<i>adjective:</i> main, leading, in charge  <i>adverb:</i> main, leading, in charge <i>noun:</i> head, mind <i>verb transitive:</i> to lead, to control, to rule, to steer
... lili ... lili lili lili (e ... )	<i>adjective:</i> small, little, young, a bit, short, few, less  <i>adverb:</i> small, little, young, a bit, short, few, less <i>noun:</i> smallness, youth, immaturity <i>verb transitive:</i> to reduce, to shorten, to shrink, to lessen
... mute ... mute mute mute (e ... )	<i>adjective:</i> many, very, much, several, a lot, abundant, numerous, more  <i>adverb:</i> many, very, much, several, a lot, abundant, numerous, more <i>noun:</i> amount, quantity <i>verb transitive:</i> to make many or much
... 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
... tomo ... tomo tomo tomo (e ... )	<i>adjective:</i> urban, domestic, household  <i>adverb:</i> urban, domestic, household <i>noun:</i> indoor constructed space, e.g. house, home, room, building <i>verb transitive:</i> to build, to construct, to engineer
... utala ... utala utala utala (e ... )	<i>adjective:</i> fighting  <i>adverb:</i> fighting <i>noun:</i> conflict, disharmony, fight, war, battle, attack, violence <i>verb transitive:</i> to hit, to strike, to attack, to compete against

Adverbs

Adverbs refer to the circumstances in which an action takes place. Since actions are described by verbs, adverbs describe verbs. For example, in the phrase 'You sing well,' the verb 'singing' is described in more detail with the adverb 'well'.

In Toki Pona adverbs follow the verb they describe. Possible adverb slots are therefore only available after verbs. Adverbs cannot therefore stand after nouns, adjectives, prepositions or separators.

Since verbs belong to the predicate phrase, adverbs also belong to the predicate phrase. In *toki pona* a predicate phrase can contain a noun as predicate noun or an adjective as predicate adjective. In this case the verb slot is empty, so there are no adverb slots in such a predicate phrase.

In this sentence the transitive verb *lawa* with adverb *pona* is described.

mi lawa pona e jan.		I lead people well.
In the following sentences adverbs describe <i>ike</i> , <i>sewi</i> , <i>mute</i> , <i>lili</i> the respective verbs <i>utala</i> , <i>lukin</i> , <i>wile</i> , <i>lukin</i> .		
mi utala ike.		I fight badly.
sina lukin sewi e suno.		You look up at the sun.
ona li wile mute e ni.		He wants that a lot.
mi lukin lili e ona.		I barely saw it.

You should not use more than three adverbs after a verb. An adverb should not be used more than once.

ona li pona ike mute e ilo.		He was very bad at fixing the machine.
mi mute lukin mute e ma.		I'm visibly increasing the size of the country.

Auxiliary Verbs

An auxiliary verb is placed in front of the main verb and supplements it. An auxiliary verb belongs to the predicate phrase.

To say that you want to do something definite, use the auxiliary verb *wile*.

mi wile lukin e ma.		I want to see the countryside.
mi wile pakala e sina.		I must destroy you.
ona li wile jo e ilo.		He would like to have a tool.
sina kama e ni: mi wile moku.		You caused this: I want to eat.
		You made me hungry.

Very often the auxiliary verb *kama* is used together with the main verb *jo*.

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

A.6.10 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*. [11]

A.6.11 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 kil.

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*. [10]

A.6.12 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*. [11]

A.6.8    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.

Adjectives

We had already got to know predicate adjectives as part of a predicate phrase. A predicate adjective describes the noun of the subject phrase. In this example, the predicate adjective *pona* in the predicate phrase describes the noun *jan* in the subject phrase.

jan li ' pona.		The person is good.
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Generally speaking, one can say that adjectives describe nouns. As in other languages, adjectives can also be written directly with the noun. In Toki Pona the adjectives come after the noun to be described are written. This is exactly the opposite in English, but in other languages, such as Italian, this is normal. Possible adjective slots are therefore located directly after nouns slots and, as described above, predicate adjectives in the predicate phrase. Noun slots are possible at the beginning of a subject phrase, at the beginning of a predictive phrase as predicate phrases, and in object phrases. This means that adjective slots are possible in subject phrases and predictive phrases. Adjectives are comparable with adverbs but in *toki pona* some more complex. The noun *jan* is described here with the adjective *pona*.

jan pona		friend (good person)
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A friend is nothing but a good person. Since Toki Pona has a very small vocabulary, we often have to combine nouns with adjectives to say a certain term. Here are further examples.

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

You should not use more than three adjectives after a noun. One adjective should not be used more than once.

jan utala		soldier
jan utala nasa		stupid soldier
jan utala nasa mute		many stupid soldiers

As you might have noticed, *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 noun 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
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

Several predicate adjectives are also possible. However, it is usually not possible to distinguish between a predicate noun at the first position in the predicate phrase and a predicate adjective. While *mute* in this example can only be an adjective, *pona* can be an adjective or a noun.

jan li ' pona mute.	Man is very good. / The human being is the many good things.
---------------------	--

### 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

### Possessive Pronouns

A possessive pronoun expresses a property or affiliation and is placed after the corresponding (composite) noun. This means that for a noun with adjectives, the possessive pronoun is placed after the adjectives. For a noun without adjectives, the possessive pronoun is located after the noun. In these examples are *mi*, *sina* and *ona* possessive pronouns.

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

### The Demonstrative Pronoun *ni*

The demonstrative pronoun is a kind of word with which the speaker refers to an item of conversation. The demonstrative pronoun *ni* can be used both like an adjective and like a noun. A slot for an adjective demonstrative pronoun is therefore possible after a noun.

jan ni li pona.	This bloke is good.
jan li lukin e ijo ni.	The guy's looking at this thing.

A noun demonstrative pronoun is used instead of the noun. Slots for noun demonstrative pronouns therefore correspond to the positions of noun slots in the sentence.

ni li pona...	This is good.
jan li lukin e ni.	The guy looks at that one.

### A.6.6 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
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jan "Michael F." pali e ni. [\[1\]](#)

### A.6.7 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 [\[11\]](#).

jan Pije li pali e ni. [\[11\]](#)

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.)

Indirect Objects and Intransitive Verbs

We've already learned about direct objects. A direct object is most strongly influenced by the action (i. e. the transitive verb). Your can ask for direct object (accusative object) by 'Who' or 'What' ('What does she repair?'). But, in the sentence, 'I am in the house.' is 'in the house' an indirect object because you can't ask for it by 'Who' or 'What'. It is also not directly influenced by the predicate. A indirect object is part of the predicate phrase also. In the indirect object is the first slot always a noun or pronoun slot. After that, optional slots for adjectives, possessive pronouns and demonstrative pronouns are possible.

We've already learned transitive verbs. A transitive verb does something to the direct object. On the other hand, verbs that do not affect an object are called intransitive verbs. An intransitive verb is followed by either no object or an indirect object. In the sentences, 'I am.' and 'I am in the house.' is 'am' an intransitive verb. There is no *e* between intrasitive verb and indirect object.

The intransitive verb *lon* means 'to be there' or 'to exist'. Since there is no other predicate before *lon* there must be a verb *lon*.

suno li lon sewi.	The sun is in the sky.
kili li lon poki.	The fruit is in the basket.
mi lon tomo.	I'm in the house.

The intransitive verb *kepeken* means 'to use'.

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.

In some other lessons the transitive verb *kepeken* is used. This is surely because with 'What' you can ask for the object after *kepken*. As however the object is not directly influenced by the verb *kepeken*, it is an indirect object and *kepeken* an intransitive verb.

The intransitive verb *kon* means 'to breathe'.

jan ni li kon ike.	This person is breathing badly.
--------------------	---------------------------------

In contrast, the transitive verb *kon* means 'to blow away something'.

mi kon e ilo suno.	I blow out the candle.
--------------------	------------------------

The intransitive verb *kama* means 'to come' or 'to arrive'.

pona li kama.	The good will come.
---------------	---------------------

The intransitive verb *pakala* means 'to screw up', 'to fall apart' or 'to break'.

tomo ni li pakala.	This house is falling apart.
--------------------	------------------------------

The intransitive verb *sewi* means 'to get up'.

mi sewi.	I get up.
----------	-----------

## Practice (Answers: [Page 100](#))

Please write down your answers and check them afterwards.

How you can not ask for an indirect object?  
Which object type is strongly influenced by the predicate?  
Which phrase in the sentence does the indirect object belong to?  
What slot is in the first position in an indirect object?  
What do you call verbs that don't affect an object?  
What stands in front of an indirect object in Toki Pona?  
Where is a slot for an adjective demonstrative pronoun possible?  
Where's an auxiliary verb slot?

Try to translate these sentences. You can use the tool *Toki Pona Parser* ([\[20\]](#)) for spelling and grammar check.

This is for my friend.  
The tools are in the container.  
That bottle is in the dirt.  
They are arguing.  
The woman gave birth to her child.

## A.5 Tokiponization Guidelines

To create the Toki Pona version of a foreign name, you may use the following guidelines. Also see Alphabet and sounds ([Page 95](#)) for rules on what Toki Pona syllables and words are possible. You can find a tool for transliterate of names in [tokipona.net \[18\]](#).

- 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*.



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

ona li tawa, tawa sewi kiwen.		She's going up the rock.
-------------------------------	--	--------------------------

In the following sentences the first *tawa* is an transitive verb. The second *tawa* is a preposition.

mi tawa e mi, tawa tomo mi.		I'm moving myself to my house.
mi tawa e kiwen, tawa sewi.		I'm moving the rock to the peak.

In Toki Pona, to say that you (don't) like something, we have pattern, and the pattern use *tawa* as a preposition. This is done according to the pattern 'it is good to me' or 'it is bad to me'.

ni li 'pona, tawa mi.		That is good to me. / I like that.
ni li 'ike, tawa mi		That is bad to me. / I don't like that.
kili li 'pona, tawa mi.		I like fruit.
toki li 'pona, tawa mi.		I like talking. / I like languages.
utala li 'ike, tawa mi.		I don't like wars.
telo suli li 'ike, tawa mi.		I don't like the ocean.
pipi li 'ike, tawa mi.		I hate spiders.
ali li 'pona, tawa mi.		Everything's fine to me.
ma ali li 'pona, tawa mi.		All nations are good to me..

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, tawa 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.
-------------------	--	-------------------------------------

The preposition *tawa* can also mean 'for'.

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

There are ambiguities since *tawa* can also be used as an adjective. *tawa* is used as an adjective to make the phrase we use for 'car', 'boat' or 'airplane'.

tomo tawa		car (moving construction)
tomo tawa telo		boat, ship
tomo tawa kon		airplane, helicopter

Consider the following sentence.

mi pana e tomo tawa sina.		?
---------------------------	--	---

After 'mi pana e tomo', both an adjective slot and a preposition slot are possible.

With the adjective *tawa* the sentence means 'I gave your car.'. With the preposition *tawa*, however, the sentence means 'I gave the house to you.'. You can insert a comma before *tawa* to force only a slot for preposition. It is better to split the sentence.

mi jo e tomo tawa sina. mi pana e		I have your car. I give it to you.
ni tawa sina.		
ni li tomo. mi pana e ni tawa sina.		This is a house. I give it to you.

In this set the intransitive verb *kama* and die preposition *tawa* is used.

ona li kama, tawa tomo mi.		He came to my house.
----------------------------	--	----------------------

The preposition *sama* means 'like', 'as' or 'seem'.

ona li lukin, sama pipi.		He looks like a bug.
--------------------------	--	----------------------

On the other hand, directly after the separator *li* no preposition can follow. There would be no predicate. The adjective *sama* is used here as a predicate adjective.

jan ni li ' sama mi.		That person is like me.
----------------------	--	-------------------------

The preposition *tan* menas 'from', 'by', 'because of' or 'since'.

mi moku, tan ni: mi wile moku.		I eat because I'm hungry.
--------------------------------	--	---------------------------

Indirect Objects vs. Prepositional Objects

Neither indirect objects nor prepositional objects are directly influenced by the predicate. Prepositional objects are therefore a special form of indirect objects. In the following example the indirect object *ilo ni* is used with the intransitive verb *kepeken*.

mi pona e tomo tawa. mi kepeken		I repair the car. I use this tool.
ilo ni.		

It is possible to formulate the statement shorter and more clearly, if th preposition *kepeken* the prepositional object *ilo ni* introduces.

mi pona e tomo tawa, kepeken ilo ni.		I repair the car with this tool.
--------------------------------------	--	----------------------------------

However, if one absolutely wants to use this tool, one must use the intransitive verb *kepeken*. Auxiliary verbs can only be used with verbs and not with prepositions. Before the intransitive verb *kepeken* auxiliary verb *wile* is used here.

mi pona e tomo tawa. mi wile		I repair the car. I want to use this tool.
kepeken ilo ni.		

In other lessons the intransitive verb *tawa* is used.

mi tawa sina.		I'll go to you.
---------------	--	-----------------

This sentence is ambiguous. After *mi* here both a noun (predicate noun) and an adjective slot (predicate adjective) is possible.

mi tawa sina.		I am your movement.
---------------	--	---------------------

It is better to use a prepositional object. If, as recommended in these lessons, a comma is placed before the preposition, the sentence becomes clearer.

mi tawa, tawa sina.		I'll go to you.
---------------------	--	-----------------

On closer inspection it is noticeable that *tawa* here is no intransitive verb at all. It is also possible to formulate the sentence with the reflexive pronoun *mi* as a direct object. The first *tawa* is here a transitive verb. The second *tawa* is a preposition.

mi tawa e mi, tawa sina.		I move towards you.
--------------------------	--	---------------------

A.4 Unofficial Words

Continents

ma suli Amelika	the Americas
ma suli Amelika lete	North America
ma suli Amelika seli	South America
ma suli Antasika	Antarctica
ma suli Apika	Africa
ma suli Asija	Asia
ma suli 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	Kuwait
Lanka	Sri Lanka

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.2.17 Weather

kon en sewi	weather
seli li lon	it's warm or hot
lete li lon	it's cold
sunu 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

The Spatial Nouns *anpa*, *insa*, *monsi*, *noka*, *poka*, *sewi* and *sinpin*

In Toki Pona relative location information is formed with special nouns. These special nouns are called 'spatial nouns'. In addition to the noun, adjectives, possessive pronouns or demonstrative pronouns are required for the relative location information.

A spatial noun is preceded by either an intransitive verb or a preposition. This means that relative location information is either in an indirect object or a prepositional object and is therefore part of a predicate phrase.

Spatial Nouns in an Indirect Object

Usually the intransitive verb *lon* or preposition *lon* is used before spatial nouns. If there is no verb before *lon*, *lon* cannot be a preposition. In these examples the intransitive verb *lon* is used.

pipi li lon anpa mi.	The bug is underneath me.
telo suli li lon monsi mi.	The sea is behind me.
moku li lon insa mi.	Food is inside me.
ma li lon noka mi.	Land is under my feet.
ona li lon sewi mi.	He is in my above, i.e. he is above me.
tomo li lon sinpin mi.	The house is in front of me.

Spatial Nouns in a Prepositional Object

The following examples contain a verb. Hence, preposition *lon* is used.

mi moku, lon poka sina.	I'm eating beside [or with] you.
ona li pona e ilo, lon tomo ona.	He repairs the tools in his house.

In this sentence the second *tawa* is a preposition and stands before the spatial noun *noka*.

mi tawa e mi, tawa noka sina.	I bow before you.
-------------------------------	-------------------

Further meanings of these words

The transitive Verb *anpa*

mi anpa e jan utala.	I defeated the warrior.
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The 'normal' noun *poka*

poka telo	water side, the beach
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The Adjektive *poka*

jan poka	neighbor, someone who is beside you
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Practice (Answers: [Page 102](#))

Please write down your answers and check them afterwards.

How do you create relative location information in Toki Pona?  
What is a possessive pronoun?  
Where is a slot for a substantive demonstrative pronoun possible?  
Which separator is at the end of a declarative sentence?  
What is a predicate adjective?  
Which sentence phrases can contain spatial nouns be found?

Try to translate these sentences. You can use the tool *Toki Pona Parser* ([\[20\]](#)) for spelling and grammar check.

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 you.

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.

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	may I touch your butt?
sina?	
(mi meli.) mi olin e meli.	I am a lesbian
(mi mije.) mi olin e mije.	I am gay (male)

A.2.16 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)

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.2.9 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.2.10 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

wile ala	No
sina lukin ala lukin e kiwen?	Do you see the rock?
lukin	Yes
lukin ala	No
sina sona ala sona e toki mi?	Do you understand what I'm saying?
sona	Yes
sona ala	No

Problems with Predicate Aouns or predicate Adjectives

We had already learned the difference between verb and predicate (see page ??). In Toki Pona are sentences without verb possible. Then nouns serve as predicate nouns or adjectives as predicate adjectives. Yes/No questions with the adverb *ala* are only possible with a verb (see the official Toki Pona book of Sonja Lang [15]). You cannot write the missing verb 'be', then *ala* and then again write the missing verb 'be'. For example 'Is she a mother?' can't be formulated that way.

ona li ' ala ' mama?	wrong
----------------------	-------

Yes or no answers are also not possible if no verb there.

' .	wrong
' ala.	wrong

We will later learn how to formulate yes/no questions with predicate nouns and predicate adjectives.

Practice (Answers: [Page 103](#))

Please write down your answers and check them afterwards.

Which separator is at the end of a question?  
How is a yes/no question formulated in Toki Pona?  
What is to be considered for a predicate without a verb?  
How is a verb negated in Toki Pona?  
How do you answer in Toki Pona negative to a yes/no question?  
How do you answer positively to a yes/no question in Toki Pona?

Try to translate these sentences. You can use the tool *Toki Pona Parser* ([\[20\]](#)) for spelling and grammar check.

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 kuma?  
sina pona ala pona?

\* Think: 'You have to tell the reason to me.'

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.2.8 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, chololate, 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

A.2 Thematic Vocabulary

A.2.1 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
pillin	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

Languages

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

toki Inli li ' pona.	The English language is good.
ma Inli li ' pona.	England is good.
toki Kanse	French language
toki Epelanto li ' pona.	Esperanto ist einfach.

Here is an example of an unofficial word as predicate adjective.

toki mi li ' Tosi.	My mother tongue is German.
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Residents of a Country

A resident of a country is named by nouns *jan*, *meli* or *mije* and the unofficial word (adjective).

jan Kanata	Canadian person
jan Mesiko	Mexican person
meli Italiija	Italian woman

Persons

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 the noun *jan* and then the person's name.

jan 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.

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

This is the way to say your name.

mi ' jan Pepe.	I am Pepe.
nimi mi li ' Pepe.	My name is Pepe.

Nobody is forcing you to use a name in Toki Pona style. This is pure fun.

mi ' jan "Robert".	I'm Robert.
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Ideologies, Religions

Ideologies and religions are named with the noun *nasin*, the adjective *sewi* and the corresponding unofficial word (adjective).

nasin sewi Patapali	Pastafari
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Practice (Answers: [Page 139](#))

Please write down your answers and check them afterwards.

What are proper names in Toki Pona?  
Where are slots for predicate adjectives located?  
How are names in *toki pona* highlighted?  
How is the original spelling of a name marked?  
Which slots can unofficial words fill?  
What kind of word type must unofficial words be used together with?

Try to translate these sentences. You can use the tool *Toki Pona Parser* ([\[20\]](#)) for spelling and grammar check.

Susan is crazy.  
I come from Europe.  
My name is Ken.  
Hello, Lisa.  
I want to go to Australia.  
mi wile kama sona e toki Inli.  
jan Ana o pana e moku, tawa mi!  
jan Mose o lawa e mi mute, tawa ma pona!

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



...pini	<i>adjective:</i> completed, finished, past, done
...pini	<i>adverb:</i> ago, past, perfectly
pini	<i>noun:</i> end, tip
pini (e ...)	<i>verb transitive:</i> to end, to stop, to turn off, to finish, to close
pini ...	<i>auxiliary verb:</i> to stop, to finish, to end, to interrupt
pipi	<i>noun:</i> bug, insect, spider
...poka	<i>adjective:</i> neighbouring
poka	<i>noun:</i> side, hip, next to
poki	<i>noun:</i> container, box, bowl, cup, glass
poki (e ...)	<i>verb transitive:</i> to box up, to put in, to can, to bottle
...pona	<i>adjective:</i> good, simple, positive, nice, correct, right
...pona	<i>adverb:</i> good, simple, positive, nice, correct, right
pona!	<i>interjection:</i> great! good! thanks! OK! cool! yay!
pona	<i>noun:</i> good, simplicity, positivity
pona la ...	<i>noun:</i> if good, if simplicity, if positivity
pona (e ...)	<i>verb transitive:</i> to improve, to fix, to repair, to make good
...pu	<i>adjective:</i> buying and interacting with the official Toki Pona book
pu	<i>noun:</i> buying and interacting with the official Toki Pona book
pu ...	<i>auxiliary verb:</i> to buying and interacting with the official Toki Pona book
pu	<i>verb intransitive:</i> to buy and to read (the official Toki Pona book)
pu (e ...)	<i>verb transitive:</i> to apply (the official Toki Pona book) to ...
...sama	<i>adjective:</i> same, similar, equal, of equal status or position
...sama	<i>adverb:</i> just as, equally, exactly the same, just the same, similarly
sama	<i>noun:</i> equality, parity, equity, identity, par, sameness
sama la ...	<i>noun:</i> in case of equality, if parity, on identity
...sama ...	<i>preposition:</i> like, as, seem
sama (e ...)	<i>verb transitive:</i> to equate, to make equal, to make similar to
...seli	<i>adjective:</i> hot, warm, cooked
...seli	<i>adverb:</i> hot, warm, cooked
seli	<i>noun:</i> fire, warmth, heat
seli (e ...)	<i>verb transitive:</i> to heat, to warm up, to cook
selo	<i>noun:</i> skin, outer form, bark, peel, shell, skin, boundary, shape
selo (e ...)	<i>verb transitive:</i> to shelter, to protect, to guard
seme	<i>question pronoun:</i> what, which, wh- (question word)
...sewi	<i>adjective:</i> superior, elevated, religious, formal
...sewi	<i>adverb:</i> superior, elevated, religious, formal
sewi	<i>noun:</i> high, up, above, top, over, on
sewi	<i>verb intransitive:</i> to get up
sewi (e ...)	<i>verb transitive:</i> to lift
...sijelo	<i>adjective:</i> physical, bodily, corporal, corporeal, material, carnal
...sijelo	<i>adverb:</i> physically, bodily

a!	Ooh, Ahh! Unh! Oh!
a a a!	Hahaha! (laughter)

The interjection word *a* adds emotion or stress. It can be used at the end of a sentence. Use the Interjektion-Word *a* sparingly!

sina 'suli a!	You are so tall!
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The interjection words *o* and *a* only used when the person makes you feel really emotional. For example, if you haven't seen a person for a long time or if you have sex and you still speak perfect Toki Pona.

jan Epi o a!	Oh Abbie!
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### Salutations

The second group of interjections are kind like salutations. They usually consist of a noun, an optional adjective and an exclamation mark.

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!

They can also consist of a complete sentence with an exclamation mark.

jan Lisa o, toki!	Hello Lisa!
mi tawa	I'm going. Bye!

Practice (Answers: [Page 105](#))

Please write down your answers and check them afterwards.

Which separator ends a command sentence (imperative)?  
What is the subject of the command form if no one is addressed directly?  
How do you address people by name?  
What do injections consist of?  
Which separator stands bevor the predicate if someone is directly addressed in a command?  
Which separator ends an interjection (exclamation)?

Try to translate these sentences. You can use the tool *Toki Pona Parser* ([\[20\]](#)) for spelling and grammar check.

Go!  
Mama, wait.  
Hahaha! That's funny.  
F-ck!  
Bye!

mu!  
o tawa musi, lon poka mi!  
tawa pona!  
o pu!

olin (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to love (a person)
ona ... ona ... e ona	<i>personal pronoun</i> : she, he, it, they <i>possessive pronoun</i> : her, his, its <i>reflexive pronoun</i> : himself, herself, itself, themselves
... open open open la ... open (e ...) open ...	<i>adjective</i> : initial, starting, opening <i>noun</i> : start, beginning, opening <i>noun</i> : at the opening, in the beginning <i>verb transitive</i> : to open, to start, to begin, to turn on <i>auxiliary verb</i> : to begin, to start
... pakala ... pakala pakala! pakala pakala pakala (e ...)	<i>adjective</i> : destroyed, ruined, demolished, shattered, wrecked <i>adverb</i> : destroyed, ruined, demolished, shattered, wrecked <i>interjection</i> : damn! fuck! <i>noun</i> : blunder, accident, mistake, destruction, damage, breaking <i>verb intransitive</i> : to screw up, to fall apart, to break <i>verb transitive</i> : to screw up, to ruin, to break, to hurt, to injure, to damage
... pali ... pali pali pali pali (e ...)	<i>adjective</i> : active, work-related, operating, working <i>adverb</i> : actively, briskly <i>noun</i> : activity, work, deed, project <i>verb intransitive</i> : to act, to work, to function <i>verb transitive</i> : to do, to make, to build, to create
... palisa palisa palisa (e ...)	<i>adjective</i> : long <i>noun</i> : long hard thing; branch, rod, stick, pointy thing <i>verb transitive</i> : to stretch, to beat, to poke, to stab, to sexually arouse
pan pan (e ...)	<i>noun</i> : cereal, grain; barley, corn, oat, rice, wheat; bread, pasta <i>verb transitive</i> : to sow
... pana pana pana (e ...)	<i>adjective</i> : generous <i>noun</i> : giving, transfer, exchange <i>verb transitive</i> : to give, to put, to send, to place, to release, to emit, to cause
... pi ...	<i>separator</i> : 'pi' is used to build complex compound nouns. 'pi' separates a (pro)noun from another (pro)noun that has at least one adject After 'pi' could only be a noun or pronoun. Don't use 'pi' before or after the other separators 'e', 'la', 'li', 'o', 'i', '!', '?', 'u'.
... pilin ... pilin pilin pilin pilin (e ...)	<i>adjective</i> : sensitive, feeling, empathic <i>adverb</i> : perceptively <i>noun</i> : feelings, emotion, feel, think, sense, touch, <i>verb intransitive</i> : to feel, to sense <i>verb transitive</i> : to feel, to think, to touch, to fumble, to fiddle
... pimeja pimeja pimeja (e ...)	<i>adjective</i> : black, dark <i>noun</i> : darkness, shadows <i>verb transitive</i> : to darken

laso	<i>noun</i> : blue, blue-green
... lawa	<i>adjective</i> : main, leading, in charge
... lawa	<i>adverb</i> : main, leading, in charge
lawa	<i>noun</i> : head, mind
lawa (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to lead, to control, to rule, to steer
... len	<i>adjective</i> : dressed, clothed, costumed, dressed up
len	<i>noun</i> : clothing, cloth, fabric, network, internet
len (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to wear, to be dressed, to dress
... lete	<i>adjective</i> : cold, cool, uncooked, raw, perishing
... lete	<i>adverb</i> : bleakly
lete	<i>noun</i> : cold, chill, bleakness
lete (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to cool down, to chill
... li ...	<i>separator</i> : It separates the subject phrase, except 'mi' and 'sina', from the predicate phrase. Don't use 'li' before or after the other separators 'e', 'la', 'o', 'pi', 'i', '!', '?', '!', '!', '!'.
... lili	<i>adjective</i> : small, little, young, a bit, short, few, less
... lili	<i>adverb</i> : small, little, young, a bit, short, few, less
lili	<i>noun</i> : smallness, youth, immaturity
lili (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to reduce, to shorten, to shrink, to lessen
... linja	<i>adjective</i> : elongated, oblong, long
linja	<i>noun</i> : long and flexible thing; string, rope, hair, thread, cord, chain, line, yarn
... lipu	<i>adjective</i> : book-, paper-, card-, ticket-, sheet-, page,-
lipu	<i>noun</i> : paper, book, card, ticket, sheet, (web-)page, list ; flat and bendable thing
... loje	<i>adjective</i> : reddish, ruddy, pink, pinkish, gingery
loje	<i>noun</i> : red
... lon	<i>adjective</i> : true, existing, correct, real, genuine
lon	<i>noun</i> : existence, being, presence
... lon ...	<i>preposition</i> : be (located) in/at/on
lon	<i>verb intransitive</i> : to be there, to be present, to be real/true, to exist
lon (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to give birth, to create
... luka	<i>adjective</i> : tangible, palpable
... luka	<i>adjective numeral</i> : five, 5
luka	<i>noun</i> : arm, hand, tacticle organ
... lukin	<i>adjective</i> : visual(ly)
... lukin	<i>adverb</i> : visual(ly)
lukin	<i>noun</i> : view, look, glance, sight, gaze, glimpse, seeing, vision
lukin	<i>verb intransitive</i> : to look, to watch out, to pay attention
lukin (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to see, to look at, to watch, to read
lukin ...	<i>auxiliary verb</i> : to seek to, try to, look for
... lupa	<i>adjective</i> : hole-, holey, full of holes

### What – Prepositional Object

If the question pronoun *seme* is set after a preposition, a question (what) is possible for the prepositional object.

sina pali e ni, kepeken seme?		What did you use to work on this?
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### How

If the question pronoun *seme* is in a prepositional object after the preposition *kepeken* and the noun *nasin*, then arises a how-question.

sina pali e ni, kepeken nasin seme?		How did you make this?
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### Why

The preposition *tan* and the question pronoun *seme* are used to formulate 'why'. Both words form a prepositional object here.

sina kama, tan seme?		Why did you come?
----------------------	--	-------------------

### Who(m)

At questions on one person the question pronoun *seme* represents an adjective after the noun *jan*.

jan seme li moku?		Who is eating?
jan seme li tawa, lon 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

At questions on things the question pronoun *seme* represents adjective after the corresponding noun.

ma seme li ' pona, tawa sina?		Which countries do you like?
sina kama, tan ma seme?		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 question pronoun *seme* with the pronoun *ni*.

Miscellaneous

The Noun *supa*

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

supa	table, chair, sofa, ...
supa lape	bed

The Noun *suwi*

The noun *suwi* means 'candy' or some other type of sweet food.

mi wile e suwi!	I want a cookie!
-----------------	------------------

The Adjective *suwi*

The adjective *suwi* means 'sweet' or 'cute'. It don't mean that it's sexy, attractive, or anything like that.

jan lili sina li ' suwi.	Your baby is cute.
telo kili ni li ' suwi.	This fruit drink is sweet.

The Adjective *sin*

The adjective *sin* means 'another' or 'more'.

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

The Noun *olin*

The noun *olin* means 'the love' (to) a person.

olin sina li ' pona, tawa mi.	Your love is good for me.
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The Adjective *olin*

meli olin ona li ' pona lukin.	His wife is pretty.
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The Transitive Verb *olin*

The transitive verb *olin* means 'to love'. However, it only refers to affectionate love, like loving people. For example, you might *olin* your girlfriend or your parents.

mi olin e sina.	I love you.
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You can't *olin* things or objects. Then the familiar pattern is used:

ni li pona tawa mi.	I like this.
---------------------	--------------

... kili	<i>adverb</i> : fruity
kili	<i>noun</i> : fruit, pulpy vegetable, mushroom

... kin	<i>adjective</i> : indeed, still, too
... kin	kin can be the very last word in an adjective group.
... kin	<i>adverb</i> : actually, indeed, in fact, really, objectively,
... kin	kin can be the very last word in an adverb group.
kin!	<i>interjection</i> : really!
kin	<i>noun</i> : reality, fact
kin la ...	<i>noun</i> : if reality, if fact

kipisi	<i>noun</i> : section, fragment, slice
kipisi (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to cut

... kiwen	<i>adjective</i> : hard, solid, stone-like, made of stone or metal
... kiwen	<i>adverb</i> : hard, solid, stone-like, made of stone or metal
kiwen	<i>noun</i> : hard thing, rock, stone, metal, mineral, clay
kiwen (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to solidify, to harden, to petrify, to fossilize

ko	<i>noun</i> : semi-solid or squishy substance; clay, dough, glue, paste, powder, gum
ko (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to squash, to pulverize

... kon	<i>adjective</i> : air-like, ethereal, gaseous
... kon	<i>adverb</i> : air-like, ethereal, gaseous
kon	<i>noun</i> : air, wind, smell, soul
kon	<i>verb intransitive</i> : to breathe
kon (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to blow away something, to puff away something

... kule	<i>adjective</i> : colourful, pigmented, painted
kule	<i>noun</i> : color, colour, paint, ink, dye, hue
kule (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to paint, to color

... kulupu	<i>adjective</i> : communal, shared, public, of the society
kulupu	<i>noun</i> : group, community, society, company, people
kulupu (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to assemble, to call together, to convene

... kute	<i>adjective</i> : auditory, hearing
kute	<i>noun</i> : hearing, ear
kute (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to hear, to listen,

... la ...	<i>separator</i> : A 'la' is between a conditional phrases and the main sentence.
... la ...	A context phrase can be sentence, half sentence or noun.
... la ...	Don't use 'la' before or after
... la ...	the other separators 'e', 'li', 'pi', 'i', '!', '?', ':', '!', '!

... lape	<i>adjective</i> : sleeping, of sleep, dormant
... lape	<i>adverb</i> : asleep
lape	<i>noun</i> : sleep, rest
lape	<i>verb intransitive</i> : to sleep, to rest
lape (e ...)	<i>verb transitive</i> : to knock out

... laso	<i>adjective</i> : bluish, bluey
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A.1 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', 'I', '?', 'i'.
!	<i>separator</i> : An imperative or an interjection sentence (exclamatory) ends with an exclamation mark. Don't use an exclamation mark before or after the other separators 'e', 'la', 'li', 'pi', 'i', 'I', '?', 'i'.
?	<i>separator</i> : An question (interrogative sentence) always ends with a question mark. Don't use a question mark before or after the other separators 'e', 'la', 'li', 'o', 'pi', 'i', 'I', '?', 'i'.
:	<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', 'I', '?', 'i'.
,	<i>separator</i> : A comma is used after an 'o' to addressing people. Optional you can put a comma before a preposition. Don't use a comma before or after the separators 'e', 'la', 'li', 'i', 'I', '?', 'i'.
"	<i>separator</i> : Quotation marks are used for words with original spelling or for quotes.
'	<i>unofficial</i> : For clarification a empty verb slot 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	<i>adjective</i> : amphibian-, reptilian-, slimy
akesi	<i>noun</i> : reptile, amphibian; non-cute animal
...ala	<i>adjective</i> : no, not, none, un-
...ala	<i>adjective numeral</i> : null, 0
...ala	<i>adverb</i> : don't
ala!	<i>interjection</i> : no!
ala	<i>noun</i> : nothing, negation, zero
...alasa	<i>adjective</i> : hunting-, -hunting, hunting
alasa	<i>noun</i> : hunting
alasa (e ...)	<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)

The Separator *pi*

So far we have learned how to combine a single noun with adjectives. Adjectives stand after the noun. This is exactly the opposite of the English language. These possibilities are not sufficient for many terms. The English language knows compound nouns consisting of several nouns. In *toki pona* this is also possible. It is possible to combine several nouns including their adjectives. However, the order is exactly the opposite here as in the English language. The main noun in English is at the end of the compound noun. For example the compound noun 'toothbrush'. Here 'brush' is the main noun. After all, it is a brush and not a tooth.

In *toki pona* the main noun is at the beginning. This is followed by the supplementary nouns and their adjectives. The separator *pi* serves to separate these supplementary nouns and to mark them as nouns. After the separator *pi* must follow at least two words. For example *pi* + noun + adjective or *pi* + pronoun + adjective. That is, after the separator *pi* only a noun or pronoun slot is possible.

The separator *pi* must not stand together with the separators *li* or *e*.

General examples

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, 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 the separator *pi*.

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

## Appendix A

## Appendix

### Possessives

In Toki Pona also compound nouns are used to identify property. 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 the separator *pi*.

tomo pi jan Lisa	Lisa's house
killi pi jan Susan	Susan's fruit
ma pi jan Keli	Keli's country
len pi jan Lisa	Lisa's clothes

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

nimi pi mi mute	our names
tomo pi ona mute	their house

### Opposites

Composite nouns are also used to formulate the opposite of a word or group of words. The separator *pi*, the word or group of words and the adjective *ala* is used. This could change the word type. In the first examples *wawa* is a adjective. But after the separator *pi* only a noun or pronoun slot is possible. So *wawa* can only be a noun here.

jan wawa	a strong person
jan pi wawa ala	a person with weakness, a weak person
jan wawa ala	No strong people.

### Whose

A compound noun is also used for questions of ownership. In this case after the separator *pi* follows a noun *jan* and the question pronoun *seme* as representative of adjective.

ni li tomo pi jan seme?	Whose house is this?
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### Several *pi* Phrases for one Compound Noun

The English language knows compound nouns consisting of more than two nouns. For example, the word 'open source software'. Here too, the last noun is the main noun. After all, it is software.

In *toki pona* several *pi* phrases for a main noun are possible. This is similar to the other separators *li* and *e*. (Multiple predicate phrases (*li*) belong to one subject. Several direct objects (*e*) belong to one predicate. Accordingly, all further *pi* phrases are associated with the first noun. So *pi* phrases are not nested. You can change the order. However you should avoid several *pi* phrases if you can. In the next lesson we will learn a way to avoid several *pi* phrases.

kulupu pi kalama musi pi ma Inli li pona.	The English rock band is good.
kulupu pi ma Inli pi kalama musi li pona.	The English rock band is good.

Numbers

How are ordinal numbers formed? Can a number be placed directly after the separator <i>li</i> ? Which word type are used to form numbers? How are large numbers formed? Which word type can be used in a compound noun after numbers? How to make sums?	With the adjective <i>nanpa</i> before numbers. Yes, as predicate adjective.  Adjectives.  With the adjective <i>mute</i> . Possessive pronouns.  With conjunction <i>en</i> .
nanpa - ona li ' jan nanpa wan. wan - mi wan. luka - ni li ' luka tu. luka - ni li ' luka tu. nanpa - sina nanpa e kili. weka - sina tawa weka e sina. esun - o esun e ni!	adjective transitive verb, adjective (number), noun adjective, adjective (number), noun adjective, noun transitive verb adverb transitive verb
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! Is this a part?	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! ni li ' wan anu seme?
mi weka e ijo tu ni. o tu. mi lukin e soweli luka. mi ' weka. ona li sike ala sike?	I got rid of those two things. Break up. Split apart. I saw five mammals. I was away. Is it rotating?

Practice (Answers: Page 107)

Please write down your answers and check them afterwards.

Can the separator <i>pi</i> be used to separate adjectives? Where is the main noun in <i>toki pona</i> of a compound noun? How many words must at least be between the separator <i>pi</i> and the next separator? Where can adjective slots after the separator <i>pi</i> be located? How do you ask for the owner of an item?
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Try to translate these sentences. You can use the tool *Toki Pona Parser* ([20]) for spelling and grammar check.

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? I look at the land with my friend. Whom did you go with?
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.

1.15 Conjunctions and Temperature

Vocabulary

... ante ante ante (e ...)	<i>adjective:</i> different, dissimilar, changed, other, unequal, differential <i>noun:</i> difference, distinction, differential, variation, variance, disagreement <i>verb transitive:</i> to change, to alter, to modify
... anu ...	<i>conjunction:</i> or (used for decision questions)
... en ...	<i>conjunction:</i> and (used to coordinate head nouns)
... kin	<i>adjective:</i> indeed, still, too
... kin	kin can be the very last word in an adjective group. <i>adverb:</i> actually, indeed, in fact, really, objectively, kin can be the very last word in an adverb group.
kin kin!	<i>noun:</i> reality, fact <i>interjection:</i> really!
... lete ... lete lete lete (e ...)	<i>adjective:</i> cold, cool, uncooked, raw, perishing <i>adverb:</i> bleakly <i>noun:</i> cold, chill, bleakness <i>verb transitive:</i> to cool down, to chill
... lipu lipu	<i>adjective:</i> book-, paper-, card-, ticket-, sheet-, page-, <i>noun:</i> paper, book, card, ticket, sheet, (web-)page, list ; flat and bendable thing
... mani ... mani mani	<i>adjective:</i> financial, financially, monetary, pecuniary <i>adverb:</i> financially <i>noun:</i> money, material wealth, currency, dollar, capital
... pilin ... pilin pilin pilin pilin (e ...)	<i>adjective:</i> sensitive, feeling, empathic <i>adverb:</i> perceptively <i>noun:</i> feelings, emotion, feel, think, sense, touch, <i>verb intransitive:</i> to feel, to sense <i>verb transitive:</i> to feel, to think, to touch, to fumble, to fiddle
... taso ... taso ... taso ...	<i>adjective:</i> only, sole <i>adverb:</i> only, just, merely, simply, solely, singly <i>conjunction:</i> but, however

The Body

kepeken - mi kepeken ilo. sina - sina pona ala pona? kama - mi kama jo e tomo tawa. lon - mi lon tomo. kepeken - mi pali e ni, kepeken ilo.	intransitive verb, noun transitive verb auxiliary verb intransitive verb, adverb, adjective, noun preposition
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. Is it a chain?	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. ona li ' linja anu seme?
selo pi jelo en laso pi akesi lili li ' pona, tawa mi. a! telo sijelo loje li kama tan nena kute mi! selo mi li wile e ni: mi pilin e ona.	I like the little lizard's green-blue skin.  Ahh! Blood is coming from my ear!
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. ona li selo ala selo?	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. Is it protecting?



Conjunctions *kin* Temperature

What are conjunctions? What is an answer-question? What is the difference between conjunctions and prepositions? How is an answer-question formed in <i>toki pona</i> ? Is there a comma before or after the conjunction <i>taso</i> ? What are alternative-questions? What connects the conjunction <i>taso</i> ? What connects the conjunction <i>en</i> ? How is an alternative-question formed in <i>toki pona</i> ? How is a yes/no-question with predicate nouns or predicate adjectives formed in <i>toki pona</i> ?	Conjunctions connect words and phrases. The answer is already included in the question. Conjunctions do not cause cases.  The conjunction <i>anu</i> and the question pronoun <i>seme</i> is added.  No, it is not.  A selection of several options is requested. It refers to the previous sentence.  It combines (composite) nouns or pronouns. With the conjunction <i>anu</i> .  An answer question is formulated.
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? This lake is cold.	sina wile kama anu seme? sina wile e moku anu telo?  mi wile kin tawa, tawa tomo mi. lipu ni li ' lete, tawa mi. 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? telo ni li ' lete, tawa mi.
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.	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?
sina wile toki, tawa mije anu meli?	

kin ni li kama, tawa suno.	This fact comes to light.
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The Adjective *kin*

The adjective <i>kin</i> is at the end of an adjective group and emphasizes it.	
jan pona mi kin li lon ni.	My good friend is here.

The Adverb *kin*

The adverb <i>kin</i> is at the end of an adverb group and emphasizes it.	
A: mi tawa, tawa ma Elopa. mi tawa kin e mi, tawa ma Elopa. A: mi mute o tawa. B: mi ken ala. mi moku kin e moku. A: a! sina lukin ala lukin e ijo nasa ni? B: mi lukin kin e ona.	I went to Europe. I went to Europe too. Let's go. I can't. I'm still eating the food. Whoa! Do you see that weird thing?  I see it indeed.

Temperatures

As nouns <i>seli</i> mean 'heat' and <i>lete</i> 'cold'. The adjectives <i>lili</i> and <i>mute</i> relativize these nouns. We can use these words to express weather temperatures. <i>lon</i> is here an intransitive verb.	
seli li lon. lete li lon. seli mute li lon. seli lili li lon. lete mute li lon. lete lili li lon.	It's hot. It's cold. It's very hot. It's warm. It's very cold. It's cool.

The Intransitive Verb *pilin*

If one wants to describe the temperature of an object, one uses <i>seli</i> or <i>lete</i> as predicate nouns.	
ilo ni li ' lete mute , tawa mi. ni li ' seli lili, tawa mi.	This axe feels very cold. This feels warm.
When one freezes or sweats, one says this with the intransitive verb <i>pilin</i> and the adverbs <i>seli</i> and <i>lete</i> .	
mi pilin lete mute.	I'm very cold.
The intransitive verb <i>pilin</i> can generally describe feelings of a person or an animal.	
mi pilin pona. mi pilin ike. sina pilin seme?	I feel good. / I feel happy. I feel bad. / I feel sad. How do you feel?

The Transitive Verb *pilin*

The transitive *pilin* means 'to think'.

mi pilin e ni: sina ike.  
sina pilin e seme?  
mi pilin e ijo.  
mi pilin e meli ni.

I think this: You're bad.  
What are you thinking?  
I'm thinking (about) something.  
I'm thinking about that woman.

Compound Nouns

Can the separator <i>pi</i> be used to separate adjectives?	No, it is not possible.
Where is the main noun in <i>toki pona</i> of a compound noun?	At the beginning.
How many words must at least be between the separator <i>pi</i> and the next separator?	Two words.
Where can adjective slots after the separator <i>pi</i> be located?	On the second and following positions after the separator <i>pi</i> .
How do you ask for the owner of an item?	item + <i>pi</i> + <i>jan</i> + <i>seme</i>
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? I look at the land with my friend. Whom did you go with?	jan lili pi jan Keli li ' musli. 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 sul'i?  tomo pi mi mute li ' pakala. ona li pali e mi, kepeken nasin seme? mi lukin e ma, lon poka pi jan pona mi. sina tawa, lon poka pi jan seme?
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.	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.

Unofficial Words

What are proper names in Toki Pona?	Unofficial words, adjectives
Where are slots for predicate adjectives located?	After the separator <i>li</i> .
How are names in <i>toki pona</i> highlighted?	The first letter is a capital letter.
How is the original spelling of a name marked?	By quotation marks.
Which slots can unofficial words fill?	Adjective slots.
What kind of word type must unofficial words be used together with?	With a noun.
Susan is crazy.	jan Susan li ' nasa.
I come from Europe.	mi kama, tan ma sulɩ Elopa.
My name is Ken.	mi ' jan Ken. / nimi mi li Ken.
Hello, Lisa.	jan Lisa o, toki!
I want to go to Australia.	mi wile tawa, tawa ma sulɩ Oselija.
mi wile kama sona e toki Inli.	I want to learn English.
jan Ana o pana e moku, tawa mi!	Ana, give me food.
jan Mose o lawa e mi mute, tawa ma pona!	Moses, lead us to the good land.

Color Combinations

A Shade of Colour

In Toki Pona there are no words for the colors purple, green, grey, etc. But you can create colors from several words. One uses one of these nouns *jelo*, *laso*, *loje*, *pimeja* or *walo*. Then use these adjectives *jelo*, *laso*, *loje*, *pimeja*, or *walo*.

laso loje li ' pona, tawa mi.	Purple (reddish blue) is my favourite colour.
laso jelo li ' pona, tawa mi.	Green (yellowish blue) is my favourite colour.
loje jelo li ' pona, tawa mi.	Orange (yellowish red) is my favourite colour.
loje walo li ' pona, tawa mi.	Pink (whitish red) is my favourite colour.
walo pimeja li ' pona, tawa mi.	Grey (dark white) is my favourite colour.

It is also possible to form colors from a noun and several adjectives. The goal of Toki Pona is however the simplicity. Therefore, avoid complex word compositions. Incidentally, the order of the colours doesn't matter.

laso loje li ' pona, tawa mi.	Purple is my favourite colour.
loje laso li ' pona, tawa mi.	Purple is my favourite colour.

Colors are usually used as adjectives because they describe nouns. The adjectives *loje* and *laso* describe the noun *len* here.

len loje laso mi li ' pona, tawa mi.	I like this purple t-shirt.
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