



toki pona

Developed by linguist Sonja Lang, toki pona is a language with ~130 words.

It uses only 14 IPA phonemes: *a e i o u j k l m n p s t u w*

Basic Sentences

The particle *li* separates the subject from the predicate.

↗ – The cat is eating.

– People sleep.

There is no verb “to be.” The part after *>* (predicate) can be a noun or an adjective.

– Fruits are food.

– Water is good.

If the subject is *P* or *b* alone, the *>* is always omitted.

– I eat.

– You are good.

body

- insa inside, center, between, middle; organ, stomach
- kute ear; hear, listen
- lawa head, mind; lead; leader; rule
- luka hand, arm; 5
- lukin look, see, examine; eye; try
- monsi behind, back, rear
- nena nose, bump, hill, button
- noka foot, leg; roots, lower part
- pilin heart, feeling (emotion, sense)
- selo outer layer, skin, peel, shell, bark; boundary
- sijelo body, physical state, torso
- sinpin vertical surface, wall; front, face
- uta mouth, lips

people

- jan person, somebody
- kulupu group, community, company, collection, team
- mama parent, caretaker; creator
- meli female, feminine
- mi (1st-person) I, me, we, us
- mije male, masculine
- ona (3rd-person) he, she, it, they, ...
- sina (2nd-person) you, y'all
- tonsi nonbinary; transgender

necessities

- esun market, shop; trade, buy, sell
- len cloth, fabric; hidden, private
- mani money, currency; valuables
- misikeke medication, medical practice
- moku eat, drink; food
- pan bread, grain, potato, pasta, rice
- tomo building, room, tent, shelter
- wile want, must, need

critters

- akesi reptile, amphibian, scaly animal
- kala fish, marine animal
- kijetesantakalu raccoon, procyonid, musteloid



pipi insect, bug, spider, tiny crawling creature



soweli land animal, beast



waso bird, flying animal, winged animal



toki talk, communicate; tale; language



unpa sex, to have sexual relations



utala fight, compete, battle; challenge



pilin heart, feeling (emotion, sense)



sewi up, top, above; divine, sacred, supernatural; awesome, inspiring



sona knowledge, information; know; wisdom, skill



tempo time, moment, period, duration



utala fight, compete, battle; challenge



wawa amazing; power, energy; intense



wile want, must, need

sight



jelo yellow, yellowish color



kule color; aspect of sense, timbre, pitch, flavor, texture; queer



laso blue, green, turquoise, indigo



loje red, reddish color



lukin look, see, examine; eye; try



pimeja black; dark, unlit; dark color



sitelen image, picture, symbol, writing



walo white; light-colored, bright color

elements



kasi plant, vegetation; herb, leaf



kili fruit, vegetable



kiwen hard object, stone, rock, metal



kon air, breath, wind; spirit, soul



lete cold, cool, frozen; raw



ma earth, land, soil; country, territory



mun moon, night sky object, star



seli hot, warm; heat, fire; burn



soko mushroom, fungus, lichen



suno sun, light source; light, glow



telo water, liquids, drinks; to wash, to clean

state



ante different, change, changed, other



awen stay, remain, wait; protect, save; to continue



kama arrive, summon; future; become



ken can, may, ability; possible; allow, enable; to be able to



open begin, start; turn on; opening



pini finish, stop; turn off; close, end, final



tawa motion, walking, flight, travel; going to, for; from the perspective of



tempo time, moment, period, duration



weka away, absent, distant; remove, rid

things



ijo thing, object, matter



ilo tool, machine, device, instrument



leko square, cube, block, brick



linja long and flexible thing, rope, hair, line, string



lipu flat object, paper, document, card, website



lupa door, window, hole, pit, portal



namako spice, ornament; extra, additional



nena nose, bump, hill, button



palisa long hard object, rod, stick



poki container, bag, bowl, box, cup



sike circle, sphere; cycle, orbit, year



supa horizontal surface, bed, floor, table, platform, stage

descriptions



ante different, change, changed, other



ike bad, negative, unpleasant, cringe, complex, harmful, unneeded



jaki disgusting, unclean, toxic



kiwen hard object, stone, rock, metal



ko clay, dough, something pliable, powder, sand



lawa head, mind; lead; leader; rule



lili little, small, short; few; young



namako spice, ornament; extra, additional



nasa strange, unusual, silly, unexpected; drunk



pona good, positive, pleasant, simple, friendly, useful, peaceful, based



sama same, similar; sibling, peer; as, like



sin new, fresh; another, extra



suli big, heavy, large; important; adult



suwi sweet; cute, innocent, adorable

ideas



jasima mirror, reflection, opposite



moli death, dead, dying; kill, murder



monsuta monster, fear, scary, threat, danger



musi entertainment, fun, game, art, amusing, interesting



nasin method, doctrine; road, way



nimi word, name



olin love, bond, compassion, respect



pakala damage, break, harm; mistake

counting



ala not, nothing, no; 0; (negation); (yes-no question)

∞	ale all, everything, entirety; any; 100
∩	luka hand, arm; 5
 	mute many, several; very; 20
#	nanpa number, -th
 	tu 2; separate, divide, split
1	wan 1; combine, join, mix

connection

Y	anu (possibility marker), or
>>	e (direct object marker)
+	en (multiple subject marker)
 	kin too, also
*	la (context marker)
>	li (predicate marker)
·	lon located at; real, true, exist
L	pi (regroups modifiers)
?	seme (question marker); what, which
↶	tan by, from, because; origin, cause
⊣	taso only, exclusively; but, however

evoke

ㅏ	a (emphasis/emotion interjection); ah, oh, haha, eh, um
ଓ	mu (animal noise/onomatopoeia)
ঁ	n (thinking interjection); hm, uh
ঁ	o (vocative/imperative marker), must, ought, should, could, would