



## 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.

↪>ꝝ – The cat is eating.

ꝝ>ꝝ – People sleep.

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

ꝝ>ꝝ – Fruits are food.

≈>ꝝ – Water is good.

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

*P*ꝝ – I eat.

*b*ꝝ – 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

- mani** money, currency; valuables  
**miskeke** medication, medical practice  
**moku** eat, drink; food  
**pan** bread, grain, potato, pasta, rice  
**tomo** building, room, tent, shelter  
**wile** want, must, need

- ken** can, may, ability; possible; allow, enable; to be able to  
**open** begin, start; turn on; opening  
**piji** finish, stop; turn off; close, end, final  
**tawa** motion, walking, flight, travel; going to, for; from the perspective of  
**tenpo** time, moment, period, duration  
**weka** away, absent, distant; remove, rid

- 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

## 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

## activity

- alasa** hunt, forage, seek, attempt, try  
**esun** market, shop; trade, buy, sell  
**jo** have, hold, carry, contain  
**kalama** to make noise; sound  
**kepeken** using, with, by means of  
**kipisi** cut, split, slice; piece, part  
**ku** to interact with Toki Pona Dictionary by Sonja Lang  
**lape** sleep, rest  
**pali** work, create, take action on  
**pana** give, send, emit, provide  
**pu** to interact with Toki Pona: The Language of Good by Sonja Lang  
**sitelen** image, picture, symbol, writing  
**su** to interact with the illustrated story book series produced by Sonja Lang  
**toki** talk, communicate; tale; language  
**unpa** sex, to have sexual relations  
**utala** fight, compete, battle; challenge

## 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

## 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

## 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

## state

- ante** different, change, changed, other  
**awen** stay, remain, wait; protect, save; to continue  
**kama** arrive, summon; future; become

## ideas

- jasima** mirror, reflection, opposite  
**moli** death, dead, dying; kill, murder

## necessities

- esun** market, shop; trade, buy, sell  
**len** cloth, fabric; hidden, private

## elements

- kasi** plant, vegetation; herb, leaf

	<b>monsuta</b> monster, fear, scary, threat, danger
	<b>musi</b> entertainment, fun, game, art, amusing, interesting
	<b>nasin</b> method, doctrine; road, way
	<b>nimi</b> word, name
	<b>olin</b> love, bond, compassion, respect
	<b>pakala</b> damage, break, harm, mistake
	<b>pitin</b> heart, feeling (emotion, sense)
	<b>sewi</b> up, top, above; divine, sacred, supernatural; awesome, inspiring
	<b>sona</b> knowledge, information; know; wisdom, skill
	<b>tempo</b> time, moment, period, duration
	<b>utala</b> fight, compete, battle; challenge
	<b>wawa</b> amazing; power, energy; intense
	<b>wile</b> want, must, need

	<b>ante</b> different, change, changed, other
	<b>ike</b> bad, negative, unpleasant, cringe, complex, harmful, unneeded
	<b>jaki</b> disgusting, unclean, toxic
	<b>kiwen</b> hard object, stone, rock, metal
	<b>ko</b> clay, dough, something pliable, powder, sand
	<b>lawa</b> head, mind; lead; leader; rule
	<b>tili</b> little, small, short; few; young
	<b>namako</b> spice, ornament; extra, additional
	<b>nasa</b> strange, unusual, silly, unexpected; drunk
	<b>pona</b> good, positive, pleasant, simple, friendly, useful, peaceful, based
	<b>sama</b> same, similar; sibling peer; as, like
	<b>sin</b> new, fresh; another, extra
	<b>suli</b> big, heavy, large; important; adult
	<b>suwi</b> sweet; cute, innocent, adorable

	(multiple subject marker)
	<b>kin</b> too, also
	<b>la</b> (context marker)
	<b>li</b> (predicate marker)
	<b>lon</b> located at; real, true, exist
	<b>pi</b> (regroups modifiers)
	<b>seme</b> (question marker); what, which
	<b>tan</b> by, from, because; origin, cause
	<b>taso</b> only, exclusively; but, however

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

## locating

	<b>anpa</b> bottom, underside; below; defeat, humble, lowly
	<b>insa</b> inside, center, between, middle; organ, stomach
	<b>lon</b> located at; real, true, exist
	<b>monsi</b> behind, back, rear
	<b>ni</b> this, that, these, those
	<b>poka</b> side, hip; next to, near
	<b>poki</b> container, bag, bowl, box, cup
	<b>selo</b> outer layer, skin, peel, shell, bark; boundary
	<b>sewi</b> up, top, above; divine, sacred, supernatural; awesome, inspiring
	<b>sinpin</b> vertical surface, wall; front, face
	<b>weka</b> away, absent, distant; remove, rid

## counting

	<b>ala</b> not, nothing, no; 0; (negation); (yes-no question)
	<b>ale</b> all, everything, entirety; any; 100
	<b>luka</b> hand, arm; 5
	<b>mute</b> many, several; very; 20
	<b>nanpa</b> number, -th
	<b>tu</b> 2; separate, divide, split
	<b>wan</b> 1; combine, join, mix

## connection

	<b>anu</b> (possibility marker), or
	<b>e</b> (direct object marker)
	<b>en</b>

## descriptions