

Toki Taster

Toki Pona is a human constructed language created by Sonja Lang in 2010. It was an attempt to simplify ideas to their most basic elements. For example, what is a professor but a ‘person of knowledge’? And if you’re hungry, then you ‘want eat’. In Sonja’s words,

“If English is a thick novel, then Toki Pona is a haiku.”

Enough with the introduction though, let’s build some sentences using the sentence formula ‘Noun + li + Noun’. For example, ‘lipu li ijo’ translates to ‘a book is something’. If you’d like to add adjectives, they come after nouns, I.e, ‘suli jan li wawa’.

Nouns

<i>ijo</i>	something, thing, being
<i>jan</i>	person, human
<i>mi</i>	I, me, we
<i>sina</i>	you
<i>ni</i>	this, that
<i>nanpa</i>	number
<i>lipu</i>	document, book
<i>telo</i>	water
<i>sona</i>	knowledge
<i>toki</i>	language
<i>kili</i>	fruit, vegetable

Adjectives

<i>suli</i>	big, large
<i>lili</i>	little, small
<i>pona</i>	good, simple, friendly
<i>wawa</i>	strong, confident, powerful
<i>mute</i>	many, very, a lot
<i>ala</i>	no, not, zero
<i>ike</i>	bad, negative
<i>sin</i>	new, another, fresh