

Warm Sorantoki – Humane Expression

Addendum

Status: Optional, non-normative usage layer

Purpose: To support warmth, empathy, and emotional presence in everyday Sorantoki without adding grammatical complexity, exceptions, or learning burden.

Sorantoki is designed to be clear, fair, and accessible. However, human communication is not only about clarity – it is also about **care**. This addendum recognises that speakers are human beings with feelings, hesitation, joy, uncertainty, and kindness, and that a language meant for real life must make room for these.

Nothing in this addendum is required. Nothing here changes grammar, word order, or meaning. Everything described below is **optional**, **regular**, and **ignorable** without loss of correctness.

All elements in this addendum use **only the standard Sorantoki phoneme inventory** and avoid overlap with existing grammatical particles.

Core Principle

Sorantoki prioritises understanding first – and human connection second, but never absent.

Warm Sorantoki adds *permission*, not *rules*.

1. Stance Particles (Sentence-Final, Optional)

Warm Sorantoki allows a small number of **sentence-final stance particles** to express speaker attitude or emotional intent. These particles **do not change truth conditions**, **do not scope over predicates**, and **do not interact with grammar or TAM**.

They are optional, ignorable, and pragmatically motivated.

1.1 **ma** – affirmation, reassurance, shared understanding

Used to soften statements, express goodwill, or signal emotional openness and solidarity.

Examples:

- *mi moron tu ma.* – I love you (warm, sincere).
- *pon ma.* – It's okay. / All good.
- *mi ku suno ma.* – I'll come soon, I promise.

1.2 **nu** – concern, hesitation, emotional vulnerability

Used to express uncertainty, care, gentle worry, or a request for patience.

Examples:

- *tu pon nu?* – Are you okay? (gentle)
- *mi nu.* – I'm unsure / I'm nervous.
- *mi wan toki, nu...* – I want to talk, but I'm hesitant.

Notes:

- Stance particles are **never obligatory**.
 - They may be omitted entirely in formal, instructional, or technical contexts.
 - They are especially common in spoken language and personal writing.
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2. Expressive Reduplication (Once Only)

Any content word may be **repeated once only** for expressive or emotional emphasis.

This repetition:

- Is not grammatical agreement
- Does not change word class
- Does not affect argument structure
- Adds emotional colour only

Examples:

- *pon pon* – very good / dear / comforting
- *rapiri rapiri!* – really quickly!
- *wasa wasa...* – please slow down, I'm really lost

Limiting reduplication to a single repetition prevents grammatical reinterpretation while preserving expressiveness.

3. Informal Phonetic Softening (Affectionate Speech)

In warm, informal contexts, speakers may gently soften pronunciation while keeping words recognisable.

This may include:

- vowel lengthening: *pon~*
- light echoing: *pon-pon-a*
- personally comfortable phonetic variants already permitted by Sorantoki

This is **not a separate register**, dialect, or rule system – only a reminder that **Sorantoki speech may sound human**.

4. Emotional Routines (Learned as Wholes)

Some short expressions function as emotional routines. They are not idioms in the cultural sense; they are **emotional shortcuts** learned and used as wholes.

Examples:

- *wasa* – I didn't catch that / please repeat
- *pon ma* – it's okay / don't worry
- *no pon* – I'm not okay
- *tu pon?* – are you okay?
- *mi nu* – I'm unsure / I need patience

These routines are especially useful in stressful, emotional, or vulnerable conversations.

5. Vocatives and Gentle Address

Names and pronouns used alone may function as **vocatives**. In warm speech, they may be followed by *ma* or softly repeated.

Examples:

- *tu ma...*
- *Maria, ma...*
- *mi ma...* (self-grounding before speaking)

This supports emotional anchoring, presence, and shared attention.

6. Clear Register vs. Warm Register

Sorantoki recognises two **usage styles**, not two languages:

Clear Register (default)

- Used for teaching, instructions, documentation, and precision
- Minimal or no stance particles
- Focus on clarity and efficiency

Warm Register

- Used for daily life, care, friendship, family, and emotional speech
- Allows stance particles, reduplication, and phonetic softening
- Focus on connection and trust

Both registers share **identical grammar** and **full mutual intelligibility**.

What Warm Sorantoki Does Not Add

To preserve simplicity and inclusivity, Warm Sorantoki explicitly avoids:

- Honorific systems
- Gendered forms
- Emotional inflection paradigms
- New derivational morphology
- Cultural idioms requiring background knowledge

Warmth comes from **use**, not structure.

Closing Statement

Sorantoki is designed so that:

- You never need to be clever to be understood
- You never need to be perfect to be accepted

- You are allowed to hesitate, repeat, soften, and care

Clear speech builds understanding.

Warm speech builds trust.

Sorantoki makes room for both.