

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.

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** and **do not interact with grammar**.

1.1 ya – affirmation, reassurance, shared understanding

Used to soften statements, show care, or signal emotional openness.

Examples:

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

1.2 na – concern, hesitation, emotional vulnerability

Used to express uncertainty, care, or gentle worry.

Examples:

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

Notes:

- These particles are **never obligatory**.
- They may be omitted in formal, instructional, or technical contexts.
- They are especially common in spoken language and personal writing.

2. Expressive Reduplication (Once Only)

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

This repetition:

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

Examples:

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

Reduplication is common in child-directed speech, comfort, enthusiasm, and reassurance.

3. Informal Phonetic Softening (Affectionate Speech)

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

This includes:

- vowel lengthening: pon~
- light echoing: pon-pon-a
- personal phonetic comfort (already allowed variants)

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**.

Examples:

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

These phrases 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 **ya** or softly repeated.

Examples:

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

This supports emotional anchoring and shared presence.

6. Clear Register vs. Warm Register

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

Clear Register (default)

- Used for teaching, instructions, documentation, precision
- Minimal particles
- Focus on clarity

Warm Register

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

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.