

# Reading and speaking

## Vosa VakaViti

There are five vowels

**Aa Ee Ii Oo Uu**

Vowels are mostly pronounced as if they were spoken in Spanish, Italian and German (as in **ah** or **father**, **error**, **sit**, **toll**, **food** or **too**).

Consonants

**Bb Cc Dd Ff Gg Jj**  
**Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp**  
**Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv**  
**Ww Yy**

### Pronouncing Consonants:

Most of the consonants are pronounced the same as they are in English, except for the letters b, c, d, g and q.

**B – “mb”** as in **lumbar**.

Bula is pronounced “Mbu-la”

**C – “th”** as in **father**.

Yacata is pronounced “Ya-tha-ta”

**D – “nd”** as in **Sunday**.

Nadi is pronounce “Na-ndi”

**G – “ng”** as in **finger**.

Gauna (time) is pronounced “Nga-una”

**Q – “nq”** as in **finger**. Qaravi (to serve)

is pronounced “Nqa-ra-vi”

Note letters like k, p and t, are generally pronounced the same as they are in English, except there is not the sound of a slight breath that usually follows, so “t” would sound like “ch” when it is behind the letter “i.” Also, “j” is pronounced like the “ch” as in **touch** and “v” is pronounced with a short “ve” sound, like in **vein**.

### Stress:

In most cases, unless with long vowels, the stress tends to be on the **NEXT** to last syllable.

Examples:

Ka u ta – bring, vi naka – thank you, good.

For long vowels, stress is applied wherever it appears.

Examples:

Ki-la, know, macawa – sky, week.

## Faith is an important aspect of Fijian culture.

Below is a short prayer and hymn that can be used at the start of your day, to open a meeting or small gathering.

Na lotu e dua na ka bibi ena i vakarau vaka Viti. E toka era e dua na masu lekaleka kei na sere ni lotu ka rawa ni vakayagataki me tekiwuna na nomu siga, me dola kina na bose se dua na soqo lailai.

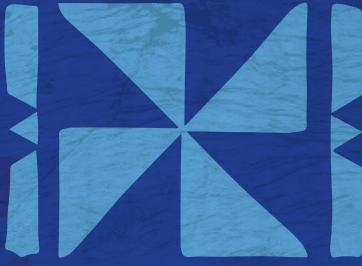
### Masu Prayer

Meda masu mada	<i>Let us pray</i>
Tamai Keimami mai lomalagi	<i>Our heavenly father</i>
Keimami kerea na nomuni veivakalougaataki ena macawa oqo	<i>We ask for your blessings this week</i>
Vei keimami yadudua sara	<i>To each and every one of us</i>
Keimami masu ena yaca i Jisu. Emeni	<i>In Jesus name we pray. Amen</i>

### Sere ni lotu Hymn

E lomani au na noqu Kalou	<i>My God loves me</i>
Kei na veika kece au raica	<i>And all the wonders I see</i>
Drodrolagi e cilava mai na katubaleka	<i>The rainbow shines through my window</i>
E lomani au na noqu Kalou	<i>My God loves me</i>





# VOSA VAKAVITI

*A brief guide to reading and speaking  
the Fijian language*

PACIFIC LANGUAGE WEEKS



Ministry for  
Pacific Peoples

# Malanivosa kei na Vosa Phrases and words

## Common Phrases

Ni sa bulu vinaka	<i>Greetings / Hello</i>
Ni sa bulu vinaka kece sara	<i>Greetings everyone</i>
Ni sa moce	<i>Goodbye</i>
Kerekere	<i>Please</i>
Vinaka vakalevu	<i>Thank you</i>
Vosota	<i>Sorry</i>
Vosoti au	<i>My apologies</i>

## Pleasantries

O cei na yacamu?	<i>What is your name?</i>
Na yacaqu ko _____	<i>My name is _____</i>
O kemuni mai vei?	<i>Where are you from?</i>
Au cavu tu mai _____	<i>I am a person from _____</i>
O cakacaka tiko e vei?	<i>Where do you work?</i>
Au cakacaka tiko e _____	<i>I work at _____</i>

# Malanivosa kei na Vosa *Phrases and words*

## In Conversation

O sa vakacava tiko?	<i>How are you (singular)?</i>
Drau sa vakacava tiko?	<i>How are you (dual)?</i>
Dou sa vakacava tiko?	<i>How are you (plural)?</i>
Au daumaka tiko, vinaka	<i>I am fine, thank you</i>
O sa kana? Daru lai kana	<i>Have you eaten? Let's go eat</i>
Vosota ni bera na veitaratara...	<i>Apologies for the delayed response...</i>
Me vaka na imeli sa oti...	<i>As per my previous email...</i>
Au marautaka medatou veiwasei kina	<i>Happy to discuss</i>
Sa gauna ni vakaukauwa yago	<i>It's gym time!</i>
Qiriti au	<i>Call me</i>
Vakanuinui vinaka	<i>Congratulations!</i>
Na Kalou e vinaka	<i>God is good!</i>

# Malanivosa kei na Vosa *Phrases and words*

## People

Turaga/Vunivalu

*Chief*

Na i Talatala

*Church Minister*

Gone

*Child*

Tama

*Father*

Tina

*Mother*

Taciqu / Tuakaqu yalewa / Ganequ

*Sister*

Taciqu / Tuakaqu tagane / Ganequ

*Brother*

Itokani (singular) / I lawalawa (plural)

*Friends*