

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 pronounced “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.

Malanivosa kei na Vosa *Phrases and words*

Common Phrases

Ni sa bula vinaka	<i>Greetings / Hello</i>
Ni sa bula 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

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 tekivuna na nomu siga, me dola kina na bose se dua na soqo lailai.

Masu Prayer

Meda masu mada

Let us pray

Tamai Keimami mai lomalagi

Our heavenly father

Keimami kerea na nomuni
veivakalougatataki ena macawa oqo

*We ask for your blessings
this week*

Vei keimami yadudua sara

To each and every one of us

Keimami masu ena yaca i Jisu.
Emeni

*In Jesus name we pray.
Amen*

Sere ni lotu Hymn

E lomani au na noqu Kalou

My God loves me

Kei na veika kece au raica

And all the wonders I see

Drodrolagi e cilava mai na
katubaleka

*The rainbow shines
through my window*

E lomani au na noqu Kalou

My God loves me

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PACIFIC LANGUAGE WEEKS
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