
VAGAHAU NIUE NCEA Level 1
Vocabulary List (January 2024)

The Vocabulary List supports teaching and learning and helps teachers understand the language appropriate at Curriculum Level 6. Language drawn from this Vocabulary List is used to create external assessments and may be used to support teachers when preparing students for internal assessments.

The language in this Vocabulary List reflects the Significant Learning summarised in the Vagahau Niue NCEA Learning Matrix. At Curriculum Level 6, students will:

- explore language commonly used to express personal information, ideas, and opinions in everyday contexts with reference to events or experiences in the present, as well as the past or future
- engage with and make meaning of a variety of text types, featuring connected sentence and paragraph-level expression and a range of very high frequency vocabulary
- develop one-way communicative skills to express simple information, ideas, and opinions..

Note for internal assessments

The language used by students during internal assessment activities (and associated learning opportunities throughout the year) will reflect the teaching and learning of Vagahau Niue that takes place within the context of each classroom. Teachers may extend the language they include in teaching and learning programmes to items and expressions beyond this Vocabulary List.

AS 92051 (1.1) Interact in spoken Vagahau Niue to share and respond to information, ideas, and opinions

AS 92052 (1.2) Communicate in Vagahau Niue in relation to a cultural context

Note for external assessments

The four sections of this Vocabulary List (Vagahau Niue to English, English to Vagahau Niue, Categories, Grammar and Structures, and Expressions and Sample Sentences) contain language that candidates are expected to recognise for the NCEA Level 1 Vagahau Niue external assessments:

AS 92053 (1.3) Demonstrate understanding of written Vagahau Niue related to everyday contexts

AS 92054 (1.4) Demonstrate understanding of spoken Vagahau Niue related to everyday contexts

Notes to teachers

In addition to the listed vocabulary, students are also expected to be able to recognise:

- where a word listed as a noun, verb, adverb, or adjective is used to fulfil another grammatical purpose
- some plural forms for verbs and nouns
- obvious cognates and loan words
- basic colours, numbers 1-10, days of the week, and months of the year
- structural words, like articles and particles
- common place or country names

Section 1 – Vagahau Niue to English

	Vagahau Niue	English
A	a fē, i ne fē	when
	a magaaho	later
	a pō, pō nei	tonight
	a pogipogi	tomorrow
	aafe	to branch off
	aaki	to remove, to take off
	aala	to wake up (for pl subject)
	aamo	to touch
	ago, lanu ago	yellow
	aho	day
	Aho Faiumu	Saturday
	Aho Falaile	Friday
	Aho Gofua	Monday
	Aho Lotu	Wednesday
	aho nei	today
	Aho Tapu	Sunday
	Aho Tuloto	Thursday
	Aho Ua	Tuesday
	akau	tree
	ako	to learn
	akoako	pastor
	akomena	learning
	ala	to wake up
	alelo	tongue
	aloalo	to wave
	anoiha	in the future
	aoga, fale aoga	school
	ata	shadow, photo
	au	me
	auloa	together
E	e	article preceding a noun, yes
	ea	air (n), to rise
	efu	dust
	efuefu	ash, grey
	eke	what, to
	ekekafo	doctor
	ekepule	politician
	elo	smell
	evaeva, neva	to roam, to wander
F	fafo	outside
	fagai	to feed
	faiaoga	teacher

fakaalofa	hello, sorry
fakaalofa atu	hello (greeting others)
fakaalofa lahi atu	hello (greeting with more heart/warmth)
fakaaue	thank you
fakaeneene	quietly, gently
fakafeleveia	to greet
fakafua	to sell
fakainu	to give someone a drink
fakakite	show, display
fakalahi	to enlarge, to multiply
fakameā	to clean
fakamohe	to put to sleep
fakamolemole	please, pardon, excuse me
fakamōmō	to dry
fakamua	to be first
fakamui	to be last
fakanono	to be quiet
fakatali	wait
fakatau	to buy
fakatino	picture
fakatote	to shrink, to reduce
fakatū	stand, stop
fakatuai	to be slow, to slow
fakavai	to lie
fale	house
fale fonofono	meeting house, meeting hall
fale gagao	hospital
fale gahua	work place
fale kai	restaurant
fale koukou	bathroom
fale leoleo	police station
fale penisini	petrol station
fale tapu	church
fale tupe	bank
fale vao	toilet
fānau	children
fano	to go
fanogonogo	to listen
fata	shelf
fatafata	chest, stack
fatu	stomach
fēfē	what, how
fefeua	naughty, cheeky
fekī	to laugh (plural)
fia	to want
fiafia	happy, glad

	fifili	to select, to choose
	fifine, tagata fifine	female
	fiha	how many
	fili	to select, to plait
	fiti	flower
	foki	also
	fono	meeting
	fono maaga	village meeting
	fonua	land
	foou	new
	fota	to touch, to handle
	fotafota	to massage
	foufou	head garland
	fua	indicator for a fruit or vegetable, to swell
	fuakau	old person
	fulu	hair
	fulu mata	eyelash
	fulufulu	hairy, woolly
	fuluola, fulufuluola	pretty, beautiful
	futi	to pull out, banana
G	gafugafu	baggy
	gagao	sick, illness
	gagau	to bite
	gahua	work (n), to work
	gako	fat/dripping for cooking
	galo	lost
	galue	feast, food portion
	gana	to scatter
	gata	snake
	gau	to chew
	geka	swing
	gō	to make a lot of noise
	gū	noise
	gutu	mouth
H	ha	indicates possession, belonging to
	hā e	this, here
	hā e fē	to show, where
	hā i kō	there
	ha i kunā	over there
	ha nā	that
	haaku	mine
	haana	hers, his, its
	haau	yours
	hafa	to halve
	hafagi	to open
	hahau	cool

haia	that's it
hake	to climb up
hala	road, track, path
halu	to peel
hamu	to snatch
hana	corn
hanei	here
hapo	to catch
hau (pl omai)	to come
hauhau	breezy
hea	to call
hehele	to cut
hei	hair piece, to wear a flower
heigoa	what
hele	to cut
hetu	comb (n), to comb
hifo	to climb down
higoa	name
hihina	to drip
hiki	change (n), to change
hiku	tail
hila	electricity
hina	grey hair, pale
hio	to chop
hoge	hungry
hohopo	to get off (pl subject)
hoko	to reach
holo	to grate
holoholo	to wash
homo	good
hopo	to jump
huhu	milk
hūhū	question (n), to question, to ask
hui	leg
hui motokā	tyre
huilapa	wheel barrow
humelie	sweet
I i	where
i fē, ki fē	where
ia	him, her, it
ihu	nose
ika	fish
Ikipule	Minister
iloa	know
iloilo	smart, clever
inu	drink (n), to drink

	ita	mad, angry
K	kafu	sheet
	kahoa	garland, necklace
	kai	to eat, food
	kaina	home
	kakau	to swim
	kākia	neck, throat
	kamata	to start
	kamatamata	examination
	kapiniu inu	cup
	kapiniu kai	plate
	kapitiga	friend
	kata	laugh (n), to laugh
	katakata	chuckle (n), to chuckle
	kato	basket, bag
	kaupā	veranda, wall
	kauvehe	cheek
	ke	verb indicator
	keke	cake
	kelea	bad
	keli	to dig
	kene	to poke
	ki	key, to
	kikila	shine
	kili	skin
	kitia	to see
	kiva	dirty
	ko	to crow, to bark, article
	koe	you
	koho	to cough
	koli	to dance
	koloa	possessions, resources
	kona	bitter
koukou	bath, swim	
ku	short	
kula, lanu kula	red	
kulī	dog	
kumi	to search	
kumukumu	chin	
kupu	word	
L	la	branch
	laā	sun
	lafi, laku	to mix, to add
	lafilafi	addition
	lafu	sibling(s)
	laga	to race

lagataha	once
lagatolu	three times
lagaua	twice
lagi	sky
lago	fly (insect), to support
lagomatai	to help
lahi	big, more
lahi mahaki	bigger
lahi mahaki atu	biggest
laini	line
laini tala	sentence
laisi	rice
laka	step (n)
lakahui	to walk
lakalaka	to step over
lalaga	to weave
lalo	down, under
lalolagi	world
lanu	colours
lanu efuefu	grey
lanu fua hoi	purple
lanu kākī	brown
lanu lau futi/ lanu laukou	green
lanu mamē	pink
lanu moana	blue
lanu tea	white
lanu uli, uli	black
lanu unoko	darker, rich colour
lapa	board
lau ulu	hair
laua	them (dual)
laugutu	lips
laukou/lau akau	leaf
laulau	table
lautolu	them
lavelave	busy
lē	forehead
lele	to fly
leo	voice (n), to wait
leoleo	police
leva	length of time
leveki	to look after
ligi	to pour
lili	table mat
līlī	to tie
lima	hand

	liogi	prayer, to pray
	liti	to throw
	loa	tall, long
	loga	plenty
	loku	pawpaw
	lole	lollies
	lolelole	tired
	lolo	oil, delicious
	lologo	song (n), to sing
	loto	inside, to want, to desire
	lotomatala	knowledge, to be clever
	lue	to wobble, to sway
	luga	top, up
	lulu	to shake
	luo	hole
	lupe	pigeon, windmill
	lutu, une	to move
M	ma	to be shy
	maaga	village
	maala	plantation
	maama	clear, light, understanding
	maeke	able
	mafana	warm
	mafiti	fast
	mafola	okay
	mafu	to whistle, to heal
	magaaho	time bound
	magaaho afiafi	evening
	magaaho kai, tula kai	mealtime
	magaaho mohe, tula mohe	sleeping time
	magaaho nei	now
	magaaho tupou laā	midday
	magafaoa	family
	mago	mango
	magō	shark
	maha	empty
	mahaga	twins
	mahani	behaviour, usual practice
	mahina	moon, month
	mai	to give
	maka	stone
	makalili	cold
	makona	too full
	malē	field
	malolō	well, strong
	malu	to shelter

mamafa	heavy
mana	magic
manava	stomach
mano	heaps
manogi	to smell good
manu	animal
manu huifā	four-legged animal
manu tahi	sea animal
manulele	bird
maō	tough, hard
mata	eye, raw, face
matahui	toe
matalē	forehead
matalima	finger
matatohi	letter of the alphabet
mataulu	title, heading, top
mate	to die, dead
matua	parent
matua fifine	mother
matua taane	father
matua tupuna	grandparent
mau	to marry, to be ready
mauku	funeral
mea	term of endearment
meā	clean
meamea	gums
mo	proper noun
mo e, ti	and
moa	chicken
mohe	to sleep
mohega	bed
moko	insect
moli	soap
molī	light
moli, lanu fua moli	orange
molo	to wring
mōmō	dry
momoko	cold, sad
mooli	true, honest
motokā	car
motu	island, country
mua	to win, at the front
mui	to lose, to follow, at the end
N nā	to stop crying
nafa	wooden drum
nākai	no, not

	namu	mosquito, smell (n), to smell
	nava	praise (n), to praise
	nifo	tooth, scissors
	nila	needle
	nofo (pl nonofo)	to sit, to stay, to live
	nofoa	chair
	nūmela	number
O	ofaofa	to love
	ofo	to be surprised, to be shocked
	ohake	to go up
	ohifo	to go down
	ohui	walk
	oka	to bump into something, great
	okioki	to rest, to have a break
	ola	mark, point, result
	ole	to ask
	oma	treasure
	omaoma	to obey
	omoi	to push
	ono	look
	otaota	rubbish
	oti	finished
P	pā	to close, to burst
	pahu	to stomp
	pake	bat, jellyfish
	pākia	accident, to hurt
	pala	to be wet
	palagi	European
	pao	hammer
	pata	butter
	pati	to clap, bus
	patipati	to clap (plural)
	pē	to run aground
	peau	wave (ocean)
	pehē	says....
	pelu	machete, to hem
	pene	pencil, pen
	pepa	book
	pepe	moth, butterfly
	pēpē	coconut dish
	pili	glue (n), to glue
	pipili	skinny
	pō	night
	po ke/po ko	or
	pogipogi, magaaho pogipogi	morning
	poi (pl tafepoi)	to run

	poko	room
	poko aoga	classroom
	poko kai	kitchen
	poko mohe	bedroom
	polo	ball, green vegetables
	potu	mat
	pou	pole
	pū	puncture
	pū ihu	nostril
	pu mata	eye
	puaka	pig
	pulou	hat
	pulu	coconut husk
	punu	canned food
	punua	young
	punua kulī	puppy
	punua pusi	kitten
	pupu	weed
	pusi	cat
S	sene	cent
	sipunu	spoon
	soka	soccer
	suka	sugar
T	ta	to hit, to draw
	taane, tagata taane	male
	tafe	to flow
	tafi	to sweep
	tafu	to build a fire
	tafua	whale
	taga	bag, sack
	tagata	person
	tagata lahi	adult
	tagata tote	small person, child
	tagi	to cry, to ring
	tahi	sea
	tala	story, talk (n)
	tālaga	to make, to build, to design
	talaha	to tell
	tali	to answer, to reply
	talia	to agree
	talo	root vegetable, taro
	tama	child
	tama fifine	girl
	tama lahi	older child
	tama mukemuke	baby
	tama taane	boy

tama tote	small child
tanu	to bury
tapu	church, sacred
tata	close, near by
tau	to fight, to pick fruit, year
tau ka hau	next year
tau kua mole	last year
tau nei	this year
taute	to get ready, to make
tea	white, crab
tega	lap
tele	to kick
teliga	ear
telo	to lick
teva	lazy
tevae	shoe
ti	tea, and
tia	open weaving
tiaki	to leave
tika	traditional javelin
timala	kumara
tino	body
titi	dancing costume, skirt
to	sugarcane, to fall down, to plant
toa	hero, warrior
toka	ocean floor, to depart, to leave
tokofiha	a few
tokolalo	low
tokoluga	high
tote	small, less
totou	to read
tū	to stand
tua	back
tufa	to distribute, to share
tugi	to burn
tula	clock, watch, time
tupe	money
tutala	to speak, to talk
U ua	don't
ue	to sway
uga	coconut crab
uha	rain (n), to rain
uhu	to sing, to feel pain
ui	to chant, to call
uka	to be naughty
ulu	head

	uluuka	to be difficult, to be stubborn
	umu	oven, earth oven
	uneune	to keep moving
	unu	to wash clothes
	uta	to take
	uta kehe	to take away, to subtract
V	vagahau	to speak, language
	vai	water, medicine
	vai inu	drinking water
	vai momoko	cold water
	vai vela	hot water
	vaka	canoe
	vakalele	aeroplane
	vala	piece, portion
	vali	paint
	vao	bush
	vela	hot
	veli	to fall down
	veliveli	circle, round
	vete	to undo something
	veu	to open, to search
	vevehe	to separate, to divide
	volu	to scrape

Section 2 – English to Vagahau Niue

	English	Vagahau Niue
A	a few	tokofiha
	able	maeke
	accident	pākia
	to add	lafi, laku
	addition	lafilafi
	adult	tagata lahi
	aeroplane	vakalele
	to agree	talia
	air	ea
	also	foki
	and	mo e, ti
	animal	manu
	to answer	tali
	article	ko
	article preceeding a noun, yes	e
	ash, grey	efuefu
	to ask	ole, hūhū
	at the end	mui
	at the front	mua
	B	baby
back		tua
bad		kelea
bag		taga, kato
baggy		gafugafu
ball		polo
banana		futi
bank		fale tupe
basket		kato
bat		pake
bath		koukou
bathroom		fale koukou
to be clever		lotomatala
to be difficult		uluuka
to be first		fakamua
to be last		fakamui
to be naughty		uka
to be quiet		fakanono
to be ready		mau
to be shy		ma
to be slow, to slow		fakatuai
to be stubborn		uluuka

to be wet	pala
bed	mohega
bedroom	poko mohe
behaviour, usual practice	mahani
big, more	lahi
bigger	lahi mahaki
biggest	lahi mahaki atu
bird	manulele
to bite	gagau
bitter	kona
black	lanu uli, uli
blue	lanu moana
board	lapa
body	tino
book	pepa
boy	tama taane
branch	la
to branch off	aafe
breezy	hauhau
brown	lanu kākī
to build	tālaga
to build a fire	tafu
to bump into something	oka
to burn	tugi
to bury	tanu
bus	pati
bush	vao
busy	lavelave
butter	pata
butterfly	pepe
to buy	fakatau
C cake	keke
to call	hea
canned food	punu
canoe	vaka
car	motokā
cat	pusi
to catch	hapo
cent	sene
chair	nofoa
change (n), to change	hiki
to chant, to call	ui
cheek	kauvehe
chest	fatafata
to chew	gau
chicken	moa

child	tama
children	fānau
chin	kumukumu
to chop	hio
to choose	fifili
chuckle (n), to chuckle	katakata
church	fale tapu
church, sacred	tapu
circle	veliveli
to clap	pati, patipati
classroom	poko aoga
clean	meā
to clean	fakameā
clear	maama
to climb down	hifo
to climb up	hake
clock	tula
to close, to burst	pā
close, near by	tata
coconut crab	uga
coconut dish	pēpē
coconut husk	pulu
cold	makalili
cold water	vai momoko
cold, sad	momoko
colours	lanu
comb (n), to comb	hetu
to come	hau (pl omai)
cool	hahau
corn	hana
to cough	koho
country	motu
crab	tea
to crow, to bark	ko
to cry	tagi
cup	kapiniu inu
cut (n)	hehele
to cut	hele
D to dance	koli
dancing costume, skirt	titi
darker, rich colour	lanu unoko
day	aho
delicious	lolo
to depart	toka
to design	tālaga
to desire	loto

	to dig	keli
	dirty	kiva
	to distribute, to share	tufa
	doctor	ekekafo
	dog	kulī
	don't	ua
	down, under	lalo
	drink (n), to drink	inu
	drinking water	vai inu
	to drip	hihina
	dry	mōmō
	to dry	fakamōmō
	dust	efu
E	ear	teliga
	to eat, food	kai
	electricity	hila
	empty	maha
	to enlarge	fakalahi
	European	palagi
	evening	magaaho afiafi
	examination	kamatamata
	eye	mata, pu mata
	eyelash	fulu mata
F	face	mata
	to fall down	veli, to
	family	magafaoa
	fast	mafiti
	fat/dripping for cooking	gako
	father	matua taane
	feast, food portion	galue
	to feed	fagai
	to feel pain	uhu
	female	fifine, tagata fifine
	field	malē
	to fight	tau
	finger	matalima
	finished	oti
	fish	ika
	to flow	tafe
	flower	fiti
	to fly	lele
	fly (insect)	lago
	to follow	mui
	forehead	lē, matalē
	four-legged animal	manu huifā
	Friday	Aho Falaile

	friend	kapitiga
	funeral	mauku
G	garland, necklace	kahoa
	to get off (pl subject)	hohopo
	to get ready, to make	taute
	girl	tama fifine
	to give someone a drink	fakainu
	to give	mai
	glue (n), to glue	pili
	to go	fano (pl oatu)
	to go down	ohifo
	to go up	ohake
	good	homo
	grandparent	matua tupuna
	to grate	holo
	great	oka
	green	lanu lau futi, lanu laukou
	green vegetables	polo
	to greet	fakafeleveia, feleveia
	grey	lanu efuefu
	grey hair, pale	hina
	gums	meamea
H	hair	fulu, lau ulu, fulu ulu
	hair piece, to wear a flower	hei
	hairy, woolly	fulufulu
	to halve	hafa
	hammer	pao
	hand	lima
	happy, glad	fiafia
	hat	pulou
	head	ulu
	head garland	foufou
	to heal	mafua
	heaps	mano
	heavy	mamafa
	hello (greeting others)	fakaalofa atu
	hello (greeting with more heart/warmth)	fakaalofa lahi atu
	hello, sorry	fakaalofa
	to help	lagomatai
	to hem	pelu
	here	hanei, hanai
	hero, warrior	toa
	hers, his, its	haana
	high	tokoluga
	him, her, it	ia
	to hit, to draw	ta

	hole	luo
	home	kaina
	hospital	fale gagao
	hot	vela
	hot water	vai vela
	house	fale
	how many	fiha
	hungry	hoge
	to hurt	pākia
I	in the future	anoiha
	indicates possession, belonging to	ha
	indicator for a fruit or vegetable	fua
	insect	moko
	inside	loto
	island	motu
J	jellyfish	pake
	to jump	hopo
K	to keep moving	uneune
	key, to	ki
	to kick	tele
	kitchen	poko kai
	kitten	punua pusi
	to know	iloa
	knowledge	lotomatala
	kumara	timala
L	land	fonua
	language	vagahau
	lap	tega
	last year	tau kua mole
	later	a magaaho
	laugh (n), to laugh	kata (pl feki)
	lazy	teva
	leaf	laukou/lau akau
	to learn	ako
	learning	akomena
	to leave	tiaki, toka
	leg	hui
	length of time	leva
	letter of the alphabet	matatohi
	to lick	telo
	to lie	fakavai
	light	molī, maama
	line	laini
	lips	laugutu
	to listen	fanogonogo
	to live	nofo (pl nonofo)

	lollies	lole
	to look after	leveki
	to look	ono
	to lose	mui
	lost	galo
	to love	ofaofa
	low	tokolalo
M	machete	pelu
	mad, angry	ita
	magic	mana
	to make a lot of noise	gō
	to make	tālaga
	male	taane, tagata taane
	mango	mago
	mark, point, result	ola
	to marry	mau
	to massage	fotafota
	mat	potu
	me	au
	mealtime	magaaho kai, tula kai
	medicine	vai
	meeting	fono
	meeting house, meeting hall	fale fono
	midday	magaaho tupou laā
	milk	huhu
	mine	haaku
	Minister	Ikipule
	to mix	lafi, laku
	Monday	Aho Gofua
	money	tupe
	moon, month	mahina
	morning	pogipogi, magaaho pogipogi
	mosquito	namu
	moth	pepe
	mother	matua fifine
	mouth	gutu
	to move	lutu, une
	to multiply	fakalahi
N	name	higoa
	naughty, cheeky	fefeua
	neck, throat	kākia
	needle	nila
	new	foou
	next year	tau ka hau
	night	pō
	no, not	nākai

	noise	gū
	nose	ihu
	nostril	pū ihu
	now	magaaho nei
	number	nūmela
O	to obey	omaoma
	ocean floor	toka
	oil	lolo
	okay	mafola
	old person	fuakau
	older child	tama lahi
	once	lagataha
	to open	hafagi
	open weaving	tia
	to open	veu
	or	po ke/po ko
	orange	moli, lanu fua moli
	outside	fafo
	oven, earth oven	umu
	over there	ha i kunā
P	paint	vali
	parent	matua
	pastor	akoako
	pawpaw	loku
	to peel	halu
	pencil, pen	pene
	person	tagata
	petrol station	fale penisini
	to pick fruit	tau
	picture	fakatino
	piece, portion	vala
	pig	puaka
	pigeon	lupe
	pink	lanu mamē
	to plait	fili
	to plant	to
	plantation	maala
	plate	kapiniu kai
	please, pardon, excuse me	fakamolemole
	plenty	loga
	to poke	kene
	pole	pou
	police	leoleo
	police station	fale leoleo
	politician	ekepule
	possessions, resources	koloa

	to pour	ligi
	praise (n), to praise	nava
	prayer, to pray	liogi
	present tense marker	kua
	pretty, beautiful	fuluola, fulufuluola
	proper noun	mo
	to pull out	futi
	puncture	pū
	puppy	punua kulī
	purple	lanu fua hoi
	to push	omoi
	to put to sleep	fakamohe
Q	question (n), to question	hūhū
	quietly, gently	fakaeneene
R	to race	laga
	rain (n), to rain	uha
	raw	mata
	to reach	hoko
	to read	totou
	red	kula, lanu kula
	to remove, to take off	aaki
	to reply	tali
	to rest, to have a break	okioki
	restaurant	fale kai
	rice	laisi
	to ring	tagi
	to rise	ea
	road, track, path	hala
	to roam, to wander	evaeva, neva
	room	poko
	root vegetable	talo
	round	veliveli
	rubbish	otaota
	to run	poi (pl tafepoi)
	to run aground	pē
S	sack	taga
	Saturday	Aho Faiumu
	says....	pehē
	to scatter	gana
	school	aoga, fale aoga
	to scrape	volu
	sea	tahi
	sea animal	manu tahi
	to search	kumi, veu
	to see	kitia
	to select	fili, fifili

to sell	fakafua
sentence	laini tala
to separate, to divide	vevehe
shadow, photo	ata
to shake	lulu
shark	magō
sheet	kafu
shelf	fata
to shelter	malu
shine	kikila
shoe	tevae
short	ku
to show	hā e fē
show, display	fakakite
to shrink, to reduce	fakatote
sibling(s)	lafu
sick, illness	gagao
to sing	uhu
to sit	nofo (pl nonofo)
skin	kili
skinny	pipili
sky	lagi
to sleep	mohe
sleeping time	magaaho mohe, tula mohe
small, less	tote
small child	tama tote
small person, child	tagata tote
smart, clever	iloilo
smell	elo, namu
to smell	namu
to smell good	manogi
snake	gata
to snatch	hamu
soap	moli
soccer	soka
song, to sing	lologo
to speak	vagahau
to speak, to talk	tutala
spoon	sipunu
stack	fatafata
to stand	tū (pl tutū)
stand	fakatū
to start	kamata
to stay	nofo (pl nonofo)
step (n)	laka
stomach	fatu, manava

	to stomp	pahu
	stone	maka
	stop	fakatū
	to stop crying	nā
	story, talk (n)	tala
	sugar	suka
	sugarcane	to
	sun	laā
	Sunday	Aho Tapu
	to support	lago
	to be surprised, to be shocked	ofo
	to sway	ue
	to sweep	tafi
	sweet	humelie
	to swell	fua
	swim	koukou
	to swim	kakau
	swing	geka
T	table	laulau
	table mat	lili
	tail	hiku
	to take	uta
	to take away, to subtract	uta kehe
	tall, long	loa
	taro	talo
	tea	ti
	teacher	faiaoga
	to tell	talahaui
	term of endearment	mea
	thank you	fakaaue
	that	ha nā
	that's it	haia
	them (dual)	laua
	them	lautolu
	there	hā i kō
	this year	tau nei
	this, here	hā e
	three times	lagatolu
	to throw	liti
	Thursday	Aho Tuloto
	to tie	līlī
	time	tula
	time bound	magaaho
	tired	lololole
	title, heading, top	mataulu
	to die, dead	mate

	today	aho nei
	toe	matahui
	together	auloa
	toilet	fale vao
	tomorrow	a pogipogi
	tongue	alelo
	tonight	a pō, pō nei
	too full	makona
	tooth, scissors	nifo
	top, up	luga
	to touch	aamo
	to touch, to handle	fota
	tough, hard	maō
	traditional javelin	tika
	treasure	oma
	tree	akau
	true, honest	mooli
	Tuesday	Aho Ua
	twice	lagaua
	twins	mahaga
	tyre	hui motokā
U	understanding	maama
	to undo something	vete
V	veranda, wall	kaupā
	verb indicator	ke
	village	maaga
	village meeting	fono maaga
	voice	leo
W	wait	fakatali
	to wait	leo
	to wake up	ala (pl aala)
	walk	ohui
	to walk	lakahui
	to want	fia, loto
	warm	mafana
	to wash	holoholo
	to wash clothes	unu
	watch (n)	tula
	water	vai
	wave (ocean)	peau
	to wave	aloalo
	to weave	lalaga
	Wednesday	Aho Lotu
	weed	pupu
	well, strong	malolō
	whale	tafua

	what	heigoa
	what, how	fēfē
	what, to	eke
	wheel barrow	huilapa
	when	a fē, i ne fē
	where	i fē, ki fē, hā e fē
	where	i
	to whistle	mafu
	white	tea, lanu tea
	to win	mua
	windmill	lupe
	to wobble, to sway	lue
	wooden drum	nafa
	word	kupu
	work (n), to work	gahua
	work place	fale gahua
	world	lalolagi
	to wring	molo
Y	year	tau
	yellow	ago, lanu ago
	young	punua
	yours	haau

Section 3 - Grammar and Structures

Tense Markers (Indicators)			
Tense Markers - The form of the word does not change, but tense markers are used before the verb. Tense markers come <i>before</i> the verb.			
Tense	Tense markers	Vagahau Niue	English
Future:	<u>To</u>	<u>To</u> fano au ki kaina.	I will go home.
Present continuous:	<u>Kua</u>	<u>Kua</u> fano au ki kaina	I am going home.
Past:	<u>Ne</u>	<u>Ne</u> fano au ki kaina.	I went home.

Prepositions	
he	at
lalo	under
i loto	inside
i luga	on
ki loto	into

Conjunctions/Connectives: Depends on the context of the event			
Conjunctions	Conjunctions	Vagahau Niue Sentence	English Sentence
mo e	and	Ko e moa mo e pusi	The chicken and the cat
ti	and then	Hili ti fano ki kaina	The school finished and then he went home
po ke	or (as of common nouns)	Ko e talo po ke timala?	Is it taro or kūmara?
ha kua	because of (verb following)	Ko e fano a ia ki kaina ha kua hoge	He went home because he was hungry
ha ko e	because of (noun following)	Ne oti e ta kilikiki ha ko e uha	The cricket game ended because of the rain
mo	with	Ne o a Moka mo Tule ke he fale koloa	Moka went with Tule to the shop
kaeke	if	Kaeke ka maha e lupoti utu	If the bottle is empty fill it up
ka eke	but		
ka e	although		

Possessive pronouns
Pronouns in Vagahau Niue are inclusive or exclusive of speakers and listeners, and indicate first person, second person, and third person. For example, au = me (excluding you, him/her).
The form of the word does not change when changing from singular to plural. Instead, the word tau is placed in front of the noun. For example, tagata = person, tau tagata = people.

Person		
Singular possessive pronoun	haaku/maaku	mine
	haau/maau	yours
	haana/maana	his/her/it
Dual possessive pronoun	ha mua	yours - exclusive
	ha laua	theirs - exclusive
	ha taua	ours - inclusive
Plural possessive pronoun	ha tautolu	ours - inclusive
	ha mautolu	ours - inclusive
	ha lautolu	theirs
	ha mutolu	yours

Pronouns		
First person	au	I, me
Second person	koe	you (one person)
Third person	ia	he, she, it
Dual Pronouns (two people)		
First person	maua (excl), taua (incl)	we, us (but not you); we, us (including you)
Second person	mua	you two
Third person	laua	they, them, those two
Plural Pronouns (3 or more people)		
First person	mautolu	we, us (but not you); we, us (including you)
Second person	mutolu	you
Third person	lautolu	they, them 3+

Use of the demonstrative	
aho	day
aho nai	this day
aho ia	that day
aho ko	that day
pō	night
pō	this night/tonight
pō	that night
Magaaho	Time
magaaho nai	now/this time
magaaho ia	that time
Faahi Tapu	week
faahi tapu nai	this week
faahi tapu atu	the week before last week
faahi tapu kua mole	last week
faahi tapu ka hau	next week
faahi tapu okioki	weekend
Mahina	Month

mahina nai	this month
mahina kua mole	last month
mahina ka hau	next month
tau	Year
tau nai	this year
tau kua mole	last year
tau ka hau	next year
tau fakamua atu	the year before last year
tau foou	new year
tau tuai	the past year

Respectful forms of address		
Vagahau Niue	English	Specific examples of respectful terms
lilifu	honourable	Lilifu, pelemia, akoako
matua lilifu	respected elder	Tupuna or Matua
iki taane	dear husband	Fakavihi
iki fifine	dear wife	Fakavihi
tau penina	old folks	Tupuna or Matua
fakahелеhele	term of endearment	Tama Moka, Mea
mea	endearment to a female child	Moka, Mea
kefu	endearment to a male child	Tama

Sentence Structure		
Word Order	Vagahau Niue	English
Simple Vagahau Niue Sentence		
Verb phrase + subject + object = VSO	Ne tutuli he tama taane e kulī	The boy chased the dog
	TM v.t a subject object	
Verb phrase + subject + prepositional phrase = VSO	Ne hifo e matua taane ki tahi.	Father went down to the sea
	TM v.i a subject prepositional phrase	
There is no verb 'to be' in Vagahau Niue	Ko ia ko e leoleo.	He/She is a police officer
	pat pro pat a n (police officer)	
Extended Vagahau Niue Sentence		
Verb + Adverb + Subject + Adj + pphr (location)	Ne hifo tuai e matua taane haaku ki tahi.	My dad went down very early to the sea
	TM v.i adv a sub ppro noun phrase (location)	

Section 4 – Categories

Tau Nūmela – Numerals			
	Tau Nūmela		Numerals
1	taha		one
2	ua		two
3	tolu		three
4	fā		four
5	lima		five
6	ono		six
7	fitu		seven
8	valu		eight
9	hiva		nine
10	hogofulu		ten
20	uafulu		twenty
50	limagofulu		fifty
100	teau		hundred
1,000	afe		thousand
10,000	hogofulu e afe		ten thousand
100,000	teau afe		hundred thousand
1,000,000	miliona		million
Words related to time		Tau lanu – Colours	
Tau aho he faahi tapu	Days of the week	Tau lanu	Colours
Aho Tapu	Sunday	lanu tea	white
Aho Gofua	Monday	lanu kula	red
Aho Ua	Tuesday	lanu moana	blue
Aho Lotu	Wednesday	lanu laufuti	green
Aho Tuloto	Thursday	lanu laukou	green
Aho Falaile	Friday	lanu kakī	brown
Aho Faiumu	Saturday	lanu fua hoi	purple
Tau mahina he tau	Months of the year	lanu fāpogi	purple
Ianuali	January	lanu uli	black
Fepuali	February	lanu fua moli	orange
Masi	March	lanu ago	yellow
Apelila	April	lanu mamē	pink
Me	May	Words related to location	
Iuni	June	Tau matakavi	Location
Iulai	July	luga	top
Aokuso	August	lalo	under
Sepetema	September	I loto	inside
Oketopa	October	I fafo	outside
Novema	November	I tua	outside, at the back
Tesemo	December	I mua	at the front
Tau tula	Time references	hifo	go down
magaaho nai	now	hake	go up

a magaaho	later on	tapa	near, close by
a pō	tonight	faahi	side
a pogipogi	tomorrow	paka	side
vahāia	in the past	tokoluga	high
vahānai	the present	tokolalo	low
vahā fakamua	former times	faahi matau	right side
vahā tuai	olden times	faahi hema	left side
vahā tau tupu	spring	lotouho, lotoga	middle
vahā tau mateafu	autumn	mua	front, first, win
vahā mafana	summer	mui	at the end
vahā makalili	winter	tata	close
tulotopō	midnight	mamao	far
tupou laā	midday	vehā	space
pale laā	afternoon	hokulo	deep
afiafi	evening	pōtake	shallow
magaaho pogipogi	morning	Words related to comparison and sequencing	
magaaho kai	mealtime	fakatatai	compare
magaaho momohe	bed time	tuga	like
magaaho liogi	prayer time	tote	less
ne afi	yesterday	lahi	more
ni nai	earlier on	ikiiki	small (plural)
ne pō	last night	lolelole	weak
Nauna magafoa	Family	malolō	strong
matua fifine	mother	tokoluga	high
matua tupuna fifine	grandmother	tokolalo	low
matua tupuna taane	grandfather	momoko	sad
mahakitaga	sister (relationship with the brother)	fiafia	happy
		Tau kupu fakapapahi	Sequencing words
tugaane	brother (relationship with the sister)	fakapapahi	list
		papata	stack
taokete	older sister or brother (same gender)	Tau talahauaga mahani mau	Frequency Expressions
fifine	female	lagaloga	many times
tehina	younger sister or brother (same gender)	lagataha	only once
		tumau	always
tama	child	fā mahani	usually
fānau	children	hololoa	all the time
tama taane	boy	ai fai, nākai fai	none
tama fifine	girl	Quantity	
tama mukemuke	baby	lahi	big, more
tama lahi	older child	lahi mahaki	very big
tama hiki	adopted child	lahi mahaki foili	huge
tama hiki tohi	legally adopted child	loga	many
tama hiki taute	not legally adopted	loga lahi	plenty
hoa	partner	loga lahi mahaki	abundant
tokoua	spouse	tote	small, less

hoana	wife	tote lahi	very small
taane	husband, man	tote lahi mahaki	very, very small
tama tote	small child	puke	full
matua taane	father	fiha	few
matua fifine	mother	fai	some
lafu	sibling(s)	tokologa	many people
tupuna	grandparent	tokofiha	few people
magafaoa	family	Words related to people	
figona	son/daughter in law	Tau vala he tino	Parts of the body
matua fugavai	father or mother in law	ulu	head
		lau ulu	hair
mahaga	twins	fulu ulu	hair
kefu	endearment term used by elders to boys	lē	forehead
		matalē	forehead
mea	endearment term used by elders to girls	fatu	stomach
		matalima	finger
fakahele/fakahelehele	term of endearment by elders to the young or husband/wife to each other	matahui	toe
		hui	leg
		tua	back
		tega	lap
Tau feua faofao tino - Sports			
Tau feua faofao tino	Sports	Tau feua faofao tino	Sports
lakapi tauaamo	touch rugby	volipolo	volleyball
hokatao	darts	netepolo	netball
poitufi	race, running	lakahui	walking
hopotokoluga	high jump	poiloa	long distance running
hopoloa	long jump		

Tau nauna - Common nouns		
A	aalo	paddle
	akau	tree
	ana	cave
	āpala	apple
E	efuefu	ash, grey colour
F	fale	house
	fale aoga	school building
	fale fono	village hall, meeting house
	fale gagao	hospital
	fale kai	restaurant
	fale koloa	shop
	fale koukou	bathroom
	fale tapu	church
	fale tote	toilet
	fatu	stomach
	fatafata	chest

	fohe	paddle
	fono	meeting
	fifine	female
	filisa	fridge
	fua	fruit
	fua falaoa	bread
	fuakau	old
	fuata	youth
	fufua moa	egg
G	gagao	sickness
	galue	feast
K	kaina	home
	kananifo	toothbrush
	kapiniu	cup, trophy
	kapiniu lapalapa	plate
	kato	basket, bag
	kufani	spider
	kulī	dog
L	lole	lollies
	loloto	pool
M	makaauli	iron
	mata	face
	matahui	toe
	matakau	group
	matalima	finger
	matatohi	letter of the alphabet
	mataulu	title
	matua	parent
	matua fifine	mother
	matua taane	father
	moa	chicken, crayon
	moana	ocean
	motokā	car, truck
N	nifo	tooth, scissors
	niu	coconut
	nofoa	chair
	nosi	nurse
O	olo	wickets
P	pia	arrowroot
	potu	mat
	puaka	pig
S	sipunu	spoon
	suka	sugar
T	tagata	person
	tagata fifine	woman

	tagata taane	man
	tala	story
	tama	child
	tama fifine	girl
	tama mukemuke	baby
	tama taane	boy
	tua	back
	ulo	pot
	ulu	head
	ulufaiaoga	principal
	uluga	pillow
	uufi	lid
V	vai	water
	vaka	canoe
	vakalele	aeroplane
	vali	paint
	vao	bush

Tau kupu lalafi - Compound nouns	
vakalele	aeroplane
vakatāvilivili	helicopter
ekepule	assemblyman, politician
ikipule	minister
faiaoga	teacher
ulufakatonu	director
ulufaiaoga	principal
ekekafo	doctor
akoako	pastor
fakatonufono	speaker
fakatufono	government
lotomatala	intelligent, knowledge
tafepoi	running (plural)
matatohi	letter of the alphabet
matakupu	idea, concept
matakau	group
poitufi	race

Tau kupu fakagahua - Verbs		
Tau kupu fakagahua	Verbs	
A	aafe	to turn off, to branch off
	aala	to wake up (plural)
	aamo	to touch
	age	to give (to the third person)
	ala	to wake up
	alaala	to be lively

	amoamo	to touch (plural and repetitive)
	atu	to give (to the second person)
E	eke	to do
	eketaha	to strive
F	fafao	to pack
	fagai	to feed
	fakaalofa	to greet, to feel sorry (implies sympathy)
	fakaako	to teach
	fakafano	to send
	fakalahi	to increase
	fakalataha	to be together
	fakamanatu	to remind
	fakamea	to clean, to tidy up
	fakamohe	to put to sleep
	fakamolemole	to excuse
	fakanofa	to have a seat
	fakanono	to be quiet
	fakaoti	to end
	fakatau	to buy
	fakatote	to decrease
	fano	to go (singular)
	fao	to pet
	faofao	to exercise
	feleveia	to meet
	fiafia	to be happy
G	gagao	to be sick
	gagau	to bite
	gahua	to work
	gō	to make a lot of noise
H	hafagi	to open
	hahau	to cool down
	hake	to go up
	halu	to peel
	hau	to come
	hauhau	to be breezy
	heke	to ride, to get on the bus
	hele	to cut
	hehele	to make one cut
	helehele	to cut into pieces
	hifo	to go down
I	inu	to drink
K	kai	to eat
	kata	to laugh (singular)
	koli	to dance
	koukou	to have a bath
L	lagomatai	to help

	laka	to step
M	maeke	to be able
	mai	to give (to the speaker)
	malolō	to be strong, to be well
	mate	to die
	mohe	to sleep
	momohe	to sleep (plural)
	mua	to be first
	mui	to follow, to lose
N	nava	to praise
	neva	to roam, to wander
	nofo	to sit, to live
	nonofo	to sit, to live (plural)
O	ō	to go (plural)
	omai	to come (plural)
	ono	to look (singular)
	onoono	to look, to watch (plural)
P	pā	to close, to burst
	pati	to clap (singular)
	patipati	to clap (plural)
	pelē	to play
	poi	to run (singular)
T	tā	to hit, to make, to draw, to play (an instrument)
	tafepoi	to run (plural)
	takoto	to lie down
	tala	to tell
	tālaga	to make, to build, to design, to develop
	tali	to answer, to respond
	tamai	to bring
	tao	to bake
	tau	to fight
	taute	to make
	tauteute	to prepare, to get ready
	tele	to kick
	teva	to be lazy
	tō	to plant, to fall (rain)
	tohi	to write
	tohitohi	to write, to scribble
	toka	to keep
	totou	to read
	tufi	to race
	tunu	to cook, to boil
tutuli	to chase	
U	uku	to dive, to earn

V	vali	to paint, to colour
	veli	to fall
	veu	to search for something
	veveli	to fall (plural)
	veveu	to open
	volu	to scrape

Section 5 – Expressions and Sample Sentences

(These are suggestions only for teaching and learning)

SAYING HELLO	
Fakaalofa atu	Greetings
Fakaalofa lahi atu	Many greetings
Fēfē a koe?	How are you?
Malolō nakai a koe?	Are you well?
Fakaaue, malolō.	Thank you, I'm well
Ai kua a koe	what about you

SAYING THANKS	
Fakaaue	Thank you
Tulou	Thank you
Oue tulou	Thank you very much

OTHER IMPORTANT PHRASES	
Mounina a koe	Bless you
Tuputiola	Bless when someone sneezes or coughs
To feleveia	We'll meet again
Mafola e po	Good night
Monuina e fenoga	Blessed trip

SAYING GOODBYE	
Koe kia	Goodbye (to one person)
Mafola e aho	Blessed day
Mua kia	Goodbye (to two people)
Mutolu kia	Goodbye (to more than two people)