



## NCEA Level 1 Gagana Tokelau Revised Vocabulary List 2025 Easy-print PDF version

Updated NCEA Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Vocabulary Lists for Pacific languages were published on the NCEA Education website in February and March 2025.

Below is the revised Level 1 Gagana Tokelau Vocabulary List that should be used with students in 2025 (and thereafter).

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 vocabulary lists belong to the Ministry of Education. The list in this document has been **formatted by NZALT** to make it easier for teachers to print and photocopy for students. NZALT has provided two versions:

1. A PDF that can be printed and photocopied for students.
2. A Word document for teachers who would like to do further formatting.

This version of the vocabulary list is arranged **alphabetically (Gagana Tokelau to English)**.

Other configurations of this list (eg. English to Gagana Tokelau; by category) can be downloaded [here](#).

Alternatively, you can navigate to the revised vocabulary lists by following this pathway:

ncea.education.govt.nz > New Zealand Curriculum > Learning Languages: Gagana Tokelau > Teaching

Teachers are advised to read the Introduction to the vocabulary lists (downloadable online, as above), as these contain useful context for teaching and learning, and for internal and external assessments.

<b>L1</b>	<b>Gagana Tokelau</b>	<b>English</b>
<b>A</b>	afa	half
	afā	hurricane, cyclone, storm
	afiafi	afternoon
	agai	about, towards, at; bunch of coconuts
	aganuku	custom(s), tradition(s), culture
	agiagi	onion
	ahiahi	to visit
	aho	day, date
	Aho Falaile	Friday
	aho fanau	birthday
	Aho Gafua	Monday
	Aho Hā	Sunday
	Aho Hā Paepae	White Sunday
	Aho Hā o Tamaiti	White Sunday (Children's Sunday)
	aho i mua (lumanaki)	future
	Aho Lua	Tuesday
	Aho Lulu	Wednesday
	Aho o Mātua	Mother's Day
	Aho o Tamana	Father's Day
	Aho Tofi	Thursday
	Aho Tōnai	Saturday
	ahonei	today
	ahu	scoop, smoke
	aiha	ice
	aiheā	why
	akau, uga, feo, lapa	reef, coral
	akoakoga	education, training, learning
	ākoga	school, college
	ala, pogai	reason
	alaiha	rice
	alo	to paddle, to row
	alofa	love, affection, kindness
	alofaaga	greetings, gift
	aluga	pillow, cushion
	amanaki	to notice, confident, optimistic
	ananafi	yesterday
	ao	cloud, day
	aoaoa	to be clouded over, cloudy
	aoauli	midday, afternoon
	apa	tin, can
	Apelila	April
	apu	apple
	ata	photo
ataata	shadow	
atili	to increase	

	auā	because
	auala	road, way, method
	Aukuho	August
	āva	respect, politeness
<b>E</b>	ea	air
	Ēheta	Easter
<b>I</b>	lānuali (macron optional)	January
	Igilihi	English (language, school subject)
	igoa	name
	ika	fish
	ili	fan (n), to fan, saw (n), to saw
	iloa	knowledge, to know
	Inati	traditional community distribution system, share of Inati group
	inu	to drink, to take medicine
	io	yes
	ipu	shell (coconut), dishes
	ipumāfolafola	plate
	ipumālamalama	tumbler, glass
	iputī	teacup
	ita (inoino)	to hate, to dislike
	ita	angry (adj)
	itū	side
	itūkāiga	kind, sort
	itulā	hour
	iva	nine
	iva hefulu/ivahefulu	ninety
	lūlai (macron optional)	July
	lūni (macron optional)	June
<b>O</b>	ogaumu	oven
	oho	to jump
	oioti	just, only
	Oketopa	October
	ola mālōlō	healthy
	olaga	life, existence
	ologa	act of going, departing
	ono	six
	ono hefulu	sixty
	ōnomea	to be beautiful, to be nice
<b>U</b>	ua	rain
	uafu	wharf
	uho	sister, brother, cousin
	uhu	to sing
	uiga	meaning
	uka	fishing line
	uliuli/lanu uliuli	black
	ulo	pan, pot

	ulu	breadfruit tree, leader/chief, head (body part), hair, to enter, to lead, admission fee, entrance fee
	uma/umaga	to finish
F	fā	four
	fafagu	to wake
	fāfanua	map
	fafao	to pack
	fafine	woman, female
	fafo	outside
	fāgota (pl fāgogota)	to catch fish
	fā hefulu/fāhefulu	forty
	fai	to do, to create, to perform, to repair, to bring, to wear (clothes) banana fruit, plant
	faiākoga	teacher
	faifaiva	to go fishing, a group of workers
	faifeau, patele	pastor, priest
	faiga	method, way
	faiga o te meakai	recipe
	faigāluega	to work, to be employed
	faigatā	difficult
	faigofie	easy
	faikākā	lying, dishonest
	faili	to make music
	faimātua	aunt
	faitamana, tamana, tuātina	uncle
	faitatagi	to cry
	faitatala	to speak
	faitau	to read
	fāitotoka	door
	faiva	pursuit, employment, something somebody regularly does
	fakaali	to show
	fakaaogāga/fakaaogā	to use
	fakafanoga	to spend (time)
	fakafeiloakiga	meeting, welcoming (n)
	fakafetai	thank you
	fakafiafia	to entertain, to celebrate
	fakafītā	to stress, burden
	fakafoe	to paddle
fakahao	to pass; to save, to rescue	
fakaheheke	to surf, to skateboard	
fakahīhī	to fish	
fakahino	to show, to demonstrate	
fakaifo	to share out	
fakailoa	to show, to make something known	
fakalelei	to fix, to improve	
fakalogo	to pay attention, to listen	
fakalua	twice	

fakamaga (pl fakamamaga)	to open, to be open
fakamālama	to shine
fakamatala	to explain, to describe
fakamatalaga	explanation, description
fakamautinoa	to make sure, to be certain
fakamoemoe	purpose, expectation, to rely, to expect
fakamolemole	to say please, to request, to apologise
fakamomoli	to send (gift or parcel)
fakamua	communal, belonging to the village
fakanoanoa	sadness, sadly
fakapelepele	to be affectionate, dearly, to value highly
fakapipiki	to assemble, to moor a boat, to be close to someone (as a friend)
fakatahi	all together, all at once
fakatahiga	meeting, gathering
fakatakitakiga	example, practice
fakatali	to wait (for)
fakatau	shopping, trade
fakatau atu	to sell
fakatau mai	to buy
fakatekia	to be surprised, to be shocked
fakatele (pl fakatetele)	to sail
fakatino	to put into action, to demonstrate
fakatinoga	demonstration, action, activity, event, evidence
fakatū	to set up
fakauma	to finish
fakavave	to hurry, to rush
falaoa	flour, bread
fale	house
falē	communal settlement, village, home
falehā	church
falekoloa	shop
falemai	hospital
fāmalama	window
fanake	to come up, to come with
fānau	offspring, children
fano (pl olo)	to go
fātele	action dance/song (traditional)
fatoā	just, recently
fātoaga	garden, plantation
fatu	stone, heart
fehili	question
fehoahoani	help, assistance, favour
fekau	message
fenua	land, country
feololo	to be better
Fepuali	February

	fetaui	to meet
	fetū	star
	fiafia	entertainment, party, interest in, liking for; to be happy, to like, to enjoy
	fiafiaga	enjoyment
	fiainu	thirst
	fiakai/mole	hunger
	fifili	fish cooked in a coconut leaf
	fihiki	Physics (school subject)
	fili	enemy, to sort out something
	filifili	to choose
	filifiliga	choice
	fitu	seven
	fitu hefulu/fituhefulu	seventy
	fiu	to be bored with
	fofou	to want, to love
	foki	to return
	fokotahi	one (except when counting)
	fola	floor, ship deck
	fomai	doctor
	fono	meeting, council
	fonu	sea turtle
	fou	new
	fua	fruit, egg
	fuaefa	to be large, large size
	fuāfai	banana
	fuafua	to plan, to decide
	fuālākau	vegetables, fruit
	fuāmoa	egg (chicken's)
	fuāulu	breadfruit
	fufulu	to wash, to clean
	fulū	flu
<b>G</b>	gafa	lineage
	gali (pl gagali)	to be pretty, to be attractive, to be awesome
	galo	to be lost
	galu	wave
	galue (pl gālulue)	to work, to be hardworking
	gāluega	work, employment
	gaohi	to make, to prepare
	gatu	to be old (objects)
	gāugau	to fold, to be disappointed
	gehe	slowly
<b>H</b>	haele	to walk
	hafia	to understand, to know
	hahae	east
	haienihi	Science (school subject)
	hakeu/heo	to stir, to mix

	hakili	to search, to look for
	hakiliga	research, study
	hako	correct, right
	haogalēmū	safety
	hātala	to rummage, to search through things
	hau (pl ōmai)	to come
	hāuni	to get ready, to prepare
	haute	south
	havali (pl hāvalivali)	walk
	hēai	absence, to pass away, no
	hefulu	ten
	hefelu fā/hefulufā	fourteen
	hefulu fitu/hefulufitu	seventeen
	hefulu iva/hefuluiva	nineteen
	hefulu lima/hefululima	fifteen
	hefulu ono/hefuluono	sixteen
	hefulu tahi/hefulutahi	eleven
	hefulu tolu/hefulutolu	thirteen
	hefulu valu/hefuluvalu	eighteen
	helau	one hundred
	helau afe/afe	one hundred thousand
	helo	zero, nothing
	hene	cent, money
	Hetema	September
	hēvae	shoes, sandals
	hiaki	to check, to study
	hī (pl hīhī)	to fish with hand line or rod
	hihifo	west
	hikaki	small fishing rod
	hiki	to lift
	hiva (pl hihiva)	dance (n), to dance
	hohoko	to join, to be connected/next to
	hoka	to poke, coconut husk, soccer
	hua (pl huahua)	juice, liquid, soup, drinking coconut
	huamalie	sweet
	huhu	milk
	huhū	water, wetness, dampness, moisture, humid
	huiga	change, alteration, modification
<b>K</b>	kāfilo	fishhook
	kai	to eat, to bite, to take bait (fish)
	kaiga	meal, feast
	kāiga	to be related to, home, family, relative, marriage, spouse
	kakai	village, town, city
	kakau	to swim
	kalaga	to shout, to call, shout, call
	kāmata/kīmata	to begin, to start

	kāpoti	cupboard
	kata	laugh (n), to laugh
	katakata	grin, smile
	kātoa	to be complete
	kātoaga	completion
	kau	team
	kaulelei	beautiful
	kaumai	to bring, to pass
	kauoneone	sandy beach
	kave	to take, to carry, to give
	kavea	to become
	kehe	to be changed, to be different, to be foreign; away, from, off
	kehekehe	to be different from one another
	kelekele	land, soil, earth, dirt (n)
	kemihi	Chemistry (school subject)
	kie	clothes, textile material
	kikila	to look, to see, to watch
	kili/paku	skin
	Kilihimahi	Christmas
	kilikiti	cricket
	kitala	guitar
	kitea	to see
	kofe	bamboo, coffee
	kofu	clothes, to wear
	kofutino	shirt
	kofuvae	trousers, pants
	kofuvaepupuku	shorts
	kogāloto	middle
	koi	remaining
	koleni	training
	komipiuta	computer
	kuata	quarter
	kuku	cooking
	kukula	red
L	lā	sun
	lagona	to hear, to feel, feeling, opinion
	lahi	big, many, much
	lakapī	rugby
	lākau	plant, tree, set, apparatus (eg radio receiving set, tape recorder etc) (n)
	lalaga	to weave
	lalolagi	world
	lanu	colour
	lanu hehega/hehega	yellow
	lanu kefukefu/kefukefu	grey
	lanu kekena	brown
	lanu meamata/meamata	green



	lanumoana	blue
	lanu moli/moli	orange (colour)
	lanu paepae/paepae	white
	lanu pīniki/pīniki	pink
	lanu tahi	all one colour
	lanu violē/violē	purple
	laofie	to be fine (day)
	lapihi	rubbish
	lāpotopoto	to be round
	lau	leaf, blade, to read
	lauefa	width, breadth
	lāuga	speech
	laulāvalava	skirt
	laupapa	blackboard, whiteboard
	lava	to be enough
	lavalava	clothes
	lea	to say, to speak, to tell, to ask
	lea faka-Tokelau	to say in Gagana Tokelau
	lele	to fly
	lelei	good, advantage
	leva	to take a while, to last a long time
	liligi	to pour
	lima	arm, hand
	lima hefulu/limahefulu	fifty
	loa (pl loloa)	long, tall
	logo	to hear, to understand, to tell
	lolo	coconut cream/oil
	loloto	to be deep
	lotofale	inside
	lototoa	courage
	lotu	service (worship)
	lua	two
	lua hefulu/luahefulu	twenty
	hefulu lua/hefululua	twelve
	luga	on, onto, above, top
<b>M</b>	mā	embarrassment, to be embarrassed, to be ashamed
	mafai/mafai	to be able to, can
	māfanafana	to be warm
	māfuaga	cause, source, reason
	mago (pl mamago)	to be dry
	māhani	to be familiar with, to be used to doing something, habit, practice
	mahi	biscuits
	māhima	salt
	māhina	moon, month
	makalili	cold, shivering
	makeke	to be strong

makoi	favourite
mākona (pl mākokona)	enough, to be full
malae lakapī	rugby field
mālamalama	to understand
mālie	to be slow, to be funny, nice, to be soft, to be quiet, to be touching
malie (pl malilie)	satisfaction, to be sweet, to be tasty, to agree, to be satisfied, yummy
Mālō!	Hello! Well done! Congratulations!
mālohi	to be well, to be fine (informal)
mālōlō	rest, to rest, to be well/healthy
mālūlū	to be cold
mamā	to be clean, neatness
māmā	lightness (n), to be light
mamae	to be sore (skin), to be precious to someone
mamalu	dignity, prestige
mānaia	beauty, elegance
manakomia	to be needed, to be required
manatua	to remember, to recall
manogi	smell
manu	animal, bird
manuia	to be well, to be fine (formal), wellbeing, happiness
māopoopo	to be gathered together, to be well organized
mapu	rest (n), to rest
mata	point, facial expressions, to look, to see, to wear glasses, eye, face (n)
matāfaga	beach
matafiafia	to smile
matagi	wind
mataku	to be scared
matakupu	subject(s)
mataloa	long
mātamata	to look at, to observe
mate	guess (n), to guess
mate (pl mamate)	to die (animals and plants), to go out (lights, fire)
Māti (macron optional)	March
mātū	north
matua	to be grown-up, to be an adult, to be old (people)
mātua, mātua hā	aunt (of mother), aunt (of father)
matuā	absolutely, completely
mātua	mother, parents
matuiai	really
maua	to get, to find, to catch
māualalo (pl māualalalo)	to be low (in height)
māualuga	height
mauga	mountain
mautinoa	sure, I'm sure
Mē (macron optional)	May
mea	object, area

	meaika	piece of fish meat, fish (n)
	meakai	food, meal
	mealākau	tree, wood
	meaola	creature, animal
	meapōvi	meat
	mimilo	to turn, to change direction
	minute	minute (time)
	mitiafu	singlet, vest, T-shirt
	moa	chicken
	moana	deep sea, ocean (n)
	moe (pl momoe)	sleep (n), to sleep
	moega	bed, sleeping place, mat
	moli	orange, soap
	momoli	to send, to bring
	moni	to be true
	mōni	to be sincere, to be honest
	motu	island, islet, crowd
	mū	fire
	muamua	to be first, to come first
	mulimuli	at last, finally, afterwards, to come last
	mumuni	to hide, to conceal
<b>N</b>	nafatia	to be able to do
	namo	lagoon
	nenā	nana, grandmother
	netipolo	netball
	ni	some
	nifo	tooth, teeth
	Niu Hila	New Zealand
	nofo (pl nonofo)	to reside, to live, to sit, to stay, stay (n)
	nofoa	seat
	nofoaga	residence, home
	nonoa	to tie up, to bind
	Nōvema (macron optional)	November
	nuanua	rainbow
	nuku	village
	numela	Maths, Mathematics (school subject)
	nūmela	number
<b>P</b>	pā	to arrive, fence, wall, mother of pearl fish lures, touch, come in contact with
	pāhiketi polo	basketball
	pakete	bucket
	palu	to mix
	papa	dad, father, grandfather; rock (n), to be flat, to be hard
	papālagi	white man, Caucasian
	pati	to clap
	pehe (pl pepehe)	song, to sing
	pēhini	bowl, basin

	peleue	jacket, coat
	penitala	pencil
	pepa	paper
	pepe	baby
	pipiki	to stick, to adhere
	pito	end (n)
	pō	night, to be dark
	polo	ball
	polokalame	programme, schedule
	popo	ripe coconut, copra, to ripen (coconut); to be old (objects)
	pōpō (pl tapōpō)	to pat, to tap
	poto	clever, bright
	potu	room, apartment
	potukofu	top
	pū	hole, space, gap
	puipui	wall, to defend, to protect, to prevent
	puleākoga	principal
	puli	to forget
	pūlou	hat
<b>T</b>	tā	drumming, to strike, to build, to play (musical instrument), to wash, to marry and have children
	tāeao	morning, a.m., tomorrow
	tāfao (pl tāfafao)	to play
	tāfaoga	sport, game
	tāfaoga komipiuta	video/computer games
	taga	sack, bag, pocket
	taga (pl tataga)	to be removed (prohibition)
	tagata	man, human, person
	tagi	to cry
	tago	to pick up, to grab
	tahi	one
	tahi afe/tahiafe	one thousand
	tahi milliona/miliona	one million
	tai	sea
	taigole (pl taigogole)	to be small
	taimi	time
	taina	brother, sister, brother (of man) (n)
	taka	sandals, jandals
	takalo	to play
	tākaloga	sport, game
	takitaki hiva	dance instructor
	taku	to say
	takua	to be remembered, to be known
	takuau	shoulder
	tala	story, news, report, (of money) change, cash (v)
	tālā	dollar

tali	to answer, answer (n), to reply, reply (n), respond, react (v), response, reaction (n)
taliga	ear
talotalo/talohia	hopefully
tama	boy, student, child
tamā	small, little
tamaiti	child, children
tamaiti ākoga	students
tamana	father
tāne	male, man, husband
tāofi/taofiofi	to stop, to hold back
tapena	to tidy up, to put away, to get ready
tāpuni/tapuni	to shut, to close, to block off
tau	to land, to arrive, to compete, price, cost, weather, season, (of a flower or a fruit, with the exception of coconut, and pandanus) pick
tāua	important, importance, value (n)
tauagavale	left
tauale	illness, sick, to be sick
taufakalili	to tease
taugatā	expensive
taugōfie	cheap
tauhaga	year
tauloto	poem, to remember
taumafaiga	effort, attempt (n)
taumalo	male youths, older boys
taumatau	right
tautai	master fisherman, boat captain
tautiti	girl, female
tāvale	car, cart
Tēhema (macron optional)	December
teine	girl
tēnihi	tennis
tiale	flower, bloom (v)
tino	body, person
tino māopopo	to participate, to meet
tipi	to cut
tītata	kettle
titi	traditional leaf-skirt, to wear a leaf-skirt
titina (pl tatina)	eraser, to switch off, to erase
tiute	responsibility
tōata	west
tofi	status
toga	south
tōgiga	uniform (n), to wear a uniform
toho	to pull
toli	to pick (fruit)
tolu	three

	tolu hefulu/toluhefulu	thirty
	tomi	to sample, to taste
	tōnai	traditional formal meal, Sunday feast
	tonu	decision, resolution
	tōtini	socks, stockings
	totoe	to remain, to stay
	tū (pl tutū)	to stand, (vehicles) to stop, to land, custom(s)
	tuafafine	sister (of male)
	tuagāne	brother (of female)
	tuātina	aunt
	tuātuhi	address
	tufa	to share, to distribute
	tuhi	book (n), letter, to write, to draw
	tukituki	to pound (cooking)
	tuku	to put, to leave, to allow, to move (canoe)
	tūlaga	location, condition
	tuli	to chase
	tulou	respectful expression, excuse me
	tununga	cooking
	tupe	money, cash, fund
	tupu (pl tutupu)	to happen, to grow, growth
	tupuna	grandparent
	tupuna mātua	grandmother
	tupuna tamana	grandfather
	tuputupu ake	grew up (v)
<b>V</b>	vāega	portion
	vahega	class
	vai	water, medicine
	vāiaho	week
	vaivai	tiredness
	vaka	canoe, boat
	valakau	to invite
	valu	eight
	valu hefulu/valuhefulu	eighty
	vave	speed
	vaveao	early morning (before sunrise)
	vē/vēia	similar, to be the same as
	vefea	how
	vēnā	to be so
	vevela	hot, to be hot
	vili (pl fetuli, fētutuli and taufetuli)	to run, to escape, to telephone