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**NCEA Level 2 Lea Faka-Tonga Revised Vocabulary List 2025**

**Editable Word doc**

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 2 Lea Faka-Tonga 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 7. 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 (Lea Faka-Tonga to English)**.

Other configurations of this list (eg. English to Lea Faka-Tonga; by category) can be downloaded [here](https://ncea.education.govt.nz/learning-languages/lea-faka-tonga?view=teaching).

Alternatively, you can navigate to the revised vocabulary lists by following this pathway:   
ncea.education.govt.nz > New Zealand Curriculum > Learning Languages: Lea Faka-Tonga > 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.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **L2** | **Lea-Faka Tonga** | **English** |
| **‘A** | ‘ahiohio | whirlwind |
| ‘aofi | palm (of hand), sole |
| ‘atungalau | idle talk |
| ‘ātakai | surroundings |
| ‘atamai‘ia | intelligent |
| **‘I** | ‘ile‘ila | spotted |
| ‘inasi | share |
| **‘O** | ‘ofa‘anga | beloved |
| ‘ola | to gnaw |
| **‘U** | ‘ūkuma | to bear/ to be patient |
| ‘uli | dirty |
| ‘uluaki tokoni | first aid |
| ‘ulufonua | trees/ vegetation |
| ‘ulu-hinā | grey hair |
| ‘ulungaanga | behaviour |
| ‘ulungia | to lose |
| ‘ulutefua | only child |
| ‘umata | rainbow |
| ‘umea | clay |
| ‘umu | native oven |
| ‘utu | to draw water or liquid |
| **A** | anga‘imanu | very rude person |
| anga‘ofa | kind, gracious |
| angafefeka | person who has a very strong personality |
| angalau | only words |
| angalelei | generous, pleasant |
| angamalū | calm, gentle |
| angamālohi | harsh, overbearing |
| angavaivai | meek, mild |
| angatonu | upright |
| angatu‘u | defiance |
| **E** | e‘a | to emerge, appear, show |
| efu | dust |
| ekiaki | name of a small white bird |
| epu | to hoe, to remove weed |
| **I** | ifi | to smoke, fruit of ifi tree |
| iku‘anga | outcome |
| iku kovi | bad outcome |
| ikuna | win |
| **O** | ofe | to bend |
| ofe‘ingofua | flexible |
| ofi | near |
| ofongi | feeling surprised |
| ohi | to adopt |
| ola | result, to gnaw |
| ola kovi | bad result |
| ola lelei | good result |
| oli‘ia | to find amusing, funny feeling |
| oli | amusing, humour |
| ololalo | miserable |
| oma | very fast, sponge |
| ongo fakamamahi | sad news |
| ongo‘i | to hear, to feel |
| ongo‘ikovi | feel unpleasant |
| ongo mālie | sound well |
| ongonoa | to be without feeling, numb |
| ongongata‘a | unresponsive, difficult to persuade |
| ongoongo | news report, reputation |
| ongoongoa | famous |
| ongo tonu | perfect notation |
| **U** | uaine | wine |
| ueita, taha tali tēpile | waiter, waitress |
| **F** | fa’a kātaki | to be patient, to have patience |
| fafasi | wavy hair |
| faikehekehe | differences |
| faingamālie | opportunity |
| faivelenga | enthusiastic |
| faka‘aho | day to day |
| faka‘alongaua | doubtful |
| faka‘api | domestic |
| fakaako | to do with education |
| fakafofonga‘i | represent |
| fakafulofula | to sulk |
| fakakaukau | idea |
| fakalaloa | one who acts on someone else’s behalf to ask for forgiveness |
|  |
| fakama‘unga | point of focus |  |
| fakamalu | umbrella |  |
| fakaneifua | dessert |  |
| fakatokanga‘i | to notice |  |
| fatongia | responsibility, duty |  |
| fehangahangai | facing opposition |  |
| fekuki | dealing with challenges |  |
| fetu‘usi | not on speaking terms |  |
| fihu | large white mat |  |
| fisifisimu‘a | outstanding, the best |  |
| **H** | hāhāmolofia | rare, scarce |  |
| hahau | dew |  |
| hako | descendant |  |
| havehave | crushed |  |
| havilivili | breezy, breeze |  |
| hehengi | shy, timid, wild, undomesticated |  |
| hekeheke | slippery |  |
| helehela | short of breath |  |
| hengihengi ‘aho | dawn |  |
| hinaekiaki | very white |  |
| **K** | kafi | hard case |  |
| kaha‘u | future |  |
| kalake | clerk |  |
| kalapu | club |  |
| kalofiama | spark from fire |  |
| kamakamata | to start slowly, initial stage |  |
| ka neongo | however |  |
| kanititeiti | candidate |  |
| **L** | lafalafa | flat |  |
| lakasi | to beat |  |
| lalata | tame |  |
| lausi‘i | narrow |  |
| lave | to touch, to be fortunate, to be included |  |
| lavea | to be wounded |  |
| le‘ei | to push to one side |  |
| le‘o | to keep watch |  |
| le‘ole‘o | to be acting in a position |  |
| lekooti | to record |  |
| lelea | panicked |  |
| leveleva | to be long in duration, ending, conclusion |  |
| lī‘oa | to give devoted service |  |
| likoliko | dirty |  |
| liku | cliff-bound coast |  |
| lilo | hidden, unseen |  |
| limu | seaweed |  |
| liuaki | to return (regal) |  |
| lo‘oa | to choke |  |
| lohiaki‘i | to lie to someone |  |
| lōkeha | a fine mat made of tofua leaves |  |
| lōlenga | custom |  |
| loloma | sorrowful |  |
| loloto | deep |  |
| lomi | crash hit |  |
| lōnuku | assemble |  |
| loto fo‘i | cowardice |  |
| loto kovi | malicious |  |
| loto lahi | determined |  |
| loto lavea | conscience stricken |  |
| loto lelei | agreeable |  |
| loto māfana | enthusiastic |  |
| loufusi | banana leaves |  |
| lova | to race |  |
| lua | to vomit |  |
| luva | to give away |  |
| **M** | ma‘ala | yam garden |  |
| ma‘anga | mouthful |  |
| maalualu | tattered |  |
| maau | tidy, neat |  |
| maea | rope |  |
| mafa‘a | cracked open |  |
| mafahi | split |  |
| mafai | able/capable, authority, power |  |
| mafatua | sneeze |  |
| mafau | overstretched |  |
| mafohi | to be able to peel |  |
| mafuefue | hair not combed properly |  |
| mafuli | to capsize |  |
| maha | empty |  |
| mahaehae | torn, tattered |  |
| mahaki | sick person, sick (adj), sickness |  |
| mahaki mafu | heart disease |  |
| mahalo | to suspect, perhaps |  |
| mahele | cut with a knife |  |
| maheni | familiar |  |
| mahi | sour |  |
| mahiki | come up slightly |  |
| mahino | distinguished |  |
| maholo | to decrease, to become less, to give way |  |
| mahu‘inga | precious |  |
| mahulu | to be something bigger |  |
| mahutafea | abundance |  |
| makamaka | stony |  |
| malava | to be able to |  |
| mālualoi | hypocritical |  |
| matafonua | coastline |  |
| matangi kovi | bad weather |  |
| matolu | thickness |  |
| meheka | jealous |  |
| mītia fakasōsiale | social media |  |
| **N** | namua | infested with mosquitoes |  |
| naunau | equipment |  |
| navei | to mark for identification purposes |  |
| nifi | very small |  |
| nima homo | generosity |  |
| ninimo | dizzy |  |
| no‘osia | sore throat |  |
| noa | dumb, unable to speak, zero |  |
| nofo‘aki | proud of |  |
| nofo‘i | to occupy, to inhabit |  |
| nofo‘ova | overstay |  |
| nonga | peace/ calm/ tranquil |  |
| nono‘o | to tie |  |
| **Ng** | ngā | to pant, to struggle |  |
| nga‘asi | shell, shell-like |  |
| nga‘asi va‘e | toenails |  |
| nga‘unga‘u | very damp |  |
| ngahaha | to rustle |  |
| ngahau | arrow |  |
| ngahele | to move along slowly |  |
| ngaholo | to sail swiftly |  |
| ngahū | sodden |  |
| ngai‘i | to creak |  |
| ngakīkī | skinny, slim |  |
| ngala | to cry noisily |  |
| ngalemulemu | limp |  |
| ngali‘eiki | grand |  |
| ngalingali | seem or be likely |  |
| ngalivale | lose face |  |
| ngaloku | slack or loose |  |
| ngaluelue | wobble |  |
| ngaoha‘a | littered with garbage |  |
| ngaohi | to make |  |
| ngaohi kovia | ill treated |  |
| ngatōtō | to be loose |  |
| nge‘esi | shell |  |
| ngeia | inspiring, honour, dignity |  |
| ngofua | permitted |  |
| ngoue‘i | to cultivate |  |
| **P** | pā | to touch |  |
| paa‘i | to slap |  |
| paaka | park |  |
| paaki | to print |  |
| pāea | to drift out |  |
| pāhia | to be utterly sick and tired |  |
| pahū | to come into collision |  |
| paipa | pipe |  |
| pakupaku | barren, too dry |  |
| pala | decay, to dcay |  |
| palangia | to be affected by decay |  |
| palōfesa | professor |  |
| palōfisai | to predict, prophecy |  |
| panaki | to be near |  |
| pango | ill mannered |  |
| pāpā | burst |  |
| peku | blunt |  |
| pelepela | mud |  |
| **S** | sālati | salad |  |
| saliote | carriage |  |
| sanuisi | sandwich |  |
| sapa | supper |  |
| savieti | napkin |  |
| sāvolo | shovel |  |
| sei | flower over the ear |  |
| sekoni | second (unit of time) |  |
| senitolo | sandals |  |
| siakale | circle |  |
| siamu | jam |  |
| sikalu | screw |  |
| sikeiti | skate |  |
| **T** | ta‘anga | poem |  |
| ta‘e‘amanekina | unexpected |  |
| taautaha | individual |  |
| taka | to go about |  |
| taka‘uli | bruise |  |
| talafekau | messenger |  |
| talahu‘i | to talk back rudely |  |
| talanoa hua | to joke |  |
| talatala | to inform, to consult |  |
| talu | since |  |
| talēniti | talent |  |
| taloa | to travel direct |  |
| tanumia | to be buried |  |
| taukei | experience |  |
| tekinolosia | technology |  |
| **V** | va‘a | branch |  |
| vaeua | half |  |
| vahefonua | province |  |
| vaia | melt |  |
| valoki | to advise |  |
| vanu | ravine |  |
| vāofi | close together |  |
| vau | to scrape |  |
| vauele | vowel |  |
| veesi | verse |  |
| velahia | broil, to feel hot |  |
| veteki | resolve |  |