



NCEA Level 2 Lea Faka-Tonga 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 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](#).

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
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
	fehengahangai	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
	hivilivili	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

	kalofiamata	spark from fire
	kamakamata	to start slowly, initial stage
	ka neongo	however
	kanititeiti	candidate
L	lafalafa	flat
	lakasi	to beat
	lalata	tame
	lausii	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
	li'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
	mafahi	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
	ngahale	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 decay
	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	sālali	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
	sikalū	screw
	sikeiti	skate
T	ta'anga	poem
	ta'e'amanekina	unexpected
	tautaha	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
	talū	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
	vauēle	vowel
	veesi	verse
	velahia	broil, to feel hot
	veteki	resolve