

NCEA Level 3 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 3 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 8. 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.

L3	Lea Faka-Tonga	English	Vocabulary classes
'A	'afua	clear weather	adjective
	'aikona	carrying in the fold of one's clothes around the waist	verb
	'alotāmaki	bad weather	adjective
	'ange'ange	to be surpassed by, even more	verb
'E	'efihi	to carry under your arms	verb
	'efihia	to be stuck between something	verb
	'ehe'ehē	to laugh loudly	verb
	'emo	to lick	verb
'I	'i he tafa'aki 'e tahá	on the other hand	conjunction
	'ilo fakaikiiki	thorough knowledge	noun
	'ilo pau	clear knowledge	noun
A	a'usia	to have reached (v), experience (n)	verb, noun
	afāngia	being whipped about by a hurricane	adjective
	alea	debate, to discuss	verb
	angafai	method	noun
I	ikuna	winning	noun
	ikuna'i	to conquer	verb
O	ofongi	to call out	verb
	ongosia	exhausted	adjective
U	utu	to harvest	verb
F	faaki	to hold against	verb
	faha'i	faction, side	noun
	fai'aki	to do with	verb
	faifai	as time goes on	verb
	faikava	to sit around and drink kava	verb
	failā	to set sail	verb
	faka'ai'ai	to goad someone to do something	verb
	faka'amu	to long for	verb
	faka'ofa	pathetic	adjective
	faka'uto'uta	estimation, advice	noun
	fakaanga	criticism	noun
	fakaemāmani	worldly	adjective
	fakafaingofua'i	to simplify	verb
	fakafekiki	to argue	verb
	fakafo'ou	to restore, to renew	verb
	fakafuofua	to approximate (v), approximate (adj)	adjective, verb
	fakahaofi	to save	verb
	fakahekeheke	to flatter	verb
	fakakalasi	to classify (v), pertaining to class or social status (adj)	adjective, verb
	fakakātoa	in sum	conjunction
	fakalaka	to progress, to pass over or across	verb
	fakalata	to feel at home	verb
	fakaloloma	sorrowful	adjective
	fakama'ama'a	to reduce the price	verb
	fakamohe	to put to sleep	verb
	fakamoleki	to lose	verb
	fakangalongata'a	unforgettable	noun
	fakanofonofu	to seat people in an orderly manner	verb
	fakapa'anga	to finance, providing funds	noun. Verb

	fakatatau	according to	verb
	fakatonuhia'i	to justify	verb
	fakatotolo	to research	verb
	fakatou	both	adverb
	fakatulou	to excuse oneself	verb
	felāngaaki	to ache all over	verb
	felelei	to run together	verb
	feliuliuaki e 'ea	climate change	noun
	feohi	to associate with	verb
	fepikitaki	to be related/connected, holding hands	verb
	fesiofaki	to look at one another	verb
	fetaki	hand in hand, to work cooperatively	verb
	fetuli	to rush	verb
H	hako	descendants	noun
	haveki	destroyed	verb
	hilifaki	to place on top of something	verb
	hoka'i	to poke	verb
	hopo	hold court, lawsuit, to jump	verb
	hou	when the sea is rough	adjective
	hu'a	come in (of the tide)	verb
	huki	to sit on someone's lap	verb
K	kai'anga	place where eating occurs	noun
	kaunoa	sticking one's nose in another's business	noun
	kautaha	company	noun
	kava toho	large kava plant presented	noun
	kavenga	burden	noun
	kele	muddy water	adjective
L	lāngilangi	honour, dignity	noun
	laukau'anga	place of pride	noun
	laulaunoa	stupid talking, talking nonsense	adjective
	lea fakatōkilalo	to speak in the humble language	verb
	lelei'ia	to be impressed	verb
	leva	immediately	adverb
M	mā'imoa	regal for king's involvement in any activity	verb
	ma'uma'uluta	well established	adjective
	ma'ungofua	easy to get	adjective
	māfana ange 'a māmani	global warming	noun
	makatu'u	bedrock at sea	noun
	mamulu	to be scratched	verb
	mātu'aki	exceedingly	adverb
	me'apango	misfortune, unfortunately	noun
	mo'usioa	to stare	verb
	mo'utalia	to wait a long time	adverb
	molumalu	solemn	adjective
	mu'aki	the principal one, to be first	adverb
	muka	young leaves	noun
N	ne'ine'i	little wonder, no wonder	adverb
	nēkeneka	exceeding joy	adjective
	nimasi	to put one's hands to do work, to speed things up	verb
	numi	to make smaller	verb
Ng	ngalingali	to look as if	adverb

P	paki'i	to snap, to pick flowers	verb
	patō	a thump, sharp tapping noise	adjective
	pongia	to faint	verb
	pupuha	humidity	adjective
	pupula	to swell	verb
S	sīpinga'aki	to use as an example	adjective
	sola	foreigner, stranger	noun
T	tafa'aki	perspectives	noun
	tāfea	flooding	noun
	tapeva	a sprain	adjective
	tataka	afraid	noun
	tatangi	to ring	verb
	tēkina	to drift	verb
	tofuhia	sharing with everyone	adverb
	tokaange	it will come to pass, no doubt	adjective
	tu'utāmaki	extreme poverty	adjective
	tu'uvala	wedding costume of fine mats	noun
	tuhu'i	to identify	verb
	tuifio	mixed and mingle	adjective
	tukuhāusia	abandoned, lacking the means to provide for oneself	adjective
V	vāhenga	salary	noun
	vākai	ceremonial waist mat worn on special occasions	noun
	vakai'i	to explore	verb
	valoki	to rebuke, scold	verb
	vaotā	forest	noun
	vātamaki	poor human relations	adjective
	ve'efua	swollen legs	adjective
	vevea	littered with rubbish	adjective