

**NCEA Level 2 Te Reo Māori Kūki ‘Āirani 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 Te Reo Māori Kūki ‘Āirani 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 (Te Reo Māori Kūki ‘Āirani** **to English)**.

Other configurations of this list (eg. English to Te Reo Māori Kūki ‘Āirani; by category) can be downloaded [here](https://ncea.education.govt.nz/learning-languages/te-reo-maori-kuki-airani?view=teaching).

Alternatively, you can navigate to the revised vocabulary lists by following this pathway:
ncea.education.govt.nz > New Zealand Curriculum > Learning Languages: Te Reo Māori Kūki ‘Āirani > 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.

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| **L2** | **Te Reo Māori Kūki ‘Airani** | **English** |
| **'A** | `aitamu | act/perform |
| `akaa`u | autumn |
| `aka`eva`eva | to grieve/mourn |
| `aka`oki | to return |
| `akaipoipo | wedding |
| `akako`u | gifting, to gift the newly-wed couple |
| `akakoro | to intend, to object |
| `akangere | to have no share |
| `akarua  | north |
| `akatūkia | to make contact |
| `akauto | germination |
| `akirāta | dawn |
| `ākono`anga | religion, faith, a way of life/culture/practice |
| `āpare | ceremony/gathering at house of somebody who died |
| `ātava | branch |
| `ātea | black tipped cod |
| `autū | winner |
| `āvā | have a gap |
|  **'E** | `enemi | medicine |
| `ere`ere | to tie (bunches of bananas to branches), tether, snare |
| `ēumiumi | to deliberate |
|  **'I** | `īkape | to flick aside |
| `iki | to select, to look after (a child) |
| `iku | tail, summon |
| `iku`iku`anga | last wish |
| `īmēre | email |
| `īnaki | fish trap |
| `inarere | great, great grandchild |
| `īnere | hinge (door) |
| `iti | rise (of sun or moon), edge, brink, rim, lace |
| `ītiki | fresh water eel, to tie a knot |
| `ītoro | idol, crawl stealthily |
|  **'O** | `ōake  | to hand over |
| `okirua | second coming, to come again |
| `ōniāni | onion |
| `ope | hip/end |
| `ōringi/`ō`ini | fishing basket |
| `ōtēra | hotel |
| **U** | `uka`uka | bubble |
| `uri`ia | cyclone, to turn over |
| `uritumu | to destroy completely, overthrow |
| `uti`uti | to pull, to tug |
| **A** | a`o | fishing line, good wind, breath |
| ama | outrigger float |
|  | amo | to carry (on shoulder) |
| amu | chant |
| āngota | a method of fishing/coconut leaves basket |
| ara | way |
| arāpo | phases of the moon |
| ate | liver/organ/guts |
| ātea | wide, broad, width, clear away (mist) |
| **I** | ipukarea | homeland |
| ira | a mark on the skin |
| iringa | spring |
| **O** | ōata | one of the nights of the moon/good night for fishing |
| **U** | uaki | to uncover/open |
| uata | scoop net for catching flying fish |
| uāvare | saliva |
| uiui | to question |
| ukauka | easy to bend |
| ūmere | to be amazed |
| umukai | feast |
| upe/`au | dew |
| uru | to emerge, spring out, poke |
| urunga | a pillow, to lean on |
| uto | a geminating coconut |
| **K** | ka`atea | show up greyish white |
| kanapa | to crate,to flash, to glint, shine |
| kapa | to flap, copper, to act |
| kāpua  | to create, to originate |
| kāpua`anga | origin, very beginning |
| katukatu | containing lumps |
| kete | basket |
| kīkau | coconut leaves |
| kirikiri one | sand/gravel, pebbles |
| kiriti | to pull out, to harvest crop |
| ko`u | fog, to wrap |
| kōmutu | firewood unconsumed by the fire |
| kopi | to hem, to pull back |
| koropini | to surround, to encircle |
| kūmara  | sweet potato |
| **M** | mā`uti`uti | to be uprooted |
| mae | to wither |
| maeva | to shout in triumph, to cheer loudly |
| mākave | a plait or tress (hair), a strand |
| mana | power |
| mangio | to be itchy |
| manuku | to slip out, to slip off |
| māpū | young, teenager |
|  | marangai | east |
| mārangi | full moon /good night to plant |
| mare`ure`u | dusk |
| mārei | loop with a running knot |
| marō | dry |
| mārō  | to argue |
| māruarua | to be acclaimed /well received |
| matakite | to be watchful |
| mātau | to be used to |
| mate | to die, death |
| mātipi | knife, to clean skin off a crop plant |
| meri | honey |
| mētera | medal |
| metua `ōngai | parent (mother/father) in law |
| miri | to rub (with hands) |
| moni `ātinga | offering |
| mōtini | pumpkin |
| mou | to yeild a good harvest |
| mūmū | to pile up |
| **N** | nānā | turn or raise (your eyes), to look at (glance of the eyes) |
| navenave | to feel delightful |
| nga`u | a common coastal shrub |
| ngākau | gut, mood |
| ngararā | to make a choking sound |
| ngārara | a large lizard |
| ngere  | short of / in need of |
| ngingiti | to catch breath from sudden pain |
| ngunguru | to roar, to growl angrily |
| **P** | pā`ata | platform |
| pae | a share of a fish, to drift, border design |
| pai | infertile soil, barren |
| pāma | farmer, farmland |
| papa | to be ready |
| pāpā | a fishing technique, to pound |
| pāpāki | share/a portion of a number |
| pāpānu | to float |
| para`a | to be flat |
| parai | paint, smear, apply |
| pāraku | to rake, scratch |
| pārapu | west |
| parau | bible, to be proud |
| pārau | pearl shell |
| pare rito | hat made from coconut fibre |
| paroro | winter |
| patapata | flick/shoot (a mobile text message, marbles) |
|  | pateka | slippery |
| pāto`i | to protest |
| patu | to build a wall |
| peka | small intersecting stream |
| penetekote | pentecost |
| pere`ō | wagon |
| pinipini | hide |
| piri'anga | relationship, connection, relevance |
| pirimou | to have a firm and steadfast relationship |
| pītate | various introduced jasmine |
| pōkarakara | to clap hands, to applaud |
| pōpani  | to block/cork, to end, conclude |
| poroki | to summon |
| pōrokiroki | to instruct someone to do something, last words, parting words |
| poroporo | small shrub |
| punāvai  |  well, pool of fresh water |
| punua | a young animal |
| pure | prayer |
| pūroku | veil |
| **R** | rama | to search for fish or crab |
| rāmepa | lantern |
| rapa | tail of fish, to carve, to flash |
| raro`ara | very small cream-coloured shell |
| raumati | summer |
| raurau | numerous, small basket made from coconut leaves |
| raverave | to take from others |
| re`u | ash |
| reru | to strike with a heavy resounding blow |
| rito | heart leaves of a coconut tree / essence |
| roimata | tear |
| rōra  | to roll, a roller, |
| rori | sea cucumber |
| roroi | dish of slice of taro or kumara with coconut sauce |
| rōta`i`anga | union, come together |
| ruku | to dive underwater |
| rupe | bird, pacific pigeon |
| rutu | to beat (drums) |
| **T** | tā`iki | to change position |
| tā`iri | to sway |
| tā`okota`i | bring together / to work together, unite |
| takakē | to depart |
| tākave | to embrace |
| tākiri | fishing rod |
| takurua | special feast for visitors/special occasions |
| tama mua | first born, first child |
|  | tāmarama  | on a monthly basis |
| tāmarō | to dry |
| tāmaru | shade or shelter something |
| tāmarū | to soften, to slacken, to reduce (speed, noise etc) |
| tāmou  | to learn / to hold down |
| tāngarongaro | to cause to disappear |
| tao/ta`u | to bake in earth oven, roast |
| tāora | to set a time |
| tāpeka | to promise in marriage, to betroth |
| tapere  | smaller villages |
| tāpiri | to get close to, close something |
| tāpoki | to cover |
| tapu | to be sacred |
| tāpu | bath tub |
| tara | method of catching eels, sharp point |
| tārava | to lay something down horizontally, beams |
| tāreva | to wave to someone |
| tāruna | to pile/heap something on |
| tātai | to put a loop or handle on something / to add salt |
| tātini | dozen |
| tauraki | to dry or hang out something |
| taurua | a partner or companion |
| tautai | fishing |
| tekateka | text message |
| terēni | to train |
| tiaki | keeper, guardian |
| tu`anga | a share |
| tuātau | period of time |
| tukati`anga niuniu | online connection |
| tūmatetenga | death |
| tuna | fresh water eel |
| tunutunu | to barbecue, grill |
| tūpāpāku  | spirit that is mischievous or troubling |
| **V** | vā | gap, free time, amazed |
| va`ī | to wrap |
| vaerua | spirit |
| vai`o | to leave alone |
| vaka | canoe |
| vaka tangāta | tribe |
| vana | sea-urchin with long black spine |
| varo | to hollow out |
| varu | a shaver, to scrape, dog-tooth tuna |
| varuvaru | to scrape off |
| verevere | a tassel, lumps hanging under chin of goat |
| veri | centipede |
| verovero | rays of sunshine |
| veruveru | in strips, shred, to rip |
| vinivini | to be horrified/scared |
| viriviri | to keep on drilling |
| viti | lively, energetic |