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**NCEA Level 1 Vagahau Niue 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 1 Vagahau Niue 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 (Vagahau Niue to English)**.

Other configurations of this list (eg. English to Vagahau Niue; by category) can be downloaded [here](https://ncea.education.govt.nz/learning-languages/vagahau-niue?view=teaching).

Alternatively, you can navigate to the revised vocabulary lists by following this pathway:
ncea.education.govt.nz > New Zealand Curriculum > Learning Languages: Vagahau Niue > 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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| **L1** | **Vagahau Niue** | **English** |
| **A** | a fē, i ne fē | when |
| a magaaho | later |
| a pō, pō nei | tonight |
| a pogipogi | tomorrow |
| aafe | to turn, to branch off  |
| aaki | to remove, to take off  |
| aala  | waking up (plural)  |
| aamo | to touch |
| age | to give (to the third person) |
| ago, lanu ago | yellow |
| aho | day |
| Aho Faiumu | Saturday |
| Aho Falaile | Friday |
| Aho Gofua | Monday |
| Aho Lotu | Wednesday |
| aho nei | today |
| Aho Tapu | Sunday |
| Aho Tuloto | Thursday |
| Aho Ua | Tuesday |
| akau | tree |
| ako | to learn  |
| akoako | pastor |
| akomena | learning |
| ala | to wake up (singular) |
| alaala | to be lively |
| alelo | tongue |
| aloalo | to wave  |
| amoamo | to touch (plural and repetitive) |
| anoiha | future |
| aoga | useful |
| ata | shadow, photo, small fibrous tree |
| atu | to give (to the second person) |
| au | me |
| auloa | together |
| **E** | e | yes |
| ea | air (n) |
| efu | dust |
| efuefu | ashes, grey |
| ekekafo | doctor |
| elo | smell (scent, odour), to smell |
| evaeva | to visit (formal), a leisurely walk/stroll  |
| **F** | fafao | to pack |
| fafo | outside |
| fagai | to feed, offering to pastor (n) |
| faiaoga | teacher |
| fakaako | to teach |
| fakaalofa | hello, sorry, to greet, to feel sorry (implies sympathy) |
| fakaalofa atu | hello (greeting others) |
| fakaaue | thank you |
| fakaeneene | quietly, gently |
| fakafano | to send |
| fakafeleveia | to greet, to meet |
| fakafua | to sell |
| fakainu | to give someone a drink  |
| fakakite | show, display |
| fakalahi | to enlarge, to multiply  |
| fakalataha | to be together |
| fakamanatu | to remind |
| fakameā | to clean, to tidy up |
| fakamohe | to put to sleep  |
| fakamolemole | please, pardon, excuse me, to excuse |
| fakamōmō | to dry  |
| fakamua | to be first, to begin |
| fakamui | to be last  |
| fakanofo | to have a seat |
| fakanono | to be quiet  |
| fakaoti | to end |
| fakatali | wait |
| fakatau | to buy |
| fakatino | picture |
| fakatonufono | speaker |
| fakatote | to shrink, to reduce, to decrease |
| fakatū | stand, to start something, to stop a moving vehicle |
| fakatuai | to be slow, to slow  |
| fakavai | to lie |
| fale | house |
| fale aoga | school |
| fale fono | meeting house, meeting hall |
| fale gagao | hospital |
| fale gahua | workplace |
| fale kai | restaurant |
| fale koloa | shop |
| fale koukou | bathroom |
| fale leoleo | police station |
| fale penisini | petrol station |
| fale tapu | sacred place |
| fale tote, fale vao | toilet |
| fale (leveki) tupe | bank |
| fānau | children |
| fano | to go |
| fanogonogo | to listen |
| faofao | to exercise |
| fata | shelf, nest |
| fatafata | chest |
| fatu | stomach |
| fēfē | what, how |
| fefeua | naughty, cheeky |
| fia | to want |
| fiafia | happy, glad |
| fifili | to plait |
| fifine, tagata fifine | female |
| fiha | how many |
| fili | to plait |
| fiti | flower |
| foki | also |
| fono | meeting |
| fono maaga | village meeting |
| fonua | land  |
| foou | new |
| fota | to touch |
| fotafota | to massage |
| foufou | head garland |
| fua | indicator for a fruit or vegetable, to swell  |
| fua falaoa | bread |
| fuakau | old person |
| fufua moa | egg |
| fulu | hair (single strand) |
| fulu mata | eyelash |
| fulufulu | hairy, woolly |
| fuluola, fulufuluola | pretty, beautiful |
| futi | to pull out, banana |
| **G** | gafugafu | baggy |
| gagao | sick, illness |
| gagau | to bite |
| gahua | work (n), to work, employment |
| gako | fat |
| galo | lost |
| galue | feast, food portion |
| gana | to scatter  |
| gata | snake |
| gau | to chew  |
| geka | a swing, to swing |
| gō | to make a lot of noise  |
| gū | noise |
| gutu | mouth |
| **H** | hā e | this, here |
| hā e fē | where |
| hā i kō | there |
| ha i kunā | over there |
| ha nā | that  |
| haaku | mine  |
| haana | hers, his, its  |
| haau | yours |
| hafa | to halve  |
| hafagi | to open  |
| hahau | cool, to cool down |
| haia | that’s it |
| hake | to climb up, to go (up, North, or East) |
| hala | track, path, way |
| halu | to peel |
| hamu | to snatch  |
| hana | corn |
| hanei | here |
| hapo | to catch (balls) |
| hau | to come (singular) |
| hauhau | breezy, to be breezy |
| hea | to call  |
| hehele | to make one cut |
| hei | hair piece, to wear a flower  |
| heigoa | what |
| heke | to ride, to get on the bus |
| hele | to cut  |
| helehele | to cut into pieces |
| hetu | comb (n), to comb |
| hifo | to climb down, to go (down, South, or West)  |
| higoa | name |
| hihina | to drip  |
| hiki | to change (direction) |
| hiku | tail |
| hila | electricity |
| hina | grey hair, pale |
| hio | to chop  |
| hoge | hungry |
| hohopo | to get off, to exit a vehicle (plural) |
| hoko | to reach  |
| holo | to grate |
| holoholo | to wash  |
| homo | good |
| hopo | to get off, to exit a vehicle (singular), to jump |
| huhu | milk |
| hūhū | question (n), to question, to ask  |
| hui | leg, to combine liquids together |
| hui motokā | tyre |
| huilapa | wheelbarrow |
| humelie | sweet |
| **I** | i, i fē, ki fē | where |
| i luga | above |
| ia | him, her, it  |
| ihu | nose |
| ika | fish |
| iloa | know |
| iloilo | smart, clever |
| inu | drink (n), to drink |
| ita | mad, angry |
| **K** | kafu | sheet |
| kahoa | garland, necklace |
| kai | to eat, food |
| kaina | home |
| kakau | to swim , swimming |
| kākia | neck, throat |
| kamata | to start  |
| kamatamata | examination |
| kapiniu inu | cup |
| kapiniu kai | plate |
| kapitiga | friend |
| kata | laugh (n), to laugh (singular) |
| katakata | chuckle (n), to chuckle  |
| kato | basket, bag |
| kaupā | veranda, wall |
| kauvehe | cheek (face) |
| keke | cake |
| kelea | bad, not good |
| keli | to dig |
| kene | to poke  |
| ki | key, to |
| kikila | shine |
| kili | skin |
| kitia | to see  |
| kiva | dirty |
| ko | to crow, to bark |
| koe | you  |
| koho | to cough , wooden pole used to plant talo |
| koli | to dance |
| koloa | possessions, resources |
| kona | bitter, salty, poisonous |
| koukou | bath, to have a bath |
| ku | short |
| kula, lanu kula | red |
| kulī | dog |
| kumi | to search |
| kumukumu | chin |
| kupu | word |
| **L** | la | branch  |
| laā | sun |
| lafi, laku | to mix, to add |
| lafilafi | addition |
| lafu | sibling(s) |
| laga | to heave, to race |
| lagataha | once |
| lagatolu | three times |
| lagaua | twice |
| lagi | sky |
| lago | fly (insect), to defend, to support |
| lagomatai | to help, to assist |
| lahi | big, more |
| lahi mahaki | bigger |
| lahi mahaki atu | biggest |
| laini | line |
| laini tala | sentence |
| laisi | rice |
| laka | to step |
| lakahui | to walk  |
| lakalaka | to step over  |
| lalaga | to weave  |
| lalo | down, under, below |
| lalolagi | world |
| lanu | colours |
| lanu fua hoi | purple |
| lanu kākī | brown |
| lanu lau futi, lanu laukou | green |
| lanu mamē | pink |
| lanu moana | blue |
| lanu tea | white |
| lanu uli, uli | black |
| lanu unoko | darker, rich colour |
| lapa | board |
| lau ulu | hair |
| laua | them (dual) |
| laugutu | lips |
| laukou/lau akau | leaf |
| laulau | table |
| lautolu | them  |
| lavelave | busy |
| lē | forehead |
| lele | to fly  |
| leo | voice, sound, tune (n), to wait (followed by an adverb) |
| leoleo | police |
| leva | lengthy time, long time |
| leveki | to look after, to guard, to protect |
| ligi | to pour  |
| lili | table mat |
| līlī | to tie  |
| lima | hand |
| liogi | prayer, to pray |
| liti | to throw  |
| loa | tall, long |
| loga | plenty |
| loku | pawpaw |
| lole | lollies |
| lolelole | tired |
| lolo | oil, delicious |
| lologo | song (n), to sing  |
| loloto | pool |
| loto | inside, to want, to desire |
| lotomatala | knowledge, to be clever |
| lue | to wobble, to sway (as in dancing) |
| lulu  | to shake |
| luo | hole |
| lupe | pigeon, windmill |
| lutu, une | to move  |
| **M** | ma | to be shy  |
| maaga | village  |
| maala | plantation |
| maama | clear, understanding, to understand, bright (adj) |
| maeke | to be able, can |
| mafana | warm |
| mafiti | fast, quickly |
| mafola | okay, peace |
| mafu | to whistle, healing |
| magaaho | time bound |
| (magaaho) afiafi | evening |
| magaaho kai, tula kai | mealtime |
| magaaho mohe, tula mohe | bed time |
| magaaho nei | now |
| magaaho tupou laā | midday |
| magafaoa | family |
| mago | mango |
| magō | shark |
| maha | empty |
| mahaga | twins |
| mahakitaga | sister |
| mahalo | to accept, to agree, okay |
| mahani | behaviour, usual practice |
| mahina | moon, month |
| mai | to give (to the speaker) |
| maka  | stone |
| makalili | cold |
| makona | full (can not eat any after a nice meal) |
| malē | field |
| malolō | well, strong |
| malu | to shelter, shade (n) |
| mamafa | heavy |
| mana | magic |
| manava | stomach |
| mano | heaps |
| manogi | to smell good |
| manu | animal |
| manu huifā | four-legged animal |
| manu tahi | sea animal |
| manulele | bird |
| maō | tough, hard |
| mata | eye, raw, facial features |
| matahui | toe |
| matakau | group |
| matalē | forehead |
| matalima | finger |
| tohitohi | letter of the alphabet |
| mataulu | title, heading, top |
| mate | to die, dead |
| matua | parent |
| matua fifine | mother |
| matua fugavai | in-law (mother or father) |
| matua taane | father |
| matua tupuna | grandparent |
| matua tupuna fifine | grandma |
| matua tupuna taane | grandpa |
| mau | to marry, to be ready |
| mauku | funeral |
| mea | term of endearment |
| meā | clean |
| meamea | gums |
| moa | chicken |
| moana | ocean |
| mohe | to sleep (plural momohe) |
| mohega | bed |
| moko | insect |
| moli | soap |
| molī | lamp |
| moli, lanu fua moli | orange |
| molo | to wring  |
| mōmō | to dry |
| momohe | to sleep (plural) |
| momoko | cold, sad |
| mooli | true, honest  |
| motokā | car |
| motu | island, country |
| mua | to win, to be first, at the front |
| mui | to lose, to follow, at the end |
| **N** | nā | to stop crying  |
| nafa | wooden drum |
| nākai | no, not |
| namu | mosquito, smell (n), to smell  |
| nava | praise (n), to praise |
| neva | to go for a walk |
| nifo | tooth, scissors |
| nila | needle |
| niu | coconut |
| nofo | to sit, to stay, to live (singular) |
| nofoa | chair |
| nomaea | in-law |
| nonofo | to sit, to stay, to live (plural) |
| nūmela | number |
| **O** | ofaofa | to love  |
| ofo | to be surprised, to be shocked |
| ohake | to go up  |
| ohifo | to go down  |
| ohui | walk |
| oka | to bump into something, great |
| okioki | to rest, to have a break  |
| ola | mark, point, result |
| ole | to ask |
| omai | to come (plural) |
| omaoma | to obey, obedience |
| omoi | to push  |
| ono | to look (singular) |
| otaota | rubbish |
| oti | finished |
| **P** | pā | to close, to burst (a fence), to ban (n/v) |
| pahu | to stomp |
| pake | bat (eg, cricket), jellyfish |
| pākia | accident, to hurt  |
| pala | to be wet |
| palagi | European |
| pata | butter |
| pati | to clap (singular) |
| patipati | to clap (plural) |
| pē | to run aground |
| peau | wave (ocean) |
| pehē | says… |
| pelē | to play |
| pelu | machete, to hem  |
| pene | pencil, pen |
| pepa | book |
| pepe | moth, butterfly |
| pēpē | coconut dish |
| pili | glue (n), to glue |
| pipili | skinny |
| pō | night |
| pogipogi, magaaho pogipogi | morning |
| poitufi | race |
| poko | room |
| poko aoga | classroom |
| poko kai | kitchen |
| poko mohe | bedroom |
| polo | ball, green vegetables |
| potu | mat |
| pou | pole |
| pū | puncture |
| pū ihu | nostril |
| pu mata | eye |
| puaka | pig  |
| pulou | hat |
| pulu | coconut husk |
| punu | canned food |
| punua | young offspring (of animals) |
| punua kulī | puppy |
| punua pusi | kitten |
| pupu | weed |
| pusi | cat |
| **S** | sene | cent |
| sipunu | spoon |
| soka | soccer |
| suka | sugar |
| **T** | tā | to hit, to draw |
| taane, tagata taane | male |
| tafe  | to flow  |
| tafepoi | running (plural) |
| tafi | to sweep, broom (n) |
| tafu | to build a fire |
| tafua | whale |
| taga | bag, sack |
| tagata | person |
| tagata fifine | woman |
| tagata lahi | adult |
| tagata taane | man |
| tagata tote | small person, child |
| tagi | to cry, to ring  |
| tahi | sea  |
| takape | widow |
| takoto | to lie down |
| tala | story, talk (n) |
| tālaga | to make, to build, to design  |
| talahau | to tell  |
| talanoa | to chat, to talk, to converse (v); conversation, discussion (n) |
| tali | to answer, to reply  |
| talia | to agree  |
| talo | root vegetable, taro |
| tama | child |
| tama fifine | girl, daughter |
| tama lahi | older child |
| tama mukemuke | baby |
| tama taane | boy, son |
| tama tote | small child |
| tamai | to bring |
| tanu | to bury  |
| taokete | oldest |
| tapu | church service, worship service, sacred |
| tata | close, near by |
| tau | to pick, to pick fruit, year, to be the same (v/n) |
| tau ka hau | next year |
| tau kua mole | last year |
| tau nei | this year |
| taute | to get ready, to make, do, create |
| tea | white |
| tega | lap |
| tehina | younger sister or brother (same gender), younger, youngest |
| tele | to kick  |
| teliga | ear |
| telo | to lick  |
| teva | lazy |
| tevae | shoe |
| ti | and, tea |
| tia | open weaving, to weave |
| tiaki | to leave  |
| tika | traditional javelin |
| timala | kumara |
| tino | body |
| titi | dancing costume, skirt |
| tō | sugarcane, to fall down, to plant |
| toa | hero, warrior |
| tohi | to write |
| toka | ocean floor, to depart, to leave  |
| tokofiha | a few |
| tokolalo | low |
| tokoluga | high, tall |
| tote | small (quantity), little (quantity), less |
| totou | to read |
| tū | to stand |
| tua | back, behind (direction, position) (n) |
| tufa | to distribute, to share |
| tufi | to race |
| tugaane | brother |
| tugi | to burn  |
| tula | clock, watch, time |
| tupe | money |
| tutala | to speak, to talk, to converse with someone |
| tutuli | to chase |
| **U** | ua | don’t |
| ue | to sway (moving hips to music) |
| uga | coconut crab |
| uha | rain (n), to rain |
| uhu | to sing, to feel pain  |
| ui | to chant, to call |
| uka | to be naughty  |
| ulu | head |
| uluaki | first born |
| ulufaiaoga | principal |
| uluuka | to be difficult, to be stubborn |
| umu | oven, earth oven |
| uneune | to keep moving  |
| unu | to wash clothes |
| uta | to take, east, inland, seashore |
| uta kehe | to take away, to subtract |
| **V** | vagahau | to speak, language |
| vai | water, medicine |
| vai inu | drinking water |
| vai momoko | cold water |
| vai vela | hot water |
| vaka | canoe |
| vakalele | aeroplane |
| vala | piece, portion |
| vali | paint (n), to paint, to colour |
| vao | bush |
| vela | hot |
| veli | to fall down  |
| veliveli | circle, round |
| vete | to undo something |
| veu | to open, to search |
| vevehe | to separate, to divide  |
| volu | to scrape  |