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**NCEA Level 2 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 2 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 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 (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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| **L2** | **Vagahau Niue** | **English** |
| **A** | afo | fishing line |
| afua | fine/good weather |
| Aho he Tohi Tapu | Bible Day |
| Aho Liutumai | Easter Sunday |
| Aho Matulei | Good Friday |
| Aho Me | Singing Festival |
| Aho Peniamina | Good News Day/Gospel Day |
| Aho Tapu Fanau | White Sunday |
| Aho Tau matua Fifine | Mother's Day |
| akau hi/kakikaki | fishing rod |
| alaga | limb |
| aleale | see through, transparent |
| alito | core, main point |
| ama | film, to hunt |
| ana | cave |
| aolagi | cloud cover |
| aolu | cloud, cloudy |
| atagia | reflection, to reflect |
| ate | liver/organ |
| atefua | affectionate |
| atuahu | generation |
| **E** | eto | slow, to go slowly, behind time |
| **F** | faahi | side |
| fafagu | to wake up |
| faga | type, sort |
| fagota | to gather shellfish on the reef/forage on the reef |
| faguna | nuisance, to annoy |
| faikai | traditional fish dish with coconut cream |
| faituga | church, temple |
| fakamaua | longing |
| fakamua | first |
| fakapaku | char grilled, overdone over the grill |
| fakatokolalo | humble, humbling, humility |
| Fakaaue Tau | Thanksgiving |
| fale koli | night club |
| faliki | to spread |
| faliu | to change (appearance) |
| fanafana | to whisper |
| fanaika | spearfishing |
| fanau | to give birth |
| fao | nail, to pet |
| feaki | to nurture, to care |
| feke | octopus |
| felevia | to meet |
| fenoga | journey, trip |
| fifigo | to wilt, to wither |
| fifitaki | to copy |
| fio | to combine |
| fiu | to be fed up, had enough |
| foa | to clear |
| foaki | to give (used in formal speech) |
| fofoga | facial expressions |
| foha | large (refers to root crops) |
| foleni | to march |
| fuata | young, teenaged |
| fuhi | to tie together |
| futi ika | Fishing |
| **G** | gaafi | Firewood |
| gahoa | few |
| gaki | to nod |
| gali | to bite |
| goi | to rub, to run, to tag wicket with the ball |
| **H** | hafī | to wrap |
| hahave | flying fish |
| hao | safe, to fit |
| havili | Windy |
| heke | to ride, to slip |
| hemu | to show off |
| hi ika | Fishing |
| hifi | to cut hair, to shave |
| hili | to float, to be caught on top of something |
| hoa | Partner |
| hohogo | to smell bad, to be very angry |
| hulu | torch |
| **I** | ili | to fan, to swing an object |
| iliili | fan, to fan |
| **K** | kalahimu | seasonal small edible landcrab |
| kaloama | seasonal yellowstripe goatfish |
| kaluku | edible fern |
| kape | shelling sea shells |
| katoua | wooden Niue spear |
| kau | team, group |
| kaute | hibiscus plant |
| ke ua aki | second |
| kene | digging for kai moana |
| kieto | ebony tree |
| Kilisimasi | Christmas Day |
| koli meke/hopo | drum dance |
| koli ta me-tuai & foou | action songs |
| koli takalo | traditional war dance |
| kotofa | to appoint |
| kula uhi | maroon |
| **L** | lākau | sewing machine, appliance |
| lali | to try |
| lanu māmā | lighter colour |
| lanu māmātea | lighter shade (of colour) |
| lauga | sermon (n, v) |
| liogi magafaoa | family prayer |
| **M** | mahaki | huge |
| mahalo | to accept, to agree (shown by an action) |
| mahino | to be clear |
| mahu | abundance of food, to be abundant with food |
| mahuiga | important, significant |
| malala | charcoal |
| mamoe | sheep, warm blanket |
| mau hoana/taane | weddings |
| miha | noisy |
| miti | to dream, t-shirt |
| mokulu | to drop, to be blown down |
| mole | pass |
| monuina | to prosper |
| motua | to be mature, aged |
| moui | to grow, to live, to survive, life |
| mui mai ai | next |
| **N** | nane | arrowroot pudding (Niue dessert) |
| nimo | to forget |
| **O** | oa | fishing basket, catch of fish and other seafoods |
| ofania | to love children |
| ofomate | greatly surprised |
| oga | moved fast at high speed like a ball |
| okafua | a tight fit, to over eat |
| okaoka | annoying |
| oko | to collect items, to pick up things off the ground/floor |
| olatia | plentiful |
| ota | raw fish |
| oti (verb) ti… | after |
| **P** | page | bait, to bounce a ball |
| paku | to be dry/crispy (refers to skin, hair etc) |
| palau | drum |
| pamu | to pump |
| papahi | ladder |
| patu | house base, foundation |
| pauaki | to be deliberate |
| pekepeke | uneven, headband |
| pitako | grated Niue pudding |
| Po Taha | New Years Eve |
| pola | plaited coconut leaves as floor/roof/wall/door covering |
| puhala koli | how the dance is performed |
| puke | liquid |
| pulagi | atmosphere, air, sky |
| pule | authority, power, control |
| puni | to block up, to cover up, completely filled |
| pūpū | many holes, bait fish |
| **S** | saluti | to salute |
| samu | to eat in (slang) |
| sataulo | cross |
| sela | sale (slang), to sell (slang) |
| **T** | tagataga | loose |
| takafaga | to gather, to hunt, to forage |
| takitaki | leader, to lead |
| tame | traditional dance |
| tao | spear, to cover the umu |
| taofi | to be stopped by someone or something |
| taogo | echo |
| tapaki | to catch (live animals), to grab |
| tapiki | to follow (as in values or codes), to lean/hold on to something |
| tau koloa fakatagitagi | instruments old and new |
| tau tauteuteaga tino | costumes (for men & women) |
| tavaki | to dry in the sun |
| tepu | knob |
| teteki | nasty, ugly |
| tipolo | lime tree |
| tofi | to nominate |
| tofola | flat area of reef |
| toki | axe |
| tokiofa | to treasure |
| tokolalo | low, beneath (preposition) |
| toli | to climb (in general) |
| tomo | to sink, to drown |
| totolo | to crawl |
| toua | rope |
| tuai | old, ancient |
| tui | to wear |
| tuitui | candlenut tree |
| tuki | to smash |
| tuku | to end, to stop, to terminate |
| tule | rough, rocky |
| tunu | to cook |
| tupetupe | worried, concerned |
| tutavaha | horizon |
| **U** | ufi | yam |
| uho | core, middle, centre |
| utu | deep sea fish |
| utu | to pull (harvest talo) |
| uufi | to cover |
| **V** | vaha | fish fin |
| vahā | seasons |
| vahaloto | in between |
| vahega | class |
| vakavaka | veins |
| vaku | to scribble |
| vale | angry, mad |
| vana | sea urchin |
| viko | to curl |
| vili | vote, to vote |