



NCEA Level 2 Vagahau Niue 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 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](#).

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.

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
	ilili	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