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Vosa Vakaviti

Fijian Language Week

PACIFIC
LANGUAGE
WEEKS

20  22



Me vakabulabulataki, vakamareqeti, ka
vakaqacotaki na vosa vakaviti

NURTURE, PRESERVE AND SUSTAIN THE FIJIAN LANGUAGE



Ministry for
Pacific
Peoples

Ti koro ni Moana-nui-ā-Kiwa



Vosa Vakaviti | Fijian Language

There are five votu (vowels):

Aa Ee Ii Oo Uu

Vowels are mostly pronounced as if they were spoken in Spanish, Italian and German (as in **ah** or **father**, **error**, **sit**, **toll**, **food** or **too**).

Consonants:

Bb Cc Dd Ff Gg
Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn
Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss
Tt Uu Vv Ww Yy

Pronouncing Consonants:

Most of the consonants are pronounced the same as they are in English, except for the letters b, c, d, g and q.

B – “mb” as in lumbar. Bula is pronounced “Mbu-la”

C – “th” as in father. Yacata is pronounced “Ya-tha-ta”

D – “nd” as in Sunday. Nadi is pronounced “Na-ndi”

G – “ng” as in finger. Gauna (time) is pronounced “Nga-una”

Q – “nq” as in finger. Qaravi (to serve) is pronounced “Nqa-ra-vi”

Note letters like k, p and t, are generally pronounced the same as they are in English, except there is not the sound of a slight breath that usually follows, so “t” would sound like “ch” when it is behind the letter “i.” Also, “j” is pronounced like the “ch” as in touch and “v” is pronounced with a short “ve” sound, like in vein.

Stress:

In most cases, unless with long vowels, the stress tends to be on the NEXT to last syllable.

Examples: Ka u ta – bring, vi naka – thank you, good.

For long vowels, stress is applied wherever it appears.

Examples: Ki-la, know, macawa – sky, week.



Malanivosa kei na Vosa | Phrases and Words



Vosa Vakaviti	English
Ni sa bula vinaka	Greetings/Hello
Ni sa bula vinaka kece sara	Greetings Everyone
Ni sa moce – vei kemuni na gole	Goodbye – to those who are leaving (only if it applies)
Ni sa moce – vei kemuni na tiko	Goodbye – to those who are staying (only if it applies)
Kerekere	Please
Vinaka vakalevu	Thank you
Vosota	Sorry
Vosoti au	Excuse me
O cei na yacamu?	What is your name?

Vosa Vakaviti	English
Na yacaqu ko	My name is _____
O kemuni mai vei?	Where are you from?
Au cavu tu mai	I am a person from _____
O cakacaka tiko e vei?	Where do you work?
Au cakacaka tiko e	I work at _____
O sa vakacava tiko?	How are you (singular)?
Drau sa vakacava tiko?	How are you (dual)?
Dou sa vakacava tiko?	How are you (plural)?
Au daumaka tiko, vinaka	I am fine, thank you



Malanivosa kei na Vosa | Phrases and Words

Vosa Vakaviti	English
O sa kana? Daru lai kana	Have you eaten? Let's go eat
Vosota ni bera na veitaratara...	Apologies for the delayed response...
Me vaka na imeli sa oti...	As per my previous email...
Marau me veivosakitaki	Happy to discuss
Sa gauna ni vakaukauwa yago	It's gym time!
Qiriti au	Call me
Vakanuinui vinaka	Congratulations!
Na Kalou e vinaka	God is good!

Vosa Vakaviti	English
Turaga/Vunivalu	Chief
Na i Talatala	Church Minister
Gone	Child
Tama	Father
Tina	Mother
Taciqu/Tuakaqu yalewa/ Ganequ	Sister
Taciqu/Tuakaqu tagane/ Ganequ	Brother
Itokani (singular)/I lawalawa (plural)	Friends





Faith is an important aspect of the Fijian culture.

Below is a short prayer and hymn that can be used at the start of your day, to open a meeting or small gathering.

Na lotu e dua na ka bibi ena i vakarau vaka Viti. E toka era e dua na masu lekaleka kei na sere ni lotu ka rawa ni vakayagataki me tekivuna na nomu siga, me dola kina na bose se dua na soqo lailai.

Masu | Prayer

Vosa Vakaviti	English
Meda masu mada	Let us pray
Tamai Keimami mai lomalagi	Our heavenly father
Keimami kerea na nomuni veivakalougataki ena macawa oqo	We ask for your blessings this week
Vei keimami yadudua sara	To each and every one of us
Keimami masu ena yaca i Jisu. Emeni	In Jesus name we pray. Amen

Vosa Vakaviti | Hymn

Vosa Vakaviti	English
E da sa qaqa	We have overcome
E da sa qaqa	We have overcome
E na vuku ni dra	By the blood of the lamb
Kei na nona vosa	And the word of the Lord
E da sa qaqa	We have overcome

