



# Reading and speaking

## Te 'Gana Tuvalu

### Five vowels

<b>Aa</b>	<b>Ee</b>	<b>Ii</b>	<b>Oo</b>	<b>Uu</b>
<b>Āā</b>	<b>Ēē</b>	<b>Īī</b>	<b>Ōō</b>	<b>Ūū</b>
ato	epa	ipu	olesi	utanu

Each vowel has a long and a short duration and each consonant may be held or dwelt on in such a way as to give the succeeding vowel a slight explosive sound. Every word ends in a vowel.

- Short a sound: mata – eye, face.  
Both vowels sounded as “u” in “butter”
- Long a sound: fanau – offspring.  
a sounded as “a” in “father”
- Short e sound: pepe – butterfly, moth.  
Both vowels sounded as “e” in “bet”
- Long e sound: pefea – how.  
e sounded as “e” in “send”
- Short i sound: titi – woman’s kilt.  
Both vowels sounded as “i” in “tin”
- Long i sound: sili – to ask.  
i sounded as “i” in “litre”
- Short o sound: popo – copra.  
Both vowels sounded as “o” in “pot”
- Long o sound: po – night.  
o sounded as “o” in “north”
- Short u sound: tuku – put, give.  
Both vowels sounded as “u” in “pull”
- Long u sound: pula – shine.  
u sounded as “u” in “rule”

### Consonants

<b>Ff</b>	<b>Gg</b>	<b>Hh</b>	<b>Kk</b>	<b>Ll</b>	<b>Mm</b>
fā	gā	hā	kā	lā	mō
fale	gatu	hau	kitala	lami	moe
<b>Nn</b>	<b>Pp</b>	<b>Ss</b>	<b>Tt</b>	<b>Vv</b>	
nū	pī	sā	tī	vī	
nonu	papa	sopu	tusi	vakalele	

## Pati Aoga *Helpful Words*

### Common Phrases

Talofa	<i>Greetings / Hello</i>
Talofa koutou	<i>Greetings everyone</i>
Tofa - Fano La	<i>Goodbye – to those who are leaving</i>
Tofa - Nofo La	<i>Goodbye – to those who are staying</i>
Fakamolemole	<i>Please</i>
Fakafetai	<i>Thank you</i>
Fakatoese	<i>Sorry</i>
Fakamolemole / Tulou	<i>Excuse me</i>

### Pleasantries

Ko oi tou igoa?	<i>What is your name?</i>
Toku igoa ko _____	<i>My name is _____</i>
Koe se tino mai fea?	<i>Where are you from?</i>
Au se tino mai _____	<i>I am a person from _____</i>
Koe e galue i fea?	<i>Where do you work?</i>
Au e galue i te _____	<i>I work at _____</i>

## Pati Aoga *Helpful Words*

### In Conversation

Ea koe?	<i>How are you (singular)?</i>
Ea koulua?	<i>How are you (dual)?</i>
Ea koutou?	<i>How are you (three or more / plural)?</i>
Au e malosi, fakafetai.	<i>I am fine, thank you</i>
Ko oti koe ne kai? Ta olo o 'kai	<i>Have you eaten? Let's go eat</i>
Fakatoese atu mo te tuai o tali atu...	<i>Apologies for the delayed response...</i>
Pela loa mo taku meli taluai..	<i>As per my previous email..</i>
Fiafia o faimanatu	<i>Happy to discuss</i>
Taimi o te gym!	<i>It's gym time</i>
Telefoni mai (phone) Kalaga mai (shout)	<i>Call me</i>
Manuia!	<i>Congratulations!</i>
Te Atua e lelei!	<i>God is good!</i>

## **Pati Aoga** *Helpful Words*

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### **People**

Matai

*Chief*

Faifeau

*Church Minister*

Tamaliki

*Child*

Tamana

*Father*

Mātua

*Mother*

Tino Matua

*Elderly*

Tuagaene

*Sister / Brother (different gender)*

Taina

*Sister / Brother (same gender)*

Taugasoa

*Friends*

