toki pona is a minimalist language that focuses on the good things of life. It is designed to express a lot using few words. The entire language consists of only 120 words. Its objectives are to break down complicated things into small parts, eliminate what is unnecessary, to be fun, to play nice, to live in the present, and to help people live simply and happily.
**toki pona** was created by Sonja Elen Kisa and was published on the internet for the first time in 2001.

As a fan of languages, world traveling, intercultural communications, exploring spirituality and consciousness, a lesbian and a survivor of depression and anxiety, Sonja naturally felt inclined to pool her experience and unique perspective in a creative project that she could share.

Sonja was born in Canada in 1978, speaks fluent English, French, Esperanto and German, and has studied dozens of languages. Her other interests include taekwondo, role playing games, developing minority groups and communities and eating sushi.

toki pona (in English, Esperanto and toki pona) the official page. [http://www.tokipona.org](http://www.tokipona.org)

lipu pi jan Pije (in English) an excellent site on toki pona [http://toki.co.nr](http://toki.co.nr)

cursos:

toki pona lessons (in English): [http://tokipona.esperanto-jeunes.org/lesson/lesson0.html](http://tokipona.esperanto-jeunes.org/lesson/lesson0.html)

Recursos en Catalá per a toki pona (en Catalán): [http://vicerveza.homeunix.net/~viric/tokipona/](http://vicerveza.homeunix.net/~viric/tokipona/)


Leçons de toki pona (in French): [http://lvogel.free.fr/tokipona/](http://lvogel.free.fr/tokipona/)


Baza lecionaro de tokipono (in Esperanto): [http://vicerveza.homeunix.net/~viric/tokipona/](http://vicerveza.homeunix.net/~viric/tokipona/)
a full translation in toki pona of the dialogues of the British comedy Monty Python and the Holy Grail is available at: http://tokipona.esperanto-jeunes.org/text/mpfh.html

comunities of toki pona
on Yahoo! (200+ members):
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/tokipona/
on Livejournal (100+ members):
http://www.livejournal.com/community/tokipona/
and on Wikicities:
http://tokipona.wikicities.com/

several stories in toki pona with Daoist teachings, can be found at:
http://tokipona.esperanto-jeunes.org/text/nasin/nasin.html

classes in toki pona in Vermont, United States

more classes of toki pona

shirts with toki pona in Georgia, United States
I think you can learn it on a rainy day or in a week if you take it easy.

**why not give it a try?**

**why learn?**

- because it is fun, easy to learn and unlike any other language.
- everything sounds more sincere.
- for a hobby.
- to teach your friends and use as a secret language.
- to think in another language without having to spend years of studying.
- to see all you can say with only 120 words.
- because learning languages is a skill that improves the more you learn languages.
- because it teaches you to see things differently.
- for simple talking.
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with the exception of j, all the letters are pronounced the same as in Spanish.

The j is pronounced like y.

The first syllable is stressed when speaking.
First words

- **mi**  I
- **sina** you
- **ona** he, she, it

- **pona**  good, simple, to fix...
- **moku**  eat, food
- **kili**  fruit
- **pipi**  insect

Simple sentences

- ¡**mi pona**!  I am good!
- **sina moku**  you eat

mi = I | pona = good | sina = you | moku = eat
3

second part of simple sentences

{subject other than mi or sina} + li + {something}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ona li pona</th>
<th>she is good</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kili li moku</td>
<td>fruit is food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pipi li pona</td>
<td>the insect is good</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\{subject other than mi or sina\} + li + \{something\}

ona = she | pona = good | kili = fruit | moku = food | pipi = insect

4
direct object

that which receives the action is preceded by e.

{mi, sina} + {verb} + e + {direct object}
{subject other than mi or sina} + li + {verb} + e + {direct object}

\{mi, sina\} + {verb} + e + {direct object}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>mi moku e kili</th>
<th>I eat the fruit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pipi li moku e moku</td>
<td>the insect eats the food</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\{mi, sina\} + {verb} + e + {direct object}

mi = I | moku = eat | kili = fruit | pipi = insect | moku = food

ona = she | pona = good | kili = fruit | moku = food | pipi = insect
5 more words

- jo: to have
- lili: small, little, young...
- sul: big, tall, long, important...
- jan: person, someone, anyone...
- moli: killing, dying, death
- ilo: tool
- ijo: thing, something

6 adjectives and adverbs

If you put 2 words together, the 2nd word describes the first word. *mi, sina, li y e* are exceptions.

- moku pona: good food
- jan lili: small person
- jan sul: big person
- kili lili: little fruit
- ¿sina moli e pipi lili?
- pipi li moku e ijo.

¡sina moli e pipi lili! The insect is eating something

sina = you | moli = kill | pipi = insect | moku = eat
ijo = something
I have a fruit.
It is good.
It is small.
I nibble on the little fruit.

Li and e mean nothing by themselves but give structure to the sentence.

The principal function of li, for example, is to indicate that the words that come before li are the subject.
When the subject is mi o sina, the li is understood and not used.

E, on the other hand, usually indicates that what comes before the e is the verb and what comes after is what receives the action.
**tense**

- **mi pona**  I am good
  - or  I was good
  - or  I will be good

- **sina moku**  you eat
  - or  you have eaten
  - or  you will eat

- **pipi li moli**  the bug is dead
  - or  the bug died
  - or  the bug will die

**possesives**

- moku  my food
- mi  I
- pipi  your bug
- sina  somebody's tool
- ilo  his fruit
- jan  I have your tool
- kili  ona  his

**Translation**

- moku  =  food
- mi  =  I
- pipi  =  bug
- sina  =  you
- ilo  =  tool
- jan  =  somebody
- kili  =  fruit
- ona  =  his
- jo  =  have

**Notes**

- mi = I
- pona = good
- sina = you
- moku = food
- pipi = insect, bug
- moli = die
more words 10

telo  water, liquid
suno  sun, light
unpa  sex, to have sex
ike   bad, evil, complicated
utala war, to fight
nasa  crazy, weird, stupid
olin  to love (a person)
mute  much, many

11

compound words

many ideas that are expressed using one word in English, are expressed using multiple words in toki pona

ilo moku  fork, spoon...
ilo utala  gun
jan pona  friend
jan utala  soldier
jan unpa  prostitute, lover
jan olin  boy friend, girl friend
jan suli  adult
jan lili  child
telo nasa  alcoholic drink
mi mute  us
ona mute  they

ilo = tool | moku = food | utala = war | jan = person
pona = good | suli = big | lili = small | olin = love | telo = water
nasa = crazy | mi = I | mute = many | ona = he, she, it

soweli = mammal | moku = food
compound sentences #1

one subject with multiple verbs

\{(mi, sina) + \{word\} + li + \{word\}\}
\{(subject other than mi or sina) + li + \{word\} + li + \{word\}\}

1. **Sina suli li ike.**
   You are big and bad

2. **Ona li pona li suli li nasa.**
   He is good, big and crazy

3. **Suno li suli li pona.**
   The sun is big and good

4. **Pipi li moku e kili li unpa.**
   The insect eats fruit and has sex

5. **Jan nasa li jo e ilo utala li moli e jan lili.**
   The crazy person has a gun and killed the child

---

**Plurals**

- **pipi** - insect or insects
- **ilo** - tool or tools
- **jan** - person or people
- **kili** - one or multiple fruit

---

**Translation**

- **sina** = tú
- **suli** = grande
- **ike** = malo
- **ona** = él
- **nasa** = loco
- **suno** = sol
- **unpa** = tener sexo
- **jo** = tener
- **ilo utala** = arma
- **moli** = matar
14 examples

we can say many things...

¡mi nasa!
mi olin e sina.
jan utala li utala e ona
li moli e ona.
¡sina jan lili!
jan suli li moku e telo nasa.
mi jo e jan olin.
¡mi mute li moli!
sina ike mute.

¡ike!
¡pona!

I am crazy!
I love you
the soldier fought with her
and killed her
you are a child ??
the adults drink alcohol
I have a girl friend.
we kill or we die
you are very bad
that's wrong! oh dear!
great! OK! yay!

nasa = crazy | olin = love | sina = you | jan utala = soldier
utala = fight | ona = she, her | telo nasa = alcohol | moli = kill
ike = bad | mute = many

lukin look
wile want, need, have to, must
dirty, disgusting, garbage
tomo house, building, indoors
soft or squishy substance, paste
this, that
ni moon
mun
mi telo e mi.
mi pona e tomo mi.
jan lili li wile e telo kili.
pipi li moku e ona.
jan ni li pona lukin.
sina ike lukin.
ko jaki
ko moku
ijaki! yuck!

I am washing myself
I fix my house.
the children want fruit juice
the bug bit him
that person is looking at
you are ugly.
feces
baby food

mi olin e sina e ona.
sina moku e kili ike
e telo jaki.
mi lukin e suno e mun.
jan ni li lukin e mi e sina.

I love you and her
you eat rotten fruit
and dirty water
I look at the sun and the moon
that person is looking at
you and me

telo = water | tomo = house | wile = want | kili = fruit | pipi = insect
ona = she | jan = person | ni = this or that | sina = you
ko = something soft and pasty | jaki = disgusting

olin = love | sina = you | ona = she, her | ike = rotten, bad | telo = water
jaki = dirty | suno = sun | mun = moon | lukin = look at, see
jan = person | ni = that
18 **wile**

**wile** can be used as a verb or along with another verb

- *mi wile moku*
  - I wish to eat
  - I want food
- *mi wile moku e telo.*
  - I wish to drink water

- *ona li wile mute e ni.*
  - he wants that very much
  - she wishes to have a house
- *ona li wile jo e tomo.*
  - I wish to see you very much
  - I wish to drink water

*mi wile mute lukin e sina.*
- *jan nasa li wile moli!*
  - this good soldier
  - a fighting friend

19 more about adjectives and adverbs

the meaning of compound words is obtained by grouping from left to right

- *jan utala pona*
  - a soldier
  - a good soldier
- *(jan utala) pona mute ni*
  - many good soldiers
  - this good soldier
- *(jan pona) utala*
  - a fighting friend
- *mi ((lukin) pona)*
  - I look good
  - I am good looking
- *(mi ((pona) lukin)*
  - I look good
  - I am good looking

---

*mi wile moku* = wish to eat
*mi wile moku e telo.* = wish to drink water
*ona li wile mute e ni.* = he wants that very much
*ona li wile jo e tomo.* = I wish to see you very much
*mi wile mute lukin e sina.* = this good soldier
*jan nasa li wile moli! = fighting friend

wile = want | telo = water | ona = he, she | mute = much | ni = this
jo = to have | tomo = house | lukin = see | sina = you

*jan = person | utala = war | pona = good | mute = many
ni = this | lukin = see, look*
**20 more words**

- **meli** woman
- **mije** man
- **meli** woman
- **mije** man
- **meli** woman
- **mije** man
- **meli** woman
- **mije** man
- **meli** woman
- **mije** man
- **meli** woman
- **mije** man
- **meli** woman
- **mije** man
- **meli** woman
- **mije** man
- **meli** woman
- **mije** man
- **meli** woman
- **mije** man

**21 **

**lon** as a verb means "to be present", "to be there"

- **mi lon.** I am present, I exist, I am alive
- **jan mute li lon.** there are many people

as a preposition, **lon** means "in"

- **suno li lon sewi.** the sun is in the sky
- **jan lili li lon tomo sona.** the children are in the school
- **ona li musi lon ma.** she plays in the field
- **mi wile moli lon telo suli.** I wish to die at sea

---

*jan = people | mute = many | suno = sun | sewi = sky | tomo = house*

*sona = knowledge | ona = she | musi = fun | ma = field*

*wile = wish | moli = die | telo suli = sea*
sama as a preposition means 'as', 'like', 'seem'

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{jan ni li sama mi.} & \quad \text{that person is like me} \\
\text{len mi li sama len sina} & \quad \text{my clothes are like your clothes} \\
\text{mi lon tomo sewi.} & \quad \text{I am in a tall building (skyscraper)} \\
\text{jan li lukin sama pipi.} & \quad \text{the people look like ants}
\end{align*}
\]

as a noun sama means 'equality' and as an adjective it means 'equal'

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{meli li wile e sama.} & \quad \text{women want equality}
\end{align*}
\]

ala negates the previous word

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{mi musi ala.} & \quad \text{I am not having fun} \\
\text{mi sona ala.} & \quad \text{I am not smart} \\
\text{jan ala} & \quad \text{nobody} \\
\text{jan ala li toki.} & \quad \text{nobody is speaking} \\
\text{tomo sewi ala li lon ma.} & \quad \text{there are no tall buildings in the fields} \\
\text{mi jo ala e len.} & \quad \text{I have no clothes}
\end{align*}
\]

ala by itself means 'nothing'

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ala li jaki.} & \quad \text{nothing is dirty} \\
\text{ala li suli.} & \quad \text{nothing is important} \\
\text{ala li sama.} & \quad \text{nothing is equal}
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{jan} & = \text{person} & \text{ni} & = \text{that} & \text{len} & = \text{clothes} & \text{lon} & = \text{in} & \text{tomo} & = \text{building} \\
\text{sewi} & = \text{high} & \text{lukin} & = \text{look} & \text{pipi} & = \text{insect, ant} & \text{meli} & = \text{woman} & \text{wile} & = \text{want} \\
\text{musi} & = \text{fun} & \text{sona} & = \text{knowledge} & \text{jan} & = \text{person} & \text{toki} & = \text{speak} \\
\text{tomo sewi} & = \text{skyscraper} & \text{ma} & = \text{field} & \text{jo} & = \text{have} & \text{len} & = \text{clothes} \\
\text{jaki} & = \text{dirty} & \text{sama} & = \text{equal}
\end{align*}
\]
ali 24

**ali** means 'all'
ali can be an adjective or a noun

Jan ali.
Jan ali li moku.
Ma ali li pona.
Mije ali li sama.

Ali li pona.
¡Mi wile e ali!

all people, everyone
everyone is eating
all countries are good
all me are the same
everything is fine
I want everything!

Jan = person | moku = eat | ma = country | mije = men
Sama = same | wile = want

sijelo (body)

1. Nena kon = nose
2. Uta = mouth
3. Ijo uta walo = teeth
4. Sinpin = chest, abdomen
   Nena sike (meli) = breasts
5. Noka = leg, foot
   Len noka = shoes, pants, etc.
6. Palisa mije = penis | Lupa meli = vagina
7. Poka = hip
8. Insa = stomach
9. Luka = arm, hand
   Len luka = gloves
10. Nena Kute = ear
    Oko = eye

Jan = person | Moku = eat | Ma = country | Mije = men
Sama = same | Wile = want
Nena = bump | Kon = air, smell | Ijo = thing | Walo = white
Siike = spherical, round | Meli = female | Len = clothes | Palisa = something long and cylindrical
Lupa = hole | Kute = hearing
some of the above words have additional meanings

*nen* bump, nose, hill, mountain, button  
*kon* air, wind, smell, soul  
*lupa* hole, orifice, window, door  
*palisa* long cylindrical thing, rod, stick, branch  
*lawa* main, leading, head, control, steer  
*linja* string, rope, hair, cord  
*selo* surface, skin, shell, outside, shape

**Exercise 27**

The insect bit my foot  
the eyes see  
the ears hear  
my stomach is bad  
my arms are good looking  
your head is very big  
my hair is wet  
I do not have gloves
28 simple questions

Questions you can answer with 'yes' or 'no' are formed as follows:

- moku li pona ala pona? is this good food? (the food is good, not good?)
- sina pona ala pona? are you good?
- suno li suli ala suli? is the sun large?
- sina wile ala wile moku? do you wish to eat?
- ona li olin ala olin e sina? does he love you?

29 responding yes or no

Suppose someone asks you:

- sina musi ala musi? (are you having fun?)
- musi yes, I am having fun
- musi ala no, I am not having fun

Another example:

- sina lukin ala lukin e soweli lili? (have you seen the hamster?)
- lukin yes, I have seen it
- lukin ala no, I have not seen it

suno = sun | suli = big | wile = to want | ona = he, she, it | olin = to love

musi = fun | soweli lili = little mammal (hamster)
kepeken

30

mi moku kepeken
ilo moku.
¡sina moli e pipi loje
kepeken noka sina!

I eat using a fork
you killed the red bug
using your shoe!

31

as a preposition kepeken is "with",
is in the sense of "using"

kepeken can be used as a verb

ona kepeken e ilo
mute.
¡sina kepeken ala e
lawa!

she uses many tools
you are not using your head!

walo white
pimeja black, dark
shadows
laso blue
loje red
jelo yellow
kule color, painting

mi jo e len noka
laso.

laso jelo green (blue yellow)
laso loje purple (reddish blue)
laso loje orange (reddish yellow)

loje jelo light blue
dark red

¡sina jelo!
you are yellow!
telo jelo urine
telo loje blood
mi jo e len noka
laso.

ilo = tool | ilo moku = fork | moli = kill | pipi = insect
loje = red | noka = foot | mute = many | lawa = head

telo = liquid | jo = to have | len = clothes | noka = foot
32 more compound words

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proper Name</th>
<th>English Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ilo suno</td>
<td>candle, lamp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jan sewi</td>
<td>saint, god</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nasin sewi</td>
<td>religion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ma tomo</td>
<td>city</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tomo telo</td>
<td>bathroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jan lawa</td>
<td>leader</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

jan sewi li olin.  god is love.
nasin sewi li mute. there are many religions.
jan lawa li nasa.  the leader is crazy.

33 unofficial words

mi olin e jan Pepe. I love Pepe.
jan Bush li ike. Bush is bad.
m i toki e toki Español. I speak Spanish.
mi mute li lon ma México. we are in Mexico.
ma tomo Nueva York li pona. New York City is good.
nasin sewi Budismo li pona. Buddhism is good.

Unofficial words cannot be used alone. They are always treated as adjectives and must follow after a noun. Also, they are the only words in toki pona that start with a capital letter.
kama means "to come, to happen"

jan lili li kama ala.
jan laso jelo lili li kama!

the children are not coming.
the little green people have arrived!

kama can be used with other verbs to make a progressive like effect.

kama sona learn (to get knowledge)
kama jo to take, to get, to obtain
kama moli dying

for example "learning" is a process that ends in "knowing"

mi wile kama sona e toki Francés.

I wish to learn French.

jan lili = children | ala = no | jan = person | laso jelo = green | lili = little
sona = to know | jo = to have | moli = to die | toki = language
tawa represents the idea of "movement" or "direction"

as a verb, it means "going to" or "move"

jan lili li tawa tomo sona. the children ar going to school.
mi wile tawa tomo telo. I wish to go to the bathroom.
mi tawa ma tomo kepeken I am going to the city using
nasin ni. this road.
ona li tawa e kiwen ni. she is moving the rock.

as a preposition it means "toward"

mi toki tawa sina. I am talking to you.
jan olin mi li kama tawa ma. my girlfriend is coming to the country.

as an adjective it means "moving"

tomo tawa car (moving construction)
tomo tawa telo boat
tomo tawa kon airplane

as a noun it means "movement"

tawa musi dance, ballet (fun motion)

follow these examples to say that you like or dislike something.

I like fruit.
(ki\li \ li \ pona \ tawa \ mi. fruit is good to me)
I like sleep.
lape li pona tawa mi. I do not like your parents.
mama sina li ike tawa mi. (your parents are bad to me)
sina pona tawa mi. I like you.
meli sama mi li ike tawa sina. you do not like my sister.

I like to eat bugs.
(mi \ moku \ e \ pipi. I eat bugs.
it this is good to me.)
I like to see the fields.

to say that you like to do something, you use 2 sentences.

I like to go to the bathroom.
(mi \ moku \ e \ pipi. I eat bugs.
this is good to me)
i like to see the fields.

kili = fruit | tawa = toward | lape = to sleep | mama = parents
meli = woman | moku = to eat | pipi = bug | ni = this
sama = same | lukin = to look | ma = field
suppose you want to say "bar" in toki pona
and you decide to say this:

\[
\text{tomo telo nasa}
\]

thinking something like this instead of saying "alcoholic beverage". But the words are grouped from left to right:

\[
((\text{tomo telo) nasa}) \text{ crazy bathroom.}
\]

To say instead "place of alcoholic beverages" it is necessary to use pi to group the words that follow.

\[
(\text{tomo pi (telo nasa)}) \text{ bar.}
\]

\pi \text{ is very important to avoid such confusion}

\[
tomo telo = \text{bathroom} \mid nasa = \text{crazy} \mid tomo = \text{place}
telo nasa = \text{alcoholic beverage}
\]
pi does not mean "of"

most times you can think of **pi** as "of"
and there is no problem, but **pi** is only used as
a parenthesis to avoid confusion.

a danger of thinking of **pi** as "of" is that
you will want to use pi when it is not needed.
As in:

```
jan pi ma
```

You probably mean to say here "man of the field"
but it is not necessary to use **pi**
because there is no confusion to be avoided. Just say:

```
jan ma  man of the fields, peasant
```

Usually it is only necessary to use **pi**
if there are 2 or more words after the initial noun.

if in doubt, review lessons 6 and 9.

```
jan = person | ma = field
```

---

**living things**

40

**waso**  bird, flying animal.

**soweli**  land animal,
cute animal.

**kala**  fish, under water animal.

**akesi**  reptile, amphibian, dinosaur

ugly animal.

**pipi**  insect, bug

**kasi**  plant, trees, flower, fungus.

Usually it is only necessary to use **pi**
if there are 2 or more words after the initial noun.

**soweli, waso y kala**
also mean the meat of the respective animals.

```
mi wile moku e soweli.  I eat a steak.
```

```
kule = color | suli = large | jan = person | wile = to want
soweli = mammal, steak
```
**possessives with pi**

the possessives of unofficial words require the use of **pi** to avoid confusion

- **tomo pi jan Lisa** the house of Lisa
- **kasi pi jan Jorge** the plant of George
- **soweli pi jan Lisa** the dog of Lisa
- **jan lawa pi nasin sewi Cristianismo** the pope

**Warning!** **tomo Lisa** does not mean Lisa’s house

**en** means “and”, but is only used to link two subject nouns

- **mi en sina li jan pona.** you and I are friends.
- **lape en tawa musi li pona tawa mi.** sleeping and dancing are good to me.

you can also use with **pi** when 2 people have something

- **akesi laso jelo pi jan Daniela en jan Juan.** Daniel and John’s green lizard

but remember when there are multiple direct objects to use **e not en**

- **mi wile jo e kala e waso jelo.** I wish to have an octopus and a canary

It may be useful to review lessons 13 and 17.
mi lon poka jan pona mi. I am with my friends.

sina tawa tomo sona poka meli sama mi. you go to school with my sister.
mi wile tawa musi poka sina. I wish to dance with you.
mama meli li tawa telo suli poka jan pona ona. mother went to the ocean with her friends.

tomo sona = school | meli sama = sister | wile = to want
 tawa musi = to dance | mama meli = mother | tawa = to go
telo suli = ocean
more words

45

\begin{align*}
\text{pana} & \quad \text{give, send, put} \\
\text{pali} & \quad \text{do, work} \\
\text{pilin} & \quad \text{touch, feel, think} \\
\text{ijo} & \quad \text{thing, something, object} \\
\text{poki} & \quad \text{container, glass, box} \\
\text{sike} & \quad \text{circle, sphere, ball...} \\
\end{align*}

46

\text{tan} represents the idea of "cause", "reason", "origin"

\text{as a preposition "tan" means "because"}

\begin{align*}
\text{mi pilin ike tan ni:} & \quad \text{I feel bad because of this:} \\
& \text{my cat is dying.} \\
\text{mi moku tan ni:} & \quad \text{I eat because of this: I am hungry.} \\
\text{tan} & \quad \text{represents the idea of "cause", "reason", "origin"} \\
\end{align*}

\text{as a noun it means "cause" or "reason"}

\begin{align*}
\text{mi sona ala e tan.} & \quad \text{I do not know the reason} \\
\text{ali li jo e tan.} & \quad \text{everything has a reason} \\
\end{align*}

\text{tu} = 2 \quad \text{telo} = \text{urine, pee} \quad \text{musi} = \text{play} \quad \text{kepeken} = \text{with} \\
\text{meli sama} = \text{sister} \quad \text{lon} = \text{in, at, on} \quad \text{oko} = \text{eye} \\
\text{pilin} = \text{to feel} \quad \text{ike} = \text{bad} \quad \text{soweli} = \text{cat, mammal} \quad \text{kama moli} = \text{dying} \\
\text{kama} = \text{to come} \quad \text{ma} = \text{country} \quad \text{telo loje} = \text{blood} \quad \text{nena kute} = \text{ear} \\
\text{sona} = \text{to know} \quad \text{ala} = \text{no, not} \quad \text{ali} = \text{all} \quad \text{jo} = \text{to have}
47.

use O to call someone or get their attention

jan Bere o!
hey Bere!

jan Pedro o, pipi li lon
Pedro, there is a mosquito
len sina!
on your shirt!

jan Pepe o, mi olin e
Pepe, I love you.
sina.

jan Bere o, sina pona
Bere, I like you.
tawa mi.

mama meli o, sina pali
mother, you work
mute mute!
too much!

other uses for O

O pali! work!
O tawa! go!
O olin e mi! love me!
O pana e ni tawa mi! give that to me!
O lukin e ni! look at that!

O is used to give an order to another person

to address someone and give them a command
place 'o' between the person and the verb

jan lili o toki! child, speak!
sina mute o musi! you, have fun!
soweli o kama! dog, come!

pipi = mosquito | len = clothing | olin = to love | mama meli = mother
pali = work | mute mute = very much

pali = to work | tawa = go | olin = to love | pana = give | ni = this, that
tawa = to | jan lili = child | toki = to speak | sina mute = you
musi = have fun
49 greetings/ farewell/
courtesy

toki! hello!
suno pona! good day!
lape pona! sleep well!
moku pona! have a good night
mi tawa goodbye! (I am going)
tawa pona! goodbye! (go well)
kama pona! welcome!
musi pona! have fun!

numbers

wan 1
tu 2
luka 5

nanpa number

tu wan 3
tu tu 4
luka wan 6
luka tu tu 9
luka luka 10
luka luka luka 15

suno = sun | lape = to sleep | moku = food | tawa = go
kama = to come, arrive | musi = fun
more about numbers

soweli suli wan  one elephant
soweli suli tu  2 elephants
soweli suli luka 5 elephants

in general, avoid using numbers, it is better to use mute

jan mute li kama.  many people come
jan mute mute mute li kama.  a lot of people come
jan mute lili li kama.  few people come

ordinal numbers:

mi nanpa wan!  I am number one!
meli mi pi nanpa wan li nasa.  my first girlfriend was mad.
jan Pepe li olin mi pi nanpa wan.  Pepe was my first love.
ni li soweli lili ona pi nanpa tu.  this is his 2nd hamster.

other uses for wan and tu

mi mute o wan!  unite!
mi en meli mi li wan.  my girlfriend and I were married.
o tu e palisa ni.  divide this branch into 2

soweli suli = elephant  kama = come  nanpa = number
meli mi = my girlfriend  olin = to love  soweli lili = hamster
mi mute = we  palisa = branch

comparisons

for comparisons, you need to use 2 sentences

mi pali mute. sina pali lili.  I work more than you.
jan Christina li pona lukin mute. jan Britney li pona lukin lili.  Christina is prettier than Britney.
jan Julia li moku lili. jan Martha li moku mute.  Julia eats less than Martha.
mi pana mute e olin. sina pana lili e olin.  I give more love than you.
kasi suli li pona mute tawa mi. kasi pi telo ala li pona lili tawa mi.  I like pine trees more than cactus.

mute = much, a lot  lili = little  pali = work
pona lukin = pretty  moku = eat  pana = give  olin = love
kasi = plant  suli = big  telo ala = without water
as an adjective or adverb **weka** means "far"

mi weka.
I am away.
tamo telo li weka.
the bathroom is far away.
mi wile tawa weka.
I want to go away.
ma México li weka tan
Mexico is far from Japan.
ma Japón.

ma México li weka a tana
Mexico is close to Canada.

as a conjunction **taso** means "but"

mi pilin ike.
I feel bad, but I have to work.
taso mi wile pali.
I wish to eat, but I have no food.

mi wile moku.
I wish to eat, but I have no food.
taso mi jo ala e moku.

remember you have to use 2 sentences.
In English you can use a comma,
but not in toki pona.

as a verb it means "to remove" or "to go away"

o weka e len sina!
remove your clothes!
o weka e jan lili tan ni!
remove the children from here!
jan sewi o weka e ike mi!
God forgive my sins!
God remove my bad!

as an adjective or adverb **taso** means 'only'

mi musi taso.
I am only kidding.
jan Pepe taso li kama.
Only Pepe is coming.
mi wile taso e telo.
I only want water.
mi wile ala e ijo.
I do not want anything.
mi lukin taso.
I am just looking.

**tomo telo** = bathroom | **tawa** = to go | **ma** = country | **tan** = from | **ala** = no
**len** = clothing | **jan lili** = children | **ni** = this,that | **jan sewi** = god
**ike** = bad, evil

**pilin** = to feel | **ike** = bad | **wile** = want | **pali** = to work
**jo** = to have | **musi** = joke, fun | **kama** = to come | **telo** = water
more words

55

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Toki Pona</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sweet</td>
<td>suwi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>something sweet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>any furniture</td>
<td>supa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>noise</td>
<td>kalama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to make noise</td>
<td>ante</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>change</td>
<td>mani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to change</td>
<td>lipu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>money</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wealth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sheet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>something flat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and flexible</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

56

seme is the question word of *toki pona*

it is used with other words to ask what, how, where, when and why.

it is a very versatile word and should be thought of as a question mark.

for example the following statement:

*ni li waso.* that is a bird.

becomes a question by replacing *waso* with *seme*

*ni li seme?* what is that? that is (?)?

this idea of replacing *seme* for “what we are asking” is the key to making questions in *toki pona*.

1 1

**musi** = fun | **lape** = to sleep | **jo** = to have | **ala** = no

**ali** = all | **mute** = many, much | **pilin** = to feel | **ike** = bad

**lon** = to be present

ni = that | waso = bird
### seme in depth #1: 57

**as 'what'**

- *Sina pali e seme?*  you do what?  *you do (?)?
- *Seme li pakala e sina?*  what hit you?  * (?) hit you?
- *Seme li pona tawa sina?*  what do you like  * (?) is good to you?
- *Sina wile e seme?*  what do you want?  *you want (?) ?

**as 'where' along with lon or tawa**

- *Sina lon seme?*  where are you?  *you are (?) ?
- *Sina tawa seme?*  where are you going?  *you go to (?) ?

**as 'who' along with jan**

- *Jan seme li lon?*  who is there?  *person (?) is there?
- *Sina lukin e jan seme?*  who are you looking for?  *you look for person (?) ?

---

### seme in depth #2: 58

**as 'why' along with tan**

- *Sina olin e mi tan seme?*  why do you love me?  *you love me for (?) reason?
- *Sina ike tan seme?*  why are you bad?  *you are bad for (?) reason?

**as 'what' but in the sense of 'which'**

- *Sina kama tan ma seme?*  where do you come from?  *you come from (?) country?
- *Lipu ni li kule seme?*  what color is that sheet?  *that sheet is (?) color?*
- *Nasin sewi seme li pona tawa sina?*  what religion do you like?  *religion (?) is good to you?

**together with kepeken means "how" or "with what"**

- *Sina tawa kepeken seme?*  how are you going?  *you are going to go in (?) ?
- *Sina pali e ni kepeken seme?*  how do you do that?  *you do that with (?) ?

---

*pali* = to do  | *pakala* = to hit  | *tawa* = to, toward  | *jan* = person
*lon* = to be there  | *lukin* = to look

*olin* = to love  | *ike* = bad  | *kama* = to come  | *lipu* = sheet
*kule* = color  | *nasin sewi* = religion  | *tawa* = to go  | *kepeken* = with
*pali* = to do  | *ni* = this, that
maybe *seme* seems difficult because you are used to changing the order of words in the questions. The truth is that it is very easy and you just need to get accustomed to doing it.

One good trick to check if you made a good question is to replace *seme* with *ni* and think of the question as a statement.

If the statement does not make sense it is probably not a good question.

---

**temperature**

59

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>seli</th>
<th>heat, warm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>lete</td>
<td>cold, freezing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- *letė li lon.*
- *seli li lon.*
- *ma Groenlandia li lete.*
- *mi lete.*
- *mi pilin lete.*
- *moku li lete.*
- *o seli e moku!*
- *mi wile e telo suwi pi lete mute.*

It's cold. (the cold is present)

It's hot.

Greenland is cold.

I am cold.

I feel cold. (I feel cold)

The food is cold.

Warm the food!

I want a very cold Coke.

This is a good example of using *pi.*

Understand it well.

*pilin* = feel | *telo* = water | *suwi* = sweet | *mute* = very
all the direction words have other uses and they are always used as nouns (and not as prepositions) to avoid confusion.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ona li lon sewi mi.} & \quad \text{he is above me.} \\
\text{pipi li lon poka sina.} & \quad \text{the fly is at your side.} \\
\text{mi lon poka telo.} & \quad \text{I am on the beach} \quad (\text{I am by the sea}) \\
\text{moku li lon insa mi.} & \quad \text{the food is inside me.} \\
\text{jan lili li lon insa tomo.} & \quad \text{the children are indoors.} \quad (\text{the children are inside the house}). \\
\text{ilo moku li lon anpa sina.} & \quad \text{the fork is beneath you.} \quad (\text{the fork is at your down}) \\
\text{tomo sono mi li lon monsi pi tomo sina.} & \quad \text{my school is behind your house.} \quad (\text{my school is at the back of your house})
\end{align*}
\]

\[\text{ona = he \; \mid \; pipi = fly, bug \; \mid \; telo = sea \; \mid \; jan lili = children \; \mid \; tomo = house} \]

\[\text{ilo moku = fork \; \mid \; tomo sono = school}\]
I want to have money or food.

You can eat a trout or a cookie, but only one.

\[ \text{mi wile jo e mani anu moku.} \]
\[ \text{sina ken moku e kili anu suwi. taso wan taso.} \]

\[ \text{do you love me or him?} \]
\[ \text{do you speak to me or to him?} \]

\[ \text{Is that a bird or an airplane?} \]
\[ \text{No. This is Superman.} \]

\[ \text{In English sometimes you ask questions like: "are you coming or what"? This can also be done in toki pona} \]
\[ \text{are you coming or not?} \]
\[ \text{do you want money or not?} \]

\[ \text{wile = to want} \]
\[ \text{jo = to have} \]
\[ \text{mani = money} \]
\[ \text{kili = fruit} \]
\[ \text{suwi = cookie} \]
\[ \text{taso = only} \]
\[ \text{wan = one} \]
\[ \text{olin = to love} \]
\[ \text{toki = to speak} \]
\[ \text{tawa = toward} \]
\[ \text{waso = bird} \]
\[ \text{tomo tawa kon = airplane} \]
\[ \text{kama = to come} \]
A: mi tawa ma Europa.
B: pona! mi kin tawa ma Europa.

A: mi mute o tawa.
B: mi ken ala.
    mi kin moku

A: a! sina lukin ala lukin e waso ni?
B: mi kin lukin e ona.

I went to Europe.
Great! I also went to Europe.
we are going.
I can not.
I am still eating.

ah! do you see that bird?
Indeed I saw it.

kin means "also", "still", "indeed"

wawa power, strength, energy
spirit

kulupu group, community
remain, stay

awen image, drawing, writing

sitelen finish, turn off

pini open, start, turn on

nimi word, name

*tawa = to go | ma = continent | mi mute = we
ken = can | moku = to eat | lukin = to see | waso = bird
**ante** as a verb means “to change”

- o ante ala! do not change!
- ali li ante. everything changes!

**ante** as a noun means “change”

- ante li pona. change is good.
- ante li kama. change comes.

**ante** as an adjective means “other” or “different”

- jan ante another person
- sina anu jan ante li were you or the other person
- moku e suwi mi? eating my cake?
- mi wile lukin e ma I want to see other countries.
- ante.

I am weak.
I wish I had a map of Mexico.
I am drawing a picture.
I like your name.

wawa = strong | ala = not | kon = air | lon = to be present | poka = with
telo = liquid | tomo tawa = car | kulupu = group | nasin sewi = religion
awen = stay | sitelen = image | tawa = moving | pini = off
ilo = tool | ma = country | open = turn of | suno = light | nimi = name
I know that you love me.
I want you to love me.
I am eating the cookies
that you gave me.
(you gave me cookies. I am
eating your cookies.)

the boy who danced with you
is my boyfriend.
(a boy danced with you. he
is my boyfriend)

It is necessary to separate the idea into 2
sentences using **e ni:**
sometimes it works but sometimes
it is necessary to rewrite everything.

---

mi sona e ni: sina olin
e mi.
I know that you love me.
(I know this: you love me.)

mi wile e ni: sina olin
e mi.
I want you to love me.
(I want this: you love me.)

sina pana e suwi tawa mi.
mi moku e suwi sina.
I am eating the cookies
that you gave me.
(you gave me cookies. I am
eating your cookies.)

mije li tawa musi kan
sina. ona li jan olin mi.
the boy who danced with you
is my boyfriend.
(a boy danced with you. he
is my boyfriend)

---

**sin** means "more" or "new"

*mi wile e suwi sin!*
I want more cookies!

*jan sin li kama ala kama?*
are more people coming?

*mi wile e tomo tawa sin!*
I want a new car!

*kalama musi ni li sin ala!*
this song is old!

---

sona = to know | ni = this, that | olin = to love | pana = to give
suwi = cookies | mije = boy | tawa musi = to dance
ona = he | jan olin = boyfriend

suwi = cookie | kama = to come | tomo tawa = car
kalama musi = song | ala = not
you need a lot of creativity and flexibility to say some things in *toki pona*

*o pilin e uta mi kepeken uta sina!*  kiss  (touch my mouth with your mouth)

*selo mi li pana e telo.*  I am sweating  (my skin emits water)

*o pana ala e telo oko!*  do not cry!  (do not emit eye water)

*toki awen*  literature  (speech that remains)

*toki musi*  sing  (talk amusingly)

*sina pali e ni kepeken nasin seme?*  how did you do that?  (you did that using what method?)

---

*la*  is the last separator word along with *li, e and pi* that is used in *toki pona*. Like the other separator words, there is no literal translation in English but the separator words are very useful.

the **basic idea** of *la* is that it is used to join 2 sentences, so that the first sentence provides a context for the second sentence.

we will distinguish 3 uses for *la* and will explain each one but the basic idea remains the same.

*pilin = touch  |  uta = mouth  |  kepeken = with, using  |  selo = skin  
pana = emit, give  |  telo = water  |  oko = eye  |  toki = to speak  
awen = remain  |  musi = amusement  |  pali = to do  
kepeken = using  |  nasin = way; method*
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*la* with only 1 word before it

Ken la ona li lape.
Ken la mi nasa.
Ken la mi ken pali e ni.

maybe he is sleeping.
maybe I am crazy.
maybe I can do this.

Jan sewi o weka e ike mi.
Sama la mi weka e ike ante.

god, forgive my sins.
likewise, I forgive the sins of others.

Mama sina li moli.
Sama la sina moli.

your parents died.
similarly, you will die.

Ken la mi tawa tomo mi.
Ante la mi tawa tomo sona.

maybe I will go to my house.
otherwise, I will go to school.

Mi wile jo e mani.
Ante la mi ken'ala moku.

I want to have money.
otherwise, I will not eat.

The trick is to be flexible and extend the meaning of **ken**, **sama** and **ante**.

Ken (**power to do, be able to, can**) become: maybe, possibly, perhaps.
**Sama** (**equal, similar**) become: equally, likewise.
**Ante** (**other, different**) become: otherwise.

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**tenpo** represents the idea of “time”, “moment” or “occasion”

| **tenpo pini** | past (time finished) |
| **tenpo kama** | future (time to come) |
| **tenpo kama lili** | soon (little future) |
| **tenpo pini lili** | recently (little past) |
| **tenpo ni** | this moment, now |
| **tenpo suno** | day (sun time) |
| **tenpo pimeja** | night (dark time) |
| **tenpo suno ni** | today (this sun time) |
| **tenpo suno kama** | tonight |
| **tenpo pimeja lili** | yesterday (past sun time) |
| **tenpo suno pini** | last night |
| **tenpo pimeja pini** | many times |
| **tenpo mute** | |

**mi jo ala e tenpo.**
I have no time.
no one knows the future.

**Jan ala li sona e tenpo kama.**
let bygones be bygones
(the past is finished)

| **jo** | to have |
| **jan ala** | no one |
| **sona** | to know |
| **pini** | finished, done |

*lapo* = to sleep | *nasa* = crazy | *pali* = to do | *jan sewi* = god
*weka* = to remove | *ike* = bad | *mama* = parent | *moli* = to die
*tawa* = to go | *tomo* = house | *tomo sona* = school | *jo* = to have
*mani* = money
time and \textit{la} 74

\textit{la} separates the 2 clauses and indicates that the 1st clause provides the context for the 2nd.

\begin{itemize}
  \item tenpo pini la mi jan lili. \quad \textit{in the past, I was a child.}
  \item tenpo ni la mi lon. \quad \textit{at this time, I am here.}
  \item tenpo kama mute la mi tawa ma Japón. \quad \textit{in the future, I am going to Japan.}
  \item tenpo suno ni la mi pilin pona. \quad \textit{today, I feel good.}
  \item tenpo pimeja pini la mi kama nasa. \quad \textit{last night I got drunk. (I became crazy)}
  \item tenpo kama lili la pimeja li kama. \quad \textit{soon darkness is coming. (suddenly, the darkness will come) }
  \item tenpo pini lili la jan Paulina li jo e jan lili. \quad \textit{recently, Paulina had baby.}
\end{itemize}

\textit{la} is the only way in \textit{toki pona} to express time.

more seme 75

\begin{itemize}
  \item together with \textit{pilin}, \textit{seme} acts a little weird
    \begin{itemize}
      \item sina pilin seme? \quad \textit{how do you feel?}
      \item sina pilin e seme? \quad \textit{what do you think?}
    \end{itemize}
  \item together with \textit{tenpo}, it means "when"
    \begin{itemize}
      \item tenpo seme la sina kama? \quad \textit{when are you coming?}
    \end{itemize}
  \item together with \textit{mute} it means "how much"
    \begin{itemize}
      \item sina jo e mani pi mute seme? \quad \textit{how much money do you have?}
      \item tenpo pi mute seme sina lon ma África. \quad \textit{How long were you in Africa?}
      \item tenpo pi mute seme la sina sike e suno? \quad \textit{how many times have you gone around the sun?}
      \item tenpo tu tu la mi sike e suno. \quad \textit{I am 4 years old.}
    \end{itemize}
\end{itemize}

\begin{itemize}
  \item tenpo pini la mi jan lili. \quad \textit{in the past, I was a child.}
  \item tenpo ni la mi lon. \quad \textit{at this time, I am here.}
  \item tenpo kama mute la mi tawa ma Japón. \quad \textit{in the future, I am going to Japan.}
  \item tenpo suno ni la mi pilin pona. \quad \textit{today, I feel good.}
  \item tenpo pimeja pini la mi kama nasa. \quad \textit{last night I got drunk. (I became crazy)}
  \item tenpo kama lili la pimeja li kama. \quad \textit{soon darkness is coming. (suddenly, the darkness will come) }
  \item tenpo pini lili la jan Paulina li jo e jan lili. \quad \textit{recently, Paulina had baby.}
\end{itemize}

\textit{la} separates the 2 clauses and indicates that the 1st clause provides the context for the 2nd.

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textit{jan lili} = child | \textit{lon} = to be present | \textit{tawa} = to go | \textit{ma} = country
  \item \textit{pilin} = feel | \textit{kama nasa} = drunk | \textit{pimeja} = darkness
  \item \textit{pilin} = to feel | \textit{pilin} = to think | \textit{tenpo} = time
  \item \textit{kama} = to come | \textit{mani} = money | \textit{mute} = amount
  \item \textit{sike} = to turn around | \textit{suno} = sun | \textit{tu tu} = 4
76 if...then with la

the 3rd and last use of la, returns to the basic idea that the first clause gives the context to the second clause.

mi lape la ali li pona. if I sleep, then everything is good.

mama mi li moli la mi pilin ike. if my parents died, then I would beel bad.

sina wile open la tempo ali li pona. if you wish to start, then any time is good.

sina moku e telo nasa la sina kama nasa. if you drink alcohol, then you get drunk.

sina pali ala la sina jo ala e mani. if you do not work, then you will not have money.

jan ike li kama la o seli e lipu ni. if the enemy comes, then burn this letter.

sina sona e toki ni la sina sona e toki pona

ilo suno wan li ken pana e suno tawa ilo suno mute mute. wawa pi ilo suno li kama ala lili. jan li pana e sona tawa jan mute la sona li kama ala lili.

-jan Buda

\[ lape = \text{to sleep} \mid mama = \text{parents} \mid moli = \text{to die} \mid pilin = \text{to feel open} = \text{to begin} \mid \text{tempo ali} = \text{any time} \mid \text{kama nasa} = \text{drunk} \mid pali = \text{to work} \mid \text{ala} = \text{no, not} \mid \text{mani} = \text{money seli = burn} \mid lipu = \text{letter} \mid \text{toki = talk, language} \]
appendix
to convert to toki pona

if you wish to say your name in toki pona you have to follow these rules:

- use only the alphabet of toki pona (lesson-1).
  Generally the b translates as p, the d as t, the g as k, the r as l and the z as s.

- use syllables in the pattern of toki pona:
  consonant + vowel + n (optional)
  for example na-sin, pa-li, ke-pe-ken.
  that is, you cannot have things like the following:

- the initial consonant my be omitted (as in a-ke-si or a-li).

- you cannot use the optional n if the following consonant is a m or n. That is, there cannot be combinations such as pa:n or m:n.

examples

| jan Joke  | George   |
| jan Malija | Maria    |
| jan Mata  | Martha   |
| jan Puta  | Buda     |
| jan Peto  | Pedro    |
| jan Pije  | Peter    |
| jan Palina | Paulina  |
| jan Aleksa | Alexandra |

| ma Apika | Africa   |
| ma Amelika | America |
| ma Amelika lete | North America |
| ma Amelika seli | South America |
| ma Antasika | Antartica |
| ma Asija  | Asia     |
| ma Elop  | Europe   |

There is much freedom in translating sounds so toki pona may have more than one correct translation.

*lete = cold | seli = hot*
our father

mama mijie pi mi mute o, 
sina lon sewi kon, 
nimi sina o sewi. 
ma sina o kama. 
jan o pali e wile sina lon 
sewi kon en lon ma. 
sina o pana e moku pi 
tempo suno ali tawa mi. 
o weka e pali ike mi. 
sama la mi weka e pali ike 
pi jan ante. 

o pana ala e wile ike 
tawa mi. 

o awen e mi weka tan ike. 
ni li nasin.

proverbs

ali li pona. all is good. life is beautiful. 
ike li kama. bad comes. bad stuff 
happens. 
ali li jo e tempo. there is a time for everything. 
nasin ante li pona 
tawa jan ante. different ways are good for 
different people. 
nasin li mute. there are many ways. 
sina pana e ike la 
sina kama jo e ike. if you give evil you will 
receive evil. 
suno li lon poka 
pimeja. light is beside darkness. opposites are interconnected. Ying Yang. 

mi weka e ike jan la 
mi weka e ike mi. when I forgive somebody's wrongdoings 
I cleanse myself of negativity. 

jan sona li jan nasa. a wise man is a fool. a genius 
thinks unconventionally.

ali = all | pona = good | ike = bad | kama = to come | jo = to have 
tempo = time | nasin = road | ante = different | tawa = toward 
jan = people | mute = much | sina = you | pana = to give | kama jo = receive 
suno = light | pimeja = darkness | weka = to remove | sona = wise | nasa = crazy
Curiosity feeds wisdom. One learns from asking questions.

Stop thinking. Do stuff.

The past is gone. Let bygones be bygones.

One learns by experience.

If you wish to begin, any time is good.

Sleep and rest are good.

Know thyself!

Toki Pona is a good language.

more proverbs

wile sona li mute e sona.

o sona ala. o pali.

tempo pini li pini.

pali li pana e sona.

sina wile open la tempo ali li pona.

lape li pona.

o sona e sina!

toki pona li toki pona.
Parts of Speech

- **n**: head noun
- **mod**: modifier (adjective or adverb)
- **sep**: separator
- **vt**: verb, transitive (normally used with e)
- **vi**: verb, intransitive
- **interj**: interjection
- **prep**: preposition
- **conj**: conjunction
- **kama**: compound verb preceded by kama
- **cont**: context word used before la
- **oth**: special, other word

**nasa** mod silly, crazy, foolish, drunk, strange, stupid, weird
to drive crazy, make weird

**nasin** n way, manner, custom, road, path, doctrine, system, method

**nena** n bump, nose, hill, mountain, button

**ni** mod this, that

**nimi** n word, name

**noka** n leg, foot

**o** sep O (vocative or imperative) interj hey! (calling somebody's attention)

**oko** [oculist] n eye

**olin** n love mod love
vt to love (a person)

**ona** n she, he, it, they mod her, his, its, their

**open** vt open, turn on

**pakala** n blunder, accident, mistake, destruction, damage, breaking vt screw up, botch, ruin, break, hurt, injure, damage, spoil, ruin vi screw up, fall apart, break interj damn!

**pali** n activity, work, deed, project mod active, work-related, operating, working vt do, make, build, create vi act, work, function

**palisa** n long, mostly hard object, e.g. rod, stick, branch

**pana** vt give, put, send, place, release, emit, cause n giving, transfer, exchange

**pi** sep of, belonging to

**piilin** [feeling] vi feel
vt feel, think, sense, touch

**pimeja** mod black, dark n darkness, shadows vt darken

**pini** n end, tip mod completed, finished, past, done, ago vt finish, close, end, turn off

**pipi** n bug, insect, spider

**poka** n side, hip, next to prep in the accompaniment of, with mod neighbouring

**poki** [box] n container, box, bowl, cup, glass

**pona** n good, simplicity, positivity mod good, simple, positive, nice, correct, right

**poca** n bump, nose, hill, mountain, button

**poza** [that's all] n origin, cause mod only, sole conj but

**tawa** prep to, in order to, towards, for, until vi go to, walk, travel, move, leave n movement, transportation mod moving, mobile vt move, displace

**telo** n water, liquid, juice, sauce vt water, wash with water
eliazar parra cárdenas hizo este manual a finales del 2004 en Zapopan, Jalisco, Mexico.

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