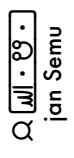


lipu lili pi nasin toki



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> basic sentences

A basic sentence in toki pona consists of a subject and predicate. These are separated by li (>). If the subject is mi or sina (P b) alone, it must be omitted.

- ona li pona. (They are good.)
- mi moku. (I eat.)

o addressing

To make a sentence imperative, replace li with o (o). To mark it as vocative, you can put a comma after the o.

- o moku. (Please eat.)
- jan o, toki! (Hello, person!)

>> direct objects

To specify a direct object, use e (>>) after li.

- mi moku e kilii. (I eat the fruit.)
- ona li toki e toki pona. (They speak about toki pona.)

end of the sentence. These questions can be answered by repeating the predicate for yes, and repeating the predicate followed by ala for no.

- kilii li pona ala pona tawa sina? (do you like fruit?)
- kilii li pona tawa sina, anu seme? (do you like fruit?)

Open-ended questions use "seme" (?), a word that functions similar to English words "what" and "which".

phonotactics

toki pona has the consonants mmpktskwj/ and the vowels iueoa. Syllables in toki pona use CV(N), where C is a consonant (optional for the first syllable of a word), V is a vowel, and N is an optional n.

The syllables wuwjiti are disallowed, as well as the same syllables with added n. No two nasals can appear next to each other (i.e., no nm or nn).

Almost every content (non-particle) word can be used as a predicate.

- mi pona e ilo. (I fix the thing.)
- mi luka e nena. (I apply hand to the button; I press the button.)

+ compound sentences

Toki Pona has no way of combining two separate sentences. However, you can use multiple times to specify multiple predicates, or e multiple times to specify multiple objects. To specify multiple subjects, use an (+).

- mi en sina li lukin li kute e pipi e jan. (You and I look at and listen to bugs and people.)

└ adjectives

Adjectives come after the nouns or verbs they modify. Each is applied left-to-right, i.e. A B C is interpreted as (A B) C. To re-group adjectives, use pi (└). It is generally

See jan-ne.github.io/tp/tpize for a full list. ? questions

Yes or no questions in toki pona can either be formed by saying a word twice with ala in between or by adding "anu seme" at the

- 1. Prioritize phonetics over spelling.
- 2. Use endonyms instead of exonyms.
- 3. Use local pronunciations rather than "official" ones.
- 4. Follow toki pona phonotactics (shown on last page).

To convert proper nouns into toki pona, follow these rules:

- ian Semu (person named Semu)
- toki Epelanto (language named Epelanto)

meaning they must be prefixed with a noun that describes the thing they refer to. It is common to revise these names to match toki pona's phonotactics.

uncommon to use pi multiple times in the same clause (p-s-stacking):

- ilo kalama (instrument)
- ilo kalama suli (big instrument)
- ilo pi kalama suli (loud tool)

Predicate clauses often have adjectives attached—in this case the adjectives function as adverbs.

- ona li toki pona. (They speak well. / They speak Toki Pona.)

) la

The particle la () is called the "context" particle. "A la B" roughly means "In the context of A, B." this can be used for time, adverbs, etc.

- tempo kama la mi lape. (I sleep in the context of coming time; I will sleep.)
- ken la mi lape. (I might sleep.)

Q names

All proper nouns in toki pona are marked with capitalization (or cartouches in sitelen pona). Proper nouns function as adjectives,

- mi wile moku. (I want to eat.)
- mi ken pali e lipu. (I can make books.)

W preverbs

Some words (e.g. wile, sona, kama) are preverbs, meaning they are put before a verb to modify it. (These verbs are marked with pv. in lipu lili pi nimi ale and lipu Linku.)

- mi lon poka pi tomo tawa. (I'm near the car.)

* mi kepeken e ilo. (I can't think of a good translation for this.)

Position words (e.g. poka, monsi) can be turned into prepositions by putting lon before them.

- prepositions

Some words (marked with prep. in lipu lili pi nimi ale) in toki pona function as prepositions (e.g. lon, tawa, kepeken, nampol).

- ona li lon. (They exist.)
- mi lon tomo tawa. (I'm in the car.)
- mi pona e kilii tawa sina. (I give you a fruit.)

If the predicate of a sentence is a preposition, using e makes the sentence transitive (the object is the thing that the preposition applies to).

- mi tawa supa. (I move towards the table.)
- mi tawa e supa. (I move the table.)
- mi kepeken ilo. (I use the tool.)