

# Vosa Vakaviti Fijian Language



## Vosa Vakaviti | Fijian Language



Vowels are mostly pronounced as if they were spoken in Spanish, Italian and German (as in **a**h or father, **e**rror, **si**t, **tol**l, **foo**d or **too**).

| Consonants: |    |    |    |    |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|
| Bb          | Сс | Dd | Ff | Gg |
| Jj          | Kk | LI | Mm | Nn |
| Oo          | Рр | 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 pronounce "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 whereiver it appears.

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

# Malanivosa kei na Vosa | Phrases and Words

| Vosa Vakaviti               | English   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Ni sa bula                  | Greetings/Hello   |
| Ni sa bula kece sara        | Greetings Everyone                                      |
| Ni sa moce - vei kemudou na | Goodbye – to those who are leaving (only if it applies) |
| Dou moce                    | Goodbye – to those who are staying (only if it applies) |
| Yalovinaka                  | Please  |
| Vinaka                      | Thank you   |

| Vosa Vakaviti       | English             |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Vosota              | Sorry               |
| Vosoti au           | Excuse me           |
| Ko cei na yacamu?   | What is your name?  |
| Na yacaqu ko        | My name is          |
| Ko iko mai vei?     | Where are you from? |
| Ko au na tamata mai | I am a person from  |

# Malanivosa kei na Vosa | Phrases and Words

| Vosa Vakaviti                    | English                      |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Ko cakacaka tiko evei?           | Where do you work?           |
| Au cakacaka tiko e               | I work at                    |
| Ko vakacava tiko?                | How are you (singular)?      |
| Drau sa vakacava tiko?           | How are you (dual)?          |
| Dou sa vakacava tiko?            | How are you (plural)?        |
| Au vinaka tiko, vinaka           | I am fine, thank you         |
| Ko sa kana? Daru lako<br>ki kana | Have you eaten? Let's go eat |

| Vosa Vakaviti                           | English                            |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Vosota ni berabera na veitaratara       | Apologies for the delayed response |
| Me vaka na meli<br>livaliva sa oti (na) | As per my previous email           |
| Marau me veivosakitaki (taki)           | Happy to discuss                   |
| Na gauna ni<br>vakaukauwa yago          | It's gym time!                     |
| Qiriti au mai (mai)                     | Call me                            |
| Vakanuinui vinaka                       | Congratulations!                   |
| Na Kalou e vinaka                       | God is good!                       |

# Malanivosa kei na Vosa | Phrases and Words



| Vosa Vakaviti | English         |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Tui/Vunivalu  | Chief           |
| Na i Talatala | Church Minister |
| Gone          | Child           |
| Tama          | Father          |

| Vosa Vakaviti                        | English |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Tina                                 | Mother  |
| Taciqu/Tuakaqu yalewa/Ganequ         | Sister  |
| Taciqu/Tuakaqu tagine/Ganequ         | Brother |
| I tau (singular)/I lawalawa (plural) | Friends |



### Faith is an important aspect of the Fijian culture.

Na lotu e dua 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<br>veivakalougatataki 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<br>i Jisu. Emeni                       | In Jesus name we pray.<br>Amen      |

### Sere ni lotu | Hymn

| Vosa Vakaviti                                  | English                              |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| E lomani au na noqu Kalou                      | My God loves me                      |
| Kei na veika veivakurabuitaki<br>kece au raica | And all the wonders I see            |
| Na drodrolagi e cila mai na<br>noqu katubaleka | The rainbow shines through my window |
| E lomani au na noqu Kalou                      | My God loves me                      |