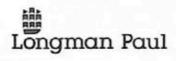


He hanga rārangi kupu Māori

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aehikmnngoprtuwwhaehikmnngop

Making Maori Sentences

LYNDSAY HEAD



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Associated companies throughout the world

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This book developed out of the questions second language learners of Maori have asked about the building blocks of basic Maori sentence patterns.

Many people whose first language is English are learning Maori in more or less artificial situations – in schools, community groups or other places where the ideal of 'learning through immersion' cannot be realised. I have found, as both learner and teacher, that in this situation people are helped by basic explanations of the structure of Maori language, if these are given in a practical language that does not raise further barriers to understanding. Making Maori Sentences is a grammar book for non-specialists which aims to present such explanations.

There are many friends who have contributed to this book. In particular I wish to mention my colleague and friend the late Billy Te Awaroa Nepia. Head of the Maori Department at Canterbury University until his death in 1987. Bill was always generous with advice and encouragement, and I offer my work as a tribute to his memory.

Finally, I thank the students at Canterbury University whom I have worked with over the last six years. Ngã tăngata e whai ana i te reo Māori, tēnā koutou. Ahakoa roa te huarahi, ma te kaha, ma te aroha, ma te manaaki o tēnā o tēnā ki ngā taonga o te iwi Māori, ka taea.

Nāku, na Lyndsay Head 1989

Ngô whalnga o Wasel pulcanuko

• — Lenter Baser B. Stein said of behandlings problem in the control of a particular section of the control of the control

tin, usin



An explanation of terms

Noun

Nouns are words that name people or things.

Proper Noun

Proper nouns are personal names and place names which always begin with a capital letter:

Hata Otautahi Te Wai Pounamu (man's name) Christchurch the South Island

Personal

Personals are the proper nouns which stand in for actual names. The personals are:

wai

who

meα

so-cind-so, one

Common Noun

Common nouns – which we will just call nouns – are the words for people or things that don't start with capital letters:

kōtiro waiata

girl song

Many words have more than one function, for example 'walk' can be used as a noun or verb:

noun verb the walk

Noun Group

A noun group is a noun which has extra information attached to it:

proper noun:

Hata

Hata

proper noun group:

Hata rāua ko Pani

Hata and Pani

noun: noun group: wao nui

forest big forest

Adjective

Adjectives are words which describe nouns. Adjectives either follow the noun they describe, or stand alone in descriptive phrases:

noun + adjective:

wao nui

big forest

information phrase: stative phrase:

he nui ka nui big big

Pronoun

Pronouns are the words which we use when we talk about people, without using their name:

'I', 'you', 'he', 'she', 'we', 'they'.

■ For pronouns see pages 23-33.

Person

Words which mean 'I', 'me', or 'we' express the first person.

Words which mean 'you' (singular, dual or plural) express the second person.

Words which mean 'he', 'she', or 'they' express the third person.

For example, in the singular:

first person second person au koe I, me you

third person

ia

he/she, him/her

Personal Article

The personal article α is placed before proper nouns and pronouns in the following situations:

- 1 when personal names, place names, and location nouns are the subject of any sentence except identity sentences;
- 2 when personal names occur in the object phrase of a sentence;
- 3 when personal names occur in location or direction phrases;

- 4 when personal pronouns occur in the object phrase;
- 5 when personal pronouns occur in location or direction phrases.

Particle

Particle is a general term for small words which sometimes have no translation but which are a necessary part of the structure of sentences, often opening sentences, and linking their phrases.

Definitive

Definitives are words which make common nouns definite by showing that we are talking not about a class of things but about a particular member of the class. For example:

definitive	noun
the	book
my	book
this	book

There are three sets of definitives which are used with common nouns:

- 1 the definite article te or ngā;
- 2 t-class possessive pronouns;
- 3 t-class definitives.

They all have both singular and plural forms, and they all start with the letter t in the singular, and drop it in the plural.

Definite Article

singular: te plural: ngā

The definite article 'the' is placed before common nouns to make a definite noun phrase:

te whare the house naã whare the houses

Indefinite Article

The indefinite article **he** means 'a' or 'some'. It is 'indefinite' in the sense that it gives something a name, but doesn't distinguish it from other things of the same class. Compare these two phrases:

indefinite noun phrase: he rākau a stick/some sticks/sticks definite noun phrase: te rākau the stick

A proverb: Ko te mea nui, he tängata, he tängata, he tängata. The greatest thing, is people, people, people.

Position Definitive

Position definitives are t-class definitives which define 'this', 'that', 'these', 'those' in relation to a particular speaker or writer, for example:

tenei enei

this

(near or connected to me)

these (near or connected to me)

■ For position definitives see pages 20-21.

Possessive Pronoun

Possessive pronouns are the words which express ownership:

'my', 'your', 'his', 'her', 'our', 'their'.

There are two sets of possessive pronouns:

- 1 t-class possessive pronouns;
- 2 n-class possessive pronouns.

T-Class Possessive Pronoun

T-class possessive pronouns have two jobs:

1 They express 'my', 'your', 'his/her', etc before nouns:

Kua ngaro taku pukapuka.

My book is lost.

2 They express 'mine', 'yours', 'his/hers', etc in phrases on their own:

Kua kitea tāku.

I've found mine.

For t-class possessive pronouns, see page 29.

Possessive Particle

Possessive particles are the particles o and a which express 'of' in a definite noun phrase, for example:

te tama <u>a</u> Pani

the son of Pcmi/Pcmi's son

te mama o Tamahae

the mother of Tamahae/Tamahae's mother

Possessive Category

All possessive particles and pronouns have a choice of o or a as their vowel. We choose according to the nature of the possession.

■ For possessive category see pages 101-116.

N-Class Possessive Particle

N-class possessive particles no/na open noun phrases which emphasise ownership:

Na Mere tënei kuri.

This dog belongs to Mere.

No te kuia tērā pōtae.

That hat belongs to the old lady.

N-Class Possessive Pronoun

N-class possessive pronouns form phrases which emphasise the owner in a possession sentence.

Noku te koti nei.

This coat is mine.

Na ratou ena mea

Those things are theirs.

■ For n-class particles and pronouns, see pages 90-91.

Location Noun

The two kinds of location nouns are:

- 1 place names;
- 2 words which express positions in space such as 'here', 'there', 'ashore', 'inland', and so on.

Location Particle

Location particles are the words kei, i and hei which open, and show the tense of, location phrases.

■ For location nouns and particles, see pages 98-100.

Verb

Verbs are any words which describe an action, command, or state.

Action Verb

Action verbs describe an action we do, or that is done or happens to us. We can also use them to give commands.

Stative Verb

Stative verbs describe the state we are in as the result of an action, or the quality of some action we perform.

■ For statives, see pages 82-84.

Active Voice, Passive Voice

When the subject of a sentence performs the action that the sentence describes, it is in the **active voice**, and we use action verbs in their active form, for example:

Ka kōrero au I speak Ka kite au I see Ka hopu au I catch

When the subject of the sentence does not perform the action, but has it done or happen to him/her, the sentence is in the **passive voice**, and we use action verbs in their passive form, for example:

Ka kõrerotia au I am spoken to/about Ka kitea au I am seen

Ka hopukia au I am caught

■ For active voice sentences, see page 43; for passive voice sentences, see page 55.

Adverb

Adverbs are words which extend the information of a verb phrase. For example:

verb phrase particle verb adverb		subject phrase		
I hae He still went.	ere tonu	ia.		
I has		ia.		
He went aga	ш1.			

Direction Indicator

Direction indicators are the adverbs mai, atu, ake and iho which indicate direction towards, away, up, and down. For example.

Whakarongo! Listen! Whakarongo mai! Listen to me!

■ For direction indicators, see pages 61-64.

Direction Particle

Direction particles are the words i (indicates direction 'away') and ki (indicates direction 'towards') which open direction phrases.

■ For direction particles, see pages 64-66.

Tense

Tense is the indication of time. Verb and location sentences begin with particles which tell us whether a sentence belongs to the present, past, or future.

Identity sentences, classification sentences, and *n*-class possession sentences do not have any indicators of tense, and they can express the past or present according to the situation. For example:

Ko Hata te pāpā.

Hata is the father.

Ki tā Te Arawa, ko Hei te pāpā o Waitaha.

According to Te Arawa, Hei was the father of Waitaha.

Phrase

A phrase is any word or combination of words which makes up a unit of meaning. For example te means 'the', but does not tell us anything. To make sense, we want to know 'the what?' So we add a noun to make a meaningful unit of speech, which we call a phrase.

Affirmative and negative

Sentences are in the affirmative when they make a statement confirming an identity or an action. Negative sentences deny it. For example:

affirmative:

I haere ia.

She went.

negative:

Kāore ia i haere.

She did not go.

Vowel

The vowels of the Maori alphabet are the letters:

a e i o u

Consonant

The consonants of the Maori alphabet are the letters:

h k m n ng p r t w wh

Syllable

Syllables are the building blocks of individual words. In spoken Maori the first syllable is stressed and each following third syllable has a lesser stress:

l 3 <u>hu/ri/hi</u>/α <u>i/nα/nα/hi</u>

For how to count syllables, see page 71.

Macron

Macrons are the lines placed above vowels to show that they are pronounced long. The alternative way to show long vowels is to double them:

ρά, ραα ἄρδρδ, ααροοροο fortified village tomorrow

Macrons and Double Vowels

The reason which scholars give for writing Maori with macrons or double vowels is that it gives a guide to readers as to how words should be pronounced. Also, in a few cases, unless a word is shown with proper vowel length, a reader might confuse two entirely different words. For example:

kainga kāinga, kaainga be eaten home, village

e E the (singular)

tē, tee

not

kaka kākā, kaakaa dress

For the most part, double vowels or macrons have been imposed on written Maori by scholars such as Herbert Williams and Pei Te Hurinui Jones, who wrote or revised A Dictionary of the Maori Language, the great dictionary which preserves the language of the nineteenth century. The majority of Maori writers have not marked vowel length in their manuscripts, although many unconsciously put in an extra vowel when writing words in which the vowel is always pronounced long, for example washi, 'place'.

There is a convention, but one which is hard to justify, that vowel length is marked when a script is all in Maori, but not when Maori words appear in an English language script. The word **Maori** is a good example.

Compound Words

Compound words are two (or more) words joined together. When the join brings two vowels the same together, they are written as a double vowel, not as a

macroned vowel. For example:

whakaatu, 'show', 'point out', = whaka + atu

When the compound joins a short and a long version of the same vowel, the long vowel becomes short. For example:

ātaahua, 'beautiful' = āta + āhua

Many words, especially the particles which introduce nouns or verbs, are pronounced long or short according to the flow and rhythm of a particular sentence. Vowels which are sometimes pronounced short and sometimes long are written with short vowels.

2

Identity sentences

- Identity sentences, or **ko**-sentences, tell us about personal identity. They answer the questions 'Who is?', 'Who are?'.
- Identity sentences also answer the questions 'What is?', 'What are?'.
- Identity sentences are present or past tense.
- Basic identity sentences consist of two noun phrases.

First Phrase

The first phrase gives us the most important information. The phrase opens with **ko**, and may be singular or plural. It consists of either:

- 1 ko + personal name or place name;
- 2 ko + pronoun;
- 3 ko + definitive + noun;
- 4 ko + t-class definitive.

Note: in conversation, and in poetry, ko is often dropped off the beginning of the first phrase, as in the line below from the haka Ka mate!

Tenei te tangata pühuruhuru!

This is the hairy man!

Second Phrase

The second phrase consists of either:

- 1 definitive + noun;
- 2 t-class definitive.

Note: Proper nouns (personal names and place names) do not occupy the second phrase of an identity sentence.

EXAMPLES

In these examples, the components of the phrases are named.

first phrase

personal name Ko Tāmati Kerei

That man is Tamati Kerei.

pronoun Ko koe

You are the right person.

possessive pronoun + noun Ko õna tuähine

His sisters are the organisers.

position definitive

Ko tēnei

This is their car.

position definitive + noun group

Ko te waka kākāriki ra Ours is that green car.

definite article + noun

Ko ngā toa

Choosing the Phrase Order

second phrase

position definitive + noun

tērā tāngata.

definite article + noun group

te mea tika.

definite article + noun ngā kaiwhakahaere.

possessive pronoun + noun

tō rātou waka.

possessive pronoun

tō mātou.

position definitive

ēnā.

Those (ones connected with you) are the champions.

When a **ko**-sentence does not contain a personal name or place name the phrase order depends on what information we are trying to get across. For example, we can write the sentence "This is the old entrance" in two ways:

1 In answer to the question "What is this?":

EXAMPLE

first phrase

second phrase

tënei.

Ko te waha tawhito This is the old entrance.

2 In answer to the question 'Which is the old entrance?':

EXAMPLE

first phrase Ko tēnei second phrase te waha tawhito.

This is the old entrance.

Emphatic Ko-sentences

We make an emphatic statement by reversing the order of the phrases and opening them both with ko:

Ko te tangata tika, ko koe!

The right person is you!

Ko te tino tangata o taua marae, ko Hapi.

The leading person of that marae is Hapi.

Extending Ko-Sentences with a Possessive Phrase

A phrase expressing 'of' may be placed after either phrase, extending the sentence to three phrases:

EXAMPLES

first phrase

o/a possessive phrase

third phrase

Ko te waha

o te marge

This is the entrance of the marge.

first phrase

second phrase

o/a possessive phrase o te marae.

Ko te waha This is the entrance of the marge.

Any ko-sentence can be turned into a question by the way it is asked, or by adding a question mark when writing:

Ko Heni te kaikaranga o tērā hapū?

Is Heni the caller of that hapu?

Asking Who?

We ask 'Who?' with the phrase Ko wai? in the first phrase.

singular:

Who is? Who was?

plural:

Ko wai mā?

Who cire? Who were?

Note: some speakers do not add mā in the plural.

Questions are answered by replacing wai in the information phrase with the information required.

EXAMPLES

In conversation, questions are usually answered in one phrase:

question phrase second phrase singular: Ko wai tō tāua manuhiri? Who is our visitor? Ko Koro! answer: It's Koro! answer: Ko ia! He is! answer: Ko tōku whanaunga! It's my relation! Ko wai mā plural: ō tāua manuhiri? Who are our visitors? Ko Koro mā! conswer: It's Koro and the others! Ko rātou! answer: It's them!

Note: wai translates as 'What?' in a question about people's names:

singular:

answer:

Ko wai tōu ingoa?

What is your name?

plural:

Ko wai ō koutou ingoa, kōtiro mā?

What are your names, girls?

Asking What?

We ask 'What?' with a definitive + the noun aha? in the first (information) phrase.

Ko õku whanaunga! It's my relations!

singular: Ko te aha? What is? What was? plural: Ko nga aha? What are? What were?

Questions are answered by replacing and in the first phrase with the information required.

EXAMPLES

question phrase second phrase

singular: Ko te aha tënei?

What is this thing?

answer: Ko te kihi o tōna waka tēnā.

That's the key of his car.

plural: Ko ngã aha ngã reta ra?

What are those letters?

answer: Ko te mēra mo tō māmā.

They're the mail for your mother.

Choosing between ko te/ngā aha? and he aha?

Both ko te/ngā aha? and he aha? ask 'What is?', 'What are?', but they answer different kinds of questions.

1 Definite question: Ko te aha?/Ko ngā aha?

The definite question says, 'I know what this is, but which particular one of its kind is it?'

2 Indefinite question: He aha?

The indefinite question asks, 'What kind of thing is this?' See page 38 for this type of question.

EXAMPLES

definite question

Ko te aha tēnei?

What is this?

indefinite question

He aha tēnei?

What is this?

what is this?

definite answer

Ko te taupoki tēnā o te umu.

That is the lid of the camp oven.

Indefinite answer

He taupoki tēnā.

That is a lid.

definite question indefinite question

Ko ngā aha ērā?
What are those?

He aha ērā?
What are those?

definite answer
Ko ā tātou reta ērā.
They're our letters.
Indefinite answer
He reta ērā.
They're letters.

Asking Which?

We ask 'Which?' with the t-class definitive $t\bar{e}hea/\bar{e}hea$? in the first phrase. $T\bar{e}hea/\bar{e}hea$? can either accompany a common noun or stand alone in its phrase:

singular:

Ko tehea?

Which is? Which was?

Ko tēhea [+ noun]

Which [one] is? Which [one] was?

plural:

Ko ēhea?

Which are? Which were?

Ko ēhea [+ noun]

Which [ones] are? Which [ones] were?

EXAMPLES

1 Asking questions using tëhea/ëhea? alone in the question phrase.

singular:	question phrase	second phrase
	Ko tēheα Which is the lawyer?	te rõia?
cınswer:	Ko Rangi. Rangi is.	
plural:	Ko ēhea Which are the lawyers?	ngā rõia?
answer:	Ko ngā mea ra. Those ones over there.	
singular:	Ko tēheα Which is yours?	tōu?
answer:	Ko te mea kākāriki. The green one.	
plural:	Ko ēhea Which are yours?	ōu?
answer:	Ko ngā mea kākāriki. The green ones.	

2 Asking questions using tëhea/ëhea + noun in the question phrase.

	question phrase	second phrase	
singular.	Ko tēhea tangata Which person is the lawyer?	te rõia?	
answer:	Ko Rangi. It is Rangi.		
plural:	Ko ēhea tāngata Which people are the lawyers?	ngā rōia?	
answer:	Ko ngā mea ra. Those ones over there.		
singular:	Ko tēhea waka Which car is yours?	tōu?	
answer:	Ko te mea kākāriki. The green one.		
plural:	Ko ēhea waka Which cars are yours?	ōu?	
answer:	Ko ngā mea kākāriki. The green ones.		

Negative identity sentences

- The word that makes identity sentences negative is ehara, 'not'. Ehara opens the first phrase.
- Negative identity sentences are present or past tense.
- Negative identity sentences consist of two noun phrases which reverse the order of affirmative sentences.

First Phrase

The first phrase opens with **ehara**, which has the same form in both singular and plural sentences. The phrase consists of either:

- 1 ehara + a + personal name;
- 2 ehara + pronoun;
- 3 ehara + definitive + noun;
- 4 ehara + t-class definitive.

Second Phrase

The second phrase opens with the particle i. The phrase consists of either:

1 i + a + personal name;

 $2 i + \alpha + pronoun;$

3 i + definitive + noun;

4 i + definitive.

EXAMPLES

■ The translation of identity sentences into English will sometimes start with the information phrase, and sometimes with the subject phrase, depending on how we say things in English.

affirmative singular.

first phrase

Ko Moki

Moki was the chief.

second phrase te rangatira.

negative:

first phrase

Ehara te rangatira

Moki was not the chief.

second phrase i a Moki.

affirmative plural:

first phrase

Ko Moki rāua ko Tū-te-kawa

Moki and Tu-te-kawa were the chiefs.

second phrase ngā rangatira.

negative:

first phrase

Ehara ngā rangatira

Moki and Tu-te-kawa were not the chiefs.

second phrase

i a Moki rāua ko Tū-te-kawa.

affirmative singular.

first phrase

Ko Aotea

Is Aotea Waikato's canoe?

second phrase

te waka o Waikato?

negative:

first phrase

Ehara te waka o Waikato Aotea is not Waikato's canoe.

second phrase

second phrase

i a Aotea.

affirmative plural:

first phrase

Ko Aotea, ko Tākitimu, ko Mataatua

öna waka.

Aotea, Takitimu, and Mataatua are his canoes.

negative:

first phrase

Ehara ōna waka

second phrase

i a Aotea, i a Tākitimu, i a

Mataatua.

Aotea, Takitimu, and Mataatua are not his canoes.

affirmative singular:

first phrase

Ko ia

He is your nephew.

second phrase tāu irāmutu.

negative:

first phrase

Ehara täu irämutu

He is not your nephew.

second phrase

i a ia.

affirmative plural:

first phrase

Ko āu irāmutu

They are your nephews.

second phrase

rātou.

negative:

first phrase

Ehara ratou

They are not your nephews.

second phrase i āu irāmutu.

affirmative singular.

first phrase

Ko te mea tawhito

That is the old one.

second phrase

tērā.

negative:

first phrase

Ehara tērā

That is not the old one.

second phrase i te mea tawhito.

affirmative plural:

first phrase

Ko ngā mea tawhito

Those are the old ones.

second phrase

ērā.

negative:

first phrase

Ehara ērā

Those are not the old ones.

second phrase i ngā mea tawhito.

affirmative singular.

first phrase

Ko tēnā

That one is yours.

second phrase

tāu.

negative:

first phrase

Ehara tāu

That one is not yours.

second phrase

i tēnā.

affirmative plural:

first phrase

Ko ēnā

Those ones are yours.

second phrase āu.

negative:

first phrase

Ehara āu

Those ones are not yours.

second phrase

i ēnā.



T-class definitives and pronouns

This chapter shows how t-class definitives and pronouns are used in all the basic sentence types.

Position definitives

- Position definitives are t-class definitives which say 'this', 'that', 'there', and 'those' in relation to the speaker or writer.
- Position definitives begin with the letter t in the singular, and drop it in the plural.
- Position definitives can stand alone in a phrase, or they can introduce α noun.

Singular Position Definitives

tēnei this (near, or connected with me, the speaker/writer)
tēnā that (near, or connected with you, the person being addressed)

terā that (away from, or not connected with us)

Plural Position Definitives

ēnei these (near, or connected with me, the speaker/writer)
 ēnā those (near, or connected with you, the person being addressed)
 ērā those (away from, or not connected with us)

Position Definitive + Noun

There are two ways of making a phrase containing a position definitive + noun. The choice is up to the speaker/writer, and will be made to suit the rhythm of his/her speech.

1 Position definitive + noun

EXAMPLES

Nāku tēnei kete.

This kit is mine.

I kite au i tëra tamaiti tane.

I saw that boy.

Ko tēnā whakaaro te mea tika.

That idea is the right one.

He poto rawa atu ēnei kōrero.

These stories are extremely short.

2 Te/ngā + noun + nei/na/ra

Position definitives are a combination of the definite article + position particle. They can be split into these two parts around a noun:

	plural:		
te [+ noun] na that ngā [+	noun] nei	these that	

EXAMPLES

Nāku te kete nei.

This kit is mine.

I kite au i te tamaiti tane ra.

I saw that boy.

Ko te whakaaro na te mea tika.

That idea is the right one.

He poto rawa atu ngā kōrero nei.

These stories are extremely short.

Position Definitives in Time Phrases

Tenei/tera are used in time phrases with the same idea of closeness (tenei) and distance (tera), for example:

tēnei rā	today
tērā rā	yesterday, that day
tērā tau	last year, that year

EXAMPLES

He rā nui tēnei rā.

Today is a great day.

I tērā pō, ka tae mai ētahi manuhiri. Last night, some visitors arrived.

I te tau ra, i hangaa te poutāpeta. In that year the Post Office was built.

Reference definitive

singular: taua plural:

aua

this/that (already mentioned) these/those (already mentioned)

The reference definitives taua/aua are used to refer to something we have already been talking or writing about.

Reference definitives cannot stand alone in their phrase, but must be followed by a noun.

EXAMPLES

Ka kite mātou i a Hēmi. Kua mate taua koroua.

We saw Hemi. That old man is ill.

Nona te waka. He koretake taua mea.

The car is his. It's a useless one.

Ko Pani mā ngā kaiwhakahaere. No Te Kaha aua tāngata.

Pani and the others are the organisers. Those people are from Te Kaha.

Specifying definitive

singular: plural:

tëtahi 'a', in the sense of 'a certain one', or 'one of a number' ētahi 'some', in the sense of 'certain ones', or 'some of a number'

These definitives express 'a' and 'some' when we have particular ones in mind. Tētahi/ētahi can stand alone in their phrase, or introduce a noun.

EXAMPLES

Ka rongo ahau i tētahi waiata pai i tēnei rā.

I heard a nice song today.

E rua āu āporo. Homai tētahi!

You've got two apples. Give me one!

He whero ētahi, he pango ētahi.

Some are red, some black.

Ka tae tētahi tauhou ki te kāinga.

A certain stranger came to the village.

We add atu to tëtahi/ëtahi to express 'another', 'other':

Ka kõrero ia ki tētahi atu āpiha.

He talked to another officer.

E whakaae ana ētahi, engari kāore anō ētahi atu kia whakaae.

Some agree, but others have not yet agreed.

Pronouns

These are the words which we use as substitutes for people's names:

'I', 'you', 'he', 'she', 'we', 'they'.

As well as people, pronouns in Maori also refer to anything which participates in the human world, such as pets, animals you hunt or herd or spend hours watching, and things thought of as people, such as ancestor figures in a meeting house.

Pronouns have singular, dual, and plural forms:

singular

refers to one person; refers to two people;

dual plural

refers to any number of people over two.

Singular Pronouns

first person:

ahan

Note: we choose au or ahau according to which best suits the rhythm of the sentence.

second person:

koe

you

third person:

iα

he/she

Note: third person pronouns do not distinguish between the sexes. We judge the gender from the context of the conversation or story.

Inclusive, Exclusive

In the dual and plural sets of pronouns we have two kinds of first person pronouns, because there are two groups of people which the word 'we'

represents:

1 'we' = you and I

This is the inclusive form of the first person because it includes you - the person or people I'm talking to - with me. The inclusive pronouns start with the letter t:

tāua

you and I

tātou

you (more than one) and I

2 we = he/she and I, they and I

This is the exclusive form of the first person because it excludes you, the person or people I'm talking to. The exclusive pronouns start with the letter m:

māua mātou he/she and I they and I

Dual Pronouns

The dual pronouns are:

first person:

tāua māua we (you and I)

we (he/she and I)

second person:

kōrua

you (two)

third person:

raua

they (two)

Plural Pronouns

The plural pronouns are:

first person:

tātou mātou we (you [more than one] and I)

we (they and I)

second person:

koutou

you (three or more)

third person:

ratou

they (three or more)

Expressing the Neutral Pronouns 'it', 'they', 'them'

Ordinary objects, such as clothes, tables, and cars are not referred to by a pronoun but by definitives.

There are three main ways of referring to objects:

1 by using the position definitives:

Anei tētahi rākau nui. He tōtara tēnei.

Here's a mighty tree. It's a totara.

2 by repeating the name of the object we are talking about, or by substituting mea 'one', 'thing' for the noun:

He pāika tōku. He 'Morrison' taua pāika.

I've got a bike. It's a 'Morrison'.

Kua kite koe i taku pene? He mā whero te mea na.

Have you seen my pen? It's a pink one.

3 by leaving out the subject, when it is clear what we are talking about:

Kei roto ngā panana me ngā ārani i te pouaka ra. Waihotia ki runga i te tēpu.

The bananas and the oranges are in that box. Put them on the table.

Pronouns as the Subject of a Sentence

Pronouns stand alone in the subject phrase of every kind of sentence:

- 1 identity sentences (ko-sentences);
- 2 classification sentences (he-sentences);
- 3 action sentences:
- 4 state sentences:
- 5 command sentences;
- 6 location sentences;
- 7 n-class sentences (no/na-sentences).

EXAMPLES

1 identity sentence

subject phrase information phrase
Ko ia te tipuna o Ngāti Porou.

He is the ancestor of Ngati Porou.

■ Ko and ia may be combined into one word for greater emphasis:

Koia te tipuna o Ngāti Porou!

That's the ancestor of Ngati Porou!

Pronouns may be followed by emphasisers:

Ko wai te kaiwhakahaere? Ko au tonu! Who is the organiser? Actually, it's me!

2 he-sentence

information phrase He taraiwa tekehi Are you a laxi driver? subject phrase

koe?

3 action sentence

action phrase

subject phrase

clirection phrase ki taua hui.

Kei te haere

tāua

We (you and I) are going to that hui.

i

4 state sentence

state phrase

subject phrase

Ka māuiui

māua.

We (he/she and I) are sick.

5 active command sentence

command phrase

subject phrase

E noho

HOHO

koe!

You sit down!

E noho

körua!

Sit down, you two!

E noho

koutou!

Sit down, all of you!

6 Location sentences

Location phrase

subject phrase

object phrase

Kei muri

mātou

i a koe.

We (they and I) are behind you.

7 n-class sentences

information phrase

subject phrase

No hea

koe?

No Whakatane

ahau.

Where are you from? I'm from Whakatane.

Pronouns in other Phrases

Maori pronouns keep the same form wherever they stand in a sentence, unlike in English.

When pronouns are not the subject of a sentence, they are introduced by the particle a; except for the ahau form of the first person singular pronoun 'I'.

EXAMPLES

1 action sentences: pronoun in object phrase

action phrase

subject phrase

object phrase

E titiro ana

te tauhou

ki a au.

The stranger was looking at me.

E titiro ana

te tauhau

ki ahau.

The stranger was looking at me.

Ka kite

I tatari

au

i a ia.

I saw him.

mätou

i te këti.

I kohete a Māmā

We waited by the gate.

i a mātou.

Mum told us off.

Ka whawhai tonu

αu

ki a koutou ko ō hoa.

I will keep fighting against you and your mates.

2 command sentences: pronoun in direction phrase

command phrase

direction phrase

Oma atu

i a ia!

Run away from her!

Homai

ki a mätou!

Give it to us!

3 state sentences: pronoun in agent phrase

state phrase

subject phrase

agent phrase

Ka mataku

māua

i a ia.

We were frightened by him.

Ka höha

tō tāua māmā

i a ratou.

Our mum's fed up with them.

Kua pau katoa

te kai

i a koutou!

You have eaten up all the food!

4 location sentences: pronoun in object phrase

location phrase subject phrase object phrase

Kei muri ahau i a koe.

I am behind you.

Kei mua koe i ahau.

You are in front of me.

Kei mua koe i a au.

You are in front of me.

I runga ake te kaitohutohu i a kõrua.

The instructor was higher up than you two.

Adding more People to Pronoun Phrases

Any phrase containing a dual or plural pronoun can be extended by adding the names or descriptions of the people represented by the pronoun. The new phrase or phrases are introduced by ko.

1 dual pronoun + ko + personal name

Dual phrases speak about two people in total.

EXAMPLES .

Ka kōrero māua ko Mere ki a ia. Mere and I spoke to him.

Ka kõrero ia ki a māua ko Mere.

He spoke to Mere and me.

Ko māua ko Mere ngā kaiāwhina.

Mere and I are the helpers.

He koretake kõrua ko Merel

You and Mere are useless!

I roto răua ko Mere i te whare.

He and Mere were in the house.

2 plural pronoun + ko + personal name(s)

Plural sentences talk about three or more people.

mātou ko Hata He/she and I and Hata.

Hata and the rest of us.

koutou ko Hata ko Pani You, Hata and Pani.

All of you and Hata and Pani.

As many further names as required can be added by introducing each one with ${f ko}$.

EXAMPLES

No Te Kaha mātou ko Hata mā.

Hata and I and the rest are from Te Kaha.

Me haere koutou ko Hata ko Pani ki te tāone.

You and Hata and Pani ought to go to town.

Kei te kura rătou ko Hata ko Pani ko Mere.

They and Hata, Pani, and Mere are at the school.

3 dual pronoun + ko + definitive + noun

EXAMPLES

Kua mate māua ko taku teina.

My younger sister and I are sick.

Me kōrerorero kōrua ko te kaiako.

You and the teacher should have a talk.

He pai rāua ko tana hoa ki te waiata.

She and her friend are good singers.

4 plural pronoun + ko + definitive + noun

EXAMPLES

I āwhinatia ratou e matou ko aku tēina.

They were helped by me and my younger sisters.

Ka tatari au ki a koutou ko ngā kaiako.

I will wait for you and the teachers.

Ko rātou ko ō rātou hoa ngā mea ngaro.

They and their friends are the missing ones.

T-class possessive pronouns

- These are the definitives which say 'my', 'your', 'his', 'her', 'its', 'our', 'their'.
- T-class possessive pronouns begin with the letter t in the singular, and drop it in the dual and plural.

T-Class Possessive Pronouns + Noun

T-class possessive pronouns introduce a noun in any definite phrase:

EXAMPLES

Koā matou kurī ngā toa ki te tiaki hipi.

Our dogs are the champion sheep-musterers.

He mā tō rātou whare.

Their house is white.

I rere atu te manu ki tana kohanga.

The bird flew away to its nest.

Whakapiatia ō hū!

Polish your shoes!

T-Class Possessive Pronouns Standing Alone

T-class possessive pronouns stand alone as the subject phrase of a sentence, when the noun they refer to is already understood:

EXAMPLES

He-sentence:

He pukapuka kākāriki tāku. He whero āna.

Mine is a green book. His/hers are red.

Number sentence:

E rua āku āporo. E toru ā kōrua.

I have two apples. You (two) have three.

Category

Each possessive pronoun has both o- and a-category forms. In a particular sentence, the possessive pronoun takes the same category as the noun it defines:

töku papa

my father

tāku tama

my son

■ For o and a category, see pages 101-116.

Number

There are singular, dual, and plural sets of t-class possessive pronouns:

singular

refers to one person

dual

refers to two people

plural

refers to any number of people over two

Singular T-Class Possessive Pronouns

single relationship or possession:

tõku täku my tõu täu your tõna täna his, her

EXAMPLES

Homai toku heru!

Give me my comb!

Tikina atu tāu pukapuka!

Go and get your book!

Kei te tū tāna irāmutu i runga i tōku kākahu mā.

His nephew is standing on my clean dress.

plural relationship or possession:

 ōku
 āku
 my

 ōu
 āu
 your

 ōna
 āna
 his, her

EXAMPLES

Homai öku heru!

Give me my combs!

Tikina atu āu pukapuka!

Go and get your books!

Kei te tū āna irāmutu i runga i ōku kākahu mā.

His nephews are standing on my clean clothes.

O/A Neutral Singular T-Class Possessive Pronouns

The singular possessive pronouns have a form which can be used to introduce either o or a-category nouns. This form is in very common use, and we especially choose it when a short vowel makes the sentence flow better.

single relationship or possession:

taku my tō your tana his/her

plural relationship or possession:

aku my ō your ana his/her Note: the neutral form cannot be used when a possessive pronoun stands alone as the subject of a sentence.

EXAMPLES

possessive pronoun + a-category noun tamaiti:

neutral form:

o/a-category form

Kei hea taku tamaiti ināianei?

Kei hea taku tamaiti inaianei?

Where is my child now?

possessive pronoun + o-category noun koti:

Homai ō koti.

Homai öu koti.

Give me your coats.

Dual and Plural Possessive Pronouns

We make the dual and plural possessive pronouns by putting the t-class possessive particles in front of the dual and plural personal pronouns.

The t-class possessive particles have o- and a-category forms:

singular:

tō, tā

plural:

ō, ā

Dual Possessive Pronouns

singular relationship or possession:

inclusive:

tō tāua

ta taua

our (yours and mine)

exclusive:

tō māua

tā māua tā kōrua our (his/hers and mine)

tō kōrua tō rāua

tā rāua

your (belonging to the two of you) their (belonging to the two of them)

EXAMPLES

Ko Hera tō tāua hoa. Hera is our friend.

Ka herea e ia tā tāua kurī. He tied up our dog.

plural relationship or possession:

inclusive:

ō tāua

ā tāua

our (yours and mine)

exclusive:

ō māua

ā māua

our (his/hers and mine)

ō kōrua

ā kōrua

your (belonging to the two of you)

ō rāua

ā rāua

their (belonging to the two of them)

EXAMPLES

Ko Hēra rāua ko Ruku ō tāua hoa. Hera and Ruku are our friends.

Ka herea e ia ā tāua kurī. He tied up our dogs.

Plural Possessive Pronouns

singular relationship or possession:

inclusive:	tō tātou	tā tātou	our (belonging to you people and me)
exclusive:	tō mātou tō koutou	tā mātou tā koutou	our (belonging to them and me) your (belonging to you three or more)
	tō rātou	tā rātou	their (belonging to them, three or more)

EXAMPLES

Kotahi tō tātou maunga, ko Aorangi. We have one mountain, Aorangi.

He tāne tā mātou ngeru.
Our cat is a male.

plural relationship or possession:

inclusive:	ō tātou	ā tātou	our (belonging to you people and me)
exclusive:	ō mātou	ā mātou	our (belonging to them and me)
	ō koutou	ā koutou	your (belonging to you three or more)
,	ō rātou	ā rātou	their (belonging to them, three or more)

EXAMPLES

E rua ō tātou maunga. We have two mountains.

He tane a matou ngeru.
Our cats are male.



Classification sentences

- Classification sentences, or he-sentences, describe what someone or something is, or what qualities they have. They answer the questions 'What is?', 'What are?'
- Classification sentences are present or past tense.
- Classification sentences consist of two noun phrases:

he + information phrase + subject phrase and appropriate of interior.

First (information) Phrase

The first phrase gives us information about the subject. The phrase opens with he, 'a' or 'some', which has the same form in both singular and plural sentences. The phrase consists of either:

- 1 he + noun:
- 2 he + noun + adjective;
- 3 he + adjective.

Second (subject) Phrase

The second phrase may be singular or plural, and consists of either:

- 1 a + personal name or place name;
- 2 pronoun:
- 3 definitive + noun:
- 4 t-class definitive.

EXAMPLES

Because most nouns and adjectives have the same form in both singular and plural, most he-phrases do not tell us whether the sentence is singular or plural. For that we look at the subject phrase.

1 he + noun

singular:

information phrase

subject phrase

He nëhi

iα.

He/she is a nurse.

plural:

He nëhi

rātou.

singular:

They care nurses.

tēnei.

He paraehe-niho This is a toothbrush.

plural:

He paraehe-niho

ēnei.

These are toothbrushes.

2 he + noun + adjective

information phrase

subject phrase

He kāinga iti noa iho

a Ōtautahi!

Christchurch is just a little village!

He mātua pai

a Pani rāua ko Hata.

Pani and Hata are good parents.

3 he + adjective

information phrase

subject phrase

He wera

tēnā.

That is hot.

He whero

ngā pua o te pohutukawa.

The flowers of the pohutukawa are red.

He tupuhi rawa atu

iα.

He/she is so thin.

He tupuhi rawa atu

tatou katoa.

We are all so thin.

Note: Unlike other words which extend the meanings of adjectives, the adjective tino 'very' is placed before another adjective to increase its force:

He pö makariri tënei.

This is a cold night.

He pō tino makariri tēnei.

This is a very cold night.

Plural Nouns

Some nouns have a plural form, which we use in **he**-phrases which open plural sentences.

There is only one noun which completely changes its form in the plural:

tamaiti

child

tamariki children

Some kinship terms lengthen a vowel in the plural:

tuahine

sister

tuāhine wahine sisters woman

wähine

women

teina tēina tuakana younger sibling, same sex younger siblings, same sex

older sibling, same sex older siblings, same sex

tuākana tipuna tīpuna

grandparent, ancestor grandparents, ancestors

EXAMPLES

singular:

He wahine te hēkeretari.

The secretary is a woman.

plural:

He wähine ngā hēkeretari.

The secretaries are women.

Plural Adjectives

Most adjectives have the same form whether the noun they describe is singular or plural:

te whare hou

the new house

ngā whare hou

the new houses

The following list of adjectives may repeat their first syllable when they are attached to plural phrases, but speakers may keep to the singular form.

singular kino koi nui pai rahi roa	bad sharp big good, nice large long	plural kikino kokoi nunui papai rarahi roroa
--	--	--

EXAMPLES

singular:

He ara kino tēnei.

This is a bad road.

plural:

He ara kikino ēnei.

These are bad roads.

Multiplying the Information Phrase

We can use as many phrases introduced by he as we like in the first phrase.

EXAMPLES

information phrase

subject phrase

He pango, he parauri rānei

ngā makawe o tō tama?

Is your son's hair black or brown?

He porotaka, he whero, he piata

te paoro kirikiti.

Cricket balls are round, red, and shiny.

Emphatic Statements

In exclamations and emphatic statements, he is dropped off the beginning of the first phrase:

EXAMPLES

statement:

He pai rawa atu tāu mahi.

Your work is very good.

exclamation:

Pai rawa atu täu mahi!

Your work is terrific!

Multiplying the Subject Phrase

We can use as many phrases as we like in the second phrase:

EXAMPLES

information phrase

subject phrases

He tāone pai

a Otautahi, a Whakatū hoki.

Christchurch and Nelson are nice cities.

He pirau

ngā ārani, ngā pītiti me te paināporo.

The oranges, peaches, and the pineapple are rotten.

Emphasising the Subject

The emphasis in any sentence is on the first phrase. When we want to especially emphasise the subject phrase, we transfer it to the start of the sentence and introduce it with the particle ko:

EXAMPLES

unemphatic:

He papa köhatu a Pānia ināianei.

Pania is a flat rock now.

emphatic:

Ko Pānia he papa kōhatu ināianei. As for Pania, she's a flat rock now.

Questions

Any he-sentence can be turned into a question by the way it is asked, or by the addition of a question mark when writing:

He ara kino tērā?

Is that a bad road?

Asking What?

We ask the question 'What?' with the phrase he aha? in both singular and plural sentences.

Questions are answered by replacing ana in the first phrase with the information required.

EXAMPLES

In conversation, questions are usually answered in one phrase:

question phrase

subject phrase

question: He aha

tērā?

What's that?

He manu.

A kite.

answer:

question: He aha ērā?

What are they?

answer:

He manu.

Kites.

Negative classification sentences

- The word which makes classification sentences negative is ehara, 'not'.
- Negative classification sentences are present or past tense.
- Negative classification sentences consist of two noun phrases which reverse the order of affirmative sentences:

ehara + subject phrase + information phrase

First (subject) Phrase

The first phrase opens with ehara, which has the same form in both singular and plural sentences. The phrase consists of either:

- 1 ehara + a + personal name or place name;
- 2 ehara + pronoun;
- 3 ehara + definitive + noun;
- 4 ehara + t-class definitive.

Second (information) Phrase

The second phrase is introduced by the particles i te, whether the sentence is singular or plural. The phrase consists of either:

- 1 ite + noun;
- 2 ite + noun + adjective;
- 3 i te + adjective.

EXAMPLES

affirmative singular.

information phrase

He matua

Pani is a parent.

subject phrase

a Pani.

negative:

subject phrase

Ehara a Pani

Pani is not a parent.

information phrase

i te matua.

affirmative plural:

information phrase

He matua

Pani and Hata are parents.

subject phrase a Pani raua ko Hata.

negative:

subject phrase

Ehara a Pani rāua ko Hata Pani and Hata are not parents.

information phrase i te mātua.

affirmative singular.

information phrase He tohunga whakairo subject phrase

te teina.

The younger one is a master carver.

negative:

subject phrase Ehara te teina

information phrase i te tohunga whakairo.

The younger one is not a master carver.

affirmative plural:

information phrase He tohunga whakairo subject phrase

ngā tēina.

The younger ones are master carvers.

negative:

subject phrase Ehara ngā tēina information phrase i te tohunga whakairo.

The younger ones are not master carvers.

affirmative singular.

information phrase

subject phrase

He ngeru

That is a cat.

tērā.

negative:

subject phrase

Ehara tera

That is not a cat.

information phrase

i te ngeru.

affirmative plural:

information phrase

subject phrase

He ngeru

Those are cats.

negative:

subject phrase Ehara era

information phrase

i te ngeru.

affirmative singular.

information phrase

Those are not cats.

subject phrase

tēnei.

He ara kino This is a bad road.

negative:

subject phrase Ehara tēnei

This is not a bad road.

information phrase

i te ara kino.

affirmative plural:

information phrase

He ara kikino

These are bad roads.

subject phrase

ēnei.

negative:

subject phrase

Ehara enei

These are not bad roads.

information phrase i te ara kikino.

affirmative singular. information phrase

He wera

That plate is hot.

subject phrase tēnā pereti.

negative:

subject phrase

Ehara tēnā pereti

That plate is not hot.

information phrase

i te wera.

affirmative plural:

information phrase

He wera

Those plates are hot.

subject phrase

ēnā pereti.

negative:

subject phrase

Ehara ēnā pereti

Those plates are not hot.

information phrase

i te wera.

Comparing adjectives

We can make adjectives express different degrees of force. 'More' and 'less' are called the 'comparative degree', and 'most' and 'least' are called the superlative degree, for example:

baseline description

big

small

comparative

bigger smaller

superlative biggest

smallest

Showing the Comparative Degree

To show 'more' we add atu or ake to the adjective:

nui atu, nui atu

bia, many

bigger, more

pai

pai atu, pai ake

good, nice better, nicer To show 'less' we add ino to the adjective:

kino kino iho bad worse

iti iti iho small, few smaller, fewer

Closing the Comparison

When we want to compare one thing with another, 'than' is expressed by the particle i.

EXAMPLES

He pai atu tēnei i tēnā.

This one is better than that.

He nui ake te moa i ngā manu katoa.

The moa was bigger than all other birds.

He poto rawa atu tõu kaka i tõku.

Your dress is much shorter than mine.

Showing the Superlative Degree

We have a choice in the way we can show 'most' and 'least'.

1 We can put tino before the adjective. For strong emphasis, we can use te tino.

2 We can put the particles rawa atu, noa atu, noa iho after the adjectives to intensify their force.

EXAMPLES

Homai te paukena nui rawa atu.

Give me the biggest pumpkin.

He pō tino makariri noa atu tērā.

That was an extremely dark night.

Kei te Taitokerau te kāuri te tino nui o te motu.

The biggest kauri in the land is in Northland.

5

Action sentences

- Action sentences describe an action.
- Action sentences can be in the active or passive voice.
- Basic action sentences consist of a verb phrase plus a noun phrase:

action phrase + subject phrase

Active voice

First (action) Phrase

The first phrase opens with an action particle which tells us what tense the sentence can be. The phrase consists of:

particle + verb

■ For action particles see pages 44-47.

Second (subject) Phrase

The subject phrase tells us who or what performs the action. The second phrase may be singular or plural, and consists of either:

- 1 a + personal name or place name;
- 2 pronoun;
- 3 definitive + noun;
- 4 t-class definitive;
- 5 he + noun.

EXAMPLES

action phrase

subject phrase

present continuous:

Kei te tū Rewi is standina. a Rewi.

action phrase

subject phrase

past continuous:

I te tū

iα.

He was standing.

continuous:

E tū ana

te tamaiti tane.

The boy is standing.

The boy was standing.

The boy will be standing.

past:

I tü

tētahi tamaiti tāne.

A certain boy stood.

perfect:

Kua tū

tënei.

This one has stood.

new action:

Ka tū

he tamaiti.

A boy stood.

A boy stands.

A boy will stand.

Note: he means 'a' or 'some' in the sense of 'a representative of that class of thing', and is not used often as a subject phrase. Much more commonly 'a' or 'some' means 'a certain' and we express this with the t-class definitive: tētahi = a; ētahi = some.

Action particles

The particle which opens the first phrase of an action sentence sets the tense of the sentence.

Note: in the tenses marked below with an asterisk*, the action particle changes its form in the negative.

*Present Continuous: Kei te

Kei te describes an action which is happening as we speak:

Kei te körero ngā wāhine.

The women are talking.

Present Continuous Negative: I te

Kāore ngā wāhine i te kōrero.

The women are not talking.

Past Continuous: I te

I te describes an action which was continuing in the past:

I te kõrero ngā wāhine.

The women were talking.

Past Continuous Negative: I te

The distinction between present and past continuous is lost in the negative, and we must decide on the tense of the sentence from the context – that is, from what we already understand of the conversation or story.

Kāore ngā wāhine i te kōrero.

The women were not talking.

Continuous: E + verb + ana

E + verb + **ana** expresses the idea of an action going on, and can be used in past, present, or future sentences. **E** . . . **ana** surrounds the verb it introduces:

E kõrero ana ngā wāhine.

The women are talking.

The women were talking.

The women will be talking.

Continuous Negative: e + verb + ana

Kāore ngā wāhine e kōrero ana.

The women are not talking.

The women were not talking.

The women will not be talking.

Past: 1

I describes an action which happened in the past, and is therefore now 'history':

I körero ngā wāhine.

The women spoke.

Past Negative: 1

Kāore ngā wāhine i korero.

The women did not speak.

*Perfect: Kua

The perfect tense, (this term is inherited from English grammar), describes the action that has taken place to produce the present status of the subject. In English we express the perfect tense with 'has', 'have', or 'had':

The women have spoken (that is the situation now). The speeches have begun (are going on now).

Kua kõrero ngā wāhine.

The women have spoken.

Kua tīmata ngā mihimihi.

The speeches have begun.

Perfect Negative: Kia

The perfect tense often adds ano 'yet' to the negative word kaore to suggest that although some action has not happened, it is expected to:

Kāore ano ngā wāhine kia korero.

The women have not yet spoken.

Kāore anō ngā mihimihi kia tīmata.

The speeches of welcome have not begun yet.

*Inceptive, or New Action Marker: Ka

Inceptive' means 'begins something', and $k\alpha$ introduces a new action into a narrative. It expresses the idea of 'and then this happened'. $K\alpha$ can refer to the past, present, or future.

New Action Past: Ka

Ka mutu te mahi inanahi, ka haere mātou ki te tāone.

When yesterday's work was finished, we went to town.

In the past tense, **ka** may introduce a new action in a story which is otherwise told in verb statements introduced by the past tense action particle **i**. But often a past tense narrative will be told in a succession of **ka** phrases:

Ka whakatika te ope, ka haere, ka tae ki tetahi awa.

The party set off, travelled along, and came to a river.

New Action Past Negative: I

Kāore mātou i haere ki te tāone.

We did not go to town.

New Action Present: Ka

In the present tense, **ka** sentences make a statement of fact. **Ka** can be used to describe an action which is habitual, for example:

Ka haere mātou ki te tāone i ngā Tāite.

We go to town on Thursdays.

New Action Present Negative: E

Kāore mātou e haere ki te tāone i ngā Tāite.

We do not go to town on Thursdays.

New Action Future: Ka

Apopo ka haere matou ki te taone.

Tomorrow we will go to town.

New Action Future Negative: E

Kāore mātou e haere ki te tāone āpōpō.

We won't go to town tomorrow.

Extending action sentences with an object phrase

A basic action sentence in the active voice consists of a verb phrase plus a noun phrase. We can extend this with a phrase which tells us who or what the action relates to.

For example, this sentence simply tells us what the girl was doing.

action phrase

subject phrase

I te kai

te kōtiro.

The girl was eating.

By adding an object phrase, we find out what the girl was eating:

action phrase

subject phrase

object phrase

I te kai

te kōtiro

i te aporo.

The girl was eating the apple.

Introducing the Object Phrase

Object phrases in action sentences are introduced by the connecting particles i or ki. Which one we use depends on the verb in the action phrase, as some verbs must be followed by i, and a smaller number by ki.

■ For a list of verbs which introduce their object phrase with ki, see pages 49-50.

Object Phrase

The phrase may be singular or plural and consists of either:

1 i or ki + a + personal name;

2 i or ki + a + pronoun;

3 i or ki + definitive + noun;

4 i or ki + t-class definitive.

EXAMPLES

action phrase subject phrase

tā mātou ngeru

Kei te rapu tā mātou na Our cat is searching for his tea.

Ka kite

ia

He sees the fantail.

Kei te titiro taua ngeru

That cat is looking at his meal.

Kei te whakatoi 🏻 te tiwaiwaka

The fantail is teasing Pussy.

Ka hopu a Poti

Pussy catches the bird.

Ka tangi atu te manu The bird calls to his friends.

Ka aroha mai ngā manu

The birds take pity on him.

Ka āwhina aua manu They help the fantail.

Ka pā ngā ngutu o ngā manu The beaks of the birds strike the cat's eyes.

Kua ki tana ihu

His nose is full of feathers.

Ka ki te ngeru

The cat says to the birds: 'Well then, fly away!'

object phrase

i tāna kai.

i te tiwaiwaka.

ki tāna kai.

ki α Poti.

i te manu.

ki ana hoa.

ki a ia.

i te tiwaiwaka.

ki ngā whatu o te ngeru.

i te huruhuru.

ki ngā manu: 'Kāti, rere

atu!

Kei te mitimiti ia

i tana kanohi.

He is licking his face.

Ka whāngai a Pāpā
Dad will feed this unlucky cat.

i tēnei ngeru aituā.

Verbs which Introduce their Object with ki

There is a general parallel between English and Maori in that verbs in English which are followed by 'to', 'at', 'for' introduce their object phrase with **ki** in Maori. We can call these 'direction objects'. For example:

tatari ki wait for titiro ki look at whakarongo ki listen to

Action verbs where there is felt to be a bond between the subject and object also introduce their object with **ki**. For example:

aroha ki love mahara ki remember

Note: action verbs may have ordinary objects or direction objects according to the kind of statement:

Ka tuhi ia i ngā kupu. He wrote the words.

Ka tuhi ia ki tana hoa. He wrote to his friend.

Below is a list of some common verbs which normally introduce their object phrase with ${\bf k}{\bf i}$:

aroha (ina) to love, pity
eke (a) to go up onto
hiahia (tia) to desire, want

mahara (tia) to remember, to think of

mātakitaki (tia) to watch
mātau (ria) to know
mihi (a) to greet
mõhio (tia) to know
pā (ngia) to strike
pai (ngia) to like
pātai (tia) to question

pupuri (puritia) to hold (both i and ki are used with pupuri) rapu (a) to seek (both i and ki are used with rapu)

whakahoki (a) to repl

rongo (na) to hear (both i and ki are used with rongo)

tae (a) to reach

tangi (hia) to weep for tatari (tāria) to wait for titiro (tirohia) to look at tomo (kia) to enter tūmanako (hia) to hope ui (a) to ask wareware (tia) to forget wehi (ngia) to fear whawhai (tia) to fight whakaae (tia) to agree whakahoki (a) to reply whakakino (ngia) to refuse whakapono (a) to believe whakarongo (na) to listen for whakateka (ia) to disbelieve

Negative action sentences

- The word that makes action sentences negative is kaore, 'not'.
- Some action particles change their form in negative sentences.
- Basic negative action sentences consist of two phrases:

kāore + subject phrase + action phrase

First (subject) Phrase

The first phrase opens with **kāore**, which has the same form in both singular and plural sentences. The subject phrase tells us who or what did not do something, and consists of either:

- 1 kaore + a + personal name or place name;
- 2 kāore + pronoun;
- 3 kāore + definitive + noun:
- 4 kāore + t-class definitive;
- 5 kāore + he + noun.

Second (action) Phrase

The action phrase opens with an action particle.

■ For negative action particles, see pages 45-46.

EXAMPLES

present continuous affirmative:

verb phrase Kei te tū Rewi is standing. subject phrase a Rewi.

negative:

subject phrase Kāore a Rewi Rewi is not standing. action phrase i te tū.

past continuous affirmative:

action phrase
I te tū
He was standing.

subject phrase

negative:

subject phrase Kāore ia He was not standing. action phrase i te tū.

continuous affirmative:

action phrase
E tū ana
The boy is standing.
The boy was standing.
The boy will be standing.

subject phrase te tamaiti tāne.

negative:

subject phrase
Kāore te tamaiti tāne
The boy is not standing.
The boy was not standing.
The boy will not be standing.

action phrase e tū ana.

past affirmative:

action phrase
I tū
A certain boy stood.

subject phrase tētahi tamaiti tāne.

negative:

subject phrase Kāore tētahi tamaiti tāne A certain boy did not stand. action phrase i tū.

perfect affirmative:

action phrase
Kua tū
This one has stood.

subject phrase tēnei.

negative:

subject phrase Kāore anō tēnei

This one has not [yet] stood.

action phrase kia tū.

new action past:

action phrase Ka whānau A child was born. subject phrase he tamaiti.

negative:

subject phrase Kāore he tamaiti No child was born. action phrase i whānau.

new action present:

action phrase Ka whānau A child is born. subject phrase he tamaiti.

negative:

subject phrase Kāore he tamaiti No child is born. action phrase e whānau.

new action future:

action phrase **Ka whānau** A child will be born. subject phrase he tamaiti.

negative:

subject phrase Kāore he tamaiti No child will be born. action phrase e whānau.

Extending Negative Sentences with an Object Phrase

The object phrase remains in the last position in negative action sentences:

Kāore + subject phrase

action phrase

object phrase

Kāore a Pāpā Dad will not feed this cat. e whāngai

i tēnei ngeru.

Kāore + subject phrase

action phrase

object phrase

Kāore

tā mātou ngeru

i te tatari

ki tāna kai.

Our cat is not waiting for his tea.

Questions

Any action sentence can be turned into a question by the way it is asked, or by the addition of a question mark when writing:

EXAMPLES

Kei te haere mai a Hata.

Hata is coming.

Kei te haere mai a Hata?

Is Hata coming?

Questions about the Action

We ask 'what is the subject doing?' with the interrogative (question asking) action verb **aha** in the first phrase. The question is answered by replacing **aha** with another action verb.

EXAMPLES

Kei te aha

a Hēra?

What is Hera doing?

Kei te moe

ia.

She is sleeping.

I aha

ērā tamariki?

What did those children do?

I tahitahi

ngā tamariki i te papa.

The children swept the floor.

Asking Who Performs the Action

We ask 'who performs the action?' with the definite question phrase ko wai?/ko wai mā?

The phrase order is:

question phrase + action phrase [+ object phrase]

The question is answered by replacing wai with the information required.

EXAMPLES

question:

answer.

question phrase

Ko wai

Who is sleeping?

subject phrase

Ko ia

She is sleeping.

question:

question phrase

Ko wai mā

Who were arguing?

answer.

subject phrase

Ko ngā ropū e rua

The two groups were arguing.

action phrase

kei te moe?

action phrase

kei te moe.

action phrase

i te totohe?

action phrase i te totohe.

Questions that ask 'Which?' or 'What?'

We ask these questions with tehea/ehea? or ko te/ngā aha? in the first phrase, and answer them by replacing tehea/ehea and ko te/ngā aha with the information required.

EXAMPLES

question phrase

action phrase

e haere ana?

kua whakapaitia?

question:

Ko tēhea

Which has been fixed?

answer:

Ko tērā.

That one.

question:

Ko ēheα

Which ones are going?

answer:

Ko ngā mea

e tū ana.

The ones standing up.

question:

Ko te aha

kei te tukituki ki te wini?

What is banging against the window?

answer:

Ko te manga

kei te tukituki ki te wini.

It's the branch banging against the window.

Negative Questions

Any negative action sentence can be turned into a question by the way it is asked, or by the addition of a question mark when writing:

EXAMPLES

Kāore a Hata i te haere mai.

Hata is not coming.

Kāore a Hata i te haere mai?

Isn't Hata coming?

Negative Questions about the Subject

Questions are asked with wai, tēhea/ēhea or ko te/ngā aha in a phrase which consists of:

question phrase + negative action phrase

Questions are answered by replacing with a subject.

EXAMPLES

question phrase

kaore + action phrase

question:

answer.

Ko wai

kāore i te haere mai?

Ko Riki

Riki is not coming.

Who is not coming?

kaore i te haere mai.

question:

Ko ēheα

Which ones are not coming?

kāore i te haere mai?

answer:

Ko ngā mea nei.

These ones.

Passive voice

Passive Action Verbs

- Passive verbs describe an action that happens to the subject, or is done to the subject.
- Action verbs are made passive by adding a passive ending to them.

Choosing the Right Passive Ending

Each action verb has its own particular passive ending, which dictionaries usually give after the verb. For example, most two syllable verbs which end with an ${\bf e}$ take the passive ending ${\bf a}$.

kite (-a)

see; find; discover

Kite is the active form of this verb. Its passive form is:

kitea

be seen; be found; be discovered

Verbs which Change Form in the Passive

1 A few verbs lengthen their first vowel in the passive.

EXAMPLES

active	tiki	fetch
passive	tikina	be fetched
active	whai	chase, follow
passive	whāia	be chased, be followed
active	wawahi	break
passive	wāhia	be broken

2 Verbs which repeat syllables drop the repetition in the passive, and in some cases lengthen their vowel:

active	tatari	wait
passive	tāria	be waited for
active	titiro	look, consider
passive	tirohia	be looked at, be considered
active	pupuri	hold
passive	puritia	be held
active	pūpuhi	shoot
passive	pūhia	be shot
active	papaki	slap
passive	pakia	be slapped
active	roromi	squeeze
passive	romia	be squeezed
active	tuhituhi	write
passive	tuhia	be written
active	wawahi	break
passive	wāhia	be broken

Note: while each verb appears in dictionaries with its traditional passive ending: speakers in some areas have developed a preference for a particular ending. For example, among many Ngati Porou, the ending **-ngia** is preferred in conversation.

Passive action sentences

- Passive action sentences describe an action which is done, or happens, to us.
- Passive action sentences open with the same action particles which open action sentences.
- Basic passive action sentences consist of a verb phrase + a noun phrase: passive action phase + subject phrase

First (passive action) Phrase

The first phrase opens with an action particle which tells us the tense of the sentence. The phrase consists of:

action particle + passive action verb

Second (subject) Phrase

The subject phrase tells us what happens to the subject. The phrase may be singular or plural, and consists of:

- 1 a + personal name or place name;
- 2 pronoun;
- 3 definitive + noun:
- 4 t-class definitive;
- 5 he + noun.

EXAMPLES

We will use the following passive action verbs:

passive:	wete wetekiα	set free; untie be set free; be untied
passive:	inu inumia	drink be drunk
passive:	aroha arohaina	love; feel sympathy with be loved; be cared for
passive:	kimi kimihia	seek; look for be sought; be looked for
passive:	kai kainga	eat be eaten
passive:	pānui pānuitia	read out be read out

verb phrase

subject phrase

present continuous:

Kei te wetekia a Rewi.

Rewi is being untied.

past continuous:

I te pānuitia te kupu.

The message was being read out.

continuous:

E kimihia ana he tikanga.

A plan is being sought.
A plan was being sought.

past:

I kainga ngā kina katoa.

All the king were eaten.

perfect:

Kua inumia ā tātou waireka.

Our soft drinks have been drunk.

new action:

Ka arohaina te iwi.

The people were cared for.

The people are cared for.

The people will be cared for.

Extending passive action sentences with an agent phrase

We can extend passive action sentences with a phrase which tells us who or what performed the action.

For example, this sentence simply tells us what happened to the bird:

I hopukia tënei manu.

This bird was caught.

By adding an agent phrase, we find out who or what did the catching:

passive action phrase

subject phrase

agent phrase

I hopukia

tēnei manu

e te ngeru.

This bird was caught by the cat.

Agent Phrase

Agent phrases in passive action sentences are introduced by the agent particle e. E introduces a singular or plural phrase which consists of either:

- 1 e + personal name;
- 2 e + pronoun;
- 3 e + definitive + noun;
- 4 e + t-class definitive.

EXAMPLES

While the passive voice is commonly used in Maori, we can choose to translate it into the active voice. For example:

	Ka patua ia e te tamo				
	passive translation: active translation:	He was hit by the big The big boy hit him.	boy.		
	verb phrase	subject phrase	agent phrase		
pres	ent continuous: Kei te wetekia Rewi is being untied k		e tana hoa.		
past	continuous: I te pānuitia The message was bei	te kupu ng read out by the orga	e te kaiwhakahaere. aniser.		
WC	inuous: E kimihia ana A plan is/was being s		e ngā āpiha.		
past		ngā kina katoa en by them.	e rātou.		
perfe	Kua inumia	ā tātou waireka seen drunk by the adul	e ngā pakeke. ts.		
		te iwi /will be cared for by Ga	e Te Atua. od.		

Negative passive action sentences

Basic negative passive action sentences consist of two phrases.

kāore + subject phrase + passive action phrase

EXAMPLES

Kāore + subject phrase passive action phrase agent phrase

Kāore α Rewi i te whāia. Rewi is not/was not being chased.

Kāore a Rewi i te whāia e rātou.

Rewi is/was not being chased by them.

Kāore rāua i whāia e Rewi.

They were not chased by Rewi.

Kāore ia i te kimihia e ōna hoa.

His friends cren't/weren't looking for him.

Kāore anō aua nanakia kia whiua.

Those rascals have not yet been punished.

Kāore tēnei e tukua kia haere e ia.

She won't let this one go.

Changing the Order of the Phrases

When we want a special emphasis on the passive action phrase, it can follow kaore in the first phrase:

kaore + passive action phrase subject phrase

Kāore anō kia kitea te kōtiro iti.

The little girl has not yet been found.

When such a sentence also has an agent phrase, it can come either:

1 after the action phrase (especially if the agent phrase is very short):

action phrase agent phrase subject phrase

Kāore anō kia kitea e ia tāna tamāhine.

He has not yet found his daughter.

2 after the subject phrase:

action phrase subject phrase agent phrase Kāore anō kia kitea te kōtiro e ngā kaikimi.

The girl has not yet been found by the searchers.

Direction and location indicators

Direction Indicators

An action can have one of four basic directions in relation to the subject of a verb sentence:

towards, away, up, down.

These directions are expressed with direction indicators which are attached to the verb in any type of verb sentence:

mai	towards the subject or the speaker/writer
atu	away from the subject or the speaker/writer
ake	up from the subject or the speaker/writer
iho	down from the subject or the speaker/writer

The direction indicators express one of two relationships:

1 the relationship in space between the subject of an active sentence and the object:

action phrase	subject phrase	object phrase
Ka titiro ake	a Rona	ki te marama.
Dong looked up	ort the moon	

Rona looked up at the moon.

Ka titiro iho te marama ki a Rona.

The moon looked down at Rona.

2 The relationship between the speaker or writer and the person or people he/she is speaking to.

In the following sentence **mai** tells us that the speaker or writer - who is not mentioned - is in Christchurch:

Ka tae mai rāua ki Ōtautahi.

They arrived (here where I am) in Christchurch.

Atu tells us that the speaker/writer is not in Christchurch:

Ka tae atu rāua ki Ōtautahi.

They arrived (there) in Christchurch.

In the following commands the direction indicators express the relationship between the unnamed speaker and whoever he or she is speaking to:

Haere mai, tamariki mā!

Come here, children!

Oma atu, tamariki mā!

Run away, children!

Whakarongo mai!

Listen (here)!

Whakarongo atu!

Listen (out for something)!

EXAMPLES

1 mai (indicates direction towards the speaker or writer)

Direction particles are not always expressed in English translation.

Titiro mai, whakarongo mai, kõrero mai!

Look, listen, and speak!

Tama ngākau mārie - arohaina mai.

Son with a heart of peace - have compassion on us.

Me kõrero mai anõ koe.

You'd better speak to me again.

Karanga mai, karanga mai, karanga mai!

Call me, call me, call me!

Kua tae mai a Hōne.

Hone has arrived.

I rere mai te kaipuke.

The ship sailed here.

Ka puta mai te Ao Mārama.

The world of light came forth.

2 atu (indicates direction away from speaker or writer)

Haere atu!

Go away!

I te ono karaka, kua tae atu ratou ki Omihi.

By six o'clock they had got to Omihi.

E oma atu ana ā tāua tamariki hōhā.

Our exasperating children are running away.

Note: atu is used with verbs which mean 'fetch' or 'bring' when the idea expressed is 'go and get':

Tikina atu tō pāpā!

Fetch your father!

Go and get your father!

3 ake (indicates direction upward from speaker or writer)

I piki ake tō mātou rōpū ki te tihi o Taranaki maunga. Our group climbed up to the summit of Mt Taranaki.

E titiro ake ana au. I was looking up.

4 iho (indicates direction downward)

Peke iho! Jump down!

Kua tau iho te kõtuku. The white heron has landed.

Ātaahua hoki te tiaho iho o ngā whetū! How lovely the stars are shining down!

Direction Indicators in the Continuous Tense

When we use direction indicators in an e + verb + ana phrase, they come before ana:

Auē! E haere tonu mai ana te pūru! Oh! The bull is still coming!

E oma atu ana ngā tamariki. The children are running away.

When the Verb has another Adverb Attached

The direction indicators follow tonu, kē, and rawa:

Tae tonu mai te ope ki konei, ka eke ki te marae.

As soon as the party got here, they went onto the marae.

Tū kē atu tērā maunga. That mountain stands apart.

Whānau rawa mai te tamaiti.

At last the child was born.

The direction indicators are placed before ano and hoki:

Kōrero mai anō, e Rewi. Tell me again, Rewi.

Ka rere iho te tīwaiwaka, rere iho hoki tana hoa. The fantail flew down, and so did her mate.

Expressing Implicit Relationships

The direction indicator **mai** can express relationships which have no English equivalent. If we are thinking about someone or something distant in space or time, our sense of relationship across the distance is expressed with **mai**:

E noho mai ana tāku tamāhine i Ōtautahi.

My daughter is living in Christchurch.

Ka tū mai Aorangi, te tipuna maunga o Waitaha.

There stands Aorangi (Mt Cook), the ancestral mountain of the Waitaha people.

Tēnā koutou e noho mai na i Pōneke!

Greetings to you living in Wellington!

Direction and location phrases

Extending Verb Sentences with Direction Phrases

Direction phrases express 'from' and 'to'.

Direction phrases are introduced by the particles i or ki.

i = from, indicates direction away

ki = to, indicates direction towards

Direction phrases may be singular or plural and consist of either:

- 1 i or ki + a + personal name;
- 2 i or ki + place name or location noun;
- 3 i or ki + a + pronoun;
- 4 i or ki + definitive + noun;
- 5 i or ki + t-class definitive.

EXAMPLES

Kei te whakatika te ope i Heihei.

The party is setting out from Heihei.

Tangohia i te tēpu!

·Take it off the table!

Kua wehe ratou i te ropū matua.

They have separated from the parent organisation.

Kaua e mauria tērā poaka ki te kāinga!

Don't bring that pig home!

Kua haere mai a Pita i Oamaru.

Pita has come from Oamaru.

I tāhaetia te patu pounamu i te whare taonga.

The greenstone patu was stolen from the museum.

I te oma atu te hõiho i a Maaka.

The horse was running away from Maaka.

I whāia ia i tāna hōiho ki te awa.

He chased his horse to the river.

Rere atu i reira!

Get out of there!

Kawea atu ahau ki tō tumuaki!

Take me to your leader!

Me haere tātou ki tua o tēnei maunga.

We've got to go over this mountain.

Haere mai ki tō Koro, e Wi!

Come here to your Grandad, Wi.

Ka hoe te waka ki uta.

The canoe paddled ashore.

I ahu te ara ki te rerenga mai o te rā.

The path pointed towards the rising sun.

E tata ana rāua ki Tāmakimākaurau.

They were approaching Auckland.

Ka rere atu tana tama ki a Māui.

Maui's son rushed off to him.

I kawea mātou e Ruku ki te tāone.

Ruku took us to town.

Tikina he wai i te awa!

Get some water from the river!

Note: direction phrases are normally in last place, as in the sentences above, but the sentence may contain more than one direction phrase:

direction phrase

direction phrase

Ka haria ki tëtahi tohunga te pounamu e tähaetia i te whare nui.

The greenstone which was stolen from the meeting house was taken to a tohunga.

Extending Verb Sentences with Location Phrases

Location phrases express 'at', 'in', or 'by'. Location phrases are introduced by the particle ${f i}$.

EXAMPLES

E tū ana mātou i te roto.

We were standing by the lake.

I tatari te ope i te teihana.

The group waited at the station.

Ka kitea ia e Hōne i ngā toa.

Hone saw him at the shops.



Command sentences

- Command sentences are always addressed to 'you'. They order you to do something.
- Command sentences are made with action verbs.
- Basic command sentences consist of two phrases:

command phrase + subject phrase

Active and Passive Voice Commands

There are two kinds of commands, and most action verbs can be used in both:

1 commands which tell you to perform an action:

Stop! Go! Smile!

These commands are made with the active form of an action verb.

2 commands which tell you to do something to someone or something else:

Feed the baby! Turn on the light! Shut the door!

These commands are made with the passive form of an action verb.

Choosing Active or Passive Commands

The choice depends on what we want to say. For example we can tell someone to 'Eat up' meaning simply 'get on with it'. We are not interested in what they are eating, but with an action. This is expressed as an active voice command:

E kai! Eat! We can also tell them what to eat, for example 'Eat your breakfast!' We are interested here with what the action of 'eating' is performed on. This is expressed as a passive voice command:

Kainga tō parakuihi!

Eat your breakfast!

Verbs which Introduce their Object with ki

These verbs are most often used in active commands, but sometimes are found in passive voice commands.

When the emphasis is on the movement, or action, we choose the active voice:

Titiro ki te maunga!

Look at the mountain.

When the emphasis is on the goal of the action, we choose the passive voice:

Tirohia te maunga!

Look at the mountain!

Verbs which Describe Movement

Verbs which describe movement in ordinary circumstances make their commands in the active voice, for example when we tell someone to:

run

go away

come

enter

leave

sit

stand

lie down

Active voice command sentences

Active voice commands tell you to perform an action. The sentence consists of:

command phrase + subject phrase

The subject phrase, which is always 'you' (singular, dual, or plural), is usually not expressed.

Command Phrase

Note: whether or not the command phrase opens with the verb particle e depends on how many syllables the verb has. For how to count the syllables of verbs, see page 71.

1 when the verb has two syllables

The command phrase opens with the particle **e** if the active verb which follows it consists of two syllables. The command phrase consists of:

e + action verb

EXAMPLES

command phrase subject phrase E oma [koe, kõrua, koutou!] Run! E tū! Stand E noho! Sit! E tangi! Cry! E kata! Laugh! E moe! Sleep! E circl Wake up!

2 two-syllable verb + direction indicator

When a two-syllable verb is followed by **mai**, **atu**, **ake**, or **iho**, verb + direction indicator form one unit, and the phrase does not open with **e**. The phrase consists of:

active verb + direction indicator

EXAMPLES

Oma atu! Run away!

Noho iho! Sit down!

Tü ake! Stand up!

Moe mai!

Sleep! [mai means as I watch, or think of you]

3 verbs of three syllables or more

When the action verb has more than two syllables, the command phrase does not open with the particle e. The phrase consists of:

action verb alone

EXAMPLES

Haere!

Go!

Whakarongo!

Listen!

Titiro mai!

Look at me!

Look here!

Kōrero atu!

Speak out!

Waiata!

Sing!

Adding More Phrases

The addition of further phrases does not affect the command phrase.

EXAMPLES

Tatari i te këti!

Wait at the gate!

E oma ki a Whata!

Run to Whatal

Titiro ki te papatuhituhi!

Look at the blackboard!

Haere atu i konei!

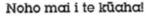
Go away from here!

Haere mai ki tō tipuna whare!

Welcome (come) to your ancestral house!

Kuhu mai ki roto!

Come inside!



Sit down here by the door!

E tü i runga i te türu!

Stand on the chair!

Syllables

We need to know how to count syllables in order to decide whether an action verb is introduced by the calling particle ${\bf e}$ in an active voice direct command.

- Maori syllables consist of: 1 consonant + one vowel:
- 2 vowel alone.

Long Vowels

Both a macron over a vowel and a double vowel indicate a long vowel:

ā	OI	aa	long α
ē		99	long e
ī		ii	long i
ō		00	long o
ū		uu	long u

Note: as only one vowel can occupy any syllable, long vowels are two syllables. For example, tū or tuu, 'stand', is a two syllable word:

first syllable	second syllable
tu	u

Examples of Syllable Length

te		l syllable	the (singular)
ngā	nga/a	2 syllables	the (plural)
haere	ha/e/re	3 syllables	go
körero	ko/o/re/ro	4 syllables	talk
waenganui	wa/e/nga/nu/i	5 syllables	among
āpōpō	a/a/po/o/po/o	6 syllables	tomorrow

Negative active voice commands

- The word that makes command sentences negative is kaua, 'do not'.
- Negative active voice commands open with the verb particle e.
- Basic negative command sentences consist of two phrases:

kaua [+ subject phrase] + e + command phrase

First (subject) Phrase

The first phrase opens with **kaua**, which has the same form in both singular and plural sentences. The subject of the command is 'you' – singular, dual, or plural – but it is usually not expressed. The phrase consists of:

kaua [+ koe, kōrua, koutou]

Second (command) Phrase

The command phrase opens with the particle ${\bf e}$, regardless of the length of the action verb. The phrase consists of:

e + action verb in the active voice [+ further phrases]

EXAMPLES

kaua [+ subject phrase]	command phrase	direction or location phrase
Kaua [koe/kōrua/koutou] Don't run!	e oma!	
Kaua Do not standi	e tū!	
Kaua Don't run away!	e oma atul	
Kaua Do not sit down!	e noho iho!	
Kaua Don't go!	e haere!	
Kaua Do not listen to him!	e whakarongo	ki a ia!
Kaua Don't look at mel Don't look here!	e titiro mai!	
Kaua Don't look up!	e titiro ake!	
Kaua Do not sing!	e waiata!	
Kaua Do not wait at the gate!	e tatari	i tə kēti!

kaua [+ subject phrase]	command phrase	direction or location phrase
Kaua Do not run to Whata!	e oma	ki a Whata!
Kaua Do not leave here!	e haere atu	i konei!
Kaua Don't come insidel	e kuhu mai	ki roto!
Kaua Don't stand on that chair!	e tū	i runga i tērā tūru!

Passive voice commands

- Passive voice commands tell you to do something to something or someone else.
- Basic passive command sentences consist of:

command phrase + subject phrase

First (command) Phrase

This consists of a passive verb on its own.

Subject Phrase

The subject phrase may be singular or plural, and consists of either:

- 1 a + personal name or place name:
- 2 pronoun;
- 3 definitive + noun:
- 4 t-class definitive:
- 5 he + noun

When it is clear from the conversation or story, the subject phrase is often left out.

EXAMPLES

command phrase

subject phrase

Tiakina

a Reremoana!

Look after Reremoanal

Āwhinatia

rātou!

Help them!

Horoia

ngā kanohi o ngā tamariki nohinohi!

Wash the little children's faces!

Whakapaitia

ngā moenga!

Make the beds!

Tahia

te ara!

Sweep the path.

Kei hea ō hū? Kimihia!

Where are your shoes? Look for them!

Haria

ēnei!

Carry these!

Mauria atu

ērā oka!

Take those knives away!

Auē, he pūngāwerewere nui! Patua!

Oh dear, a big spider! Kill it!

Tirohia! Look at it!

Tiking

he wai!

Fetch some water!

Adding Further Phrases

Further phrases are in the last position:

command phrase

subject phrase

direction/location phrase

Tukua

ki te nūpepa!

Send [it] to the paper!

Herea

ngā kuri

i waho!

Tie the dogs up outside!

te tuna ki te pēke!

Put the eel in the sack!

Note: hoatu 'give', 'put' (away from the speaker/writer) and homai 'give' 'put' (towards the speaker/writer) keep the same form in both the active and passive voice.

Negative passive voice commands

- The word that makes command sentences negative is kaua, 'do not'.
- The verb particle in negative command sentences is e.
- Basic negative command sentences consist of two phrases:

kaua + subject phrase + e + command phrase

First (subject) Phrase

The first phrase opens with kaua, which has the same form in both singular and plural sentences. The phrase consists of either:

- 1 kaua + a + personal name or place name;
- 2 kaua + pronoun;
- 3 kaua + definitive + noun;
- 4 kaua + t-class definitive:
- 5 kaua + he + noun.

Second (command) Phrase

The command phrase opens with the particle e. The phrase consists of:

e + action verb in the passive voice [+ further phrases]

EXAMPLES

kaua + subject phrase

command phrase

direction/location phrase

Kaua a Reremoana

e kohetetia!

Don't tell off Reremoana!

Kaua ratou

e āwhinatia!

Don't help them!

Kaua aua pukapuka

e mauria atu!

Don't take those books away!

kaua + subject phrase command phrase direction/location phrase

i waho!

Kaua e patua! Don't kill it!

Kaua ngā kuri e herea

Don't tie the dogs up outside!

ki te nüpepa! e tukua Kaua tō reta

Don't send your letter to the newspaper!

Note: to emphasise the command phrase, we can put it in the first position:

subject phrase kaua + command phrase

a Reremoana. Kaua e kohetetia

rātou. Kaua e āwhinatia

aua pukapuka. Kaua e mauria atu

7

State sentences

- State sentences describe the state which the subject of a sentence is in. By 'state' we mean:
- 1 the result of some previous action or situation, as in:

The window is broken [because he threw a stone at it]. The grass is green [because it has been watered].

2 the quality of an action undertaken by the subject, as in:

Those girls sang well. We worked hard.

State sentences open with verb particles which tell us whether the situation came about in the present, past, or future.

Basic state sentences consist of a stative verb phrase plus a noun phrase:

state phrase + subject phrase

For stative verbs see pages 82-84.

First (state) Phrase

The first phrase opens with a verb particle which tells us what tense the sentence can be. While all the verb particles we use for action sentences can be used in state sentences, the two that are used most often are **kua** and **ka**:

kua tells us some state has come into being:

Kua māujui koe.

You are sick (that is, have become sick).

ka describes the situation of the subject as a fact, in present, past, or future tense:

Ka māuiui koe.

You were sick.

You are sick.

You will be sick.

The phrase consists of:

verb particle + stative verb

Second (subject) Phrase

The subject phrase tells us who or what is in the state described. The second phrase may be singular or plural, and consists of either:

- 1 a + personal name or place name;
- 2 pronoun;
- 3 definitive + noun;
- 4 t-class definitive:
- 5 he + noun.

EXAMPLES

1 State sentences which describe the physical or mental condition or situation of the subject of the sentence as a result of some previous event.

state phrase subject phrase

a Hinemoa. I pōuri

Hinemoa was unhappy.

Ka ngenge ahau. I am tired.

te wini. Kua pakaru

The window is broken.

tēnei. E mate ana This one is sick.

Ka mate he toa.

ka whanau ano he toa. (he whakatauki)

A champion dies, another is born. (a proverb)

2 State sentences which describe the quality of some action we do. In this kind of sentence, the subject consists of:

definitive + action verb used as a noun

state phrase subject phrase

tā mātou mahi. Kua kaha

We have worked hard.

Ka kino tō mahi.

You are doing wrong.

Kei te hē rawa atu tāna kōrero. What he says is completely mistaken.

Ka pai te waiata a aua kōtiro.

Those girls sang well.

Kua oti te mahi a te rōpū mahi taiepa.

The fencing gang has finished its work.

Ka pai te mahi, tamariki mā!

Well done, children!

Kua tino taumaha te raruraru. The problem has become very serious.

Extending state sentences with an agent phrase

Unless otherwise stated, we assume that the person or people in the conversation or story are the ones whose action brought about the state the sentence describes.

EXAMPLE

I tetahi ata, ka haere atu a Pita ki te whare waka, ā, ka tīmata ki te whakapīata i tōna waka. <u>Ka mutu te mahi,</u> ka haere ia ki te tiki atu i tana hoa wahine.

One morning Pita went out to the garage to clean his car. When he had finished, he went to get his wife.

When the definitive in the subject phrase is a possessive pronoun, we also assume that the person or people it refers to are the ones whose action brought about the state:

state phrase subject phrase

Ka mutu tā tātou mahi āpōpō.

Our work will be finished tomorrow. We will finish our work tomorrow.

Kua oti tā rātou peita.

Their painting is finished.

They have finished the painting.

But when someone or something else is responsible for the state the subject is in, we indicate this in an agent phrase.

Agent Phrase

A stative agent phrase opens with the particle i and consists of either:

- 1 i + a + personal name;
- 2 i + definitive + noun;
- 3 i + t-class definitive.

The particle i can be translated as:

by, with, from, because of, through

EXAMPLES

state phrase subject phrase agent phrase

Ka tino põuri te wahine i a Te Maru.

The woman is very sad because of Te Maru.

Kua mate taku rākau panana i te makariri. My banana tree died of the cold.

Ka mutu te mahi i te kāwanatanga.

The work was stopped by the government.

E mate ana ia i te aroha. She is dying of love.

Kua ora a Hēmi i tērā rongoa. Hemi has got well through that medicine.

Kua kākāriki te karaehe i te nui o te ua.

The grass is green from all the rain.

Ka hōhā ia i a rātou. She's fed up with them.

Kua whati tana waewae i tāna takahanga. His leg was broken by his fall.

Questions

Any state sentence can be turned into a question by the way it is asked, or by adding a question mark to the sentence when writing:

Kei te ngenge koe? Are you tired?

I pakaru te wini i te hau?

Did the wind break the window?

Questions about the Subject

In answer to the questions 'Who?', 'What?' or 'Which?', we often use the subject phrase only:

tion.

question phrase

state phrase kei te māuiui?

question:

Ko wai

Who is sick?

WITO IS SICK

answer:

subject phrase Ko ia.

He is.

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question phrase

state phrase

question:

Ko tëhea te mahi

kua oti?

Which is the work which has been completed?

subject phrase

answer:

Ko tënei.

This is.

Negative state sentences

- State sentences make their negative with kaore in the same way as action sentences.
- Basic negative state sentences consist of two phrases:

kāore + subject phrase + state phrase

First (subject) Phrase

This first phrase opens with kaore, may be singular or plural, and consists of either:

- 1 a + personal name or place name;
- 2 pronoun;
- 3 definitive + noun;
- 4 t-class definitive;
- 5 he + noun.

Second (state) Phrase

The state phrase opens with a verb particle.

EXAMPLES

kaore + subject phrase state phrase agent phrase

Kāore au e ngenge.

I am not tired.

Kaore te wini kia pakaru.

The window has not been broken.

Kāore a Hinemoa i pōuri.

Hinemoa was not unhappy.

Kāore tēnei e mate ana.

This one is not sick.

Kāore anō taku rākau kia mate i te makariri.

My tree has not died of cold.

Kāore te wahine e tino põuri i a Te Maru.

The woman is not very sad because of Te Maru.

Käore te mahi i mutu i te käwanatanga.

The work was not stopped by the government.

Stative verbs

Stative' is an umbrella term for any word which can be used in a verb sentence to describe a state, situation, condition, quality, or appearance. The two broad groups of words which can be used as statives behave in separate ways in other situations.

1 Result Statives

Result statives do not describe an action, but the situation which has come about as the result of an action. For example, if a window is broken, it is because something has happened to it. We express the result in a state sentence:

state phrase subject phrase

Kua pakaru te wini. The window is broken.

Result statives are used in two kinds of sentence:

1 as a verb in stative sentences:

Ka whara ia.

He is hurt.

2 as an adjective following a noun in any noun phrase:

Tiakina te tangata whara!

See to the injured person!

Note: this is rarely found in older Maori, and some speakers might express the above sentence as:

Tiakina te tangata kua whara!

2 Adjectival Statives

The largest class of statives are those we use as adjectives, for example:

pai	good
kino	bad
roa	long
kākāriki	green
wera	hot
makariri	cold
ātaahua	beautiful
weriweri	horrible

As adjectives this group of statives describe a state or quality which exists permanently or naturally. This is expressed in a **He**-sentence. For example, grass is naturally green, so we say:

He kākāriki te karaihe.

Grass is green.

There are songs which we think are nice, so we say:

He waiata pai tērā.

That's a nice song.

Adjectival statives can also be used in stative sentences. As result statives this group describes:

1 A state which is the result of something else that has happened.

For example, a particular patch of grass might be green because we've been watering it, so we say:

Ka kākāriki

te karaihe.

The grass is green.

2 The quality of an action undertaken by the subject.

For example, the following sentence is a comment on the singing, not on the song:

Ka pai te waiata a ngā kōtiro.

The girls sing nicely.

Translating Statives into English

Statives have one form only - they do not have passive endings. But if we are giving their meaning in English, we use part of the English verb 'to be', for example:

mahue

be left behind, abandoned

ngaro

be lost

mate

be sick, troubled, dead

māuiui

be sick

ora

be well, alive, safe

pakaru

be broken

whara

be wounded, hurt

motu mutu be cut, severed, separated

be ended, stopped

whati be broken, snapped

State sentences may be translated into English with an action verb, especially where the subject contains a possessive pronoun. The possessive pronoun implies that the subject is the person or people carrying out the action which produces the 'state':

state sentence:

Ka mutu tā tātou mahi āpōpō.

passive translation: active translation:

Our work will be finished tomorrow. We will finish our work tomorrow.

state sentence:

Kua ngaro taku pene.

passive translation:

My pen is lost. I've lost my pen.

active translation:

Kua whati tōku waewae.

passive translation: active translation:

My leg is broken. I've broken my leg.

state sentence:

state sentence:

Ka mutu tā tātou mahi.

passive translation: active translation:

Our work is finished. We've finished our work.



N-Class possession sentences

- N-class possession sentences talk about belonging and owning. They tell us:
- 1 Who we belong to in the sense of our place in our family, hapu, tribe, race, community or country.

This is expressed in o-category phrases.

- 2 Our status in personal relationships. This is expressed in o- or a-category phrases according to whether we are the senior or junior partner.
- 3 Who is the owner of any property.
 This is expressed in o- or a-category phrases according to the nature of the thing we own.
- For o and a categories see pages 101-116.
- N-class possession sentences are in the present or past tense.
- N-class possession sentences open with an n-class possessive particle or pronoun.
- For n-class possessive particles and pronouns see pages 90-91.

First (information) Phrase

The first phrase tells us what group or place someone belongs to, or who owns something. It consists of either:

- 1 n-class possessive particle + personal name;
- 2 n-class possessive particle + definitive + noun:
- 3 n-class possessive particle + t-class definitive;
- 4 n-class possessive pronoun.

Second (subject) Phrase

The second phrase tells us who belongs to the group or place expressed in the first phrase, or what they own, and can consist of either:

1 a + personal name;

2 pronoun;

3 definitive + noun;

4 t-class definitive.

EXAMPLES

1 o-category n-class sentences which express the identity of a group:

possessor phrase

possession phrase

No Ngāti Awa

a Maru.

Maru belongs to Ngati Awa.

No te iwi whānui

te whare nui, a Mataatua.

The meeting house Mataatua belongs to the whole tribe.

No ratou

tēnei poupou.

This house-post belongs to them.

Nona

ēnei tīpuna.

These ancestors are his/hers.

2 o-category n-class sentences which express the place, area, or country we identify with as our home or cultural origin.

possessor phrase

possession phrase

No Opotiki

rāua.

They are from Opotiki.

No Hawaiki

tātou katoa (he whakatauki).

We are all from Hawaiki (a proverb).

No Ahitereiria

te iwi Koori.

The Aboriginal people belong to Australia.

No Ahia pea

te ritenga Māori.

Maori culture may have originated in Asia.

3 o- or a-category n-class sentences which express our status in personal relationships.

possesssor phrase

possession phrase

No Paikea

in

He is descended from Paikea.

Na Hata

ērā tamariki.

Those children are Hata's.

4 o- or a-category n-class sentences which express ownership of property.

possessor phrase

possession phrase

Nāku

te wäti nei.

This watch is mine.

No Tāmati

te paihikara.

The bike belongs to Tamati.

Na ngā tamariki o te Kohanga Reo

ērā pukapuka pikitia.

Those picture books belong to the Kohanga Reo children.

No mātou

tenei whare.

This house belongs to us.

Duestions

Any n-class sentence can be turned into a question by the way it is asked, or by the addition of a question mark when writing:

Nāu ēnā?

Are they yours?

No Pani tēnei whare?

Is this house Pani's?

Asking Who Someone or Something Belongs To

We ask this question with the phrase no/na wai? in the information phrase.

singular: No/na wai?

Whose is? Whose was?

plural:

No/na wai mā?

Whose are? Whose were?

Questions are answered by replacing wai in the first phrase with the information required.

EXAMPLES

In conversation, questions are usually answered in one phrase:

question phrase

subject phrase

question:

No wai

tēnei tamaiti?

Who does this child belong to?

question phrase

subject phrase

answer:

No Ngāti Whātua

ia.

He belongs to Ngati Whatua.

question:

Na wai

ēnā kōtiro mōhio?

Whose are those clever girls?

answer:

Na Hata rāua ko Pani. They're Hata's and Pani's.

question:

No wai

te waka whero?

Who does the red car belong to?

answer:

No Peti

taua waka whero.

That red car belongs to Peti.

question:

No wai

ngā waka whero?

Who owns the red cars?

answers:

Nona. She does.

No tõku tuahine

ngā waka whero.

The red cars belong to my sister.

question:

No wai mā

ēnei hū?

Who do these shoes belong to?

answer:

No ngā tāngata i roto i te whare nui.

They belong to the people in the meeting house.

question:

Na wai

ēnei taputapu katoa?

Whose is all this gear?

answer:

Na ō tātou manuhiri pea?

Perhaps it's our visitors'?

Asking Where Someone is from, or Belongs To

We ask this question with the phrase **No hea?** in the information phrase. **No hea** has the same form in both singular and plural sentences.

Questions are answered by replacing **hea** in the information phrase with the information required.

EXAMPLES

question phrase

subject phrase

No hea

koe?

No Mäwhera

ahau.

Where are you from? I'm from Greymouth.

No hea

a Hēmi?

No tērā motu

ia.

Where's Hemi from? He's from that other island.

Negative *N*-class possession sentences

- The word that makes n-class possession sentences negative is ehara, 'not'. Ehara opens the first phrase.
- Negative n-class possession sentences are present or past tense.
- We have a choice of two negative sentence patterns.
- 1 We can make any affirmative n-class possession sentence negative by placing the negative word ehara in front of it.

EXAMPLES

affirmative:	No Paikea Warihi is a descendant of Paikea	a Wārihi.
negative:	Ehara no Paikea Warihi is not a descendant of Pai	a Wārihi. kea.
affirmative:	Nā tōku hoa Pākehā These children belong to my Pak	ēnei tamariki. eha friend.
negative:	Ehara na tōku hoa Pākehā These children do not belong to r	
affirmative:	Nāku nāu This is mine, that is yours.	tēnei, tēnā.
negative:	Ehara nāku ehara nāu This is not mine, that is not yours.	tēnei tēnā.
affirmative:	No Opōtiki Maru comes from Opotiki.	a Maru.

negative:

Ehara no Opotiki

a Maru.

Maru does not come from Opotiki.

2 Older speakers may make negative n-class sentences by replacing the n-class particle or pronoun with the particle i and reversing the order of the phrases.

EXAMPLES

affirmative:

Nāku

tēnei.

negative:

This is mine.

Ehara tēnei

i a au.

This is not mine.

d

affirmative:

No Öpötiki

a Maru.

negative:

Ehara a Maru

i Öpötiki.

Maru is not from Opotiki.

affirmative:

Na töku hoa Pākehā

Maru is from Opotiki.

ēnei tamariki.

These are the children of my Pakeha friend.

negative:

Ehara ēnei tamariki

i töku

hoa Pākehā.

These are not the children of my Pakeha friend.

N-class possessive particles and pronouns

- The n-class possessive particles and pronouns all start with the letter n.
- They have the same form in both singular and plural sentences.
- They have both o- and a-category forms.

N-Class Possessive Particles

These particles open noun phrases which answer the question 'Who does this belong to?'

The n-class possessive particles are:

no

belonging to

nα

belonging to

N-class possessive particles open noun phrases which can consist of either:

- 1 no/na + personal name or place name;
- 2 no/na + definitive + noun;
- 3 no/na + t-class definitive.

N-Class Possessive Pronouns

These are the words which answer the question "Whose is this?," "Whose are these?" with the words

'mine', 'yours', 'his', 'hers', 'its', 'ours', 'theirs'

N-class possessive pronouns stand alone in their phrase, for example:

nōku no tāua no rātou mine, belongs to me ours, belongs to us

theirs, belongs to them

There are singular, dual, and plural sets of n-class possessive pronouns.

singular dual

belongs to one person belongs to two people

plural

belongs to three or more people

Singular N-Class Possessive Pronouns

o-category

a-category

nõku nõu nõna

nāku nāu nāna belongs to me belongs to you belongs to him/her

Dual N-Class Possessive Pronouns

o-category

a-category

no tāua no māua na tāua na māua belongs to us (you and me) belongs to us (him/her and me)

no kõrua no räua na kõrua na räua

belongs to you (two) belongs to them (two)

Plural N-Class Possessive Pronouns

o-category

no ratou

a-category

no tātou no mātou no koutou na tātou na mātou na koutou

na ratou

belonging to us (you people and me) belonging to us (those people and me) belonging to you (three or more) belonging to them (three or more)



Location sentences

- Location sentences tell us where someone or something is, was, or will be.
- Location sentences open with location particles.
- Location sentences consist of two noun phrases:

location phrase + subject phrase

First (information) Phrase

The first phrase opens with a location particle which tells us whether the sentence is in the present, past, or future tense:

present:

kei

past tense:

i

future tense

kei + future time phrase

The phrase consists of:

kei/i + 1 place name;

2 location noun:

3 definitive + noun:

4 t-class definitive.

■ For location particles and location nouns see pages 98-100.

Second (subject) Phrase

The second phrase may be singular or plural, and consists of either:

1 a + personal name or place name;

2 a + pronoun;

3 definitive + noun;

4 t-class definitive.

EXAMPLES

information phrase

subject phrase

location particle + place name

Kei Matipo Tiriti

tō rātou kāinga.

Their house is in Matipo Street.

location particle + locative noun I konei

te toa.

The shop used to be here.

location particle + definitive + noun

Kei te kura

ngā tamariki āpōpō.

The children will be at school tomorrow.

Emphasising the Subject

When we want to emphasise the subject phrase, we transfer it to the start of the sentence and introduce it with the particle ko:

unemphatic:

location phrase

subject phrase

Kei waho

My friends are outside.

oku hoa.

emphatic:

subject phrase Ko öku hoa

location phrase kei waho!

It's my friends outside!

unemphatic:

location phrase

subject phrase

Kei Pöneke te kāinga tūturu o Hēmi.

Hemi's permanent home is in Wellington.

emphatic:

subject phrase

location phrase

Ko te käinga tüturu o Hēmi, As for Hemi's permanent home, it's in Wellington.

kei Poneke.

Negative location sentences

- The word which makes location sentences negative is kaore. 'not'.
- Basic negative location sentences consist of two noun phrases:

kaore + subject phrase + location phrase

In the negative, the locative particles are:

present tense:

i

past tense:

í

future tense:

EXAMPLES

In negative location sentences the distinction between present and past is lost.

affirmative: location phrase subject phrase

Kei Tauranga a Hēmi.

Hemi is in Tauranga.

negative: subject phrase location phrase Kāore a Hēmi i Tauranga.

Hemi is not in Tauranga.

affirmative: location phrase subject phrase

I korā taua rākau.

That tree was over there.

negative; subject phrase location phrase

Kāore taua rākau i korā. That tree was not over there.

affirmative: location phrase subject phrase

I waho matou.

We were outside.

negative: subject phrase location phrase Kāore mātou i waho.

Kāore mātou i waho. We were not outside.

affirmative: location phrase subject phrase

Kei reira tō tātou huihuinga a te

marama ka heke mai nei.

That's where our meeting will be next month.

negative: subject phrase location phrase

Kāore tō tātou huihuinga ki reira.

Our meeting will not be there.

Questions

Any location sentence can be turned into a question by the way it is asked, or by the addition of a question mark when writing:

Kei te tauranga waka tō waka?

Is your car in the carpark?

Asking Where?

We ask 'Where?' with the locative particle hea?

present: past:

Kei hea? I hea?

Where is/cire?

Where was/were?

future:

Kei hea?

Where will?

The question is conswered by replacing hea in the first phrase with the information required.

EXAMPLES

In conversation, questions are usually answered in one phrase.

question:

information phrase

subject phrase

Kei hea

ngā pounamu mīraka?

Where are the milk bottles?

answer:

Kei te kāpata. In the cupboard.

question:

te whare nui me ngā māra?

Where were the meeting house and the gardens?

answer:

I te taha o te awa

aua mea.

They were beside the river.

question:

I hea

te papakāinga?

Where was the settlement?

answer:

I konei tonu.

Right here.

Location nouns which take an object phrase

Location nouns which tell us where the subject is in relation to a point in space can be extended with an object phrase which names that place. For example, this two-phrase sentence tells us:

Kei waho öku hoa.

My friends are outside.

An object phrase will answer the question 'outside what?':

location phrase

subject phrase

object phrase

My friends are outside the door.

Kei waho ōku hoa i te kūaha.

Object Phrase

Object phrases in location sentences are introduced by the connecting particle ${\bf i}$. The object phrase may be singular or plural and consists of either:

- 1 i + a + personal name:
- 2 i + place name;
- 3 i + a + pronoun;
- 4 i + definitive + noun;
- 5 i + t-class definitive.

EXAMPLES

location phrase subject phrase object phrase

I runga a Peni rāua ko Peti i te atamira.

Peni and Peti were on the stage.

Kei roto taua kāinga i a Ngāti Porou.

That place is in Ngati Porou [territory].

Kei raro a Oamaru i Murihiku.

Oamaru is north of Murihiku.

Kei waenga ö tātou manuhiri i a tātou.

Our visitors are among us.

Kei tua ngā mate i tērā ārai.

The dead are beyond that veil.

Changing the Phrase Order

The second (subject) phrase and the third (object) phrase can change places according to the emphasis we want.

We especially choose the second order when the subject phrase is so long that an object phrase sounds lost tacked on the end of it:

location phrase object phrase subject phrase

Kei waho i te këti te ope o te Kuini, ara o Te

Atairangikāhu rātou ko ona hoa rangatira.

The party of Queen Te Atairangikahu and her chiefly supporters is outside the gate.

Negative Sentences

In negative sentences, the object phrase usually remains in last place:

subject phrase
Kāore a Peni rāua ko Peti location phrase i te atamira.

Peni and Peti are not on the stage.

People in location phrases

Location sentences can tell us where something is by explaining who has got it not in the sense of ownership, but of having temporary custody.

First (location) Phrase

The location phrase opens with one of the location particles, and consists of either:

- 1 kei/i + a + personal name;
- 2 kei/i + a + pronoun;
- 3 kei/i + definitive + noun;
- 4 kei/i + t-class definitive.

Second (subject) Phrase

The second phrase may be singular or plural, and consists of either:

- 1 a + personal noun;
- 2 pronoun; 3 definitive + noun;
- 4 t-class definitive.

EXAMPLES

subject phrase time phrase location phrase

a Hēmi. Kei tana hoa

Hemi is with his friend.

I taku whaea ngā tamariki.

The children were with my mother.

Kei a Apirana te waka.

Apirana's got the car.

i te ata nei. te waka

They had it this morning.

āpōpō.

That one will have it tomorrow.

Any sentence can be turned into a question by the way it is asked, or by adding a question mark when writing:

I a ia āku pukapuka?

Did he have my books?

Asking Who?

The question 'Who has got?', in the sense of 'Who with?' is asked with the personal wai. The phrase consists of:

singular present:

Kei a wai?

past: future: I a wai? Kei a wai?

plural j

present: past: Kei a wai mā? I a wai mā?

future:

Kei a wai mā?

The question is answered by replacing wai in the first phrase with the information required.

EXAMPLES

In conversation, questions are usually answered in one phrase.

question:

Kei a wai

āku kihi?

Who's got my keys?

answer:

Kei te kaitiaki whare.

The caretaker's got them.

auestion:

I a wai mā

ngā paraikete?

Who had the blankets?

answer:

I ngā rōpū kura

ērā paraikete.

The school groups had those blankets.

question:

Kei a wai

te pēke taumaha i te ata āpōpō?

Who's going to have (carry) the heavy pack tomorrow

morning?

answer:

Kei te kōtiro te tino pakeke te pēke taumaha.

The oldest girl will have the heavy pack.

Location particles and nouns

Location Particles

- Location particles open phrases which answer the question 'Where?'
- Location particles have present, past, and future forms.
- Location particles express 'at', 'in', 'on', 'by'.

Affirmative Location Particles

present tense kei past tense 1

future tense kei, hei

The future location particle hei is not used to ask, and not usually used to answer, the basic question 'where?' but is found in sentences which give a strong sense of future intention or time:

Hei konei he kāinga mo mātou.

Here will be a home for us.

Hei te Hanuere ratou e haere mai ana.

They'll be coming in January.

When a location phrase extends a verb statement, the present tense location particle becomes i, and the future tense particle becomes a. See page 66.

Negative Location Particles

present tense past tense i future ki

Location Nouns

Location nouns are words which follow location particles in phrases which answer the question 'Where?'. The phrase consists of:

kei/i + location noun

Types of Location Nouns

All place names are location nouns.

Kei Matipo tiriti

In Matipo street

Kei Türanga

At Gisborne

2 The following location nouns describe areas in relation to the speaker or writer:

uta

ashore

(when you are at sea)

inland

(when you are on the coast)

tai at sea on the coast (when you are ashore)

tawhiti

(when you are inland)



 konei
 here
 (where I am), in this place

 konā
 there
 (where you are), in that place

 korā, kō
 there
 (away from us), in that other place

 reira
 there
 in that place (we've been talking about)

3 The following location nouns describe location in relation to a point in space:

runga on top, above; south

raro under, underneath, below; north

waho out, outside roto in, inside

mua in front, at the front, before

muri behind, at the back

waenga, waenganui in the middle, between, among

tua beyond, the other side of (a solid object such as a

mountain)

tāwāhi beyond, the other side of (an open space such as a

valley)



The categories of relationship and possession

Every relationship we have to people, places or things has a status which we express in the choice of o or a in the vowel of words which express relationship or possession:

possessive particle **o/a** 'of' t-class possessive pronouns 'my', 'your', 'his', 'her', 'our', 'their' n-class possessive particle **no/na** and possessive pronouns 'belongs to'

The categories of relationship and possession cover:

- cmy relationship we have with other people;
- cmy quality that identifies us;
- any group we are part of, anything part of us;
- anything we belong to, anything that belongs to us:
- anything that shelters, transports, or helps us;
- anything we shelter or help;
- anything we use, produce, or do, anything that is done to us.

In each of these relationships, we are in a situation of:

- superiority, equality, or subordination;
- seniority or juniority;
- control, or under the control of someone or something else;
- activity or passivity.

O-Category Relationships

The o category expresses relationship with any person, group, or entity we are:

junior to; under the control, protection, or guidance of; part of; equal with.

The o category expresses the possession of any thing which acts in a sheltering or nurturing role, or is bigger or more permanent than we are, and expresses the relationship of part of something to the whole.

EXAMPLES We are junior to our mothers: tōku whaea my mother We are equal with people we choose as friends: te hoa o Tamahae. Tamahae's friend. We are sheltered and protected by houses: tong whare his/her house We are part of a tribal group: No Te Arawa ratou. They belong to Te Arawa. A-Category Relationships The a category expresses our relationship with anyone we are: senior to: anyone under our control, protection, or authority. The a category expresses the possession of any thing, skill, or activity we produce or control. **EXAMPLES** We are senior to our grandchildren: äku mokopuna my grandchildren Our work is a productive activity we control: tā māua mahi our work Teachers are responsible for their class:

āna ākonga his/her students

Category Can Change

While relationship words such as 'mother' (o-category) or 'grandchild' (a-category) express permanent categories, most nouns can be either \mathbf{o} or \mathbf{a} category, depending on the relationship we want to express.

EXAMPLES

1 ika = fish

ngā ika o te moana the fish of the ocean

This means the fish that live in, and belong to, the sea. Because sea-fish are part of the marine environment the relationship is expressed with an o-category possessive particle.

te ika a Māui the fish of Maui

This means the fish Maui hooked, raised, and tamed in the story of the origin of Aotearoa. Because of Maui's activity and dominance, his relationship to the fish is expressed with an a-category possessive particle.

2 mahi = work

ngā mahi o te marae the works of the marae

This means the things, such as the karanga, speech-making and greetings, which belong to the marae. Because these functions are part of the concept of 'marae' the relationship is expressed with an o-category possessive particle.

ngā mahi a tō mātou rōpū our group's tasks

This means the things we are going to do today – the jobs we will accomplish through work. Because our activity and productivity is what we are talking about, we express it with an a-category possessive particle.

3 waiata = song

no Ngāti Kahungunu tēnei waiata this song belongs to Ngati Kahungunu

This means a song which expresses Ngati Kahungunu tribal identity.

na Ngāti Kahungunu tēnei waiata this song is by Ngati Kahungunu

The means a song that Ngati Kahungunu composed or sang.

When There is More Than One Possessive in a Sentence

Sometimes we have to decide the o or a category of more than one possessive in any given statement:

He nui te mana o tö rātou waka.

Their canoe has great prestige.

The first possessive is the possessive particle o in the phrase te mana o 'the prestige of'. 'Prestige' is an o-category possession.

The second possessive is the possessive pronoun **tō rātou**, 'their', in the phrase **tō rātou waka** 'their canoe'. 'Canoe' is an o-category possession.

The two possessives in the sentence are independent of each other. The independence can be seen more clearly in a statement in which one possessive is o-category, and the other α -category:

E toru ngā tamariki a ō māua hoa.

Our friends have three children.

The first possessive is the possessive particle α , in the phrase $ng\bar{\alpha}$ tamariki α , 'the children of'. 'Children' are an α -category relationship.

The second possessive is the possessive pronoun ō māua in the phrase ō māua hoa 'our friends'. 'Friends' are an o-category relationship.

O-Category relationships

Here are lists of common relationships which are expressed with o-category possessive pronouns and particles.

O-Category: Expressing Relationship to Seniors

mother
father
uncle
aunt
mother-in-law
father-in-law
grandmother
grandfather
elder
ancestor

EXAMPLES

Ko Pani te whaea o Tamahae.

Pani is Tamahae's mother.

Ko Hata te pāpā o Tamahae.

Hata is his father.

Ko Rangi töna matuakēkē.

Rangi is his uncle.

Ko Hēra tōna matuakēkē.

Hera is his aunt.

Ko Hōri rāua ko Ani ōku hungarei.

Hori and Ani are my in-laws.

Ko Matatā te kāinga o te tipuna tāne o te whānau.

The grandfather of the family lives in Matata.

No Te Wai Pounamu tõu tipuna wahine.

Your grandmother is from the South Island.

Manaakitia õu kaumātua!

Respect your elders!

Kua mate rawa ō tātou koroua katoa.

All our old men are dead.

He toa ngã kuia o Waikato ki te kanikani.

The old ladies of Waikato are great dancers.

Ko Tamatea-pōkai-whenua tētahi o ngā tīpuna o Ngāi Tahu.

One of the ancestors of Ngai Tahu is Tamatea-pokai-whenua.

O Category: Expressing Belonging to a Group

family relations hapu descendants tribe, people organisation

EXAMPLES

Haere mai ki te mihi ki tōku whānau! Come and meet my family!

Ko Te Ao Wera te hapū o Tuuta Nihoniho. Tuuta Nihoniho's hapu was Te Ao Wera.

Kei hea ngã uri o Te Rangihiroa? Kãore ōna uri. Where are the descendants of Te Rangihiroa? He had none.

Ko wai tōna iwi? Ko Te Ātiawa. What was his tribe? Te Atiawa.

Ko te iwi Māori ngā tāngata whenua o Aotearoa. The Maori people are the tangata whenua of Aotearoa.

Me piri koe ki tōu ope. You must stick to your party.

He aha ngā whainga o tō koutou rōpū? What are the objectives of your organisation?

O Category: Expressing Belonging to a Place

marae place area country

EXAMPLES

He kaumātua a Hōri rāua ko Āni no tērā marae. Hori and Ani are elders of that marae.

Ko Ngāiterangi tētahi o ngā tino iwi o Tauranga. Ngaiterangi is one of the main tribes of Tauranga.

No Tokaanu ā koutou irāmutu. Your nieces are from Tokaanu.

Ko Ingarangi pea te kāinga tūturu o te nuinga o te iwi Pākehā. The original home of most Pakeha people is probably England.

Ko ngā iwi katoa o te ao kua huihui mai i tēnei rā. All the peoples of the world have gathered here today.

O Category: Expressing Relationship To People With Authority Over You, or Responsibility for You.

chief boss

leader

teacher, doctor, nurse, guide, etc.

EXAMPLES

Ko Tühawaiki te rangatira o Murihiku i tērā rau tau. Tuhawaiki was the chief of Murihiku last century.

Kua whakawātea tō mātou rangatira i tōna tūranga. Our boss has retired from his position.

Ko Mere rāua ko Erihāpeti ō tātou tumuaki. Our leaders are Mere and Erihapeti.

He Hainamana te kaiako o ā māua tamariki.

Our children's teacher is Chinese.

Kua whakarërea tätou e tö tätou kaiärahi! We've been abandoned by our guide!

O Category: Expressing Relationships in Which Both Sides Have Equal Status

sister, no matter how much older or younger than you; brother, no matter how much older or younger than you; sister-in-law, no matter how much older or younger than you; brother-in -law, no matter how much older or younger than you; cousin, no matter how much older or younger than you; people on the same descent line as you, whether your line is senior or junior to theirs; friend, no matter how much older or younger than you; wife, when you use the term hoa wahine; husband, when you use the term hoa tane.

EXAMPLES

Ko Mārama te tuahine o Tamahae. Marama is the sister of Tamahae.

Ko Tamahae te tungāne o Mārama. Tamahae is the brother of Marama.

He täokete ia no täku wahine. He is a brother-in-law of my wife.

Ko Peti te tāokete o Hēra.

Peti is Hera's sister-in-law.

Ko Mere te tuahine o Marama raua ko Tamahae.

Mere is Marama's and Tamahae's cousin.

Ko Rewi tō rāua tungāne.

Rewi is their cousin.

Ko ja tōku teina.

She is my younger sister.

Ki tā Ngāti Porou, ko Porourangi te tuakana o Tahupōtiki. Otirā, ki tā Ngāi Tahu, ko Porourangi tōna teina.

According to Ngati Porou, Porourangi was the older brother of Tahupotiki. But to Ngai Tahu, Porourangi was his younger brother.

Ko tēnei tōku hoa pai rawa.

This is my best friend.

Ko Pani te hoa wahine o Hata.

Pani is the wife of Hata.

Ko Hata tona hoa tane.

Hata is her husband.

O Category: Talking About Yourself

parts of the body personal names clothes articles used to groom ourselves

EXAMPLES

Kua whati te waewae o tāku tamāhine.

My daughter has a broken leg.

Hāpaitia tōu ringaringa!

Raise your hand!

E rua õu whatu, kotahi tõu ihu.

You have two eyes and one nose.

Ko Manu Karaitiana tōku ingoa.

My name is Manu Karaitiana.

Ko Ngāti Hāmuti Wera te ingoa o tērā iwi.

The name of that tribe was Ngati Hamuti Wera.

Kei hea ō koutou kamupūtu, tamariki mā?

Where are your gumboots, children?

Kōrero ki tērā wahine e whakamau ana i tōku pōtae.

Speak to that woman wearing my hat.

Whakahokia toku heru!

Give back my comb!

Kāore anō ngā tamariki tāne kia paraihe i ō rātou makawe.

The boys have not brushed their hair yet.

O Category: Expressing Feelings and Thoughts

mind spirit emotions

EXAMPLES

Kua rere te wairua o Rua.

Rua's spirit has fled.

Ka koa tōku ngākau ki āna kupu.

My heart rejoiced at her words.

Ka nui te aroha o ngā tāngata ki te take nei.

The people feel very sympathetic to this cause.

He aha ō rātou whakaaro e pā ana ki tēnā?

What do they think about that?

I tupu tōna pukuriri i roto i a ia.

His anger grew within him.

O Category: Expressing Personal Qualities

EXAMPLES

Ka mîharo rātou ki te ātaahua o te wahine patupaiarehe.

They were astonished at the beauty of the fairy woman.

Te mängere hoki o äu kaimahi!

How lazy your workers are!

E titiro ana ngã tauhou ki te nui o tērā rākau, o Tāne Mahuta.

The strangers gazed at the size of that tree, Tane Mahuta.

O Category: Expressing Relationship to the Physical World

land, sea, air geographical features roads areas

EXAMPLES

Kua ngaro ōku whenua katoa.

All my lands are lost.

He whāiti, he kōtiti ngā ara ki tōna takiwā.

The roads to her district are narrow and winding.

O Category: Expressing Symbolic Relationships

EXAMPLES

Ko Aorangi te tino maunga o Ngāi Tahu.

Aorangi is the foremost mountain of Ngai Tahu.

Ko te whakaititanga te tohu o te mana nui.

Humility is the sign of greatness.

Ka mihi ahau ki tōku kara, arā te kara nui o te Kuini.

I greet my flag, the great flag of the Queen.

O Category: Expressing Relationship to Shelter

house, or any shelter larger furnishings of a house

EXAMPLES

Arā te whare o Hata!

There's Hata's house!

I te taha o te awa te ana o taua naārara.

The cave of that monster was beside the river.

Kaua e tū ki runga i tō rātou whāriki hou!

Do not stand on their new carpet!

Whakapai tõu moenga, e Rewi!

Make your bed, Rewi!

He pai ki a koe toku turu hou?

Do you like my new chair?

O Category: Expressing Relationship to Transport and Movement

motor vehicles

bicycle

horse

plane

boat

journeys

EXAMPLES

Farm machinery, even if we ride on it, is seen as a tool of production, and is α category.

Kua oma atu ō tātou hōiho.

Our horses have escaped.

Kāore tōna motokā e haere.

His car doesn't go.

Ka roa noa atu töku rerenga i roto i töku rererangi.

I can go for miles in my airplane.

Ka roa tō tātou haerenga.

Our journey is long.

O Category: Expressing Relationship to Drinking Water and Medicine

EXAMPLES

Any other drink, for example tea or alcohol, is considered to be a food and is a category.

Unumia tō rongoa!

Take your medicine!

Homai he wai möku.

Bring some water for me.

O Category: Expressing Relationship of Part to Whole

EXAMPLES

Kua whati te waewae o te tūru.

The leg of the chair is broken.

Kei hea te kakau o te toki?

Where's the handle of the axe?

Ko ēnei ngā mahi o te hui.

These things are the work (the things that happen at) of hui.

Kua hinga te totara o te wao nui a Tāne.

The totara of Tane's great forest has fallen.

Ko ia tētahi o tō tātou rōpū.

She is one of our group.

He Pākehā te nuinga o ngā tauira i reira.

Most of the students there are Pakeha.

O-Category: Possessives in Passive Noun Phrases

EXAMPLES

He rongonui te kōrero mo te patunga o Kae e Tinirau.

The story of Kae's being killed by Tinirau is famous.

Ko tēnei te kōrero o te matenga o Kae.

This is the story of the death of Kae.

A-category relationships

Here are lists of common relationships which are expressed with a-category possessive pronouns and particles.

A Category: Expressing the Relationship between Husband and Wife

EXAMPLES

Ko Pani te wahine a Hata.

Pani is Hata's wife.

Ko Hata tāna tāne.

Hata is her husband.

A Category: Expressing Relationship to Juniors

child

son

dauahter

first-born

papa

niece

nephew

daughter-in-law

son-in-law

grandchild

EXAMPLES

Kei te kura ā rāua tamariki.

Their children are at school.

Ko Tamahae te tama a Pani.

Tamahae is Pani's son.

Ko Mārama tāna tamāhine.

Marama is her daughter.

I te tuatahi, käore te wahine i mahara ki täna mätämua.

At first, the woman did not recognise her first-born.

Homai tău pēpi, e Mei!

Give me your baby, Meil

Ko ia te tamaiti kēkē a Rangi rāua ko Hēra.

She is the niece of Rangi and Hera.

He karaka tā māua hungonga.

Our daughter-in-law is a clerk.

Ma āku mokopuna tēnei manu.

This kite is for my grandchildren.

A Category: Expressing Relationship to People you have Responsibility For, or Authority Over

worker

servant

pupil

learner

student

patient

EXAMPLES

Ka pai ā mātou kaimahi katoa.

All our workers are doing well.

Māku hei mōkai māu!

I'll be your slave!

Manaakitia āu tauira!

Look after your students!

Ka tiaki te tākuta i āna tūroro.

The doctor looks after his/her patients.

A Category: Expressing Action in Words

words
speechmaking
commands
advice
instructions
sending a message
calling
plans

EXAMPLES

He kino tāna kōrero.

What he says is bad.

Kua kite mātou i āu kupu i roto i tēnei reta āu.

We have seen your words in this letter of yours.

Me whakarongo koutou ki tā tātou tohutohu.

You had better listen to our instructions.

Ka nui āku mihi ki a koutou.

I greet you warmly.

Ka riri ngā tāngata i te whaikōrero a te taitama.

The people were angry with the young man's speech.

Ma wai tāku karanga e rongo?

Who will hear my call?

A Category: Expressing Relationship to Action

action work

things you make or produce

EXAMPLES

Ko Aotearoa te ika a Māui.

Actearog is Maui's fish.

He mea whakamiharo te pikinga a Tā Edmund Hillary i Everest.

Sir Edmund Hillary's climbing of Everest was a noteworthy achievement.

Manaakitia ngā mahi a ngā tīpuna.

Respect the work of the ancestors.

Näku tēnei whare i hanga.

I built this house.

Kua oti tāku mahi.

My work is completed.

Ma wai koe e āwhina?

Who will help you?

Ngã mihi ki a koutou mo ā koutou toa ki te hī ika!

Compliments to you on your fishing skills!

A Category: Expressing Relationship to Technology, Production, and Reward

tools appliances things you make your living from money

EXAMPLES

Kua whati te kakau o tāku kō.

The handle of my spade has snapped.

He whero te tarakihana a Hata.

Hata's tractor is red.

He tino ora tā rāua pāmu.

Their farm is very productive.

Rua rau taara tāna utu.

His pay is two hundred dollars.

Kua pau āku moni.

My money has run out.

A Category: Expressing Relationship to Possessions

small possessions things in everyday use

EXAMPLES

Whakapuakina ā koutou pukapuka, tamariki mā!

Open your books, children!

Kei hea tāku pene?

Where is my pen?

He taumaha rawa atu te pēke a Mere.

Mere's pack is extremely heavy.

Kei hea āna kapu e huna ana, me āna pereti hoki?

Where are her cups hiding, and her plates?

A Category: Expressing Relationship to Food

all foods any drink except water cigarettes

EXAMPLES

Homai tētahi o āu tiakarete, e Koro! Give me one of your chocolates, Grandad!

Ka pai ia ki tāna pīa.

He likes his beer.

He aha ngā kai a te iwi o Inia? What do Indian people eat?

Kainga tāu parakuihi! Eat your breakfast!

Na wai ēnei kūkū? Whose mussels are these?

A Category: Expressing Relationship to Domesticated Animals

pets form animals

EXAMPLES

Horses were originally seen as transport, and therefore are o category.

He kiore te mõkai a tāku tamāhine. My daughter's pet is a rat.

Ka kite mātou i tāna kāhui kuihi. We saw his flock of geese.

Ko Pere te ingoa o tā rāua ngeru. Their cat's name is Pere.



Counting sentences

Cardinal numbers

Cardinal Numbers One to Ten

1 tahi/kotahi 6 ono 2 rua 7 whitu 3 toru 8 waru 4 whā 9 iwa 5 rima 10 tekau

■ The kotahi form of 'one' is used when the number opens the sentence.

Ten to Nineteen

Cardinal numbers above ten are calculated as ten plus the single number.

mā = plus

11 tekau mā tahi 16 tekau mā ono 12 tekau mā rua 17 tekau mā whitu 13 tekau mā toru 18 tekau mā waru 14 tekau mā whā 19 tekau mā iwa

15 tekau mā rima

Twenty to Ninety-Nine

25 rua tekau mā rima

Cardinal numbers above nineteen are calculated as so many tens plus so many ones.

Note: the numbers twenty to thirty are given in full as a pattern for numbers to ninety-nine.

20 rua tekau 26 rua tekau mā ono
21 rua tekau mā tahi 27 rua tekau mā whitu
22 rua tekau mā rua 28 rua tekau mā waru
23 rua tekau mā toru 29 rua tekau mā iwa
24 rua tekau mā whā 30 toru tekau

One Hundred to Nine Hundred and Ninety-Nine

Hundreds are made by putting the numbers one to nine in front of rau, 'hundred'.

The word for 'one' before 'hundred' or 'thousand' is kotahi.

100	kotahi rau
200	rua rau
300	toru rau
400	whā rau
500	rima rau
600	ono rau
700	whitu rau
800	waru rau
900	iwa rau

Ones are added with mā, for example:

101	kotahi rau mā tahi
109	kotahi rau mā iwa

Tens are placed after the hundreds, for example:

110	kotahi rau, tekau
111	kotahi rau, tekau mā tahi
119	kotahi rau, tekau mā iwa
120	kotahi rau, rua tekau
121	kotahi rau, rua tekau mā tahi
210	rua rau, tekau
311	toru rau, tekau mā tahi
419	whā rau, tekau mā iwa
520	rima rau, rua tekau
621	ono rau, rua tekau mā tahi
999	iwa rau, iwa tekau mā iwa

One Thousand to Ninety-Nine Thousand

The word for 'thousand' is mano, which is placed after the number, for example:

1,000	kotahi mano
2,000	rua mano
10,000	tekau mano
11,000	tekau mā tahi mano
20,000	rua tekau mano
25,000	rua tekau mā rima mano
83,000	waru tekau mā toru mano

Hundreds, tens, and ones follow mano, for example:

1,001 1,002 1,009	kotahi mano mā tahi kotahi mano mā rua kotahi mano mā iwa
1,010 1,011 1,013	kotahi mano, tekau kotahi mano, rua tekau mā tahi kotahi mano, tekau mā toru
1,020 1,024	kotahi mano, rua tekau kotahi mano, rua tekau mā whā
1,100 1,101 1,111	kotahi mano, kotahi rau kotahi mano, kotahi rau mā tahi kotahi mano, kotahi rau, tekau mā tahi
1,579 1,840 1,988	kotahi mano, rima rau, whitu tekau mā iwa kotahi mano, waru rau, whā tekau kotahi mano, iwa rau, waru tekau mā waru
2,000 2,007 2,010 2,012 3,020 3,144 11,891 53,500 73,405 91,842	rua mano rua mano mā whitu rua mano, tekau rua mano, tekau mā rua toru mano, rua tekau toru mano, kotahi rau, whā tekau mā whā tekau mā tahi mano, waru rau, iwa tekau mā tahi rima tekau mā toru mano, rima rau whitu tekau mā toru mano, whā rau mā rima iwa tekau mā tahi mano, waru rau, whā tekau mā rua

One Hundred Thousand to One Million

The word for 'hundred thousand' is **rau mano** which is placed after the number, for example:

100,000	kotahi rau mano
200,000	rua rau mano
700.000	whitu rau mano

Hundreds, tens, and ones are placed after the thousands, for example:

102,003	kotahi rau mā rua mano, mā toru	
110,012	kotahi rau tekau mano, tekau mā rua	
111,026	kotahi rau tekau mā tahi mano, rua tekau mā ono	
222,185	rua rau, rua tekau mā rua mano, kotahi rau, waru tekau mā rima	
1,000,000	kotahi mirione	

Ordinal numbers

Ordinal Numbers One to Nine

1st	tuatahi	6th	tugono
2nd	tuarua	7th	tuawhitu
3rd	tuatoru	8th	tuawaru
4th	tuawhā	9th	tuaiwa
5th	tucrima		

Another way of writing the ordinals is:

te + cardinal number, for example:

te tahi the first te iwa the ninth

Ordinal Numbers Above Nine

Ordinal numbers higher than nine consist of:

te + number, for example:

te tekau the tenth
te tekau mā iwa the nineteenth
te rua tekau the twentieth
te toru tekau mā tahi the thirty-first
te rima tekau mā rima the fifty-fifth
te rau the hundredth
te rima rau the five hundredth

Making counting sentences

- Counting sentences tell us how many of the subject there are.
- Counting sentences can be past, present, or future.
- Basic counting sentences consist of a number phrase and a definite noun phrase:

number phrase + subject phrase

First (number) Phrase

The first phrase tells us how many there are of the subject. The form of the first phrase varies slightly according to the number we want to express.

1 Saying one:

The phrase consists of kotahi by itself.

2 Two to nine:

These numbers are introduced by a counting particle.

When we are counting people we attach toko to the number:

tokorua two tokorima five tokoiwa nine

When we are counting things we put e in front of the number:

e rua two
e rima five
e iwa nine

Note: some speakers use the form e for both people and things.

3 Ten to nineteen:

The phrase consists of the number by itself, whether we are talking about people or things.

tekau mā tahi tekau mā iwa tekau mā iwa tekau mā iwa tahi

4 Twenty to ninety-nine:

These numbers are introduced by the counting particle e, whether we are talking about things or people:

e rua tekau twenty
e rua tekau mā tahi twenty-one
e toru tekau thirty
e ono tekau mā whā sixty-four
e iwa tekau mā iwa ninety-nine

Note: In conversation, e is often omitted.

5 One hundred and above:

Numbers from one hundred follow the rule for the number which opens the phrase:

kotahi rau one hundred e rua rau two hundred kotahi mano one thousand e iwa mano nine thousand

Second (subject) Phrase

The subject phrase tells us what we are counting. The phrase may be singular or plural, and consists of either:

1 pronoun;

- 2 definitive + noun;
- 3 t-class definitive.

EXAMPLES

number phrase subject phrase

Kotahi tōku tungāne.

I have one brother.

Tokorua öku tuākana.

I have two older sisters.

Tekau tonu ngā mokopuna a Ata.

Ata has exactly ten grandchildren.

Tekau mā waru rātou.

There are eighteen of them.

E rua tekau āna tamariki.

She has twenty children.

Kotahi anake te urunga.

There is only one pillow.

E whitu ou paraikete.

You have seven blankets.

E whā tekau mā whā ō tātou manuhiri.

We have forty-four guests.

Kotahi rau ngā marae o tēnei rohe.

There are one hundred marae in this area.

Questions

Any number sentence can be turned into a question by the way it is asked, or by the addition of a question mark when writing:

Tokotoru āu tamariki?

Have you got three children?

E whitu ngā parāikete?

Are there seven blankets?

Asking How Many?

We ask this question with the phrases:

e hia? (talking about things) tokohia? (talking about people)

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E hia and tokohia have the same form in both singular and plural questions. They form the first phrase of a counting sentence.

Questions are answered by replacing e hia/tokohia with the number required.

EXAMPLES

The subject phrase is often left out of the answer to a question.

question phrase

subject phrase

Tokohia

ā koutou ākonga?

How many students have you?

answer:

Tokoiwa pea

ā mātou ākonga.

We have about nine students.

answer:

Tokoiwa pea.

About nine.

Tokohia

ō rātou kaikōrero i tēnei rā?

How many speakers have they got today?

answer:

Kotahi tonu.

Just the one.

E hia ranei

ērā kāinga tawhito?

How many of those old settlements would there be?

answer:

Ki tōku whakaaro, e rima tekau

aua käinga?

In my estimation there are fifty of those settlements.

answer:

E hia

ngā pereti,

e hia

ngā kapu?

How many plates and cups are there?

answer:

Tekau mā waru

ngā pereti,

e rua tekau ma tahi a tatou kapu.

There are eighteen plates, and we have twenty-one cups.

ngā pune me ngā pāoka?

How many spoons and forks?

answer:

E ono

ngā pune,

e rima

ngā pāoka.

Six spoons and five forks.









Making Maori Sentences is a practical, beginner's guide to sentence construction in Maori. Its clear descriptions and non-technical terminology make it an ideal grammar reference for both high school and adult students.

Making Maori Sentences is designed especially for those learning to write Maori; for those learning to speak Maori who need an understanding of its basic building blocks; and for teachers who need to answer questions about sentence construction with a minimum of formal language.

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