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A KWARA'AE SPELLING LIST

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## O. INTRODUCTION

Kwara'ae is an Austronesian language spoken by an estimated 13,000 people living on the island of Malaita, Solomon Islands. In past Kwara'ae publications, a number of conflicting spelling conventions have been used (see Simons 1977, pp. 24-26 for a full review). This is due in part to a lack of coordination between different parties producing literature and further complicated by two linguistic problems in Kwara'ae--the metathesis of final consonant and vowel, and the interchange of the f and h sounds.

The purpose of this paper is to recommend a standard orthography for future Kwara'ae publications and offer a spelling list which exemplifies that standard. The first section of this paper deals with the major Kwara'ae spelling problems and recommends a solution for each one. A full discussion of why the recommended solution was chosen over the alternatives is given in each case. Section two is an introduction to the spelling list and finderlist which follow. The third section is a spelling list in which approximately 1200 Kwara'ae words appear with their standard spelling and a brief English definition. Section four is an English finderlist to the Kwara'ae spelling list.

The paper results from field work on Malaita during July, August, and September of 1977. I am grateful to the members of the Kwara'ae Translation Committee--Jemuel Afia, Fr. John Gereia, **Matthew Lioa**, and **Arnon Wadili**--for their support and enthusiasm for the project. The project was carried out in order to help this committee finalize the spelling standards they will follow in future Kwara'ae publications. All of the orthography recommendations made in section one were discussed and agreed upon by the committee. I am especially thankful to Jemuel Afia, Jezreel Liu, and Arnon Wadili for the many hours they spent helping me as I elicited and checked the words for the spelling list. This project was carried out under the original request of the Translation Committee of the Solomon Islands Christian Association and I am grateful for that committee's sponsorship. The project was also part of the Cornell University research project "Language Variation and Limits to Communication" which is being partially supported by grant BNS76-06031 from the National Science Foundation.

I am especially indebted to David Welchman Gegeo for his valuable suggestions and analysis on spelling problems, for his careful checking of a preliminary version of the spelling list, and for providing the scientific names for

many of the plants and trees. He is a Kwara'ae man who is currently compiling a dictionary of the language. The spelling conventions decided upon by the Kwara'ae Translation Committee and recommended in this paper, are in every case the same as the conventions Gegeo has adopted for his dictionary. The current paper owes much to his work.

The grammar of Kwara'ae has been described in three published sources: Ray 1926, Ivens 1931, and Deck 1933-1934. The latter grammar by Norman Deck is by far the most complete. A short vocabulary of Kwara'ae is given in Whitmore's Guide to the Forests of the British Solomon Islands (1966:120-122). In addition, this book gives the Kwara'ae name (where known) for all the trees and plants discussed. In addition to David Gegeo's current work on a Kwara'ae dictionary there are at least two other manuscript dictionaries in existence. The first is by Norman Deck and a copy is lodged in the Solomon Islands National Museum. The second was begun by Fr. Jan Snijders and is being continued by his successor Fr. Christian Kamphuis. This is in the possession of Fr. Kamphuis at Dala station in the Kwara'ae district. For a list of publications in the Kwara'ae language see Linda Simons' forthcoming Publications in Solomon Island Languages.

## 1. ORTHOGRAPHY RECOMMENDATIONS

### 1.1 Choice of ng

The sound of ng as in the English word sing has been represented no less than five different ways in existing Kwara'ae literature--ñ, ñ̃, n, ɳ, and ng. As a standard for future publications, ng is recommended for the following reasons:

(1) ng is the most easily typed on the typewriter. (ñ̃ and ɳ cannot even be made on a standard typewriter.)

(2) It is wise to stay away from the line over n because the line will be used to represent a lengthened vowel, eg. ā, ē, ī, ō, ū. If the same symbol were used to represent two different things it could be confusing.

(3) The spelling used in both English and Pijin is ng. As Kwara'ae people have more and more contact with these two languages they will come to prefer the ng spelling over any of the older spellings used previously. It is already the case that young people who have been educated in English use ng rather than ñ̃ or n when they write the language.

## 1.2 Choice of ngw

The labialized ng sound (that is, /ng<sup>w</sup>/) was written as simply w in most literature prepared before the 1970's. Though such a spelling is advantageous from the point of view of highlighting the sound correspondences between north Malaitan languages (see Simons 1977, pp. 9-10), other factors are involved which suggest that the spelling ngw is better. It is therefore recommended that ngw (rather than w) be adopted in the standard orthography for the following reasons:

(1) The Kwara'ae translation committee, David Gegeo, and others I have talked to have felt very strongly that the spelling ngw should be used because it represents the proper pronunciation of the sound.

(2) The decision to use ngw rather than w is consistent with the rest of the orthography. There are three consonants in Kwara'ae which are articulated in the velar position--k, g, and ng. For each of these velar consonants there is a corresponding labialized velar consonant. These are symbolized in the proposed standard orthography by adding w to the symbolization for the unmodified velar consonants, thus kw, gw, and ngw. To represent these latter three consonants as kw, gw, and w uses the w inconsistently to represent labialization in the first two cases and to represent a labialized velar consonant in the third case.

## 1.3 Choice of f

The sounds f and h are interchangeable in Kwara'ae. That is, wherever an f occurs, the h can be pronounced instead, and vice versa. For instance, the word for 'food' can be pronounced fanga or hanga. All publications prepared before the 1970's used f and not h. However, in present day normal speech, the h pronunciation occurs much more frequently than the f pronunciation. For this reason, recent publications have adopted h in the orthography and dropped f.

It is recommended that f be adopted in the standard orthography (and h dropped) for the following reasons:

(1) There is a general feeling among Kwara'ae speakers that the h usage is colloquial and "slang", while the f is more standard and formal. For this reason, many have objected to the recent publications using h instead of f. A number of Kwara'ae people expressed the observation that the f pronunciation is used strongly among old people and that the change to

an h pronunciation is a recent one. The same people have suggested that the change to the h pronunciation was due to "laziness" on the part of Kwara'ae speakers--it is easier and faster to pronounce h rather than f. These views support the general feeling among Kwara'ae speakers that f is proper, while h is colloquial.

(2) Even where h is the common spoken form, f is the underlying form. That is, when an individual who pronounces h in normal speech, wants to emphasize a word or pronounce it very clearly so as to ensure being understood, he will often use f in place of h.

(3) In singing, f is always pronounced, never h. If h were adopted for the standard orthography, it would necessitate a dual standard. In texts designed to be spoken, h would be used. In texts designed to be sung (a hymnbook, for example), f would be used in place of h. Readers would be required to learn two spellings for the same word.

(4) None of the surrounding languages has h; they all use f. Thus the word for 'food' is pronounced only as fanga in Kwaio, Fataleka, and Gula'ala (fana in Langalanga) even though in Kwara'ae there is an alternation between fanga and hanga. If written Kwara'ae used h it would be harder for the people from neighboring languages to read and understand Kwara'ae literature, while if f is used, the spelling of Kwara'ae words containing f would be the same as the spelling of those words for neighboring languages. This would make Kwara'ae literature more easily read and understood by surrounding language groups (see section 2.2.2 of Simons 1977).

#### 1.4 Proper use of glottal stop

The glottal stop, also referred to as the "catch" or the "Melanesian catch", is a true consonant in the Kwara'ae language. It is represented by the apostrophe (') in the alphabet. Phonetically it represents the complete interruption of the air stream by closure of the vocal cords.

The glottal stop deserves special consideration because it has been so widely misunderstood and misused in previous Kwara'ae literature. In some publications it has been omitted altogether. In others it has been omitted whenever it occurs as the first sound in the word. In still others it has been used but very inconsistently, with no apparent pattern as to when it is written and when it is omitted. In this spelling list, the glottal stop is written in all of its occurrences and it is recommended that this practice be followed in all future

Kwara'ae publications. The glottal stop is a true consonant in the language and to omit it from a text would be the same as omitting all the occurrences of a given consonant, k for example, from an English text.

To assist the Kwara'ae writer and translator, the following list of words is given in which the glottal stop is the only sound which distinguishes the two words and their difference in meaning. It is hoped that writers and translators will study these pairs of words and the useage of the whole spelling list so that they can learn the proper use of the glottal stop and consistently represent it in all of its occurrences.

The glottal stop occurring at the beginning of the word:

abi	'to steer a canoe'	ū	'stand'
'abi	'sit close together'	'u	'louse'
afe	'flow, current'	ua	'mountain'
'afe	'married woman, wife'	'ua	'old (of inanimate things)'
ala	'agree, permit'	uli	'blacken'
'ala	'bite'	'uli	'skin, bark'
ara	'south east wind'	unu	'torch, light'
'ara	'type of pudding'	'unu	'lizard sp.'
ili	'barracuda'	uri	'step on'
'ili	'dig'	'uri	'now, today'
ilu	'sip, slurp, drink noisily'	uru	'dew'
'ilu	'a type of magic'	'uru	'widow'

The glottal stop occurring in the middle of the word:

fai	'four'	mai	'low tide, dry (reef)'
fa'i	'where?'	ma'i	'hither, toward speaker'
fau	'stone'	moa	'vomit'
fa'u	'pandanus, umbrella'	mo'a	'mud'
fua	'fruit'	rao	'work'
fu'a	'fight'	ra'o	'tame'
lau	'snatch'	tae	'what?'
la'u	'bend'	ta'e	'stand up, arise'



### 1.5 Use of the macron to distinguish lengthened vowels

The Kwara'ae orthography should distinguish lengthened vowels from both normal vowels and double vowels. The normal vowel requires no explanation. A double vowel occurs in a compound word, when the first root ends with the same vowel which the second root begins with, for instance, uruuru 'knee'. This word consists of the root uru pronounced twice. Since uru begins and ends with u, when the root is doubled the double uu occurs in the middle of the word. This is not a lengthened u, rather, it is two normal u's in succession. A Kwara'ae person perceives this as two units and thus it has been consistently written in all existing literature as a sequence of two like vowels. Other words which contain a double vowel are:

abaaba	'incomplete, to come out short when measured'
adaada'i fanga'a	'evening star'
afaafa niu	'species of parrot'
araara	'invoke a ghose to kill someone'
fa'aada	'wake someone up'
oloolo	'swim'

The lengthened vowel, on the other hand, is a single unit, but when pronounced it is drawn out in length and thus differs from the normal vowel. A lengthened vowel may affect the stress pattern and can often be identified in this way. In Kwara'ae, regular stress falls on the second to last syllable. When the final syllable contains a lengthened vowel, however, the final syllable may receive primary stress. A lengthened vowel also affects the process of metathesis. When a two or three syllable word ends in a consonant followed by a normal vowel, that consonant and vowel will metathesize (or switch positions) in normal speech. However, when the word ends with a consonant followed by a lengthened vowel, there is no metathesis. For instance,

written form	spoken form	meaning
kuru	kur	'land snail'
kurū	kurū	'to sink'

In all the existing Kwara'ae literature the lengthened vowels have been spelled in one of two ways: (1) as a single vowel, or (2) as a double vowel. The first alternative fails to distinguish lengthened vowels from normal vowels and can thus hinder the reader's pronunciation and understanding of the text. The second alternative confuses lengthened vowels with double vowels and again can hinder the reader of a text.

The ideal solution would be to have a unique way of representing lengthened vowels to distinguish them from both normal vowels and double vowels. David Gegeo has found such a solution; he is using a macron (-) over the vowel symbol to mark lengthened vowels in his forthcoming Kwara'ae dictionary. The macron can be produced in typewriting by typing a hyphen above the vowel symbol.

It is recommended that the macron be adopted in the standard orthography to represent lengthened vowels. Following is given a list of pairs of Kwara'ae words in which the only sound which distinguishes the words is the difference between a normal vowel and a lengthened vowel. Writers and translators should study this list of words and the useage in the spelling list so that they may understand the difference between normal and lengthened vowels and represent them correctly in future literature. The examples were provided by David Gegeo.

aba	'be surprised'	kuru	'land snail'
abā	'space, area'	kurū	'to sink'
'aba	'wing, arm, leaf'	luda	'load a canoe, ship'
'abā	'jerk up'	ludā	'two thousand yams or taros ready to be exchanged for money'
'ara	'pudding'	ma'a	'father'
'arā	'to scrub, grind'	'ma'ā	'uncooked, raw, unripe'
kafa	'comb'		
kafā	'to comb it'		

## 1.6 Metathesis

In normal speech, the Kwara'ae speaker metathesises, or swaps, the final consonant and vowel of the word. Thus, ngali 'nut' is pronounced ngail in normal speech. The underlying, or unmetathesized, form is generally referred to as the "written" form by Kwara'ae people. This is because the language was written this way in all publications before the 1970's. The metathesized form is referred to by Kwara'ae people as the "spoken" form and it has been the form actually written in some recent publications. Some sample words written in both forms are given below:

underlying form "written" form	metathesized form "spoken" form	meaning
ngali	ngail	'nut'
aoke	aoek	'Auki'
alinga	aliang	'ear'

The process of metathesis is unique to Kwara'ae; it occurs in no other language in the region. The fact that none of the other north Malaitan languages (all of which are closely related to Kwara'ae) has metathesis, is clear evidence that it is an innovation in Kwara'ae. Furthermore, it is a fairly recent innovation and has to have taken place after the dispersion of the north Malaitan languages. The innovation may even have occurred as recently as five or six generations ago. A few older men I questioned said they could remember that when they were young, the old men always spoke the underlying, or "written", form. This at least indicates that metathesis was not as prevalent then as it is now.

In discussing the origin of metathesis with both Kwara'ae men and expatriates, at least three theories for the origin of metathesis have been suggested. Father Jan Snijders, a Roman Catholic priest who was stationed at Dala for many years, has suggested that metathesis may have been invented in order to confound the ancestral spirits. The innovators of metathesis thought that if they changed the pronunciation of the language, the ancestral spirits would no longer be able to understand their speech. A second theory is that metathesis was introduced by its innovators in order to distinguish Kwara'ae from the closely related neighboring dialects. A third idea is that metathesis came about through its innovators' desire to speak faster. Metathesis certainly does have the effect of speeding up the flow of speech in the way it reduces a two syllable word into one syllable, a three or four syllable word into two syllables, and so on.

#### 1.6.1 Choice of underlying, or "written", form

Both the "written" form and the "spoken" form of each word are known and used by all Kwara'ae speakers. The "written" form is pronounced in singing and careful speech, while the "spoken" form is pronounced in normal speech. The problem is to decide which will be used as the standard written form of the language for future publications. It is recommended that the underlying, or "written", form be adopted as the standard for the following reasons:

(1) The "written" form is the underlying, original, and basic form of the word. This is illustrated by some of the following arguments: (a) When a Kwara'ae speaker wants to emphasize a word or pronounce it very clearly to ensure that it is understood, he pronounces the underlying, or "written", form of the word, not the "spoken" form. (b) When I elicited individual words for a word list, the Kwara'ae speaker generally answered back with the "written" form. (c) In all of the surrounding languages there is no metathesis. Thus what is the "written" form in Kwara'ae is actually the only form spoken in normal speech in the surrounding languages. As discussed above, this indicates that the "written" form is the original form of the word and that the change to a metathesized "spoken" form in Kwara'ae is a relatively recent one.

(2) There is a feeling among many Kwara'ae people that the "written" form is proper and standard, while the "spoken" form is colloquial. Because of this, recent publications writing the language in the "spoken" form have met with some opposition.

(3) If the "spoken" form were adopted as the standard for literature publications, it would necessitate a dual standard because in singing only the "written" form is ever pronounced. Thus hymnbooks would still have to be written with the old "written" form. The problem would be further complicated in literature such as a liturgy where some portions are spoken and some sung. Adopting the "spoken" form for the spoken portions and the "written" form for the sung portions would require readers to recognize two different spellings for many words and could cause unnecessary confusion.

(4) If the "written" form is adopted, a word root will be spelled in the same way every time it occurs. If the "spoken" form is adopted, many word roots will have two different spellings, depending on their position in the word. For instance,

"written" form	"spoken" form	meaning
lima	liam	'hand, five'
limaku	limauk	'my hand'
konakona	koankoan	'horn'
konakonana	koankonan	'its horn'
alinga	aliang	'ear'
alingaku	alingauk	'my ear'

The second column shows that the lima root would be spelled in two ways if the "spoken" form were written, lima and liam. The kona root, meaning 'something pointed', is spelled two different ways in the same word, koankonan 'its horn'.

A three syllable root such as alinga 'ear' would have two spellings in the "spoken" form, aliang and ailinga, both of which are different than the alinga spelling which would be used for a sung text. To adopt the unmetathesized "written" form as the spelling standard avoids all these problems of multiple spellings for a single root.

(5) Given the "written" form one can always metathesize it and derive the proper "spoken" form, but the reverse of this is not true. Trying to derive the underlying form from the metathesized form can lead to ambiguity or dead-end derivations. This occurs in at least two instances:

(a) When the consonant in the final syllable of a word is labialized (that is, kw, gw, or ngw), it loses its labialization in the "spoken" form. Thus when there is a final k, g, or ng in the "spoken" form of a word, it could be derived either from k, g, ng, or kw, gw, ngw. For instance, kwakva 'hole, opening' has the "spoken" form kwak. In working back to the underlying form, one might first incorrectly guess \*kwaka instead of kwakwa

(b) When the second to last syllable contains a diphthong ending with the same vowel which is the vowel in the final syllable, the "spoken" form will be ambiguous as to whether there was or was not a diphthong in the underlying form. For instance, gwauku 'my head' has the "spoken" form gwauk. In working back to the underlying form, one might first incorrectly guess \*gwaku instead of gwauku.

(6) The unmetathesized "written" form is the only form spoken in all the surrounding languages. No other north Malaitan language has this process of metathesis. The languages are very closely related and with a little contact are mutually intelligible. The process of metathesis, however, cuts down the degree to which surrounding languages understand Kwara'ae. If the underlying "written" form is adopted as the spelling standard, the words in Kwara'ae will be spelled the same way they are actually pronounced in the neighboring languages. Such a spelling standard would immediately extend the potential readership of Kwara'ae literature to the neighboring groups of Fataleka, Kwaio, Langalanga, Gula'ala, and even all the way north to To'ambaita and Lau. To spell Kwara'ae with the "spoken" form would greatly restrict its usefulness in the surrounding language groups.

### 1.6.2 The process of metathesis and learning to read orally the "spoken" form from the "written" form

Metathesis is a regular process affected primarily by position in the word. It is not completely understood at present, but my present understanding is given here as something for building on in the future. It has already been mentioned that the metathesis process is conditioned by emphasis and style as well as word position. In singing style and very careful spoken styles metathesis does not occur. An orator will switch between metathesized and unmetathesized forms of words in order to emphasize certain points in his speech. Thus the following description of the linguistic environments in which metathesis operates must be viewed as operating with a wider environment of social and semantic contexts which ultimately determine whether or not the linguistic process of metathesis will take place in a given word.

Metathesis means simply the swapping of position of two sounds. In Kwara'ae it is a consonant followed by a normal vowel which change positions. In two and three syllable words, this metathesis occurs only on the final syllable. It can occur only if the final syllable is a consonant followed by a normal vowel. If the word ends with two vowels or a lengthened vowel no metathesis takes place. Therefore,

these words metathesize:

"written"	"spoken"	meaning
suli	suil	'bone'
suliku	suliuk	'my bone'

and these words do not metathesize:

kui	kui	'dog'
'ania	'ania	'eat'
mamangā	mamangā	'air, atmosphere'

When metathesis would result in two like vowels coming together, it reduces to one vowel. Thus kini 'woman' does not yield \*kiin, but simply kin in the "spoken" form.

If a word is four or five syllables in length, the second syllable may metathesize as well as the final one. In a six or seven syllable word, the second, fourth, and final syllables may metathesize. For instance,

"written"	"spoken"	meaning
alinga	aliang	'ear'
alingaku	ailngauk	'my ear'
alingadulu	ailngadul	'their ears'
alingadaro'o	ailngadro'	'they two's ears'
nalufia	naulfia	'bail a canoe'
nalufida	naulfiad	'bail many canoes'
nalufidaro'o	naulfiadro'	'bail two canoes'

Given the "written" form of a word, one can apply the above rules and correctly derive the "spoken" form of a word. These regular metathesis rules should be part of any course designed to teach children or adults to read Kwara'ae. This would enable individuals to correctly produce the "spoken" form of a text when reading aloud.

### 1.7 Summary chart of Kwara'ae phonemes

In the following chart, the phonemes are written with the symbols recommended for the standard orthography.

<u>Consonants</u>	Labial	Alveolar	Velar	Labialized Velar	Glottal
Stops: voiceless		t	k	kw	'
voiced	b	d	g	gw	
Nasals	m	n	ng	ngw	
Fricatives	f	s			
Lateral		l			
Retroflexed flap		r			
<u>Vowels</u>	Front	Central	Back	Lengthened:	
High	i		u	ī	ū
Mid	e		o	ē	ō
Low		a		ā	

## 2. INTRODUCTION TO THE SPELLING LIST AND FINDERLIST

### 2.1 Alphabetization

The words in the spelling list are alphabetized according to the standard alphabetical sequence, with only the following exceptions: (1) ng is treated as a single letter of the alphabet and comes between n and o in the alphabetical sequence. Thus ngali is found after noni. (2) The glottal stop (') is ignored for the purposes of alphabetization. Thus abu 'sacred' and 'abu 'blood' are adjacent entries in the spelling list. (3) In the same way, lengthened vowels are ignored for the purpose of alphabetization. They are alphabetized as though normal vowels.

### 2.2 Glosses

In the spelling list, the English gloss is sometimes preceded by to in order to indicate a verb and by a or an to indicate a noun. This is done only when the English gloss would otherwise be ambiguous. Thus, lango 'a fly' is a noun and lofo 'to fly' is a verb. In the finderlist, English glosses are followed by the following abbreviations when it is necessary to disambiguate: v. 'verb', n. 'noun', adj. 'adjective'.

### 2.3 The finderlist

The English glosses in the finderlist are abbreviated. One may refer back to the spelling list in order to find a more precise definition of the Kwara'ae term. At the end of the finderlist is appended an alphabetical listing of the scientific names of plants and trees. Only those plants and trees which are identified in the spelling list as to scientific name are included.

### 2.4 Pronominal suffixes

When a word ends with a hyphen, it indicates that the word adds a pronominal suffix to indicate possession or otherwise mark it for person as in the case of some prepositions. For example,

gwau-	'head'	gwauku	'my head'
buri-	'behind'	buriku	'behind me'



The complete set of pronominal suffixes is the following  
(Deck 1933:137):

	1st person		2nd person	3rd person
	Inclusive	Exclusive		
Singular	-ku		-mu	-na
Dual	-koro	-mere	-moro	-daro'o
Plural	-kulu	-mili	-mulu	-dulu
Plural	-ka	-mia	-mua	-da

## 2.5 Transitive form of verbs

For many verbs in the spelling list, two forms are given. The first and shorter form, called the intransitive form, represents the action alone. The second and longer form, called the transitive form, represents the action done to a specified person or thing. For example,

afa	'to cut'
afasia	'to cut it'
bu	'to step'
bulia	'to step on it'

In the spelling list, these two forms of the verb are listed together in the following manner:

afa, afasia	'to cut'
bu, bulia	'to step on, tread, stamp, kick'

In every case, the transitive form will end in -a. This is the object suffix which indicates that the object of the action is third person and singular (that is, the action is being done to "it"). To construct the proper form for any other person and number of the the object, remove the final -a and replace it with the form in the chart below. If the form in the chart begins with a hyphen, then it is a suffix and should be added directly to the verb. Otherwise it is a separate word and should follow the verb. If the transitive form ends in a lengthened a, reduce it to a normal a and add the form from the chart.

For example,

afasia 'to cut it'  
 afasida 'to cut them'  
 afasi 'oe 'to cut you'

kafā 'to comb it'  
 kafada 'to comb them'

The complete set of pronouns as object of verb is the following  
 (Deck 1933:135):

	1st person		2nd person	3rd person
	Inclusive	Exclusive		
Singular	nau		'oe	-a; nia
Dual	koro	kero'o	kamoro; koro'o	-daro'o
Plural	kulu	kaili	kamulu; kaulu	----
Plural	kia	kami	kamu	-da; kira
				(neuter) -'i; 'e; -ni

## 3. KWARA'AE SPELLING LIST

aba	be surprised
abā	space, area
'aba	wing, arm, leaf
'abā	jerk up
'aba nini	bamboo knife
abaaba	incomplete, to come short when measured
'abasao	sago that grows in swamp
'abe	take care of, help
'abe	vine sp. with fiber used for making cord; <u>Anondendron paniculaxum</u>
'abisia	carry under the arm
'abisia	put on clothes
'abi	sit close together so as to be touching
abi	to steer a canoe
abota	broken, cracked, hatched (of an egg)
abu	sacred, holy, taboo
'abu-	blood
'abula	bleeding
abula	turn around
abuli	roll
'aburu	cannibal, a giant, wild man
'ada	ten, used in counting coconuts and other certain types of fruit
ada	wake up
adaada'i fanga'a	evening star
'ado'a	tree sp. with edible nut
'a'e one	shore
ae	no
'ae-	foot, leg
'a'ema	story
afa	eagle
afa, afasia	cut, incise

afaafa niu	large red parrot
'afae	sour, bitter
afe	flow, current
'afe	married woman, wife
afi	search for something in grass or person's hair
'afi	help
'afi'o	bush apple, mountain apple; <u>Eugenia malaccensis</u>
afo'i	capsize, turn upside down
afu	half, a piece of
'afu	seaweed sp.
afuma-	fat (n.)
agi, agia	to curse
agio	capsize
ago	hide; hidden
'ai	tree, wood, stick; generic name for magic
'ai garua	dugout canoe
'ainimae	story about history
akalo	spirit of an ancestor; devil
ako	call out, shout, bark (of a dog)
ako	tree sp. good for timber; <u>Pometia pinnata</u>
'ako'ako	hot, stinging
'ako'ako	plant sp. which exudes poison; sore caused by touching this plant
'ako'ako dingo	plant sp., a variety of 'ako'ako which causes a severe burn; <u>Dendrocnide</u> sp.
ala	agree, permit
'ala	bite
ala	fleet of canoes or fishermen standing or swimming in the water
ala'a	to talk
'ala'a	up; on top
'ala'ala	croton; <u>Codiaeum variegatum</u>
ala'anga	message, speech
alafe	love; loving

alafolo	long handled club
'alaga	seaweed sp.
alakau	hawk
'alako	young man, unmarried man
alasia	put a net around a school of fish
ali	wrap around; rope
alimango	crab sp.
alinga bani	deaf
alinga-	ear
alita	tree with edible nuts; <u>Terminalia catappa</u> and <u>Terminalia copelandii</u>
alo	taro
alu	give birth, beget
alu	put, place, set
'alu'alu	single strand of shell money often worn as a necklace
'ama	tree sp. with inedible fruit; <u>Terminalia complanata</u>
'amau	tree sp. with edible leaves and fruit; <u>Ficus copiosa</u>
'ani, 'ania	eat
ano	earth, ground, soil
ano'i	soul, spirit
'anake	white seagull
anu	shake, tremble
anuanu	earthquake
angi	cry, weep, cry (of an animal), ring (of a bell)
angita	when?
ango	crawl, creep
a'o	to fish with a line
'ara	pudding of tapioca or taro and coconut milk; to make such a pudding
'ara, 'arā	to scrub, grind, file
ara	tree sp. which bears the seeds used to make the <u>faleka</u> rattle
ara	wind from the southeast

araara	invoke a ghost to kill someone
ara'inga	marriage, married life
araara'inga	process of getting married, wedding
ara'i	husband, married man; big man, rich man, respected man; term of address to respected man
ara'ikwac	white man
'aranga	spear with three or four wire prongs; pronged arrow
'aranga	swim
'ari	win a contest
'aru	swim
'aru	soft spot on the top of the head
'asai	mango; <u>Mangifera indica</u>
asi	sea; saltwater; salt
'asi	at full
aso	day
asoa	noon; day
'asofe	rat
'asu'asu	earthquake
'ata garo	spider
'atako	deep sea
'ato	difficult; deep (as of water)
'ato	rafter
'au	bamboo, bamboo panpipes
ba	fence
ba	previous
babakini	pumpkin (E), also <u>bobokini</u>
babalita	door made of sago leaves
babu'ula	thick
ba'eko	shark
ba'eko	poisonous snake sp.
baenafa	pineapple (E)
ba'era	greens, vegetables
bakwala	false; a lie

bala	albino; bleached in the sun; pale
bale'o	breadfruit; <u>Artocarpus incisus</u>
balu'a	old, worn and lost its color, pale, faded
bani	shut; crazy
bani, bania	make a wall
banibania	wall
ba'o	make a fire by rubbing two sticks
baosi	pouch (E)
bara	few
bara	platform above fire on which firewood is dried
baru	canoe with raised prow and stern
basi	bow
ba'u	a bump, swelling
ba'ula	tree sp.; <u>Callophyllum kajewskii</u>
bebe	butterfly
bia	arrowroot; tapioca, manioc
biala	tobacco; pipe
bibi	a weight, something used to hold another thing down
bibi	very small (of living things), very young
bibiu	human baby
bi'i fena	lime in a bamboo ready for selling
bila	roe, eggs of fish
bila	to stink, to smell bad
bili	dirt
bili	steal, rob
bili'a	dirty
bili'a	theft
bilika	shut a door
bina	hornbill
bina	shine, flash
binabina	lightning
biru (fa'i biru)	boundary
bisi	menstrual hut, hut for childbirth

bobe'a	fat (adj)
bobokini	pumpkin (E); also <u>babakini</u>
boboro	stick with glowing embers on one end, used to start a fire
boboso 'ae	calf of leg
boe	poisonous fish sp.
bola	pigeon
bolebole	a crazy person
bolebole'a	crazy
bongi	day
bo'tobo'to si 'ae	calf of leg
bora	dark colored
borabora'a	dark blue, deep blue
bore	but
bu	black soil good for planting any crop
bu, bulia	step on something, stamp on something, to kick, to plug a hole
bubi	baby animal or bird
bubu	stare, fasten eye on something
bubu-	buttocks
bubunga	island
bufono	blockade
gulao	grow
buli	cowrie
bulibuli	dirty
bulu	dark brown, black (of people and animals)
bulubulu	cemetery, burial ground
bulubulu	firefly
bulubulu	star
buluka	cow, bullock (E)
buma	fish sp.
bungu (fa'i bungu)	conch shell; shell trumpet
huri-	behind, after
buru	dam in a stream



buru	overgrown with vegetation
buta	parcel, packet
buta memo-	brain
buta-	navel
butete	popato (E)
da'a (gwa'i ga'a)	gecko
dada	flat, level, smooth
dadalo	string made by rolling fibers on thigh
dae	tree sp. with edible leaves; <u>Gnetum gnemon</u>
dafe	cut with an adze
dafe	gold-lip pearl shell
dafo	tree sp.
dako	bowl in which pudding is pounded
dalu, daluma	haul water out of a canoe or boat
daluma	canoe bailer
daluma	poisonous fish sp.
dami	chew betel nut
dangi	daylight, day
dao	arrive
daototo	ring
dara-	forehead
dasa	fog, mist, haze
dau	hold, catch
daufafi, daufafia	hold with a clenched fist
daukulukulu	hanging
daungasi	hold fast, hold strong
daura'i	to hang
dele	used; a very ripe coconut that falls to the ground
denge	crayfish; lobster
dī	gall bladder
di'a	short handled club
didila	slippery
di'ia	same, as the other

dila	slip
dili	cordyline shrub
dingale	tree sp. which grows in mangrove
diro	post
diro gwaofa	center post in house
diro 'idi'idi	side posts of house
dodo	dry river bed, valley with no river in it
dodo, dodoa	put in a bamboo for cooking
dodola	bamboo sp.
doe	big, large
dokodoko	short
dola	mix, mingle with, dissolve, hidden among other things
dole	to delay, to slow
dolo	eel
donga	go behind, follow
donga	join together
do'ofia	to heat, cook in fire, toast, boil water
doru	flying fish
du'a	burned, cooked, lit
du'a, du'afia	to burn, cook, light
du'adu'a	a burn, sore, ulcer
dukwas	virgin forest
duli-	penis
dunga, dungalia	break a connection, come loose
duru	place for storing food inside house
'e'eo	bent
'e'eo'a	crooked
efo, efoa	sort out
'efo, 'efoa	remove covering from something
'efo'efo-	scales of a fish or reptile
ego	to lean
'ere	crooked
ereere	start a fire; raise a family; raise a garden; nursery for a particular kind of crop
eta	one; first

eta, etangia	to begin, start
fa'a-	causative prefix
fa'a, fa'a	hang around the neck
fa'aada	wake someone up
fa'adu'a	to light a fire, to kindle a fire
fa'afa'a	white shell money
fa'afungu, fa'afungua	fill with water, fill to overflowing
fa'afuta	give birth
fa'akwasu, falakwasua	light a candle or lamp
fa'ali, fa'alia	spoil, damage
fa'amanata	teach; teacher
fa'ara'o	to tame
fa'arongo'a	news
fa'arongoa	tell someone about something
fa'asi, fa'asia	leave behind
fa'asui, fa'asua	to finish, complete
fafa	carry on the back
fafada	pandanus sp. used for making umbrella
fafanga	cannibal, a giant, wild man
fafarongo	listen
fafi	on top, above
fafo-	above, on top of
fafonai	day after tomorrow
fai	four
fa'i	classifier for fruit; something round
fa'i	where?
fa'i fenu	container for lime
fa'i ifu	dugong
fa'i kuba gwaroa	carved walking stick
fa'i lato	penis
fa'i lua	a wave (of ocean)
fa'i ngali	a Canarium nut
fa'i ngu	song

fa'i ru	general term for snake
fa'i tafo	large snake sp.
fa'i unu	dry bamboo used for torch
fa'ibo	dividing lines within a garden
faili, failia	to weed
faka	ship; imported, introduced, foreign
fakali	harbor
fakela-	egg
falai	bald
faleka	tree which bears the <u>ra</u> nut from which a rattle worn on on leg while dancing is made
fali	break, to separate
fali	sting ray fish
fali	walk, stride
falisi	grass; garden of yam or prickly yam
falisi (fa'i falisi)	year
falo	cross beam in a house
faluta	to paddle
fana	prickly yam
fana	shoot with a bow
fane	high; to raise
fanoa	village, place
fanga	eat; food
fao	small bird sp.
fao, faosia	weave, plait
faoda	cave
fa'ofa'o	to float, be bouyant
fa'ola	tree sp., bark used for making string; <u>Hibiscus tileacus</u>
faolu	new
farifari	scorpion
farulato	testicles
fasi-	meat, flesh
fasi, fasia	to plant
fata	to talk, speak

fata	hardwood tree sp.; <u>Vitex cofassus</u>
fata'a	message, speech, language
fatala	talkative, welcoming, articulate
fatala-	talk (n), language
fa'u	pandanus; pandanus umbrella
fau	stone
fa'usaka	jump
fa'uta	how?
feko	very large basket
fele	magic for killing people (borrowed from Guadalcanal <u>vele</u> )
fele	squeeze, hold firmly
felofelo	ship
fena	lime used with betel nut; coral
fera	house for unmarried men
fero	hoarse, lose one's voice
ferofero ngidu-	lips
fī	pain
fida	hit with an open hand, slap
fifiro ngidu-	lips
fifiru mā	eyelid
fi'i	classifier for cluster, clump, group
fiku	gather, collect, heap up
fiku'a	a crowd of people, gathering, heap
fili	choose
fina'u	metal fish hook
fiolo	hungry
fiolo'a	famine
firi	always, forever, eternal
firi	tie, twist, bind; claim as one's own
firi	tobacco
firigwau	ten fish
firo	young shoot of bamboo
firu	entangle

firufiru	tangled, entangled
fisu	pluck
fita	how much? how many?
fita-	ten potatoes, taros, yams, bananas
fitona	belief, faith
fito'o	believe
fiu	ginger
fiu	falcon, hawk
fiu	seven
foda	a layer (as of food in a stone oven)
foe, foea	carry on the back
foga	burst open, split
fo'ita'i	turn around
foka	fence for pigs, pig pen
fola	clear sky, calm sea; clean
foli	buy with money
fono	shut
fo'o, fo'osia	bind, tie into a bundle
fo'o, fo'osia	pray
fo'osae	customary men's belt made from rattan
fote	a paddle
fu	fish poison tree; <u>Barringtonia asiatica</u>
fu'a	ashes, fireplace, hearth
fua	carry load on back
fu'a	fight
fua	fruit
fuara	crocodile
fudi	banana
fufu	blunt
fufula	dust, powder
fufula mā-	eyebrow
fufusia	cut a little bit off the end
fu'i ngwae	clan
fula	dust, powder

fulafula	dust, powder
fulafula	spring of water
fuli	happen
fuli	place, site
fuli usi'a	market place
fulia	begin, start
fulinga	origin, birthplace
fulu	a seed which is used in shell money
funu	post in a house
funu	turtle
funu gwaofa	center posts in house
funu 'idi'idi	side posts of house
funga	mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law
fughu	bear fruit
fungu	full
fura	rotten (of wood)
furai	net     GAR vurai 'net; unfold, spread out'
fufu	grated coconut after it has been squeezed
furunamu	sandfly
fusi	cat (E)
futa	be born
fu'u	cough
fu'ufu'u-	chest
gafu	thick fog
gali, galia	go around island
galia	white shell used in shell money
galu	a type of fish net
ganufu	sago grub
gani	ask, beg
gara	pudding of tapioca and coconut milk
garo	spider web
garu	hollow out
gasi, gasia	to tear

gaula	frigate bird
gege	tilted, sideways
gege-	beside
gegero	comb (of a chicken or bird)
geo	megapod, bush turkey
geragera	comb (of a chicken or bird)
gero	mushroom
giogio	unstable, rolling
giosia	tip something over, capsize
goa	black
gogi	something knotted, condensed, round
gogi	a knot in a rope, pit or core of a fruit
gogi 'ai	knot in a tree
gogi fau	small round stone
gogi ka'o	knot in bamboo; drinking bamboo
gogi la'o	ankle
gogi suli	vertebrae
gogo	stooped, weak
golo	large cowrie sp.
golo (fa'i golo)	general term for cowrie shell
gona- (fa'i gona=)	heart
goni, gonia	gather, heap up
gore	frog
gori 'ai	stump of tree
guluma	stones used for oven
gura	heal
gwa'abi	stone oven
gwa'asasu	whale
gwagwae-	armpit
gwa'i fau	small round stone
gwa'i mai	trochus shell
gwa'i salo	cloud
gwali	lizard sp.
gwanala	red hot (of stones), live embers



gwanu lafi	three days ago
gwanu ki	day before yesterday
gwango-	mucus from nose
gwaofa	ridgepole, center beam
gwaofana	roof
gwaogwao	wasp
gwari	cold
gwaroa	to carve; a carved ornamentation
gwata	pig
gwa'u	empty
gwau-	head
gwaugwau	knot in rope or string
gwauna 'aba	shoulder
gwauru	sit
'i fa'i	where?
ī'a	fish
'idi'idi-	side of house, edge of ocean
'idu, 'idua	move
idu, idumia	to count
'ifi, 'ifingia	open
ifu fifiru ma	eyelash
ifu-	hair of head or body, feather
'iki	move, shift
'ila	flint cutting tool, flint adze
'ilala	magic to determine cause of sickness, trouble, or predict disasters
ili	barracuda
'ili	dig
ili-	back (anatomical)
'ili'ilia	a drain, drainage ditch
ilo	oyster
iloilo	mirror, anything that reflects an image
ilu	drink by sucking up with a loud noise, slurp
'ilu	magic used for attracting a wife or husband, or by an enemy to attract someone he wishes to kill

'ima	clam shell
ina	piglet
ina	pregnant
inamae	orphan
'ini	carve
'ini	pinch, squeeze
'io	yes
iolo	canoe made from sewn planks
iro	look carefully at something; spy out a village
iru	wind
'isi, 'isia	to finish, complete
isila	wet
'isila-	end, completion
'ita	variety of basket
ito, itoa	to tie
'iu	yes
ka'aka'a	pudding in the pounded stage prior to mixing with coconut milk
kabilato	t-bandage; to gird the loins
kabileta	rope put around feet to climb a tree
kado	thin (of people, cylindrical things)
kafa	a comb
kafa, kafā	to comb
kafo	water
kai	yam
kaibia	arrowroot, tapioca, manioc
kaibaru	a type of large basket
kaili	we plural (exclusive)
kaka	white cockatoo
kaka, kakasia	split (wood)
kakadu	shell used to make white discs for shell money (galia)
kakamo	large swamp taro
kakarata	a skin disease (fungus)

kakata	mortar in which betel mixture is pounded
kale	give birth, bear a child
kalibeta	rope put around feet to climb a tree
kalitau	rattan sp.
kame	iguana
kame	scratch
kami	we plural (exclusive)
kamoro	you two
kamu	you plural
kamulu	you plural
kanifolo	loincloth; to wear a loincloth
ka'o	bamboo
ka'o asi	bamboo sp. = <u>dodola</u>
ka'oka'o-	windpipe
kara	scrape, make a scratch
karai	chicken
karangi	near, soon
karango	shellfish (generic)
karefo	tree sp.; <u>Prosopis insularis</u>
karokaro	walls, form for building something around
karokaro-	flank, side of person
karu, karumia	beckon by waving
kata	pudding of Canarium nuts with taro
katafo	papaya
kauburu	wind from northwest
kaufuru	lizard sp.
kaulu	you plural
ke'a-	esophagus
ke'a-	gums of mouth, palate
keketo	small bamboo sp.
kelema	magic; use magic
kera	they two
kere	scribble, make a mark
kerekere	write

kero	they two
kero'o	we two (exclusive)
keta	long, tall, high
kete	a rattle held in the hand while dancing
ki	plural marker
ki	we plural (inclusive)
kia	we plural (inclusive)
kilafa	door made from a buttress root
kilu	cave, any hole in the ground
kilu gwa'u	a grave
kini	woman, female
kio'kio	kingfisher
kira	they plural
kiri	thunder
kirio	dolphin, porpoise
kisilai'inia	pour it out
ko'a	mangrove tree
koana	iguana (E) = <u>kame</u>
kobakoba	buttress root
kokala	octopus
koli	sweet corn (E)
kome (fa'i kome)	cone shell; armlet
konakona	sharp pointed thing; thorn
konakona-	horn of an animal
ko'o	grandparent, grandchild
kori	scratch, scrape coconut, cut grass short (scraping it off the ground)
koro	we two (inclusive), us two (inclusive)
koro'o	you two
koso	go down (as of the tide or going down a hill)
kuakua	general term for fowl
kubu	fat (adj)
kufi	to cover
kufi	turn upside down, tip over

kufikufi	empty; empty shell
ku'i	bird sp.
kui	dog
ku'iku'i	tail
kuila	flag
kuku-	throat
kukudu	variety of basket
kukumua	island
kukusu	hermit crab
kulu	we plural (inclusive)
kulu	heavy
kulua	pregnant
kumara	sweet potato
kumu, kumulia	hit with fist, stab
kunu (gwa'i kunu)	pond, puddle, swamp
kurila	black shell disc for shell money and the shell it is made from
kuru	land snail
kurū	to sink
kwa'i	hit with a stick; fall (of a tree)
kwa'iato, kwa'iatōa	bury a dead person or animal
kwa'ikwa'i	axe
kwailasi	tree sp. which exudes poison; <u>Semecarpus</u> sp.
kwaima	friend
kwaima, kwaima ara	to love
kwaioga'i	desire, love
kwairo'oi	obedient
kwakwa (ma'e kwakwa)	hole, opening
kwakwa-	mouth
kwala	rope, string, vine
kwala	swear
kwala basa	liar, superficial talker
kwale	carry, move a heap from one place to another
kwalikwali	morning star

kwalita'i	three days from now
kwalita'i fafo	four days from now
kwalo	rope, string, fishing line
kwalo rara	a climber plant sp.; <u>Cayratia</u>
kwalu	eight
kwanga	pretty, beautiful
kwanga	gun
kwangakwanga	thunder
kwao	white
kwaokwaola	light brown, fair skinned
kwara-	gills
kwari	fish sp. = <u>mamula</u>
kwaro	mother of pearl shell (generic)
kwasa	crocodile
kwasa	ripe (of mango, papaya, fruits)
kwasi	wild, untamed
kwasu	over ripe (of breadfruit); flare up (of a fire or lamp)
kwate	give
kwate'a	gift
kwato	digging stick used for breaking ground to plant potatoes or yams
kwa'u	drink, drown
kwau	thither, away from speaker
kwa'ukwa'u	green coconut for drinking
kwere	frog sp.
la'a	dawn, daybreak
la'a	hand net
labu	fence to keep out enemies
labua	to spear a man or fish
lade	gravel
la'e (fa'i la'e)	bird sp.; wagtail, fantail
lafu	lift up, upll up

lai	long grass. 37
lakelake	tail of bird
lalafe (fa'i lalafe)	stairs
lalafia	pull something
lali	root
lali, lalia	chase
lalili	run, race
lalo	deep (as of water), profound
lama	ten birds, opossums, flying foxes
langa	dry
langi	up, above, sky, heaven
lango	a fly
lango	dry and ready for harvest (as of taro, yam)
la'o	cone shell sp.
lasi	shell of coconut or nut
lasi-	skull
lato	male genitals
la'u	bend, fold, roll up
la'u	more, again
lau, laua	snatch, seize, grab, take something and run
la'ua	cloth
laungi	decoration, ornament
laungi, laungia	decorate
lausu'u	a length of shell money extending from end of thumb to inside of elbow
lau'ua	shrub, bay
le'a	good
leka	go, walk
leka ma'i	come here
lia	see
lia-	mind
liadila	miserable, down-hearted, discouraged, depressed
liato'o	wise
lifa-	tooth, tusk of pig
lifu	huge, immovable

lifurongo	good news, gospel
li'itani	turn a tuber in the fire, turn a post to make it fit
liko	hole in a tree
lima	five
lima-	hand, lower arm
lima- mauili	left hand
lima- 'olo'olo	right hand
linga-	voice
li'o, li'oa	to <del>kill</del> oneself by hanging or suffocation
lita	louse egg
liu	very
liu	walk
lofa	coconut milk
lofo	to fly
loi	snake sp.
lolo	ant
lolo bulu	ant sp., black
lolo guigui	yellow stinging ant
lolo gwaugwau	red ant sp.
lololi	vein, artery
losi	a plant with edible shoot
losi, losia	squeeze, twist, wring out
loto	suck, seep into the ground
lua	high tide
lua-	neck
lualua	rough sea, waves
luda	load a ship, canoe, car
luda baosi	yam sp.
ludā	two thousand yams or taros ready to be exchanged for money
lui, luia	to forbid, stop
luka	yam sp.
lulu	search for
lulunga	a parcel of coconut milk and greens to put into stone oven



luma	house for married couple with family
lumu	moss, algae
lumulumu	moss, algae
lusu	rib of canoe used for seat
lusu	yam sp.
lu'ulu'u	family
ma	and
mā	door, opening
mā-	eye, face
mā olofolo	window
mā rodo	blind
ma'a	father
ma'ā	uncooked, raw, unripe
mabota	shell sp.
mabua	millipede
madako	to make light; light, clear (of air)
madakola'a	light (n)
madala'a	outer space
madama	moon, month
mae	die; dead
ma'e ala'anga	a word
ma'e fata'a	a word
ma'e ta'elo	gate
mae'a	very sick; serious illness
mafo	heal; a sore which has healed
mafula	fire
maga	seed
magelo	centipede sp.
mai	ebb tide, low tide, dry (reef)
ma'i	hither, toward the speaker
ma'i buri	later
make	ripe (of fruits, nuts)
makwaina	husband and wife
malimae	enemy

maliu	sleep
maliu bole	dream
malo	poisonous snake sp.
malua	betel nut and palm
mamala	skin of taro
mamaliu'a	sleepy
mamalo	rest, have a spell
mamana	true
mamangā	air, atmosphere
mamu	bait
mamufua	tree sp. good for timber
mamula	large fish sp.
māna dara-	forehead
māna lima-	wrist
māna susu	nipple
manata	tame
manata	think, remember
manimani mafula	sparks from fire
manu	eagle, sacred bird (said to aviod saying <u>afa</u> , the real term)
mangamangā	air, atmosphere
mango	breathe; breath, soul
ma'oi	broken
maomao'a	smooth
marako	green
maruku	tired
mata'i	sick
ma'u	afraid
maua	mature, ready for picking put not yet ripe, metaphorically used of people
mauli	left side, left arm; to use the left arm
mauri	living, alive
mea-	tongue
meamea	stick out the tongue quickly, lick
meamea	lightning

mela	brown
meme	soft, ground up, chewed (of food)
meo	red
miga	little
mini	urine; urinate
mo'a	mud
moa	vomit
mo'ala'a	muddy
mokala'a	muddy
moko	smell, odor, stink
mokofana	steam
mola	end a fast
mola'a	feast at end of fasting
mole	many, countless
moli	citrus
molimoli'a	round
momole	pandanus sp.
mo'osu bole	dream.
mosa	chew betelnut; a tree sp., fruit of which is used for a temporary red dye
na'area	cook in fire
nagu	mourn
naki	flint
nalu, nalufia	scoop up, bail a canoe, catch fish by building a dam across a stream to create a pool, then scooping out trapped fish
nalunalu	a canoe bailer
nama	or
namo	deep place in river or reef
namu	whip, beat, splash
nana-	pus
nanao	charcoal
na'o	in front, before in time
nau	I, me
ne'ana	that, there
ne'e	this, here

nemanema'a	thin (of flat things)
nia	he, she, it, him, her
nini	sharp edged
nini'ari	now, today
ninima-	side of the body, side of a thing
niu	coconut
noa'a	no
noa'a dangalu	never, not at all, hardly any
noa'a liu	never, absolutely not
no'ana	lost
noema	or
noni-	body
nonoto	almost ripe coconut, cannot be heard when shaken; dumb man
no'o	bird, opossum
noto	speechless, unable to speak
nu'i	nest made from anything but twigs
nunu-	shadow, image, picture
nuta	small squid sp.
nu'u	reef
ngada	twig, nest made from twigs
ngae-	excrement
ngali	<u>Canarium indicum</u> tree and nut; any edible nut
ngali-(fa'i ngali)	year (eg. the time a <u>ngali</u> crop takes to mature)
ngali, ngalia	carry, take, bring
ngangari (fa'i ngangare)	leech
ngaru	mucus in eye
ngasi	hard, firm, strong
ngasingasi'a	strong
ngasingasi'anga	power, authority, strength
ngela	baby, child
ngela bibiu'a	newborn baby
ngeso	ripe (of bananas, breadfruit)

ngidu-	lips	
ngingi dua	bee; honey	
ngisu	to spit	
ngisu-	saliva	GAR ngusu 'blow one's nose'
ngongora	lizard sp.	
ngongora	cape, point	
ngongora-	nose	
ngori	bush rat	
ngu	sing	
ngunguru	snake sp.	
nguta	eat	
ngwa'a	rotten (of vegetables or flesh)	
ngwae	man, male, person, human being	
ngwa'e	to dance	
ngwafila	centipede	
ngwaka	very soft (of foods that are cooked or fruit and vegetables that are over ripe)	
ngwala	Malaita	
ngwaluda	easy	
ngwanga ru	worn <sup>m</sup>	
ngwangwa	worm	
ngwara'u	soft; easy	
ngwaro	old (of people and living things)	
ngwata'uta'u	weak	
ngwa'u	beach de mar (beche de mer)	
o	or	
'o'a	wooden drum, wooden gong	
'oba	gorge, ravine, steep valley	
'odo, 'odoa	to wall	
'odoa	a wall	
'odoa bufono	walls at ends of house	
'oe	you (singular)	
'ofa	betel pepper	
'ofodangi	morning	

'ofodangi ta'a	dawn
oga	desire
oga tiu	stomach
oga-	intestine
ogata'a	angry
'oi, 'oia	break
olisi	answer
olo	to fall
olo fana 'ae-	sole of foot
olofa-	under
oloolo	swim
one	sand
'oni-	excrement; defecate
ono	six
ono	swallow
ongi	water; catch water in pail or bamboo
ongia	fill, pour in
ongila	watery (as of eyes)
ongo, ongoa	rub, wipe
o'o	work
'o'o	wooden gong, drum
ōko	powder for blackening teeth
o'ola	garden
'o'olo	right, correct
ore	left over; remain, be left out, be without
ore	to be at enmity, not speaking to one another, = <u>ula</u>
'oro	many
osi, osia	dismantle, take to pieces
'osi	lake
osi'ana	because of
'oso	false; to lie
'ota	betel nut and palm
ote	a plain
otea	tired

'oto	poke with something
'oto'usu	spear with barbed point
ra	hard nut sp.; <u>Pangium edule</u> ; a rattle worn on the leg for dancing
rabi	alongside; to cuddle
rade	gourd and the creeper which bears it; <u>Joinvillea elegans</u> ; reed
ra'e	climb a hill or tree, go up
rae	traditional burial ground of ancestors
rafu	white powdery substance such as ashes, lime, certain rocks; to whiten something by rubbing white powder
ra'i	leaf
raka-	nose
rako	shrub sp.
raku	a sprout, shoot, point; sharp, pointed
raku	old garden, garden
ra'o	join by sewing
ra'o	tame
rao	work
raola	clear (as of water)
rara	branch
rara	to be warmed by a fire
rara	tree sp.; <u>Erythrina orientalis</u>
ratai	stick, adhere; sticky
rau	leaf
rau'ai	breadfruit; <u>Artocarpus incisus</u>
re, resia	scrape off the charred skin of a roasted tuber
reba	wide, flat
reba 'ai	plank, sheet of wood
reba salo	sheet of iron
rebasia	slice something, split
re'e	eat
refofo-	scales of fish or reptile
ria	carbuncle

ria	ginger used in magic
ribi	fin of fish
ribiribi	fin of fish
ro	two (adj)
rodo	night
roko	carve
rongo, rongoa	hear
ro'o	obey
ro'o ki	yesterday
rorodo	tomorrow
ru	thing
ru ki	everything
rua	two (counting number)
rumu	shell used to make red shell money (safi)
ru'u	a grotto in reef, rocks or river where sharks, octopus, crocodiles, etc. hide
ru'u	enter
sada	woman's grass skirt
sae-	inside, middle
saea	say, speak
saela-	fat (n)
saela'a	happy
saena lima-	palm of hand
sa'engisu-	lungs
saeta'a	angry
safao	beetle grub sp.
safi	red shell money
safila	centipede
safisi	house with a floor in it
safita	between
safu	eat
safu	lime used in magic
saga	straight, righteous
sai, saiana	know, understand



saka	menstruate
sakali	fence
sakosako'a	yellow
sakwalo	flying fox
salo	a skin disease, fungus which causes white spots
salo	iron
salo	sky
salo	sweep
salofa-	middle
sane	termite, white ant
sango	cordyline shrub
sao	sago palm
sara	beach, shore; wash ashore (as of driftwood)
sari'i	young woman, unmarried woman, daughter
saro'e	young person
sasafa-	thigh
sasalo	broom
sasate	beard
sasi-	younger brother or sister
sasi, sasia	do
sasu	smoke
sata-	name
sate-	chin, jaw
sato	sun
sau	bonito
sau, saungia	to pound a pudding or betel mixture
sa'u, sa'ua	wash
sa'ulafi	evening
saulu	yam sp.
saunga'i	build, make
saungi	kill
sele	knife
sifo	breeze, wind coming down from mountains
sig-	claw, fingernail, toenail

sigā	open with stick
si'i	to break wind, sputter
sikasika	clean
sikisiki mafula	sparks from fire
siko	locust
siko	nine
sila	swim on the back
sili	exalt someone in song
sima	arrow
simi	generic name for mosquito, sandfly, etc; mosquito
simi	scratch with one finger, touch with one finger to get attention
simi gwa'igwa'i	mosquito sp.
simi sakwalo	mosquito sp.
sina	shine, light up
sina	sun
sina ego folo	afternoon
sinama	door
sira-	belly (exterior)
sis	beetle
sis	to hiss
siu	bathe, swim
so'i	firewood
soke	false; to lie
songe, songea	peel a banana, orange, etc.
songesonge	skin of potato, kumara, yam
su	dive
su, sufafia	to cover
sua	a spear; something that is violated
suala	tree sp.; <u>Alstonia scholaris</u> ; = <u>taba'a</u>
su'amango	tree sp.; <u>Macaranga</u> spp.
suba'e	digging stick used for planting taro
subi	war club with diamond shaped head; southern cross

subusubu	cockroach
sufu	hole
sufu, sufungia	make a hole
sufusufu	cockroach
sui	finished, completed, previous
suila-	end
sula	sap, juice, water of coconut
sula	something that sticks out or protrudes
suli-	bone
suli doe	back bone
suli karokaro-	ribs
suli kaula	collar bone
suli rabi	small bone in forearm
sulobelobe, sulobelobea	tickle
sulu	juice, sap
sulu	pick up, lift
surake	small parrot
surao	parrot sp.
susu	milk
susu-	breast
susuli, susulia	peel potato, yam, papaya, etc. with knife
susuru	black vine sp. used to make a woman's belt
susuru (gwa'i susuru)	customary belt worn by married women
su'u	inlet
su'umoko	search for something by following the smell
su'usu'u	angle, corner
su'usu'u	small boil that has come to a head
su'usu'u	to persist, demand irresistably
su'usu'una lima-	elbow
ta kula	part
ta'a	bad
taba'a	tree sp. used for making canoes; <u>Alstonia scholaris</u>
ta'e	get up, stand up, arise, come up (as of tide), embark, recuperate

ta'e	husk, peeling
tae	what?
ta'ena	today, now
ta'eta'e	outside part of something, shell, husk, skin
tafa	open up, come out from, flow (as pus from a boil or a blocked stream that is cleared)
tafa'a	passage in reef, mountain pass
tafai	pandanus sp. used for making umbrella
tafangia	drill a hole, open up a thing
tafe	bench, bed, platform, table
tafi	run away, flee
tafu	rubbish
tafulu	ten (of pigs, shell money)
tafusi 'oro	rainbow
ta'i	one, single
tai	who?
tai, tai'ia	sew
taka	to flower, a flower
taka	of grey hair, turning grey
tala	road, path
tala 'au	bamboo panpipes
tala ngwaluda	easy
tala ngwara'u	easy
talafia	miss the mark, fail
talanga'i	one hundred
tala'u	cross a stream on a log or bridge
tala'u	yes, of course
tanga	forked, branched; groin
tangafala	ten
tara	pandanus sp.
tasisi	long swamp grass; small tree sp.; <u>Guettarda speciosa</u>
tatafe	floor, platform
tatalau'a	bridge

tatali	hibiscus shrub and flower; <u>Hibiscus</u> <u>rosa</u>
tatara kunu	dragon fly
tau	far
taufi (kwai taufi)	swear
ta'ufia	wash something
te'a	mother
teo	lie down
ti	some
ti ai	some
ti'iti'i	small, little
tikitiki	earthquake
tiko	fishhook made of bone or shell
titiu	half coconut shell used as spoon or cup
tiu	bowl in which pudding is pounded, = <u>dako</u>
to'a	group of people
toda	cough
toda	earn, acquire, inherit
tofonga'i	middle
tofonga'i 'ai	trunk of tree
tofonga'i rodo	midnight
tolo	bush, inland, mountainous interior
to'o	get, succeed, hit the mark, fall (of rain)
to'o	half
to'o	related (of people), belong (of possessions)
to'oba	next, higher (in elevation) than the speaker
to'ofolo	ford a river, wade
to'ongia	fill a basket, put into, pack
to'osia	throw, throw away    put sage thatch on a roof
totoro	boiling, bubbling
tou	crane
tua	sit, stay, remain, be situated
tua bisi	menstruate, stay in menstrual hut
tua'a	extended family, descent group, those who live together

tufu	stone axe used for killing men, not for cutting
tufu, tufua	to cut, chop, fell a tree.
tufunga-	middle
tufutufu	adze
tutulua	carry on the shoulder
'u	louse
ū	stand
u'a	crab
'ua	old of inanimate things
ua (fa'i ua)	mountain
ubunga	a boil, swelling
udu	a drop of water
udu	sea worm sp., palolo worm
'ue (fa'i 'ue)	rattan
ufi	to fill, blow
ufi	yam
ufu	sugar cane
'ufu	belch, burp
'ufu'ufu	frog sp., = 'u'ufu
'uga	complain; complaining, murmuring
'ui	throw, shoot
'ula	to be at enmity, not speaking to one another
uli	blacken
'uli-	skin, bark of tree
'uli'uli-	skin
ulu	three
'uluga	meat of a clam
umu	stones for oven, = <u>guluma</u>
'unu	large bush lizard sp.
unu	torch, light
unga	clear a garden
ura	crayfish, shrimp
'uri	now, today

uri	step on, tread
uru	dew on ground
'uru	widow
uruuru	dew on leaves
uruuru-	knee
usi	barter, exchange goods, sell at market, buy at market
usi'a	market place, the process of selling
usulangai, usulangainia	push
uta	rain (n)
'u'u-	finger, toe
'u'ufu	frog sp.

## 4. ENGLISH FINDERLIST

above	fafi, fafo-, langi
acquire	toda
adhere	ratai
adze	'ila, tufutufu
afraid	ma'u
after	buri-
afternoon	sina ego folo
again	la'u
agree	ala
air	mamangā, mangamangā
albino	bala
algae	lumu, lumulumu
alive	mauri
alongside	rabi
always	firi
and	ma
angle	su'usu'u
angry	ogata'a, saeta'a
ankle	gogi la'o
answer	olisi
ant	lolo
ant sp.	lolo bulu, lolo guigui, lolo gwaugwau, sane
apple, mountain	'afi'o
area	abā
arise	ta'e
arm	'aba-, 'aba'aba-, lima-
armlet	kome
armpit	gwagwae-
arrive	dao
arrow	sima
arrowroot	bia, kaibia



artery	lololi
ashes	fu'a
ask	gani
atmosphere	mamangā, mangamangā
authority	ngasingasi'anga
away from speaker	kwau
axe	kwa'ikwa'i, tufu
baby	bibiu, bubi, ngela
back	ili-
back bone	suli doe
bad	ta'a
bail	dalū, dalumia, nalu, nalufia
bailer	daluma, nalunalu
bait	mamu
bald	falai
bamboo	'au, ka'o
bamboo sp.	dodola, fa'i unu, ka'o asi, keketo
banana	ba'u, fudi
bark (of a dog)	ako
bark of tree	'uli-
barracuda	ili
barter	usi
basket	feko, ita, kaibaru, kukudu
bathe	siu
bay	lau'ua
beach	sara
bear a child	kale
bear fruit	fungu
beard	sasate
beat	namu
beautiful	kwanga
because of	osi'ana

beche-de-mer	ngwa'u
beckon	karu, karumia
bed	tafe
bee	ngingi dua
beetle	sisi
beetle grub sp.	safao
before	na'o-
beg	gani
beget	alu
begin	eta, etangia, fulia
behind	buri-
belch	'ufu
belief	fitona
believe	fito'o
belly (exterior)	sira-
belong	to'o
belt	fo'osae, susuru
bench	tafe
bend	la'u
bent	'e'eo
beside	gege-
betel nut and palm	malua, 'ota
betel pepper	'ofa
between	safita
big	doe, lifu
bind	firi, fo'o, fo'osia
bird	manu, no'o
bird sp.	'anake, afaafa niu, alakau, bola, fao, gaula, geo, karai, kiokio, ku'i, la'e, surake, surao, tou
birthplace	fulinga
bite	'ala
bitter	'afae
bleeding	'abula

blind	mā rodo
blockade	bufono
blood	'abu-
blow	ufi
blue	bora
blunt	fufu
body	noni-
boil (v.)	do'ofia
boil (n.)	su'usu'u, ubunga
boiling	totoro
bone	suli-
bonito	sau
born	futa
boundary	biru, fa'ibo
bouyant	fa'ofa'o
bow	basi
bowl	dako, tiu
brain	buta meme-
branch	rara
branched	tanga
breadfruit	bale'o, rau'ai
break	dunga, dungalia, fali, 'oi, 'oia
break wind	si'i
breast	susu-
breath	mango
breathe	mango
bridge	tatalau'a
bring	ngali, ngalia
broken	abota, ma'oi
broom	sasalo
brother	sasi-
brown	bulu, kwaokwaola
bubbling	totoro

build	saunga'i
bullock	buluka
bump	ba'u
burial ground	bulubulu, rae
burn (n.)	du'adu'a
burn (v.)	du'a
burp	'ufu
burst open	foga
bury	kwaiaoa
bush	tolo
but	bore
butterfly	bebe
buttocks	bubu-
buttress root	kobakoba
buy	foli, usi
calf of leg	bo'obo'o si 'ae-, boboso 'ae-
call out	ako
calm	folo
Canarium tree and nut	ngali
cannibal	'aburu, fafanga
canoe	'ai garua, baru, iolo
cape	ngongora
capsize	afo'i, agio, giosia
carbuncle	ria
carry	kwale, ngali, ngalia
carry on the back	fafa, foe, foea, fua
carry on the shoulder	tutulua
carry under the arm	'abisia
carve	gwaroa, 'ini, roko
cat	fusi
catch	dau
causative prefix	fa'a

cave	faoda, kilu
cemetery	bulubulu, rae
centipede	ngwafila, safila
centipede sp.	magelo
charcoal	nanao
chase	lali
chest	fu'ufu'u-
chew betel nut	dami, mosa
chewed	meme
chicken	karai
child	ngela
chin	sate-
choose	fili
chop	tufu, tufua
citrus	moli
claim	firi
clam meat	'uluga
clam shell	'ima
clan	fu'i ngwae
claw	siga-
clean	folo, sikasika
clear (adj.)	folo, madako, raola
clear a garden	unga
climb	ra'e
close (v.)	fono
cloth	la'ua
cloud	gwa'i salo
club	alafolo, di'a, subi
clump	fi'i
cluster	fi'i
cockatoo	kaka
cockroach	sufusufu

coconut	niu
coconut, drinking	kwa'ukwa'u
coconut grated	furu
coconut, nearly ripe	nonoto
coconut, ripe	dele
coconut milk	lofa
coconut shell	titiu
cold	gwari
collar bone	suli kaula
collect	fiku
comb	kafa
comb of bird	gegero-, geragera
come	leka ma'i
come out from	tafa
complain	'uga
complete (v.)	fa'asui, fa'asua, 'isi, 'isia
completed	sui
completion	'isila-
conch shell	bungu
cone shell	kome, la'o
cook	do'ofia, du'a, du'afia
cook in fire	na'area
coral	fena
Cordyline shrub	dili, sango
corn	koli
corner	su'usu'u
correct	'o'olo
cough	fu'u, toda
count	idu, idumia
countless	mole
cover (v.)	kufi, su, sufafia
cowrie (generic)	fa'i golo
cowrie sp.	buli, golo

crab	u'a
crab sp.	alimango, kukusu
cracked	abota
crane	tou
crawl	ango
crayfish	denge, ura
crazy	bani, bolebole'a
creep	ango
creeper sp.	rade
crocodile	fuara, kwasa
crooked	'e'eo'a, 'ere
cross a stream	tala'u
cross beam	falo
croton	'ala'ala
crowd of people	fiku'a
cry	angi
cuddle	rabi
current	afe
curse	agi, agia
cut	afa, afasia, fufusia, tufu, tufua
cut grass	kori
cut with adze	dafe
dam	buru
damage	fa'ali, fa'alia
dance (v.)	ngwa'e
dark-coloured	bora
daughter	sari'i
daughter-in-law	funga
dawn	'ofodangi ta'a, la'a
day	aso, asoa, bongi, dangi
daybreak	la'a
daylight	dangi

dead	mae
deaf	alinga bani
decorate	laungi, laungia
deep	'ato, lalo, namo
defecate	'oni-
delay	dole
demand	su'usu'u
depressed	liadila
desire	kwaioga'i, oga
devil	akalo
dew	uru, uruuru
die	mae
difficult	'ato
dig	'ili
digging stick	kwato, suba'e
dirt	bili
dirty	bili'a, bulibuli
discouraged	liadila
dismantle	osi
dissolve	dola
ditch	'ili'ilia
dive	su
do	sasi, sasia
dog	kui
dolphin	kirio
door	babalita, kilafa, mā, sinama
dragon fly	tatara kunu
drain	'ili'ilia
dream	maliu bole, mo'osu bole
drill	tafangia
drink	ilu, kwa'u
drop of water	udu
drown	kwā'u



drum	'o'a, 'o'o
dry	langa, lango, mai
dugong	fa'i ifu
dumb man	nonoto
dust	fufula, fula, fulafula
eagle	afa, manu
ear	alinga-
earn	toda
earth	ano
earthquake	anuanu, 'asu'asu, tikitiki
easy	ngwaluda, ngwara'u, tala ngwaluda, tala ngwara'u
eat	'ani, 'ania, fanga, nguta, re'e, safu
ebb tide	mai
edge	'idi'idi-
eel	dolo
egg	fakela-
eggs of fish	bila
eggs of louse	lita
eight	kwalu
elbow	su'usu'una lima-
embark	ta'e
embers	boboro, gwanala
empty	gwa'u, kufikufi
encircle	kali
end (n.)	'isila-, suila-
end a fast	mola
enemy	malimae
enmity	ore, 'ula
enter	ru'u
esophagus	ke'a-
eternal	firi
evening	sa'ulafi
evening star	adaada'i fanga'a

everything	ru ki
exalt	sili
exchange goods	usi
excrement	ngae-, 'oni-
eye	mā-
eyebrow	fufula mā-
eyelash	ifu fifiru mā
eyelid	fifiru mā
face	mā-
faded	balu'a
fail	talafia
fair-skinned	kwaokwaola
faith	fitona
falcon	fiu
fall	'asi, kwa'i, olo, to'o
false	bakwala, 'oso, soke
family	lu'ulu'ua, tua'a
famine	fiolo'a
fantail	la'e
far	tau
fat (adj.)	bobe'a, kubu
fat (n.)	afuma-, saela-
father	ma'a
father-in-law	funga
feast	mola'a
feather	ifu-
fell a tree	tufu, tufua
female	kini
fence	ba, foka, labu, sakali
few	bara
fight	fu'a
file	'ara, 'arā

fill	fa'afungu, ongia, to'ongia, ufi
fin	ribi, ribiribi
find	daoto'o
finger	'u'u-
finger nail	sig-
finish	'isi, fa'asui
finished	sui
fire	mafula
firefly	bulubulu
fireplace	fu'a
firewood	so'i
firm	ngasi
first	eta
fish	i'a
fish sp.	boe, buma, daluma, doru, kwari, mamula
fish with a line (v.)	a'o
fish-hook	fina'u, tiko
five	lima
flag	kuila
flank	karokaro-
flare up	kwasu
flash	bina
flat	dada, reba
flee	tafi
fleet	ala
flesh	fasi-
flint	'ila, naki
float	fa'ofa'o
floor	tatafe
flow	afe, tafa
flower	taka
fly (n.)	lango
fly (v.)	lofo

flying fish	doru
flying fox	sakwalo
fog	dasa, gafu
fold	la'u
follow	donga
food	fanga
foot	'ae-
forbid	lui
ford a river	to'ofolo
forehead	dara-, māna dara-
foreign	faka
forest	dukwasi
forever	firi
forked	tanga
form (n.)	karokaro
four	fai
fowl	kuakua
friend	kwaima
frigate bird	gaula
frog	gore
frog sp.	kwere, 'ufu'ufu, 'u'ufu
front	na'o-
fruit	fa'i, fua
full	fungu
gall bladder	dī
garden	falisi, o'ola, raku
gate	ma'e, ta'elo
gather	fiku, goni
gecko	da'a
genitals, male	lato-
get	to'o
get up	ta'e

giant (n.)	'aburu, fafanga
gift	kwate'a
gills	kwara-
ginger	fiu, ria
gird	kabilato
give	kwate
give birth	alu
go	leka
go around	kali
go around island	gali
go down	koso
go up	ra'e
gold-lip pearl shell	dafe
gong	'o'a, 'o'o
good	le'a
good news	lifurongo
gorge	'oba
gospel	lifurongo
gourd	ræde
grab	lau, laua
grandchild	ko'o
grandparent	ko'o
grass	falisi
grass sp.	lai, tasisi
grave	kilu gwa'u
gravel	lade
green	marako
greens	ba'era
grey hair	taka
grind	'ara
groin	tanga
grotto	ru'u
ground	ano

ground up	meme
group	fi'i, to'a
grow	bulao
grub	ganafu
gums	ke'a-
gun	kwanga
hair	ifu-
half	tabali, to'o
hand	lima-
hang	daura'i, li'o
hang around neck	fa'a, fa'ā
hanging	daukulukulu
happen	fuli
happy	saele'a
harbor	fakali
hard	ngasi
hatched	abota
hawk	alakau, fiu
haze	dasa
he	nia
head	gwau-
heal	gura, mafo
heap up	fiku, goni, gonia
hear	rongo, rongoa
heart	gona-
hearth	fu'a
heat (v.)	do'ofia
heaven	langi
heavy	kulu
help	'abe, 'afi
here	ne'e
Hibiscus	tatali

hidden	ago, dola
hide (v.)	ago
high	fane, keta
higher	to'oba
hiss	sisi
hit	fida, kumu, kumulia, kwa'i
hit the mark	to'o
hither	ma'i
hoarse	fero
hold	dau, daufafi, daufafia, daungasi, fele
hole	kilu, kwakwa, liko, sufu
hollow out	garu, garua
holy	abu
honey	ngingi dua
horn	konakona-
hornbill	bina
hot	'ako'ako, gwanala
house	fera, luma, safisi
how many?	fita
how much?	fita
how?	fa'uta
huge	lifu
human being	ngwae
hundred	talanga'i
hungry	fiolo
husband	ara'i
husband and wife	makwaina
husk	ta'e, ta'eta'e
hut	bisi
I	nau
iguana	kame, koana
illness	mae'a
image	nunu-

immovable	lifu
imported	faka
incise	afa, afasia
infant	bibiu
inherit	toda
injection	'oto
inland	tolo
inlet	su'u
inside	sae-
intestine	oga-
invoke a ghost	araara
iron	reba salo, salo
island	bubunga, kukumua
it	nia
jaw	sate-
jerk up	'abā
join	donga, ra'o
juice	sula, sulu
jump	fa'usaka
kick	bu, bulia
kill	saungi, saungia
kindle	fa'adu'a
kingfisher	kiokio
knee	uruuru-
knife	'aba nini, sele
knot	gogi, gogi 'ai, gogi ka'o, gwaugwau
know	sai, saiana
lake	'osi
language	fata'a, fatala-
large	doe, lifu
later	ma'i buri



layer	foda
leaf	'aba-, ra'i, rau
lean	ega
leave	fa'asi, fa'asia
leech	ngangare
left hand	lima- mauili
left over	ore
leg	'ae--
level	dada
liar	kwala basa
lick	meamea
lie	'oso, bakwala, soke
lie down	teo
lift	sulu
lift up	lafu
light (n.)	unu, madakola'a
light (v.)	du'a, fa'adu'a, fa'akwasua, madako
light up	sina
lightning	binabina, meamea
lime	bi'i fena, fena, safu
lips	ferofero ngidu-, fifiro ngidu-, ngidu-
listen	fafarongo
little	miga, ti'iti'i
living	mauri
lizard sp.	gwali, kame, kaufuru, koana, kofuru, ngongora, 'unu
load (v.)	luda
lobster	denge
locust	siko
loincloth	kanifolo
long	keta
look	iro
lost	no'ana
louse	'u

louse egg	lita
love	alafe, kwaima, kwaioga'i
loving	alafe
lungs	sa'engisu-
magic	'ai, fele, 'ilala, 'ilu, kelema
make	saunga'i
Malaita	ngwala
male	ngwae
man	ngwae
mango	'asai
mangrove tree	ko'a
manioc	bia, kaibia
many	mole, 'oro
mark	kere
market place	fuli usi'a, usi'a
marriage	ara'inga
married life	ara'inga
married man	ara'i
married woman	'afe
mature	maua
meat	fasi-
megapod bird	geo
menstrual hut	bisi
menstruate	saka, tua bisi
message	ala'anga, fata'a
middle	sae-, salofa-, tofonga'i, tufunga-
midnight	tofonga'i rodo
milk	susu
millipede	mabua
mind	lia-
mingle	dola
mirror	iloilo
miserable	liadila

miss	talafia
mist	dasa
mix	dola
month	madama
moon	madama
more	la'u
morning	'ofodangi
morning star	kwalikwali
mortar	kakata
mosquito	simi
mosquito sp.	simi gwa'igwa'i, simi sakwalo
moss	lumu, lumulumu
mother	te'a
mother-in-law	funga
mountain	ua
mountainous interior	tolo
mourn	nagu
mouth	kwakwa-
move	'idu, 'idua, 'iki, kwale, lu'ulu'u
mucus from nose	gwango-
mucus in eye	rgaru
mud	mo'a
muddy	to'ala'a, mokaia'a
murmuring	'aga
mushroom	gero
name	ata-
navel	luta-
near	karangi
neck	lua-
nest	nu'i, ngada
net	furai, galu, la'a
never	noa'a dangalu, noa'a liu

new	faolu
news	fa'arongo'a
next	to'oba
night	rodo
nine	siko
nipple	māna susu-
no	ae, noa'a
noon	asoa
nose	ngongora-, raka-
not at all	noa'a dangalu
now	nini'ari, ta'ena, 'uri
nut	ngali
nut sp.	ra

obedient	kwairo'oi
obey	ro'o
octopus	kokala
odor	moko
old	ngwaro, 'ua
on top	'ala'a, fafi
on top of	fafo-
one	eta, ta'i
one hundred	talanga'i
open (v.)	tafa, tafangia
open (adj.)	'ifi
open with stick	sigā
opening	kwakwa, mā
oppossum	no'o
or	nama, noema, o
orange	mela
origin	fulinga
ornament	laungi
ornamentation	gwaroa

orphan	inamae
outside	ta'eta'e
oven	guluma, gwa'abi
oven stones	umu
overgrown	buru
oyster	ilo
pack (v.)	to'ongia
packet	buta
paddle (n.)	fote
paddle (v.)	faluta
pain	fī
palate	ke'a-
pale	bala, balu'a
palm of hand	saena lima-
palolo worm	udu
pandanus sp.	fa'u, fafada, momole, tafai, tara
panpipes	'au, tala 'au
papaya	katafa
parcel	buta, lulunga
parrot sp.	afaafa niu, surake, surao
part	ta kula
pass, mountain	tafa'a
passage in reef	tafa'a
path	tala
pearl shell (generic)	kwaro
peel (v.)	songe, songea, susuli, susulia
peeling	ta'e
penis	duli-, fa'i lato
permit	ala
persist	su'usu'u
person	ngwae
pick up	sulu

picture	nunu-
pig	gwata
pig pen	foka
pigeon	bola
piglet	ina
pinch	'ini
pineap le	baenafa
pipe	biala
pit of fruit	gogi
place (n.)	fanoa, fuli
place (v.)	alu
plain (n.)	ote
plait	fao
plank	reba 'ai
plant (v.)	fasi
plant sp.	'ako'ako, 'ako'ako dingo, losi
platform	tafe, tatafe
pluck	fisu
plug a hole	bu, bulia
plural marker	ki
point (nf land)	ngongora
pointed	konakona, raku
poke	'oto
pond	kunu
porpoise	kirio
post	diro, funu
potato	butete, kumara
pouch	baosi
pound	sau, saungia
pour in	ongia
pour out	kisilai'inia
powder	fufula, fula, fulafula
powder, black	ōko
powder, white	rafu

power	ngasingasi'anga
pray	fo'o, fo'osia
pregnant	ina, kulua
pretty	kwanga
previous	ba, sui
profound	lalo
protrude	sula
pudding	'ara, gara, ka'aka'a, kata
puddle	kunu
pull	lalafia
pull up	lafu
pumpkin	babakini, bobokini
pus	nana-
put	alu
put into	to'ongia
put on clothes	'abisia

rafter	'ato
rain (n.)	uta
rainbow	tafusi 'oro
raise	ereere, fane
rat	'asofe, ngori
rattan	'ue
rattan sp.	kalitau
rattle	faleka, kete, ra
ravine	'oba
raw	ma'ā
recuperate	ta'e
red	meo
reed	rade
reef	nu'u
related	to'o
remain	ore, tua

remember	manata
remove covering	'efoa
rend	gasi
respected man	ara'i
rest	mamalo
rib of canoe	lusu
ribs	suli karokaro-
ridgepole	gwaofa
right	'o'olo
right hand	lima- 'olo'olo
righteous	saga
ring (of a bell)	angi
ripe	kwasa, kwasu, make, maua, ngeso
river	kafo
river bed	dodo
road	tala
roast	do'ofia
rob	bili
roe	bila
roll	abuli
roll up	la'u
rolling	giogio
roof	gwaofana
root	kobakoba, lali
rope	ali, kwala, kwalo
rotten	fura, ngwa'a
rough sea	lualua
round	fa'i, gogi, molimoli'a
rub	ongo
rubbish	tafu
run	lalili
run away	tafi



sacred	abu
sago	'abasao, sao
saliva	ngisu-
salt	asi
saltwater	asi
same	di'ia
sand	one
sandfly	furunamu, simi
sap	sula, sulu
say	saea
scales	'efo'efo-, reforefo-
scoop up	nalu, nalufia
scorpion	farifari
scrape	kara, re, resia
scrape coconut	kori
scratch	kame, kara, kori, simi
scribble	kere
scrub	'ara
sea	'atako, asi
seagull sp.	'anake, gaula
search	afi, lulu, su'umoko
seaweed sp.	'afū, 'alaga
see	lia
seed	maga
seed sp.	fulu
seep	loto
seize	lau, laua
sell	usi
separate	fali
set	alu
seven	fiu
sew	ra'o, tai
shadow	nunu-

shake	anu
shark	ba'eko
sharp	konakona, nini, raku
she	nia
sheet	reba
shell	kufikufi, lasi, ta'eta'e
shell money	lausu'u
shell money, black	kurila
shell money, red	'alu'alu, rumu, safi
shell money, white	fa'afa'a, galia
shell sp.	kakadu, la'o, mabota, rumu
shellfish (generic)	karango
shift	'iki
shine	bina, sina
ship	faka, felofelo
shoot (v.)	'ui
shoot (n.)	raku
shoot of bamboo	firo
shoot with a bow	fana
shore	'a'e one, sara
short	dokodoko
shoulder	'aba'aba-, gwauna 'aba
shout	ako
shrimp	ura
shrub	lau'ua
shrub sp.	rako
shut	bani, fono
shut a door	bilika
sick	mae'a, mata'i
side	'idi'idi-, karokaro-, ninima-
sideways	gege
sing	ngu
single	ta'i

sink	kurū
sister	sasi-
sit	gwauru, tua
sit close together	'abi
site	fuli
situated	tua
six	ono
skin	mamala, songesonge, ta'eta'e, 'uli-, 'uli'uli-
skin disease	kakarata, salo
skirt	sada
skull	lasi-
sky	langi, salo
slap	fida
sleep	maliu
sleepy	mamaliu'a
slice	rebasia
slip	dila
slippery	didila
slow	dole
slurp	ilu
small	bibi, ti'iti'i
smell	bila, moko
smoke	sasu
smooth	dada, maemaea, maomao'a
snail	kuru
snake	fa'i ru
snake sp.	ba'eko, fa'i tafo, loi, malo, ngunguru
snatch	lau, laua
soft	meme, ngwaka, ngwara'a
soil	ano, bu
sole of foot	olo fana 'ae-
some	ti, ti ai
son-in-law	funga

song	fa'i ngu
soon	karangi
sore	du'adu'a
sort out	efo
soul	ano'i, mango
sour	'afae
Southern Cross	subi
space	abā
sparks	manimani mafula, sikisiki mafula
speak	fata, saea
spear (n.)	'oto'usu, sua
spear (v.)	labua
spear with prongs	'aranga
speech	ala'anga, fata'a
speechless	noto
spider	'ata garo
spider web	garo
spirit	akalo, ano'i
spit	ngisu
splash	namu
split	foga, kaka, rebasia
spoil	fa'ali
spring of water	fulafula
sprout (n.)	raku
sputter	si'i
spy	iro
squeeze	fele, 'ini, losi
squid	nuta
stab	kumu, kumulua
stairs	lalafe
stamp on	bu, bulia
stand	ū
stand up	ta'e

star	bulubulu
stare	bubu
start	ereere, eta, etangia, fulia
stay	tua
steal	bili
steam	mokofana
steer	abi
stench	bila
step on	bu, bulia, uri
stick	'ai
stick (v.)	ratai
stick out	sula
sticky	ratai
sting ray	fali
stinging	'ako'ako
stink	moko
stomach	oga tiu
stone	fau
stones for oven	umu
stooped	gogo
stop	lui
story	'a'ema, 'ainimae
straight	saga
strength	ngasingasi'anga
string	dadalo, kwala, kwalo
strong	ngasi, ngasingasi'a
stump of tree	gori 'ai
succeed	to'o
suck	loto
suffocate	li'o
sugar cane	ufu
sun	sato, sina
surprised	aba

swallow	ono
swamp	kunu
swear	kwala, taufi
sweep	salo
swelling	ba'u, ubunga
swim	'aranga, 'aru, oloolo, sila, siu

T-bandage	kabilato
table	tafe
taboo	abu
tail	ku'iku'i-
tail of bird	lakelake
take	lau, laua, ngali, ngalia
take apart	osi
take care of	'abe
talk	fata, ala'a
talkative	fatala
tame (adj.)	manata, ra'o
tame (v.)	fa'ara'o
tangle	firu
tangled	firufiru
tapioca	bia, kaibia
taro	alo, kakamo
teach	fa'amanata
teacher	fa'amanata
tear (v.)	gasi
tell	fa'arongoa
ten	tangafula
ten (of birds)	lama
ten (of fish)	firigwau
ten (of fruits)	'ada
ten (of pigs, shell money)	tafulu
ten (of tubers)	fita-

termite	sane
testicles	farulato
that	ne'ana
thatch (v.)	to'osia
theft	bili'a
there	ne'ana
they plural	kira
they two	kera, kero
thick	babu'ula
thigh	sasafa-
thin	kado, nemanema'a
thing	ru
think	manata
this	ne'e
thither	kwau
thorn	konakona
three	ulu
throat	kuku-
throw	'ui, to'osia
throw away	to'osia
thunder	kiri, kwangakwanga
tickle	sulobelobe
tide, high	lua
tide, low	mai
tie	firi, ito
tie into bundle	fo'o, fo'osia
tilted	gege
tip over	giosia, kufi
tired	maruku, otea
tobacco	biala, firi
today	'uri, nini'ari, ta'ena
toe	'u'u-
toenail	sig-

tomorrow	rorodo
tomorrow, day after	fafonai
tomorrow, two days after	kwalita'i
tomorrow, three days after	kwalita'i fafo
tongue	mea-
tooth	lifa-
torch	unu
touch	simi
toward the speaker	ma'i
tread	uri
tree	'ai
tree sp.	'ado'a, ako, alita, 'ama, 'amau, ara, ba'ula, dae, dafo, dingale, fa'ola, fata, fu, karefo, ko'a, kwailasi, mamufua, mosa, rara, su'amango, suala, taba'a, tasisi
tremble	anu
trochus shell	gwa'i mai
true	mamana
trunk of tree	tofonga'i 'ai
turn	li'itani
turn around	abula, fo'ita'i
turn upside down	afo'i, kufi
turtle	funu
tusk	lifa-
twig	ngada
twist	firi, losi
two	rua
two (adj.)	ro
ulcer	du'adu'a
umbrella	fa'u
uncooked	ma'ā
under	olofa-
understand	sai



unmarried man	'alako
unmarried woman	sari'i
unripe	ma'ā
unstable	giogio
untamed	kwasi
up	'ala'a, langi
urinate	mimi
urine	mimi
valley	dodo, 'oba
vegetable greens	ba'era
vein	loToli
vertebrae	gogi suli
very	liu
village	fanoa
vine	kwala
vine sp.	'abe, kwalo rara, susuru
violated	sua
voice	linga-
vomit	moa
wagtail	la'e
wake	fa'aada
wake up	ada
walk	fali, leka, liu
wall (n.)	banibania, 'odoa
wall (v.)	bani, 'odo
walls	karokaro
warm (v.)	rara
wash	sa'u, ta'ufia
wash ashore	sara
wasp	gwaogwao
water	kafo, ongi

water of coconut	sula	水椰子
watery	ongila	水
wave (ocean)	fa'i lua	波
we plural (excl.)	kaili, kami	我們
we plural (incl.)	ki, kia, kulu	我們
we two (excl.)	kero'o	我們
we two (incl.)	koro	我們
weak	gogo, ngwata'uta'u	弱
weave	fao	織
wedding	araara'inga	婚禮
weed (v.)	faili	除草
weep	angi	哭
weight	bibi	重量
wet	isila	濕
whale	gwa'asasu	鯨
what?	tae	什麼
when?	angita	何時
where?	fa'i, 'i fa'i	何處
whip	namu	鞭
white	kwao	白
white ant	sane	白蟻
white man	ara'ikwao	白人
whiten	rafu	漂白
who?	tai	誰
wide	reba	寬
widow	'uru	寡婦
wife	'afe	妻子
wild	kwasi	野
win	'ari	贏
wind	iru, sifo	風
wind from NW	kauburu	西北風
wind from SE	ara	東南風
window	mā olofola	窗

windpipe	ka'oka'o-
wing	'aba-, 'aba'aba-
wipe	ongo
wise	liato'o
woman	kini
wood	'ai
word	ma'e ala'anga, ma'e fata'a
work	o'o, rao
worm	ngwanga ru, ngwangwa
worm, palolo	udu
wrap around	ali
wring out	losi
wrist	māna lima-
write	kerekere
yam	kai, ufi
yam sp.	luda baosi, luka, lusu, saulu
yam, prickly	fana
year	falisi, fa'i falisi, ngali
yellow	sakosako'a
yes	'io, 'iu, tala'u
yesterday	oro'o ki
yesterday, day before	gwanu ki
yesterday, two days before	gwanu lafi
you plural	kamu, kamulu, kaulu
you singular	'oe
you two	kamoro, koro'o
young	bibi
young man	'alako
young person	saro'e
young woman	sari'i

<i>Alstonia scholaris</i>	suala, taba'a
<i>Anondendron paniculatum</i>	'abe
<i>Artocarpus incisus</i>	bale'o, rau'ai
<i>Barringtonia asiatica</i>	fu
<i>Callophylum kajewskii</i>	ba'ula
<i>Canarium indicum</i>	ngali
<i>Cayratia</i> sp.	kwalo rara
<i>Codiaeum variegatum</i>	'ala'ala
<i>Dendrocnide</i> sp.	'ako'ako dingo
<i>Erythrina orientalis</i>	rara
<i>Eugenia malaccensis</i>	'afi'o
<i>Ficus copiosa</i>	'amau
<i>Gnetum gnemon</i>	dae
<i>Guettarda speciosa</i>	tasisi
<i>Hibiscus rosa</i>	tatali
<i>Hibiscus tileacus</i>	fa'ola
<i>Joinvillea elegans</i>	rade
<i>Macaranga</i> spp.	su'amango
<i>Mangifera indica</i>	'asai
<i>Pangium edule</i>	ra
<i>Pometia pinnata</i>	ako
<i>Prosopis insularis</i>	karefo
<i>Semecarpus</i> sp.	kwailasi
<i>Terminalia catappa</i>	alita
<i>Terminalia complanata</i>	'ama
<i>Terminalia copelandii</i>	alita
<i>Vitex cofassus</i>	fata

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