



PACIFIC PEOPLES' GREETINGS

This document provides generally-used greetings and salutations for both oral and written use, for seven Pacific languages: Cook Island, Niuean, Samoan, Solomon Island, Tokelauan, Tongan and Tuvaluan.

Notes:

1. *These are the generally accepted terms.*
2. *Some of the terms used in formal/informal and oral/written contexts are the same.*

Cook Islands Salutations

Oral/Verbal

These terms can be used for speeches and conversations and any other forms of oral/verbal communications.

	Formal	Informal
Greetings - Hello	Kia orana	Kia orana
Welcome	Turou Aere mai	Aere mai
Farewell – Good bye	Aere ra (to person going) E noo ake ra (to person staying) Aere atu ra (when both leaving) Kia manuia	Aere ra (to person going) Noo ake ra (to person staying)
Please	Ine	Ine
Thank you	Meitaki	Meitaki maata

Written

These terms can be used for letters and any other forms of written communications.

	Formal	Informal
Greetings – Hello	Kia orana	Kia orana
Welcome	Kia orana	Kia orana
Farewell – Good bye	Otira Ua (very formal) Kia manuia	Kia manuia
Please	Ine, me ka tika ia koe	Ine
Thank you	Meitaki maata	Meitaki

Niue Salutations

Oral/Verbal

These terms can be used for speeches, conversations and any other forms of oral/verbal communications.

	Formal	Informal
Greetings – Hello	Fakaalofa lahi atu	Fakaalofa atu Fakaalofa atu ki a mua (to 2 people) Fakaalofa atu ki a mutolu (to small group) Fakaalofa atu ki a mutolu oti (to large group)
Welcome	Fakaaue ha kua feleveia Fakaalofa lahi atu	Fakaalofa lahi atu
Farewell – Good bye	Kia monuina To feleveia (we will meet again)	Koe kia To feleveia (we will meet again)
Please	Fakamolemole	Fakamolemole
Thank you	Oue tulou Fakaaue lahi	Fakaaue lahi

Written

These terms can be used for letters and any other forms of written communications.

	Formal	Informal
Greetings - Hello	Fakaalofa lahi atu	Fakaalofa atu Fakaalofa atu ki a mua (to 2 people) Fakaalofa atu ki a mutolu (to small group) Fakaalofa atu ki a mutolu oti (to large group)
Welcome	Fakaaue ha kua feleveia Fakaalofa lahi atu	Fakaalofa lahi atu
Farewell – Good bye	Kia monuina (formal) To feleveia (we will meet again)	Koe kia (informal) To feleveia (we will meet again)
Please	Fakamolemole	Fakamolemole
Thank you	Oue tulou Fakaaue lahi	Fakaaue lahi

Samoa Salutations

Oral/Verbal

These terms can be used for speeches, conversations and any other forms of oral/verbal communications.

	Formal	Informal
Greetings – Hello	Talofa lava	Talofa
Welcome	Afio mai a Maliu mai a Susu mai a Mapu mai a Pouliuligia mai a (if someone important arrives after nightfall) Sautia mai a (if someone important arrives late at night or early in morning) Sosopo mai (when welcoming an orator/tulafale)	Malo Ua e sau
Farewell – Good bye	Fa'a-soifua ia Faa-tofa ia	Tofa loa
Please	Faamolemole	Faamolemole
Thank you	Faafetai tele lava Malo Faafetai	Faafetai

Written

These terms can be used for letters and any other forms of written communications.

	Formal	Informal
Greetings - Hello	Talofa lava Faa-talofa atu	Talofa
Welcome	Afio mai Tala mai a'ao Sosopo mai	Omai Sau
Farewell – Good bye	Tofa ia soifua Soifua ma ia manuia	Tofa
Please	Tofa malie Finagalo malie	Faamolemole
Thank you	Faafetai tele lava Faafetai tele ma ia manuia (for ending letter)	Faafetai

Solomon Island (Pidgin) Salutations

Oral/Verbal

These terms can be used for speeches, conversations and any other forms of oral/verbal communications.

	Formal	Informal
Greetings - Hello	Halo oloketa	Halo oloketa
Welcome	Welkam	Welkam
Farewell – Good bye	Lukem iu	Lukem iu
Please	Ples	Ples
Thank you	Tank iu	Tank iu

Written

These terms can be used for letters and any other forms of written communications.

	Formal	Informal
Greetings - Hello	Halo	Halo oloketa
Welcome	Welkam	Welkam
Farewell – Good bye	Lukem iu	Lukem iu fala
Please	Ples	Ples
Thank you	Tank iu	Tank iu

Tokelau Salutations

Oral/Verbal

These terms can be used for speeches, conversations and any other forms of oral/verbal communications.

	Formal	Informal
Greetings - Hello	Taloha ni	Taloha ni
Welcome	Ulu tonu mai	Malo te aofia mai Omamai
Farewell – Good bye	Tofa ni	Taloha ni
Please	Fakamolemole	Fakamolemole
Thank you	Fakafetai lahi lele	Fakafetai

Written

These terms can be used for letters and any other forms of written communications.

	Formal	Informal
Greetings - Hello	Taloha ni	Taloha ni
Welcome	Ulu tonu mai	Malo te aofia mai Omamai
Farewell – Good bye	Tofa ni	Taloha ni
Please	Fakamolemole	Fakamolemole
Thank you	Fakafetai lahi lele	Fakafetai

Tonga Salutations

Oral/Verbal

These terms can be used for speeches, conversations and any other forms of oral/verbal communications.

	Formal	Informal
Greetings - Hello	Malo e laumalie (addressing a lot of people or nobles and special guests) Malo e lelei Malo e tau lava Malo e tau ma'u 'a e 'aho' ni (daylight) Malo e mo'ui (after long absence)	Malo e lelei Malo e tau lava Malo e tau ma'u 'a e 'aho' ni (daylight) Malo e mo'ui (after long absence)
Welcome	Malo e me'a mai	Malo e lava mai
Farewell – Good bye	Faka'au aa (formal to person leaving) Mo o a (to 2 people leaving) Me'a a 'Ofa atu	Me'a a Mou o aa (more than 2 people)
Please	Fakamolemole Kataki	Fakamolemole Kataki
Thank you	Malo 'aupito	Malo 'aupito

Written

These terms can be used for letters and any other forms of written communications.

	Formal	Informal
Greetings - Hello	Malo e laumalie (addressing a lot of people or nobles and special guests) Malo e lelei Malo e tau lava Malo e tau ma'u 'a e 'aho' ni (daylight) Malo e mo'ui (after long absence)	Malo e lelei Malo e tau lava Malo e tau ma'u 'a e 'aho' ni Malo e mo'ui
Welcome	Malo e me'a mai	Malo e lava mai
Farewell – Good bye	Faka'au a (formal to person leaving) Mo o a (to 2 people leaving) Me'a a 'Ofa atu	Mou o aa (to person leaving) Mou nofo aa (to person staying)
Please	Fakamolemole Kataki	Fakamolemole Kataki
Thank you	Malo 'aupito	Malo 'aupito

Tuvalu Salutations

Oral/Verbal

These terms can be used for speeches, conversations and any other forms of oral/verbal communications.

	Formal	Informal
Greetings - Hello	Fakatalofa atu	Talofa
Welcome	Fakatalofa atu	Talofa
Farewell – Good bye	Tofa la	Tofa
Please	Fakamolemole	Fakamolemole
Thank you	Fakafetai lasi	Fakafetai

Written

These terms can be used for letters and any other forms of written communications.

	Formal	Informal
Greetings - Hello	Fakatalofa atu	Talofa
Welcome	Fakatalofa atu	Talofa
Farewell – Good bye	Tofa	Tofa
Please	Fakamolemole	Fakamolemole
Thank you	Fakafetai lasi	Fakafetai