

Everyday language

ENGLISH	FĀEAG ROTUĀM TA	ENGLISH	FĀEAG ROTUĀM TA
Hello	Noa'ia 'e ma'uri / Noa'ia	You're welcome	Kat 'es tēet ra
Good morning	Mijarān lelei	Excuse me	Turo'
Greetings everyone	Noa'ia 'e ma'uri gagaj 'atakoa	Sorry	Hanis ma rōt'āk
I'm pleased to meet you	Gou 'oaf 'e pō ma hāipoag ma 'āe	Have you eaten?	Ka 'āe 'ate vāh?
Goodbye to those leaving	La' ma aļalum	Come and eat with me	Leum la 'a 'etar te
Goodbye to those staying	Fu' ma aļalum	Thank you for the food	Fāiākse'ea 'e rē tēla'ā
How are you (singular)?	Ka 'āe tapen?	Yes	'O
How are you (dual)?	Ka 'auar tapen?	No	'lgke'
How are you (plural)?	Ka 'aus tapen?	Have a good/blessed day today (to one)	Aļalum 'āe 'e 'i
I am well, thank you	Gou lelei fāiākse'ea	Have a good/blessed week (to one)	Aļalum 'āe 'e gasav te'
I am tired	Gou fāiāk'ia	Have a good/blessed weekend (to one)	Aļalum 'āe 'e gasav te'
I am sick	Gou 'af'af'ia	Have a good holiday (to one)	Aļalum 'āe 'e av manea' te'is
I am so-so	Gou kat ririāf ra	Merry Christmas (to one)	Hea'hea' lelei ne av Kesmās te' la ma 'āe
I am happy	Gou 'oaf'oaf pāu	Happy New Year	Hea'hea' lelei ne fāu fo'ou ta
And yourself?	Ka tapen se 'āe?	Happy birthday	Aļalum 'ae 'e 'ou terān a' pumuā'āk te'
Take care of yourself	Fu' ma aļalum	Happy Rotuman Language Week (to one)	Aļalum 'āe 'e gasav ne fāeag Rotuām te'is
See you later	'Is la hāipoag hoi'āk	Happy Rotuman Language Week (to many)	Aļalum 'aus 'e gasav ne fāeag Rotuām te'is
See you tomorrow	Hāipoag se kā	Lots of love	Hanisiof
See you next week	Hāipoag se gasava la no'an		
Blessings / Good luck	Aļalum		
Call me	He'em se gou		
Send me a message	Nāam se gou rogrog ta		
Please	Figalelei		
Thank you	Fāiākse'ea		

Words of encouragement

ENGLISH	FĀEAG ROTUĀM TA
Nice / Awesome / Great	Helav pāu
Well done	Lelei pāu
You can do it	'Āe la po pāu la re'ia
Give it a go	Ās 'āk se'
You're the best	'Āe tae 'e rere
Congratulations	Fāiākse'ea 'e huāg fe'eni
You're doing great work	'Ou garue ta lelei pāu
Good work my friend	'Ou garue ta lelei pāu meta
Lesshgo	La' pāu
God is good	'Āitu lelei

Relationship-building

ENGLISH	FĀEAG ROTUĀM TA
What is your name?	Ka sei ta 'ou asa?
My name is _____	'Otu asa le _____
Where are you from?	Ka 'āe le' ne tei'?
I am from _____	Gou le' ne _____
Where do you live?	Ka 'āe noh 'e tei'?
I live in _____	Gou noh 'e _____



Email language

ENGLISH	FĀEAG ROTUĀM TA
I hope you're well	'Āirōt'āk ne 'āe ne'ne'
Thank you for your... email / response / clarification	Fāiākse'ea e... fā' puku/ tōg ne 'otou puk ta / a' taf ne tekāe heta'a
Thank you for your help	Fāiākse'ea 'e hāiasoaga
That's a good question	Sāio' leleit ta'a
I will come back to you... tomorrow / next week / soon/ when I have time	Gou la hō'ākiof se 'āe 'e... kā / gasava la no'an / 'e ta 'av hoi'akit / av ne gou po
Apologies for the delayed response	Rōt'āk fep ne 'otou hō'āk ne 'ou pukut ne 'āe fā'im
As per my previous email...	Fak ma se' pukut ne gou fā' mumuaf...
Please see attached document	Figalelei ma 'iof se pukut ne gou na ag 'eseaf ma puk te'is
As per our... conversation / meeting / phone call....	La fak ma se 'otar... hāifāegag ta / tānā' ta / hāifāegagat ne a'sok 'e telafo ta
Happy to discuss if useful	Po pāu la or'ākia 'amnāk te kepoi ka la 'es 'ao
I look forward to your response	Gou noh tār la a'fai se 'ou tōg ta response
I look forward to seeing you.	Gou noh iātiāt la hāipoag ma 'āe
Kind regards / Cheers	Alalum

Talking about work

ENGLISH	FĀEAG ROTUĀM TA
Where do you work?	Ka 'āe garue 'e tei?
I work at _____	Gou garue 'e _____
I have worked here for _____ months / years	Gou garue se ut te'is, huā / fāu _____
What is your job?	Ka garue tes ta 'āe rē?
I am a _____	Gou _____
Teacher	Le' rē rako
Student	Le' rako
Doctor	Toku
Nurse	Nāsi
Librarian	Le' matā puku
Manager	Le' mu'āk garue
Musician	Le' rē maka
Police officer	Pirismāne
Public servant	Garue se matantu ta
Where do you study?	Ka 'āe rak 'e tei?
I study at _____	Gou rak 'e _____

Numbers

0 'O	1 Tā	2 Ruā	3 Fol	4 Hāk	5 Liām	6 On	7 Hif	8 Vāi	9 Siāv
10 Saghul	11 Saghul ma tā	12 Saghul ma ruā	13 Saghul ma folu	14 Saghul ma hāke	15 Saghul ma lima				
16 Saghul ma ono	17 Saghul ma hiful	18 Saghul ma vālu	19 Saghul ma siva	20 Ruāghul					



Proverbs

Hiā 'ou rā heta ma hiā' la fa'

Meaning Step on a branch and make sure it shatters

Application Give it your all, give it your best, persevere and shatter those barriers. Do not do things halfheartedly.

Hathat se puku ka hā'hā' se pupu

Meaning Read books but pull weeds

Application To be a well-balanced person one should not only have book learning but should also learn practical manual skills, especially gardening.

Uas ta vilvil ka tae la soana

Meaning The rain will stop; no storm lasts forever

Application There will be challenges in life, but the tough times will pass.

Cultural note

Tēfui: Garlands

Tēfui are garlands of fui (stars) worn at various functions.

The Rotuman tēfui is different from garlands made and worn by other Pacific Islanders and the number of fui is dependent on the situation. Tēfui are used as part of the costume in Rotuman dances, with the numbers of fui varying between men and women. In the case of male dancers, their tēfui will have seven fui, whereas the female dancers wear a single fui, tied around their neck with a leaf of the *Cordyline australis* (cabbage tree). A tefui for formal purposes or ceremonies will have seven fui which represent the seven districts of Rotuma.

Prayers

FĀEAG ROTUAM TA	ENGLISH
<p>Ro'aitu 'Is la ro'ait 'Otomis Ō'fā fak lagi 'Āmis far 'ou aļalum'ākiga 'e gasav te' Se te' ne 'āmis tūtū 'atakoa 'E as 'on Jisu Karisto. 'Emen.</p>	<p>Prayer Let us pray Our heavenly father We ask for your blessings this week To each and every one of us In Jesus name we pray. Amen.</p>
<p>Ro'aitu – Aļalum'ākia tē'itet ne ōs vahia Ō'fā fak lagi, Fāiākse'ea 'e nā ne 'etemis telā ma taņ Figalelei ma aļalum'ākia la 'es ao se 'otomis foro La 'āmis la noh ma kikia 'e 'ou keresi. 'E as 'on Jisu Karisto, 'Emen.</p>	<p>Blessing of food Heavenly father, thank you for your provision of food and water. Please bless this which we are about to partake in for our nourishment. May we live in your grace. In Jesus' name, Amen.</p>

He Kaikōhau

Below is a traditional Te Reo Māori karakia or kaikōhau used in the Aotearoa context.

Nau mai ngā hua. Nau mai ngā pai. Nau mai kia nui. Kia hāwere ai. Tihei mauri ora.

A kaikōhau is an expression of hope welcoming all things positive – including bountiful harvests, good health and work or study achievements. It can be used during Matariki celebrations as you prepare for the new year ahead, before you share a meal, or to open or close a meeting. Here is an adaptation of this kaikōhau in Rotuman, with an English translation.

'Āmis 'uā'uā'ākia 'āe ko Gagaj
 'Ereko 'ou fup'ākiag ne rān te' ma lagi
 'Āmis 'uā'uā'ākia 'āe ko Gagaj
 'Ereko te' ne tē lelei ma helav ne 'āmis kel sin
 Aļalum'ākia, aļalum'ākia, aļalum'ākia
 'āmis 'ou famori
 La 'es hue, la 'es 'ao.

*We give thanks to God
 for all of creation.
 We give thanks to God
 for all the good and wonderful things we see.
 Bless, Bless, Bless
 your people
 to be fruitful / productive, useful.*

