PRONUNCIATION

Vowels
a - as in ‘arm’ (e.g. dadi - father)
a - as in ‘hut’ (e.g. barava - really, extremely)
e - as in ‘bed’ (e.g. bekem - to bake)
e - as in ‘plate’ (e.g. tekem - to take)
i- as in ‘hit’ (e.g. filim - to feel, to experience)
i - as in ‘Israel’ (e.g. isi - easy)
i - as in ‘machine’ (e.g. mifala - we)

o - as in ‘hot’ (e.g. dokta - doctor)
o - as in ‘old’ (e.g. oloman - old man)

u - as in ‘put’ (e.g. kurukuru - pigeon)
u - as in ‘tool’ (e.g. hu - who)
u - as in ‘tulip’ (e.g. tufala - two of)

Diphthongs
ae - as in ‘aye’ (e.g. taem - time)
ao - as in ‘plough’ (e.g. haos - house)
ei - as in ‘vein’ (e.g. pein - pain)
 ia- as in ‘fear’ (e.g. ia - ear)
oe - as in ‘boy’ (e.g. boe - boy)
oa - as in ‘more’ e.g. doa - door)
ou - as in ‘low’ (e.g. slou - slow)
NUMBERS

Cardinal Numbers

One   wan / wanfala
Two   tu / tufala
Three tri / trifala
Four   fo / fofala
Five   faev / faev-fala
Six   sikis / siks / sikisfala
Seven seven / sevenfala
Eight eit / eitfala
Nine   naen / naenfala
Ten    ten / tenfala
Eleven ileven / ilevenfala
Twelve tuel / tuelv / tuelfala
Thirteen tetin / tetinfala
Fourteen fotin / fotinfala
Fifteen flftin / fiftinfala
Sixteen sikistin / sikistinfala
Seventeen seventin / seventinfala
Eighteen eitin / eitinfala
Nineteen naenteen / naenteenfala
Twenty twenti/twentifala
Thirty one teti wan
One hundred wan handret
Thousand taosen / taosenfala
Million milion / milionfala
Repetitive Numbers
once   wan/wanfala taem
twice   tu/tufala taem
three times tri/trifala taem

Ordinal Numbers
First   mek one/ fest wan
Second  mek tu
Third   mek tri
Fourth  mek fo
Fifth   mek faev
Sixth   mek sikis
Seventh mek seven
Eighth  mek eit
Ninth   mek naen
Tenth   mek ten
Eleventh mek ileven
Twelfth mek twelv
Twentieth mek twenti
Thirty first mek teti wan
Seventeenth mek seventin
Eighteenth mek etin
Nineteenth mek naentin

Distributive Numbers
each or every wanfala / evriwan
each two or every two evri tufala
each three or every three evri trifala
DAYS & DATES

Days of the Week
Monday    Mande
Tuesday    Tiusde
Wednesday  Wensde
Thursday   Tesde/Tosde
Friday     Fraide
Saturday   Satade
Sunday     Sande

Months of the Year
January    Januari
February   Febuari
March      Mas
April      Epril / Eprol / Eprolo
May        Mei
June       Jun
July       Julai
August     Ogast / Ogas
September  Septemba
October    Oktoba
November   Novemba
December   Disemba

Dates
The 25th of December 1999 - (25 Dec 99)

### TIME

#### Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Dei</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Wik / Wiki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortnight</td>
<td>Fotnaet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Month</td>
<td>Manis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Iia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomorrow</td>
<td>Tumoro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yesterday</td>
<td>I'estede</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day after tomorrow</td>
<td>Neks tumoro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day before yesterday</td>
<td>Las i'estede</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minute</td>
<td>Minit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hour</td>
<td>Aoa</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Times of Day

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Kilok</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 Midnight/Midday</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 am/pm</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 am/pm</td>
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<td>3 am/pm</td>
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<td>10 am/pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 am/pm</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To differentiate time of day one would say *hem 9 oklok lo nite or hem 1 oklok lo aftanun*.

*Note:* in Honiara o’clock is commonly used now i.e *1 o klok*. 
# Times of the Day

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Melwan nait</td>
<td>(Approx two hours either side of Midnight)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midol nait</td>
<td>(mid-night or 12am - 2am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daki iet</td>
<td>(Early Morning pre-dawn)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eli mone / moning</td>
<td>(Early Morning)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mone / Moningtaem</td>
<td>(Morning Time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bik dei</td>
<td>(Late Morning/Daytime)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melwan de / midol lo de</td>
<td>(Mid-day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch taem</td>
<td>(Lunch Hour)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biksan</td>
<td>(Big sun)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aftanun</td>
<td>(Afternoon Time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolosap ivining</td>
<td>(Late Afternoon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sava</strong></td>
<td>(Sunset/Dusk)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivining</td>
<td>(Early Evening)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naet / naet taem</td>
<td>(Night time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biknaet</td>
<td>(Big Night - well and truly nighttime)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PRONOUNS

IU
You, singular, the person spoken to.

IUFAILA
You, plural, the group of people being spoken to.

MI
Me, I, singular, the person speaking.

MIFALA
Plural, WE, US. But used only to indicate the speaker and his/her group.

IUMI
You and I that is the speaker and the listener only.

IUMITUFALA
You and I

IUMITRIFALA
The three of us

MITUFALA
Myself and one other but does not usually include the listener or any of his/her group.

MITRIFALA
Myself and two others but not the person spoken to.

HEM
Him / Her / It

OLKETA/OKETA
They / Them

OLKETA/OKETA
Is the pijin word indicating plurality
Possesive personal:

BLONG MI  Mine
BLONG IU  Yours
BLONG HEM  His / Hers / Its
BLONG MIFALA  Ours (excluding person spoken to)
BLONG IUMI  Ours (including person spoken to)
BLONG IUFALA  Yours (plural)
BLONG OLKETA  Theirs

* note: blong when spoken commonly becomes blo e.g blo oketa

Reflexive personal:

MI SELEVA  Myself
IU SELEVA  Yourself
HEM SELEVA  Him / her / itself
OLKETA SELEVA  Themselves

Interrogative:

HU?  Who? Whom?
BLONG HU?  Whose?
WAT?  What? Which?
WAS WE  Why? What if?
WAI  Why?
HAO?  How?

Demonstrative:

DISFALOA  This
HEM IA  It’s here / here
HEM NOMOA  That’s it / that’s all.
Indefinitive:

‘SAMFALA NOMOA’  A few only.
‘I NO PLANDE’      A few.
‘TUFA’             Both.
‘NOMOA’            None/No
‘SEMKAEN/SEMSEM’   Same as (this/that).
‘OLSEM/OSEM (DISFALA) Same.
‘WANFALA MAN / MERE’ Somebody / Someone
‘WANFALA SAMTING’   Something
‘NOMOA ENI SAMTING’/ Nothing at all/Nothing
‘NO ENITING’        Nothing at all/Nothing
‘OLKETA’           They, Them, Those

*Note: When speaking everyday pijn it is more common to say ‘oketa’ instead of ‘olketa’

PIJIN prepositions of direction are;

stap      exist, stay, stop, halt, remain
kam       come, comes, coming and used when movement is inferred
go        go, goes, going, depart are used when movement is inferred
INTRODUCTIONS, SMALL TALK, QUESTION & ANSWERS

To be able to be involved in introductions and small talk, you must first have the ability to ask and answer questions.

Greetings

Hello
Good morning
Good afternoon
Good night / Night
G’day

Halo
Mone
Aftanun
Gutnaet / Nanaet.
Gud Dei

Good morning. I’m very pleased to meet you.
Mone. Mi hapi tumas fo mitim iu.

How are you?
iu oraet? /iu stap oraet? How na yu? Iu hao?

Hello friend, I am happy to see you again.
Halo [my] fren, mi hapi fo lukim iu moa

Excuse me, could you help me please.
Ae fren, bae iu save helpim me? / Excuse mi iu save helpim me?

Thank you very much
Goodbye
See you after/See you later
I’ll see you after/later
I’ll see you tonight
I’ll see you tomorrow
I’ll see you next week

Tagio tumas
Lukim iu, or Gutbae
Lukim iu bihaen / lukim iu moa
bae mi lukim iu bihaen.
bae mi lukim iu tunae.
bae mi lukim iu tumora.
bae mi lukim iu nekis wik.
Tenses

Where will you go? (future tense)
**Bae iu go wea?**
Where did you go? (past tense)
**Iu bin go wea?**
Where is the axe? (present tense)
**Wea nao axe? Axe lo wea? Axe stap lo wea?**
Where are you going?
**Iu go lo wea?**
Why is the car blue?
**Wai nao car ia blue?**
Who is that over there? (future tense)
**Hu nao datwan lo dea ia?**
Who is that woman over there?
**Hu nao mere/woman lo dea? Hu nao datafala mere/woman stanup lo dia ia?**
When did you go home?
**Wataem na iu go baek lo haus?**
When it is 2 o’clock, could you come inside?
**Bae iu save kam insaet lo 2 okolok?**
I’ll see you on Wednesday.

**Bae mi lukim iu long Wensde**
The school is between the village and the mountain.
**Skul ia hem stap melwan/between vilij an maunten**
The school is at the bottom of the mountain.

**Skul ia hem stap lo botom maunten**
They are up on the mountain waiting for the other people to get up there.
**Olketa stap long antap maonten an weitim nao olketa nara pipol for go ap long dea.**
Questions are asked in the following manner:

To obtain a yes (yes) or no (nomoa) answer, the question is a statement followed by; 'o nomoa’, for example;

**Are you married? (Question)**
Iu marit, o nomoa?

**You are married. (Statement)**
Iu marit

**Have you ever been to Solomons before? (asked while outside of the Solomons)**
Iu kasem Solomon bifo o nomoa?

**Have you ever been to Solomons before? (asked while in the Solomons)**
Iu kam kasem Solomon entime bifo o nomoa?

**Where is John?**
John stap long wea? /Wea nao John? /John lo wea?

**Paula is going to town**
Paula hem go long taon

**They have been to Aruligo and Visale.**
Olketa kasem Aruligo an Visale finis

**I would like you to come over here please.**
Mi laekim iu fo kam long hia plis

**I would like you all to come over here please.**
Mi laikim fo iufala evriwan kam long hia
To obtain specific answers, the questions must be specific

**What?**
Wanem? Wat? Wanem? Wat?

**What is your job? What work do you do?**
Wanem/Wat nao wok/waka bilong iu?

**How many/How much?**
Haomas?

**How much money do you have?**
Haomas selen na iu garem?

**Why?**
Waswe?/wai?

**Why are you making this?**
Waswe nao iu wakem diswan?
Wae nao iu wakem diswan?

**When?**
Wanem / wat nao taim / taem?

**What time are you going to your work?**
Wat taem nao bae iu go long waka/ofis bilong iu?

**How?**
Hao?

**How do I start this motor?**
Hao nao fo mi statim disfala injin? *

Note: words like ‘nao’ and ‘bae’ when spoken usually get shorten to ‘na’ and ‘ba’.
What is your name?
**Wanem nao nem blong yu?**
My name is
**Nem blong mi / nem blong mi hem**
How old are you?
**Haomas yia blong iu? / Hao ol nao iu? / Iu hao ol?**
I am twenty-eight
**Mi twenti eit yias ol.**
Where were you born?
**Lu bon long wea?**
I was born in
**Mi bon long**
Do you live there now?
**Lu stap long dea distaen, o nomoa?**
Yes or No.
**Yes or nomoa**
What is the name of your village?
**Wanem nao nem blong vilij blong iu?**
The name of my village is
**Nem blong vilij blong mi hem**
Is it a coastal or inland village?
**Hem stap long saet si o long bus?**
It is inland?
**Hem stap long bus?**
Is it a large or small town?
Hem bik or smol taon?
It is a large town?
Hem bikfala taon?
Is it nearby or far away?
Hem stap kolosap o farawe?
It is nearby?
Hemi stap kolosap?
What is it close to?
Hem kolosap long wanem/wat?
It is near Auki.
Hem kolosap long Auki.
Are you married or not?
lu marit, o nomoa?
Yes or No.
Yes, mi marit or Nomoa, mi no merit.
Do you have children?
lu garem pikinini?
Yes or No.
Yes or Nomoa.
How many children do you have?
Hamas pikinini nao iu garem?
I have three children.
Mi garem trifala pikinini.
Are they boys or girls?
Olketa pikinini boe o gele?
I have both, two boys and one girl.
Mi garem tufala boe an wanfala gele.
What is your wife’s name?
Wanem nao nem blong mere/wife/misis blong iu?
My wife’s name is
*Nem blong mere/misis blong mi*
How old is she?
*Hao mas yia blong hem? / Hem hao ol ia?*
Her age is
*Yia blong hem, hemi/ Hemi.... yias old*
What are your children’s names?
*Wanem/wat nao nem blong olketa pikinini blong iu?*
My first/eldest child is called
*Nem blong fest pikinini blong mi*
My second child is called
*Nem blong mektu pikinini blong mi*
My third/youngest child is called
*Nem blong mek tri pikinini bilorig mi*
How old are they?
*Olketa hao many yias?*
Seven, five and two.
*Seven, faef an tu.*
Where does the rest of your family live?
*Olketa famili blong iu i stap wea?*
They live in the town I was born in
*Olketa stap long taon mi bon long hem.*
They live in my village.
*Olketa stap long vilij blong mi.*
They live in Auki.

Olketa stap long Auki.
Did you have a job before the unrest?
Lu garem waka bifo taem Tension?
Yes, I worked in a shop in Auki.
Ya, mi bin waka long wanfala stoa long Auki.
What type of shop?
Wat kaen stoa ia?
A small food shop on the edge of the main road into Auki.
Wanfala smol stoa salem kaikai, saet long bik rot wea i go long Auki.
Do you have a job now?
Lu garem waka distaem nao?
No, I’m doing nothing.
Nomoa mi stap nating nomoa.
I can see a large sore on your leg. Is it infected?
Mi lukim wanfala bifikala soa long lek blong iu. Hem garem nana/pus o nomoa?
Yes or No.
Yes or Nomoa.
If it is a tropical ulcer, I think that you should go to the Auki Medical Centre to get some medicine. If you leave it, this sore will damage your leg very badly, do you understand?
Sapos hem wanfala ravis soa/infection, mi ting iu mas go long hospital long Auki kwik taem and tekem samfala meresen. Sapos iu levim, disfala soa bae barava spoilem lek blo iu. Lu minim o nomoa?
OK, see you later.

Orait, (or OK), lukim iu bihaen

Where? Wea? Where will you and I go?

Bae yumi/yumitufala go we?

Where are you and I going?

Yumi/yumitufala go we/ bae go we?

Who?

Hu?

Who has malaria?

Hu nao garem malaria?

What are you doing?

Wanem yu mekem nao?

What is this thing?

Wanem disfala samting? Dispela samting, hem wanem?

How do I do this?

Hao nao mi mekem disfala? Mi mekem disfala hao?

How many are there? (as in location)

Haomeni i stop long hap? (as in number)

How much is this worth?

Haomas nao diswan? Diswan hem haomas?
General Questions & Answers

What is your name?
Wanem/wat na nem blong iu?
What is her/his name?
Wanem/wat na nem blong hem?
What is the name of this village?
Wanem/wat na nem blong disfela vilij?
What is the name of this river?
Wanem/wat nem blong disfela riva?
What is the name of this mountain?
Wanem/wat nem blong disfala maunten

Where are you going?
Iu go long wea?
Where are they going?
Olketa go long wea?
Where is he/she going?
Hem go long wea?
Why are you going there?
Wae nao bae iu go lo dea?
Why are they going there?
Wae nao bae olketa go long dea?
Why is he/she going there?
Wae nao hem go long dea?
Do you live nearby?
Iu stap kolsap? iu stap kolsap o nomoa?
Who are you travelling with?
Hu nao bae iu go wetim?
Who are they travelling with?
Bae olketa go wetim hu?
Who is she/he travelling with?
Hu nao bae hem go wetim?
General Questions & Answers

Who are you staying with?
**Hu nao iu stap wetim?**
Who are they staying with?
**Hu nao olketa stap wetim?**
Who is she/he staying with?
**Hu nao hem stap wetim?**
Who are your friends?
**Hu nao olketa fren blo iu?**
Who are their friends?
**Hu nao olketa fren blong olketa?**
Who are her/his friends?
**Hu nao olketa fren blong hem?**
Why are you here?
**Waswe/wai nao iu stap long hia?**
Why are they here?
**Waswe/wai nao olketa stap long hia?**
Why is he/she here?
**Waswe/wai nao hem stap long hia?**
Where is your boss?
**Bikman/boss blo iufala lo wea?**
Who is in charge here?
**Hu nao bikman / boss long hia?**
Where did you go?
**Iu bin go wea?**
May I go with you?
**Waswe, mi save go wetem iu?**
What are you looking for?
**Wat/Wanem nao iu lukaotim/faedim?**
What are they looking for?
**Wat/Wanem nao olketa panim/faedim?**
What is she/he looking for?
**Wat/Wanem nao hem panim/faedim?**
Where did you come from?
**Iu bin kam long wea? Iu stap kam lo wea?**
How long would it take to walk there?
**Hao long nao bae hemi tekem fo wakabaot go lo dea?**
Peter is walking to the shop.

Peter hem wakabaot go long stoa.

John is walking up the mountain.

John hem wakabaot go antap long maonten

He is under the table.

Hem stap adanit long tebol.

She is on the roof.

Hem stap antap long ruf

Paul is in his car.

Paul hem stap insait long ka bilong hem.

I am walking to town today.

Tude bae mi wokabaot go long taon.

We have to go into the house.

Iumi mas go insait long haos.

They followed the old road to Binu

Olketa folom ol / olfala rot go long Binu.

All these children must follow Miss Ami to school

Evri pikinini ia mas folom Mis Ami go long skul.

Miss Arni and the children are in school with all the other children.

Mis Ami wetim everi pikinini stap lo skul wetim oketa/everi nara pikinini

Today we are going to climb the mountain.

Tude bae iumi klae antup lo maontain.
Cultural & Social Considerations
Provided by Tony Stafford

RELIGION
• Churches have a strong impact on the way people think in the Solomon Islands.
• Churches play a very strong role in communal life, especially in rural areas. In Solomon Islands, for instance, virtually every village has a church building and prayer or church services can be held once or twice a day.
• An increasing number of evangelical churches are springing up.
• Christian concepts are often invoked in political discourse, even at national level (usual to start a meeting with a prayer). Churches influential in politics
• Churches run and staff health clinics and hospitals and play an active role in education.
• People are active in church activities and will make relatively substantial financial contributions to the church (often at great personal sacrifice).
• Churches are vehicles for social mobilization.
• Despite the strong influence of the church, magic and witchcraft is still strong and widely feared. (Even the most devout Christians still interpret Christian teachings through their own cultural circumstances, which may strike outsiders as inconsistent with their own interpretations of Christianity).
• While a diversity of religions are tolerated, atheism is not easily understood.
Cultural & Social Considerations

LAND
• Centre of life - most valued heritage of the whole community saturated with spiritual, historical and political significance.
• Provides links with ancestors and spirits.
• Source of power (economic and political).
• Absolute ownership of land resides with the village or clan - land cannot be bought or sold like other marketable commodities if an outsider pays for land, the payment can only be for the use of the land rather than bestowing permanent ownership.
• Land disputes regarding ownership - common (eg in large scale resource development such as logging and mining)

NATIONAL IDENTITY - INTRODUCED CONCEPT
• Very recent introduced concept people do not think of themselves as Solomon Islanders - “We are a country of villages or islands”. They associate more with their clan, tribe, village or island.
KASTOM AND CULTURAL VALUES

- Kastom - Denotes culture and tradition - as distinct from the ‘whiteman way’.
- Kastom includes matters related to social and cultural relationships based on the fundamental constructs of land and bloodlines (including kinship, clan, line, residence and language wantok - one talk) - critical to the way the country functions.
- Cultural traditions are continuously in interaction with each other and modern ways.
- The different demands of kastom and modernity create an underlying tension that outsiders need to heed and understand (eg demands on a person due to funeral arrangements, etc.)
- There is cultural diversity both within and between provinces (e.g. Bride price)

GENDER

- Male and female roles are closely proscribed.
- Public displays of affection between men and women are rare and frowned upon.
- Affection and touching between same sexes is common
- Homosexuality used to occur within some cultural rituals and plantation life but nowadays is not publicly acknowledged or accepted.
- Women - heavy workload.
- Domestic violence - has been publicly acknowledged as a key concern for women.
Cultural & Social Considerations

FAMILY - KIN

• Extended family (kinship unit) is the relationship based on culturally recognized connections between parents and children, extending to siblings and through parents to more distant relatives.

• Definition of a relative different to the way Australians define it distant relatives. eg uncles and aunts have similar authority and responsibilities for children as parents. Not uncommon for the closest adult to admonish a child for a certain misdemeanor (unlike in Australia where this role is mostly left to parents).

• Strong kinship ties cut across and supersede responsibilities of government, public service and other modern structures.

• Associated family responsibilities and obligations may appear to our western eyes as ‘nepotism’ requests and expectations of kin can rarely be denied, creating demands on those in employment and power that lead to misappropriation and corruption, particularly by politicians and government ministers.
Cultural & Social Considerations

STATUS AND SOURCES OF POWER

• Status ascribed in the village carries over into the public service
• Communalistic values predominate although individualism is increasingly evident.
• Complicated and extensive kinship systems complicate hierarchical relationships and provide civil society with close access to public servants.
• Important to respect the range of power dynamics that come into play and to consider the implications for your role as an outsider (bypassing hierarchical structures may be seen as inappropriate).
• Cultural lag, where traditional ways of being and doing have not been adapted to modern practices (e.g., extractive resource use, which affects more than one generation)

BIG - MEN AND CHIEFS

• The Big-man is a mode of leadership characteristic of Melanesia whereby a leader commands a following by accumulating and distributing wealth, creating a network of allegiances and obligations that can extend far beyond the village or island.
• Other techniques for gaining Big-man status include conciliation, compromise, persuasion, inspiration, and bargaining to threats and sheer brute force.
Cultural & Social Considerations

TABU
• Sacred - forbidden - many tabus associated with relations between cousins and in-laws, with bodily wastes, blood, etc.
• Vary from place to place - when you go to a new place, familiarize yourself with local practices - find out the “do's” and "don'ts" and the "go" and "no go" areas.
• For example it is tabu in Solomon Islands to walk over a fallen tree trunk where a woman is sitting or walk under clotheslines with women's clothes in villages; also important to hang out your underwear discreetly.
• Don’t walk across people's legs / very disrespectful and in some places is believed to cause illness.
• Don’t walk in front of people sitting or standing especially when they are in discussion / very disrespectful, unless they indict or say for you to do so.
• Thighs are tabu (females in shorts are frowned upon)
• Don’t show lots of flesh even when swimming.
• Don’t stare or look too closely at people washing (seen as coveting).
• Avoid slang/swearing
Cultural & Social Considerations

RECIPROCITY
• Giving something away always creates an obligation.
• Wealth is not accumulated for its own sake but for giving away, thereby creating obligation.
• People can be surrounded by a complex web of obligations that are invisible to outsiders; these obligations from previous exchanges can create conflict of interest when dealing with these obligations from previous exchanges can create conflict of interest when dealing with responsibilities, assets and time management.

COMPENSATION
• Used to settle grievances and resolve conflict - elaborate ceremonies, negotiations and transfer of wealth can lead to 'payback'
• Compensation increasingly monetized and the current practice is to ask for more than the true value of the situation.
• This is stronger in some cultures than others and forms of compensation may vary.
Cultural & Social Considerations

AVOIDING CONfrontATION / REACHING CONSENSUS
• Many Pacific islanders like to avoid confrontation.
• They find it difficult to say no, to contradict, or to convey bad news - avoiding conflict can be achieved by telling the listener what they think they want to hear.

SHAME
• Avoiding shame and not losing face is very important.
• This has important implications such as not criticizing people in front of others; letting situations continue no matter what the effects are until there is some way out without shaming someone. The result is that criminal activities go unpunished; lack of regular evaluation; politicians and public officials get away with serious offences with little or no punishment, etc.

PERSONALISED BUREAUCRACY
• Private matters and considerations intrude into public lives.
• Few secrets, rumors spread fast (coconut radio/wireless/news)
• Educated people (much in common and many personal links.)
• Dangerous to interfere in matters between public servants or politicians.
• Village is still the real world (exerts strong influence on the bureaucracy.)
• 12,000 years of village based culture is far more deeply entrenched than 120 years of colonial rule.
Cultural and Social Considerations

PERSONAL INITIATIVE
• The group is more highly valued than the individual.
• Original ideas are often obstructed or dismissed as attempts to acquire power or status.
• Jealousy is common.
• There is lack of reward for initiative when promotion depends often on connections and kinship.
• The fear of making mistakes leads to the fear of taking initiatives.
• Lack of self-confidence is common, especially when confronted by outsiders.
• People feel confidence in a group rather than as individuals.

PERSONAL CONTACT
• Personal contact and follow up is very important. Don’t assume that things and agreements from community meetings will be automatically passed on.

PACIFIC TIME
• Time is more about relationships between people and groups than measurable units recorded by the clock.
• Pace of life is slower - should not be interpreted as laziness or stupidity.
• Try not to get uptight about people being late for meetings but remember people will expect you to be on time.
Cultural & Social Considerations

PRIVACY
• Because the communal extended family is the foundation of Melanesian society, the concepts of privacy are very different from western ones.
• Be especially careful in your interactions with the opposite sex and maintain a certain reserve and space so you do not appear suggestive. Men should be particularly careful in dealing with women. An innocent exchange may not appear as such and punitive measures may be taken against a woman who appears to be behaving inappropriately.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION
• Oral rather than written is the preferred medium.
• As in many societies, people keep information to themselves because it provides tactical advantage, power and control.
• Training is often undertaken more for reasons of acquiring awareness, status and prestige rather than implementing what is learned.
• There may be reasons for a colleague not passing on information from training courses, Do not assume that what has been taught has really been understood.
## PIJIN DICTIONARY

### FAMILY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Pijin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>Famili</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother</td>
<td>Mami</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Father</td>
<td>Dadi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child</td>
<td>Pikinini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daughter</td>
<td>Gele/dota</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Son</td>
<td>Boe/san</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sister</td>
<td>Sista</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brother</td>
<td>Brata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wife</td>
<td>Waef/misis blong mi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Husband</td>
<td>Hasban/olo blong mi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aunt</td>
<td>Mami/anti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uncle</td>
<td>Anggol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nephew</td>
<td>Nefiu/(smol) anggol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niece</td>
<td>Nis/(smol) anti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cousin</td>
<td>Brata or Sista</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandparent</td>
<td>Grani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandchild</td>
<td>Gran pikinini (blo mi) / smol grani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandfather</td>
<td>Grandadi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandmother</td>
<td>Granmami</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-law</td>
<td>Inlo/tambu/tabu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Father in-law</td>
<td>Dadi inlo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother in-law</td>
<td>Mami inlo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Do both of you have the same parents?  
**lutufala bon lo sem mami an dadi o nomoa?**

Is she your real mother?  
**Waswe, hemi barava/ril mami blong iu?**
PIJIN DICTIONARY

DIRECTIONS

Tane lef / rait long hia / dea
Turn left / right here / there

No ron / wakabaot
Don’t run / Walk

Tane raon
Turn around

Sid daun
Sit down

Stand up

Tok tok isi / bikfela
Speak slowly / calmly / up

Mi no harem iu gud
I can’t hear you clearly

No tok tok / sharup
Don’t talk / Be quiet / Shut up

Talem kam moa
Say it again

Takem kam lo hia
Bring it here
PIJIN DICTIONARY

GENERAL

a neighbouring country  wan solwata/ blo Pacific
a question  wanfala kwesten
a short time  lelebet taem
a week ago  las wik
after lunch  bihaen lunch/afta lunch
agree  agri
agreement  agrimen/agriment
all men and women  evri man an mere/woman
all sorts of  eni kaen
all the time  evri taem/taim
among the people  melwan/between olketa pipol
an uncivilised native (insulting)  buskanaka/local
are you able to go  bae iu save go?
around and about  raon olbaot
as well  tu
at the bottom of  botom/long botom
at the same time  semtaem/semtaim / long semtaem
bad language  tok nogut
swear  swea
bad practice  ravis/rabis pasin or rabis wei
beat him/her  winim hem
in a (competition)  blong/blo
belonging to  barava/hem barava
best of all
PIJIN DICTIONARY

Betel Nut
- Lime (Calcium Carbonate)
- Mustard pepper
blind rotten drunk/very drunk
block head/stupid/idiot
borrow something
bring it here
brother and sister
brothers and sisters
call to him ....
change something
conference/meeting
cup of coffee
cup of tea
customs of the ancestors
day after tomorrow
day before yesterday
dirty nose
do not have
do you know pijin?
don’t be afraid
down & out person/jobless
earn a wage
edible green leaves
expatriate man, white man
expatriate woman, white
woman
exert more effort in doing
something
feel bad
feel good
fence in/surround
festival of singing and
dancing
bilnut
lime
lif/korokua
spaka narawe/drunken no gud
karange het
kaonim samting
tekem kam
barata an sista
oketa barata an sista
singautim/callem hem
sensim
miting
kap kofi
kap tea
pasin/kastom blo bifo
neks tomoro
las yestadei
doti nos
iu garem
iu save pijin
no frait
liu/masta liu
waka fo selen
kavis
waet-man/masta
misis/waet-man
trae hat
fil no gud
fil gud
fenisim
singsing an danisi

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PIJIN DICTIONARY

fill to the top  fulmapim
filled to the top ful up
finish (the) work finisim waka
finish work finis waka
follow him/her/it folom hem/folom go
follow instructions folom toktok
follow the river folom riva

crazy/mental karange
make a fool of mek fool
for as long as kasem taem
forever and ever (amen) foevamo/foeva
foul something up spoelem / bakarapum
get drunk spaka/daranga
get ready redim
get rid of raosim
get someone up (from sleep) wekapim
give them heaps givim staka
give name talem nem
go ahead go het/go fastaem
go as far as town go kasem taon
go for a wash go swim
go to gaol/jail go peresin/sela
go to school go long skul
going on and on gogogo
golly gosh! my word! mae karange!/oloketa!
Good heavens! gud aftanun
good afternoon gud/gudfala ivining
good evening everybody olketa/evriwan
good morning gud mone / mone/moning
good night gudnait / nanait
PIJIN DICTIONARY

green coconut for drinking
hang on a sec
happy with
happy about
harsh talk
hear well! take notice well!
heard it said that
hidden/secret place
hot water/ hot spring
house for domestic staff
house for the birth of children
How much does it cost?

I am ashamed of this
I am not too sure about

I am still here
I am sure
I am sure of this

I am sure/ I understand
I did wrong
I did it wrong
I feel sick
I have an illness
I have eaten
I hit the nail
To nail or to inject
I made an effort
I live in Lae
in that direction
in the morning
in the time of
in-law

iang (young) kokonat
weit lelebet
hapi wetim
hapi lo hem
tok koros
here kam gut
herem olsem
haid ples / ples haid
hot water
haois boe/sevents quarter

haois fo bonem pikinini
haomas nao hem cost/
hem haomas
mi sem long diswan
mi no save gut abaot/lo diswan
mi stil stap/ mi stil lo hea
mi save gut/ mi sua
mi barava klia/ save gud
long diswan
mi save/ save gud/ mi meanim
mi rong
mi duim rong
mi fil siki
mi garem siki
mi kaikai finis
mi hamam/ bangam nila
mi nilam
mi trae hat
mi stap long Lae
long dea
long mone
long taem blong
tabu [tambu]/ in lo
individual choice
is it not?
it doesn’t matter
it is correct
it is forbidden to enter
it is quite forbidden
it is time for a break
it would be better if
last month
last year
lazy fellow
long knife for grass cutting
long time after
look into
look under
make clear about
(something) / clarify
make note of this!
man of rank influence/
notoriety
man who talks nonsense
meet/gathering
move back
my thoughts are that
native leaf of tobacco
of little consequence
of little importance, a trifle
of the same thought
of the same womb
on guard
on top of

saet blong/ blo iu
o hao
hem oraet/ no mata
hem stret/ stretwan
hem tambu fo go insaet
hem tambu
hem taem fo break/ rest
bae hem gut go moa sapos
las manis/ mans
las ia
lesi man
bush naef
long taem bihaen/ afta
lukluk insaet/ lo hem
lukluk adanit
talem gut
herem gut
bik man/ no man-nating
man fo toktok / ravis
miting
move/siviti back
tingting blong mi olsem
tabaika
samting nating
smol samting
sem tingting
sem mami (biological)
stanbae
antap long
PIJIN DICTIONARY

other side / opposite side
other side/ reverse side
other/ another kind
out of breath
over there
overcome (sickness, worry, concern etc.)
paddle canoe/row a boat
pandanus or screw pine
pass by something
pay a fine
pay attention!
pay money to
pepper chewed with betel nut (mustard)
piece of iron
plenty of times
poor sod
pull back (something)
receive more pay
receive pay in advance
receive permission
refuse a plea
relating to/ of origin
repay a debt/ loan
report something/someone
right over there
rugged/rough area
send a message
send away

nara saet
bak saet
nara kaen
sotwin
long dea

winim/ ovam
padolom kanu
padanas
pasim
peim faen
herem gut!
peim selen go long

frut lif
haf aen
plande/ staka taem
sorewan
pulum back
garem moa pei/ pei go up
tek pei fastaem/ advanis
garem pemisin
no herem tok
blong
sensim kaon
ripotim
hem long dea
raf ples
sedem toktok/ message
sedem awe/go
### PIJIN DICTIONARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Pijin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>settle/stay permanently in a place</td>
<td>stap/anka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shake off an illness</td>
<td>gut back moa/ finis sicki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shifting spanner</td>
<td>sifting spana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shove something</td>
<td>pusum samting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>spirit of the ancestors</td>
<td>devol spirit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stand up straight</td>
<td>stanap streit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>start a fight</td>
<td>statim fait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stay in gaol</td>
<td>stap long prisin/ sela</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>string bag (traditional)</td>
<td>string baek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>take a trip</td>
<td>wakabaot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>take someone to court</td>
<td>kotim/ tekem long kot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>talk about</td>
<td>toktok/tok/stori abaot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>talk loudly/too much</td>
<td>bikmaos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>talk nonsense</td>
<td>toktok karange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>talk to the doctor</td>
<td>tok/stori long/wetim dokta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tell you about</td>
<td>talem abaot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>that’s it</td>
<td>hem nomoa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the bomb exploded</td>
<td>bom bosta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the earth shakes</td>
<td>graon seksek/ earth quek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the ground is soft</td>
<td>graon i/ hem soft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the time of the Europeans/colonial times</td>
<td>long taem blong Ingla/ lo oketa colonial deis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the two of them / both</td>
<td>tufala evriwan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the work is finished</td>
<td>waka ia hem finis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>there are two scales of pay</td>
<td>tufala differen kaen pei</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>there is no other option</td>
<td>nomoa narafala we moa / no eni wai moa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>they (all) call it</td>
<td>oketa kolem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to await someone/something</td>
<td>weitim / wetim hem</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PIJIN DICTIONARY

to be dependent on
fulbae long hem

to call to/for someone
singaotim

to do something
duim/ wakem samting

to leave permanently
oketa go finis / go olowe nao

to lay something/someone
down
lei daonim

to make an effort
taitim kabilato /traem hat

to make someone be quiet
sarapim

to sack/bag something
baekem

to shoot something
sutim

to stop something
stopem

to take away
tekem awe

take away/minus
tekeawe

to tell a story
talem stori

to tell someone something
talem hem samfala samting

to throw something
torowe

to use something
iusim

to walk to
wakabaot go lo

to walk from
wakabaot kam

to weigh up
skelem/ weim

too many people
plannde/staka pipol tumas

tow something/someone
pulum

translate words into English!
tanem pijin go long Inglis
interperate
tanem wil
	nogut ples
village customs
hangere tumas /barava hangere
war relics
kastom blong ples
way of life will change
reke blong wo
What are you doing?
we blong laef bae senis
What do you want?
wanem iu duim/wakem?
when do we go?
wat nao iu laikem?
wat taem nao bae iumi go?/
iumi bae go wat taem?
### PIJIN DICTIONARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Pijin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>who will</td>
<td>hunao bae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>win over someone</td>
<td>winim kam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>work well</td>
<td>waka gut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wrong someone</td>
<td>rongem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yes sir</td>
<td>yesa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>your luck</td>
<td>lake blong iu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>your own choice</td>
<td>saet blong iu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>very sweet</td>
<td>barava swit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Pijin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>grisim</td>
<td>to grease, oil or lubricate something (see wilim)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to flatter someone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to talk someone into something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>haidim</td>
<td>to hide something, to put in a safe place, to protect, to conceal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hamarem</td>
<td>to hammer something to thrash soundly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hapum/ hafum</td>
<td>to halve, to divide in half</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brukim namil</td>
<td>to fill halve, to do work by halves to fill halve, to do work by halves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to do a poor job, to do half a job</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to cut a thing into many equal parts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to hoe something, to hew, to trim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hariapum</td>
<td>to make someone hurry, to make someone go faster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hotim</td>
<td>to heat something, to make something hot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hetim</td>
<td>to hate someone or something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hipim</td>
<td>to heap or pile something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hukum</td>
<td>to hook something, to catch something with a hook to heap or pile something to entice, to allure someone or something</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PIJIN DICTIONARY

jakem  to jack up something
joinim  to join something
kaikaim to eat
kailim  to put a wedge between two things, to wedge something in
peresinim to imprison, to arrest, to lock up, to hem in (see banisim)
kalaemapum to jump over/climb something
kamapum to originate, to found, to institute, to invent to bring to light, to reveal
kamaotim to pull out, to dig out
kavarem to cover something, to wrap up something to harvest from the ground, to conceal something, to hide something, to put something in a safe place
karkarem to carry about
katem  to cut something, to delete, to cross out
kaodem/kaontim to count something, to enumerate, to read
kikim  to kick something or someone or strike to beat, to thrash, to beat severely, to lay one low
kilim  to beat someone up badly [common context]
to kill someone/something
kolum to cool something down
kliarem to clear off, to remove obstacles
klinim to clean something, to polish (see polisim)
kolem to call, to tell, to recite, to announce
komum to comb something
kostim to cost, to charge
kotim  to bring suit against, to sue, complaint against, to take one to court
PIJIN DICTIONARY

krosim | to scold someone
       | to be angry with someone
kukim  | to cook, to bake something, to char
       | to bum up, to defeat, to destroy by fire
laikim | to like someone or something,
       | to desire, to want something
lainim | to line up, to put something in line
       | to put in order, to arrange, to set in readiness
lanem  | to study something, to learn something
       | to teach someone something
laitim | to light something,
letem  | to let, leave, allow, to set fire to
       | something to let something down, to release something
levelim | to level something, to make something even
liftimapim | to lift up something, to pick up
            | something to raise higher, to praise someone or something
lokmapim/lokim | to lock up something
lodim  | to load something
lukaotim | to take care of something,
          | to look after, watch over, provide for
          | to look for, search for, to hunt
lukim  | to see something, to shine on, to visit
lusim  | to loose something / someone, to spend, to leave behind, to abandon, to desert, to miss to forget, to loosen, to untie, to set free
PIJIN DICTIONARY

makim to mark something/an occasion, to sketch
maritim to marry someone
mekem to make, to cause, to create to force to do, to act, to behave
memeim to smash something to pulverise something to cook something until it is very soft,
miksim to mix something
motu to steam food with heated stones in a pit covered with banana leaves
nambarem to number something, to count, in abundance
nilam to nail something
nogutim to spoil something, to damage something
onarem to honour someone, to revere someone
openim to open or unlock something
faedem to find something, to discover something to seek/look for to seek/look for
bakarapum to cause to explode, to fire off
faitim to hit, strike, knock or beat
pamum to pump up something, to inflate
panisim to punish someone
passim to fasten something, to tie, to hold back, to delay/hinder, to keep back, to block, to obstruct something to close, to shut, to wall in
pentim to paint something, to colour/dye something
finisim to finish something, to put an end to something, to ruin, destroy, damage
pladem to plant something
pleim to play music, CD, game
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PIJIN DICTIONARY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>plenim</td>
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PIJIN DICTIONARY

tane to turn,
tonem to turn something, to roll something to stir something,
taneraon to turn around, to revolve, to roll, to rotate
tingim to think of, to keep in mind, to remember
talem to tell someone something, to command
tok nogutim to insult someone
traem to trial, a temptation, an attempt to trial, to try, to try out, to practice, to taste, to test
toraot vomit
toraotim to vomit something
trikim to deceive someone, trick someone
torowem to throw something, to throw away, to get rid of, to toss, to buck, to throw (as off a horse)
waelasmim to radio (wireless)
wakem to make something, to build something
wasim to wash something, to flood, to clean something with liquid
weitim to await, to expect, to wait for
weldim to weld
westim to waste
winim to surpass someone, to win over someone, to get ahead of, to conquer
wipim to whip someone
weldim to weld