

Geelong-Viqueque Friendship Schools

“Developing social responsibility and connectedness
with Timor-Leste”



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Tetun Phrase Book



3rd Edition- 2019

Essentials

Hello	Olá/ Haló
Goodbye	Adeus
Yes	Sín
Ok	Diak
No	Lae
Please	Favór ida
Thankyou (very much)	Obrigadu/a (barak)
You're welcome	Nada
Excuse me	Kolisensa
Sorry	Deskulpa
Stop!	Ajuda!
Help!	Para!
Go away!	Sai hosi ne!
Watch out!	Kuidadu!
It's an emergency!	Ne emerjénsia!
I'm lost.	Hau lao sala tiha dalan; Hau lakon tiha.
Could I use the telephone?	Hau bele uza telefone ka lae?
Where are the toilets?	Sintina iha nebé?
I don't know.	Hau la hatene.
I (don't) understand.	Hau (la) kompriende.
Do you speak English?	Ita koalial Inglés?
Could you repeat that?	Ita bele repete fali ka?
Can you help?	Ita bele fo ajuda?
What time is it?	Tuku hira (ona)?
...o'clock Half past...	Tuku... Tuku... ho balu
Where's a/the...?	... iha nebe?
bank	banku
...hotel	otél...
market	merkadu/ basar
hospital	Ospítal
Straight ahead.	Los deit.
To the right	Fila ba liman los.
To the left.	Fila ba liman karuk.

Additional material

I		Hau
You	<i>(singular formal)</i>	Ita boot
You	<i>(singular familiar)</i>	O
You	<i>(plural)</i>	Imi
We, us	<i>(excluding you)</i>	Ami
We, us	<i>(including you)</i>	Ita
He/ she		Nia
They, them		Sir
Mine		Hau nian
Yours	<i>(familiar)</i>	O nian
Yours	<i>(formal)</i>	Ita nian
Yours	<i>(plural)</i>	Imi nian
His/hers		Ninia
Theirs		Sira nian

Vowel pronunciation

A = is pronounced like the 'a' sound in "do-re-me-fa"

E = is pronounced like the 'e' sound in "egg"

I = is pronounced like the 'i' sound in "igloo"

O = is pronounced like the 'o' sound in "or"

U = is pronounced like the 'u' sound in "book"

Talking with children

What is your name?	O-nia naran sa/saida?
How old are you?	O-nia tinan hira?
When's your birthday	Bian hira maka o halo tinan?
Have you got brothers and sisters?	O-nia maun-alin ho bin-alin iha ka lae?
Do you go to school or kinder?	O ba eskola ka taman kanuk-kanuk?
Do you like school?	O gosta eskola ka lae?
Is your teacher nice?	O-nia mestri/mestra diak ka le?
Do you play sport?	O joga desportu ka lae?

Numbers and dates

Zero	Zero (P)
One	Ida
Two	Rua
Three	Tolu
Four	Haat
Five	Lima
Six	Neen
Seven	Hitu
Eight	Walu (also spelled ualu)
Nine	Sia
Ten	Sanulu
Eleven	Sanulu resin ida
Twelve	Sanulu resin rua
Thirteen	Sanulu resin tolu
Fourteen	Sanulu resin haat
Fifteen	Sanulu resin lima
Sixteen	Sanulu resin neen
Seventeen	Sanulu resin hitu
Eighteen	Sanulu resin walu
Nineteen	Sanulu resin sia
Twenty	Rua-nulu

Days of the week

Sunday	Domingu
Monday	Segunda
Tuesday	Tersa
Wednesday	Kuarta
Thursday	Kinta
Friday	Sesta
Saturday	Sabadu

Months of the year

January	Janeiru	July	Julyu
February	Fevereiru	August	Agostu
March	Marsu	September	Setembru
April	Abríl	October	Outubru
May	Maiu	November	Novembru
June	Junyu	December	Dezembru

General conversation

Greetings

Good morning (from sunrise until lunch)	Bondia
Good afternoon (lunch until sunset)	Botardi
Good evening/night (sunset onwards)	Bonoiti
<p>Hello (informal)</p> <p>Hi (especially if calling from a distance)</p>	Olá/ Haló Hei
See you tomorrow	Até amanyá
See you soon/later	Ate logu
Goodbye	Adeus
<p>Congratulations!</p> <p>Happy birthday!</p> <p>Happy Easter!</p> <p>Happy Christmas!</p> <p>Happy New Year!</p>	Parabéns! Parabéns! Boa Páskua! Feliz Natál! Feliz Anu Novu!

Terms of address

Sir (used for older people as a sign of respect)	Senhór
Madam	Senhora
Mr/ Mrs...	Senhór/ Senhora ...
Uncle (used for older men)	Tiu
Aunt (used for older women)	Tia
Grandfather/Grandmother (for seniors)	Abó (also spelled avó)
Older brother (used for someone slightly older than you)	Maun
Older sister	Mana
Younger brother/sister (used for a younger person)	Alin
Brother (used by young people for close friends)	Bou
Sister	Abí

General Conversation

What's your name?	Ita- nia naran sa/siada?
My name is...	Hau- nia naran...
How are you?	Diak ka lae ?
Fine, thanks. And you?	Diak, obrigadu/a. Ita diak ka lae?
I'm pleased to meet you	Prazér konhese Ita.
I'd like to introduce you to...	Hau hakarak fo konhese It ba...
This is my friend.	Nia hau-nia kolega.
Can I take a photo (of you)?	Hau bele hasi (Ita-nia) foto ida?
What are you doing?	Ita halo siada?
What is this called?	Buat ne naran saida?
What's that?	Saida maka nebá?
It's beautiful!	Kapás!
Where are you from?	Ita hosi nebé?
I'm/we're from ...	Hau/ami hosi...
I live in ...	Hau hela iha...
the city	 sidad
the countryside	 foho
the mountains	 foho
the seaside	 besik tasi
the suburbs of...	 biaru...
a village	 vila/desa
I'm here...	Hau iha ne...
for a holiday	 atu hasai férias
on business	 tamba negósiu
to study	 atu esduda
How long are you here for?	Ita iha ne to bain hira ?
I'm/we're here for... weeks/days	Hau/ami hela iha ne to semana/loron...
Do you like...?	Ita gosta...?
I (don't) like...	Hau (la) gosta...
I love...	Hau hadomi...
and ...	ho ...

Time and shopping

Time	
What time is it?	Tuku hira (ona)? ; Tuku hira agora?
<i>(it's)</i> ... o'clock.	Tuku ...
Half past...	Tuku ... ho balo
Quarter past...	Tuku ... liu minutu ruanulu-resin-lima.
Quarter to...	Falta minutu sanulu-resin-lima ba tuku.
Hour/ Minute/ Second	Oras/ Minutu/ Segundu
When?	Bian hira?<i>(future)</i> Hori-bainhira?<i>(past)</i>
Today/tonight	Ohin; ohin kalan
Yesterday	Horseik
Tomorrow	Aban
<i>(In the)</i> morning <i>(until 12)</i>	Dadér
<i>(In the)</i> afternoon	Loraik/Lokraik
<i>(In the)</i> evening <i>(until late at night)</i>	Kalan
<i>(at)</i> 7 am	tuku hitu dadér
<i>(at)</i> 3 pm	tuku tolu loraik
<i>(at)</i> 7 pm	tuku hitu kalan
this week/month/year	semana/fulan/tinan ne
last week/month/year	semana/fulan/tinan kotuk
next week/month/year	semana/fulan/tinan oin
Day	Loron
Night	Kalan
Shopping	
How much is this?	Ida ne hira?
How much?; How many?	Hira?
Can you write down the price?	It abele hakerek fodik hela nia folin?
Can you lower the price?	It abele hatún nia folin ituan?
I'd like to buy...	Hau hakarak sosa...
Where can I buy...?	Iha nebé maka hau bele sosa...?
I'm looking for a...	Hau buka hela ...
Can I look at it?	Hau bele haré lai?
Where's the nearest...?	... besik iha nebé?
general store; stall	 loja
market	 merkadu ; basar
Do you accept...? (credit cards)	Ita simu...? (kartu kredit <i>(Ind)</i>)

Getting around and making plans

What time shall we meet?	Tuku hire maka ita hetan malu?
Where shall we meet?	Ita hetan malu iha nebé?
Let's meet at (eight) o'clock at the...	Ita hetan malu tuku (walu) iha...
Ok. I'll see you then.	Diak. Makah au hetan Ita nebé.
I'll come over at (six) o'clock.	Tuku (nen) maka hau mai.
I'll pick you up at (nine) o'clock.	Hau tula Ita tuku (sia).
I'll be along later. Where will you be?	Maka hau ba oraoras tan. Ita iha nebé?
Are you ready?	Ita prontu ona ka lae?
I'm going to the market.	Hau atu baa merkadu.
Tomorrow I will go to...	Aban hau baa...
Yesterday I went to...	Horiseik hau baa...
I'm not going to...	Hau la baa...
I'm going tomorrow.	Aban mak hau baa.
I came yesterday.	Hau mai horiseik.
I'm going home.	Hau baa uma.
What time did/will you come?	Ita mai tuku hira?
I came/will come at 3pm.	Hau mai tuku tolu lokraik.
I have to go now.	Hau tenki baa ona.
Shall we go out tomorrow?	Aban ita baa pasiar?
I have an appointment with...	Hau atu hetan malu ho...
We're attending a... (conference)	Ami iha ne atu tuir... (Konferénsia)
We're part of a group.	Ami halo parti iha grupu ida.
Is there anyone here by the name of..	Iha ema ruma iha na naran...?

Health

I need a doctor who speaks...	Hau presiza dotór ida nebé koalia...
I feel sick.	Hau senti moras.
My friend is sick.	Hau-nia kolega moras.
It hurts here.	Hau senti moras iha ne.
I'm ... (diabetic; asthmatic; anaemic)	Hau...(diabétiku; azmátiku; anémiku)
Are you allergic to anything?	Ita iha alerjia ruma ka lae?
I'm allergic to...	Hau iha alerjia ba...
I'm on medication for...	Hau hemu hela aimoruk ba...
I'm on a special diet.	Hau iha dieta espesial.
I'm disabled/handicapped.	Hau aleijadu/defisienti.

General Conversation

Language barriers

Do you speak...? (English)	Ita koalia...? (Inglés)
Tetun	Tetun
Portuguese	Portugés
Indonesian (language)	Bahasa
I (don't) speak...	Hau (la)koalia...
I speak English.	Hau koalia Inglés.
I don't speak English.	Hau la koalia Inglés.
Does anyone speak English?	Ema ruma iha ne koalia Inglés?
I speak a little.	Hau koalia ituan.
Do you understand?	Ita kompriende ka le?
I (don't) understand.	Hau (la) kompriende.
Could you speak more slowly?	Ita bele koalia neineik ituan?
Could you repeat that?	Ita bele repete fali ka?
Please write that down.	Favór ida hakerek tiha.
How do you say...?	Ita dehan... hanusá?
What does... mean?	... dehan saida?

Age

How old are you (already)?	Ita-nia tinan hira (ona)?
How old...?	...tinan hira?
are you (to a child)	o-nia
are you (to an adult)	Ita-nia
is your son/daughter?	Ita-nia oan mane/feto
I'm...years old	Hau-nia tinan ...
When's your birthday?	Bain hira maka Ita halo tinan?
My birthday is on (25 th of January).	Hau-nia tinan iha loron (ruanulu-resin-lima fulan Janeiru).
I was born in... (month)	Hau moris iha...

Religion

What's your religion?	Ita-nia relijiaun saida?
Are you...?	Ita...?
I'm ... (Catholic/ Christian, etc.)	Hau... (Katóliku/a , sarani/kristaun)
I don't have a religion.	Hau la iha relijiaun.
Can I attend this service/mass?	Hau bele tuir misa ne ka lae?

General conversation

Occupations

Where do you work?	Ita serbisu iha nebé?
I work...	Hau serbisu...
with an NGO	ho NGO ida
in a church	iha igreja
in a restaurant	iha restoranti
What (<i>work</i>) do you do?	Ita serbisu saida?
I'm a/an...	Hau...
I want to become a/an...	Hau hakarak sai...
I'm unemployed.	Hau la iha serbisu.
I'm a homemaker.	Hau iha uma deit.
I'm retired.	Hau reformadu/a

Family

How many brothers/sisters do you have?	Ita iha maun-alin/bin-alin nain hira?
How old are they?	Sira tinan hira?
What are their names?	Sira-nia naran sa?
Do you have a boyfriend/girlfriend?	Ita iha namoradu/a?
Are you married?	Ita kaben nain?
How many children do you have?	Ita hira oan hira?
I have a daughter/son.	Hau iha oan feto/mane ida
I don't have any children.	Hau la iha oan.
I live with my family	Hau hela ho hau-nia família.

Interests

What do you do in your spare time?	Saida maka Ita halo iha tempu livre?
Do you like...?	Ita gosta...?
I (don't) like...?	Hau (la)gosta...?
listening to music	rona música
reading	le
talking	koalia
travelling	lao rai
watching films (<i>etc.</i>)	haré televizaun
Do you like sport?	Ita gosta joga desportu ka lae?
Do you play...? (chess)	Ita joga...? (xadrés/catur (<i>Ind</i>))

Getting around and making plans

Excuse me.	Kolisensa.
Can you help?	Ita bele fo ajuda?
Where's the...?	... iha nebé?
bus station	terminál bis nian
road to (Aileu)	dalan ba (Aileu)
What time does the... leave/arrive?	Tuku hira maka... ba
airplane	aviaun
bus	bis/biskota
minibus	míkrolet
What time does it open/close?	Tuku hira maka loke/taka?
How do we get to...?	Ami ba... hanusá?
Is it far/ nearby?	Dok hosi/Besik ne ka?
Can we walk there?	Ami bele lao to nebá ka lae?
Can you show me (on the map) ?	Ita bele hatudu mai hau (iha mapa ne)?
Are there other means of getting there?	Ami bele ba to nebá ho buat seluk?
What... is this?	...saida maka ne?
city	Sidadi; Kota (<i>Ind</i>)
street	Dalan; Estrada; Lurón
village	Vila; Desa (<i>Ind</i>)

Directions

Turn at the ...	Fila iha...
next corner/bend	Kantu/kurva ida mai ne
traffic lights	Ahioan mean ne
Straight ahead	Los deit
To the right/left	Fila ba liman los/ karuk.
behind	iha... kotuk
in front of	iha... nia oin
far	dok
near	besik
opposite	iha... nia oin
here	ne
there	nebá