



# Class 4

## Welcome to Matou!

INTRODUCTION TO SAMOAN LANGUAGE  
AND SAMOAN SENTENCE STRUCTURE

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# Quiz (translate into Samoan)

- |                           |                  |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Running                | tamo'e           |
| 2. Has walked             | savali           |
| 3. Will think             | mafaufau         |
| 4. Tasi believes          | talitonu         |
| 5. Suka was crying        | tagi             |
| 6. The father heard       | fa'alogoia, tamā |
| 7. A Samoan girl will win | teine, manumalo  |

# Pronouns said after the action

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| ▶ I:          | a'u     |
| ▶ You:        | 'oe     |
| ▶ Her/him/it: | o ia    |
| ▶ Us (2 inc)  | i ta'ua |
| ▶ Us (2 ex)   | i ma'ua |
| ▶ You (2)     | oulua   |
| ▶ Them (2)    | i la'ua |
| ▶ Us (3 inc)  | i tatou |
| ▶ Us (3 ex)   | i matou |
| ▶ You (3)     | outou   |
| ▶ Them (3)    | i latou |

The "i" in the plural pronouns are often omitted. Ex: i matou = matou

# Action Phrases

- Tense Marker + Action/Verb
  - **E savali**
  - **'Ua alu**
  - **O le' a moe**
  - **Sa tautala**
  - **Na va'ai**
  - **O lo'o tamoe**
  - **E fa'amalositino**

# NOUN PHRASES WITH PRONOUN

- NOUN PHRASE
  - **O a'u**
  - **O 'oe**
  - **O ia**
  - **O i la'ua**
  - **O outou**
  - **O oulua**
  - **O i matou**

# Action Phrases

# NOUN PHRASES WITH PRONOUN

- Tense Marker + Action/Verb NOUN PHRASE

|                           |                  |                                    |
|---------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| • <b>E savali</b>         | <b>O a'u</b>     | <b>= E savali a'u.</b>             |
| • <b>Ua alu</b>           | <b>O oe</b>      | <b>= Ua alu oe.</b>                |
| • <b>O le' a moe</b>      | <b>O ia</b>      | <b>= O le'a moe o ia.</b>          |
| • <b>Sa tautala</b>       | <b>O i la'ua</b> | <b>= Sa tautala i la'ua.</b>       |
| • <b>Na va'ai</b>         | <b>O outou</b>   | <b>= Na va'a'ai outou.</b>         |
| • <b>O lo'o tamoe</b>     | <b>O oulua</b>   | <b>= O lo'o tamoe oulua.</b>       |
| • <b>E fa'amalositino</b> | <b>O i matou</b> | <b>= E fa'amalositino i matou.</b> |

# Pronoun Exercise (O a mai \_\_\_\_?)

- |                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| ▶ How am I?           | a'u     |
| ▶ How are you?        | 'oe     |
| ▶ How is she?         | o ia    |
| ▶ How are we?         | i ta'ua |
| ▶ How are we?         | i ma'ua |
| ▶ How are you (2)?    | oulua   |
| ▶ How are they (2)?   | i la'ua |
| ▶ How are we (3+ inc) | i tatou |
| ▶ How are we (3+ ex)  | i matou |
| ▶ How are you (3+)    | outou   |
| ▶ How are they (3+)   | i latou |

# T-AS

T

TENSE PROVIDES  
THE TIME (PAST,  
PRESENT, OR  
FUTURE OF THE  
ACTION)

Na

A

ACTION  
CONNECTS  
WITH THE TENSE  
TO MAKE THE  
ACTION PAST,  
PRESENT, OR  
FUTURE ACTION

talanoa

S

SUBJECT IS THE  
NOUN PHRASE. IT  
CONNECTS WITH  
THE ACTION AND  
USUALLY DOES NOT  
REQUIRE "O"  
INDICATOR.

le tama ma

S

SUBJECT IS THE  
NOUN PHRASE.  
IT CONNECTS  
WITH THE ACTION  
AND USUALLY  
DOES NOT  
REQUIRE "O"  
INDICATOR.

le teine

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tusia

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e le tama

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le pepa

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e le tama.

# Negative Verbs, Adverbs, and Adjectives

- ▶ “lē” before any verb, adverb, or adjective makes the word negative
  - ▶ E lē alu le tama. (verb)
  - ▶ E lē vave le tamaiti’iti (adverb)
  - ▶ Sa lē fiafia le pepe. (adjective)

## Negative Subjects

“lē” before any subject is also negative.

Stated as “le’o” or “lē” followed by complete subject phrase

E lē o le foma’i o ia

E le’o le foma’i o ia

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e le tama.

# Possessive Limiters

- ▶ O- class
  - ▶ Relatives (parents, grandparents, siblings, cousins, etc)
  - ▶ Things that provide and protect (God, houses, land)
  - ▶ Body parts
  - ▶ Irreplaceable things
  - ▶ Things/situations out of your control (Stories)
  - ▶ Subject has subserviant position

# Possessive Limiters

- ▶ A- class
  - ▶ Relationships/Friendships
  - ▶ Things/Situations you have control over (pets, stories)
  - ▶ Replaceable things
  - ▶ Subject has authoritative position

# Singular Possessives

1. Noun is stated after the possessive pronoun

|             | L/S/Ni | a/o | Pronou<br>n | = |
|-------------|--------|-----|-------------|---|
| Mine, my    |        |     | 'u          |   |
| Your        |        |     | u           |   |
| His/Her/Its |        |     | na          |   |



# Plural Dual Possessives (Informal)

|             | Le/se/ni/- | Pronoun | = |
|-------------|------------|---------|---|
| Our 2 (ex)  |            | ma      |   |
| Our 2 (inc) |            | ta      |   |
| Your 2      |            | lua     |   |
| Their 2     |            | la      |   |



# Plural 3+ Possessives (Informal)

|             | Le/se/ni/- | Pronoun   | = |
|-------------|------------|-----------|---|
| Our 2 (ex)  |            | matou     |   |
| Our 2 (inc) |            | tatou     |   |
| Your 2      |            | Tou/outou |   |
| Their 2     |            | latou     |   |



# PLURAL POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS IN SAMOAN

Our, Their, Your

NOUN TENSE

**O**



SINGULAR

**LE**



2 PEOPLE

**DUAL**



3+ PEOPLE

**PLURAL**



NOUN

**TA'AVALE**



**O noun tense marker**  
(It is, they are)

A singular possession belonging to a group.

If it's multiple possessions belonging to a group, OMIT "le"

**ma-** ours (exclusive)  
**ta-** ours (inclusive)  
**lua-** yours  
**la -** theirs

**matou-** ours (exclusive)  
**tatou-** ours (inclusive)  
**tou-** yours  
**latou -** theirs

Noun or subject. Do not add an "s" to make plural. This is not a Samoan language practice.

# PLURAL POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS IN SAMOAN

Our, Their, Your

NOUN TENSE

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**O noun tense marker**  
(It is, they are)

SINGULAR

LE



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2 PEOPLE

DUAL



**ma-** ours (exclusive)  
**ta-** ours (inclusive)  
**lua-** yours  
**la -** theirs

NOUN  
TA'AVALE



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# PLURAL POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS IN SAMOAN

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NOUN TENSE

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**O noun tense marker**  
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SINGULAR

**LE**



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If it's multiple possessions belonging to a group, OMIT "le"

3+ PEOPLE  
**PLURAL**



**matou-** ours (exclusive)  
**tatou-** ours (inclusive)  
**tou-** yours  
**latou -** theirs

NOUN

**TA'AVALE**



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# PLURAL POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS IN SAMOAN

Our, Their, Your

NOUN TENSE

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O noun tense  
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# PLURAL POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS IN SAMOAN

Our, Their, Your

NOUN TENSE

**O**



**O noun tense marker**  
(It is, they are)

3+ PEOPLE  
**PLURAL**



**matou-** ours  
(exclusive)  
**tatou-** ours  
(inclusive)  
**tou-** yours  
**latou -** theirs

NOUN  
**TA'AVALE**



Noun or subject. Do not add an "s" to make plural. This is not a Samoan language practice.

# “te” Tense

Uses Pre-Verb Pronoun plus tense marker “te”. Same as “e” tense.

Ou te nofo  
E te nofo  
Na te nofo  
Ma te nonofo  
Ta te nonofo  
Lua te nonofo  
La te nonofo  
Matou te nonofo  
Tatou te nonofo  
Tou te nonofo  
Latou te nonofo

I live  
You live  
She live  
We (2 ex) live  
We (2 incl) live  
You (2) live  
Them (2) live  
We (3+ ex) live  
We (3+ incl) live  
You (3+) live  
They (3+) live

**E ou nofo- WRONG**

-Common response even when speaking about future tense.

Exercise: Create short “Te” phrases with an action. Be sure to use the correct pronoun

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le tama iā

L

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loane

# Location Phrase Terms (Prepositions)



1. i: used for common nouns and places
  1. O lo'o moe o ia i le potu.
2. ia: names, proper nouns, months.
  1. Na tusi le tama ia loane.
3. ia te: singular pronouns
  1. Na tusi le tama ia te ia.

# Introductory Phrases

- ▶ Talofa!
- ▶ O a mai oe?
- ▶ Manuia fo'i fa'afetai
- ▶ O le \_\_\_\_\_
- ▶ So'u alu
- ▶ Tofa soifua

Talofa lava!  
Manuia fa'afetai. Ae a oe?  
A fa'afefea?  
Ia, ua lelei  
Toe feiloa'i  
Tofa