

lipu nimi pi pini sama

A Toki Pona Rhyming Dictionary by Morgan Brown



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Introduction

What is this? - This is a Toki Pona dictionary listing various rhyme groupings between the 120-ish Toki Pona words.

Why would I use it? - If you're writing poetry, music, or anything else that you want to rhyme in Toki Pona, and can't think of a way to rhyme two lines off the top of your head, then using this dictionary might help.

How do I use it? - First, know what you want to rhyme and how you want to rhyme it. Find the corresponding section in this dictionary, and you will find possible rhyming pairs. Toki Pona text and names of works are written in *italics*.

Who wrote this? - Me, Morgan Brown! You can find more of my work at my website, <https://morgangbrown.com/>.

Acknowledgements

Most definitions used in this book are borrowed from *Toki Pona: The Language of Good* by Sonja Lang (2014). Of course, Sonja Lang deserves credit for being the progenitor of Toki Pona itself.

Perfect Rhymes

Perfect rhymes are rhymes where every phoneme after the stressed vowel match. Since Toki Pona words are always stressed on the first syllable, these types of rhyme are very rare in the language relative to other rhymes, as they require words to be entirely identical except for in the onset of the first syllable.

Single Rhymes

Single rhymes are perfect rhymes where the stress appears on the last syllable. They are sometimes called masculine rhymes, but that's sexist. In natural languages, these are the most commonly occurring perfect rhymes, as the occurrence of the stress on the last syllable means there are fewer phonemes following the vowel that must match. However, as Toki Pona words are always stressed on the first syllable, single rhymes only occur in monosyllabic words.

-a

a - emphasis, emotion or confirmation.
la - between the context phrase and the main sentence.
ma - earth, land; outdoors, world; country, territory; soil.

-an

jan - human being, person, somebody.
pan - cereal, grain; barley, corn, out, rice, wheat; bread, pasta.
tan - by, from, because of.
wan - unique, united; one.

-en

en - between multiple subjects.
ken - to be able to, be allowed to, can, may; possible.
len - cloth, clothing, fabric, textile; cover, layer of privacy.

-i

li - between any subject except mi alone or sina alone and its verb; also to introduce a new verb for the same subject(s).
mi - I, me, we, us
ni - that, this
pi - of

-in

kin - emphasis, emotion or confirmation.
Alternative to *a*.
sin - new, fresh; additional, another, extra.

-o

jo - to have, carry, contain, hold.
ko - clay, clinging form, dough, semi-solid, paste, powder.
o - vocative or imperative.

-on

kon - air, breath; essence, spirit; hidden reality, unseen agent.
lon - located at, present at, real, true, existing.

-u

pu - interacting with the official *Toki Pona* book.
tu - two

Double Rhymes

Double Rhymes are perfect rhymes where the stress falls on the penultimate syllable. They are sometimes called feminine rhymes, but that's sexist. Again, because of the Toki Pona stress rules, the only double rhymes occur in disyllabic words which differ only by the onset of the first syllable.

-a

-ala

ala - no, not, zero.

kala - fish, marine animal, sea creature.

-ali

ali - all; abundant, countless, bountiful, every, plentiful. Alternative to *ale*.

pali - to do, take action on, work on; build, make, prepare.

-ama

kama - arriving, coming, future, summoned; to become, manage to, succeed in.

mama - parent, ancestor; creator, originator; caretaker, sustainer.

sama - same, similar; each other; sibling, peer, fellow; as, like.

-anpa

anpa - bowing down, downward, humble, lowly, dependent.

nanpa - ordinal number; numbers.

-aso

laso - blue, green.

taso - but, however; only.

waso - bird, flying creature, winged animal.

-awa

lawa - head, mind; to control, direct, guide, lead, own, plan, regulate, rule.

tawa - going to, toward; for; from the perspective of; moving.

wawa - strong

-e

-eli

meli - woman, female, feminine person; wife.

seli - fire; cooking element, chemical reaction, heat source.

-elo

selo - outer form, outer layer; bark, peel, shell, skin; boundary.

telo - water, liquid, fluid, wet substance; beverage.

-i

-ili

kili - fruit, vegetable, mushroom.

lili - little, small, short; few; a bit; young.

-ike

ike - bad, negative; non-essential, irrelevant.

sike - round or circular thing; ball, circle, cycle, sphere, wheel; of one year.

-o

-oka

noka - foot, leg, organ of locomotion; bottom, lower part.

poka - hip, side; next to, nearby, vicinity.

-oki

poki - container, bag, bowl, cup, cupboard, drawer, vessel.

toki - to communicate, say, speak, say, talk, use language, think.

-ona

ona - he, she, it, they.

pona - good, positive, useful; friendly, peaceful; simple.

sona - to know, be skilled in, be wise about, have information on; to know how to.

-u

-upa

lupa - door, hole, orifice, window.

supa - horizontal surface, thing to put or rest something on.

-ute

kute - ear; to hear, listen; pay attention to, obey.

mute - many, a lot, more, much, several, very; quantity.

General Rhymes

General rhymes are a large group of potential phonetic similarities between words.

Syllabic Rhymes

Syllabic rhymes are rhymes in which the last syllable of each word is phonologically identical after and including the nucleus. They are sometimes called end rhymes. Due to Toki Pona's syllable structure allowing only a consonant, a vowel, and an "n" at most, there are only ten possible groupings of syllabic rhymes.

-a

a - emphasis, emotion or confirmation.
ala - no, not, zero.
alasa - to hunt, forage.
anpa - bowing down, downward, humble, lowly, dependent.
insa - centre, content, inside, between; internal organ, stomach.
kala - fish, marine animal, sea creature.
kalama - to produce a sound; recite, utter aloud.
kama - arriving, coming, future, summoned; to become, manage to, succeed in.
la - between the context phrase and the main sentence.
lawa - head, mind; to control, direct, guide, lead, own, plan, regulate, rule.
linja - long and flexible thing; cord, hair, rope, thread, yarn.
luka - arm, hand, tactile organ; five.
lupa - door, hole, orifice, window.
ma - earth, land; outdoors, world; country, territory; soil.

mama - parent, ancestor; creator, originator; caretaker, sustainer.
nanpa - ordinal number, numbers.
nasa - unusual, strange; foolish, crazy; drunk, intoxicated.
nena - bump, button, hill, mountain, nose, protuberance.
noka - foot, leg, organ of locomotion; bottom, lower part.
ona - he, she, it, they.
pakala - botched, broken, damaged, harmed, messed up.
palisa - long hard thing; branch, rod, stick.
pana - to give, send, emit, provide, put, release.
pimeja - black, dark, unlit.
poka - hip, side; next to, nearby, vicinity.
pona - good, positive, useful; friendly, peaceful; simple.
sama - same, similar; each other; sibling, peer, fellow; as, like.
sina - you.
sona - to know, be skilled in, be wise about, have information on; to know how to.
supa - horizontal surface, thing to put or rest something on.
tawa - by, from, because of.
unpa - to have sexual or marital relations with.
uta - mouth, lips, oral cavity, jaw.
utala - to battle, challenge, compete against, struggle against.
wawa - strong, powerful; confident, sure; energetic, intense.
weka - absent, away, ignored.

-an

jan - human being, person, somebody.
pan - cereal, grain; barley, corn, oat, rice, wheat; bread, pasta.
tan - by, from, because of.
wan - unique, united; one.

-e

ale - all, abundant, countless, bountiful, every, plentiful.
ante - different, altered, changed, other.
e - before the direct object.
ike - bad, negative; non-essential, irrelevant.
kule - colourful, pigmented, painted.
kute - ear; to hear, listen; pay attention to, obey.
lape - sleeping, resting.
lete - cold, cool; uncooked, raw.
loje - red, reddish.
mije - man, male, masculine person; husband.
mute - many, a lot, more, much, several, very; quantity.
seme - what? which?
sike - round or circular thing; ball, circle, cycle, sphere, wheel; of one year.
wile - must, need, require, should, want, wish.

-en

awen - enduring, kept, protected, safe, waiting, staying; to continue to.
en - between multiple subjects.
ken - to be able to, be allowed to, can, may; possible.
kepeken - to use, with, by means of.
kiwen - hard object, metal, rock, stone.
len - cloth, clothing, textile; cover, layer of privacy.
open - to begin, start; open; turn on.
sitelen - image, picture, representation, symbol, mark, writing.

-i

akesi - non-cute animal; reptile, amphibian.

ali - all; abundant, countless, bountiful, every, plentiful; abundance, everything, life, universe; 100.

jaki - disgusting, obscene, sickly, toxic, unclean, unsanitary.

kasi - plant, vegetation; herb, leaf.

kili - fruit, vegetable, mushroom.

li - between any subject except mi alone or sina alone and its verb; also to introduce a new verb for the same subject.

lili - little, small, short; few; a bit; young.

mani - money, cash, savings, wealth; large domesticated animal.

meli - woman, female, feminine person; wife.

mi - I, me, we, us.

moli - dead, dying.

monsi - back, behind, rear.

musi - artistic, entertaining, frivolous, playful, recreational.

ni - that, this.

nimi - name, word.

pali - to do, take action on, work on; build, make, prepare.

pi - of.

pini - ago, completed, ended, finished, past.

pipi - bug, insect, ant, spider.

poki - container, bag, bowl, box, cup, cupboard.

seli - fire; cooking element, chemical reaction, heat source.

sewi - are above, highest part, something elevated; awe-inspiring, divine, sacred, supernatural.

soweli - animal, beast, land mammal.

suli - big, heavy, large, long, tall; important; adult.

suwi - sweet, fragrant; cute, innocent, adorable.

toki - to communicate, say, speak, talk, use language, think.

-in

kin - emphasis, emotion, or confirmation.
lukin - eye; to look at, see, examine, observe, read, watch; to seek, look for, try to.
nasin - way, custom, doctrine, method, path, road.
olin - to love, have compassion for, respect, show affection to.
pilin - heart (physical or emotional), feeling (an emotion, a direct experience).
sin - new, fresh; additional, another, extra.
sinpin - face, foremost, front, wall.

-O

ijo - thing, phenomenon, object, matter.
ilo - tool, implement, machine, device.
jelo - yellow, yellowish.
jo - to have, carry, contain, hold.
ko - clay, clinging form, dough, semi-solid, paste, powder.
laso - blue, green.
namako - new, fresh; additional, another, extra.
o - hey! O! (vocative or imperative)
oko - eye; to look at, see, examine, observe, read, watch; to seek, look for, try to.
selo - outer form, outer layer; bark, peel, shell, skin; boundary.
sijelo - body (of person or animal), physical state, torso.
suno - sun; light, brightness, glow, radiance, shine; light source.
taso - but, however; only.
telo - water, liquid, fluid, wet substance; beverage.
tempo - time, duration, moment, occasion, period, situation.
tomo - indoor space; building, home, house, room.
walo - white, whitish; light-coloured, pale.
waso - bird, flying creature, winged animal.

-ON

kon - air, breath; essence, spirit; hidden reality, unseen agent.
lon - located at, present at, real, true, existing.

-u

anu - or.
kulupu - community, company, group, nation, society, tribe.
lipu - flat object; book, document, card, paper, record, website.
moku - to eat, drink, consume, swallow, ingest.
mu - animal noise or communication.
pu - interacting with the official *Toki Pona* book.
tu - two.

-un

esun - market, shop, fair, bazaar, business transaction.
mun - moon, night sky object, star.

Half Rhymes

Half rhymes occur when the codas of the final syllables of two words are the same. Due to the syllable structure of *Toki Pona*, the only coda permitted is a single “n”. This can be found in the words listed here.

awen - enduring, kept, protected, safe, waiting, staying; to continue to.
en - between multiple subjects.
esun - market, shop, fair, bazaar, business transaction.
jan - human being, person, somebody.
ken - emphasis, emotion or confirmation.
kepeken - to use, with, by means of.

kin - emphasis, emotion, or confirmation.
kiwen - hard object, metal, rock, stone.
kon - air, breath; essence, spirit; hidden reality, unseen agent.
len - cloth, clothing, textile; cover, layer of privacy.
lon - located at, present at, real, true, existing.
lukin - eye; to look at, see, examine, observe, read, watch; to seek, look for, try to.
mun - moon, night sky object, star.
nasin - way, custom, doctrine, method, path, road.
olin - to love, have compassion for, respect, show affection to.
open - to begin, start; open; turn on.
pan - cereal, grain; barley, corn, oat, rice, wheat; bread, pasta.
pilin - heart (physical or emotional), feeling (an emotion, a direct experience).
sin - new, fresh; additional, another, extra.
sinpin - face, foremost, front, wall.
sitelen - image, picture, representation, symbol, mark, writing.
tan - by, from, because of.
wan - unique, united; one.

Other Rhymes

Eye Rhymes

Eye rhymes occur when the written forms of two words imply that they should rhyme, however they actually contain different vowels. Because of the phonetic transcription of Toki Pona, such rhymes don't exist in the language. However, in the sitelen pona and sitelen sitelen writing systems, among others, such rhymes may exist.

Mind Rhymes

Mind rhymes appear due to misreadings of written text, particularly, if a person accidentally reads the final word of a line such that it rhymes with the previous line. These mostly occur when the word that is written looks like a word that would rhyme, so when constructing these rhymes, find a word that does rhyme, and then find a similar-looking word without the same rhyme.

Identical Rhymes

Identical rhymes occur when two words rhyme because the entirety of one word constitutes a part of the other word, for example, *en* and *ken*. Check in Perfect Rhymes for these.