

Peace Corps

Bislama Introductory Language lessons



Peace Corps Vanuatu

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Introduction

Bislama is the national language of the Republic of Vanuatu. It is a pidgin derived from English, French and indigenous languages that is spoken throughout the country as the *lingua franca*; a common tongue which enables communication between the many different language communities of Vanuatu. There are more than one hundred recognized languages spoken in Vanuatu by the approximately 220, 000 residents of the islands, excluding the European languages of English and French. There is a distinct language for, on average, every 2,200 inhabitants of Vanuatu which makes it the country with one of the highest, if not the highest, and language densities in the world. It is not surprising; therefore, that a common language should develop that ensures communication amongst all citizens.

In addition, English and French are spoken and understood by many ni-Vanuatu (as the citizens of the republic choose to be called), however, it is rare for a ni-Vanuatu to speak both English and French - especially outside the capital Port Vila on the island of Efate. One cause of this situation is that in pre-Independence times (pre-1980) the British and French condominium government duplicated facilities; they established competing British and French schools. The net result was that those ni-Vanuatu who attended French schools were educated in French, while students at the British schools were educated in English.

Since independence the two-language education system has been maintained, and is, in fact, specified in the Vanuatu constitution. This situation effectively ruled out the possibility of either English or French becoming the national language. The only language that is spoken throughout the country is Bislama, and this has occurred only relatively recently. Previously Bislama was not at all well known in some of the more remote areas, especially among women, who typically do not tend to travel outside their immediate area. Since Bislama is the only universal language of Vanuatu, it is not surprising that it was proclaimed the national language of the Republic in the country's constitution.



Lesson 1: Sounds of Bislama

1. Vowels

Bislama has five vowels - **A, E, I, O, U**

The vowels are pronounced as follows -

The **A** always must have an “ah” sound.

A - **A** as in *Artist* or *Cart*. Bislama words: Tanda, Andanit

The **E** always will sound like “eh” in English or an “é” in French.

E - **E** as in *Enter* or *Enhance*. Bislama Words: Pepa, Etkwek

The **I** must have an “ee” (long-**E**) sound such

I - **I** as in *Graffiti* or the final **I** in *Manicotti*. Bislama Words: Pikinini, Kilim

O in Bislama is pronounced “oh” - the long-**O** sound.

O - **O** as in *Open* or *Over*. Bislama Words: Popo Moskito

The **U** always will have a “oo” sound.

U - **U** as in *Salute* or *Jubilee*. Bislama Words: Muvum, Fulap

To Practice pronouncing the following letter combinations in Bislama , repeat after the reader:

BA KA FA SAS LAS

BE KE FE SES LES

BI KI FI SIS LIS

BO KO FO SOS LOS

BU KU FU SUS LUS

Diphthongs

There are four (4) diphthongs which occur with great frequency in Bislama. They are:

EI Pronounced like a long-**A**.

Eg. Medel dei, Imeil

AE Pronounced like a long-**I**.

Eg. Taem, Straek

AO Pronounced “ow” as in towel.

Eg. Braon, Taon

OE Pronounced “oy” as in joy.

Eg. . Voes, Loea

2. Letter Combinations

Some letter combinations in English are transliterated and pronounced as a single letter in Bislama.

Combination SH is pronounced as ‘s’. Repeat the examples after the reader;

Ship – Sip
Shoes – Sus
Shopping – Soping

Combination CH is pronounced as ‘J’. Repeat the examples after the reader

Church – Jej
Chest – Jes

‘Ch’ in words such as ‘Christmas’ is pronounced the same as in English

Combination TH is pronounced as ‘T’. Repeat the examples after the reader

Thank You – Tank yu
Thirty – Teti

Lesson 2: Introducing Yourself and Greetings

The first time you meet someone who wants to talk to you, it may be a good idea to introduce yourself before proceeding with further conversation. The vocabulary in this section will help you introduce yourself.

When you meet a person in Vanuatu, You need to remember several phrases of Greetings and Introductions.

Halo	Hello
Olsem wanem?	How are you
Gud Aftanun, wanem nem blong yu?	Good Afternoon. What is your name?
I stret	It’s good
Nem blong mi..	My name is...
Yu blong wea?	Where are you from?
Mi blong....	I’m from...

Rita meets a Peace Corps Volunteer. Listen to their conversation:

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English – Inglis</u>
Rita: Gud moning, wanem nem blong yu?	Good morning. What is your name?
PCV: Gud moning, nem blong mi Ryan.	Good morning my name is Ryan.
Rita: Nem blong mi Rita. Be yu blong wea?	My name is Rita, but where are you from?
PCV: Mi kam long Amerika.	I come from America.
Rita: Yu kam olsem wan turis?	Do you come as a tourist?
PCV: No, mi kam blong wok olsem wan Pis Kop Volentia.	No, I come to work as a Peace Corps Volunteer.
Rita: oh, mi glad tumas blong mitim yu	Oh, I am so happy to meet you.
PCV: Mi tu, mi glad tumas blong mitim yu.	Me too, I am so happy to meet you.
Rita: Ale tata.	Okay, bye.
PCV: Ale lukim yu.	Okay, see you.

Here is another conversation between Kalo and Paul:

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English – Inglis</u>
Kalo: Brigitte emia Judy.	Brigitte, this is Judy.
Brigitte: Nem blong mi Brigitte, Mi glad blong mitim yu.	My name is Brigitte; I'm pleased to meet you.
Kalo: Judy emi wan Pis Kop Volentia long Santo.	Judy is a Peace Corps Volunteer on Santo.
Judy: Mi glad tumas blong mitim yu Paul.	I'm very pleased to meet you, Brigitte.
Kalo: Ale Brigitte, Tank yu tumas blong mitim fren blong mi, ale tata.	Ok Brigitte, thank you for meeting my friend. Ok bye.
Brigitte: Ale, lukim yu.	Ok, see you.

Lesson 3– At the Market - Long Maket

It is very important that you know the words and phrases associated with buying goods at the market. In this lesson you will hear a word or phrase in English one time, then twice in Bislama.

Listen carefully to the Bislama phrases the first time, then try to repeat the word or phrase with the speaker the second time.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English- Inglis</u>
Hamas Long?	How much for..?

Hamas long emia?	How much for this?
Yu Salem?	Do you sell?
Mi Wantem pem..?	I want to buy...
Wanem ia..?	What is this..?
Wanem nem blong hemia?	What is the name for this?
Tankiu tumas.	Thank you very much.

Quantities, Sizes, and Qualities

Listen carefully to the Bislama phrases, and repeat them with the speaker.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English- Inglis</u>
Sam	Some
Wan bandel	A bundle
Tu basket	Two Baskets
Tri rol	Three rolls
Ol bigwan	Big ones
Ol smolwan	Small ones
Sas	Expensive
Jip	Cheap
Raep	Ripe
Redi	Mature
Konkon	Bitter
Swit	Sweet
Fo pis	4 pieces

Listen to the conversation between a Mama and a Peace Corps Volunteer at the Mama's Market.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English – Inglis</u>
Mama: Gud moning.	Mama: Good morning.
Trainee: Gud moning! Yu salem red popo?	Trainee: Good morning! Do you sell red papaya?
Mama: Yes, 50vt long ol bigwan mo 100vt long ol smol wan.	Mama: Yes, 50vt for big ones and 100 vt for small ones.
Trainee: Bae mi pem wan bigwan mo wan smol wan.	Trainee: I will buy a big one and a small one.
Mama:Hemi 150vt long everiwan.	Mama: It is 150vt for all of them.
Trainee: Hemia mane blong yu.	Trainee: Here is your money.
Mama: Tankiu tumas,ale tata.	Mama: Thank you very much. Okay, bye.
Trainee: Tankiu tu, ale tata!	Trainee: Thank you too, okay, bye.

Listen to another conversation between a vendor and a customer at the Mama's Market. Repeat after the speaker.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English – Inglis</u>
Mama: Halo.	Hello.
Kastoma: Halo!, Yu salem aelan kabis.	Hello, do you sell island cabbage.
Mama: Yes, wan bandel aelan kabis hemi 200 vt.	Yes, a bundle of island cabbage costs 200vt.
Kastoma: Bae mi karem 2 bandel Aelan kabis.	I will buy 2 bundles of island cabbage.
Mama: Hemi 400vt long everiwan.	It is 400 vt for all of them.
Kastoma: Hemia mane blong yu.	Here is your money.
Mama: Hemia jens blong yu. Tankiu tumas. Ale tata!	Here is your change. Thank you very much. Okay, bye!
Kastoma: Tankiu tu. Ale tata!	Thank you too. Okay, Bye.

Lesson 4: Shopping - Soping

It is important that you know how to inquire about the prices for items in a shop or at the market in Vanuatu. In this lesson you will hear a word or phrase in English one time, then twice in Bislama.

Listen carefully to the Bislama the first time, then try to repeat the word or phrase with the speaker the second time.

<u>English</u>	<u>Bislama</u>
Where is the store?	Wehem stoa?
Where is the store where I can buy...?	Wehem stoa we mi save pem ...?
What is the name for this in Bislama?	Wanem nem blong emia long Bislama?
Can I buy a Here?	Mi save pem wanlo ples ia?
How much for this/that?	Hamas long emia?
What is the price for this?	Wanem praes blong emia?
How much for one?	Hamas long wan?
Is there one that's slightly smaller/bigger	I gat wan we I smol/bigwan lelebet?
Is there one cheaper?	I gat wan we I jip?
Is this fresh?	Emia I fres?
Do you sell Here?	Yu salem long ples ia?
Where can I buy local food?	Mi save pem aelan kakae wea?
Which local food is good?	Wanem aelan kakae nao I gud?

Listen to the conversation between the shop attendant and the customer. Practice with the speaker.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English – Inglis</u>
Shop Attendant: Halo, mi save helpem yu?	Hello, can I help you?
Customer: Yes, mi wantem pem wan sop.	Yes, I want to buy a soap.
Shop Attendant: Wanem kaen sop, blong swim o blong was?	What type of soap? Bathing soap or a washing soap?
Customer: Ah, mi wantem wan sop blong swim.	Ah, I want a bathing soap.
Shop Attendant: Mifala I salem tu kaen, proteks mo laks, wij wan yu wantem?	We sell two kinds, protex and lux. Which one would you like?
Customer: Mi wantem pem wan proteks, hamas long wan?	I want to buy protex soap, how much is it?
Shop Attendant: Emi 80 vt long wan.	It is 80 vt for one.
Customer: I gud, bae mi pem wan, emia mane blong soap.	Good. I'll buy one, here's the soap money.
Shop Attendant: Tenkiu tumas, emia jens blong yu.	Thanks a lot, here's your change.
Customer: Ale tata.	Okay, bye.

Lesson 5: Asking and Giving Directions – Askem mo Givim Daereksen

It is important that you know how to inquire for and give directions in Vanuatu. In this lesson you will hear a word or phrase in English one time, then twice in Bislama.

Listen carefully to the Bislama the first time, then try to repeat the word or phrase with the speaker the second time.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English- Inglis</u>
Wea?	Where?
Long wea?	From where?
Long	At
Olsem wanem?	How?
Narasaed	The other side of/opposite
Bihaen long	Behind
Fored long	In front of
Klosap long	Close to or near to
Long wei	Over there

Long wei long	Far from
Antap	Uphill, inland or up
Daon	Downhill or down
Smol rod	Footpath
Rod blong trak o bigfala rod	Main road
Lefsaed	Left or left side
Raet saed	Right or right side
Long ples ia	Here or there
Tanem long raet	Turn right
Not	North
Saot	South
Wes	West
Is	East

Listen to the conversation between Madilda and Leifau. Practice with the speaker.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English – Inglis</u>
Madilda: Wehem Lusi?	Where is Lucy?
Leifau: Hemi go long stoa.	She went to the store.
Madilda: Wij wan stoa?	Which store?
Leifau: Bo mase nambatu.	Au Bon Marché, Nambatu.
Madilda: Emia stret long wea?	Where exactly is that?
Leifau: Yu folem big rod long taon, mo go stret antap long Askoto moto.	Follow the main street from down town and go up hill towards Asco Motors.
Madilda: Afta?	And then?
Leifau: Taem yu kasem Asco motos, yu wokabaot smol moa.	When you reach Asco motors, you walk a few more blocks further.
Madilda: Emi stap long lefsaed o raet saed?	Is it on the left or right side?
Leifau: Emi stap long raet saed taem yu stap go long taon.	It's on the right from town.
Madilda: Ah, mi ting se bae mi save faenem.	I think I can find that.
Leifau: Bae yu no save lus, yu save askem ol man yu mitim mo bae oli helpem yu.	You can't be lost. You can ask people you meet and they will help you.
Madilda: Tenkiu tumas Leifau, yu gud tumas.	Thank you so much Leifau, you're so good.
Leifau: I oraet, hope se bae yu gat wan gudfala wokabaot.	That's okay. Hope you have a good walk.

Lesson 6: Transportation - Transpotesen

In Vanuatu, you will probably do more walking, riding in the back of pickup trucks, flying in small planes, and bouncing around in small boats than you have ever done before. As usual you will have an opportunity to communicate when ever transportation is needed.

Repeat each means of transportation after the reader:

Taksi – taxi

Bas – Bus

Sip – a cargo ship

Trak – an open cart truck

Plen – aeroplane

Turis bot– Cruise ship

Kenu – Canoe

Bot - Outboard Motor

Helikopta - Helicopter

Plen blong solwota – Sea plane

Here are some phrases when communicating your need for transportation: Repeat after the reader.

Bislama	English
Yu save karem mi i go long taon?	Can you take me to town?
Hamas long bas?	How much for the bus?
Yu mekem hamas trip long wan dei?	How many trips do you do a day?
Yu save karem mi i go long eapot plis?	Can you take me to the airport, please?
Yu save ron slo?	Can you drive slower?
Stop ia, tank yu.	Stop here thank you.
Yu save ron kwik lelebet, bae mi leit long wok.	Can you go a little faster? I will be late for work?
Tank yu tumas	Thank you very much.
Hamas long wan wei?	How much for one way?
Hamas long wan ful trip?	How much for the round trip?
Hamas blong go long market mo kam bak long haos blong mi?	How much to take me to the market and back to my house?
Yu gat inaf rum blong mi kam?	Is there enough room for me to come?
Yu gat wan speis blong wan mo man?	Do you have a space for one more person?
Karem mi i go long Kokonat Pams Risot plis.	Take me to Coconut Palms Resort please.

Here is a conversation between John and a taxi driver.

1: Listen to the whole dialog as many times as you need to feel comfortable with the conversation.

Bislama	English
Taksi draeva: Gud moning, yu nidim wan taksi o no?	Taxi Driver: Good morning, Do you need a taxi?
John: Yes plis.	John: Yes Please
Taksi draeva: Yu stap go wea?	Taxi driver: Where are you going?
John: Mi wantem go long Kokonat Pam Risot.	John: I want to go to Coconut Palms Resort.
Taksi draeva: Emi oraet.	Taxi driver: That's alright.
John: Emi hamas?	John: How much is it?
Taksi draeva: Emi wan taosen vatu.	Taxi driver: It's One thousand vatu.
John: Ok, karem mi i go long Kokonat Pams Risot.	John: Ok, Take me to Coconut Palms Resort.
Taksi draeva: Ok	Taxi driver: Ok.
John: Tankiu tumas.	John: Thanks a lot.

2: Listen to the same conversation again and repeat after the reader.

Taksi draeva: Gud moning, yu nidim wan taxi o no?
John: Yes plis.
Taksi draeva: Yu stap go wea?
John: Mi wantem go long Kokonat Pams Risot
Taksi draeva: Emi orate.
John: Hamas long em?
Taksi draeva: Emi wan taosen vatu.
John: Ok, karem mi i go long Kokonat Pams Risot
Taksi draeva: Ok
John: Tenkiu tumas.

3: Now, you will read John's role. Respond to the taxi driver.

Taksi draeva: Gud moning, yu nidim wan taxi o no?
John:
Taksi draeva: Yu stap go wea?
John:
Taksi draeva: Emi orate.
John:

Taksi draeva: Emi wan taosen vatu.
John:
Taksi draeva: Ok
John:

Lesson 7: Food Likes and Dislikes – Kakae, Laekem mo no Laekem

It is important that you know the words and phrases associated with your likes and dislikes.

Listen carefully to the Bislama phrases the first time, then repeat the word or phrase with the speaker the second time.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English- Inglis</u>
Mi laekem	I like it
Mi no laekem	I don't like it
Yu laekem	You like it
Yu no laekem	You don't like it
Mifala I laekem	We like it
Mifala I no laekem	We don't like it
Yufala I laekem	You like it
Yufala I no laekem	You don't like it
Olgeta oli laekem	They like it
Olgeta oli no laekem	They don't like it
Hem I laekem	S/he likes it
Hem I no laekem	S/he doesn't like it

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English- Inglis</u>
From se/we	Because
I naes	It's nice
I no naes	It's not nice
I smel gud	It smells good
I tes gud	It tastes good
I nosmel gud	It doesn't smell good

Listen to the conversation between Toumet and Kalmet at the local market.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English – Inglis</u>
Toumet: Halo.	Toumet: Hello.
Kalmet: Halo! Hmm!(Kakae)	Kalmet: Hello Hmm! (eating)
Toumet: Yu stap Kakae wanem? I smel gud.	Toumet: What are you eating? It smells good.
Kalmet: Mi stap kakae wan tuluk.	Kalmet: I am eating a tuluk.
Toumet: Hmm! Mi laekem tuluk from se hemi tes gud.	Toumet: Hmm! I like tuluk because it tastes good.
Kalmet: Yes mi tu, mi laekem tuluk.	Kalmet: Yes, me too, I like tuluk.

Listen to another conversation between Peace Corps Volunteers Matt and Nicole. Repeat after the speaker.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English – Inglis</u>
Matt: Halo Niki, yu laekem Kakae fis we oli boilem wetem melek Kokonas?	Matt: Hello Niki, Would you like to eat fish boiled in coconut cream?
Niki: Mi laekem kakae fis nomo. Be mi no laekem Kakae melek blong kokonas.	Niki: I like to eat just fish, but I do not like to eat coconut cream.
Matt: From wanem?	Matt: Why?
Niki: From we I no smel gud.	Niki: Because it does not smell good.
Matt: Ale, bae mi putum fis mo raes nomo long plet blong yu.	Matt: Okay, I will serve just rice and fish on your plate.
Niki: Yes , Mi laekem raes mo fis nomo from se I naes.	Niki: Yes, I like just rice and fish because it's nice.
Matt: Hemia kakae blong yu.	Matt: Here is your food.
Niki: Yami, Tankiu Matt!	Niki: Yummy! Thank you Matt.!

Lesson 8: At a restaurant - Long wan restron

It is important that you know how to inquire for prices and make reservations and orders at restaurants in Vanuatu for an outing. In this lesson you will hear a word or phrase in English one time, then twice in Bislama.

Listen attentively to the Bislama phrases the first time, then try to repeat the word or phrase with the speaker the second time.

Restaurant words/phrases

<u>English – Inglis</u>	<u>Bislama</u>
We want a table for three people	Mifala I wantem wan tebol blong tri man
Are these seats available?	Ol sit ia oli fri?
What would you like?	You wantem wanem?
I would like	Mi wantem
A glass of water	Wan klas wota
A bottle of wine	Wan botel waen
Beer or tusker	Bia o taska
A coke	Wan kokakola
A salad	Wan salad
We don't have any	Mifala I no gat
I'm a vegetarian	Mi wan vejeterien
Do you serve vegetarian food	Yufala I sevem vejeterian kakae long ples ia?
Where is the bathroom	Wehem tolet?
Can I have the bill, please?	Yu save givim bill blong mi, plis?
Here you are	Emia

Listen to the conversation between Leimini a Nambawan Café waitress and customer Jess. Practice with the speaker.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English – Inglis</u>
Leimini: Halo nambawan café, mi save helpem yu?	Hello nambawan café, can I help you?
Jess: Yes, mi save bukum wan tebol blong tri man?	Yes. Can I book a table for three people?
Leimini: Yes. Blong wanem taem?	Sure. For what time?
Jess: Tedei long lanj emia long 12.00 oklok medel dei.	Today lunch, at 12.00 mid day.
Leimini: I stret.	That's fine.
Jess: Yufala I sevem vejeterien kakae tu?	Do you also serve vegetarian food?
Leimini: No, sori mifala I no sevem vejeterian kakae long ples ia.	No, sorry. We don't serve vegetarian food here.
Jess: Be yu save wan nara ples we I sevem vejeterian kakae?	Do you know any other place that serves vegetarian food?
Leimini: Yes, yu save jekem Jill's café.	Yes. Yu can check out Jill's café.
Jess: Oh, tenkiu tumas long help blong yu.	Oh, thanks a lot for your help.

Lesson 9: Hotel reservations – Hotel Resevesen

It is important that you know how to inquire for prices and make reservations at hotels and guest houses in Vanuatu for a planned trip. In this lesson you will hear a word or phrase in English one time, then twice in Bislama.

Listen carefully to the Bislama phrases the first time, then try to repeat the word or phrase with the speaker the second time.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English- Inglis</u>
Yufala I gat sam empti rum?	Do you have some vacant guest rooms?
No, sori. Evri rum I fulap	No, sorry. All the rooms are full
Yes, mifala I gat	Yes we have
Hamas long wan rum long wan naet?	How much for a room per night?
Mi save bukum wan rum?	Can I book a room?
I gat intanet lo kest haos?	Is there internet at the guest house?
I gat ilektrisiti?	Do you have electricity?
Yufala givim brekfas?	Do you provide breakfast?
I gat wan restoren klosap?	Is there a restaurant close?
I gat wan intanet café klosap?	Is there an internet café close?
I gat bar lo hotel?	Is there a bar at the hotel?
I gat kitjin?	Is there a kitchen?
I gat nakamal klosap	Is there a kava bar close?

Listen to the conversation between the receptionist of Coconut Palms and customer Tim. Practice with the speaker.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English – Inglis</u>
Receptionist: Halo,Kokonat Pams. Mi save helpem yu?	Hello,Coconut Palms. Can I help you?
Tim: Ah, yes, I gat sam empti rum?	Ah, yes. Are there some empty rooms?
Receptionist: Yes, mifala I gat.	Yes. We have.
Tim: Gud, hamas long wan naet?	Good. How much for one night?
Receptionist: Emi 2000 vt long wan naet?	It is 2000 vt for a night.
Tim: Yu jajem rum or namba blong hed lo wan naet?	Do you charge the room or the number of heads per night?
Receptionist: mifala jajem namba blong hed.	We charge the number of heads.
Tim: Mi stap confemem buking ia nao.	I am confirming this booking now.
Receptionist: Bae yu stap hamas naet?	How long will you stay?
Tim: Bae mi stap long kest haos long namba 4 kasem namaba 8.	I will be there from the 4 th to the 8 th .
Receptionist: I gud, mi confemem buking	Good. Am confirming your reservation

blong yu naoia.	right now.
Tim: Tenkiu tumas, mo lukim yu.	Thanks a lot and I'll see you soon.
Receptionist: Yu welkam, lukim yu.	You're welcome. See you soon.

Lesson 10: Mailing – Sendem Leta

It is important that you know how to inquire for stamp prices and send letters or packages from Vanuatu to friends or families. In this lesson you will hear a word or phrase in English one time, then twice in Bislama.

Listen carefully to the Bislama phrases the first time, then try to repeat the word or phrase with the speaker the second time.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English- Inglis</u>
I gat stam?	Do you have stamps?
Hamas long ol stam ia?	How much for these stamps?
Mi wantem sendem wan leta I go long US	I want to send a letter to the US
Mi wantem sendem wan pakej I go long US	I want to send a package to the US
Mi ekspektem wan pakej we oli sendem tu wik I pas	I am expecting a package that was sent 2 weeks ago.
Wanem postel adres blong vilej blong mi?	What is the postal address for my village?
Hamas blong sendem wan pos kad I go long US?	How much would it cost to send a post card to the US?
Blong sendem pakej I sas o jip?	Is sending a package expensive or cheap?
I tekem hamas taem blong kasem wan leta o pakej we I kam long US?	How long would it take to get a mail or package sent from the US?
Smol pakej	Small package
Bigfala pakej	Big package
Mi wantem pem wan envelop	I want to buy an envelope
Wanem kaen envelop yu gat?	What types of envelopes do you have?

Listen to the conversation between the Post Office clerk and customer Mala. Practice with the speaker.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English – Inglis</u>
PO clerk: Ekskius mi, mi save helpem yu?	Excuse me, may I help you?
Mala: Yes, mi wantem sendem wan leta.	Yes, I want to post a letter.
PO clerk: Yu wantem sendem leta I go	Where do you want to send the letter to?

wea?	
Mala: Mi wantem sendem leta I go long US.	I want to sent a letter to the US.
PO clerk: Blong sendem leta long US, emi 300 vt long stam.	To send a letter to the US will cost you 300 vt for a stamp.
Mala: oh, mi ting se emi sas lelebet.	Oh, I think that's a little too expensive.
PO clerk: No, emi no sas, emi moa sas. blong sendem wan pakej.	No, that is not expensive. It is more expensive to send a package.
Mala: Yu talem tru ia?	Are you serious?
PO clerk: Yes, mi talem tru.	Yes, am serious.
Mala: I oraet, emia mane blong stamp.	Alright, that's fine, here's the stamp money.
PO clerk: Emia stam blong yu.	Here's your stamp.
Mala: Tenkiu tumas.	Thank you very much.
PO clerk: Yu save putum leta I go inside long ples ia afta yu putum stam long em.	You can put your letter in here after you put the stamp on it.
Mala: Ale, mi hop se bae mi luk yu bakegen.	Okay, I hope to see you again sometime.
PO clerk: Yes, mi tu. Ale tata.	Yeah, same here. Okay, bye.

Lesson 11: Family – Famli

It is important that you know how to address your family and practice different ways you relate to people in your family in Vanuatu. In this lesson you will hear a word or phrase in English one time, then twice in Bislama.

Listen carefully to the Bislama the first time, then repeat the word or phrase with the speaker the second time.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English – Inglis</u>
Brata	Brother
Sista	Sister
Papa	Father
Mama	Mother
Ankel	Uncle
Anti	Aunt
Smol mama	Mom's sisters and female cousins
Smol papa	Father's brothers and male cousins
Apu	Granny
Apu woman	Grand mother
Apu man	Grand father
Tawi or tawian	Brother-in-law / sister-in-law
Pikinini	Children

Smol pikinini	Small children
Bigfala pikinini	Big children
Big man	Adult male
Big woman	Adult female
Bebe	Baby
Pikinini gel	Daughter
Pikinini boe	Son
Kasen	Cousin
Kasen brata	Cousin brother
Kasen sista	Cousin sister
Wan tok	From the same village / island / country
Famli blong mi	My relative

Listen to the conversation between Leiwia and Kalowia. Practice with the speaker.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English – Inglis</u>
Leiwia: Gud aftanun Kalowia.	Good afternoon Kalowia.
Kalowia: Gud aftanun Leiwia.	Good afternoon Leiwia.
Leiwia: Yu wan boe blong jif, ah?	Are you a son of the chief?
Kalowia: No, sori. Mi no boe blong jif.	No, sorry. I am not the chief's son.
Leiwia: Fes blong yu i olsem ol pikinini blong jif.	Your face looks like the chief's children.
Kalowia: Yes, from se mi pikinini blong brata blong jif.	Yeah, because I am the chief's brother's son.
Leiwia: Ah, I gud. Be yu nao fes bon long famli?	Oh, great. But are you the eldest in the family?
Kalowia: No, mi nambatri pikinini long famli.	No. I am the third child in the family.
Leiwia: Be hu nao emi fes bon?	So who is the eldest?
Kalowia: Bigfala sista blong mi, nem blong em Julie.	My eldest sister, her name is Julie.
Leiwia: Oh, I stret. Trak blong mi I kam, mi stap go nao.	Oh, great. My ride is here, am going now.
Kalowia: Mi tu mi stap go nao.	Me too, I'm going.
Leiwia: Ale Lukim yu.	Okay, see you.

Lesson 12: Outdoor Activities – Ol aktiviti aotsaed

It is important that you know the common outdoor activities in Vanuatu. In this lesson you will hear a word or phrase in English one time, then twice in Bislama.

Listen carefully to the Bislama the first time, then repeat the word or phrase with the speaker the second time.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English- Inglis</u>
Wokabaot	Walking/strolling
Pleplei	Playing
Swim	Swim
Ronron	Jogging
Lukluk ples	Sightseeing
Storian	Chat
Tekem foto	Take pictures
Rus	Barbecue/roast
Piknik	Picnic
Daeva	Snorkel
Visitim ol famli mo fren	Visit families and friends
Lukaotem fis	Fishing
Pleplei futbol	Play Soccer
Pleplei volebol	Play volley ball
Hanting	Hunting

Listen to the conversation between Leiana and Kalsaf. Repeat the words and phrases with the speaker.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English – Inglis</u>
Leiana: Halo!	Hello
Kalsaf: Halo!	Hello
Leiana: Bae yu mekem wanem tedei?	What are you going to do today?
Kalsaf: Bae mi ko rus long solwota wetem ol fren.	My friends and I will be having a barbecue at the beach.
Leiana: From wanem bae yufala I ko long solwota?	Why at the beach?
Kalsaf: From ples I hot tumas mo bae mifala I swim mo daeva.	Because it is too hot and we will swim and snorkel.
Leiana: Mi harem nogud lelebet, mi save kam wetem yufala blong spel.	I don't feel well , can I go to the beach with you to relax.
Kalsaf: Yes, kam storian wetem mifala.	Yes, come and chat with us.
Leiana: Ale , Mi laekem storian tumas.	Okay, I like to chat.

Lesson 13: At Work – Long Wok

It is important that you get yourself acquainted with the work environment phrases and conversations in Vanuatu. In this lesson you will hear a word or phrase in English one time, then twice in Bislama.

Listen carefully to the Bislama the first time, then repeat the word or phrase with the speaker the second time.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English – Inglis</u>
Ansarem telefon	Answer the phone
Mekem faeling	Do filing
Tekem mesej	Take message
Stap long sik lif	On sick leave
Emi go aot	s/he is out
Bae yu ring bak	Call back later
Long fiftin minit	In fifteen minutes
Yu talem wanem?	What did you say?
Stap long wan miting	At a meeting
Miting I no finis yet	Meeting is not yet finished
Tekem minit blong miting	Take meeting notes
I gat wan trening I stap go hed long confrens rum	There's a training going on in the conference room
Mi no save kasem daarekta	I can not reach the director
Bos blong mi emi aot	My boss is out
Sori tumas	Very sorry
Stat wok long haf pas seven long moning	Start work at 7:30 am
Finis wok long haf pas fo long aftanun	Finish work at 4:30 pm
Jerem miting	Chair the meeting
Gat wan komiti miting	Have a committee meeting
Jensem deit blong miting	Change the meeting date
Ringim ol patisipen	Call the participants
Confemem apoenmen	Confirm an appointment
Mi no harem gud tedei	I am not feeling well today
Aplae from lif	Apply for leave

Listen to the conversation between Kalkot and Leitap. Practice with the speaker.

<u>Bislama</u>	<u>English – Inglis</u>
Leitap: Gud dei, olsem wanem?	Good day. How are you?
Kalkot: I gud, tenkiu. Mi wantem luk	I am good, thank you. I want to see the

daarekta.	director.
Leitap: Sori emi stap long sik lif.	Sorry, he is on sick leave.
Kalkot: Bae emi kam bak wanem taem?	When will he be back?
Leitap: Emi sud kam bak long Mandei.	He should be back on Monday.
Kalkot: Yu bin harem eni nius abaot trening blong ol yut?	Did you hear anything about the youth training?
Leitap: No, sori mi no harem eni samting abaotem emia.	No, sorry. I have not heard anything about that.
Kalkot: I oraet, mi kam blong luk daarekta from samting ia nao.	It's alright. I came here to see the director regarding that.
Leitap: Yu wantem mi tekem wan mesej blong pasem long em?	Would you like me to take a message and pass on to the director?
Kalkot: Yes. Bae yu talem long em I ringim mi long namba ia: 5456789.	Yes. Ask him to call me on: 5456789.
Leitap: I stret, bae mi pasem mesej blong yu.	That's fine. I will pass on your message.
Kalkot: Tenkiu tumas.	Thanks a lot.
Leitap: Yu welkam.	You're welcome.