

# Nā ‘Ōlelo Pōkole no ka ‘Ai a me ka Inu

## Basic Words and Expressions for Eating and Drinking

### Nā Hua‘ōlelo Ma‘amau (Basic Vocabulary):

**ka mea‘ai** – food

**ka meainu** – drink

**ka pā‘ina** – meal, dinner, small party

**ka hua‘ai** – fruit

- **ka ipu ‘ala** – cantaloupe
- **ka mai‘a** – banana
- **meleni** – melon (from Tahitian)
- **ka hua waina** – grapes (wine fruit)

**ka lau‘ai** – vegetable

- **ka lū‘au** – taro leaves
- **ka lū‘au haole** – spinach

**ka mea‘ono** – dessert, cake, pastry,  
“delicious thing”

**ka monamona** – a newer word meaning  
dessert, from “momona” (fat/sweet)

- **ke koneko** – donut
- **ka mōchi** – mochi

**ke kī‘aha** – cup

**ke kāwele** – napkin

**ka hale ‘aina** – restaurant

**ka ‘aina** – meal

- **ka ‘aina kakahiaka** – breakfast
- **ka ‘aina awakea** – lunch
- **ka ‘aina ahiahi** – dinner

**ka pūpū** – appetizer

- **ke kai penu** – dip

**ka mea‘ai māmā** – snack, “light food”

- **ka pelena** – cracker

**ka pahi** – knife

**ka pa‘akai** – salt

**ka ‘ai** – food, kalo/taro/poi

**ka i‘a** – fish, other things eaten with poi  
(taro leaves, salt, hō‘i‘o/pāhole ferns,  
meat, etc...)

There are many “kū‘ē lula” words (that break the KEAO rule) for food-related things:

**ke pā** – plate

**ke pā pepa** – paper plate

**ke ‘ō** – fork

**ke puna** – spoon

**ke pākaukau** – table

**ke pola** – the bowl, cup, mug

**ke pola kope** – coffee mug

### Nā Hopuna‘ōlelo Pōkole (Basic Sentences):

**Pōloli ‘oe?**

Are you hungry?

**Pōloli loa au!**

*I’m very hungry!*

E 'ai kāua/kākou.	<i>Let's (you and me / all of us) eat.</i>
E pū pa'akai kāua/kākou.	<i>Let's eat together / share salt – more poetic</i>
E 'ai a mā'ona.	<i>Eat until you are satisfied/full.</i>
E inu a kena.	<i>Drink until your thirst is quenched.</i>
E hā'awi mai i ka monamona, ke 'olu'olu.	<i>Pass the dessert, please.</i>
E 'olu'olu, e hō mai i ka mōchi.	<i>Please pass the mochi.</i>
Nani kēia mau 'uala!	<i>These sweet potatoes are beautiful!</i>
Ua piha ka 'ōpū.	<i>The (my) stomach is full</i>
Ua mā'ona ka 'ōpū (often pronounced "mā'ana").	<i>The (my) stomach is satisfied/satiated/full.</i>
Ua pae ka wa'a.	<i>The canoe has landed – a poetic way to say, "I'm full."</i>
Makewai au.	<i>I'm thirsty.</i>
I meainu nāu?	<i>Would you like a drink?</i>
I wai na'u (ke 'olu'olu).	<i>I'll have some water (please).</i>
I wai hua'ai na'u.	<i>I'll have some juice.</i>
'Ono au i ka 'ōhelo papa.	<i>I'm craving strawberries.</i>
'Ono loa kēia!	<i>This is delicious!</i>
Na wai kēia mea'ai i hana?	<i>Who made this food?</i>
Na _____ i hana.	<i>It was made by _____.</i>
I waho ana 'oe e 'ai ai?	<i>Are you going out to eat?</i>
'Ae, i _____ ana au.	<i>Yes, I'm going to _____.</i>
E hele kāua e 'ai.	<i>Let's (you and I) go eat.</i>
I hea?	<i>Where?</i>
I ka hale 'aina Mekiko.	<i>At the Mexican restaurant.</i>