Bislama Workbook

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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INTRODUCTION

This workbook has three goals:

1. To introduce you to Bislama, the national language of Vanuatu.
2. To give you tips that will help you gain a functional knowledge of Bislama as quickly as possible.
3. To provide you with exercises and notes that reinforce important elements of Peace Corps Vanuatu's Pre-Service Training (PST).

Your knowledge of Bislama is very important to your effectiveness as a Peace Corps volunteer in Vanuatu. However, there is limited Bislama teaching/learning time during PST. The workbook provides you an opportunity for self-directed learning that will equip you with some basic Bislama skills before you start your PST. The topics and notes contained in the workbook provide the basis for Bislama training during PST.

We suggest you start with Unit 1: Sounds of Bislama. Written and oral Bislama skills are built upon your understanding of how the language sounds. As you master the basic rules surrounding the use of the alphabet in Bislama, you are able to efficiently and effectively acquire knowledge of the application of the language itself.

If you have any questions concerning Bislama or the contents of this workbook, do not hesitate to contact -

Solomon Jimmy: sjimmy@vu.peacecorps.gov

Training Manager, Peace Corps Vanuatu

Judy Japheth: jwilliau@vu.peacecoprs.gov

Language and Cross Cultural Coordinator, Peace Corps Vanuatu

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FACTS ABOUT BISLAMA

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, 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-Vanuatus (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. Among older women in the more remote areas, this may still be the case. 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.

How did Bislama Develop?

In the first half of the nineteenth century there was intensive whaling in the Pacific, especially in the regions of Polynesia and Micronesia. During the course of this activity, many South Sea islanders were engaged as ships' crew. A kind of jargon developed as a means of communication between the Europeans and the islanders engaged in the whaling trade. Gradually whale numbers in Polynesia became severely depleted, with the result that the whalers moved their center of activity progressively westwards into Melanesia. This, in turn resulted ni-Vanuatu working in the whaling industry. They, therefore, learned the trade jargon used as the means of general communication.

At roughly the same time, an Irishman, Captain Pita Dillon, discovered stands of sandalwood on Erromango. This wood was much prized by the Chinese and soon became the basis of a flourishing export trade. Once traders in Australia learned of the profits to be made selling sandalwood, there was a frantic rush to Vanuatu to acquire cargoes of the fragrant-smelling wood. The islands involved were mainly Vanuatu's southern ones - Erromango, Tanna and Aneitym; the same islands that had the greatest contact with the early whalers. In fact, the only whaling station in Vanuatu, was run by James Paddon, an early whaler, on Aneitym,.

Apart from whaling and sandalwood, another activity which involved contact and communication between Europeans, Polynesians and the ni-Vanautu was the bêche-de-mer industry. Bêche-de-mer or bêches-de-mer, also called Trepang, is the boiled, dried, and smoked flesh of sea cucumbers used to make soups. Its primary market was, and is, in China.

By the early 1860's all of these industries were winding down. However, new economic developments were taking place which were to have important implications for the development of Bislama. In 1862 sugar cane was established on a commercial scale in Queensland, Australia. At the same time there was a short-lived boom in the cotton production in Queensland and in Fiji brought about by the cotton shortage resulting from the American civil war. Further east, copra prouction was established in Samoa by the German firm of Goddefroy and Sons.

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All of these industries were highly labour intensive. The nearest source of available labour lay in Melanesia and in 1863 the first boatload of ni-Vanuatu were recruited and brought to Queensland. Between 1863 and 1911, more than 50,000 ni-Vanuatu worked as indentured labourers on plantations, mainly in Queensland but also in Fiji and Samoa. Most worked for a term of three years, returning home at the end of that time. However, a significant number continued for a second and even a third term.

Labor recruiting first began in the southern islands of the then-named New Hebrides, with the first recruits coming from the island of Tanna. By the end of the 1860s, the recruiters moved north through central and northern New Hebrides to the Banks Islands and on to the Solomon Islands. By the early 1880s, they finally reached what is now Papua New Guinea. During this period the recruiters signed on laborers at nearly every island. Unfortunately, many of the ships' captains were not always scrupulous about how they recruited their labour nor about returning recruits to their home islands at the end of their contract period.

It was on the foreign plantations, especially in Queensland, that Bislama developed and stabilized. The first recruits already had some knowledge of the 'jargon' or 'broken English' used by the whalers and sandalwood traders. When they reached the plantations, recruits from the same island who spoke the same language were generally separated so that they could not make trouble or plot against their employers. Recruits were then forced to speak to one another in the jargon, which quickly spread among the labourers, reinforced by the English spoken by their overseers.

The early 1890's saw the end of the recruiting period. During this time Bislama fully established its vocabulary and grammar. It appears not to have changed very significantly during the next 100 years. As recruits returned home to the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea, the distinctive features of Bislama's sister dialects, Tok Pisin in Papua New Guinea and Pidjin in the Solomons, began to emerge.

In 1981 Bislama was accepted by the churches of Vanuatu, which up to that time were mostly administered by foreign missionaries. At that time it was deemed to be a language that was worthy of using to communicate the word of God. Previously Bislama was considered to be a rough and inadequate "plantation language," not worthy of use for that purpose. Acceptance of Bislama by the churches in Vanuatu was a crucial step towards raising the status of the language to the point where it became universally accepted as the language of administration, occupying a pre-eminent position because of its use throughout Vanuatu.

Bislama is the vibrant and expressive national language of Vanuatu. It is a Melanesian language in its own right, justly recognized by the government of Vanuatu for what it is - a truly national language which allows communication across all the language boundaries which criss-cross the country.

(Reference: D.T. Tryon. '*Bislama – An introduction to the national language of Vanuatu.* Canberra, Australia: Pacific Linguistics, 1995.)

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Unit 1: SOUNDS OF BISLAMA

1.1 Vowels

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

In Bislama the vowels are pronounced as follows -

A *A* as in *Artist* or *Cart.* The *A* always must have an "ah" sound. Never will an *A* sound like the *A* in *Airfield, Age, April*. The long-*A* sound in these words is pronounced and written as *E* as in *Enter*.

E *E* as in *Enter* or *Enhance.* The *E* always will sound like "eh" in English or an "é" in French. Never will an *E* take an *E* sound such as in *Meal* or *Deep*. The long-*E* sound is written as *I* as in *Graffiti.*

I *I* as in *Graffiti* or the final *I* in *Manicotti.* The *I* must have an "ee" (long-*E)* sound such as in *Meal* or *Deep.* Never will an *I* sound like the *I* in *Idol* or *Iron.* Bislama speakers will intepret the long-*I* in these two words as the dipthong ae.

O *O* as in *Open* or *Over. O* in Bislama is pronounced "oh" - the long-*O* sound. Never will it take on other sounds as in English, e.g., pot or women.

U *U* as in *Salute* or *Jubilee.* The U always will have a "oo" sound. Never will a U take the uh sound such as in *Under* or *Umpire.* Bislama speakers will inteprete the *U* when it is pronounced in the above two words as *a*.

Diphthongs

A dipthong is a sound formed by the combination of two vowels in a single syllable, in which the sound begins as one vowel and moves toward another. Examples in English are coin, loud, and side.

There are four (4) diphthongs which occur with great frequency in Bislama. They are ***EI, AE, AO,and OE***.

In Bislama these dipthongs are pronounced as follows -

EI Pronounced like a long-*A*.

English	Bislama
Day	Dei
Pay	Pei
Spray	Sprei

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AE Pronounced like a long-*I*.

English	Bislama
Night	Naet
White	Waet
Island	Aelan

AO Pronounced "ow" as in towel.

English	Bislama
House	Haos
Flower	Flaoa
Ground	Graon

OE Pronounced "oy" as in joy.

English	Bislama
Noise	Noes
Boy	Boe
Join	Joen

Summary

Letter(s)	English Examples	Bislama Examples	English Meanings
A	F**a**ther **A**bandon	T**a**nd**a** **A**nd**a**nit	Thunder Underneath
E	P**e**st **E**scape	P**e**pa **E**tkwek	Paper Earthquake
I	P**i**ta P**ea**l	P**i**k**i**n**i** K**i**l**i**m	Child Hit
O	**O**nly St**o**ve	P**o**p**o** M**o**skit**o**	Papaya Mosquito
U	Em**u** Gl**u**cose	M**u**v**u**m F**u**lap	Move Full
EI	Pr**ay** Del**ay**	Medeld**ei** Im**ei**l	Midday Email
AE	Recl**i**ne Cr**i**me	T**ae**m Str**ae**k	Time Strike
AO	Pl**ow** **Ou**ch	Br**ao**n T**ao**n	Brown Town
OE	Depl**oy** R**oy**al	V**oe**s L**oe**a	Voice Lawyer

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Exercise

Practice pronouncing the following letter combinations in Bislama -

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

1.2 Consonants

The following consonants are not used in "correct" written Bislama - ***C, Q, X, Z***

However, you will come across many ni-Vanuatu who use them. In addition, because Bislama is spoken by most people in addition to their own local language, there is a tendency for some sounds to be pronounced in ways that show influence of local languages which sometimes makes their transcription problematic.

The rules and guidelines that are contained in this handbook provide guidance and facilitate learning. However, you will discover that many ni-Vanuatu have their own set of rules concerning written Bislama. Bislama currently is a loosely structured language with few hard and fast rules, although there are efforts undeway to standardize it.

Letter Used in English	Letter Used in Bislama	Example in English	English Word as Written in Bislama
C	**K**	**C**andle	**K**andel
Q	**KW**	**Q**ueen	**Kw**in
X	**EKS**	**X**-ray	**Eks**re
Z	**S**	**Z**ero	**S**ero

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1.3 Letter Combinations

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

English	Bislama	Examples in English	Examples in Bislama
SH	**S**	**Sh**ip **Sh**oes	**S**ip **S**us
CH	**J or K**	**Ch**ur**ch** **Ch**est **Ch**annel **Ch**ristmas	**J**io**j** **J**es **K**anal **K**rismes
PH	**F**	**Ph**oto Tele**ph**one	**F**oto Tele**f**on
TH	**T**	**Th**ank you **Th**irty	**T**ankio **T**eti

1.4 Basic Sentence Types

In English the basic sentence type is a simple sentence containing a **subject** or actor, a **verb**

SUBJECT + VERB + OBJECT

and, in most cases an **object** or goal, thus:

For example:

(1) The elephant twisted his trunk.
(2) You can go to the beach.
(3) Paul jumped up and down.
(4) That didn't help at all.

Sentences (1) and (2) are called **transitive sentences** since objects are expressed in both - namely **trunk** and **to the beach**. Sentences (3) and (4) are called **intransitive** as neither has an object of the verb.

Transitive: Designating a verb or verb construction that expresses an action carried from the subject to the object; requiring a direct object to complete meaning. For example-

(1) My friend helped me. *Fren blong mi i helpem mi.*
(2) Julie broke her leg. *Julie i brekem leg blong hem.*

Intransitive: Designating a verb or verb construction that does not require or cannot take a direct object. For example -

(1) The thief escaped. *Stil man i ronwei.*
(2) Mary fainted. *Eye blong Mary I waet.*

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The following are Bislama examples of the verbal sentence types and their English translations -

Bislama Sentence	**English Translation**
Pikinini i krae.	The child cried.
Hem i foldaon.	He/she fell down.
Man ia i save.	This man knows.
Pita i sik tumas.	Pita is very sick.
Hem i kilim mi.	He/she hit me.
Rat i kakae taro.	The rat ate the taro

The structure of this sentence type is the same as that outlined above for English with the addition of is what is called a **predicate marker** – "**i**" (pronounced *ee*, as in *bee*) placed between the subject and the verb. A predicate is the part of the sentence containing the verb. ***The predicate marker marks the beginning of the verb phrase - the predicate of the sentence***.

SUBJECT + Predicate Marker + VERB + OBJECT

These types of **verbal sentences** are very common in Bislama as well as sentences which do not contain a verb. This feature is common to Bislama and the other pidgin languages of the Pacific area and is refered to as a **verbless sentence**.

The structure of this **verbless sentence** type can be represented as follows -

SUBJECT + Predicate Marker + OBJECT

These occur frequently and, at first, appear strange to English-speakers. Here are some examples:

Bislama Sentence	**English Translation**
Pita hemi pasta.	Pita is a pastor.
Olgeta oli bisop.	They are bishops.
Wanem samting ia?	What is this/that thing?
Haos ia i blong jif.	This is the chief's house.

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In the first two examples, the **predicate marker** "*i*" is attached to the subject. The third person singular subject- English *she, he* and *it*- translate to *hem.* The attachment of the **predicate marker** creates the word *hemi*. Due to the non-standard spelling of Bislama, you may see it written either as *hemi* or as *hem i.* The same attachment can occur to the third person plural – English *they* – or Bislama *ol* which becomes *oli.*

Verbless sentences correspond to the English verb "to be" in contexts that do not address location. This is the direct equivalent to a sentence of the type, "Pat is a nurse," or "This is a big village."

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EXERCISES #1

A. *List the four letters that are not used in Bislama and beside each, write which letter is used instead.*

Letter(s) Not Used	Letter Used Instead

B. *Spell the following in Bislama:*

1) Airport

_____

2) Agriculture

_____

3) Church

_____

4) Cold

_____

5) Clever

_____

6) Physical Training

_____

7) Peace Corps

_____

8) Pineapple

_____

9) Queen

_____

10) Shellfish

_____

11) Telephone

_____

12) Three

_____

13) Teacher

_____

14) Young People

_____

15) Zero

_____

16) Plane

_____

17) Basket

_____

18) Yam

_____

19) Pull

_____

20) Butter

_____

21) Yellow

_____

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C. *Think about what you had for breakfast this morning and write down each item in English in the left hand column then write the Bislama spelling in the corresponding place in the right hand column.*

English	Bislama
Example: Water	*Wota*

D. *What are the names of the two sister languages to Bislama in Melanesia that were developed around the time of the early traders and missionaries? (Refer to the introductory chapter "What is Bislama.").*

(1)

(2)

E. *Write the English words for the following Bislama words.*

Bislama	English
Bas	
Kantri	
Rif	
Drae	
Rat	

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DIALOGUE 1

LONG VANUATU

Pita i storian wetem wan fren, nem blong hem Shem. Shem i askem kwesten long Pita olsem -

Shem: Pita, mi wantem askem wan kwesten long yu.

Pita: Olsem wanem fren?

Shem: Kantri blong yumi emi winim Independens long 1980. Emi no olsem bifo. Wanem tingting blong yu long hemia?

Pita: Tru ia, kantri blong yumi emi gohed nao. Emi gat wan gavman nomo. Taem we yumi no kasem independens yet i gat tufala govman.

Shem: Hemia nao. Rod i klia blong yumi save gohed blong mekem kantri blong yumi i kam antap.

Pita: Mi sori, Shem. Bas i kam nao. Bae mi mas go.

Shem: Yu go wea?

Pita: Mi go long nambatri, long haos blong mi.

Shem: Oraet, mi tu mi go nao blong pem kakae long stoa.

Pita: Oraet, lukim yu bakegen.

IN VANUATU

Peter is chatting with a friend named Shem. Shem asks Peter a question -

Shem: Peter, I want to ask you a question.

Peter: What about, friend?

Shem: Our country gained its Independence in 1980. It is not the same as before. What's your opinon about that?

Peter: That's right. Our country is progressing now. It has only one government. Before we had independence, we had two governments.

Shem: That's right! Now the path is cleared for us to make our country progress.

Peter: I'm sorry, Shem. The bus is coming, I have to go.

Shem: Where are you going?

Peter: I'm going to Nambatri, to my house.

Shem: All right, I'm going also;
to buy some food at the store.

Peter: OK, see you later.

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VOCABULARY

BISLAMA	ENGLISH	BISLAMA	ENGLISH
Askem	Ask	Aelan	Island
Bas	Bus	Hu	Who
Em	He/she	Puskat	Cat
Gohed	Go ahead	Bisi	Busy
Kakae	Eat/food	Baskel	Bicycle
Kantri	Country	Jif	Chief
Klia	Clear	Rat	Rat
Kwesten	Question	Faenem	Find
Mo	And	Bisop	Bishop
Nem	Name	Kambak	Return, come back
No/Nogat	No	Rif	Reef
Olsem	Like, thus	Fas	Stuck
Oraet	All right	Drae	Dry
Ripablik	Republic	Kam soa	Came ashore
Sam	Some	Sanbij	Beach
Stoa	Store	Flae	Fly
Taem	Time, when	Hem	He, she, it
Tru	True, right	Krae	Cry
Tufala	Two of them	Sidaon	Sit
Wanem	What	Giaman	Lie
Wetem	With	Faol	Fowl, hen
Yu	You	Laekem	Like
Bakegn	Again	Skelem	Weigh
Fastaem	Previously	Gud	Good
Fren	Friend	Foldaon	Fall
Gavman	Government	Natalae	Clam shell
Haos	House	Strong	Loudly, strong
Inglis	English	Laf	Laugh
Kam	Come	Gel	Girl
Kasem	Catch, fetch, get	Plante	Many, plenty
Mekem	Make	Taon	Town
Nao	Then	Spel	Rest
Niufala	New	Storian	Story, chat
Nomo	Only, just	Tingting	Think, opinion
Pem	Pay, buy	Tu	Too, two
Rod	Road	Wantem	Want
Sori	Sorry	Winim	Win, earn (money)

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Unit 2: GREETINGS

Greetings in Vanuatu vary with location. Common greetings include saying "Moning" to anyone you happen to meet between 5:30am and 9:00am or just "Halo". "Halo" is used at anytime of the day. In the evenings and at night, people say "Gud naet," at both greeting and parting. If you are lucky, you may get a smile accompanied with a little nod of the head or raised eyebrows. In most parts of the country locals would prefer to shake your hand if they meet you for the first time or if they haven't seen you for a while. The shaking of hands is a general ni-Vanuatu trademark for greeting other people and is basically a friendly gesture.

2.1 Common and Useful Greetings

Bislama	English
Halo	*Hello*
Olsem wanem? I gud?	*How are you? OK?*
I oraet?	*Are you OK?*
I stret!	*Everything's fine/I'm fine.*
I gud!	*I'm fine.*
Gudmoning	*Good morning.*
Gudnaet	*Good night/Good evening.*
Tata	*Good bye*
Lukim yu	*See you later*
Nem blong mi…	*My name is…*

Take Note!!

You will also come to realize that, in addition to greeting you, ni-Vanuatu people who know you will also tend to ask where you are going and tell you where they are going even if you didn't ask.

Sometimes this happens without them even saying "halo," especially during the day. You will frequently be greeted with "Yu go wea?" (Where are you going?). This is the equivalent of "What's up?" though you are expected to answer with where you are going. When asked about your plans, such as can be seen in the two dialogues on the next page, it is not because the ni-Vanuatu person is curious about it; it's just the way people greet each other. It is a normal courtesy, not something that is intended to be off-putting.

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2.2 Useful Vocabulary Upon Leaving/Departing

Bislama	English
Ale mi go nao.	*Okay, I'm leaving/I'm going.*
Bae mi go nao.	*I will leave now/I will go now.*
Mi go fastaem.	*I'm going/leaving.*

2.3 Greeting Dialogues

Dialog A

K: Gud moning Mala.
Good morning Mala.

M: Eh, Kalo, moning, olsem wanem?
Hey Kalo, morning, how are you?

K: I stret be yu go wea?
Alright and where are you going?

M: Wokabaot nomo.
Just strolling.

K: Ale mi go nao.
Okay, I'll be going now.

M: Ale.
Okay.

Dialog B

J: Halo Alice, yu kam wea?
Hello Alice, where did you just come from?

A: Mi kam long maket nomo.
I just came from the Market.

J: Mi tu, mi go karem kabis nomo.
Me too, I just got some cabbage.

A: Ale Jenny, mi go fastaem.
Okay Jenny, I'd better be going.

J: I gud, bae mi luk yu afta.
That's good; I'll see you around afterwards.

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EXERCISES #2

A. *What are the parts of a Ni-Vanuatu greeting should you expect to hear from a ni-Vanuatu friend*?

B. *From the vocabulary used in the Greeting Dialogs, predict what the two words "Ale" and "Bae" might mean?*

Ale: _____

Bae: _____

C. Dialogs

(1)A Peace Corps Volunteer (PCV) went to the city on Monday and was greeted by Mr. X. Their conversation is given in Dialogue A.

Dialog A - Monday

Mr. X: Gud morning fren. Olsem wanem? I oraet?
Good morning friend. How are you? Good?

PCV: I oraet, be yu?
Alright - yourself?

Mr X: I stret be yu stap mekem wanem?
Fine. So, what are you up to?

PCV: Mi wantem go long taon.
I want to go to town.

Mr X: Afta bae yu mekem wanem?
What will you do after that?

PCV: Bae mi stap long haos nomo.
I'll be home.

Mr X: Be yestedei yu bin mekem wanem?
But what did you do yesterday?

PCV: Yestedei mi bin go swim long riva. Be yu?
Yesterday I went and had a swim in the river. What about you?

Mr X: Yestedei mi bin go long taon.
Yesterday I went to town.

PCV: Ale, fren mi stap go nao.
Okay friend I should be going now.

Mr X: Ale, lukim yu
Okay, see you.

PCV: Ale, tata
Okay, bye.

(2)On Tuesday the same PCV ended up having to greet Mrs. C. What are the phrases the PCV might be able to use? Write your answers in the spaces provided.

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DIALOGUE B - Tuesday

Mrs C: Gud morning fren.

PCV: _____

Mrs C: I stret be yu stap go wea?

PCV: _____

Mrs C: Afta bae yu mekem wanem long aftenun?

PCV: _____

Mrs C: Be yu bin mekem wanem yestedei?

PCV: _____

Mrs C: Mi bin go daeva long solwota.

PCV: _____

Mrs C: Ale, lukim yu.

PCV: _____

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COMPREHENSION 1

PIJIN BLONG SOLWOTA (Story from Epi)

Mi stori long wan stori abaot pijin blong solwota mo sotleg. Wantaem tufala i stap finis tufala i go long solwota. Tufala i go blong luk se solwota i drae o no. Wan i talem se, *"Tumoro bae yumitu go long karen mo tekem kakae i kamdaon long sanbij afta yumitu go lukaotem sel long rif."*

stori = tell
Pijin blong solwota = Seagull
Sotleg = Ground dove
Talem = tell, say

Taem deilaet i kam, tufala i go long karen mo karem kakae blong tufala i kamdaon long solwota. Tufala i putum i stap. Tufala i luk se solwota i drae. Ale, tufala i go long rif. Tufala i wokbaot long rif mo faenem wan sel, nem blong em natalae. Pijin blong solwota i talem long sotleg i se, *"Sel ia, emi blong mi."*

Be sotleg i talem, *"No, emi blong mi, mi faenem, emi blong mi."*

Karen = garden
Sel = shellfish
Delaet = dawn
Kamdaon = come down
Solwota i drae = low tide
Solwota i kam so = high tide
Tok = speak
Mo = and
Afta = then

Pijin blong solwota i nomo tok mo emi stap kwaet nomo. Sotleg i traem blong tekemaot sel ia be emi no save tekem aot. Afta hemi askem long pijin blong solwota se, *"Bae mi mekem olsem wanem blong tekem sel blong mi?"*

Pijin blong solwota i talem long sotleg se, *"Yu putum wan leg blong yu i go insaed long hem. Ale, bae yu save tekemaot."*

Sotleg i putum wan leg blong em i go insaed long sel ia. Taem leg blong sotleg i go insaed, sel ia i kam sat mo i fas long leg blong sotleg ia. Naoia leg blong Sotleg i stap insaed. Hemi nomo save pulumaot leg blong hem bakegen from sel ia i holem taet. Pijin blong solwota ia i stap wokabaot long rif be sotleg, natalae ia i holem leg blong hem. I stap kasem taem we solwota i kam fulap bakegen. Ale, sel ia i open bakegen. Sotleg i pulumaot lek blong hem afta hemi kam soa be pijin blong solwota i flae i go aotsaed long solwota.

Askem = ask
Tekemaot = remove
Olsem wanem = how
Mekem = make, do
Putum = put
Insaed = in side

Naoia tufala i badfren kasem tedei, mekem se sotleg i nomo flae long solwota be hemi stap flae long graon nomo.

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Unit 3: MARKET WOKABAOT

Volunteers often walk to the marketplace to buy fresh vegetables and fruits. While at the market you learn the names of various tropical fruits, root crops and vegetables, which come in various shapes, sizes and colors. The following are many of the words and phrases associated with buying goods at the market.

3.1 Useful Vocabulary for Shopping at the Market

Bislama	English
Hamas long …?	*How much for …?*
Hamas long … (item) ia?	*How much for this … (item)?*
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?*
Tanko tumas (blong/long) ….	*Thank you very much for ….*

3.2 Quantities/Sizes/Kinds of Items

Bislama	English
Sam	*Some*
Wan bandl	*A bundle*
Tu basket	*Two baskets*
Tri rol	*Three rolls*
Fo pis	*Four pieces*
Faev plastik	*Five plastic (bags)*
Siks botel	*Six bottles*
Ol bigwan	*Big ones*
Ol smol wan	*Small ones*
Sas	*Expensive*
Jip	*Cheap*
Raep	*Ripe*
Redi	*Mature*
Konkon	*Bitter*
Swit	*Sweet*

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3.3 Names of Products

English	Bislama
Papaya/Pawpaw	Popo
Orange	Aranis
Banana	Banana
Cucumber	Kukamba
Carrot	Karot
Breadfruit	Bredfrut
Watermelon	Wotamelon
Pineapple	Paenapol
Mandarin Orange	Mandarin
Lemon	Lemon
Mango	Mango
Passionfruit	Pasenfrut
Guava	Guava
Avocado	Avoka
Island cabbage	Aelan kabis
Taro	Taro

English	Bislama
Cassava	Manioc
Coconut	Kokonas
Grapefruit	Pamplemus
Tomato	Tomato
Chinese cabbage	Waet Bun
Sweet potato	Kumala
Pumpkin	Pamkin
Beans	Bin
Ginger	Jinja
Corn	Kon
Water cress	Wota kris
Firewood	Faeawud
Coconut oil	Oel kokonas
Bell pepper	Kapsikom
Yam	Yam
Taro Leaf	Taro Lif

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3.4 Market Dialog

Vendor: Gudmoning!
Good morning.

Trainee: Gudmoning. Hamas long wan frut aranis?
Good Morning. How much for an orange?

Vendor: 50 vatu long ol bigwan mo 30 vatu long ol smol wan.
50 vatu for the big ones and 30 vatu for the small ones.

Trainee: Bae mi pem 2 smol wan mo wan bigwan.
I will buy two small ones and a big one.

Vendor: Hemi 110 vatu long evriwan.
It is 110 vatu for all of them.

Trainee: Hemia mane blong yu.
Here's your money.

Vendor: Tankiu tumas.
Thank you very much.

Trainee: I oraet, be wanem nem blong hemia?
Great, but what is the name of this?

Vendor: Oh, nem blong hemia, Navara.
Oh, it's called Navara.

Trainee: Mi wantem pem wan. Hamas long hem?
I want to buy one. How much is it?

Vendor: 50 vatu long wan.
50 vatu for one.

Trainee: Hemia mani blong yu. Tankiu tumas.
Here is your money. Thank you very much.

Vendor: Tankiu tu; ale tata.
Thanks as well; okay, bye.

Trainee: Ale, lukim yu, tata.
Okay, see you, bye.

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EXERCISES #3

A. *Translate these sentences into Bislama.*

i. What's the name for this?

_____

ii. How much for this taro?

_____

iii. I'd like to buy some oranges.

_____

iv. Thank you very much.

_____

v. I'd like to buy some ripe bananas.

_____

B. *Using arrows match these jumbled phrases.*

ten rol aelan kabis		five plastic bags of lemons
tri bandel faeawud		some oranges
sam aranis		a ripe mango
faev plastik bak blong lemon		six bottles of coconut oil
siks botel oil kokonas		ten rolls of island cabbage
wan raep mango		three bundles of firewood

C. *Spell these numbers in Bislama -*

20: _____

25: _____

50: _____

100: _____

1000: _____

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DIALOG 2

LONG BANG

Long moning ol bank oli open long haf pas eit. Pita hemi kam long taon blong go long Vila maket. Taem market i finis, klosap long leven oklok, hem i resis kwik taem i go long bank blong tekemaot mane blong pem bensin blong enjin blong hem. Insaed long bank, hemi luk wan fren, nem blong hem Tom.

Pita: Olsem wanem Tom, i gud?

Tom: I gud nomo, Pita. Yu kam blong mekem wanem?

Pita: Mi kam blong tekem smol mane from olgeta mane blong mi i go finis long maket.

Tom: Yes, mi tu mi kam blong tekem mane blong wiken ia.

Pita: Praes blong bensin i go antap. Ating bae mi kaerem aot faev taosen vatu.

Tom: Mi wantem jenisim sam dola blong Amerika i kam long vatu. Wan turis i pem wan plet blong mi long maket.

Pita: Yu save jenisim dola blong Amerika mo Ostrelia i go long vatu – hem i isi nomo.

Tom: Yes, mi ting se wan dola blong Amerika hemi klosap long wan hanred vatu.

Pita: Hemia nao. Okay Tom, yu save gohed nao. I no gat man i stap long laen.

Tom: Oraet, fren. Bae mi luk yu bakegen long nekis wik, long namba ten Julae. Yu no fogetem miting blong komiti blong jioj.

Pita: That's right, bae mi no mestem.

AT THE BANK

In the morning the banks open at half past eight. Peter came to town to go to the Vila market. When the market was over, at nearly 11:00 o'clock, he hurried to the bank to withdraw some money to buy fuel for his outboard motor. Inside the bank he sees one of his friends, Tom.

Peter: How are you, Tom? Are you OK?

Tom: Fine, Peter. What brings you here?

Peter: I've come to withdraw some money, since I spent all my cash at the market.

Tom: Yes, I've also come to get some money for the weekend as well.

Peter: The price for petrol has gone high. I'll probably withdraw 5,000vt.

Tom: I would also like to change some American dollars into vatu. A tourist bought a plate of my food at the market.

Peter: You can change American and Australian dollars into vatu. It's no problem.

Tom: Yes, I think an American dollar would be close to a hundred vatu.

Peter: That's right. Okay Tom, you can take your turn, there's nobody in line.

Tom: Okay buddy, see you again next week, on July 10th. Don't forget the church committee meeting.

Peter: That's right, I won't miss it.

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VOCABULARY

BISLAMA	ENGLISH	BISLAMA	ENGLISH
Antap	On top, above, high	Givim	Give
Ating	Probably, possibly	Go daon	Go down
Basket	Basket	Haf	Part of, half
Bifo	Before	Hukum	To hook, catch
Blong wanem	Why	Jenisim	Change
Brekem	Break	Julae	July
Bus	Bush	Kamtru	Arrive
Dokta	Doctor	Klosap	Near, almost
Eit	Eight	Longwe	Far
Enjin	Engine	Lus	Lose, lost
Faet	Fight	Mama	Mother
Fis	Fish	Masket	Rifle
Aranis	Orange	Mit	Meat
Bang	Bank	Nekis	Next
Bensin	Benzine, gasoline	Ofis	Office
Bigfala	Big	Plet	Plate, dish
Bodi	Body	Riva	River
Botel	Bottle	Skin	Skin
Buk	Book	Stanap	Stand up
Digim	Dig	Stilim	Steal
Dola	Dollar	Tebol	Table
Faef	Five	Tin	Tin
Finis	Finish, end	Tingbaot	Think of
Fogetem	Forget	Papa	Dad
From	Because	Turis	Tourist
Go go	On and on	Waen	Wine
Gud	Good	Wik	Week
Hed	Head	Windo	Window
Hemia nao	That's it	Wokem	Work, build
Insaed	In side	Vila	Vila
Klok	Clock	Rop	Rope
Krab	Crab	Niuwan	New
Nogud	Not good	Wof	Wharf
Praes	Price	Sarem	Close, shut
Ronem	Chase, hunt	Sik	Sick
Save	Can, know	Swim	Swim
Trak	Truck, car	Taro	Taro
Smol trak	Car	Nes	Nurse
Nidim	Need	Raes	Rice
Waef	Wife	Slip	Sleep
Wiken	Weekend	Minista	Minister
Wet	Wait	Kapsaedem	Tip over
Miting	Meeting	Olfala	Old
Mestem	Miss, fail	Resis	Run, race

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Unit 4: INTRODUCTION OF SELF

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

4.1 Vocabulary and Phrases for Starting Conversations

English	Bislama
Hello	Halo
How are things? OK?	Olsem wanem? I gud?
Just fine	I gud nomo
My name is …	Nem blong mi...
What's your name?	Wanem nem blong yu?
Come	Kam
I come from …	Mi kam long ...
Come for/to ...	Kam blong …
Come back from..	Kam bak long….
Island	Aelan
You're welcome	I stret/ I oraet
What do you do?	Yu stap mekem wanem?
Please	Plis
I am very happy/pleased	Mi glad tumas
I am from …	Mi blong ….
I speak only a little Bislama	Mi toktok smol Bislama nomo
Very glad/Happy	Glad tumas
Good	Gud
Like	Laekem
Feel good/Feel happy	Harem gud
Feel bad/ not feeling well	Harem no gud

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4.2 Introduction Dialogs

Dialog A

A: Gudmoning.
Good morning.

B: Gudmoning.
Good morning.

A: Wanem nem blong yu?
What is your name?

B: Nem blong mi Erick, be yu?
My name is Erick, and you?

A: Nem blong mi Robin, mi kam long aelan blong Tanna, be yu?
My name is Robin; I come from the island of Tanna. What about you?

B: Mi blong America mo mi kam olsem wan volentia blong Pis Kop.
I come from America and I am here as a Peace Corps Volunteer.

A: Mi glad tumas blong mitim yu.
I am so glad/happy to meet you.

B: Mi tu, mi glad tumas blong mitim yu.
Same here, I'm very glad/happy to meet you.

A: Ale, lukim yu nekis taem.
Okay, see you next time.

B: Ale, ta ta.
Okay, bye!

Dialog B

C: Gud moning, olsem wanem?
Good morning. How are you?

D: I oraet, be yu?
Fine, yourself?

C: Mi oraet, be, mi save askem nem blong yu?
I'm alright; can I ask your name?

D: Nem blong mi John, be yu?
My name is John, what's yours?

C: Nem blong mi Patrick. Mi wan volentia blong Pis Kop long Malekula. Be yu blong wea?
My name is Patrick. I am a Peace Corps Volunteer (working) on the island of Malekula. So where are you from?

D: Mi blong Santo mo mi wan student blong Malapoa College.
I am from (the island of) Santo and I am a student at Malapoa College

C: Mi glad tumas blong mitim yu.
(I am so glad to meet you.)

D: Mi tu, mi glad tumas blong mitim yu.
Likeiwse, I'm so glad to meet you.

C: Ale.
Okay.

D: Ale, tata.

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Okay, bye.

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EXERCISES #4

*This is a **jumbled dialogue** of a conversation between a Peace Corps Volunteer (PCV) and a local from the island of Santo. Arrange the sentences so that the dialogue makes sense in a Bislama conversation.*

Local: Halo fren.
PCV: *Mi blong America be yu?*
Local: Mi stap wokem karen nomo.
PCV: *Nem blong mi Andy, be yu?*
Local: Ale, tata.
PCV: *Halo.*
Local: Olsem wanem?
PCV: *I stret be yu?*
Local: Mi glad tumas blong mitim yu. Bae mi lukim yu samtaem bageken.
PCV: *I oraet. Ale lukim yu.*
Local: Mi oraet. Wanem nem blong yu?
PCV: *I gud, mi laekem Karen. Mi stap wok wetem ol fiuja farmer blong Vanuatu.*
Local: Nem blong mi Vuro. Be yu blong wea?
PCV: *Mi wok olsem wan Volentia blong Pis Kop. Be yu wok wea?*
Local: Mi blong South Santo. Be yu stap wokem wanem?

Local: _____

PCV: _____

Local: _____

PCV: _____

Local: _____

PCV: _____

Local: _____

PCV: _____

Local: _____

PCV: _____

Local: _____

PCV: _____

Local: _____

PCV: _____

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Local: _____

COMPREHENSION 2

Read the following story and answer the following questions in English.

OL WELFIS

Nem blong mi, Sempet Naritantop. Bae mi storian long wan moa kastom storian. Storian ia hemi go olsem:

I gat wan man long Potnarvin emi stap long wan ples wetem woman blong em, emia saot long Erromango we oli kolem Unulmar. Man ia nem blong em Rungu, be mi no save nem blong woman blong em. Olgeta i stap long long Unulmar. Man ia, plante man oli stap go luk em blong emi mekem lif blong ol frut olsem bretfrut, namambe, nandao, ol kaen frut olsem. Hemi stap karem lif blong em mo mekem i go long laplap yam mo i stap go fidim ol welfis mo ol welfis ia nao em i stap wosipim olgeta blong oli stap givim ol frut long ol man.

Plante taem we emi stap mekem karen, emi mekem wan blong em, mo wan blong olgeta welfis ia mo taem emi stap mekem laplap emi mekem difren laplap blong ol welfis mo difren wan blong em mo waef blong em. Oltaem emi stap mekem olsem, be samtaem sapos emi no mekem, ol welfis ia oli stap kam singaotem em blong givim kakae long olgeta, oli stap singaot "Rungio," be man ia nem blong em "Rungu." Be from kakae we ol welfis oli stap kakae mifala i singaotem "io" mekem se oli singaotem hem "Rungio." Taem we emi harem olsem, emi karem laplap mo go givim long olgeta.

Plante taem ol man i kam askem mo em nomo i stap mekem olsem go go wantaem woman blong em i talem long em se,
"Man, mi mi stap hadwok blong mekem laplap ia, be mi neva luk ol welfis ia, yu wan nomo yu stap go luk olgeta. Bambae tedei yumitu go."

Be man blong emi talem se, "No, samting ia em tabu blong ol woman i luk."

Be woman blong em I strong. Nao hemi mekem man ia i se, "Oraet tedei nao bae yumitu go luk."

bambae = will (future marker)
kastom = traditional
saot = south
kolem = to call
be = but
stap go = to go
mekem lif = to make magic
nandao = lychee friut
namambe = chestnut
laplap = pudding

fidim = feed
wosip = to worship
blong = so that
mekem karen = To garden
kakae = food
oltaem = Continually
sapos = if
singaotem = to call to
taem = when
katem = to cut, shorten
we = which
wantaem = once

hadwok = to work hard
lukluk = look at, see
yu wan nomo = only you
samting ia = this thing
tabu = forbidden
strong = obstinate
tedei = Today

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Taem tufala i mekem laplap finis, tufala i karem i go. Taem tufala i go stanap olsem blong givim kakae, man ia i sakem kakae i go, be ol welfis oli no wantem kakae. I gat wan welfis we emi stap lidim ol fren blong em i kam, em i kros. Nao emi jam long solwota olsem ia, i putum tel blong em i stap daon long solwota be emi stanap stret nomo long solwota. Taem man ia i luk olsem, emi tanem em mo talem long woman blong em se,

"Yu luk, mi talem long yu finis se bae yu stap, mi nomo mi kam, be yu mekem naoia ol samting ia oli kros nao. Naoia kwiktaem bae yumitu go bak long haos. Ating bae wan samting bae i hapen long yumitu."

Tufala i go bak long haos. Taem tufala i go kasem haos olsem woman blong em i ded sem taem. Afta, i no long taem man ia tu i ded.

finis = complete action
stanap = to stand
sakem = to throw
lidim = to lead
kros = angry
jam = jump
tel = tail
stap daon = to be down

tanem = to turn around
kasem = as far as
semtaem = at the same time
ded = dead
wan samting = something
hapen = happen
kwiktaem = quick

Comprehension questions:

(1) What is the narrator's name?

(2) How many human characters are there in the story?

(3) To whom did Rungu give the laplap?

(4) Why did he do this?

(5) What was his wife's reaction?

(6) What did she want to do?

(7) What happened when Rungu threw the food down to the whales?

(8) Why were the whales angry?

(9) What did Rungu then say to his wife?

(10) What happened to the couple when they reached home?

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Unit 5: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE TENSES

5.1 Present Tense Indicators

"Naoia" *Now*

"Stap" *At present (refers to ongoing action)*

When 'naoia' or 'stap' is used in a Bislama sentence, it indicates the present tense.

5.2 Future Tense Indicator

"Bae/Bambae" *will do something.*

(An 'm' is sometimes placed in front of the words to make *mbae or mbambae*.)

Compare the two sentences below:

Bislama	English
Mi go long taon.	*I'm going to town. (i.e., now)* *I went to town.*
Bae mi go long taon.	*I will go to town.*

The first sentence doesn't specify tense. The hearer knows the tense of the verb by the context. In the second sentense, however, the use of bae (or bambae) before the subject means that this sentence is referring to the future. (*Note: Bae (or bambae) can occur in many different places in a sentence.*)

5.3 Past Tense Indicators

"Jas" ("*tes*") *Just* *(to have just done something.)*

"Bin" *Been* *(past activities.)*

"Finis" *Finished* *(completed action/something already done)*

Notes: "Bin" is most commonly used when time occurred of event is not given.
In a number of areas of Vanuatu jas is pronounced as tes.

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Now, compare these two sentences:

Bislama	English
Alfred hemi wokabaot long bus.	*Alfred has been walking in the bush.* *Alfred's going to walk in the bush.* *Alfred is walking in the bush.*
Alfred hemi bin wokabaot long bus.	*Alfred walked/has been walking in the bush.*

Again, the first sentence can refer to the past, the present or the future depending on the context. When **bin** is added after the predicate marker, or before the verb, the sentence refers to past time. Unlike **bae** (or bambae), **bin** must occur between the predicate marker and the verb. Similarly, **jas** and **finis** in sentences also indicate action in past tense.

5.4 Examples Indicating Tense

Naoia – Present Tense

- Mi wantem tokktok wetem yu naoia.
  I want to talk with you now.
- Naoia hemi taem blong go long haos.
  Now its time to go home.
- Yumi mas statem wok naoia.
  We must/have to start work now.

'**Stap' – Present Tense** (indicates ongoing action)

- Mi stap klapem han blong mi.
  I am clapping my hands.
- Mi stap kakae yet.
  I am still eating.
- Yufala i stap mekem wanem.
  What are you doing?

Stap & Naoia combined – Present Tense
(*Note: Naoia translates now/this time*)

- Mi stap kakae naoia.
  I am eating now.
- Mi stap toktok long yu naoia.
  I am now talking to you now.

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Bae (Mbae, Bambae, Mbambae) – Future Tense

- Bae yumi mit bakegen samtaem.
  We will meet again sometime.
- Mbae mi go kakae.
  I am going to eat.
- Bambae mi go silip.
  I am going to sleep.

Jas – Past Tense

- Mi jas kambak long taon.
  I just returned from town.
- Mi jas Kakae nomo.
  I've just eaten.

Bin – Past Tense

- Mi bin go long taon long moning.
  I went to town this morning.
- Mi bin tuarem Ostrelia las yia.
  I toured Australia last year.
- Tufala i bin wok long kontena sip bifo.
  Those two have worked on a cargo ship before.

'Finis' – Past Tense (refers to a completed action)

- Rebecca i kakae finis.
  Rebecca has eaten.
- Hem i kambak long haos finis.
  He/She has returned to the house.
- Mifala i finis danis nao.
  We are done dancing now.

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EXERCISES #5

A. *Write the Bislama tense indicators.*

i. Present Tense: _____

_____

ii. Future Tense: _____

_____

iii. Past Tense: _____

_____

_____

B. *Write three sets of three short sentences using each of the three tenses in each set.*

i. _____

_____

_____

ii. _____

_____

_____

iii. _____

_____

_____

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Unit 6: BLONG

Blong (most often pronounced "blow") is used frequently in Bislama and in many different contexts. Below are some its uses.

6.1 Blong Indicating Belonging To or Possession

Bislama	English
Haos blong mi.	*My house.*
Naef blong yu.	*Your knife*
Haos blong mifala.	*Our house.*
Wil blong trak.	*The wheel of the truck.*
Pikinini blong hem.	*His/Her child.*

6.2 Blong + Hu Meaning Whose?

Bislama	English
Leta blong hu ia?	*Whose letter is this?*
Buk ia blong hu?	*Whose book is this/that?*

6.3 Blong Indicating Function or Purpose For

Bislama	English
Taem blong stadi.	*Time to study.*
Kokonas blong planem.	*Coconuts for planting.*
Buk blong rid.	*Reading book.*
Wota blong drink.	*Drinking water.*

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6.4 Blong Indicating Reason for Action

Bislama	English
Mi go long taon blong pem bred.	*I went to town to buy bread*
Mi go long skul blong lanem samting.	*I go to school to learn things.*
Mi kam blong pentem haos.	*I came to paint the house.*

6.5 Blong Describing Character of Identity

Bislama	English
Hemi man blong drink.	*He is a drunkard.*
Hemi man blong toktok.	*He is talkative.*
Hemi woman blong wok.	*She is a hardworking woman.*
Hemi blong Tanna.	*He/she is from Tanna.*

EXERCISES #6

A. Indicate where "**blong**" fits in the following sentences by placing a small star between the words.
For example; Hed * Ronald i soa tumas.

i. Mi wantem klaem wan tri kokonas mifala i dring.*(I want to climb coconuts for us to drink.)*

ii. Susan i kam luk mi. *(Susan came to see me.)*

iii. Olgeta ofisa Polis i kam wan ples. *(The Police officers came from the same place.)*

iv. Bigfala haos hu ia? *(Whose big house is it?)*

v. Kevin hemi wan man wok. *(Kevin is a hardworking man.)*

vi. Famli mi i go long Solwota. *(My family went to the beach.)*

vii. Brata Rebecca i kam tedei long moning. (*Rebecca's bother came this morning.)*

viii. Adam i man futbol. *(Adam is a football player.)*

ix. Tumoro bae mifala i go long haos Loren. (*Tomorrow we will go to Loren's house.)*

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x. John hemi man bus. *(John is a bushman.)*

A. If a "pig's tusk" is "tut blong pig" and a "mango seed" is "sid blong mango" and "blade of a saw" is "tut blong so," write down how you would say the following things in Bislama.

i. Crab's claw_____

ii. Blade of an axe_____

iii. Watermelon seed_____

iv. Bird's wing_____

v. Lion's teeth_____

B. Using arrows, match the usages of **blong** with the correct Bislama example.

Blong Usage		**Bislama Example**
1. BLONG – used to indicate possession or ownership.		1. Mi kam blong wok olsem wan Pis Kop Volentia.
2. BLONG HU? – whose?		2. Windo blong haos.
3. BLONG – indicating the function or purpose.		3. Jerry i wan man blong daeva.
4. BLONG – indicating reason for action.		4. Sus blong hu ia?
5. BLONG – describing the character or identity of a person.		5. Naef blong katem wud.
		6. C-draev blong komputa.
		7. Hemi wan man blong bush.
		8. Wan buk blong hu ia?

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DIALOG 3

LONG MAKET

Misis Jons hem i go long maket wetem haos gel blong em, Evelin. Long Vila i gat maket tri taem long evri wik, long Wenesdei, long Fraede mo long Sarere. Taem ol turis i kam long Vanuatu long stima, samtaem oli mekem wan narafala maket bakegen.

Mrs J: Evelin, yumi hariap blong go long maket. Sipos yumi no go daon kwiktaem, bae yumi mestem ol gudfala kakae.

Evelin: Oraet Misis. Mi tekem basket blong mi. Mi kam kwiktaem.

Mrs J: Mi wantem pem sam kokonas, mo eni kaen salad fastaem. Sipos i gat, bae mi karem sam banana tu.

Evelin: Yes, luk, Misis, woman ia i gat sam gudfala grin kokonas.

Mrs J: Emi hamas long wan?

Evelin: Oli 30 vatu long wan.

Mrs J: Yu talem se bambae yumi tekem fo long wan handred vatu.

Evelin: I gud, Misis. Woman ia em i talem se yu save tekem long praes ia. Wanem mo yu wantem pem?

Mrs J: Yu traem faenem sam aelan kabis, Evelin. Wan narafala samting mi wantem, emi tuluk we olgeta woman blong Mele i mekem.

Evelin: Mi luk tuluk finis. Emi stap daon long saed i go long Postofis. Bae mi traem karem sam, be ating praes i go antap tumas, olsem 50 vatu long wan.

Mrs J: Oh Evelin, mi fogetem aranis. Yu save pem wan basket plis. Emi naf long wan wik. Tufala pikinini blong mi i laekem ol aranis blong Lelepa from we oli swit tumas.

Evelin: Mi wantem pem wan basket taro blong famli blong mi tu, be praes i hae tumas - 500 vatu long wan smol basket. Ating i moa gud sipos mi livim taro. Bambae mi pem sam maniok.

Mrs J: Oraet, Evelin, yumi go bak long haos nao. Yu save karem evri samting? Trak blong yumi i stap longwe lelebet.

AT THE MARKET

Mrs Jones goes to the market with her house girl, Evelin. In Vila there is a market three times a week, on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. When tourists come to Vanuatu on a cruise ship there is yet another market.

Mrs J: Evelin, we'd better hurry to the market. If we don't go down quickly, we'll miss all the good food.

Evelin: All right, ma'am. I haven't forgotten my basket. I'm coming right away.

Mrs J: I want to buy some coconuts and some salads first - and, if there are some, I will get bananas as well.

Evelin: Yes, look ma'am, this lady has some good green coconuts.

Mrs J: How much is it for one?

Evelin: They cost 30 vatu each.

Mrs J: Tell her we will take four for a hundred vatu.

Evelin: That is fine ma'am. This woman says you can take them for that price. What else do you want to buy?

Mrs J: Try and look for island cabbage, Evelin. Another thing I want is tuluk made by the women from Mele.

Evelin: I saw some tuluk already. They are on the side towards the post office. I will try and get some but the price has probably really gone up, to 50 vatu each.

Mrs J: Oh Evelin, I forgot oranges. Please buy one basket. That will be enough for a week. Both my children like Lelepa oranges, since they are very sweet.

Evelin: I want to buy a basket of taro for my family too, but the price is too high - 500 vatu for a small basket. It's probably better to leave out the taro. I'll buy some manioc instead.

Mrs J: All right Evelin, we'll go home now. Can you manage everything? Our car is rather a long way away.

Evelin: Yes, ma'am.

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VOCABULARY

BISLAMA	ENGLISH	BISLAMA	ENGLISH
angekejif	handkerchief	bambu	bamboo, flute
bihaen	after/later	bildem	build
bislama	bislama	blo	blow
blong hu	whose	blong wanem	why
bonem	burn	but	shoe
danis	dance	devel	devil, spirit
faenem	find	fiva	malaria
folem	follow	foto	photo
fraede	Friday	franis	France, French
futbol	soccer	grin	green
hariap	hurry	harem gud	feel well
hil	hill	kabis	cabbage
kamaot	come from	kampani	company
kaon	loan/credit	kaori	kaori tree
kapten	captain	kwaet	quiet
lanem	learn	lanwis	language
lelebet	somewhat, a little	Lelepa	Lelepa
livim	leave	layaken	lawyer cane
lusum	lose/lost	medel	middle
mek noes	make noise	Mele Vilej	Mele Village

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Unit 7: LONG

Although long (frequently pronounced "low") sounds similar to blong it is used quite differently. Here are some of its meanings.

7.1 Long Used to Point to a Location

Bislama	English
Long wei	*Over there/ Far away*
Klosap long	*Near/close to*
Narasaed long	*Opposite/beside*
Kam long	*From*

Examples

Bislama	English
Fredi i stap long wei	*Freddy is over there*
Yut senta i stap klosap long Fres Wota Skul	*Youth Center is close to Fresh Water School*
Stoa i stap narasaed long bang	*The store is opposite the bank*
Ruth i kam long Niu Silan	*Ruth comes from New Zealand*

7.2 Long Used to Describe an Instrument/Means of Transport

Bislama	English
Mi kam long trak.	*I came by truck.*
Mi sutum fis ia long masket.	*I shot that/this fish with a spear gun.*

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Bata i isi long katem long naef.	*Butter is easy to cut with a knife.*

7.3 Long Used as a Preposition

Bislama	English
Long	*On*
Long	*In*
Andanit long	*Underneath*
Insaed long	*Into*
Narasaed long	*Beside*

Other positional words are -

Bislama	English		Bislama	English
Antap	*On top*		Baksaed	*Backside*
Insaed	*Inside*		Bihaen	*Behind*
Aotsaed	*Outside*		Foret	*Front*
Klosap	*Close up/near*		Saed	*Side*
Raetsaed	*Right side*		Saed ia	*This side*
Lefsaed	*Left side*		Saed i go	*That side*

Examples

Bislama	English
Bred i stap **long** tebol.	*Bread is **on** the table.*
Sip i kam **long** moning.	*The ship came **in** the morning.*

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Wan geko i stap **andanit long** ston.	*A gecko is **under** the stone.*
Rebecca i jam **insaed long** reva.	*Rebecca jumps **into** the river.*
Mi stap sitdaon **narasaed long** yu.	*I'm sitting **beside** you.*

7.4 Long Used as an Interrogative

Bislama	English
Long wea	*Where*
Long	*At*

Examples

Bislama	English
Yu kam long wea?	*Where do you come from?*
Patrik i stap long stoa.	*Patrick is at the store.*
Yumi silip long naet.	*We sleep at night.*

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EXERCISES #7

A. *Write down the four different uses of the Bislama word* ***long****.*

i. LONG - _____

ii. LONG - _____

iii. LONG - _____

iv. LONG - _____

B. *Write in English the usage of* ***long*** *and its translation for each of the following sentences. For example: Kofi I stap long tebol – Preposition (on).*

i. Pis Kop Ofis i stap long wei._____

ii. Haos blong Lance i stap klosap long post ofis._____

iii. Bae yumi go long aelan long ship._____

iv. Mifala i kambak long Tanna yestedei._____

v. Mi wantem sitdaon narasaed long Patrick._____

vi. Putum sam suka long ti blong yu._____

vii. Bas bae i kam long 10 o'klok._____

viii. Wan rat i stap andanit long haos blong mi._____

ix. Stoa i stap long wea?_____

x. Mifala i stap swim long solwota._____

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COMPREHENSION 3

VOLKENO BLONG LOPEVI (Epi)

Mi stori long faea we oli kolem volkeno, we i stap long Lopevi. Wantaem long wan Sande long aftenun, emi wantem kamdaon. Long Sande long aftenun emi faerap. Taem we i faerap, wota i kamaot long em i kamdaon, faea i laet bihaen. Tufala i kamdaon, wota i go fastaem long solwota, faea i kam bihaen. I bonem ol wud mo ston. Faea i laet long soa, i kam kasem long solwota. Emi laet long solwota tu. Taem we ol man oli luk faea ia i kamdaon wetem wota, oli ran i go long saed we faea i no kamdaon long em. Oli go stap wanples long ples ia. Oli stap andanit long wan tri, oli kolem nambanga. Oli stap wet long wan sip bae i kam pikimap olgeta blong go long wan narafala aelan. Long nara dei, wan sip i kam tekem olgeta oli go stap long aelan blong Paama. Gavman i kam luk olgeta, i talem se: "oh, yumi lukaot wan ples blong yumi tekem yufala i go stap long em"

Oli tekem jif wetem sam moa man, oli kam raon long Epi, oli wantem faenem wan ples blong oli stap. Taem oli kam askem long Epi, olgeta long Epi oli talem se "wan ples i stap, blong B.P. Sipos yufala wantem, yufala go askem long B.P bae oli kam stap long em." Gavman i askem long B.P.

B.P. i letem. Gavman i pemaot. oli go tekem olgeta long Paama bakegen i kam stap long Epi, long ples ia. Naoia oli stap long ples ia i go kasem tedei. Emia stori blong volkeno long Lopevi.

Flaea=fire
Stap=happen
Wantaem=once
Sande=Sunday
Faerap=erupt
Wota=lava

Bihaen=behind
Bonem=burn
Wud=tree
Tufala=both
Si=sea, ocean
Folem=follow

Soa=shore
Kasem=as far as
Stap wanples=stay together
ples=place
Andanit=under
Nambangka=banyan

Wet=wait
Sip=ship
Pikimap=pick up
narafala=another
Ale=then, all

Read the following story and answer the following questions in English.

Comprehension questions:

(1) Where was the volcano?

(2) When did the eruption take place?

(3) Which came out first, the lava or the fire?

(4) Where did they end up?

(5) Where did the people take shelter?

(6) What did they wait for?

(7) Where did the relief ship take them?

(8) Where did they find some new land?

(9) To whom did this land belong?

(10) What was the result of the negotiations?

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Unit 8: BISLAMA PRONOUNS

Pronouns in Bislama indicate number (i.e., singular: *hem* - he, she, it - vs. plural *olgeta* -they) but not gender. The third person singular pronoun, *hem*, is used irrespective of the gender of its object.

8.1 Pronoun Forms

Bislama pronouns are -

Singular	yu, mi, hem
Dual	yutufala, mitufala, tufala, yumitu
Trial	yutrifala, mitrifala, trifala, yumitri
Plural	Yufala, mifala, olgeta, yumi

Note: Ol is the short form of olgeta, which means they/them.

8.2 Direct Speech

Talking directly to the person or the people concerned, pronouns to use are -

1st Person	mi, mifala, mitufala, mitrifala
2nd Person	yu, yutufala, yutrifala, yufala
Inclusive	yumi, yumitufala, yumitrifala

8.3 Indirect Speech

Talking to someone about a third person or some other people pronouns to use are -

3rd Person	hem, tufala, trifala, olgeta

8.4 Pronoun Summary Chart

	SINGULAR	DUAL	TRIAL	PLURAL
1st Person	mi	mitufala	mitrifala	mifala
Inclusive	--	yumitufala	yumitrifala	yumi
2nd Person	yu	yutufala	yutrifala	yufala
3rd Person	hem	tufala	trifala	olgeta

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Examples

Bislama	English
Mi go nao.	*I'm going.*
Mitufala i go nao.	*We (the two of us, but not you) are going.*
Mitrifala i go nao.	*We (the three of us, but not you) are going.*
Mifala i go nao.	*We (several of us but not you) are going.*
Yumitrifala i go nao.	*We (the three of us, are going) are going.*
Yumitufala i go nao.	*We (you and I) are going.*
Yumi go nao.	*We (several of us including you) are going.*
Yu go nao.	*You (singular) are going.*
Yutrifala i go nao.	*You (the three of you) are going.*
Yutufala i go nao.	*You (the two of you) are going.*
Yufala i go nao.	*You (plural) are going.*
Hem i go nao.	*He (She/It) is going.*
Tufala i go nao.	*They (the two of them) are going.*
Trifala i go nao.	*They (the three of them) are going.*
Olgeta i go nao.	*They (plural) are going.*

More Examples

Bislama	English
Mi wantem lukim yu.	*I want to see you.*
Hem i stap go wea?	*Where is he/she going?*
Yutufala i blong wea?	*Where do you two come from?/Where are the two of you from?*
Mitrifala i bin kakae laplap.	*We (the three of us) ate laplap.*
Olgeta i save mi.	*They know me.*
Tufala i jas mared nomo.	*They (Him and Her) just got married.*

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Bae mitufala i silip smol.	*We (two of us but not you) will take a short nap.*

8.4 Pronouns and Predicate Markers

The following pronouns must immediately be followed by the predicate marker "*i*" when they are the subject of the sentence -

hem, yutufala, mitufala, tufala, yutrifala, mitufala, trifala yufala, mifala, olgeta.

For example: Olgeta i stap kakae.
They are eating.
Tufala i go bak long haus.
Those two are going back to the house now.
Bae mifala i go long maket long 10 o'klok.
We are going to the market at 10:00.

The following pronouns do not require an 'i' anywhere in a sentence -

mi, yu, yumi, yumitu, yumitri.

No object in a sentence is followed by the predicate marker, because it is not the active agent in the sentence.

EXERCISES #8

A. *List all the Bislama pronouns and their meanings.*

i. _____ _____

ii. _____ _____

iii. _____ _____

iv. _____ _____

v. _____ _____

vi. _____ _____

vii. _____ _____

viii. _____ _____

ix. _____ _____

x. _____ _____

xi. _____ _____

xii. _____ _____

xiii. _____ _____

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xiv. _____ _____

xv. _____ _____

A. *List five (5) of the pronouns indicating direct speech?*

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

iv. _____

v. _____

B. *List the four (4) pronouns indicating indirect speech'*

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

iv. _____

C. *Translate into bislama*

i. We are going to the store:_____

ii. You two must sleep now:_____

iii. They are from America:_____

iv. We (but not you) are going to the ocean:_____

v. Those three are from Tanna:_____

vi. Where is he from?:_____

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DIALOG 4

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LONG TANNA

Olgeta turis long Vanuatu ol i laekem wokbaot i go long Tanna blong visitim volkeno blong aelan ia. Plante man we oli stap wok long Vila ol i laekem go spel long aelan ia tu. Misis Jones em i go long ofis blong Ea Vanuatu blong pem tiket blong famli blong em.

Mrs J: Gud moning, Jems. Mifala i wantem go spel long Tanna nekis wik. Plen i stap go long Tanna long Tusde?

James: Yes Misis. I gat plen i go long Tanna evri dei. Yufala evriwan i wantem go long Tusde, namba ten Mei?

Mrs J: Hemia nao. Dokta Jones, mi wetem tufala pikinini.

James: Oraet. Mi makem finis nem blong yufala.

Mrs J: Mi no visitim Tanna bifo. Oli talem se i gat samfala Kest haos long Lenakel.

James: Hemia nao, Misis. Yu wantem mi askem wan bangalo blong yufala?

Mrs J: Yes, Jems. Sipos i gat wan we i gat fo bed i stap insaed, hemia nao rum we mifala i wantem.

James: I gud nomo olsem. Bambae yufala i stap hamas dei long Tanna?

Mrs J: Wan wik nomo. Stat long namba 10 Mei go kasem namba 16 Mei.

James: Long namba ten, plen blong yufala bae emi aot long leven klok, mo long namba sikistin bambae plen i lego Tanna long fo klok long aftanun.

Mrs J: Oraet. Wanem samting mifala i save luk long Tanna?

IN TANNA

All tourists in Vanuatu like to travel to Tanna to visit the volcano on that island. Plenty of people who work in Vila like to take holidays on that island too. Mrs Jones goes to the Air Vanuatu office to buy tickets for her family.

Mrs J: Good morning, James. We want to go to Tanna for a break next week. Is there a plane to Tanna on Tuesday?

James: Yes, Madam. There's a plane to Tanna every day. Do you all want to go on Tuesday, on May 10th .

Mrs J: That's correct - Dr. Jones and I and the two children.

James: All right. I've already written in your names.

Mrs J: I haven't visited Tanna before. They say there are some Guest houses in Lenakel.

James: That's right, maam. Would you like to reserve a bungalow?

Mrs J: Yes, James. If there's one with four beds; that's what we want.

James: That's good then. How many days do you want to stay on Tanna?

Mrs J: Just one week, begining on the May 10th through to 16th May.

James: On May 10th your plane will leave at 11 o'clock, and on the 16th you will leave Tanna at four o'clock in the afternoon.

Mrs J: All right. What are all the things to see on Tanna?

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James: I gat plante samting, Misis. Nambawan samting hemi volkeno long Waet San, klosap long Salfabei. Hemi stap faerap oltaem mo graon i seksek.

Mrs J: Wanem moa?

James: Yufala i save wokbaot long medel bus blong visitim gud aelan ia. Taem yufala i godaon long solwota long Waet krass, yufala i save luk ol wael hos we i stap resis olbaot.

Mrs J: I gud tumas. Bambae mifala i traem rentem wan trak blong wokbaot raon long aelan.

James: I mo gud sipos yufala i go wetem draeva blong Tour Vanuatu from we i save gud ol rod long Tanna.

Mrs J: Tangkyu tumas Jems

James: There's plenty to see, Maam. The first thing is the volcano at White Sands, close to Sulfur Bay. It is active all the time and the earth shake when it erupts.

Mrs J: What else?

James: You can go for a trip to middle bush so you can experience the real island life. If you get to the coast at White Grass you can see wild horses.

Mrs J: Very good. We'll try to rent a truck to travel around the island.

James: It would be better if you go with the Tour Vanuatu driver, as he knows the Tanna roads well.

Mrs J: Thank you so much James.

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VOCABULARY

BISLAMA	ENGLISH	BISLAMA	ENGLISH
Aesbokis	Refrigerator	Jamdaon	Jump down
Bel	Stomach	Komiti	Committee
Bonem	Burn/Give birth	Leftemap	Lift
Disfela	This, that	Luksave	Understand
Fes	Face, front	Makas	Residue
Givimbak	Give back/retaliate	Manis	Month
Holidei	Holiday	Nambas	Penis wrapper
Katen	Carton	Nawita	Squid
Koprativ	Co-operative	Pis	Piece/Peace
Pilo	Pillow	Rasta	Rust
Mak	Mark	Snek	Snake
Man ples	'Local'	Wan	One, a, an
Mun	Moon	Wea	Where
Suga	Sugar	From	Because
Poen	Point	Mekem se	So, so that

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Unit 9: HEM AND EM

The main difference is the spelling of the two words, ***hem*** and ***em***. The pronunciation of the two words in Bislama is exactly the same. Their meanings are -.

Hem – *He/ she/it*
Em – *He/she/it*

Hemi – *He is/She is/It is*
Emi – *He is/ She is/It is*

Wehem – *Where is (referring to something/someone)*
Wem – *Where is (referring to something/someone)*

Example dialoque using Hem -

Wehem Sera?	*Where is Sera?*
Hemi go long taon	*She's gone/went to town.*
Hem wetem hu?	*Who did she go with?*
Hemi go wetem Tom	*She went with Tom.*
Olsem wanem long smol dog blong hem	*How about her puppy.*
Hem i stap	*It's here.*

The same dialogue using Em -

Wem sera?	*Where is Sera?*
Em i go long taon.	*She's gone/She went to town.*
Em i go wetem hu?	*Who did she go with?*
Em wetem Tom.	*She went with Tom*
Olsem wanem long smol dog blong em?	*How about her puppy?*
Em i stap.	*It's here.*

Note: ***Hem*** *and* ***em*** *are used identically. In addition, their sounds and pronunciation are also the same. The only difference is in their spellings. However, their usage varies on different islands. For instance, on Tanna you'll find that* ***hem*** *is more frequently used than* ***em****. On Efate* ***em*** *is more used than* ***hem****. Which form you use will depend on your island.*

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EXERCISES #9

A. *What is the Bislama word for each of the following?*

He/ She/ It – _____

He is/ She is/ It is – _____

Where is – _____

B. *Arrange the following words to make complete and grammatically correct sentences.*

i. naef, long, mi, givim, hem

ii. naes, aelan, hemi, wan, smol

iii. stap, emi, basket, long, mi, blong

iv. charles, we hem, ?

v. taon, hem, i, go, long

vi. stap, em, i

C. *Answer the following questions in Bislama using 'Hem' and 'Em'.*

For example -- Q: Wehem Kevin?
A: Hem i stap long skul.

i. Wehem mama blong yu?

ii. Wanem nem blong bes fren blong yu?

iii. Papa blong yu i gat wan trak?

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COMPREHENSION 4

Read the following story and answer the following questions in English.

MIUSEK LONG VANUATU (Aneityum)

Naoia bae yufala i harem wan nara kaen instrument or samting blong pleplei long em long saed long kastom blong Tanna. Emia emi bambu.

Long Vanuatu bifo i gat plante plante aelan we oli yusum bambu blong mekem ol miusik. Be naoia i gat sam aelan nomo we oli stap yusum bambu. Mo kaen bambu ia we bambae yumi harem oli plei long em, yu save faenem long Santo mo samples long Tanna. Mi save se i gat plante aelan tu bifo oli gat bambu olsem, be naoia i gat wan o tu man nomo i save.

Be emia nao wok blong mifala long Kaljoral Senta, mifala i traem blong rikodem ol samting olsem mo enkaregem ol olfala we oli save blong yusum ol bambu mo ol olfala stori o samting olsem blong tijim ol yangfala long em blong oli harem i go on blong fiuja blong Vanuatu. I gat plante fasin we ol man i yusum bambu blong bloem. I gat sam we oli blo long wan bambu nomo. Mo i gat sam we ol man i fasem plante mekem bamboo tugeta; afta oli blo long em. Be emia we bae yufala i harem naoia, oli fasem oli laen, mo i gat eit bambu. I gat wan longfala wan long en, afta oli katkatem i kam sotfala go go kasem laswan. Las bamboo long laen nao em i sotfala gud. Mo oli mekem ol defren saon. Man we bae i blo long bambu naoia, nem blong em Ham Rowar. Taem emi mekem tep ia, emi gat fiftin yia noma, mo emi blong vilej blong Yetkerier long Kwamera, Saotis Tanna. Bambae em i blo long bambu we oli fasem long wan streit laen.

nara=other, another
bambu=bamboo, pan-pipe
yusum=use
kaen=type, kind
rikodem=record
fiuja=future

fasem=tie
laen=line
en=end
tep=tape

Kaljoral Senta= Cultural center
encouragem= Encourage
yangfala= Teenagers
bloem= To blow
bambu = Bamboo

Comprehension questions:

(1) Where is the bamboo still played today?

(2) What is the work of the Cultural Centre as discussed?

(3) What is the purpose of this work?

(4) What kinds of flute are discussed?

(5) What kind of flute is played in the recording?

(6) How many pipes does it have?

(7) What is the name of the flute-player?

(8) How old was he when he made the recording?

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VOCABULARY

BISLAMA	ENGLISH	BISLAMA	ENGLISH
Aftenun	Afternoon	Amerika	America
Blokem	Prevent, block	Bom	Bomb
Delaet	Daylight	Disemba	December
Medel dei,	Midday	Doa	Door
Gel	Daughter	Draevem	Drive
Draon	Sink, drown	Eafil	Airfield
Eli	Early	En	End
Eprel	April	Evriwan	Everyone
Fasin	Way, manner	Februari	February
Fiuja	Future	Fraede	Friday
Helpem	Help	Jenuware	January
Jun	June	Julae	July
Kampas	Compass	Kamap	Rise
Laef	Life	Kastom	Tradition
Letem	Permit, allow	Laen	Line
Maj	March	Maet	Perhaps
Mei	May	Mande	Monday
Aftenun	Afternoon	Minit	Minute

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Unit 10: GAT

"I gat" is a commonly used phrase with four uses related to the English infinitive "to be" - there is, there are, there were and there will be. Its negative form ***"i no gat"*** translates as "there is no …." In addition, **gat** is sometimes used alone to designate the presence of a characteristic consistent with the meanings of "to be" or "has" in English.

10.1 "I Gat" Meaning "There Is"

Bislama	English
I gat wan man I stap wet long yu.	*There is someone waiting for you.*
I gat wan maret long narasaed vilij.	*There is a wedding on the other side of the village.*
I gat wan stoa long vilij blong mifala.	*There is a store in our village.*

10.2 "I Gat" Meaning "There Are"

Bislama	English
I gat naen pis kop treni long not Efate.	*There are nine Peace Corps trainees on North Efate.*
I gat mo bittim 100 difren lanwis long Vanuatu.	*There are more than 100 different languages in Vanuatu.*
I gat tri lanwis mo kros kalja trena.	*There are three language and cross culture trainers.*

10.3 "I Bin Gat" Meaning "There Were"

Bislama	English
I bin gat faev haos be naoia i nomo gat.	*There were five houses but now there are none.*
I bin gat naen long mifala be naoia i gat tri nomo.	*There were nine of us but now there are only three of us.*
I bin gat fulap telefon long vilij ia be naoia i nomo gat.	*There were plenty of telephones in this village but now there are none.*

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10.4 "Bae I Gat" Meaning "There Will Be"

Bislama	English
Bae i gat danis tedei long naet.	*There will be a dance tonight.*
Bae i gat PST trening long not Efate.	*There will be PST training at north Efate.*
Bae i gat fulap samting we bae yumi lanem.	*There will be plenty of things that we will learn.*

10.5 The Negative Form "I No Gat"

Bislama	English
I no gat rice long stoa.	*There is no rice in the store.*
I no gat mane blong pem skul fi.	*There is no money to pay school fees.*
I no gat plante man o woman olsem.	*There aren't many men or women like this.*

10.6 Examples of the Uses of "I Gat"

*Below are some examples of phrases using **"i gat"** -*

Bislama	English		Bislama	English
Mi gat	*I have*		Mi no gat	*I don't*
Hem i gat	*He/She has*		Hem i no gat	*He/She doesn't have*
Yumi gat	*We have*		Yumi no gat	*We don't have*
Olgeta i gat	*They have*		Olgeta i no gat	*They don't have*
Mitufala i gat	*Two of us*		Mitufala i no gat	*Two of us don't have*
Tufala i gat	*Two of them have*		Tufala i no gat	*Two of them don't have*
Trifala i gat	*Three of them have*		Trifala i no gat	*Three of them don't have*

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10.7 Examples of Other Uses of "Gat"

Bislama	English		Bislama	English
Gat ae	*To be sharp eyed*		Gat hed	*To be intelligent, wise*
Gat bel	*To be pregnant*		Gat rosta	*To be rusty*
Gat bun	*To be strong*		Gat kala	*To be beautiful/nice/set*
Gat gris	*To be fat*			

EXERCISES #10

A. *From the notes provided, list the various uses of "**i gat.**"*

B. *Translate these Bislama sentences to English.*

i. I gat wan stoa long vilij blong mifala.
_____

ii. I gat plante diferen lanwis long Vanuatu.
_____

iii. Olgeta i no gat kakae.
_____

iv. I gat wan gel i stap wet long yu long telefon.
_____

v. I no gat melek long stoa.
_____

C. *How would you say the following in Bislama?*

i. Alice is pregnant. _____
ii. The chicken is fat. _____
iii. Armstrong is wise. _____
iv. This truck is rusty. _____
v. That man is strong. _____

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DIALOG 5

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LONG POLIS STEISEN

Mista Braon emi girap long haf pas sikis long moning. Taem emi go aotsaed blong go long ofis, emi sapraes tumas from trak blong em i no stap. Wan man i bin stilim long naet. Mista Braon em i resis kwiktaem i go long polis steisen.

Mr. B: Gudmoning ofisa, mi wantem talem se wan man i bin stilim trak blong mi las naet.Taem mi girap naoia, trak blong mi i no stap.

Polis: Sori tumas.Wanem nem blong yu?

Mr. B: Nem blong mi Pol Braon. Mi stap wok long Hae Komisin blong Ostrelia.

Polis: Wanem kaen trak oli bin stilim?

Mr. B: Emi wan Toyota.

Polis: Wanem namba blong em?

Mr. B: Emi 2067.

Polis: Wanem kala blong em?

Mr. B: Emi red.

Polis: Yu no livim ki i stap insaed long trak?

Mr. B: No, mi no livim insaed long trak. I stap long traoses blong mi nomo. Emia.

Polis: Ating oli joenem waea blong statem enjin.

Mr. B: Mi no save. Mi no harem noes nating long naet. Maet oli pusum trak i go longwe fastaem, taem i stap longwe oli statem wetem waea.

Polis: Sipos oli mekem olsem, ating i no wan man nomo i bin stilim trak blong yu. Mat i gat tu o tri man oli bin mekem samting ia.

THE POLICE STATION

Mister Brown got up at 6.30 a.m. When he went outside to go to the office, he got a big surprise as his car was no longer there. Someone had stolen it during the night. Mr. Brown quickly rushed down to the police station.

Mr. B: Good morning, officer. I wish to report that my car was stolen last night. When I got up just now my car was no longer there.

Policeman: I'm sorry. What is your name?

Mr. B: I'm Paul Brown. I work at the Australian High Commission.

Policeman: What kind of car was stolen?

Mr. B: It was a Toyota.

Policeman: What is the registration number?

Mr. B: It is 2067.

Policeman: What color is it?

Mr. B: It is red.

Policeman: You didn't leave the key in the car did you?

Mr. B: No, I didn't leave it in the car. It's in my pocket. Here it is.

Policeman: I think they joined the wires to start the engine.

Mr. B: I don't know. I didn't hear any noise at all during the night. Maybe they pushed the car some distance first. Then, when it was some distance away, they started it with wire.

Policeman: If they did that, then it wasn't just one man who stole the car. Maybe two or three people did it.

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Mr. B: Yes, ating olsem.

Polis: Bambae mifala i traem faenem trak blong yu. Sipos yu laki, oli no spoelem trak ia, be sipos olgeta i drong lelebet, maet oli bangem finis long wan samting.

Mr. B: Oh, ofisa, sipos yufala i save faenem, bae mi glad tumas. Sapos yufala i faenem, yu save ring i go long ofis blong mi long 22531; long haos blong mi namba blong telefon em i 22217.

Polis: Oraet Mista Braon, mifala i sori tumas from we oli bin stilim trak blong yu long naet. Sapos mifala i faenem olgeta we oli bin stilim, bambae mifala i mas panisim olgeta.

Mr. B: Tangkiu tumas, ofisa. Gud dei mo gud lak!

Mr. B: Yes, I agree.

Policeman: We will try to find your car. If you are lucky, they won't damage the car, but if they were a bit drunk they may have crashed it into something.

Mr. B: Oh, officer, if you can find it I'll be very happy. If you find the car you can call my office on 22531; at home my phone number is 22217.

Policeman: All right Mr. Brown, we're sorry that your car was stolen last night. If we find the culprits, we will certainly punish them.

Mr. B: Thank you very much, officer. Good day and good luck!

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VOCABULARY

BISLAMA	ENGLISH	BISLAMA	ENGLISH
aeanem	Iron	afsaed	Outside
aftenun	Afternoon	andanit	Underneath
ale	All right	big	Big
bigwan	Large amount	bin	Been (Past tense)
blak	Black	dog	Dog
drong	Drunk	faerap	Erupt
fiksimap	Repair	flasem	Decorate
girap	Get up	hevi	Heavy
joenem	join	kala	Color
kamgud	Heal	kasem	As far as, until
kaset	Cassette	klosem	Close
laki	Lucky	letem	Allow
longfala	Long, tall	lukaot	Look for
meresin	Medecine	miusek	Music
nabanga	Banyan	nangae	Ngali nut
nara	Another, other	nius	News
ofisa	Officer	oltaem	Constantly
Ostrelia	Australia	panisim	Punish
pemaot	Pay for	pikimap	Pick up
polis	Police	rabis	Useless
raorao	Argue, fight	raon	Round, around
red	Red	ring	Ring
saed	Side, area	Sandei	Sunday
sanem	Send	sapraes	Surprise
singsing	Sing, song	smolsmol	Tiny
soa	Shore	sofsof	Soft
sot	Short, shirt	spia	Spear
statem	Start	stik	Stick
ston	Stone	taed	Tired
tangkiu	Thank you	tawian	In-law
telefon	phone	trabol	Trouble
traot	Vomit	waet	White
yelo	Yellow	yia	Year

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Unit 11: INTERROGATIVES

In Bislama interrogatives can occur at the start or the end of a sentence. The principal question words/phrases are as follows:

11.1 Question Words

English	Bislama
What?	Wanem?
How?	Olsem wanem?
How many? How much?	Hamas?
Why? For what purpose?	Blong wanem?
Why? What for?	From wanem?
Where?	Wea? (end of sentence); Wem (start of sentence)
Who?	Hu?
When?	Wanem taem?

11.2 Examples of Questions

1. Wanem nem blong aelan ia?
   What is the name of this island?
2. Olsem wanem long mama ia, bae hem tu i go o no gat?
   How about this mama, will she go to or not?
3. Hamas man i bin lus long 11 September 2001?
   How many people died on September 11, 2001?
4. Yu no kam wetem mifala yestedei from wanem?
   Why didn't you come with us yesterday?
5. Yu go long Vila blong mekem wanem?
   What did you go to Vila for?
6. Pita, i silip wea?
   Where does Peter stay?
7. Huia i go long taon?
   Who is going to town?
8. Gem i stat lo wanem taem?
   What time does the game start?

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EXERCISES #11

A. *Translate these sentences to Bislama.*

i. What did he say?

_____

ii. What did they steal?

_____

iii. How did you come?

_____

iv. Why are you crying?

_____

v. What is he/she doing?

_____

vi. Where is the toilet?

_____

vii. Who is that person over there?

_____

viii. What time is it now?

_____

Homework

Go to your host families and ask 5 questions using the interreogatives you learned today. Write down the questiones and answers to be used in your next Bislama class.

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COMPREHENSION 5

STON BLONG SAN

Long vilej blong Pagahu, ples i kolkol tumas from i stap long bus. Long evri moning ol man i stap lukaotem san.

Sapos oli faenem ples we san i saen tru oli sidaon long em.

Wan moning tufala smol smol gel i girap i sidaon mo wet long san i kam antap. Tufala i lukluk i luk san i saen antap finis long ol top blong ol tri long.

Tufala i stap singsing, singaot san blong i kam:

"Nalasine torotoro, metane'le Pagaru G'ri, Nalasine G'ri Nalasine G'ri." Tufala I stap singaot san olsem, wan tabu man blong lukaot long ston blong san, i harem nao i go bonem ston blong san.

Afta i talem long ston se,"San, bae yu bonem gud tufala ia i drae.

San i girap i kam hot - i hot tumas. Tufala gel ia i girap i go insaed long haos. Tufala i stap gud, be long medel de san i bonem haos blong tufala. Tufala i ron i go haed andanit long wan bigfala nambanga tri be san i bonem nambaga ia gogo i drae. Tufala i go stret long wan riva we i gat wan bigfala raon ston blong mun.

Tufala i go foldaon long reva ia mo tufala i daeva i go andanit long bigfala mun ston ia. Taem tufala i stap ia, hit blong san i nomo strong from mun i stat blong girap nao. San i folem riva mo i go draon long solwora, mun i girap i talem long tufala gel ia i se,"Yutufala mas go kwik long haos."

Bae yutufala i go slip wetem faea. Tufala gel ia i go hom long vilej, mo mekem faea mo silip wetem.

Long naet taem oli silip, mun i girap i kam i laet tru long haos blong man we i putum ston blong san- Mun i kam tru insaed long haos blong em.

I mekem man ia i kolkol nogud i no save wanem blong i mekem. Faea i no save laet. Ston we emi bonem i kolkol gud. Emi kolkol tumas mo sem taem i fraet blong lukluk mun insaed long haos blong em, mo emi ded long nekis moning. Ol gel oli girap oli singaot san bakegen be i nomo kam strong.

Tedei oli stap yusum yet singsing ia blong singaotem san taem oli kolkol tumas.

Kolkol = Cold
Moning = Morning
Lukaotem = Look for
Faenem = To Find
San = Sun
Saen = Shine
Sidaon = Sit down
Antap = ontop
Lukluk = To see
Singsing = Singing
Bonem = To Burn
Ston = Stone

Drae = Dry
Girap = Get up
Hot = Hot
Gel = Girl
Insaed = Inside
Medel = Middle
Haed = Hide
Andanit = Under
Mun = Moon
Hit = Heat
Riva = River
Draon = Drown

Slip = Sleep
Hom = Home
Vilej = Village
Naet = Night
Faea = Fire
Laet = light
Fraet = Afraid
Ded = Dead
Singaotem = To call

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Unit 12: VERBS AND VERB ENDINGS

In Bislama the main verb endings are **-IM**, **-UM** and **-EM**. You will recognize quite a few Bislama verbs that use these endings.

12.1 Examples of Verb Endings

IM		**UM**		**EM**	
Bislama	**English**	**Bislama**	**English**	**Bislama**	**English**
Digim	*To dig*	Kukum	*To cook*	Raetem	*To write*
Switim	*To sweeten*	Putum	*To put*	Wantem	*To want*
Livim	*To leave*	Rusum	*To roast*	Berem	*To bury*
Givim	*To give*	Pulum	*To pull*	Stonem	*To stone*
Ridim	*To read*	Sutum	*To shoot*	Katem	*To cut*

General Rules for Verb Endings:

- When a verb has an **I** as the second or third letter, then it is most likely that it will have an ***IM*** ending.
- When a verb has **U** as the second or third letter, then it is most likely that it will have ***UM*** ending.
- When a verb has an **A**, **E** or **O** as the second or third letter in a word, then it is most likely that it will have an ***EM*** ending.

12.2 Examples of Verb Ending Usage

- Mi digim sam yam long karen yestedei.
  I dug up some yam at the garden yesterday.

- Mi switim ti blong mi wetem suga.
  I've sweeten my tea with sugar.

- Bae mi kukum wan sospen raes.
  I will cook a pot of rice.

- Man ia i sutum wan bigfala pig long karen blong hem.
  That man shot a large pig at his garden.

- Mi wantem kakae taro.
  I want to eat taro.

- Yu katem han blong yu wetem jenso.
  You cut your hand with chainsaw.

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EXERCISES #12

A. *Using IM, EM and UM give the following verbs their appropriate verb endings.*

i. Hol _____ *(To hold)*

ii. Kil_____ *(To hit)*

iii. Kas _____ *(To catch)*

iv. Fid _____ *(To feed)*

v. Huk_____ *(To hook)*

vi. Pul _____ *(To pull)*

vii. Put _____ *(To put)*

viii. Nil_____ *(To nail)*

ix. Rus _____ *(To roast)*

x. Tek _____ (*To take)*

B. *Use the following verbs (one time each) to translate the sentences below into Bislama.*

mekem stilim wantem kilim kukum putum ronem digim hukum pusum

1. *Judy makes a big meal.*

2. *The dog chases the children.*

3. *Solo caught a bonito.*

4. *He hit me.*

5. *They pushed the truck.*

6. *Sarah puts the basket on the table.*

7. *I am cooking the rice.*

8. *I want this book.*

9. *That boy stole some money.*

10. *Paul digs a big hole.*

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C. *Connect the following verb beginnings with their correct endings.*

VERBS	**ENDINGS**
Muv	im
Kas	um
Jus	em
Faen	um
Nil	em
Rus	im
Klos	um
Kis	em
Wip	em

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DIALOG 6

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LONG WO

Long 1942 olgeta man Amerika oli kam long Vanuatu blong faetem ol man Japan we oli bin wantem ronem yumi evriwan long saed ia long Saot Pasifik. Pita emi stap storian wetem bubu blong em, mo tufala i storian long taem ia, taem we foti yia i pas finis.

Pita: Olsem wanem, bubu, long taem blong bigfala faet blong Wol WoTu?

Billy: Taem ia emi gud tumas.Oli kam askem mifala blong mifala i givhan long ol man Amerika.

Pita: Wanem wok blong yufala ol man Vanuatu?

Billy: Long Efate mifala i bin joen wetem olgeta blong mekem rod i go raon long aelan ia kasem narasaed.

Pita: Oli talem se yufala i bin wok long Santo tu. I tru?

Billy: Em ia nao. Mifala samfala i bin stap wok long Santo tu, blong mekem plante eafil mo plante narafala samting.

Pita: Taem ia i gat hamas man?

Billy: Oh, Pita, mi no save gud. Ating maet i gat klosap faef handred taosen man i kam long Vanuatu blong faetem olgeta blong Japan.

Pita: Olsem wanem? I gat man Amerika nomo i bin kam helpem yufala?

Billy: No. I gat samfala man Ostrelia mo samfala man Niu Silan oli bin stap tu.

Pita: Olsem wanem, i gat plante sip mo plen i stap long Vanuatu long wo?

Billy: Kas, Pita, i gat plante plen long taem ia. Long faed blong eafil, long Efate i gat tri, mo long Santo oli talem se i gat faef.

Pita: Mi sapraes tumas. Be ating ol man Japan oli no bin kam long Vanuatu long wo

Billy: Tru ia. Samfala nomo oli bin sakem bom, mo oli bin kilim wan buluk long taon blong Santo.

Pita: I gud olsem.

Billy: Yes, olgeta man Japan oli stat kamdaon long Vanuatu, be ol man Amerika oli bin blokem rod blong olgeta long Solomon nomo. Oli no save kam spoelem laef blong yumi.

Pita: Tenkiu tumas bubu. Mifala ol yangfala i no save tumas long ol storian ia,

DURING THE WAR

In 1942 the Americans came to Vanuatu to fight the Japanese who wanted to chase out all of us here in the South Pacific. Pita is yarning with his grandfather, and the two of them are talking about that time, forty years ago.

Pita: What was it like, Grandad, the time of that big fight that they call World War Two?

Billy: That was a very good time. They came and asked us to help the Americans.

Pita: What work did you ni-Vanuatu do?

Billy: In Efate we joined with them to build the road that goes round to the other side of the island.

Pita: They say you worked in Santo too. Is that right?

Billy: That's right. Some of us worked in Santo too, making several air-strips and plenty of other things.

Pita: How many men were there then?

Billy: Oh, Pita, 1 don't know very well. I think there may have "been 500,000 men who came to Vanuatu to fight the Japanese.

Pita: How was it? Were there only Americans who came to help us?

Billy: No. Some Australians and New Zealanders were here too.

Pita: Were there many ships and planes in Vanuatu during the war?

Billy: Gosh, Pita, there were many planes. As for airstrips, on Efate there were three, while on Santo, they say, there were five.

Pita: I'm very surprised. But I thought theJapanese didn't come to Vanuatu during the war.

Billy: That's true. There were just some bombing raids; which only killed a cow in Santo town.

Pita: That's good.

Billy: Yeah, the Japanese began to come to Vanuatu, but the Americans stopped them in the Solomons. They couldn't come to destroy our lives.

Pita: Thank you very much, Grandad. We young people don't know much about this.

VOCABULARY

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BISLAMA	ENGLISH	BISLAMA	ENGLISH
Blokem	Prevent, block	Bom	Bomb
Delaet	Daylight	Disemba	December
Dina	Midday meal	Doa	Door
Dota	Daughter	Draevem	Drive
Draon	Sink, drown	Eafil	Airfield
Eli	Early	En	End
Eprel	April	Evriwan	Everyone
Fasin	Way/manner/style	Februari	February
Fiuja	Future	Fraede	Friday
Helpem	Help	Jenuwari	January

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Unit 13: ADDITIONAL VERBS

13.1 Verbs Not Using Common Endings

Some Bislama verbs do not end with **-EM**, **-IM** or **–UM**. For example -

Bislama	English	Bislama	English
Swim	*To swim/ to bath*	Gat	*To have*
Toktok	*To talk*	Sitdaon	*To sit (down)*
Dring	*To drink*	Lukaot	*To watch/look out*
Lego	*To let go*	Kakae	*To eat*
Krae	*To cry*	Pleiplei	*To play*
Save	*To know*	Flae	*To fly*
Stanap	*To stand (up)*	Draev	*To drive*

13.2 Example Sentences

Bislama	English
Hem i go **swim** long solwota.	*He/she is **swimming/bathing** in the sea.*
Sipos yu no **kam** mbae mi krae.	*If you don't **come** I will cry.*
Mi wantem **dring** wan kokakola.	*I want to **drink** a Coca Cola.*
Mifala i **stap stanap** long wan tebol.	*We **are standing** on a table.*
Yumi **stap sitdaon** long kras.	*You and I **are sitting** on the grass.*
Olgeta i **kakae** fis long las naet.	*They **ate** fish last night.*
John i stap **toktok** long Pita.	*John is **speaking/talking** to Peter.*
Julie i **talem** se yu no mas fraet.	*Julie **said**, don't be afraid.*
Yu no mas **lego** stia blong trak taem yu draef.	*Don't **let go** of the truck's steering when you are driving.*
Mi **save** man ia long wei.	*I **know** that man over there.*
Mi **gat** wan trak olsem.	*I **have** a truck like this/that.*

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Lukaot long drae kokonas taem yu wokabaot.	***Watch out*** *for dry (mature) coconuts when you are walking.*

EXERCISES #13

A. *What are the English meanings of the following Bislama verbs?*

i. Stanap _____

ii. Ron _____

iii. Singsing _____

iv. Kakae _____

v. Krae _____

vi. Foldaon _____

vii. Klaem _____

viii. Danis _____

ix. Flae _____

x. Pleiplei _____

B. *Match the following Bislama sentences to their correct English equivalent.*

i.Olgeta pikinini i kakae fis long Tusde. ii.Em i dring Kava oltaem. iii.Praem Minista i lego Vila long las wik. iv.Mi no luk yu long jioj. v.Mi no save man ia. vi.Olgeta oli no gat pensel.		*I don't know this/that man.* *They don't have pencils.* *All the children ate fish last week* *He drinks kava regularly.* *The Prime Minister left Vila last week.* *I didn't see you at church.*

C. *Write the verb from each of the sentences in "B" above on the lines below.*

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

iv. _____

v. _____

vi. _____

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D. *Translate the following sentences into bislama.*

i. Mark drove to Vila last night.

_____

ii. My brother cries every day.

_____

iii. She's smart.

_____

iv. The children like to play at the school.

_____

v. They drink kava every night.

_____

vi. What movie did you two watched last night?

_____

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COMPREHENSION 6

Read the following story and answer the following questions in English:

WOMAN BLONG BIGFALA STON

Long bigfala ston ia Nebagahu i gat wan man mo woman blong em, Nitivenpet. Woman ia i livim man blong em mo i go lukaotem Nempet. (Nempet emi wan rop we oli kakae rus blong em olsem chewing-gum).

Taem emi lukaot i kam long Lowoitembtemb, hemi faenem sam faol we oli waet be oli no fraet. Emi kirap i holem wan mo i karem i go bak blong tufala i kakae.

Long nara dei emi go lukaot nempet bakegen mo i kam long Lowoitembtemb. Emi faenem ol faol ia bakegen emi holem wan mo emi karem i go bak bakegen tufala i kakae.

Man we i stap fidim ol faol, i singaot ol faol blong em, be emi faenem se tu i lus finis. Nara dei woman ia i go bakegen, man blong em i talem se, “woman, yu stap wokabaot be yu no wokabaot i go longwei tumas. Lukaot yu stilim faol blong wan man.”

Emi se, “Wanem ia yu talem, mi stap ia nomo. Emia ol wael faol nomo ia".

Emi go digim nempet nao i kasem Lowoitembtemb i faenem ol faol ia bakegen, emi holem wan bakegen mo tekem i go bak. Man blong em i se, "woman, yu kam wea?" Emi se, "Yu no toktok." Emi kilim faol mo tufala kakae.

Long nara dei emi go bakegen, man ia i haed finis mo i wajem ol faol blong em. Taem emi lukluk gogo emi luk Nembagahu.

Woman ia i go nao i kilim faol ia mo man blong em i se, “woman, yu stap tekem ol faol ia wea?” Woman blong em i se,"Ol wael faol nomo ia.” Emi katem mo i mekem laplap blong em. Taem emi putum long hol finis bigfala ren mo win i blo, mo san i saen.

Man ia i girap long Lowoitembtemb mo i sutum aro blong em i foldaon long Lorhbunwoi mo i singsing: "Nitivenpet e kivedor mene - ran bagaru, ran bagaru."

Taem emi singsing, hed blong faol ia i singaot long laplap long hol, "Ko ko wa Ku." Man ia i harem i talem se,“woman, yu harem wanem ia.” Emi se, "Yu no luk ol faol, oli singaot long ol wud blong faenem ples blong slip blong olgeta."

Man ia i tekem aro blong em mo i sutum i go foldaon long Labo. Mo emi singsing, "Nitivenpet e kivedor mene - ran bagaru, ran bagaru."

Foldaon = Fall
Flas = Flash(y)
Tedei = Today
Sugabag = Bee
Mekem = To do
Noes = Noice
Flawa = Flower
Tri = Tree/Three
Aotsaed = Outside

Nakamal = Meeting area
Talem se = To say
Longwei = Far
Spoelem = To spoil
Wael = Wild
Digim = To dig
Holem = To hold
Kilim = To kill/hit
Olfala = Old

Livim = To leave
Rus = Roots
Lukaot = To look for
Faenem = To find
Faol = Chicken
Fraet = Afraid
Kakae = To eat
Fidim = Feeding
Singaot = To call
Lus = Loose/ Lost

Tekem = To take
Wea = Where
Katem = To cut
Bigfala = Big
Girap = To get up
Sutum = To shoot
Ara = Arrow
Singsing = To sing
Wud = Wood
Slip = Sleep

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Faol i singaot: “Ko Ko wa Ku”. Taem emi Sut bakegen i foldaon long e.....

Olfala man ia i se, "Olfala, oltaem yu stap flas. Tedei, mbae yu save -- yu harem wanem ia?"

Emi se, “Wanem ia?” Emia ol sugabag nomo, oli mekem nois long flawa blong tri aotsaed."

Olfala man i se, "Yu stap ia mi go long Nakamal nao." Emi go long Nakamal, woman ia nomo i stap.

Man ia i sut bakegen aro i foldaon long bigfala ston ia, win i blo, i ren smol mo san i saen. Man ia emi singaot bakegen afta faol i singaot.

Olfala woman i harem i fraet tumas emi seksek, emi stap silip klosap long faea. Man ia i sut bakegen. Aro i foldaon long doa. Faol i singaot. Man ia i kam tru mo i singaot pupu yu stap. Emi se, “No, gran san mi sik tumas. Bambae yu no save kam ensaed.” Man ia i se, “Mi stap harem se yu sik, mo mi stap kam blong visitem yu.”

Olfala woman i singaot se, "Mi sik, mi sik, tumas." Man ia i se,"Yu sik tumas, be wanem ia i stap singaot, long hol ia." Emi se, "Gran san mi mi sik, pupu blong yu ia i go karem faol ia sam ples i kam." Man ia i girap i go insaed, mo i kilim woman ia. Emi singaot se,”Wei Kaderis Hunke Kaeri Sunke.”

Emi girap i go from olfala man long nakamel. Taem emi go olfala man i mekem sem samting we olfala woman i talem.

Man ia i girap i go insaed, i kilim em tu.

Emi pikimap ol bun blong ol faol blong em mo karem i go bak long Lowoitembtemb. Emia i mekem se ol faol i tabu long Lowoi temb temb tedei.

Ston = Stone
Win = Wind/win
Blu = To blow
Ren = Rain
San = Sun
Saen = Shine
Seksek = Shake
Sik = Sick
Gransan = Grandson
Pupu = Grandfather

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Comprehension questions:

1. From wanem ol faol ia oli no fraet?

2. Wanem i mekem faol i singaot long hol long laplap?

3. Sipos woman i harem toktok blong man

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Unit 14: CONNECTIVE WORDS

The most frequently used Bislama connective words are:

14.1 Common Connective Words

Bislama	English
Be	*But*
Mo	*And*
No/o	*Or*
Nao	*Now/so/and/therefore/then*
Se	*So that/whether/that*
We	*Which/that*
Wetem	*With*
Afta	*After/and/then/afterwards/later*
Tu	*Also/too*
Ale	*Alright*

14.2 Other Connective Words

Bislama	English	Bislama	English
Afta nao	*After that/then/before*	From	*Because*
Sipos	*If*	From se	*Because of*
Sipos no	*If not/otherwise/or else*	From we	*Because of*
Finis	*Then/after that*	Taem we	*When*
Bihaen	*Later, afterwards*	Taem se	*When*
Semtaem	*At the same time/while*	Ko kasem	*Up to/until*
Taswe	*That's why;so;therefore;thus*	Olsem	*Like this/that;for instance;like*
I mekem se	*So/therefore*		

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14.2 Examples of Usage of Connective Words

Beverly i no kam yestedei **from se** hem i go long jioj.
*Beverly did not come yesterday **because** she went to church.*

Nixon i go long taon **afta nao** hemi tes kam long wok.
*Nixon went to town **then** came to work.*

Patrick i ron **ko kasem** Fres Wota; **afta** i stap.
*Patrick ran **until** he arrived at Fresh Water **then** stopped.*

Mi harem se yu sik **taswei** mi kam.
*I heard that you were sick **that's why** I came.*

EXERCISES #14

A. *Choose connective word(s) that best complete the following sentences.*

i. Roger i talem long polis _____ olsem wanem trak blong Pis Kop i kasem aksiden.
   a. afta
   b. tu
   c. se
   d. ale

i. Mama blong mi i tekem brata blong mi i go long klinik _____hemi kasem Malaria.
   a. from se
   b. taswe
   c. nao
   d. bihaen

iii. _____ i no gat ren tedei, bae yu go long karen _____ papa blong mi.
   a. Bae, sapos
   b. Be, wetem
   c. Afta, mo
   d. Sapos, wetem

i. Yu kam long sip _____ long plen?
   a. wetem
   b. from
   c. o
   d. nao

i. Bislama emi nasonal lanwis blong Vanuatu; _____ yumi lanem Bislama.
   a. ale
   b. taswe
   c. be
   d. from

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A. *Connect these Bislama words to their English translations.*

BISLAMA		***ENGLISH***
O		*But*
From se (we)		*When*
Sapos		*Because of*
Wetem		*If*
Afta		*Also/ Too*
Mo		*Or*
Taem se (we)		*With*
Be		*Which/ That*
Tu		*And*
Sapos		*Then/ Afterwards*

Homework:

With a partner create a dialog using the words you learned today to be presented to the class tomorrow.

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DIALOG 7

LONG POST OFIS

Postofis i stap long medel blong Port Vila, klosap long of is blong Air Vanuatu. Plante man i kam long ples ia evri dei from we, sipos man i wantem kasem leta, emi mas kam luk long bokis blong leta long post ofis nomo. Jems emi kam blong pem stam blong leta blong sendem leta i go long Ostrelia. Hemi faenem fren blong em, Pol.

Pol: Olsem wanem, Jems, I gud?

Jemes: I gud nomo, Pol. Yu go wea?

Pol: Mi kam blong lukaot leta blong angkel. Emi raetem nius blong vilej blong mi long Lamap.

Jems: Mi kam blong pem stam nomo. Mi raetem wan leta finis i go long tawian blong mi; naoia mi raetem wan moa bakegen.

Pol: Emi stap yet long Ambae?

Jemes: Emia nao. Emi stap wokem kopra. Emi no save wokbaot long Vila olsem yumi.

Pol: Jems, mi no luk yu long lafet long katedral long las Sande. Emi gud tumas. Tim blong Lamap i bin winim kompetisin blong danis.

Jemes: Yes, mi no kam long lafet ia from we woman blong mi emi harem nogud. Klosap taem blong emi bonem pikinini.

Pol: Yes, mi save finis we emi gat bel.

Jemes: Oraet fren, mi go bak nao long Tagabe. Mi wantem traem faenem wan samting long B.P. long Tebakor.

Pol: Wanem samting?

Jemes: Mi wantem luk praes blong wan jenso blong tekem i go long Ambae taem mi spel.

Pol: Kas! Emi wan gudfala samting blong katem ol bigfala wud, be praes i sas tumas.

Jemes: Tru ia, be kopretiv blong Nduindui emi wantem wan blong rentem nomo.

Pol: Oraet, Jemes, ating bos blong mi i stap wet long mi long ofis. Sipos mi no hariap blong go bak, bae emi kros we i kros.

Jemes: Mi glad tumas long storian blong yumi.

AT THE POST OFFICE

The Post Office is in the middle of Port Vila, near the Air Vanuatu office. Many people come there every day because if you receive mail you must come and lget it from one of mail boxes at the post office. James comes to buy stamps for the letter he is sending to Australia. There he finds his friend, Paul.

Paul: How are things, James, all right?

James: All right thanks, Paul. Where are you going?

Paul: I've come to pick up a letter from my uncle. He has sent news of my village in Lamap.

James: I've just come to buy stamps. I wrote a letter to my brother-in-law; now I'm writing him another one.

Paul: Is he still on Ambae?

James: That's right. He's making copra. He can't be in Vila like us just doing nothing.

Paul: James, I didn't see you at the Cathedral celebration last Sunday. It was really good. The Lamap team won the dancing competition.

James: Yes, I didn't come to the feast as my wife wasn't feeling well. She's about to have a baby.

Paul: Yes, I already know that she is pregnant.

James: All right, friend, I'm going back to Tagabe. I want to try to find something at B.P. Tebakor.

Paul: What thing?

James: I want to check out the price of a chainsaw to take to Ambae when I take vacation.

Paul: Gosh! That's a good tool for cutting heavy timber, but the price is too expensive.

James: Yes, but the Nduindui co-operative needs one to rent out.

Paul: All right, James. I think my boss is waiting for me at the office. If I don't hurry up and go back he'll be really cross.

James: Very pleased to talk to you.

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Unit 15: MONTHS, WEEKS, DAYS AND AGES

English names do not change when translated to Bislama. Likewise, names of Months, Weeks, Days and Ages remain largely unchanged with the exception of their spelling.

15.1 Months

English	Bislama
January	Januari
February	Februari
March	Maj
April	Eprel
May	Mei
June	Jun
July	Julae
August	Okis
September	Septemba
October	Oktoba
November	Novemba
December	Disemba

15.2 Relative Time

English	Bislama
Last week	Las wik
Next week	Nekis wik
After next week	Afta nekis wik
Tomorrow	Tumoro
Today	Tedei
Afternoon	Aftenun
Last month	Las manis
Morning	Moning
Last year	Las yia
Last Monday	Las mandei

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15.3 Days

English	Bislama
Monday	Mande
Tuesday	Tusde
Wednesday	Wenesde
Thursday	Tosde
Friday	Fraede
Saturday	Sarede
Sunday	Sande

15.4 Questions Relating to Date and Age

Bislama	English
Yu bon long wanem yea?	*What year were you born?*
Yu gat hamas yia?	*How old are you?*
Yu bon long wanem manis?	*What month were you born?*
Thu Yu bon long wanem manis?	*What day and time were you born?*
Friday	*Fraede*
Saturday	*Sarede*
Sunday	*Sande*

15.5 Dialog Relating to Date and Age

A: Yu bon long wanem yia?
What year were you born?

B: Mi bon long 1976.
I was born in 1976.

A: Yu bin bon long wanem manis?
What month were you born?

B: Mi bin bon long manis blong Okis.
I was born on the month of August.

A: Yu bin bon long wanem dei mo taem stret?
What exact day and time were you born?

B: Mi bin bon long wan fraedei, long tu o'klok long moning.
I was born on a Friday at two in the morning.

A: Tank yu tumas blong strian wetem mi.
Thank you very much for chatting with me.

B: I oraet nomo, ale.
It was good, bye!

A: Ale, ta ta.
Good-bye

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EXERCISES #15

A. *Answer the following questions in Bislama (regarding yourself)*

i. Yu bon long wanem yia?
_____

ii. Yu bin bon long wanem manis?
_____

iii. Yu bin bon long wanem dei mo taem stret?
_____

iv. Sista blong yu I bon long wanem yia?
_____

v. Brata blong yu I bon long wanem manis?
_____

B. *Find the Bislama names of the months and days in the following grid. The words in the grid are -*

MONTHS	**DAYS**
Januari	Mande
Februari	Tusde
Maj	Wenesde
Eprel	Tosde
Mei	Fraede
Jun	Sarede
Julae	Sande
Okis	
Septemba	
Disemba	

J	A	M	I	G	V	E	X	D	N
I	A	T	R	Z	A	F	Q	I	C
E	I	N	A	L	M	C	W	S	T
D	E	O	U	M	E	I	N	E	O
N	D	J	R	A	P	O	U	M	S
A	N	T	B	P	R	K	J	B	D
S	A	R	E	D	E	I	C	A	E
W	M	Q	F	S	L	S	Z	U	D
X	F	R	A	E	D	E	I	T	S
A	B	M	E	T	P	E	S	R	U
W	E	N	E	S	D	E	I	Y	T

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COMPREHENSION 7

Read the following story and answer the following questions in Bislama:

NELARASEMPE GIAAU RANBAGE
(NEM BLONG OL MAN I DANIS LONG NABAGA)

I gat wan olfala woman emi wantem mekem lafet be i no gat mit blong em. I gat sam man oli mekem kakae blong faev dei. Everi dei oli sanem wan wan man i go from solwota. Ol famli ia nem blong olgeta emi Nelarosempe.

Olfala woman ia i save se kakae blong olgeta i stat nao, emi digim popile mo i greitem long ol han blong nambanga mo i digim hol ananit long nambanga. Taem wan man i kam emi blokem rod mo singaot "Yu kam kakae laplap." Taem man ia i kam emi askem em blong i danis bifo i kakae laplap from emi wantem luk. Taem man ia i go antap long han blong Nambanga olfala i singsing,

"Nelarasempe giaau Ranbage i o'Nelarasempe giaau Ranbage, Nelarasempe giaau Ranbage."

Man ia i danis long han blong nambaga ia i glis long popile mo i foldaon i go insaed long hol.

Ol famli oli wet go go emi nomo kambak. Oli girap oli kakae finis oli silip.

Nara dei oli sanem nara wan i go be sem samting i happen long em.

Woman ia i winim fo man finis i stap long hol, emi glad blong mekem lafet nao.

Long las dei wan las brata i askem blong go long solwora. Emi karem bambu blong solwora mo banana blong em. Taem emi go, woman ia i blokem em, emi se,"Yu kam kakae laplap." Man ia i se, "No gat mi mi no hangri." Emi se "Yu kam, mi stap mekem gudfala kakae blong yu nomo from mi save se bambae yu kam tedei."

Man ia i folem em. Tufala i go mo woman ia i se, "Yu danis smol afta bambae yu jas kakae."

Woman ia i singsing blong man ia i danis. Emi sing sing be man ia i danis i stap jamjam nomo long ol han blong nambaga ia.

Man ia i folem em. Tufala i go nao woman ia i se, "Yu danis smol afta bambae yu jas kakae."

Woman ia i singsing blong man ia i danis. Emi sing sing be man ia i danis i stap jamjam nomo long ol han blong nambaga ia.

Man ia i girap i singsing mo danis tu. Emi singsing se,

"Nelarandes e sisigo - ran base. Nelarandes e sisigo - ran base. Nelarandes e sisigo - ran base."

Woman ia i singsing mo man ia sing sing. Man ia i danis gogo i girap i jam daon be i mestem hol ia nomo.

Taem woman ia i reses i kam blong pusum em long hol ia, man ia emi girap nao i kilim woman ia. I 1uk1uk i faenem ol brata blong em nao i tekem olgeta i go bak bakegen long haos.

Olfala = Old
Lafet = Feast
Kakae = food
Faev = Five
Sanem = to send
Solwota = Sea
Famali = Family
Nem = Name
Save = Knows
Digim = to dig

Salem = to sell
Hol = Hole
Antanit = Under
Blokem = Blocked
Rod = Road
Askem = to ask
Wet = Wait
Slip = to sleep
Nara dei = Another Day
Winim = to win
Glad = Glad

Las = Last
Brata = Brother
Bambu = Bamboo
Banara = Bow & arrow
Hangri = Hungry
Gudfala = Very Nice

Folem = to follow
Tufala = two of them
Danis = Dance
Kakae = to eat
Jamjam = Jumpping
Han = Hand

Comprehension questions:

1. From wanem woman ia i giaman long ol man?
2. Wanem i mekem las man i save trik blong woman ia?

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Unit 16: STAP

In Bislama, ***stap*** is used as -

(1) A verb:

Stap can mean '*to be at*, '*to stay*', '*to stay at*' and '*to live*'.

(2) A marker denoting ongoing/continuous action:

When **stap** is used in this way in sentences, an action is currently taking place or ongoing.

16.1 Stap as a Verb

Bislama	English
Kaekae i stap long tebol.	*The food is on the table.*
Pita i stap long Malekula.	*Peter is in Malekula.*
Pita i stap stap long Malekula.	*Peter lives on Malekula.*
Yu bin stap wea?	*Where were you?/Where have you been?*
Anna i stap wetem mi.	*Anna stays with me.*
Anna i stap stap wetem mi.	*Anna lives with me.*
Patrick i stap wea?	*Where is Patrick?*
Patrick i stap stap wetem Lance.	*Patrick lives with Lance.*
Yu go bae mi stap.	*You go, I'll stay.*

Note: When 'stap stap' is used, the sentence means 'to live'.

16.2 Stap as a Marker Indicating Continuous Action

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Bislama	English
Yu stap kiaman.	*You are lying.*
Yu stap kiaman oltaem.	*You are lying all the time.*
Mi stap kakae.	*I am eating.*
Olgeta i stap long wan miting.	*They're in a meeting.*
Mifala i stap go long church.	*We are going to church.*

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EXERCISES #16

A. Describe the two different uses of the word **stap**.

i. _____

ii. _____

B. Translate these Bislama sentences into English.

i. Mi stap raetem wan leta blong mama blong mi.

_____

ii. Kakae blong yu i stap long tebol.

_____

iii. Em i stap kuk.

_____

iv. Mi stap long Amerika. Haus blong mi i stap long siti blong Chicago.

_____

v. Basket blong yu i stap long Eapot.

_____

C. *Write three sentences, each sentence using a different meaning of* ***stap****?*

i. _____

_____

ii. _____

_____

iii. _____

_____

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WOKBAOT LONG VANUATU

Long Vanuatu i gat klosap wan handred aelan. Olgeta turis oli save wokbaot long kantri ia, be i gat hotel long trifala aelan nomo, long Efate, long Tanna, mo long Santo. Long Santo i gat samfala sanbij we oli gud tumas. Be long aelan ia i no gat tumas turis from we Santo emi stap longwei lelebet long Vila. Misis Jones emi kambak long Santo. Emi storian wetem haos gel blong em.

Mrs J: Mifala i laekem Santo tumas, from we i no gat tumas man i wokbaot long taon.

Evelin: Oli talem se i gat plante man bus long Santo. Oli putum kaliko nomo.

Mrs J: Mi luk tufala nomo long Kanal (Luganville) we oli putum kaliko.

Evelin: Yufala i stap long Kanal nomo?

Mrs J: Mifala i rentem wan trak blong wokbaot raon. Mifala i wokbaot go kasem Hog Harbour long is Santo.

Evelin: Ples ia emi olsem wanem?

Mrs J: Emi gud tumas. Sanbij blong ples ia emi waet we i waet. Mifala i neva luk wan sanbij olsem bifo.

Evelin: Oli talem se rod i go kasem Pot Lori.

Mrs J: Emia true, Evelin. Ol man Amerika oli bin wokem rod ia long wo.

Evelin: Ating oli mekem wan niufala rod finis, i go long Big Bay.

Mrs J: Tru ia, be mifala i no go long em. Afta, long is Santo, mifala i go long Saot Santo.

Evelin: Yufala i go wea long saed ia long saot?

TRAVEL IN VANUATU

In Vanuatu there are nearly a hundred islands. Tourists may travel around the country, but there are hotels on only three islands, Efate, Tanna and Santo. In Santo there are some very good beaches. However, on that island there are not many tourists since Santo is some distance form Vila. Mrs Jones has come back from Santo. She is talking to her housegirl.

Mrs J: We liked Santo very much, because there weren't too many people in the town.

Evelin: They say there are plenty of bush men in Santo. They just wear a loincloth.

Mrs J: I saw only two in Santo town wearing just a loin-cloth.

Evelin: Did you just stay in the town?

Mrs J: We rented a car to drive about around.We travelled as far as Hog Harbour in east Santo.

Evelin: What's that place like?

Mrs J: Very nice. The beach there is as white as can be. We'd never seen a beach like it before.

Evelin: They say the road goes as far as Port Olry.

Mrs J: It's true, Evelin. The Americans made the road during the War.

Evelin: I think they've already made a new road to Big Bay.

Mrs J: That's right, but we went on to South Santo after East Santo.

Evelin: Whereabouts did you go in the South?

DIALOG 8

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Mrs J: Mifala i draev long rod go kasem Tangoa. Mifala i go luk Baebol Kolej long smol aelan. Oli statem skul ia wan handred yia i pas finis.

Evelin: Yes, samfala pasta blong mifala long Paama oli go long skul long Tangoa.

Mrs J: Mifala i glad tumas long trip ia. Maet yu save kam samtaem.

Evelin: Yes, mi laekem, be ating mane blong mi i no inaf blong pem rod blong mi.

Mrs J: Sapos yu stap yet long nekis yia, bambae mi traem askem man blong mi blong emi pem rod blong yumi evriwan long haos.

Mrs J: We drove on the road to Tangoa. We saw the Bible College on the small island. The school there was started over a hundred
years ago.

Evelin: Yes, some of our own pastors from Paama did their studies on Tangoa.

Mrs J: We were very pleased with this trip. Maybe you can come sometime.

Evelin: Yes, I would like to, but I don't think I've enough money to travel.

Mrs J: If you're still here next year, I'll try and ask my husband to pay for everyone in the house.

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Unit 17: OLSEM

Olsem occurs very frequently in spoken and written Bislama and is similar to *"like"* in English. It has a wide range of related meanings and uses which include the following:

17.1 "Like" or "Such as"

i.	Hem i silip **olsem** faol nomo.	*He sleeps just **like** a chicken.*
ii.	Hem i wokbaot **olsem** krab nomo.	*He walks just **like** a crab.*
iii.	Hem i danis **olsem** Michael Jackson nomo.	*He dances just **like** Michael Jackson.*

17.2 "To be as if"

When **olsem** occurs filling the verb slot in the sentence it can be translated "to be as if."

i.	Hem i **olsem** i kakae 10 kilo raes.	*It was **as if** he ate 10 kilos of rice.*
ii.	Hem i **olsem** i dring 10 sel kava.	*It was **as if** he drank 10 shells of kava.*
iii.	Hem i **olsem** i danis delaet.	*It was **as if** he danced till daylight.*

17.3 "Just as" or "As"

When **olsem** occurs as a connecting clauses it can be translated "just as" or "as."

i. **Olsem** mi talem finis, yu no save kakae fis ia.
   Just as/Just like *I've said, you cannot eat this fish.*
ii. Mi kambak ***olsem*** papa i bin talem.
   *I came back **as** dad said.*

In this type of usage, **olsem** is often followed by **we** and can be expanded to **stret olsem we** which is then translated "exactly as."

i.	Mi wokem **olsem we** yu askem.	*I did it **as** you asked.*
ii.	Mi wokem **stret olsem we** yu askem	*I did **exactly as** you asked.*
iii.	Mi mekem **olsem we** yu talem.	*I did **as** you said.*

17.4 "Like this" or "Like that"

Olsem translates "like this" or "like that" when used adverbially in a short sentence.

i.	Joyce i toktok **olsem.**	*Joyce spoke **like this**.*
ii.	Hem i mekem **olsem**.	*He/She did it **like this**.*

In this type of usage, **olsem** is often followed by **nomo** for emphasis and is translated "just like that."

i.	Hem i foldaon **olsem nomo.**	*He fell down **just like that**.*
ii.	Rebecca i singaot **olsem nomo.**	*Rebecca screamed **just like that**.*

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17.5 "Like that" or "Like the one previously"

When **Olsem** is used as a noun modifier it means '"like that," "like the one previously referred to" or "the same as the one previously referred to."

i.	Wan trak **olsem**.	*A car **like that**.*
ii.	Wan man **olsem.**	*A man **like that**.*
iii.	Wan haos **olsem** haos ia.	*A house **like this/that** one.*
iv.	Mi wantem wan **olsem**.	*I want one **like this**.*

17.6 "For example"

i. Yu save kasem wan fis, **olsem** wan bonito.
*You can catch a fish, **for example** a Tuna.*

ii. **Olsem**, yu save pem wan long sto.
***For example**, you can buy one at the store.*

17.7 Olsem Wanem Meaning "How"

Perhaps the most frequently encountered use of **olsem** is in the interrogative form "Olsem wanem" meaning '*How*'.

i.	**Olsem wanem** long yu?	***How*** are you?
ii.	Yu kam **olsem wanem**?	***How*** did you get here?
iii.	Yu filim/harem **olsem wanem**?	***How*** do you feel?

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EXERCISES #17

A. *Write the meaning of* ***olsem*** *in each of the following sentences*

i. Yu danis olsem wanem?_____

ii. Mi gat wan trak olsem._____

iii. Mi bin raetem olsem we yu bin talem._____

iv. Mi filim olsem bae mi sik._____

v. Olsem wanem long yu tedei?_____

vi. Yu katem olsem, afta yu kukum olsem._____

vii. Yufala I singsing olsem ol enjel nomo._____

viii. Tingting blong mi i semak olsem tingting blong yu._____

ix. Yu mekem samting ia olsem wanem?_____

x. Papa blong mi I gat wan bot olsem._____

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COMPREHENSION 8

Read the following story and answer the following questions in English:

DEVEL I KAREM W AN MAN WE I LAEF

Long windange i gat tu man i stap silip long naet long wan smol tapernakel, Wan i silip mo i toktok long silip blong em.

Ol devel oli wokbaot long rod long naet, oli harem, wan i askem se, "Wehem man ia we i stap mekem toktok olsem ia?"

Devel ia i askem bakegen i se, "Hu ia, fen blong man we i toktok?."

I harem nao i se, "long ples ia," ol devel i se, "we ia, we ia."

Man ia i girap i ron wei long fren blong em. Ol devel i kam, wan i se blong em. Tu i winim ol narafala. Man ia i silip long han blong pamtri. Tufala devel ia i go mo wan i stanap stret long hed wan long leg. Tufala i mekem man ia i silip i no mo harem wan samting.

Tufala i kavremap man ia long han bong pamtri mo tufala i karem i go wokabaot long rod, mo i singsing,

"Nesorho ti'ndange tilibone belelesuwor, belelesuwor."

Tufala i stap singsing mo, laf i go klosap long deilaet. Taem wan i stap singsing se,

"Nesorho t'ndange tilibone, belelesuwor belelesuwo".

Nara wan i singsing se,"Madagal sara, Madagal sara. II (I minim se man ia bambae i hangap samples).

Tufala i go gogo i sek nomo we wan lif i tajem sora blong man ia tufala i karem. Nao man ia i saksakem leg blong em insaed long han blong pamtri ia mo tufala i girap i sakem man ia long han blong wan tri. Man ia i stap hang antap.

Emi singaot ol fren blong hem b1ong oli kam. Tufala i fraet from delaet finis mo tufala i ron wei. Man ia i hang antap mo ol fren blong em oli jas karem em i kam daon. Oli mekem faea i smokem man ia, we devel i karem long naet.

Faea i smokem em mo mekem tingting blong em i kam gud bakegen.

Naet = Night
Smol = Small
Tumas = Too much
Harem = To hear
Askem = To Ask

Sek = Socked
Lif = Leaves
Sora = Ear
Saksakem = Shake
Sakem = To through
Fraet = Afriad

Delaet = day light
Ron Wei = Ran Away
Hangap = Hang up
Fren = Friend
Faea = Fire
Smokem = Smoking

Ron = To Run
Winim = To Win
Narafala = Others
Pamtri = Palm Tree
Stanap = To Stand
Hed = head

Leg = Leg
Kavremap = To cover up
Han blong pam tri = Palm tree branch

Comprehension questions:

1. From wanem ol devel i karem man ia?

2. Wanem i mekem fren blong em i ron wei?

3. Sipos i no dei laet kwik bambae i olsem wanem.

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VOCABULARY:

BISLAMA	ENGLISH	BISLAMA	ENGLISH
Anamol	Animal	Baebol	Bible
Berem	Bury	Bildem	Build
Draem	Dry	Evridei	Every day
Faen	Fine	Fanis	fence
Fiva	Fever	Gru	Grow
Hangri	Hungry	Jusum	Choose
Kaliko	Textile, loin cloth	Kanal	Santo
Kantri	Country	Faet	Fight
Krab	Crab	Lida	Leader
Maj	Match	Man bus	Pagan
Naef	Knife	Niuspepa	Newspaper
Pen	Paint	Pentem	Paint
Planem	Plant	Praes	Price
Praod	Proud	Raep	Ripe
Sakem	Throw (out)	Sapenem	Sharpen
Smelem	Smell	Stonem	Stone
Swea	Swear	Tajem	Touch
Tij	Teach	Tiket	Ticket
Wajem	Watch	Wokbaot	Travel, walk

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Unit 18: SAVE

Save has a variety of related meanings and is used as a noun, verb, and modifier. These are -

- To know
- Can, be able to, know how to
- Allowed to, may
- Commonly, usually
- Knowledge, expertise, awareness

18.1 To Know

i.	Mi ***save*** woman ia.	*I **know** this woman.*
ii.	Yu ***save*** fasin blong gel ia.	*I **know** this girl's attitude (or behavior or style).*
iii.	Oli no ***save***.	*They don't **know.***
iv.	Woman blong mi i ***save***.	*My wife **knows.***

18.2 Can, be able to, know how to

This use of ***save*** indicates competence or ability in performing an action. When used in this way, ***save*** is placed immediately before the verb.

Examples;

i.	Patrick i ***save*** daeva.	*Patrick **can/knows how to** dive.*
ii.	Pol i ***save*** composem singsing.	*Pol **can/is able to** compose songs.*
iii.	Rebecca i ***save*** kukum yam.	*Rebecca **knows** how to cook yam.*
iv.	Koran mbae i ***save*** kam.	*Koran will **be able to** come.*

18.3 Allowed to, may

i.	Julie i ***save*** go long danis.	*Julie **is allowed to** go to the dance.*
ii.	Ol woman oli no ***save*** go insaed.	*Women are not **allowed t**o go inside.*
iii.	Yu ***save*** kaekae laplap ia.	*You **may** eat this/that laplap.*

Note: The verb LETEM (to let) is used when indicating the granting of permission. For example -

i.	Police i ***letem*** olgeta i go.	*The police **let** them go.*
ii.	Pita i **letem** gel blong hem i maret.	*Peter **allowed** his daughter to marry.*

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18.4 Commonly, usually

This use of ***save*** indicates a habitual aspect to the trait described.

i. Jim i ***save*** kakae fis. *Jim **usually** eats fish.*
ii. Hem i ***save*** swe long woman blong hem. *He **commonly** swears at his wife.*

18.5 Knowledge, expertise, awareness, intelligence

i. Man ia i gat ***save***. *This/that man is **intelligent**.*
ii. Moli i ***save*** problem ia. *Moli **is aware**.of the problem.*
iii. Eimi hemi ***save*** mats gud. *Amy **knows a lot** about math.*

18.5 Use/meaning of No Save

No save is used as the negative of the all meanings of ***save***. The position of ***no save*** in a sentence is the same as ***save***.

i. Olgeta i ***no save*** singsing. *They **cannot** sing.*
ii. Olgeta i ***save*** singsing. *They **can** sing.*

iii. Yu ***no save*** kukum raes long sospen ia. *You **may not** cook rice in this pot.*
iv. Yu ***save*** kukum raes long sospen ia. *You **may** cook rice in this pot.*

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EXERCISES #18

A. *Translate the following sentences into English..*

i. I can climb a coconut tree.

_____

ii. Roger can fish and search for shells.

_____

iii. James is able to drive a car.

_____

iv. His/her brother is good at rugby.

_____

v. They can speak Bislama.

_____

vi. This/that boy is intelligent.

_____

vii. You (plural) can climb a coconut tree.

_____

viii. This/that girl can cook curry chicken.

_____

ix. Dorah can compose songs.

_____

x. This/that man usually hits his wife.

_____

B. *Now, write your translations using **no save**.*

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

iv. _____

v. _____

vi. _____

vii. _____

viii. _____

ix. _____

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x. _____

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DIALOG 9

LONG OSPITAL

Misis Jones emi luk pikinini blong em long rum blong slip. Pikinini ia emi harem nogud. Emi no save girap blong go long skul. Hed blong em i sohed mo ae blong em i hevi tumas. Emi gat fiva, wan sik we i kasem plante man long Vanuatu.

Mrs J: Evelin, ating bambae mi tekem Pol i go luk dokta long hospital. Emi harem nogud tumas.

Evelin: Wanem sik blong em Misis?

Mrs J: Hed blong em i olsem faea, mo semtaem bodi blong em i kolkol.

Evelin: Tru, emi fiva Misis. I gud yu tekem emi go long hospital blong oli stikim em.

[Taem oli kam long hospital i gat plante man oli stap wet long dokta.]

Mrs J: Evelin, ating olgeta ia oli stap wet blong luk dokta Spooner.

Evelin: Yes, Misis, ating klosap teti man i stap wet.

Mrs J: Pol i harem nogud tumas. Yu traem askem long nes blong emi kam luk fasteam. Maet emi save givim stik meresin.

Evelin: Oraet Misis, mi go luk.

Mrs J: Yu no stap longtaem tumas Evelin.

[Wan nes emi pas long klinik. Emi luk pikinini blong Misis Jones emi sik tumas.]

Mrs J: Nes, plis, yu save givim stik meresin blong kilim fiva blong pikinini blong mi?

Nas: Oraet Misis.Yu wet smol bae mi karem stik meresin i kam.

Mrs J: Nes emi kambak. Emi stikim Pol blong emi harem gud bakegen.

Evelin: Mi sori tumas long olgeta ia. Long manis ia i gat plante sik long Vila.

Nas: Oraet, mi stikim em finis. Yufala i mas tekem Nivakwin long evri wik long taem olsem, from i gat plante moskito naoia.

Mrs J: Yes nes, mi save, be mi no laekem givim tablet long tufalapikinini blong mi.

Nes: Sori be sapos yu wantem tufala I stap gud mo no kasem sik ia, yu mas givim

AT THE HOSPITAL

Mrs Jones looks at her child in the bedroom. The child is not feeling well. He cannot get up to go to school. He has a headache and his eyes are very heavy. He has malaria, an illness which strikes many people in Vanuatu.

Mrs J: Evelin,1 think I'll take Paul to see the doctor at the hospital. He is very sick.

Evelin: What's the matter with him?

Mrs J: His head is burning hot,and sometimes his body is very cold.

Evelin: That's malaria all right. It's a good idea for you to take him to the hospital for an injection.

[When they arrive at the hospital clinic there are lots of people waiting for the doctor.]

Mrs J: Evelin, I think all these people are waiting to see Dr Spooner.

Evelin: Yes, I thnk there's about thirty patients waiting there.

Mrs J: Paul is feeling very sick. Go and ask the nurse to come and have a look first. Maybe (s)he can give him an injection.

Evelin: All right, then. I'll go and see.

Mrs J: Don't be too long, Evelin.

[A nurse came through the clinic. (Saw that Mrs. Jones'child is very sick]

Mrs J: Nurse, please can you give an injection to help my child's fever?

Nurse: All right, wait here, I'll bring the syringe.

Mrs J: The nurse is back now. S/he will give Paull an injection to make him feel better.

Evelin: I pity these sick people here. There is a lot of sick cases in Vila this month.

Nurse: All right, I've given the injection. You must take Nivaquin every week during this time of the year as there's plenty of mosquitoes now.

Mrs J: Yes nurse, I know, but I don't like giving tablets to my two children.

Nurse: I'm sorry but if you want your children to stay healthy you'll have to give them the tablets.

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Unit 19: FINIS

The different uses of ***finis*** include a number of variations all related to something that has happened in the past.

19.1 To have accomplished (an action)

In this usage ***finis*** is placed at the end of the sentence and is translated "***have already***."

i.	Oli kaekae ***finis***.	*They **have already** eaten.*
ii.	Oli katem wud ***finis***.	*They **have already** cut the wood.*
iii.	Mi wasem ol plet ***finis***.	*I **have already** washed the plates.*
iv.	Emi pem kaon blong hem ***finis.***	*He/she **has already** paid his/her account.*

19.2 To have finished (a task)

To have finished a task is indicated by ***finis*** preceeding the verb to which it refers and is translated simply as "***finished***."

i.	Oli ***finis*** kakae	*They have **finished** eating.*
ii.	Pol i ***finis*** swim.	*Paul has **finished** bathing/swimming.*

19.3 Finisim - the transitive verb form

Finisim is translated as the appropriate for of the English infinitive "***to finish***" and also as its past tense - "***finished***."

i.	Ol gel i ***finisim*** evri kaekae.	*The girls **finished** all the food.*
ii.	Bae mi ***finisim*** was blong mi tumoro.	*I will **finish** my washing tomorrow.*
iii.	Jenny i ***finisim*** wok long karen.	*Jenny **finished** working in the garden.*

19.4 Then

Finis is used as a connective word translated as "***then***."

i.	Ken i brasem karen ***finis*** i bonem.	*Ken slashed the garden then he burned it.*
ii.	Oli somap klos ***finis*** oli wasem.	*They sewed the clothes then they washed them.*

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EXERCISES #19

A. *In the following sentences, indicate which of the four (4) categories of* ***finis*** *the sentence belongs to by putting the number 1,2,3 or 4 in the space provided.*

i. The girls have finished cooking the pork.
Category - _____

ii. The nurse has given the medication.
Category - _____

iii. Kenneth ironed the trousers then wore them.
Category - _____

iv. The rat ate all the cheese.
Category - _____

v. All the tickets have been sold.
Category - _____

vi. Cynthia has just finished bathing.
Category - _____

vii. We burned the bush then built a shelter.
Category - _____

viii. I have done the dishes.
Category - _____

ix. I will finish my washing tomorrow.
Category - _____

x. The dog stopped barking.
Category - _____

B. *Translate the sentences in "A" above into Bislama.*

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

iv. _____

v. _____

vi. _____

vii. _____

viii. _____

ix. _____

x. _____

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COMPREHENSION 9

Read the following story and answer the following questions in English:

WOMAN WE I MEKEM LAFET BLONG OL FAMLI BLONG EM

I gat wan woman long wan villij klosap long solwota, emi maret i go long medel blong aelan, long Venevet Marasing. Tufala i stap long Venevet Marasing gogo tufala harem toktok se, ankel blong woman ia i ded. Be man ia i no letem em i go. Emi krae nomo afta tufala i go long karen. Tufala i stap i no long taem mo harem se mama blong woam ia i sik. Mo i no long taem mama blong em i ded. Be i semak nomo, woman ia i sori nomo be i no save go.

I no long taem oli sanem toktok se, "Sista blong em i sik mo i no long taem em tu i ded. I no long taem brata blong em i sik, woman ia i se, emia las famli blong mi, bambae mi nomo save luk wan famli blong mi, mi mas go." Be man blong em i no letem em, emi se, "Sapos yu go bae ol man oli kilim yu tu." Brata blong em i ded tu. Tufala i stap yet i harem nius se papa blong em tu i sik; emi se, "Naoia mi mas go. Mi nomo gat wan famli i stap. Papa blong mi nomo i stap be hem tu i sik bakegen."

"Papa blong mi i stap long poen blong ded, mi mas go kwik sapos mi wantem harem las toktok blong em." Woman ia i girap man blong em i se, "Bambae yu go nating, yu no karem wan samting. Sipos yu gat wan famli, bambae i givhan long yu."

Women ia i tekem wan pig mo wan yam mo wan wota-taro mo fulumap long basket blong em. Hemi livim Venevet Marasing mo stap krae taem emi stap wokabaot i go.

"Kive dor vetmarasinge, Wuse-e-Wuse-e-e.

Kiveronge Kataman Mesei-ia Wuse-e-Wuse-e-e."

Taem emi kasem wan vilej long rod ol man oli se, "Yu go kwik naoia Papa blong yu i no mo kakae." Hemi go daon, taem i kam long wan nara vilej ol man oli se "Yu go kwik, naoia Papa blong yu i nomo toktok," Emi krae i taem emi stapgo. Taem emi kasem wan las vilej, ol man oli se, "Yu go kwik, Papa blong yu i nomo pulum gud win."

Emi krae i go, taem emi kasem velij blong em ol man i se, "Papa blong yu hat blong em i wik tumas." Hemi kasem doa blong Papa blong em, i go insaed mo tajem em be papa blong em i ded finis.

Ol man i kam krae wetem em. Hemi tanen raon mo talem olsem; "i nomo gat wan man blong givhan long mi blong mekem kakae blong dead blong papa blong mi". Hemi tekem aot ol samting we emi tekem wetem em long baskem mo sakem yam daon olsem ol bigfala hip blong yam i kam stap. Hemi sakem wota-taro daon mo ol bigfala hip blong wota taro i kam stap.

Hemi talem long ol man, "Yufala i go karem ol kakae blong ol ded famli blong mi, ol man i selebreitem lafet ia long wan hundred dei."

Mo woman ia emi nomo go bak, emi stap long vilej blong Papa blong em.

Comprehension questions:

1. From wanem woman ia i no kam long ol ded blong ol famli blong em fastaem?

2. Wanem i *mekem* woman ia i livim man blong em long Venevet Maraing?

3. Sipos no man i ino kambak bae i olsem wanem?

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Unit 20: KLOSAP

Klosap is derived from the English phrase, "close up." It has four related meanings -

20.1 Almost/Nearly Modifying a Verb

i.	***Klosap*** trak blong mi i kapsaed.	*My truck **almost/nearly** overturned.*
ii.	***Klosap*** mi brekem leg blong mi.	*I **almost/nearly** broke my leg.*
iii.	***Klosap*** oli finis nao.	*They're **almost/nearly** finished.*
iv.	***Klosap*** John i foldaon long bed las night.	*John **almost/nearly** fell off the bed last night.*

In this usage, ***klosap*** always appears at the beginning of a sentence. However, if you want to emphasize to whom or what a statement refers, the form follows this example

Man ia, ***klosap*** mi sutum hem	*That man, I **almost** shot him.*

20.2 Almost/Nearly Modifying a Noun Phrase

i.	***Klosap*** twenti man.	***Almost/nearly** twenty men.*
ii.	***Klosap*** evri man.	***Almost/nearly** all the men.*
iii.	***Klosap*** yumi evriwan.	***Almost/nearly** all of us.*
iv.	***Klosap*** ten pikinini.	***Almost/nearly** ten children.*
v.	Oli kilim ded ***klosap*** twenty man.	*They killed **almost/nearly** twenty men.*
vi.	Jif I wantem luk ***klosap*** yumi evriwan.	*The chief wants to see **almost/nearly** all of us.*

*Note: With numerals and time phrases both **klosap** and **klosap long** are used interchangeably.*

i.	***Klosap*** wan handred man.	***Nearly** 100 men.*
ii.	***Klosap long*** wan handred man.	***Nearly** 100 men.*
iii.	***Klosap*** medel naet.	*At **almost** midnight.*
iv.	***Klosap long*** medel naet.	*At **almost** midnight.*
v.	Oli kakae ***klosap*** faev buluk.	*They ate **nearly** 5 bullocks.*
vi.	Oli kambak ***klosap long*** medel naet.	*They came back at **almost** midnight.*

20.3 Near/Close Modifying a Verb

i.	Vila i stap ***klosap*** nomo.	*Vila is just **close**.*
ii.	Vilij i ***klosap*** nao.	*The village is **close** now.*

20.4 Near/Close to Modifying a Noun Phrase

To indicate location, the phrase ***klosap long*** is used.

i.	Haos blong hem i stap ***klosap long*** solwota.	*His house is **near/close to** the sea.*
ii.	Stoa i stap ***klosap long*** haos blong Bill.	*The store is **near/close to** Bill's house.*
iii.	Solomon i sitdaon ***klosap long*** Armstrong.	*Solomon sits **near/close to** Armstrong.*
iv.	Patrick i stap ***klosap long*** rod.	*Patrick lives **near/close to** the road.*
v.	Mi foldaon ***klosap long*** bas stap.	*I fell **near/close to** the bus stop.*

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EXERCISES #20

A. Translate thes sentences into English.

i. Aelan I stap klosap nomo.

ii. Yu bin go samples klosap long Dead sea.

iii. Klosap vilij blong Epau I fulap long ol man Amerika.

iv. Office blong Pis Kop I stap klosap long bikfala rod.

v. From wanem nao yumi mas no go klosap long man ia?

B. Using the three pictures below, create three Bislama sentences using ***klosap***.

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

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Unit 21: NOMO

Nomo translates as "***only," "just,"*** or "***no longer."***

21.1 Only

In this usage, ***nomo*** can come before or after the verb.

i. Mi wantem biskit ***nomo.*** *I want biscuits **only**.*
ii. Jak ***nomo*** i scorem poen. ***Only** Jack scored points.*

21.2 Just

In this usage, ***nomo*** can only come after the verb.

i. Ben i les ***nomo***. *Ben is **just** lazy.*
ii. Hem i wokem mat ***nomo***. *He/She **just** makes mats.*

In some contexts ***jas*** is needed as well as ***nomo***. ***Jas*** is placed before the verb while ***nomo*** comes after the verb. (***Jas*** is derived from the English, "***just***.")

i. Ron i ***jas*** kambak long moning ***nomo***. *Ron **just** came back this morning.*
ii. Mifala i ***jas*** finisim kakae ***nomo***. *We **just** finished the food.*

21.3 No longer

In this usage, ***nomo*** can come either before or after the verb. It usually indicates the negative of the verb.

i. Hemi ***nomo*** wantem. *He/She **no longer** wants it.*
ii. Mary i ***nomo*** kakae. *Mary is **no longe**r eating.*
iii. Henry i ***nomo*** krae. *Henry is **no longer** crying.*

EXERCISES #21

A. Translate the following into Bislama:

i. Mark no longer wants to drive the car.

_____

ii. Richard just grows taro.

_____

iii. We just ate laplap.

_____

iv. I only want a coke.

_____

v. I just Learned Bislama.

_____

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Unit 22: KASEM, KAREM, TEKEM

These three, related words have a wide variety of meanings and uses. Their various definitions and applications follow.

22.1 Kasem

22.1.1 Meaning "To reach" or "To arrive"

Bae plen i ***kasem*** ples ia long wanem taem? *What time will the plane **arrive**?*

Wanem taem bae plen i ***kasem*** eapot? *What time will the plane **reach** the airport?*

22.1.2 Meaning "To understand"

Yu ***kasem*** wanem mi talem? *Do you understand what I am telling you?*

22.1.3 Meaning "To catch" something physically or to catch a means of transport

Mi ***kasem*** 5 fis yestedei. *I **caught** 5 fish yesterday.*
Mi ***kasem*** bas mi kam. *I **came** by bus.*

22.1.4 Meaning "to have" or "to contract" (as a disease)

Man ia i ***kasem*** malaria. *This man **has/contracted** malaria.*

22.1.5 Meaning "until"

Rachel i wok ***kasem*** haf pas fo long aftanun. *Rachel works **until** 4:30PM.*
Yu mas stap long haos ***kasem*** mi kambak. *You must stay home **until** I return.*

22.1.6 Meaning "as far as"

Mifala i go ***kasem*** volcano. *We went **as far as** the volcanoe.*
John i go ***kasem*** Onesua. *John went **as far as** Onesua.*

22.1.7 Meaning "to fetch" or "to get"

Thomas i ***kasem*** fulap fis. *Thomas **fetched** a lot of fish.*
Yumi ***kasem*** wota long wel. *We **get** water from the well.*

22.2 Karem

22.2.1 Meaning "To bring"

Bae mi ***karem*** sam aranis i kam. *I'll **bring** some oranges.*

22.2.2 Meaning "To carry"

Bae mi helpem blong ***karem*** bak blong yu. *I'll help **carry** your bag for you.*
Mi save ***karem*** bebe blong yu? *Can I **carry** your baby?*

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22.2.3 Meaning "To take"

Karem laplap i go long maket.	***Take*** *the laplap to the market.*
No fogetem blong ***karem*** meresin blong yu.	*Don't forget* ***to take*** *your medicine.*

22.2.4 Meaning "To drive" (e.g., a car)

Thompson i ***karem*** waet trak.	*Thompson* ***drives*** *a white truck.*
Sandy i ***karem*** wan red bas.	*Sandy* ***drives*** *a red bus.*

22.2.5 Meaning "To marry"

Patrick i ***karem*** woman Santo.	*Patrick* ***married*** *a woman from Santo.*
Luisa i ***karem*** man America.	*Louisa* ***married*** *an American man.*

22.2.6 Meaning "To give birth"

Evelin i ***karem*** wan boe.	*Evelyn* ***gave birth to*** *a son.*
Buluk ia i ***karem*** tri pikinini.	*The cow* ***bore*** *three calves.*

2.3 Tekem

2.3.1 Meaning "To take"

Tekem ol plet i go long kijin.	***Take*** *the dishes to the kitchen.*
Yu save **tekem** ples blong mi.	*You can* ***take*** *my place.*

23.3.2 Meaning "To give birth"

Tekem big naef i kam.	***Bring*** *a bush knife.*

23.3.3 Meaning "To have"

Tekem basket ia blong yu.	*You can* ***have*** *this bag.*

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HOMEWORK:

For each of the meanings of kasem, karem and tekem, write one sentence in bislama

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____

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Unit 23: SE

Se, meaning "**that**" or "**so that**," is often used with many common verbs, but not always. It is also used to mean "**whether**," as the verb "**to say**" and to introduce a quote. Note that a number of verbs require the use of ***se*** where the word "that" is implied, but not used, in English.

23.1 Verbs Requiring Se

Note: ***Se*** is required for these verbs when the meaning is "**<verb> that.**"

- Harem se — *to hear (that)*
- Ting se — *to think (that)*
- Talem se — *to say (that)*
- Hop se — *to hope (that)*
- Save se — *to know (that)*
- Bilif se — *to believe (that)*
- Haremsave se — *to understand (that)*
- Luksave se — *to recognize (that)*
- Luk se — *to see (that)*
- Askem se — *to ask (that)*
- Ansa se — *to answer (that)*
- Minim se — *to mean (that)*

Examples -

Mi harem ***se*** gavman blong yumi bae i jenis.	*I heard **that** our government is changing.*
Rebecca i ting ***se*** Solomon i sik.	*Rebecca thinks **that** Solomon is sick.*
Yumi glad blong talem ***se*** Jisas i laef bakegen.	*We are happy to say Jesus is alive again.*
Mi hop ***se*** bae mi go long America samtaem.	*I hope **that** I will go to America one day.*
Mi bilif ***se*** Richard hemi plei gitar.	*I believe **that** Richard plays the guitar.*

23.2 Se Meaning "So that"

Note: Se can come either after the verb in the beginning of a sentence or after a nound in the middle of a sentence.

Examples -

Bebe i krae ***se*** bae mama i harem.	*The baby cried **so that** the mum could hear.*
Mi wok ***se*** mi gat mane.	*I work **so that** I can have money.*
Hemi slip naoia ***se*** hemi tingting gud.	*She is sleeping now **so that** she can think clearly.*

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23.3 Se Meaning "Whether"

In cases where alternatives are offered, **se** corresponds to English word **"whether"**. This usage applies if you don't know or not sure about something.

Mi no save ***se*** oli pem wan bag o tu. *I don't know **whether** they bought one bag or two.*
Mi no sua ***se*** yumi gat wan miting o no. *I am not sure **whether** we have a meeting or not*

23.4 Se Meaning "To say"

Em i ***se*** i oraet nomo. *He/She said **that** it is alright.*
Olgeta oli ***se*** yumi no naf long ol. *They said **that** we are not strong enough for them.*
Jif nao i ***se*** bae yumi gat wan miting. *The jif said **that** we will have a meeting.*

*Note: Using **se** in this manner is seen by many as an abbreviated form of "talem se."*

23.5 Se Introducing a Direct Quote

Tufala i ansa ***se***, "Jif Ambong." *They answered, "Chief Ambong."*
Ol man ia oli talem ***se***, "Yes." *Those people/men said, "Yes."*
Moskito i talem ***se***, "Mi hangre, mi hangre." *Mosquito said, "I am hungry, I am hungry."*

EXERCISES #23

A. Translate into bislama

(i) He said, "I'd buy that for a dollar".

_____

(ii) You say I only hear what I want to hear.

_____

(iii) I hope you know how to drive.

_____

(iv) Koran did not recognize the song.

_____

(v) I bought the candy so that we could eat it tonight.

_____

(vi) Rebecca believes you are really crazy.

_____

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Unit 24: RELATIVE AMOUNT/QUANTITY

Basic Vocablulary for relative amounts and quantities

Bislama	English
Tumas	*Very, too much*
Mo/Moa	*More*
Lelebet	*Somewhat, rather, fairly*
Smol	*Small, little*
Tru	*Really, truly*
Gud	*Well, really*

24.1 Tumas Meaning "Very" or "Too Much"

In this usage, ***tumas*** is most frequently placed after the word(s) it modifies.

Jack i sik ***tumas***.	*Jack is **very** sick.*
Mi harem nogud ***tumas***.	*I feel **very** bad.*
Hem i kakae ***tumas***.	*She eats **too much.***
Yu laekem ***tumas***.	*You like it **tumas.***
Olgeta i gud ***tumas***.	*They are **tumas** good/nice.*

24.2 Mo/Moa Meaning "More" or " Much"

Mo/Moa is used as a comparative and as a modifier.

Haos long we i ***mo*** gud bitim haos ia.	*The house over there is **much** better than this one.*
Set ia i ***mo*** naes.	*This/ that shirt is nic**er**.*
Olgeta i wantem kakae sam ***mo*** mango.	*They want to eat **more** mangoes.*
Mi wantem sam **moa**.	*I want some **more**.*

24.3 Lelebet Meaning "Somewhat," "Rather" or Fairly"

Hemi bigwan ***lelebet***.	*It's a **rather** big one.*
Hemi gud ***lelebet*** long futbol.	*He's/She's **fairly** good at soccer.*
Mifala i kros ***lelebet***.	*We are **somewhat** angry.*
Mitin tedei i longfala ***lelebet***.	*Today's meeting was **rather** long.*

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24.4 Smol Meaning "Small," "Little" or "Rather"

Smol is used similarly to lelebet.

Hemi wan ***smol*** bulluk.	*This/that is a **small** bullock.*
Mi harem nogud ***smol***.	*I feel a **little** sick.*
Hemi gud ***smol***.	*He's/she's **rather** good.*
Mi ting yufala i kranke ***smol***.	*I think you are all a **little** crazy.*

24.5 Gud Meaning "Well," or "Really"

In this usage gud follows the word or phrase it modifies.

Mi save ***gud*** hem.	I know him/her **well**.
Mifala i giaman ***gud*** long hem.	We **really** lied to him/her
Yufala i harem ***gud*** mi?	Do you hear me **well**? or Did you **really** hear me?
Maek i lukluk ***gud*** Pol klia.	Mike really saw Paul clearly.

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EXERCISES #24

A. Translate the following sentences into Bislama.

i. I want more candy.

ii. He's rather small.

iii. I really like the taro.

iv. Eddie was good this year.

v. I am very glad you liked the book.

vi. Those papays are all very good.

vii. We like them very much.

viii. I want some more money.

ix. Au Bon is much better than the other stores.

x. This school is better than the other one.

xi. This book is very good.

xii. It is rather good.

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Unit 25: ASKING FOR DIRECTIONS & LOCATION

25.1 Vocabulary

Describing and using direction vobaculary to provide directions and learn how to follow directions using Bislama directive sentences and vocabularies.

Bislama	English	Bislama	English
Narasaed	*The other side of (island/road)/opposite*	Rod blong trak/bigfala rod	*Main road*
Bihaen long	*Behind*	Lefsaed	*On the left*
Fored	*Infront of*	Raetsaed	*On the right*
Klosap long	*Close to/near to/not far from*	Long ples ia	*Here/there*
Long wei	*Over there*	Tanem long raet	*Turn right*
Long wei long	*Far from*	Not	*North*
Antap	*Uphill/inland/up*	Saot	*South*
Daon	*Downhill/towards the coast/down*	Wes	*West*
Smol rod	*Footpath*	Is	*East*

Stoa i stap long raed saed long rod. *The shop is on the other side of the road.*
Ol banana i stap bihaen long trak. *The bananas are at the back of the truck.*

25.2 Related Interrogatives

Bislama	English
Wea?	*Where?*
Long wea?	*From where?*
Long	*At*
Wanem?	*What?*
Wanem taem?	*What time?*

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Olsem wanem?	*How?*

HOMEWORK:

Imagine you are talking with someone in the village and she wants directions from the Peace Corps Office to your house to a store then to the church. Write the directions you would give

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Unit 26: BAKEGEN, WANWAN & REPETITIVE ACTION

26.1 Using Bakegen in Bislama can mean "Again" or can mean a variety of related words in English**.**

*Note: **Bakegen** does not translate as "back again."*

Emi foldaon ***bakegen***.	*He fell down **again**.*
Em i kilim mi ***bakegen***.	*He hit me **again**.*
Mi wantem go long taon ***bakegen***.	*I want to go to town **again**.*
Julie i was ***bakegen***.	*Julie washed **again**.*

26.2 Bak Bakegen

26.2.1 Meaning "Back again"

John i go long taon, afta emi kam ***bak bakegen***.

*John went to town and then he came **back again**.*

Bae mi go long solwota, afta bae mi kam ***bak bakegen.***

*I will be going to the sea and then I will come **back again**.*

Olgeta oli kam ***bak bakegen*** blong luk mifala.

*They came **back again** to see us.*

26.2. Meaning To Borrow and then Return Something

Mi bin yusum rula blong David, afta mi kam putum ***bak bakegen***.

*I used David's ruler, then I **returned it**.*

26.3 Wanwan

26.3.1 Meaning "Each"

Evriwan i karem ***wanwan*** faol. ***Each** person brings a chicken.*

Wanwan Pis Kop voluntir i mas gat bus naef.

***Each** Peace Corps volunteer must have a bush knife.*

26.3.2 Meaning "Individually"

Oli mekem wok blong olgeta ***wanwan***. *They did their tasks **individually**.*

Ol man ia oli somap ol aelan dres ***wanwan***.

*These/those people sewed their island dresses **individually**.*

26.3.3 Meaning "Separately"

Oli go ***wanwan*** finis. *They went **separately**.*

Man mo woman blong jioj ia oli sidaon ***wanwan*** long sevos.

*Men and women of this church sit **separately** during the service.*

26.3.4 Meaning "Occasionally"

Jon i kam long ples ia ***wanwan*** taem. *John comes here **occasionally**.*

Emi karem frut ***wanwan*** taem. *It bears fruit **occasionally**.*

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26.4 Related Vocabulary

Bislama	English	Bislama	English
Luk	*See/look at*	Benem	*Bend*
Jam	*Ump*	Rabem	*Rub*
Foldaon	*Fall*	Sekem	*Shake*
Folem	*Follow*	Holem	*Hold*
Kilim	*Kill/hit*	Pasem	*Pass*
Brekem	*Break*	Fas	*Full/packed*
Laekem	*Like*	Katem	*Cut*
Tanem	*Turn*	Singaot	*Call/shout/scream*
Muv	*Move*		

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26.5 Repetitive Actions

When an action is being repeated and/or is of longer than normal duration, that is frequently indicated by duplicating the first syllable or an entire verb.

Bislama	English	Bislama	English
LUKLUK	*to look/stare/examine/ watch.*	KILKILIM	*to kill/hit (repeatedly)*
SINGSING	*to sing*	BREKBREKEM	*to break (into pieces)*
TOKTOK	*to talk*	LAEKLAEKEM	*like/love (continuously)*
SEKSEK	*to shake*	TANTANEM	*to turn (repeatedly)*
FASFAS	*full/packed/crowded*	BENBENEM	*to bend (continually)*
JAMJAM	*to jump (repeatedly)*	RABRABEM	*to rub (continually)*
FOLFOLDAON	*to fall (continually)*	SEKSEKEM	*to shake (repeatedly)*
FOLFOLEM	*to follow (continually)*	HOLHOLEM	*to hold*

Examples -

Yu no stap lukluk mi olsem. *Don't stare at me like that.*

Sam i stap seksekem haos ia gogo i foldaon. *Sams was shaking that house until it fell down.*
Ren i stap folfoldaon olsem evri taem nomo.

The rain continues to fall just like this all the time.

Mi laekem tumas taem woman blong mi i stap rabrabem baksaed blong mi.
I love it when my wife rubs my back.

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EXERCISES #25

A. Translate the following into Bislama.

i. We are going to eat tin fish again?

_____

ii. Koran went to Vila, then he came back.

_____

iii. I'm going to the store then I'll come back

_____

iv. Mark borrowed my CD but he didn't give it back.

_____

B. Write the four uses of wanwan and write a sentence for each in Bislama.

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

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Unit 27: LIKES & DISLIKES

27.1 Expressing Likes and Dislikes

Bislama	English
Mi laekem	*I like*
Mi no laekem	*I don't like*
Yu laekem	*You like*
Yu no laekem	*You don't like*
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 i laekem	*They like it*
Olgeta i no laekem	*They don't like it*
Hem i laekem	*He/she likes it*
Hem i no laekem	*He/she doesn't like it*

27.2 Explaining Your Likes and Dislikes

Bislama	English
From se/ From 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 no smel gud	*It doesn't smell good*
I smol tumas	*It's too small*
I bigwan tumas	*It's too big*
I sot tumas	*It's too short*
I longfala tumas	*It's too long*

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Unit 28: TAEM, TAEM WE, LONG TAEM WE

In Bislama dependent time clauses are introduced by ***taem***, ***taem we*** and ***long taem we***.

Taem translates "*when*"

Taem we translates "*during the time that*"

Long taem we translates "*on the occasion of*"

While some speakers make a distinction between ***taem, taem we*** and ***long taem we***, for many they are interchangeable and all can be translated "*when.*"

28.1 Taem Meaning "When"

Taem olgeta oli harem nius, oli kam kwiktaem.

When they heard the news, they came quickly.

Taem jaj i kamtru, yufala evriwan i mas stanap.

When the judge arrives, you all have to stand.

28.2 Taem We Meaning "When"

Taem we emi stap long Ostrelia, emi wantem kambak long Vanuatu.

When he lived in Australia, he wanted to return to Vanuatu.

Taem we mi stap long Santo, mi gat fiva oltaem.

When I was in Santo, I always had a fever.

28.3 Long Taem We Meaning "When"

Long taem we mi smol yet, mi stap skul long Rangorango.

When I was still small/young, I went to school at Rangorango.

Note: ***Long taem we*** is not as commonly used in Bislama sentences as ***taem*** and ***taem we***. When it is used, it is always translated "when" in English.

28.4 Time Related Phrases

Bislama	English
Long taem ia (we)	*At that time (when)*
Stret long taem (we)	*Exactly as*
Bifo long taem (we)	*Before when*
Oltaem	*Always/continually/all the time/most of the time*

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Longtaem finis	*Long ago/for a long time.*
I no longtaem	*Recently/shortly/soon/not long.*

Examples:

Long taem ia we ol man soldia blong Amerika oli kam, mi no bon yet.
At the time when the American soldiers came, I wasn't born yet.
Stret long taem ia we emi ded, glas i brok.
Exactly the same time when she/he died, the glass shattered.
Bifo long taem we mi yangfala yet, ino gat wof long Vila.
Before, when I was still young, there was no wharf in Vila.
Anna i go bak long aelan long taem finis.
Anna went back to the island a long time ago.
Emi kambak i no longtaem.
He came back recently.

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Unit 29: ASKING & TELLING TIME

29.1 Asking and telling time in Bislama and using phrases that describe times of the day.

Questions

Wanem taem plis?	*What's the time, please?*
Wanem dei tedei?	*What's the day today?*
Wanem deit tedei?	*What's the date?*
Yu go wanem taem?	*When are you going?*
Yu kambak wanem taem?	*When are you coming back?*

29.2 Vocabulary Related to Days

English	Bislama	English	Bislama
Yesterday	Yestedei	*At lunch hour*	Long dina
Today	Tedei	*In the afternoon*	Long aftenun
Tommorow	Tumora	*In the evening*	Long safa
Yesterday morning	Yestedei long moning	*Tonight*	Tedei long naet
This morning	Tedei long moning	*At midnight*	Long medel naet
Tomorrow morning	Tumora long moning	*Sunset*	Taem san i go daon
Early in the morning	Long eli moning	*Sunrise*	Taem san i kam antap
Daylight	Delaet	*Day*	Dei
At midday	Long medel dei		

29.3 Vocabulary Related to Minutes and Hours

English	Bislama	English	Bislama
AM	Long moning	*PM*	Long aftenun/long safa/long naet
Time	Taem	*To/before*	Blong kasem/blong faenem
Second	Seken	*Going towards*	I stap ronem/go from
Minute	Minit	*Around*	Samwe long/samples long
Hour	Haoa	*O'clock*	O klok/klok
Exactly	Stret, stret long	*Quarter past*	Kwota pas
Close to/almost	Klosap	*Quarter to*	Kwota tu

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Past	Lusum/i ova long/bitim	*Half past*	Haf pas

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Unit 30: SHOPPING AT A STORE

30.1 Shopping in a local community store using Bislama phrases and vocabularies that can help you purchase your supplies and ask for prices.

Useful Questions

English	Bislama
What's this?	Wanem hemia?
What's the name for this?	Wanem nem blong hemia?
What's this called in Bislama?	Wanem nem blong hemia long Bislama?
Where is the store/...?	Wea nao sto/...?
Where is a store where I can buy .?	Wea nao sto blong pem ...?
Can I buy a … here?	Mi save pem … long ples ia?
How much for that?	Hamas long hem?
What is the pirce for this?	Wanem praes long hemia?
How much for one?	Hamas long wan?
Is there one that is slightly smaller/bigger/...?	I gat wan we i smol/bigwan/... lelebet?
Is there one slightly cheaper?	I gat wan we i jip lelebet?
Is this fresh?	Hemia i fres ia?
Do you sell … here?	Yufala i salem … long ples ia?

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DIALOG 10

STOKIPA:	Gud moning fren.	*Good morning friend)*
KASTOMA:	Gud moning.	*(Good morning)*
STOKIPA:	Olsem wanem, mi save helpem yu?	*(How are you, can I help you?)*
KASTOMA:	O, yes plis, mi wantem pem sam wasing sop.	*(Oh yes please, I'd like to buy some washing soap?)*
STOKIPA:	I gat two difren kaen sop, Fab mo jaenis sop	*(There are two kinds of soap(sold here). 'Fab' and 'Chinese soap')*
KASTOMA:	Hamas long wan?	*(How much is it for one?)*
STOKIPA:	Fab emi 100vt, jaenis sop emi 50vt.	*('Fab' is 100vt, 'Chinese soap' is 50 vt.)*
KASTOMA:	I oraet, mbae mi karem wan jaenis sop nomo. Hemia 100vt.	*(Well, I'll just get a Chinese soap. Heres 100 vt.)*
STOKIPA:	Ok, emia 50vt jens blong yu.	*(Here's your change of 50 vt)*
KASTOMA:	Tank yu tumas, Ale tata.	*(Thank you very much, bye.)*
STOKIPA:	Ale, tank yu, lukim yu!	*(Okay thank you, see you!)*

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Unit 31: ANATOMY/HEALTH CONDITIONS

31.1 Identifying body parts in Bislama Language and Expressing your self in illness in Bislama.

Anatomy

English	Bislama	*English*	Bislama
Head	Hed	*Throat*	Trot
Hair	Hea	*Neck*	Nek
Eye	Ae	*Cheek*	Jik
Ear	Sora/ia	*Shoulder*	Solda
Nose	Nos	*Chest*	Jes
Mouth	Maot	*Breast*	Titi
Tooth/teeth	Tut	*Armpit*	Antanit long han
Tongue	Tang	*Elbow*	Joen long han
Finger	Fingga	*Private part*	Tabu ples
Belly buton	Nambutong	*Knee*	Joen blong lek
Leg	Lek	*Knee*	Ni
Hand	Han	*Back*	Baksaed
Back	Bak	*Buttock*	As

31.2 Health Conditions

English	Bislama
I am not feeling well	Mi harem nogud
I have sores on my…	Mi gat so long… (body part)

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I am pregnant	Mi gat bel
I have diarrhoea	Mi kasem sitsit wota
I have backache.	Bak blong mi i so
My leg is painful.	Lek blong mi i so.
My hand is painful.	Han long mi i so.
I've got headache.	Hed blong mi i so.

DIALOG 11

Doctor:	Gud moning, olsem wanem?	*(Good morning, how are you/)*
Patient:	Gud moning dokta, mi no silip gud from bel blong mi i so tumas.	*(Good morning doctor, I did not sleep well due to my stomach ache.)*
Doctor:	Yu kasem sitsit wota?	*(Did you contract diahrea?)*
Patient:	Yes dokta.	*(Yes doctor).*
Doctor:	Yu bin tekem sam meresin finis?	*(Have you taken some medication?)*
Patient:	Yes, mi bin tekem 2 panadol finis.	*(Yes, I have taken 2 panadol)*
Doctor:	OK bae mi mekem pepa bae yu go karem sam moa panadol.	*(Ok, I'll fill up a form for you to pick up more at the chemist)*
Patient:	Tank yu tumas dokta, naoia bae mi save slip gud bagegen.	*(Thank you very much doctor, now I will be able to sleep better.)*
Doctor:	Ale, tata.	*(Okay bye.)*
Patient:	Ale.	*(Okay.)*

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Unit 32: NEGATIVE AND YES/NO QUESTIONS

32.1 Positive Questions

Positive questions are those which are asked in an affirmative form - i.e., they do not include a negative (refer to **32.2** for clarification of this definition). Positive questions are answered as they are in English.

Examples:

Q:	Jon i wantem kam?	*Does John want to come?*
A1:	Yes, hemi wantem come.	*Yes, he wants to come.*
A2:	No, hemi no wantem come.	*No, he does not want to come.*
Q:	Mala, i kam long Santo?	*Does Mala come from Santo?*
A1:	Yes, hemi kam long Santo.	*Yes, she comes from Santo*
A2:	No, hemi no kam long Santo.	*No, she does not come from Santo.*

To stress an affirmative answer ***we*** can be added at the end of the response. However, ***we*** is not added at the end of the sentence if the answer is "no."

32.2 Negative Questions

Negative questions are those than include a negative - i.e., they ask if something didn't happen or isn't wanted or the like. These questions are answered differently in Bislama than English. This is initially very confusing to people who are used the to English construction.

Example:

Q:	Hemi no slip yet?	*Hasn't (s)he slept yet?*
A1:	Yes, hemi no silip yet.	*Yes, s(he) hasn't slept yet.*
A2:	Si, hemi slip finis.	*Yes, (s)he has already slept.*
A3:	Si, hemi stap silip nao.	*Yes, (s)he is asleep.*

*Note: **Si** is derived from the French "wi" and is used to indicate "yes."*

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32.3 Yes/No Questions

Bislama does not have a specific grammatical structure for asking Yes/No questions. Yes/No questions are indicated by intonation only. When a question is asked, it is done in the form of a statement with the tone raised at the end.

Examples:

Q: Yu dring ti finis?	*Have you had breakfast?*
A: Yes, mi dring ti finis	*Yes, I've had breakfast*
Q: Yu kakae pik?	*Do you eat pork?*
A: Yes, mi kakae pik.	*Yes, I eat pork.*
Q: Trak ino go yet?	*Has the truck left/gone yet?*
A: Yes, ino go yet.	*No, it hasn't left/gone yet.*

32.4 Question "Add-Ons"

32.4.1 No Gat

Sometimes ***no gat*** is added to a question if the person asking the question isn't sure of the answer to expect.

Examples:

Q:	Yu save faet **o nogat**?	*Can you fight or not?*
A:	No, mi no save faet.	*No, I cannot fight.*
Q:	Yu save katem faeawud **o nogat**?	*Can you job firewood?* *Are you able to chop firewood or not?*
A:	No mi no save katem faeawud.	*No, I cannot cut/chop firewood.*
Q:	Bubu i tijim yu kastom **o nogat**?	*Did grandpa/grandma teach you customs?*
A:	Yes, bubu i tijim mi kastom.	*Yes, grandpa/grandma taught me customs.*

32.4.1 "A" for Emphasis

Yes/No questions are often followed by an ***a*** which means "Isn't that so!" The tone of voice is raised when adding the **a.**

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Examples:

Q:	Hemi kross, **a**?	*He's angry, is he?*
A:	Yes, hemi kross	*Yes, he's angry.*
Q:	I nogat, **a**?	*There isn't any, is there?*
A:	Yes, i gat.	*Yes, there is.*

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Unit 33: STORY TELLING AND COMPREHENSION

The following phrases will help you ***storian*** with Bislama speakers who are interested in knowing more about you and the United States.

Bislama	English
Wan taem i gat wan	*Once upon a time there was a*
Long taem we	*At that time when*
From se	*Because*
Samples long	*Somewhere about*
Olgeta i stap long	*They stayed at*
Emi ded (finis)	*S(he) is dead (died)*
Katem aot	*Cut off*
Kamdaon long	*Come down the*
Em i luk wan	*S(he) saw a…*
Em i harem gud/ nogud	*S(he) doesn't feel good/bad*
Olgeta i gladglad/ hapi	*S(he) glad/ happy*
Tufala i kros	*They were angry*
Tufala i maret	*They got married*

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