

after the thing being described. The same rule applies with katoa = all, and anake = only.

E oma ana te kuri nui = the big dog is running

Me noho te tangata momona = the fat man had better sit down

Ka moe te pepi pai = the good baby will sleep

(b) By using the words *tenei*, *enei* = this, these; *tena*, *ena* = that, those (by you); *tera*, *era* = that, those (over there).

E kai ena heihei = those hens are eating

I waiata tenei kotiro mohio = this clever girl sang

Ka haere era pahi whero = those red buses will go

Kua noho tera kuia = that old lady has sat down

Taua, aua = that, those is a special form meaning "that has been mentioned before".

Ka tangi aua tamariki = those children cried

1.3 Nominal prefix If a person is mentioned as the subject of the sentence, their name is preceded by "a" (the nominal prefix). At first it is easy to forget to put this in, because there is no equivalent "word" in the English form. Also take note that this is one of several "a"'s.

E karanga ana a Hine = Hine is calling

Me takoto a Hone = Hone had better lie down

Ka tu a Wiremu = Wiremu stands up, or will stand

"Ma" directly after the person's name means "and others".

E mahi ana a Kuini ma = Kuini and the others are working

E tama ma! = Boys!

1.4 Pronouns If we don't want to keep on saying, for example, "the woman" or keep using the name "Hine", we can use "she" (a pronoun).

E oma ana ia = she is running

Here are other pronouns in use:

I mahi ahau = I worked

Kua horoi ratou = they have washed

Ka haere taua = we will set off

E inu ana koe = you are drinking

Note that these pronouns are in the same position in the sentence as the words they have replaced and that the nominal prefix "a" is not generally used when a pronoun is subject of the sentence.

The full set:

One person ahau, or au = I, me

koe = you

ia = he, him/she, her

Two people taua = we, us (the person spoken to is one of the two people)

maua = we, us (the person spoken to is not one of the two people)

korua = you

raua = they, them

More than two people tatou = we, us (the person spoken to is one of the people)

matou = we, us (the person spoken to is not one of the people)

koutou = you

ratou = they, them

Note the dual pronouns used when two people are concerned; also the *inclusive* forms maua and matou.

Referring to more than one person, "and" is expressed in this way:

Rangi raua ko Mona = Rangi and Mona

Rangi ratou ko Mona ko Kiri = Rangi, Mona and Kiri

If you are a beginner it will take a little while to become completely familiar with the pronouns, so you can move on to the next section when you are sure of half of them.

1.5 Active and Passive The Maori verb has two forms; the active form is used when the subject (*) of the sentence is carrying out some action, and the passive form is used when the subject is having the action done to it. Active and passive relate to the *viewpoint* from which a particular action is regarded. Do not confuse with "past" time. The *verb sign* indicates the time; the *ending* indicates active or passive.

(a) Active

*E kai ana tera taitama** = that young man is eating

*I patu te tangata** = the man hit

*Ka waiata tenei kotiro** = this girl will sing

*Kua horoi ahau** = I have washed

(b) Passive

*E kainga ana nga aporo** = the apples are being eaten

I patua tera kuri kino* = that bad dog was hit

*Ka waiatatia te himene** = the hymn will be sung

*Kua horoia nga pereti** = the plates have been washed

The importance of understanding the principle of active and passive cannot be stressed too strongly. When you learn a new verb, learn both forms. In dictionaries the passive ending is shown like this: "waiata-tia", "mahi-a". Once this section is mastered the whole subject will become easier to follow.

1.6 The natural development from 1.5a is:

E kai ana tera kotiro i nga aporo = that girl is eating the apples

I patu te tangata i tera kuri kino = the man hit that bad dog

Ka waiata tenei tamaiti i te himene = this child will sing the hymn

Kua horoi ahau i nga pereti = I have washed the plates

Note that this "i" (the transitive preposition) is not represented by any word in English. We must remember to put it in. The verbs "aroha", "mohio", "tatari", "wareware", and "mahara" use "ki" as the transitive preposition but, unlike the "ki"s we will deal with next, it does not translate.

Two important rules emerge at this stage:

(a) If a person's name or a pronoun follow "i" (or "ki", "Kei/i") it is preceded by "a" (nominal prefix).

I awhina te kui i a Hera = the old lady helped Hera

I awhina te kuia i a ia = the old lady helped her

(b) "He = a, some" is never used after "i" (or after "ki", "kei/I", "na/no", "ma/mo"). "Tetahi" (often abbreviated to "te") and "etahi = some" are used instead.

E tuhituhi ana ia i te(tahi) reta = he is writing a letter

E korero ana a Henare ki (2.3) te kotiro ataahua = Henare is talking to a beautiful girl

The natural development of 1.5b is:

Kua kainga nga aporo e tera tama = the apples have been eaten by that boy

E patua ana te kuri kino e te tangata = the bad dog is being hit by the man

Ka waiatatia te waiata e tenei kotiro = the song will be sung by this girl

Kua horoia nga pereti e au = the plates have been washed by me

It is much more common in Maori for things to be expressed in the passive, which is considered to stress the action. English usually prefers to use the active form. Note again, there are several other "e"s.

1.7 Giving orders A direct order is given by using the active form of a verb (if the verb has only two or three letters it is preceded by 'E'). *Waiata!* = sing! *E kai!* = eat! *Haere ki (2.2) te kura!* = go to school! *Hoki (mai)!* = come back (to me)!