

琉球大学学術リポジトリ

All About Okinawan : Second Edition

メタデータ	言語: en 出版者: 公開日: 2022-03-02 キーワード (Ja): キーワード (En): 作成者: Shimabukuro, Moriyo メールアドレス: 所属:
URL	http://hdl.handle.net/20.500.12000/0002017798



All About Okinawan

Second Edition

Moriyo Shimabukuro

A// About Okinawan

Second Edition

Moriyo Shimabukuro

©2021 Moriyo Shimabukuro

All rights reserved

Printed in Okinawa, Japan

Designed by Kyogo Shimabukuro

For you

Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	7
<i>Abbreviations and Symbols</i>	8
Introduction	9
Where Does Okinawan Come From?	11
Writing and Pronunciation	12
How to Pronounce the Vowels	12
How to Pronounce the Consonants	15
Word-Initial, Word-Medial, and Word-Final Consonants	16
How Accent Works	18
Grammar	18
Nouns	18
Possessive Forms	20
Verbs - Past, Present, Negative, and Polite forms	22
Adjectives - Past, Present, Negative, and Polite forms	26
Word Order - Subject and Object	28
How to Ask Questions	29
How to Count Things	32
How to Count People	33
Words and Phrases	33
Everyday Words and Expressions	33

Okinawan Words on a Menu	35
Body Parts	38
Hand and Fingers	39
Months of Year	40
Fruits and Vegetables	40
Insects and Animals	42
Daily Conversation	43
The Future of Okinawan	47
Okinawan-English Word List	48
English-Okinawan Word List	71
References and Resources	88

Acknowledgements

I am very grateful to Stewart Curry (University of Hawai'i at Mānoa), Cathy Wong (Hong Kong Polytechnic University), and Changyong Yang (Jeju National University) for their valuable comments and suggestions on earlier drafts. Without their help, this work would not be done. Errors, of course, are my own.

I also thank Kyogo Shimabukuro for designing the cover and providing illustrations for the book.

I would also like to thank the University of the Ryukyus for supporting me to get this work printed.

Finally, I dedicate this book to all Uchinaanchu around the world including my beautiful children, Moriki, Moriya, Kotomi, and Morito. I hope that they will have fun with this.

Abbreviations and Symbols

hon.	a honorific form
(n)	a noun
sub.	a subject marker
pl.	plural form
poss.	a possessive marker
que.	a question marker
(v)	a verb
*	not possible expression
~	It indicates variation; e.g., $x \sim y$ (i.e., either x or y)
<	It shows a derived form on the left; e.g., $x < a + b$ (i.e., x is derived from a combination of a and b).

Introduction

This book is written for people visiting Okinawa who want to know about the languages spoken in Okinawa. This book is not for academic purposes; its purpose is to give some idea about the Okinawan language that you come across during your stay. I hope this will be a bit of help making your stay more enjoyable and wonderful!

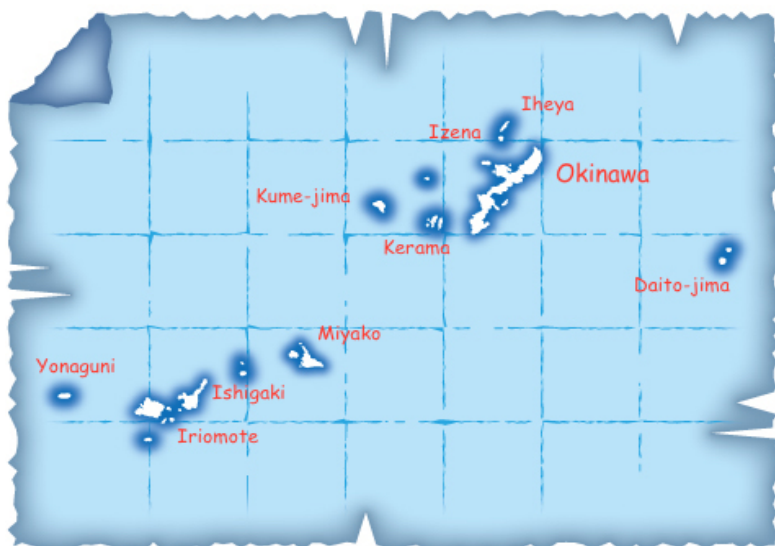
Okinawa is a place where you find beautiful scenery such as oceans, mountains, beaches, and warm-hearted people. You may experience a warm-hearted welcome when you visit places in Okinawa. The local expression *ichariba choodee*, meaning 'once we meet, we all are siblings,' describes characteristics of the people. You may also notice that Okinawa has its own unique culture. It has developed through contacts with neighboring countries and regions, especially Japan, China, and the U.S.

There are a quite number of dialects of the Okinawan language on the island of Okinawa. They are basically mutually intelligible. The focus of this book is on one variant spoken in Naha and its surrounding areas.

As you may have already noticed, in the Prefecture of Okinawa there are a number of islands such as Okinawa, Iheya, Izena, Kumejima, Kerama, Daito-jima, Miyako, Ishigaki, Iriomote, and Yonaguni, to name a few-see the map below. On those other islands, different

varieties of languages/dialects are spoken, yet they all belong to the Ryukyuan language family. The Okinawan language is not necessarily mutually intelligible with other languages spoken on those islands. For example, 'Thank you' is *nifee deebiru* in Okinawan, but it is *tandigaa tandi* in Miyako, *nifaiyuu* in Ishigaki, and *fugarasa* in Yonaguni. They do not sound like the *same* language. See some more examples below.

	Okinawa	Miyako	Ishigaki	Yonaguni
'head'	chiburu	kanamaz	ts'iburi	minburu
'male'	yikiga	bikidum	bigidun	binga
'face'	chira	mipana	umuti	chira
'foot'	hisa	pagi	pan	han



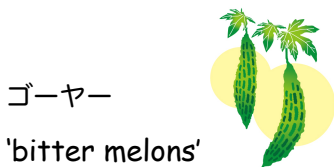
Where Does Okinawan Come From?

The Okinawan language is related to Japanese. The case for this is convincing when you compare them. For example, the following words referring to the number system show how similar they are. Due to the loss of its initial syllable in *tiichi* 'one' and *taachi* 'two', at a glance they may not seem similar to their counterparts. See Writing and Pronunciation below for how to pronounce the words.

	Okinawan	Japanese
'one'	tiichi	hitotsu
'two'	taachi	futatsu
'three'	miichi	mittsu
'four'	yuuchi	yottsu
'five'	ichichi	itsutsu
'six'	muuchi	muttsu
'seven'	nanachi	nanatsu
'eight'	yaachi	yattsu
'nine'	kukunuchi	kokonotsu
'ten'	tuu	too

Writing and Pronunciation

Okinawan does not have its own writing system. It is written in Japanese *kana* (*hiragana* and *katakana*) and/or a mix with Chinese characters called *kanji*. For example, the following are examples written in *kana*: the one on your left in *katakana*; the one on your right is in *hiragana*.



に ふえーでーびる

'Thank you very much'



The following examples are made up of *kana* and *kanji*.



How to Pronounce the Vowels

The following list of letters show what vowel sounds correspond to the letters used to indicate the sounds of the Okinawan language in this book. However, it is important to keep it mind that the English examples below are "only" close to the vowel sounds in Okinawan, and

they may not match them exactly. This also applies to the description of the consonants in the next section.

Short vowels

a as in father, part (a little shorter than the vowel in *father* and *part*)

i as in tea, teach (a little shorter than the vowel)

u as in two, tooth (a little shorter than the vowel)

o as in Oh, OK (without the second half of the sound)

e as in eight, April (without the second half of the sound)

Long vowels

aa as in father, part

ii as in tea, teach

uu as in two, tooth

oo as in Oh, OK (without the second half of the sound and a little longer)

ee as in eight, April (without the second half of the sound and a little longer)

There are basically five short vowels although the vowels *e* and *o* are not common. They can appear in any positions of a word: at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end. Some examples are shown below.

	Beginning		Middle		End	
<i>a</i>	ai	'ant'	atabichaa	'frog'	icha	'squid'
<i>i</i>	in	'dog'	ichichi	'five'	ui	'melon'
<i>u</i>	ukoo	'incense'	ikuchi	'how many'	maasu	'salt'
<i>o</i>	ohooku	'many'	yonnaa	'slowly'	--	
<i>e</i>	eisaa	'Bon dance'	haberu	'butterfly'	aasshe	(interjection)

A sequence of two vowels seen in the words *ai* 'ant', *ui* 'melon', and *eisaa* 'Bon dance' is uttered as monosyllabic in casual speech.

There are long vowels as well. The short vowels shown above can be lengthened as *aa*, *ii*, and *uu* without changing their qualities. Speakers of English tend to pronounce the vowels *oo* and *ee* as *uu* and *ii* respectively. Keep in mind that these are *oo* and *ee*.

	Beginning		Middle		End	
<i>aa</i>	aasa	'sea lettuce'	shiwa a ashi	'December'	saata a	'sugar'
<i>ii</i>	iin	'enter'	tiida	'the sun'	tii	'hand'
<i>uu</i>	uubi	'belt'	chuun	'come'	tuu	'ten'
<i>oo</i>	ooji	'fan'	koo i n	'buy'	tees oo	'a chief'
<i>ee</i>	eesachi	'greeting'	aake ee juu	'dragonfly'	ippe ee	'very'

How to Pronounce the Consonants

<i>p</i> as in	speak	<i>b</i> as in	boy
<i>t</i> as in	stake	<i>d</i> as in	day
<i>k</i> as in	skate	<i>g</i> as in	good
<i>ch</i> as in	cheese	<i>j</i> as in	June
<i>s</i> as in	set	<i>m</i> as in	mother
<i>z</i> as in	zoo	<i>n</i> as in	note
<i>h</i> as in	house	<i>y</i> as in	yes
<i>sh</i> as in	she	<i>w</i> as in	way
<i>r</i> as in	letter, atom (in many American English called 'flap' or 'tap')		
'	the sound between vowels as in <i>uh-oh</i> (called 'glottal stop')		
<i>f</i>	<i>f</i> as in <i>fish</i> is the closest one in English, but without biting your lip!		

Most of these consonants are not difficult for speakers of English. However, the glottal stop may be difficult when it occurs at the beginning of words. The glottal stop is crucial in certain words because whether or not it is pronounced makes a difference in meaning. The following pairs demonstrate this.

'yaa	'you'	yaa	'house'
'waa	'pig'	waa	'I'

Speakers of English may find the pronunciation of the consonants *p*, *t*, and *k* difficult when they occur word-initially or syllable-initially because they do not sound like *p*, *t*, and *k* as in *peak*, *take*, and *Kate*. These consonants do not have a puff of air along with them in Okinawan. They sound more like the *p*, *t*, and *k* in *speak*, *stake*, and *skate* respectively.

The nasal *n* can be long in Okinawan. This generally occurs word-initially.

nnjun 'look' nnna 'all' nnsu 'fermented bean paste, *miso*'

In the middle of word, between vowels, the consonants *p*, *t*, *k*, *s*, and *ch* can be geminated as in

ippee 'very' wattaa 'we' hicchii 'often'

Word-Initial, Word-Medial, and Word-Final Consonants

Unlike Japanese, a sequence of consonants is possible word-initially. At the beginning of a word a consonant can be immediately preceded by a nasal consonant and/or a glottal stop.

nkashi 'old days'

njasan 'bitter'

'chu 'person'

'nmaribi 'birthday'

As seen above, Okinawan words usually end with a vowel or *n*. Other consonants do not end a word. Here are some more examples.

adu 'heel'

in 'dog'

kamun 'eat'

Within a word, you may find a sequence of two consonants. They can be identical or near identical two consonants such as *-pp-*, *-tt-*, *-kk-*, *-bb-*, *-dd-*, *-gg-*, *-ssh-*, *-cch-*, *-nn-*, *-nm-*, or a consonant preceded by a nasal such as *-nd-*, *-np-*, and the like.

ippee 'very'

hicchii 'often'

anda 'oil, fat'



kanpachi 'scar'

When words beginning with a single consonant end with a vowel, the vowel is usually long. This also applies to a word consisting of a vowel only.

tii 'hand'

chuu 'today'

ee 'indigo dye'

How Accent Works

Unlike 'stress' in English, what matters in Okinawan is a pitch shape. The accent of the Okinawan language differs very much from one dialect to another-simple to more complex. For the reader to learn how to say words and expressions, let us introduce one of the simplest and easiest ways to learn the accent system-Shuri dialect accent. In Shuri Okinawan, there are two pitch patterns: flat and falling. Words are pronounced with one of these pitch patterns. A word with flat pitch is uttered in a level pitch throughout the word without rising or falling. A word with falling pitch begins in high pitch and ends in low pitch. Indicating the pronunciation with H and L for high and low pitches respectively, the falling accent examples below are pronounced as *kii* HL 'hair', *hana* HL 'nose', and *kibushi* HHL 'smoke'.

Flat:	<i>mii</i> 'eye'	<i>maasu</i> 'salt'	<i>kwacchii</i> 'a treat'
Falling:	<i>kii</i> 'hair'	<i>hana</i> 'nose'	<i>kibushi</i> 'smoke'

Grammar

Nouns

Unlike English, but similar to Japanese, nouns do not usually show

the difference in number. For example, no matter how many dogs there are, you always say *in* 'dog(s)'. However, there are a few plural suffixes for certain personal nouns, pronouns, and kinship terms. They are *nu chaa* (also *n chaa*) and *taa*. See examples bellow.

uya nu chaa 'parents'

ichiku nu chaa 'cousins'

dushi nu chaa 'friends'

warabi n chaa 'children'

gakushii taa 'students'

wattaa 'we'

ittaa 'you (plural)'

Nabii taa 'Nabii and her company or companies'

These suffixes, *nu chaa* and *taa*, are not interchangeable. For example, you don't say **uya taa* and **ichiku taa* to mean 'parents' and 'cousins' respectively. Instead, they are always *uya nu chaa* 'parents' and *ichiku nu chaa* 'cousins' - an asterisk indicates the expression is not possible. Similarly, both *gakushii* 'student' and *Nabii* (a female name) require *taa* to make them plural, not *nu chaa*: *gakushii taa* 'students' and *Nabii taa* 'Nabii and her company or companies'.

Possessive Forms

Okinawan speakers use the possessive marker *nu* to say, for example, 'my book' as below. *nu* is placed before a possessed object.

wan	nu	sumuchi	'my book'
'I'	poss.	'book'	

dushi	nu	sumuchi	'friend's book'
'friend'	poss.	'book'	

However, for some expressions involving kinship terms and other frequently-used nouns, *nu* is not needed such as the following.

wan	uya	'my parent(s)'
'I'	'parent'	

wan	choodee	'my brother(s)/sister(s)'
'I'	'sibling'	

kuree	waa	mun	'This is mine'
'this'	'I'	'thing'	

uree	'yaa	mun	'That is yours'
'that'	'you'	'thing'	

Interestingly, when you want to say 'my family', 'my house', 'my mother', and 'my father', you always say *wattaa anmaa* 'our mother' to mean 'my mother'. A plural form is used when referring something related to one's family members or relatives.

wattaa	yaa	'my house'
'we'	'house'	

ittaa	yaa	'your house'
'you (pl.)'	'house'	

wattaa	ichiku	'my cousin'
'we'	'cousin'	

ittaa	suu	'your father'
'you (pl.)'	'father'	

Satoruu	taa	suu	'Satoru's father'
(male name)	pl.	'father'	

Hanakoo	taa	anmaa	'Hanako's mother'
(female name)	pl.	'mother'	

Verbs – Past, Present, Negative, and Polite forms

The following is a 'very' brief introduction to verb forms in Okinawan. There are past and present forms in Okinawan verbs; there is no future form *per se*. The present form subsumes both present and future meanings. Some characteristics are described below.

First of all, present verbs end with either *-un* or *-in*. Examples are:

kamun	'eat'	sun	'do'
acchun	'walk'	warain	'laugh'
tuin	'take'	kooiin	'buy'

Past forms of Okinawan verbs end with *-an*. As you may notice, many of them have the ending *-tan* or *-dan*.

Present		Past	
kamun	'eat'	kadan	'ate'
acchun	'walk'	acchan	'walked'
tuin	'take'	tuttan	'took'
sun	'do'	san	'did'

warain 'laugh'

kooiin 'buy'

waratan 'laughed'

kootan 'bought'

Some verbs show irregularity in their past tense forms. The stems sound very different in the present and past forms. Below are some examples:

ichun 'go'

iin 'say'

'njan 'went'

ichan 'said'

Verbs have negative forms, and they generally end with *-an* in their present tense form. There are some irregular ones that do not have the *-an* ending; e.g., *kuun* 'do not come'.

kaman 'do not eat'

akkan 'do not walk'

turan 'do not take'

san 'do not do'

wararan 'do not laugh'

kooran 'do not buy'

The past tense of the present tense negative forms usually has *-tan* ending. Compare the following.

Present negative

kaman 'do not eat'

akkan 'do not walk'

Past negative

kaman-tan 'did not eat'

akkan-tan 'did not walk'

turan	'do not take'	turan-tan	'did not take'
kuun	'do not come'	kuun-tan	'did not come'
san	'do not do'	san-tan	'did not do'
wararan	'do not laugh'	wararan-tan	'did not laugh'
kooran	'do not buy'	kooran-tan	'did not buy'

Furthermore, verbs have a polite or formal form. It ends with *-ibiin*, *-abiin*, or *-yabiin*. Their past tense forms are *-bitan*, *-abitan*, and *-yabitan* respectively. They are used in formal situations to denote respect and formality towards the addressee.

Present polite		Past polite	
kamabiin	'eat'	kamabitan	'ate'
tuibiin	'take'	tuibitan	'took'
chaabiin	'come'	chaabitan	'came'
kooibiin	'buy'	kooibitan	'bought'
numayabiin	'drink'	numayabitan	'drank'
iyabiin	'say'	iyabitan	'said'

Another polite ending is *deebiru*. It is a formal form used with a noun.

niffee	deebiru	'Thank you'
'gratitude'	(polite)	

waa	mun	deebiru	'(It's) mine'
'I'	'thing'	(polite)	

In addition to the polite forms described above, Okinawan has honorific forms as well. Many verbs take the ending *-misheen* to form an honorific form. They are used when the speaker talks with someone who is senior to him or her.

<u>Honorific</u>	<u>Informal</u>	
kachimisheen	kachun	'write'
imisheen	iin	'say'
acchimisheen	acchun	'walk'
waraimisheen	warain	'laugh'

Some verbs have an irregular honorific form. Interestingly, *mensheen* is an honorific form for three verbs: *chuun* 'to come', *ichun* 'to go', and *wun* 'to be at'.

<u>Honorific</u>		<u>Informal</u>	
mensheen	'come, go, be at'	chuun	'come'
		ichun	'go'
		wun	'be at'
usagain	'eat'	kamun	'eat'

The following examples show how these honorific forms are used in a sentence.

shinshii	ga	mensheen	'A teacher comes'
'teacher'	sub.	'come (hon.)'	

shinshii	ga	suba	usagain	'A teacher eats soba'
'teacher'	sub.	'Soba'	'eat (hon.)'	

Adjectives - Past, Present, Negative, and Polite forms

Like verbs, adjectives can be past, present, negative, and polite. Adjective forms in Okinawan behave more straightforwardly than verbs.

In their present, adjectives end with *-san*.

shirusan	'white'	takasan	'tall, expensive'
inchasan	'short'	maasan	'delicious'

Instead of the present form ending *-san*, past tense forms have the ending *-satan*.

shirusatan 'was white'

takasatan	'was tall, expensive'
inchasatan	'was short'
maasatan	'was delicious'

In a negative form of adjectives, the ending *-kooneen* 'not' plays its role.

shirukooneen	'not white'
takakooneen	'not tall, expensive'
inchakooneen	'not short'
maakoooneen	'not delicious'

The past tense form of these adjectives is formed by simply adding *-tan* at the end.

shirukooneentan	'was not white'
takakooneentan	'was not tall, expensive'
inchakooneentan	'was not short'
maakoooneentan	'was not delicious'

Like verbs, adjectives have a polite form. Its form is very regular. It has *-ibiin* ending.

shirusaibiin	'white'
---------------------	---------

takasaibiin 'tall, expensive'

inchasaibiin 'short'

maasaibiin 'delicious'

Word Order - Subject and Object

When you show the subject of a sentence, either *ga* or *nu* is your choice. Place it immediately after the subject. In other words, they are subject markers. Use *ga* when the subject is a person or a pronoun; otherwise, choose *nu*.

anmaa **ga** chuun '(My) mother is coming'
'mother' sub. 'coming'

ari **ga** wattaa yaa 'That is my house'
'that' sub. 'my house'

Uchinaa suba **nu** maasan 'Okinawa Soba is
'Okinawa Soba' sub. 'delicious' delicious'

No object marker is needed in Okinawan.

kuruzaataa kami busan '(I) want to eat brown
'brown sugar' 'eat' 'want' sugar'

How to Ask Questions

When compared with Japanese and English, the interrogative sentences in Okinawan are more complex. When a sentence contains *nuu* 'what', *maa* 'where', *taa* 'who', *ichi* 'when', *ikuchi* 'how many', *chassa* 'how much', *jiru* 'which', and so on, it ends with the question marker *ga*.

nuu kami busa ga? 'What do you want to eat?'
'what' 'eat' 'want' que.

maa nkai ichi busa ga? 'Where do you want to go?'
'where' 'to' 'go' 'want' que.

taa tu ichi busa ga? 'Who do you want to go with?'
'who' 'with' 'go' 'want' que.

ikuchi	kami	busa	ga?	'How many do you want
'how many'	'eat'	'want'	que.	to eat?'

chassa	ya	ga?	'How much is it?'
'how much'	'be'	que.	

jiru kami busa ga? 'Which do you want to eat?
'which' 'eat' 'want' que.

When a sentence does not have these interrogative words, it ends with *mi*. That is, the yes/no question marker is *mi*. (For reference, without being conjugated the verb for 'eat' and the potential verb for 'edible' are *kamun* and *kamariin* respectively.)

suba kamu mi? 'Do you (want to) eat soba?
'Soba' 'eat' que.

kuree kamarii mi? 'Is this eatable?'
'this is' 'edible' que.

If a sentence is a negative one, the question form ends with *ni* rather than *mi*. (In the following examples, the words *kama* and *kamara* are forms underlying the statement forms *kaman* 'do not eat' and *kamaran* 'not edible'.)

suba kama ni? 'Don't you (want to) eat soba?'
'Soba' 'do not eat' que.

kuree kamara ni? 'Isn't this edible?'
 'this is' 'not edible' que.

Another type of interrogative sentence can be formed by simply adding *yi* after a noun or pronoun.

kuree Uchinaa suba yi? 'Is this Okinawa Soba?'
 'this is' 'Okinawa Soba' que.

aree hiijaa yi? 'Is that a goat?'
 'that is' 'goat' que.

It should be pointed out when a noun ends with *n*, the nasal *n* turns into *nu* when *yi* is added.

chin + yi → kuree chinu yi? 'Is this
 'clothes' que. 'this is' 'clothes' que. clothing?'

jin + yi → kuree jinu yi? 'Is this
 'money' que. 'this is' 'money' que. money?'

Furthermore, there is a 'mild interrogative' form ending with *naa*. It is used to make sure things with the listener. The ending *naa* is simply added to a dictionary form of verbs or adjectives. It can be

attached to a noun as well.

'yaa	n	ichun	naa	'Are you going as well?'
'you'	'also'	'go'	que.	

aree	maasatan	naa	'Was that delicious?'
'that'	'was delicious'	que.	

'yaa	kaman	naa	'Don't you eat?'
'you'	'not eat'	que.	

chuu	n	iyu	naa	'Is it fish today again?'
'today'	'also'	'fish'	que.	

How to Count Things (other than people)

tiichi	'1'	muuchi	'6'
taachi	'2'	nanachi	'7'
miichi	'3'	yaachi	'8'
yuuchi	'4'	kukunuchi	'9'
ichichi	'5'	tuu	'10'

How to Count People

chui	'one person'	ruku-nin	'six people'
tai	'two people'	shichi-nin	'seven people'
micchai	'three people'	hachi-nin	'eight people'
yuttai	'four people'	ku-nin	'nine people'
gu-nin	'five people'	juu-nin	'ten people'

The word *nin* 'person' is added to the numbers *guu* 'five', *ruku* 'six', *shichi* 'seven', *hachi* 'eight', *ku* 'nine', and *juu* 'ten'. As you may have noticed, the numbers to count people and things are different.

Words and Phrases

Everyday Words and Expressions

<i>chaa ganjuu yaibii-mi?</i>	Are you well? [Formal]
	- Also, <i>chaa ganjuu-yi?</i>
<i>chaa yaibii-ga?</i>	How is it going?
<i>chassa yaibii-ga?</i>	How much is it?
<i>jiroo mashi ya-ga?</i>	Which one is better?
<i>chibariyoo!</i>	Do your best!
<i>guburii sabitan</i>	I apologize for what I have done. [Formal]

haisai or *haitai*

Hello (-*sai* ending for male speakers to use; -*tai* for female)

kwacchii sabira

An expression uttered before one starts eating, meaning 'I am thankful for the food that I am going to eat'

kwacchii sabitan

An expression uttered after one finishes eating, meaning 'I am thankful for the food that I have just finished eating'

nifee deebiru

Thank you very much [Formal]

haisai gusuu yoo

Hello everyone (*haitai* for female speakers)

maasaibiin

It is delicious. [Formal]

maasaibitan

It was delicious. [Formal]

mensooree

Please come! Please go!

Welcome [Formal]

nankuru naisa

Things will be okay.

usagamishooree

Please eat or drink (something)
[Formal]

kamee

Eat it! [Informal imperative form]

<i>chaabirasai</i>	I'm here. (When you visit some place, to let a person know that you are there.)
<i>wata-michooibiin</i>	I am full. [Formal]
<i>wassaibiin</i>	I am sorry. I apologize. [Formal]
<i>yaa naree fuka naree</i>	If you do right at home, you would do the same elsewhere. (i.e., You cannot hide how you behave home; it will naturally come out.)
<i>yuimaaru</i>	A system of cooperative exchange of labor

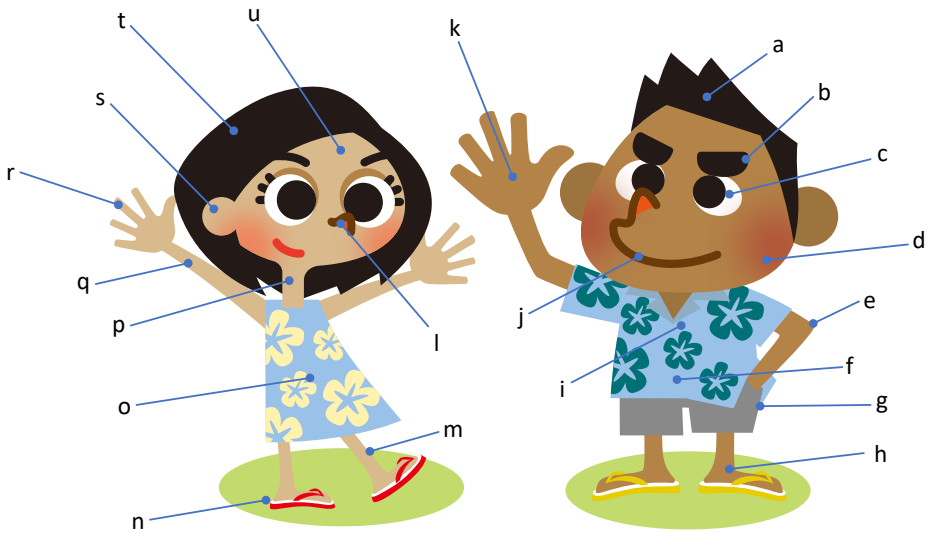
Okinawan Words on a Menu

<i>aguu</i>	Okinawan pig
<i>akajin</i>	A kind of fish
<i>anda-nsuu</i>	Miso paste with meat fried in oil
<i>aasa jiru</i>	A sea lettuce soup
<i>ashi tibichi</i>	Pigs' feet soup - Also, <i>tibichi</i> .
<i>awamori</i>	Okinawan rice wine
<i>banshiruu</i>	A guava
<i>basanai</i>	A banana

<i>chi-deekuni</i>	A carrot
<i>chinnuku juushii</i>	Rice porridge mixed with taro
<i>deekuni</i>	A radish
<i>fuuchibaa</i>	Mugwort, wormwood
<i>fuuchibaa juushii</i>	Mugwort rice porridge
<i>fuu irichii</i>	Stir-fried wheat-gluten bread dish - Also, <i>fuu irichaa</i>
<i>gooyaa chanpuruu</i>	Stir-fried bitter melon dish - cf. <i>gooyaa</i> 'bitter melon'
<i>gurukun</i>	One type of the Caesio fish, banana fish
<i>hirayaachii</i>	A flat-round pizza like dish with few toppings
<i>iyu</i>	Fish
<i>kuru-zaataa</i>	Brown sugar
<i>kuubu irichii</i>	Stir-fried seaweed dish - Also, <i>kuubu irichaa</i>
<i>maaminaa chanpuruu</i>	Stir-fried bean sprout dish
<i>mimi-gaa</i>	Pig's earlobe dish
<i>naabeeraa</i>	Gourd
<i>nakami jiru</i>	Soup of pig's intestines - Also, <i>nakami nu shiimun</i>

<i>rafutee</i>	A traditional Okinawan dish in which chopped pork is slow cooked with soy sauce, sugar, and <i>awamori</i> liquor
<i>sanpin-cha</i>	Jasmine tea
<i>shiikwaasaa</i>	A kind of lime
<i>shishi</i>	Meat
<i>sooki buni</i>	Ribs - Also, <i>sooki</i>
<i>sooki suba</i>	Okinawa soba with prok ribs on the top
<i>sunui</i>	A kind of seaweed
<i>tamanaa</i>	Cabbage
<i>yashee</i>	Vegetable - cf. <i>Shima yashee</i> 'Okinawan vegetable'

Body parts



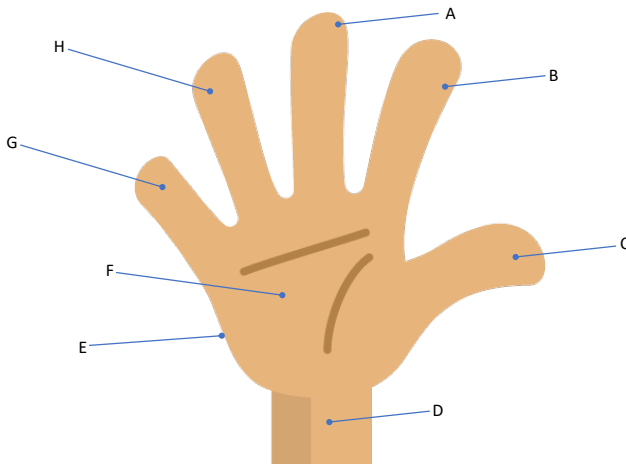
- a. karaji 'hair (of the head)'
- b. mayu 'eyebrow'
- c. mii 'eye'
- d. chira 'face'
- e. fijigee 'elbow'
- f. tenbusu 'navel'
- g. chibi 'buttocks'
- h. hisa 'leg, foot'
- i. nni 'chest'

- l. hana 'nose'
- m. chinshi 'knee'
- n. adu 'heel'
- o. wata 'belly'
- p. kubi 'neck'
- nuudii 'throat'
- q. udi 'arm'
- r. iibi 'finger'
- s. mimi 'ear'

j. kuchi 'mouth'
shiba 'tongue'
k. tii 'hand'

t. chiburu 'head'
u. fichee 'forehead'

Hand and Fingers



A.	naka-iibi	'middle finger'
B.	'chu-sashi-iibi	'index finger'
C.	ufu-iibi	'thumb'
D.	tii-nu-kubi	'wrist'
E.	tii-nu-kuu	'back of the hand'
F.	tii-nu-wata	'palm of the hand'
G.	iibi-n-gwaa	'little finger'
H.	naa-nashi-iibi	'ring finger'

Months of year

<i>soo-gwachi,</i>	
<i>ichi-gwachi</i>	'January'
<i>nin-gwachi</i>	'February'
<i>san-gwachi</i>	'March'
<i>shin-gwachi</i>	'April'
<i>gun-gwachi</i>	'May'
<i>ruku-gwachi</i>	'June'
<i>shichi-gwachi</i>	'July'
<i>hachi-gwachi</i>	'August'
<i>kun-gwachi</i>	'September'
<i>juu-gwachi</i>	'October'
<i>shimu-chichi</i>	'November'
<i>shiwaashi</i>	'December'

Fruits and vegetables

<i>yaashee</i>	'vegetable'
<i>naashibi</i>	'eggplant'
<i>kii-nu-nai</i>	'fruit'
<i>kandabaa</i>	'sweet potato leaves'
<i>gooyaa</i>	'bitter melon'

<i>bira</i>	'Welsh onion'
<i>maaminaa</i>	'bean sprouts'
<i>'nmu</i>	'sweet potato'
<i>tamanaa</i>	'cabbage'
<i>jiimaami</i>	'peanut'
<i>naabeeraa</i>	'sponge gourd'
<i>shibui</i>	'winter melon'
<i>dacchoo</i>	'scallion'
<i>hiru</i>	'garlic'
<i>chideekuni</i>	'carrot'
<i>kooree-gusu</i>	'red chili pepper'
<i>chinkwaa</i>	'pumpkin'
<i>shiikwa</i>	'watermelon'
<i>chiribiraa</i>	'leek'
<i>banshiruu</i>	'guava'
<i>taanmu</i>	'taro'
<i>shiikwaasaa</i>	'a kind of lime'
<i>huuchibaa</i>	'mugwort'
<i>basanai</i>	'banana'
<i>gunboo</i>	'burdock'
<i>mumu</i>	'peach'
<i>ui</i>	'melon'
<i>kaabuchii</i>	'a kind of orange'

Insects and animals

<i>ichi-mushi</i>	'animals'	<i>gujira</i>	'whale'
<i>mushi</i>	'insects'	<i>hiitu</i>	'dolphin'
<i>hijjaa*</i>	'goat'	<i>gani</i>	'crab'
<i>ushi</i>	'cow'	<i>iyu</i>	'fish'
<i>habu</i>	'poisonous snake'	<i>abasaa</i>	'balloon fish'
<i>in</i>	'dog'	<i>aaman</i>	'hermit crab'
<i>yaaruu**</i>	'gecko'	<i>icha</i>	'squid'
<i>hootu</i>	'pigeon'	<i>kaami</i>	'turtle'
<i>atabichaa</i>	'frog'	<i>taku</i>	'octopus'
<i>enchu</i>	'mouse'	<i>isatuu</i>	'praying mantis'
<i>mayaa</i>	'cat'	<i>kuubaa</i>	'spider'
<i>tui</i>	'bird'	<i>aakeejuu</i>	'dragonfly'
<i>garasaa</i>	'crow'	<i>jinjin</i>	'firefly'
<i>'waa</i>	'pig'	<i>ai ~ aikoo</i>	'ant'
<i>kuraa</i>	'sparrow'	<i>haberu</i>	'butterfly'
<i>usaji</i>	'rabbit'	<i>gajan</i>	'mosquito'
<i>'nma</i>	'horse'	<i>hiiraa***</i>	'cockroach'

*Also, fiijaa 'goat'

**Also, yaaduu 'gecko'

***Also, fiiraa ~ too-biiraa 'cockroach'

Daily Conversation

When you see your friends

Chiruu: Haitai, Ken!

Jiraa: Haisai, Mami!

Chiruu: 'Yaa, maa nkai-ga?

Jiraa: Dushi nu yaa nkai ichun.

Chiruu: Anshee mata-yaa.

Jiraa: Ii.



In English,

Chiruu: Hello, Ken!

Jiraa: Hello, Mami!

Chiruu: Where are you going?

Jiraa: I'm going to my friend's house.

Chiruu: I'll see you around.

Jiraa: Yeah.

Visiting your friends

Nabii: Chaabira-tai!

Taraa: Ai, Chiruu, 'yaa-du yan-naa. Naaka nkai iree.

Chiruu: Anshee, ira-yi.

Kamii: Nuu shii-ga cha-ga?

Chiruu: 'Yaa tu yuntaku shii-ga tee.

In English,

Nabii: I'm here!

Taraa: Oh, Chiruu. Is it you? Come on in.

Chiruu: I'll come in then.

Kamii: What brought you here?

Chiruu: I came to chitchat with you.

When you leave ...

Jiraa: Wannee ika-yi.

Kame: Chiichikiti iki-yoo.



In English,

Jiraa: I'm leaving.

Kame: Take care.

When you go to work/school

Taraa: 'nji kuu-yi.

Kamii: Chuu-n hamati kuu-yoo.

In English,

Taraa: I'm going/leaving.

Kamii: Enjoy yourself.

At a market

Customer: Kuree nuu yaibiiga?

Clerk: Uree fuuchibaa-juushii yaibiin.

Maasaibiin-doo-tai.

Customer: Anshee, kadi-nda. Chassa yaibii-ga?

Clerk: 200yen yaibiin.

Customer: Kuree shiikwa-ui yaibii-sa-ya?

Clerk: Wuu-wu-wuu, uree shibui du yaibiin-doo.

In English,

Customer: What is this?

Clerk:	That is Mugwort rice porridge. It's delicious.
Customer:	I'll have one, then. How much is it?
Clerk:	200yen.
Customer:	This is a watermelon, right?
Clerk:	No, that's a winter melon.

Introducing yourself

Nabii: Hajimiti-yaa-tai. Wannee Nabii yaibiin.
Unju-nu naa-ya, nuu-ndi imishee-ga?

Sandaa: Wannee Sandaa-ndi iyabiin.
Yutasaru-gutu unigeesabira.

Nabii: Wannin yutasaru-yoo unigeesabira.

In English,

Nabii:	First time to see you. I'm Nabii. What is your name?
Sandaa:	I'm Sandaa. Nice to meet you.
Nabii:	Nice to meet you, too.

The Future of Okinawan

The languages of Okinawa, which belong to the Ryukyuan language family, are considered endangered. The number of native speakers of the languages of Okinawan has fallen drastically. Most of these speakers are elders. Many young Okinawans do not have a good command of the Okinawan language(s) that their parents and/or grandparents speak. For most people, Okinawan is not a language used to communicate with each other at home, at school, or at work, but it is a language used among the elders.

The Government of Okinawa officially announced the 18th of September as the Ryukyuan Language Day in 2006 in order to make people be aware that our local languages are in peril. The Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education has produced materials on local languages/dialects, and distributed them to schools. None of the languages has yet been taught in school as part of the official educational curriculum.

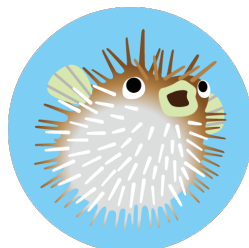
Some local communities have created their own Okinawan textbooks, card games, picture books, and so on for children in their own communities. Others have managed to organize their local language speech contest and conversation skit contest. However,

many of these sorts of activities have not gone beyond the community level.

There have been a lot of discussions among linguists, officials, and language preservation advocates concerning how to prevent the languages from dying out, and there will be more for the future of Okinawan and other languages spoken in Okinawa.

Okinawan-English Word List

<i>abasaa</i>	A balloon fish
<i>acchun</i>	(v) Walk - cf. <i>akkan</i> 'do not walk'
<i>achikookoo</i>	Steaming hot (used for food and drink)
<i>adu</i>	A heel
<i>agaa!</i>	Ouch!
<i>agari</i>	East
<i>ai</i>	An ant - Also, <i>aikoo</i>
<i>aka-banaa</i>	A hibiscus
<i>aka-gaara</i>	A red roof tile
<i>aakeejuu</i>	A dragonfly
<i>ai</i>	Oh!



abasaa

<i>akisamiyoo</i>	Goodness! Heavens!
<i>an</i>	(v) Be, exist, be located
<i>anda</i>	Oil, fat, grease
<i>anda-guchi</i>	A flattery - cf. <i>kuchi</i> 'Mouth'
<i>anda-nsuu</i>	<i>Miso</i> with meat fried in oil - cf. <i>nsuu</i> ~ <i>nsu</i> 'miso'
<i>anmaa</i>	Mother
<i>anshee</i>	And then, if it is so.
<i>aree</i>	That is...[Far from you] - cf. <i>aree</i> < <i>ari</i> 'that' + <i>ya</i> 'a topic marker'
<i>ari</i>	That [Far from you]
<i>aasa</i>	A kind of sea lettuce
<i>ashibi</i>	Play, a recreation
<i>ashibaa</i>	A man of pleasure, a libertine
<i>ashibun</i>	(v) Play, have fun
<i>ashi-tibichi</i>	Pigs' feet soup - Also, <i>tibichi</i>
<i>atabichaa</i>	A frog
<i>awatii-haatii</i>	In a fluster
<i>banshiruu</i>	A guava
<i>bappee</i>	A mistake, an error
<i>bappeein</i>	(v) Make a mistake
<i>basanai</i>	A banana

<i>buchikun</i>	A faint
<i>-busan</i>	(v) Want to ... - e.g., <i>kami-busan</i> '(I) want to eat'
<i>chaa</i>	[Plural marker] - e.g., <i>dushi nu chaa</i> 'friends'
<i>chaa</i>	Always, constantly - e.g., <i>chaa ganjuu soon</i> 'being always healthy'
<i>chaa...?</i>	How...?, What...? - e.g., <i>chaa yaibii ga?</i> 'How is it?'
<i>chaabira</i>	(v) Come [Honorific form of <i>chuun</i> 'to come']
<i>chanpuruu</i>	A stir-fried mix of vegetable and meat dish - e.g., <i>gooyaa chanpuruu</i> 'a stir-fried bitter melon dish' <i>soomin chanpuruu</i> 'a stir-fried noodle dish'
<i>chassa...?</i>	How much...? - e.g., <i>chassa yaibii ga?</i> 'How much is it?'
<i>chibain</i>	(v) Do one's best - e.g., <i>chibariyoo!</i> 'Do your best!'
<i>chibi</i>	Buttocks
<i>chiburu</i>	Head
<i>chi-deekuni</i>	A carrot

<i>chiichikiin</i>	Take care of, be careful
<i>chimu-ganasan</i>	Charming, darling
<i>chimu-gukuru</i>	Mind, spirit
<i>chimu-gurisan</i>	Pitiful, miserable
<i>chin</i>	Clothes, dress
<i>chin-nuku</i>	A taro
<i>chinshi</i>	A knee
<i>chinuu</i>	Yesterday
<i>chira</i>	Face
<i>chirudai</i>	Disappointment, discouragement
<i>choodee</i>	Siblings
<i>choon</i>	(v) Have arrived
<i>chuu</i>	Today
<i>'chu</i>	A person
<i>'chusashi-iibi</i>	Index finger - cf. <i>sashi</i> '(v) point'
<i>chuubaa</i>	A strong person - cf. <i>yoobaa</i> 'a weak person'
<i>chuun</i>	(v) Come - cf. <i>kuun</i> 'do not come'
<i>chura-kaagi</i>	Beauty
<i>chura-kaagii</i>	A good-looking woman
<i>churasan</i>	Beautiful, lovely, fine
<i>-deebiru</i>	[Formal verb ending], equivalent of 'am, is,

	are'	
<i>deekuni</i>	A radish	
<i>deeki</i>	A serious matter	
<i>dikiyaa</i>	A excellent student	
-doo	[A sentence-final particle that indicates a slight emphasis]	
	- e.g., <i>maasan-doo</i> 'delicious!'	
<i>du</i>	[A particle that indicates emphasis]	
<i>dushi</i>	A friend	
<i>ee</i>	Indigo dye	
<i>eesachi</i>	Greeting	
<i>eisaa</i>	A group <i>Bon</i> dance	
<i>fee</i>	South	
<i>fichee</i>	Forehead	
<i>fijigee</i>	An elbow	
<i>fuuchibaa</i>	Mugwort, wormwood	
<i>fuuchibaa juushii</i>	Rice porridge seasoned with mugwort leaves	
<i>fushi</i>	A star	
	- cf. <i>fushi-bushi</i> 'stars', <i>niinufa-bushi</i> 'the north star'	
<i>furaa</i>	An idiot	
<i>furimun</i>	A fool, a crazy	
<i>fusu</i>	A navel	
<i>fuuchibaa</i>	Mugwort leaves	



basanai

<i>-ga</i>	[Subject marker for person] - e.g., <i>shinshii ga chuun</i> 'the teacher is coming' - Also, <i>-nu</i> [Subject marker for non-person]
<i>-ga?</i>	[Question marker] - e.g., <i>kuree nuu ya-ga?</i> 'What is this?'
<i>gajan</i>	A mosquito
<i>gaa juu</i>	A stubborn person
<i>gakushii</i>	A student
<i>gan juu</i>	Being strong, being healthy
<i>gan mari</i>	Mischief, tease - cf. <i>gan maraa</i> 'a practical joker'
<i>garasaa</i>	A crow
<i>googuchi</i>	A complaint - cf. <i>googuchaa</i> 'a grumbler'
<i>gooyaa</i>	A bitter melon
<i>guburii</i>	Rudeness [Formal]
<i>gumasan</i>	Small - cf. <i>gumaa-gwaa</i> 'anything small'
<i>gurukun</i>	One type of the Caesio fish, banana fish
<i>gusuku</i>	A castle, a fort

- Also, *gushiku*

-gwaa

[A diminutive suffix]

- e.g., *in-gwaa* 'doggy'

haberu

A butterfly

- Also, *haabeeruu*

habu

Poisonous snake

hagoosan

Dirty, filthy

haisai/haitai

Hello (-*sai* ending for male

speakers to use, -*tai* for female)

hajimiti

First time

- cf. *hajimi* 'the beginning'

hamain

Devote oneself to work

hana

Nose, snout

hana

A flower

hii

Fire

- Also, *fii*

hicchii

All day long, often

hijjaa

A goat

hijai

Left, the left side

hijayaa

A left-handed person

hi-nu-kan

Fire deity

hisa

A leg, foot

ii

Yes [Informal]



habu

- cf. *uu* [Formal]

iibi

A finger

iibin-gwaa

Little finger

icha

A squid

ichanda

Free of charge

ichain

(v) Meet by chance

- Also, *ichayun*

ichi...?

When...?

- e.g., *ichi ichu-ga?* 'When do (we) go?'

ichichi

Five

ichiku

Cousin

ichun

(v) Go

- cf. *njan* 'went'

ichunasan

Busy

ii

Yeah

ikirasan

Few, scarce

ikuchi...?

How many...?

- e.g., *ikuchi kooi-ga?*

'How many do (you) buy?'

imisheen

(v) Say [Honorific form of *iin*]

- Also, *imiseen*

in

A dog

- Also, *in-gwaa*

iin

(v) Enter



kachaashii

<i>iin</i>	(v) Say
<i>inchasan</i>	Short
<i>ippee</i>	Very
<i>iree</i>	(v) Enter, go in [Imperative form of <i>iin</i>]
<i>iri</i>	West
<i>irichii</i>	A stir-fry
	- Also, <i>irichaa</i>
	- cf. <i>tofu-irichii</i> 'a Stir-fried <i>tofu</i> dish'
<i>ittaa</i>	You [Plural]
<i>iyabiin</i>	(v) Say [Formal form of <i>iin</i>]
<i>iyu</i>	A fish
<i>jii-maami</i>	A peanut
<i>jin</i>	Money
<i>jinbun</i>	Wisdom
	- cf. <i>jinbunaa</i> 'a wise person'
<i>jiru...?</i>	Which...?
	- e.g., <i>jiroo mashi ya-ga?</i>
	'Which one is better?'
	- cf. <i>jiroo</i> < <i>jiru</i> + <i>ya</i>
<i>juushii</i>	Rice porridge
<i>kachaashii</i>	A type of dance with a very quick-tempo music
<i>kachun</i>	(v) Write
	- cf. <i>kachan</i> 'wrote'

<i>kamun</i>	(v) Eat - cf. <i>kadan</i> 'ate'	
<i>kanpachi</i>	A scar	
<i>karaji</i>	Hair of the head	
<i>karasan</i>	Spicy	
<i>karii</i>	Happiness, luck	
<i>kariyushi</i>	Happiness	
<i>katabui</i>	A localized rain shower	
<i>kaji</i>	A wind, a breeze	
<i>kii</i>	Hair	
<i>kibushi</i>	Smoke	
<i>kooin</i>	(v) Buy - cf. <i>kootan</i> 'bought', <i>kooran</i> 'do not buy',	
<i>kooji</i>	Yeast, mold	
<i>kubi</i>	Neck	
<i>kufasan</i>	Hard, tough	
<i>kuubaa</i>	A spider	
<i>kuubu</i>	A type of seaweed, tangle weed	
<i>kuchi</i>	Mouth	
<i>kukunuchi</i>	Nine	
<i>kuuga</i>	An egg	
<i>kuree</i>	This is ... - cf. <i>kuree</i> < <i>kuri</i> 'this' + <i>ya</i> 'speaking of'	
<i>kuri</i>	This	



sunui

<i>kuru-zaataa</i>	Brown sugar - cf. <i>kuruu</i> 'black'
<i>kusaa</i>	Behind, back
<i>kuusu</i>	Aged <i>Awamori</i> , rice wine
<i>kwaashi</i>	Confection, snacks, cake, sweet
<i>kwacchii</i>	A treat, feast
<i>kwii</i>	A voice
<i>maa...?</i>	Where...? - e.g., <i>maa nkai ichu-ga?</i> 'Where do (we) go?'
<i>mabui</i>	A soul, a spirit
<i>machi-gwaa</i>	A market - Also, <i>machi</i>
<i>machi-ya</i>	A store
<i>macchoon</i>	Be waiting
<i>magisan</i>	Big
<i>majimun</i>	A ghost
<i>majun</i>	Together
<i>maami</i>	Beans
<i>maami-naa</i>	Bean sprouts
<i>maasan</i>	Delicious - cf. <i>maasaibiin</i> 'is delicious' [Formal] <i>maasatan</i> 'was delicious'



<i>maasu</i>	Salt
<i>mata</i>	Again
<i>mattooba</i>	Straight
<i>mayu</i>	An eyebrow
	- Also, <i>mii-mayu</i>
<i>mensheen</i>	(v) Come, go, be at [Formal]
<i>-mi?</i>	[Question marker]
	- e.g., <i>masa-mi?</i> '(Is it) delicious?'
<i>mii</i>	A fruit, contents
<i>mii</i>	An eye
<i>mii-</i>	New
	- e.g., <i>mii-mun</i> 'a new thing'
<i>miibai</i>	A type of fish belonging to the <i>Epinephelidae</i> family
<i>miichi</i>	Three
<i>mii-ganchoo</i>	A pair of eyeglasses
	- Also, <i>ganchoo</i>
<i>mijirasan</i>	Rare, unusual, novel
<i>mii-mayu</i>	An eyebrow
<i>mimi</i>	An ear
<i>muuchii</i>	A rice cake wrapped with a shell ginger leaf
<i>-mun</i>	A person, a thing, food
	- e.g., <i>maasa-mun</i> 'something delicious'
<i>munu</i>	A person, a thing, food

- e.g., *wan-nee munu kadoon*

'I am eating (food)'

muru

All, completely

muuchi

Six

n

Also, as well

- e.g., *uir n maasan* 'This is also delicious.'

naa

A yard, a field

naa

A name

naa

Leafy vegetable

naabeeraa

A sponge gourd

naafa-n-chu

A Naha person

- cf. *naafa* 'Naha', '*chu*' a person'

naaka

Middle, inside

naka-iibi

Middle finger

- cf. *naka* 'middle, inside'

nakami-jiru

Soup of pig's intestines

- Also, *nakami nu shiimun*

naka-yukui

A break, a recess

naa-nashi-iibi

Ring finger

- cf. *nashi* 'none, without'

nanachi

Seven

nankuru

By itself, naturally

neeran

There is no ..., do not exit

- Also, *neen*

<i>-ni?</i>	[Question marker] - e.g., <i>ika-ni?</i> 'Don't you go?'
<i>nifee</i>	Gratitude, appreciation - e.g., <i>nifee deebiru</i> 'Thank you'
<i>niibichi</i>	Marriage
<i>niibui</i>	Sleepiness - Also, <i>niibui-kaabui</i> - cf. <i>niibuyaa</i> 'a sleepyhead'
<i>nijiri</i>	Right, the right side
<i>niinufa-bushi</i>	The north star
<i>nirai-kanai</i>	Utopia apart from the human world
<i>nishi</i>	North
<i>niishee</i>	A young man - Also, <i>niisee</i>
<i>njasan</i>	Bitter
<i>nnjun</i>	(v) Look
<i>nkai</i>	Toward, at
<i>nkashi</i>	Old days, long time ago
<i>'nmaribi</i>	Birthday
<i>nni</i>	Chest
<i>nnna</i>	All
<i>nnsu</i>	Fermented bean paste, <i>miso</i>
<i>nu</i>	[Possessive marker] - e.g., <i>dushi nu yaa</i> 'a friend's house'



sabani

- Also, *n*

- e.g., *warabi n chaa* 'children'

-nu

[Subject marker for non-person]

- e.g., *kaji nu chuusan* 'The wind is strong'

nuu...?

What...?

- e.g., *nuu kadoo ga?*

'What are you eating?'

nuchi

Life

- e.g., *nuchi du takara*

'It is life that is our treasure'

nuudii

Throat

ohooku

A lot, many, much

- Also, *uhooku*

ooji

A fan

ooee

A fight, a quarrel

- Also, *ooyee*

rafutee

A traditional Okinawan dish in which

chopped pork is slow cooked with soy

sauce, sugar, and *Awamori* liquor

rikka

Let's ..., let us ... (an expression urging to
make an action)

- Also, *dikka*

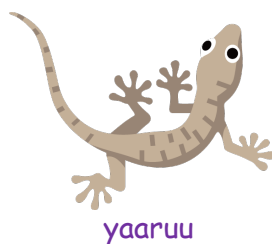
sabani

A small fishing boat used especially in old
days

<i>saataa</i>	Sugar - cf. <i>kuru-zaataa</i> 'brown sugar'
<i>shiba</i>	Tongue
<i>shibui</i>	A winter melon
<i>shiija</i>	A senior, elder
<i>shikuchi</i>	Work, job - Also, <i>waja</i>
<i>shiikwaasaa</i>	A kind of lime
<i>shiikwa-ui</i>	A watermelon
<i>shima</i>	A village, a community, an island
<i>Shima-naa</i>	Okinawan vegetables
<i>shinshii</i>	A teacher
<i>shirusan</i>	White - Also, <i>shiruu</i>
<i>shishi</i>	Meat
<i>shiwaashi</i>	December
<i>soogwachi</i>	The beginning of a new year, January
<i>sooki</i>	Ribs - Also, <i>sooki buni</i>
<i>soomin</i>	Fine noodles
<i>suu</i>	Father
<i>suu</i>	Saltwater, the tide
<i>suba</i>	Noodles, <i>soba</i>
<i>suu karasan</i>	Salty

<i>sumuchi</i>	A book
<i>sun</i>	(v) Do - cf. <i>san</i> 'do not do', <i>san</i> 'did'
<i>sunui</i>	A kind of seaweed
<i>-taa</i>	[Plural marker for living things] - e.g., <i>shinshii-taa</i> 'teachers'
<i>taa...?</i>	Who...? - e.g., <i>aree taa ya-ga?</i> 'Who is that person?
<i>taachi</i>	Two
<i>taachuu</i>	Twins
<i>takasan</i>	Tall, expensive
<i>taku</i>	Octopus
<i>taman</i>	A type of the fish <i>Lethrinus nebulosus</i> , Spangled Emperor
<i>tamanaa</i>	A cabbage
<i>tanchaa</i>	A short-tempered person - cf. <i>tanchi</i> 'short temper'
<i>teefaa</i>	A humorous person, a joker
<i>teegee</i>	Not exact, in general, loose - e.g., <i>teegee wakatan</i> 'I have generally understood (it)'

<i>teesoo</i>	A chief
<i>tenbusu</i>	A protruding navel, a navel
<i>tii</i>	A hand, <i>Karate</i>
<i>tiichi</i>	One
<i>tiida</i>	The sun
<i>tiida ami</i>	A sudden rainfall while the sun is shining
<i>tii-nu-kubi</i>	A wrist
<i>tii-nu-kuu</i>	Back of the hand
<i>tii-nu-wata</i>	Palm of the hand'
<i>tiisaji</i>	A hand towel
<i>tu</i>	And, with - e.g., 'yaa tu wan 'you and me'
<i>tuu</i>	Ten
<i>tuin</i>	(v) Take - cf. <i>tuttan</i> 'took'
<i>tuji</i>	Wife
<i>tusui</i>	An elder
<i>tuu</i>	Ten
<i>udi</i>	An arm
<i>ufu</i>	Big
<i>ufu-iibi</i>	Thumb
<i>uu</i>	Yes [Formal] - cf. <i>ii</i> [Informal]
<i>uubi</i>	A belt



<i>uchi-atai</i>	Feeling of being criticized by apparently innocent remarks - cf. <i>uchi-atai sun</i> 'to feel criticized by someone's innocent remarks'
<i>uchinaa-guchi</i>	The Okinawan language
<i>uchinaa-n-chu</i>	An Okinawan person
<i>Uchinaa-suba</i>	Okinawa Soba
<i>ufucchu</i>	A grown-up, an adult
<i>ufusan</i>	Many, a lot
<i>ufusoo</i>	A careless person
<i>uhooku</i>	A lot, many, much - Also, <i>ohooku</i>
<i>ui</i>	A melon
<i>ujiraasan</i>	Pretty, cute, beautiful
<i>ukoo</i>	incense
<i>umanchu</i>	The citizens, the people
<i>umi</i>	Sea
<i>umi-n-chu</i>	A fisherman - Also, <i>umi-acchaa</i>
<i>umusan</i>	Interesting, amusing
<i>unigee</i>	A request
<i>unju</i>	You [Formal]

- See 'yaa

uree

That is...

- cf. *uree* < *uri* + *ya*

uri

That [Near you]

usagamisooree

Please eat [Formal]

utaki

A sacred place where people pray

uttu

A younger sibling, a younger person

usagain

(v) Eat, drink [Formal]

uumaku

A naughty person

uya

A parent

waa

I, me, myself

- Also, *wan*

'waa

A pig

waja

Work, a job

wajiin

(v) Get angry

wakain

(v) Understand

wan

I, me, myself

- Also, *waa*

wan-nee

As for me,

- e.g., *wan-nee Naafa kara chaabitan*

'(As for me,) I came from Naha'

wan-nin

I also ...

- e.g., *wan-nin Naaf kara chaabitan*



uchinaa suba

'I also came from Naha'

<i>warabaa</i>	A child - Also, <i>warabi</i>
<i>warain</i>	(v) Laugh - cf. <i>waratan</i> 'laughed' <i>wararan</i> 'do not laugh'
<i>washiin</i>	(v) Forget
<i>wassan</i>	Bad, wrong
<i>wata</i>	Belly, abdomen, intestines
<i>wattaa</i>	We, us, ourselves
<i>'wii</i>	Above
<i>wuganju</i>	A holy place of worship including sacred groves and other places of worship
<i>wun</i>	(v) Exit, be, lie, remain, stay
<i>wutain</i>	Being tired - cf. <i>wannee wutatoon</i> 'I am tired'
<i>-ya</i>	[Topic marker], speaking of
<i>yaa</i>	A house, home
<i>-yaa</i>	A particle that marks seeking consent
<i>'yaa</i>	You
<i>yaachi</i>	Eight
<i>yachi-mun</i>	Ceramics, pottery
<i>yaibiin</i>	See <i>-yan</i>

<i>yakkee</i>	A trouble, worry - cf. <i>yakkee-mun</i> 'a trouble maker, a burden'
<i>yamatu</i>	Japan (in contrast to Okinawa) - cf. <i>yamatu-n-chu</i> 'a Japanese person'
<i>yanmee</i>	Illness, a disease
<i>yamun</i>	(v) Hurt, feel painful
<i>-yan</i>	Be, am, is, are [Informal] - cf. <i>yaibiin</i> [Formal]
<i>yanaa</i>	A bad thing, a bad person - Also, <i>yana-mun</i>
<i>yaa-ninju</i>	A family member
<i>yaaruu</i>	A gecko - Also, <i>yaaduu</i>
<i>yashee</i>	Vegetable
<i>yashiga</i>	However, but
<i>yassan</i>	Cheap, inexpensive
<i>-yi?</i>	[Question marker] - e.g., <i>chaa ganjuu-yi?</i> 'Have you been well?'
<i>yiin</i>	(v) Sit - cf. <i>yichoon</i> 'sitting', <i>yichan</i> 'sat'

yikiga

Male

yoobaa

A weak person

yoogaraa

A skinny person

yonnaa

Slowly

yukuin

(v) Take a rest

yukushi

A lie

yuntaku

Chitchat

yuta

A shaman

yutasan

Good, well

yuuchi

Four

yuuru

Night, evening

- Also, *yuru*



yamun!

English-Okinawan Word List

Above	<i>'wii</i>
Adult	<i>ufucchu</i>
Again	<i>mata</i>
All	<i>nnna, muru</i> - e.g., <i>nnna ichoon</i> 'All of them are seated.' <i>muru wakaran</i> '(I) understand nothing.' - cf. <i>wakain</i> 'understan', <i>wakaran</i> 'do not understand'
A lot, many, much	<i>uhooku, ohooku</i>
Always	<i>chaa</i> - e.g., <i>chaa ganjuu</i> 'always healthy'
Angry	<i>wajiin</i>
Ant	<i>ai, aikoo</i>
At	<i>-wuti, -wutooti</i>
Aunt	<i>wubamaa</i>
Bad, wrong	<i>wassan</i> - cf. <i>wassaibiin</i> 'I am sorry'
Banana	<i>basanai</i>

Bathe	<i>amiin</i>
Be at	<i>wun</i>
Beautiful	<i>churasan</i> - e.g., <i>aree ippee churasan</i> 'That is very beautiful.' - cf. <i>chura kaagi</i> 'beautiful', <i>chura kaagii</i> 'a beautiful person'
Be, am, is, are	<i>-yan</i> - e.g., <i>aree gooyaa-yan</i> 'That is bitter melon.'
Bean sprout	<i>maami-naa</i>
Behind	<i>kusaa</i>
Belt	<i>uubi</i>
Big	<i>magisan, magii</i>
Birthday	<i>'nmaribi</i>
Bitter	<i>njasan</i>
Bitter melon	<i>gooyaa</i>
Blue, green	<i>oosan, ooruu</i>
Boat	<i>funi</i>
Book	<i>sumuchi</i>
Break (n)	<i>naka-yukui</i> - e.g., <i>naka-yukui sun</i> 'take a break'
Brown sugar	<i>kuru-zaataa</i>
Busy	<i>ichinasan</i>

But	<i>yashiga</i>
Butterfly	<i>haberu, haabeeruu</i>
Buy	<i>kooiin</i> - cf. <i>kootan</i> 'bought'
Cabbage	<i>tamanaa</i>
Carrot	<i>chi-deekuni</i>
Chattering	<i>yuntaku</i> - cf. <i>yuntakuu</i> 'a talkative person'
Cheap	<i>yassan</i>
Chicken, bird	<i>tui</i>
Child	<i>'kwa, warabaa, warabi</i>
Clothes, dress	<i>chin</i>
Cloud	<i>kumu</i>
Cold	<i>hiisan, hijiruu</i> - e.g., <i>hijiruu natoon</i> 'It has become cold.' - cf. <i>natoon</i> 'has become', <i>nain</i> 'become, turn into'
Come	<i>chuun</i> - cf. <i>choon</i> 'have come' or 'have arrived' <i>chan</i> 'came' <i>mensheen</i> 'to come, to go, to be at' [Formal]
Complaint	<i>googuchi</i>

Cousin	<i>ichiku</i>
Crow	<i>garasaa</i>
Delicious	<i>maasan</i> - cf. <i>maasaibiin</i> [Formal]
Dearest, beloved	<i>kanasan</i>
Dirty, filthy	<i>hagoosan</i>
Do	<i>sun</i> - cf. <i>san</i> 'did', <i>soon</i> 'doing'
Dog	<i>in, in-gwaa</i>
Dolphin	<i>hiitu</i>
Dragonfly	<i>aakeejuu</i>
Drink (v)	<i>numun</i>
East	<i>agari</i>
Eat	<i>kamun</i> - cf. <i>kadan</i> 'ate', <i>usagain</i> 'to eat' [Formal]
Egg	<i>kuuga</i>
Eight	<i>yaachi</i>
Enter	<i>iin</i>
Evening	<i>yusandi, yuu-irigata</i>
Every day	<i>mee-nachi</i>
Eye	<i>mii</i>
Face	<i>chira</i>
Family	<i>yaa-ninju</i>
Fan	<i>ooji</i> 'a folding fan'



atabichaa

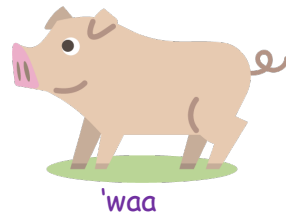
Father	<i>suu</i>
Feast, treat	<i>kwacchii</i>
Female	<i>yinagu</i>
Finish	<i>uwain</i>
	- cf. <i>uwatan</i> 'finished'
Fish	<i>iyu</i>
Fisherman	<i>umi-n-chu</i>
Five	<i>ichichi</i>
Flower	<i>hana</i>
Fly	<i>fee</i>
Food	<i>munu</i>
Foot, leg	<i>hisa</i>
Forget	<i>washiin</i>
	- cf. <i>washitan</i> 'forgot'
Four	<i>yuuchi</i>
Free of charge	<i>ichanda</i>
Friend	<i>dushi</i>
	- cf. <i>wan dushi</i> 'my friend(s)'
Frog, toad	<i>atabichaa</i>
From	<i>-kara</i>
	- e.g., <i>asa-kara ban-madi</i>
	'From morning to evening'
Fruit, contents	<i>mii</i>
Gecko	<i>yaaduu, yaaruu</i>

Ghost	<i>maji-mun</i>
Glasses	<i>ganchoo, mii-ganchoo</i>
Go	<i>ichun</i> - cf. 'njan 'went' <i>ikan</i> 'do not go'
Goat	<i>hiijaa</i>
Go back, return	<i>keein</i> - e.g., <i>wan-nee yaa-nkai keein</i> 'I'm going home.' - cf. <i>keetan</i> 'went back'
God	<i>kami</i>
Good	<i>yii, yutasan</i>
Good idea	<i>yii kangee</i>
Grandparent	<i>faafuji</i>
Greeting	<i>eesachi</i>
Guava	<i>banshiruu</i>
Hair	<i>kii</i>
Hand	<i>tii</i>
Harbor	<i>nnnatu</i>
Hard, tough	<i>kufasan</i>
He, she	<i>unu-cchu, unchu</i> [Near you], <i>anu-cchu, anchu</i> [Far from you]
Head	<i>chiburu</i>
Heart	<i>chimu, kukuru</i>

Heavy	<i>'nbusan</i>
Heel	<i>adu</i>
Hello	<i>haisai</i> or <i>haitai</i> (- <i>sai</i> ending for male speakers to use, - <i>tai</i> for female)
Help	<i>tashiki, kashii, kaashii</i>
Healthy, well	<i>ganjuu</i>
Here	<i>kuma</i>
His, hers	<i>unu-cchu nu ~ unchu nu</i> [Near], <i>anu-cchu nu ~ anchu nu</i> [Far]
Hot	<i>achisan</i> - cf. <i>achikookoo</i> 'steaming hot (for food and drink)'
House, home	<i>yaa</i>
How many...?	<i>ikuchi...?</i> - e.g., <i>ikuchi kooi busa-ga?</i> 'How many do you want to buy?'
How much...?	<i>chassa...?</i> - e.g., <i>chaasa yaibii-ga?</i> 'How much is it?'
Hungry	<i>yaasan</i>
Hurt, feel painful	<i>yamun</i>
Husband	<i>wuttu</i>
I, me, myself	<i>waa, wan</i>
Illness	<i>sawai, yanmee</i>
Inside	<i>naaka</i>

Interesting, fun	<i>umusan</i>
Island	<i>shima</i>
It	<i>uri</i> [Near you], <i>ari</i> [Far from you]
Japanese person	<i>yamatu-n-chu</i>
Joyous	<i>fukurasan</i>
Junior, younger	<i>uttu</i>
Land	<i>jii</i>
Large	<i>magisan, magii</i>
Laugh	<i>warain</i> - cf. <i>waratan</i> 'laughed'
Leaf	<i>faa</i>
Left-hand-side	<i>hijai</i> - cf. <i>hijayaa</i> 'a left-handed person'
Lie	<i>yukushi</i>
Life	<i>nuchi</i>
Live (v)	<i>ichichun, kurasun</i>
Long	<i>nagasan</i>
Look (v)	<i>nnjun</i>
Love (n)	<i>umui, joo</i>
Love (v)	<i>umuin, kanasasun, uchifuriin</i>
Luck	<i>karii</i>
Male	<i>yikiga</i>
Many	<i>ufusan, ohooku, uhooku</i>
Meat	<i>shishi</i>

Medicine	<i>kusui</i>
Middle	<i>naaka, tanaka</i>
Mine, ours	<i>wan-mun, wattaa-mun</i>
Money	<i>jin</i>
Moon	<i>chichi</i>
Mosquito	<i>gajan</i>
Mother	<i>anmaa</i>
Mountain	<i>yama, mui</i>
Name	<i>naa</i>
Nation	<i>kuni</i>
Navel	<i>fusu, tenbusu</i>
New	<i>mii-</i> - e.g., <i>mii-mun</i> 'a new thing'
Night	<i>yuuru, yuru</i>
Nine	<i>kukunuchi</i>
No	<i>yiiyii</i> [Informal], <i>wuuuuu</i> [Formal]
North	<i>nishi</i>
Nose	<i>hana</i>
Often	<i>yuu, hicchii</i>
Oil, fat	<i>anda</i>
Okinawa	<i>Uchinaa</i>
Old days	<i>nkashi</i>
One	<i>tiichi</i>

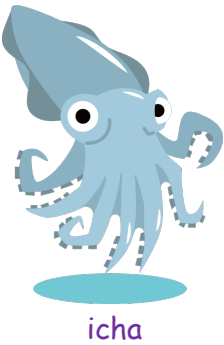


Only	<i>bikee, bikeen, bikaa, bikaan</i> - e.g., <i>iyu bikaan kadoon</i> '(He is) eating only fish.'
Outside	<i>fuka</i>
Paddle	<i>eeku, 'weeku</i>
Parent	<i>uya</i>
Person	<i>'chu, munu, -mun</i> - e.g., <i>'chu nu nuchi</i> 'person's life' <i>yana-mun</i> 'a bad person'
Picture	<i>yii, sashin</i>
Pig	<i>'waa</i>
[Plural marker]	<i>-nu chaa</i> - e.g., <i>dushi nu chaa</i> 'friends' <i>-taa</i> - e.g., <i>gakushii taa</i> 'students'
pork	<i>'waa nu shishi</i>
[Possessive marker]	<i>nu</i> - e.g., <i>dushi nu yaa</i> '(my) friend's house'
Power	<i>gutee</i>
Pretty	<i>ujiraasan</i>

[Question marker]	<p><i>-ga, -mi, -ni, -yi</i></p> <p>- e.g., <i>chaa ganjuu-yi?</i></p> <p>'Are you well as usual?'</p> <p><i>munu kamu-mi?</i></p> <p>'Do you like to eat something?'</p> <p><i>nuu ya-ga?</i> 'What is it?'</p> <p><i>ika-ni?</i> 'Don't you go?'</p>
Quick	<i>feesan</i>
Race	<i>haayee</i>
Radish	<i>deekuni</i>
Rainbow	<i>nuuji</i>
Red	<i>akaa, akasan</i>
Rest (v)	<i>yukuin</i>
Return	<p><i>keein, keesun, muduin, mudusun</i></p> <p>- e.g., <i>yaa nkai keein</i> '(He) returns home.'</p>
Rice	<i>kumi, mee</i>
Right-hand side	<i>nijiri</i>
Rock	<i>shii</i>
Rotten	<i>kusariin, shiin</i>
Salt	<i>maasu</i>
Sand	<i>uru, shina</i>
Say	<p><i>iin</i></p> <p>- cf. <i>ichan</i> 'said'</p>

Scar	<i>kanpachi</i>
Sea	<i>umi</i>
Seaweed	<i>kuubu, aasa, sunui</i>
See	<i>nnjun</i>
Senior, elder	<i>shiija, tusui</i>
Seven	<i>nanachi</i>
Shade	<i>kaagi</i>
Shooting star	<i>fushi nu yaa-uuchii</i> - cf. <i>yaa-uuchii</i> 'moving house'
Short (in length)	<i>inchasan</i>
Short temper	<i>tanchi</i> - cf. <i>tanchaa</i> 'a short-tempered person'
Sibling	<i>choodee</i> - cf. <i>yikiga choodee</i> 'brother(s)' <i>yinagu choodee</i> 'sister(s)'
Sit	<i>yiin</i>
Six	<i>muuchi</i>
Skin	<i>kaa</i>
Sky	<i>tin</i>
Slowly	<i>yonnaa</i>
Small	<i>kuusan, gumasan</i>
Smart person	<i>dikiyaa</i> (usually used for school kids)
Smoke	<i>kibushi</i>

Soft	<i>yafarasan</i>
Song	<i>uta</i>
Sound	<i>utu</i>
South	<i>fee</i>
Speaking of	- <i>ya</i> [Topic marker] - e.g., <i>chuu-ya achisan</i> 'It's hot today.'
Spicy	<i>karasan</i>
Spider	<i>kuubaa</i>
Squid	<i>icha</i>
Stand up	<i>tachun</i>
Star	<i>fushi</i> - cf. <i>fushi-bushi</i> 'stars'
Stir-fried	<i>irichii</i>
Stomach, belly	<i>wata</i>
Straight	<i>mattooba</i>
Strong	<i>chuubaa</i>
Stubborn	<i>gaajuu</i>
Student	<i>gakushii</i>
Stupid	<i>furimun</i>
[Subject marker]	- <i>ga</i> [For a person], - <i>nu</i> [For non-person] - e.g., <i>shinshii-ga chuun</i> 'Our teacher is coming.' <i>sushi-nu maasan</i> 'Sushi is delicious.'

Sugar	<i>saataa</i>	
Sun	<i>tiida</i>	
Surface	<i>'waabi</i>	
Sweet	<i>amasan</i>	
Sweet potato	<i>'nmu</i>	
Sweetheart	<i>umuyaagwaa</i>	
Swim	<i>'wiijun</i>	
Taro	<i>taa-'nmu</i>	
Tall, expensive, high (of voice)	<i>takasan</i>	
Take	<i>tuin</i>	
	- cf. <i>tuttan</i> 'took'	
Tea	<i>chaa</i>	
Teacher	<i>shinshii</i>	
Ten	<i>tuu</i>	
That	<i>uri</i> [Near you]	
	- cf. <i>uree</i> 'that is..' (< <i>uri</i> + <i>ya</i>)	
	<i>ari</i> [Far from you]	
	- cf. <i>aree</i> 'that is ..' (< <i>ari</i> + <i>ya</i>)	
Thank you	<i>nifee deebiru</i>	
They	<i>uttaa</i> [Near you], <i>attaa</i> [Far from you]	
Thing, person	<i>munu</i> , <i>-mun</i>	
This	<i>kuri</i>	
	- cf. <i>kuree</i> 'this is..' (< <i>kuri</i> + <i>ya</i>)	

Thoughts	<i>kangee</i>
Three	<i>miichi</i>
Time	<i>tuchi</i>
Tired	<i>wutain</i>

- e.g., *chinuu ippee wutatan*

'I was very tired yesterday'

chuu ippee wutatoon

'I feel very tired today'

- cf. *wutatan* 'got tired',

wutatoon 'being tired'

Today	<i>chuu</i>
Together	<i>majun</i>
Tomorrow	<i>achaa</i>
Tooth	<i>haa</i>
Toward, at	<i>-nkai</i>

- e.g., *naafa nkai ichun* '(I) go to Naha.'

Treat, feast	<i>kwacchii</i>
Trouble	<i>jaafee, yakkee</i>
Turtle	<i>kaami</i>
Two	<i>taachi</i>
Uncle	<i>wujasaa</i>
Underneath	<i>shicha</i>
Understand	<i>wakain</i>
Vegetable	<i>yashee</i>



Very	<i>ippee, deeji</i> - e.g., <i>ippee ichunasan</i> 'very busy'
Voice	<i>kwii</i>
Wait	<i>machun</i> - cf. <i>macchan</i> 'waited', <i>macchoon</i> 'waiting' - e.g., <i>macchoon doo</i> 'I'm waiting!'
Walk (v)	<i>acchun</i> - cf. <i>acchan</i> 'walked'
Want	<i>-busan</i> - e.g., <i>kami-busan</i> 'want to eat'
Warm	<i>nukusan</i>
Water	<i>miji</i>
Way, path	<i>richi</i>
We, us, ourselves	<i>wattaa</i>
West	<i>iri</i>
Whale	<i>gujira</i>
What...?	<i>nuu...?</i> - e.g., <i>nuu numi busa-ga?</i> 'What do you want to drink?'
When...?	<i>ichi...?</i> - e.g., <i>ichi ichu-ga?</i> 'When do (we) go?'
Where...?	<i>maa...?</i> - e.g., <i>maa nkai ichu-ga?</i> 'Where do (we) go?'

Which...?	<i>jiru...?</i> - e.g., <i>jiroo mashi ya-ga?</i> 'Which one is better?' - cf. <i>jiroo</i> < <i>jiru</i> + <i>ya</i>
White	<i>shirusan, shiruu</i>
Who...?	<i>taa...?</i> - e.g., <i>aree taa ya-ga?</i> 'Who is that?'
Wife	<i>tuji</i>
Wind	<i>kaji</i>
With, and	<i>tu</i> - e.g., <i>'yaa tu majun</i> 'together with you'
Work	<i>shikuchi, waja</i>
Write	<i>kachun</i>
Yes	<i>ii</i> [Informal], <i>uu</i> [Formal]
Yesterday	<i>chinuu</i>
You	<i>'yaa</i> - cf. <i>unju</i> [Formal]
You [Plural]	<i>ittaa</i>

References and Resources

- Ikema, Nae. 2003. *Yonaguni-go Jiten* [Dictionary of the Yonaguni language]. Yonaguni.
- Kokuritsu Kokugo Kenkyûjo, eds. 1998 [1963]. *Okinawa-go Jiten* [Dictionary of the Okinawan language]. Tokyo: Okurashô Insatsukyoku.
- Miyagi, Shinyû. 2003. *Ishigaki Hôgen Jiten* [Dictionary of Ishigaki dialect]. Okinawa: Okinawa Taimususha.
- Nakamoto, Masachie. 1981. *Zusetsu Ryûkyû-go Jiten* [Dictionary of Ryukyuan languages and dialects]. Tokyo: Rikitomi Shobô.
- Sakihara, Mitsugu. 2006. *Okinawan-English Wordbook-A Short Lexicon of the Okinawan Language with English Definitions and Japanese Cognates*. Edited by Stewart Curry. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press.
- Uchima, Chokuji and Nohara Mitsuyoshi. 2006. *Okinawa-go Jiten: Naha Hôgen o Chûshin ni* [Dictionary of the Okinawan language: Focusing on the dialect of Naha]. Tokyo: Kenkyûsha.