



Friendship School Project

Writing Cards and Letters 2008

Building Friendships and Learning Language

Sheet 5

Writing cards and letters to your friends is a great way for students to introduce themselves initially and to learn more about each other, or to stay in touch. It can be an activity undertaken from Prep/ Grade 1 to Year 12.

During the busy times of the school year when large projects such as album or banner making is difficult, try these quick forms of communication, to let your friends know that you are thinking of them.

Students can choose to send an Easter or Christmas cards, or a postcard showing pictures of your local area or famous Australian landmarks. They may prefer to make their own cards, incorporating a picture of themselves.

Which Language should we write in?

- Using your Lonely Planet "East Timor Phrasebook" try writing phrases in Tetun. This is one of the national languages of Timor-Leste.
- Translating the Tetun phrases written in your cards and letters into English will also be appreciated, as many students at Pre-Secondary and Secondary schools in Timor-Leste are learning English for a number of hours a week. Your cards and letters can also be used as a language learning tool within the classroom.
- It is important that we communicate with our friends in the languages that they speak on a daily basis, as this shows an interest in their culture and helps us learn new skills also.

Some examples of wording to use:

Christmas Cards

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

In Tetun: **Natal Kmanek no Haksolok ba Tinan Foun.**

Easter Cards

Happy Easter

In Tetun: **Pascoa Diak**



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A simple Glossary of words

Aban bainrua = in the future

Almosu = lunch

Belun = friend or friendship

Bola = ball

Conhese = to meet / introduce

Dadeer = morning

Data = date

Estuda makas = study hard

EP = Primary School

Gosta = likes

Halo = to make

Hato ba = to

Hau-nia - my

Hela Fatin = address

Husi / hosi = from

Iha = in, at, to have

Jantar = dinner

Jogos = play or game

Klase / classe : grade

Kolega / Colega = friend

Labele haluha = don't forget

La iha = don't have

Lia fuan / lia menon = message / story

Matabixu = breakfast

Nafatin = continually, always

Naran = name

Naran uma = nickname

Obrigadu = thank you

Religião = religion

Sidadi = city

Tinan/idade = age

Uluk nanain = firstly

Vila = village



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Some Simple Phrases

Hau nia naran = My name is

Hai belun, diak ka lae? = Hello friend, how are you?

Hau hakarak halo belun sira iha Timor-Leste = I would like to say hello to my friends in Timor-Leste

Hau contente loos tamba hau hetan colega faun iha Timor-Leste = I am really happy to have a new friend from Timor-Leste

Hau iha ne'e diak = I am well here

Hau husi = I am from

Hau gosta joga / halimar = I like to play

Belun gosta halimar saida? = What do you like to play?

Hau eskola iha = My school is

Hau hela iha = I live in

Hau gosta haree = I like to see

Hau gosta han = I like to eat

Imi iha ne'e han saida deit? = What do you eat over there?

Hau tuur iha klase... = I am in grade ...

Hau gosta estuda = I like to study

Belun gosta estuda saida? = What do you like to study?

Hau gosta / hakarak halo correspondencia ho belun sira = I would like to / want to write letters to our friends

Hau hakarak halo belun ho estudante husi klase 6 = I would like to make friends with students in grade 6

Hau nia Apa (Aman) / Ama (Inan) / Alin / Maun or Mana (Bin) nia naran = My Dad's/ Mum's / younger sibling / older brother or older sister's / name is

Hau nia maun, alin hamutuk nain = I have siblings

Imi nia foto / lembranca haruka mai hau = send your photo / a memento to me

Hau husu = I ask / I tell

Hau hakarak hato'o komprimentus no respeito ba belun sira iha = I would like to send my regard and respect to my friends at

Mak ne'e deit = That's all

Ne'ebé refila karta ne'e = Please reply to my letter

Kompramentos ba kolega sira = Regards to my friends



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Counting:

| <u>English</u> | <u>Tetun</u> |
|----------------|--------------|
| One | Ida |
| Two | Rua |
| Three | Tolu |
| Four | Haat |
| Five | Lima |
| Six | Neen |
| Seven | Hitu |
| Eight | Ualu |
| Nine | Sia |
| Ten | Sanulu |

Months of the Year:

| <u>English</u> | <u>Tetun</u> |
|----------------|--------------|
| January | Janeiru |
| February | Fevreiru |
| March | Marsu |
| April | Abril |
| May | Maiu |
| June | Junhu |
| July | Julhu |
| August | Agostu |
| September | Septembru |
| October | Octubru |
| November | Novembru |
| December | Dezembru |

Relations:

| <u>English</u> | <u>Tetun</u> |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Father, Dad | Aman, Pai, Papai, Papa, Apa |
| Mother, Mum | Inan, Main, Mamain, Mama, Ama |
| (Older) Brother, Cousin (male) | Manu, Maun, Bou |
| (Older) Sister, Cousin (female) | Mana, Abii |
| (Younger) Brother, Sister | Alin |
| Uncle | Tiu |
| Aunt | Tia |
| Grandfather | Abo |
| Grandmother | Avo |