



3

(Possession)

**I a wai** te pukapuka? = **who** had the book?

**I te hoa o Mere** te pukapuka = Mere's friend had the book

3)

**Mo wai** tetahi atu whare hou? = **who** is another new house **for**?

**Mo te minita, mo** Mita Kingi = **for** the minister, Mita Kingi

This final part covers a few additional points, to increase our understanding of practically the whole range of Maori, and our ability to form correct sentences.

In the last sections we have some commonly used words that will give flexibility of expression when we try Maori conversation. Most Maori speakers will be able to make up more examples based on any of the patterns included in this course, and so help you recognise what is said.

13. Verbs in Maori are remarkably regular. However, a few common verbs have a double form to indicate an action carried out more than once.

**Ka patupatu ia i te kuri** = **he** (repeatedly) **hit** the dog

**Me haereere taua** = **we** had better stroll around

Where an action is by its very nature repetitive its basic form is double.

**Me tahitahi nga ruma moe e korua** = **you** (two) had better sweep the bed rooms

This sentence illustrates one of the few other irregularities. Any verb used after the verb sign *me* is not given a passive ending, even if the sentence is in passive form (see 1.6). With any other verb sign *tahia* would be used in this sentence.

14.1 Many verbs start with *whaka* which usually means *cause to be* especially when the basic part of the verb is derived from an adjective.

**E whakatika(tika) ana nga kotiro i nga moenga** = **the girls are tidying the beds** ("causing to be straight" — *tika* = straight)

**Ka whakaora ia i a ratou** = **he** will save (heal) them

14.2 If we consider these English sentences;

I woke/I woke my daughter

I returned (to Taupo)/I returned his book

It will be noted that the same verb form is used whether the action only concerns one person (intransitive) or involves some other person or thing (transitive). This is not the case in Maori and an intransitive verb is *made* into a transitive verb by using the prefix *whaka*. Then the sentence usually requires the transitive preposition *i*.

**Ka oho ahau** = I woke

**Ka whakaoha ahau i taku tamahine** = I woke (caused to be awake) my daughter

**Ka hoki au (ki Taupo)** = I returned (went back) to Taupo

**Ka whakahoki au i tana pukapuka** = I returned (gave back) his book

15.2 The use of a word like *moenga* (= bed, sleeping place) raises the next point, which concerns how nouns may be made from verbs (verbal nouns). It is interesting to see that such useful words are formed by the addition of *nga*, *tanga* or *hanga* to a verb.

*tae* = to arrive

*te taenga* = the arrival

*haere* = to go

*te haerenga* = the journey

*puta* = to appear (show up) *Te putanga* = the appearance (emergence)

*tangi* = to cry (lament)

*te tangihanga* = the lamentation

*patu* = to hit

*te patunga* = the blow (act of striking)

**I te tatari te kuia ki te taenga mai a nga manuhiri** = **the old lady was awaiting the arrival of the guests**

**He tino roa ta ratou haerenga** = **their journey was very long**

15.2 A second form of verbal noun uses the active form of the verb, preceded by *te*, and refers directly to the action itself.

*te haere* = (the) going, (the) motion

*te waiata* = (the) singing

*te mahi* = (the) work, (the) activity

**(He) tino tere te haere a te motuka o Paki** = **Paki's car went very fast** (literally — "Very fast the going of Paki's car")

**He mahi ahuareka te waiata** = **singing is a pleasant activity**

**Ka pai nga tamariki ki te oma** = **the children are good at running** (See also 3.1)

16.1 There is a small but frequently used group of words with the qualities of verbs which must be mentioned to save you from the risk of confusion later on. These are the neuter verbs.

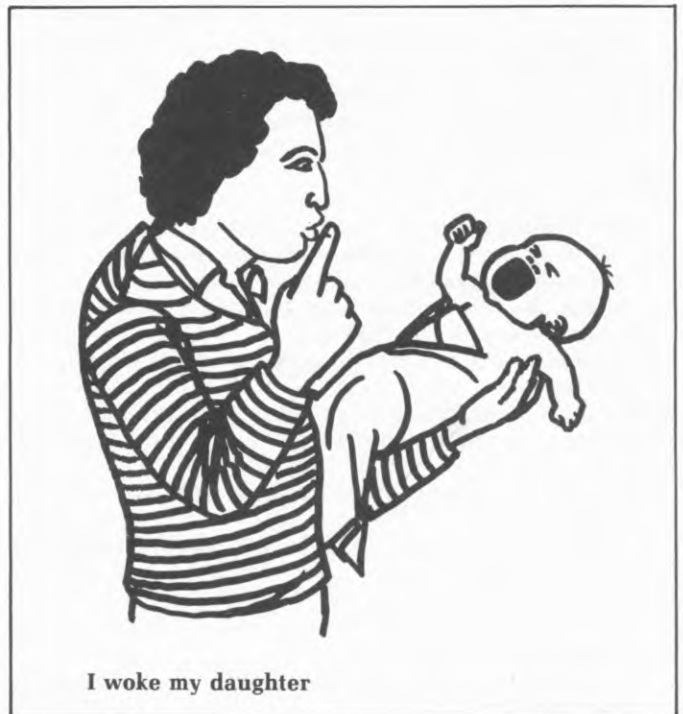
Unlike an ordinary verb that has an active and passive form (1.5), these verbs never have a passive ending but are always passive in meaning; they therefore occupy a neutral position.

Common examples are: *oti* = completed; *pau* = used up, consumed; *riro* = obtained; *motu* = cut, severed; *pakaru* = broken, smashed.

**Kua mahue nga tamariki i te kaiwhakaako** = **the children have been left behind by the teacher**

**Kua maringi te miraka i te ngeru** = **the milk has been spilt by the cat**

Note that after a neuter verb *i* is used to express *by* (not *e*), and this could be mistaken for the transitive preposition (1.6)



I woke my daughter