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Tuttle Publishing 0804841268

Tagalog for Beginners: An Introduction to Filipino, the National Language of the Philippines

User Manual

INTRODUCTION TO THE MANUAL

This manual provides comprehensive instructions and guidance for effectively using "Tagalog for Beginners: An Introduction to Filipino, the National Language of the Philippines." It is designed to help learners of all levels navigate the book's content, utilize its features, and maximize their language acquisition journey.

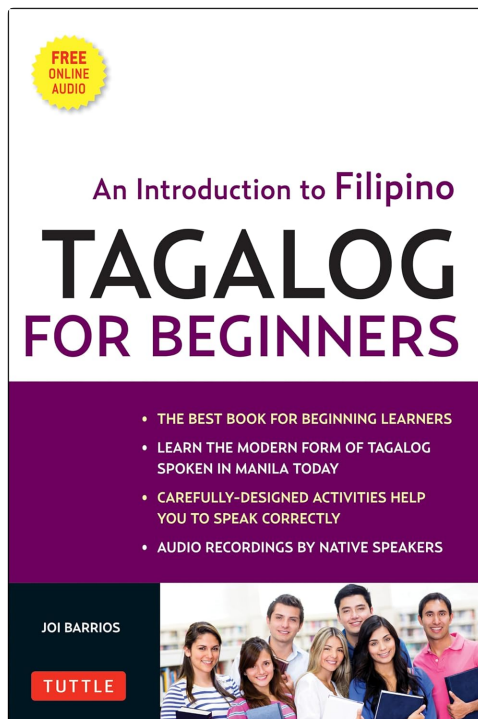


Image: Front cover of the "Tagalog for Beginners" textbook, featuring the title, author Joi Barrios, and a group of diverse students.

ABOUT THE BOOK

"Tagalog for Beginners" is a straightforward and user-friendly guide to the Tagalog language. It is designed to help you learn Tagalog (Filipino) on your own, quickly and accurately—whether you're traveling to the Philippines for a

vacation or a business trip, or you have ties to the sizeable Tagalog-speaking community in the U.S., or you're merely a language lover. From the fascinating history of Philippines' language to how you speak it, join skilled teacher Barrios on a guided introduction—with a practical focus. After journeying through the carefully-paced explanations, conversations, cultural info, and activities in Tagalog for Beginners, learners will be able to use Tagalog (Filipino) in a wide range of everyday situations. From shopping for food to asking directions, from telling time to expressing how you feel, this book gives you the communication skills you need.

Key Features:

- Accompanying online audio recordings.
- Realistic dialogues to bring the language to life.
- Activities and exercises to help you read, write, speak and understand.
- Notes on the Tagalog language and history.
- A specific section guides native (heritage) learners and instructors on how to use the book most effectively for their needs.

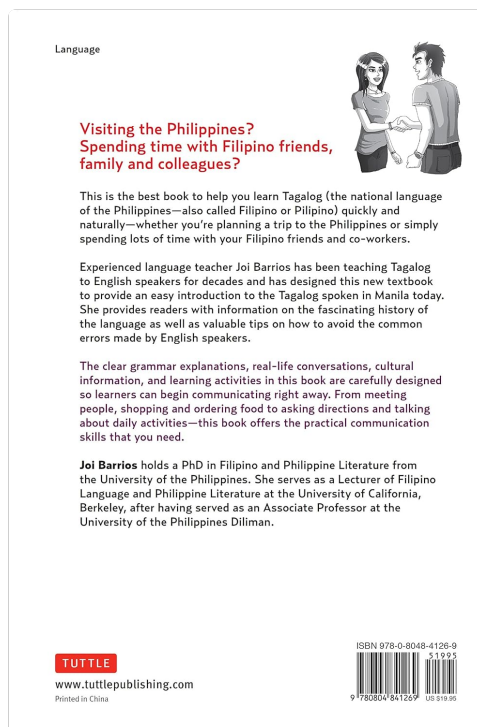


Image: Back cover of the "Tagalog for Beginners" textbook, showing a summary of the book's benefits and features.

GETTING STARTED (SETUP)

To begin your learning journey with "Tagalog for Beginners," familiarize yourself with the book's structure and available resources.

Book Layout:

The book is organized into lessons, each focusing on specific vocabulary, grammar, and cultural information. Each lesson typically includes:

- **Dialogues:** Realistic conversations to practice listening and speaking.
- **Vocabulary:** Key words and phrases introduced in each lesson.
- **Grammar Explanations:** Clear and concise explanations of Tagalog grammar rules.
- **Activities & Exercises:** Practical exercises to reinforce learning and apply new concepts.
- **Cultural Notes:** Insights into Filipino culture relevant to the language.

Contents	
Pasalamat (Acknowledgments).....	vi
Introduction.....	vii
SECTION 1: Ako, Ang Aking Pamilya, at Ang Mga Bagay sa Aking Paligid (Myself, My Family, and Things Around Me)	
LESSON 1: Pagpapakilala (Introductions).....	1
LESSON 2: Paghati (Greetings).....	15
LESSON 3: Mga Bagay (Objects).....	26
LESSON 4: Pagbisita sa Bahay ng Kaibigan (Visiting a Friend's House).....	42
LESSON 5: Ang Aking mga Gamit (My Things).....	52
LESSON 6: Mga Bayan at Bansa at ang Aking Nayonahidad (Cities and Towns, Countries and Citizenship).....	63
LESSON 7: Ang Aking Pamilya (My Family).....	73
LESSON 8: Ang Aming Bahay (Our House).....	84
SECTION 2: Ang Aking Komunidad (My Community)	
LESSON 9: Sa Kalye, sa Lungsod at sa Nayon (On the Street, in the City and in Our Village).....	93
LESSON 10: Paminili (Shopping).....	101
LESSON 11: Pagpunta sa Eskwelahan (Going to a School).....	113
LESSON 12: Paglalatag at Pag-ath (Arrivals and Departures).....	122
LESSON 13: Pag-iikedyat ng Tagpuan (Scheduling an Appointment).....	137
LESSON 14: Pagbibigay ng Direksiyon (Giving Directions).....	152
LESSON 15: Pagbahali-Aral: Paminili ng Regala (Review and Expansion Lesson: Buying a Gift).....	163
LESSON 16: Pagpunta sa Salo-salo ng May Kaarawan (Going to a Birthday Party).....	179
SECTION 3: Ang Aking Mga Gawain (My Activities)	
LESSON 17: Ang Pang-araw-araw kong Bahay (My Everyday Life).....	191
LESSON 18: Ang Aking Bakasyon (My Holiday).....	207
LESSON 19: Pagpaplan (Making Plans).....	219
iv CONTENTS	
LESSON 20: Mga Bahagi ng Katawan (Parts of the Body).....	232
LESSON 21: Pagkain (Food).....	245
LESSON 22: Pagbibigay ng Instruksiyon (Giving Instructions).....	260
LESSON 23: Pagbisita sa Bahay ng Kaibigan (Visiting a Friend's House).....	267
SECTION 4: Pabiyah-biyah (Going Around)	
LESSON 24: Paggawa ng Reservasyon (Making Reservations).....	275
LESSON 25: Paghe-Check In (Checking into a Hotel).....	287
LESSON 26: Pag-arkila ng Sasakyan (Renting a Vehicle).....	298
LESSON 27: Pagpunta sa Bangko (Going to a Bank).....	307
LESSON 28: Paglalarawan ng Tao (Describing a Person).....	315
LESSON 29: Pag-upa ng Bahay (Renting a House).....	324
LESSON 30: Paglalarawan ng Damdamin (Expressing One's Feelings).....	332
LESSON 31: Pagpatalayay ng Pangyayari (Narrating an Incident).....	341
LESSON 32: Pangangatwiran (Reasoning).....	348
Appendix 1: Speaking in Filipino: Notes on the Phonetic Features of the Language.....	
354	
Appendix 2: Why Filipino and Not Filipino? A Brief History of Making a Language the National Language.....	
357	
Appendix 3: Why "D" is "R": Understanding the Filipino Language and Society by Tracing the History of Its Letters.....	
Online Available at www.tuttlipublishing.com	
Appendix 4: Filipino Grammar for the Beginning Learner.....	
Online Available at www.tuttlipublishing.com	
Appendix 5: A Culture through Its Words: Vocabulary Notes.....	
359	
Appendix 6: Understanding "Murga": The Filipino Heritage Learner.....	
362	
Grammar Index.....	366
Glossary.....	368

Image: A page from the book showing the detailed table of contents, outlining the various lessons and appendices.

Accessing Online Audio:

The book includes accompanying online audio recordings. These are crucial for developing accurate pronunciation and improving listening comprehension. Refer to the instructions within the book (typically on the first few pages or near the CD pocket) for details on how to access and download these audio files from the publisher's website.

1

Aralin LESSON

Pagpapakilala (Introductions)

Dayalogo (Dialogue): Kumusta ka? (How are you?)

Read the dialogue below. After completing this chapter, practice this dialogue using your own information.

MARIA : Ako si Maria.
I am Maria.

PEDRO : Ikinagapalak kong makilala ka, Maria. Pedro ang pangalan ko.
Pleased to meet you. My name is Pedro.

MARIA : Kumusta ka, Pedro?
How are you, Pedro?

PEDRO : Mabuti. Ikaw?
Fine. And you?

MARIA : Mabuti.
Fine.

Bokabularyo (Vocabulary)

Study the following words and how they are used in sentences.

Ako	<i>I</i>
Ako si Maria.	<i>I am Maria.</i>
Ikaw	<i>You (used at the beginning of a sentence)</i>
Ikaw si Pedro.	<i>You are Pedro.</i>
Ka	<i>You (used elsewhere in the sentence)</i>
Si Pedro ka.	<i>You are Pedro. (literally, Pedro you.)</i>
Sya	<i>He/She</i>
Sya si Juan. Sya si Clara.	<i>He is Juan. She is Clara.</i>
Pangalan	<i>Name</i>
Maria ang pangalan ko.	<i>My name is Maria.</i>

Dagdag Na Bokabularyo (Additional Vocabulary)

Study the following words that will enable you to talk about yourself and your gender, to use pronouns, to say "yes" or "no," and to ask questions.

Ano?	<i>What?</i>
Sino?	<i>Who?</i>
Babae	<i>Woman</i>
Lalaki	<i>Man</i>
Oo	<i>Yes</i>
Hindi	<i>No</i>
Ba	<i>Word used for "yes" and "no" questions</i>
Ko	<i>My (singular pronoun, first person)</i>
Mo	<i>Your (singular pronoun, second person)</i>
Niya	<i>His/Her (singular pronoun, third person)</i>
Nag-aaral	<i>Studying</i>
Nagatrabaho	<i>Working</i>

Note: Learners who do not self-identify as **lalaki** (male/man) or **babae** (female/woman) can describe themselves as "transgender," as **bakla** (gay) or as **lezbiana** (lesbian).

Mga Ekspresyon (Expressions)

Study the following expressions that are useful when first meeting a person. If you are a heritage learner, try not to look at the English equivalents and try to guess the meaning of the words in Tagalog/Filipino.

Kumusta ka?/Kumusta?	<i>How are you?</i>
Ikinagapalak kong makilala ka.	<i>I am pleased to meet you.</i>
Mabuti.	<i>Fine/Good.</i>

Mga Pangungusap (Sentences)

Practice saying the below sentences aloud, to get a feel for how this chapter's vocabulary and grammar work in Filipino.

- Ako si Maria. *I am Maria.*
- Ikaw si Pedro. *You are Pedro.*
- Sya si Clara. *She is Clara.*
- Maria ang pangalan ko. *My name is Maria.*
- Pedro ang pangalan mo. *Your name is Pedro.*

Image: A sample page from Lesson 1, illustrating the dialogue and vocabulary sections, which are fundamental to starting your learning.

USING THE BOOK (OPERATING)

Follow these steps to effectively utilize the "Tagalog for Beginners" textbook:

- Read the Dialogues:** Start each lesson by reading the dialogues. Listen to the corresponding audio recordings to grasp pronunciation and intonation. Repeat after the native speakers to practice.
- Study Vocabulary:** Review the vocabulary lists provided for each dialogue. Pay attention to the English translations and try to memorize the new words.
- Understand Grammar:** Carefully read the grammar explanations. The book breaks down complex concepts into understandable segments. Refer back to these sections as needed.

- 4. Complete Activities & Exercises:** Actively engage with the exercises. These are designed to solidify your understanding and provide practical application of the language. Do not skip them.
- 5. Explore Cultural Notes:** These sections provide valuable context and enhance your understanding of the Filipino language within its cultural setting.

PAGPAPAKILALA (INTRODUCTIONS) 3


6. Clara ang pangalan niya. *Her name is Clara.*
 7. Nag-aaral ako sa University of California. *I study at the University of California.*
 8. Physics ang major ko. *My major is Physics.*
 9. Nagtatrabaho ako sa Student Center. *I work at the Student Center.*
 10. Student assistant ako. *I am a student assistant.*
 11. Babae si Clara. *Clara is a woman.*
 12. Lalaki si Pedro. *Pedro is a man.*

Mga Gawain (Activities)

The following activities may be done in the classroom or by the independent learner.

Pagpapakilala sa sarili
 Practice introducing yourself using the following format as a guide. What words can you use to introduce yourself?

Ako si Maria. Nag-aaral ako sa _____ ang major ko.
 I am Maria. I study at _____. My major is _____.



Ako si Pedro. Nagtatrabaho ako sa _____ ako.
 I am Pedro. I work at _____. I am a _____.


Ako si _____ ako.

Pagpapakilala sa Ika't Iba
 Study the following words:

Estudyante	Student
Guro/Tutor	Teacher
Doktor	Doctor
Pa'lis	Police officer
Kawani	Employee
Abogado	Lawyer
Manggagawa	Worker
Magsasaka	Farmer

4 LESSON 1

Nars *Nurse*
 Tagapangasiwa ng opisina *Manager*
 Manunulat *Writer*
 Pintor *Painter*
 Mang-aawit *Singer*
 Mananayaw *Dancer*
 Negosyante *Businessperson*



Each student draws a picture of himself or herself, then introduces himself/herself to a partner by saying:
 Ako si _____ Nag-aaral/Nagtatrabaho ako sa _____ ako.
 I am _____, I study/work at _____, I am a _____.

Then, each student introduces his/her partner to the class using the third person pronoun "siya" or "ito":
 Siya si _____ Nag-aaral/Nagtatrabaho siya sa _____ siya.
 He/She is _____, He/She studies/works at _____, He/She is a _____.

Ita si _____ Nag-aaral/Nagtatrabaho siya sa _____ siya.
 This is _____, He/She studies/works at _____, He/She is a _____.

Awit (Song)
 The following activity is for classroom learners. The teacher can use the melody of a popular song, such as "Jingle Bells," with the following lyrics. Each student should choose a partner. Then sing the song with actions, for example, shaking hands as you say "Kumusta ka?" or clapping when you say "Pumatalapak." After singing, introduce yourselves to each other. Then move on to another partner.

Kumusta ka? Kumusta ka?	How are you? How are you?
Tayo'y magpaya.	Let us have some fun.
Pumatalapak, pumatalapak,	Clap your hands, clap your hands,
Huro ang paa.	And point to your feet.

Pagpaganap sa Paglatonang at Pagsagot (Question and Answer Practice)
 In Filipino, the word "tanong" means "question" and the word "sagot" means "answer." Both classroom students and independent learners should practice asking and answering questions. Make sure you practice these questions and answers by both speaking and writing.

Image: A sample page from Lesson 1, showcasing various activities and exercises designed to help learners practice and apply new vocabulary and grammar.

PAGPAPAKILALA (INTRODUCTIONS) 7

9. TANGONG : _____ ?
 SAGOT : **Sociology ang major ko.**

10. TANGONG : _____ ?
 SAGOT : **Angela ang pangalan niya.**

11. TANGONG : _____ ?
 SAGOT : **Alex ang pangalan niya.**

12. TANGONG : _____ ?
 SAGOT : **Nag-aaral siya sa Osaka University.**

13. TANGONG : _____ ?
 SAGOT : **Physics ang major niya.**

14. TANGONG : _____ ?
 SAGOT : **Abogado si Damian.**

15. TANGONG : _____ ?
 SAGOT : **Nagtatrabaho si Damian sa Gallini Law Firm.**

Gramatika (Grammar)

Study the information below to improve your Filipino grammar skills.

I. Markers
 Si and ang are markers.

In the Filipino language, there is no direct equivalent of the articles "a," "an," and "the" in the English language. When the term "marker" is used, it refers to words that "mark" whether the next word, a noun, is the subject or the object of the sentence.

Si is a "singular" marker used before a personal noun.
 EXAMPLE: Ako si Maria. OR Si Maria ako.
 I am Maria.

Note that both word orders are grammatically correct.

8 LESSON 1

Ang is a "singular" marker used before a noun. "Ang" marks the subject of the sentence.
 EXAMPLE: Maria ang pangalan ko.
 Maria is my name. (Literally, Maria marker name my.)

II. Nominative Pronouns
 Nagasa'ita (First Person or Person Speaking): Ako — I
 Kinakausap (Second Person or Person Addressed): Ikaw, Ka — You
 Pinag-uusapan (Third Person): Siya — He/She

Use "ka" when the pronoun is not at the beginning of the sentence, or in this case, after the name of the person.
 EXAMPLE: Si Pedro ka.
 You are Pedro. (Literally, Marker Pedro you.)

Use "ikaw" at the beginning of a sentence or before the name of the person.
 EXAMPLE: Ikaw si Pedro.
 You are Pedro. (Literally, You marker Pedro.)

Pronouns are not gendered in Filipino. Thus, "siya" is used to mean both "he" and "she."
 EXAMPLE: Siya si Pedro. Siya si Maria.
 He is Pedro. She is Maria.

III. Possessive Pronouns
 Nagasa'ita (First Person or Person Speaking): Ka — My
 Kinakausap (Second Person or Person Addressed): Mo — Your
 Pinag-uusapan (Third Person or Person Referred to): Niya (his/her) — His/Her

Use "ko" after the object, or in this case, the name.
 EXAMPLE: Pedro ang pangalan ko.
 My name is Pedro. (Literally, Pedro marker name my.)

Use "mo" also after the object, or in this case, the name.
 EXAMPLE: Maria ang pangalan mo.
 Your name is Maria. (Literally, Maria marker name you.)

IV. Prepositions
 Sa is a preposition denoting place.
 EXAMPLE: Nag-aaral ako sa Unibersidad ng California.
 I study at the University of California.

Image: A sample page from Lesson 1, detailing grammar explanations and examples, which are essential for building a strong linguistic foundation.

PRACTICE AND REINFORCEMENT (MAINTENANCE)

Consistent practice is key to language mastery. Integrate these habits into your routine:

- **Daily Review:** Dedicate a short period each day to review previously learned vocabulary and grammar points.
- **Active Recall:** Instead of just rereading, try to recall information actively. For example, cover the English translation and try to remember the Tagalog word, or vice versa.
- **Speak Aloud:** Practice speaking the dialogues and new sentences aloud, even if you're alone. This helps build muscle memory for pronunciation.

- **Utilize Audio:** Re-listen to the audio recordings frequently. This helps reinforce correct pronunciation and improves your listening comprehension over time.
- **Apply in Real Life:** If possible, try to use the Tagalog phrases and sentences you've learned in real-life situations, such as with Filipino friends or in online communities.

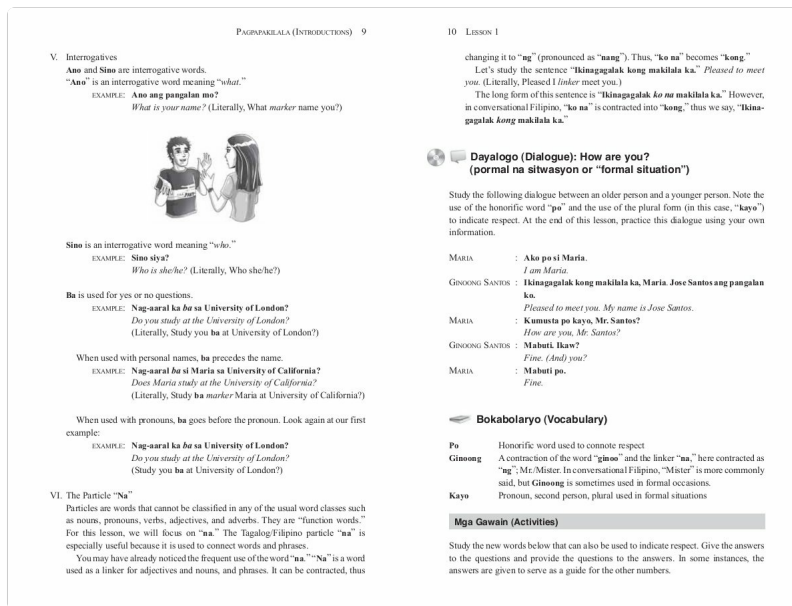


Image: A sample page from the book featuring practice questions and spaces for answers, encouraging active engagement with the material.

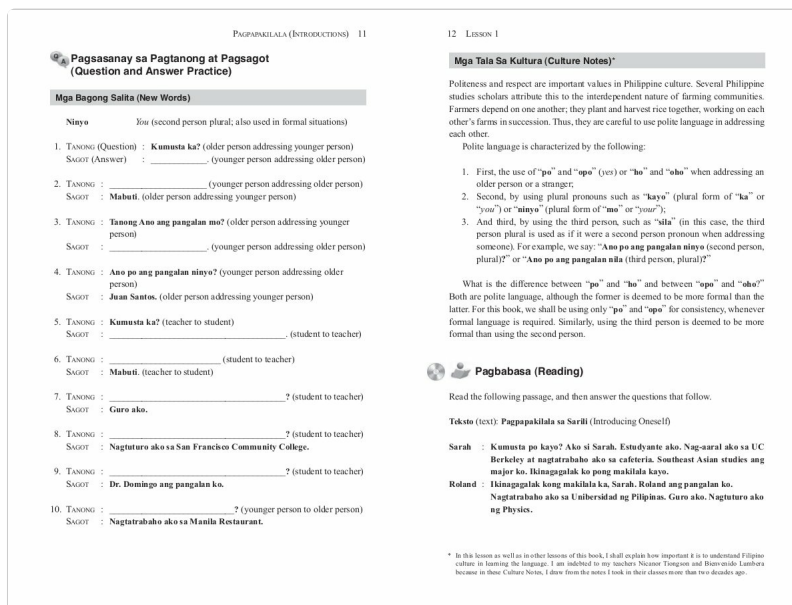


Image: A sample page from the book displaying cultural notes and a reading passage, providing context and deeper understanding of the language.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES (TROUBLESHOOTING & SUPPORT)

Should you encounter difficulties or wish to deepen your understanding, the book provides several helpful resources:

- **Glossary:** A comprehensive glossary at the back of the book provides quick definitions for unfamiliar words.
- **Grammar Index:** Use the grammar index to quickly locate explanations for specific grammatical concepts.
- **Online Audio Support:** If you have trouble accessing the online audio, refer to the publisher's website or contact their customer support for assistance.
- **Community Forums:** Consider joining online language learning forums or groups for Tagalog learners.

These communities can offer additional support, practice partners, and answers to common questions.

SPECIFICATIONS

Title	Tagalog for Beginners: An Introduction to Filipino, the National Language of the Philippines
Author	Joi Barrios
Publisher	Tuttle Publishing
Publication Date	June 10, 2011
Format	Paperback
Print Length	384 pages
Language	English
ISBN-10	0804841268
ISBN-13	978-0804841269
Item Weight	2.31 pounds
Dimensions	6 x 0.8 x 9 inches

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