

‘ŌLELO NO‘EAU - EA WORKGROUP (ZWHI)

2052 Mai ho‘omāuna i ka ‘ai o huli mai auane‘i o Hāloa e nānā.
Do not be wasteful of food lest Hāloa turn around and stare [at you].

‘ŌLELO NO‘EAU ON WORKING HARD

Mahalo e [Ho‘okua‘āina](#) - for compiling these ‘Ōlelo No‘eau!

57 Aia ke ola i ka hana.

Life is in labor.

Labor produces what is needed.

71 Aia nō ka pono, ‘o ka ho‘ohuli i ka lima i lalo, ‘a‘ole ‘o ka ho‘ohuli i luna.

That is what it should be—to turn the hands palms down, not palms up.

No one can work with the palms of his hands turned up. When a person is always busy, he is said to keep his palms down.

142 ‘A‘ohe hana nui ke alu ‘ia.

No task is too big when done together by all.

173 ‘A‘ohe loa‘a i ka noho wale.

Nothing is gained by idleness.

189 ‘A‘ohe mea nāna e ho‘opūhili, he moho no ka lā makani.

There is no one to interfere, for he is a messenger for the windy day.

Said in admiration of a person who lets nothing stop him from carrying out the task entrusted to him.

209 ‘A‘ohe pu‘u ki‘eki‘e ke hō‘ā‘ō ‘ia e pi‘i.

No cliff is so tall that it cannot be scaled.

No problem is too great when one tries hard to solve it.

213 ‘A‘ohe ‘ulu e loa‘a i ka pōkole o ka lou.

No breadfruit can be reached when the picking stick is too short.

There is no success without preparation.

258 E ala! E alu! E kuilima!

Up! Together! Join hands!

A call to come together to tackle a given task.

259 E ala, e hoa i ka malo.

Get up and gird your loincloth.

A call to rise and get to work.

276 E hana mua a pa‘a ke kahua ma mua o ke a‘o ‘ana aku iā ha‘i.

Build yourself a firm foundation before teaching others.

287 E hō‘ike mai ana ka lā‘au a ke kia manu.

The stick of the birdcatcher will tell.

We will know how successful one is by what he produces. One knew whether a bird catcher was successful by counting the birds on his gummed stick.

290 E ho‘okanaka.

Be a man.

299 E hume i ka malo, e ho‘okala i ka ihe.

Gird the loin cloth, sharpen the spear.

A call to prepare for war or to prepare for the project at hand.

316 E kanu i ka huli ‘oi hā‘ule ka ua.

Plant the taro stalks while there is rain.

Do your work when the opportunity affords.

319 E kaupē aku nō i ka hoe, a kō mai.

Put forward the paddle and draw it back.

Go on with the task that is started and finish it.

323 E kuahui like i ka hana.

Let everybody pitch in and work together.

327 E lauhoe mai nā wa‘a; i ke kā, i ka hoe; i ka hoe, i ke kā; pae aku i ka ‘āina.
*Everybody paddle the canoes together; bail and paddle, paddle and bail,
and the shore is reached.*

Pitch in with a will, everybody, and the work is quickly done.

350 E mālama o pā i ke leo.

Be careful lest you be struck by the voice.

Be careful not to do something that will lead to a scolding.

376 E pūpūkahi.

Be of one clump.

Be united in thought.

384 E waikahi ka pono i mānalo.

It is well to be united in thought that all may have peace.

401 Hā‘awe i ke kua; ki‘i i ke alo.

A burden on the back; a babe in the arms.

*Said of a hard-working woman who carries a load on her back and a baby
in her arms.*

446 Hana a lau a lau ke aho, a laila loa‘a ka i‘a kāpapa o ka moana.

*Make four hundred times four hundred fish lines before planning to go after
the fighting fish of the sea.*

Be well prepared for a big project.

447 Hana a miki‘oi, lawe a ‘auli‘i.

Be deft and dainty.

Said to young people: Be neat, sweet, and clever — not crude and blundering.

473 Hanu‘u ke kai i Mokuola.

The sea recedes at Mokuola.

Now is the opportune time to venture forth.

515 He 'ai e kāhela ai ka 'ūhā.

An eating that spreads the intestines.

The enjoyment of a good meal when labor is finished and all is at peace.

718 He lani i luna, he honua i lalo.

Heaven above, Earth beneath.

Said of a person who cultivates harmony on his property, he is sure of his own security. The sky is above him and the Earth is the foundation beneath his feet.

751 Hele nō i ka hola i'a i ka lā.

Fish poison should be used in the daytime.

Greater efficiency is achieved in the daytime.

860 He ola na ka 'ōiwi, lawe a'e nō a 'ai ha'aheo.

A life made by the native, [one can] take and eat proudly.

When one has earned his own livelihood he can take his food and eat it with pride.

932 He pūko'a kani 'āina.

A coral reef grows into an island.

A person beginning in a small way gains steadily until he becomes firmly established.

933 He pūko'a kū no ka moana.

A large rock standing in the sea.

Said of a person who is unchangeable and very determined.

2125 Malia paha he iki 'unu, pa'a ka pōhaku nui 'a'ole e ka'a.

Perhaps it is a small stone that can keep the big rock from rolling down.

2459 O ke kahua mamua, mahope ke kūkulu.

The site [foundation] first, and then the building

2884 'U'uku ka hana, 'u'uku ka loa'a.

Little work, little gain.

You reap what you sow. If you give a little, do not expect a large return.

NOTE: *This document was completely sourced from Ho'okua'āina's compilation of proverbs taken from Mary Kawena Pūku'i's Puke 'Ōlelo No'ēau, (Bishop Museum Press) for educational purposes only.*