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Hmong For Beginners Glossary Part 2

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### Publication Date

1995

## O

**obey** V mloog lus

- (obey an elder) mloog tus hlob

**object** N (thing) khoom

- V (object, not agree with) tsis pom zoo nrog

**observe** V (observe, look [at]) saib

- V (observe a prohibition) caiv

**obtain** V (obtain, get) yuav, tau

**occasion** N (an occasion, a time) [lub] zaus, sij hawm

**occupation** N [txoj] hauj lwm, hom hauj lwm

**ocean** N (ocean, sea) [lub] (dej) hiav txwv

**o'clock** (o'clock, N hour, time) teev, (L) moos

**October** N [lub] kaum hli ntuj

**offend** V (offend \_\_\_ ) tu \_\_\_ siab

- V (be offended, worried) tu siab

**office** N [lub] tsev kab xwm

**official** N (official, leader) [tus] nom (tswv)

**oh** INT (exclamation) ab, aub!

**oil** N (oil, fat, gas, gasoline, grease)roj

**ointment** N tshuaj hom pleev

**OK** (for agreement, consent) los tau

**old** (V be old for people) laus

- (V be older in precedence in family, grown up) hlob
- (V be old for things) qub
- (How old is she/he?) nws muaj pes tsawg xyoo lawm?

**on** PREP (on, on top of) saum

- PREP (on the floor/ground) hauv av
- PREP (date) tim
- PREP (be on top of) nyob saum

**once** ADV (one time) ib zaug

- ADV (long ago) puag ta

**one** Q ib

- Q (one only, single) tib
- PRO (indefinite PRO for a person, indefinite you) yus
- (N one-way ticket) daim pib mus

**oneself** PRO (OBJ oneself, indefinite yourself) yus

- PRO (emphatic reflexive as in do something by oneself) yus tus kheej

**onion** N [lub] dos

- N (green onion) [tus] dos

**only** ADV (used at end of sentence) xwb

- ADV (pre-verbal) tsuas

- ADV (only if, if) yog hais tias

**onto** PREP rau saum

**open** V (for door, things not opening on own and without two equal hinged parts) qhib

- V (for things opening on own or with two equal hinged parts) rua
- V (open for a book) nthuav
- (N open field, cleared and flat) tshav

**operate** V (operate, do surgery) phais mob

- V (operate, cut open, do surgery) phais

**operation** N (surgery) [txoj] kev phais (mob)

**opium** N (opium, opium poppies) yeeb

- N (opium as drug) yaj yeeb
- (V smoke opium) haus yeeb

**oppose** (V be opposed to, disagree with) tsis pom zoo nrog

**opposite** PREP (be opposite to, across from, over there) tim

- ADV (be opposite to, across from, over there) tid

**or** CONJ los

- CONJ (or that) los tias
- CONJ (in questions) los sis
- CONJ (or if) los yog

**orange** N (fruit) [lub] txiv kab ntxwv

- (V be orange, N orange color) xim txiv kab ntxwv
- (N orange juice) kua txiv kab ntxwv

**order** V (order, command) hais kom

- N (an order, command) [lo] lus hais kom ua raws
- (in order to, lit. \_\_\_ causes \_\_\_ ) kom

**organize** V sib kho ua ib pab

**origin** N (origin, source) [lub] hauv paus

**original** (Q original, first) thawj

**originally** ADV ib txwm, yeej (los)

**orphan** N [tus] (me nyuam/tub/ntxhais) ntsuag

**other** Q (other, another, a second, next) lwm

- (another day) lwm hnuv
- PRO (other people, others) luag ( tej), lawv tej, luag lwm (lwm tus)
- (other kinds of things) tej yam
- (other times, occasions) tej zaug
- (N, ADV other side, outside, the back of) sab mraud

**otter** N [tus] ntshuab

**our** POSS (for 2) wb + CLF for most nouns

- POSS (for 3 or more) peb + classifier for most nouns

- ours** PRO (for 2) wb li  
 • PRO (for 3 or more) peb li
- ourselves** PRO (OBJ for 2) wb  
 • PRO (emphatic reflexive for 2 as in do by oneself) wb tus kheej  
 • PRO (OBJ for 3 or more) peb  
 • PRO (emphatic reflexive for 3 or more as in do by oneself) peb tus kheej
- out** (V go out from) tawm
- outdoors** N sab nraum zoov  
 • ADV nraum zoov
- outside** ADV nraud  
 • N, ADV sab nraud, sab nraum zoov  
 • PREP nraum
- oven** N [lub] qhov cub
- over** PREP (above, on top of, up) saum  
 • ADV ([way] up above) (puag) saud  
 • PREP (over to) tom, (more distant) tim  
 • ADV (over there) (near) (qhov) ntawd, (farther) (qhov) tod, (farthest) (puag) tid  
 • PREP (over by but close) qhov ntawm  
 • (V be over here) nyob tom no  
 • ADV (way over there) tim ub  
 • ADV (over \_\_\_\_, more than \_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_ tawm  
 • ADV (all over a place, everywhere) qhov txhia chaw  
 • (V be over, be finished) tas, tag lawm
- overweight** (V be overweight, fat) rog
- owe** V tshuav (nuj) nqi/nqe, tshuav luag
- owl** N [tus] plas
- own** V (have) muaj
- owner** N [tus] tswv

## P

- PM** ADV ( \_\_\_\_ PM) \_\_\_\_ (teev/moos) thaum tsaus ntuj
- Pacific** N (Pacific Ocean) [lub] Dej hiav txwv Pa xi fiv
- pack** V (pack, tie up into a package, bind, wrap up) pav  
 • N (pack, small package) pob
- package** N pob khoom  
 • N (a small package, pack) pob
- paddy** N [daim for whole paddy, zeg for section] liaj
- page** N [daim] phab (ntawv)
- pail** N [lub] thoob
- pain** N (abstract sense) [txoj] kev mob
- paint** N kua kob  
 • V pleev xim, pleev kua kob
- pair** CLF nkawm
- pajamas** N [cev] ris tsho hnav pw
- palpitations** (V have palpitations) lub plawv dhia heev heev
- pan** N (cooking pan, pot) [lub] lauj kaub  
 • N (frying pan) [lub] yias
- pandau** N (a piece of Hmong embroidered cloth) [daim] paj ntaub
- pants** N [lub] ris
- papaya** N [lub] txiv taub ntoos, txiv maum kuab
- paper** N [daim] ntawv
- pardon** V (pardon me) thov txim
- parents** N niam txiv
- park** N (place for playing) [lub] vaj ua si  
 • V (a car) nres tsheb
- parking** N (parking place) [lub] chaw nres tsheb
- part** N (a fraction) feem  
 • Q (some) ib co
- party** (V lit. gather together to have fun) sib sau ua kev lom zem
- pass** V (pass [through/by], cross over, exceed, surpass) dhau  
 • V (pass by) (mus) dhau  
 • V (pass on, to go, surpass) dua  
 • V (pass as a car on the road) mus dua  
 • V (pass/hand out, distribute) faib  
 • V (pass gas) tso paus
- passport** N [daim] ntawv hla ciam teb
- past** N yav dhau los  
 • (V be past, finished) tas/tag lawm  
 • (V walk past) (mus kev) dhau
- pastor** N (pastor, minister, professor, teacher) [tus] xib fwb/hwb
- path** N (path, road, street, way) [txoj] kev
- patient** (V be patient, even-tempered) siab ntev  
 • N (sick person) [tus] neeg mob
- pay** V them  
 • V (pay attention) quav ntsej, mloog zoo zoo  
 • N (salary) nyiaj hli
- pea** N (unshelled) [tus] taum mog  
 • N (shelled) [lub] noob taum mog

**peace** N (not at war) [txoj] kev thaj yeeb (nyab xeeb)  
• V be at peace in one's heart) tus siab

**peach** N [lub] txiv duaj

**peacock** N [tus] yaj yuam

**peak** N (mountain peak) [lub] ncov roob

**peanut** N [lub] (txiv laum) fuab/huab xeeb

**pear** N [lub] txiv phiaj, txiv zuaj

**pen** N (enclosure for animals) [lub] nkuaj  
• N (for writing) [tus] cwj mem

**pencil** N [tus] cwj mem qhuav

**penis** N (may be offensively explicit) [tus] qau  
• N (euphemism for male/female genital area, genitals, groin) qhov chaw mos

**penny** N (cent) [lub] npib ib xee

**people** N (people, person) [cov] (tib) neeg  
• N (populace, population, a people) pej xcem  
• N (people of an ethnic group) haiv neeg

**pepper** N (spice) txob  
• N (a green/bell pepper) [lub] kua txob (ntsuab)  
• N (the spice black pepper) hwj/fwj txob  
• N (a hot pepper) [lub] kua txob ntsim ntsim

**percent** ntawm ib puas

**perfect** V (be perfect, the best) zoo kawg

**perhaps** ADV (perhaps, probably) tej zaum  
• ADV (perhaps, it may be) saib tsam

**period** N (period of time, time) yav  
• N (period of several hours) tsam  
• N (time period, season) [lub] caij  
• N (punctuation) tee dub dub  
• N (menstrual period) [lub] caij coj khaub ncaws

**permanent** (V be permanent, remain for a long time) ua ntev, nyob ntev

**permit** V (permit, abandon, allow, free, leave, let, place, put, release, relinquish) tso  
• V (give permission) tso lus  
• V (permit, allow, let, set aside, store) cia  
• V (permit, allow, let, give as a gift) pub

**person** N ([a] person) [tus, (more polite) leej] (tib) neeg

**perspire** V tawm hws

**persuade** V ntxias

**pestle** N (pounder) [tus/rab] dauj  
• N (pounder for rice cakes) [rab] dauj neuav

**petal** N (flower) nplaim (paj)

**pharmacy** N [lub] tsev thov tshuaj

**photocopy** V (photocopy, copy, press, print, xerox) luam

**photograph** N (photograph, picture) [daim] duab  
• V yees duab

**phrase** N zaj lus

**pick** V (pick as fruit, pluck, pinch) de  
• V (pick as corn, break off) ntais  
• V (choose) xaiv  
• V (pick up, gather) khaws  
• V (pick up, take in the hand) nqa hlo

**picnic** (V to have a picnic) noj mov hav zoov

**picture** N (picture, photograph) [daim] duab

**piece** N (use the CLF appropriate for the noun under consideration)  
• (CLF + N a piece of paper) daim ntawv

**pig** N [tus] npua

**pile** (CLF a pile of something) pawg

**pill** N (pill, medicine) [lub] tshuaj

**pillow** N [lub] tog hauv ncoo

**pillowcase** N [lub] hnab hauv ncoo

**pimple** N [lub] pob kab ntxau

**pin** N [rab] koob ntsia  
• N (pin, needle) [rab] koob

**pineapple** N [lub] txiv puv luj

**pink** (V be pink, N pink color) xim paj yeeb, xim liab dawg muag

**pipe** N (for carrying water) [lub] raj hlau  
• N (for smoking) [tus] yeeb nkab

**place** V (place, put) rau  
• V (place, abandon, allow, free, leave, let, permit, put, release, relinquish) tso  
• N (place, location) qhov (chaw)  
• N (place, region) [lub] chaw

**plain** N (geographic) [lub] tiaj (nras)  
• N (Plain of Jars) Tiaj Rhawv Zeb

**plan** N (plan, scheme, wisdom, cleverness) [zaj] tswv yim

**plane** N (airplane) [lub] dav hlau, (L) nyoob hoom

**plant** (V) (plant, insert) cog  
• N (foliage, vegetation) tsob  
• N (house plant, flower) [lub] paj

**plate** N (dish) [lub] phaj

**play** V ua si

- (play ball) ntaus pob ua si
- V (play by hitting, as tennis, piano, hit) ntaus
- V (play instrument by blowing, blow) tshuab
- V (play instrument with reed or fingerholes, blow) tshov
- (play the Hmong keng) tshov qeej
- (play cards for fun) ua phaib ua si

**playground** N [lub] chaw ua si**please** (V ask, beg) thov**pleased** (V be pleased) txaus siab**pleat** V nre**pliers** N [rab] ciaj**plow** V faus teb, laij teb

- N [lub] khais

**plum** N [lub] txiv moj mab**plus** (mathematics: V added to, CONJ plus) ntxiv rau**pocket** N (pocket, bag, purse, sack) [lub] hnab**point** (V) (indicate) taw

- V (point with the finger) taw tes

**poison** N tshuaj lom

- V (poison, be poisonous) lom

**police** N (police officer) [tus] neeg ceev xwm

- N (policeman) [tus] tub ceev xwm

**polite** (V be polite) paub (kev) cai**politics** N tseev tsim**pond** N (pond, lake) [lub] pas dej**poor** (V be poor) txom nyem, pluag**popcorn** N paj pob kws**poppy** N [lub] paj yeeb**population** N (population, populace, a people) pej xeem**pork** N nqaij npuas**port** N (for boats) [lub] chaws nres nkoj**possible** (V be possible, can/could do/be) yuav tau

- (V be possible in theory, might do/be) tej zaum ua tau

**postage** N (amount) nqi xa ntawv**post office** N [lub] tsev xa ntawv**pot** N (cooking pot, pan) [lub] lauj kaub**potato** N [lub] qos yaj ywm

- N (sweet potato) [lub] qos liab

**pound** V (pound as to make rice cakes, grasp) tuav

- V (pound as metal, beat, strike, hit) ntaus
- N (weight) phos

**pounder** N (pounder, pestle as to make rice cakes) [rab] dauj**pour** V (pour, pour out) hliv

- V (pour out) nchuav

**powder** N (powder, dust, flour) hmoov**power** N (power, authority, air/show of authority/majesty) [lub] hwj chim

- N (power, a special power or ability as of a shaman) [lub] hwj huam
- N (political power in a country) cheej tswj teb chaws
- N (power, strength) [lub] zog loj

**practice** V xyaum (ua)**praise** V (praise, marvel at, admire) qhuas

- V (praise, show appreciation for) qhuas zoo

**pray** V (pray, ask for, beg) thov

- (pray to God) thov ntuj, thov Vaj tswv

**prefer** V (lit. like \_\_\_ better) nyiam \_\_\_ dua**pregnant** (V be pregnant) muaj menyuam

- (V be pregnant, conceive) xeeb me nyuam/tub

**prepare** V npaj**prescription** N [daim] ntawv muas tshuaj**present** V (be present, come) tuaj

- N (time) [lub] caij tam sim no
- N (gift) khoom pub dawb, khoom saib dab muag

**president** N (leader of a country) [tus] thawj kav teb chaws, [tus] tsoom txoov**pretend** V ua txuj (tsab), tsab**pretty** (V be pretty, beautiful) zoo nkauj**prevent** V thaiv kev, tsis pub ua

- V (prevent, hinder, delay, inconvenience) sav tsam

**previously** ADV (previously, up until now, ago) nram ntej**price** N [tus] nqe, nqi**priest** N [tus] pov thawj, huj sam

- N (Catholic priest/father) [tus] txiv plig

**prince** N [tus] tub huab tais, huab tais tub

- N (prince, emperor, king) [tus] huab tais

**princess** N [tus] huab tais ntxhais**principal** N (of a school) thawj saib tsev kawm ntawv

**print** V (print printed matter) luam ntawv  
 • V (print, copy, photocopy, press, xerox) luam

**prison** N (prison, jail) [lub] tsev rau txim, (tsev) loj faj, nkuaj

**probably** ADV (probably, maybe) tej zaum/d  
 • ADV (probably, in my estimation) kwv yees  
 • (V be probable, suspect, guess) nyaj

**problem** N (problem, question) [lub] teeb meem  
 • (no problem) tsis ua (li) cas

**produce** V (produce, act, do, make) ua  
 • V (produce, create) tsim

**profession** N hom hauj lwm

**professor** N (professor, minister, pastor, teacher) [tus] xib fw/hwb

**progress** V vam mus ntxiv, vam meej

**prohibition** (V observe a prohibition) caiv

**promise** N [lo] yeem lus, lus cog tseg  
 • V cog lus, yeem lus

**pronounce** V (pronounce, say, speak, tell) hais

**protect** V (protect, defend, obscure the view, shelter) thaiv  
 • V protect, defend, guard, shelter) pov hwm

**proverb** N [txoj] paj lug

**province** N (province, state) [lub] xeev

**puberty** N (young marriageable woman/man who has reached puberty) [tus] hluas nkauj/nraug

**pull** V (grasp and pull with the hand) rub  
 • V (pull hand over hand) tooj  
 • V (pull out, extract as teeth) rho  
 • V (pull up/out by the roots, as weeds, hair) dob  
 • V (pull out of a bag, pocket, withdraw) thau

**pulse** N (body) mem tes

**pumpkin** N [lub] taub dag

**pupil** N (eye) [lub] ntsiab muag

**purple** (V be purple, N color purple) xim (xiav) tsam xem, xim paj yeeb ntsha

**purse** N (purse, bag, pocket, sack) [lub] hnab

**push** V (push, shove) thawb  
 • V (push aside with the hand) haiv  
 • V (push, put to flight) xyob  
 • CLF (a push into flight) xyob

**put** V (put, place, put on/wear boots, gloves, leg wrappings, shoes, socks) rau  
 • V (put, abandon, allow, free, leave, let, permit, place, release, relinquish) tso  
 • V (put aside) muab cia

• V (put away) ua cia  
 • V (put into) muab/tso rau hauv, ntim.  
 • V (put out a fire) tua hluav taws  
 • V (put together) muab tso ua ke  
 • V (put on, wear clothes [and neck scarves] on main part of body but not head, hands, feet) hnab  
 • V (put on, wear bracelet, earrings, eyeglasses, necklace, watch) coj  
 • V (put on, wear, wrap around waist for belt, sash) sia  
 • V (put on, wear, carry on/over head as for hat, head wrap, umbrella) ntoo  
 • V (put one's heart/mind (in)to something) rau siab

## Q

**question** V (ask a question) nug, noog

• N [lo] lus nug/noog  
 • N (question, problem) [lub] teeb meem

**quick/ly** ADV (quick, quickly, fast) sai, tsuag, nrawm

• ADV (quick in motion) ceev  
 • ADV (quickly, hurriedly) zoj zeeg  
 • (V be quick-tempered) siab ceev

**quiet** (V be still, perfectly quiet) ntsiag to  
 • (V be/stay quiet, still) ua/nyob twj ywm

**quietly** ADV twj ywm

**quilt** N [daim] pam rwb

**quarrel** V sib cav

**quarter** N (25 cents) [lub] npib nees kaum tsib xee

**queen** N [tus] poj vaj txwv

## R

**rabbit** N [tus] luav

**race** N (ethnic group, nationality, kind of people) haiv neeg

**radio** N [lub] xov tooj cua, (L) vib thab nyub

**radish** N [lub] zaub ntug haus paus kheej

**railroad** N [txoj] kev tsheb ciav hlau  
 • (N railroad station) [lub] chaw nres tsheb ciav hlau

**rain** N nag

• V los nag  
 • (N rain coat) [lub] tsho tiv nag

**rainbow** N [tus] zaj sawv

- raise** V (raise, raise up, set up/upright, erect, establish) tsa  
 • V (raise, lift to higher level) cev  
 • V (raise as a hand) tsa, cev  
 • V (raise up, erect, stand \_\_\_ up) tsa hlo, tsa sawv  
 • V (raise horizontally) txhawb  
 • V (raise, rear, care for and feed, for humans to give birth) yug  
 • V (raise, care for, look after) tu
- rap** V (rap, knock with knuckles) khob
- rat** N (rat, rodent, mouse) [tus] nas
- raw** (V be raw, uncooked) nyoos
- reach** V (reach with arm, reach to, extend to) cuag  
 • V (arrive, to the point or limit of) txog  
 • V (reach up to, up to the point of) txij  
 • V (reach/arrive at a point, reach to, extend to) nto
- read** V nyecm (ntawv)
- ready** (V be ready) tiav (lawm), tau lawm  
 • (Are you ready? Yes/No.) Puas tau tiav? Tiav, lawm/Tsis tau tiav.
- real** (V be real, true) yog tiag
- realize** V (lit. can see that) pom tau tias
- really** ADV (really, truly) tiag (tiag) (li)  
 • ADV (really, indeed, even) twb  
 • ADV (very) heev, kawg (nkaus), kawg nkaus li  
 • ADV (really \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, to a great degree) \_\_\_\_, ua luaj
- reason** N (a reason for something) qhov vim li cas
- reasonable** (V be reasonable as of a law or price) yog lawm
- receive** V (receive, accept, catch something thrown) txais  
 • V (receive, get) tau (txais)
- recently** ADV sai sai no, nyuam qhuav no
- recognize** V nco tau, paub tau
- recommend** V (recommend [to], explain, teach, inform) qhia (rau)
- record** N (phonograph) [daim] phaj kwv txhiaj  
 • N (history recorded) [zaj] xeev xwm txheej  
 • V (record sound) kaw  
 • V (record talking) kaw lus
- recover** V (from illness) zoo mob, kho zoo lawm
- red** • (V be red) liab  
 • N (red color) xim liab
- reduce** V (reduce, take some away) qee tawm  
 • (reduce/lower price) luv nqi/nqe
- refrigerator** N [lub] (L) tub yees, txee txias
- refugee** N (refugee, immigrant) [tus] neeg thoj nam
- refuse** V (lit. not be willing) tsis kam
- region** N (region, area) thaj tsam
- register** V (register as at school, enroll) sau npe cia  
 • V (register, enroll, sign one's name) sau npe
- regret** (V regret, INT what a pity) khuv xim
- reject** V tsis txais/yuav  
 • V (reject, erase, eliminate, cross out) thuam  
 • V (reject, abandon, cast away, discard, leave behind) tseg
- relatives** N kwv tij (neej tsa)  
 • N (relatives by marriage) neej tsa  
 • N (close blood relatives) txheeb, kwv tij txheeb txheeb
- relax** V (relax, rest, take a break) so
- release** V (release, abandon, allow, free, leave, let, permit, place, put, relinquish) tso
- religion** N (traditional Hmong religion) [txoj] kev teev dab qhuas  
 • N (can imply Christianity) [txoj] kev teev ntuj  
 • N (L) [lub] xam xa nas
- rely on** V (rely on, count on) vam txog  
 • V (rely upon, trust in, hope) vam  
 • V (rely on, trust in) vam khom
- remain** V (remain, stay, live, be alive, be located) nyob
- remaining** (V be remaining, lacking, excepting) tshuav  
 • (V be remaining, left over) seem
- remember** V (remember, recall past) nco qab  
 • V (remember, keep in memory, think of) nco txog  
 • V (can remember) nco tau
- remove** V (extract, pull out) rho  
 • V (remove, take off, as clothes) hie  
 • V (remove, take away) tshem
- rent** V (rent from someone, hire something/someone) ntiav  
 • V (rent to someone) ntiav rau  
 • N (rent for dwelling) [tus] nqi tsev
- repair** V (repair, fix, cure, heal someone) kho
- repeat** V (say again) hais dua
- repeatedly** ADV pheej
- replace** V (replace, change, exchange) hloov, pauv  
 • V (replace with, exchange for another) txauv

**reply** V (reply, answer) teb  
 • N [lo] lus teb

**request** V (request, ask for, beg) thov

**respect** N saib taus  
 • V txhawb nqa

**rest** V (rest, relax, take a break) so  
 • N (the rest of) dua li cov

**restaurant** N [lub] tsev noj mov

**restroom** N [lub] tsev dej, chav tawm rooj, (L)  
 hoob nab

**return** V (return) rov  
 • V (come back) rov (qab) los/tuaj  
 • V (go back) rov (qab) mus

**reverse** (N Hmong reverse applique needlework) paj  
 ntaub txiav

**rib** N [tus] tav

**rice** N (cooked rice) mov  
 • N (unhulled rice) nplej  
 • N (hulled, uncooked rice) txhuv  
 • N (finished, ready to eat rice) mov siav  
 • N (glutinous/sticky rice) mov nplaum  
 • (N rice bowl) [lub] ntim  
 • (N rice cake) [lub] ncuav  
 • (N rice noodles, small) peev choj  
 • (N rice noodles, large) fawm  
 • (N rice paddy) [daim] liaj  
 • (N rice plant) tsob nplej  
 • (N rice steamer) [lub] tsu  
 • (N treadmill for dehusking rice) [lub] cos

**rich** (V be rich, wealthy) muaj nyiaj

**ride** V caij  
 V (give a ride to, transport) thauj

**ridge** N (mountain ridge) [lub] caj roob

**rifle** N (gun) [rab] phom

**right** (N, ADV direction) sab xis  
 • (V be correct) raug, yog, thwj

**ring** N (jewelry) [lub, ntiv] nplhaib  
 • V (ring, make a noise) nrov  
 • V (for ears to ring, cry) quaj

**rinse** V yaug

**rip** V (rip, tear intentionally) dua  
 • V (rip, tear, be torn) ntuag

**ripe** (V be ripe, ripen, not raw, not uncooked, boiled  
 for water) siav

**rise** V (go up, climb) nce  
 • V (get up, go up, stand up) sawv

**river** N tus dej

**road** N (road, path, street, way) [txoj] kev

**roast** V (roast, bake, barbecue, toast) ci

**rock** N (rock, stone) [lub] pob zeb

**roll** V (roll along, roll something along) dov  
 • V (roll over and over, roll along) ntog  
 • V (roll up into a roll, wind around) kauv  
 • V (roll up as a sleeve) qaws

**roof** N [lub] ru/ruv (tsev)

**room** N (a room) [lub] chav (tsev), kem (tsev)

**rooster** N [tus] lau qaib

**root** N [tus] cag

**rope** N (rope, string) [txoj] hlua

**rot** V (rot, be rotten, destroy) lwj

**rough** (V be rough, not smooth, free of extraneous  
 matter) tsis du

**round** (V be round, circular) kheej

**roundtrip** (N roundtrip ticket) daim pib mus thiab  
 los

**row** V (a boat) nquam

**rub** V (chafe, rub, rub vigorously) tshiav  
 • V (rub, rub off, massage) mos  
 • V (rub lightly, brush off, stroke, caress) plhws

**rubber** N roj hmas

**rude** (V not be polite) tsis paub cai

**rug** N [daim] ntaub-pua taw rooj

**ruin** V (ruin, destroy, spoil something) ua kom puas  
 • (V be ruined, destroyed, useless, spoiled) puas  
 lawm

**rule** V (rule, govern) kav, tswj  
 • N (a rule, law) [txoj] kev cai

**ruler** N (person governing, official) [tus] nom tswv  
 • N (for measuring) [tus] pas ntsuas

**run** V khiav  
 • (nose running) los ntswg

## S

**sack** N (sack, bag, pocket, purse) [lub] hnab

**sacrifice** V (offer animal sacrifice to spirits) txi dab

**sad** (V be sad, worried, depressed) tu siab  
 • (V be sad, lonely, homesick) kho siab  
 • (V be sad, sickly, weak) mluas

**sail** V (sail a boat) tsav nkoj



**sailboat** N [lub] nkoj cua

**salary** N nyiaj hli

**sale** (V be on sale at lower price) luv nqi/nqeg

**salt** N ntsev

**saltless** (V be saltless, tasteless) tsuag

**salty** (V be excessively salty) daw ntsev

- (V be tastily salty) qab ntsev

**same** (ADV the same, similar, the same as, like) ib yam (li), ib yam nkaus li, tib yam, luag ib yam

- (V be the same as/like/equal to each other) sib luag
- (V be almost exactly the same) yuav luag ib yam
- (V be the same, similar, like, ADV like, CONJ like, as) zoo li
- (V be the same, the same as) zoo ib yam li

**sand** N suab zeb

**sandal** N [lub, nkawm for pair] khau khiab

**satisfied** (V be satisfied) hum siab

- (V be satisfied, ADV satisfactorily) tas siab
- (V be satisfied, full) puv siab
- (V be satisfied according to wish) dhos siab
- (V be appeased) siab nqi/nqeg
- (V be happy) qab siab, zoo siab
- (V be pleased) raug siab, siab kaj, kaj siab

**satisfy** V ua kom txaus siab, ua kom zoo siab

**Saturday** N [lub] Hnub rau, Hnub vas xaum

**sausage** N [txoj] hnyuv ntxwm

**save** V (save, put aside, be surplus) tshaj

- V (save, put aside for use) txawm
- V (save, preserve, care for, keep in good condition) txuag
- V (put away, put aside, store) cia
- V (pick up and store away) khaws cia
- V (save, store up) ceev (tau cia)
- V (save money) tseg tau nyiaj
- V (save someone, rescue) cawm

**saw** N (tool) [rab] kaw

- V (to saw) kaw

**say** V (say, pronounce, speak, tell) hais

**sayings** N (a saying) txoj lus

- (CLF for sayings, speeches, poems, etc.) zaj
- (a traditional saying, proverb, flowery/elegant speech) [zaj] paj lus/lug

**scare** V ua kom ntshai

- (V be scared, afraid, fear) ntshai
- (V be scared) poob siab
- (V be scared, afraid of punishment) siab xob

**scarf** N [txoj] phuam qhwv caj dab, phuam kauv caj dab

**school** N [lub] tsev kawm ntawv

**scissors** N [rab] txiab

**scold** V cam

**scratch** V (scratch, scratch out, dig, hoe) khawb

**scream** V qw (quaj)

**screw** N [tus] ntsia thawv ntsiw

**screwdriver** N [tus] qhib ntsia

**scrub** V (scrub with friction, brush) txhuam

- V (scrub, rub, rub with hands in water) zawv

**sea** N (sea, ocean) [lub] dej hiav txwv

**search** V (search for, look for, [try to] find) nrhiav

- V (search out, hunt for) tshawb
- V (search for something among other things) fawb

**seashore** N [lub] ntug hiav txwv

**season** N (season of the year) [lub] caij ntuj

- N (season, time, period) [lub] caij

**seat** N (place to sit) [lub] chaw zaum

- N (chair) [lub] rooj zaum

**seatbelt** N [txoj] siv pav duav

**second** (V be second) thib ob

- (second year) xyoo ob
- Q (a second, another, other, next) lwmm
- N (a second, moment) ib pliag

**secretary** N [tus] kws ntawv

**see** V (physical perception) pom

- V (see if/whether) saib (puas)
- V ([go] see, visit, watch, look at) xyuas (saib)
- (see you later, good-bye) sib ntsib dua

**seed** N [lub] noob

**seem** V (seem, appear, be like, be similar, be the same) zoo li

**seizure** (V have a seizure, epilepsy) qaug dab peg

**seldom** ADV tsawg zaum kawg

**select** V (select, choose, pick) xaiv

**selfish** (V be selfish) qia dub

**sell** V muag

**send** V (send something) xa

- V (send someone on a trip, errand) xa \_\_\_ mus
- V (send someone on an errand) kom \_\_\_ mus
- V (send someone to do/let someone go do something) tso \_\_\_ mus
- V (send on a mission, errand) txib

**sentence** N (grammar) zaj lus, [txoj] kab lus/lug

- N (court judgment) lus txiav txim

**sense** V (sense, feel, smell, hear) hnov

**separate** V (to separate, separate from, divorce, divide) ncaim

**September** N [lub] cuaj hlis ntuj

**serious** (V be serious) tsis nyiam tso dag

**servant** N (servant, slave) [tus] qhev

- N (female servant) [tus] nkauj qhe
- N (male servant) [tus] tub qhev, tub mab tub qhe

**set** V (set, place, set free, release, relinquish, allow, let, permit) tso

- V (set/put aside, store, put away, save) cia
- V (set aside/down, lift off and set to one side) tsaws
- V (set aside, leave, abandon, eliminate, reject, cast away) tseg
- V (set a fire) hlavv
- V (set free) daws, tso
- V (set up, set upright, raise up, establish) tsa

**seven** Q xya

**seventeen** Q kaum xya

**seventeenth** (V be seventeenth) thib kaum xya

**seventh** (V be seventh) thib xya

**seventieth** (V be seventieth) thib xya caum

**seventy** Q xya caum

**sew** V xaws

- N (sewing machine) [lub] tshuab xaws khaub ncaws

**shade** N ntxoov ntxoo, ntxoov duab, duab ntxoov

- V ntxoov

**shadow** N [tus] duab (ntxoov), ntxoov duab

**shady** (V be shady, shaded, cloudy, overcast) ntxoov ntxoo

**shake** V (shake, sway, quake, move to and fro) co

- V (shake, swing from side to side, wave, quiver) yoj

**shallow** (V be shallow as water) ntiav

**shaman** N [tus] txiv neeb

**shape** V (shape, mold, form with hands, flatten) puab

- N (shape, picture) [tus] duab
- N (shape, body) [lub] cev

**share** V sib faib

**sharp** (V be sharp physically, mentally) ntse

**shave** V chais, chais plaub

**she** PRO (she, OBJ her, OBJ herself, he, him, OBJ himself, it, OBJ itself) nws

**sheep** N [tus] yaj

**sheet** (CLF for sheets, flat things) daim

- (sheet of paper) daim ntawv
- N (bedsheet) [daim] pam pua chaw

**shelf** N txee [lub]

- N (small storage shelf over fire in Hmong house) [lub] qab nthab

**shin** N [lub] roob hlaub

**shine** V (shine, be bright) ci

**ship** N (ship, boat) [lub] nkoj

**shirt** N (any upper body garment with sleeves) [lub] tsho

**shiver** V tshee, ua tshee tshee

- V (shiver from cold) no tshee

**shoe** N [tus for one, nkawm for pair] khau

- (V put on, wear shoes, boots, gloves, leg wrappings, socks) rau

**shoelace** N [txoj] hlua khau

**shoot** V (shoot, kill) tua

- V (shoot with a gun) tua phom
- N (bamboo shoot) [tus] ntsuag xyoob

**shop** N (shop, store) [lub] tsev muag khoom

- V (go shopping) kav khw

**shore** N [lub] ntug (dej)

**short** (V be short horizontally) luv

- (V be short vertically) qis
- (V be short in stature) qeg/qig (taub)
- (N short time) sij hawm tsis ntev
- (V be short-tempered) siab luv

**shorts** N [lub] ris luv

**should** V (must) yuav tsum

**shoulder** N [lub] xub pwg

**shout** V (shout, scream) qw

- V (shout, cry out loudly) nthe

**shovel** N [rab] duav hlau

**show** V ua (kom) pom

- V (with hand) ua tes taw
- V (show, advise, explain, inform, teach, tell) qhia
- V (put on a show) ua yeeb yam

**shower** V (bathe) da dej

**shrimp** N [tus] cws

**shut** V (shut, close, be closed, be turned off, lock, be locked) kaw

- V (shut as eyes) qe

**shy** (V be shy, embarrassed, ashamed) txaj muag

**sick** (V be sick) mob, tsis xis nyob

**side** N (side of something, direction) sab

- N (side in a conflict, side of a place) tog

**sign** N (sign, mark, seal, stamp) [lub] cim

- V (sign one's name) sau npe, kos npe, ntaus cim npe
- V (use sign language) piav tes

**silly** (V be crazy) vwm

- (V be stupid, foolish, dumb, unintelligent) ruam

**silver** N (silver metal, money) nyiaj

- (N silver color, V be silver in color) xim nyiaj

**similar** (V be similar, like, the same, ADV like, CONJ like, as) zoo li, xws li

- (ADV similar, the same [as], like) (zoo/xws) ib yam (li), ib yam nkaus (li), tib yam, luag ib yam

**simple** (V be simple, easy) yooj yim, tsis nyaub

**since** PREP (time) txij puag thaum, txij li (thaum)

- CONJ (because) rau qhov, vim

**sing** V (sing a song) hu nkauj

- (V sing a Hmong ballad) hais kwv txhiaj

**single** Q (a single, one) tib

- Q (a single, lone) twm
- (only/just one) ib + CLF \_\_\_ nkaus xwb

**sink** N (sink, bathtub, tub) [lub] dab dej,

- N (sink for washing face) [lub] dab ntxuav muag,
- N (sink for washing dishes) [lub] dab ntxuav tais diav
- V (as of a boat) tog

**sister**

- N (female's sister) [tus] viv ncaus
- N (female's older sister) [tus] niam laus
- N (female's younger sister) [tus] niam hluas
- N (males's sister) [tus] muam
- N (male's youngest sister) [tus] muam ntxawm
- N (female's sister-in-law) [tus] tis nyab
- N (male's sister-in-law) [tus] muam

**sit** V zaum

**six** Q rau

**sixteen** Q kaum rau

**sixteenth** (V be sixteenth) thib kaum rau

**sixth** (V be sixth) thib rau

**sixtieth** (V be sixtieth) thib rau caum

**sixty** Q rau caum

**size** N hom loj me

**skillet** N (frying pan) [lub] yias

**skin** N (skin of person/animal, hide, leather) [daim] tawv

- N (skin of person) [daim] cev/tawv nqaij
- N (skin of a fruit) [daim] tawv (txiv) ntoo
- V (remove skin) laws tawv

**skinny** (V be skinny, thin) yuag

**skirt** N [daim] tiab

**skull** N [lub] pob txha taub hau, khauj khaum taub hau

**sky** N [lub] ntuj

**sleep** V pw tsaug zog

- V (lie down, often used to imply sleep) pw
- N (sleeping bag) [lub] hnab pw

**sleepy** (V be sleepy) tsaug tsaug zog

**sleeve** N [lub] tsho tes

**slice** V (slice, cut with slicing motion) hlais, suam

**slow** ADV (slow, slowly) qeeb, maj mam

**small** (V be small) me, nyuag, nyuam, tsawg, me nyuam

**smart** (V be smart, intelligent, sharp) ntse

- (V be smart, clever, wise, have a plan) muaj tswj yim

**smear** V (smear, spread liquid [such as paint/oil] over a surface) pleev

**smell** V (smell something, sniff at) hnia

- V (sense, be conscious of odor) hnov (tsw)
- V (smell bad) tsw tsw, tsis tsw qab
- V (smell good) tsw tsw qab
- N (a smell) ntxhiab
- N (a bad smell) tsw ntxhiab

**smile** V luag ntxhi, luag (nyuv) nyav

**smoke** V (smoke a cigarette) haus luam yeeb

- V (produce smoke) ncho pa
- N pa taws
- N (smoke, haze) faj suab
- (V be smoky) pob pob li

- smooth** (V be smooth, level, clear of extraneous matter) du
- snail** N [tus] qwj
- snake** N [tus] nab
- sneeze** V txham
- snow** N (snow, ice, frost) [cov] te
- N (less common words for snow) npu, daus (xib daus npu)
  - V los te/daus
- so** CONJ (so [then]) ces
- CONJ (so, so then, therefore, consequently, thus, thereby) thiaj li
  - CONJ (so, and so, therefore, and then) ho
  - ADV (so that, in order to) kom, yuav kom
  - ADV (so \_\_\_\_, to such a great extent) \_\_\_\_, ua luaj
  - ADV (so much, as much/many as, really) diam
- soap** N [lub] (L) xaj npus, xum npum, xu npus, xos npus
- soccer** (V play soccer, lit. kick a ball in play) ncaws pob (ua si)
- sock** N [txhais for one, nkawm for pair] thom khwm
- (V wear, put on socks, boots, gloves, leg wrappings, shoes) rau
- sofa** N [lub] rooj zaum ntev
- soft** (V be soft, fine, small, young and tender) mos
- (V be soft, tender, pliable, weak) muag
- soil** N (soil, dirt, earth, ground, floor) av
- soldier** N [tus] tub rog, (L) [tus] thab ham
- some** Q ib co, ib qho, tej, puav, qee, ib kuag, ib txhia
- somehow** ADV ua li cas los tsis paub
- someone** PRO (someone/body) ib tug
- (N someone, a person) ib tug neeg
  - PRO (used in statements, questions: someone/body, anyone/body [+ NEG on V for NEG meaning], no one/body [+ NEG on V], who) leej twg
- something** PRO ib yam dab tsi
- PRO (used in statements, questions: something, anything [+ NEG on V for NEG meaning], nothing [+ NEG on V], what) dab tsi, ab tsi
- sometimes** ADV tej zaug, zaus puav, qee zaus
- somewhere** ADV ib qhov chaw twg los yog
- PRO (used in statements, questions: somewhere, anywhere [+ NEG on V for NEG meaning], nowhere [+ NEG on V], where) qhov twg
- son** N [tus] (me nyuam) tub
- N (son-in-law) [tus] vauv
- song** N (zaj) nkauj
- N (Hmong ballad) kwv txhiaj
- soon** ADV (soon, not long from now) sai sai saum no, tsis ntev saum no
- ADV (in a moment, second, instant) ib pliaj, tib pliaj xwb
  - ADV (in around an hour) ib chim
  - ADV (from an hour to a day) ib tsam
  - ADV (less than ib tsam) ib me tsam
- sore** (V be sore, hurt, be sick) mob
- V (have a sore throat) mob qa
  - N (a sore) [lub] qhov txhab
- sorry** (be sorry, sad, worried, depressed) tu siab
- (I'm sorry, excuse me) thov txim
  - (I'm sorry to express condolence) kuv nrog/pab koj tu siab
- sort** N (sort, type, kind) hom, yam
- soul** N (human soul/spirit) [tus] plig, ntsuj (plig)
- (Hmong ceremony for calling the soul/spirit) hu plig
- sound** N (sound, noise, tone in tone language, voice) [lub] suab
- (N sound, noise; V make a sound, ring, be loud) nrov
- soup** N (vegetable) kua zaub, zaub hau
- sour** (V be sour) qaub
- south** (N name of direction) sab qab teb
- PREP (to/at/in the south, downhill, below) nram
  - ADV (to/at/in the south, downhill, below) nrad
- soybean** N [lub] taum pauv
- spare** (N spare time) sij hawm tsis ua dab tsi
- speak** V (speak, pronounce, say, tell) hais
- V (speak, speak words) hais lus
  - V (speak of/to, converse, chat) (sib) tham
  - V (speak for/on behalf of, interpret, translate) txiv lus
- speech** N (a speech) zaj lus
- speed** N [txoj] kev ceev
- spell** V (spell out letter by letter) hais ib tug ntawv zuj zus
- V (be spelled/written, write) sau
- spend** V (spend, use) siv
- spice** N (spice, condiment, herb) txuj lom
- spicy** (V be spicy, not bland) ntsim
- spider** N [tus] kab laug sab

- spill** V (spill, pour) nchuav  
 • (spill something) ua \_\_\_ nchuav
- spirit** N (human spirit/soul) [tus] plig, ntsuj (plig)  
 • V (Hmong ceremony for calling the spirit/soul) hu plig  
 • N (a spirit) [tus] dab  
 • N (friendly or familiar spirits) neeb  
 • V (do Hmong spirit rites) ua neeb, ua dab
- spit** N (spit, spittle) [tawb] qaub ncaug
- spoon** N [rab] diav
- spread** V (spread, smear liquid [such as paint/oil] over a surface) pleev  
 • V (spread, increase, prosper) huam
- spring** N (season) [lub] caij (ntuj) nplooj ntoos hlav
- squash** N [lub] taub
- squat** V zaum khooj ywb
- squirrel** N [tus] nas ncuav
- stable** N (stable, pen, enclosure, jail) [lub] nkuaj
- stair** N (stair, staircase, ladder) [tus] ntaiv
- stamp** N (postage) [daim] nqi/nqe xa ntawv  
 • N (stamp, mark, seal, sign) [lub] cim
- stand** (V stand up, get up, rise) sawv  
 • V (stand up/upright) sawv ntsug  
 • V (be standing, stand erect, upright, stand something erect) nres  
 • V (stand still) nres zog
- star** N [lub] hnub qub
- stare** V (stare at) ntsia ntsoov  
 • V (stare at, look at, gaze) ntsia
- start** V (start, begin) pib  
 • V (start, begin, originate) chiv
- startle** V (startle, scare, frighten, intimidate) hem  
 • (V be startled) ras dheev  
 • (V be startled, surprised) xooj  
 • (V be startled, dazed, confused, subdued) yoog zog  
 • (V be startled, surprised, frightened, tense) ceeb
- state** N (as California, province) [lub] xeev
- stay** V (stay, be at, live, be alive) nyob
- steal** V (steal, do secretly) nyiag
- steam** V cub  
 • V (place beside the fire to steam and soften) ncu  
 • N pa dej  
 • N (steam from rice, a pot, condensed moisture, perspiration, sweat) hws
- steamer** N (rice steamer) [lub] tsu
- steel** N kab, kab (ntaus) hlau
- step** N (a step vertically) qib/qeb  
 • N (step, steps, levels of ascent, story of building, layer) them  
 • N (a step in walking, in a situation, procedure) ruam  
 • V (take steps in walking) tshais ruam  
 • V (step on, trample) tsuj
- stepdaughter** N [tus] ntxhais tshiab
- stepfather** N txiv tshiab
- stepmother** N niam tshiab
- stepson** N [tus] tub tshiab
- stick** N (stick, rod, cane) [lub] pas  
 • V (stick on/to, be stuck to) lo
- sticky** (V be sticky, gluey, glutinous) nplaum  
 • (N sticky/glutinous rice) mov nplaum
- stiff** (V be stiff, hard, tough) tawv
- still** ADV (time) tseem  
 • ADV (still more, more so, comparative degree) haj yam  
 • (V be still, quiet, silent) ntsiag (to)  
 • (V be still, quiet) twj ywm
- sting** V plev
- stir** V (stir, mix) do
- stomach** N (stomach, abdomen) [lub] plab
- stomachache** (V have a stomachache) mob plab
- stone** N (stone, rock) [lub] pob zeb  
 • V (be of stone) zeb
- stool** N [lub] tog
- stop** V (motion, situation) nres  
 • V (stop from, prevent from action, rebuke, forbid) txwv  
 • V (stop, cease, end) tsum  
 • V (Stop it! Enough!) tsum lawm
- store** N [lub] tsev muag khoom  
 • N (market) [lub] khw, (L) tab laj  
 • V (store, put aside, put away) cia
- storm** N cua daj cua dub  
 • V los nag los cua hlob hlob, los los nag thiab cua daj cua dub hlob hlob
- story** N (folk tale) [zaj] dab neeg  
 • N (story in a building, layer, level, step) them  
 • N (story in a building, layer, level, tier) txheej
- stove** N (stove, fireplace for cooking) [lub] qhov cub
- straight** (V be straight, honest) ncaj
- strange** (V lit. be different) txawv

**stranger** N [tus] qhua  
**strawberry** N [lub] txiv pos (liab), txiv plauj  
**street** N (street, road, path, way) [txoj] kev  
**strength** N [lub] zog  
**string** N (string, rope) [txoj] hlua  
 • N (string, thread, wire) [txoj] xov  
**striped** (V be striped, multicolored) (xim) txaij  
**strong** (V be strong) muaj zog  
**student** N (female) [tus] ntxhais kawm ntawv  
 • N (male) [tus] tub kawm ntawv  
 • N (students) tub ntxhais kawm ntawv  
**study** V kawm  
 • V (study using books) kawm ntawv  
**stump** N (tree stump) [lub] pob ntoos, hauv paus ntoo  
**stupid** (V be stupid, dumb, foolish, unintelligent) ruam  
 • (V be stupid, dazed, confused) hab  
**subject** N (subject matter) [lub] ntsiab (lus)  
**succeed** V ua tau zoo  
**such** (V lit. be like that) yog zoo li ntawd  
**suddenly** ADV dheev  
 • ADV (occur suddenly, in an instant) pliag ntshis  
**suffer** V (suffer pain) sab  
 • V (suffer, encounter, incur, be afflicted with) rang  
**sufficient** (be sufficient, enough) txaus  
**sugar** N piam thaj  
 • N (sugar cane) kab tsib  
**suit** N (pants and jacket) (cev) ris tsho loj  
**suitcase** N [lub] hnab tawv rau khaub ncaws  
 • N (suitcase, storage box) [lub] phij xab  
**summer** N [lub] caij (ntuj) sov  
**sun** N (sun, day) [lub] hnub  
 • (suntanned) ziab tshav  
**Sunday** N [lub] Hnub chiv, Hnub ib, Hnub vas thiv  
**sunflower** N [lub] paj noob hlis  
**sunrise** N [lub] hnub tuaj  
**sunset** N [lub] hnub poob  
**sunshine** N (sunshine, sunlight, daylight) tshav ntu  
**supervisor** N tus saib  
**supper** N (pluas) hmo

**sure** (V to be sure of something) muaj tseeb, paub tseeb  
**surgery** (V do surgery, operate) phais mob  
 • V (do surgery, cut open, operate) phais  
**surname** N (surname, last name, clan) [lub] xeeb  
**surpass** (V surpass, ADV more than, most, N surplus, profit) tshaj  
 • (V surpass, ADV more than, again) dua  
 • V (surpass, exceed, pass [by/through], cross over) dhau  
**surprise** V ua kom ceeb  
 • (V be surprised, startled) ceeb, xooj  
**surround** V (surround, be around) nyob ncig  
**swallow** V nqos  
**sweat** N (sweat, condensed moisture, perspiration, steam from rice, a pot) hws  
 • V tawm hws  
**sweater** N [lub] tsho tiv no me, tsho ntaub tiv no  
**sweep** V cheb  
**sweet** (V taste sweet) qab zib  
 • (N sweet potato) [lub] qos yaj ywm liab  
**swell** V (swell, be swollen, inflamed) o  
**swim** V ua luam dej

## T

**TB** (V have tuberculosis) mob ntsws  
 • (have a TB skin test) hno tsuaj sim kev mob ntsws  
**table** N (table, furniture) [lub] rooj  
**tablecloth** N [daim] ntaub pua rooj  
**tail** N [tus] tw, ko tw  
**take** V (take, have in hand) muab  
 • V (take from) muab ntawm los  
 • V (take hold of, make use of) xuas  
 • V (take in the hand, grasp, hold with the hand) tuav  
 • V (take off, remove, as clothes) hle  
 • V (take \_\_\_ somewhere) coj \_\_\_ mus  
 • V (take to, give to) muab rau  
 • V (take to, carry to) nqa \_\_\_ mus  
 • V (take an amount of time, use) siv  
 • V (take a bath, shower) da dej  
 • V (take care of, watch, guard, as children) zov  
 • V (take care of) tu  
 • V (take care of and feed, raise, for humans to give birth) yug

- V (take/use medicine) siv tshuaj
  - V (take solid medicine, eat) noj
  - V (take liquid medicine, drink) haus
  - V (take pictures) yees duab, (L) thajj duab
- tale** N (folk tale, story) [zaj] dab neeg
- talk** V (talk, speak, say) hais (lus)
- V (talk with, chat, converse) (sib) tham
  - V (talk about) tham txog, hais txog
- tall** (V be tall) siab
- tamarind** N [lub] txiv quav
- tape** N (cassette) daim kaw lus, kas xev
- V (record) kaw
  - (N tape recorder/player) [lub] thej
- taste** V (take a taste, sample) saj
- V (taste good) qab
- taxes** N se
- tea** N (liquid) dej tshuaj yej, dej ces
- N (tea leaves) nplooj ces
- teach** V (teach, advise, explain, inform, show, tell) qhia
- teacher** N [tus] xib fwb/hwb qhia ntawv, (L) nais khus
- N (teacher, minister, pastor, professor) [tus] xib fwb/hwb
- teapot** N [lub] fwj, fwj dej tshuaj yej, lauj kaub rau ces
- tear** V (tear, be torn) ntuag
- V (tear/rip intentionally, be torn by something) daa
  - V (tear off as of banana leaf off its main rib) ntshi
  - V (tear down, dismantle) rhuav
- tear** N (from eye) kua muag
- tease** V (tease, pester) zes
- telegram** N tsab xov ntaus, [tsab] ntawv xov tooj
- V (send a telegram) ntaus xov tooj
- telephone** N [lub] xov tooj, (E) tes les foos
- N (pay telephone) [lub] xov tooj siv nyiag
  - N (telephone book) phau ntawv xov tooj
  - V (call someone on the telephone) hu xov tooj
- television** N [lub] txais duab ua zog, (E) thi vi
- tell** V (tell, pronounce, say, speak) hais
- V (tell, advise, explain, inform, show, teach) qhia
  - V (tell a story, narrate, talk about) piav
  - V (tell someone to do something, cause) kom
- temperature** (as of air) [txoj] kev kub no
- N (fever) [tus] npaws
- V (have a temperature, fever) ua npaws, lub cev kub, kub ib ce
- ten** Q kaum
- Q (ten thousand) (ib) vam
- tender** (V be tender, fine, small, soft) mos
- (V be tender, soft, pliable, weak) muag
- tendon** N [txoj] sawv
- tennis** (V play tennis) ntaus pob tes niv
- tenth** (V be tenth) thib kaum
- Q (fraction a tenth) feem kaum
- test** N [txoj] kev sim
- V (put to a test, try) sim
  - V (see how something will work out) saib yuav teb li cas
  - V (take a test) xeem
- testicle** N (may be offensively explicit) [lub] noob qes
- N (euphemism for male/female genital area, genitals, groin) qhov chaw mos
- Thai** (V be Thai) Thaib
- N (Thai language) lus Thaib
  - N (Thai person) [tus] neeg Thaib
- Thailand** N [lub] Thaib teb, Teb chaws Thaib
- than** (ADV more than, again, V surpass, used to form comparative) dua
- thank** (thank you) ua tsaug
- that** DEM (nearby) ntawd
- PRO (nearby) CLF + ntawd
  - DEM (near hearer) ko
  - PRO (near hearer) CLF + ko
  - (CONJ that, V say that) (hais) tias
  - (CONJ that, relative clause marker that, who, whom, which) uas
- their** POSS (for 2) nkawd + CLF for most nouns
- POSS (for 3 or more) lawv + CLF for most nouns
- theirs** PRO (for 2) nkawd li
- PRO (for 3 or more) lawv li
- them** PRO (they, them for 2) nkawd
- PRO (they, them, usually for 3 or more) lawv
  - PRO (them, they, others, especially for vague reference) luag (tej)
- themselves** PRO (OBJ for 2) nkawd
- (emphatic reflexive as in do by oneself) nkawd tus kheej
  - (OBJ for 3 or more) lawv
  - (emphatic reflexive as in do by oneself) lawv tus kheej

**then** ADV (at that time) thaum ntawd

- ADV (then, after that, thereupon, consequently, therefore) txawm
- ADV (and then, therefore, so) ho
- ADV (so then, therefore, consequently, thereby) thiaj (li)
- ADV (then, and then, so then) ces
- ADV ([so] then, in that case, therefore) mam li

**there** ADV (nearby) (qhov) ntawd

- ADV (near hearer) (qhov) ko
- ADV (over there, farther than ntawd) (qhov) tod
- ADV (over there, farther than tod, across the valley) (qhov) tid
- ADV (way over there) tom/tim ub
- ADV (up there as of elevation, direction) ped
- ADV (up there above, on top of) saud
- ADV (down there) nrad

**thereby** ADV (thereby, thus, therefore, so then, consequently) thiaj (li)

**therefore** ADV (therefore, that being the case, thus) yog li ntawd

- ADV (therefore, so then, consequently, thus, thereby) thiaj (li)
- ADV (therefore, [so] then, in that case) mam li
- ADV (therefore, after that, consequently, then, thereupon) txawm

**thereupon** ADV (thereupon, after that, consequently, then, therefore) txawm

**these** PRO cov no, tej no, CLF + no

**they** PRO (they, them, OBJ themselves for 2) nkawd

- PRO (they, them, OBJ themselves usually for 3 or more) lawv
- PRO (they, them, others, especially for vague reference) luag (tej)

**thick** (V be thick, as of book, board) tuab

- (V for liquids to be thick) nyeem

**thief** N [tus] tub sab

**thigh** N [txhais] ncej puab

**thin** (V be thin vs. thick) nyias

- (V for a person, animal to be thin, skinny, emaciated) yuag
- (V for liquids to be thin) sab

**thing** N (thing, object) khoom

- N (thing, kind, sort, variety) yam
- N (thing, article, point in a speech) qhov
- N (things in general, articles) qhov txhia chaw

**think** V (think that) xav tias

- (V think about) xav txog
- (V think about someone/place with longing) nco txog

**third** (V be third) thib peb

**thirsty** (V be thirsty) nqhis dej

**thirteen** Q kaum peb

**thirteenth** (V be thirteenth) thib kaum peb

**thirtieth** (V be thirtieth) thib peb caug

**thirty** Q peb caug

**this** DEM no

- PRO qhov no, CLF + no
- (do this and that) ua ub ua no

**those** PRO cov ntawd, tej ntawd, CLF + ntawd

- PRO (near hearer) cov ko, tej ko, CLF + ko

**thousand** Q txhiab

- Q (ten thousand) (ib) vam
- Q (twenty thousand) ob vam

**thread** N (thread, string, wire) [txoj] xov

- N (hemp thread for weaving) seb

**three** Q peb

**throat** N caj pas, qhov qa

- N (inside and back of mouth) qa

**through** (PREP through, across, V pass

- [through/by] cross over, surpass, exceed) dhau
- (V pass through a place, cross) hla (dhau)
- (V come/flow through) los ntawm

**throw** V (1 hand underhand) pov

- (Hmong New Year's ball throwing) pov pob
- V (1 hand overhand) txawb
- V (throw underhand) cuam
- V (throw, scatter) nphoo
- V (2 hand underhand, throw for water) ntov
- V (throw up, vomit) ntuav
- V (throw away) (pov) tseg

**thumb** N [tus] ntiv tes xoo

**thunder** V xob quaj

**Thursday** N [lub] Hnub tsib, Hnub phaj hav

**thus** ADV (thus, therefore, so then, consequently, thereby) thiaj (li)

- ADV (thus, that being the case, therefore) yog li ntawd

**ticket** N daim pib

**tie** V (tie, bind) khi

- (ceremonial tying of strings on wrists) khi tes, khi hlua

**tiger** N [tus] tsov

**tight** (V be tight) ceev



**time** N (time as an entity) [lub] sij hawm

- N (time of day, hour, o'clock) teev, (L) moos
- (What time is it?) Pes tsawg moos lawm?
- N (number of times, an occasion) zaus
- N (next/another time) lwm zaus
- N (first time) thawj zaug
- (have free/leisure time to do something) muaj khoom
- N (time of year, season, period, era) [lub] caij
- N (period of time) yav
- N (time, age, a person's age) [lub] hnuv nyoog/nyug
- (waste time) nkim hnuv nyoog

**tingle** V (feel a tingling) rhiab nkuav

**tire** N (vehicle tire, wheel) [lub] log

**tired** (V be tired, lazy) nkees

**to** PREP (to, toward) rau

- PREP (to [nearby], at) ntawm
- PREP (over to) tom
- PREP (over to, esp. laterally [farther than tom], across the valley) tim
- PREP (up to [geographic elevation], up to the north) pem
- PREP (down to [geographic elevation], down to the south) nram
- PREP (to the point of, about, V arrive at) txog

**toast** V (toast, dry by the fire) txhiab

- V (toast, bake, barbecue, roast) ci

**today** N hnuv no

**toe** N [tus] ntiv taw

**toenail** N [tus] rau taw

**together** ADV (together [with]) ua ke

**toilet** N (toilet, toilet bowl) [lub] dab tawm rooj

**tomato** N [lub] txiv lws suav, txiv lws liab

**tomorrow** ADV (tomorrow, morning) tag kis

**tone** N (tone in tone language, noise, sound, voice) suab

**tongue** N [tus] nplaig

**tonight** ADV hmo no

**too** ADV (too, also, CONJ and) thiab

- ADV (too, also, as well, moreover) kuj
- ADV (too, likewise, the same) ib yam
- ADV (excessively \_\_\_ ) \_\_\_ hwv
- (V be excessively \_\_\_ ) \_\_\_ dhau
- (that's too bad, what a pity) khuv xim

**tool** N (tool, equipment, utensil, household good) [lub] cuab yeej

**tooth** N [tus] hniav

**toothache** (V have a toothache) mob hniav

**toothbrush** N rab txhuam hniav

**toothpaste** N tshuaj txhuam hniav

**top** N (top/back side of) qaum

- N (top, tip, end)[lub] ntsis
- PREP (on top of, above) (nyob) saum
- N (Hmong toy spinning top) [lub] tuj lub

**touch** V (touch, handle, feel with hands) kov

- V (physically be touching) chwv raug

**tough** (V be tough, hard, stiff) tawv

**toward** PREP (toward/s, to) rau

**towel** N [txoj] phuam (so cev)

**town** N (town, small city, village) [lub] zos

**toy** N khoom ua si, yam ua si

**trade** V (trade, change, exchange) pauv

**tradition** N hom kev cai thaum ub

**train** N [lub] tsheb ciav hlau

**translate** V txhais lus

**translator** N [tus] neeg txhais lus

**transport** V nquam, thauj

**trap** V (trap, snare, make a trap) cuab

**travel** V (travel, follow a path) taug kev

**tray** N (bamboo tray) [lub] vab

**treatment** N (medical) [txoj] kev kho mob

**tree** N (tree, wood) [tus] ntoo

- N (tree foliage) tsob ntoo
- N (tree stump) [lub] pob ntoos, hauv paus ntoo
- (at the base/in the shade of a tree) hauv tsob qab ntoos

**trick** V (trick, lie, cheat) dag

**trip** V (trip, fall down) ntog

- V (trip over something, stumble) dawm
- N (journey) [txoj] kev taug kev

**trouble** N [txoj] kev nyuab siab, (kev) plaub

- (V make trouble) thab (plaub)

**troublesome** (V be troublesome, annoying, obnoxious, pesty) thab thab plaub

**trough** N (trough, basin, tub) [lub] dab

**truck** N [tus] tsheb thauj khoom

**true** (V be true) tseeb, muaj (tseeb) tiag

- (V be true, right, ADV really, truly) tiag
- (V be true, right, be, exist) yog

**trunk** N (tree) [lub] cev ntoo, [tus] cav ntoo

- N (car) qhov quav tshab rau khoom
- N (elephant) [tus] cov ntxhw

**trust** V (trust in, believe) ntseeg

- V (trust in, have confidence in) muab siab rau, tso siab rau

**truth** N [txoj] kev tseeb

**try** V (try, attempt, test) sim

**tub** N (tub, basin, trough) [lub] dab

- N (tub, bathtub, sink) [lub] dab dej

**tuberculosis** (V have tuberculosis, TB) mob ntsws

**Tuesday** N [lub] Hnub peb, Hnub vas as qhas

**turban** N (Hmong woman's head wrap) [txoj] phuam  
(V put on, wear, carry on/over head for head wrap, hat, umbrella) ntoo

**turkey** N [tus] qaib cov txwv

**turn** V (turn in another direction) lem

- V (turn in another direction, revolve) tig
- V (turn around, spin, be spinning) kiv
- V (turn on, as a light, set a fire) taws
- V (turn on, as a light, open) qhib
- V (turn off, as of a light, kill, shoot) tua
- V (turn against, have change of heart) fav xeeb, ntseev siab
- V (turn over, roll over, change over) ntseev
- N (your turn) koj thib

**turnip** N [lub] zaub lauj pwm

**turtle** N [tus] vaub kib

**twelfth** (V be twelfth) thib kaum ob

**twelve** Q kaum ob

**twentieth** (V be twentieth) thib nees nkaum

**twenty** Q nees nkaum

- Q (twenty thousand) ob vam

**twice** ADV (twice, two times) ob zaug

- (twice as much) ob npaug

**twin** N (twin children) me nyuam ntxaib

**twist** V (twist, be twisted, wring) ntswj

**two** Q ob

- Q (two or three, a few) ob peb

**type** V (typewrite) ntaus ntawv

- N (type, kind, sort) hom
- N (type, kind, thing) yam

**typewriter** N [lub] tshuab ntaus ntawv

## U

**ugly** (V be ugly, bad) phem, tsis zoo

**ulcer** N (ulcer, boil, abcess) [lub] rwj

**umbilical** (N umbilical cord) [txoj] hlab ntaws

**umbrella** N [lub] kaus

- (V carry umbrella, carry on/over head, wear, put on head) ntoo

**uncertain** (V be uncertain) xyov

**uncle** N (father's older brother) [tus] txiv hlob

- N (father's younger brother) [tus] txiv ntxawm
- N (mother's brother) [tus] dab laug
- N (father's sister's husband) [tus] yij laug
- N (mother's sister's husband) [tus] yawm txiv
- N (term of respect for older man, paternal grandfather, paternal grandfather's brother) [tus] yawg

**unconscious** (V be unconscious) tsis nco qab lawm

**uncooked** (V be uncooked, fresh, green, as timber) nyoos

**under** PREP (under, underneath) hauv qab

**underpants** N (women's) [lub] tiab me me

- N (men's) [lub] ris xiv liv

**understand** V to taub, nkag siab

**underwear** N ris tsho sab hauv

**undress** V (lit. take off clothes) hle ris tsho

**unemployment** N [txoj] kev poob hauj lwmm

**unhappy** (V be unhappy) tsis zoo siab, tsis qab siab

**United States** N (America) As mes liv kas teb,

Teb chaws As mes liv kas, A mes lis kas, A me li kas, Mi li kas, Mi kas, Mis kas, Mis kuj

**university** N [lub] tsev kawm ntawv theem kawg, tsev kawm ntawv qib siab

**unlock** V (unlock, open, turn on) qhib

**unsettled** (V be unsettled in mind) siab ntxhov

**until** PREP txog, mus txog

**unusual** (V lit. be very different) txawv heev

**unwilling** (V be unwilling) tsis kam

**up** PREP (up in geographical elevation, in/up to the north, uphill) pem

- ADV (up there, uphill) ped
- (V go up, ascend, climb) nce
- (V be upright) ntsug
- (V stand upright) sawv ntsug
- (V stand up, rise, get up) sawv

**upset** (V be upset) tsis txaus siab, nyuaj siab  
 • (V be upset, angry) chim

**upstairs** N theem saum toj

**urinate** V tso zis

**urine** N [tawb] zis

**us** PRO (us, we, OBJ ourselves for 2) wb  
 • PRO (us, we, OBJ ourselves for 3 or more) peb

**use** V siv  
 • N (a use, usefulness, worthwhileness) qab hau

**used** (V be used to, familiar) swm

**useful** (V be useful) zoo siv  
 • (V be useful, have a use) muaj qab hau

**usual** (V be usual, normal) (L) thas mab das  
 ADV (as usual, like before) xws li qub

**usually** ADV (usually, as usual, like before) raws li  
 ib txwm, raws li qub, xws li qub

## V

**vacation** N [lub] caij so

**vaccinate** V txhaj tshuaj

**vacuum** N (vacuum cleaner) [lub] nqus tsev

**vagina** N (vagina, vulva, may be offensively explicit) [lub] pim, paum  
 • N (euphemism for female/male genital area, genitals, groin) qhov chaw mos

**valley** N [lub] hav  
 N (river valley) [lub] kwj ha, hav dej

**valuable** (V be valuable, worthy, suitable, appropriate) tsim nyog

**various** (N various kinds of things, different kinds)  
 yam ub yam no

**vegetable** N (leafy green and other non-legumes)  
 zaub  
 • (Hmong vegetable soup) zaub tsuag

**vein** N [txoj] hlab ntsha

**venereal** (N venereal disease, VD) [tus for a case]  
 mob kas cees, mob yees, mob uav

**very** ADV heev, kawg (nkaws (li))

**videocassette** N [daim] kab xev vi di aws  
 • (N videocassette recorder, VCR) [lub] tso mu vis

**Vietnam** N Nyab laj teb, Teb chaws Nyab laj

**Vietnamese** (V be Vietnamese) Njab laj  
 • (N Vietnamese language) lus Nyab laj

• (N Vietnamese person) [tus] neeg Nyab laj

**village** N (village, small city, town) [lub] zos

**vine** N [txoj] hmab

**violent** (V be violent, intense, severe) heev  
 • (N a violent person) [tus] neeg siab heev heev

**virus** N kab mob

**visit** V (visit, look at, watch, [go] see) xyuas (saib)

**voice** N [lub] (voice, noise, sound, tone in tone language) suab

**vomit** V (vomit, throw up) ntuav

**vote** V pov ntawv

**vulva** N (vulva, vagina, may be offensively explicit)  
 [lub] pim, paum  
 • N (euphemism for female/male genital area, genitals, groin) qhov chaw mos

## W

**wad** N (wad, pile of money) phau nyiaj

**waist** N [lub] duav

**wait** V (wait [for], [go] meet) tos

**wake** V (wake up, awaken) tsim  
 • V (wake someone up, get someone up, raise, set up, erect) tsa

**walk** V mus kev, mus (ko) taw  
 • (walk around) thuv

**wall** N [daim] phab ntsha

**wallet** N [lub] hnab tawv me

**want** V xav  
 • V (want, desire) yuav  
 • V (want to get) xav tau  
 • V (want that, want someone to do something) xav kom

**war** N rog, kev tsov (kev) rog, kev ua tsov ua rog, kev sib ntaus sib tua,  
 • V (fight a war) ua rog, ua tsov ua rog, ntaus rog, sib ntaus sib tua

**warm** (V be warm) sov

**warn** V ceeb toom

**wash** V (wash out/off in water, as dishes, hands) ntxuav  
 • (V wash, scrub, as clothes) ntxhua  
 • (V wash by scrubbing/rubbing with hands in water, e.g. rice, clothes) zawv  
 • (N washing machine) [lub] tshuab ntxhua khaub ncaws

**wasp** N [tus] nkawj

**waste** V nkim

- (waste time) nkim hnuv nyooq

**watch** N (timepiece) [lub] teev, (L) moos

- (V wear, put on watch, bracelet, earrings, eyeglasses, necklace) coj
- V (watch, stare, gaze at) ntsia
- V (watch, as TV, look at, observe, see) saib
- V (watch, look at, [go] see, visit) xyuas (saib)
- V (watch, as children, guard) zov

**water** N (water, soda pop) dej

- (N water buffalo) [tus] twm

**watermelon** N [lub] dib liab, dib dej

**wax** N ciab

- N (beeswax) ciab ntab

**way** N (way, path, road, street) [txoj] kev

**we** PRO (we, us, OBJ ourselves for 2 people) wb

- PRO (we, us, OBJ ourselves for 3 or more people) peb

**weak** (V be weak, lack strength) tsis muaj zog

- (V be weak and unsteady on feet) qaug zog
- (V be/feel weak, feeble, sickly) tsaug
- (V be weak, sickly, sad) mluas

**wear** V (wear, put on clothes [and neck scarves] on main part of body but not head, hands, feet) hnauv

- V (wear, put on boots, gloves, leg wrappings, socks, shoes) rau
- V (wear, put on, wrap around waist for belt, sash) sia
- V (wear, put on, carry on/over head for hat, head wrap, umbrella) ntoo
- V (wear, put on bracelet, earrings, eyeglasses, necklace, watch) coj

**weather** N huab cua

**weave** V (baskets) hiab

- V (cloth) ua ntos (ntaub)

**wedding** N tshoob

**Wednesday** N [lub] Hnuv plaub, (L) Hnuv vas phuv

**weed** N (vegetation, weeds) nroj

- V (pull weeds) dob nroj
- V (hoe out weeds) nthua nroj

**week** N [lub] lim piam, (L) as thiv

- (last week) [lub] lim piam tag los, lim piam nram ntej
- (next week) [lub] lwm lim piam
- (this week) [lub] lim piam no

**weigh** V (weigh something) luj

- V (have a certain weight) hnyav

**weight** N qhov hnyav

- N (of a child) ceeb thawj

- (V lose weight) sem nqaij, yuag zuj zus

**welcome** V (welcome someone, receive) txais

- (you're welcome) tsis ua (li) cas

**well** N (water) qhov dej

- (V be well/good) zoo
- (V be well, fine, life going well) noj qab nyob zoo
- (ADV, well, topic/hesitation/encouraging imperative marker, CONJ particle carrying utterance forward, and) mas

**west** N (name of direction) sab hnuv poob

**wet** (V be wet) ntub (dej)

**what** PRO (what, something, anything [+ NEG on V for NEG meaning], nothing [+ NEG on V])

- dab tsi, ab tsi
- (what/which \_\_\_ ?) \_\_\_ zoo li cas?
- (what/which kind?) yam zoo li cas?

**wheel** N (wheel, tire) [lub] log

**when** ADV (when in questions, whenever) thaum twg

- (CONJ in statements) thaum

**where** ADV (in questions) qhov twg

- (CONJ in statements, as in I know [a place] where) qhov chaw uas

**whether** CONJ (whether, if) yog

- (it makes no difference whether \_\_\_ or not \_\_\_) \_\_\_ tsis dua, tsis \_\_\_ tsis dua

**which** (general word compounded with other words to form question words) twg

- (relative clause marker which, who, whom, that, CONJ that) uas

**while** ADV (time when) thaum uas

- ADV (a little while ago, just now) puag ta

**whisper** V ntshi

**white** V (be white) dawb

- N (the color white) xim dawb
- (White Hmong) Hmoob Dawb
- (N egg white) [lub] hli

**who** PRO (in questions: who, whom) twg twg

- PRO (in questions, statements: who, whom, someone/body, anyone/body [+ NEG on V for NEG meaning], no one/body [+NEG on V]) leej twg
- (relative clause marker who, whom, whose, which, that, CONJ that) uas

**whole** Q (whole, entire, complete, all) tas/g nrho

- Q (whole, entire, all, every, each) txhua
- (in special expressions: whole, entire, as in my whole body) kheej

- whom** PRO (in questions: whom, who) twg twg  
 • PRO (in questions, statements: whom, who, someone/body, anyone/body [+ NEG on V for NEG meaning], no one/body [+ NEG on V]) leej twg  
 • (relative clause marker whom, who, whose, which, that; CONJ that) uas
- whose** PRO (used in questions) leej twg li  
 • (relative clause marker whose, who, whom, which, that; CONJ that) uas
- why** ADV (in questions) vim li cas, ua (li) cas  
 • ADV (why in statements, because) vim, vim chij, vim yog li no
- wicked** (V be wicked, evil, cruel) siab dub siab txia ntshav  
 • (V be wicked, evil, bad, ugly) phem
- wide** (V be wide) dav
- widow** N [tus] poj ntsuam
- widower** N [tus] yawg ntsuag
- wife** N [tus] poj niam  
 • N (older/1st wife) [tus] niam hlob  
 • N (younger/2nd wife) [tus] niam yau
- wild** (V be wild, untamed) qus  
 • (wild animals) tsiaj qus
- will** V (marker of future or unfulfilled, unrealized situations) yuav  
 • V (will as in volunteering, agreeing, deciding to do; one thing to happen after another) mam (li)  
 • V (be willing) kam
- win** V yeej  
 • (win a war/battle) ntaus rog yeej lawm
- wind** N [nthwv for gust] cua
- wind** V (wind around, roll up) kauv
- window** N [lub] qhov rai/rais
- windy** (V be windy) cua hlob
- wine** N cawv qab zib  
 • N (wine, alcohol) cawv
- wing** N [tus, phob, sab] tis
- winnow** V tsoov
- winter** N [lub] caij (ntuj) no
- wipe** V (wipe, wipe away, erase) so  
 • (wipe one's nose) so ntswg  
 • (wipe away tears) so kua muag
- wire** N [txoj] hlua hlau  
 • N (wire, string, thread) [txoj] xov
- wisdom** (V to have reached the age of wisdom) siab nthuav
- wise** (V be wise, intelligent, sharp) ntse
- wish** V thov (kom), hawm, thov hawm
- with** (PREP for accompaniment, V accompany) nrog  
 • (instrument sense expressed by a serial verb phrase with a verb such as muab 'take', siv 'use' + the instrument noun; e.g. Muab rab riam hlais nqaj 'Slice the meat with the knife')
- within** PREP (within, in) hauv
- without** (V not to have) tsis muaj  
 • (V not to accompany) tsis nrog
- wok** N (wok, frying pan) [lub] yias
- woman** N [tus] poj niam
- womb** N (womb, uterus) [lub] tsev me nyuam
- wood** N (wood, tree) ntoo  
 • N (firewood) [tsuam for bunches] taws  
 • N (one log of firewood) ib ya cav taws
- woods** N (woods, [small] forest/jungle) [lub] hav zoov (me me)
- wool** N (wool cloth) ntaub plaub tsiaj
- word** N [lo] lus
- work** N [txoj] hauj lwm  
 • V ua hauj lwm
- worker** N [tus] neeg ua hauj lwm
- world** N [lub] ntiaj teb
- worm** N [tus] cua nab
- worry** V (worry, be concerned, distressed, anxious) txhawj  
 • (V be worried, have cares) nyuaj siab  
 • (V be worried, scared, frightened) poob siab
- worse** (V be worse, more evil/wicked/ugly) phem dia
- worst** (V be the worst, most evil, wicked, ugly) phem tshaj
- worth** V (be worth/cost some price) muaj nqi/nqe, raugnqi/nqe
- worthwhile** (V be worthwhile, important) tseem cceb  
 • (V be worthwhile, worthy of, valuable, suitable, appropriate) tsim nyog

**wound** N (wound, injury) [lub] qhov txhab, qhov raug mob, qhov raug sab  
 • V (wound, injure someone) ua sab, ua raug \_\_\_ sab  
 • (V be wounded, injured, suffer pain, illness) raug mob

**wrap** V (wrap, wrap up) qhwv

**wrench** N [tus] cياj ntswj

**wrist** N [lub] dab teg  
 • N (wrist bone) pob teg

**write** V sau

**writer** N tus sau

**wrong** (V be wrong, incorrect) tsis yog, tsis raug  
 • (to make a mistake) yuam kem

## X

**xerox** V (xerox, copy, photocopy, press, print) luam

**x-ray** (V take an x-ray) thajj (yees) daim duab es xam les, thajj pob txha

**yam** N (yam, sweet potato) [lub] qos liab

## Y

**Yao** (V be Yao [considered less polite], Mien [more polite]) Co

- N (Yao/Mien language) lus Co
- N (Yao/Mien person) [tus] neeg Co

**yard** Q (0.91 meters) ib npab, 0.91 mev  
 • N (grassy yard of a house) [lub] tiaj nyom

**yawn** V rua lo

**year** N xyoo

- (one year) ib xyoos
- (last year) xyoo tag (los lawm), tsaib no
- (the year before last) tsaib ub
- (years ago) puag tsaib ub
- (next year) lwm xyoo
- (a new year) xyoo tshiab
- (Happy New Year) nyob zoo xyoo tshiab
- (idiom: celebrate Hmong New Year) tsiab peb caug, noj peb caug, noj tsiab

**yell** V (yell, shout) qw  
 • V (yell, cry out loudly, shout at) nth

**yellow** (V be yellow) daj  
 • N (the color yellow) xim daj

**yes** ADV (for acknowledgment or agreement with what has been said) aws  
 • (for many question contexts repeat V from question and optionally add polite particle mas)  
 • (V be correct, exist, be) yog (mas)

**yesterday** N nag hmo

**yet** ADV (yet, still) tseem  
 • (have not yet \_\_\_ ) tseem tsis tau \_\_\_, tseem \_\_\_ tsis tau

**yolk** N [lub] nkaub qe

**you** PRO (you, OBJ yourself for 1) koj  
 • PRO (you, OBJ yourselves for 2) neb  
 • PRO (you, OBJ yourselves for 3 or more) nej  
 • PRO (indefinite you, one, I) yus

**young** (V be young, younger in age) hluas  
 • (V be young and tender for babies, vegetables, be soft) mos  
 • (V be younger in age, small) yau, yaus  
 • (N female's younger sister) [tus] niam hluas  
 • (N male's younger brother) [tus] kwv  
 • (N youngest daughter) ntxawm  
 • (N youngest son) ntxawg

**your** POSS (for 1) koj + CLF for most nouns  
 • POSS (for 2) neb + CLF for most nouns  
 • POSS (for 3 or more) nej + CLF for most nouns

**yours** PRO (for 1 person) koj li  
 • PRO (for 2 people) neb li  
 • PRO (for 3 people) nej li

**yourself** PRO (OBJ yourself) koj  
 • PRO (emphatic reflexive for 1 as in do by oneself) koj tus kheej

**yourselves** PRO (OBJ for 2) neb  
 • PRO (emphatic reflexive for 2 as in do by oneself) neb tug kheej  
 • PRO (OBJ for 3 or more) nej  
 • PRO (emphatic reflexive for 3 or more as in do by oneself) nej tus kheej

## Z

**zero** N [lub] yaj ntshis, (L) [tus] xoom

**zip** (N zip code) [tus] naj npawb nroog

**zipper** N [txoj] (saw khawm) swb

**zoo** N [lub] vaj (yug) tsiaj

