

Glossary of Māori Words

aroha	affection or sympathy
haka	traditional dance
hapū	sub-tribe
hui	meeting
iwi	tribe
kapa haka	traditional performing arts
kāwanatanga	governance or government
kiri	skin or bark
kohanga reo	language nest
kuia	elderly woman
mana	prestige or authority
(te) mana (o te) wāhine	the dignity or strength of women
Māoritanga	Māori culture or way of life
marae	meeting place
marae ātea	courtyard in front of the whareniui
pā	fortified village
pahū	bell or gong
Pākehā	New Zealander of European descent
pere	bell
poi	ball attached to string
(te) reo Māori	the Māori language
tangata whenua	people of the land
tangihanga	funeral or mourning
tikanga	custom

(te) tino rangatiratanga	sovereignty or self-determination
tumuaki	head or leader
waiata	song or chant
whānau	extended family
whareniui	big house or meeting house