

THE COCONUT TREE

Lesson Forty

Objectives: This lesson will acquaint you with some of the aspects of the coconut tree and its fruit. Much of the life and landscape of Kiribati revolves around this single plant, and the vocabulary for its various aspects and related uses is enormous - over 250 entries in the English index to the combined Kiribati dictionaries. You will be exposed to the more common terms in this reading.

- Activities:
1. Study the narrative with your teacher. When you have worked all the way through it, respond to your teacher's questions regarding the content.
 2. Write each one of the underlined words as a list and try to re-construct the narrative from memory using the key words as cues.

Translation
of Narrative
for Study:

The Coconut Tree

The coconut tree is very useful to the I Kiribati.

You will see its many uses.

The tree is called te nii.

The name of the ripe fruit is te ben.

The fruit of which the juice is drunk is te moimoto.

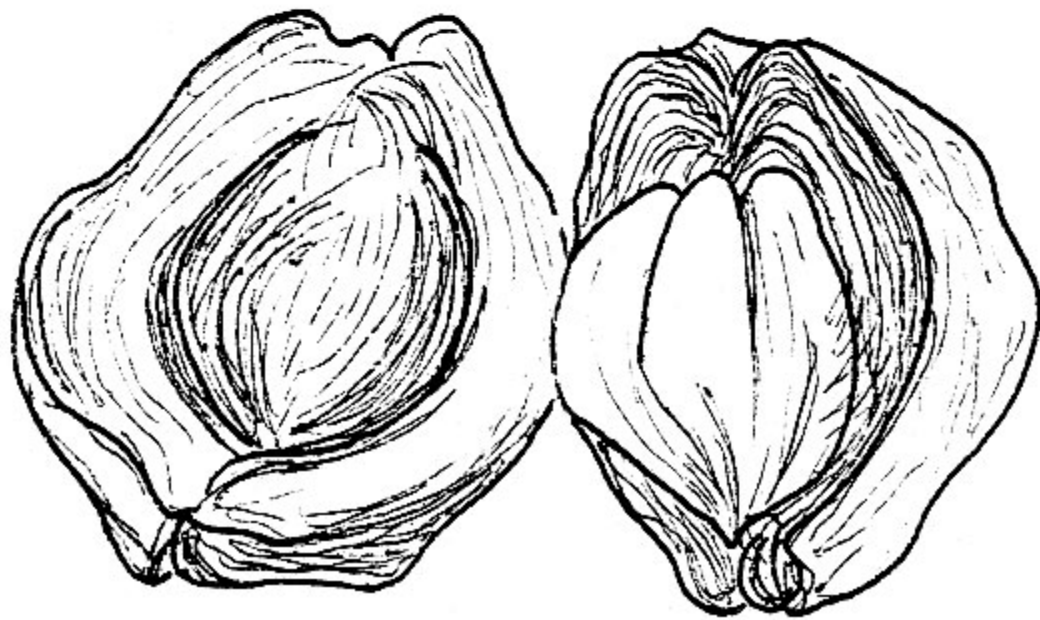
The coconut husk (the outside of the coconut) is the te ewanin.

The inside of the ripe nut is te ben, and the flesh of the nut from which the juice is drunk is te marai.

A shell bottle, te ibu can be made from the coconut, for collecting toddy - te karewe.

TE KAI AE TE NII

Reirei Abwi



Te kai ae te nii

E rangi ni boongana te kai ae te nii nakoiaa I Kiribati.

Ti na noori boonganana aika a bati.

Aran te kai aei bon te nii.

E aranaki uaana ae e taai b'a te ben.

Uaana are e nimaki ranna bon te moimoto.

Tinanikun te ben bon te ewanin.

Kanoana are e tai bon te ben, ao kanoan are e nimaki bon te marai.

E kooa ni karaoaki te ibu man te ben b'aibun te karewe.

Additional
Activities:

Continue with the reading as above, answering questions from your teacher.

Give a short talk on the coconut tree to your class, without using notes.

Translation
of Continuation
of Narrative:

The midrib of the leaf is te baa.

Thatch for roofing the house can be made from its leaf.

When the leaf is brown, it is called te baanni, and torches can be made from it for torch-fishing and flying-fish fishing.

The name for the tree which has not yet fruited is te uto.

String can be made from the husk of the coconut which has been soaked in the sea.

Copra is also gotten from it, which can be exchanged for money.

Outside
Activities:

Try to discover how many of the objects in Kiribati life are the products of the coconut tree. Do they grow by accident? Is much cultivation required? Who owns them? How many are there?

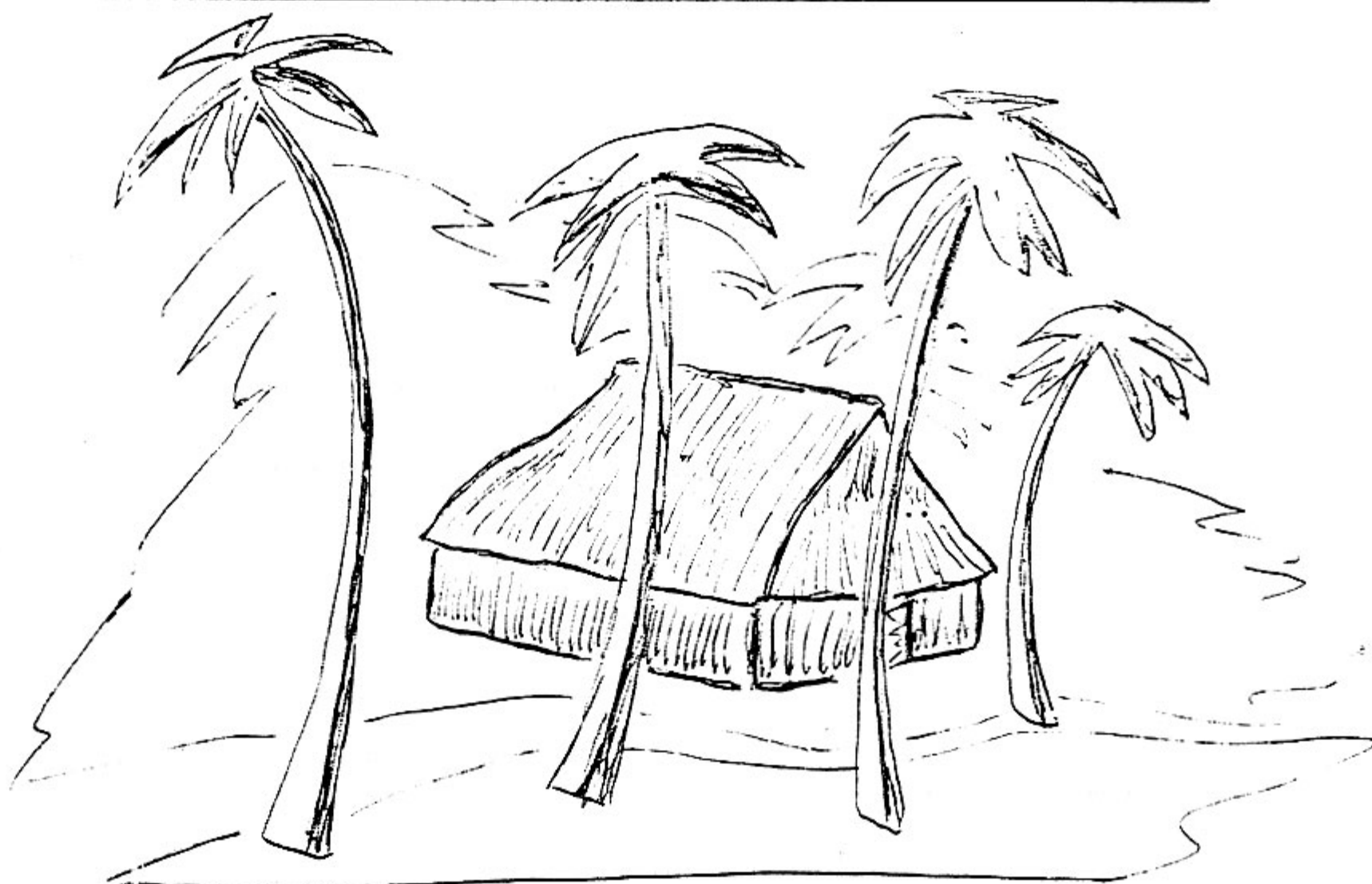
Additional
Vocabulary:

grater

husking stick

grated nut

coconut milk (cream)



Continuation
of Narrative:

Ao ni kaini baana bon te baa.

Mani baana ao e konaa ni karaoaki te ato b'a raun te auti.

Ngkana e b'ata baana ao e aranaki b'a te baanni, are e konaa ni karaoaki iai te oi ni kibee ke te oi n tatae onauti.

Aran te nii ae e tuai n uaa bon te uto.

E konaa ni karaoaki te kora man ewaninin te moimoto ae e kamaraaki i taari.

E reke naba mai iai te takataka are e a manga karekeaki mai ai te m'ane.

Additional
Vocabulary:

te kautuai

te koro

te ben ae e kautuaaki

te ran ni ben