



Ojibwemotaadiwag Anishinaabewakiing.

They speak Ojibwe to each other in Indian Country.

Aaniin ezhichigeyan noongom? Aaniin waa-izhichigeyan? Gimanoominike na? Mewinzha, Anishinaabeg apane gii-manoominikewag gaa-dagwaaging apane. Oshki-ayaa'aag, gidaa-wiidookawaawaag gidasigewaad. Gidayaanaa ina biiwaabiko-jiimaan? Gidaa-wiizhaamaa. Nanda-gikendan manoominikewin! Gaye Ojibwemowin sa go! Gigagwedwem Anishinaabe-akiing, gaye gikinoo'amaadiiwigamigong. Noongom izhaadaa agwajiing! Gwayakochigedaa! Giiyosen! Giigooyiken! Manoominiken! Ojibwemon! Gitigen! Nanda-gikendan! Miigwech!

(What are you doing today? What do you want to do? Do you go wild ricing? Long ago, Indian people always harvested wild rice when it was fall. Young people, you all should help them when they parch wild rice. Do you have an aluminum canoe? You should invite him or her along. Seek to know how to do the wild rice process! Ojibwe language too! You all inquire about it in Indian country and at school. Now let's all go outside! Let's all do things right! Hunt! Fish! Make wild rice! Speak Ojibwe! Garden! Seek to know things! Thank you!")

Bezbig—1

Double vowel system of writing Ojibwemowin.

—Long vowels: AA, E, II, OO

Waabooz—as in father

Miigwech—as in jay

Aaniin—as in seen

Mooz—as in moon

—Short Vowels: A, I, O

Dash—as in about

Ingiw—as in tin

Niizho—as in only

—A glottal stop is a voiceless nasal sound as in A'aw.

—Respectfully enlist an elder for help in pronunciation and dialect differences.

OJIBWEMOWIN
(Ojibwe Language)

VTI: "To it"
Verbs, Inanimate,
Transitive; action for
INANIMATE things only!

Waabandan!—See it!

Ganawaabandan!—Watch it!

Baakinan!—Open it up!

Gibaakwa'an!—Shut it!

Odaapinan!—Pick it up!

Biidoon!—Bring it! Miijin!—Eat it!

Minikwen!—Drink it! Aabajitoon!—Use it!

1st type ends in –an. 2nd:–oon,–in or –en

Niwaabandaan(an).—I see it (those).

Giwaabandaan(an) onaagan.—You see it (those).

Owaabandaan.—S/he sees it.

Nimbiidoon(an).—I bring it (those).

Gibiidoon onaagan.—You bring a dish.

Obiidoon(an).—S/he brings it (those).

Niizh—2

Circle the 10 underlined Ojibwe words in the letter maze. (Translations below)

A. Biinidigen! Daga namadabin omaa! Gimiijin ina manoomin?

B. Miigwech. Nizaagitoon manoomin. Eya', niwii-miijin.

C. Giwii-minikwen ina doodooshaaboo gema dakib?

D. Gidayaanaa ina makade-mashkikiwaaboo? Dakaayaa agwajiing.

E. Gaawiin indayaanziin. Niiwi-izhaa wiisiniwin-adaawewigamigong

F. Nindodaapinaananaa waawanoon miinawaa wiiaas.

G. Bimide gaye doodooshaaboo.

H. Wegonesh waadaaweyan imaa?

Niswi—3

IKIDOWIN
ODAMINOWIN
(word play)

Down:

1. also, too

2. outside

3. blueberries

8. always

9. here

Across:

4. You have it.

5. yes

6. Open it up!

7. Do gardening! Farm! Plant!

10. or, maybe

Niiwin—4

What do you want to eat for supper?
Wegonen waa-onaagoshi-miijiyan?

Niwii-miijin naboob.= I want to eat soup.

Niwii-miijin mizise-wiiaas.= I want to eat turkey meat.

Nookomis ogii-piidoonan miinan miinawaa ode'iminan.
= My grandma brought the blueberries and strawberries.

Nisaye ogii-ozhitoon mishiiminaaboo.
= My older brother made the apple cider.

Niwii-minikwen mishiiminaaboo.
= I want to drink the apple cider.

Dagwaagin wiisiniwinan—Fall foods

Mitigominan—Acorns

Mandaamin—Corn

Okosimaan—Squash, pumpkin

1. _____waaband_____makade-mashkiki-waaboo

2. Nin_____-waabandaanan mitigominan anaami-mitigong.

3. Ni_____-onzaanan mitigominan idash baamaapi ni_____-kibozaanan mitigominan.

4. _____wii-piidoon_____ina manoomin idash aniibiish?

5. _____wii-odaapin_____naboob wii-naawakweg.

Online Resources

ojibwe.lib.umn.edu

ojibwe.net

glifwc.org

glifwc-inwe.com

Bakwezigan(ag)
Bread(s)

Translations:

Niizh—2 A. Come in! Please sit here! Do you eat wild rice? B. Thank you. I love wild rice. Yes, I want to eat it. C. Do you want to drink milk or cold water? D. Do you have black-medicine-liquid (coffee)? It is cool weather outside. E. No, I do not have it. I want to go to the grocery store. F. I will pick up eggs and meat. G. Butter and milk too. H. What do you want to buy there?

Niswi—3 Down: 1. Gaye 2. Agwajiing 3. Miiinan 8. Apane 9. Omaa Across: 4. Gidayaanaa 5. Eya' 6. Baakinan 7. Gitigen 10. Gema

Niiwin—4 1. She sees the coffee. (O- -aan) 2. I saw the acorns under the tree. (gii-) 3. I will boil the acorns and later I want to roast acorns. (wii-) 4. Will you bring the wild rice and tea? (Gi-, -an) 5. I will pick up the soup at noon. (Ni- -aan).

There are various Ojibwe dialects; check for correct usage in your area. The grammar patterns may help a beginner voice inanimate and animate nouns and verbs correctly, as well as create questions and negate statements. Note that the English translation will lose its natural flow as in any world language translation. This may be reproduced for classroom use only. All other uses by author's written permission. Some spellings and translations from The Concise Dictionary of Minnesota Ojibwe by John D. Nichols and Earl Nyholm. All inquiries can be made to **MAZINA'IGAN**, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861 lynn@glifwc.org.

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