



“Niibin. Ganabaj wii-kizhaate wayiiba. Nibagiz endaaso-niibin zaaga’iganing. Izhinaakaade Ode’imini-zaaga’igan. Nishiime apane akakanzhebwe. “Wiisinidaa!” Gizhiiwe. Baanimaa, jiimaaning ninjiigewe’aamin. “Jiimeda!” Mii ezhi-giishkizhamaan mashkosiinsikaan. Aaniin apii waa-giishkizhang? Wiinitam. Gaye ate gitigaan idash waabigwanii-gitigaan imaa. Niwaabamaag mandaaminag miinawaa okosimaanag. Gaye ayaa mashkodiisiminag imaa. Izhaadaa gitigaaning! Miskominikaa. Miinan gaye! *Iiw, miigwech.*

("It is summer. Maybe it will be hot soon. I go swimming every summer at the lake.
 The lake is named Strawberry Lake. My younger sister always cooks on the grill. "Let's all eat!" She speaks loudly.
 Later, in the canoe we paddle along shore. "Let's all canoe!" And then I mow the lawn. When will s/he mow the lawn?
 It's her/his turn. Also there is a garden and flower garden there. I see corn and squash. Also there are beans there.
 Let's all go to the garden! There's a lot of raspberries. And blueberries too! *That's all, thanks.*)

OJIBWEMOWIN (Ojibwe Language)

Double vowel system of writing Ojibwemowin.

- Long vowels: AA, E, II, OO

Waabooz—as in father

Miigweech—as in jay

Aaniin—as in seen

Moooz—as in moon

— Short Vowels: A, I, O

Dash—as in about

Ingiw—as in tin

Niizho—as in only

To

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

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

Aandi waa-izhaayeg?
Where will *you all* go?
Niwii-izhaamin baamaa...
We will go eventually...
Mazinaatewigamigong.
To a movie theater
Megwayaak miinawaa awasaakwaa.
In the woods and beyond the woods.
Mashkiig & jiigashkiig.
To the swamp and by the swamp.
Gichigamiing gemaa Gichi-Ziibiing.
To Lake Superior or maybe to the
Mississippi River.
*Bebezhigooganzhiwigamigong miinawaa
awakaanigamigong.*
To the horse barn and to the barn.

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

A. Gimiwan agwajiing. Ataadiwag biindig.

B. Ataagedaa! Nindayaawaag niizh biigwag.

C. Akawe, inga-oninige. Ataadiwinag dashiwag.

D. Wewiib! Niwii-kabenaage omaa.
Giwii-kabenooinim.

**E. Maagizhaa. Gemaa niwii-
kabenaage anishaa.**

F. Mizhodam.
Ingii-kabenaag.

G. Nitaa-ataage.
Minwendaagwad.

M	Y	D	A	K							
D	I	A	S	W	E						
A	M	Z	O	N	W	A					
O	A	E	H	A	E	I	W				
W	A	T	G	O	I	B	S	I			
B	G	N	A	M	D	K	B	H	W		
I	I	'	S	A	E	A	A	O	E	Z	
I	Z	J	H	W	G	I	M	I	W	A	N
G	H	E	A	D	'	E	Z	H	I	O	I
W	A	K	M	I	K	W	D	B	I	S	T
A	A	I	T	A	Z	A	O	A	B	K	A
G	B	A	B	M	A	G	E	M	A	A	A



Onaabandanweweni.
Select it carefully

**IKIDOWIN
ODAMINOWIN**
(word play)

Down:

1. Let's all canoe!
2. his/her turn
4. there
5. who
6. garden

Across:

- 3. little sister/brother/sibling
- 7. in the canoe/boat
- 8. also
- 9. blueberries



Minomaagwad wiingashk(oon).
It smells good, sweetgrass.

Online Resources

ojibwe.lib.umn.edu
ojibwe.net
glifwc.org
glifwc-inwe.com

Niiwin—4

Awesiinh (yag)—Wild Animal(s); **Awesiinh**—wild animal;
Awesiinyag—wild animals; **Binesiinh(yag)**—Bird(s)
Binesiinh—bird; **Biinesiinyag**—birds

VTA: Waabam!—See him/her!
 VTA: Minwenim!—Like him/her!

Niwaabamaa(g).—I see him/her. (**them**)
 Giwaabamaa banajaanh.—I see the baby bird.
 Giwaabamaag.—I see the baby birds.
 Niminwenimaa(g).—I like **him/her**. (**them**)
 Giminwenimaa(g) ina apichi(**wag**)?

—You like the robin(s)?
Bijjise(wag).—S/he (they) flies here.
Oningwiigan(an)—Someone's wing(s) (NI)
Babaamise.—S/he flies about.
Boonam.—She lays an egg.
Niwaabandaan okoozh.
—I see its beak.
Miigwech!

1. No
 2. Ni _____

- Niwaabandaan okoozh.*
—*I see its beak.*
Miigwech!
1. Noongom, opichi _____-boonam.
 2. Ni _____-izhaa Gichigamiing. Izhaadaa!
 3. Wii-piijisewaad _____minwenim _____
bineshiinhyag.
 4. Gichigamiing giizhkadinaag, _____-waabam _____ gekek.
 5. Babaamise _____ miinawaa dazhe _____ Daga boonitoo!
 6. Gakina-awiiya, Ojibwemodaa/Anishinaabemodaa niibing!

Translations:

Niizh—2 **A.** It is raining outside. They are playing cards with each other inside. **B.** Let's all play cards. I have two cards that are spades. **C.** First, I will shuffle and deal cards. There are a certain number of playing cards. **D.** Hurry up! I want to win here. I want to beat you all. **E.** Maybe. Or maybe I will play cards for fun. **F.** S/he wins. S/he beat me. **G.** S/he really knows how to play cards. It is fun.

Niswi—3 **Down:** 1. Jiimedaa 2. Wiinitam 4. Imaa 5. Awenen 6. Gitigaan **Across:** 3. Nishiime 7. Jiimaaning 8. Gaye 9. Miinan

Niiwin-4 1. Today the robin **laid** an egg. (gii-) 2. I **want to** go to Lake Superior. Let's all go! (wii-) 3. When/if they fly here, I **will** like the **birds**. (niwii- -aag). 4. On a Lake Superior cliff, I **saw** a **hawk**. (Ningii- -aa) 5. **They** fly about and **they** live in a nest. Please leave it alone! (-wag). 6. Everybody, let's all speak Ojibwe/Anishinaabe language when it's summer!

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 *pio@glifwc.org*.
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