Gekinoo’amaadidiigamig
Ojibwemowin Lesson 3:
VAI Verbs

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Giishpin ganawendan gidinwewininaan, giga-ganawenimig aadizookaan gaa-ganawendang Anishinaabemowin.

If you take care of the language, the spirit-keeper of the language will take care of you.

Tobasaanakwad Kinew
Review from last week

- Rule 1: All VAI verbs are in 3<sup>rd</sup> person (he/she).

- Rule 2: Use pronouns Niin or Giin at the front of the verb to refer to 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> person respectively.

- Rule 3: Drop the short vowels “i” and “o” when speaking only in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> person singular.

- Rule 4: Add “wag” to the end of a 3<sup>rd</sup> person VAI to pluralize it (they).
I am hungry.
Wiisini.
S/he is eating.
Giwiisin.
You are eating.
Wiisiniwag.
They are eating.
Bakadewag.
They are hungry.
Izhinikaazo Miles.
He is called Miles.
Gidizhinikaaz Tanya.
You are called Tanya.
Overview of today’s lesson

- 1st person plural – We’s (inclusive and exclusive)
- 2nd person plural – ya’ll, you’s, you’s guys, you all
- “Yes” or “No” questions
1st person plural – “we” or “us”

In Ojibwemowin, there are two types of “we:”

we (exclusive) – excludes the person that you are talking to when speaking collectively.

we (inclusive) – includes the person that you are talking to when speaking collectively.
We (exclusive)

- Begin verb with 1st person pronoun “niin.”
- Add “min” or “imin” at the end of the verb to pluralize it.

Example:
- **Nibakademin** – We are hungry (excluding you)
- **Nindanokiiimin** – We are working (excluding you)
We (inclusive)

- Begin verb with 2nd person pronoun “giin.”
- Add “min” or “imin” at the end of the verb to pluralize it.

Example:

Gibakade**min** – we are hungry (including you)
Gidanokii**min** – we are working (including you)
Ayekozi – s/he is tired.

Nindayekozimin.
We are tired.
(excluding the person you are talking to)
Bimose – S/he is walking.

Gibimose min.
We are walking. (including you)
Gidizhinikaazomin scientists.
We are called scientists. (including you)
VAI – Plural – 2\textsuperscript{nd} person

- Conjugate the verb to 2\textsuperscript{nd} person.
- Important Rule: Add “m” at the end of the verb to make it 2\textsuperscript{nd} person plural.

Example:  \textbf{Gibakadem} – You all are hungry.
\textbf{Giwisiniim} – You all are eating.
\textbf{Gidanokiim} – You all are working.
VAI – Plural – 2\textsuperscript{nd} person - Wiisini

3\textsuperscript{rd} person single: \textit{Wiisini} – s/he is eating.
3\textsuperscript{rd} person plural: \textit{Wiisiniwag} – they are eating.
1\textsuperscript{st} person single: \textit{Niwiisin} – I am eating.
2\textsuperscript{nd} person single: \textit{Giwiisin} – You are eating.
2\textsuperscript{nd} person plural: \textit{Giwiisini}m – You all are eating.
Gibimosem.
Gibimosem.

You all are walking.
Giwiisinim.
Giwiisinim.

You all are eating.
Ginagamom.
Ginagamom.
You all are singing.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal Pronouns</th>
<th>Singular Formula</th>
<th>Plural Formula</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Person (me)</td>
<td>Ni + verb</td>
<td>Ni + verb + min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In + verb</td>
<td>(exclusive)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nin + verb</td>
<td>Gi + verb + min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nim + verb</td>
<td>(inclusive)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nind + verb</td>
<td>Gi + verb + m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Person (you)</td>
<td>Gi + verb</td>
<td>Verb + wag</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gid + verb</td>
<td>Verb + oog</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third Person (he/she)</td>
<td>verb</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
“Yes” or “No” questions for VAIIs

- Use “na or “ina” as the 2nd word in the sentence when asking a yes or no question.
- This only applies to VAI verbs.

- Example:
  - Gibakade na? Are you hungry?
  - Gidanokii na? Are you working?
  - Niminwendam ina? Am I happy?
“Yes” or “No” questions for VAIs

- Miles na gidizhinikaaz?
- Are you called Miles?

- Gidizhinikaaz na Miles?
- Are you called Miles?
Gibimose na noongom?
Are you walking today?
Bakade wag ina?
Are they hungry?
Giwisini min ina noongom?
Are we eating now?
Gagwejim ina?

Are there any questions?
Ojibwemowin Phrase of the Day:

“Ayaangwaamizin imaa.”

“Be careful out there.”