




Waking Up Ojibwe
Anishinaabemodaa



MIIGWECH | Expressing Gratitude & Using Grammar Patterns



NOONGOM

Waa-izhichigeying

- ✓ Waking Up Ojibwe Anishinaabemodaa
- ✓ Introductions
- ✓ Expressing Gratitude
- ✓ vii & vai
- ✓ vti & inanimate nouns
- ✓ vta & animate nouns
- ✓ Using the Patterns



WHY GRATITUDE IS IMPORTANT

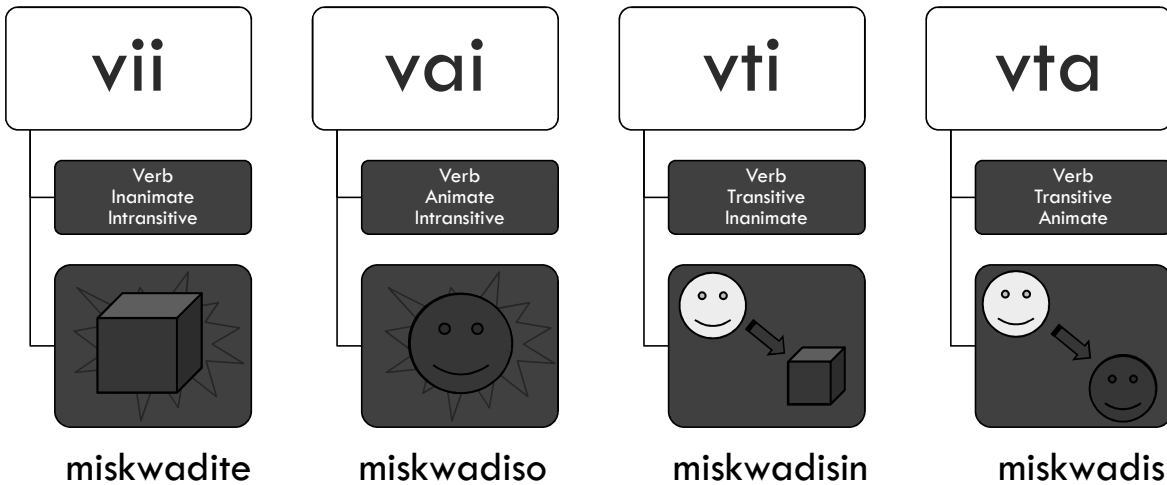


It is important for us to remember to express gratitude for everything. We can be thankful for waking up in the morning, for someone helping us, for food from the land, and so many other things.

The language around expressing gratitude can be simple or complicated. Today we will focus on the grammar patterns that allow us to express simple gratefulness.



ANISHINAABEMOWIN VERB FORMS





USING THE OJIBWE PEOPLE'S DICTIONARY

1. Go to <https://ojibwe.lib.umn.edu/>
2. Type in your word and select Search in Ojibwe or Search in English
3. Choose the needed verb based on the denotations in the gray circles

dye red

miskwadis **vta** color, dye h/ red

Paired with: miskwadisan **vti**

miskwadisan **vti** color, dye it red

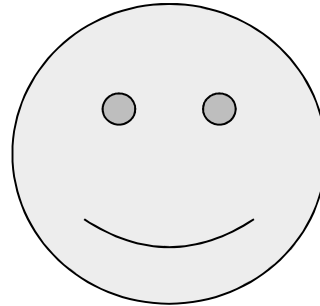
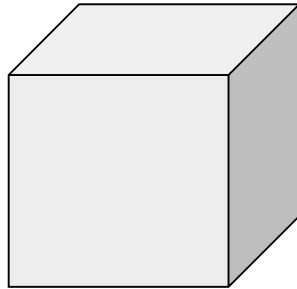
Paired with: miskwadis **vta**

miskwadiso **vai** s/he is dyed red, is colored red

Paired with: miskwadite **vii**

miskwadite **vii** it is dyed red, is colored red

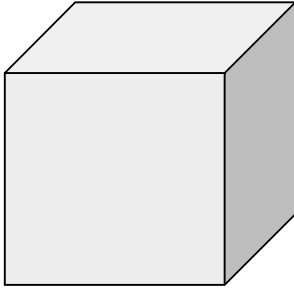
Paired with: miskwadiso **vai**



VERB INANIMATE INTRANSITIVE &
VERB ANIMATE INTRANSITIVE

vii & vai

vii



These types of verbs describe a state of being. They can relate to an object or an abstract notion. Some examples are:

gakakaa – it is square

gimiwan – it is raining

ozaawaa – it is yellow

zaagaate – it shines, sun comes up or out

dibikad – it is night

dakiigamin – it is cold (liquid)

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vai



These types of verbs describe an action being done by someone. The main verb form is always in third person singular to start and has to be conjugated to change. Some examples are:

miigwechiwendam – s/he is thankful, grateful

bimose – s/he is walking

namadabi – s/he is sitting

giiyose – s/he is hunting

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A Form conjugations of miigwechiwendam

nimiigwechiwendam – I am grateful

gimiigwechiwendam – you are grateful

miigwechiwendam – s/he is grateful

nimiigwechiwendaamin – we are grateful (not including the one spoken to)

gimiigwechiwendaamin – we are grateful (including the one spoken to)

gimiigwechiwendaam – you all are grateful

miigwechiwendamoog – they are grateful



A Form Yes/No Questions of miigwechiwendam

nimiigwechiwendam ina? – Am I grateful?

gimiigwechiwendam ina? – Are you grateful?

miigwechiwendam ina? – Is s/he grateful?

nimiigwechiwendaamin ina? – Are we grateful? (not including the one spoken to)

gimiigwechiwendaamin ina? – Are we grateful? (including the one spoken to)

gimiigwechiwendaam ina? – Are you all grateful?

miigwechiwendamoog ina? – Are they grateful?

Asking a yes/no question: Use *ina* when the preceding word ends in a consonant and use *na* when the preceding word ends in a vowel. You can only put *ina/na* in the second position of a sentence – it is always the second word.



A Form of miigwechiwendam with B Form vii

Aaniin dash wenji-miigwechiwendaman? – Why are you thankful?

Let's express gratitude for different types of weather which are vii type verbs.

Pattern: Nimiigwechiwendam _____g/k.

Nimiigwechiwendam gimiwang.

Nimiigwechiwendam zoogipong.

Nimiigwechiwendam awanibiisaamagak.

Nimiigwechiwendam zaagateg.



GOJITOON - TRY IT

1. Gimiigwechiwendam ina?
Are you grateful?
2. Nimiigwechiwendam.
I am grateful.
3. Aaniin dash wenji-miigwechiwendaman?
Why are you grateful?
4. Nimiigwechiwendam gii-kimiwang noongom.
I am grateful that it was raining today.



A Form of miigwechiwendam with B Form vai

Aaniin dash wenji-miigwechiwendaman? – Why are you thankful?

Let's express gratitude for different activities that we did today.

Pattern: Nimiigwechiwendam gii-_____yaan/aan.

Nimiigwechiwendam gii-koshkoziyaan.

Nimiigwechiwendam gii-wiisiniyaan.


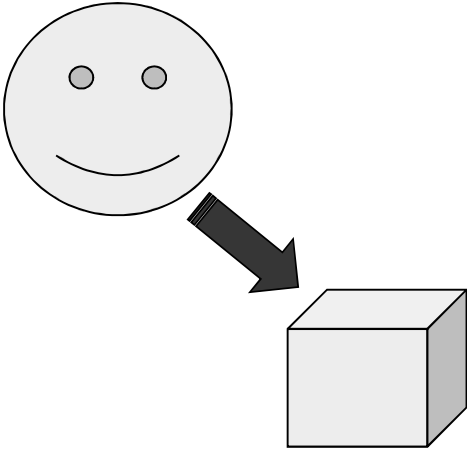
Nimiigwechiwendam gii-anishinaabemoyaaan.

Nimiigwechiwendam gii-jiikendamaaan.




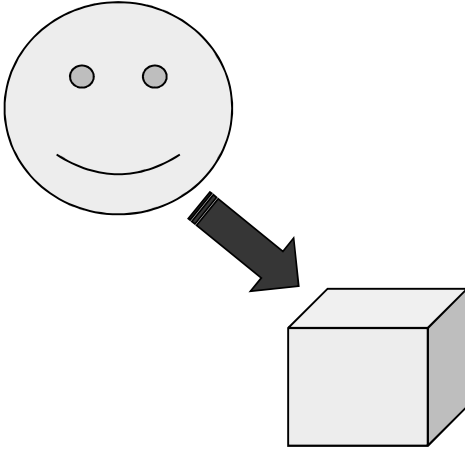
GOJITOON - TRY IT

1. Gimiigwechiwendam ina?
Are you grateful?
2. Nimiigwechiwendam.
I am grateful.
3. Aaniin dash wenji-miigwechiwendaman?
Why are you grateful?
4. Nimiigwechiwendam gii-biijibizoyaan noongom.
I am grateful that I drove here today.
5. Giin dash? Aaniin dash wenji-miigwechiwendaman noongom?
And you? Why are you grateful today?



VERB TRANSITIVE INANIMATE | vti

| **vti**



These types of verbs describe an action someone is doing to something inanimate. The main verb has to be conjugated in order to know who is doing the action. Some examples are:

- miigwechiwendan – be thankful, be grateful for it
- mikan – find it
- aabajitooon – use it
- miijin – eat it



A Form conjugations of miigwechiwendan

nimiigwechiwendaan[an] – I am grateful for it [them]

gimiigwechiwendaan[an] – you are grateful for it [them]

omiigwechiwendaan[an] – s/he is grateful for it [them]

nimiigwechiwendaamin – we are grateful for it/them (not including the one spoken to)

gimiigwechiwendaamin – we are grateful for it/them (including the one spoken to)

gimiigwechiwendaanaawaa[n] – you all are grateful for it [them]

omiigwechiwendaanaawaa[n] – they are grateful for it [them]



A Form Yes/No Questions of miigwechiwendan

nimiigwechiwendaan[an] ina? – Am I grateful for it [them]?

gimiigwechiwendaan[an] ina? – Are you grateful for it [them]?

omiigwechiwendaan[an] ina? – Is s/he grateful?

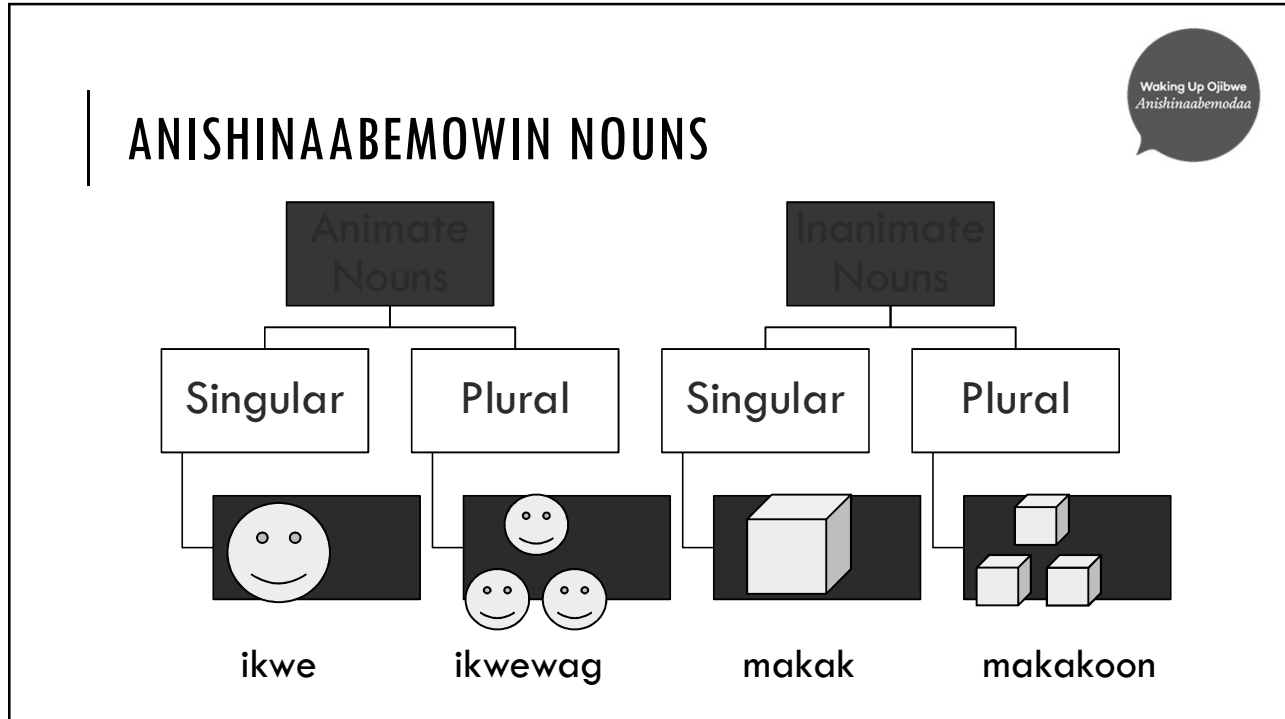
nimiigwechiwendaamin ina? – Are we grateful for it/them? (not including the one spoken to)

gimiigwechiwendaamin ina? – Are we grateful for it/them? (including the one spoken to)

gimiigwechiwendaanaawaa[n] ina? – Are you all grateful for it [them]?

omiigwechiwendaanaawaa[n] ina? – Are they grateful for it [them]?

Asking a yes/no question: Use *ina* when the preceding word ends in a consonant and use *na* when the preceding word ends in a vowel. You can only put *ina/na* in the second position of a sentence – it is always the second word.



USE THE OJIBWE PEOPLE'S DICTIONARY

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pen

ozhibii'iganaak ni a pencil, a pen

ozhibii'iganaak na [BL] [LL] a pencil, a pen 🔊

ozhibii'iganaak na [NJ] 🔊 Listen

ozhibii'iganaak sg; ozhibii'iganaakoon pl; ozhibii'iganaakoons dim; ozhibii'iganaakong loc; Stem: /ozhibii'iganaakw-/

sg - singular (one item)
pl - plural (more than one item)
dim - diminutive (small)
loc - locative (location)

Nancy Jones does a lot of recording for this dictionary and is great to listen to when her words are available!

Border Lakes dialect indicator
This means it's more likely to be used in our area!

MORE ABOUT NOUNS

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The animate/inanimate dichotomy was created by linguists to classify nouns in Anishinaabemowin. It *does not* mean something is alive/dead.

This dichotomy is not necessarily always reflective of Anishinaabe worldview. Learning this dichotomy allows us to understand how the nouns function with verbs.

Nouns can also be turned into diminutives, made smaller i.e. ikwe > ikwezens,
makak > makakoons

Nouns can also be turned into locatives, made locations i.e. makak > makakong

A Form conjugations of miigwechiwendan with Inanimate Nouns (*ni*)

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nimiigwechiwendaan nibi – I am grateful for water

gimiigwechiwendaan ziinzibaakwadoonsan – you are grateful for candies

omiigwechiwendaan mino-bimaadiziwin – s/he is grateful for the good life

nimiigwechiwendaamin gaapii – we are grateful for coffee

gimiigwechiwendaamin miijim – we are grateful for food

gimiigwechiwendaanaawaan mazina'iganan – you all are grateful for books

omiigwechiwendaanaawaan waabigwaniin – they are grateful for flowers



A Form conjugations of miigwechiwendan with Inanimate Nouns (*ni*)

Wegonen dash miigwechiwendaman? – What are you grateful for?

Let's express gratitude for different things we like. Remember they must be inanimate nouns (*ni*)

Pattern: Nimiigwechiwendaan _____. (singular)
Nimiigwechiwendaanan _____. (plural)


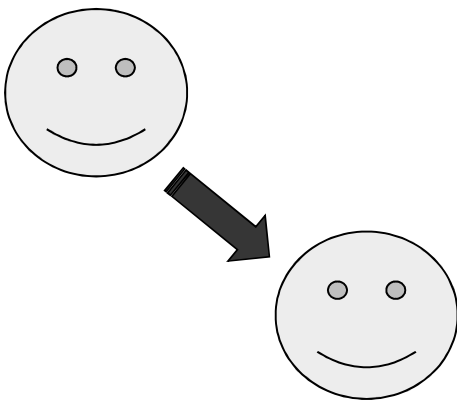
Nimiigwechiwendaan nibi.
Nimiigwechiwendaan miijim.
Nimiigwechiwendaanan mazina'iganan.



GOJITON - TRY IT


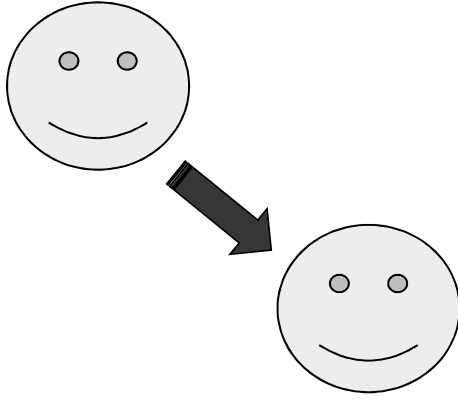
1. Wegonen dash miigwechiwendaman?
What are you grateful for?
2. Nimiigwechiwendaanan opiniin. Giin dash?
I am grateful for potatoes. And you?

Switch out the word opiniin for something you are grateful for – be sure it is an inanimate noun (*ni*). Then ask someone else.



VERB TRANSITIVE ANIMATE | **vta**

| **vta**



These types of verbs describe an action being done by someone to someone or something that is animate. The main verb form is always in second to third person command form and has to be conjugated to change. Some examples are:

- miigwechiwenim – be thankful for h/
- amo – eat h/
- bakite' – hit h/
- zhawenim – love h/



A Form conjugations of miigwechiwenim

gimiigwechiwenimin – I am grateful for you

gimiigwechiweniminim – I am grateful for all of you

nimiigwechiwenimaa – I am grateful for h/

nimiigwechiwenimaag – I am grateful for them

omiigwechiwenimaan – S/he is grateful for h/ (3rd person > 4th person/thing)

These are only a few of the many vta conjugations that we will focus on today.



A Form conjugations of miigwechiwenim with Animate Nouns (na)

gimiigwechiwenimin niiiji – I am grateful for you my friend

gimiigwechiweniminim nindinawemaaganag – I am grateful for all of you, my relatives

nimiigwechiwenimaa inday – I am grateful for my dog

nimiigwechiwenimaag anangoog – I am grateful for stars

omiigwechiwenimaan bakwezhigan – S/he is grateful for bannock



A Form conjugations of miigwechiwenim with Animate Nouns (*na*)

Wegonen dash miigwechiwenimad? – What are you grateful for?

Let's express gratitude for different things we like. Remember they must be animate nouns (*na*)

Pattern: Nimiigwechiwenimaa _____ (singular)
Nimiigwechiwenimaag _____ (plural)

Nimiigwechiwenimaa dibiki-giizis.
Nimiigwechiwenimaag miskominag.



GOJITOON - TRY IT

1. Wegonen dash miigwechiwenimad?
What are you grateful for?
2. Nimiigwechiwenimaag anangoog. Giin dash?
I am grateful for stars. And you?

Switch out the word anangoog for something you are grateful for – be sure it is an animate noun (*ni*). Then ask someone else.



A Form conjugations of miigwechiwenim with Animate Nouns (*na*)

Awenen miigwechiwenimad? – Who are you grateful for?

Let's express gratitude for different people in our lives.

Pattern: Nimiigwechiwenimaa _____. (singular)
Nimiigwechiwenimaag _____. (plural)

Nimiigwechiwenimaa nimaamaa.

Nimiigwechiwenimaag nookomisag.



GOJITOON - TRY IT

1. Awenen miigwechiwenimad?
Who are you grateful for?
2. Nimiigwechiwenimaag nimishoomisag. Giin dash?
I am grateful for my grandfathers. And you?

Switch out the word nimishoomisag for someone you are grateful for. Then ask someone else.



USING THE PATTERNS

How to substitute your verbs to
create more sentences!

VII & VAI NEXT STEP



The Pattern You Learned:

Nimiigwechiwendam gimiwang.
I am grateful that it's raining.

Change the verb:

Niminwendam gimiwang.
I am happy when it's raining.

Change the verb & the noun:

Niminwendam zoogipong.
I am happy when it's snowing.

Change the person:

Giminwendam zoogipong.
You are happy when it's snowing.



VAI NEXT STEP

The Pattern You Learned:

Nimiigwechiwendam gii-koshkoziyaan.
I am grateful that I woke up.

Change the verb:

Niminwendam gii-koshkoziyaan.
I am happy that I woke up.

Change the verb & the noun:

Niminwendam gii-wiisiniyaan.
I am happy that I ate.

Change the person:

Minwendamoog gii-wiisiniwaad.
They are happy that they ate.



VTI NEXT STEP

The Pattern You Learned:

Nimiigwechiwendaan nibi.
I am grateful for water.

Change the verb:

Niminwendaan nibi.
I like water.

Change the verb & the noun:

Niwaabandaanan miinan.
I see blueberries.

Change the person:

Owaabandaanan miinan.
She sees blueberries.



VTA NEXT STEP

The Pattern You Learned:

Nimiigwechiwenimaa nimaamaa.
I am thankful for h/ my mother.

Change the verb:

Ninzhawenimaa nimaamaa.
I love h/ my mother.

Change the verb & the noun:

Niminwenimaa niwiiijiwaagan.
I like h/ my partner.

Change the person:

Owaabamaan waawaashkeshi.
She sees a deer.

GAGWEJIMISHIG! ASK US!

If you have any questions about today's session or any upcoming sessions you can visit our website

www.wakingupojibwe.ca

www.anishinaabemodaa.ca

Or contact Niigaanigaabawiik

carissac@7generations.org

The recording of this session will be shared on our website and YouTube page in the near future. Miigwech bizindawiyeg!

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