

Boozhoo Gaagiigidowin Introducing Yourself

As in all cultures, a proper introduction is an important aspect of Ojibwe social interaction. Practice your knowledge of the double vowel system by introducing yourself. Included is an extensive but by no means exhaustive list of common clans and place names for our region.

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|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Boozhoo! | Hello! |
| 2. _____ indizhinikaaz. | My name is _____. |
| 3. _____ indoodem. | My clan is _____. |
| Ajijaak | crane |
| Awaazisii | bullhead |
| Bizhiw | lynx |
| Maang | loon |
| Ma'ingan | wolf |
| Makwa | bear |
| Migizi | eagle |
| Mikinaak | turtle |
| Name | sturgeon |
| Waabizheshi | marten |
| b. Gaawiin ingikenimaasiin indoodem. | I don't know my clan. |
| c. Gaawiin indoodoodemisiin. | I don't have a clan. |
| 4. _____ indoonjibaa. | I am from _____. |
| Gichi-onigamiing | Grand Portage |
| Mashkiiziibiing | Bad River |
| Bois Forte | |
| 1) Asabiikone-zaaga'iganing | Nett Lake |
| 2) Onamani-zaaga'iganing | Lake Vermillion |
| Nagaajiwanaang | Fond du Lac |
| Odaawaa Zaaga'iganing | Lac Courte Oreilles |
| Gaa-zagaskwaajimekaag | Leech Lake |
| Misi-zaaga'iganing | Mille Lacs |
| Miskwaabikaang | Red Cliff |
| Miskwaagamiwi-zaaga'iganing | Red Lake |
| Mikinaak Wajiwing | Turtle Mountain |
| Gaa-waabaabiganikaag | White Earth |
| Zhaaganaashiiwaki | Canada |
| Animikii-wiikwedong | Thunder Bay |
| Gichi-biitoobiigong | Grand Marais |
| Onigamiinsing | Duluth |
| Gakaabikaang | Minneapolis |
| 5. Miigwech. Mii iw. | Thank you. That's it. |

Asking Questions

In our introductions, we used the main form or what linguists who study Ojibwe call A form. In this form the person performing the action is indicated at the **beginning of the verb** (personal prefix). For the verb izhinikaazo (which by itself means he or she is called), the following prefixes determine who is being talked about:

Erik (**n**)indizhinikaaz. I am called Erik.
Erik **gid**izhinikaaz. You are called Erik.
Erik izhinikaazo. He is called Erik.

When asking a question, we use a different form, where the person performing the action is indicated at the **end of the verb** (personal suffix):

Aaniin ezhinikaazoyaan? What is **my** name?
Aaniin ezhinikaazoyan? What is **your** name?
Aaniin ezhinikaazod? What is **his or her** name?

Linguists call the question form the C form. Note that when asking questions, the verb takes an initial vowel change: izhinikaazo becomes ezhinikaazod. Here are some questions and answers we can ask each other based on our introductions:

Aaniin ezhinikaazoyan? _____ indizhinikaaz.	What is your name? My name is _____.
Aaniin ezhinikaazod? _____ izhinikaazo.	What is his/her name? His/her name is _____.
Awenen gid oodem? _____ indoodem.	Who is your clan? My clan is _____.
Awenen od oodeman? _____ odoodeman.	Who is his/her clan? His/her clan is _____.
Aaniindi wenjibaayan? _____ indoonjibaa.	Where are you from? I am from _____.
Aaniindi wenjibaad? _____ onjibaa.	Where is he/she from? S/he is from _____.