

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.

1. Boozhoo! Hello!
2. _____ indizhinikaaz. My name is _____.
3. _____ indoodem. My clan is _____.

Adik	caribou
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 _____.
_____ indaa. I live in _____.

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 **gidizhinikaaz.** 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 gidoodem ? _____ indoodem.	Who is your clan? My clan is _____.
Awenen odoodeman ? _____ 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 _____.