

## Animate Intransitive Verbs (VAI): Commands

In Ojibwe, when we tell someone to do something, we conjugate the verb differently. For example:

		VAI ending in -m, -n	
Maajaan!	Leave!	Babaamendan!	Pay attention!
Maajaag!	Leave! (plural)	Babaamendamook!	Pay attention! (plural)
Maajaadaa!	Let's leave!	Babaamendandaa!	Let's pay attention!

### VAI Negative Command Forms

<b>Gego</b> maajaaken!	Don't leave!
<b>Gego</b> maajaakegon!	Don't leave! (plural)
<b>Gego</b> maajaasiidaa!	Let's not leave!

### VAI ending in -m, -n

<b>Gego</b> babaamendangen!	Don't pay attention!
<b>Gego</b> babaamendangegon!	Don't pay attention! (plural)
<b>Gego</b> babaamendanziidaa!	Let's not pay attention!

You can use "daga" like please in English to soften the tone of the command:

Daga wiisinidaa!	Let's eat!
Daga maajaan.	Leave.

*Enigok* can be used with commands for more intensity. For example:

Bimibatoon enigok!	Run faster!
Niimin enigok!	Dance harder!

Here are some prefixes that are useful for commands. These prefixes can be used in any verb form, not just commands and not just VAI.

Ani-	Away from the speaker
Bi-	Towards the speaker

For example:

Bi-izhaan!	Come here!
Bi-namadabin!	Come sit!
Ani-bimibatoon!	Run away!

## VAI: Commands

Here are some examples of verbs commonly used with command form. Of course, these verbs can be used in any form and any VAI can be used in command form.

1. S/he is coming in or entering	Biindige
2. “ finished with an activity	Giizhiitaa
3. “ getting in (a boat or car)	Boozi
4. “ getting out (of a boat or car)	Gabaa
5. “ getting up (from a fixed position)	Onishkaa
6. “ going to a place	Izhaa
7. “ leaving	Maajaa
8. “ lying	Giiwanimo
9. “ offering asemaa	Biindaakoojige
10. “ paying attention or worrying	Babaamendam
11. “ reading or counting	Agindaaso
12. “ running (apatoo is running to a place)	Bimibatoo
13. “ saying something	Ikido
14. “ sitting	Namadabi
15. “ speaking English	Zhaaganaashiimo
16. “ speaking Ojibwe	Ojibwemo
17. “ standing up	Bazigwii
18. “ starting an activity	Maajitaa
19. “ telling the truth	Debwe
20. “ walking (inose is walking to a place)	Bimose