

## Animate Intransitive Verbs (VAI) Plural Forms

There are additional verb forms based on the person performing actions that do not occur in English. These differences apply to all four Ojibwe verb forms.

- 1) There are two different forms for “we.” One is *exclusive*, meaning that the action *excludes* the person being spoken to. The other is *inclusive*, meaning that the action *includes* the person being spoken to.
- 2) There are singular and *plural* verb forms for “you.” Although this doesn’t occur in formal English, some in Ojibwe communities use the term “yous.” Another occurrence of this in English is “y’all” in the Southern dialect of American English.

Personal prefixes and suffixes noted in **bold**. Changes to root verb underlined.

<b>I</b>	<b>n</b> imaajaa
<b>you (singular)</b>	<b>g</b> imaajaa
<b>s/he</b>	maajaa
<b>we (exclusive)</b>	<b>n</b> imaaja <b>amin</b>
<b>we (inclusive)</b>	<b>g</b> imaaja <b>amin</b>
<b>you (plural)</b>	<b>g</b> imaaja <b>am</b>
<b>they</b>	maaja <b>awag</b>

### VAI ending in an -M

<b>I</b>	<b>n</b> iminwendam
<b>you (singular)</b>	<b>g</b> iminwendam
<b>s/he</b>	minwendam
<b>we (exclusive)</b>	<b>n</b> iminwenda <b>amin</b>
<b>we (inclusive)</b>	<b>g</b> iminwenda <b>amin</b>
<b>you (plural)</b>	<b>g</b> iminwenda <b>am</b>
<b>they</b>	minwendam <b>oog</b>

### VAI ending in an -N

<b>(n)</b> indagoshin
<b>g</b> idagoshin
dagoshin
<b>(n)</b> indagoshin <b>imin</b>
<b>g</b> idagoshin <b>imin</b>
<b>g</b> idagoshin <b>im</b>
dagoshin <b>oog</b>

## VAI Plural Conjugation

Remember, when a VAI ends in -A, -I, -O, that final vowel drops off in the first and second person singular forms only:

<b>I</b>	<b>niwiisin</b>
<b>you (singular)</b>	<b>giwiisin</b>
<b>s/he</b>	<b>wiisini</b>
<b>we (exclusive)</b>	<b>niwiisinimin</b>
<b>we (inclusive)</b>	<b>giwiisinimin</b>
<b>you (plural)</b>	<b>giwiisinim</b>
<b>they</b>	<b>wiisiniwag</b>

### Question form

<b>I</b>	<b>Aaniin ezhi-ayaayaan?</b>
<b>you</b>	<b>Aaniin ezhi-ayaayan?</b>
<b>s/he</b>	<b>Aaniin ezhi-ayaad?</b>
<b>we (exclusive)</b>	<b>Aaniin ezhi-ayaayaang?</b>
<b>we (inclusive)</b>	<b>Aaniin ezhi-ayaayang?</b>
<b>you (plural)</b>	<b>Aaniin ezhi-ayaayeg?</b>
<b>they</b>	<b>Aaniin ezhi-ayaawaad?</b>