

VAI Future Tense

Adding *wii-* as a prefix is used to express a desire to do something in the future. In English we might say “I *want* to do something.” Like past tense, this can be used with *all* verb types. For example: *Wii-noodin waabang* (It will be windy tomorrow).

		VAI ending in -A, -I, -O
I	niwii-maajaa	niwii-wiisin
you (singular)	giwii-maajaa	giwii-wiisin
s/he	wii-maajaa	wii-wiisini
we (exclusive)	niwii-maajaamin	niwii-wiisinimin
we (inclusive)	giwii-maajaamin	giwii-wiisinimin
you (plural)	giwii-maajaam	giwii-wiisinim
they	wii-maajaawag	wii-wiisiniwag

VAI ending in an -M

I	niwii-minwendam	niwii-tagoshin
you (singular)	giwii-minwendam	giwii-tagoshin
s/he	wii-minwendam	wii-tagoshin
we (exclusive)	niwii-minwendaamin	niwii-tagoshinimin
we (inclusive)	giwii-minwendaamin	giwii-tagoshinimin
you (plural)	giwii-minwendaam	giwii-tagoshinim
they	wii-minwendamoog	wii-tagoshinoog

Adding “o” between *wii-* and the verb means to want to *go* do something:

I	niwii-o-wewebanaabii
you (singular)	giwii-o-wewebanaabii
s/he	wii-o-wewebanaabii
we (exclusive)	niwii-o-wewebanaabiimin
we (inclusive)	giwii-o-wewebanaabiimin
you (plural)	giwii-o-wewebanaabiim
they	wii-o-wewebanaabiiwag

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Initial Consonant Change: like the past tense, all verbs beginning in a soft consonant change to a hard consonant

b – p	j – ch
d – t	z – s
g – k	zh – sh

I	niwii-pakade
you (singular)	giwii-pakade
s/he	wii-pakade
we (exclusive)	niwii-pakademin
we (inclusive)	giwii-pakademin
you (plural)	giwii-pakadem
they	wii-pakadewag

Examples of Future Particles

Waabang	Tomorrow
Awaswaabang	The day after tomorrow
Dibikak	Tonight
Naagaj	Later
Gabe-dibik	All night
Gabe-giizhik	All day
Wayiiba	Soon

Prefix order

When constructing sentences using VAI or ANY verb types, bear in mind the order of prefixes:

1. Personal (such as ni-, gi-, o-)
2. Tense (such as gii-, wii-, da-/ga-/ji-, daa-, aano-)
3. Directional (such as ani-, bi-)
4. Relative (such as izhi-, onji-)
5. Preverbs (such as gichi-, nitaa-, ishkwa-, jibwaa-)

Shown are examples of frequently used prefixes, see the dictionary for the exact of classification of other prefixes.