Gekinoo’amaadiiwiwamig Ojibwemowin Lesson 25: Invitations (Commands)

Michael Waasegiizhig Price
Traditional Ecological Knowledge Specialist
Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission
Giishpin ganawendan gidinwewininaan, giga-ganawenimig aadizookaan gaa-ganawendang Anishinaabemowin.

If you take care of the language, the spirit-keeper of the language will take care of you.

Tobasaanakwad Kinew
Commands for VAIIs

When addressing someone with a command with a VAI, add an ‘n’ to the end of the word.

- Bimose. S/he is walking.
- Bimosen! Walk!
- Wiisini. S/he is eating.
- Wiisinin! Eat!

For the ‘endam’ words, change ‘m’ to ‘n’:
- Minwendan! Be happy!
Commands for VAls: Plural

When addressing 2 or more with a command, add ‘g’ to the end of the VAI.

- Wiisinin! Eat! (1 person)
- Wiisinig! Eat! (2 or more people)
- Bimosen! Walk! (1 person)
- Bimoseg! Walk! (2 or more people)

For ‘endam’ words, add ‘ok’ at the end:
- Minwendamok! You all be happy!
Commands for VAls: ‘Let’s do this...’

To make the command, “Let’s all ...”, add ‘daa’ at the end of a VAl:

- Wiisinidaa! Let’s eat!
- Bimosedaa! Let’s walk!
- Bimbatooodaa! Let’s run!

For ‘endam’ words, change the ‘m’ to ‘n’ and add ‘daa:’

- Minwendandaa! Let’s be happy.
Commands for VAls: ‘Don’t …’

To command someone to ‘Don’t do something,’ the formula is:

\[ \text{Gego} + \text{verb} + \text{ken} \] (1 person)

- Gego bimoseken! Don’t walk!
- Gego bimibatooken! Don’t run!
- Gego mawiken. Don’t cry!
Commands for VAls: ‘Don’t …’

- To command 2 or more people to don’t do something, the formula is:

  **Gego + verb + kegon**

- **Gego bimosekegon!**  You all don’t walk!
- **Gego bimibatookegon!**  You all don’t run!
- **Gego mawikegon!**  You all don’t cry!
Commands VAls: ‘Let’s don’t do this’

To command someone by saying, “Let’s not do this…” the formula is:

Gego + verb + siidaa

Gego bimosesiidaa. Let’s not walk.
Gego bimibatoosiidaa. Let’s not run.
Gego mawisiidaa. Let’s not cry.
### VAI Commands: Summary

- **Bimose.** S/he is walking.
- **Bimosen.** Walk!
- **Bimoseg.** You all walk!
- **Bimosedaa.** Let’s walk.
- **Gaawiin bimosesii.** S/he is not walking.
- **Gego bimoseken.** Don’t walk (1 person).
- **Gego bimosekegon.** You all don’t walk.
- **Gego bimosesiidaa.** Let’s not walk.
VAI Commands: ‘endam’ words

- Minwendam.  She is happy.
- Minwendan!  Be happy!
- Minwendamok!  You all be happy!
- Minwendanda!  Let’s be happy!
- Gaawiiin minwendanziin.  She is not happy.
- Gego minwendangen.  Don’t be happy.
- Gego minwendangegen.  Don’t you all be happy.
- Gego minwendanziidaa.  Let’s not be happy.
Gego bimibatooken! Ozhaashaa agwajiing noongom.

Don’t run! It’s slippery outside right now.
Wiisinig! Gisinaa niibowa agwajiing.

You all eat! It is very cold outside.
Nibaan! Gidayekoz niibowa noongom.

Sleep! You are very tired right now.
Wiisinidaa! Niibowa nimbakade miinawah.

Let’s eat! I am very hungry again.
Gego bimoseken noongom. Niiskaadad miinawaa biiwaa biihan agwajiiing.

Don’t walk right now. It’s nasty and blizzardy outside.
Let’s not walk today. It’s too cold outside.
Gego ojaanimiziken! Minwendan!
Don’t worry! Be happy!
Goshkozin! Ani-zoogipon agwajiing.

Wake up! It’s starting to snow outside.

(You all) Don’t be tired today.

You all will sleep well this evening.

Onaagoshig = in the evening.
Gego maajaaken nishkaadiziyan!
Memwech maajaan!

Don’t go away mad! Just go away!

Guns n Roses

Maajaa = leave, go away
Gagwejim ina?