

Gekinoo'amaadiiwigamig Ojibwemowin Lesson 30: VTI

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

Verb Transitive Inanimate (VTI)

- ▶ Verbs that transfer action from the animate subject to an inanimate object.
- ▶ **Subject** is where the verb action is originating.
- ▶ **Object** is receiving the action from the subject.

- ▶ Ni-waabandaan niwaakaa'igan.

I	see	my house.
subject	verb	object

Verb Transitive Inanimate (VTI)

When a VTI verb stands alone, it is a command:

Waabandan! See it!

Bizindan! Listen to it!

Agindan. Read it.

Miigwechiwendan. Give thanks for it.

Odaapinan. Accept something.

Ganawendan. Take care of it.

Verb Relationships in Ojibwemowin

Thoughts or ideas can be articulated in different verb forms such as:

Minwendam.	S/he is happy.	VAI
Minwendan.	Like it.	VTI
Minwenim.	Like someone.	VTA
Bizindam.	S/he is listening.	VAI
Bizindan.	Listen to it.	VTI
Bizindaw.	Listen to him/her.	VTA

Verb Relationships in Ojibwemowin

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-----|
| ▶ Waabi. | S/he see. | VAI |
| ▶ Waabam. | See someone. | VTA |
| ▶ Waabandan. | See it. | VTI |

Some verbs do not share common roots such as:

- | | | |
|------------|-----------------|-----|
| ▶ Wiisini. | S/he is eating. | VAI |
| ▶ Amo. | Eat someone. | VTA |
| ▶ Miijin. | Eat it. | VTI |

Verb Transitive Inanimate (VTI)

There are three families of VTIs:

VTI1 Verbs that end in 'an'

▶ Minwendan - Like it.

VTI2 Verbs that end in 'oon'

▶ Ozhitoon - Make it.

VTI3 Verbs that end in 'in'

▶ Miijin - eat it.

Verb Transitive Inanimate (VTI)

VTI verbs use the same pronoun and tense markers as VAls.

For VTIs ending in 'an,' the ending is modified to 'aan.'

- ▶ Waabandan. See it.
- ▶ Niwaabandaan. I see it.
- ▶ Niwaabandaan miikana. I see the road.

- ▶ Minwendan. Like it.
- ▶ Niminwendaan. I like it.
- ▶ Niminwendaan manoomin. I like wild rice.

Verb Transitive Inanimate (VTI)

These are different pronoun usages with VTI:

- ▶ Ninganawendaan manoomin.
 - ▶ I am taking care of the wild rice.
- ▶ Giganawendaan manoomin.
 - ▶ You are taking care of the wild rice.
- ▶ Oganawendaan manoomin.
 - ▶ She is taking care of the wild rice.

Niibowa ominwendaan manoomin.

She likes wild rice a lot.

Giminwendaan owaakaa'igan.

You like her house.

Nimbizindaan nibi.

I am listening to the water.

Inganawaabandaan ishkode.

I am looking at the fire.

Niwaabandaan mashkode iwedi.

I see the prairie over there.

Ingii-waabandaan mashkode bijiinaago.

I saw the prairie yesterday.

Tanya ogii-waabandaan zaaga'igan bijiinaago.

Tanya saw the lake yesterday.

Cat onoondaan noodin agwajiing.
Cat hears the wind outside.

Niminwendaan giwaakaa'igan niiskaadak
agwajiing.

I like your house when it's nasty outside.

Niwaakaa'igan niminwendaan zoogipong
agwajiing.

I like my house when it's snowing outside.

Manoomin ninganawendaan gimiwang agwajiing.

I am taking care of the rice while it's raining outside.

Ingii-noondaan noodin gii-bimibatooyaang
noongom.

I heard the wind when we were running today.

Ingii-mikwendaan giwaakaa'igan. Niminwendaan.

I remembered your house.

I like it.

Ziinzibaakwad niminwendaan niibowa.

I like sugar a lot.

Aanakwad niwaabandaan ishpingim. Giin dash?

I see the cloud overhead.

And, you?

Aanakwad nindagindaan ishping.
I am reading the cloud up above.

Ganawaabandan! Amikwiish niwaabandaan.

Look!

I see the beaver lodge.

Bizindan! Ziibii ninoondaan.

Listen! I hear the river.

Zoom nimirwendaan niibowa! Gaawiiin
Teams nimirwendanziin.

I really like Zoom. I do not like Teams.

Gagwejim ina?