



Gekinoo'amaadiwigamig Ojibwemowin Lesson 9: VAI Commands

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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

I am not hungry today.
Gaawiin nimbakadesii noongom.



Are they singing today?

Nagamowag ina noongom?



Do you want to eat soon?

Giwii-wiisin ina wayiiba?

Do you all want to eat soon?

Giwii-wiisininim ina wayiiba?



Do you want to sit here?
Giwii-namadab ina omaa?



Do you all want to sit here?

Giwii-namadabim ina omaa?



Does she want to sit here?

Wii-namadabi ina omaa?



Do they want to sit here?

Wii-namadabiwag ina omaa?



No, they do not want to sit here.

Gaawiin wii-namadabisiwag omaa.



I am tired today. Are you tired today?
Indayekoz noongom. Gidayekoz ina noongom?

No, I am not tired today, but I am happy.

Gaawiin nindayekozisii noongom,
miinawaa niminwendam.

I want to eat, but I am too tired.

Niwii-wiisin, miinawaa nindayekoz onzaam.



They are going to sing, but they are not dancing.

Da-nagamowag, miinawaa gaawiin da-niimisiiwag.

The eagles are flying high overhead.

Migiziwag bimisewag ishpiming.



The bears are sleeping in the winter.

Makwag nibaawag biboong.



The deer are running in that direction.
Waawaashkeshiwag bimibatoowag akeyaa.

The deer ran far yesterday.

Waawaashkeshiwag gii-bimibatoowag waasa bijiinaago.



The deer will run in that direction tomorrow.

Waawaashkeshiwag da-bimibatoowag akeyaa waabang.



The bears ate a lot yesterday, and now they are sleeping.

Makwag gii-wiisiniwag niibowa bijiinaago,

miinawaa noongom nibaawag.

VAI Commands

To make a command from a VAI verb, add an “n” to the end of the word.

- ▶ Bimose. S/he walks.
- ▶ Bimosen! Walk!

- ▶ Namadabi S/he sits.
- ▶ Namadabin Sit!

VAI Commands

- ▶ Goshkozi. She wakes up.
- ▶ Goshkozin! Wake up!

- ▶ Bimibatoo. She runs.
- ▶ Bimibatoon! Run!

- ▶ Nibaa. She sleeps.
- ▶ Nibaan! Go to sleep!



VAI Commands - 'endam' words

For 'endam' words, do the following:

- ▶ Replace the 'm' with an 'n' to make a command.

Ex.

- ▶ Minwendam. S/he is happy.
- ▶ Minwendan! Be happy!
- ▶ Gashkendam. S/he is sad.
- ▶ Gashkendan! Be sad!

Namadabin, daga.

Please sit down.



Goshkozin! Niwii-wiisinimin noongom.

Wake up! We want to eat now.



Nibaan! Gidayekozim niibowa noongom.

Sleep! You all are really tired right now.

Wiisinin daga!

Please, eat!



Bimibatoon! Ma'iinganag bakadewag.

Run! The wolves are hungry.

Gagwejim ina?



One of my favorite 1990 songs in Ojibwemowin.

Gego ojaanimiziken! Minwendan!

Don't worry!

Be happy!