

2 - Niizh

Enweyiing How We Sound Rhythm

Nsostamokiiwans To Understand Little Things Explanation

Anishinaabemowin has a pattern of stress that is different from English. Instead of stressing words or syllables to create meaning, speakers of Anishinaabemowin should stress syllables in a consistent pattern.

Here are some examples to be read first in syllables and then faster as a sentence:

Gekinoo maa gaaz jig n'daaw mi.
Gekinoomaagaazjig n'daaw mi.
Students we are.

Waa ezhi kidiyeg Anish inaa be mowin.
Waa ezhikidiyeg Anishinaabemowin.
How it is spoken, Anishinaabemowin.

Kend aamiig waa ezhi kid yeg.
Kendaamiig waa ezhikidyeg.
You all learn how to speak.

Niizh ing kidon ezhi bii gaa degan.
Niizhing kidon ezhi biigaadegan.
Twice say each one that is written.

Ezhichigen
You Do It
Practice

Say each sentence first in parts, then faster as a whole.

1)

Come here.

Maa jaan maam pii

Maajaan maampii

2)

Here (right here) go. (command)

Maam pii bi izhaan.

Maampii bizhaan.

3)

Leave it alone.

Geg wa ba men dige.

Gegwa bamendige.

4)

You are jealous.

G'zhaa enj ige.

G'zhaaenjige.

5)

Don't

Geg wa shki naa (women's) Boon taan (men's)

Gegwa shkinaa (women's) Boontaan (men's)

6)

Oh my!

A shiish maaj ii! (women's) Shtaa ta haa! (men's)

Ashiishmaajii! (women's) Shtaatahaa! (men's)

7)

What time is it? (by the clock)

Aa niish en sa dibag neg?

Aaniish ensa dibagneg?

8)

What time is it? / How many miles?

Wen esh e pii chaak?

Wenesh epiichaak?

9)
How many miles?
Wen esh en sa dibaa baan eg?
Wenesh ensa dibaabaaneg?

10)
He/She is feeling good.
Mi nen dam.
Minendam.

11)
I am stepping outside.
Zagaji gaa bo yaanh.
Zagajigaaboyaanh.

12)
We are hungry.
N' bak de mi.
N'bakdemi.

13)
By the river
Jigi zii biing.
Jigiziibiing.

14)
Swamp
Mskwaa sinii 'ing.
Mskwaasinii'ing.

15)
Forest
Meg wem ta gwake.
Megwemtagwake.

16)
Two white (as a verb) mice.
Niizh waab shki waabaganoo jiih ig.
Niizh waabshkiwaabaganoojiinhig.

Gikendaan
You know
Summary

Use what you have learned to pronounce these phrases:

Biinish naage nii taa Anish inaa bem iyaambaa maam piich.

Biinishnaage niitaa Anishinaabemiiyaambaa maampiich.

I wish I could speak well sooner or later.

Aapii chigwa waa saa n'gii binji baa wii bi anken monigog maan da Anish inaa bem owin.

Aapiichigwa waasaa n'gii binjibaa wii bi ankenmonigog maanda Anishinaabemowin.

Very far I did come to give this language.

Kaa' aanken maa gena maan da gaa miinigo'aa Anish inaa bem owin.

Kaa' aankenmaagena maanda gaa miinigo'aa Anishinaabemowin.

I will give it, this language that was given to me