



# CONVERSATIONAL POTAWATOMI

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## **INTRODUCTION TO THE LANGUAGE**

### **ANIMACY AND INANIMACY**

The whole world is broken into animate or inanimate in Potawatomi. Animate items are things which are living, moving or spiritual. While inanimate items are non-living or non moving. Most is pretty cut and dry a person is animate a table is inanimate. But items which are spiritual such as a pipe or tobacco are animate. Also things in motion for example a car is animate when being driven and inanimate while parked. Also many things in nature are animate such as trees, the sun, etc. Food is somewhat complicated because some food is animate such as potatoes, corn, and green beans. While other food is inanimate. Also when the word wiyas or meat is added to an animal it becomes inanimate. An animal is still considered animate after death until it has been cut into different pieces.

Why does this matter? The verb you use depends on whether something is animate or inanimate in many cases. Also how you pluralize something depends on animacy or inanimacy.

#### **Types of verbs**

There are four main types of verbs in Potawatomi AI or Animate intransitive, II or Inanimate intransitive, TI Transative Inanimate, and Ta Transative Animate.

The simplest to use are AI these are verbs like jiptebe-sit, wawijge- read, wisne-eat, babwichge-wait. These verbs do not effect anyone else.

II verbs are state of being and many are adjectives in English. For example Mskwa-to be red, to be tall, wawyeya-to be round, gachinwa- to be small are all verbs. These are also quite easy to use.

TI verbs are objects being used by an animate person. For example nwabdan-I see it, ndagnan-I touch it, nmijen- I eat it, nwawdon-I read it etc.

TA verbs are the hardest type to master. They are two animate persons doing something together. For example. Nkenonak-I talk to them, Nwabmegok- They see me, Ndagna-I touch it(animate) etc.

Main types of modes Independent, Conjunct, Imperative, Prohibitive

The independent is used for making basic statements like. I am eating. I saw him. Also for asking simple questions. For example Gbekte ne? Are you hungry? Ggi-maji ne? Did you leave.

The conjunct form is used if there are more than one verb used in the statement or if you are asking a more complicated questions using who,what,when,where,why etc..

Example: Mtekok ngi-wabma o sago iw je gwashkseot kik. I was a monkey in the tree and then he jumped to the ground. The second verb gwashkseo-he/she jumps is in the conjunct form by adding a t for the third person.

This is how these look using the verb Maji which is an AI verb

### **INDEPENDENT MODE**

Nmaji- I leave

Gmaji- You leave

Maji- he/she leaves

Nmajimen- We –you leave.

Gmajimen- We all leave.

Gmajim- You all leave

Majik- They leave.

### **CONJUNCT MODE**

majiyan- I leave

majiyen- you leave

majit- he/she leaves

Majiyak- we-you leave

Majiygo- We all leave

Majiyek- you all leave

Majiwat- they leave

### **PROHIBLATIVE**

Gego majiken- You cant leave.

Gego majikek. You all cant leave.

You always use Gego- don't with the prohibitive.

### **IMPERATIVE(COMMAND FORM)**

Majin- You leave

Majik- You all leave.

**The language is very verb heavy in fact many nouns come from verbs.**

The language is like 70-80 percent verbs while English is something along 30 percent verbs.

Example: Jiptebe- he/she sits jiptebwen- is a chair. Waskonjege-he/she shines a light.

Waskonenjegen- a candle or light. Nebyege- he/she writes. Nebyegen- a pen or pencil.

## **INCLUSIVE AND EXCLUSIVE WE.**

In Potawatomi we have a we which includes everyone and then a we which excludes the person you are talking to. We also have he/she which means it can be used for either a man or a woman. So you can include someone or exclude someone based on what is being talked about. In English sometimes it is hard to know if someone is being included or not when we say we but in Potawatomi it is more clear.

## **NO STANDARDIZED WRITING SYSTEM**

We do not have a standardized writing system. The system we use is using the roman alphabet. It is widely used. Other systems use a tt or tth for the ch/j sound. Most are not that hard to understand. Though in Kansas they drop some initial sounds. In Canada it tends to be more ojibwe a language related to Potawatomi. There is also some use in Canada of the fiero double vowel system as well as some use of syllabics. Which is a symbol based method. One thing that makes Potawatomi hard to read is some of the early missionaries each came up with there own writing system. Also some of the early words have fallen into disuse so are no longer used. Also on the treaties people which just write them the way they sounded to the recorder.

## **OBJECTS WHICH ARE POSSESSED**

People, body parts and certain objects are possessed. In potawatomi a daughter is someone's daughter or a grandfather is someone's grandfather. The same with body parts so for example. **nokmes**- My grandmother, **nibet**- my tooth, **gokmes**- your grandmother, **wibet**- his/her tooth.

## **GOING PLACES**

**Ni je epichiyak? How far is it? (Nee juh eh peecheeyahk)**

**Ngoji mana neyew dbegen. Somewhere around four miles. (ngoe jee mahnah neyow dbuh gihn)**

**Ni je pi wa zhyaygo? When are we going? (Nee juh pee wah zhya ygo)**

**Wase yawen- It is far. (Wah say yowin)**

**Beshoch yawen- It is close. (Bay showch yowin)**

**Mamkach nwi-shishig. I have to go to the bathroom. (Mom cach nwee shee sheeg)**

Gdeyemen ne mshe? *Are we there yet? (Gduh yay min nay mshay)*

Gshibozen! Drive faster. (Gshee bozin)

Ni je pi wa majiyen? *When are you going to leave? (Nee juh pee wah mahjee yin)*

Ni pi je wji igwan? *Which direction? (Nee pee juh wjee eeg wan)*

Nmenji- *right (Nmun jee)*

Npaji- *left. (Npah jee)*

Ni pi je wji igwan edayen? *Which direction to your house? (Nee pee juh wjee eegwan ehdahyen)*

Wateya yagwatset o boset. *Wow that driver is crazy. (Wah tayah yagwatsit oh bosit)*

Ni pi je ezhyaygo? *Where are we going? (Nee pee juh ehzhayah ygo)*

Wisnegemgok gwi-zhyamen. *We are going to a restaurant. (Weesnuh gumgok gwee zhyahmin)*

## **GETTING TO KNOW SOMEONE**

Ni je ezh ne kasyen? *What is your name? (Nee juh ezh nuh kahs yin)*

Justin ndezhnekas. *My name is Justin. ( Justin ndehzh nukahs)*

Ni je ezhne kasot? *What is his/her name? ( Nee juh ezh nuh kahs oht)*

Cindy zhenkaso- *She is called Cindy. (Cindy zhin kahsoe)*

We ni je o? *Who is that? (Way nee juh oh)*

We ni je gin? *Who are you?(Way nee juh geen)*

Gkkenmen ne? *Do I know you? (Gkkinmen nay)*

Gkkenma ne o kwe? *Do you know that woman? (Gkkinmah nay oh kway)*

Gkkenma ne o nene? *Do you know that man? (Gkkinmah nay oh nuhnay)*

Konege, Nene nkkenma. *Yes I know that man. (Koenugay, nuhnay nkkinmah)*

Ehheh, Kwe nkkenma. *Yes I know that woman. (eh heh, kway nkinmah)*

Nmeshomes yawe. *He is my grandfather (Nmishohmis yaway)*

Nitawes yawe. *He/she is my cousin. (Neetahwis yaway)*

Ni pi je wech byayen? *Where do you come from? (Nee pee ju wech byah yin)*

Kansas city,mo ndoch bya. *I come from Kansas city. (Kansas City,Mo ndoech byah)*

Shawnee,ok Nde-da. *I live in Shawnee,Ok. (Shawnee,ok ndeh dah)*

Shote ndnes ode wzho pi. *I am hanging around here right now. (Show tuh ndnus odu joe pee)*

Ni pi je wech byat o kwe? *Where does that woman come from? (Nee pee juh wech byaht oh kway)*

California wje bya. *She comes from California. (California wjuh byah)*

Cho nmetsena. *I don't know. (Choe nmet sin nah)*

Ni pi je emikchewiyen? *Where do you work? (Nee pee juh ehmeekchuweeyin)*

Cho nmikchewisi. *I don't work. (Chon meekchuhweese)*

Nebyeget ndaw. *I am a secretary. (Neh byeh get ndow)*

Mshkekiwnene ndaw. *I am a doctor? Mshkuh kee oh nunay ndow)*

Kenomagwet ndaw. *I am a teacher. (Ken oh magwet ndow)*

Mzhenkiwnene ndaw. *I am a police officer. (Mzhin kee oh nuhnay ndow)*

## **COMMON GREETINGS**

Bozho- *hello (more formal but commonly used today) (Bow jo)*

Haw- *hello more informal (How or Ho)*

Ni je na? *How are you? (Nee juh nah)*

Ni je ezh bmadzeyen? *How are you living? (Nee juh ezh bmahd zuh yin)*

Ndeyekwes- *I am tired. (ndeh yuck wus)*

Anwe she shena- *I am fine (more of a southern word) (Anway shuh shunah)*

I zhe anwe- *I am fine. (more of a northern word) (EE zhuh anwuh)*

Nmnop makes- *I am living well. (Nmnohp mahdes)*

**Ndewkwe- *I have a headache. (Ndow kway)***

**Ndaknoga- *I am sick. (Ndahk no gah)***

**Nyabyetes. *I am lazy. (Nyahb yetes)***

**Nkipkosh- *I am sleepy. (Nkeep kosh)***

**Gin je- *And you? (Geen juh)***

**Ni je eshchegeyen? *What are you doing? (Nee juh esh chu gay yen)***

**Mno waben- *good morning (Mno wahbin)***

**Mno gishnawkwe- *good afternoon (Mno geesh now kway)***

**Mno dbeket- *Good night (Mno dbuh ket)***

**Bama pi- *later on (Bahmah pee)***

**Bama mine- *Later again (Bahmah meenuh)***

**Bama mine ngoji- *Later again somewhere. (Bahmah meenuh ngo jee)***

**Bama mine kowabmen- *I will see you again. (Bahmah meenuh kowahbmen)***

## **MEAL TIME**

**Gbekte ne? *Are you hungry? (Gbuck tay nay)***

**Gbektem ne? *Are you all hungry? Gbuck tahm nay)***

**Nwisen- *I am eating. (Nwee sin)***

**Nwisnemen- *We are eating. (Nwees nuh men)***

**Wisnegemgok ne gwizhymen? *Are we going to a restaurant? (Wees nuh gum gok nay gwee zhyah men)***

**Byetnen I sitagen. *Pass the salt. (Byet nin ee seetahgen)***

**Byetnen I waskek. *Pass the pepper. (Byet ee waskuck)***

**Byetnen I pkweshgen. *Pass the bread. (Byet nin ee pkwesh gen)***

**Babwichgen mamkach nwi-madmo netem. *Wait I have to prayer first. (Bahb weech gen mamkach nwee mahdmoe nehtum)***

Mijen I bidi wiyas. *Eat that chicken. (Meejin ee beedee weeyas)*

Mijin i. *Eat that. (Meejin ee)*

Mamkach gmijen bwamshe emajiyeen dopwenek. *You have to eat before you leave the table. (Mamkach gmeejin bwam shay ehmajeeeyin dope winuk)*

Wegni je ga wjandayen? *What did you cook? (Weg nee juh gah wjahndayin)*

## **EVENING AT HOME**

Wegni je wa zhechkeyen ode pkonyak? *What are you going to do this evening?*

*(Wegneejuh wah zhich kay yin oduh pconeyack)*

Gnebech nwi-wabdamen anet wabnotakchegeen. *Perhaps we will watch some tv.*

*(gnuh bitch nwee wahb dahmen anit wahbno talk chu gihn)*

Wegni je wa wabdemen? *What are you going to watch. (Weg nee juh wah wabduhmen)*

Chemokman Idol nwi-wabdamen. *We are going to watch American Idol.*

*(Chuhmoekman Idol nwee-wahbdahmen)*

Nedwendan eyoyan I tasomkekos. *I want to use the computer.*

*(Ned win dahn eyoyin ee tasohmkukos)*

Ni je pi wa bonyoyen I tasomkekos? *When are you going to stop using the computer?*

*(Nee juh pee wah bon eyo yin ee tasom kukos)*

Ni je eshchegeyen? *What are you doing? (Nee juh eschuh gay yin)*

Nedwendan egtegeyan. *I want to do some gardening. (Nedwindon eh gtuh gay yin)*

Waskonedoyen nwi-gishpnedonen. *I am going to buy some flowers. (Wahs cone nuh doe yin nwee geesh pnuhdoenin)*

Mamkach nda-mishkoske ode pkonyak epich tkeyamgek. *I have to mow the yard this evening while it is cool. (Mahm kach ndah meeshkoes kay oduh pconeyack epeech tkayyahm guck)*

Biskowagnen nwi-gishpnedonen. *I am going to go buy some clothes. (Bees coe wahgnin nwee geeshpnuhdoenin)*

Gda- wicheve ezhyayak Mesnatekgemgok. *You should come along we are going to the movies. (Gdah weecheway ezhyahyack Messnahtuck gumgoek)*

## **WEATHER**

Gshatemget – *it is hot (Gshah damn get)*

Wiskedemget- *It is blazing hot (Weeskuh damn get)*

Yabwamget- *It is hot (Yab wahm get)*

Tkeyamget- *It is cool (Tkay yahm get)*

Ksenyamget- *It is cold Ksin yahm get)*

Gmowen- *It is raining (Gmow in)*

Wensiwen- *Foggy (Win see win)*

Wenbisa- *drizzle (Win bee sah)*

Gmowas- *light rain. ( Gmoe wahs)*

Jigwek- *Thunders Jeeg wehk)*

Jigwek bmoesawat- *The thunders are walking. (Jeegwehk bmoesaywat)*

Wawasmo- *Lightening (Wawahs moe)*

Bkwe ne- *Hazy/ smokey (Bkway nah)*

Ni je ngom zagech? *How is the weather today? (Literally how is it today outside) (Nee juh ngome zah gich)*

## **MORNING EVENTS**

Wegni je wa wisneyen geshepwisnewen? *What are you going to eat for breakfast? (weg nee juh wah wees nuh yin gayshep weesnuh win)*

Kokosh wiyas mine wawen nwi-mijnen. *I am going to eat bacon and eggs.(they say wawen for one egg up north and then wawnon for eggs) Coe Coesh weeyahs meenuh wowin nwee-meejnin)*

Keynep skondabyan temget shode. *Hurry the school bus is here. (Kay nup skohn dah byahn damn get show duh)*

Dokin ngwes! *Wake up son! (Doe keen ngwis)*

Ggimnomba ne? *Did you sleep good? (Ggeem nom bah nay?)*

Dokik jayek! *Wake up everyone! (Doe keek jii yack)*

Kyenep mamkach nde-mikchewi ngom. *Hurry I have to work today? (Kay nup mahm kach nduh meekchuhween gome)*

## OUTDOORS

Gises- *sun (Geesus)*

Dbek gises- *moon (Dbuck geesus)*

Zibiwes- *creek (Zeebeewus)*

Zibe- *river (Zeebay)*

Nekshe egi negosek. *Look at those stars. (Nukshay eh gee nugohsuck)*

Jig-byek nwi-zhya. *I am going over by the river. (Jeeg byack nwee zhyah)*

Dokem Mtekok mko nibwe! *Quiet there is a bear standing by that tree. (Doe kum mtuck ohk mcoe neeb way.*

Nanokshi ne ggi-wabma? *Did you see that hummingbird? (Nahnokshee nay ggee wahbmah)*

Shkwach Odankegishgok ngi-gbeshmen. *Last Saturday we went camping.*

Wamego mbes ne gda-bmategamen wabek. *Can we go swimming at Lake thunderbird tomorrow. (Wahmeego mbus nay gdah bmahtuhgahmen wabuck)*

Zam gshatemget zagech ebidgeygo. *Its too hot outside lets all go inside. (Zahm gshah damn get zahgich eh beedgay ygo)*

## **GOING SHOPPING**

**Dawewgemgok nwizhya- *I am going to the store. (Dow wow gum gok nwee zhyah)***

**Wegni je wa gishpnedoyen? *What are you going to buy?***

***(Weg nee juh wah geesh pnuhdoeyin)***

**Wisnewen mine shke-mjegode nwi-gishpnedonen. *I am going to buy food and a new dress. (Wees nuh win meenuh shkuh mjuh go day nwee geeshpnuh doen in)***

**Nonakneyabo ne gda-naden. *Could you fetch some milk?***

***(Nonahcknay yah boe nay gdah nadin)***

**Wishkebabo nmnes. *I need pop. (Weesh kuh bahboh nmnus)***

**Ni jet so ni mkeznen? *How much for those shoes? (Nee jut so nee mkuhz nin)***

**Gwi-dbege ne? *Are you going to pay? (Gwee dbuh gay nay)***

**Nbokshka. *I am broke. (Nbohk shkah)***

**Meskedemget. *It is expensive. (Muskuh damn get)***

**Zam meskedemget. *It is too expensive. (Zahm muskuh damn get)***

**Wenpengde- *It is cheap/free. (win pin gday)***

**Ggimkan ne nedwendemen? *Did you find what you wanted? (ggeem kahn nay nedwinduhmen)***



## HOUSEWORK

Nwigwam nwi-bindon. *I am going to clean my house. (Nweeg wahm nwee been doen)*

Gzibinen ni nagnen. *Do the dishes. (Gzeebeenin nee nahg nin)*

Gda-binchege ne bwamshe ezagjeseyen? *Did you clean before you went outside? (Gdah been chuh gay nay bwahm shay ehzahgjuhsayyin)*

Kyetnam winnagwet bidek. *Wow it looks dirty in here. (Kyet nahm ween nahgwit beeduck)*

Binchege n gmbagemek. *Clean your room. (Been chuh gahn gmbah guhmuck)*

Mikchewin! *Work! (Meek chuh ween)*

Mikchewik! *Work (everyone) (Meekchuh week)*

## HOBBIES

Wegni je medagwendemen ezhechkeyen? *What do you like to do? (Weg nee juh muh dahg win duh men eh zhich kay yin)*

Gmedagwendan ne gwedemojgeyen? *Do you like to fish? (Gmuhdahgwindahn nay gweh duh moch gay yin)*

Gmedagwendan ne dabyankeyen? *Do you like to work on cars? (Gmuh dahg win dahn nay dahbyahn kay yin)*

Konege, Nmedagwendan edabyankeyan. *Yes, I like to work on cars.*

*(Koe nuh gay, Nmuh dahg win dahn eh dah byahn kay yan)*

Ggtege ne? *Do you garden? (Ggtuhgay nay?)*

Konege, ngtege. *Yes I garden.*

## **RAISING CHILDREN**

Gego zheckkeken i. *Don't do that. (singular) (Geh goh zhich kay kahn ee)*

Gego zheckkekek i. *Don't do that. (Plural) (Geh goh zhich kay kahk ee)*

Gdebanen- *I love you. (Gduh ban in)*

Gdebanem- *I love you all. (Gduhbanem)*

Mno widoktadjek gode penojeyek. *These children are your friends. (Mno weedoek tahd juck goduh pinoh jay yuck)*

Bye-mban- *Come to bed. (singular) (Byeh mbahn)*

Bye-mbak- *Come to bed (plural) (Byeh mbahk)*

Zagjesen- *Go outside. (singular) (Zagjuh sun)*

Zagjesek- *Go outside. (plural) (Zagjuh suck)*

Gego migadikkek- *Don't fight! (plural) (Geh go meegadeekahk)*

Wegni je nedwendemen? *What do you want? (Weg nee juh nedwinduhmen)*

Wegni je nedwendemek? *What do you all want? (Weg nee juh nedwindumuck)*

Bye-wisnen! *Come eat! (singular) (Byeh weesnín)*

Bye-wisnek! *Come eat! (plural) (Byeh weesnuck)*

Chikason! *Play (singular) (Cheekahsohn)*

**Chikasok! *Play (plural) (Cheekahsohck)***

**Atebdon ni waskonenjegenen! *Turn off the lights! (Atay bdoen nee wascone nin juh gihnin)***

**Atebdon I wabnotakchege. *Turn off the tv! (Ataybdoen ee wabno talk chu gihn)***

**Majibdon- *Turn it on. (Majeebdoen)***

**Bakwnen I shkwadem. *Open the door. (Bahk w nin ee shkwadamn)***

**Nishokmeshen! *Help me.(Nee shok meshin)***

**Gbakwnen I shkwadem. *Shut the door. (Gbackw nin ee shkwadamn)***

**Binchege gmbagemek. *Clean your room. (Beenchugan gmbah guhmuck)***

**Ksigwan! *Wash your wash! (singular) (Gseegwahn)***

**Gziyabdeon! *Brush your teeth.(singular) (Gzeeyahbday ohn)***

**Ggibges ne? *Did you take a bath? (Ggeebgis nay)***

**Ni je ga zhechkeyen ibe skongemgok? *What did you do over at school? (Nee juh gah zhich kay yin eebuh skohn gum goek)***

**Dadokmeben- *Behave! (one child) (Dahdoekmubin)***

**Dadokmebek- *Behave! (everyone)(Dahdoekmubuck)***

**Dokem. *Be quiet. (Doe kum)***

## **PRAYING**

**Ahaw Mamogosnan      (Ahow mahmoegosnahn)**

**Migwetch jak she gego ga gishtoyen. (Meegwech jahk shu gego gah geeshtoeyin)**

**Ewi madmoygo mtene Mno bmadzewen mine jitmowen. (Ewee mahdmoygo mtino mnop madzuhwin)**

**Kowabmeshnak ndenwenmagnek. (Kowabmeshnak ndenwinmagnuk)**

**Igwien Iw                   (Eegweein Eo)**

Creator

Thank you for everything you have created.

We pray for only good health and help

Watch over all of our relations

Heartfelt thanks Amen/end

## **TELLING TIME/ NUMBERS**

**Ngot- one (Ngoat)**

**Nish- two (Neesh)**

**Nswe- three (Nswah (The n is almost silent it is called simi silent))**

**Neyew- four (Neyow)**

**Nyanen- five (Nyanin)**

**Ngot watso- six (Ngoat wahtso)**

**Noek- seven (Noehk)**

**Shwatso- eight (Shwatso)**

**Shak- nine (Shak)**

**Mdatso- ten (Mdahtso)**

After ten it is just ten and one- eleven. You just have to remember 20,30,40,50,60,70,80,90.  
Shech is like and but can only be used for numbers.

**Mdatso shech ngot- 11 (Mdahtso shech ngoat)**

**Mdatso shech nish- 12 (some also use mine instead of shech)**

**Nishwabtek- 20 (Neeshwabtuck)**

**Nswabtek- 30 (Nswabtuck)**

**Neyewabtek- 40 (Neyowabtuck)**

**Nyanomtene- 50 \*\*\*\* it changes at 50 to mtene (Nyanom tinay)**

**Ngotwatsomtene- 60 (Ngoat wahtsom tinay)**

**Noeksomtene- 70 (Noehk som tinay)**

Shwatsomtene- 80 (*Shwatsom tinay*)

Shaksomtene- 90 (*Shaksom tinay*)

Ngot wak- *one hundred* (*Ngot wak*)

Shwatsomtene shech noek- 87 (*Shwatsom tinay shech noehk*)

Ngot watso mtene shech neyew- 64 (*Ngoat watsom tinay shech neyow*)

Nishwabtek shech ngot- 21 (*Neeshwabtuck shech ngoat*)

Ni jetso dbe gnak? *What time is it? (northern way)* (*Neejutso dbuh gnahk*)

Ni jetso yawek? *What time is it? (southern way)* (*Neejutso yawuk*)

Noek dbe gne- 7:00 o clock (*Noehk dbuh gnay*)

Noek dbegnek. *At 7:00 o clock* (*Noek dbegnehk*)

Noek yawen- 7:00 o clock (*southern way*) *yawen means it is.* (*Noek yowin*)

## **TIMES OF THE YEAR**

### **(MONTHS, SEASONS, HOLIDAYS, DAYS OF THE WEEK)**

Mnokme- *Spring* Mnokmek- *in the spring* (*Mnok may, Mnok muck*)

Niben- *Summer ( a time of plenty)* Nibek- *in the summer* (*Neebin, Neebuck*)

Dgwaget- *Fall ( it becomes shorter)* dgwagek- *in the fall* (*Dgwagit, Dgwaguck*)

Bbon- *winter (The time when things go to sleep/ die)* Bbomgek- *in the winter* (*bbohn, Bbomguck*)

Numagishek- *Sunday (Literally prayer day)* (*Numah geeshuck*)

Ngot gishek- *Monday (literally the first day)*(*Ngoat geeshuck*)

Nish gishek- *Tuesday (literally second day)* (*Neesh geeshuck*)

Apte gishek- *Wednesday (literally half way through)* (*Aptuh geeshuck*)

Neyew gishek- *Thursday (literally fourth day)* (*Neyow geeshuck*)

Nyano gishhek- *Friday (literally fifth day) (Nyahno geeshuck)*

Odanke gishhek- *Saturday (go to town day) (Odankay geeshuck)*

Sometimes these will vary from community to community. Also the months will often vary also because they are also descriptive and things happen at different times. One day we may sit down and make one which is very specific to Oklahoma as the weather is different down here even from the weather in Kansas.

## **COMMONLY USED WORDS/PHRASES**

Shkena- *Geeze (Shkaynah)*

Wateya- *wow ( a mans term but often used by everyone today) (Wah tay yah)*

Mamkadgemek- *Wow ( a woman's term) (Mom kahd gumuck)*

Anet- *Some (Anit)*

Gego- *something or don't (Geh go)*

Bgeji- *a little (bgeh jee)*

Ngodek- *once or at one time (Ngo duck)*

Gnebech- *perhaps/ maybe (Gnuh bich)*

Kwetan- *perhaps/ maybe (Kway tan)*

## **HUNTING**

Gmedagwendan ne egiwseyen? *Do you like to hunt? (Gmuhdahgwindahn nay ehgeesay yin)*

Gginsa ne o yabe? *Did you kill that buck. (guh geen sah nay o yabay)*

Nekshe ibe kche yabe. *Look over there at that big buck. (Nekshay eebuh kchuh yabay)*

Cho mshe gego Basksewaken. *Don't shoot yet. (Chom shay gah go basksuh wah kahn)*

Babwichgen beshoch wa yet o seksi. *Wait till the deer is close. (Bahb weech gen beh showch wah yet oh suksee)*

Ni pi je ezhyayek egiwseyek? *Where do you all go to hunt? (Nee pee juh ehzhyayuk egeesayyuck?)*

Gkkendan ne mamkach mandokaswen netem seksi. *Do you know you have to have a cerryony for your first deer. (Gkendahn nay momkach mandoe kaswin netum sucksee)*

Mine Mikwendemen ebgednat anet sema epich giwseyen. *Also remember to put down some tobacco while you are hunting. (Meenuh meekwinduhmin ehbgudnaht anit sayma ehpeech geeosayyin)*

Seksiyek ne ggiwabmak ngom? *Have you seen any deer today? (Suckseeeyuck nay ggeewabmahk n gome)*

Cho ngot seksi ngi-wabmasi. *I haven't seen one deer. (Cho ngoat sucksee ngee-wahbmahsee)*

Ni jetso ashknen ga yet o seksi? *How big was the rack on the deer? (Nee jut so ashknin ga yet o sucksee)*

Mdatso ashknen gi yawen. *It was a ten point. (Mdatso ashknin gee yowin)*

Cho ngi-mikwendasin nbasksegenem. *I forgot my gun. (Cho ngee meekwindaseen nbasksugenim)*

## **FISHING**

Ni pi je ezhyayen egwedemojgeyen? *Where do you go to fish. (Nee pee juh ehzyahyin egwehduhmochgay yin)*

Nekmek shena nde-zhya. *I go here there everywhere. (Nukmuck shunah nduh zhyah)*

Nangodgen Shawnee nishode mbesen. *Sometimes Shawnee Twin lakes. (nangodgen Shawnee neeshohday mbusin)*

Wamego mbes ne ggi-zhya? *Have you been to Thunderbird lake. (Wameegoh mbus nay ggee zhyah)*

Konege ngodek nesh je bwa-gwedoyan jesh. *Yes once but I didn't catch much. (Konuhgay ngoduck nesh juh bwah gwehdoeyan jesh)*

Ni jetso gigosek etoyen? *How many fish do you have? (Nee jut so geegosuck etoeyin)*

Wegniye eyoyen I gwedemojgenek? *What do you use on your pole. (Wegnee juh eyoyen I gwehduhmochgehnuck)*

Mose nde-yo. *I use worms. (Mosay ndeh-yo)*

Gigos nde-yo. *I use minnows. (Geegos ndeh yo)*

## **FAMILY AND PEOPLE**

We ni je o kwe? *Who is that woman? (Way nee juh oh kway)*

Ndekweyom yawe. *She is my wife. (Nduhkway yom yoway)*

We ni je o yawe? *Who is that? (Way nee juh o yoway)*

Nabem o yawe. *He is my man. (Nahbam o yoway)*

Gkenmak ne gi bmadzejek? *Do you know those people? (Gkinmak nay gee bmadzuhjuck)*

Cho nkenmasik gi bmadzejek. *No I don't know those people. (Cho nkenmaseek gee bmadzuhjuck)*

Ehhegh, Ndenwenmagnek. *Yes they are my relations. (ehhegh, ndenwinmagnuck)*

Ni je ezhnekasot o gigyago? *What is the name of that girl? ( Ni juh ezhnuh kasoht o geegyahgo)*

Mikaeja zhenkaso. *She is called Mikaeja. (Mikaeja zhinkaso)*

Ni je ezhnekasot o gigabe? *What is that boys name? (Ni je ezhnu kasot o geegahbay)*

James zhenkaso. *His name is James. (James zhinkaso)*

Wegnije esheget o shkenwe? *What is that boy(teenage) doing? (Wegneejuh eschuh get o shkinway)*

Jeshek wgi-gogi l mbes. *He just dove into the lake. (jushuck wgee-gohgee ee mbus)*

Wegni je esheget o naganit? *What is that leader doing? (Weg nee juh eschuget o naganeet)*

Pene shena kiktot wiye. *He is always talking to someone. (Pene shena keektot weeyeh)*



## **COLORS**

**Mskwa- red (inanimate) (Mshkwah)**

**Mskoze- red animate (Mskozay)**

**Skebgya- green (inanimate) (Skebgyah)**

**Skebgezo- green (animate) (Skebgezoh)**

**wZawa- yellow (inanimate) (wZowah)**

**Wzawze- yellow (animate) (wzowzay)**

**Wabshkya- white (inanimate) (Wabshkahyah)**

**Wabskezo- White (animate) (wahbskuhzoh)**

**Mkedewa- black (inanimate) (Mkuhdaywah)**

**Mkedezo- black (animate) (Mkuhduhzoh)**

**Gishgok- blue (Geeshgoek)**

## **FOOD**

**Wisnewen-food (Weesnuhwin)**

**Kokosh wiyas- bacon (other pork cuts) Kokosh weeyas)**

**Wiyas- meat (Weeyas)**

**Mdamen- corn (literally that miraculous seed) (Animate) (Mdahmen)**

**Menomen- rice (literally the good seed) (Minomen)**

**Min- Blue berry Minen- blueberries (Men, Menin)**

**Kojes- green bean kojese- green beans (animate) (Ko jes, kojeseck)**

**Wabgon- pumpkin some also use for squash (Wabgohn)**

**Kwesmen- Squash (Kwehs men)**

**Nonakneyabo- milk also nonagnabo and dodoshabo (No knock nay yahboh)**

**Wishkebabo- Pop (Weeshk uh bahbo)**

**Demen- strawberry (literally heart berry) (Daymen)**

**Pen- Potato Penyek or Penik- Potatoes (pin)**

**Washkbek- candy (Washkbuck)**

**Wishkegen- Sugar (Weeshkuhgen)**

**Washkek- Pepper (Washkuck)**

**Sitagen- salt (Seetahgen)**

**Kapi- coffee (Kapee)**

**Mbop- soup (Mbohpe)**

**Wabozo wisnewen- salad (slang literally rabbit food) (Wabohzoh weesnuhwin)**

**Mskojis- beet (Mskoe jees)**

**Shegagosh- onion (Shuh gah gosh)**

**Kokobe- cucumber (Ko ko bay) Have also seen kokombe**

## **OBJECTS AROUND THE HOUSE**

**Dopwen- table (Dope win)**

**Jiptebwen- chair (Jeep tub win)**

**Wabnotakhegen- Tv (Wahb no talk chu gen)**

**Tasomkekos- Computer (Tasom kukos)**

**Notakhegen- radio (No talk chu gen)**

**Nagen- dish (Nagin)**

**Emkwan- spoon (Ehmkwan)**

**Koman- knife (Koe man)**

**Bdekjigen- fork (Bduck jee gen)**

**Biwabkos- phone (Bee wab coes)**

**Mkomkekos- fridge some also say Mkwemitaswen (Mkom kukos)**

**Taswen- cabinet or closet (Taswin)**

**Wjandawgemek- Kitchen (Wjahndow gehmuck)**

**Mbagen- bed (Mbahgen) the m is not real loud.**

**Msenaksegen- picture (Msin knock suh gen)**

**Dbegiswan- clock (Dbuh gees wahn)**

**Deshegen- desk (Des chu gen)**

**Naken- carpet/ rug (Nahkin)**

**Shkwadem- door (Shkwah damn)**

**Dopwas- intable (Dope wahs)**

**Penojes jiptebwen- High chair (literally little baby chair) Pinojes jeep tub win)**

**Moshwagen- scissors (Moesh wah gen)**

**Gdapkgen- key (Gdahp kuhgen)**

**Zaskokwan- frying pan (Zaskoh kwan)**

**Wigwam- house (Weegwahm)**

**Pkweshmowen- pillow (Pkwesh moe win)**

**Gbegojgen- curtain (Gbuh goch gen)**

**Wawabmowen- mirror (Wahwahbmoewin)**

**Shkizgokajgen- glasses (*Shkeez go kach gen*)**

**Diyowen- tool (*Deeyo win*)**

**Dbe gen- ruler (*Dbuh gen*)**

**Nebyegen- pen (*Nay byeh gen*)**

**Jigdegen- broom (*Jeegduhgen*)**

**Shkemot- bag (*Shkuh moat*)**

**Shonya shkemot- purse (*Show nya shkuh moat*)**

**Gzhapkesgen- stove (*Gzhahp kes gen*)**

**Nodenkewen- fan (*something that makes wind*) (*nodin kay win*)**