Nde-bodewadmimo!
I am speaking Potawatomi!

Potawatomi workbook

9 Topics - Potawatomi Grammar Basics
Migwetth!

We would like to thank Jim Thunder, Justin Neely, Earl Meshigaud, Kim Wensaut, Gail Belling, Forest County Potawatomi, Citizen Band Potawatomi, Laura Buzzard Welcher and any others who have contributed directly or indirectly to this workbook.

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Hannahville Indian School

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Hannahville Culture Language and History Department
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CHAPTER 1
The Alphabet and Pronunciation

Let’s begin with the most basic aspect of any language, the alphabet and pronunciation. The material below describes how the Potawatomi vowels and consonants are pronounced. If you understand the alphabet, speaking Potawatomi from written sources will be very simple.

The following is an excerpt from Jim Thunder’s Old Potawatomi Language Book, Ngot.

Vowels

The Potawatomi language consists of the following vowels: A – E – I – O. These vowels are used in every part of the Potawatomi word or sentence to create the needed sounds. Each of these vowels has only one sound and thus are used with any letter or a combination of letters to produce any sound in the Potawatomi language.

It is important to remember the one vowel – one sound concept when reading the old Potawatomi writings. Although the English alphabet is used, the sounds of each letter are totally different. The four vowels themselves are used with certain letters of the English alphabet to form the Potawatomi alphabet. Before we get into the Potawatomi alphabet we must first learn the sounds of the four vowels.

A – is pronounced ah as in awning
E – is pronounced eh as in elm
I – is pronounced ee as in easel
O – is pronounced oh as in open

Consonants

Since the vowels A – E – I – O appear with every consonant of the Potawatomi alphabet these have been omitted as separate sounds. After we have gone through the Potawatomi alphabet we will then put some sentences together and study some actual Indian writings.

B Ba Be Bi Bo
Ba – as in bah Be – as in bet Bi – as in Bee Bo – as in boat
(In some of the old Indian writings, the letter L is used for the B sound)

D Da De Di Do
Da – as in dawn De – as in den Di – as in dee Do – as in doe

G Ga Ge Gi Go
Ga – as in gall Ge – as in get Gi – as in geek Go – as in go

H Ha He Hi Ho
Ha – as in hall He – as in hell Hi – as in heel Ho – as in hoe
Chapter 1 - The Alphabet and Pronunciation

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<td>Ttha</td>
<td>Tthe</td>
<td>Tthi</td>
<td>Ttho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ttha – as in jaw</td>
<td>The – as in Jenny</td>
<td>Tthi – as in Jean</td>
<td>Ttho – as in Joe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ttha – as in chalk</td>
<td>The – as in check</td>
<td>Tthi – as in cheat</td>
<td>Ttho – as in cho</td>
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<th>Letter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Ka</td>
<td>Ke</td>
<td>Ki</td>
<td>Ko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ka – as in kaw</td>
<td>Ke – as in Ken</td>
<td>Ki – as in key</td>
<td>Ko – as in Kola</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
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<th>Word B</th>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Ma</td>
<td>Me</td>
<td>Mi</td>
<td>Mo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ma – as in mama</td>
<td>Me – as in men</td>
<td>Mi – as in me</td>
<td>Mo – as in more</td>
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<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>Na</td>
<td>Ne</td>
<td>Ni</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Na – as in naw</td>
<td>Ne – as in neck</td>
<td>Ni – as in kneel</td>
<td>No – as in no</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>Pa</td>
<td>Pe</td>
<td>Pi</td>
<td>Po</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pa – as in Paul</td>
<td>Pe – as in pet</td>
<td>Pi – as in pee</td>
<td>Po – as in pole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Here again, some writers use the L to signify the P sound)</td>
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<th>Word C</th>
<th>Word D</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Sa</td>
<td>Se</td>
<td>Si</td>
<td>So</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sa – as in saw</td>
<td>Se – as in set</td>
<td>Si – as in see</td>
<td>So – as in so</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T</td>
<td>Ta</td>
<td>Te</td>
<td>Ti</td>
<td>To</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ta – as in talk</td>
<td>Te – as in ten</td>
<td>Ti – as in tee</td>
<td>To – as in toe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<th>Word D</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Wa</td>
<td>We</td>
<td>Wi</td>
<td>Wo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wa – as in want</td>
<td>We – as in wet</td>
<td>Wi – as in weed</td>
<td>Wo – as in woe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
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<th>Word C</th>
<th>Word D</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Ya</td>
<td>Ye</td>
<td>Yi</td>
<td>Yo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ya – as in yacht</td>
<td>Ye – as in yet</td>
<td>Yi – as in yield</td>
<td>Yo – as in yo-yo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C – In writings by anthropologists and others, C is used to signify the S sound.

Q – Although some Indian writings use the letter Q, most of the Q sounds are made with the letters KW.

U – The vowel U does not seem to be used very much in the Potawatomi language.

X – I have not found the letter X used at all in any of my Indian writings.

Z – Although there are a lot of places the letter Z could have been used, it does not appear on any of my Indian documents.
Let's Try A Greeting

Remember the four vowel sounds:

A – Ah   E – Eh   I – Ee   O – Oh

Now remember the four vowel sounds as we say a word of greeting.

Say:      Bo sho, ni tthe na?
You are saying:  Hello, how are you? or Hello, how is everything?

The correct way to pronounce the Indian words are as follows:

Notice in this one sentence that all four vowel sounds are present. Also, you will notice that we have uncovered one of the puzzles to the written Potawatomi language. That is the ch sound, as in check, is written in this manner – tth. I have not seen the letter C in any of the writings that I have. Tth is used to create the ch or j sounds. Also, the old Indian writings do not have any punctuation marks of any kind. So it is left entirely up to you to determine the ending of the sentences.

Bo sho, ni tthe na? Ni Pi tthe wetth bya yen?
Bo sho nee che na? Nee pee che wetch bya yen?
Hello, how is everything? Where are you from?

The response you may get might go like this:

I she an we. Stone Lake ntotth bya.
Ee zhe ahn we. Stone Lake ndotch bya.
Everything is o.k. I come from Stone Lake.

Literal translations of the Indian sentences into English are usually not possible so you have to structure the English language around the Indian sentence to come up with a viable translation.
VOCABULARY BUILDER

**gigabe** - boy
pronounced - gee gah beh

**wabo** - rabbit
pronounced - wah boh soh

**gigyago** - girl
pronounced - geeg yah goh

**wdabyan** - car
pronounced - dah byahn

**nene** - man
pronounced - neh neh

**wigwam** - house
pronounced - weeg wahm

**mko** - bear
pronounced - muh koh

**mbagen** - bed
pronounced - mm bah gehn

**pedyebwen** - chair
pronounced - ped yeh bwen
Chapter 1 - The Alphabet and Pronunciation

AUDIO LESSON
Utilize the language lab to complete this exercise.

Listen and Speak
1. Record yourself speaking along with the “Listen_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter1 folder as “yourname_ls”.

Read and Speak
1. Record yourself speaking the words as they become visible in the “Read_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter1 folder as “yourname_rs”.

Word Challenge
1. Listen to the English words and phrases in the “Word_Challenge” file and speak their Potawatomi translation in the time allowed between words. This may take some practice. You may even want to write down your words in the correct order so you can keep up with the “Word_Challenge”.
2. Save the file in the Chapter1 folder as “yourname_wc”.

The Vowel Song
Listen and follow along with “The Vowel Song”. This recording features Gail Belling singing a short song about vowels and pronunciation.

A - ah as in water
E - eh as in get
I - ee as in me
O - oh as in go
Potawatomi words are often spelled very different from one tribe to the next. It is very important to recognize this because it can be confusing at times. The important thing to remember is that the language was never intended to be written. It is the pronunciation that matters. How you speak the words is what brings the language alive. Below are some variations on pronunciation of vowels and consonants.

The following material is an excerpt from Justin Neely’s Lunch Class.

Vowels

a - ah as in father
The “a” is usually pronounced as “ah” as in father.

é - eh as in set, get, met
The é makes the “eh” sound as in set, get and met. The mark above the é is often left off, but most of the time when you see an “e” you will pronounce it as “eh”.

e - uh as in muck, luck
In front of a “k” the “e” makes an “uh” sound. Often ek sounds like uck. For example, the word “nenwek” is pronounced “nen wuck”.

e - ih as in kin, win, tin
Sometimes in front of an “n” the “e” makes an “ih” sound like kin, win, and tin. The word “sengo” is pronounced “sin goh”.

i - ee as in feed, reed, bleed
The i makes an “ee” sound as in feed, reed, and bleed. Words like “wiyas” are pronounced “wee yas”.

o - ohw as in row, sow, mow
The “o” makes an “ohw” sound as in row, sow and mow.
**Consonants and Consonant Clusters**

**tth** - the tth is a unique cluster of consonants that can sound out as either “ch” or “j”.

**ch** - as in church

**j** - as in jump

**g** - guh as in go (never as in giant)
The “g” in English can make a hard or soft sound as in “gross” and “giant”. Notice how the G in “gross” sounds hard. The G in “giant” sounds softer; more like a J. In Potawatomi, the G is only used as the hard sound.

**aw** - aw as in now, how, chow
The “aw” sounds like something you would say if you slammed your foot in the door - oww. Ahaw is the word for “hi” in Potawatomi. It is pronounced “ah how”.

**ay** - i as in eye, my, tie
The “ay” sounds like eye, my and tie. The Potawatomi word “ayapen” means “the same”. It is pronounced “i oppen”.

**iw** - ee oh as in the Potawatomi word wiwkwan.
The “iw” looks like it would be a single sound, but each letter, the I and the W, make their own sound. Wiwkwan is pronounced “wee oh kwan”. Notice how the “w” makes an “oh” sound

**zh** - these letters make a sound that isn’t present in English. Therefore, it is hard to write the pronunciation out. The sound could be described as mixing the sounds zzz and shh. It makes a vibration in the front of your mouth. The Potawatomi word “zhye” sounds like “zzh ee uh”. It almost sounds like you are saying “jeez”, but with more vibration.

---

**Ni tthe ezhnekasyen?**

nemosh
nde-zhnekas

mayos
nde-zhnekas

waboso
nde-zhnekas

mko
nde-zhnekas
Dialect Differences

All languages have dialect differences. Different people in different areas may speak the same language a little bit different. Since languages are alive, this is normal. Language is always changing and adapting as cultures develop. Potawatomi has been spoken from the North to the South for many years and has developed a few dialects that are worth mentioning.

Northern Vs. Southern Potawatomi

The differences between Northern and Southern Potawatomi are small, and are the product of a couple hundred years of separation as well as the influence and borrowing of words from other tribes. You see the most differences in newer words. Occasionally, there are different verbs for certain actions.

The Main Difference

In the North they tend to use b more than p, g more than k, and t more than d.

Northern Potawatomi - Gises (sun), Ngot (one), Bama (later)
Southern Potawatomi - Kises (sun), Ngod (one), Pama (later)

You will see this difference as you learn this language. Words like “gokosh” and “kokosh” both mean pig. “Mtenne” and “Mdenne” mean ten. If you speak these words out loud, the pronunciation difference is apparent, but very subtle.

It is important to recognize these differences as you learn Potawatomi words. If you can spot dialect differences, you won’t become as discouraged when you see spelling variations.
**VOCABULARY BUILDER**

- **neshnabe** - indian
  - pronounced: nesh nah beh

- **nemosh** - dog
  - pronounced: nem osh

- **kekyat** - elder
  - pronounced: kek yaht

- **mayos** - cat
  - pronounced: mah yohs

- **penoje** - child
  - pronounced: pen oh jeh

- **espen** - raccoon
  - pronounced: eh spin

- **penojes** - baby
  - pronounced: pen oh jehs

- **wzhebyegen** - pen/pencil
  - pronounced: zheh bee ah gehn

- **sekshi** - deer
  - pronounced: suck see

- **pkwakwet** - ball
  - pronounced: peh kwa kweht
Chapter 2 - Pronunciation and Dialects

AUDIO LESSON
Utilize the language lab to complete this exercise.

Listen and Speak
1. Record yourself speaking along with the “Listen_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter2 folder as “yourname_ls”.

Read and Speak
1. Record yourself speaking the words as they become visible in the “Read_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter2 folder as “yourname_rs”.

Word Challenge
1. Listen to the English words and phrases in the “Word_Challenge” file and speak their Potawatomi translation in the time allowed between words. This may take some practice. You may even want to write down your words in the correct order so you can keep up with the “Word_Challenge”.
2. Save the file in the Chapter2 folder as “yourname_wc”.

Other Resources

Video Lecture - Pronunciation
Watch the video entitled “Pronunciation”. This video is located in the video section of our website.

Video Lecture - Dialect Differences
Watch the video entitled “Dialect Differences”. This video is located in the video section of our website.
CHAPTER 3
Basic Conversation

This chapter describes some of the many greetings, how do you do's, introductions, and goodbyes in Potawatomi. Become familiar with these words and phrases. You will almost always use some of this material when you speak with other people in Potawatomi.

Greetings

Bosho!
For many students, bosho is one of the first words that they learn. Bosho means "hello", and can be used as a greeting to other people. Traditionally bosho is a formal way of saying hi and is usually accompanied with a handshake.

Haw
Haw is an informal way of saying "hi".

How do you do

Ni tthe na?
How are you?

I she anwe
Everything is okay (sort of)

Anwe she shena
Okay (sort of)

Gin je?
and you?

Nechiwenmo.
I am happy.

Ne-mno bmades
I'm living well.

Ttho nmenoyesi.
I don't feel good.
Netages
I am sad. *note the n at the beggining - this means i*

Ndakwenoga
I am sick. *(gdakwenoga means "you are sick")*

Person 1: Bosho, ni je na?
Person 2: Nechiwenmo, gin je?
Person 1: I she an we.

**Introductions**

**zhenkaso**
he/she is called something.

Ni je ezhnekasyen
What are you called?

Tom nde-zhnekas
I am called Tom.

Ttthigwe gde-zhnekas.
You are called thunder.

Jon zhenkazo.
He is called Jon.

Lori zhenkazo.
She is called Lori.

**wje bye**
he/she comes from

Ni pi je wetth byayen?
Where do you come from?

Hannahville Ndott bya
I come from Hannahville.
mikchewi
he/she works

Ni pi je eje mikchewiyen?
Where do you work?

Hannahville Indian School nmikchewi.
I work at Hannahville Indian School.

Mead Paper gmikchewi.
You work at Mead Paper.

Walmart wmikchewi. (you could also add a “wak” ending - wmikchewiwak)
She works at Walmart.

Leavetaking / Goodbye

Bama
Later

Bama pi
Later on

Bama pi ngoji
later on somewhere

Bama mine
Later again

Bama mine ngoji
later again somewhere
Sample Conversation

Potawatomi

P1: Bosho, ni tthe na?

P2: Haw, nechiwenmo, gin je?

P1: I she an we.

P2: Ni je eshnekasyen?

P1: Jon ndeshnekas, gin je?

P2: Frank ndeshnekas.

Jon: Ni pi je eje mikchewiyen, Frank?

Frank: Skonwgemgok, gin je?

Jon: Dawewgemgok nmikchewi.

Frank: Ni pi je wetth byayen?

Jon: Hannahville ndotth bya.

Frank: Ahaw.

Jon: Bama pi. Nwi-maji

Frank: Bama pi.

English

P1: Hello, how are you?

P2: Hi, I am happy, and you?

P1: Everything is okay.

P2: What are you called?

P1: I am called Jon, and you?

P2: I am called Frank.

Jon: Where do you work, Frank?

Frank: At the school, and you?

Jon: I work at the store.

Frank: Where are you from?

Jon: I come from Hannahville.

Frank: Okay.

Jon: Later on. I am leaving.

Frank: Later on.
VOCABULARY BUILDER

bosho - hello
pronounced - boh shoh

haw - hi
pronounced - how

ahaw - okay
pronounced - ah how

ni tthe na - how are you?
pronounced - nee jeh nah

i she anwe -
everything is ok (sort of)
pronounced - ee sheh ahn weh

bama - later
pronounced - bah mah

bama pi - later on
pronounced - bah mah pee

bama mine - later again
pronounced - bah mah mee
neh

zhenkaso - he/she is called
pronounced - zhen kah soh

gin je - and you?
pronounced - geen jeh
Listen and Speak
1. Record yourself speaking along with the “Listen_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter3 folder as “yourname_Is”.

Read and Speak
1. Record yourself speaking the words as they become visible in the “Read_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter3 folder as “yourname_rs”.

Word Challenge
1. Listen to the English words and phrases in the “Word_Challenge” file and speak their Potawatomi translation in the time allowed between words. This may take some practice. You may even want to write down your words in the correct order so you can keep up with the “Word_Challenge”.
2. Save the file in the Chapter3 folder as “yourname_wc”.

Other Resources

**Video Lecture - Basic Conversation**
Watch the video entitled “Basic Conversation”. This video is located in the video section of our website.
Chapter 4 - Introduction to Nouns

In Potawatomi, there are nouns, verbs, pronouns and many other words that make up the language. This chapter explains Potawatomi nouns.

Simply put, a noun is a word for a person, place or thing. Nouns can be animate or inanimate, and singular or plural. The sections below describe these states.

**Animate vs. Inanimate Nouns (living vs. non-living)**

Potawatomi uses a concept called Animacy to classify nouns. Though there are exceptions, most living things are called animate and most non-living things are inanimate.

- **Animate** nouns are living things such as animals, people, and some plants.
- **Inanimate** nouns are things like cups, plates, and forks.

English does not have an equivalent classification of Nouns.

In the Potawatomi language, things that are alive (animate) are treated differently than things that are not alive (inanimate).

**Animate Nouns**
- living things - people, animals, insects, and some plants
- spiritual things - ceremonial pipes and and some plants
- things in motion - moving cars
- celestial bodies - the sun, the moon, stars

**Inanimate Nouns**
- nonliving things - most food, rocks*
- man made things - blankets, cups, plates

*big rocks are considered animate

**O/I -- The / That**

The letters “o” and “i” are used to say “the”. If the noun is animate then you use “o” to say “the”. If it is an inanimate noun then you use “i” to say “the”.

The following examples demonstrate the difference between animate nouns and inanimate nouns. Notice how we are including the “o” and the “i” to say “the”.

Potawatomi Grammar Basics
Chapter 4 - Introduction to Nouns

**Animate - Living**
- o gigabe the boy
- o gigyago the girl
- o mko the bear

**Inanimate - Non-Living**
- I mbagen the bed
- I wzhebyegen the pen/pencil
- I pkwakwet the ball

Note - “o” and “I” also can mean “that”

**Exceptions**
Some words are animate or inanimate for reasons other than this chapter’s explanation. Just try to understand the general rules with Animacy and memorize exceptions as you come across them.

**Plural vs. Singular Nouns (One vs. More than One)**

Nouns come in many shapes and sizes. They also come in many quantities. You may have 1 pencil. This is a singular version of the noun “pencil”. You may have 19 pencils. This is the plural (more than one) form. Notice that the noun “pencil” changed from “pencil” to “pencils”. The “s” is the English way of making things plural. Potawatomi nouns are treated similar but you have to pay attention to the Animacy of the object.

Most of the time if a noun is animate you will add a “k”, “ek” or a “yek” to the end of the noun to make it plural. If the noun is inanimate you will add an “n”, “en” or “yen” to make it plural.

**Animate - Singular vs. Plural**

In English you add the suffix “s” to words to make nouns plural... “dogs, cats , and rats”. There are exceptions to this rule such as “men, women, deer, and people”. These words do not take an “s”. In Potawatomi, it is similar. There are general rules and there are exceptions. Many animate nouns take a “k”, “ek” or a “yek” to make them plural. Follow the rules below to change animate nouns to their plural form.

- Ends in a consonant, add an “ek”
  - nemosh - dog
  - nemoshek - dogs

- Ends in a vowel, add a “k” or “yek”
  - gigyago - girl
  - gigyagok - girls
gigya'goyek - girls
seksi - deer
seksik - deer (more than 1)

- Some animate words change a bit when the plural ending is added, but they still end in “k”
  kekyat - elder
  kekyajek - elders
  nene - man
  nenwek - men

**Inanimate - Singular vs. Plural**

In order to change inanimate nouns to a plural form, you need to add “n”, “en”, or “yen” to the end of the word.

- Ends in a consonant, add an “en”
  mzenegen - paper
  mzenegenen - papers

- Ends in a vowel, add an “n” or a “yen”
  bgoyane - rag
  bgoyaneyen - rags
  bewate - kerosene lantern
  bewateyen (also - bewategen) - kerosene lanterns

- Some inanimate words change a bit when the plural ending is added, but they still end in “n”
  shkemot - bag
  shkemden - bags
  pkwakwet - ball
  pkwakwedon - balls

**Animacy is a very important concept!**

Knowing the difference between animate and inanimate things is essential to learning this language. As you learn the language, try to always be aware of whether things are animate or inanimate. Eventually this understanding will become second nature.
**VOCABULARY BUILDER**

- **nitawes** - my cousin / friend
  - pronounced: nee tah wess

- **mzenegen** - paper
  - pronounced: meh zehn eh gehn

- **moewe** - wolf
  - pronounced: moh oh way

- **deschegen** - desk
  - pronounced: dess cheh gen

- **kno** - eagle
  - pronounced: geh noh

- **dopwen** - table
  - pronounced: doh pwehn

- **bsheke** - cow
  - pronounced: bsheh keh

- **waboyan** - blanket
  - pronounced: wah boh yahn

- **gokosh** - pig
  - pronounced: goh kohsh

- **kwabegas** - cup
  - pronounced: gwab eh gahs
AUDIO LESSON
Utilize the language lab to complete this exercise.

Listen and Speak
1. Record yourself speaking along with the "Listen_and_Speak" file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter4 folder as “yourname_ls”.

Read and Speak
1. Record yourself speaking the words as they become visible in the “Read_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter4 folder as “yourname_rs”.

Word Challenge
1. Listen to the English words and phrases in the “Word_Challenge” file and speak their Potawatomi translation in the time allowed between words. This may take some practice. You may even want to write down your words in the correct order so you can keep up with the “Word_Challenge”.
2. Save the file in the Chapter4 folder as “yourname_wc”.

Other Resources

Video Lecture - Animate and Inanimate Nouns
Watch the video entitled “Animacy”. This video is located in the video section of our website.
Demonstratives in Potawatomi are words that mean “this”, “that”, “these”, and “those”. Use these words to say things like “this dog”, “that horse”, “these children” and “those houses”. With the following demonstratives, you have to pay attention to the Animacy of the person, place, or thing that you are referring to. Use the first set of demonstratives below if you are referring to an animate (living) thing. Use the second set below if you are referring to an inanimate (non-living) thing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animate</th>
<th>Inanimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*ode</td>
<td>*ode</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>this</td>
<td>this</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o</td>
<td>i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>that</td>
<td>that</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gode</td>
<td>node</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>these</td>
<td>these</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gi</td>
<td>ni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>those</td>
<td>those</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note - “ode” also means “here” when handing something to someone.

**Eshi and Ago**

“Eshi” is also used to indicate things or people that are “over there”. “Ago” is another word for saying someone is “over there”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>eši</th>
<th>ago</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>that over there</td>
<td>that person over there</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Examples:** These words are useful when you are demonstrating where something is. Notice how the following examples use demonstratives to indicate which item the speaker is talking about.

nde-ton *ode* zhabnegnen. - I have this needle.
nmedagwendan *i* zhabnegnen. - I like that needle.

eshi nwabdan *i* zhabnegnen. I see that needle over there.

nde-tonen *node* zhabnegnen. - I have these needles.
nmedagwendanen *ni* zhabnegnen. - I like those needles.

eshi nwabdanen *ni* zhabnegnen. - I see those needles over there.

nde-sa *ode* waboso. - I have this rabbit.
nmedagwenma *o* waboso. - I like that rabbit.

eshi nwabma *o* waboso. I see that rabbit over there.

nde-sak *ode* wabosoyek. - I have these rabbits.
nmedawenmak *gi* wabosoyek. - I like those rabbits.

eshi nwabmak *gi* wabosoyek. - I see those rabbits over there.
More on Animacy

In the previous chapter we discussed Animacy. Things are animate when they are living, moving, celestial bodies, or used in a spiritual setting.

Inanimate things are non-living and man-made things. Once some plants are picked, or animals slaughtered for meat, they become inanimate.

An exception to this would be plants that are used in a spiritual way.

The vocabulary from this chapter includes some of the sacred plants of the Potawatomi. Nen sema is Indian Tobacco and is not often abused as regular tobacco is abused. Since nen sema is a spiritual plant, it is considered animate even after it is picked.

Practicing Demonstratives

Fill in the blanks with the correct demonstrative pronouns.

_________ seksiyek -- those deer

_________ waboyan -- this blanket

_________ seksi -- that deer

_________ kokosh -- this pig

_________ zhabnegen -- the needle

_________ zhabnegenen -- these needles

_________ waboyanen -- these blankets

_________ shkemoden -- these bags

_________ kokoshek -- these pigs

_________ nemosh -- the dog

_________ pkweshgen -- the bread
Chapter 5 - Demonstratives

VOCABULARY BUILDER

séma - tobacco
pronounced - seh mah

wabshkebyak - sage
pronounced - wahb shkeh byahk

nên séma - Indian Tobacco
pronounced - nin seh mah

shkemot - bag
pronounced shkeh moht

wishgbemishgos - sweetgrass
pronounced - weesh gbeh meesh gohs

semawayan - tobacco bag
pronounced - seh mah oh yan

kishge - cedar
pronounced - keesh geh

zhabnegen - needle
pronounced - zhabh neh gehn

sebabis - thread
pronounced - seh bah bees

mdomnes - bead
pronounced - mdoh mnehs

answers for fill in the blank lesson: gi, ode, o, ode, i, node, node, node, gode, o, i
Chapter 5 - Demonstratives

**AUDIO LESSON**
Utilize the language lab to complete this exercise.

**Listen and Speak**
1. Record yourself speaking along with the “Listen_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter5 folder as “yourname_ls”.

**Read and Speak**
1. Record yourself speaking the words as they become visible in the “Read_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter5 folder as “yourname_rs”.

**Word Challenge**
1. Listen to the English words and phrases in the “Word_Challenge” file and speak their Potawatomi translation in the time allowed between words. This may take some practice. You may even want to write down your words in the correct order so you can keep up with the “Word_Challenge”.
2. Save the file in the Chapter5 folder as “yourname_wc”.

**Other Resources**

**Video Lecture - Demonstrative Pronouns**
Watch the video entitled “Demonstrative Pronouns”. This video is located in the video section of our website.
Chapter 6 - Verb Conjugation

This chapter will go over conjugation, persons, English pronouns, Potawatomi pronouns, and short/long conjugation.

Conjugation Basics

What Is Conjugation?
Conjugation is a simple concept once you realize that you conjugate verbs every time you say a sentence. When you say “I run fast” and “she runs fast” you are conjugating the verb “run”. Notice how it changes from “run” to “runs”. This change is conjugation. Once you understand how to conjugate verbs, it will unlock an important dimension of the language.

Persons
Have you ever heard the terms 1st person, 2nd person, and 3rd person? When using verbs it is essential to know who is doing the action. Below is a list of 3 persons doing something...

I run
you run
he runs

The above sentences have the words I, you, and he which represent which persons are running. The verb conjugates a bit different when you are talking about 3rd person he/she.

Think of “persons” in this way... if you were in a room talking to someone, you would refer to yourself as “I” and you would be the 1st person. The person you are talking to is the 2nd person, "you". If you were talking about someone else in the room, they would be 3rd person, he/she.

1st - I run to the store. I walk the streets.
2nd - You run to the store. You walk the streets.
3rd - He runs to the store. He walks the streets.

Potawatomi has a naming system for verbs that are conjugated. Instead of 1st, 2nd, 3rd person, Potawatomi has nin, gin and win. There is also ninan, ginan, ginwa and winwa.
Let's look at some Potawatomi verbs in action.

nbekte - I am hungry
gbekte - you are hungry
pkete (also pketewak) - he/she is hungry
nbektemen - we, but not you, are hungry
gbektemen - we all are hungry
gbektem - you all are hungry
pketek (also pketewak) - they are hungry

Notice the difference between Potawatomi and English. English uses whole words to say "I am..., you are..., he/she is...". Potawatomi uses a prefix and a suffix.

nin
nbekte ---- n + bekte ---- the “n” prefix means “I”

gin
gbekte ---- g + bekte ---- the “g” prefix means “you”

win
pkete ---- this is the he/she form. This can also be spelled with a “wak” at the end -- pketewak

ninan
nbektemen ---- n + bekte + men ---- the “n” prefix and the “men” suffix mean “we, but not you”

ginan
gbektemen ---- g + bekte + men ---- the “g” prefix and the “men” suffix mean “we all”.

ginwa
gbektem ---- g + bekte + m ---- the “g” prefix and the “m” suffix mean “you all”. This is plural of “you”.

winwa
pketek ---- pkete + k ---- the “k” suffix means “they”. This is plural of “he/she”

English has 1st, 2nd, and 3rd person, Potawatomi has nin, gin, win, ninan, ginan, ginwa, and winwa. These words just represent who is doing the action in the sentence. In the nin form, “I” am doing something. In the gin form, “you” are doing something. You will not actually say nin or gin, but it is good to memorize these words and start thinking about them when you write out sentences.
nin nwisen - I am eating.
gin gwisen.- you are eating.
win wisne - he/she eats
ninan nwisnenen - we, but not you, eat
ginan gwisnemen - we all eat
ginwa gwisnem - you all eat
winwa wisnik - they eat

Potawatomi Personal Pronouns

Normally you won't actually say nin, gin, win, ninan, ginan, ginwa, or winwa, but these words can also be used to place special emphasis on a person.

nin I
gin you
win he, she
ninan we, but not you
ginan we
ginwa you all
winwa they

Nin wishna, nwi-maji.
As for me, I am leaving.

I she an we, gin je?
Everything is okay, and you?
Short and Long Conjugation

Short and Long form conjugation are two different ways to do the same thing in Potawatomi. This is how you conjugate a verb in the present tense, and this is how you will see most verbs conjugated.

First of all a prefix is added to the verb root. You will add an "n", "g", or "w" to indicate who is doing the action.

The long form has an extra "de" in the prefix. This "de" indicates the present tense. The "n", the "g", and the "w" are combined with the "de" to make up the full prefix.

**Long**
- nde-kikto - i talk
- gde-kikto - you talk
- wde-kikto - he/she talks
- nde-kiktomen - we, but not you, talk
- gde-kiktomen - we all talk
- gde-kiktom - you all talk
- wde-kiktok - they talk

The short form just drops that "de" and simply adds an "n", "g", or "w" to the beginning of the verbs to tell us who is doing the action.

**Short**
- nkikto - i talk
- gkikto - you talk
- (w)kikto - he/she talks
- nkiktomen - we, but not you, talk
- gkiktomen - we all talk
- gkiktom - you all talk
- (w)kiktok - they talk

Try not to over think this. It is just two different ways to do the same thing. Some verbs in Potawatomi will only conjugate with short or long form, but most of the time either is acceptable.
VOCABULARY BUILDER

pkete - he/she is hungry
pronounced - p keh teh

zhye - he/she goes
pronounced - zhee eh

depseni - he/she is full
pronounced - deh pseh nee

maji - he/she leaves
pronounced - mah jee

wisne - he/she eats
pronounced - wee sneh

bye - he/she is coming
pronounced - bee yeh

mikchewi - he/she works
pronounced - mee kcheh wee

bmose - he/she walks
pronounced - beh moh seh

dnekmegze - he/she plays
pronounced - dne kmuh gze

bmepto - he/she runs
pronounced - beh mup toh
Listen and Speak
1. Record yourself speaking along with the “Listen_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter6 folder as “yourname_ls”.

Read and Speak
1. Record yourself speaking the words as they become visible in the “Read_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter6 folder as “yourname_rs”.

Word Challenge
1. Listen to the English words and phrases in the “Word_Challenge” file and speak their Potawatomi translation in the time allowed between words. This may take some practice. You may even want to write down your words in the correct order so you can keep up with the “Word_Challenge”.
2. Save the file in the Chapter6 folder as “yourname_wc”.

Other Resources

**Video Lecture - Verb Conjugation Introduction**
Watch the video entitled “Verb Conjugation introduction”. This video is located in the video section of our website.

**Video Lecture - Short and Long Form Conjugation**
Watch the video entitled “Short and Long Form Conjugation”. This video is located in the video section of our website.
Word order in Potawatomi is much more flexible than word order in English. In English, the order of words is crucial to the meaning of the sentence. If you jumble up an English sentence, it loses its meaning. Potawatomi is similar, but there is a bit more flexibility in how you can arrange your words in a sentence.

For instance, the English sentence “the boy has a shoe” makes sense until you jumble up the words. The following sentences do not sound right even though you may understand the meaning…

- a shoe the boy has
- the boy a shoe has

Potawatomi word order is more flexible than English. The following sentences both mean “the boy has the shoe” even though they are mixed up.

- gigabe wde-ton i mkesen
- mkesen wde-ton o gigabe

wde-ton and wde-san

Wde-ton and wde-san are verbs in Potawatomi that mean “he/she has something”. This is another example of how Animacy is so important in the language. If you “have” something animate, you will use the verb “wde-san”. If you “have” something inanimate, you will use “wde-ton”.

There are two ways to write each sentence, notice how the “o” isn’t used in the reverse order.

- nde-sa o moewe - I have the wolf
- gde-sa o moewe - you have the wolf
- *wde-san ni moewen - he/she has the wolf
- nde-ton i pkweshegen - I have the bread
- gde-ton i pkweshegen - you have the bread
- wde-ton i pkweshegen - he/she has the bread

*Notice how in the “win” form (3rd person) we added an “n” to the end of “wde-sa” and “moewe”. We also used “ni” instead of “o”. This must be done when an animate 3rd person thing is doing something to another animate 3rd person thing. In this case “he/she” is “having” the “wolf”. An animate thing (he or she) is doing something (having) an animate thing (the wolf). This may not come up often, but you will see this occur in the language.
Word Order is an important concept to understand, but it is also important to understand how negatives work with the language. Negative Word Order refers to how you would use a negative statement in Potawatomi. For instance instead of saying that you "are going to a movie", you might want to say that you "are not going to a movie". The "are not" is a negative verb.

This section will introduce this concept. We will explore this topic in more depth in a later chapter.

Making Potawatomi Verbs Negative

To make Potawatomi verbs negative you must do the following things to the verb...

1. Cho (also written as "Ttho") - Use the word "ttho" before the verb. Saying "cho" is like saying "no". It is a negative word.

2. Si - Use the word part "si" at or near the end of your verb to make it negative.

   Examples:
   nwi-maji - i am going to leave
   cho nwi-majisi - i'm not going to leave

   Odanek nde-zhya - I'm going to town
   Cho wi odanek nde-zhyasi - I'm not going to town

   gmikchewi - you are working
   cho gmikchewisi - you are not working

   wisne - she is eating
   cho wisnesi - she is not eating
Yes/No Questions with “ne”

When you are asking a yes or no question, you will use the word “ne”. This word usually shows up as the second word in the sentence.

Gbekte ne? - Are you hungry?
Ehe, nbekte. - Yes, I am hungry.

Gnchiwenmo ne ngom? - Are you happy today?
Cho, nchiwenmosi. - No, I am not happy.

Gwabma ne o otthedemo? - Do you see that squirrel?
Ehe, nwabma o otthedemo. - Yes, I see the squirrel.

Gwi-bya ne? - Are you coming?
Cho, nw-byasi. - No, I’m not coming.

John ne gde-zhnekas? - Is your name John?
Ehe, John nde-zhnekas. - Yes, I am called John.

Gde-dnekmeges ne? - Are you playing?
Ehe, nde-dnekmeges. Yes, I am playing.

Dnekmegze ne? - Is she playing?
Cho dnekmegzesi. - No, she isn’t playing.
Questions and Answers

The following questions and answers use verbs in the nin, gin, and win forms.

Gbekte ne? - Are you hungry?
Ehe, nbekte. - Yes, I am hungry

Gbekte ne? - Are you hungry?
Cho, nbektesi. - No I’m not hungry?

Pkete ne? - Is she hungry?
Ehe, pkete. - Yes, she is hungry.

Gdepseni ne? - Are you full?
Ehe ndepseni. - Yes, I am full.

Wisne ne? - Is he eating?
Cho wi, wdepseni. No, he is full.

Wisne ne? - Is he eating?
Ehe, pkete. - Yes, he is hungry.

Gmikchewi ne? - Are you working?
Cho, nmikchewisi. - No, i’m not working.

Gmikchewi ne? - Are you working?
Ehe, Nmikchewi. - Yes, I am working.

Gmikchewi ne? - Are you working?
Cho wi, nde-dnekmeges. - No, I'm playing.

Odanek ne gde-zhya? - Are you going to town?
Ehe, odanek nde-zhya. - Yes, I’m going to town.

Gde-bmose ne? - Are you walking?
Cho wi, nde-bmepto. - No, I’m running.
Chapter 7 - Word Order

**VOCABULARY BUILDER**

- **wde-ton** - he/she has s.t. inanimate
  - pronounced - ow deh tohn

- **wde-san** - he/she has s.t. inanim.
  - pronounced - ow deh sah

- **mine** - and
  - pronounced - mee neh

- **anake** - or
  - pronounced - ah nah keh

- **nekdosha** - horse
  - pronounced - nehk doh
  - shah

- **getemi** - porcupine
  - pronounced - geh teh mee

- **peneshi** - bird
  - pronounced - peh neh shee

- **biskowagen** - coat
  - pronounced - bee skoh wah
  - gehn

- **otthedemo** - squirrel
  - pronounced - oh cheh deh
  - moh

- **wikkwan** - hat or cap
  - pronounced - wee oh kwahn
Listen and Speak
1. Record yourself speaking along with the “Listen_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter7 folder as “yourname_ls”.

Read and Speak
1. Record yourself speaking the words as they become visible in the “Read_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter7 folder as “yourname_rs”.

Word Challenge
1. Listen to the English words and phrases in the “Word_Challenge” file and speak their Potawatomi translation in the time allowed between words. This may take some practice. You may even want to write down your words in the correct order so you can keep up with the “Word_Challenge”.
2. Save the file in the Chapter7 folder as “yourname_wc”.

Utilize the language lab to complete this exercise.
yes/no questions with “ne”
Simple “yes/no” questions are made by using the word “ne”. Usually “ne” is the second word in a sentence and it turns the sentence into a question.


gde-bmose - you are walking
gde-bmose ne? - are you walking?
ehe nde-bmose. - yes i’m walking.

gde-bmepto - you are running
gde-bmepto ne? - are you running?
Cho nde-bmeptosi. - no, i’m not running.

gwabma o mko - you see the bear
gwabma ne o mko? - do you see that bear?
cho, ni pi je o mko? - no, where is the bear?

Charlie gde-zhnekas - you are called Charlie
Charlie ne gde-zhnekas? - are you called Charlie?
ehe, Charlie nde-zhnekas. - yes, I’m called Charlie.

Question Words
Use the following words to ask simple questions. We will refer to them as “question words”.

wi ni tthe who
ni tthe what
weg wni tthe what or why
ni pi tthe where
ni tthe pi when
ni tthe how
ni tthe tso how much, how many

These question words can be used with the demonstratives “this, that, these, those, those over there” to ask simple but descriptive questions.
Who...
Wi ni tthe o?
Who is that?

Wi ni tthe o gigabe?
Who is that boy?

Wi ni tthe gi?
Who are they?

Wi ni tthe gi gigyagok?
Who are those girls?

What...
Weg wni tthe i?
What is that?

Weg wni tthe ni?
What are those?

Weg wni tthe ode?
What is this?

If you don’t know what something is, 
use the inanimate I, and ni.

When...
Ni tthe pi wa-majiyen?
When are you leaving?

Ni tthe pi wa-dbeshkayen?
When is your birthday?

How...
Ni tthe na?
How are you?

Ni tthe e pi chiyak i edayen?
How far is it to your house?

How much, How many...
Ni tthe etso dbegenek?
What time is it? (How many hours?)

Ni tthe e tso pon gezyen?
How old are you?

Where...
Ni pi tthe i koman?
Where is the knife?

Ni pi tthe o Jennie?
Where is Jennie?

Ni pi tthe ni mbagenen?
Where are those beds?

Ni pi tthe gi seksiyek?
Where are those deer?
Chapter 8 - Asking Questions

VOCABULARY BUILDER

**wi ni tthe** - who
pronounced - wee nee jeh

**ni tthe** - what, how
pronounced - nee jeh

**weg wni tthe** - what
pronounced - wehg weh nee jeh

**ni tthe pi** - when
pronounced - nee jeh pee

**ni pi tthe** - where
pronounced - nee pee jeh

**ni tthe tso** - how many
pronounced - nee jeht seh

**mtek** - tree
pronounced - mm tuck

**sen** - rock
pronounced - sen

**msen** - firewood
pronounced - meh sen

**mishgos** - grass
pronounced - meesh gohs
Listen and Speak
1. Record yourself speaking along with the “Listen_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter8 folder as “yourname_ls”.

Read and Speak
1. Record yourself speaking the words as they become visible in the “Read_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter8 folder as “yourname_rs”.

Word Challenge
1. Listen to the English words and phrases in the “Word_Challenge” file and speak their Potawatomi translation in the time allowed between words. This may take some practice. You may even want to write down your words in the correct order so you can keep up with the “Word_Challenge”.
2. Save the file in the Chapter8 folder as “yourname_wc”.
Commands

Commands are simple to do in Potawatomi. In most cases you simply take the “win” (he/she) form of a verb and add an “n” to the end. If you are commanding more than one person, add a “k” instead.

- maji - he/she leave
- majin - leave! (commanding one)
- majik - leave! (commanding more than one)

- wisne - he/she eats
- wisnen - eat! (commanding one)
- wisnek - eat! (commanding more than one)

- doki - he/she wakes up
- dokin - wake up! (commanding one)
- dokik - wake up! (commanding more than one)

Prohibitive Commands

Prohibitive commands are much like regular commands, but you are commanding someone NOT to do something. If you are prohibiting one person, say “gego” and then the verb with the “ken” suffix. If you are prohibiting more than one, do the same, but use a “k” at the end instead of an “n”

- maji - he/she leaves
  - gego majiken - don’t leave! (prohibiting one)
  - gego majikek - don’t leave! (prohibiting more than one)

- binchege - he/she cleans
  - gego binchegeken - don’t clean (prohibiting one)!
  - gego binchegekek - don’t clean! (prohibiting more than one)
Example Sentences

byan zhode - come here!
byak zhode - come here! (to more than one)

gego byaken zhode - don't come here!
gego byakek zhode - don't come here! (to more than one)

zhyan ibe - go there!
zhyak ibe - go there! (to more than one)

gego zhyaken ibe - don't go there!
gego zhyakek ibe - don't go there! (to more than one)

binchegeken ibe! - clean over there!
binchegek ibe! - clean over there! (to more than one)

gego binchegeken zhode - don't clean here!
gego binchegekek zhode - don't clean here! (to more than one)
Review - Zhenkaso

The word Zhenkaso means "he/she is called something". Practice the following sentences using "zhenkaso".

nde-zhnekas - I am called
Jon nde-zhnekas - my name is Jon
Mary nde-zhnekas - my name is mary
Jim ne nde-zhnekas? - is my name jim?

gde-zhnekas - you are called
Gabby gde-zhnekas - you are called Gabby
Sam gde-zhnekas - you are called Sam
Tony ne gde-zhnekas? - are you called Tony?

zhenkaso - he/she is called
Josh zhenkaso - he is called Josh
mko zhenkaso - his name is bear
Rita zhenkaso - her name is Rita

ni je ezhnekasyen? - what are you called?

ni je ezhnekaset? - what is he/her called?
### VOCABULARY BUILDER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>majin</td>
<td>leave</td>
<td>mah jeen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dapanen</td>
<td>pick it up</td>
<td>dahp nehn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>byan</td>
<td>come</td>
<td>bee yahn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nibwen</td>
<td>stand up</td>
<td>nee bwehn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zhyan</td>
<td>go</td>
<td>zhee ahn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tthibedeben</td>
<td>sit down</td>
<td>chi beh deh behr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dokin</td>
<td>wake up</td>
<td>doh keen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zhode</td>
<td>here</td>
<td>zhoh deh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bincheegen</td>
<td>clean up</td>
<td>been cheh gehn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ibe</td>
<td>over there</td>
<td>ee beh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Listen and Speak
1. Record yourself speaking along with the “Listen_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter9 folder as “yourname_ls”.

Read and Speak
1. Record yourself speaking the words as they become visible in the “Read_and_Speak” file.
2. Save the file in the Chapter9 folder as “yourname_rs”.

Word Challenge
1. Listen to the English words and phrases in the “Word_Challenge” file and speak their Potawatomi translation in the time allowed between words. This may take some practice. You may even want to write down your words in the correct order so you can keep up with the “Word_Challenge”.
2. Save the file in the Chapter9 folder as “yourname_wc”.

Potawatomi Grammar Basics
Glossary

ahaw - okay
anake - or
espen - raccoon (noun)
bama - later
bama mine - later again
bama pi - later on
binchegen - clean up (command)
biskowagen - coat, shirt (noun)
bmepto - he or she runs (verb)
bmose - he or she walks (verb)
bosho - hello
bsheke - cow (noun)
byan - come (command)
bye - he or she comes (verb)
chikazo - he or she plays (southern verb - also see dnekmegze for the northern version)
dapnen - pick it up (command)
depseni - he or she is full (verb)
deschegen - desk (noun)
dnekmegze - he or she plays (northern verb - also see chikaso for the southern version)
dokin - wake up (command)
dopwen - table (noun)
getemi - porcupine (noun)
gigabe - boy (noun)
gigyago - girl (noun)
gin je - and you
haw - hi
i she anwe - everything is sort of okay
ibe - there
kekyat - elder (noun)
kishge - cedar (noun)
kno - eagle (noun)
kokosh - pig (noun)
kwabegas - cup (noun)
kwe - woman (noun)
maji - he or she leaves (verb)
majin - leave (command)
mayos - cat (noun)
mbagen - bed (noun)
mdomnes - bead (noun)
mikchewii - he or she works (verb)
mine - and
mishgos - grass (noun)
mko - bear (noun)
moewe - wolf (noun)
msen - firewood (noun)
mtek - tree (noun)
mzenegen - paper (noun)
nekdosha - horse (noun)
nemosh - dog (noun)
nen sema - Indian tobacco (noun)
nene - man (noun)
neshnabe - Indian (noun)
ni pi tthe - where (question word)
ni tthe - how, what (question word)
ni tthe na - how are you?
ni tthe pi - when (question word)
ni tthe tso - how many (question word)
nibwen - stand up (command)
nitawes - cousin, friend (noun)
otthedemo - squirrel (noun)
pedyebwen - chair (noun)
peneshi - bird (noun)
penoje - child (noun)
penojes - baby (noun)
pkete - he or she is hungry (verb)
pkwakwet - ball (noun)
sebabis - thread (noun)
seksi - deer (noun)
sema - tobacco (noun)
semawyan - tobacco pouch (noun)
sen - rock (noun)
shkemot - bag, pouch (noun)
tthibedeben - sit down (command - also spelled jibedeben)
waboso - rabbit (noun)
waboyan - blanket (noun)
wabshkebyak - sage (noun)
wdabyan - car (noun)
wde-san - he or she has something animate (verb)
wde-ton - he or she has something inanimate (verb)
weg wni the - what (question word)
wi ni the - who (question word)
wigwam - house (noun)
wishgbemishgos - sweet grass (noun)
wisne - he or she eats (verb)
wiwkwan - hat (noun)
wzhebyegen - pen, pencil (noun)
zhabnegen - needle (noun)
zhenkaso - he or she is called (verb - used for names)
zhode - here
zyhe - he or she goes (verb)