

Appendix H. Some Basic French / Ojibwe

French / People and Places of the Post

Les Personnes et les endroits de la Post

[(ley) (pair-sun) (ay) (ley-zehng-dwat) (der) (la) (post)]

palisade	-	le fort (ler) (for)
voyageur camp	-	le camp des voyageurs (ler) (cahng) (dey) (vwah-yah-jsher)
Indian village	-	le camp des autochtones (ler) (cahng) (dey) (ok-tok-ton)
bourgeois' quarters	-	la maison de Bourgeois (la) (may-zong) (der) (bor-jshwah)
company store	-	le magasin (ler) (mah-gah-zehng)
canoe shed	-	l'abri des canots (lah-bree) (dey) (kah-no)
wharf	-	le quai (ler) (kay)
flag pole	-	la hampe de drapeau (la) (ahngp) (der) (drah-po)
flag	-	le drapeau (ler) (drah-po)
fur press	-	la presse (lah) (press)
gate	-	l'entrée (lahng-treh)
Bourgeois	-	le bourgeois (ler) (bor-jshwah)
Clerk	-	le commis (ler) (ko-mee)
Voyageur	-	le voyageur (ler) (vwah-yah-jsher)
Blacksmith	-	le forgeron (ler) (for-jsher-rong)
Cook	-	le cuisinier (kwee-zee-nair)
Indian man / woman	-	l'autochtone (lok-tok-ton)
Front person in the canoe	-	l'avant (law-vahng) (m)
Back person in the canoe	-	le gouvernail (ler) (goo-vair-nigh)
Middle person in the canoe	-	le milieu (ler) (me-yer) / les milieux (lay) (me-yer) [plural]
Singer	-	le chanteur (ler) (shan-tur)
Group of Canoes	-	une Brigade (oon) (bree-gahd)

jsh = the **s** in pleasure

ng = the preceding vowel is pronounced nasally, the **ng** should not be pronounced

er = the **er** in brother, without any **r**-sound

French contains many sounds that do not exist in American English. The pronunciation guides in this document are American English sounds that closely relate to those that exist in French.

Fur Trade Verbs / Les Verbes de la traite de fourrure [(lay) (vairb) (der) (la) (trette) (der) (foo-ru-r)]

to canoe	-	faire du canoë [(fair) (doo) (kah-no-ay)]
to load the canoe	-	charger le canoë [(shar-jshay) (ler) (kah-no-ay)]
to unload the canoe	-	decharger le canoë [(dey-shar-jshay) (ler) (kah-no-ay)]
to put up the tent	-	monter une tente [(mong-tey) (oon) (taunt)]
to take down the tent	-	demonter une tente [(dey-mong-tey) (oon) (taunt)]
to look for wood	-	chercher du bois [(shair-shey) (doo) (bwah)]
to cook	-	faire le cuisine [(fair) (ler) (kwee-zeen)]
to make a fire	-	faire un feu [(fair) (ung) (fer)]
to split wood	-	fendre du bois [(fehng-dreh) (doo) (bwah)]
to get water	-	chercher de l'eau [(shair-shey) (der) (low)]
to trade	-	faire de la traite [(fair) (der) (la) (trette)]

What are you going to do? - Qu'est-ce que tu vas faire?
[(keh-ser-ker) (too) (vah) (fair)?]

I am going to _____. - Je vais _____.
[(jsher) (vay) _____.]

"ne...pas" (ner...pah) forms a negative sentence.

Example:

I am not going to _____. - Je ne vais pas _____.
[(jsher) (ner) (vay) (pah) _____.]

Items of the Fur Trade

Les Articles de la Traite de Fourrure

[(ley-zar-tee-kler) (der) (la) (trette) (der) (foo-roo-r)]

Canoe	-	un canoë (uhng) (kah-no-ay)
		un canot (uhng) (kah-no)
Paddle	-	une pagaie (oon) (pah-gay)
Kettle	-	une casserole (oon) (kah-se-roll)
Trade gun	-	un fusil (uhng) (fu-see)
Shirt	-	une chemise (oon) (sh-meez)
Blanket	-	une couverture (oon) (coo-vair-ture)
Fish hook	-	un hameçon (uhnaw-m-song)
Flint and steel	-	silex et acier [(see-lex) (ay) (aw-see-yay)]
Hatchet	-	une hachette (oon) (aw-shette)
Tent	-	une tente (oon) (taunt)
Bead	-	une perle (oon) (pairl)
Split pea soup	-	la Rubbaboo (la) (roo-bah-boo)
What do you have?	-	Qu'est-ce que tu as? [(keh-ser-ker) (too) (ah)?]
I have _____.	-	J'ai _____ [(jshay) _____.]

Nature and Directions / La nature et Les Directions

[(la) (nah-tur) (ay) (ley) (dee-rek-see-ong)]

River	-	la fleuve (la) (flurv)
	-	la rivière (la) (ree-vee-air)
Lake	-	le lac (ler) (lak)
Rapids	-	les rapides (ley) (rah-peed) (m)
Waterfall	-	la chute (la) (shoot)
	-	la chute d'eau (la) (shoot) (dough)
Forest	-	la forêt (la) (fo-ray)
Swamp	-	le marais (ler) (mah-ray)
Portage	-	le portage (ler) (pour-tahjsh)
North	-	le Nord (ler) (nor)
South	-	le Sud (ler) (sued)
East	-	l'est (lehst)
West	-	l'ouest (loohst)

Where are you going? - Où vas-tu? [(oo) (va) (too)?]

I am going to _____ . - Je vais à _____ . (â + le = au (o)) (â + les = aux(o))
[(jsher) (vay) (ah) _____ .]

Seasons and Weather / Les saisons et Le temp

[(ley) (say-song) (ay) (ler) (tawng)]

Winter	-	l'hiver (lee-vair)
Summer	-	l'été (lay-tay)
Spring	-	le Printemp (ler) (prang - tahng)
Fall	-	l'automne (lo-tome)
Snow	-	la neige (la) (nehjsh)
Rain	-	la pluie (la) (plouie)
Sun	-	le soleil (ler) (so-ley)

What do you like? - Qu'est-ce que tu aime?
[(keh-ser-ker) (too) (em)?]

I like _____ . - J'aime _____ .
[(jshem) _____ .]

It's snowing.	-	Il neige. [(eel) (nehjsh)]
It's raining.	-	Il pleut. [(eel) (pleur)]
It's nice.	-	Il fait beau. [(eel) (fay) (bo)]
It's hot.	-	Il fait chaud. [(eel) (fay) (show)]
It's cold.	-	Il fait froid. [(eel) (fay) (frwah)]
What's the weather?	-	Quel temp fait-il? [(kel) (tawng) (fay) (teal)?]

Animals / Les Animaux (lay-zah-nee-moe)

Beaver	-	un castor (uhng) (kah-store)
Moose	-	l'original (low-ree-nahl)
Deer-stag	-	un cerf (uhng) (sair)
-doe	-	une biche (oon) (bee-sh)
Duck	-	un canard (uhng) (kah-nar)
Geese	-	un oie (ung) (wa) (f)
Fox	-	un renard (uhng) (re-nar)
Wolf	-	un loup (uhng) (lou)
Bear	-	l'ours (loorse) (m)
Raccoon	-	un raton laveur (uhng) (rah-tong) (la-vur)
Fish	-	un poisson (uhng) (pwah-song)
Squirrel	-	un écureuil (uhnay-keh-roy)

Who ate the Rubbaboo? - Qui a mangé le Rubbaboo?
[(key) (ah) (mahng-jshay) (ler) (roo-ba-boo)?]

_____ ate the Rubbaboo. _____ a mangé le Rubbaboo.
[_____ (ah) (mahng-jshay) (ler) (roo-ba-boo).]

Plants / Les Plantes (lay) (plangt)

Trees	-	les arbres (lay-zar-brah)
Birch	-	le bouleau (ler) (boo-low)
Maple	-	l'érable (leyrahbl)
Oak	-	la chene (la) (shen)
Pine	-	le sapin (ler) (sa-ping)
Berries	-	les fruites de bois [(ley) (frooee) (der) (bwah)]
Strawberries	-	les fraises (ley) (frehz)
Raspberries	-	les framboises (ley) (frahng-bwahz)
Cranberries	-	les canneberges (ley) (kan-bearjsh) (<i>Canadian term</i>)
Blueberries	-	les bluets (ley) (bler-ay)

What plant do you like? - Quelle plante aimes-tu?
[(kel) (plangt) (em) (too)?]

I like _____. - J'aime _____.
[jshem _____.]

Basic Language / La Langage Elementaire

[(la) (lahng -gajsh) (ay-ley-mahng -tair)]

Hello	-	Bonjour (bong-zhoor)
Goodbye	-	Au revoir (o-re-vwahr)
See you later	-	A tantôt (ah-taung-toe) (<i>canadian term</i>)
How are you?	-	Ça va? (saw-vaw)
I'm fine.	-	Ça va. (saw-vaw) C'est pas pire. [(say) (pa) (pier)] (<i>canadian term</i>)
yes / no	-	oui (wee) / non (nong)
to the right	-	à droite (ah) (dwaht)
to the left	-	à gauche (ah) (gojsh)
straight ahead	-	tout droit (too) (dwah)
up	-	en haut (ong) (o)
down	-	en bas (ong) (bah)

"ne...pas" (ner...pah) forms a negative sentence.

I know	-	Je sais. [(jsher) (say)]
I don't know	-	Je ne sais pas. [(jsher) (ner) (say) (pah)]
I speak French	-	Je parle Français. [(jsher) (parl) (frahng -say)]
I don't speak French	-	Je ne parle pas Français. [(jsher) (ner) (parl) (pah) (frahng -say)]
I understand.	-	Je comprends. [(jsher) (cong -prehng)]
I don't understand.	-	Je ne comprends pas. [(jsher) (ner) (cong -prehng) (pah).]

Questions / Les Questionnes

(ley) (keh-see-ong)

Type A: Questions can be formed by inverting the noun and the verb of a simple sentence.

example:	You are ...	-	Tu es (too) (ay) ...
	Are you ...?	-	Es-tu (ay) (too) ...?

Type B: Questions can also be formed with the proper use of the following words.

How	-	Comment (ko-mo)
Who	-	Qui (key)
Where	-	Où (oo)
Which	-	Quel (kel)
What	-	Qu'est-ce que (keh-ser-ker)
When	-	Quand (kahng)
Why	-	Pourquoi (poor-kwah)
isn't that right?	-	n'est-ce pas? (nes-pah)?

Family / La Famille (la) (fah-me)

my father	-	mon père (mong) (pair)
my mother	-	ma mère (ma) (mair)
my brother	-	mon frère (mong) (frair)
my sister	-	ma sœur (ma) (sir)
my son	-	mon fils (mong) (feese)
my daughter	-	ma fille (ma) (fee)
my grandfather	-	mon grandpère (mong) (grahng-pair)
my grandmother	-	ma grandmère (ma) (grahng-mair)
my aunt	-	ma tante (ma) (tahngt)
my uncle	-	mon oncle (mo-nongkl)
my cousin	-	mon cousin (mong) (coo-sehng) (<i>boy cousin</i>) ma cousine (ma) (coo-zeen) (<i>girl cousin</i>)

Who is in the canoe? - Qui est dans le canoë?
[(key) (ay) (dang) (ler) (kah-no-ay)?]

_____ is in the canoe. - _____ est dans le canoë.
[_____ (ay) (dang) (ler) (kah-no-ay).]

Numbers / Les Numèro (ley) (noo-mair-o)

1	-	(uhng)	20	-	(vehng)
2	-	(der)			
3	-	(twah)	30	-	(trahngt)
4	-	(kahtreh)			
5	-	(sank)	40	-	(kah-rahngt)
6	-	(seese)			
7	-	(set)	50	-	(sehng-kahngt)
8	-	(wheat)			
9	-	(nerf)	60	-	(swah-sahngt)
10	-	(deese)			
11	-	(ongz)	70	-	(swah-sahngt-deese)
12	-	(dooze)			
13	-	(trehz)	80	-	(kahtreh-vehng)
14	-	(kah-torz)			
15	-	(kans)	90	-	(kahtreh-vehng-deese)
16	-	(says)			
17	-	(deese-set)	100	-	
18	-	(deese-wheat)			
19	-	(deese-nerf)			

Fur Trade Phrases / Les expressions de la Traite de Fourrure [(ley-zek-preh-see-ong) (der) (la) (trette) (der) (foo-ru-r)]

Let's go	-	on y va (o-nee-vah)
Light up	-	Allumez (ah-loo-may)
Where is the portage?	-	Où est le portage [(oo) (ay) (ler) (poor-tawjsh)]
The portage is over there.	-	Le portage est là-bas. [(le) (poor-tawjsh) (ay) (lah-bah).]
The five toasts of the fur trade	-	To the Virgin, mother of all the saints A la Vierge, la Mère a tous les saints (ah) (la) (vee-airg), (la) (mair) (ah) (too) (lay) (sang)
		To the King Au Roi (o) (wa)
		To the fur trade and all its branches A la traite de fourrure et tous ses branches (ah) (la) (trette) (der) (foo-ru-r) (ay) (too) (sey) (brahngsh)
		To voyageurs, their wives and their children Aux voyageurs, leurs femmes, et leurs enfants (o) (vwah-yah-jsher) (ler) (fahm) (ay) (ler) (zehng-fahng)
		To the absent members Aux membres absents (o) (mahng-brer) (ahb-sahnt)
Get in the canoe	-	Entrez (ehng-trey)
Get out of the canoe	-	Sortez (sore-tey)

Ojibwe / The Seasons

Biboon

Aagim	Snowshoes
Giigido	S/he is speaking
Giigidon	Speak!
Bizindam	S/he is listening
Bizindan	Listen!
Ozhibii'ige	S/he is writing
Ozhibii'igen	Write!
Agingaaso	S/he is reading
Agingaazon	Read!
Daga	Please

Ziigwan

Ishkode
Mishi (pl. misan)
Akik
Asemaa
Abwi
Ziinzibaakwad
Naadoobii
Nibi
Giigoo
Mookomaan
Giigooyike
Mitig
Miskwaawaak
Wiigwaasmitig
Wiigobaatig
Anit
Gimiwan

It is Spring

Fire
Firewood
Kettle
Tobacco
Paddle
Maple sugar
S/he gathers sap
Water
Fish
Knives
S/he is fishing
Trees
Red cedar
Birch
Basswood
Spears
It is raining

Dagwaagin

Aki	Earth
Giizis	Sun, moon
Okosimaan	Pumpkins
Mandaamin	Corn
Opin	Potatoes
Gichi-ogin	Tomatoes
Manoomin	Wild rice
Manoominike	S/he is wild ricing
Waawaashkeshi	Deer
Zhiishib	Ducks
Waabooz	Rabbits
Mooz	Moose
Giiyose	S/he is hunting
Baashkizigan	Gun
Wanii'ian	Traps

It is Autumn

Niibin

Mitigwaab
Bikwak
Wiigiwaam
Jimaan
Makak
Makizin
Niimi'idiwin
Nagamon
Miigwan
Dewe'igan
Opwaagan
Nagamo
Niimi
Ode'imin
Miinan
Mawinzo

It is Summer

Bows
Arrows
Lodges
Canoes
Birchbark container
Moccasins
Powwow
Songs
Feathers
Drums
Pipes
S/he is singing
S/he is dancing
Strawberries
Blueberries
Picks berries

Weather

Aaniin eshiwebak	
agwajing?	What's happening outside?
Gimiwan	It is raining.
Zoogipon	It is snowing.
Awan	It is foggy.
Mizhigwad	It is clear sky.
Ningwaanagwad	It is cloudy.
Noodin	It is windy.

Yes/no questions

Giminwendam ina?	Are you happy?
Gimaanendam ina?	Are you sad?
Giminikwe na?	Are you thirsty?
Giwii-wiisin ina?	Do you want to eat?
Giwii-izhaa na?	Are you going over there?

Some Basics

Numbers

1 =	Bezhig
2 =	Niizh
3 =	Niswi
4 =	Niiwin
5 =	Naanan
6 =	Ningodwaaswi
7 =	Niizhwaaswi
8 =	Nishwaaswi
9 =	Zhaangaswi
10 =	Midaaswi
20 =	Niizhtana
30 =	Nisimidana
40 =	Niimidana
50 =	Naanimidana
60 =	Ningodwaasimidana
70 =	Niizhwaasimidana
80 =	Nishwaasimidana
90 =	Zhaangasimidana
100 =	Ningodwaak

Colors

Makadewaa	It is black.
Waabishkaa	It is white.
Miskwaa	It is red.
Ozaawaa	It is yellow or brown.
Ozhaawashkwaa	It is blue or green.

Those who live Bemaadizijig

Abinoojiyens	Baby
Abinoojii	Child
Gwiwizens	Boy
Ikwezens	Girl
Inini	Man
Ikwe	Woman
Niin	Me, I
Giin	You
Wiin	Him, her
Giinawaa	You all
Wiinawaa	Them, they
Niinawind	We, us
Giinawind	We all, all of us
Nimishoomis	My grandfather
Nookomis	My grandmother
Nindede	My father
Nimaamaa	My mother
Nimise	My older sister
Nisaye	My older brother

Basic words

Eya	Yes
Gawiin	No
Boozhoo	Hello
Miigwech	Thank you
Daga	Please
Anin	What
Anin api	When
Anin di	Where
Awenen	Who
Giga wabamin	I will see you
Giga wabamin minawa	I will see you again

Action verbs

Mawinzo	S/he picks berries
Anokii	S/he works.
Manise	S/he cuts wood
Boodawe	S/he builds a fire
Izhaa	S/he goes
Bi-izhaa	S/he comes

Niin (I) / Giin (You)

Nimbaap	I laugh
Gibaap	You laugh
Nindayekoz	I am tired
Gidzyekoz	You are tired
Nimikwendam	I remember
Gimikwendam	You remember
Ningiishkaabaagwe	I am thirsty
Gigiishkaabaawe	You are thirsty
Nindaakoz	I am sick
Gidaakoz	You are sick
Niminwendam	I am happy
Giminwendam	You are happy

Some commands

Miijin!	Eat it!
Agindan!	Read/count it!
Odaapinan!	Pick it up!
Jiibaakwaadan!	Cook it!
Biinitoon!	Clean it!
Minikwen!	Drink it!
Nanaa'itoo!	Fix it!
Naadin!	Fetch it!
Wiijiw!	Go with him/her!
Mikaw!	Find him/her!
Bizhindaw!	Listen to him/her!
Miigwechiwenim!	Give thanks to him/her!
Booni'!	Leave him/her alone!