



**Onondaga
Language
for Every Day**



Greeting Someone

Dędwadadnõhẹ:yóʔ

Hello sé:goh

Are you well? sadõgwethaʔ khẹhʔ

Yes, I am well. hẹ: gadõgwethaʔ

No, I m not well. hiya deʔgadõgwethaʔ

What about you? nẹ nẹʔ ihsʔ

How's it going (along)? nwadeʔ niyohdiha:dyeʔʔ

It's going along well. oyanädyeʔ goʔ

I'm taking it easy... sgẽnõʔáh niwagadyẹ:h

Good bye then. o:nẹ goʔ hi:hyaʔ

Introducing Yourself

My name is... Ni'áh gya:jih

I am from Six Nations Ahya'k
Nihonohwejyagéh
nidwage:nóh

...is my clan. ...niwage'se:dəh

...is my nation. ...niwagohwejyo'dəh

I am learning Onoda'gegá'gade:yəstha'
Onondaga
(language)

Some Clans

Bear	Ohgwaih
Turtle	Ha ⁷ nowah
Wolf	Othahy ₂ :níh
Deer	Qsg ₂ no ₂ do ⁷
Hawk	Hodisw ₂ gai:yóh
Eel	Og ₂ de:na ⁷
Beaver	Odna ⁷ ga:ya ⁷ gih
Sandpiper	Odi ⁷ nehsiyóh

Nations

Mohawk	Ganyę́'gegá'
Onondaga	Onoda'gegá'
Seneca	Do:na'gá'
Cayuga	Gayo:gwé:ga'
Oneida	Onęyotgá'
Tuscarora	Dasgae:wę'

Words for Anytime

yes	he:he:
no	hiyah
thank you	nyawehah
can you (please)	ewado ⁷ kheh a:sgide:h
o.k./you're welcome	nyoh
I'm sorry	sagadathewahda ⁷
hurry up	gae geh
nice	oyane: ⁷
not nice	hiya de ⁷ oyane: ⁷
yes, I understand	he: A ⁷ knigohäye:da ⁷ s
I don't understand	hiya de ⁷ wak ⁷ nigohäye:da ⁷ s
where?	gaenoh
when?	hwedoh
who?	sho:h
what?	nwaho ⁷ desh
why?	nwade ⁷ niyot

Numbers

0	yasde	11	sgadah gahe'
1	sga:dah	12	degnih gahe'
2	degnih	13	ahse gahe'
3	ahseh	14	gaye:i gahe'
4	gaye:ih	15	hwiks gahe'
5	hwiks	16	ahya'k gahe'
6	ahya'k	17	jyadak gahe'
7	jya:dak	18	dege:' gahe'
8	de:ge:	19	wa'de: gahe'
9	wa'de:h	20	dewashēh
10	washēh		

Coming & Going

Where are you going? gae wa'se'

I am going... ...wa'ge'

Where did you gaenɔweh nɔdahsé'
come from?

I came from... ...nɔdagé'

Some Possible Answers/ Place Names

where I live	tsha ⁷ nəh tgi ⁷ də ⁷
my house	agnəhsa:yə ⁷
where I work	tsha ⁷ nəh dwagyo ⁷ deh
at the longhouse	ganəhsesgeh
at the store	dyədəhni:nək
town (Caledonia)	tgaedəni ^h
Ohsweken	Oswe:ge ⁷
Brantford	Tganadahä: ⁷
Hamilton	Tgahehdadəh
Toronto	Taə:dəh
Buffalo	Dyohəhse:wəh
United States	Wasthohehno ⁷ geh

Feelings

I'm happy	agatshə̀nə̀níh
I'm fine/healthy	gadə̀gwetha'7
I'm sleepy	agida'7ks
I'm cold	agathowäs
I'm thirsty	gə̀yatə̀hs
I'm hungry	akshihs
I'm hot	agadaehasek
I'm sad	ak'7nigə̀hähetgə̀'7s
I'm lonesome	gwahda'7s
I'm tired	agatshə̀hdih
I'm mad	agna'7khwe'7ih
I'm scared	agi'7dahde'7s
I was surprised	wa'7wagihwanehägwa'7
I love you	gonə̀wə̀khwa'7

Days of the Week

Monday	Awędęda ⁷ ih
Tuesday	Degnihadõt
Wednesday	Ahsęhadõt
Thursday	Gaye:ihadõt
Friday	Hwikshadõt
Saturday	Wędakda ⁷
Sunday	Awędadogęhdih

Months

January	Disgo:nah
February	Hehsä:tʼa
March	Ganä:hdoha:ʼ
April	Ganä:hdoʼgo:nah
May	Ohyaiháh
June	Ohyaihgo:nah
July	Säsgeháh
August	Säsgehago:nah
September	Gęʼdęʼgo:nah
October	Jyothoweháh
November	Jyothoweʼgo:nah
December	Dihsʼáh

Current Date

Day	wəda:deʔ
Month	wəhniʔda:deʔ
Date	niyoshe:dihʔ
Year	ohsä:deʔ
Yesterday	ahse:deʔ
Today	negeh wəda:deʔ
Tomorrow	əyo:həʔnhaʔ

Seasons

Fall	gə̃nə́nə́ʔgeh
Winter	gohsə́:ʔgeh
Spring	gə̃gwihdehjik
Summer	gagə̃hnháʔgeh

Telling Time

clock	gahwisda ⁷ es
What time is it?	doniyohwihsda ⁷ es
...o'clock	...niyohwihsda ⁷ éh
after/past	odogohdih
before	dyonq:wək
is half/the middle	tsha ⁷ dewashę:nq̄h
noon	gaęhya:hęh

Time of Day

morning	həʔgehjikh
last night	gwahsɔdeʔ
tonight	əyoʔga:k
day time	ədəh
night time	ahsɔheh
midnight	tshaʔdewahsɔthəh

Seasonal Weather Conditions

Spring Gęgwidehjik

cloudy	otji ⁷ geh
cold day	otho:we ⁷
foggy	deyaqoyohwih
it rained hard	wa ⁷ gastaęnahda ⁷
lightning	dewęnihwahok
nice day	wędi:yoh
raining	osdaędyoh
strong wind	gaehwihse ⁷
sunshine	odęhaeda ⁷
thundering	gawęnoda:dye ⁷ s
warm	awędana:węh

Summer

Gagəhnaʔgeh

big wind	gaehwa:nəh
dew	oʔae:ʔ
misting	oʔayodyoh
hailing	owihsodyoh
hot day	oʔdaehaʔdih
hurricane	gae:hwhiseʔ deʔshe waʔgasdaə:nahdaʔ
lightning	dewəhnihwahok
nice day	wədiyoh
rainbow	gahnyodaʔ
raining hard	gasdaewa:nəh
it is going to rain	eyosdaədiʔ
it's raining	osdaədyoh
it looks like rain	osdaə:wih
it stopped raining	waʔgasdaədaʔnhaʔ
raining on and off	odesdaə:de:nyoh
sunshine	odehae:daʔ
thundering	gawənoda:dyeʔ
tornado	watgaedahsheʔ \ deyowädahsheʔ
warm	awədana:wəh

Fall

Gə̣nə́nə́'geh

big wind	gae:hwiseʔ
cloudy	otjiʔgeʔ
cold day	otho:weʔ
cold wind	owä:nóh
foggy	deyaq̣yohwih
it looks like snow	oʔge:wih
nice day	wę̣di:yóh
raining	osdaę̣dyoh
raining hard	gasdaewanę̣h
strong winds	gae:hwiseʔ
windy	owä:deʔ

Winter

Gohsä'geh

cloudy	otji'ge'
cold day	otho:we'
drifting snow	deyonye'gwadahsé'
freezing rain	deyohwihsᵛwiha:dye'
hail	owihsᵛdyᵛh
slippery	deyowitsgwa
it looks like snow	o'ge:wih
it will snow	eyo'gᵛdi'
snow	o'gä:'
snowing	o'gᵛdyᵛh
snowing/snow pellets	onihdᵛ:dyᵛh
snow flurries	oda'gä:de:nyᵛ'
snowing hard	o'ge:wanáhdih
strong wind	gae:hwise'
sunshine	odeᵛhae:da'
warm	awᵛdana:wᵛh

Food & Eating

food	gakhwa ⁷
corn soup	onəhohgwa ⁷
scones	ohna ⁷ geh gae:hdih ohähgwa
cornbread	gahä:gohgwa ⁷
ham	gwihs ⁷ gwihs o ⁷ wahä: ⁷
sandwich	degahägwahsä: ⁷
bread	ohä:hgwa ⁷
soup	ohnega:gi ⁷
fruit	ohya
fresh vegetables	okdehähse ⁷ sho ⁷ áh
meat	o ⁷ wahä: ⁷
potatoes	onənohgwa ⁷
gravy	ohna ⁷

Table Setting

table	ɔdekhwahäkhwa ⁷
chair	ɔdyɛdakhwa ⁷
dish/plate	ga:jyɛ ⁷
bowl	deyohse:s ga:jyɛ ⁷
cup	gana ⁷ jyohsgwa ⁷
fork	gahse:gwa ⁷
spoon	ado:gwat
knife	a ⁷ sha: ⁷

Table Talk

I will eat (a meal)	egadekhọ:nyaʔ
Did you eat?	waʔsadekhọ:nyaʔ khẹh
Okay! Let's all eat	haoʔ onẹh dwadekhọ:nyaʔ
Now I have eaten/finished eating	onẹh agekhwẹdaʔih
Do you want some?	ahsọh khẹh
Yes, I want some	hẹhẹ: ahsọh ge:heʔ
You try it	sadeʔnyẹ:dẹh
Would you like some more?	se:heʔ khẹh ahsọh
Is it tasty?	ogaʔwih khẹh
Do you like the taste of it?	sagaʔwaʔ khẹh
Yes. I like the taste of it.	hẹhẹ:ʔ akgaʔhwaʔ
No, I don't like the taste of it.	hiyah deʔwakgaʔhwaʔ
I am craving/hungry for s.t.	gnọ:waks
I got full	waʔwagahdaʔnhaʔ
restaurant	odekhọnyaʔthaʔgeh

Money

Ohwihsda⁷

penny	ogw̄eni ⁷ da ⁷
1 penny	sgaw̄eni ⁷ dadah
nickel or 5 pennies	hwiks niyo gw̄eni ⁷ dagéh
5 pennies	hwiks niyogw̄eni ⁷ dagéh
dime	wahsh̄e gwe:nis
15 cents	hwiksga:he ⁷ niyogw̄eni ⁷ dageh
20 cents	dewahsh̄eh niyogw̄eni ⁷ dageh
quarter	degahsȳe ⁷ tshägeh
50 cents	gayeih nigahsȳe ⁷ tshägeh
75 cents	ahya ⁷ k nigahsȳe ⁷ tshägeh
1 dollar	sgahwisdadah
2 dollars	degahwisdagéh
3 dollars	ahsh̄eh nigahwisdagéh
4 dollars	gayeih nigahwisdagéh
5 dollars	hwiks nigahwisdagéh

Money Talk

How much does this cost?	donigano:wɛʔ
It costs \$5.00	hwiks nigahwisagéh niganowɛʔ
Too expensive!	jík gano:wɛʔ
Is it expensive?	gano:wɛʔ khɛh
Inexpensive	hiyah deʔgano:wɛʔ
(It is) cheap/ a bargain	wadyehsɛh
I paid (for it)	waʔkgayaʔk
Will you pay?	ihs khɛh ɛhsgayaʔk
I will pay	lʔ ɛkgayaʔk

My Family – Akhwají:yä⁷

My Relatives – Khenḡhwa⁷shḡ:

my father	hak ⁷ ni:hah
my mother	agnoha ⁷
my older brother	hakji ⁷ ah
my younger brother	he ⁷ ge ⁷ áh
my older sister	akji ⁷ ah
my younger sister	khe ⁷ ge ⁷ áh
Grandma (address)	kehso:da
Grandpa (address)	hehso:da
my grandfather	hakso:dahah
my grandmother	akso:dahah
my aunt	agnoha ⁷ dekhənḡhəkhwa ⁷
my uncle	hagnose ⁷ ha ⁷
my relative	agyadadnokwa ⁷
my cousin (when referring to cousin)	ḡgyae ⁷ se ⁷
my husband (informal, my old man)	heksde ⁷ tshä ⁷
my wife (informal, my old lady)	kheksde ⁷ tshä ⁷

My Family – Akhwají:yä⁷
My Relatives – Khenḡhgwa⁷shḡ:

my son	hehawah
my daughter	khehawah
my children	khehawahshḡ: ⁷
my grandson	heya:de ⁷
my granddaughter	kheya:de ⁷
my grandchildren	kheya:de ⁷ shḡ ⁷ áh
my nephew	heyḡhwa:de ⁷
my niece	kheyḡhwa:de ⁷
my friend	ḡgyatchi ⁷

Household Items

In the kitchen – Ekhṇya'tha'geh

coffee maker	ohsahe'da:gi' gahsṇyaha'
stove	ganḥsadaeha'tha'
oven	othähgḡdahkwa'
microwave	gakhwasno:we' gahsṇyaha'
fridge	gakhwanohsdakhwa'
toaster	gahägwe'dahs
freezer	ganḥnyḡdahstha'
pot/pail	gana'jya'
cupboard	eksayḡdakhwa'
dishes	gajye'shḡ'áh
garbage container	wadyḡh eyä:khwa'
kitchen sink	eksohae'dakhwa'
table (for food)	ḡdekhwahähkwa'
telephone	ḡdwṇḡda:tha'

Sentences for in the Kitchen

you clean	desadohda:k
I will clean it	dɛgadohda:k:
you use it	ihs ɛhsesdaʔ
I will use it	iʔɛgehsdaʔ
What are you cooking?	nwadeʔ sakho:nih
I am cooking...	agekho:nih
Will you wash the dishes?	ɛhseksohaehóʔ khɛh
I will wash the dishes	ɛgeksohaehóʔ

In the Living Room

Ganḡhsiyohsgeh

big chair	wadyḡdakhowa:nḡh
couch	ḡḡowishḡdakwaʔ
lamp	gajisdaʔ
rug	ohshwḡgaʔgeh edḡhda:khwaʔ
stereo/radio	wadḡno:thaʔ
television/DVD player	gayaʔda:haʔ

Sentences for in the Living Room

I will lay on
the couch.

ęgadyada:dęhdaę'
wadyędakhwesgeh

I will sit in the
big chair.

ęgadyé'
wadyędakhowanęhneh

What are you
watching?

nwaho' dę sekdøk

I am watching "APTN"

APTN gekdøk

I will shut off the...

ękjihedeę'

You shut off the...

sjihedeęh

In the Bathroom

bath tub	ꞗdyaꞗdohaꞗdahkwaꞗ
cold water	ohneganóh
hot water	ohnegadaehꞗh
comb	ganahdaꞗ
face cloth	ꞗtgꞗhsohaedahkwaꞗ
bath towel	ꞗdyaꞗdagewathaꞗ
soap	gohaethaꞗ
shampoo	ꞗdnoꞗwaꞗhaedahkwaꞗ
shower	dyohnegꞗh
sink/wash basin	ꞗtgꞗhsohaedahkwaꞗ
toilet bowl	ahsdeh heyꞗdahkwaꞗ
tooth brush	ꞗdnoꞗjyohaedahkwaꞗ
clothes washer	ꞗdohaehꞗꞗdakhwaꞗ
clothes dryer	ganeꞗnaꞗ e:haꞗthaꞗ

Sentences for in the Bathroom

You will take a bath/shower. ɛsadya'dohae'.

I will take a bath/shower ɛgadya'dohae'

You wash your hands. ɛsɛ'nyɔhae'

I washed my hands. wa'ge'nyohae'

You wash your face. satgɔhsohaeh

I washed my face. wa'gatgohsohae'

You brush your teeth. sadno'jyohaeh

I brushed my teeth. wa'gadno'jyohae'

In the Bedroom

bed	ganakda:ʔ
blankets/quilts	oyęhsä:ʔ
pillow	gagoʔshä:ʔ
sheets	enakdosthaʔ
clothes	ganeʔnaʔ
dirty clothes hamper	odneʔnatgiʔeyäkhwaʔ
dresser	ganeʔnaʔ wadęnda:thaʔ

Sentences for in the Bedroom

You go to bed. sɛdahah

You go to sleep. sɛdaʔk

Now I will go to
bed/sleep. onɛh goʔ ɛwagidahaʔ

You pick up
the clothes. dehsehgwah saneʔnaʔ

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