



Onöndowa'ga:' Gawë:nö'--Seneca (People of the Great Hill) Language
Community Class 2/4/2019
Instructor: **Ja:no's**--Janine Bowen

Part 1: Ganö:nyök Key Words

Use when opening...

Sga:d hédwa:yë:' ögwa'nigöë'---one we will have, our mind
dëdwadahnö:nyö:'---we give thanks to each other
dëyetinönyö:'---we give thanks to her / them
dëdwanö:nyö:'---we give thanks to it
dësedwanö:nyö:'---we give thanks to him

Use when closing...

Da:h o:nëh sga'nigoë' sayagwayë' ëswe:he:k sayagwajënö:ni'---now are minds are
one again, we will think, we do it again respectfully
dësayagwadahnö:nyö'---we acknowledge each other again
dësayetinö:nyö'---we acknowledge each her/them again
dësayagwanö:nyö'---we acknowledge it again
dësasedwanö:nyö'---we acknowledge him again

Use for opening and closing...

ha'deyögwe'dage:h—all of the people
etinö'ëh yöëdzade'—our Mother Earth
o:nëgitgësö'—there are natural springs
o:negahdë:jö:h—flowing streams
ga:negada:nyö'—all that has water in it
ga:negowa:në's—big waters
ha'deogyo'dza:ge:h—all of the grasses
ha'deyonöhgwa'shä:ge:h—all of the medicinal plants
ha'deyoji:yage:h—all of the fruits/berries
ojisdöda'shä'—strawberry
gahadayë'--forest
wahda'—maple tree
ha'deganyo'dage:h—all of the animals
ha'degaji'dage:h—all of the birds
ha'dewënödë:nö:de:' Johehgöh—Three Sisters, Our Life Sustainers
deyoä:wënye:h—stirring wind, breeze
etihso:d hadiwënodaje's—Our grandfathers the thunderers
Hi'nö'—Leader of the Thunderers



sedwahji' ë:de:kha:' gähgwa:'—Our Elder Brother, the daytime orb of light (sun)
etihsod söe:kha:' gähgwa:'--Our Grandmother the night-time orb of light (moon)
gajihso'dëönyö'—there are stars in it (stars)
sedwagowanë:nö' Sganyodaiyo'—Our Great Leader Handsome Lake
ge:ih nyënödi:h Hadiöya'geönö'—Four Beings, Sky Dwellers
Sögwajënö'kda'öh—Our Creator

Da:h ne'hoh dih nëyögwa'nigo'dë:ök---and so let it be that way in our minds

Part 2

Dë'ëh—What?

_____ **ni:s šya:söh**—you are called
_____ **de'šya:söh**---you are not called
_____ **yeya:söh**—she is called
_____ **yeyasö:nö'**---she was called
_____ **de'eyasöh**---she is not called

_____ **ni:' gya:söh**—I am called
_____ **de'gya:söh**---I am not called
_____ **haya:söh**—he is called
_____ **hayasö:nö'**---he was called
_____ **da:yasöh**---he is not called

ögwe'öwe:kha:'—Native way

ga:nyö'öhkha:'—non-Native/English way

Sö:h nä:h në:gë:h?—Who is this?

Sö:h nä:h higë:h?—Who is that?

yagö:gweh---woman
yagö:gwe'da:se:'---young woman
akno'ëh---my mother
hage'nih / ha'nih---my father
kea:wak---my daughter
hea:wak---my son
akso:d--my grandmother
hakso:d--my grandfather

hö:gweh---man
hö:gwe'dase:'---young man
sano'ëh---your mother
ya'nih---your father
shea:wak---your daughter
hehsa:wak---your son
sahso:d--your grandmother
yahso:d--your grandfather

-gëö'---added to the word for a person who is deceased (ex. **akso:d gëö'**)



jigwas---soon **ëyo:hë't**--tomorrow

ësgö:ge'--I will see you again.

ëskni:gë'---I will see you two gain.

ësgwa:gë'--I will see all of you again.

Part 3

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 0-- da'gwisdë' —nothing | 1-- sga:d | 2-- dekni:h | 3— sëh |
| 4-- ge:ih | 5— wis | 6-- ye:i' | 7-- dza:dak |
| 8-- degyö' | 9-- johdö:h | 10-- washë:h | 11-- sga:sgae' |
| 12-- dekni:sgae' | 13-- së:sgae' | 14— ge:ih sgae' | 15— wis sgae' |
| 16— ye:i' sgae' | 17-- dza:dak sgae' | 18-- degyö' sgae' | 19-- johdö:h sgae' |
| 20-- dewashë:h | 30-- sëh niwashë:h | 40— ge:ih niwashë:h | |
| 50— wis niwashë:h | | | |

Do:h nigano:ö'?---How much does it cost?

Do:h nisa:wisda:yë'?---How much money do you have?

Do:h niwakwisda:yë'?---How much money do I have?

Do:h nio:wisda:yë'?---How much money does he have?

Do:h niyagowisda:yë'?---How much money does she have?

sga:wisda:d---\$1.00 **dega:wisda:ge:h**---\$2.00

___**niga:wisda:ge:h**---the amount of dollars

sgagwënishä:d---1 ¢ **degagwënishä:ge:h**---2 ¢

niga:gwënishä:ge:h---amount of cents



gano:ö'---It's expensive, difficult. **waje:sëh**--- It's cheap.

Ogwe:nyö:h...?---It is possible...?

ägata'dö:' ---I will borrow **ësata'dö:'**---you will borrow

ëöta'dö:'---he will borrow **ëyöta'dö:'**---she will borrow

Part 4

Do: niyoisda:'e:h? How many times has it struck metal / What time is it?

niyonö'sgä:ge:h notches / minutes

niyoisda:'e:h number of strikes on metal / hour

heyoähdöh after

nejono:ö' before / lacking

ha'dewahsë:nöh half past

ha'dewë:nishë:h midday / noon

ha'dewahsö:twëh midnight

Part 5

nya:wëh sgë:nö'—I am thankful you are well. **hae'**—hello / hi

sgë:nö' nä:h?—Are you well? **Ë:h**—yes

a:yë:' nä:h---it seems that way **l:s dih?**---You, then?

hë'ëh—no **ha'degaye:i'**---good enough

gadögweta'—I feel well **de'gadögwe:ta'**—I do not feel well.

sadögweta'---you feel well. **de'sadögwe:ta'**---you do not feel well.

yödögweta'---she feels well. **de'ödögwe:ta'**---She does not feel well.

hadögweta'---He feels well. **da:dögwe:ta'**---He does not feel well.

agatsëhdöh---I am tired. **satsëhdöh**---You are tired.

gotsëhdöh---She is tired. **hotsëhdöh**---He is tired.

aknö:kda:nih---I am sick. **sanö:kda:nih**---You are sick.



gonö:kda:nih---She is sick.

honö:kda:nih---He is sick.

Part 6

Dë'eh niyoje:eh asdeh?---What is happening outside?

Dë'eh niwënišyo'dë:nö'?---What kind of day was it?

Dë'eh niwënišyo'dë:ök?---What kind of day will it be?

osdëö:jö:h---it is raining

ëyosdëö:di'---it will rain

wa'osdëö:di'---it rained

o'gyö:jö:h---it is snowing

ëyo'gyö:di'---it will snow

wa'ogyö:di'---it snowed

otho:we'---it is cold

ëwötho:wä:t---it will get cold

o'watho:wä:t---it got cold

one:nö'---it is warm

ëgane:nö:'---it will get warm

o'gane:nö:'---it got warm

odë:hgo:d---it is sunny

ëwodë:hgo:dë'---it will be sunny

o'wahdëhgo:dë'---it was sunny

gä:ha'---wind is blowing

dëgä:wë:nye:'---wind will stir

o'gä:ë'---wind blew

ohji'ge'---it is cloudy

koh---also

Part 7

yekönya'ta'geh---kitchen

adogwa'shä'---spoon

gadzë'---plate/dish

gahsigwä:'---fork

gaganya'shä'---knife

ga:wisda'---cup

deyohso:d---bowl

deyowisä:te'---drinking glass

ganö'dza'---kettle/pot

dasgöh---Hand it to me.

dasha:h---Bring it here.

ho'se:goh---Go and get it.

në:gë:h---this

higë:h---that

neh---the

hae'gwah---also

deyosait---pepper

ojike'da'---salt

owisä:ta'---butter



owä:nö'---sugar **onö'gwa'**---milk

sadöswe'da:nih--You are hungry **agadöswe'da:nih**--I am hungry
godöswe'da:nih---She is hungry **hodöswe'da:nih**---He is hungry

saga'has--you like the taste of it **agega'has**--I like the taste of it
goga'has---She likes the taste of it. **hoga'has**---He likes the taste of it
de'saga'has--You do not like the taste of it? **da'agega'has**--I do not like the taste if it
de'goga'has---She does not like the taste of it. **do:ga'has**---he does not like the taste of it

oga'öh--It tastes good. **de'oga'öh**--It does not taste good.

ähse:k--you will eat it. **äge:k**--I will eat it. **ëye:k**---She will eat it.
ëök---He will eat it.

gaihdo'ya'ka:' dega:hgwa'se:'--Italian pie (pizza)

ono:hgwa'--corn soup **osae'da'**---bean **onöö'**--corn **o'wa:'**--meat
ga:nya'o:ya'--apple **gaha'ta'**---cheese **oähgwa'**---bread **onönö'da'**---potato
ojisgwanö:h---ice cream **o'höhsa'**---egg

Part 8

gya'di:h---me **šya'di:h**---you **yeya'di:h**---she
haya'di:h---he **dehnyashe:h**---you & I **desnyashe:h**---you two
deniyashe:h---two males **deknyashe:h**---two females **deyaknyashe:h**---someone & I
dwagwe:göh---you all & I **agwagwe:göh**---they & I **swagwe:göh**---all of you
hadigwe:göh---they, 3 or more males, OR a mixed group of males and females
wadigwe:göh---they, 3 or more females **gaya'di:h**---it

Part 9



knöe's---I like it
snöe's---You like it.
yenöe's---She likes it.
hanöe's---He likes it.
hninöe's---You and I like it.
sninöe's---You two like it.
hinöe's---Two males like it.
kninöe's---Two females like it.

akninöe's---Someneone and I like it.
dwanöe's---You all and I, we like it.
hadinöe's---They like it, 3 or males or a mixed group.
wadinöe's---They like it, 3 or more females.
agwanöe's---They and I like it.
swanöe's---All of you like it.

Part 10

ajadawi'shä'---shirt, dress, or coat
ahdahgwa'---shoe(s)
onö'gö:kha:' ahšyönyashä'---under clothes
gaya:a'---bag
gatgwë'da'---purse, pouch

wi:yo:h---It's good. **waetgëh**---It's bad, ugly.

gayahdowe'shä'---pants
adahdi'shä'---sock(s)
atwahashä'---belt
ga'ka:a'---skirt



A stem

-adöswe'da:nih/-adöswe'dani:h/-ádöswe'dë'

hungry

	Command Do it!	Habitual I do it / I'm doing it	Perfective I have done it / had done it / am doing it
I		gádöswe'da:nih	agádöswe'danih
you	sádöswe'danih	sádöswe'danih	sádöswe'dani:h
he		hadöswe'da:nih	hodöswe'da:ni:h
she		yödöswe'da:nih	godöswe'da:ni:h
it		wadöswe'da:nih	odöswe'da:ni:h
you & I		jadöswe'da:nih	ögyádöswe'dani:h
s.o. & I		agyádöswe'danih	agyádöswe'dani:h
you two	snyádöswe'da:nih	snyádöswe'da:nih	snyádöswe'da:ni:h
two Ms		yádöswe'da:nih	honödöswe'dani:h
two Fs		gyádöswe'da:nih	onödöswe'dani:h
you all & I		dwádöswe'da:nih	ögwádöswe'dani:h
they & I		agwádöswe'danih	agwádöswe'dani:h
you all	swádöswe'da:nih	swádöswe'da:nih	swádöswe'da:ni:h
they Ms		hënödöswe'danih	honödöswe'dani:h
they Fs		wënödöswe'danih	onödöswe'dani:h
	Definite I did it	Conditional I could/should/would/might do it	Future I will do it
I	o'gádöswe'dë'	a:gádöswe'dë'	ëgádöswe'dë'
you	o'sadöswe'dë'	a:sádöswe'dë'	ësadöswe'dë'
he	wá:döswe'dë'	a:döswe'dë'	ëödöswe'dë'
she	wa'ödöswe'dë'	a:yödöswe'dë'	ëyödöswe'dë'
it	o'wadöswe'dë'	a:wadöswe'dë'	ëwodöswe'dë'
you & I	ejádöswe'dë'	a:jádöswe'dë'	ëjádöswe'dë'
s.o. & I	wa'agyádöswe'dë'	a:yagyádöswe'dë'	ëyagyádöswe'dë'
you two	esnyádöswe'dë'	aesnyádöswe'dë'	ësnyádöswe'dë'
two Ms	wa:yádöswe'dë'	a:yádöswe'dë'	ëyagwadöswe'dë'
two Fs	o'gyádöswe'dë'	a:gyádöswe'dë'	ëdwádöswe'dë'
you all & I	edwádöswe'dë'	aedwádöswe'dë'	ëgyádöswe'dë'
they & I	wa'agwadöswe'dë'	a:yagwadöswe'dë'	ë:yagwadöswe'dë'
you all	eswadöswe'dë'	aeswadöswe'dë'	ëswádöswe'dë'
they Ms	wë:nödöswe'dë'	aënödöswe'dë'	ë:nödöswe'dë'
they Fs	o'wënödöswe'dë'	a:wënödöswe'dë'	ëwënödöswe'dë'

**Chart provided by the Seneca Nation Immersion Department



Part 12

A stem

-jä:’ dáhgwa’/-jä:’ dahgöh/-jä:’ dak

use something

	Command Do it!	Habitual I do it / I’m doing it	Perfective I have done it / had done it / am doing it
I		gajä’ dáhgwa’	agajä’ dahgöh
you	sajā’ dak	sajā’ dahgwa’	sajā’ dahgöh
he		hajä’ dáhgwa’	hojä’ dáhgöh
she		yöjä’ dáhgwa’	gojä’ dáhgöh
it		wajā’ dáhgwa’	ojä’ dáhgöh
you & I		hnyajā’ dáhgwa’	ögyajā’ dahgöh
s.o. & I		agyajā’ dahgwa’	ögyajā’ dahgöh
you two	snyajā’ dak	snyajā’ dáhgwa’	snyajā’ dáhgöh
two Ms		yajā’ dáhgwa’	honöjä’ dahgöh
two Fs		gyajā’ dáhgwa’	onöjä’ dahgöh
you all & I		dwajā’ dáhgwa’	ögwajā’ dahgöh
they & I		agwajā’ dahgwa’	ögwajā’ dahgöh
you all	swajā’ dak	swajā’ dáhgwa’	swajā’ dáhgöh
they Ms		hënöjä’ dahgwa’	honöjä’ dahgöh
they Fs		wënöjä’ dahgwa’	onöjä’ dahgöh
	Definite I did it	Conditional I could/should/would/might do it	Future I will do it
I	o’gajä’ dak	a:gajä’ dak	ëgajä’ dak
you	o’sajā’ dak	a:sajā’ dak	ësa:jä’ dak
he	wa:jä’ dak	a:jä’ dak	ëöjä’ dak
she	wa’öjä’ dak	a:yöjä’ dak	ëyöjä’ dak
it	o’wajā’ dak	a:wajā’ dak	ëwöjä’ dak
you & I	ejajā’ dak	a:jajā’ dak	ëjajā’ dak
s.o. & I	wa’agyajā’ dak	a:yagyajā’ dak	ëyagyajā’ dak
you two	esnyajā’ dak	aesnyajā’ dak	ësnyajā’ dak
two Ms	wa:yajā’ dak	a:yajā’ dak	ë:yajā’ dak
two Fs	o’gyajā’ dak	a:gyajā’ dak	ëgyajā’ dak
you all & I	edwajā’ dak	aedwajā’ dak	ëdwajā’ dak
they & I	wa’agwajā’ dak	a:yagwajā’ dak	ëyagwajā’ dak
you all	eswajā’ dak	aeswajā’ dak	ëswajā’ dak
they Ms	wë:nöjä’ dak	aë:nöjä’ dak	ë:nöjä’ dak
they Fs	o’wënöjä’ dak	a:wënöjä’ dak	ëwënöjä’ dak

**Chart provided by the Seneca Nation Immersion Department

Part 13



Nya:wëh sgë:nö'.

(I am thankful you are well.)

Ja:no's ni:' gya:söh.

(Ja:no's, me, I am called.)

Onöndowa'ga:' ni:' ah.

(Seneca--People of the Great Hill, I am.)

Agegë'ge:ga:' hae'gwah.

(I am of the Beaver Clan, also.)

I:' tknöge' hëö:weh neh Ohi:yo'.

(Me, I live there, at, the, Allegany Territory.)

Da:h o:nëh, i:s ëseyë'he't ostö:h Onöndowa'ga:' gawë:nö'.

(So now, you, you will learn, a little, Seneca--People of the Great Hill, language.)

Hao' o:nëh ësahsawë'.

(OK, now, you will begin.)

So't, sënöhdö' na'od gaya:söh në:gë:h?

(So, you know, what, it is called, this?)

Dë'ëh gaya:söh?

(What, it is called?)

Adogwa'shä' gaya:söh.

(Spoon, it is called.)

Dë'ëh ni:' gya:söh?

(What, me, I am called?)

Sënöhdö'?

(You know?)

Sënöhdö' na'od ni:' gya:söh?

(You know, what, me, I am called?)

Ja:no's ni:' gya:söh.

(Ja:no's, me, I am called.)

Part 14



Ha'degagö:n ëkya:dö' ha'gwisde', gwa:heh da'agenöhdö' ga:weh t'ga:e' neh ye:yadöhgwa'.

(It is necessary, I will write, something, but, I do not know, where, it is located, the, pen/pencil--one uses it for writing.)

Dewagadëjö:nih hi:gë:h ye:yadöhgwa'.

(I need, that, pen/pencil.)

Ga:weh t'ga:e'?

(Where is it located?)

De'ge:gëh.

(I do not see.)

Dë'ëh?

(What?)

De'sënöhdö' na'od hi:gë:h?

(You do not know, what, that "is"?)

So't, ha'degagö:n ëgeshë:wi' hi:gë:h ye:yadöhgwa'.

(Well, it is necessary, I will find it, that, pen/pencil.)

Ga:weh t'ga:e'?

(Where, it is located?)

Nekohgwa:h t'ga:e'.

(Here, it is located.)

Në:dah neh ye:yadöhgwa'.

(Here it is, the, pen/pencil.)

Da:h o:nëh ogwe:nyö:h ëkya:dö'.

(So now, it is possible, I will write.)