Those who have just begun learning a foreign language can first read the text with the prompts and later on, the same text without any prompts. If they forget the meaning of some word but understand the text in general, it is unnecessary to look for a translation in the adapted excerpt. They will come across this word more than once in the future. The exact purpose of the untranslated passage is that for some amount of time, no matter how short, the reader is “swimming on his own”. When he has finished reading the original (unadapted) text, he should move on to the next adapted excerpt. And so on. There is no need to go back to review the material. One is just supposed to keep on reading.

Naturally, at first you will be overwhelmed by the torrent of unknown words and forms. Don’t be discouraged: no one is testing anyone here. As you read (it may happen in the middle of the book or as you’re approaching the end) everything will “fall right into place” and you’ll probably be surprised: “Why do they provide the translation and the dictionary form of the word again when it’s already clear!” When you reach the “understood without saying” level, it’s worth changing the order in which you read: the unadapted excerpt first and the translated part second. (The same recommendation may be made to those who do not start learning a foreign language from scratch).

Ilya Frank

1] Mewinzha (long ago) gii-ikwezensiwiyaan (when I was a little girl; gii- – past tense prefix, ikwezensiwi – be a girl), gaa-nibonid (then he died; gaa- – changed past tense prefix, nibo – die) iniw onaabeman (that her husband; iniw – that (obviative, 4th person), onaabeman – her husband) a’aw nookomis (of my grandmother; a’aw – that, nookomis – my grandmother). Miish eta go (so only; miish – it is that, eta – only, go – emphatic particle) inzhishenh gaa-ayaad (there was my uncle; inzhishenh – my uncle, gaa-ayaad – he was there; from: ayaa – be (in a certain place)) miinawaa wiwan (and his wife; miinawa- and, wiwan – his wife), miinawaa niizh ikwewag (and two women; niizh – two, ikwewag – women; from: ikwe – woman) iko imaa gii-ayaawag (they used to be there; iko – used to, gii-ayaawag – they were there; from ayaa – be (in a certain place)), oshkiniigikweg (young women; from: oshkiniiigikwe – young woman). Mii eta go gaa-tashiyaang imaa (that’s how many of us were there; gaa-tashiyaang – we were so many; from: dazhi – be so many, imaa – there), miinawaa bezhig a’aw ninoshenh (and one aunt of mine; bezhig – one, ninoshenh – my aunt). Mii eta go gaa-tashiyaang (that’s how many of us were there).


2] Mii azhigwa ini-ziigwaninig (It was already towards spring; mii – it is that (also: miish), azhigwa – already, ini-ziigwaninig – it is towards spring; from; ini- – coming up in time, ziigwan – be spring), ini-ziigwaninig, "Oo, yay," ikido (it was towards spring,
and she said "Oh, goodness."; ikido – she says), "mii waabang ji-maajaayaang," ikido ("we'll leave tomorrow," she said; waabang – tomorrow, ji-maajaayaag – we are to leave; from: ji– in order to, maaja - leave). Waa, niminwendam (my, I was happy), niminwendam (I was happy). Agaawaa go ingikendaan (I barely remember; agawa – barely, ingikendaan – I know / remember; from: gikendan – to know s.t., to remember s.t.). Niminwendam, niminwendam megwayaak ji-bi-daayaang (I was happy, I was happy that we were coming to live in the woods; megwayaak - in the woods, ji– in order to, bi– this way, here, hither, daayaang – we live; from: daa – to live, to dwell), megwayaak ji-bi-daayaang (we are coming to live in the woods). Geyaabi goonikaa (there still was a lot of snow; geyaabi – still, goonikaa – there is a lot of snow).


[3] "Onapizh ingiw bebezhigooganzhiig," odinaan iniw ikwewan. ("Harness the horses," she told the women; onapizh – harness s.o.; ingiw – those, bebezhigooganzhiig – horses; from: bebezhigooganzhi – a horse, odinaan – she tells them) Aanish, mii go apane gii-wiijii'iweyaan (well now, I always tagged along; aaniish – well now, you see, apane – always, gii-wiijii'iweyaan – I was with people; from: wiijii'we – go along with people, accompany people) apane ganawaabijaani aaniin ezhichigeng (watching how things were done; ganawaabijaani – I was watching; from: ganawaabi – look, watch, aaniin – how, what, why, ezhichigeng – [how] things are done; from: izhichige - do things a certain way). Azhigwa wayaabang, azhigwa gigizheb goshkozi (It was at dawn that morning when she got up; azhigwa – at this time, already, wayaabang – the next day, gigizheb – in the morning, goshkozi – wake up), akina gegoo gii-onapidood (she tied everything on; akina gegoo – everything, onapidoon – tie s.t. up), waabooyaanan miinawaa ge-bi-miijiyaang (blankets, and things to eat; waabooyaan – blanket, ge-bi-miijiyaang – [things] we will eat; from: miijin – eat s.t., ge – future tense prefix, -yaang – we (exclusive)), mangaanibaajigan gaye gii-ayaamagad i'iw apii (and even a shovel that time; mangaanibaajigan – shovel, gaye – and, gii-ayaamagad – it was there, i'iw – that (inanimate), apii – when, at the time). Akina gaa-izhi-boozitood (when she loaded all of it up; akina – all, gaa-izhi-boozitood – she loaded; from: boozitood – load s.t. as a cargo, izhi – in a certain way) imaa gii-pi-maajidaabi'i'iweyaan gigizheb (we drove off in the morning; imaa – there, gii-pi-maajidaabi'i'iweyang – we started off, we drove off; from: maajidaabi'iwe - drive off, pî – this way, here (the same as bi-)).

Ingoji go nayaawakweg (about noon; *ingoji* – approximately, *nayaawakweg* – when it is noon; from: *naawakwe* – be noon), mii imaa gii-pagamidaabii’iweyaang imaa neyaashiing (we arrived at the point; mii imaa – that’s where, there, *pagamidaabii’iweyaang* – we arrive driving; from: *bagamidaabii’iwe* - arrive driving), iskigamiziganing izhi-wiindemagad (called Iskigamiziganing; *iskigamiziganing* – The Sap Boiling Place, *izhi-wiindemagad* – it is called this way; from: *wiinde(magad)* – have a name). Mii imaa endagoninig o’o odasanjigoowigamig (that’s where her storage lodge was located; *endagoninig* – it is in a certain place (obviative, 4th person); from *dagon* – be situated in a certain place, o’o – this (inanimate), *odasanjigoowigamig* – her storage lodge, o- – her).

Biskitenaaganan imaa niibowa atewan (There were lots of sap buckets; *biskitenaaganan*- sap buckets; *biskitenaagan* - sap bucket of folded birch bark (inanimate noun), *niibowa* – many, much, *atewan* – they are at a certain place; from: *ate* - be in a certain place (about inanimate things)), miinawaa ingiw akikoog anaamayi’ii ingiiniingwa’waanaanig (and we had buried the kettles there underneath; *akikoog* – kettles; from: *akik* – kettle (animate noun), *anaamayi’ii* – under something, *ingiiniingwa’waanaanig* – we buried them; from: *ningwa’w* - bury s.o.).

Gaawiin wiikaa awiiya ogii-pabaamenimaasiin iniw akikoon (nobody ever bothered the kettles; *gaawiin wiikaa* – never, *awiiya* - somebody, anybody, ogii-pabaamenimaasiin – he didn’t bother them; from: *babaamenim* – pay attention to / bother s.o., *iniw akikoon* – those kettles (obviative, 4th person); when any 3rd person does something to another animate 3rd person, this another 3rd person is considered obviative, or 4th person).

"Oo, yay, wewiibitaag," ikido ("Oh, hurry up!" she said; *wewiibitaag* – hurry up!, from: *wewiibitaa* – hurry (in some work or activity), *ikido* – say, speak; also: she says, he says). Wiigiwaamaak gaye ganabaj imaa gii-ayaa (I think] there was a wigwam frame there; *wiigiwaamaak* – wigwam frame (inanimate), *ganabaj* - perhaps, maybe, gii-ayaa – it was there). 

"Mangaanibaadamok," ikido ("Shovel it out," she said).

"Wewiibitaag," ikido ("Hurry up," she said).

"Mii imaa endagoninig o’o odasanjigoowigamig (that’s where her storage lodge was located; *endagoninig* – it is in a certain place (obviative, 4th person); from *dagon* – be situated in a certain place, o’o – this (inanimate), *odasanjigoowigamig* – her storage lodge, o- – her).

Biskitenaaganan imaa niibowa atewan, miinawaa ingiw akikoog anaamayi’ii ingiiniingwa’waanaanig. Gaawiin wiikaa awiiya ogii-pabaamenimaasiin iniw akikoon.
shovel it!; from: *mangaanibaadan* – shovel s.t.). Mangaanibaajigewaad ingiw ikewag (land) the women shoveled; *mangaanibaajigewaad* – they shovel; from: *mangaanibaajige* – shovel things out, -waad – they), gaawiin inini gii-ayaasiin, mangaanibaadamowaad (there wasn't any man around, so they shoveled it out; gaawiin – no, not, gaawiin gii-ayaasiin – he wasn't there, inini – man). Mii azhigwa gegaa onaagoshig gichi-boodadewaad (when it was nearly evening, they built a big fire; *mii azhigwa* – now, at this time, *gegaa* - nearly, almost, *onaagoshig* – [when] it is evening, *gichi-boodadewaad* – they built a big fire; from: *boodawe* – built a fire, *gichi* – big, great ) gaye ningizod a'aw goon (and the snow melted; *ningizod* – it melts; from: *ningizo* – melt, thaw, *a'aw* – that (animate), *goon* – snow (animate)).


[6] Miish azhigwa onaagoshig, azhigwa, miish i'iw akina gii-atoowaad gii-apakwaadamowaad i'iw wiigiwaam (then it was evening and they put everything in place, covering the wigwam with mats; *akina* – all, *gii-atoowaad* – they put it (in place); from: *atoon* – put s.t. in a certain place, *gii-apakwaadamowaad* – they covered it with mats; from: *apakwaadan* – cover s.t. with mats, *i'iw* – that (inan.), *wiigiwaam* – wigwam (inan.)). Miish miinawaa azhigwa gii-wenda-ginzhizhawizid a'aw mindimooyenh (the old lady really was industrious; *gii-wenda-ginzhizhawizid* – she was really a hard worker; from: *ginzhizhawizi* – be a hard worker; *wenda* – really, completely; *mindimooyenh* – old woman (anim.)), miinawaa azhigwa gaa-izhi-desa'oniked (and made sleeping platforms; *gaa-izhi-desa'oniked* – she made sleeping platforms; from: *desa'onike* – make a platform in lodge, *izhi* - in a certain way). Mitigoon ogii-aabajitoonan imaa (she used sticks; *mitigoon* – sticks; from: *mitig* – stick (inan.), *ogii-aabajitoonan* – she used them (inan.)), from: *aabajitoon* – use s.t.). Miish imaa azhigwa debikak, mii imaa gii-nibaayaang (when it got dark, we slept there on them; *debikak* – [when] it is night; from: *dibikad* – be night, *mii imaa* – thus there, *gii-nibaayaang* – we sleep; from: *niba* - sleep). Nisaabaawe i'iw aki (the ground was wet; *nisaabaawe* – be wet, *aki* - land, ground (inan.)).


(when it was morning again, she said, "The trees aren’t running yet;";
egizhebaawagak – [when] it is morning; from: gizhebaawagad – be morning,
jibwaa-onjigaag – they are not running with sap yet; from: onjigaa – run with sap,
jibwaa – before, literally: they are [in the state] before running with sap, iniw mitigoon – those trees (obv.)), bawinang iniw obiskitenaaganan, akina gegoo gii-pawinang (and shook out the sap buckets, shook everything out; bawinang – she shakes it; from: bawinan – shake s.t, obiskitenaaganan – her sap buckets; from: biskitenaagan -sap bucket of folded birch bark (inan.), akina gegoo – everything, gii-pawinang – she shook it/ them; from: giziibiigin – wash s.o. by hand). Mii sa go ozhiitaawaad igo (they were getting ready; ozhiitaawaad – they get ready, prepare; igo – emphatic particle (also: go). Ingoding igo azhigwa, apane endaso-gizhig igo waabamaad iniw mitigoon (the time came that she was looking at the trees every day; ingoding – once, at one time, apane – always, all the time, continually, endaso-gizhig – every day, waabamaad – she is looking at them (anim.); from: waabam – see s.o.). Ingoding igo azhigwa, "Way, yay, wewiib enda-gizhigaawan iniw ininaatigoon," ikido (then it was time: "Goodness gracious, hurry, the maples are running just fast," she said; wewiib – hurry, enda-gizhigaawan – they (obv.) are running with sup really hard, from: gizhigaa – run hard (as sap in spring), enda- - really, very, ininaatigoon – maples (obv.); from ininaatig – maple (anim.)). Mii go gaye giizhaa gaa-izhi-manisewaad ingiw ikwewag (the women had cut wood beforehand; giizhaa – beforehand, in advance, gaa-izhi-manisewaad – they cut wood; from: manise – pile s.t., stack s.t., misan – firewood (inan. pl.)). Neniibowa ogii-okosidoonaawaan iniw misan (they had piled up a whole lot of firewood; neniibowa – a whole lot, ogii-okosidoonaawaan – they piled them (inan.); from: okosidoon – pile s.t., stack s.t., misan – firewood (inan. pl.)).

Gegizhebaawagak azhigwa miinawaa, "Mii jibwaa-onjigaag iniw mitigoon," ikido, bawinang iniw obiskitenaaganan, akina gegoo gii-pawinang, miinawaa akikoog, giziibiiginaawaad iniw akikoog. Mii sa go ozhiitaawaad igo. Ingoding igo azhigwa, apane endaso-gizhig igo waabamaad iniw mitigoon. Ingoding igo azhigwa. Ingoding igo azhigwa, "Way, yay, wewiib enda-gizhigaawan iniw ininaatigoon," ikido, bawinang iniw obiskitenaagan, akina gegoo gii-pawinang (and shook out the sap buckets, shook everything out; bawinang – she shakes it; from: bawinan – shake s.t, obiskitenaaganan – her sap buckets; from: biskitenaagan -sap bucket of folded birch bark (inan.), akina gegoo – everything, gii-pawinang – she shook it/ them; from: giziibiigin – wash s.o. by hand). Mii sa go ozhiitaawaad igo (they were getting ready; ozhiitaawaad – they get ready, prepare; igo – emphatic particle (also: go). Ingoding igo azhigwa, apane endaso-gizhig igo waabamaad iniw mitigoon (the time came that she was looking at the trees every day; ingoding – once, at one time, apane – always, all the time, continually, endaso-gizhig – every day, waabamaad – she is looking at them (anim.); from: waabam – see s.o.). Ingoding igo azhigwa, "Way, yay, wewiib enda-gizhigaawan iniw ininaatigoon," ikido (then it was time: "Goodness gracious, hurry, the maples are running just fast," she said; wewiib – hurry, enda-gizhigaawan – they (obv.) are running with sup really hard, from: gizhigaa – run hard (as sap in spring), enda- - really, very, ininaatigoon – maples (obv.); from ininaatig – maple (anim.)). Mii go gaye giizhaa gaa-izhi-manisewaad ingiw ikwewag (the women had cut wood beforehand; giizhaa – beforehand, in advance, gaa-izhi-manisewaad – they cut wood; from: manise – cut (fire)wood). Giishkiboojigan ogii-ayaanaawaaw (they had a saw; giishkiboojigan – crosscut saw (inan.), ogii-ayaanaawaaw – they had it; from: ayaan – have s.t.). Neniibowa ogii-okosidoonaawaan iniw misan (they had piled up a whole lot of firewood; neniibowa – a whole lot, ogii-okosidoonaawaan – they piled them (inan.); from: okosidoon – pile s.t., stack s.t., misan – firewood (inan. pl.)).

[8] Gii-michaa-sh i’iw wiigiwaam (the wigwam was big; gii-michaa-sh – it was big; from: michaa – be big (inan.)). Agaamindesiing mii iwidi gii-ayaawaad a’aw inzhishenh iniw wiihan miinawaa bezhig ikwezens (on the other side of the fire were my uncle, his wife, and one little girl; agaamindesiing – on the other side of the fire in a lodge, iwidi – over there, bezhig – one, ikwezens – girl (anim.)). Gil-agaashiinyi (she was small; from: agaashiinyi – be small (anim.)). Baanimaa gaa-ozhige yaang, gii-pi-dagoshinoog (sometime after we had done the building, they arrived; baanimaa – after, later, gaa-ozhige yaang – we built a lodge; from: ozhige – build a lodge, gii-pi-dagoshinoog –
they arrived; from: *dagoshin* – arrive, *pi* – here). Gaye wiinawaa gii-pi-bagamidaabii'iwewag, ingiw bebezhigooganzhiig, mashkosiwan imaa gii-piidoon ashamaawaad bebezhigooganzhiin (they too arrived driving, those horses, [and] brought hay to feed the horses; *wiinawaa* – they, *mashkosiwan* – hay (inan.pl.); from: *mashkosiw* – grass, hay, *gii-piidoon* – they brought it/them (inan.); from *biidoon* – bring s.t., *ashamaawaad* – they feed them (anim.); from: *asham* – feed (s.t.) to s.o.).


[9] "Oo, yay," ikido, "azhigwa onjigaawan iniw mitigoon ("oh, my," she said, "those trees are running now). Babaa-wiijiwishin, Naawakamigook," indig (come around with me, Naawakamigook!) she said to me; *babaa-wiijiwishin* – come around with me; from: *wiijiw* – accompany s.o., *babaa* – going about, *Naawakamigook* – name: Middle of the Earth Woman, *indig* – she is telling me; from: *izhi* – tell s.o. "Bi-dakonan iniw biskitenaagan," ikido ("carry those sap buckets!" she said; *bi-dakonan* – carry them (inan.) here; from: *dakonan* – carry s.t., hold s.t.). Miish i'iw ezhichiged (this is what she did; *ezhichige* – she does / is doing; from *izhichige* – do things a certain way), mii bezhig iniw mitigoon ezhi-naazikawaad (when she went up to a tree; *bezhig* – one, *ezhi-naazikawaad* – she went to it (anim.) so; from: *naazikaw* – go to s.o.), ezhi-ozhitood i'iw ayi'ii, iniw ayi'iiin negwaakwaanen, ezhi-bimoondang iko (the taps she had made, she carried them on her back; ezhi-ozhitood – she made them (inan.) here; from: *ozhitoon* – make s.t., *ayi'ii* – thing, something, *negwaakwaanen* – taps; from: *negwaakwaan* – tap for tree (inan.), *ezhi-bimoondang* – she carries them (inan.) on her back; from: *bimoondan* – carry s.t. on one’s back, *iko* - used to, usually), gichi-ginwegambizod ganawaabamag iko, gichi-nisaabaawed (she had a long skirt on – I was watching her (and) she got very wet; *gichi-ginwegambizod* – she has a very long skirt; from: *ginwegambizo* – wear a long skirt, *ganawaabam* –(when) I am watching her; from: *ganawaabam* – look at s.o., watch s.o., *gichi-nisaabaawed* – she is very wet; from: *nisabaawe*, gichi-gagaanwegadinig iniw ogoodaasiwaan gichi-nisaabaawed (their skirts were so long then – she got really wet; *gichi-gagaanwegadinig* – they (inan.) are very long; from: *gagaanwegadoon* – they (inan.) are long (of something sheet-like), *ogoodaasiwaan* – their dresses; from: *i-goodas* – dress (inan.), *ganawaabamag iko babaa-ozhiga'iged* (and as I watched her, she went around tapping trees; *babaa-ozhiga'iged* – she goes around tapping trees; from: *ozhiga'ige* – tap trees), gaye niin ezhi-bimiwidooyaan midaasookwapidewan biskitenaaghan (me too, I carried along the bundles of sap buckets, ten to a bundle; *gaye niin* –me too; literally: and me, *ezhi-bimiwidooyaan* – I carry them along; from: *bimiwidoon* – carry s.t. along, *midaasookwapidewan* – they are ten to a bundle, form: *midaasookwapide* – be ten to a bundle).

"Oo, yay," ikido, "azhigwa onjigaawan iniw mitigoon. Babaawiijiwishin,

[10] Mii go ezhi-waabandamaang ji-onjigaasinog mii onjigaag, bigiw imaa ezhi-agokanangid (we looked to make sure they wouldn't leak and if they did, we stuck pitch on them; ezhi-waabandamaang – we look at them(inan.) so, ji-onjigaasinog – for them do not leak; from: onjigaa – leak, drip, ji- – in order to, -sinog – they (inan.) do not...; mii onjigaag – [when] they leak, bigiw – pitch, tar (inan.), ezhi-agokanangid – we stick pitch on it (anim.); from agokazh – stick s.o. on). "Weweni atoon," indig. ("place them carefully," she told me; weweni – carefully, atoon – put them; from atoon – put s.t.) "Gego ganage ziigwebinangen," ikido ("don't spill any," she said; gego ziigwebinagen – don't spill it; from: ziigwebinan – spill s.t., garage – in the least, by any means). "Mewinzha giwenh gaawiin ogii-siigwebinanzinaawaaz ziinzibaakwadwaaboo ("it's said that long ago they never spilled any sap; giwenh – so it is said, gaawiin ogii-siigwebinanzinaawaaz – they didn't spill it, siigwebinan = ziigwebinan, ziinzibaakwadwaaboo – maple sap (inan.)). Gego ziigwebinangen," indig, "i'iw ayi'iin ziinzibaakwadwaaboo ("don't spill," she said to me, "any of that sap")." Miish azhigwa, gichi-niibowa azhigwa gii-ayaang i'iw ziinzibaakwadwaaboo (and then, she got lots of sap then; gichi-niibowa –very much, a lot; gii-ayaang – she had it; from ayaan – have s.t.).


[11] Mii gaye iniw makakosagoon atoobaanan iidog izhi-wiindewan (there were barrels there called atoobaanan, makakosagoon – barrels; from: makakosag – tub, barrel (inan.), atoobaan – trough, tank (inan.), iidog – maybe, must be, izhi-wiindewan – they (inan.) are called so; from: wiinde – have a name, be named (inan.)). Azhigwa onaagoshig, mii go azhigwa mooshkinebiig iniw ayi'iin biskitenaaganan (in the evening, when the sap buckets were full; mooshkinebiig – they are full, form: mooshkinebii – they are full (of liquid)), azhigwa naadoobiwaad ingiw ikwewag imaa ziiginamowaad (the women carried the sap and poured it into them; naadoobiwaad – they go after sap; from: naadoobii – go get water or other liquid, go after sap, imaa – there, ziiginamowaad – they pour it, from: ziiginan – pour s.t., spill s.t.), ayi'iin bagiwayaanish imaa ziikoobiiginamowaad i'iw ziinzibaakwadwaaboo (straining the sap through a cloth; bagiwayaanish – cloth, rug (inan.), ziikoobiiginamowaad – they strain it; from: ziikoobiiginan – strain s.t.). Mii azhigwa niswi go mooshkinebiig iniw makakoon
waabaninig (there were three barrels full in the morning, so they hung the kettles; niswi – three, makakoon – boxes, birch bark baskets; from: makak – box, birch bark basket, waabananining – in the morning (obv.)), ezhi-onakinaawaad (so they hung [the kettles]; onakizh – set s.o. up). Biindig igaye dash iskigamizigewag, gaawiin agwajiing, iskigamizigewaad, atoowaad (they boiled sap inside, not outside; when they boiled sap, they put it there; biindig – inside, dash – and, iskigamizigew – they boil sap; from: iksigamizige – boil sap, gaawiin – no, not, agwajiing – outside, iskigamizigewaad – [when] they boil sap, atoowaad – they put it [there]; from: atoon – put s.t. in a certain place).


[12] Miish i’iw enanokiiyaan niin, mii ezhi-nibawiyiyan jiigishkode ganawaabandamaan geeoo iwidiziigigamidesinog (what I did was stand by the fire watching things so they didn’t boil over; enanokiiyaan [that] I do; from: anokii – to work, niin – I, ezhi-nibawiyiyan – I stand so; from niibawii – to stand, -yaan – I, jiigishkode – by the fire, ganawaabandamaan – I watch, I am watching, geeoo – something, anything, iwidiziigigamidesinog – it doesn’t boil over; from: ziigigamide – boil over), ezhi-dakonag zhingobaandag, ikwewag boodawewaad (holding a fir bough, while the women stoked the fire; ezhi-dakonag – I hold it (anim.) so, from: dakon – hold s.o., zhingobaandag – fir bough (anim.), boodawewaad – [when] they stoke the fire; from: boodawe – build fire). Mii go imaa ziigigamideg, mii imaa o-gondaabiiginag zhingobaandag akikong (If it boiled over, I dipped the bough in the kettle; ziigigamideg – [when] it boils over; o-gondaabiiginag – I dip it (anim.) , from: gondaabiigin – put s.o. in water, o– go over to, akikong – in the kettle; from akik – kettle (anim.)). Mii eta go enanokiiyaan, mii go gabe-giizhig (that’s what I did all day; mii eta go – so that’s only, gabe-giizhig – all day).

Miish i’iw enanokiiyaan niin, mii ezhi-nibawiyiyan jiigishkode ganawaabandamaan geeoo iwidiziigigamidesinog, ezhi-dakonag zhingobaandag, ikwewag boodawewaad. Mii go imaa ziigigamideseg, mii imaa o-gondaabiiginag zhingobaandag akikong. Mii eta go enanokiiyaan, mii go gabe-giizhig.

[13] Bezhig azhigwa a’aw akik, mii imaa ani-ziiginamowaad i’iw azhigwa ayaamowaad, giizhigamizigewaad (there was one pail there where they poured what they had when they finished boiling; ani – in progress, there, ayaamowaad – they have it; from ayaan, giizhigamizigewaad – they finish boiling; from: giizhigamizige – finish boiling things ). Bezhig a’aw akik miinawaa dibikak, mii a’aw eshkwegoojing, bezhig iwidizi akik eta go, mii i’iw ziizwaagamizigan (that single pail, by night, the one that hung last in the row,
just the one pail there, was syrup; *eshkwegooying* – that, hanging last in a row; from *ishkwegooyin* - hang last in a row (anim.), *zhiiwaagamizigan* – syrup (inan.).

**Gabe-dibik ezhi-ishkodewang imaa** (there was a fire there all night; *gabe-dibik* – all night, *ezhi-ishkodewang* – it is fire; from: *ishkodewan* – be on fire) miinawaa gigizheb azhigwa ziiokoobigamizowaad *i'iw* (and in the morning they strained it; *ziiokoobigamizowaad* – they strain it; from *ziiokoobiginaan* – strain s.t.).


[14] Ogii-kiziibiiginaan-sh iko iniw akikoon (she washed the kettles; *ogii-kiziibiiginaan-sh* – she washed them (anim.)); from: *giziibiigin* – wash s.o. by hand, *-sh* = *dash*. "Giziibiiginik ongo akikoog," gii-ikido ("Wash these kettles," she said).

Miinawaa gimiwang (and if it rained; *gimiwang* – [if] it rains; from: *gimiwan* – rain), mii *i'iw* a*pii* giziibiiginigaadewan iniw ayii'in biskitenaaganaan (then the sap buckets were washed; *giziibiiginigaadewan* – they (inan.) are washed; from: *giziibiiginigaade* – be washed (inan.)), apane *gii-kiziibiiginang* (she was always washing them; *gii-kiziibiiginang* – she washed them (inan.)).

Ogii-kiziibiiginaan-sh iko iniw akikoon. "Giziibiiginik ongo akikoog," gii-ikido. **Miinawaa gimiwang, mii *i'iw* a*pii* giziibiiginigaadewan iniw ayii'in biskitenaaganaan, apane gii-kiziibiiginang.**

[15] **Gaawiin ginwenzh ogii-kanawendanziin** (she didn't keep the syrup long; *ginwenzh* – for a long time, *ogii-kanawendanziin* – she didn't take care of it; from: *ganawendan* – take cake or s.t.). Mii go *ingo-ombigamizigan ikidom* (the results of each sugaring, they say; *ingo-ombigamizigan* – each sugaring; from: *ombigamizigan* – boiling sugar (inan.); *ingo-* – one, single, *ikidom* – they say), *eni-izhi-biina'ang makakong, wiigwaasimakakong* (should be put away as you go into the boxes, birch bark boxes; *eni-izhi-biina'ang* – it is put away so; from: *ani-* – in progress, *izhi* – in a certain way, thus, so, *biina'an* – put s.t. in, *wiigwaasimakakong* – in the birch bark boxes; from: *wiigwaasimakak* – birch bark box (inan.)), *ombigamizigewaad, eni-izhi-biina'amowaad imaa *i'iw* ayii'i, *i'iw* ziinzibaakwad* (so as they sugared off, they put in the sugar; *ombigamizigewaad* [as] they sugar off; from: *ombigamizige* - boil to sugar, sugar off, *ziinzibaakwad* – maple sugar, sugar (inan.)).

**Gaawiin ginwenzh ogii-kanawendanziin. Mii go ingo-ombigamizigan ikidom, eni-izhi-biina'ang makakong, wiigwaasimakakong, ombigamizigewaad, eni-izhi-biina'amowaad imaa *i'iw* ayii'i, *i'iw* ziinzibaakwad.**

[16] **Miinawaa adaawewininiwan ogii-adaamigowaan ziiga'iganan** (the storekeeper
bought sugar cakes from them; *adaawewiniwan* – storekeeper (obv.); from: *adaawewini* – store clerk, storekeeper (anim.), *ogii-adaamigowaan* – he (obv.) bought it from them; from: *adaam* – but (s.t.) from s.o., *ziiga’igan* – sugar cakes; from: *ziiga’igan* – sugar cake (inan.). Miish ko gii-adaawewaad bakwezhiganan, anibiiish, bimide, waa-miijiwaad (they used to buy flour, tea, lard, whatever they wanted to eat; *gii-adaawewaad* – they bought (it); from: *adaawe* – buy (s.t.), *bakwezhigan* – flour (plural); from: *bakwezhigan* – flour, bread (inan.), *anibiiish* – tea (inan.), *bimide* – lard, grease, oil (inan.), *waa-miijiwaad* – [that, what] they want to eat; from: *miiji* – eat.s.t., *waa* – want, will). Miinawaa ingiw ikwewag gii-wenda-ginzhihizhawiziwag madaabiiwaad (and those ladies worked hard going to the shore; *madaabiiwaad* – they go down to the shore; from: *madaabii* – go down to the shore) ezhi-bagida’waawaad daashkikwadininig (setting a net through a crack in the ice; *ezhi-bagida’waawaad* – they set a net; from: *bagida’waa* – fish with a net, set a net, daashkikwadininig – [where] there is a crack in the ice (obv.); from: *daashkikwadin* – there is a crack in the ice) mii imaa iniw asabiin onaabiiginaawaad (that’s where they strung the nets; *iniw asabiin* – those nets (obv.); from: *asab* – net (anim.), onaabiiginaawaad – they string them (anim.) in place; from: *onaabiigin* – string s.o. in place) Iniw giigoonyan niibowa onisaawaan (they got lots of fish; *iniw giigoonyan* – those fishes (obv.), from: *giigoonh* – fish (anim.), onisaawaan – they kill them (anim.obv.); from: *nisaa* – kill s.o.). Mi ezhi-abwewaad iniw giigoonyan (then they roasted the fish; *ezhi-abwewaad* – they roasted (them); from: *abwe*– roast (s.t.), cook (s.t.) over a fire), gaye wii-izhi’aawaad igo (or fixed them in other ways; *wii-izhi’aawaad* – they wish to make them so; from: *izhi’* – make s.o. in a certain way, *wii*– wish, will (future prefix)). Maagizhaa odoonzwaawaan maagizhaa odabwenaawaan (they might boil them or roast them by the fire; maagizha – maybe, perhaps, odoonzwaawaan – they boil them (anim.obv.); from: *onzo* – boil s.o., odabwenaawaan – they roast them (anim.obv.); from: *abwe*).

[17] Miish azhigwa, miish azhigwa ishkwaagamizigeyaang (then when we got done boiling sap; *ishkwaagamizigeyaang* – (when) we finish boiling sap), miish azhigwa aniiibiishensan ayaamagak (there were leaf-buds on the trees; *aniiibiishens* – leaf-buds; from: *aniiibiishes* – leaf-bud (inan.), ayaamagak – they (inan.) are in such a state; from: *ayaa(magad)*). *Ishkwaagamizigeyaang* (when we got done boiling sap), mi ezhi-asiginamaang akina gegoo (we gathered everything together; *ezhi-asiginamaang* – we gather them up; from: *asiginan* – put s.t. together, gather s.t. up) gizibiginamaang gaye iniw biskitenaaganan (we washed the sap buckets; gizibiginamaang – we wash them (inan.); from: *giziibiiginan* – wash s.t.) ezhi-dakobidooyaang (and tied them up; *dakobidooyaang* – we tie them (inan.) up;
from: dakobidoon – tie s.t. well). Mii ezhi-madaabiigoziwaad (then they moved camp down to the shore; ezhi-madaabiigoziwaad – they moved camp down to the shore; from: madaabiigozi – move camp down to the lake), jiigibiig izhi-goziwag (moved to the lake; jiigibiig – by the water, on the shore, izhi-goziwag – they move camp; from: gozi – move camp / residence). Imaa akina gegoo gi-asiginamaang (we gathered everything up). Miish imaa endaawaad imaa jiigibiig (they lived there by the lake; endaawaad – they live there; from: daa – live in a certain place), wewebanaabiiwaad (and fished; wewebanaabii – fish (with a line)). Ogii-adaawaagenaawaan iko iniw giigoonyan (they used to sell the fish; ogii-adaawaagenaawaan – they sold them (anim.obv.); from: adaawaage – sell (something)). Gii-paatayiinowag giigoonyag (there were lots of fish; gii-paatayiinowag – they (anim.) were many; from: baatayiino – be many). Aabita-zhooniyaans ingo-dibaabiishkoojigan iko gii-izhi-miinaawag ogaawan (they were given a nickel a pound for walleyes; aabita-zhooniyaans – nickel (coin) (anim.), ingo-dibaabiishkoojigan – one pound, gii-izhi-miinaawag – they were given it (anim.); from: miizh – give s.o., ogaawan – walleyes (obv.); from: ogaa – walleye pike (anim.)). Apane go wewebanaabiiwaad imaa jiigibiig (they were always fishing there by the lake).


[18] Mii azhigwa mawinzong (then in berry-picking time), azhigwa mawinzowaad iniw miinan (they picked blueberries; mawinzowaad – they pick berries; from: mawinzo – pick berries, miinan – blueberries; from: miin – blueberry (inan.)). Miish ezhi-giweyaang akawe (but first we went home; giweyaang – we go home; from: giwe – go home, akawe – first, at first). Miinawaa go da-o-gitige akawe, o-gitiged, a'aw mindimooyenh o-gitiged (and she went to do the planting first, she went to do the planting, the old lady, she went to do the planting; da-o-gitige – she will go to do the planting; from: da- – will (future tense prefix), o- – go over to, gitige – to plant, to garden, to farm). Gii-michaani ogitigaan (her garden was big; gii-michaani – (it (obv.) is big; from: michaa – be big (inan.), ogitigan – her garden, from: gitigan – garden (inan.)). Gii-michaani iko ogitigaan a'aw mindimooyenh gaa-izhi-gitiged (the garden the old lady planted was big).

Mii azhigwa jiigayi’ii wii-aabantiniibinig (then it was close to the middle of the summer; jiigayi’ii - by, near, close, wii-aabantiniibinig – it will be the middle of the summer; from: aabantiniibin - be halfway through the summer). Miish aanind, miish azhigwa opinii giizhiginid (some of the potatoes were full-grown; aanind – some; opinii – potatoes (obv.); from: opin – potato (anim.), giizhiginid – they (obv.) are full-grown; from: giizhi – be fully grown) miinawaa ezhi-maajaayaang, babaa-mawizoyaan (and we left to go around picking berries). Mii go ingiw bebezhigooganzhiig gichi-ziibiing iko ingii-izhi-mawinzomin [[we used] those horses and went to pick berries at the Mississippi; gichi-ziibiing – at the Mississippi; from: gichi-ziibi – Mississippi river, ingii-izhi-mawinzomin – we picked berries). Bagiwayaanegamig omaajiidoonaawaa (they took along a tent; bagiwayaanegamig – tent (inan.), omaajiidoonaawaa – they take it along; from: maajiidoon – take s.t. along). Miish aanind, mish azhigwa opinii giizhiginid miinawaa ezhi-maajaayaang, babaa-mawizoyaan (and we left to go around picking berries). Mii go ingiw bebezhigooganzhiig gichi-ziibiing iko ingii-izhi-mawinzomin [[we used] those horses and went to pick berries at the Mississippi; gichi-ziibiing – at the Mississippi; from: gichi-ziibi – Mississippi river, ingii-izhi-mawinzomin – we picked berries). Bagiwayaanegamig omaajiidoonaawaa (they took along a tent; bagiwayaanegamig – tent (inan.), omaajiidoonaawaa – they take it along; from: maajiidoon – take s.t. along). Miish aanind, mish azhigwa opinii giizhiginid miinawaa ezhi-maajaayaang, babaa-mawizoyaan (and we left to go around picking berries). Mii go ingiw bebezhigooganzhiig gichi-ziibiing iko ingii-izhi-mawinzomin [[we used] those horses and went to pick berries at the Mississippi; gichi-ziibiing – at the Mississippi; from: gichi-ziibi – Mississippi river, ingii-izhi-mawinzomin – we picked berries). Bagiwayaanegamig omaajiidoonaawaa (they took along a tent; bagiwayaanegamig – tent (inan.), omaajiidoonaawaa – they take it along; from: maajiidoon – take s.t. along). Miish aanind, mish azhigwa opinii giizhiginid miinawaa ezhi-maajaayaang, babaa-mawizoyaan (and we left to go around picking berries). Mii go ingiw bebezhigooganzhiig gichi-ziibiing iko ingii-izhi-mawinzomin [[we used] those horses and went to pick berries at the Mississippi; gichi-ziibiing – at the Mississippi; from: gichi-ziibi – Mississippi river, ingii-izhi-mawinzomin – we picked berries). Bagiwayaanegamig omaajiidoonaawaa (they took along a tent; bagiwayaanegamig – tent (inan.), omaajiidoonaawaa – they take it along; from: maajiidoon – take s.t. along). Miish aanind, mish azhigwa opinii giizhiginid miinawaa ezhi-maajaayaang, babaa-mawizoyaan (and we left to go around picking berries). Mii go ingiw bebezhigooganzhiig gichi-ziibiing iko ingii-izhi-mawinzomin [[we used] those horses and went to pick berries at the Mississippi; gichi-ziibiing – at the Mississippi; from: gichi-ziibi – Mississippi river, ingii-izhi-mawinzomin – we picked berries). Bagiwayaanegamig omaajiidoonaawaa (they took along a tent; bagiwayaanegamig – tent (inan.), omaajiidoonaawaa – they take it along; from: maajiidoon – take s.t. along).