

Ojibwe Language Work Sheet

Name _____

1) What 5 other ways has the Ojibwe Language has been called?

2) Around what area is this Language centered?

3) Which Variety is used in the Ojibwe People Dictionary?

4) Where is it mostly spoken?

5) Who is it mostly spoken by?

6) Why do you think it is a “mostly endangered language”?

7) What is being done to remedy this situation?

Answers:

1: Ojibwe has been called by many names including Anishinaabemowin, Ojibwe, Ojibway, Ojibwa, Southwestern Chippewa, and Chippewa

2: It is a Central Algonquian language spoken by the Anishinaabe people throughout much of Canada from Ontario to Manitoba and US Border States from Michigan to Montana. It is centered around the Great Lakes homeland of the Ojibwe people.

3: The variety of Ojibwe used in the Ojibwe People's Dictionary is the Central Southwestern Ojibwe.

4: It is spoken in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Canadian border lakes communities.

5: Today, it is spoken mainly by elders over the age of 70

6: Because it is a language “spoken by grandparents and older generations; while the parent generation may understand it, they do not speak it to children or among themselves,”

7: Revitalization efforts are underway, with immersion schools operating in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Ojibwe has a growing number of second-language speakers, and the language is taught in many secondary and post-secondary classrooms throughout Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan and Ontario. The Peoples Dictionary is also part of that greater Project.

The Ojibwe alphabet is as follows:

a, aa, b, ch, d, e, g, h, ' , i, ii, j, k, m, n, o, oo, p, s, sh, t, w, y, z, zh

On a basic level it differs from our Alphabet in its Double vowel and consonant sounds and its lack of the following letters: F,L,Q,R,U,V,X