

## LESSON 4 : Kinship System - Immediate Family

Lakota is rich in the expression of relationship. Men and women often use entirely different words for the same degree of relationship. These words cannot be interchanged. The children of a family apply the word "father" (ate) to both their real father and to all his brothers, and are called "children" by them. In a like manner, they address as "mother" (ina) both their real (biological) mother and all of her sisters, and are called "children" by them. Only the sisters of one's father are "aunts" and only the brothers of one's mother are "uncles."

The sons and daughters of two or more brothers are consequently "brothers" and "sisters" to one another, and the children of two or more sisters are likewise "brothers" and "sisters" to one another. Hence, only the children of brothers and sisters are "cousins" to one another.

### Relationships as Expressed by Males and Females

#### (grandfather) Both males and females would say:

tunkasila	grandfather
mitunkasila, or tunkasila kin	my grandfather
nitunkasila kin	your grandfather
tunkasitk'u kin	his/her grandfather
tunkasilaya	to have for a grandfather

#### (grandmother) Both males and females would say:

unci	grandmother
unci kin, or unciwaye kin	my grandmother
nikunsi kin	your grandmother
kunsitku kin	his/her grandmother
unciya	to have for a grandmother

#### (father)

ate	father
atekin, or atewaye kin	my father
niyate kin	your father
atkuku kin	his/her father

ateya	to have for a father
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(mother)

ina	mother
ina kin, or inawaye kin	my mother
nihun kin	your mother
hunku kin	his/her mother
inaya	to have for a mother

(child : either a son or a daughter)

micinca kin	my child
nicinca kin	your child
cinca kin	his/her child
unkicinca kin	our child
unkicincapi kin	our children
nicincapi kin	your children
cincapi kin	their children
cincaya	to have for a child

(grandchild)

takoja	grandchild
mitakoja kin	my grandchild
nitakoja kin	your grandchild
takojakpaku kin	his/her grandchild
takojaya	to have for a grandchild

(son)

cinks, or cinksi	son
micinksi, or micinksi kin	my son
nicinksi kin	your son
cinca kin, or cinksitku kin	his/her son
cinksiya	to have for a son

(daughter)

cunks, or cunksi	daughter
micunksi, or micunksi kin	my daughter

nicunksi kin	your daughter
cunwintku kin	his/her daughter
cunksiya	to have for a daughter

(husband) A female would say:

mihigna kin	my husband
nihigna kin	your husband
hignaku kin	her husband
hignaya	to have for a husband

(wife) A male would say:

mitawin, or mitawicu kin	my wife
nitawin, or nitawicu kin	your wife
tawicu kin	his wife
tawicuya	to have for a wife

(a male's older brother)

ciye	older brother
ciye, or ciyewaye kin	my older brother
niciye kin	your older brother
ciyeku kin	his older brother
ciyeya	to have for an older brother

(a female's older brother)

tiblo	older brother
tiblo, or mitiblo kin	my older brother
nitiblo kin	your older brother
tibloku kin	her older brother
tibloya	to have for an older brother

(younger brother) Both male and female would say:

misun	younger brother
misunkala kin	my younger brother
nisunkala kin	your younger brother
sunkaku kin	his/her younger brother
sunkaya	to have for a younger brother

(a male's older sister)

tanke	older sister
mitanke kin	my older sister
nitanke kin	your older sister
tankeku kin	his older sister
tankeya	to have for an older sister

(a female's older sister)

cuwe	older sister
cuwe kin, or cuwe waye kin	my older sister
nicuwe kin	your older sister
cuweku kin	her older sister
cuweya	to have for an older sister

(younger sister) A male would say:

tanksi	younger sister
mitanksi kin	my younger sister
nitanksi kin	your younger sister
tanksitku kin	his/her younger sister
tanksiya	to have for a younger sister

(younger sister) A female would say:

tanka	younger sister
mitanka kin, or tanka waye kin	my younger sister
nitanka kin	your younger sister
tankaku kin	her younger sister
tankaya	to have for a younger sister

The following are verbs that can be used with the previous kinship terms. These verbs express a form of motion such as arriving, coming and going at different places.

## Verbal Conjugations

<u>iyaya</u>	<u>past tense of "to go"</u>
iblabla (e)	I went
ilala (e)	you went
iyaya (e)	he/she went
iyayapi	they went
ilalapi	you all went
unkiaypi	we all went
<u>ya</u>	<u>present tense of "to go"</u>
bla (e)	I am going
la (e)	you are going
ya (e)	he/she is going
yapi	they are going
lapi	you all are going
unyapi	we all are going
<u>yinkte</u>	<u>future tense of "to go"</u>
mnin kte	I will go
nin kte	you will go
yin kte	he/she will go
yapi kte	they will go
lapi kte	all of you will go
unyapi kte	we all will go

The past and future tense of "to go" in the first, second and third person singular can also be combined as :

iblamnin kte	I will go
Ecani iblamnin kte.	I will go soon.
ilanin kte	you will go
Tohan ilanin kta he/how?	When will you go?
iyayin kte	he/she will go
Tohan iyayin kta he/how?	When will he/she go?
Ecani iyayin kte ye/yelo.	He/she will go soon.
<u>hi</u>	<u>to arrive here (present location)</u>
wahi	I arrive here
yahi	you arrive here
hi	he/she arrives here

hipi  
yahipi  
unhipi

they arrive here  
you all arrive here  
we all arrive here

i  
wai  
yai  
i

to arrive there (some place else)  
I arrive there  
you arrive there  
he/she arrives there

ipi  
yaipi  
unkipi

they arrive there  
you all arrive there  
we all arrive there

gli  
wagli  
yagli  
gli

to arrive home (general location)  
I arrive home  
you arrive home  
he/she arrives home

glipi  
yaglipi  
unglipi

they arrive home  
you all arrive home  
we all arrive home

ki  
waki  
yaki  
ki

to arrive home (there)  
I arrive home  
you arrive home  
he/she arrives home

kipi  
yakipi  
unkipi

they arrive home  
all of your arrive home  
we all arrive home

## Vocabulary : General Place Nouns

owayawa  
masopiye  
otonwahe  
owacekiye

school  
store  
town  
church

okuja tipi  
owotetipi  
tipi

hospital  
restaurant  
house, home

## Additional Vocabulary

tuktel  
tokiya  
tuwa

where (specific)  
where (general)  
who

ekta  
tohan  
tohani

to, at  
when (past)  
when (future)

ecani  
wanna  
lehani

soon  
now  
now

ehanni  
tokiyani  
yanka

in the past  
nowhere  
to sit, to be

un  
nakes ,  
nahanh'ci

to be  
just now  
not yet

## Exercises

**Listen to the tape first and complete the remaining exercises.**

1. Tokiya la he/hwo? Where are you going?  
\_\_\_\_\_ ta ble ye/yelo. I am going to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Niyate kin tokiya iyaya he/hwo? Where has your father gone?  
Tokiyanni, tiyata yanka ye/yelo. Nowhere, he is at home.  
Nihun kin tokiya iyaya he/hwo? Where has your mother gone?  
Tokiyanni, tiyata yanka ye/yelo. Nowhere, she is at home.  
\_\_\_\_\_ tokiya iyaya he/hwo? Where has \_\_\_\_\_ gone?

Tokiyanni, tiyata yanka ye/yelo. Nowhere, \_\_\_\_\_ is at home.

3. Wanna masopiyeta la he/hwo? Are you going to the store now?  
 Han, wanna masopiyeta bla Yes, I am going to the store now.  
 ye/yelo.  
 Hiya, wanna masopiyeta No, I am not going to the store now.  
 ble sni.  
 Ehanni wai ye/yelo. I already went.

Wanna owayawata la he/hwo? Are you going to the school now?  
 Han, wanna owayawata bla Yes, I am going to the school now.  
 ye/yelo.  
 Hiya, wanna owayawata No, I am not going to the school now.  
 ble sni.  
 Ehanni wai ye/yelo. I already went.

Wanna \_\_\_\_\_ ta la he/hwo? Are you going to the \_\_\_\_\_ now?  
 Han, wanna \_\_\_\_\_ ta bla Yes, I am going to the \_\_\_\_\_  
 ye/yelo. now.  
 Hiya, wanna \_\_\_\_\_ ta No, I am not going to the \_\_\_\_\_  
 ble sni. Ehanni wai ye/yelo. now. I already went.

4. Tohan yahi he/hwo? When did you arrive here?  
 Nakes wahi ye/yelo. I just not arrived.

Tohan yahi he/hwo? When did you arrive here?  
 Ehanni wahi ye/yelo. I arrived earlier.

Tohan yahi he/hwo? When did you arrive here?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ wahi ye/yelo. I arrived \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Otonwaheta yai he/hwo? Did you go to town?  
 Han, otonwaheta wai ye/yelo. Yes, I went to town.  
 Hiye, otonwaheta wai sni No, I did not go to town.  
 ye/yelo.

\_\_\_\_\_ ta yai he/hwo? Did you go to (the) \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Han, \_\_\_\_\_ ta wai ye/yelo. Yes, I went to (the) \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Hiya, \_\_\_\_\_ ta wai sni No, I did not go to (the) \_\_\_\_\_.  
 ye/yelo.

6. Ina tohan gli he/hwo? When did mother arrive home?  
 Ina nakes gli ye/yelo. Mother just now arrived home.

Unci tohan gli he/hwo? When did grandmother arrive come home?

Unci nahanh'ci gli sni ye/yelo. Grandmother hasn't come home yet.

\_\_\_\_\_ tohan gli he/hwo? When did \_\_\_\_\_ arrive home?



\_\_\_\_\_ gli ye/yelo.

\_\_\_\_\_ arrived home.

7. Tuwa owacekiyeta yin kta he/hwo?  
Mitiblo kin owacekiyeta yin kte ye.

Who will go to the church?  
My older brother will go to the church. (female)

Tuwa owotetipita yin kta he/hwo?  
Cuwewaye kin owotetipita yinkte ye.

Who will go to the restaurant?  
My older sister will go the restaurant. (female)

Tuwa \_\_\_\_\_ ta yin kta he/hwo?  
\_\_\_\_\_ kin \_\_\_\_\_ ta yin kte ye/yelo.

Who will go to the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ will go to the \_\_\_\_\_.

**This is the conclusion of Lesson 4. If you feel you haven't mastered the material, you may stop the tape and go back to the beginning of the lesson. Repeat until mastery of the material is achieved.**