

Hijaire

Need to Know!

Birth Order Names

Male

1st born	Kuṣuṣu
2nd born	Heenaṅa
3rd born	Haaga
4th born	Naaḡi
5th born	Naaḡi xṣuṣu

Female

1st born	Hiinuṣu
2nd born	Wiihaṅa
3rd born	Haksiiga
4th born	Hinaḡake
5th born	Haksiigaxṣuṣu

hige - call

higaire - they call

hiniḡaire - they call you

hiḡaire - they call me

Maiḡxete raaṣra jaagu hiniḡaire? What is your English name?

Maiḡxete raaṣra _____ga hiḡaire. _____ is my name.

Hoocḡak raaṣra jaagu hiniḡaire? What is your Hoocḡak name?

Hoocḡak raaṣra _____ga hiḡaire. _____ is my name.

Hijgaire

Hoit'e hi'ura:

The personal name marker *-ga*

This suffix is used to mark personal names. You use it when you are talking **about** a person and you want to mention their name, e.g.:

Hoojokjk že'e Kunuga higaire. 'That little boy's name is Kunu.'

It is **not** used when you are **addressing** or talking to someone, as in:

Aho, Hinu! Hanjocara hajpj. 'Hello, Hinu! it's good to see you.'

It is used on Hooçak names as well as English names, e.g.:

Kunuga hijgaire. 'My name is Kunu.'

Phillipga hijgaire. 'My name is Phillip.'

Info: The personal name marker *-ga* is **not used** when you're directly addressing someone.

When you're using a combination of two names, for example, the Hooçak birth order name and the English first name, then the personal name marker is only used once - on the second name of that phrase:

Hinučkjk že'e Hinu Lillyga higaire. 'That little girl's name is Hinu Lilly.'

The personal name marker is also used on all personal Hooçak names that are not birth order names, e.g.:

Waachanažžiga hijgaire. 'My name is Waachanažžj.'

Apart from this one special name which is the author's, we will not be using any of these names throughout the book as they are sacred and very meaningful. However, one more thing about them in connection with the personal name marker needs to be explained: on these special personal names a distinction between a female's and a male's name: for male names *-ga* is used, for female names *-iga* or *-wiga* is used. For more information on personal names that are not birth order names, please turn to your Clan leaders and family members.

Though the personal name marker is generally only used when referring to human beings, there are a two exceptions, the personal name marker may also be used for either one of the following:

- the names of domesticated animals (generally one's pets);
- the names of non-human characters in stories (e.g. in a children's book).

Simplified inflections of *hige* '(to) call someone something'

In the grid below you'll find a list of inflections for the verb *hige*. You will soon find out that there is more going on with that word than will explained in this Unit. However, for the phrases that you need to learn in this unit a complete knowledge of the structure that underlies this verb's inflections is not yet necessary, therefore we'll keep it as simple as possible for now. The

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grid lists all the forms you need to memorize to complete this unit. Further grammatical explanations will be provided later on.

number person	singular	
1.	<i>hijgaire</i>	'they call me'
2.	<i>hinjgaire</i>	'they call you'
3.	<i>higaire</i>	'they call him/her/it'

Different sentence types - a brief remark on intonation

We have already established that statements which end in a consonant are marked by the declarative marker *-šana*.

E.g. *Hijpinakšana*. 'I'm doing good (sitting).'

You also know already that all other statements, namely those which end in a vowel, are marked by falling intonation as well as the lengthening of that last vowel. The sentence also sounds like it is finished off with a slight "n" sound. This is because in earlier times sentences that ended in a vowel were also marked by a declarative marker. This marker used to be *-na*. However, over a longer period of time this marker was used less and less and is nowadays hardly ever heard anymore. The slight "n" sound is all that remains.

E.g. *Hinuğa hijgaire*. 'They call me Hinuğ.' Is pronounced *Hinuğa hijgairee(n)*.

The lengthening of the sentence final vowel in declarative statements will not be represented orthographically, as this may lead to confusions.

To know this intonation rule is essential as it may be the only thing that distinguishes a question from a statement. In English questions can easily be recognized by either the use of a question word (that's the same in Hoocak) or by their change of word order from a declarative sentence (this is different in Hoocak!):

E.g. Susy's Hoocak name is Hinuğ. vs.

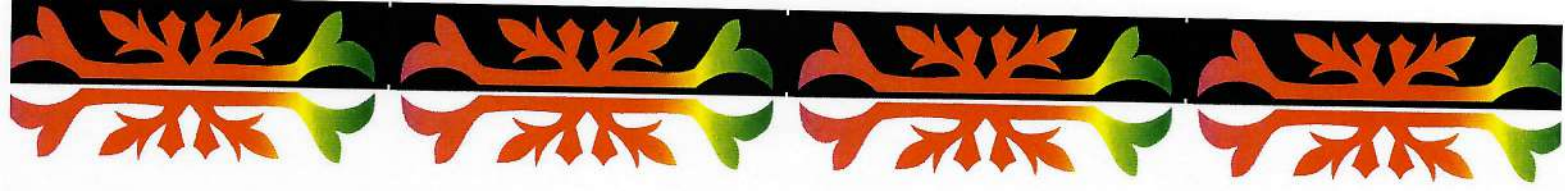
Is Susy's Hoocak name Hinuğ?

Note how the word *is* is moved to the first position of the sentence when making a question.

In Hoocak however, the word order is the same for both, the declarative sentence and the question, the verb always remains in the sentence final position:

E.g. Susyğa Hoocak raašra Hinuğa higaire. vs.

Susyğa Hoocak raašra Hinuğa higaire?



Intonation

In Hooçak the intonation is what makes all the difference. Questions are generally pronounced with rising intonation, you will hear this on all the audio tracks that accompany this textbook. While practicing this, don't be afraid to overdo your intonations at first. It's better to over-pronounce something than be misunderstood.

The term *Majxete*

A brief note on the term *Majxete*, which is a contraction of *maçhi* 'knife' and *xete* 'big': during some of their first encounters with white people the Hooçaks saw them carrying swords, which they referred to as 'big knives'. The term has now become to be used as a general term for any white person. When it refers to a language, it almost always means 'English'.

Hııgair

Question Words

Hoocak has "question words" just as the English language does. In grammar class these were referred to as "the 5 W's and How/How Many". Because the Hoocak language is so specific especially when talking about time the differences are noted below.

Who Peežega

What Jaagu

When Jaajanane "when" in the past

 Jaajanagi "when" in the future

Where Hacııja

Why Jaagu'ı

How Jaasge

How many Jaanaga refers to a quantity

How many Jaanaha refers to an amount of time or distance