Hįįgaire

Need to Know!

Birth Order Names

Male	
1st born	Kųųnų
2nd born	Heeną
3rd born	Haaga
4th born	Nąąǧi
5th born	Nąąǧi xųųnų

Female	
1st born	Hiinų
2nd born	Wiihą
3rd born	Haksiiga
4th born	Hinąąke
5th born	Haksiigaxųųnų

hige - call

higaire - they call

hinįgaire - they call you

hįįgaire - they call me

Mąįxete raašra jaagu hinįgaire? What is your English name?

Mąįxete raašra _____ga hįgaire. _____ is my name.

Hoocąk raašra jaagu hinįgaire? What is your Hoocąk name?

Hoocąk raašra _____ga hįįgaire. _____ is my name.

Hoit'e hi'ųra:

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.:

Hoojojįk že'e Kųnųga higaire. 'That little boy's name is Kųnų.'

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

Aho, Hinų! Hanjoara haipį. 'Hello, Hinų! it's good to see you.'

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

Kųnųga hįįgaire.   'My name is Kųnų.'

Phillipga hįįgaire.   'My name is Phillip.'

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

Hinųkjįk že'e Hinų Lillyga higaire. 'That little girl's name is Hinų Lilly.'

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

Waachanąžįga hįįgaire. 'My name is Waachanąžį.'

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

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.	*hįįgaire*	'they call me'
2.	*hinįgaire*	'they call you'
3.	*hįgaire*	'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 –*šąną*.

E.g. *Hįpįnąkšąną*. '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 –*ną*. 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. *Hinųga hįįgaire*. 'They call me Hinų.' Is pronounced *Hinųga hįįgairee(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 Hoocąk) or by their change of word order from a declarative sentence (this is different in Hoocąk!):

E.g.   Susy's Hoocąk name is Hinų.   vs.

        Is Susy's Hoocąk name Hinų?

Note how the word *is* is moved to the first position of the sentence when making a question. In Hoocąk 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.   Susyga Hoocąk raašra Hinųga higaire.   vs.

        Susyga Hoocąk raašra Hinųga higaire?

44
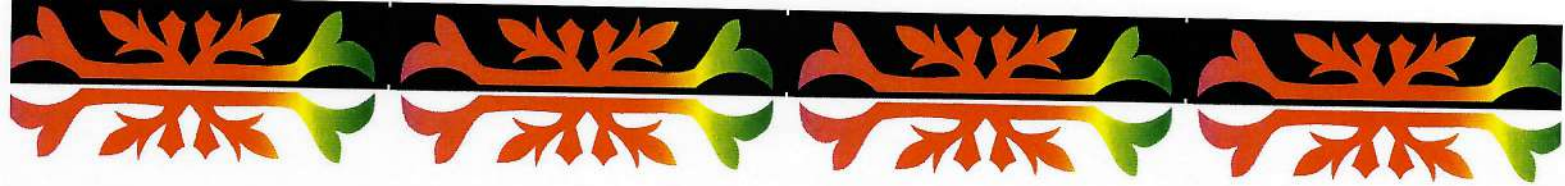
Intonation

In Hoocąk 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 *Mąįxete*

A brief note on the term *Mąįxete*, which is a contraction of *mąąhi* 'knife' and *xete* 'big': during some of their first encounters with white people the Hoocąks 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'.

Question Words

Hoocąk 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 Hoocąk language is so specific especially when talking about time the differences are noted below.

Who	Peežega	
What	Jaagų	
When	Jaajanąne	"when" in the past
	Jaajanągi	"when" in the future
Where	Hacįįja	
Why	Jaagų'ų	
How	Jaasge	
How many	Jaanąga	refers to a quantity
How many	Jaanąhą	refers to an amount of time or distance