

Kinship Terms: Members of the Family

Wyandot kinship terms are verbs. There are no nouns for mother, father, sister brother, son or daughter. And there are no separate possessives such as ‘my’, ‘your’, ‘his’ or ‘hers.’ The pronominal prefixes take care of that. Pronominal prefixes belong to one of five conjugations: consonant (by far the most common one), a-stem, e-stem, yen-/i- stem and q-/u- stem. There are two grammatical players possible in each pronominal prefix, an agent (which is always a subject when it appears) and a patient (which is a subject when it appears by itself and is an object when it is combined with the agent). A list of some of these pronominal prefixes appears at the end of this text.

Part One – Same Generation

Brothers and Sisters

The verb root used to express the sibling relation of brothers and sisters¹ is **-ʔye-**, which takes the consonant conjugation. Note that there is no verb – be a brother or – be a sister. The diminutive aspect suffix is used, I believe as a term of endearment..

heʔyeʔah I have him as sibling; my brother, my younger brother.

[heh-eh-yen-en-anh]

he-	1st person singular agent + masculine singular patient - I - him
-ʔye-	verb root – have as sibling
-ʔ-	stative aspect
-ah	diminutive aspect suffix

yeʔyeʔah I have her as sibling, my sister, my younger sister.

[yeh-eh-yen-en-anh)

ye-	1st person singular agent + feminine-zoic (s) patient – I - her
-ʔye-	verb root – have as sibling
-ʔ-	stative aspect
-ah	diminutive aspect suffix

huʔyeʔah He is his or her sibling, his or her brother

[hoo-oo-yen-en-anh]

hu-	masculine singular agent + masculine singular patient – he - his. OR feminine-singular agent + masculine singular patient – she - his
-ʔye-	verb root – be sibling to
-ʔ-	stative aspect
-ah	diminutive aspect suffix

¹ Traditionally this included the children of your mother’s sisters and your father’s brothers, what anthropologists refer to as parallel cousins..

u[?]yɛ[?]ʔəh She is her sibling, her sister

[oo-oo-yen-en-an]

u-	feminine-zoic singular agent + feminine-zoic singular patient – she - her
- [?] yɛ-	verb root - be sibling to
- [?] -	stative aspect
-əh	diminutive aspect suffix

Often this verb is used with the reflexive prefix **-atat-**, or the semi reflexive **-at-**, both of which take the a- conjugation. As the reflexive adds the meaning of ‘each other’, all of the words that employ it are dual or plural. There is no singular form when the reciprocal or semi-reflexive forms are added.

kyatate[?]yɛ[?]həh We two (n) are siblings, brothers, sisters.

[kyah-tah-te-e-yeh-hanh]

ky-	1 st person inclusive dual agent - we two (one addressing the other)
-atate-	reciprocal
- [?] yɛ-	verb root – be sibling to
-h-	stative aspect
-əh	diminutive aspect suffix

kwatate[?]yɛ[?]həh We (more than two) (n) are siblings.

[kwah-tah-te-e-yeh-hanh]

kw-	1 st person inclusive plural agent - we plural (one talking to others)
-atate-	reciprocal
- [?] yɛ-	verb root - be sibling to
-h-	stative aspect
-əh	diminutive aspect suffix

žate[?]yɛ[?]ʔəhə They two (m) are siblings, his/her brother or his sister.

[zhah-teh-eh-yen-en-an-han]

ž-	masculine dual agent -they two (masculine/mixed)
-ate-	semi-reflexive
- [?] yɛ-	verb root – be sibling to
- [?] -	stative aspect
-əhə	diminutive aspect suffix

hə[?]te[?]yɛ[?]ʔəhə They plural (m) are siblings, brothers, brother(s) and sister(s)

[hon-on-teh-eh-yen-en-an-han]

hə-	masculine plural agent – they (masculine/mixed)
- [?] te	semi-reflexive
- [?] yɛ-	verb root - be sibling to
- [?] -	stative aspect
-əhə	diminutive aspect suffix

yiate[?]yɛ[?]ɔhɔ They two are sisters.
 [yee-ah-teh-eh-yen-en-an-han]
 yi- feminine-zoic dual agent - they two (f)
 -[?]te semi-reflexive
 -[?]yɛ- verb root - be sibling to
 -[?]- stative aspect
 -ɔhɔ diminutive aspect suffix

yɔ[?]te[?]yɛ[?]ɔhɔ They plural are sisters
 [yon-on-teh-eh-yen-en-an-han]
 yɔ- feminine-zoic plural agent - they (f)
 -[?]te semi-reflexive
 -[?]yɛ- verb root - be sibling to
 -[?]- stative aspect
 -ɔhɔ diminutive aspect suffix

Older Sibling

To refer to an older sibling, brother or sister, the verb root -yuwanɛ- ‘be large’ is used.

kwayuwanɛh She is the larger, older one.
 [kwah-yoo-wah-nenh]
 kw- dualic
 -a- feminine-zoic singular agent - she
 -yuwanɛ- verb root – be large
 -h stative aspect

tayuwanɛh He is the larger, older one.
 [t-ha-yoo-wan-nenh]
 t- dualic
 -a- masculine singular agent - he
 -yuwanɛ- verb root – be large
 -h stative aspect

Exercise: Brothers and Sisters

Translate the following

1) aywatate[?]yɛhɔhɔ _____

2) tsatate[?]yɛhɔhɔ _____

3) ayiatate[?]yɛhɔhɔ _____

4) skwatate'yəhəh _____

Exercise: Older and Younger Brothers and Sisters

1) She is your younger sister _____

2) He is your younger brother _____

3) He is my older brother _____

4) She is my older sister. _____

5) He is your older brother. _____

Cousins

For cousins, the verb root is **-ara'se-** 'to be cousins' (a- conjugation). Traditionally it was used for your father's sisters' and your mother's brothers' children, and sometimes to people of your own generation who were not of your clan. It came to have the same meaning as it does in mainstream North American society. The verb always takes the dual or the plural.

ažara'seh

[ah-zhah-rah-seh]

až-

-ara'se-

-h

We two (exclusive) are cousins; my cousin.

1st person exclusive dual agent - we two (excluding the listener)

verb root - be cousins

stative aspect

kyara'seh

[kyah-rah-ah-sen]

ky-

-ara'se-

-h

We two (inclusive) are cousins; my cousin.

1st person inclusive dual agent - we two (including the listener)

verb root - be cousins

stative aspect

ežara'seh

[eeh-zhah-rah-ah-seh]

e-

-ž-

-ara'se-

-h

They two (m) are cousins; his cousin.

partitive

masculine dual agent – they (m) two

verb root - be cousins

stative aspect

həra'seh

[hon-rah-ah-seh]

hə-

-ra'se-

-h

They (masculine or mixed) are cousins.

masculine plural agent, they (masculine or mixed)

verb root - be cousins

stative aspect

Exercise: Cousins.

- 1) We (inclusive plural) are cousins. _____
- 2) We (exclusive plural) are cousins. _____
- 3) You (plural) are cousins. _____
- 4) They two (feminine) are cousins. _____
- 5) They (feminine plural) are cousins. _____

Siblings in Law

There are three different verb roots used for siblings-in-law. None of them take the singular form, only the dual and plural forms.

Opposite Sex Siblings-in-law: -ndawe^ʔt- (consonant conjugation)

q̄indawe^ʔt We two are sister and brother-in-law.
[on-in-dah-weh-eh̄t]
q̄i- 1st person dual patient – we two
-ndawe^ʔt verb root - be opposite sex siblings-in-law + stative aspect

tsindawe^ʔt You two are sister and brother-in-law.
[tseen-dah-weh-eh̄t]
tsi- 2nd person dual patient - you two
-ndawe^ʔt verb root - be opposite sex siblings-in-law + stative aspect

Brothers-in-law -akyu- (no singular); a- conjugation

h̄okyuh They (p) are brothers-in-law, his brothers-in-law.
[hon-kyooh]
h̄o- masculine plural agent – they (m),
-(a)kyu- verb root - be brothers-in-law
-h stative aspect

kyakyuh We two (n) are brothers-in-law (spoken to a brother-in-law)
[kyah-kyooh]
ky- 1st person inclusive dual agent – we two
-akyu- verb root – be brothers-in-law
-h stative

awakyuh We (x) are brothers-in-law, my brothers-in-law.
 [ah-wah-kyooh]
 aw- 1st person exclusive patient plural – we (x) plural
 -**akyu**- verb root - be brothers-in-law
 -h stative aspect

skwakyuh You (p) are brothers-in-law, your brothers in law.
 skw- 2nd person plural agent – you (p)
 -**akyu**- verb root - be brothers-in-law
 -h stative aspect

Be sisters-in-law (female perspective): aže- be sisters-in-law (no singular); a-conjugation

žaže? They two (f) are sisters-in-law.
 [zhah-zheh-eh]
 ž- feminine-zoic dual agent – they (f) two
 -**aže**- verb root - be sisters-in-law
 -? stative aspect

ažaže? we (x) two are sisters-in-law.
 [ah-zha-zheh]
 až- 1st person dual exclusive agent – we two (excluding the listener)
 -**aže**- verb root - be sisters-in-law
 -? stative aspect

awaže? We (x) plural are sisters-in-law .
 [ah-wah-zheh]
 aw- 1st person exclusive plural agent, we (x) plural (excluding the listener)
 -**aže**- verb root - be sisters-in-law
 -? stative aspect

skwaže? You (p) are sisters-in-law.
 [skwah-zheh]
 skw- 2nd person plural agent, you (plural)
 -**aže**- verb root - be sisters-in-law
 -? stative aspect

Exercise: Siblings-in-Law

Translate the following:

- 1) You (plural) are sister(s) and brother(s)-in-law _____
- 2) We (plural) are sister(s) and brother(s)-in law. _____

- 3) They (m) (plural) are sister(s) and brother(s)-in-law. _____
- 4) They two are brothers-in-law. _____
- 5) We two are brothers-in-law. _____
- 6) You two are sisters-in-law. _____
- 7) You plural are sisters-in-law _____

Part Two – One Generation Apart

Parents and Children

Mother

There are two different verbs used for ‘be mother to’ in Wyandot. Both are consonant conjugation. Notice that agent or subject is the one who is the mother. This happens with all verbs that express a relationship between family members of two different generations. The oldest one is the agent or subject.

Be Mother to -neḥe-

This verb has only one form used.

aneḥeh	my mother (used to address your mother)
[ah-nenh-henh]	
a-	feminine-zoic singular agent + 1 st person singular patient – she - me
-neḥe-	verb root – be mother to
-h	stative aspect

Be Mother to -ndu'me-

andu'meh	She is mother to me. She is my mother.
[an-doo-oo-menh]	
a-	feminine-zoic (s) agent + 1st person (s) patient - she - me
-ndu'me-	verb root - be mother to
-h	stative aspect
undu'meh	She is mother to her. She is her mother.
[oon-doo-oo-menh]	
u-	feminine zoic singular agent + feminine-zoic singular patient – she - her
-ndu'me-	verb root - be mother to
-h	stative aspect

hundu[?]męh She is mother to him; his mother.
 [hoon-doo-oo-menh]
 hu- feminine-zoic singular agent + masculine singular patient – she - him
 -**ndu[?]mę-** verb root – be mother to
 -h stative aspect

sandu[?]męh She is mother to you; your mother.
 [san-doo-oo-menh]
 sa- feminine-zoic (s) agent + 2nd person (s) patient – she - you
 -**ndu[?]mę-** verb root - be mother to
 -h stative aspect

yandu[?]męšra[?] maternity, mother (noun)
 [yan-doo-oo-men-shrah-ah]
 ya- feminine-zoic singular agent – she or it
 -**ndu[?]mę-** verb root - be mother to
 -šr- nominalizer
 -a[?] noun suffix

undu[?]męšrawastih She is a good mother.
 [oon-doo-oo-men-shrah-wah-steeh]
 u- feminine-zoic singular patient – she
 -**ndu[?]mę-** verb root – be mother to
 -šr- nominalizer
 -a- joiner vowel
 -wast- verb root – be good
 -ih stative aspect

With the addition of the causative-instrumental (ci) root suffix -hst- here meaning ‘make, cause’, we can talk about when mothers adopt children.

hundu[?]mę[?]ahstih She adopted him as his mother
 [hoon-doo-oo-men-en-ah-steeh]
 hu- feminine-zoic singular agent + masculine singular patient – she - him
 -**ndu[?]mę-** verb root - be mother to
 -[?]ahst- causative-instrumental root suffix
 -ih stative aspect

undu[?]mę[?]ahstih She adopted her as her mother.
 [oon-doo-oo-men-en-ah-steeh]
 u- feminine-zoic singular agent + feminine-zoic singular patient – she - her
 -**ndu[?]mę-** verb root - be mother to
 -[?]ahst- causative-instrumental root suffix
 -ih stative aspect

Step-Mother

For the step-parent to step-child relationship the verb root **-ndu-** (consonant conjugation) is used.

hundu^ʔah She is his step-parent; his step-mother.
[hoon-doo-oo-ah]
 hu- feminine-zoic singular agent + masculine singular patient – she - him
 -ndu- verb root - be step-parent to
 -^ʔ- stative aspect
 -ah diminutive aspect suffix

undu^ʔah She is her step-parent; her step-mother.
[oon-doo-oo-ah]
 u- feminine-zoic singular agent + feminine-zoic singular patient – she - her
 -ndu- verb root - be step-parent to
 -^ʔ- stative aspect
 -ah diminutive aspect suffix

aundu^ʔasta^ʔ She made her a her step-child, her step-daughter.
[ah-hoon-doo-oo-ah-stah-ah]
 a- factual
 -u- masculine or feminine-zoic singular agent – masculine singular patient
 -ndu^ʔa-² verb root – have as step-child
 -st- causative-instrumental root suffix
 -a^ʔ punctual aspect

Father

The verb root for ‘be a father to’ is **-^ʔistę-** (consonant conjugation).

a^ʔistęh My father (term of address).
[ah-ah-ee-stenh]

ha^ʔistęh He is father to me; my father
[ha-ah-yee-stenh]
 ha- masculine singular agent + 1st person singular patient – he - me
 -^ʔistę- verb root - be father to
 -h stative aspect

² Despite the fact that this term seems to have -^ʔa- as part of the verb root, I believe that the fact that Wendat has -ndo- as the verb root, and the general use of the diminutive aspect suffix for parent to child relationships means that there is a diminutive aspect suffix in the other words.

handuʔah He is her step-father; he is step-parent to her.
 [han-doo-oo-ah]
 ha- masculine (s) agent + feminine-zoic (s) patient – he - her
 -**ndu**- verb root - be step-parent to
 -ʔ-
 -ah diminutive aspect suffix

hunduʔah He or she has him as his or her step-child, his or her step-son
 [hoon-doo-oo-ah]
 hu- masculine/feminine-zoic singular agent – masculine singular patient – (s)he - him
 -ndu- verb root – have as step-child
 -ʔ- stative aspect
 -ah diminutive aspect suffix

Exercise: Mother and Father (answers at the end of the lesson)

- 1) She is his mother _____
- 2) She is your (singular) mother. _____
- 3) She is their (mixed) mother. _____
- 4) She is my adopted mother. _____
- 5) I am her adopted mother. _____
- 6) She is your stepmother. _____
- 7) Your (singular) father. _____
- 8) Her father. _____
- 9) His step-father. _____
- 10) Our step-father. _____

Child

The verb root **-(ny)ę-** (consonant conjugation) means ‘have as child’. As with the previous kinship verbs, the parent is represented in the agent/subject role. The child is represented by the patient/object role. One feature of this verb root is that the diminutive aspect suffix -ah- is added at the end. It is used as a term of endearment.

anyęʔah my child (daughter or son), addressing my child
 [an-yen-en-ah]
 a- ?
 -**nyę**- verb root - have as child
 -ʔ- stative aspect

-ah	diminutive aspect suffix
yenyeʔah [yeh-nyen-en-ah]	I have her as child; my daughter.
ye-	1 st person singular agent + feminine-zoic singular patient – I - her
-nye-	verb root - have as child'
-ʔ-	stative aspect
-ha	diminutive aspect suffix
šeʔah [hshen-en-ah]	You have her as child; she is your daughter.
š-	2 nd person singular agent + feminine-zoic singular patient – you - her
-e-	verb root - have as child
-ʔ-	stative aspect
-ah	diminutive aspect suffix
uweʔah [oo-wen-en-ah]	She has her as child; she is her daughter.
uw-	feminine-zoic (s) agent + feminine-zoic (s) patient – she - her
-e-	verb root - have as child
-ʔ-	stative aspect
-ah	diminutive aspect suffix
haeʔah [hah-en-en-ah]	He has her as child; she is his daughter.
ha-	masculine singular agent + feminine-zoic singular patient – he - her
-e-	verb root - have as child
-ʔ-	stative aspect
-ah	diminutive aspect suffix
huweʔah [hoo-wen-en-ah]	He has him as child; his son. OR She has him as child; her son
huw-	masculine singular agent + masculine singular patient – he - him OR feminine-zoic singular agent + masculine singular patient – she - him
-e-	verb root - have as child
-ʔ-	stative aspect
-ah	diminutive aspect suffix

hayqmeʔah	She has them (masculine ³) as children; her sons.	OR
[hah-yon-men-en-a]	He has them (masculine) as children; his sons.	OR
	He has them (feminine) as children; his daughters.	OR
hayqm-	feminine-zoic singular agent + masculine plural patient – she - them	OR
	masculine singular agent + masculine plural patient – he - them	OR
	masculine singular agent + feminine-zoic plural patient – he - them	
-e-	verb root - have as child	
-ʔ-	stative aspect	
-ah	diminutive aspect suffix	

hqtakyəʔa They (masculine or mixed) are parents and children.
[hon-tah-kyen- en-an]

hq-	masculine plural agent - they (masculine or mixed)
-tahky-	reciprocal
-e-	verb root - have as child
-ʔ-	stative aspect
-a	diminutive aspect suffix

Exercise: Children

1) I have them (feminine) as children, as daughters.

2) I have them (masculine or mixed) as children, as sons or sons and daughter(s).

3) You have them (feminine) as children, as daughters.

4) You have them (masculine or mixed) as children, as sons or sons and daughter(s)

5) I have him as child, my son.

Aunts and Uncles--Nieces and Nephews

Be Aunt to -ahrahak

This is an a- conjugation verb. Traditionally it referred only to father's sisters and father's brothers' wives, then it was extended to all those that mainstream North American society would call 'aunts.'

³ The masculine plural group can be composed entirely of males, or males and females.

ahrahak my aunt (term of address)
[ah-rah-hahk]

ayarahak She is aunt to me, my aunt (a term of reference)
[ah-yah-rah-hak]
ay- feminine-zoic singular agent + 1st person singular patient – she – me
-arahak verb root – be aunt to + stative aspect

sahrahak She is aunt to you, your aunt.
[sah-rah-hahk]
s- feminine-zoic singular agent + 2nd person singular patient -she - you
-ahrahak verb root - be aunt to + stative aspect

uhrahak She is her aunt
[oo-rah-hak]
u- feminine-zoic singular agent + feminine-zoic singular patient – she - her
-hrahak- verb root - be aunt to + stative aspect

qmarahak She is our aunt.
[on-mah-rah-hak]
qm- feminine-zoic singular agent + 1st person plural patient – she – our/us
-arahak verb root – be aunt to + stative aspect

Be Uncle To -awatəŋqʔ-

This verb root is a- conjugation. Traditionally it referred to just mother's brothers, but it came to have the same reference as the English term.

awatəŋqʔ my uncle (term of address)
[ah-wah-ten-non-ron-on]

In reference we have these terms:

hawətəŋqʔ He is uncle to me; my uncle.
[hah-wah-ten-non-ron-on]
haw- masculine singular agent + 1st person singular patient- he - me
-atəŋqʔ- verb root - be uncle to
-? stative aspect

yiwatę'ąh I have her as sister's child, niece (male-speaking)
 [ee-wah-ten-en-anh]
 y- 1st person singular agent + feminine-zoic singular patient – I - her
 -iwatę verb root – have as nephew or niece (male speaking)
 -²- stative aspect
 -ąh diminutive aspect suffix

hamęmatę'ąh He has him as nephew.
 [hah-men-man-ten-en-an]
 ham- masculine singular agent + masculine singular patient
 -ęmatę- verb root – have as nephew
 -²- stative aspect
 -ąh diminutive aspect suffix

hęmęmatę'ąh He has her as niece.
 [hen-men-man-ten-en-anh]
 h- masculine singular agent + feminine-singular patient – he – her
 -ęmatę- verb root – have as niece
 -²- stative aspect
 -ąh diminutive aspect suffix

Have as Nephew or Niece (Sibling's Child) – Female Speaking -hšq'drahka-⁴

This is a consonant conjugation verb.

yehšq'drahka⁵ I have her as niece (woman speaking).
 [yeh-sho-on-drah-kah]
 ye- 1st person singular agent + feminine-zoic singular patient – I – her
 -hšq'drahka- verb root – have as niece (female speaking) + stative aspect

hehšq'drahka I have him as nephew (female speaking).
 [heh-shon-on-drah-kah]
 he- 1st person singular agent + masculine singular patient – I – him
 -hšq'drahka- verb root – have as nephew (female speaking) + stative aspect

yqhšq'drahka I have you as niece or nephew (female speaking)
 [yonh-shon-on-drah-kah]
 yq- 1st person singular agent + 2nd person singular patient – I - you
 -hšq'drahka- verb root – have as nephew (female speaking) + stative aspect

⁴ Up until the nineteenth century this just referred to her brother's children.

⁵ It is possible that the final -a- is a diminutive aspect suffix.

qmahşq' drahka She has us as nieces/nephews; our aunt.

[on-mah-son-on-drah-kah]

qma- feminine-zoic singular agent + 1st person plural patient – she – us
-hşq' drahka- verb root – have as nephew/niece (female speaking) + stative aspect

Exercise

- 1) She is his aunt. _____
- 2) He is her uncle. _____
- 3) He is our uncle. _____
- 4) She has her as niece. _____
- 5) You have her as niece. _____

In-Laws

Son-in-law: **-neṃaṃ-** (consonant conjugation)

henṃaṃ[?] I have him as son-in-law.

[heh-nen-man⁶]

he- 1st person singular agent + masculine singular patient - I - him
-neṃaṃ- verb root - have as son-in-law
-[?] stative aspect

hayenṃaṃ[?] He has me as son-in-law.

[ha-yeh-nen-man-an]

haye- masculine singular agent + 1st person singular patient – he - me
-neṃaṃ- verb root - have as son-in-law
-[?] stative aspect

hunṃaṃ[?] He is his son-in-law. OR

[hoo-nen-man] He is her son-in-law.

hu- masculine or feminine-zoic singular agent + masculine singular patient
he or she - him
-neṃaṃ- verb root - have as son-in-law
-[?] stative aspect

⁶ The -an- here is not pronounced like the English word 'man', but like the -an- in 'debutante'

ahunəməḥsta He caused him to become his son-in-law.
 [ah-hoo-nen-manh-stah]
 a- factual
 -hu- masculine singular agent + masculine singular patient – he – him
 -nəma- verb root – have as son-in-law
 -hst- causative-instrumental root suffix
 -a punctual aspect

Daughter-in-Law: -skwa- (consonant conjugation)

ayeskwah She has me as daughter-in-law; my mother-in-law.
 [ah-yeh-skwah]
 aye- feminine-zoic (s) agent + 1st person (s) patient, she has me
 -skwa- verb root - have as daughter-in-law
 -h stative aspect

hayeskwah He has me as daughter-in-law; my father-in-law.
 [hah-yeh-skwah]
 haye- masculine (s) agent + 1st person (s) patient – he - me
 -skwa- verb root - have as daughter-in-law
 -h stative aspect

kyateskwa[?] We two are parent and daughter-in-law.
 [kyah-teh-skwah-ah]
 ky- 1st person inclusive dual agent – we two
 -ate- semi-reflexive
 -skwa- verb root – have as daughter-in-law
 -[?] stative aspect

Exercise: Sons and Daughters-in-Law

Translate the Following

- 1) hešenəməḥ[?] _____
- 2) səmanəməḥ[?] _____
- 3) šeskwah _____
- 4) saskwah _____

Part Three – Two Generations Apart

Grandparents and Grandchildren

-hšuta[?]- be grandparent to – consonant conjugation

Generally with this verb root the one being named is the grandparent. The exception occurs when the grandparent is addressing the grandchild.

ahšuta[?] grandparent (term of address)
[ah-shoo-tah-ah]

ahšut my grandchild (term of reference)
[ah-shoot]

qmahšuta[?]a She is our grandmother⁷
[on-mah-shoo-tah-ah]

qma-	feminine-zoic singular agent + 1 st person plural patient	she - our
-hšuta-	verb root - be grandparent to	
- [?]	stative aspect	
-a	diminutive aspect suffix	

sqmahšuta[?]a He is grandparent to us, our grandfather⁸.
[son-mah-shoo-tah-ah]

sqma-	masculine singular agent + 1 st person plural patient	he - us
-hšuta-	verb root - be grandparent to	
- [?]	stative aspect	
-a	diminutive aspect suffix	

-atre[?]- - have as grandchild – a- conjugation

The grandchild is the focus with this verb root.

utre[?]a She has her as grandchild, her granddaughter.
[oo-treh-eh-ah]

u-	feminine-zoic singular agent + feminine-zoic singular patient	she - her
-tre [?]	verb root – have as grandchild + stative aspect	
-a-	diminutive aspect suffix	

⁷ This is also used sometimes to refer to the female toad as, in the Origin Story, she was the one who dove and returned with soil to put on the back of the Great Turtle.

⁸ War leader Sayçtsuwat or Great Forehead is referred to as Our Grandfather in the story of The War Between the Wyandots and the Cherokees for his decisive role in winning the war..

hatre^ʔa He has her as grandchild; his granddaughter.
 [hah-treh-eh-ah]
 h- masculine singular agent + feminine-zoic singular patient, he - her
 -atre^ʔ verb root – have as grand child + stative aspect
 -a- diminutive aspect suffix

hutre^ʔa He or she has him as grandchild; his/her grandson
 [hoo-treh-eh-ah]
 hu- masculine or feminine-zoic singular agent + masculine singular patient – (s)he - him
 -tre^ʔ verb root – have as grandchild + stative aspect
 -a diminutive aspect suffix

Exercise: Grandparents and Grandchildren

- 1) She is grandparent to them (feminine). _____
- 2) She is grandparent to them (masculine) _____
- 3) You have him as grandchild. _____
- 4) You have her as grandchild. _____
- 5) She has him as grandchild. _____

Family

The Wyandotte word for ‘family’ also can mean ‘group’ or ‘crowd’, but the primary meaning relates to family. It is a noun stem, that is a noun derived from a verb root. It belongs to the yę-/i- conjugation, which with the patient as subject has the following forms:

ayikyuhkwa^ʔ my family
 [ah-yee-kyooh-kwa]
 ay- 1st person singular patient - my
 -iky- verb root - be a matrilineage, family
 -hkw- instrumental root suffix (acting as a nominalizer)
 -a^ʔ noun suffix

sękyuhkwa^ʔ your (singular) family
 [sen-kyooh-kwah]
 sę- 2nd person singular patient- your
 -ęky- verb root - be a matrilineage, family
 -hkw- instrumental root suffix
 -a^ʔ noun suffix

ukyuhkwa?
[oo-kyoo-kwah]

u-
-kyu-
-hkw-
-a?

her family

feminine-zoic singular patient - her
verb root - be a matrilineage, family
instrumental root suffix
noun suffix

Exercise: Translate the following into Wyandot

- 1) His family _____
- 2) Your (plural) family _____
- 3) Their (feminine) family _____
- 4) Their (masculine) family _____
- 5) Our family. _____

Answers to Kinship Exercises

Exercise: Brothers and Sisters

- 1) ayiatake We two, exclusive are siblings.
- 2) aywatake We (more than two) , exclusive are siblings.
- 3) yotake They (feminine) are siblings.
- 4) zatake They (masculine or mixed dual) are siblings.
- 5) hotake They (masculine plural) are siblings.

Exercise: Older and Younger

- 1) She is your younger sister. hseye'aha
- 2) He is your younger brother. hehseye'aha
- 3) He is my older brother. hayeye'aha
- 4) She is my older sister. ayeye'aha
- 5) He is your older brother. zaye'aha

Exercise: Cousins.

- 1) We (inclusive plural) are cousins. kwara'seh
- 2) We (exclusive plural) are cousins aywara'seh
- 3) You (plural) are cousins. skwara'seh
- 4) They two (feminine) are cousins. yira'seh
- 5) They (feminine plural) are cousins. yqra'seh

Exercise: Siblings-in-Law

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1) You (plural) are sister(s) and brother(s)-in-law | skwandawet |
| 2) We (plural) are sister(s) and brother(s)-in law. | qmandawet |
| 3) They (m) (plural) are sister(s) and brother(s)-in-law. | hutindawet |
| 4) They two are brothers-in-law. | žakyu |
| 5) We two are brothers-in-law. | ažakyu |
| 6) You two are sisters-in-law. | tsaže? |
| 7) You plural are sisters-in-law | skwaže? |

Exercises: Mother and Father

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1) She is his mother | hundu?meh |
| 2) She is your (singular) mother. | sandu?meh |
| 3) She is their (mixed) mother. | hutindu?meh |
| 4) She is my adopted mother. | andu?me?ahstih |
| 5) I am her adopted mother. | yendu?me?ahstik |
| 6) She is your stepmother. | sandu?ah |
| 7) Your (singular) father | ža?isteh |
| 8) Her father | ha?isteh |
| 9) His step-father | hundu?ah |
| 10) Our step-father. | sqmandu?ah |

Exercise: Children

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1) I have them (feminine) as children as daughters. | yayenyeh?ah |
| 2) I have them (masculine or mixed) as children as sons or sons and daughter(s). | hayenyeh?ah |
| 3) You (singular) have them (feminine) as children, as daughters. | yahšenyeh?ah |
| 4) You (sing.) have them (masc. or mixed) as children, as sons (and daughter(s)) | hahšenyeh?ah |
| 5) I have him as child, my son. | hinyeh?ah |

Exercise: Aunts and Uncles, Nieces and Nephews

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| 1) She is his aunt. | huhrahak |
| 2) He is her uncle. | hatenqo? |
| 3) He is our uncle. | sqmatenqo? |
| 4) She has her as niece. | amewatet?a |
| 5) You have her as niece. | šiwatet?a |

Exercise: Grandparents and Grandchildren

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1) She is grandparent to them (feminine). | utihšuta'a |
| 2) She is grandparent to them (masculine/mixed) | hutihšuta'a |
| 3) You have him as grandchild. | hešatre'a |
| 4) You have her as grandchild. | šatre'a |
| 5) She has him as grandchild. | hutre'a |

Exercise: Translate the following

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1) His family | hukyuhkwa' |
| 2) Your (plural) family | skwękyuhkwa' |
| 3) Their (feminine) family | qdikyuhkwa' |
| 4) Their (masculine or mixed) family | hqdikyuhkwa' |
| 5) Our family. | omękyuhkwa' |

Conjugations and their Pronominal Prefixes

At the end of this lesson there is a listing of some of the combinations of the agents (usually the subject) and patients (usually the object but when by itself the subject) of the conjugations used for kinship terms

Pronominal Prefixes

Consonant Conjugation

<u>Form</u>	<u>Agent</u>	<u>Patient</u>	<u>Translation</u>
ye- [yeh]	1A	FZP	I - her
he- [heh]	1A	MP	I - him
yaye- [yah-yeh]	1A	FZpP	I - them (feminine)
haye- [hah-yeh-]	1A	MpP	I - them (masculine or mixed)
yq- [yon]	1A	2P	I - you (singular)
hše- [sheh]	2A	FZP	you (singular) - her
hehše- [heh-sheh]	2A	MP	you (singular) - him
yahše- [yah-sheh]	2A	FZpP	you (singular) - them (feminine)
hahše- [hah-sheh]	2A	MpP	you (singular.) - them (mas./mixed)
a(ye)- [ah(yeh)]	FZA	1P	she - me
sa [sah]	FZA	2P	she - you (singular)
u- [ooh]	FZA	FZP	she - her
hu- [hooh]	FZA	MP	she - him

q̣ma-	[on-mah]	FZA	1pP	she - us
skwa-	[skwah]	FZA	2pP	she -you (plural)
uti-	[ooh-tee]	FZA	FZpP	she - them (female)
huti-	[hoo-tee]	FZA	MpP	she - them (all male or mixed)
ha(ye)-	[hah-yeh]	MA	1P	he - me
ṣq̣ma-	[son-mah]	MA	1pP	he - us
ža-	[zhah]	MA	2P	he - you (singular)
heskwa-	[heh-skwah]	MA	2pP	he - you (plural)
ha-	[hah]	MA	FZP	he - her
hu-	[hoo]	MA	MP	he - him
hayq̣m-	[hah-yonm]	MA	FZpP	he - them (feminine)
		FZA	MpP	she - them (masculine)
		MA	MpP	she - them (masculine)

Pronominal Prefixes: A-Conjugation

<u>Form</u>	<u>Agent</u>	<u>Patient</u>	<u>Translation</u>
y-	1A	FZP	I - her
h-	1A	MP	I - him
š-	2A	FZP	you - her
heš- [hehsh]	2A	MP	you - him
u-* [oo]	FZA	FZP	she - her
h-	MA	FZP	he - her
hu-* [hoo]	FZA	MP	she - him
hu-* [hoo]	MA	MP	he - him
ky-	1ndA	--	we two (inclusive, including the listener)
kw-	1npA	--	we plural (inclusive, including the listeners)
až- [ah-zh]	1xdA	--	we two (exclusive, excluding the listener)
aw-	1xpA	--	we plural (exclusive, excluding listener(s))
ts-	2dA	--	you two
skw-	2pA	--	you plural
yi- [yee]	FZdA	--	they (feminine dual)
yq̣- [yon]	FZpA	--	they (feminine plural)
ž- [zh]	MdA	--	they (masculine or mixed dual)
hq̣- [hon]	MpA	--	they (masculine or mixed plural)

*The -u- replaces the -a-

yę- / i- conjugation

<u>Form</u>		<u>Agent</u>	<u>Patient</u>	<u>Translation</u>
yi-	[yee]	1A	FZP	I - her
ayi	[ah-yee]	---	1P	my
qme-	[on-men ⁹]	----	1pP	our
hi-	[hee]	1A	MP	I - him
ši-	[shee]	2A	FZP	you - her
heši-	[heh-shee]	2A	MP	you (singular) - him
sę-	[sen]	---	2P	your (singular)
skwę-	[skwen]	---	2pP	your (plural)
ame-*	[ah-men]	FZA	FZP	she - her
u-	[oo]	---	FZP	her (-u- replaces -i-/yę-)
he-	[hen]	MA	FZP	he - her
qdi-	[on-dee]	---	FZpP	their (f)
hame-*	[hah-men]	FZA	MP	she - him
hu-	[hoo]	---	MP	him (-hu- replaces -i-/yę-)
hu-	[hoo]	MA	MP	he - him
hodi-	[hon-dee]	---	MpP	their (m)

*This is not the usual pronominal prefix for this conjugation.

There are no kinship verb roots with the u-/q- conjugation.

⁹ The -en- here is a nasal vowel, and does not sound like the -en- in 'men' more like the -en in 'entrance'.