Lakota Nation Invitational

Lakota Language Bowl • Competition Structure • Grades 3–5

Order of events	Scored as
1. Introductions	Group — first match vs. later match
2. Song	Group
3. Vocabulary verb speed round	Group — first to 10, or ahead at 10 minutes
4. Command activity	Group — activity drawn from a hat

1. Introductions

First time the team competes. Each student gives a self-introduction in Lakȟótiyapi. Scored as a group.

Next time the team competes (against a different team). The moderator asks each student about family: father, mother, grandparents, and so on.

Lakȟótiyapi	English
Niyáte táku ecíyapi he?	What is your father called?
Nitȟúŋkašila táku ecíyapi he?	What is your grandfather called?

Scored as a group.

2. Song

The team sings one song together.

Scored as a group.

3. Vocabulary verb speed round

Teams are given a verb in English or Lakota/Dakota by the moderator. Use the Grades 3–5 Speed Vocabulary Verbs list.

How points are won

- The first team to buzz in and answer correctly wins the point.
- If an incorrect answer is given, the opposing team is given the chance to answer.
- The moderator then moves on to the next word.

Scoring: first team to score 10 wins the round. If neither team reaches 10, the team ahead when the 10-minute time limit ends wins the round.

Scored as a group.

4. Command activity

The two command activities are placed in a hat or container. The moderator draws which team and which activity go first. The opposing team performs the other activity.

Scored as a group.

Command activity #1 — Stand, sit, or lie by the object

A chair and a table are used. The moderator gives a command to each member of the team. That student must perform the command.

Commands the moderator may give

Lakȟótiyapi	English
Oákaŋke kiŋ isákib inájiŋ ye / yo.	Stand beside the chair.
Wáglotapi kiŋ oȟláte íyotaka ye / yo.	Sit under the table.
Oákaŋke kiŋ ilázata inájiŋ ye / yo.	Stand behind the chair.
Wáglotapi kiŋ itókab íyotaka ye / yo.	Sit in front of the table.
Oákaŋke kiŋ ilázata khúl ȟpáya ye / yo.	Lie down behind the chair.

ye = female speaker command | yo = male speaker command

Follow-up: ask the same student

Role	Lakȟótiyapi	English
Moderator	**Tuktél ináyajiŋ he / hwo?**	Where did you stand?
Student	**Oákaŋke kiŋ isákib ináwajiŋ.**	I stood beside the chair.
Student	**Wáglotapi kiŋ oȟláte íblotake.**	I sat under the table.
Student	**Oákaŋke kiŋ ilázata waȟpáye.**	I lay behind the chair.

Students answer in 1st person.

Follow-up: ask a different student

If Frank was told to stand beside the chair, the moderator may ask Janet where Frank stood.

Role	Lakȟótiyapi	English
Moderator	**Janet, Frank tuktél inájiŋ he?**	Janet, where did Frank stand?
Janet	**Frank oákaŋke kiŋ isákib inájiŋ.**	Frank stood beside the chair.

Words to prepare

Lakȟótiyapi	English	Lakȟótiyapi	English
Wáglotapi	table	**Oákaŋke**	chair
Itókab	in front of	**Ilázata**	behind
Oȟláte	under	**Isákib**	beside
Khúl ȟpáya	lie down	**Íyotaka**	sit
Inájiŋ	stand		

Person forms

3rd person (he/she)	1st person (I)	2nd person (you)
Inájiŋ — stands	**Ináwajiŋ — I stand**	Náyajiŋ — you stand
Ȟpáye — lies down	**Waȟpáye — I lie down**	Yaȟpáye — you lie down

Íyotaka — sits	**Íblotake — I sit**	Ílotake — you sit

Command activity #2 — Give an animal food or water

Animal props are arranged on a table (provided). Two bowls are labeled water and food: mní and wóyute. The moderator selects a student and tells them to give food or water to a specific animal. The student performs the task and returns to their seat.

Lakȟótiyapi	English
Šúŋka	dog
Igmú	cat

Sample exchange — same student

Role	Lakȟótiyapi	English
Moderator	**Šúŋka kiŋ mní k’ú we / wo.**	Give the dog some water.
Moderator	**Šúŋka kiŋ táku yak’ú he / hwo?**	What did you give the dog?
Student	**Šúŋka kiŋ mní wak’ú.**	I gave the dog some water.

Sample exchange — different student

If Frank was told to give the dog water, the moderator may ask Janet what Frank gave the dog.

Role	Lakȟótiyapi	English
Moderator	**Janet, Frank šúŋka kiŋ táku k’ú he / hwo?**	Janet, what did Frank give the dog?
Janet	**Frank šúŋka kiŋ mní k’ú.**	Frank gave the dog some water.

Vocabulary to know

Lakȟótiyapi	English
Mní	water
Wóyute	food
Kiŋ	the
We / wo	female / male singular command

Verbs to study

Lakȟótiyapi	English
K’ú	he/she gives / gave
Wak’ú	I give / gave him/her/it
Yak’ú	you give / gave him/her/it

Moderator reminders

- First match: self-introductions. Later match against a new team: family questions.
- Speed round lasts 10 minutes or until one team reaches 10 points.
- A miss goes to the other team, then the next word.
- After a command, ask that student in 1st person, then ask a teammate about that student.
- Activity #2 uses provided animal props and two bowls labeled mní and wóyute.