



















































































































































Let's eat!

BONUS

A let's both eat!

A Fat it

https://bit.ly/ssbmi-lets-eat



Let's have breakfast!

BONUS

▲ Let's both have breakfast!

A Fat your breakfast

https://bit.ly/ssbmi-lets-eat



et's have

Let's have lunch!

BONUS

A let's both have lunch!

♠ Eat vour lunch

https://bit.ly/ssbmi-lets-eat



Let's have dinner!

BONUS

▲ Let's both have dinner!

★ Eat your dinner.

https://bit.ly/ssbmi-lets-eat



NISENAN Payelpé #040

Let's have a snack!

BONUS

▲ Let's both have a snack!

★ Eat your snack.

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NISENAN

Language Notes WORD TYPES

These cards focus on common modern foods. Since many are not traditional foods, some of the words you'll learn are either borrowed or coined. Each card has a symbol that tells you what kind of word you are learning.



TRIANGLE

This is a native Nisenan word.



DIAMOND

Nisenan speakers borrowed this word from another language. They adapted it to sound like a Nisenan word.

Examples:

koopí 'coffee' (< English)

asuuká 'sugar' (< Spanish azúcar 'sugar')



NISENAN

Language Notes

HOW MANY?

In English, we add the word-ending -s to talk about multiple things. For example, grape means there is just one grape and grapes means there is more than one.

In Nisenan, you don't change a word to communicate that there is more than one thing. Example: You use the word **muté** to mean 'grape' (just one) and 'grapes' (more than one).

WHAT ABOUT 'THE'?

We use the word 'the' a lot in English. Saying <u>The pizza is delicious</u> is more specific than saying <u>Pizza is delicious</u>. In Nisenan, however, we don't use a word like 'the'. Example: The phrase <u>Piitsám mosak'tím</u> can be used to mean both 'The pizza is delicious' (specific) and 'Pizza is delicious' (general).









WORD TYPES

continued

Foods with the and symbols are foods for which we have not found Nisenan names. Many are foods that were introduced recently, like pizza.



SQUARE

The SSBMI Language Dept. coined this term by combining Nisenan words using Nisenan word-formation rules.

Example: hiisám mo comes from hiisá 'mint' and mo 'drink' and uses a common Nisenan language pattern of connecting two words with -m.



CIRCLE

The SSBMI Language Dept. borrowed this word from English and adapted it to sound like a Nisenan word.

Examples: piitsá 'pizza', taakó 'taco'.







NISENAN

Language Notes

THE NISENAN LANGUAGE

The SSBMI Community has ancestral ties to the Valley and Southern Hill dialects of Nisenan through the Tribe's Matriarchs, Pamela Cleanso Adams and Annie Hill Murray Paris. Pamela spoke Valley Nisenan and Annie likely spoke Southern Hill Nisenan.

Much of the language on these cards comes from speakers of these dialects, including Pamela Cleanso Adams & Tom Cleanso (Valley Nisenan) and Ida Hill Starkey, William Joseph, and Charlie Hunchup (Southern Hill Nisenan); some comes from Central Hill Nisenan speaker Lizzie Enos.

SSBMI LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT 2025 LISTEN TO THE LANGUAGE

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