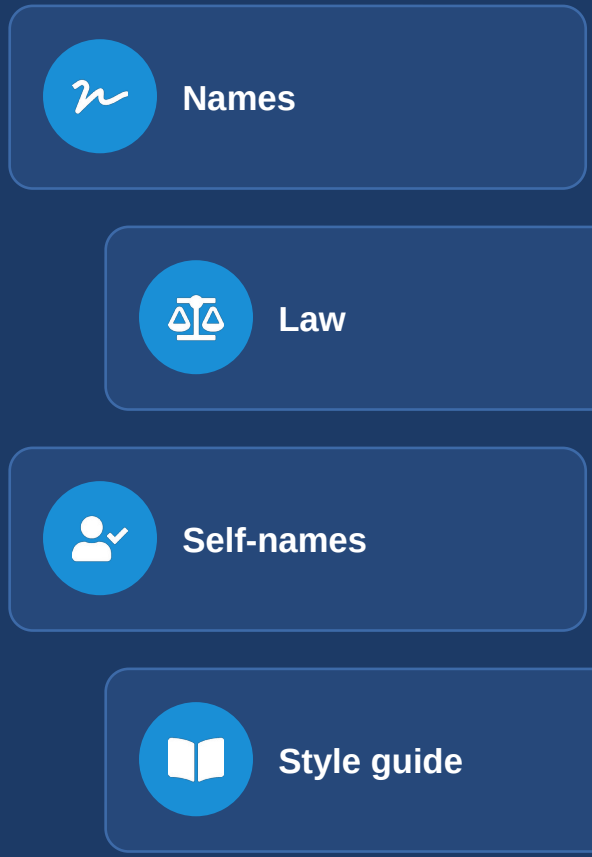
NBE3U Where We Stand, Lesson 2

Naming Matters

Terms, self-names and why naming choices count



Today's goals

We are learning…

- Respectful, accurate ways to refer to Indigenous peoples.
- Why naming choices matter.

I can…

- Use umbrella and specific terms accurately.
- Explain the difference between a self-name and an outsider name.
- Find inappropriate terms in a historical text and explain their effect.
- Write a clear style-guide entry for a specific audience.

Today's plan

Time	What we're doing	You will…
0–8 min	**Warm-up**	Discuss
8–25 min	**Terms**	Note
25–40 min	**Self-names**	Analyse
40–55 min	**Revise the record**	Find and explain
55–75 min	**Style guide**	Write

Warm-up



Has anyone ever mispronounced, shortened or replaced your name? How did it feel?

Sentence starters

“It felt…”

“I wanted them to…”

“A name is more than…”

How it works

- Pairs: 3 minutes.
- Share only what you want to.

Big idea

Names carry history. Many names for Indigenous peoples were given by outsiders, some are written into law, and some are slurs. A people's own name for itself, such as Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee or Inuit, is a statement of identity and of the right to define yourself.

Umbrella and specific terms

Term	Use it for
Indigenous	The original peoples of a land and their descendants; in Canada, First Nations, Métis and Inuit
First Nations	Many distinct Nations, such as Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Cree, Mi'kmaq
Métis	A distinct people whose Nation grew from the fur trade and Red River
Inuit	The people of Inuit Nunangat; one person is an Inuk
The specific Nation	Usually the most respectful and accurate choice

Names in the law

In this Act, “aboriginal peoples of Canada” includes the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada.

Constitution Act, 1982, section 35(2).

Think about it

Which three peoples are named?

Why might the word “Indian” still appear in law?

Where should we use legal terms, and where not?

Their name, others' name

Self-name	Name used by outsiders
Haudenosaunee	Iroquois
Anishinaabe (Ojibwe, Odawa, Potawatomi and others)	Chippewa (still used in some U.S. names)
Wendat	Huron
Inuit (one person: Inuk)	Eskimo (outdated in Canada)
Mi'kmaq (singular and adjective: Mi'kmaw)	Micmac

Some Nations still use older names officially. Follow each Nation's own usage.

Words about words

self-name	The name a people uses for itself (also called an endonym). *Haudenosaunee: people of the longhouse.*
outsider name	A name given by others (an exonym). *Iroquois.*
umbrella term	A broad term covering many groups. *Indigenous; First Nations.*

The right to a name

Indigenous peoples have the right to revitalize, use, develop and transmit to future generations their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literatures, and to designate and retain their own names for communities, places and persons.

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007), Article 13(1).

Think about it

What rights does the article list?

Why would names be in a human rights document?

Which part surprised you?

A poem from 1898

She stands full-throated and with careless pose,
This woman of a weird and waning race,
The tragic savage lurking in her face,
Where all her pagan passion burns and glows;

Duncan Campbell Scott, “The Onondaga Madonna,” Labor and the Angel (1898). Public domain.

Think about it

Which words describe a person? Which describe a stereotype?

Who chose these words?

What does “waning” predict?

Revise the record

On page 1:

1. For each term, explain what it suggests.
2. Ask who chose the word, and why.
3. Describe the same thing accurately today.
4. Answer: why does it matter who chooses?

Write the style guide

On page 2, three entries for Grade 9 writers:

1. The term, and when to use it.
2. An example sentence.
3. A term to avoid, and why.
4. Keep your audience in mind: clear and short.

Talk it out



Should we ever read an offensive word aloud when we study an old text?

Sentence starters

“We should, because…”

“We shouldn't, because…”

“It depends on…”

How it works

- Groups: 4 minutes.
- Our practice: say “[skip].”

Exit ticket

1 The most respectful term is usually…

2 One self-name and the outsider name it replaces.

3 Why naming choices matter, in one sentence.

Next class: Three Peoples, Many Nations.

Teacher reveal

Naming: key points

Umbrella terms: Indigenous (all); First Nations, Métis and Inuit are three distinct peoples. The most respectful choice is usually the specific Nation.

Legal terms: Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 names “the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples”; the Indian Act still uses “Indian.”

Outsider names: Iroquois, Huron, Eskimo and Micmac were names used by outsiders; Haudenosaunee, Wendat, Inuit and Mi'kmaq are self-names.

UNDRIP 13(1): Affirms Indigenous peoples' right to designate and keep their own names for communities, places and persons.

Scott's poem: “Weird and waning race,” “tragic savage,” “pagan passion”: words that turn a woman into a stereotype and a people into a vanishing race.