

## Blackfoot language

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Lily Gladstone, the first Indigenous best actress winner at the Golden Globes, delivered her speech in the Blackfoot language.



[ref- vogue]

### **About Blackfoot language:**

- The **Blackfoot language**, or Siksiká, is an **Algonquian language** spoken by the **Blackfoot or Niitsitapi people** in the **northwestern plains of North America**.
- There are four dialects of the Blackfoot language, with three spoken in Alberta, Canada (**Siksiká, Kainai, Aapátóhsipikani**) and one in the United States (**Aamsskáápipikani**).
  - **Siksiká** is spoken **southeast of Calgary, Kainai** between **Cardston and Lethbridge** in Alberta, **Aapátóhsipikani** west of **Fort MacLeod**, and **Aamsskáápipikani** in **northwestern Montana**.
- The name "Blackfoot" is likely derived from the **blackened soles of the leather shoes** traditionally worn by the people.
- It is identified as a **pitch accent language**, indicating that pitch variations play a significant role in distinguishing word meanings.
- The language has witnessed a decline in native speakers since the 1960s, leading to its classification as "**severely endangered**" by the **UNESCO Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger**.