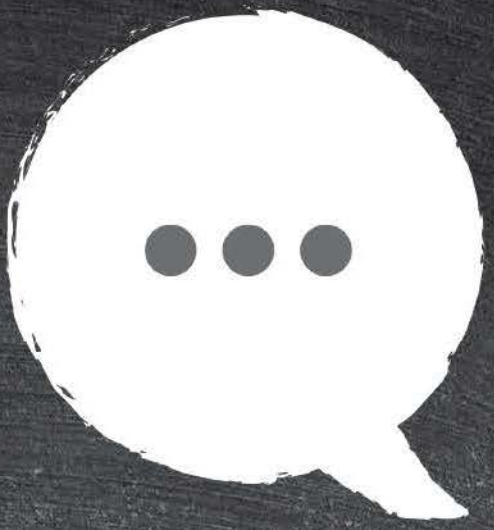
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LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #1 Have You Been to a Polish Music Festival?

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POLISH

1. Tom: Lubisz festiwale?
2. Jane: Tak, szczególnie kulturalne.
3. Tom: Ja lubię festiwale muzyczne. W Polsce organizują bardzo dobre.
4. Jane: Na przykład?
5. Tom: Przystanek Woodstock i Festiwal w Opolu.
6. Jane: Nie znam ani jednego ani drugiego.

ENGLISH

1. Tom: Do you like festivals?
2. Jane: Yes, especially cultural ones.
3. Tom: I like music festivals. In Poland they organize very good ones.
4. Jane: For example?
5. Tom: Woodstock Station and Opole Festival.
6. Jane: I don't know either of them.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender

przykład	example	noun	masculine
przystanek	station	noun	masculine
znać	to know, to be familiar with	verb	
festiwal	festival	noun	masculine
szczególnie	especially	adverb	
kulturalny	cultural	adjective	masculine
lubić	to like	verb	
organizować	to organize	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Podaj mi przykład sztuki nowoczesnej. Give me an example of modern art.	**Gdzie jest najbliższy przystanek autobusowy?** Where's the closest bus stop?
Znasz tego piosenkarza? Do you know this singer?	**Uwielbiam ten festiwal muzyczny.** "I love this music festival."
Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam pierogi. Yes, I especially love pierogi.	**Często oglądam programy kulturalne w telewizji.** I often watch cultural programs on TV.
Lubię lody czekoladowe. I like chocolate ice-cream.	**Lubię jeść słodycze.** I like to eat sweets.

Potrzeba wielkiego talentu, żeby zorganizować tak dużą imprezę. It needs a lot of talent to organize such a big event.	**W Polsce prawie każde miasto organizuje specjalną imprezę na Nowy Rok.** In Poland, almost every city organizes a special New Year party.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

One of the words used in the dialogue was ***kulturalny***, which is a masculine adjective. The feminine form is *kulturalna*, and neuter is *kulturalne*. This adjective has two meanings that are very different. The first one (used in the dialogue) is "cultural," as in *impreza kulturalna* ("cultural event") or *magazyn kulturalny* ("cultural magazine"). The second meaning is "well-mannered." We can use it in a sentence like this: *Ten chłopiec jest bardzo kulturalny* ("This boy is very well-mannered").

Another very useful word is the verb *organizować,* meaning "to organize" in English. Other words that have the same same root as *organizować* are:

- *Organizator* - a person or a group of people who organize something, "organizer"
- *Organizatorka* - "female organizer"
- *Organizacja* - "organization"

Przystanek is a Polish noun that means "stop" in English, like in the phrase "bus stop." It's a masculine noun and it can be used in two different situations. One is when we talk about a stop of any kind of means of transportation: bus stop, tram stop, etc. The other meaning is related to taking breaks. Whenever you're travelling, whether by some means of transportation or by foot, every time you stop for a break you can call it *przystanek*. Let's see a few examples:

1. *Ile mamy po drodze przystanków?*
   "How many stops do we have on the way?" (You can ask this kind of question to a tour bus driver).

2. *W połowie drogi na szczyt zróbmy sobie przystanek.*
   "Halfway to the top (of the mountain) let's make a stop."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is On Plural Forms of Polish Adjectives
Lubię festiwale muzyczne.
"I like music festivals."

In the Absolute Beginner Series you learned all about singular forms of Polish adjectives—if you don't remember them well, please make sure to review those lessons. This time we'll talk about plural forms of adjectives. As you already know, whenever a noun and an adjective are put together they have to agree in number, case, and gender.

In plural, in Polish there are two genders: masculine-personal and non-masculine-personal.

Non-masculine-personal is definitely much more common than masculine-personal. The nouns and adjectives that are feminine or neuter in singular are non-masculine-personal in plural. Non-masculine-personal adjectives are very easy to form; they're exactly the same as singular neuter forms.

In the dialogue, we heard Tom saying *Ja lubię festiwale muzyczne* ("I like music festivals"). To make it sound more natural without a context, let's remove the first word *ja* and break down the sentence, *Lubię festiwale muzyczne. Lubię* is the first person form of the verb *lubić* ("to like"), followed by the noun *festiwale* ("festival") in its plural form. Lastly the adjective *muzyczne* in non-masculine-personal form ("music," "musical"). Altogether we have *Lubię festiwale muzyczne,* meaning "I like music festivals" in English.

Masculine-personal Form

Only nouns and adjectives that are masculine in singular and refer to persons (people, gods,

fantastic heroes, etc.) are masculine-personal in plural. As you may remember, in Polish there are two groups of adjectives, in the last series we called them *y*-adjectives (those ending with the vowel *y*) and *i*-adjectives (those ending with the vowel *i*).

Adjectives in those two groups take two different endings in plural:

- *y*-adjectives take *-i* ending

- *i*-adjectives take *-y* ending + usually there's one more change, depending on the last consonant in the word

Y-adjectives

Singular	Masculine-personal	Non-masculine-personal	English
ważny	*ważni*	*ważne*	"important"
zimny	*zimni*	*zimne*	"cold"
szczęśliwy	*szczęśliwi*	*szczęśliwe*	"happy"
nudny	*nudni*	*nudne*	"boring"
samotny	*samotni*	*samotne*	"lonely"
silny	*silni*	*silne*	"strong"
międzynarodowy	*międzynarodowi*	*międzynarodowe*	"international'
ładny	*ładni*	*ładne*	"pretty"
słaby	*słabi*	*słabe*	"weak"

There are also a few words that require more changes in masculine-personal, some of them are:

Singular	Masculine-personal	Non-masculine-personal	English
bogaty	*bogaci*	*bogate*	"rich"
chory	*chorzy*	*chore*	"sick"
dobry	*dobrzy*	*dobre*	"good"
zły	*źli*	*złe*	"bad"
miły	*mili*	*miłe*	"nice"
biały	*biali*	*białe*	"white"

i-adjectives

Singular	Masculine-personal	Non-masculine-personal	English
drogi	*drodzy*	*drogie*	"expensive, dear"
długi	*dłudzy*	*długie*	"long"
nagi	*nadzy*	*nagie*	"naked"
bliski	*bliscy*	*bliskie*	"close"
wysoki	*wysocy*	*wysokie*	"tall, high"
polski	*polscy*	*polskie*	"Polish"
wielki	*wielcy*	*wielkie*	"large, great"
głupi	*głupi*	*głupie*	"stupid"
tani	*tani*	*tanie*	"cheap"

As you can see, all the *i*-adjectives in their masculine-personal form end with the vowel *y*, but apart from that there are other changes, so please be careful with that.

Now let's see a few sample sentences:

1. *Lubię festiwale muzyczne.* (*muzyczne* - non-masculine-personal)
   "I like music festivals."

2. *Aktorzy w Hollywood są bardzo bogaci.* (*bogaci* - masculine-personal)
   "Actors in Hollywood are very rich."

3. *Moi bracia są bardzo wysocy.* (*wysocy* - masculine-personal)
   "Rich people pay too little tax."

4. *Uwielbiam wielkie centra handlowe.* (*wielkie* - non-masculine-personal)
   "I love large shopping malls"

5. *Moi rodzice są zawsze mili dla moich znajomych.* (*mili* - masculine-personal)
   "My parents are always nice to my friends."

6. *Moi sąsiedzi mają bardzo miłe dzieci.* (*miłe* - non-masculine-personal)
   "My neighbors have very nice children."

7. *Telefony komórkowe są teraz bardzo tanie.* (*tanie* - non-masculine-personal)
   "Mobile phones are very cheap now."

Language Tip

In English there are many adjectives that have the same form as nouns. It can be sometimes tricky, because in Polish it's grammatically incorrect. So in most phrases like "wall clock" or "glass door," the word that refers to a feature of some object, in Polish is an adjective. "Wall clock" in Polish is *zegar ścienny* and it's built from the noun *zegar* ("clock") and the adjective *ścienny,* which derives from the noun *ściana* ("wall"). "Glass door" is built from the adjective *szklany,* which derives from the noun *szkło* ("glass") and the noun *drzwi* ("door"). Let's have a look at more examples:

- "computer room" - *pokój komputerowy* (adj. *komputerowy* derives from the noun *komputer* - "computer")
- "bus stop" - *przystanek autobusowy* (adj. *autobusowy* derives from the noun *autobus* - "bus")
- "music festival" - *festiwal muzyczny* (adj. *muzyczny* derives from the noun *muzyka* - "music")
- "homework" - *praca domowa* (adj. *domowy* derives from the noun *dom* - "house")
- "holiday break" - *przerwa świąteczna* (adj. *świąteczny* derives from the noun *święto* - "holiday")

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The Music Festival Scene in Poland

In summer, quite a few music festivals take place in Poland. The most famous and popular are *Przystanek Woodstock* (literally, "Woodstock Station") and *Krajowy Festiwal Piosenki Polskiej w Opolu* ("National Festival of Polish Song in Opole"). These two festivals are very different. Przystanek Woodstock, organized by Jerzy Owsiak and his charity organization WOŚP, takes place in July or August, in Kostrzyń near the Oder and it's free of charge for all the participants. There are two stages where both Polish and foreign artists perform. Aside from music, Przystanek Woodstock is famous for promoting ecology, tolerance, mutual respect and more by organizing many workshops, discussion tents, blood donation buses, and so on.

On the other hand, the festival in Opole is a summary of the artistic season of the Polish music scene. It has a very long history (the first one was held in 1963) and is always broadcast on TV. Apart from music, there's also a part of the festival called Kabareton, which is dedicated to cabarets. Woodstock Station is a more wild festival, definitely for young people, whereas the Festival in Opole, which takes place at an amphitheater, is more elegant and attracts an older audience.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #2 Which Tasty Polish Dish Should We Have for Dinner?

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POLISH

1. Tom: Dzisiejszy obiad jest lepszy niż wczorajszy.
2. Jane: Też tak myślę.
3. Tom: Co ci najbardziej smakuje?
4. Jane: Bigos jest najlepszy. A tobie co smakuje?
5. Tom: Kopytka
6. Jane: Pyszności!

ENGLISH

1. Tom: Today's dinner is much better than yesterday's.
2. Jane: I think so too.
3. Tom: What do you like the most?
4. Jane: Bigos is the best. And what do you like?
5. Tom: Kopytka.
6. Jane: Yummy!

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender

najlepszy	the best	adjective	masculine
kopytka	kopytka (lit. little hooves)	noun	non-masculine-personal
pyszności	yummy	expression	
dzisiejszy	today's	adjective	masculine
lepszy	better	adjective	masculine
wczorajszy	yesterday's	adjective	masculine
myśleć	to think	verb	
bigos	sauerkraut stew	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

To najlepszy film jaki widziałem w tym roku. It's the best movie I've seen this year.	**Kopytka to tradycyjne polskie danie.** Kopytka is a traditional Polish dish.
Uwielbiam włoską kuchnię! Pyszności! I love Italian cuisine! Yummy!	**Dzisiejsze spotkanie poszło bardzo dobrze.** Today's meeting went very well.
Najnowszy film Stevena Spielberga jest lepszy od poprzedniego. The newest movie of Steven Spielberg is better than the last one.	**Świetnie się bawiłam na wczorajszej wycieczce.** I had a great time on yesterday's trip.
Często myślę o tacie. I often think about dad.	**Często myślę o tacie.** I think about dad often.

Polacy zawsze jedzą bigos na Święta.

Polish people always eat sauerkraut stew on Christmas.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Dzisiejszy is a masculine adjective that means "today's" in English. It derives from the noun *dzisiaj*, meaning "today." We can use *dzisiejszy* whenever we talk about something that happened today and about something happening these days, in recent times. For example:

1. *Dzisiejszy mecz był o wiele lepszy*.
   "Today's game was much better."

2. *w dzisiejszym odcinku*
   "in today's episode"

3. *dzisiejszy kurs dolara*
   "today's exchange rate of the dollar"

4. *dzisiejsza młodzież*
   lit. "today's youth"

The verb ***myśleć****,* also used in the dialogue, means "to think." There are four situations when we can use this verb, so let's go through them and check the sample sentences:

1. When we are simply thinking, wondering about something:

1. *Myślę nad zadaniem domowym*.
   "I'm thinking about my homework."

2. When we focus our thoughts on something:

1. *Przez cały rok myślałem o egzaminach końcowych*.
   "I've been thinking about the final exams the whole year."

3. When we want, intend to do something:

1. *Myślę, żeby pojechać do Hiszpanii.*
   "I'm thinking of going to Spain."

4. When we share our opinion:

1. *Myślę, że to niepotrzebne.*
   "I think it's not needed."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Irregular Comparative Adjectives and Adverbs
Dzisiejszy obiad jest lepszy niż wczorajszy.
"Today's dinner is much better than yesterday's"

In this lesson, we continue studying about adjectives. This time we will focus on the adjectives that in many languages show some irregularities. The adjectives we will talk about are *dobry* ("good"), *zły* ("bad"), *duży* ("big, large") and *mały* ("small, little").

Dobry

Dobry can mean "good," as in "a good person" (*dobry człowiek*) and also a quality of something, for example "good radio station" (*dobra stacja radiowa*) or "good job" (*dobra robota*). It can also describe the taste of some food, for example *dobre ciasto* ("good cake") means the same as "tasty cake."

As a small review, let's go through all the gender forms and see some sample sentences:

Singular gender forms:

dobry - masculine

1. *Dobry samochód jest zawsze drogi.*
   "A good car is always expensive."

dobra - feminine

1. *Ta sałatka jest bardzo dobra.*
   "This salad is very good."

dobre - neuter

1. *To ciastko jest bardzo dobre.*
   "This cookie is very good."

Plural gender forms:

dobrzy - masculine-personal

1. *W mojej szkole są dobrzy nauczyciele.*
   "There are good teachers at my school."

dobre - non-masculine-personal

1. *W tym sklepie sprzedają dobre książki.*
   "This store sells good books."

Dobry is an adjective that has an irregular comparative form, *lepszy*, in English "better" and the superlative form is *najlepszy*, in English "the best." Let's see them in sample sentences:

1. *Ten telewizor jest dobry.*
   "This TV is good."

2. *Tamten telewizor jest lepszy.*
   "That TV is better."

3. *To jest najlepszy telewizor w sklepie.*
   "This is the best TV in the store."

Zły

This adjective has two meanings. It can be "bad" or "angry" (only in the case of the positive form).

The adjective *niedobry* (literally "not good") often substitutes for *zły,* especially when talking about objects.

Singular gender forms:

zły - masculine

1. *Ten komputer jest niedobry.*
   "This computer is not good."

zła - feminine

1. *Jesteś na mnie zła?*
   "Are you angry at me?"

złe - neuter

1. *Dziecko jest złe, bo nie ma zabawek.*
   "The child is angry, because he doesn't have toys."

Plural gender forms:

źli - masculine-personal

1. *Moi rodzice są na mnie źli.*
   "My parents are angry at me."

złe - non-masculine-personal

1. *W tym roku widziałam same złe filmy.*
   "This year I saw only bad movies."

Zły has an irregular comparative form, *gorszy*, in English "worse." Accordingly the superlative form is *najgorszy*, in English "the worst." Let's see them in sample sentences:

1. *Ta herbata jest niedobra.*
   "This tea is not good."

2. *Ta herbata jest gorsza od poprzedniej.*
   "This tea is worse that the last one."

3. *Ta herbata jest najgorsza ze wszystkich.*
   "This tea is the worst of all."

Duży

Singular gender forms:

duży - masculine

1. *Twój dom jest naprawdę duży.*
   "Your house is really big."

duża - feminine

1. *W moim pokoju stoi duża szafa.*
   "There a big wardrobe in my room."

duże - neuter

1. *To ubranie jest na mnie zbyt duże.*
   "This outfit is too big for me."

Plural gender forms:

duzi - masculine-personal

1. *Twoi chłopcy są już duzi.* (when talking about children)
   "Your boys are so big (meaning tall) now."

duże - non-masculine-personal

1. *Kup proszę dwie duże cebule.*
   "Please buy two big onions"

Duży also has an irregular comparative form, *większy*, in English "bigger." And the superlative form is *największy*, in English "the biggest." Let's see them in sample sentences:

1. *Twój dom jest duży.*
   "Your house is big."

2. *Mój dom jest jeszcze większy.*
   "My house is even bigger."

3. *Dom Roberta jest największy ze wszystkich.*
   "Robert's house is the biggest of all."

Mały

Singular gender forms:

mały - masculine

1. *Ten piesek jest naprawdę mały.*
   "This doggy is really small."

mała - feminine

1. *Ta sukienka jest na mnie za mała.*
   "This dress is too small for me."

małe - neuter

1. *Mam bardzo małe mieszkanie.*
   "I have very small apartment."

Plural gender forms:

mali - masculine-personal

1. *Chińczycy są raczej mali.*
   "Chinese are rather small people."

małe - non-masculine-personal

1. *Te kolczyki są za małe.*
   "These earrings are too small."

Mały is another adjective that has an irregular comparative form. It's *mniejszy*, in English "smaller," and the superlative form is *najmniejszy*, in English "the smallest." Let's see them in sample sentences:

1. *Ten samochód jest mały, ale tamten jest jeszcze mniejszy.*
   "This car is small, but that one is even smaller."

2. *Niestety mój samochód jest najmniejszy.*
   "Unfortunately my car is the smallest."

Language Expansion

The degree of a Polish adjective (positive, comparative, and superlative) has a corresponding adverbial form, which never changes. As you already know, adjectives modify nouns. Adverbs, on the other hand, modify verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs.

Take a look at the table below, showing the adjectives introduced in this lesson with their corresponding adverbial forms:

Form	Adjective	English Translation	Adverb	English Translation
positive	*dobry*	"good"	*dobrze*	"well"
comparative	*lepszy*	"better"	*lepiej*	"better"
superlative	*najlepszy*	"the best"	*najlepiej*	"best"

positive	*zły*	"bad"	*źle*	"badly"
comparative	*gorszy*	"worse"	*gorzej*	"worse"
superlative	*najgorszy*	"the worst"	*najgorzej*	"worst"
positive	*duży*	"big"	*dużo*	"a lot"
comparative	*większy*	"bigger"	*więcej*	"more"
superlative	*największy*	"the biggest"	*najwięcej*	"the most"
positive	*mały*	"small"	*mało*	"little, not much"
comparative	*mniejszy*	"smaller"	*mniej*	"less"
superlative	*najmniejszy*	"the smallest"	*najmniej*	"the least"

* please note that all the adjective forms given are masculine.

Now that you know all of adjective and adverbial forms, it's time to put your knowledge into practice:

1. *Źle się czuję.*
   "I feel bad."

2. *Ona dobrze mówi po polsku.*
   "She speaks Polish well."

3. *Dzisiaj lepiej się czuję.*
   "I feel better today."

4. *Mało rozumiem po francusku.*
   "I don't understand much French."

5. *Chcesz więcej sałatki?*
   "Do you want more salad?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Cuisines from around Poland

In Poland, a few regions have a typical cuisine or dishes that can be eaten only there—usually very old, traditional recipes. And so, in the south of Poland, in the Podhale and Tatra Mountains region, the most famous are sheep cheeses called *bryndza* and *oscypek*. The Beskid region is well-known for a soup called *kwaśnica* (made from sauerkraut) or ham hock stewed in beer.

The most important part of Silesian cuisine (southwestern part of Poland) is potatoes and all kinds of dumplings prepared from them, and also dishes with white and red cabbage. Kresy cuisine (eastern Poland) is a mixture of Polish, Lithuanian, Belarusian, Ukrainian, and even Tatar cuisines. From that region some of the most popular Polish dishes come from, for example: *placki ziemniaczane* (potato pancakes), the cake *sękacz* (lit. "branched tree cake"), and *cepeliny* (dumplings made from potatoes stuffed with meat).

Kaszuby (Kasubia region in northern Poland) is famous for honey and mead (alcohol made from honey) and also many dishes with fish (especially herring) and dishes with grains. In summary, Polish traditional cuisine is rather simple, filling, and rich in taste and calories.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #3 Talking About Your Job in Polish

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POLISH

1. Tom: Co robią Twoi rodzice?
2. Jane: Mój tata pracuje jako mechanik samochodowy.
3. Tom: A mama?
4. Jane: Mama zarabia jako kucharka.
5. Tom: To na pewno masz dobre jedzenie w domu.
6. Jane: Dokładnie.

ENGLISH

1. Tom: What do your parents do?
2. Jane: My dad works as a car mechanic.
3. Tom: And mom?
4. Jane: Mom is a cook. (Mom earns money as a cook.)
5. Tom: So you must get good food at home.
6. Jane: Exactly.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender

rodzic	parent	noun	masculine
tata	dad	noun	masculine
mechanik	mechanic	noun	masculine
mama	mother (semi-formal), mom	noun	feminine
zarabiać	to earn	verb	
kucharka	cook	noun	feminine
na pewno	for sure	phrase	
jedzenie	food		

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Twoi rodzice mieszkają we Francji? Your parents live in France?	**Jego tata jest policjantem.** His dad is a police officer.
Mechanik naprawia samochód. "The mechanic is repairing the car."	**Synowie pomagają matce.** "The sons are helping their mother."
Kiedy dorosnę chcę zarabiać dużo pieniędzy. When I grow up, I want to earn a lot of money.	**Moja siostra jest kucharką.** My sister is a cook.
Jutro na pewno będzie padać. Tomorrow it's going to rain for sure.	**Czy lubisz polskie jedzenie?** Do you like Polish food?
Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie? "Can you eat Polish food?"	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

In the dialogue, the noun ***jedzenie*** was used. It's a neuter noun and it means "food" or "eating" in English. Here are sample sentences showing usage in two different contexts:

1. *Moja lodówa jest pełna jedzenia*.
   "My fridge is full of food."

2. *Jakie jedzenie przygotować na grilla?*
   "What food should I prepare for a barbecue?"

3. *Jedzenie posiłków regularnie jest bardzo ważne.*
   "Eating meals regularly is very important."

4. *Jedzenie przed spaniem jst niezdrowe*.
   "Eating right before sleep is unhealthy."

Another way of naming "food" in Polish, which is very common, is the colloquial noun *żarcie.* Please note that it can be used only when you're talking with good friends.

Apetyt rośnie w miarę jedzenia is a popular saying literally meaning "appetite grows while eating"; the English equivalent "once you start you can't stop."

Kucharka is a feminine noun naming a female whose job is cooking, in the other words "cook." If it's a man doing the same job, we will call him *kucharz.* There's a very common saying about female cooks, which means that if there are too many people engaged in one, often not difficult task, nothing good will come out of it.

1. *Gdzie kucharek sześć, tam nie ma co jeść*.
   "Where six cooks are, there's nothing to eat," (English equivalent is "Too many cooks spoil the broth").

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Talking About your Profession.
Mój tata pracuje jako mechanik samochodowy.
"My dad works as a car mechanic."

There are quite a few ways of talking about your professions or job in Polish. In this lesson, we will introduce one of the most common ones. The verb that will come in handy is *być*, in English "to be," which we talked about in the last series. Please make sure that you remember it's conjugation.

In the dialogue we heard Jane say *Mój tata pracuje jako mechanik samochodowy*. Let's break down this sentence. We start off with the word *mój*, meaning "my" in English. It's followed by the noun *tata*, meaning "dad." Then there's the verb *pracować* ("to work") in it's third person singular form *pracuje,* followed by *jako*, meaning "as" and lastly *mechanik samochodowy* ("car mechanic") - please note that *mechanik* is a noun and *samochodowy* is an adjective. Altogether - *Mój tata pracuje jako mechanik samochodowy* ("My dad works as a car mechanic"). In this sentence the verb used was *pracować* ("to work"). Let's have a look at the conjugation of this verb:

Singular

ja	*pracuję*	"I work"
ty	*pracujesz*	"you work"
on	*pracuje*	"he works"
ona	*pracuje*	"she works"
ono	*pracuje*	"it works"

Plural

my	*pracujemy*	"we work"
wy	*pracujecie*	"you work"
oni	*pracują*	"they work"

Ways of Talking about Your Job or Profession

The easiest and simplest way to tell someone about your job is by using the verb *być* ("to be").

Simply say *Jestem...* and add the name of your job (yes, exactly the same way as you learned to introduce yourself), for example:

1. *Jestem kierowcą autobusu.*
   "I'm a bus driver."

2. *Jestem lekarzem.*
   "I'm a doctor."

3. *Jestem sekretarką w firmie handlowej.*
   "I'm a secretary in a trade company."

Another way to tell someone about your job was mentioned above and in the dialogue. It makes use of the verb *pracować*. This form is usually used when the job we're doing is different or not connected to our profession or what we have studied to be.

Let's see a few examples:

1. *Pracuję jako kelnerka w restauracji szybkiej obsługi.*
   "I work as a waitress in a fastfood restaurant."

2. *Moja siostra pracuje jako asystentka w biurze podróży.*
   "My sister works as an assistant at a travel agency."

3. *Pracuję jako sprzedawca w sklepie odzieżowym.*
   "I work as a shop-assistant in a clothes shop."

The last sentence pattern is useful when talking about your profession. It makes use of the verb "to be" again. Here, you have to remember that you're sharing information about your profession, which may be different from the work you're doing.

Let's take a look at a few examples:

1. *Z zawodu jestem księgowym.*
   "I'm an accountant by profession."

2. *Z zawodu jestem historykiem, ale pracuję jako sprzedawca.*
   "I'm a historian by profession, but I work as a sales-assistant."

3. *Brat Gosi jest z zawodu prawnikiem.*
   "Gosia's brother is a lawyer by profession."

Asking About Job or Profession

There are a few ways of asking about someone's job or profession.

We'll go through the most common ones:

1. *Czym się zajmujesz?*
   "What do you do?"

2. *Czym zajmują się twoi rodzice?*
   "What do your parents do?"

3. *Kim jesteś z zawodu?*
   "Who are you by profession?"

4. *Gdzie pracujesz?*
   "Where do you work?"

Language Expansion

Now that you know how to talk and ask others about their job and profession, it's high time to master nouns that name jobs and professions. We will start with the names of jobs that were originally done by men. They have a masculine form, and the form doesn't change even when we talk about a woman doing the job. For example: *Mój tata jest weterynarzem* ("My dad is a vet") and *Moja mama jest weterynarzem* ("My mom is a vet").

Please take a look the table below:

Polish	English
kierowca	"driver"

adwokat	"lawyer"
weterynarz	"vet"
chirurg	"surgeon"
lekarz	"doctor"
psycholog	"psychologist"
tłumacz	"translator"
inżynier	"engineer"
polityk	"politician"
rolnik	farmer
listonosz	"postman"
fotograf	"photographer"
strażak	"firefighter"

Now here are names of jobs that have two forms, depending on whether we talk about a man doing the job or a woman:

Polish masculine form	Polish feminine form	English
policjant	*policjantka*	"police officer"
aptekarz	*aptekarka*	"pharmacist"
dziennikarz	*dziennikarka*	"journalist"
recepcjonista	*recepcjonistka*	"receptionist"
sprzedawca	*sprzedawczyni*	"shop assistant"

fryzjer	*fryzjerka*	"hairdresser"
księgowy	*księgowa*	"accountant"
nauczyciel	*nauczycielka*	"teacher"
aktor	*aktorka*	"actor"
piosenkarz	*piosenkarka*	"singer"

For example:

1. *Ona jest policjantką.*
   "She's a police officer."

2. *On jest policjantem.*
   "He's a police officer."

3. *Jack Nicholson to sławny aktor.*
   "Jack Nicholson is a famous actor."

4. *Siostra Roberta pracuje jako fotograf.*
   "Robert's sister works as a photographer."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Employment in Poland

The majority of Poland's workforce is in the services sector and around thirty percent is in industry. Approximately sixteen percent of the workforce is employed in agriculture, which in recent years has become very popular.

Unemployment is a big problem in Poland, especially among youth. The unemployment rate in Poland is rather high and constantly growing. In 2012 and 2013 it was almost 14 percent. The current situation in the country forces many young people to move out to other European countries, to look for better work conditions and earnings.

The gray economy, when workers are paid under the table, is very common in Poland. Probably about 30-40 percent of Poles work like this, without contracts, without health insurance, and not paying income taxes. In Polish language such work is called *praca na czarno* (lit. "work on black").

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #4 Tending To Your Polish Garden

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POLISH

1. Tom: Kiedy Twoja babcia zaczyna pracę na działce?
2. Jane: Wczesną wiosną.
3. Tom: Ma tam tylko kwiaty, czy warzywa też?
4. Jane: Ma mnóstwo warzyw i owoców.
5. Tom: Na przykład?
6. Jane: Ziemniaki, marchewkę, pietruszkę, fasolę, bób, szczaw, kalarepę, sałatę, pomidory, itd.

ENGLISH

1. Tom: When does your grandma start work on her garden plot?
2. Jane: Early spring.
3. Tom: Does she only have flowers there, or vegetables too?
4. Jane: She has lots of vegetables and fruits there.
5. Tom: For example?
6. Jane: Potatoes, carrots, parsley, beans, fava beans, sorrel, kohlrabi, lettuce, tomatoes, etc.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
babcia	grandmother, grandma	noun	feminine
zaczynać się	to begin	verb	
wiosna	spring	noun	feminine
kwiat	flower	noun	masculine
warzywo	vegetable	noun	neuter
mnóstwo	plenty	numeral	
bób	fava bean	noun	masculine
szczaw	sorrel	noun	masculine
kalarepa	kohlrabi	noun	feminine
sałata	lettuce	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Jego babcia jest chora. "His grandmother is sick."	**On podlewa kwiaty każdego ranka.** He waters flowers every morning.
Siostry znalazły kwiaty. The sisters found some flowers.	**Papryka, brokuły, cukinia, por, marchewka, bakłażan i sałata to wszystko warzywa.** Peppers, broccoli, zucchini, leeks, carrots, eggplants, and lettuce are all vegetables.
Czy pomidor jest owocem, czy warzywem? Is a tomato a fruit or a vegetable?	**W przyszłym tygodniu mam mnóstwo czasu.** Next week I have plenty of time.

Uwielbiam bób z ogrodu moich dziadków. I love fava beans from my grandparents' garden.	**W Polsce robimy zupę ze szczawiu.** In Poland we make a soup from sorrel.
Sałatki z sałatą są bardzo popularne latem. Salads with lettuce are very popular in summer.	**Papryka, brokuły, cukinia, por, marchewka, bakłażan i sałata to wszystko warzywa.** Peppers, broccoli, zucchini, leeks, carrots, eggplants, and lettuce are all vegetables.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Babcia is a feminine noun meaning "grandma" or "grandmother" in English. In Poland whenever we talk about our grandma with other members of family, we usually put the noun *babcia* together with grandma's first name. For example, if her name is *Ania*, we would say *babcia Ania* ("grandma Ania").

Babcia can be also used to name an old person, not necessarily a member of our family. There's also a common adjective*, babciny*, that names something that is connected, belongs to, or is made by a grandma.

For example:

1. *Idę jutro do babci Ani.*
   "I'm going to grandma Ania's tomorrow."

2. - *Jakaś babcia zemdlała na ulicy.*
   "Some grandma fainted on the street."

3. - *Babciny sernik jest najlepszy na świecie*.
   "Grandma's cheesecake is the best in the world."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Learning About Patterns of Verb Conjugation.

Kiedy twoja babcia zaczyna pracę na działce?

"When does your grandma start work at her garden plot?"

The forms of Polish verbs given in dictionaries are always infinitive, but before you put them into a sentence, most of the time, you need to conjugate them. You may be wondering whether you're supposed to memorize the conjugation of every single Polish verb at this point, but the answer is no. The best way to approach the problem is to learn three forms for each verb—infinitive, the first person singular and the second person singular. The remaining forms of the present tense can be predicted based on the first and second person singular. In this lesson, we will focus on the singular.

There are four basic patterns of conjugation. Let's go through them one by one.

Pattern 1: *-ę, -esz, -e*

	Singular	Plural
First person	*-ę*	*-emy*
Second person	*-esz*	*-ecie*
Third person	*-e*	*-ą*

Now let's look at this with the verb *chcieć*, meaning "to want" in English:

Singular

ja	*chc**ę***	"I want"
ty	*chc**esz***	"you want"
on	*chc**e***	"he wants"
ona	*chc**e***	"she wants"
ono	*chc**e***	"it wants"

Plural

my	*chc**emy***	"we want"
wy	*chc**ecie***	"you want"
oni	*chc**ą***	"they want"

This pattern contains quite a few subpatterns, where there's a small change in the stem between the first and the second person singular. For example: *iść* ("to go by foot"), *móc* ("to be able to"), *brać* ("to take").

The other forms will have the same stem as the second person singular. Other verbs that conjugate this way are: *dziękować* ("to thank"), and *kupować* ("to buy").

Pattern 2: *-ę, -ysz / -isz, -y / -i*

	Singular	**Plural**
First person	*-ę*	*-ymy / -imy*
Second person	*-ysz / -isz*	*-ycie / -icie*
Third person	*-y / -i*	*-ą*

Now let's look at this using the verb *słyszeć*, meaning "to hear" in English:

Singular

ja	*słysz**ę***	"I hear"
ty	*słysz**ysz***	"you hear"
on	*słysz**y***	"he hears"
ona	*słysz**y***	"she hears"
ono	*słysz**y***	"it hears"

Plural

my	*słysz**ymy***	"we hear"
wy	*słysz**ycie***	"you hear"
oni	*słysz**ą***	"they hear"

Here again there are a few exceptions, but only in the group of verbs that take *-ę, -isz, -y*. Then we can observe a change in the stem of the verb in the second person singular. We can see such a change in verbs like: *nosić* ("to carry") or *lecieć* ("to fly").

Other verbs that take the second pattern of conjugation are, for example: *uczyć* ("to teach"), *śpieszyć się* ("to be in hurry"), *mówić* ("to say, to speak"), and *robić* ("to do").

Pattern 3: *-am, -asz, -a*

	Singular	**Plural**
First person	*-am*	*-amy*
Second person	*-asz*	*-acie*
Third person	*-a*	*-ają*

Now let's see this using the verb *czekać*, meaning "to wait" in English:

Singular

ja	*czek**am***	"I wait"
ty	*czek**asz***	"you wait"
on	*czek**a***	"he waits"
ona	*czek**a***	"she waits"
ono	*czek**a***	"it waits"

Plural

my	*czek**amy***	"we wait"
wy	*czek**acie***	"you wait"
oni	*czeka**ją***	"they wait"

The verbs that are conjugated this way have the infinitive ending with *-ać* (some of them have different conjugation pattern though). The only exception is the verb *mieć* ("to have"), which ends with *-eć*, but falls into this pattern of conjugation.

Some other verbs in this group are: *pytać* ("to ask") and *pamiętać* ("to remember").

Pattern 4: *-em, -esz, -e*

	Singular	**Plural**
First person	*-em*	*-emy*
Second person	*-esz*	*-ecie*
Third person	*-e*	*-ejąˊ*

Now let's see this using the verb *rozumieć*, meaning "to understand" in English:

Singular

ja	*rozumi**em***	"I understand"
ty	*rozumi**esz***	"you understand"
on	*rozumi**e***	"he understands"
ona	*rozumi**e***	"she understands"
ono	*rozumi**e***	"it understands"

Plural

my	*rozumi**emy***	"we understand"
wy	*rozumi**ecie***	"you understand"
oni	*rozumi**ejĄ***	"they understand"

There are only a few verbs that are conjugated this way. Some of them have an exceptional third person plural in - *dzą*, like the verbs *wiedzieć* ("to know") and *jeść* ("to eat").

Language Expansion

In the dialogue, Tom asked Jane, *Kiedy twoja babcia zaczyna pracę na działce?* ("When does your grandma start work at her garden plot?"). Let's break down this sentence. First we have the question word *kiedy*, meaning "when," followed by *twoja babcia*, meaning "your grandma." Next there's the verb *zaczynać* ("to start, to begin") in it's third person singular form *zaczyna.* Next we have the noun *pracę,* meaning "work," followed by the preposition *na* (literally "on") and lastly *działce,* meaning "garden plot" or "community garden." Altogether, *kiedy twoja babcia zaczyna pracę na działce?* ("When does your grandma start work at her garden plot?")

Now that you've learned about conjugation patterns you can tell that the verb *zaczynać* ("to start, to begin") follows the third pattern (*-am, -asz, -a*).

Now let's check a few names of vegetables that may come in handy when talking about cooking, garden plots, shopping lists, as well as your favorite food:

- *ziemniak* - "potato"

- *pomidor* - "tomato"

- *ogórek* - "cucumber"

- *sałata* - "lettuce"

- *kapusta* - "cabbage"

- *cebula* - "onion"

- *marchewka* - "carrot"

- *seler* - "celery"

- *pietruszka* - "parsley"

- *bób* - "fava beans"

- *groch* - "pea"

- *fasola szparagowa* - "string bean"

- *kalarepa* - "kohlrabi"

- *szczaw* - "sorrel"

- *burak* - "beetroot"

- *dynia* - "pumpkin"

- *czosnek* - "garlic"

- *por* - "leek"

- *szczypior* - "chives"

- *koper* - "dill"

- *papryka* - "bell pepper"

- *kalafior* - "cauliflower"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Getting Together in the Garden

Community gardens are very popular in Poland. Currently there are almost 5,000 of them in the country, taking up an area of about 44,000 hectares. In all community gardens that are usually located in the outskirts of big cities, there are around 966,000 land parcels. Those

land parcels are assigned to individuals. Each of the plots is cultivated individually.

Those who decide to become gardeners can use the plots for growing vegetables, fruits and flowers. It's prohibited to use them for residential purposes, but of course it sometimes happens.

Most of gardeners are pensioners who dedicate their time to the garden plots.

For many it's mainly a kind of leisure activity, while for others it's a way to get healthy fruits and vegetables and also to have a place where they can enjoy a barbecue in summer, with family and friends.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #5 What's the Most Popular Sport in Poland?

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POLISH

1. Tom: Co oglądasz?
2. Jane: Skoki narciarskie. Lubisz?
3. Tom: Nieszczególnie, ale moi koledzy trenują skoki.
4. Jane: Poważnie?
5. Tom: No! Prawie wszyscy moi koledzy lubią jakieś sporty.
6. Jane: A ty?
7. Tom: Ja tylko chodzę na siłownię.

ENGLISH

1. Tom: What are you watching?
2. Jane: Ski jumping. Do you like it?
3. Tom: Not necessarily, but my friends train for ski jumping.
4. Jane: Seriously?
5. Tom: Yup! Almost all of my friends like some kind of sports.
6. Jane: How about you?
7. Tom: I only go to the gym.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
oglądać	watch	verb	
skoki narciarskie	ski jumping	phrase	non-masculine-personal
kolega	friend (male)	noun	masculine
trenować	to train	verb	
poważnie	seriously	adverb	
prawie	almost	particle	
chodzić	to walk, to go	verb	
siłownia	gym	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Turyści oglądają zachód słońca. "The tourists watch the sunset. "	**Skoki narciarskie to mój ulubiony sport.** Ski jumping is my favourite sport.
Koledzy grają w tenisa. The friends play tennis.	**Codziennie trenuję boks.** I train at boxing everyday.
Marcin jest poważnie chory. Marcin is seriously sick.	**Prawie skończyłem sprzątać pokój.** I almost finished cleaning the room.
Lubisz chodzić na spacery? Do you like going for walks?	**Nie lubię chodzić na siłownię.** I don't like to go to the gym.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

The feminine noun ***siłownia*** describes a place where both men and women workout, in English "gym." It derives from the noun *siła*, meaning "strength." The noun *siłownia* always links with the preposition *na*, whether we say "at" or "to" in English, in Polish it's always the same *na.*

Common expressions are:

1. *chodzić na siłownię*
   "to go to the gym"

2. *ćwiczyć na siłowni*
   "to exercise, workout at the gym"

3. *Idę jutro na siłownię*.
   "I'm going to the gym tomorrow."

4. *Nie lubię chodzić na siłownię*.
   "I don't like going to the gym."

5. *Na siłowni koło mojego domu często brzydko pachnie*.
   "At the gym near my house it often smells bad."

Poważnie, the adverb used in the dialogue, means "seriously" in English. In the dialogues it was used as a way of expressing surprise, both negative and positive. It can be used in the same situations when you feel like saying the English "Really?"

For example:

1. A: *Rzucam pracę i przeprowadzam się do Włoch*.
   "I'm quitting my job and moving out to Italy."

2. B: *Poważnie?!* "Seriously?!"

The colloquial version of *poważnie* is *na serio* or simply *serio.*

Other words connected to *poważnie* are the feminine noun *powaga* ("seriousness") and the adjective *poważny* ("serious").

Let's go through a few examples:

1. *Poważnie zastanawiam się nad rozwodem.*
   "I'm seriously considering a divorce."

2. *Mój dziadek poważnie zachorował.*
   "My grandma got seriously sick."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Learning about Plural Forms of Polish Verbs
Moi koledzy trenują skoki narciarskie.
"My friends train for ski jumping."

In the last lesson, we learned about verb conjugation patterns. As you remember, there are four of them, and all Polish verbs belong to one of them. All infinitives in Polish end with the letter **-ć**, for example *iś**ć*** ("to go"), *pyta**ć*** ("to ask"), *sta**ć*** ("to stand"), with exception of very few verbs ending with **-c**, like in *pomó**c*** ("to help") or *mó**c*** ("to be able to"). When learning new verbs it's the best to learn their first and second person singular forms, because based on them we can predict the other forms in the conjugation patterns.

Let's quickly review all four conjugation patterns.

1. pattern 1: ***-ę, -esz, -e***
2. pattern 2: ***-ę, -isz, -i*** or ***-ę, -ysz, -y***
3. pattern 3: ***-am, -asz, -a***
4. pattern 4: ***-em, -esz, -e***

As we mentioned in the last lesson, in the case of some verbs there's a change in the stem.

If that happens between first and second person singular, then the third person plural will have the same stem as the first person singular and the other plural forms will have the same stem as the second person singular.

Let's take the verb *iść* ("to go") as an example. As you remember it belongs to the first

conjugation pattern.

idę ("I go")	***idziemy*** ("we go")
idziesz ("you go")	***idziecie*** ("you go")
idzie ("he,she,it goes")	***idą*** ("they go")

Another example is the verb *móc* ("can, be able to"), which also belongs to first conjugation pattern.

mogę ("I can")	***możemy*** ("we can")
możesz ("you can")	***możecie*** ("you can")
może ("he,she,it can")	***mogą*** ("they can")

In the second conjugation pattern, there are two subtypes: *-ę, -isz, -i* and *-ę, -ysz, -y*. This is very important information: in the case of the verbs that take *-ę, -ysz* there is never a stem change. The stem stays the same for all the forms both in singular and plural.

The verbs that take *-ę, -isz* can exhibit some stem changes. Here the rule is exactly the same as in the case of the verb of conjugation pattern number one.

Let's look at this using the verb *musieć* ("to have to"):

muszę ("I have to")	***musimy*** ("we have to")
musisz ("you have to")	***musicie*** ("you have to")
musi ("he, she, it has to")	***muszą*** ("they have to")

In the third conjugation pattern, the verb that shows some irregularity is *dać* ("to give") in it's future form. At this point of study you don't have to learn these forms.

Let's see it's full conjugation:

*d**am*** ("I'll give")	*d**amy*** ("we'll give")

*da**sz*** ("you'll give")	*da**cie*** ("you'll give")
da ("he'll," "she'll," "it'll give")	*da**dzą*** ("they'll give")

As we mentioned in the last lesson there are only a few verbs that fall in the fourth conjugation pattern. Among them there are those, which in the third person plural have the ending *-dzą* instead of the standard *-ją.* One such word is *wiedzieć* ("to know"). Let's see it's conjugation:

*wi**em*** ("I know")	*wi**emy*** ("we know")
*wi**esz*** ("you know")	*wi**ecie*** ("you know")
*wi**e*** ("he, she, it knows)	*wi**edzą*** ("they know")

The same happens in the case of two other verbs: *powiedzieć* ("to tell, to say") and *jeść* ("to eat").

Language Expansion

In the dialogue we heard the sentence—*Moi koledzy trenują skoki narciarskie* ("My friends train for ski jumping"). The first component of the sentence is the pronoun *moi* ("my") in plural, followed by the plural masculine noun *koledzy* ("friends"). Next there's the verb *trenować* in its third person plural form, and after that we have the name of a sport *skoki narciarskie* ("ski jumping"). Altogether it makes *Moi koledzy trenują skoki narciarskie,* in English "My friends train for ski jumping."

The verb used in the sentence was *trenować* ("to train"). This verb follows the first conjugation pattern. So the forms go as follows: *trenuję* ("I train"), *trenujesz* ("you train"), *trenuje* ("he, she, it trains"), *trenujemy* ("we train"), *trenujecie* ("you train"), *trenują* ("they train").

Another verb used in the dialogue was *oglądać*, which means "to watch." This time it's the third conjugation pattern. All the forms go as follows: *oglądam* ("I watch"), *oglądasz* ("you watch"), *ogląda* ("he, she, it watches"), *oglądamy* ("we watch"), *oglądacie* ("you watch"), *oglądają* (*oni oglądają*).

Lastly is the verb *chodzić*, which means to "to go" or "to walk." What's very important to know

about this verb is that it refers to an action of going that is repeated. When we do something once or twice only, it cannot be used. This verb falls in the second conjugation pattern. All the forms are: *chodzę* ("I go"), *chodzisz* ("you go"), *chodzi* ("he, she, it goes"), *chodzimy* ("we go"), *chodzicie* ("you go"), *chodzą* ("they go").

Now let's have a look at names of sports in Polish.

Team Sports (*sporty drużynowe*)

---

1. *piłka nożna* "football"
2. *koszykówka*
   "basketball"
3. *siatkówka* "volleyball"
4. *hokej* "hockey"
5. *piłka ręczna*
   "handball"

Individual Sports (*sporty indywidualne*)

---

1. *gimnastyka* "gymnastics"
2. *bieganie* "running"
3. *pływanie*
   "swimming"
4. *skoki narciarskie*
   "ski jumping"
5. *żuzel* "speedway"
6. *łyżwiarstwo* "skating"

7. *łyżwiarstwo figurowe*
"figure skating"

8. *zapasy*
"wrestling"

9. *tenis*
"tennis"

10. *tenis stołowy*
"table tennis"

11. *skok w dał*
"long-jump"

12. *skok wzwyż*
"high-jump"

13. *boks*
"boxing"

14. *badminton* "badminton"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

What is *Małyszomania*

In Poland, football (soccer) has been always the sport that Poles were the most interested in, but between 2001 and 2005 football dropped to second place. Ski jumping became the sport that most Poles were discussing and watching. Why ski jumping? All because of Adam Małysz, a former Polish ski jumper, one of the most successful in the history of the sport. During his career, so-called *małyszomania* took place—his popularity huge, not only among ski jumping fans, but throughout the whole of Poland.

After Małysz announced the end of his career in 2011, Kamil Stoch became the representative of Poland (He won gold at the 2013 Ski Jumping World Championships), and

is considered by the sport's fans as Adam Małysz's heir.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #6
Winter Is Coming to Poland

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POLISH

1. Jane: Kiedy masz wolne?
2. Tom: W styczniu mam tydzień urlopu.
3. Jane: Świetnie! Zorganizujmy kulig!
4. Tom: I pieczenie kiełbasek!
5. Jane: Uwielbiam kiełbaski z ogniska!
6. Tom: No to ustalone!

ENGLISH

1. Jane: When are you off?
2. Tom: In January, I have one week of holiday.
3. Jane: Great! Let's organize a sleigh ride!
4. Tom: And grilling sausages!
5. Jane: I love sausages grilled over the fire!
6. Tom: So it's decided!

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender

mieć wolne	to be off	phrase	
styczeń	January	noun	masculine
tydzień	week	noun	masculine
organizować	to organize	verb	
kulig	sleigh ride	noun	masculine
ognisko	bonfire	noun	neuter

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Masz jutro wolne? Are you off tomorrow?	**W styczniu zawsze pada śnieg.** In January it's always snowing.
W tym tygodniu zaczynam kurs angielskiego. This week I'm starting the English language course.	**Potrzeba wielkiego talentu, żeby zorganizować tak dużą imprezę.** It needs a lot of talent to organize such a big event.
W Polsce prawie każde miasto organizuje specjalną imprezę na Nowy Rok. In Poland, almost every city organizes a special New Year party.	**Polacy zawsze jadą na wieś na kulig.** Polish people always go to the countryside to do kulig.
Umiesz rozpalić ognisko? Can you make a bonfire?	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

One very useful noun used in the dialogue is the masculine noun ***urlop,*** meaning "vacation" or "leave" in English. *Urlop* is also commonly called *wolne*, which simply means "free." There are a few phrases that make a use of the noun *urlop*, so let's go through them one by one:

1. *Brać urlop* - "to take a leave"
2. *Iść na urlop* - "to go on vacation"
3. *Być na urlopie* - "to be on leave"
4. *Urlop macierzyński* - "maternity leave"
5. *Urlop płatny* - "paid vacation"
6. *Urlop bezpłatny* - "unpaid vacation"
7. *Urlop zdrowotny* - "sick leave"

Also, especially in summer or winter season, when many people have their holidays, we call them *urlopowicze* or *urlopowicz*, if it's a man, and *urlopowiczka* if it's a woman.

Another noun used in the dialogue is ***kiełbasa,*** meaning "sausage" in English. It's a feminine noun. In Poland there are many kinds of sausages, which are used for sandwiches, or simply fried, grilled, or boiled. Let's go through a few most popular kinds of *kiełbasa:*

1. *Kiełbasa wędzona* - "smoked sausage"
2. *Kiełbasa podsuszana* - "slightly dried sausage"
3. *Kiełbasa krakowska* - lit."Cracow's sausage," a type of Polish sausage served as a cold cut
4. *Kiełbasa biała* - "white sausage," a type of Polish sausage of characteristic white color, usually boiled and eaten with mustard, or served sliced in sour rye soup *żurek*

If the sausage is very small we use a diminutive of *kiełbasa*, which is *kiełbaska.*

There's also a saying using the noun, *nie dla psa kiełbasa* which literally means "no sausage for the dog." It means that someone doesn't deserve something.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is How to Ask "when" Questions.

Kiedy masz wolne?

"When are you off?"

Asking "when" questions in Polish is very easy and straightforward. The most important thing is to know the question word itself and of course a number of verbs. Then you can ask about anything.

Let's have a look at the question that we heard in the dialogue, *kiedy masz wolne?* It's a very simple question meaning "When are you off?" in English. The first component is the interrogative pronoun *kiedy*, meaning "when." Then there's the verb *mieć* ("to have") in its second person singular form *masz*, followed by the colloquial noun *wolne*, which stands for the English "off," "day off."

The proper way to refer to a non-working day in Polish is *dzień wolny,* literally "free day" or *dzień wolny od pracy*, literally "day free from work." The latter one is not used often in speech though.

Asking "When"

Just like in English, if you want to ask about the time when some action will be taking place, start the question with the interrogative pronoun *kiedy*, in English "when." The question word is followed by a verb, in different forms, so the knowledge of proper conjugation is crucial here.

Let's have a look at a few examples of questions that you can be sure you will want to ask others, or that they will ask you:

1. *Kiedy jest Dzień Matki?*
   "When is Mother's Day?"

The first component of this question is the interrogative pronoun *kiedy* ("when"). Next there's the verb *być* ("to be") in its third person singular form. And at the end is the name of a holiday *Dzień Matki,* in English "Mother's Day."

A *kiedy jest* question is one of the most common kinds of questions we can ask about time.

The answer is usually the name of a day or an exact date. It can also be a year, month, or time of the day, like evening, morning, etc.

For example:

1. *Kiedy masz urodziny?*
   "When is your birthday?"

We start off with the question word *kiedy* ("when"). Next comes a verb, in this case *mieć* ("to have") in its second person singular form *masz,* followed by the noun *urodziny* ("birthday"). The most important thing about this question is that in Polish we're using a different verb than in English. It's the verb "to have" instead of "to be" like in English.

For example:

1. *Kiedy wracasz? / Kiedy wyjeżdżasz?*
   "When are you coming back?"/"When are you leaving?"

This is again a very simple question that is built from two words only. Here the verbs are *wracać* ("to come back") and *wyjeżdżać* ("to leave").

Of course when we want to ask a third party, we need to change the form of the verb to the third person singular. Then also if we ask about a group of people or an object or event that is in plural, we need the form of a verb in the plural accordingly. In this case, we start the question with the interrogative pronoun. Next there's the person who we ask about, and then a verb.

For example:

1. *Kiedy Kasia wraca z USA?*
   "When is Kasia coming back from the USA?"

2. *Kiedy twój brat ma wolne?*
   "When is your brother off?"

3. *Kiedy mamy egzamin końcowy?*
   "When do we have the final exam?"

More Detailed "when" Questions

To ask more detailed "when" questions we can use two prepositions: *do*, which can mean "to," "till" or "until" and *od*, which stands for the English "from, since." In this case we will get *od kiedy*, meaning "from when" and *do kiedy,* meaning "till when."

Let's see a few examples:

1. *Od kiedy mieszkasz w Polsce?*
   "Since when do you live in Poland?"

2. *Od kiedy zaczynamy lekcje tańca?*
   "From when do we start dance lessons?"

3. *Od kiedy zaczyna się przerwa świąteczna?*
   "From when does the holiday break start?"

4. *Do kiedy Kacper tutaj zostaje?*
   "Till when is Kacper staying here?"

5. *Do kiedy uczniowie mają wakacje?*
   "Until when do students have vacation?"

6. *Do kiedy mogę trzymać tę książkę?*
   "Till when can I keep this book?"

Language Expansion

Very often the answer to "when" questions is a name of the month. In the last series, we learned the names of the months. Hopefully you remember them well. Now let's have a look at the table below, which will show us the changes that occur when we say, for example "in January." The names of months in Polish have to be in Locative case (we will learn about this case later. For now, please remember the forms of the months only).

Polish	English	Polish locative form	English
styczeń	"January"	*w styczniu*	"in January"
luty	"February"	*w lutym*	"in February"
marzec	"March"	*w marcu*	"in March"
kwiecień	"April"	*w kwietniu*	"in April"
maj	"May"	*w maju*	"in May"
czerwiec	"June"	*w czerwcu*	"in June"
lipiec	"July"	*w lipcu*	"in July"
sierpień	"August"	*w sierpniu*	"in August"
wrzesień	"September"	*we wrześniu* *	"in September"
październik	"October"	*w październiku*	"in October"
listopad	"November"	*w listopadzie*	"in November"
grudzień	"December"	*w grudniu*	"in December"

* Please note that in case of the month September in Polish we don't use the preposition *w*, but *we.*

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Winter Activities in Poland

Winter in Poland is different every year. Sometimes it starts in December, sometimes not until mid January. Of course the ones waiting for "real winter"—frosty with lots of snow—are children. There are many activities, especially for young people, that are very fun in winter,

especially sleigh rides. In older days, sleigh rides (in Polish called *kulig*) were always organized in villages, on small roads going through the fields or in the forests. Now it's still a popular winter activity, but these days instead of cart with horse(s), it's a tractor that is pulling a big number of sleighs tied together with a rope. Something that cannot be missed after the ride is also a huge bonfire where we can grill bread, potatoes, and sausages. Also in the cities, during a snowy winter, every slope or small hill is constantly full of younger and older children riding sleds.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #7 Taking a Trip to the Desert...in Poland!

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POLISH

1. Jane: Ale tu pięknie!
2. Tom: Niesamowity widok!
3. Jane: Chodź szybko! Stąd widać już morze!
4. Tom: To aż niewiarygodne, że w takim miejscu jest pustynia i wydmy.
5. Jane: Mówiłam ci, że to fantastyczne miejsce na weekendową wycieczkę.

ENGLISH

1. Jane: It's so beautiful here!
2. Tom: Incredible view!
3. Jane: Come quickly! You can see the sea from here!
4. Tom: It's simply unbelievable that in such a place there's a desert and dunes.
5. Jane: I told you that it's a fantastic destination for a weekend trip.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
wycieczka	trip	noun	feminine
fantastyczny	fantastic	adjective	masculine

wydma	dune	noun	feminine
pięknie	beautiful, beautifully	adverb	
niesamowity	incredible	adjective	masculine
szybko	fast	adverb	
morze	sea	noun	neuter
stąd	from here	pronoun	
niewiarygodny	unbelievable	adjective	masculine
pustynia	desert	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ta książka jest fantastyczna! This book is fantastic!	**Gdzie w Polsce możemy zobaczyć wydmy?** Where in Poland can we see dunes?
Pięknie ubrałeś choinkę. You decorated the Christmas Tree beautifully.	**Ten film jest niesamowity.** This movie is incredible.
Jak szybko potrafisz biegać? How fast can you run?	**Morze lubię bardziej niż góry.** I like the sea more than mountains.
Skąd pochodzisz? Where do you come from?	**To niewiarygodne jak szybko urosły moje pomidory.** It's unbelievable how fast my tomatoes grew.

Słońce rozgrzewa goracą pustynię.

The sun is heating the hot desert.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Pustynia is a feminine noun that was used in the dialogue of this lesson. It means "desert" in English. The word *pustynia* derives from the adjective *pusty*, meaning "empty."

As we all know, there are a few kinds of deserts in the world, so let's check the Polish names of them:

1. *Pustynia piaszczysta* - "desert covered with sand"
2. *Pustynia kamienista* - "desert covered with rocks"
3. *Pustynia lodowa* - "desert covered with ice and snow"

An adjective that derives from the noun *pustynia* is *pustynny*, meaning "desert-like," for example *krajobraz pustynny* ("desert landscape").

Niewiarygodny, a masculine adjective, has many meanings. The one used in the dialogue was "incredible." It can also be translated as "unbelievable." The same as in English, it can have both positive and negative connotations, especially when it's translated as "unbelievable." For example:

1. *Niewiarygodny widok* - "incredible view"
2. *Niewiarygodne odkrycie* - "unbelievable discovery"

Other meanings are "undependable" or "untrustworthy," used for describing something or a person who is difficult to believe in, or rely on, for example:

1. *Politycy są niewiarygodni.*
   "Politicians are untrustworthy."

2. *Ten człowiek jest niewiarygodny*.
   "Unreliable man."

3. *Dokument bez podpisu jest niewiarygodny*.
   "A document without a signature is undependable."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Learning About Adverbial Forms of Polish Adjectives
Ale tu pięknie!
"It's so beautiful here!"

Adverbs are one of the most important parts of speech so we will take some time in this series to learn about them. In this lesson, we will focus on the adverbs that are formed from adjectives.

As you already know, adjectives modify nouns. When put together, they have to agree in gender, number, and case. Adverbs are a little bit different, because they modify other parts of speech, for example verbs or adjectives. Adverbs can also appear in sentences that don't have any noun.

We could hear such a sentence in the dialogue: *Ale tu pięknie!*, meaning "It's so beautiful here!" The sentence is built from only three words. First there's *ale*, which in this case is an interjection that expresses surprise. Next there's the pronoun *tu*, meaning "here" in English. And at the end we have the adverb *pięknie*, meaning "beautifully." Altogether, *Ale tu pięknie!* ("It's so beautiful here!").

Another sentence from the dialogue where we used an adverb is *Chodź szybko!*, meaning "Come quickly!" The first word is the verb *przychodzić* ("to come") in its second person singular imperative form *chodź.* The second word is the adverb *szybko*, meaning "fast" in English.

Forming Adverbs from Adjectives

There are a few rather simple rules that can help you master adverb forming. What's very

important is to know adjectives very well. If you don't remember, please make sure to go back to the Absolute Beginner Series, where we talked about adjectives a lot. We will go through the rules of forming adverbs one by one.

1. Adverbs ending with the vowel *-o*

We create them from the most basic adjectives, most of them are built from two-syllables only. Moreover adjectives that have a stem ending in *-k, -ch, -c* and *-g* take the vowel *-o* at the end when forming an adverb. Let's see a few adjective-adverb pairs in the table below:

Polish adjective	Polish adverb	English translation
młody	*młodo*	"young"
stary	*staro*	"old"
drogi	*drogo*	"expensive"
słodki	*słodko*	"sweet"
rzadki	*rzadko*	"rare"
szybki	*szybko*	"fast"
wolny	*wolno*	"slow"
zdrowy	*zdrowo*	"healthy"
daleki	*daleko*	"far"
głupi	*głupio*	"stupid"
interesujący	*interesująco*	"interesting"

As you can see all the adverbs end with the vowel *-o* and are formed by removing the vowel that ends the adjective and adding the vowel *-o* instead.

2. Adverbs ending with the vowel *-e*

Here again, the main focus is the stem of the adjective. If the stem ends with a consonant,

which is followed by the consonant *-n*, then the adverb takes the vowel *-e* at the end. There's one more very important change that occurs in this case: softening of the consonant *-n,* which is spelled *ni.*

Let's have a look at the table below to see those changes clearly:

Polish adjective	Polish adverb	English translation
świetny	*świetnie*	"great"
ładny	*ładnie*	"pretty"
śmieszny	*śmiesznie*	"funny"
okropny	*okropnie*	"terrible"
zwyczajny	*zwyczajnie*	"ordinary"
publiczny	*publicznie*	"public"
prywatny	*prywatnie*	"private"
błędny	*błędnie*	"wrong"

As you can see here all the adverbs end with *-nie.* We removed the vowel *-y* from the adjective and added *-ie*.

3. Adverbs ending with the vowel *-e*

There's a group of adverbs that do not fall into any of the rules mentioned above. Most of them are three or four-syllable adjectives. The adverbs made from those adjectives also take the vowel *-e*, and softening in the proceeding consonant occurs. Let's have a look at a few examples:

Polish adjective	Polish adverb	English translation
doskonały	*doskonale*	"perfect"
wspaniały	*wspaniale*	"marvelous, wonderful"

znakomity	*znakomicie*	"excellent"
niesamowity	*niesamowicie*	"incredible"

Now that we learned all about adverbs, it's time to practice and put them into sentences. Below you will see a few examples of how to use the adverbs we introduced above:

1. *Wspaniale dzisiaj pani wygląda!*
   "Ma'am, you look marvelous today!"
2. *Chcę dzisiaj szybko skończyć pracę.*
   "I want to finish work fast today."
3. *Ten autobus jedzie strasznie wolno.*
   "This bus is going terribly slow"
4. *Kacper jest po wypadku, ale wygląda bardzo zdrowo.*
   "Kacper had an accident, but he looks really healthy."

Language Expansion

We mentioned before that adverbs are often used in sentences where there's no specific noun. One such type of sentence is when we refer to weather or to our surroundings in general.

Let's go through some weather-related vocabulary:

Polish adjective	Polish adverb	English translation
gorący	*gorąco*	"hot"
ciepły	*ciepło*	"warm"
chłodny	*chłodno*	"cool"
zimny	*zimno*	"cold"

słoneczny	*słonecznie*	"sunny"
deszczowy	*deszczowo*	"rainy"
wietrzny	*wietrznie*	"windy"
duszny	*duszno*	"muggy"
pochmurny	*pochmurno* *pochmurnie**	"cloudy"
mroźny	*mroźno* *mroźnie **	"frosty"

* in the case of the last two words both adverbial forms are correct

Now that you know all the necessary vocabulary, it's time to put them into sentences:

1. *Bardzo tu duszno.*
   "It's very muggy here."
2. *Ale dzisiaj gorąco!*
   "It's so hot today!"
3. *Jesienią jest zawsze pochmurno i deszczowo.*
   "It's always cloudy and rainy in autumn."
4. *Nie lubię jak jest gorąco w ciągu dnia.*
   "I don't like when it's hot during the day."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A Famous Polish National Park

Słowiński National Park is located in Pomeranian Voivodeship, in northern Poland. It was created in 1967, and in 1977 UNESCO designed it as a biosphere reserve. The National Park

covers an area of 186 square kilometers, with a strictly preserved zone of 56.19 square kilometers. What's most interesting about the park is that you can see moving dunes there, which are literally moving. The sand is carried by the wind, which makes the dunes move from three to ten meters every year. The highest peak in the park is Rowokol (115 meters above the sea level). Słowiński Park Narodowy is a great place for an active one day trip, where one can choose one of many walking trails (altogether 140 kilometers), among which definitely the most popular is the one leading through the dunes, creating a desert landscape, to the shore of the Baltic Sea.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #8
Are You Afraid of Polish Dragons?

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POLISH

1. Jane: Znasz legendę o smoku wawelskim?
2. Tom: Nie znam. Wiem tylko, że jest jakiś smok w Krakowie.
3. Jane: Dokładnie. Wszyscy Polacy znają tą legendę.
4. Tom: To mi opowiedz jeśli ją znasz.

ENGLISH

1. Jane: Do you know the legend of the Wawel Dragon?
2. Tom: I don't know. I only know that there is some dragon in Cracow.
3. Jane: Exactly. All Poles know this legend.
4. Tom: So tell me about it, if you know it too.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
wszyscy	everyone	pronoun	
opowiadać	to tell (a story)	verb	
jeśli	if	conjunction	
legenda	legend	noun	female
smok	dragon	noun	masculine

wiedzieć	to know	verb
tylko	just, only	adverb
że	that	conjunction

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Wszyscy są dzisiaj spóźnieni! Everyone is late today!	**Moja babcia lubi opowiadać bajki.** My grandma likes telling stories.
Jeśli chcesz, zrobię ci herbatę. If you want, I'll make you tea.	**Legenda mówi, że w tym lesie mieszka smok.** "The legend states that there is a dragon living in this forest."
Smoki są ważną częścią chińskich i japońskich legend. "Dragons are a significant element of Chinese and Japanese folk tales."	**Wiem, że jesteś zajęty.** I know you're busy.
Nie wiem, co powiedzieć. I don't know what to say.	**Mam tylko dwie minuty.** I only have two minutes.
Wiem, że interesujesz się sportem. "I know that you're interested in sports."	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Legenda is Polish feminine noun that stands for the English "legend." In the dialogue it was used to name a traditional story, usually connected to a country's history. Other meanings are:

- a list of symbols appearing on a map

- an extremely famous or notorious person

Let's go through a few examples of phrases and sentences with the noun *legenda:*

1. *żywa legenda*
   "living legend"

2. *legenda o diable*
   "legend about a devil"

3. *Ten gitarzysta jest żywą legendą*.
   "This guitarist is a living legend."

4. *Kiedy byłam mała mama czytała mi przed spaniem legendy.*
   "When I was small my mom was reading me legends before sleep."

5. *Legenda tej mapy jest nieczytelna*.
   "The legend of this map is illegible."

The adjective that derives from the noun *legenda* is *legendarny* (masculine), *legendarna* (feminine), and *legendarne* (neuter). It means "very well known."

Another word used in the dialogue was the verb ***opowiadać***, which means "to tell (a story)." There are two sayings that are common among Poles. One of them is *opowiadać bajki*, which literally means "to tell a tale / fable." The other meaning is "to tell untrue stories." If someone tells you something you don't believe, you can react saying *opowiadasz bajki* ("you're telling tales").

Another saying that has the same meaning and can be used in exactly the same situations is *opowiadać niestworzone rzeczy*, meaning "to tell something that's hard to believe."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Learning about Different Ways of Saying "I know" in Polish
Nie znam legendy. Wiem tylko, że jest jakiś smok w Krakowie.
"I don't know the legend. I only know that there is some dragon in Cracow."

The very useful and commonly used English word "to know" has a few meanings in English, as well as in Polish. Moreover, in Polish there are a few ways we can translate "to know." The most basic translations are *wiedzieć* and *znać.*

In the dialogue we heard a great example of the difference between those two Polish verbs with the sentence *Nie znam legendy* ("I don't know the legend"). The exact sentence from the dialogue is just *nie znam*, meaning "I don't know," but to make it work better without a context let's add a noun there - *Nie znam legendy.* The sentence starts with the particle *nie* ("not"), followed by the verb *znać* ("to know") in its first person singular form *znam*. And at the end there's the noun *legenda* ("legend") in its genitive form - *legendy*.

The other sentence from the dialogue is *Wiem tylko, że jest jakiś smok w Krakowie* ("I only know that there is some dragon in Cracow"). The first component of the sentence is the verb *wiedzieć* ("to know") in the first person singular form *wiem.* Next there's the particle *tylko*, meaning "only," followed by the conjunction *że* ("that"). Then there's the verb *być* ("to be") in the third person singular form, after that *jakiś smok,* meaning "some dragon," then the preposition *w* ("in"), and lastly the name of the city in its locative form *Krakowie.* Altogether *Wiem tylko, że jest jakiś smok w Krakowie* ("I only know that there is some dragon in Cracow").

Now let's talk in detail about both of the Polish verbs.

Znać

Let's start with the conjugation of the verb. It follows the third conjugation pattern *(-am, -asz, -a*)

Singular

	Polish	English
ja	*znam*	"I know"
ty	*znasz*	"you know"
on	*zna*	"he knows"
ona	*zna*	"she knows"

ono	*zna*	"it knows"

Plural

	Polish	English
my	*znamy*	"we know"
wy	*znacie*	"you know"
oni	*znają*	"they know"

Znać translates into "to know" in English. It can be used when we talk about knowing some person, having been introduced to them before, for example: *Znam twojego szefa.* ("I know your boss"). The other way to use the verb is when you're familiar with something, just like in the dialogue, for example: *Znam ten film, jest świetny!* ("I know this movie, it's great!"). And lastly *znać* can express ability or some knowledge, then it can be translated as the English "can," for example: *Bardzo dobrze znam gramatykę języka angielskiego* ("I know English grammar very well").

Wiedzieć

First let's see the conjugation of this verb. It follows the fourth pattern (*-em, -esz, -e*).

Singular

	Polish	English
ja	*wiem*	"I know"
ty	*wiesz*	"you know"
on	*wie*	"he knows"
ona	*wie*	"she knows"
ono	*wie*	"it knows"

Plural

	Polish	English
my	*wiemy*	"we know"
wy	*wiecie*	"you know"
oni	*wiedzą*	"they know"

The verb *wiedzieć* is also translated as "to know" in English. Here there is only one meaning, and it's "to be aware of" or "to have a knowledge about something," for example: *Wiem jak to zrobić* ("I know how to do that") or *Wiem, że to nie prawda*. ("I know it's not true").

Now that we have learned all about *wiedzieć* and *znać*, it's time to put that knowledge into practice. Below you will find a few examples of sentences that make use of the two verbs.

1. *Nie znam legendy.*
   "I don't know this legend."

2. *Wiem tylko, że jest jakiś smok w Krakowie.*
   "I only know there's some dragon in Cracow."

3. *Znam twojego brata, bo chodziliśmy razem do szkoły.*
   "I know your brother, because we went to school together."

4. *Znasz tego aktora?*
   "Do you know this actor?"

5. *Wiem, że mieszkasz niedaleko.*
   "I know you live close by."

6. *Wiem, że jesteś zajęty, ale musimy porozmawiać.*
   "I know you're busy, but we have to talk."

7. *Znam świetną restaurację chińską.*
   "I know this great Chinese restaurant."

Language Expansion

In a few sentences, in this lesson and in previous ones, a very short word *że* appeared. It's a conjunction that is a very important part of a sentence in Polish language. It stands for the English "that," it's also used in reported speech. The most important difference between *że* and "that" is the Polish conjunction can not be omitted as often happens in case of "that." Another important thing is that a coma has to always be placed right before *że*, but there's no corresponding pause in speech.

The conjunction especially follows verbs that we use to express our opinions and knowledge, for example: *wiedzieć* ("to know"), *myśleć* ("to think"), *pamiętać* ("to remember"), *uważać* ("to find" - expressing opinions), and *obawiać się* ("to be afraid").

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A Famous Polish Folk Tale

The legend about Wawel Dragon (in Polish *smok wawelski*) is the best known tale in Poland. There's no Pole, who wouldn't know the story about an evil dragon that one day appeared in Cracow and started living in a cave under King Krakus' castle. Many brave knights were summoned to kill the monster. Unfortunately no one succeeded. The desperate king announced that the one who kills the dragon can take his daughter as a wife. Many tried, but no one could kill the dragon, until a poor cobbler Skuba told the king that he will kill the dragon. Of course no one believed him. The cobbler outsmarted the dragon by stuffing sheep's skin with pitch and sulfur and leaving it in front of its cave. When the monster devoured the fake sheep, his stomach burst into flames. The dragon ran to the Vistula River and drank and drank and drank, but nothing could stop the fire. In the end, after drinking half of the river, the dragon exploded.

Until this day, in Cracow, when we visit the Royal Castle on Wawel Hill, we can see the dragon's den under it and also a statue of the evil dragon, that every few minutes breathes fire.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #9
Planning a Polish Christmas Feast

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POLISH

1. Jane: Umiesz robić pierogi?
2. Tom: Umiem. Czemu pytasz?
3. Jane: Bo potrzebuję twojej pomocy przy gotowaniu na święta.
4. Tom: Nie ma problemu! Potrafię też robić rybę po grecku.
5. Jane: Super! To jeszcze tylko dziesięć dań.

ENGLISH

1. Jane: Can you make pierogi?
2. Tom: I can. Why are you asking?
3. Jane: Because I need help with cooking for Christmas.
4. Tom: No problem! I can also make a Greek-style fish.
5. Jane: Super! So only ten dishes left.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
umieć	can, to be able to	verb	
pytać	to ask	verb	

potrzebować	to need	verb	
Pomocy!	Help!	expression	
gotować	to cook	verb	
problem	problem	noun	masculine
ryba	fish	noun	feminine
danie	dish	noun	neuter

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Mój dziadek umie dobrze gotować. My grandpa can cook well.	**Dlaczego mnie o to pytasz?** Why are you asking me about this?
Pytałam o ciebie. I was asking about you.	**Potrzebujesz ten zeszyt?** "Do you need this notebook?"
Pomocy! Złodzieje. Help! Thieves!	**Moja mama świetnie gotuje.** My mom is a great cook.
Mam problem. I have a problem.	**Ryba obserwuje przynętę.** The fish is looking at the bait.
Jakie jest dzisiejsze danie główne? What's the main course today?	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Gotować is a Polish verb that means "to cook." The same as in English, when we say *gotować* it can mean preparing food or boiling it. Let's check a few examples of phrases and sentences

with this verb:

1. *Moja babcia dobrze gotuje*.
   "My grandpa cooks very well."

2. *Umiesz gotować?*
   "Can you cook?"

3. *Nie umiem gotować*.
   "I can't cook."

4. *Tata gotuje wodę na herbatę*.
   "My dad is boiling water for tea."

There are two colloquial words that mean the same as *gotować*: *pitrasić* and *pichcić.* If we put them in a sentence it will look like this:

1. *Co pitrasisz?*
   "What are you cooking?"

2. *Co tam pichcisz?*
   "What are you cooking there?"

3. *Lubię pichcić wieczorami.*
   "I like cooking in the evenings."

Ryba is another common word that we heard in the dialogue of this lesson. It means "fish" in English, and it's a feminine noun. In Polish language there are quite a few interesting sayings that make use of this noun. Let's check the most popular ones:

- *Zdrowy jak ryba* - lit. "healthy as a fish," it means a person is very healthy (in general) or after recovering from some illness.
- *Czuć się jak ryba w wodzie* - lit. "to feel like a fish in the water," "to be very comfortable in certain situations or environments."
- *Gruba ryba* - lit. "fat fish," someone very important or rich.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Learning About "can" and "be able to"

Umiesz robić pierogi?

"Can you make pierogi?"

In Polish, there are two words that can express ability or capacity to do something—*umieć* and *potrafić.* In this lesson, we will explain the differences between them, as well as usage.

In the dialogue we had a chance to hear them in two different sentences. The first sentence was *Umiesz robić pierogi?* ("Can you make pierogi?"). It starts with the verb *umieć* ("can") in its second person singular form *umiesz.* Then there's an infinitive verb *robić* ("to make," "to do"), and at the end there's the name of a Polish dish, *pierogi*. *Pierogi* are a kind of dumpling with a filling made from sauerkraut and wild mushrooms. Altogether, it is *Umiesz robić pierogi?* ("Can you make pierogi?").

Another sentence from the dialogue is *Potrafię też robić rybę po grecku* ("I can also make a Greek style fish"). The first component of the sentence is the verb *potrafić* in its first person singular form *potrafię*, followed by the particle *też*, meaning "too" or "also." Then there's the infinitive verb *robić* ("to make, to do"), and lastly the name of a Polish dish, *rybę po grecku,* in accusative case. Altogether, that gives us *Potrafię też robić rybę po grecku* ("I can also make a Greek style fish").

As you can see, both sentences express the ability to do something. Below you will find a detailed introduction of all three verbs.

potrafić

Potrafić expresses ability or capacity to do something, to manage to do something, and is translated in English as "be able to" or "can." It implies more confidence in the action, compared with the other verb *umieć.* This verb follows the second conjugation pattern (*-ę, -isz, -i*).

singular

	Polish	English
ja	*potrafię*	"I'm able to"
ty	*potrafisz*	"you're able to"

on	*potrafi*	"he's able to"
ona	*potrafi*	"she's able to"
ono	*potrafi*	"it's able to"

plural

	Polish	English
my	*potrafimy*	"we're able to"
wy	*potraficie*	"you're able to"
oni	*potrafią*	"they're able to"

Potrafić is one of the verbs that takes a following verb in the infinitive. Just like we could see in the sentences we broke down at the beginning of this lesson.

There's one very interesting usage of *potrafić* - to talk about an activity that's repeated very often and has nothing to do with skill, for example: *On potrafi spać do południa* ("He can sleep till noon"). It expresses not the skill, but something the person does often and is not common.

umieć

This verb is very similar to *potrafić* and very often they can be used in the same situation, without a change in the meaning. *Umieć* can be translated in English as "can," but also as "be able to." It implies that one has theoretical knowledge of how to do something. It also feels more colloquial than the verb *potrafić. Umieć* follows the fourth conjugation pattern (*-em, -esz, -e*).

singular

	Polish	English
ja	*umiem*	"I can"
ty	*umiesz*	"you can"

on	*umie*	"he can"
ona	*umie*	"she can"
ono	*umie*	"it can"

plural

	Polish	English
my	*umiemy*	"we can"
wy	*umiecie*	"you can"
oni	*umieją*	"they can"

The same as in the case of the verb *potrafić, umieć* is always followed by another verb in its infinitive form.

Below you will find a few examples of sentences that make use of either *umieć* or *potrafić.*

1. *Umiesz robić pierogi?*
   "Can you make pierogi?"

2. *Gosia potrafi bardzo szybko pływać.*
   "Gosia can swim very fast."

3. *Potrafię ugotować wyśmienity obiad w dwadzieścia minut.*
   "I'm able to make a delicious dinner in only twenty minutes."

4. *Nie potrafię ci tego wytłumaczyć.*
   "I'm not able to explain it to you."

5. *Nie umiem pisać lewą ręką, ale mój brat potrafi pisać obiema rękami.*
   "I'm not able to write with my left hand, but my brother can write with both hands."

6. *Umiesz dobrze grać w szachy?*
   "Can you play chess well?"

Language Expansion

Now that you have learned all about *potrafić* and *umieć,* you will be able to talk about your skills and abilities. What's left to learn is vocabulary related to that. Below you will find a list of a few words and phrases connected to activities that we usually do in our free time.

Outdoors

prowadzić... - "to drive" (add the name of a means of transportation, for example *samochód* ("car"), *motocykl* ("motorcycle")

jeździć na rowerze - "to ride a bicycle"

grać w... - "to play..." (add the name of a sport in accusative case that requires more than one person, for example piłkę nożną ("football"), tenisa ("tennis"), siatkówkę ("volleyball"))

pływać - "to swim"

jeździć na nartach - "to ski"

jeździć na łyżwach - "to ice-skate"

czytać map - "to read maps"

Indoors

śpiewać - "to sing"

malować - *"to paint"*

rysować - "to draw"

gotować - "to cook"

tańczyć - "to dance"

grać w szachy - "to play chess"

obsługiwać... - "to use..." (add the name of a device, for example *smartphona* ("smartphone"), *komputera* ("computer")

mówić po... - "to speak... " (add the name of language, for example *angielsku* ("English"), *polsku* ("Polish")

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A Polish Christmas Feast

In Poland, the most important day of Christmas is Christmas Eve, when in the evening we have a huge family dinner. We usually start with a soup, and that usually is a beetroot soup (*barszcz*), or mushroom soup (*zupa grzybowa*). Poland is a country where we don't serve meat on Christmas Eve, so the traditional dishes are mainly with fish. One of the most popular ones is carp or cod in aspic (*dorsz / karp w galarecie*) and Greek-style fish (*ryba po grecku*), which is fried cod in carrot-onion stew. Another popular fish that cannot be missing is herring (*śledź*), which is served in many different ways, for example in oil with onion or in a salad with vegetables. Very traditional are also dumplings stuffed with sauerkraut and wild mushrooms (*pierogi z kapustą i grzybami*). As for sweets, there's *kutia*, a very traditional dish made from many kinds of grains, nuts, honey, raisins, and dried fruits. The pastries that one will find in every Polish house are cheesecake (*sernik*), poppyseed roll cake (*makowiec*), gingerbread cake (*piernik*), and of course gingerbread cookies (*pierniczki*).

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #10 How Will You Celebrate Your Birthday in Poland?

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POLISH

1. Tom: Jak obchodzisz tutaj urodziny?
2. Jane: W polskim stylu. Zawsze zapraszam znajomych do domu.
3. Tom: Czyli robisz domówkę?
4. Jane: Dokładnie. Często piekę jakieś ciasto, kupuję też napoje i alkohol. Jest fajnie.
5. Tom: A co planujesz w tym roku?
6. Jane: Oczywiście domówkę!

ENGLISH

1. Tom: How do you celebrate your birthday here?
2. Jane: Polish-style—I always invite friends to my house.
3. Tom: So you're throwing a house party?
4. Jane: Exactly. I often bake a cake and I also buy drinks and alcohol. It's cool.
5. Tom: And what are you planning this year?
6. Jane: A house party of course!

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
napój	drink	noun	masculine
planować	to plan	verb	
urodziny	birthday	noun	
styl	style	noun	masculine
zawsze	always	adverb	
domówka	house party	noun	feminine
dokładnie	exactly	adverb	
piec	to bake	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Lubisz napoje gazowane? Do you like fizzy drinks?	**Nie planuję nic na wakacje.** I don't plan anything for holidays.
Kiedy masz urodziny? When is your birthday?	**Ten budynek został zbudowany w stylu gotyckim.** This building was built in gothic style.
Uwielbiam chodzić na domówki do mojej koleżanki. I love going to home parties at my friend's.	**Mam dokładnie taki sam komputer.** I have exactly the same computer.
Kobieta piecze ciasto. The woman is baking a cake.	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Domówka is a very common way of calling a house party in Poland. This feminine noun is used a lot among young people. You can also hear another slightly old-fashioned word with the same meaning, which is *prywatka.* You can hear older generations use it.

The noun *domówka* always links with the preposition *na*, whenever we want to say "at" or "to a house party." Here are a few examples:

1. *Byłam wczoraj na świetnej domówce*.
   "I went to a great house party yesterday."

2. *Poznałem moją dziewczynę na domówce kolegi*.
   "I met my girlfriend at my friend's house party."

3. *Robię domówke na Nowy Rok*.
   "I'm throwing a house party for New Year."

The Polish verb ***piec*** is one of those words that has more than one meaning. *Piec as* we heard in the dialogue means "to bake," for example:

1. *piec ciasteczka*
   "to bake cookies"

2. *Lubię piec sernik*.
   "I like to bake a cheesecake."

3. *Moja babcia piecze jakieś ciasto w każdą niedzielę.*
   "My grandma bakes some cake every Sunday."

4. *Piekarz piecze chleb*.
   "A baker bakes bread."

Another meaning of *piec* is "oven" or "furnace," so in this case it's a masculine noun.

1. *Pizzę piecze się w piecu*.
   "Pizza is being baked in an oven."

2. *W piwnicy stoi wielki piec.*
   "In the basement there's a huge furnace."

The last meaning of the word *piec* (verb) is a medical term of a burning sensation or a specific kind of itch, for example:

1. *Pieką mnie oczy,bo za długo pracowałam przy komputerze.*
   "My eyes are burning because I worked by the computer too long."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Polish Adverbs of Frequency
Zawsze zapraszam znajomych do domu.
"I always invite friends to my house."

In this lesson we will continue the study of Polish adverbs. This time we will learn all about adverbs that express frequency of some action. We had a chance to hear one of them in the dialogue, in the sentence *Zawsze zapraszam znajomych do domu*, which in English means "I always invite friends to my house." Let's break down this sentence. First we have the adverb *zawsze*, meaning "always," followed by the verb *zapraszać* ("to invite") in its first person singular form, *zapraszam.* The next component of the sentence is the plural noun *znajomi* (literally "acquaintance," but also used to name people closer than that) in the accusative form *znajomych*. Next there's the preposition *do*, meaning "to," and lastly the noun *dom* ("house," "home") in its genitive form *domu.* Altogether, we have *Zawsze zapraszam znajomych do domu* ("I always invite friends to my house").

In the table below you will find the list of Polish adverbs of frequency, together with the English translation:

Polish	English
zawsze	"always"
zwykle	"usually"
często	"often"
czasami	"sometimes"
rzadko	"seldom"

nigdy	"never"

In a Polish sentence the order of the words is the same as in English. In both languages an adverb precedes the verb it describes.

Let's look at this in a few sample sentences:

1. *Zawsze zapraszam znajomych do domu.*
   "I always invite friends to my house."

2. *Moja siostra zawsze czyta książki przez spaniem.*
   "My sister always reads books before sleep."

3. *Rano zwykle nie jadam śniadania, tylko piję kawę z cukrem.*
   "In the morning, I usually don't eat breakfast, I just drink coffee with sugar."

4. *Zawsze zapominam zgasić światło w łazience.*
   "I always forget to turn off the light in the bathroom."

5. *Często zdarza mi się zasnąć w czasie nauki.*
   "I often fall asleep while studying."

6. *W dni powszednie zawsze idę spać przed północą.*
   "On weekdays, I always go to bed before midnight."

More on the Adverb *nigdy*

Among all the Polish adverbs of frequency, one is a little bit special. It's *nigdy*, meaning "never." When we put it in a sentence, it requires a negation of the verb it refers to. When in English we say, for example, "I never sleep on the train," the same sentence in Polish will be *Nigdy nie śpię w pociągu,* which literally is "I never don't sleep on the train." Every time you use the adverb *nigdy* make sure to add *nie* ("not") before the action you never do. Let's go through a few examples:

1. *Nigdy nie słucham muzyki, kiedy się uczę.*
   "I never listen to music when I'm studying"

2. *Pan Kowalski nigdy nie spóźnia się do pracy.*
   "Mr Kowalski is never late for work."

3. *Oglądam dużo filmów, ale nigdy w kinie.*
   "I watch movies a lot, but never in the cinema."

Asking about Frequency

Asking about frequency of some action is very easy in Polish. Just like in English, it's enough to just say *jak często*... ("how often...") and then add the action or activity you want to ask about. You can answer with the adverb of frequency only, or some other expression that answers the question, or you can add more details, like in the examples below.

1. A: *Jak często chodzisz na siłownię?*
   A: "How often do you go to the gym?"
   B: *Tylko dwa razy w tygodniu.*
   B: "Only two times a week."

2. A: *Jak często spotykasz się ze swim chłopakiem?*
   A: "How often do you meet with your boyfriend?"
   B: *Codziennie, ale to chyba zbyt często.*
   B: "Every day, but it's probably too often."

Language Expansion

Only two of the adverbs introduced above have comparative and superlative forms. They are *często* ("often") and *rzadko (*"seldom"). You can see the forms of both adverbs in the table below:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative

często ("often")	*częściej*	*najczęściej*
rzadko ("seldom")	*rzadziej*	*najrzadziej*

A word that comes in handy here is *coraz*, which can be translated as "more and more." We put it together with an adjective or an adverb to express escalation.

Let's see a few examples:

1. *W tym roku chodzę na siłownię częściej niż w zeszłym roku.*
   "This year I'm going to the gym more often that last year."

2. *Coraz częściej nie mogę zasnąć w nocy.*
   "I can't fall asleep at night more and more often."

3. *Najczęściej oglądane filmy w tym roku, to komedie romantyczne.*
   "The most viewed movies of this year are romantic comedies."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Birthdays in Poland

One of the most popular ways of spending one's birthday in Poland is a house party. Usually a party for family is separate from a party with friends. First of all, on the day of one's birthday, the closest family members visit with presents. Usually we have a small party together that includes coffee or light alcohol, and some cake.

When it comes to children, sometimes parents organize a house party for them and their school friends.

When we get older, we organize those by ourselves, either at home or outside the home. Generally speaking, Poles tend to party at home, but of course that depends on the person and the place they live (in big cities there's a huge variety of places to have a party).

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Upper Beginner S1 #11 This Orange Stone Makes the Best Polish Souvenir!

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POLISH

1. Tom: Mam prośbę. Muszę jutro kupić mamie prezent, ale nie wiem co.
2. Jane: Może biżuterię z bursztynem?
3. Tom: Bursztyn to ten pomarańczowy kamień?
4. Jane: Tak, jest bardzo piękny, szczególnie ze srebrem. Na pewno spodoba się twojej mamie.
5. Tom: Dzięki za radę.

ENGLISH

1. Tom: I have a favor to ask. I have to buy a present for my mom tomorrow, but I don't know what.
2. Jane: How about some jewelry with amber?
3. Tom: Amber is that orange stone?
4. Jane: Yes, it's very beautiful, especially with silver. Your mom will like it for sure.
5. Tom: Thanks for the advice.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
srebro	silver	noun	neutral

kamień	stone	noun	masculine
rada	advice	noun	feminine
kupować	to buy	verb	
wiedzieć	to know	verb	
biżuteria	jewelry	noun	feminine
bursztyn	amber	noun	masculine
pomarańczowy	orange (color)	adjective	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Srebro jest tańsze niż złoto. Silver is cheaper than gold.	**W moim ogrodzie jest mnóstwo kamieni.** There are many stones in my garden.
To najlepsza rada, jaką słyszałem. It's the best advice I've ever heard.	**On chce kupić szybki samochód.** He wants to buy a fast car.
Jutro kupuję nowy telewizor. Tomorrow I'm buying a new TV.	**Para kupuje ubrania.** The couple buys clothes.
Wiem, że jesteś zajęty. I know you're busy.	**Nie wiem, co powiedzieć.** I don't know what to say.
Sprzedawczyni prezentuje biżuterię. The saleswoman is showing jewelry.	**Lubię biżuterię z bursztynem.** I like jewelry with amber.

Jego ulubiony kolor to pomarańczowy.

His favorite color is orange.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Srebro is a neuter noun we heard in the dialogue. It means "silver" in English. It can name a chemical element and a noble metal, which is very often used to make jewelry and cutlery. Very commonly used is the adjective that derives from the noun *srebro, srebrny. Srebrny* describes something made from silver or of a silver color, for example *srebrny pierścionek* ("silver ring") or *srebrny samochód* ("silver car"). Let's take a look at a few more examples:

1. *Lubię srebrną biżuterię*.
   "I like silver jewelry."

2. *Srebro pasuje do czerni.*
   "Silver goes well with a black color."

3. *Jeśli masz srebrne sztućce, musisz je często polerować*.
   "If you have silver cutlery, you have to polish it often."

Silver (*srebro*), together with gold, is used to make medals for sports. Instead of saying *srebrny medal* ("silver medal") we often say just *srebro, for example:*

1. *On wygrał dzisiaj srebro*.
   "He won the silver today."

2. *Drużyna siatkarska zdobyła srebro*.
   "The volleyball team won the silver."

The masculine noun ***kamień,*** in English "stone," is a very interesting word. In Polish, it's used in many common sayings, but before we move on to that, let's take a look at a few examples of sentences and phrases with this noun:

1. *ciężki kamień*
   "heavy stone"

2. *kamień nazębny*
   "calculus (dental term)"

3. *kamienie ozdobne*
   "decorative stones"

4. *potknąć się o kamień*
   "to stumble on a stone"

5. *Rzucił kamieniem w okno i je rozbił.*
   "He threw a stone at the window and broke it."

6. *Pies mojego sąsiada zawsze przynosi kamienie do mojego ogrodu.*
   "My neighbor's dog always brings stones to my garden."

Sayings with the noun *kamień:*

1. *kamień spadł komuś z serca*
   literally, "A stone fell off one's heart." It means to feel relieved, when some problem is solved.

2. *spać jak kamień*
   literaly, "to sleep like a stone," it means to sleep like a log, very deeply, not waking up for anything.

3. *trafiła kosa na kamień*
   literally, "scythe hit a stone." The English equivalent is "diamond cut diamond"; in Polish, this saying has negative connotations.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Learning More about Polish Adverbs
Muszę jutro kupić mamie prezent.
"I have to buy a present for my mom tomorrow."

In this lesson, we will continue to focus on adverbs, but this it will be adverbs that are connected to time.

In the dialogue, we had a good example of the very common adverb *jutro*, meaning "tomorrow."

Let's see that sentence: *Muszę jutro kupić mamie prezent* ("I have to buy a present for my

mom tomorrow"). The first component of the sentence is the verb *musieć* ("have to") in its first person singular form, followed by the adverb *jutro* ("tomorrow"). Next we have the infinitive verb *kupić* ("to buy"), then the noun *mama* ("mom") in dative case. And lastly the masculine noun *prezent,* meaning "present." Altogether, we have *Muszę jutro kupić mamie prezent* ("I have to buy a present for my mom tomorrow").

Adverbs related to days of the week:

Polish	English
dzisiaj	"today"
dziś	"today"
jutro	"tomorrow"
pojutrze	"the day after tomorrow"
wczoraj	"yesterday"
przedwczoraj	"the day before yesterday"

As you can see there are two words that mean "today" in English. Their meaning and usage is exactly the same, so it's up to the speaker which one they use. Also in Polish, "the day after tomorrow" and "the day before yesterday" are not phrases (like in English), but single words.

Below you'll find a few examples of sentences that make use of the adverbs introduced in the table:

1. *Jutro mam egzamin na prawo jazdy.*
   "Tomorrow I have a driving test."

2. *Pojutrze wyjeżdzam za granicę.*
   "The day after tomorrow I'm going abroad."

3. *Dzisiaj pan Robert jest zajęty, ale jutro będzie miał czas na spotkanie.*
   "Today Mr. Robert is busy, but he will have time for a meeting tomorrow."

Let's have a look at another set of adverbs:

Polish	English
nigdzie	"nowhere, anywhere"
wszędzie	"everywhere"
niedługo	"soon"
potem	"later, then, afterwards"
teraz	"now"
jeszcze	"still, yet"
już	"already, yet"

In the last lesson, we talked about adverbs of frequency. One of them was the adverb *nigdy*, meaning "never." As you remember, that adverb requires a negated verb. The same kind of adverb is *nigdzie*, meaning "nowhere." Let's have a look at a few examples of sentences with these two words:

1. *On nigdy mnie nie rozumie.*
   "He never understands me."

2. *Nigdzie nie mogę dostać tej książki.*
   "I can't get this book anywhere."

3. *W moim mieście nigdzie nie ma dobrej zielonej herbaty.*
   "In my city, there is no good green tea anywhere."

4. *Nigdzie nie znajdziesz lepszego komputera niż ten.*
   "You won't find a better computer anywhere."

The adverbs *już* ("already," "yet") and *jeszcze* ("still, yet") are opposite to each other, and one of them is negated with the word *nie* ("not"). Let's take a look at a few examples:

1. A: *Czy jeszcze studiujesz?*
   "Do you still study?"
   B: *Nie, już nie studiuję.*
   "No, I don't study anymore."

2. A: *Czy jesteś już gotowy?*
   "Are you ready yet?"
   B: *Nie, jeszcze nie jestem gotowy.* (or simply: *Jeszcze nie* meaning "Not yet")
   "No, I'm not ready yet"

3. *Jeszcze nie skończyłem pracować nad tym projektem.*
   "I haven't finished working on this project yet."

4. *Jadłem już obiad, więc chodźmy na kawę.*
   "I've already ate dinner, so let's have a coffee."

Language Expansion

In the dialogue, Jane and Tom were talking about getting a present for Tom's mom's birthday.

Jane suggested that Tom buy some jewelry with amber. Jewelry in Polish is *biżuteria*.

Let's check vocabulary referring to different kinds of jewelry.

naszyjnik - "necklace"

wisiorek - "pendant"

korale - "bead necklace"

pierścionek - "ring"

obrączka - "wedding ring" or just a regular ring that has a shape like a wedding ring

bransoletka - "bracelet"

kolczyk - "earring"

kolczyki - "earrings"

klipsy - "ear clips"

Another set of vocabulary related to this lesson's dialogue is about family celebrations. In Poland there are quite a lot, and all of them mean buying or receiving a present, as well as meeting up with your family members at home, and having a bigger or smaller party with either cake and coffee only or with big meals and alcohol. Below you will find the names of special days that everyone celebrates:

urodziny - "birthday"

imieniny - "name day"

zaręczyny - "engagement"

ślub - "wedding"

wesele - "wedding party"

rocznica - "anniversary"

rocznica ślubu - "wedding anniversary"

chrzciny - "baptism"

Dzień Matki - "Mother's Day"

Dzień Ojca - "Father's Day"

Dzień Babci - "Grandmother's Day"

Dzień Dziadka - "Grandfather's Day"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A Famous Polish Stone

Amber, which in Polish is *bursztyn*, is fossilized tree resin. It's a very beautiful and precious stone that has been used in many European countries to make a variety of decorative objects,

as well as, natural medicine. You can buy a tincture of amber in Polish herbalist stores. But the only kind of amber that can be used to make the tincture is Baltic Amber. The biggest sources of Baltic Amber are in Poland and Russia, and it dates back 44 million years. The most precious (and the most expensive at the same time) are ambers with inclusions.

When you go to the seaside in Poland, you can see numerous stands and jewelry shops selling all kinds of jewelry with amber, and those are the best places to buy amber jewelry at a reasonable price. The most impressive collections of amber and objects made of it can be seen in the Museum of Malbork Castle and Museum of Amber in Gdańsk.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #12
The Most Polish Symbol of All

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#12

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POLISH

1. Tom: Znasz ten znak?
2. Jane: Tak. To jest Orzeł Biały, symbol i godło Polski.
3. Tom: Uważam, że wygląda świetnie!
4. Jane: Mi też się podoba.

ENGLISH

1. Tom: Do you know this sign?
2. Jane: Yes. It's a White Eagle, the symbol and coat of arms of Poland.
3. Tom: I think it looks cool!
4. Jane: I also like it.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
znak	sign	noun	masculine
orzeł	eagle	noun	masculine
biały	white	adjective	masculine
symbol	symbol, sign	noun	masculine
godło	coat of arms	noun	neuter

wyglądać	to look	verb
podobać się	to like	verb
znać	to know, to be familiar with	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Co oznacza ten znak? What does that sign mean?	**Orzeł leci i pikuje w powietrzu po rybę.** The eagle is flying and swooping for fish.
Biały to mój ulubiony kolor. White is my favourite color.	**Białe japońskie żurawie tańczą na śniegu.** The white Japanese cranes are dancing in the snow.
Ta biała spódnica jest bardzo droga. This white skirt is very expensive.	**Biały orzeł to symbol Polski.** "Biały orzeł to symbol Polski."
Jakie jest godło Anglii? What is England's coat of arms?	**Tomek wyglądał super.** Tom looked great.
Bardzo podoba mi się ta sukienka. I really like this dress.	**Znasz tego piosenkarza?** Do you know this singer?

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

One of the words used in the dialogue was the verb ***podobać się*****,** meaning "to like" in English. Whenever something matches your taste or someone/something makes a good impression on you, use the verb *podobać się.*

Let's go through a few examples:

1. *Podoba mi się tutaj*.
   "I like it here."

2. *Podoba mi się tamta dziewczyna*.
   "I like that girl." Use it when you're attracted to someone.

3. *Podoba mi się w nowej pracy.*
   "I like my new job."

4. *Robertowi nie podoba się wystrój mieszkania.*
   "Robert doesn't like the apartment decor."

Znać is a verb that means "to be familiar with," "to know" in English. Let's go through a few examples to see the diversity of usage of this verb:

1. *Gosia zna Roberta*.
   "Gosia knows Robert."

2. *Znasz ten zespół?*
   "Do you know this band?"

3. *Znam karate.*
   "I know karate." here *znać* expresses an ability

4. *Mój brat zna obsługę systemu Linux.*
   "My brother knows the Linux operating system."

If we add the pronoun *się* to the verb *znać* we will get a slightly different meaning. *Się* itself can mean "myself" or "oneself," or it can just modify the verb it's added to.

The first meaning is "to know each other," for example:

1. *Znamy się z Tomkiem.*
   lit. "We know each other with Tomek."

2. *Gosia i Robert znają się od dzieciństwa*.
   "Gosia and Tomek know each other from their childhood."

The other meaning is to know about something a lot or very well, to be an expert in some field, for example:

1. *Znam się na komputerach*.
   "I'm good with computers/I know a lot about computers."

2. *Mój tata zna się na ludziach*.
   "My dad is good with people."

3. *Nie znam się na samochodach*.
   "I'm not good with cars/I don't know much about cars."

Then there are also a few sayings that make a use of the verb *znać.* The most common are:

- *dać znać* - "to let someone know"

- *nie znać umiaru w czymś* - "to have no limits when doing something." Whenever someone does too much and it's a bad thing, replace *czymś* with what the person is doing, for example: *nie masz umiaru w jedzeniu* ("You have no limits when eating" = you eat too much).

- *znać coś jak własną kieszeń* - lit. "to know something like one's own pocket," English equivalent "to know something like the back of one's hand."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Learning How to Express Your Opinion
Uważam, że wygląda świetnie!
"I think it looks cool!"

Expressing your opinion is very important in every language. In Polish it's rather easy; it's enough to know key words and expressions and that's what we will learn in this lesson. First of all, let's have a look at the sentence that appeared in the dialogue: *uważam, że wygląda świetnie.* To make it work better without a context, let's add the subject of the sentence: *godło*

Polski ("coat of arms of Poland"). *Uważam, że godło Polski wygląda świetnie!*

Now let's break it down. The first component of the sentence is the verb *uważać*, meaning "to think," in its first person singular form *uważam.* Then there's the conjunction *że* ("that"), followed by the neuter noun *godło* ("coat of arms"), next the noun Polska ("Poland") in genitive form *Polski.* Then we have the verb *wyglądać* ("to look") and lastly the adverb *świetnie,* meaning "cool." Altogether, it is *Uważam, że godło Polski wygląda świetnie!,* in English "I think that the coat of arms of Poland looks cool!"

Now let's go through words and expressions that can used to talk about your opinions, one by one:

Myśleć

Myśleć can be used in a few different situations, which are exactly the same as when we use "to think" in English. *Myśleć* is a little bit more colloquial than the next verb we'll talk about - *uważać* - so it's better to use *uważać* in written language. When stating an opinion using the verb *myśleć*, it has to be followed by *że*, which stands for the English "that." *Myśleć* follows the second conjugation pattern (*-ę, -isz, -i*).

singular

	Polish	English
ja	*myślę*	"I think"
ty	*myślisz*	"you think"
on	*myśli*	"he thinks"
ona	*myśli*	"she thinks"
ono	*myśli*	"it thinks"

plural

	Polish	English
my	*myślimy*	"we think"

wy	*wyślicie*	"you think"
oni	*myślą*	"they think"

Below you will find a few examples of sentences with this verb:

1. *Myślę, że cię kocham.*
   "I think I love you."

2. *Myślisz, że Kuba do mnie zadzwoni?*
   "Do you think Kuba will call me?"

3. *Dlaczego myślisz, że to dobry uniwersytet?*
   "Why do you think it's a good university?"

Uważać

Uważać has quite a few meanings. It can be translated as the English "to take care," for example: *uważaj, bo się przewrócisz* ("Be careful, or else you'll fall") or *Uważaj na siebie w czasie podróży* ("Take care of yourself while travelling"). Another meaning is "to concentrate," for example *mój syn nigdy nie uważa na lekcjach w szkole* ("My son never focuses on lessons at school"). Lastly, the meaning we concentrate on in this lesson is "to think," "to consider," "to find." *Uważać* used in this context is usually followed by *że*, which stands for the English "that." It follows the third conjugation pattern (*-am, -asz, -a*).

singular

	Polish	**English**
ja	*uważam*	"I think"
ty	*uważasz*	"you think"
on	*uważa*	"he thinks"
ona	*uważa*	"she thinks"

ono	*uważa*	"it thinks"

plural

	Polish	English
my	*uważamy*	"we think"
wy	*uważacie*	"you think"
oni	*uważają*	"they think"

Below you will find a few examples of sentences with *uważać:*

1. *Uważam, że ta sprawa jest przegrana.*
   "I think that this case is lost."

2. *Moja mama uważa, że nie powinnam wyjeżdżać za granicę.*|
   "My mom thinks that I shouldn't go abroad."

3. *Dlaczego uważasz, że to zły wybór?*
   "Why do you think it's a bad choice?"

moim zdaniem

The expression *moim zdaniem* is another way of stating your opinion. It translates to "in my opinion." The other forms are: *twoim zdaniem* ("in your opinion"), j*ego / jej zdaniem* ("in his / her opinion"), *naszym zdaniem* ("in our opinion"), *waszym zdaniem* ("in your opinion" - plural), *ich zdaniem* ("in their opinion").

Let's go through a few examples of sentences:

1. *Moim zdaniem ten obraz jest przepiękny.*
   "In my opinion, this painting is gorgeous."

2. *Naszym zdaniem to nie jest dobry pomysł.*
   "In our opinion, it's not a good idea."

3. *Jego zdaniem powinniśmy kupić nowy samochód.*
   "In his opinion, we should buy a new car."

wydawać się

When talking about opinions, or rather impressions, when we're not sure of something we can use the phrase *wydaje mi się, że...* It can be translated as "I guess that.. " or "It seems..." You will find a few sample sentences below:

1. *Wydaje mi się, że to nie jest dobry pomysł.*
   "I guess it's not a good idea."

2. *Wydaje mi się, że jest za późno by do niego dzwonić.*
   "I guess it's already too late to call him."

3. *Wydaje mi się, że ta restauracja jest otwarta do północy.*
   "I guess that this restaurant is open till midnight."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A Famous Polish Bird

The White Eagle is the Polish coat of arms. It's a white eagle with his head turned to the right, with spread wings, golden beak and claws, wearing a golden crown on its head. It's on a red shield.

There's a legend that explains why the white eagle became a symbol of Poland. It says that Poland's founder Lech once saw a white eagle in its nest. When he approached it, the eagle spread its wings, and Lech was stunned by the view of the beautiful, majestic bird with the red setting sun at the background. He decided to settle there, make an eagle his emblem and called the place Gniezdno (now Gniezno), from the Polish word *gniazdo* (meaning "nest").

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #13 Do You Need to See a Polish Doctor?

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POLISH

1. Jane: Źle dziś wyglądasz.
2. Tom: Źle się czuję.
3. Jane: Co ci jest?
4. Tom: Nie wiem. Cały dzień boli mnie głowa i trochę mi słabo.
5. Jane: Powinieneś iść do lekarza. Znam dobrego niedaleko stąd.
6. Tom: No to chodźmy, ale musimy wrócić za godzinę.
7. Jane: Dobrze.

ENGLISH

1. Jane: You look bad today
2. Tom: I feel bad.
3. Jane: What's wrong?
4. Tom: I don't know. I've had a headache the whole day and I feel weak.
5. Jane: You should see a doctor. I know a good one not far away from here.
6. Tom: So let's go, but we have to come back in one hour.
7. Jane: Alright.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
niedaleko	not far, near	adverb	
dziś	today	adverb	
cały	normal, whole	adjective	masculine
dzień	day	noun	masculine
boleć	to ache, to hurt	verb	
głowa	head	noun	feminine
trochę	a little bit, some	adverb	
lekarz	doctor	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Niedaleko jest świetna restauracja. There's a great restaurant near here.	**Ile kosztuje cały bilet?** "How much is a normal ticket?"
Jest piękny dzień. It's a beautiful day.	**Cały dzień spędziłam na zakupach.** I (female) spent the whole day shopping.
Boli mnie ząb. I have a toothache.	**Muszę kupić jakieś lekarstwo od bólu głowy.** I have to buy some medicine for a headache.
Jestem trochę głodny. I'm a little hungry.	**Muszę iść do lekarza.** I have to go to the doctor.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Boleć is one of the verbs introduced in the dialogue, and it means "to ache," "to hurt" in English. It derives from the noun *ból*, which means "pain."

Whenever we make a sentence like in the dialogue—that something hurts someone—the word that names the person has to be in accusative form. Let's check a few examples:

- *Boli mnie głowa* - lit. "My head hurts me," English equivalent "I have a headache." Here *mnie* is an accusative form of the word *ja* ("I").

- *Boli go noga* - "His leg hurts," *go* is an accusative form of the word *on* ("he").

Boleć, just like in English, can be also used to talk about a mental state of pain and hurting, for example:

1. *Boli mnie to, co robisz*.
   "What you do hurts me."

2. *Bolą mnie twoje ostre słowa.*
   "Your harsh words hurt me."

There are also two popular sayings with the verb *boleć:*

- *od przybytku głowa nie boli* - lit. "From too much head does not hurt." It means that there's never too much of something good.

- *niech cię głowa o to nie boli* - lit. "Don't let your head hurt because of that," in other words—don't let that upset you, don't worry about it.

Lekarz is a masculine noun that means "doctor" in English. If it's a woman doing the same job, then we need to use a feminine form, which is *lekarka* ("female doctor").

When we need to address a doctor, in Polish we have to use different word, which is the same as the English one—*doktor.* If you address a male doctor you will say *panie doktorze* ("Mr. doctor"), and if you address a female doctor, you will say *pani doktor* ("Ms. doctor"). Please note the difference in spelling. In Polish, we use the letter *k* instead of the English *c* in the word *doktor* ("doctor").

Other related words are:

- l*eczyć:* "to treat"

- *leczenie:* "treatment"

- *lek*: "medicine"

- *lekarstwo:* "medicine"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Polish Modal Verbs
Powinieneś iść do lekarza.
"You should see the doctor."

In English there are two separate words to express an obligation: "should" and "ought to." In Polish, on the other hand, there's only one word that stands for both English verbs. This verb is *powinien* (masculine), *powinna* (feminine). Another word that we will discuss in this lesson is *musieć*, which also has two equivalents in English: "have to" and "must."

In the dialogue, we heard the sentence *powinieneś iść do lekarza*, meaning "You should see the doctor." The first component of this sentence is the modal verb *powinieneś* in masculine form. It's followed by the infinitive verb *iść*, meaning "to go." Then we have the preposition *do*, meaning "to" and at the very end there's the noun *lekarz* ("doctor") in its accusative form, *lekarza.* Altogether, it makes *powinieneś iść do lekarza*. The literal English translation is "You should go to the doctor."

The other sentence made a use of the verb *musieć - musimy wrócić za godzinę* ("We have to come back in one hour"). The first component of the sentence is the first person plural form of the verb *musieć - musimy*. Then there's the infinitive verb *wrócić*, meaning "to come back," followed by the preposition *za* ("in," "to," when talking about time) and lastly the feminine noun *godzina,* in its accusative form, *godzinę.* Altogether, it makes *musimy wrócić za godzinę* ("We have to come back in one hour").

Now let's take a look at the conjugation of the verb *powinien:*

Singular

	Polish	English
ja (masculine)	*powinienem*	"I should"

ja (feminine)	*powinnam*	"I should"
ty (masculine)	*powinieneś*	"you should"
ty (feminine)	*powinnaś*	"you should"
on	*powinien*	"he should"
ona	*powinna*	"she should"
ono	*powinno*	"it should"

Plural

	Polish	English
my (masculine)	*powinniśmy*	"we should"
my (feminine)	*powinnyśmy*	"we should"
wy	*powinniście*	"you should"
oni	*powinni*	"they should"

As you can see, there are more forms than usual for every other verb. In Polish language, in many cases (especially in past and future tense) it makes a difference whether a man or a woman is speaking, also when we address a group of women or men only—the ending of the verb changes. You can clearly see that in the table above. Another very important thing is that *powinien* is always followed by an infinitive.

Let's go through a few examples that make use of this verb:

1. *Powinieneś iść do lekarza.* (addressing a man)
   "You should see the doctor."

2. *Powinnaś mówić więcej po polsku.* (addressing a woman)
   "You should speak Polish more."

3. *Myślę, że powinniśmy spotkać się jutro o 6 rano.* (addressing a mixed group or a group of men)
   "I think that we should meet tomorrow at 6 am."

4. *Ta winda powinna działać.* (the noun *winda* is feminine,so we must use the feminine form of powinien)
   "This elevator ought to work."

5. *Jest już późno, nie powinieneś dzwonić o tej porze.* (addressing a man)
   "It's late, you shouldn't call at this hour."

6. *Kasia nie powinna już być w domu?*
   "Shouldn't Kasia be at home already?"

The verb *powinien* is often used to talk about weather. Then, if there's no noun in the sentence to relate to, we have to use the first person singular form - *powinno.*

For example:

1. *Nie powinno dzisiaj padać.*
   "It shouldn't rain today."

2. *Jutro powinno być słonecznie.*
   "It should be sunny tomorrow."

3. *Jutro powinna być ładna pogoda.*
   "Tomorrow should be nice weather."

In the last sentence we refer to the weather, in Polish *pogoda*, which is a feminine noun. That's why we have to use the feminine form *powinna* ("should").

The Modal Verb *musieć*

The verb *musieć* means the same as the English "have to" and "must." In Polish, there's no distinction between those two English verbs. It's always one and the same verb *musieć*, whenever you talk about necessity to do something. *Musieć*, just like *powinien,* is followed by a verb in its infinitive form. Below you will find a table with conjugation of *musieć:*

Singular

	Polish	English
ja	*muszę*	"I have to"
ty	*musisz*	"you have to"
on	*musi*	"he has to"
ona	*musi*	"she has to"
ono	*musi*	"it has to"

Plural

	Polish	English
my	*musimy*	"we have to"
wy	*musicie*	"you have to"
oni	*muszą*	"they have to"

Let's have a look at a few sample sentences:

1. *Muszę wrócić do domu przed 22.*
   "I have to go back home before 10pm."

2. *Państwo Kowalscy muszą sprzedać dom w tym miesiącu.*
   "Ms and Mr Kowalski have to sell their house this month."

Language Expansion

In the dialogue, Jane and Tom talked about Tom feeling sick. Below you will find a few words and phrases that can be useful to talk about common disorders.

ból głowy: "headache"

ból brzucha: "stomachache"

ból zęba: "toothache"

ból pleców: "backache"

przeziębienie: "cold"

grypa: "influenza"

biegunka: "diarrhea"

zatwardzenie: "constipation"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Healthcare in Poland

According to Polish law every citizen of Poland has a right to free healthcare, which is publicly funded by the National Health Fund (in Polish, *Narodowy Fundusz Zdrowia - NFZ*).

A primary care physician (in other words family physician - *lekarz rodzinny*) is in most cases the first person to go to when one is having health problems. If the physician decides that a patient requires specialized treatment or consultation, the patient will receive a referral (*skierowanie*). Referrals are not required to visit a gynecologist, oculist, oncologist, dentist, dermatologist, or psychiatrist.

The Polish healthcare system has many serious problems and among them are limited access to specialists and extremely long waiting times (sometimes even up to a few years), and unsatisfactory quality of health services provided (very high fatality rate due to postoperative complications). According to a study from 2013, 65 percent of citizens and 91 percent of pregnant women use private healthcare.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #14 You Should Read This Famous Polish Book!

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POLISH

1. Tom: Czytasz książki?
2. Jane: Pewnie!
3. Tom: Jak często?
4. Jane: Czytam książki codziennie.
5. Tom: Jestem pod wrażeniem. Lubisz polskie czy zagraniczne książki?
6. Jane: I jedne i drugie. Teraz czytam Sapkowskiego.
7. Tom: Pożyczysz mi jak skończysz?
8. Jane: Nie ma problemu.

ENGLISH

1. Tom: Do you read books?
2. Jane: Sure!
3. Tom: How often?
4. Jane: I read books every day.
5. Tom: I'm impressed. Do you like Polish or foreign books?
6. Jane: Both. Now I'm reading Sapkowski.

CONT'D OVER

7. Tom: Will you lend it to me when you finish?

8. Jane: No problem.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
czytać	to read	verb	
często	often	adverb	
codziennie	every day	adverb	
książka	book	noun	feminine
wrażenie	impression, sensation	noun	neuter
zagraniczny	foreign	adjective	masculine
pożyczać	to lend, to borrow	verb	
kończyć	to finish	verb -ę; -ysz	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Matka czyta swojej córce. The mother reads to her daughter.	**Lubię czytać.** I like to read.
Jak często chodzisz na basen? How often do you go to the pool?	**Codzinnie uprawiam jogę.** I practice yoga every day.

Ta książka jest dla ciebie This book is for you	**To jest moja książka.** This is my book.
Ta podróż dostarczyła mi niezapomnianych wrażeń. That journey has given me some unforgettable impressions.	**Nie kupuję zagranicznych książek.** I don't buy foreign books.
Mogę pożyczyć twój długopis? Can I borrow your pen?	**Narciarz kończy wyścig.** The skier is finishing the race.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Zagraniczny is a Polish adjective that means "foreign" in English. *Zagraniczny* is a masculine form, then the feminine form is *zagraniczna*, and the neuter form is *zagraniczne.* The words related to *zagraniczny* are:

- *zagranica* - "abroad," "foreign land"

- *za granicą* - literally, "behind the border," English equivalent "abroad"

For example:

1. *Wiele zagranicznych firm inwestuje w naszym mieście*.
   "Many foreign companies invest in our city."

2. *Nie lubię zagranicznej muzyki*.
   "I don't like foreign music."

Wrażenie is another very useful Polish word. It's a neuter noun and it means "impression" or "sensation" in English. One of the most common ways to use this noun is *być pod wrażeniem*, meaning "to be impressed."

Another way to use the noun is in the phrase *robić na kimś dobre / złe wrażenie.* We usually

use this phrase to talk about a person. Then you have to choose the adjective that best matches the first impression, for example *dobre* ("good"), *złe* ("bad"), *piorunujące* ("electrifying"), *ogromne* ("huge," "great").

Let's see a few examples:

1. *Jestem pod wrażeniem twojej pracy*.
   "I'm impressed with your work."

2. *On zrobił na mnie ogromne wrażenie.*
   "He made a great impression on me."

3. *Gosia była pod wrażeniem jego charyzmy.*
   "Gosia was impressed with his charisma."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is How to Express Frequency
Czytam książki codziennie.
"I read books every day."

In lesson 10 of this series, we learned about adverbs of frequency (if you still don't remember them well make sure to go back and review them). In this lesson, we focus on expressing frequency but through using other vocabulary and phrases, especially those with the pronoun *każdy*, meaning "every."

In the dialogue, we heard Jane say *Czytam książki codziennie* ("I read books every day"). The first component of the sentence is *czytam*, which is the first person singular form of the verb *czytać* ("to read"). Then there's the non-masculine-personal noun *książki*, meaning "books" and at the end the adverb *codziennie,* meaning "every day." Altogether, it makes *czytam książki codziennie* ("I read books every day"). Another way of saying the same thing is *czytam książki każdego dnia*. In English it doesn't make a big difference since it's still every day, but as you can see in Polish, those are two completely different words, yet with the same meaning: *codziennie* and *każdego dnia.*

Now let's go through all the expressions that are useful for talking about frequency.

Codziennie

- an adverb meaning "every day"

- derives from the adjective - *codzienny* ("everyday")

For example:

1. *Czytam książki codziennie / Codziennie czytam książki.*
   "I read books every day."

2. *Codziennie robię zakupy w supermarkecie.*
   "I do shopping in the supermarket every day."

Co wieczór/Co noc

The word *co* creates a phrase that can also be used to talk about frequency. Words that can follow *co* are: *wieczór* ("evening"), *noc* ("night"), *tydzień* ("week"), *miesiąc* ("month"), and *rok* ("year").

When talking about a week, you can be more specific and use the exact name of the day. All the forms go as follows: *co poniedziałek* ("every Monday") *co wtorek* ("every Tuesday"), *co środę* ("every Wednesday"), *co czwartek* ("every Thursday"), *co piątek* ("every Friday"), *co sobotę* ("every Saturday"), *co niedzielę* ("every Sunday").

Here are some sample sentences using this word:

1. *Co wieczór rozmawiam z moją przyjaciółką przez telefon.*
   "I talk with my friend on the phone every evening."

2. *Co tydzień odwiedzam moją babcię.*
   "I visit my grandma every week."

3. *Co dwa lata jeżdzę na wakacje za granicę.*
   "Every two years I go on holiday abroad."

Każdego ranka

The pronoun *każdy* means "every" in English. It can be used with the words naming time of the day in their genitive form: *ranek* ("morning"), *ranka*, *popołudnie* ("afternoon"), *popołudnia*, *wieczór* ("evening"), *wieczoru*, *noc* ("night"). When put together with a name of the day of the week, it requires adding the preposition *w* and changing the forms of days of the week and *każdy* into accusative, for example: *w każdą sobotę* (literally "on every Saturday").

Here are some sample sentences:

1. *Każdego ranka wychodzę z moim psem na spacer.*
   "Every morning I go for a walk with my dog."

2. *Moja siostra uczy angielskiego w liceum w każdą środę i piątek.*
   "My sister teaches English in high school every Wednesday and Friday."

3. *W każdą niedzielę moja rodzina je razem obiad.*
   "Every Sunday my family eats dinner together."

Language Expansion

Każdy is a very useful pronoun and can come in handy in many other situations, not only when talking about frequency. To be able to use it freely you need to learn all the forms of this pronoun, which include all case forms for all genders. You will find them in the table below (we skip the English translation, because for all the forms it's the same "every"):

Case	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
nominative	*każdy*	*każda*	*każde*
genitive	*każdego*	*każdej*	*każdego*
dative	*każdemu*	*każdej*	*każdemu*
accusative	*każdego*	*każdą*	*każdego*
instrumental	*każdym*	*każdą*	*każdym*
locative	*każdym*	*każdej*	*każdym*

As you can see the forms for masculine and neuter gender are exactly the same, except for one - nominative. Now let's have a look at a few sample sentences with some of the forms from the table above.

1. *Każda kobieta jest piękna.*
   "Every woman is beautiful."

2. *Wyglądasz dobrze w każdej sukience.*
   "You look good in every dress."

3. *Lubię każdy rodzaj czekolady, ale najbardziej lubię gorzką.*
   "I like every kind of chocolate, but the bitter one the most."

Here are some phrases and vocabulary related to morning routines:

budzić się - "to wake up"

wstawać - "to get up"

myć zęby - "to brush teeth"

czesać się - "to comb (oneself)"

czesać włosy - "to comb hair"

golić się - "to shave"

brać prysznic - "to take a shower"

ubierać się - "to get dressed"

robić śniadanie - "to make breakfast"

jeść śniadanie - "to eat breakfast"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Andrzej Sapkowski

Andrzej Sapkowski is a Polish novelist. Right after Stanisław Lem (another writer) he's the most popular Polish fantasy writer, whose books were translated into fifteen languages, among them English, French, Spanish, Russian, German, Portuguese, Finnish, Bulgarian, and so on.

The book that brought Andrzej Sapkowski fame was the series entitled *The Witcher*. To this day, it remains his best-selling book series. His first short story, *The Witcher*, was published in a magazine called Fantastyka in 1986 and became extremely successful, making him the most famous Polish novelist in the 90s. In the short stories and novels the reader finds himself in a world of adventure, which was influenced by Slavic mythology.

Based on *The Witcher* books, a TV series, movie, and game saga was released. Sapkowski's works include *The Witcher Saga, The Hussite Trilogy*, and *Viper*.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #15 Visiting a Polish Friend

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#15

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POLISH

1. Jane: To moja koleżanka Marta. A to jest Tom.
2. Tom: Miło mi cię poznać.
3. Marta: Miło mi. Rozgośćcie się. Czego się napijecie? Mam kawę, herbatę i sok jabłkowy.
4. Jane: Dla mnie sok.
5. Tom: Ja też poproszę sok.
6. Marta: Częstujcie się ciastem, a ja przyniosę sok.

ENGLISH

1. Jane: This is my friend Marta. And this is Tom.
2. Tom: Nice to meet you.
3. Marta: Nice to meet you. Make yourself at home. What do you want to drink? I have coffee, tea, and apple juice.
4. Jane: Juice for me.
5. Tom: I'd like juice too.
6. Marta: Help yourselves with the cake, and I'll bring the juice.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
koleżanka	friend (female)	noun	feminine
kawa	coffee	noun	feminine
herbata	tea	noun	feminine
sok	juice	noun	masculine
sok jabłkowy	apple juice	noun phrase	masculine
ciasto	cake	noun	neutral
przynosić	to bring	verb	
dla	for	preposition	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Moja koleżanka jest tancerką. My friend is a dancer.	**Kawa to doskonały początek dnia.** Coffee is a perfect beginning of the day.
Nie lubię kawy z mlekiem. I don't like coffee with milk.	**Lubię czarną kawę.** I like my coffee black.
Moja herbata jest zimna. My tea is cold.	**Kucharz robi sok pomarańczowy.** The chef is making orange juice.
Sok jabłkowy jest lepszy od soku pomarańczowego. Apple juice is better than orange juice.	**Uwielbiam czekoladowe ciasta.** I love chocolate cakes.
To jest pyszne ciasto. This is a delicious cake.	**Kobieta piecze ciasto.** The woman is baking a cake.

Listonosz przyniósł paczkę. A postman brought a parcel.	**Muszę kupić kwiaty dla mamy.** I have to buy flowers for mom.

To jest dla ciebie.

This is for you.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Koleżanka is a feminine noun, which means "female friend" or "female colleague." If it's a man, then the noun will change it's form into *kolega* ("male friend," "colleague"). In Polish language there are quite a few words that name human relations. In English the most commonly used word is "friend," which literally translates into *przyjaciel* (male) or *przyjaciółka* (female).

Przyjaciel relates to a person who is really close to us, someone very dear. There are only a few people in our life we can call *przyjaciel* or *przyjaciółka. Kolega* and *koleżanka* generally refers to most people we know and we have contacts with, people we hang out with and like spending time with, but not as close as *przyjaciel* ("true friend").

Then the last words are *znajomy* ("male") and *znajoma* ("female"), they can be translated as acquaintance, and refer to a person who we just know.

Kawa means "coffee" in English. It's a feminine noun and it can refer to coffee beans, as well as the drink made from them.

Let's take a look at a few phrases:

- *kawowiec* - "coffee plant"

- *czarna kawa* - "black coffee" refers to a regular, simple coffee

- *filiżanka kawy* - "cup of coffee"

- *kawa z mlekiem* - "coffee with milk"

- *kawa rozpuszczalna* - "instant coffee"

- *kawa z ekspresu* - "filter coffee"

There's a very useful saying that makes use of the noun *kawa.* It goes like this: *wyłożyć kawę na ławę* (literally, "put the coffee on the table"). It means to say something straightforwardly and honestly.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Reflexive Pronoun -*się*
Rozgośćcie się. Czego się napijecie?
"Make yourself at home. What do you want to drink?"

The topic of reflexive pronoun, which in Polish is the one and only *się*, is rather difficult for all those who take on the challenge of studying Polish; for Poles themselves it's also a source of many arguments, especially about its placement in the sentence. But let's not get discouraged!

In English, reflexive constructions are those which make use of words like "myself," "himself," "ourselves" and so on. In Polish on the other hand there's only one word that stands for all -self English words and it's *się.*

At the same time Polish *się* is used in many kinds of sentences that in case of English are not reflexive.

Usage of *się*

Let's have a quick look at the sentence which we could hear in the dialogue: *czego się napijecie?* ("what do you want to drink?" or "what would you like to drink?"). The first component of this short question is *czego*, which is a dative form of the question word *co*. Next there is the reflexive pronoun *się*, followed by the verb *napić* which is a perfective form of the verb *pić*, meaning "to drink." Altogether *czego się napijecie?* ("what do you want to drink?").

Very interesting thing about the pronoun *się* is that it evolved to become (in some cases) a particle that always accompanies a verb, many of them cannot exist without *się*. That's what happens in case of the verb that occurred in the sentence we just broke down - we cannot use the form *napić* without *się.*

Other examples of such verbs are:

- *cieszyć się* "to be happy/glad," "to rejoice"

1. *Cieszę się, że cię widzę.*
   "I'm glad to see you"

2. *Kuba cieszy się z prezentu od babci.*
   "Kuba is happy with the present from grandma"

- *bać się* - "to be afraid/scared"

1. *Boję się egzaminu z matematyki.*
   "I'm scared of Math exam"

2. *Mój brat boi się psów.*
   "My brother is afraid of dogs"

- *śmiać się* - "to laugh"

1. *Nie śmiej się ze mnie!*
   "Don't laugh at me!"

2. *Robert śmieje się z mojego żartu.*
   "Robert is laughing at my joke"

- *nazywać się* - "to be called"

1. *Nazywam się Nowak.*
   "My name is Nowak."

2. *Ten mężczyzna nazywa się Kowalski.*
   "This man's name is Kowalski"

* The verb *nazywać* can also occur without *się*, but then the meaning changes into "to name," for example: *Gosia nazwała swojego psa Lolek* ("Gosia named her dog Lolek")

There are verbs that have reflexive equivalents in English and a few examples are:

- *umyć się* - "to wash oneself"

1. *Magda umyła się przed spaniem*
   "Magda washed herself before sleep"

- *rozbierać się* - "to undress"

1. *Nie rozbiorę się, bo jest tu zbyt zimno.*
   "I won't undress (myself), because it's too cold in here"

- *zaczynać się* - "to begin"

1. *Przyjęcie zaczyna się o siódmej wieczorem.*
   "The party starts (itself) at seven pm"

Another usage of the pronoun się stands for the English "one another" or "each other":

- *całować się* - "to kiss"

1. *Moi rodzice często się całują.*
   "My parents often kiss (each other)"

- *znać się* - "to know each other"

1. Czy my się znamy?
   "Do we know each other?"

- *spotykać się* - "to meet"

1. *Spotykamy się jutro?*
   "Are we meeting (each other) tomorrow?"

* Interesting fact about the verb *spotykać się:* to can mean "to date" in a sentence like *spotykam się z Robertem od dwóch lat* ("I've been dating Robert for two years now")

Language Expansion

In this lesson we focus on the form *się* only, but for the future reference, please have a look at the declension of this reflexive pronoun. As you can see, there is no nominative form.

Grammatical case	Reflexive pronoun *się*
Nominative (*mianownik*)	-
Genitive (*dopełniacz*)	*siebie*
Dative (*celownik*)	*siebie*
Accusative (*biernik*)	*się* *siebie*
Instrumental (*narzędnik*)	*sobą*
Locative (*miejscownik*)	*sobie*

Vocabulary Expansion

The topic of the dialogue was being a guest. There are certain phrases and vocabularies that you will hear for sure when you're visiting your Polish friends, so let's get to know a few of them:

1. *Czuć się jak u siebie*

- It means "to make oneself at home"

- The whole phrase goes like this: *czuć się jak u siebie w domu*, but often it's shortened to

czuć się jak u siebie

- Depending on who you're talking the form of the verb *czuć się* has to be changed accordingly. So if you talk to one person you should say - *czuj się jak u siebie*, if there's two or more people visiting you, say - *czujcie się jak u siebie*

2. *rozgościć się*

- It means "to make oneself comfortable"

- If you talk to one person, say - *rozgość się*

- If you talk to two or more people, say - *rozgośćcie się*

3. *czego się napijesz?*

- It means "what would you like to drink?"

- If you have to be more official, use the word *pan* to address a man or *pani* to address a woman, for example: *czego się pani napije?*

- The plural form - *czego się napijecie?*

4. napijesz się czegoś?

- It means "would you like to drink something?"

- More official - *czego się pan / pani napije?*

5. *częstować się*

- It means "to help oneself"

- If you have some treat for your guests, it's good to say *częstuj się* if your guest is one person or *częstujcie się* if there are a few people

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Polish Hospitality

Polish hospitality is very well known, especially among those who have had a chance to be guests at a Polish house. Poles are a very friendly and open people, always ready to have guests at their house. When invited for dinner, make sure to go on an empty stomach. The way to show our hospitality has always been through food, and usually "no thank you" or "I've already eaten" doesn't help much, because if not a proper meal you will be treated with cakes, desserts, or at least cookies or snacks and something to drink. Poles like to share and it's very easy to engage in a friendly conversation.

Especially if their guest is a foreigner, Poles will make sure he or she tries the most traditional dishes of Polish cuisine, and also alcohol. Don't be surprised if you receive a few pieces of cake or some foods you had for dinner, to take back home.

PolishPod101.com

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #16

Have You Heard of This Famous Polish Composer?

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  - English
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- Sample sentences
- Vocabulary phrase usage
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- Cultural insight

#16

DIALOGUE - POLISH

MAIN

1. Jane : Znasz Piotra Rubika?
2. Tom : Nie. Kto to jest?
3. Jane : To muzyk i kompozytor. Uwielbiam jego muzykę.
4. Tom : Masz jakieś jego płyty?
5. Jane : Chcesz pożyczyć? Możesz też posłuchać na Youtube. Poszukaj "Tu es petrus" albo "Niech mówią, że to nie miłość." To moje ulubione utwory.
6. Tom : Dobra. Sprawdzę.

ENGLISH

1. Jane : Do you know Piotr Rubik?
2. Tom : No. Who's that?
3. Jane : He's a musician and composer. I love his music.
4. Tom : Do you have any of his CDs?
5. Jane : Do you want to borrow some? You can also listen to him on Youtube. Look for "Tu es petrus" or "They can say that it is not love." These are my favorite songs.
6. Tom : Got it. I'll check.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
miłość	love	noun	feminine
sprawdzać	to check	verb	
ulubiony	favorite	adjective	masculine
utwór	song, track	noun	masculine
pożyczać	to lend, to borrow	verb	
muzyk	musician	noun	masculine
kompozytor	composer	noun	male
muzyka	music	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Robert jest miłością jej życia. Robert is the love of her life.	Sprawdziłeś wszytkie możliwe kryjówki przestępcy? Have you checked all the possible hideouts of the villain?
Kasia zawsze sprawdza czy dobrze zamknęła drzwi. Kasia always checks whether she locked the door well.	Czy masz ulubioną piosenkę? Do you have a favorite song?
To jest najlepszy utwór jaki słyszałem. It's the best song I've heard.	Mogę pożyczyć twój długopis? Can I borrow your pen?
Mój kolega jest muzykiem. My friend is a musician.	Najznamienitszym polskim kompozytorem ostatnich lat jest z pewnością zdobywca nagród Grammy, Krzysztof Penderecki. The most notable Polish composer of the last few decades is definitely Grammy Award winner Krzysztof Penderecki.
Jest wiele rodzajów muzyki i jeszcze więcej podgatunków. There are many types of music, and many more subgenres.	Niektórzy mówią, że muzyka jest uniwersalnym językiem. Some say music is the universal language.
Jakiej muzyki słuchasz? What kind of music do you listen to?	Kobieta słucha muzyki. "The woman is listening to music."

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Miłość was one of the words used in the dialogue, it means "love" in English and it's a feminine noun. In some phrases we need to use an adjective instead of the noun, all the three forms are: *miłosny* (masculine), *miłosna* (feminine), *miłosne* (neuter). They can be used in phrases like: *list miłosny* ("love letter"), *historia miłosna* ("love story"), or *horoskop miłosny* ("love horoscope").

Let's go through phrases and sayings with the noun *miłość:*

1. *okazywać miłość*
   "to show, express love"
2. *miłość platoniczna*
   "platonic love"
3. *miłość od pierwszego wejrzenia*
   "love at first sight"
4. *miłość jest ślepa*
   "love is blind"
5. *stara miłość nie rdzewieje*
   literally, "old love does not rust," English equivalent: "old love dies hard"

Another useful word from the dialogue is the verb ***pożyczać***, which means "to lend" or "to borrow" in English. In Polish language we don't distinguish between lending and borrowing, it's always the same verb *pożyczać.*

The adjective that derives from this verb is *pożyczony* (masculine), *pożyczona* (feminine) and *pożyczone* (neuter).

Other related words are:

1. *pożyczka*
   "loan"
2. *wypożyczać*
   "to rent"
3. *wypożyczalnia*
   "rental office"
4. *wypożyczalnia samochodów*
   "car rental"
5. *wypożyczalnia DVD*
   "DVD rental"

Poles very often use the saying *dobry zwyczaj, nie pożyczaj,* which literally means "good habit - do not lend." We often say it when we have lent someone something and then we couldn't get it back, or we got it back but it was damaged.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Expressing Likes and Dislikes.
Uwielbiam jego muzykę.
"I love his music."

Expressing your likes and dislikes in Polish is rather easy, but it requires a knowledge of two Polish cases: genitive and accusative. Both of them we discussed in detail in the Beginner Series, so make sure to review them if you don't remember well.

In the Polish language, in order to "like" (*lubić*) something or someone, we need to get to know them or the object rather well. If it's not the case, there's a different word to use and that's *podobać się*, which can be translated as "appeal to." Then of course, there are words like *uwielbiać* ("to adore"), *kochać* ("to love") and some negatives, *nie lubić* ("to not like"), *nieznosić* ("can't stand"), or *nienawidzić* ("to hate").

As it was mentioned above, one of the ways of expressing your likes is using the verb *uwielbiać* ("to love," "to adore"). We had a chance to hear it in this lesson's dialogue. The sentence went like this - *Uwielbiam jego muzykę*, meaning "I love his music." Let's break down this sentence. It starts with the verb *uwielbiać* in its first person singular form: *uwielbiam.* Then there's the pronoun *jego*, meaning "his," and at the end the noun *muzyka* ("music"), in its accusative form *muzykę.* Altogether - *uwielbiam jego muzykę* ("I love his music").

Now let's have a look at each of the words which can be used to express likes and dislikes:

podobać się

Use the verb *podobać się* when you talk about something or someone you have just seen, when you don't know that person or a thing very well, very deeply. It always appears with *się*, which doesn't have an exact meaning, but can be translated as "oneself." When we put the verb *podobać się* in a sentence, we need to add a personal pronoun. The personal pronoun has to be in the dative case, which you can see in the table below:

Nominative	*ja* ("I")	*ty* ("you")	*on* ("he")	*ona* ("she")	*ono* ("it")	*pan* ("mr")	*pani* ("ms")
Dative	*mi*	*ci*	*mu*	*jej*	*jemu*	*panu*	*pani*

For example:

1. *Podoba mi się twoja siostra.*
   "I like your sister." (meaning: she appeals to me)
2. *Podoba mi się twój dom.*
   "I like your house."
3. *Podoba mi się twoja nowa czapka.*
   "I like your new cap."
4. *Podoba mu się ta szkoła.*
   "He likes this school."

lubić

When talking about an activity you like to do, an object or a person you know very well, use the verb *lubić* ("to like"). It follows the second conjugation pattern (*-ę, -isz, -i*). It also takes the following verb in the infinitive. If it's followed by a noun or a pronoun, they have to be in the accusative form. We can observe this in a few examples:

1. *Lubię wszystkie książki Jane Austen.*
   "I like all books by Jane Austen."
2. *Marta lubi grać online.*
   "Marta likes playing games online."
3. *Mój chłopak i ja lubimy jeździć na wycieczki rowerowe.*
   "My boyfriend and I like going on bicycle trips."

kochać

The verb *kochać* means "to love" and can be used only with people or animals. The object of our affection has to be in the accusative form. It follows the third conjugation pattern (*-am, -asz, -a*).

Singular:

Polish		English
ja	*kocham*	"I love"
ty	*kochasz*	"you love"
on	*kocha*	"he loves"
ona	*kocha*	"she loves"
ono	*kocha*	"it loves"

Plural

Polish		English
my	*kochamy*	"we love"
wy	*kochacie*	"you love"
oni	*kochają*	"they love"

Sample sentences with the verb *kochać:*

1. *Kocham cię.*
   "I love you."
2. *Kocham mojego psa, jak członka rodziny.*
   "I love my dog like a family member."
3. *Kocham życie.*
   "I love life."

The last example is the only case when we can use the verb *kochać* with an inanimate object.

Uwielbiać

This verb means "to adore" in English and follows the third conjugation pattern (*-am, -asz, -a*).

It can be used with both animate and inanimate objects. Basically everytime you want to say you love something, use the Polish verb *uwielbiać.* Here the object of our feeling has to be in the accusative case. A few examples are below:

1. *Uwielbiam cię.*
   "I adore you."
2. *Uwielbiam polską muzykę rockową.*
   "I love Polish rock music."

3. *Gosia uwielbia chodzić na spacery w lesie.*
   "Gosia loves going for walks in the forest."

Talking About Negative Feelings

There are three main verbs which are commonly used to express dislikes in Polish. If they're followed by a verb, it has to be in the infinitive form. If they're followed by other part of speech, it has to be in the genitive case. Let's go through the verbs together with sample sentences one by one.

nie lubić ("to not like")

1. *Nie lubię jeździć na rowerze.*
   "I don't like riding a bicycle."
2. *Nie lubię twojego brata, bo jest zarozumiały.*
   "I don't like your brother because he's cocky."

nie znosić ("can't stand")

The verb has a stronger negative feeling than *nie lubić* ("to not like").

It follows the second conjugation pattern (*-ę, -isz, -i*).

1. *Nie znoszę tego chłopaka.*
   "I can't stand this guy"
2. *Czego najbardziej nie znosisz?*
   "What can't you stand the most?" / "What do you hate the most?"

nienawidzić ("to hate")

1. *Nienawidzę poniedziałków.*
   "I hate Mondays."
2. *Nienawidzę, kiedy ktoś się ze mnie naśmiewa.*
   "I hate it when someone makes fun of me."
3. *Nienawidzę jeździć autobusem.*
   "I hate riding a bus."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A Famous Polish Composer

Piotr Rubik is a Polish composer and music producer of symphonic pop music for orchestra, film, and theater. He can play cello, which he started learning at the age of seven. Piotr Rubik is also a self-taught orchestra conductor.

His most successful creation to date is an oratorio entitled in Latin "Tu es Petrus" (meaning "You are Peter"). It was a tribute and also a birthday present to Pope John Paul II (*Papież Jan Paweł II*), who died a few months before the work was completed. A few compositions of Tu es Petrus are based on poetry written by John Paul II.
Rubik wrote four oratorios in total. The other three are *Oratorium Świętokrzyska Golgota* ("Holy Cross of Golgotha"), *Tu es Petrus, Oratorium Psałterz Wrześniowy* ("The September Psalter"), and *Oratorium dla Świata, część I: Habitat, moje miejsce na ziemi* ("Oratorio for the World, part I: Habitat, my place on earth").
Rubik is also the composer of many well-known songs by many Polish artists, like Edyta Górniak and Michał Bajor. Some music critics have a bad opinion about Rubik's works, calling it amateurish and banal. On the other hand, his oratorios turned many Poles' attention to classical and orchestral music.

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LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #17
Learn Your Polish History

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Polish
  - Main
  - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Vocabulary phrase usage
- Grammar
- Cultural insight

#17

DIALOGUE - POLISH

MAIN

1. Jane : Co robisz?
2. Tom : Czytam książkę o historii Polski.
3. Jane : Nie wiedziałam, że lubisz historię.
4. Tom : Bardzo lubię. A ty jakie książki lubisz?
5. Jane : Lubię książki o aktorach, o ich życiu i aktorstwie.

ENGLISH

1. Jane : What are you doing?
2. Tom : I'm reading a book about the history of Poland.
3. Jane : I didn't know that you liked history.
4. Tom : I like it a lot. And what books do you like?
5. Jane : I like books about actors, about their life and acting.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
że	that	conjunction	
życie	life	noun	neuter
aktor	actor	noun	masculine
czytać	to read	verb	
książka	book	noun	feminine
o	about	preposition	
aktorstwo	theatrical art, acting	noun	neuter
historia	history	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Wiem, że interesujesz się sportem. I know that you're interested in sports.	Życie jest krótkie. Life is short.

Ten aktor jest świetny w dramatycznych scenach. This actor is great in dramatic scenes.	Matka czyta swojej córce. The mother reads to her daughter.
Lubię czytać. I like to read.	Tę książkę kupiłam w Polsce. I bought this book in Poland.
Co to za książka? What is this book?	Ta książka jest całkiem zabawna. This book is pretty funny.
Ta książka jest dla ciebie This book is for you.	To jest moja książka. This is my book.
Nie lubię opowieści o niedwiedziach. I dislike stories about bears.	Myślę o obiedzie. I'm thinking about dinner.
Bardzo interesuje mnie aktorstwo. I'm very interested in acting.	To jest z założenia zabawna historia, tylko on nie umie opowiadać. It is supposedly a funny story; it's just he can't tell (stories).

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

The feminine noun ***historia*** has two meanings in English. The one that was used in the dialogue was "history." Another English meaning is "story."

Let's see a few examples that will show us the difference between those two meanings:

1. *historia Polski*
   "history of Poland"
2. *niesamowita historia*
   "incredible story"
3. *Nigdy nie lubiłem historii w szkole*.
   "I've never liked history class at school."
4. *To historia dramatycznej miłości.*
   "It's a story of dramatic love."
5. *historia lubi się powtarzać.*
   Literally, "History likes to repeat itself."

The adjective that derives from it is *historyczny*, and it can be used in phrases like *film historyczny* ("historical movie") or *czasopismo historyczne* ("historical journal").

Aktor is a name of a profession, in English "actor." If it's a lady, the same as in English, the noun changes —*aktorka* ("actress"). The profession of acting is called in Polish—*aktorstwo* ("acting"). The adjective that derives from *aktor* is *aktorski* (masculine form).

Let's go through a few examples:

1. *aktor filmowy*
   literally, "movie actor"
2. *aktor teatralny*
   "theater actor"
3. *debiut aktorski*
   "acting debut"
4. *Moja siostra jest aktorką*
   "My sister is an actress."
5. *Mój ulubiony aktro to Mel Gibson*
   "My favorite actor is Mel Gibson."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is the Locative Case
Czytam książkę o historii Polski.
"I'm reading a book about the history of Poland."

Locative case is used when we describe the location of something or someone, when we're thinking or talking about something or someone. In the other words we could say that locative case corresponds to English prepositions "on," "at," "in," and "about." It answers the questions *gdzie* ("where"), *o kim* ("about whom") and *o czym* ("about what").

In the dialogue we heard the sentence *Czytam książkę o historii Polski* ("I'm reading a book about the history of Poland"). The first component of the sentence is the first person singular verb *czytam* ("I read"), followed by the feminine noun *książka* ("book") in its accusative form, *książkę*. Next there's the preposition *o*, meaning "about," then the feminine noun *historia* ("history") in its locative form, *historii,* and lastly another feminine noun *Polska* ("Poland") in its genitive form. Altogether we have *Czytam książkę o historii Polski* ("I'm reading a book about the history of Poland").

As you could see in the sentence we just broke down, the noun *historia* changed its ending when in locative case. There are two ways to learn those endings. You can memorize locative forms of the nouns together with the nominative (dictionary) forms. Or you can try with the rules of forming locative case of nouns and adjectives, but to do that you have to be able to recognize soft and hard consonants and how hard consonants are softened. To make it easier we will review that in this lesson. Below you will find a table with all hard consonants and how they're softened for the locative case.

hard	*p*	*b*	*f*	*w*	*m*	*t*	*d*	*s*	*z*	*n*	*r*	*ł*
soft	*pi*	*bi*	*fi*	*wi*	*mi*	*ci*	*dzi*	*si*	*zi*	*ni*	*rz*	*l*

hard	*k*	*g*	*ch*	*st*	*zd*	*sł*	*zł*	*sn*			
soft	*c*	*dz*	*sz*	*ści*	*ździ*	*śl*	*źl*	*śni*	*cz*	*ż*	*j*

Rules for Forming Locative Case

Masculine and neuter nouns:

* If the stem of a word ends in a hard consonant, the consonant is softened and the ending is *-e*.

For example: *zeszyt* ("notebook") - *zeszycie*, *biuro* ("office") - *biurze*, *stół* ("table") - *stole*, *arbuz* ("watermelon") - *arbuzie*, *kościół* ("church") - *kościele*.

** Important: Nouns containing *ia*, *io* or *ió* in the stem before the consonants *t, d, s, z, r, ł* may change *ia* to *ie* and *io* / *ió* to *ie.*

For example: *sąsiad* ("neighbor") - *sąsiedzie*, *kościół* ("church") - *kościele*, *miasto* ("city") - *mieście*.

* If the stem ends in a soft consonant or *k, g, ch*, the ending is *-u*.

For example: *mieszkanie* ("apartment") - *mieszkaniu*, *pan* ("sir, mr") - *panu*, *budynek* ("building") - *budynku*, *spotkanie* ("meeting") - *spotkaniu*, *biurko* ("desk") - *biurku*.

** Important: There's a possible change of the root before both endings of masculine nouns: *ą* to *ę* and *ó* to *o*.

For example: *stół* ("table") - *stole*, *mąż* ("husband") - *mężu*.

* In case of adjectives the ending they take is *-ym (-im).*

For example: *dobry* ("good") - *dobrym*, *stary* ("old") - *starym*, *drogi* ("expensive") - *drogim*, *mój* ("my") - *moim.*

Feminine nouns:

* If the stem ends in a hard consonant (this time including *k, g, ch*), the consonant is softened and the ending is *-e.*

For example: *książka* ("book") - *książce*, *matka* ("mother") - *matce*, *biblioteka* ("library") - *bibliotece*.

* If a stem ends in a soft consonant, the ending is -y (-i)

For example: *kawiarnia* ("café") - *kawiarni*, *restauracja* ("restaurant") - *restauracji*, *ulica* ("street") - *ulicy*.

* In case of adjectives, the ending is *-ej.*

For example: *dobry* ("good") - *dobrej*, *nowy* ("new") - *nowej*, *czysty* ("clean") - *czystej*, *moja* ("my") - *mojej*.

Plural:

* For all nouns the plural locative form takes the ending *-ach.*

For example: *kawiarnie* ("cafés") - *kawiarniach*, *kościoły* ("churches") - *kościołach*, *spotkania* ("meetings") - *spotkaniach*, *lody* ("ice-creams") - *lodach*, *płaszcze* ("coats") - *płaszczach*.

Language Expansion

If you're not interested in learning the rules of forming the locative case, you can always memorize locative forms alongside with dictionary forms of the most commonly used nouns. Here you will find the list of nouns that refer to places in their nominative form and corresponding locative form, together with appropriate prepositions.

Polish nominative	English	Polish locative	English
apteka	"pharmacy"	*w aptece*	"in a pharmacy"
bank	"bank"	*w banku*	"in the bank"
biuro	"office"	*w biurze*	"in/at the office"
biblioteka	"library"	*w bibliotece*	"in/at the library"
bar	"bar"	*w barze*	"in/at a bar"
budynek	"building"	*w budynku*	"in the building"
cukiernia	"confectionery shop"	*w cukierni*	"in a confectionery shop"
chodnik	"sidewalk"	*na chodniku*	"on a sidewalk"
dom	"house, home"	*w domu*	"in the house/at home"
dworzec	"train station"	*na dworcu*	"at the train station"
hotel	"hotel"	*w hotelu*	"in/at the hotel"
kawiarnia	"café"	*w kawiarni*	"in a café"
kwiaciarnia	"flower shop"	*w kwiaciarni*	"in a flower shop"
kino	"cinema"	*w kinie*	"in the cinema"
kościół	"church"	*w kościele*	"in church"
miasto	"city"	*w mieście*	"in the city"
muzeum	"museum"	*w muzeum*	"in the museum"
park	"park"	*w parku*	"in the park"
poczta	"post office"	*na poczcie*	"at the post office"
parking	"parking lot"	*na parkingu*	"on/at a parking lot"
plac	"square"	*na placu*	"on the square"
przystanek (autobusowy)	"bus stop"	*na przystanku autobusowym*	"at a bus stop"
restauracja	"restaurant"	*w restauracji*	"in the restaurant"
sklep	"shop, store"	*w sklepie*	"in the store"
szpital	"hospital"	*w szpitalu*	"in the hospital"
szkoła	"school"	*w szkole*	"in/at school"
teatr	"theater"	*w teatrze*	"in the theater"
ulica	"street"	*na ulicy*	"on the street"
uniwersytet	"university"	*na uniwersytecie*	"at the university"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The Founding of Poland

The beginnings of the existence of Poland as a country date back to 966. The first king of Poland was Mieszko I of the Piast dynasty. He ruled between 960 and 992. In 965 Mieszko I formed an alliance with the Czech King, which resulted in his marriage with the Czech Princess Dobrawa. The marriage led to one of the most important events in the history of Poland—Mieszko I was baptized in the year 966, which started the Christianization of Poland and the existence of Poland as a country. Another consequence of baptism was the arrival of clergy, which led to the disseminating of the Latin language, as well as written language.

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LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #18
Feeling the Need for Speed in Poland

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Polish
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  - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Vocabulary phrase usage
- Grammar
- Cultural insight

#18

DIALOGUE - POLISH

MAIN

1. Jane : Wychodzimy?
2. Tom : Daj mi jeszcze chwilę. Chcę sprawdzić wiadomości sportowe.
3. Jane : A co dokładnie?
4. Tom : O zawodach Formuły 1. Robert Kubica to najlepszy polski kierowca. Słyszałaś o nim?
5. Jane : Nie, nigdy.

ENGLISH

1. Jane : Are we going?
2. Tom : Give me a second. I want to check the sports news.
3. Jane : What exactly?
4. Tom : About the Formula One tournament. Robert Kubica is the best Polish driver. Have you heard about him?
5. Jane : No, never.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
najlepszy	the best	adjective	masculine
zawody	tournament	noun	non-masculine-personal
wiadomości	news	noun	non-masculine-personal
wychodzić	to leave, to go out	verb	
dawać	to give	verb -ę; -esz	
nigdy	never	pronoun	
kierowca	driver	noun	masculine
chwila	moment	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

To najlepszy film jaki widziałem w tym roku.	Bardzo lubię oglądać zawody piłkarskie
It’s the best movie I’ve seen this year.	I really like watching football games.

Mój dziadek ogląda wiadomości każdego wieczora. My grandpa watches news every evening.	Kierowniczka wychodzi z kolegą z pracy. The company executive is leaving with a colleague.
Ojciec daje monety. The father is giving coins.	Nigdy nie jadłam baraniny. I've never eaten mutton.
On nie jest dobrym kierowcą. He's not a good driver.	Herbata będzie gotowa za chwilę. Tea will be ready in a moment.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

The noun ***wiadomości*** means "news" in English. The form in Polish is a plural form. If we make it singular then we will get *wiadomość,* and the meaning will be changed to "message." *Wiadomości*, which is a program, usually on TV or the radio, can also be called *serwis informacyjny,* which literally means "information service." The noun *wiadomości* can also name a set of information we share with others, especially when we haven't seen them for a long time.

Let's see a few examples with this noun:

- *wiadomości z ostatniej chwili* - "breaking news"

- *wiadomości wieczorne* - "evening news" (on TV or radio)

- *Masz jakies wiadomości od Roberta?* - "Did you get any message from Robert?"

- *Masz wiadomość na poczcie głosowej* - "You've got a message on voicemail."

Kierowca is a masculine noun that means "driver." What's interesting about this noun is that there is no feminine form. Originally *kierowca* was a profession done by men, and even though in recent years the percentage of female drivers is growing, grammatically this noun stays in masculine form, whether we are talking about a male or female driver. So in Polish, if Robert is a driver, we will say *Robert jest kierowcą.* We can also add another noun that will give us more details on what Robert is driving, for example: *Robert jest kierowcą autobusu* - "Robert is a bus driver."

Then if a woman is also a driver, the sentence will look exactly the same: *Gosia jest kierowcą autobusu* ("Gosia is a bus driver"). *Kierowca* can also name a person driving, not necessarily a profession.

Let's go through a few phrases:

- *kierowca autobusu* - "bus driver"

- *kierowca TIR-a* - "lorry driver"

- *kierowca samochodu* - "car driver"

- *niedzielny kierowca* - literally, "Sunday driver," a person who isn't a good driver and drives a car very rarely.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is the Locative Case
Wiadomości o zawodach Formuły 1
"News about Formula One tournament"

In the last lesson, we introduced the locative case and in this lesson we will continue talking about this case. As it was mentioned before, the case links with certain prepositions, especially *w* ("in," "at"), *na* ("at," "on") and *o* ("about").

There was an example in this lesson's dialogue. Tom said that he's checking *wiadomości o zawodach Formuły 1* ("News about Formula One tournament"). The first word *wiadomości* is a non-masculine-personal noun, meaning "news." It's followed by the preposition *o*, here meaning "about." Next there's another non-masculine personal noun *zawody* ("tournament"), in the locative form *zawodach*, and lastly *Formuły 1* ("Formula One"), which is the genitive form of *Formuła 1*. Altogether we have *wiadomości o zawodach Formuły 1* ("News about Formula One tournament").

There are verbs referring to state or activity that are very often followed by a phrase of location. Then the phrase answers the question "where." The verbs are:

- *być* - "to be" (irregular conjugation)

- *mieszkać* - "to live" (third conjugation pattern, *-am, -asz, -a*)

- *spać* - "to sleep" (second conjugation pattern, *-ę, -isz, -i*)

- *pracować* - "to work" (first conjugation pattern, *-ę, -esz, -e*)

- *studiować* - "to study" (first conjugation pattern, *-ę, -esz, -e*)

- *uczyć się* - "to study" (second conjugation pattern, *-ę, -ysz, -y*)

- *jeść* - "to eat" (fourth conjugation pattern, *-em, -esz, -e*)

- *czekać* - "to wait" (third conjugation pattern, *-am, -asz, -a*)

Let's see the detailed conjugation of two new verbs from the list.

***spać* ("to sleep")**

Singular

Polish		English
ja	*śpię*	"I sleep"
ty	*śpisz*	"you sleep"
on	*śpi*	"he sleeps"
ona	*śpi*	"she sleeps"
ono	*śpi*	"it sleeps"

Plural

Polish		English
my	*śpimy*	"we sleep"
wy	*śpicie*	"you sleep"
oni	*śpią*	"they sleep"

mieszkać **("to live")**

Singular

Polish		English
ja	*mieszkam*	"I live"
ty	*mieszkasz*	"you live"
on	*mieszka*	"he lives"
ona	*mieszka*	"she lives"
ono	*mieszka*	"it lives"

Plural

Polish		English
my	*mieszkamy*	"we live"
wy	*mieszkacie*	"you live"
oni	*mieszkają*	"they live"

Now let's go through some sample sentences that will show how the locative case works with the verbs listed above.

1. *Mieszkamy w Warszawie dwadzieścia lat.* (nominative form - *Warszawa*)
   "We've been living in Warsaw for twenty years."
2. *Często jesz w tej restauracji?* (nominative form - *restauracja*)
   "Do you often eat in this restaurant?"
3. *Jestem teraz na spotkaniu.* (nominative form - *spotkanie*)
   "I'm at the meeting now."
4. *Nie znoszę spać w piżamie.* (nominative form - *piżama*)
   "I hate sleeping in pajamas."
5. *Moja dziewczyna pracuje w sklepie odzieżowym.* (nominative form - *sklep odzieżowy*)
   "My girlfriend works at the clothes shop."
6. *Moi rodzice są teraz w teatrze.* (nominative form - *teatr*)
   "My parents are at the theater now."

Another set of verbs that links with the locative case are verbs talking about location/position of a person or an object. In this lesson, we will focus on expressing the location of a person, using the verbs you can see below (in the next lesson we will talk about them referring to objects in a room).

The verbs are:

- *stać* - "to stand" (second conjugation pattern, *-ę, -isz, -i*)

- *leżeć* - "to lie" (second conjugation pattern, *-ę, -ysz, -y*)

- *siedzieć* - "to sit" (second conjugation pattern, *-ę, -isz, -i*)

- *wisieć* - "to hang" (second conjugation pattern, *-ę, -isz, -i*)

Sample Sentences

1. *Stoję na przystanku już godzinę.* (nominative form - *przystanek*)
   "I've been standing at the bus stop for an hour already."
2. *Wielki pies leży na łóżku.* (nominative form - *łóżko*)
   "A large dog is lying on the bed"
3. *Uwielbiam siedzieć w tym fotelu i oglądać telewizję.* (nominative form - *ten fotel*)
   "I love sitting in this armchair and watching TV."
4. *Gosia już trzy dni leży chora w szpitalu.* (nominative form - *szpital*)
   "Gosia has been lying sick in bed three days already.

Language Expansion

In the table below, you will find the list of nouns connected to events and gatherings, both in the nominative and the locative forms. If you decided to not learn the rules of forming the locative forms, make sure to learn the vocabulary provided in this lesson.

Polish	English	Polish Locative	English
urodziny	"birthday"	*na urodzinach*	"at a birthday party"
impreza	"party"	*na imprezie*	"at a party"
koncert	"concert"	*na koncercie*	"at the concert"
opera	"opera"	*na operze*	"at the opera"
film	"film"	*na filmie*	"at the film"
przedstawienie	"theater play"	*na przedstawieniu*	"at the theater play"
przyjęcie	"reception, party"	*na przyjęciu*	"at a party"
zebranie	"meeting" *	*na zebraniu*	"at a meeting"
spotkanie	"meeting" **	*na spotkaniu*	"at a meeting"
wystawa	"exhibition"	*na wystawie*	"at the exhibition"
zajęcia	"class"	*na zajęciach*	"in class"

* *zebranie* refers to an official, often business meeting of a larger number of people

** *spotkanie* refers to a meeting of a small number of people

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A Famous Polish Formula 1 Driver

Robert Kubica, born in 1984, is the first Polish racing driver and the first Polish driver of Formula One. His adventure with driving started at very young age. Before he turned ten he started driving go-karts. He took part in the Polish Karting Championships and after winning eight titles during three seasons, he moved to a league in Italy. He became the first foreigner to win the International Italian Junior Karting Championship in 1998.
In 2000 Robert Kubica started a professional career as a racing driver. In 2006 he became a member of BMW Sauber F1 team as a test driver, and soon after joining the team he got promoted to a race driver. In 2008 Robert Kubica won the Canadian Grand Prix. In 2010 he moved to Renault team and a year later injured his forearms in an accident during a rally. It's said that 2014 will be a year of his come back to championships.

PolishPod101.com

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #19
Taking a Tour Around a Polish Room

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Polish
  - Main
  - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Vocabulary phrase usage
- Grammar
- Cultural insight

#19

DIALOGUE - POLISH

MAIN

1. Jane : Jak wygląda twój pokój?
2. Tom : Mój pokój jest duży i jasny.
3. Jane : Co masz w pokoju?
4. Tom : Na podłodze mam granatowy dywan. Z prawej jest łóżko i biurko. Na biurku stoi laptop, a na ścianie wiszą plakaty. Z lewej strony jest duża szafa.
5. Jane : Fajny pokój.
6. Tom : Dzięki.

ENGLISH

1. Jane : What does your room look like?
2. Tom : My room is big and bright.
3. Jane : What do you have in your room?
4. Tom : On the floor there's a navy blue carpet. On the right there's a bed and a desk. My laptop sits on the desk, and on the wall there are posters hanging. On the left there's a big wardrobe.
5. Jane : Cool room.
6. Tom : Thanks.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
szafa	wardrobe	noun	feminine
plakat	poster	noun	masculine
łóżko	bed	noun	neuter
granatowy	navy blue	adjective	masculine
pokój	room	noun	masculine
jasny	bright	adjective	masculine
strona	side	noun	feminine
ściana	wall	noun	feminine
biurko	desk	noun	neuter
podłoga	floor	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Zdjęłam plakaty ze ścian, bo przy nich bałagan w moim pokoju wydawał się jeszcze większy. I've taken down the posters from my walls because they were making the mess in my room look even bigger.	Moje nowe łóżko jest niewygodne. My new bed is not comfortable.
Pokojówka ścieli łóżko w pokoju hotelowym. "The maid is making the bed in a hotel room."	Mam cztery granatowe marynarki. I have four navy blue jackets.
Mój pokój jest mały. My room is small.	Bagażowy zaniósł nasze torby do pokoju. A porter carried our bags to our room.
pokój hotelowy hotel room	pokój w internacie dormitory room
Ten pokój jest zakurzony. This room is dusty.	Muszę posprzątać dzisiaj mój pokój. I need to clean up my room tonight.
Mam bardzo ładny pokój. I have a very nice room.	Lubię jasne kolory. I like bright colors.
Ogród jest po lewej stronie kaplicy. The garden is on the left side of the chapel.	lewa strona left side
przeciwna strona opposite side	Bank jest po lewej stronie ulicy. The bank is on the left side of the street.
Ta ściana jest brudna. This wall is dirty.	Na jego biurku jest straszny bałagan. His desk is a real mess.
Menadżer robi sobie przerwę przy biurku. "The manager is taking a break at the desk."	Podłoga w tym budynku jest drewniana. The floor in the building is made of wood.
podłoga kafelkowa tile floor	drewniana podłoga wooden floor
Gosposia myje podłogę mopem. "The housekeeper is mopping the floor."	Kobieta ćwiczy na podłodze. "The woman is exercising on the floor."

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Podłoga, a feminine noun we heard in the dialogue, means "floor" in English.

There's an adjective that derives from this noun, and it's *podłogowy*, like in the phrase *panele podłogowe* ("floor panels").

Here are a few examples of usage of the noun *podłoga:*

- *na podłodze* - "on the floor"

- *myć podłogę* - "to clean / wipe the floor"

- *zamiatać podłogę* - "to sweep the floor"

- *zbierać z podłogi* - "to pick up from the floor"

- *spadać na podłogę* - "to fall no the floor"

Łóżko is one of the nouns used in the dialogue, and it means "bed" in English. If the bed is very big and wide we would call it *łoże*. The form of this neuter noun gives us information that we're talking about a much bigger bed than a standard single bed. Usually *łoże* goes together with the adjective *małżeńskie* ("marital"), together *łoże małżeńskie*, which in English means "double bed." On the other hand, the diminutive of the noun *łóżko* is *łóżeczko* and is usually used to refer to a baby's bed.

There are a few kinds of beds, so let'sees the Polish names:

- *łóżko jednoosobowe* - "single bed"

- *łóżko dwuosobowe* - "double bed"

- *tapczan* - "couch"

- *wersalka* - "sofa bed"

Another word used in the dialogue was *plakat*, a masculine noun, meaning "poster" in English. Let's go through a few phrases with this noun:

- *plakat wyborczy* - "election poster"

- *plakat reklamowy* - "advertising poster"

- *plakat filmowy* - "movie poster"

- *rozwieszać plakaty* - "to put up posters"

- *naklejać plakaty* - "to stick posters"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Learning to Describe the Location of Objects in a Room.
Na biurku stoi laptop.
"My laptop sits on the desk."

There are a few verbs that are always used when talking about the location of objects, especially at home. The verbs we will focus on in this lesson are:

stać - "to stand"

leżeć - "to lie"

wisieć - "to hang"

The verb *stać* is used to talk about the objects in standing or sitting position, like tables, chairs, computers, mugs, plates, etc. The verb *leżeć* is used to talk about objects in lying position, often flat objects, like carpets, books, magazines, also writing tools and so on. The verb *wisieć* is used to talk about objects which are suspended, like curtains, pictures, posters, etc.

Before we move forward, let's check the conjugation of all three verbs.

***stać* ("to stand") follows the second conjugation pattern:**

Singular

Polish		English
ja	*stoję*	"I stand"
ty	*stoisz*	"you stand"
on	*stoi*	"he stands"
ona	*stoi*	"she stands"
ono	*stoi*	"it stands"

Plural

Polish		English
my	*stoimy*	"we stand"
wy	*stoicie*	"you stand"
oni	*stoją*	"they stand"

The verb *leżeć* ("to lie") follows the second conjugation pattern.

Singular

Polish		English
ja	*leżę*	"I lie"
ty	*leżysz*	"you lie"
on	*leży*	"he lies"
ona	*leży*	"she lies"
ono	*leży*	"it lies"

Plural

Polish		English
my	*leżymy*	"we lie"
wy	*leżycie*	"you lie"
oni	*leżą*	"they lie"

Lastly the verb *wisieć* follows exactly the same conjugation pattern as the verb *stać*, so there's no need to include the conjugation table.

Usage of *Stać, Leżeć,* and *Wisieć*

In the dialogue, we heard the sentence *na biurku stoi laptop*, which is a good example of usage of the verb *stać*. The first component of the sentence is *na*, meaning "on," followed by *biurku*, which is the locative form of the neuter noun *biurko* ("desk"). Next there's the verb *stać* ("to stand") in its third person singular form. And lastly the noun *laptop.* Altogether *na biurku stoi laptop* ("The laptop stands on the desk").

Another example from the dialogue is *na ścianie wiszą plakaty*, meaning "The posters are hanging on the wall." Here again we start with a preposition, in this case *na*, meaning "on." It's followed by the noun *ściana* ("wall"), in its locative form *ścianie.* Next there's the verb *wisieć* ("to hang") in the third person plural form *wiszą*. And at the end there's another noun *plakat* ("poster"), in plural form *plakaty.* Altogether we have *na ścianie wiszą plakaty,* meaning "The posters are hanging on the wall."

Now let's have a look at more sample sentences with the three verbs:

1. *Na balkonie stoi dużo kwiatów.*
   "There are many flowers on the balcony."
2. *Na ścianie w salonie wisi portret.*
   "A portrait is hanging on the wall in the living room."

3. *Na moim biurku zawsze leży mnóstwo książek.*
   "On my desk, there are always many books."
4. *W rogu stoi odkurzacz.*
   "A vacuum cleaner is standing in the corner."
5. *W łazience wisi tylko jeden ręcznik.*
   "Only one towel is hanging in the bathroom."
6. *Klucze do samochodu leżą na komodzie.*
   "Car keys are lying on the chest of drawers."

Language Expansion

In the table below you will find a list of rooms in the house both in Polish and in English, also instrumental case forms of every room, together with the preposition. Translation for all the instrumental forms is the same ("in the bedroom," "in the kitchen," etc.), therefore it was omitted.

Polish	English	Polish instrumental
sypialnia	"bedroom"	*w sypialni*
kuchnia	"kitchen"	*w kuchni*
łazienka	"bathroom"	*w łazience*
ubikacja	"toilet"	*w ubikacji*
salon	"living room"	*w salonie*
gabinet	"study"	*w gabinecie*
korytarz	"hall"	*w korytarzu*
pokój	"room"	*w pokoju*
balkon	"balcony"	*na balkonie*
piwnica	"basement"	*w piwnicy*

Another very useful set of vocabulary shows the names of furniture that can be found in every house. In the last column you will find locative forms together with the matching preposition.

Polish	English	Polish instrumental	English
łóżko	"bed"	*w łóżku*	"in bed"
szafa	"wardrobe"	*w szafie*	"in the wardrobe"
biurko	"desk"	*na biurku*	"on the desk"
stół	"table"	*na stole*	"on the table"
krzesło	"chair"	*na krześle*	"on a chair"
komoda	"chest of drawers"	*w / na komodzie*	"in/on the chest of drawers"
tapczan	"couch"	*na tapczanie*	"on the couch"
regał	"bookcase"	*w regale*	"on a bookcase"
półka	"shelf"	*na półce*	"on the shelf"
fotel	"armchair"	*w fotelu*	"in the armchair"
lampa	"lamp" *	-	-
lampka	"lamp" **	-	-

* *lampa* usually refers to a big hanging or standing lamp, as well as a street lamp.

** *lampka* is diminutive of *lampa* and refers to a small lamp, usually standing on a table or desk.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

What to Expect in a Polish Home

Like in every other country, everyone's house is different in Poland: different styles, different furnishings, and so on. But there are some things that one can find in probably every Pole's house. First of all is slippers. Most Poles wear slippers at home, but that's not all! Usually when they have a guest, Poles will prepare slippers for him or her. The reason for that is usually care for guest's feet not getting cold. Another thing that can be found in almost every Polish house are all kinds of carpets and rugs. There are special ones that are used only in the toilet or bathroom and big carpets for a living room or bedroom. Also lace curtains and drapes can be found in a Polish house. When it comes to furniture, in an anteroom there will be always a wardrobe, where one keeps coats and jackets.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #20 Visiting Poland's Land of a Thousand Lakes

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#20

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POLISH

1. Jane: Jak spędzasz weekend majowy?
2. Tom: Co rok jeżdżę na Mazury, ale w tym roku jadę nad morze.
3. Jane: Co rok?! Aż tak lubisz Mazury?
4. Tom: Uwielbiam! Chciałbym jeździć tam co miesiąc, ale nie mogę.
5. Jane: Szkoda

ENGLISH

1. Jane: How are you going to spend this May weekend (May Holiday season)?
2. Tom: I go to Masuria every year, but this year I'm going to the seaside.
3. Jane: Every year?! You like Masuria that much?
4. Tom: I love it! I'd like to go there every month, but I can't.
5. Jane: That's a pity.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
co rok	every year	phrase	
spędzać	to spend	verb	

jechać	to go (by means of transportation)	verb	
morze	sea	noun	neuter
miesiąc	month	noun	masculine
jak	how	pronoun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Co rok odwiedzam moją babcię, która mieszka w Anglii. Every year I visit my grandma who lives in England.	**On spędza zbyt wiele godzin przed ekranem komputera.** He spends too many hours in front of a computer screen.
Uczniowie jadą autobusem. The students ride the bus.	**Ci ludzie jadą do Los Angeles.** "These people are going to Los Angeles."
Muszę jechać do Krakowa. "I have to go to Cracow."	**Polskie morze jest zimne.** Polish sea is cold.
Morze lubię bardziej niż góry. I like the sea more than mountains.	**Za miesiąc mam test.** I have a test in a month.
Jak masz na imię? What's your name?	**Jak się to pisze?** How do you write this?
Jak długo uczysz się polskiego? How long have you been studying Polish?	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

The word ***szkoda*** can be used in two ways. In the dialogue, it was used as an expression, an exclamation that expresses pity. In English, it would be "pity" or "what a pity," often "it's too bad" is also a good English translation. Other variations of this expression are: *wielka szkoda* ("it's too bad") or *jaka szkoda!* ("what a pity").

The noun *szkoda* itself, means "harm," "damage," or "loss" in English.

Let's see a few examples:

1. *Jaka szkoda, że nie dostałeś tej pracy*.
   "What a pity, you didn't get that job."

2. *Szkoda, że nie możesz z nami pojechać.*
   "It's a pity you can't go with us."

3. *Nie udało się. Szkoda...*
   "We didn't make it. It's a pity..."

The words related to *szkoda* are:

- *szkodliwy* - masculine adjective meaning "harmful" (*Papierosy są szkodliwe dla zdrowia* - "Cigarettes are harmful to health.")

- *uszkodzić* - verb meaning "to slightly damage" (*Jeździłem po dziurach i uszkodziłem rower* - "I was riding on roads with holes and damaged my bicycle.")

- *szkodnik* - masculine noun meaning "pest" (*Szkodniki zaatakowały moje plony* - "Pests attacked my crops.")

The verb ***spędzać*** means "to spend" in English. It's a very useful verb, because you can use it to say everything about how and on what you spend your time, for example. There are two prepositions that link with the verb *spędzać:*

- *spędzać na* - "spend on"

For example:

1. *Spędzam dużo czasu na nauce*.
   "I spend a lot of time on studying."

2. *Lubię spędzać czas na czytaniu książek.*
   "I like spending time on reading books."

3. *Spędzam dużo pieniędzy na suplementy.*
   "I spend a lot of money on suplements."

- *spędzać z* - "spend with"

For example:

1. *Często spędzam weekendy z moim chłopakiem.*
   "I often spend weekends with my boyfriend."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Llesson is Learning about Determinate and Indeterminate Verbs of Motion.
Co rok jeżdżę na Mazury, ale w tym roku jadę nad morze.
"I go to Masuria every year, but this year I'm going to the seaside."

Expressing motion in English and Polish is quite different. First of all, in Polish there are two different verbs (both translated as "to go") used depending on whether we use a means of transportation or we're going on foot. The are also differences between talking about actions happening at a specific or not specific point in time—determinate and indeterminate verbs.

In the dialogue we had a great example of the difference between those two kinds of verbs of motion.

The sentence was *Co rok jeżdżę na Mazury, ale w tym roku jadę nad morze* ("I go to Masuria every year, but this year I'm going to the seaside"). Let's break down this sentence. The first component was the phrase *co rok*, meaning "every year." Then there's the indeterminate verb *jeździć* ("to go"), in its first person singular form *jeżdżę*, followed by the preposition *na*, here meaning "to." Next we have the name of a place in Poland *Mazury* ("Masuria"). Then there's *ale*, meaning "but," followed by *w tym roku*, meaning "this year" in English. After that, the determinate verb *jechać* ("to go by means of transportation") in the first person singular form

jadę. Lastly the preposition *nad*, here standing for the English "to" and the neuter noun *morze*, meaning "sea" or "seaside." Altogether we have *Co rok jeżdżę na Mazury, ale w tym roku jadę nad morze* ("I go to Masuria every year, but this year I'm going to the seaside.")

Now let's get to know about the characteristics of both determinate and indeterminate motion verbs.

Determinate Verbs

Determinate verbs refer to motion that happens at a specific point of time.

There are two Polish verbs that belong to this group:

- *iść* - translated as "to go," means also "to go on foot."

- *jechać* - has quite a few meanings in English, such as "to go, to drive, to ride"—whenever you use this verb, you have to move by some vehicle.

They're often used with adverbs that refer to time. They often correspond to the English verbs in Present Continuous tense.

For example:

1. *Gdzie teraz idziesz?*
   "Where are you going now?"

2. *Ten autobus jedzie zbyt wolno.*
   "This bus is going too slowly."

3. *Właśnie jadę do Krakowa.*
   "I'm going to Cracow now." (for example, by train or bus)

Both *iść* and *jechać* can be used to express the future, but please keep in mind that most Polish verbs cannot be used this way. A few examples below:

1. *Idę dziś wieczorem do teatru.*
   "I'm going to the theater tonight."

2. *Nie jadę jutro na wycieczkę.*
   "I'm not going on a trip tomorrow."

3. *Co jutro robisz?*
   "What are you doing tomorrow?"

Indeterminate Verbs

Indeterminate verbs are used to express an action that is repeated or happens often. Both *iść* and *jechać* have their indeterminate forms, which go as follows:

- *chodzić* - can be translated as "often go by foot"

- *jeździć* - can be translated as "often go by a vehicle"

They link with adverbs of frequency, like *zawsze* ("always"), *czasami* ("sometimes"), *ciągle* ("constantly"), and so on.

A few examples of sentences:

1. *Często jeżdżę na wycieczki.*
   "I often go on trips."

2. *Zwykle jeżdzę do pracy samochodem.*
   "I usually go to work by car."

3. *Nigdy nie chodzę na siłownię w weekendy.*
   "I never go to the gym on weekends."

4. *Często chodzę po zakupy do tego sklepu.*
   "I often go shopping at this store."

Language Expansion

There are quite a few prefixes that can be added to both verbs *iść* and *jechać*. This way, perfective verbs are formed. Perfective verbs talk about actions that were or will be completed.

iść

- *przyjść* ("to come by foot")

other forms: *przyjdę* ("I'll come"), *przyjdziesz* ("you'll come"),

przyszedł ("he came"), *przyszła* ("she came")

For example:

1. *Przyjdziesz na moje urodziny?*
   "Will you come to my birthday party?"

2. *Paczka przyszła wczoraj wieczorem.*
   "The parcel came yesterday night."

- *wyjść* ("to leave by foot")

other forms: *wyjdę* ("I'll leave"), *wyjdziesz* ("you'll leave"),

wyszedł ("he left"), *wyszła* ("she left")

For example:

1. *Wyjdę dziś z pracy wcześniej.*
   "I'll leave my work earlier today."

- *wejść* ("to enter, to come")

other forms: *wejdę* ("I'll enter"), *wejdziesz* ("you'll enter"),

wszedł ("he entered"), *weszła* ("she entered")

For example:

1. *Pacjentka weszła do gabinetu lekarza.*
   "The patient entered the doctor's office.")

jechać

- *przyjechać* ("to arrive, to come by a vehicle")

other forms: *przyjadę* ("I'll come"), *przyjedziesz* ("you'll come"),

przyjechał ("he came"), *przyjechała* ("she came")

For example:

1. *Przyjadę po ciebie za pół godziny.*
   "I'll come to pick you up in half an hour."

- *wyjechać* ("to leave by a vehicle")

Other forms: *wyjadę* ("I'll leave"), *wyjedziesz* ("you'll leave"),

wyjechał ("he left"), *wyjechała* ("she left")

For example:

1. *Robert wyjechał już do Francji.*
   "Robert already left for France."

- *wjechać* ("to drive in")

other forms: *wjadę* ("I'll drive in"), *wjedziesz* ("you'll drive in"),

wjechał ("he drove in"), *wjechała* ("she drove in")

For example:

1. *Wjedziesz za mnie do garażu?*
   "Will you drive in the garage for me?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A Famous Polish Region

Masuria (in Polish *Mazury*) is a region located in northeastern Poland, in Warmian-Masurian Voivodeship. It's known in Poland as *Kraina Tysiąca Jezior* ("land of thousand lakes"), even though there are 2,000 lakes in the area (that includes the largest lake in Poland—Śniardwy). Among many attractions of the region is Białowieża National Park, where you can see amazing ancient woods and wisents, which now live freely only in that park. Town Ryn is known for a hotel in a reconstructed Teutonic Knights castle—Hotel Castle Ryn—which makes the stay a journey to the past. Giżycko is the ailing capital of Poland. On the other hand, a small village called Żywkowo is the so-called "stork village," where nine farms play host to sixty nests of white storks.

Masuria is a place where you can find anything you like—wonderful natural surroundings which can be experienced on countless biking, trekking, boating, or kayaking trails; an original cuisine; as well as historical places, like Boyen fortress in Giżycko, the *Wilczy Szaniec* ("Wolf's Lair") top secret military headquarters where Adolf Hitler stayed before the end of WWII, and much, much more.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #21
Polish Birds Make Strange Sounds!

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2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
5 Grammar
10 Cultural Insight

#21

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POLISH

1. Tom: Widzisz tego ptaka?
2. Jane: Gdzie?
3. Tom: Tam! Na kominie domu.
4. Jane: A! To bocian. Słyszysz jak klekocze?
5. Tom: Pierwszy raz coś takiego słyszę.
6. Jane: Brzmi jak karabin maszynowy.

ENGLISH

1. Tom: Can you see that bird?
2. Jane: Where?
3. Tom: There! On the house's chimney.
4. Jane: Ah! It's a white stork. Can you hear it clattering?
5. Tom: It's the first time I've heard such a thing.
6. Jane: It sounds like machine-gun fire.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender

słyszeć	to hear	verb	
brzmieć	to sound	verb	
karabin maszynowy	machine gun	noun phrase	masculine
ptak	bird	noun	masculine
tam	there	adverb	
komin	chimney	noun	masculine
dom	house, home	noun	masculine
bocian	white stork	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Nie słyszę co mówisz. I can't hear what you're saying.	**Jak brzmi elektryczna perkusja?** How do electric drums sound?
Karabin maszynowy to niebezpieczna broń. A machine gun is a dangerous weapon.	**Te ptaki są straszne.** These birds are scary.
Co roku ptaki lecą z Kanady do Meksyku. Each year, the birds fly from Canada to Mexico.	**Tam jest duże miasto.** There is a big city.
Osoba, która czyści kominy to kominiarz. A person who cleans chimneys is a chimney sweep.	**Mój dom jest bardzo duży.** My house is very big.

Ojciec wraca do domu. The father returns home.	**25% europejskich bocianów jest z Polski.** Twenty-five percent of European white storks are from Poland.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

The Polish verb ***brzmieć*** means "to sound" in English. You can use it every time you want to describe some sound, for example: *ten instrument brzmi jak flet* ("this instrument sounds like a flute") or *ta piosenka brzmi znajomo* ("this song sounds familiar"). We also use it when we want to compare some sounds. Then we have to put the verb *brzmieć* together with *jak* - *brzmieć jak*. We heard an example of such usage in the dialogue of this lesson.

The noun related to this verb is *brzmienie*, meaning "sound."

Let's go through a few examples:

1. *Jak brzmi hymn Polski?*
   "How does the Polish anthem sound?"

2. *To nazwisko brzmi znajomo*.
   "This surname sounds familiar."

3. *Brzmisz jakbyś miał zaraz umrzeć*.
   "You sound like you were about to die."

4. *Brzmienie tego instrumentu przypomina mi dzieciństwo*.
   "The sound of this instrument reminds me of my childhood."

The verb *brzmieć* can be also used when you want to express your feeling about something someone suggested, for example:

1. A: *Co powiesz na wyjście do kina wieczorem?*
   "How about going to the cinema in the evening?"
   B: *Brzmi świetnie!*
   "Sounds great!"

Ptak is a masculine noun that means "bird" in English. The plural form of this noun is *ptaki* ("birds") and the diminutive form, which is often used to name a small bird, is *ptaszek* ("small bird").

Let's see a few sample sentences with this noun:

1. *Jak się nazywa ten ptak?*
   "What's the name of this bird?"

2. *Jakiś ptak zrobił sobie gniazdo na moim dachu*.
   "Some bird made a nest on my roof."

3. *Bocian to ptak, który przynosi szczęście*.
   "The white stork is a bird that brings luck."

4. *W Polsce mieszka wiele gatunków ptaków*.
   "Poland is home to many bird species."

There are also two phrases that make a use of the noun *ptak*:

- *wolny jak ptak* - literally, "free as a bird"

- *z lotu ptaka* - literally, "from bird's flight," (English equivalent "bird's eye view")

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Learning about Purposeful and Non-purposeful Verbs
Widzisz tego ptaka?
"Can you see that bird?"

Both in English and in Polish there are verbs that express purposeful actions, which we

deliberately choose to do, and non-purposeful, which are the opposite.

In the dialogue of this lesson, we heard Tom asking Jane a simple question - *widzisz tego ptaka?* ("Can you see that bird?") The first word in that question is the verb *widzieć*, meaning "to see," in its second person singular form *widzisz.* It's followed by the the genitive pronoun *tego*, meaning "this." At the end there's the masculine noun *ptak* ("bird") in its accusative form *ptaka.* Altogether - w*idzisz tego ptaka?* ("Can you see that bird?"). The verb *widzieć* used in the sentence is a non-purposeful verb.

Non-purposeful Verbs

- *widzieć*

Widzieć means "to see" in English. It follows the second conjugation pattern (*-ę, -isz, -i*). It requires the accusative case. The conjugation goes as follows:

Singular

	Polish	English
ja	*widzę*	"I see"
ty	*widzisz*	"you see"
on	*widzi*	"he sees"
ona	*widzi*	"she sees"
ono	*widzi*	"it sees"

Plural

	Polish	English
my	*widzimy*	"we see"
wy	*widzicie*	"you see"

oni	*widzą*	"they see"

For example:

1. *Widzisz gdzieś wolne miejsce?*
   "Can you see any free seat?"

2. *Nie widzę cię w tym tłumie.*
   "I can't see you in this crowd."

3. *Widzisz gdzieś książkę, którą chcę kupić?*
   "Can you see the book I want to buy anywhere?"

When we add *się* to the verb *widzieć, we* get a completely different meaning, which is "to meet," for example: *Nie widziałam go od lat* ("I haven't seen him in years") or *Widzę się z Beatą w tą sobotę* ("I'm meeting Beata this Saturday").

- *słyszeć*

The verb *słyszeć* means "to hear" in English. It follows the second conjugation pattern (-ę, -ysz, -y). It requires the accusative case. Let's have a look at the details of conjugation:

Singular

	Polish	**English**
ja	*słyszę*	"I hear"
ty	*słyszysz*	"you hear"
on	*słyszy*	"he hears"
ona	*słyszy*	"she hears"
ono	*słyszy*	"it hears"

Plural

	Polish	English
my	*słyszymy*	"we hear"
wy	*słyszycie*	"you hear"
oni	*słyszą*	"they hear"

For example:

1. *Słyszysz ten dźwięk?*
   "Can you hear that sound?"

2. *Nie słyszałam jak wszedłeś do pokoju.*
   "I didn't hear you enter the room."

3. *Nie słyszę co mówisz.*
   "I can't hear what you're saying."

Purposeful Verbs

- *patrzeć*

The verb *patrzeć* means "to look." It links with the preposition *na*, *patrzeć na* ("to look at").

It follows the second conjugation pattern (*-ę, -ysz, -y*).

For example:

1. *Dlaczego nie patrzysz na mnie kiedy do mnie mówisz?*
   "Why don't you look at me when you talk to me?"

2. *Nie patrz tak na mnie.*
   "Don't look at me like that."

3. *Uwielbiam patrzeć na nocne niebo.*
   "I love looking at the night sky."

- *oglądać*

The verb *oglądać* translates into the English "watch" or "view." It requires the accusative case.

It follows the third conjugation pattern. All the forms go as follows:

Singular

	Polish	English
ja	*oglądam*	"I watch"
ty	*oglądasz*	"you watch"
on	*ogląda*	"he watches"
ona	*ogląda*	"she watches"
ono	*ogląda*	"it watches"

Plural

	Polish	English
my	*oglądamy*	"we watch"
wy	*oglądacie*	"you watch"
oni	*oglądają*	"they watch"

For example:

1. *Zawsze oglądam telewizję w niedzielę rano.*
   "I always watch TV on Sunday morning."

2. *Nie oglądam zawodów sportowych, bo są nudne.*
   "I don't watch sports, because they're boring."

3. *Mój chłopak zawsze ogląda filmy na You Tube przy jedzeniu.*
   "My boyfriend always watches videos on YouTube while eating."

- *słuchać*

The verb *słuchać* means "to listen to" in English. It requires the genitive case and it follows the third conjugation pattern.

Sample sentences:

1. *W domu zawsze słucham muzyki.*
   "I always listen to music at home."

2. *Nie lubię słuchać radia, bo nie podoba mi się muzyka.*
   "I don't like listening to the radio, because I'm not fond of the music."

3. *A: Czego słuchasz?*
   "What are you listening to?"
   B: *Słucham przemówienia prezydenta.*
   "I'm listening to the speech of the President."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A Famous Polish Bird

White storks are definitely a symbol of Polish nature. There are many beliefs and legends concerning white storks. First of all, a white stork is believed to bring luck to the house on which it makes a nest. Also some say that they make nests only on houses where good people live and places where lightning never hits. In the other words, white storks have always been more than welcomed and liked by Poles.

Nowadays, having a stork's nest on your roof can be a problem, especially if the building is

old and the stork keeps coming back to the same nest for years (it can weigh anywhere from 60kg to even 250kg). There are many nest stands built in Polish towns and villages, to encourage storks to build their nests there. In Masuria region, in a village called Żywkowo, there are more storks than people.

PolishPod101.com

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #22
So Many Polish Sights, So Little Time!

CONTENTS

- Dialogue - Polish
  - Main
  - English
- Vocabulary
- Sample sentences
- Vocabulary phrase usage
- Grammar
- Cultural insight

#22

DIALOGUE - POLISH

MAIN

1. Jane : Co jeszcze chcesz zobaczyć w Polsce?
2. Tom : Chcę pojechać do Torunia.
3. Jane : Dlaczego tam?
4. Tom : To miejsce urodzenia Kopernika, bardzo się nim interesuję.
5. Jane : Co powiesz na wycieczkę do Torunia w następny weekend?
6. Tom : Brzmi fantastycznie!

ENGLISH

1. Jane : What more do you want to see in Poland?
2. Tom : I want to go to Toruń.
3. Jane : Why there?
4. Tom : It's Copernicus's birthplace, and I'm really interested in him.
5. Jane : How about a trip to Toruń next weekend?
6. Tom : Sounds fantastic!

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
zobaczyć	to see	verb	
następny	next	adjective	masculine
miejsce urodzenia	birthplace	noun phrase	neuter
miejsce	place	noun	neuter
interesować się	to be interested in	verb	
fantastyczny	fantastic	adjective	masculine
brzmieć	to sound	verb	
wycieczka	trip	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Chcę cię zobaczyć. I want to see you.	Następny autobus odjeżdża za dziesięć minut. The next bus leaves in ten minutes.
Moje miejsce urodzenia to Warszawa. My birthplace is Warsaw.	Czy dojechaliśmy już do miejsca spotkania? Have we arrived to the meeting place yet?
Moi rodzice interesują się fotografią. My parents are interested in photography.	Ta książka jest fantastyczna! This book is fantastic!
Jak brzmi elektryczna perkusja? How do electric drums sound?	Pojadę do Afryki w czasie mojej następnej wycieczki dookoła świata. I will visit Africa during my next trip around the world.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Miejsce is one of those nouns that has a few meanings. *Miejsce,* which we heard in the dialogue meant "place" in English. Other meanings are "site," "room," "space," or even "seat."

Let's go through a few examples:

miejsce ("place")

1. *Gdzie jest miejsce spotkania?*
   "Where is the meeting place?"
2. *Jakie to miejsce?*
   "What kind of place is that?"
3. *Kiedy dojedziemy na miejsce?*
   "When will we arrive at the place?"
4. *Zobaczysz wszystko na miejscu.*
   "You'll see everything at the place."

In the last two examples, the noun *miejsce* refers to a destination, usually used while traveling.

miejsce ("site")

1. *Policja przyjechała na miejsce wypadku.*
   "Police arrived to the accident site."

miejsce ("room," "space")

1. *W szafie nie ma już miejsca.*
   "There's no more space in the wardrobe."
2. *Ile masz miejsca w plecaku?*
   "How much space do you have in your backpack?"

miejsce ("seat")

1. *Przepraszam, czy to miejsce jest zajęte?*
   "Excuse me, is this seat taken?"
2. *Poproszę o miejsce przy oknie*.
   "A seat by the window, please."
3. *Kiedy wróciłam ktoś siedział na moim miejscu*.
   "When I came back someone was sitting on my seat."

miejsce ("place" - sports)

1. *Polska drużyna zajęła drugie miejsce*.
   "The Polish team won second place."
2. *Kierowca Formuły 1, Robert Kubica, zajął pierwsze miejsce*.
   "Formula One driver, Robert Kubica, won first place."

There's also a very common and useful phrase, *na twoim miejscu,* which means the same as the English "if I were you," for example: *Na twoim miejscu nie zmieniałbym pracy* - "If I were you, I wouldn't change the job."

The feminine noun ***wycieczka***, means "trip" or "tour" in English. It can name not only a tourist excursion or a tour, but also a group of people who take the trip.

A few examples will show this difference:

1. *Jadę jutro na wycieczkę*.
   "I'm going on a trip tomorrow."
2. *Latem chcę pojechać na wycieczkę do Chorwacji*.
   "In summer, I want to go for a trip to Croatia."
3. *Wycieczka poszła zwiedzać zamek*.
   (literally, "The trip went to see the castle.")

There are a few kinds of trips we can take, so let's have a look at the examples:

1. *wycieczka piesza* - "walking tour"
2. *wycieczka rowerowa* - "bicycle tour"
3. *wycieczka autobusowa* - "bus tour"
4. *zorganizowana wycieczka* - "organized tour" (by a travel agency)

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Learning About Verbs Followed by Infinitives.
Chcę pojechać do Torunia.
"I want to go to Toruń."

There are quite a few verbs in Polish that are followed by infinitives. In the past lessons we have introduced a few of them, so this lesson will be a small review of those verbs and an introduction of a few more.

In the dialogue we heard the sentence *Chcę pojechać do Torunia* ("I want to go to Toruń"). When talking about places to visit this is a very common sentence pattern. Let's break down this sentence. The first word is the modal verb *chcieć* ("want"), in the first person singular form *chcę*. It's followed by the infinitive verb *pojechać* ("to go"). Then there's the preposition *do*, meaning "to," and at the very end the name of a Polish city Toruń, in genitive form *Torunia.* Altogether, *Chcę pojechać do Torunia* ("I want to go to Toruń").

Now let's go through all the verbs that require infinitive one by one.

chcieć

Chcieć means "want" in English. It follows the first conjugation pattern, -ę, -esz, -e (the whole conjugation of this verb was introduced in lesson 4 of this series).

For example:

1. *Chcę pojechać na ryby w ten weekend.*
   "I want to go fishing this weekend."
2. *Nie chcę iść dzisiaj na zajęcia.*
   "I don't want to go to the class today."
3. *Moi dziadkowie chcą sprzedać dom i pojechać na wycieczkę dookoła świata.*
   "My grandparents want to sell their house and go on a trip around the world."
4. *Chcesz przeprowadzić się do mnie?*
   "Do you want to move in to my place?"

woleć

The modal verb *woleć* stands for the English "prefer." When comparing two choices in a sentence, the second, not preferred choice follows the conjunction *niż,* meaning "than." *Woleć* follows the second conjugation pattern (*-ę, -isz, -i*), which we can see below:

Singular

Polish		English
ja	*wolę*	"I prefer"
ty	*wolisz*	"you prefer"
on	*woli*	"he prefers"
ona	*woli*	"she prefers"
ono	*woli*	"it prefers"

Plural

Polish		English
my	*wolimy*	"we prefer"
wy	*wolicie*	"you prefer"
oni	*wolą*	"they prefer"

For example:

1. *Polacy wolą jeść w domu niż w restauracji.*
   "Poles prefer to eat at home than at restaurants."
2. *Robert woli pojechać do Krakowa autobusem niż samochodem.*
   "Robert prefers going to Cracow by bus than by car."
3. *Wolisz brać prysznic rano czy wieczorem?*
   "Do you prefer taking showers in the morning or in the evening?"
4. *Wolę iść na spacer teraz.*
   "I prefer going for a walk now."

musieć

Musieć is another modal verb. It means "have to" or "must" in English.

For example:

1. *Muszę zrobić dzisiaj zakupy.*
   "I have to go shopping today."
2. *Nie muszę dzisiaj gotować obiadu.*
   "I don't have to cook dinner today."

3. *Dlaczego musisz wracać do domu tak wcześnie?*
   "Why do you have to go back home so early?"
4. *O której musisz być jutro w pracy?*
   "What time do you have to be at work tomorrow?"

lubić

The verb *lubić*, meaning "to like" was introduced in lesson 16 of this series.

For example:

1. *Lubię wychodzić z moim psem na spacer po północy.*
   "I like going with my dog for a walk after midnight."
2. *Magda nie lubi rozmawiać przez telefon.*
   "Magda doesn't like talking on the phone."

powinienem (masculine)/powinnam (feminine)

Powinienem was introduced in lesson 13 of this series.

For example:

1. *Uważam, że powinieneś wyprowadzić się od rodziców.*
   "I think that you should move out from your parents' place."
2. *Powinnam zarezerwować pokój w hotelu.*
   "I should make a hotel room reservation."

móc

The modal verb *móc* means "can" and "to be able to."

For example:

1. *Mogę cię podwieźć do pracy za pół godziny.*
   "I can give you a ride to work in half an hour."
2. *Możesz pożyczyć mi swój rower?*
   "Can you lend me your bicycle?"

Language Expansion

There are two a little bit special words, which are also followed by an infinitive: *można*, meaning "one may," and *trzeba*, meaning "one must" or "one should." They're often used in an official setting, especially when talking to a person who's a stranger or higher in a hierarchy, whether it's at school or work.

For example:

1. *Czy można wejść?* (for example, when entering a doctor's office)
   "May I come in?"
2. *Przepraszam, można przymierzyć?* (for example, when talking to a clothes shop clerk)
   "Excuse me, can I try it on?"
3. *Do kiedy trzeba to przygotować?* (for example, when talking to a boss or a teacher)
   "Till when do I / we have to prepare it?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

An Important Pole

Mikołaj Kopernik (Nicolaus Copernicus) was born in 1473 in Toruń, one of the oldest cities in Poland. He's one of the most important people in world history and science. Kopernik was a Renaissance mathematician and astronomer, also a translator, physician, economist, and polyglot (he could speak Polish, German, Italian, Greek, and Latin). His most important and biggest work was published right before his death (in 1543). The book was entitled *On the Revolutions of the Celestial Spheres* (*O obrotach sfer niebieskich*), in which he talks about heliocentric theory. In other words, Kopernik stated that the Earth is not the center of the universe, which was a common belief in those days, but rather the Sun was. In 1517 he also created quantity theory of money, which states that changes in prices correspond to changes in money supply.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #23 You Can't Be Late to a Polish Wedding!

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23

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POLISH

1. Tom: Jesteś już gotowa?
2. Jane: Prawie. O której zaczyna się wesele?
3. Tom: O osiemnastej.
4. Jane: To o której wychodzimy?
5. Tom: O siedemnastej trzydzieści.

ENGLISH

1. Tom: Are you ready yet?
2. Jane: Almost. What time does the wedding party start?
3. Tom: At six pm.
4. Jane: So what time do we leave?
5. Tom: At five-thirty.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
gotowy	ready	adjective	masculine
prawie	almost	particle	

o której	what time	phrase	
zaczynać się	to start	verb	
wesele	wedding party	noun	neuter
wychodzić	to go out, to leave	verb	
o	about	preposition	
być	to be	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ciasto będzie gotowe za pół godziny. The cake will be ready in half an hour.	**Prawie skończyłem sprzątać pokój.** I almost finished cleaning the room.
O której kończysz pracę? What time do you finish work?	**Film zaczyna się o 20:00.** The movie starts at 8pm.
Wesele mojej przyjaciółki było cudowne. My friend’s wedding was wonderful.	**Nie lubię wychodzić po zmroku.** I don’t like to go out after dark.
Myślę o obiedzie. I'm thinking about dinner.	**Jestem z Polski.** I am from Poland.
Jestem Tomek. I am Tom.	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Wesele is neuter noun meaning "wedding party" in English. The adjective that derives from

this noun is *weselny,* and it describes things connected to the wedding, for example: *wódka weselna* ("wedding vodka"), *dom weselny* ("wedding house": a building designed specifically for weddings), *weselna muzyka* ("wedding music": in Poland music is played live by a band, it's simple and cheerful, usually in Polish language) or *tort weselny* ("wedding cake").

Another word related to the noun *wesele* is *weselnik*, a masculine noun, that names a wedding guest. The plural form is *weselnicy.*

Let's go through a few sample sentences:

1. *Mój brat zaprosił na wesele ponad sto osób*.
   "My brother invited more than a hundred people to his wedding party"

2. *Byłam wczoraj na weselu*
   "Yesterday I was at a wedding"

3. *Do wesela się zagoi*
   Literally, "It will heal till the wedding," in English it can be translated as "It will heal in no time," and is used when someone gets hurt, to cheer them up.

The adjective ***gotowy*** is another word that has many meanings in English. Some of them are "ready," "prepared," or "willing."

Let's go through sample sentences with each of three meanings:

gotowy ("ready")

1. *Jestem gotowy do pracy*.
   "I'm ready for work."

2. *Gotowa? Czas wychodzić!*
   "Ready? Time to leave!"

gotowy ("prepared")

1. *Obiad gotowy!*
   "Dinner is ready!"

gotowy ("willing")

1. *Jestem gotowy zrobić wszystko, by zdobyć tę pracę.*
   "I'm willing to do anything to get this job."

2. *Nawet jeśli odmówisz, inni będą gotowi to zrobić.*
   "Even if you refuse, others will be willing to do it."

Gotowy can also be used in a couple phrases: *gotowe danie, gotowy obiad*. Both refer to already prepared dishes that require reheating or defrosting only.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is How to Talk about Time
O której zaczyna się wesele?
"What time does the wedding party start?"

Talking about time is very simple and straightforward in Polish. Both the 24-hour clock and 12-hour clock are used, the latter one being more casual, but it depends on the person which system they use.

Of course the most important thing is to learn Polish numbers, which we studied in the Absolute Beginner series. To talk about time we need to know both ordinal and cardinal numbers. In the table below you will find both forms. To say what time it is in Polish, we need to use a feminine form of ordinal numbers, because the noun *godzina* is feminine.

Numbers 1-10

	cardinal	ordinal (feminine)
1	*jeden*	*pierwsza*
2	*dwa*	*druga*
3	*trzy*	*trzecia*
4	*cztery*	*czwarta*
5	*pięć*	*piąta*

6	*sześć*	*szósta*
7	*siedem*	*siódma*
8	*osiem*	*ósma*
9	*dziewięć*	*dziewąta*
10	*dziesięć*	*dziesiąta*

Numbers 11-24

	cardinal	ordinal (feminine)
11	*jedenaście*	*jedenasta*
12	*dwanaście*	*dwunasta*
13	*trzynaście*	*trzynasta*
14	*czternaście*	*czternasta*
15	*piętnaście*	*piętnasta*
16	*szesnaście*	*szesnasta*
17	*siedemnaście*	*siedemnasta*
18	*osiemnaście*	*osiemnasta*
19	*dziewiętnaście*	*dziewiętnasta*
20	*dwadzieścia*	*dwudziesta*
21	*dwadzieścia jeden*	*dwudziesta pierwsza*
22	*dwadzieścia dwa*	*dwudziesta druga*
23	*dwadzieścia trzy*	*dwudziesta trzecia*

24	*dwadzieścia cztery*	*dwudziesta czwarta*

Asking about Time

There are two different ways to ask about time. The first kind of question is used to ask about the time of the moment of speaking: *która godzina?* It's a very simple question which translates into English as "What time is it?" The question is built from only two words, the first one is *która*, the feminine form of *który*, literally meaning "which." It often stands for the English "what." The second component of the question is the feminine noun *godzina,* meaning "hour."

If you're asking a stranger or anyone in an official setting, it's better to use a more complex question that goes like this: *która jest teraz godzina?* ("What time is it now?"). As you can see we added the verb *być* ("to be") in its third person singular form *jest* and the adverb *teraz*, meaning "now." There are a few more variations of this question, which you can see in the list below.

Another kind of question we can ask about time is when we want to know when something starts or finishes. In such situations, we say *o której?* or *o której godzinie?,* which literally means "At what time?" If there is no context, then we start with *o której (godzinie)...* and after that add the subject of the question, for example: *o której godzinie zaczyna się film?* or *o której zaczyna się film?*, both meaning "What time does the movie start?"

To sum up:

"What time is it?"

- *Która jest godzina?*

- *Która jest teraz godzina?*

- *Która godzina?* (casual)

- *Która teraz jest?* (casual)

"At what time?"

- *O której godzinie?*

- *O której?*

- *O której zaczyna się....?* ("What time ..... start?")

- *O której kończy się....?* ("What time ..... end?")

Answering Questions about Time

To answer a *która jest godzina* question ("What time is it?") it's enough to just give the time. Another option is adding the verb *być* ("to be") in the third person singular form, which is *jest.* Also please note that when giving a full hour there's no word in Polish that will indicate that—there is no Polish equivalent of the English "o'clock."

For example:

1. A: *Która jest godzina?*
   "What time is it?"
   B: *Czwarta.*
   "Four o'clock."

2. A: *Przepraszam, która jest teraz godzina?*
   "Excuse me, what time is it now?"
   B: *Jest dwudziesta / Jest ósma.*
   "It's 8pm."

When asked the question *o której godzinie* ("at what time"), you need to use the preposition *o* ("at") and after that give the hour, which has to be in the locative case. Ordinal numbers change slightly too, they must end with *-ej*.

For example:

1. A: O której wychodzimy?
   "What time are we leaving?"
   B: *O siódmej.*
   "At 7 pm."

2. A: *O której musisz być w domu?*
   "What time do you have to be at home?"
   B: *O trzynastej.*
   "At 1 pm."

Language Expansion

To express a particular time, a few prepositions come in handy, especially when the hour is not full.

If we want to say that there are a few minutes past some hour, we need to use the preposition *po*, meaning "past" or "after." It requires the locative case of the hour and the ending *-ej* of the ordinal number. The order is the same as in English; first we give minutes and then the hour.

Let's say that it's 3:20 pm. We can say it's *dwadzieścia po trzeciej* or *dwadzieścia po piętnastej.*

There's also an option without the preposition. You can simply say *trzecia dwadzieścia*, just like we sometimes say in English "three twenty," in this example.

Another preposition connected to talking about time is *za*, and is the same the English "till." This time the accusative case is required, and also the nominative of the hour.

Let's say it's 10:45 am. In Polish - *za piętnaście jedenasta* ("fifteen till eleven") or if it's 4:56 pm, we will say *za cztery siedemnasta* or *za cztery piąta* ("four till five").

To talk about half-hours we use *wpół do* or *o wpół do*, which in a sentence links with the genitive case, also the ordinal number has to end with *-ej.* For example, 7:30 am, in Polish is *wpół do siódmej* or simply *siódma trzydzieści.*

Sample Sentences

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1. *Przyjadę po ciebie piętnaście po czwartej.*
   "I'll come by for you at fifteen after four."

2. *Spotkajmy się u ciebie za dziesięć dziewiąta.*
   "Let's meet at your place ten to nine."

3. *Film zaczyna się o wpół do trzeciej.*
   "The movie starts at half past two." (literally "...at half to three")

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Polish Wedding Parties

A traditional Polish wedding party (*wesele*) usually starts in the afternoon. After a ceremony at the city hall or church, newlyweds and guests move to the wedding house (*dom weselny*) where the party takes place. Newlyweds usually arrive the latest and are welcomed by their parents with bread, salt, and vodka, which is an old Polish tradition. After drinking vodka, it's necessary to break the glasses by throwing them behind their backs. Then the first toast and meal are served. The main alcohol is vodka, usually with specially designed labels for the wedding only (*wódka weselna:* "wedding vodka") and a huge variety of Polish dishes. Music is played by a band with a vocalist, who is also in charge of the games that are being played from midnight. Games Poles play are very often very crazy and lots of fun. Also throughout the party, guests make toasts and the newlyweds kiss in front of everyone. Wedding parties usually end in the morning and often the next day an after-party, called *poprawiny,* is held.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #24 Finding Your Way Around a Polish City

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POLISH

1. Tom: Przepraszam, gdzie jest najbliższy kiosk?
2. Passerby: Obok tamtego domu handlowego.
3. Tom: A gdzie jest najbliższy przystanek autobusowy?
4. Passerby: Obok kiosku.
5. Tom: Dziękuję bardzo.
6. Passerby: Proszę.

ENGLISH

1. Tom: Excuse me, where's the closest kiosk?
2. Passerby: Next to that department store.
3. Tom: And where's the closest bus stop?
4. Passerby: Behind the kiosk.
5. Tom: Thank you very much.
6. Passerby: You're welcome.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender

bliski	close	adjective	masculine
dom handlowy	department store	noun phrase	masculine
gdzie	where	pronoun	
przystanek autobusowy	bus stop	phrase	masculine
za	behind	preposition	
tam	there	adverb	
kiosk	news-stand	noun	masculine
na	on	preposition	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ten dom handlowy jest ogromny. "This department store is huge."	**Gdzie mieszkasz?** "Where do you live?"
Gdzie jesteś? "Where are you?"	**Gdzie jest poczta?** "Where is the post office?"
Prawniczka stoi na przystanku autobusowym. "The lawyer stands at the bus stop."	**Długopis spadł za biurko.** "A pen fell behind the desk."
Tam jest duże miasto. "There is a big city."	**Czy w tym kiosku sprzedają papierosy?** "Do they sell cigarettes at this newsstand?"
Mam na imię John. "My name is John."	**Jak masz na imię?** "What's your name?"

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

The adjective ***bliski*** can be translated as "close" or "near" in English. The form used in the dialogue was superlative form *najbliższy* ("the closest"). The comparative form is *bliższy* ("closer"). The superlative form is very commonly used when asking for directions *gdzie jest najbliższy...?* ("Where is the closest...?"), at the end add the name of the place you're looking for, just like you've heard in the dialogue.

Another commonly used form is an adverb that derives from the adjective *bliski: blisko,* which also means "close" in English. The adverb can be used to describe something that is located not far away, for example: *blisko mojego domu jest fajny bar* ("There's a cool bar close to my house") or *stoisz za blisko ulicy* ("You're standing too close to the street").

Let's go through a few examples of sentences with the adjective *bliski:*

1. *Jesteś bliski mojemu sercu.*
   "You're close to my heart."

2. *Gdzie znajdę najbliższy bankomat?*
   "Where will I find the closest ATM?"

3. *Najbliższa stacja benzynowa jest 20 km stąd*.
   "The closest gas station is 20 km away from here."

4. *Bliscy odwiedzili go w szpitalu*.
   "Relatives visited him in the hospital."

In the last example the plural form *bliscy* refers to relatives.

The phrase ***dom towarowy****,* which we heard in the dialogue, refers to "department store." The components of this phrase are the masculine noun *dom*, meaning "house" in English, and the adjective *towarowy*. The adjective derives from the noun *towar* ("commodity," "merchandise"). Opposite to English, in Polish, two nouns cannot stand together in such a case. That's why we have a noun, here *dom*, and an adjective that gives us more details about what kind of *dom* that is—the one that sells commodities—*towarowy.*

Another phrase with a similar meaning is ***centrum handlowe****,* which means "shopping center." Here again we have a noun, *centrum* ("center") and an adjective, *handlowy*, which derives from the noun *handel* ("trade").

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Learning How to Talk about Location

Przepraszam, gdzie jest najbliższy kiosk?

"Excuse me, where is the closest kiosk?"

Everyone, sooner or later, will find himself or herself in a situation when we have to ask for directions. When that happens and we have to ask someone about the location of some building or service, the "where" question comes in handy. Of course, when we're asking the question of a stranger we cannot forget about politeness and should start with the word *przepraszam*, which means "excuse me."

Let's have a look at the sentence from the dialogue. *Przepraszam, gdzie jest najbliższy kiosk?* ("Excuse me, where is the closest kiosk?"). The first component of the sentence is *przepraszam*, meaning "excuse me." Then there's the interrogative pronoun *gdzie*, meaning "where," followed by the verb *być* ("to be") in the third person singular form. Next we have a superlative adjective *najbliższy* ("the closest"), and at the very end the masculine noun *kiosk* ("kiosk"). Altogether we have *Przepraszam, gdzie jest najbliższy kiosk?* ("Excuse me, where is the closest kiosk?").

The superlative adjective *najbliższy* (masculine) is very commonly used in such situations. The other forms are *najbliższa* (feminine) and *najbliższe* (neuter). As you remember, the adjective always has to agree in gender with the noun it describes. As a small review let's go through a few examples:

Masculine:

- *najbliższy gabinet kosmetyczny* ("beauty salon")

- *najbliższy kantor* ("currency exchange office")

- *najbliższy zegarmistrz* ("watchmaker")

Feminine:

- *najbliższa kawiarnia* ("café")

- *najbliższa poczta* ("post office")

- *najbliższa księgarnia* ("bookstore")

Neuter:

- *najbliższe stoisko z gazetami* ("newsstand")

Talking about Location

When talking about the location of buildings there are a few prepositions and phrases that will come in handy. Let's go through them one by one:

obok - This is a preposition, meaning "next to." A noun that follows has to be in the genitive case.

na przeciwko - This is a phrase meaning "in front of." It requires the genitive case.

za - This is a preposition meaning "behind." It requires the locative case.

na lewo *(od)* - This is a phrase meaning "on the left"

na prawo *(od)* - This is a phrase meaning "on the right"

po drugiej stronie ulicy - This is a phrase meaning "on the other side of the street"

Now that we know all the necessary words, let's have a look at a few sample sentences:

1. *Kiosk jest obok przystanku autobusowego.*
   "The kiosk is next to the bus stop."

2. *Na przeciwko poczty jest duży sklep odzieżowy.*
   "There is a big clothes shop in front of the post office."

3. *Za sklepem obuwniczym jest ładny park.*
   "There's a nice park behind the shoe shop"

4. *Na lewo od księgarni jest moja ulubiona pizzeria.*
   "To the left of the bookstore is my favourite pizzeria'"

5. *Sklep mięsny jest po drugiej stronie ulicy.*
   "The butcher shop is on the other side of the street."

Language Expansion

In the table below, you will find names of places we can find in every city or town, as well as services. Just like before, there's the nominative form, together with the locative form, and a corresponding preposition.

Polish Nominative	English	Polish Locative	English
*fryzjer **	"hairdresser's"	*u fryzjera*	"at the hairdresser"
*gabinet kosmetyczny ***	"beauty salon"	*w gabinecie kosmetycznym*	"in a beauty salon"
szewc	"shoemaker"	*u szewca*	"in the shoemaker's shop"
zegarmistrz	"watchmaker"	*u zegarmistrza*	"in the watchmaker's shop"
sklep obuwniczy	"shoe shop"	*w sklepie obuwniczym*	"in a shoe shop"
sklep odzieżowy	"clothes shop"	*w sklepie odzieżowym*	"in a clothes shop"
sklep komputerowy	"computer shop"	*w sklepie komputerowym*	"in a computer shop"
sklep mięsny	"butcher shop"	*w sklepie mięsnym*	"in a butcher shop"
warzywniak	"grocery store"	*w warzywniaku*	"at a grocery store"
pizzeria	"pizzeria"	*w pizzerii*	"in a pizzeria"
księgarnia	"bookstore"	*w księgarni*	"in a bookstore"
antykwariat	"secondhand bookshop"	*w antykwariacie*	"in a secondhand bookshop"
poczta	"post office"	*na poczcie*	"at the post office"
szpital	"hospital"	*w szpitalu*	"in a hospital"

przychodnia	"clinic"	*w przychodni*	"at a clinic"
kawiarnia	"café"	*w kawiarni*	"in a café"
kantor	"currency exchange office"	*w kantorze*	"at a currency exchange office"

* *salon fryzjerski* is the proper name of "hairdresser's," but less commonly used in speech than *fryzjer;* the locative form is *w salonie fryzjerskim.*

** *gabinet kosmetyczny* is the proper name of "beauty salon," but the word commonly used to name this place is *kosmetyczka*, literally meaning "beautician." The locative form is *u kosmetyczki.*

CULTURAL INSIGHT

What is a Polish Kiosk?

A *kiosk*, in English translated as "newsstand," is a very small building, more like a booth, usually located close to bus stops. It sells mainly newspapers and magazines. That's why not only the front but also both sides are just big windows through which we can see a display of magazines sold.

The second main reason why we go to a kiosk is to buy city bus tickets. Besides that, we can buy cigarettes, mobile phone charging cards, a variety of sweets and snacks, drinks, tights, postcards, crosswords, and so on.

Kiosks that can be seen the most often around Polish cities are commonly called *kiosk ruchu*, which belong to the company RUCH. Recently Ruch kiosks started a postal service. Other companies are Kolporter and Eurokiosk.

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #25 Will There Be Good Weather for your Polish Getaway?

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#25

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POLISH

1. Jane: W weekend jadę do Zakopanego. Wiesz może jaka tam będzie pogoda?
2. Tom: Sprawdźmy w internecie.
3. Jane: O! Będzie ciepło i słonecznie.
4. Tom: Około 20 stopni.
5. Jane: Świetnie!

ENGLISH

1. Jane: I'm going to Zakopane on the weekend. Do you happen to know what the weather will be like there?
2. Tom: Let's check on the Internet.
3. Jane: Oh! It'll be warm and sunny.
4. Tom: About twenty degrees.
5. Jane: Great!

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
pogoda	weather	noun	feminine

wiedzieć	to know	verb	
sprawdzać	to check	verb	
ciepło	warm	adverb	
słonecznie	sunny	adjective	
około	about	preposition	
stopień	degree	noun	masculine
i	and	conjunction	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Dzisiaj jest piękna pogoda. "Today the weather is beautiful."	**Nie wiem gdzie pojechać na wakacje.** We will probably never know the origins of this habit.
Wiem, że jesteś zajęty. I know you're busy.	**Nie wiem, co powiedzieć.** I don't know what to say.
Sprawdziłeś wszytkie możliwe kryjówki przestępcy? Have you checked all the possible hideouts of the villain?	**Kasia zawsze sprawdza czy dobrze zamknęła drzwi.** Kasia always checks whether she locked the door well.
Jest ciepło. It's warm.	**Jest słonecznie.** It's sunny.
Strasznie dzisiaj zimno, tylko 2 stopnie. It's terribly cold today, only 2 degrees.	**Ile jutro będzie stopni?** How many degrees will it be tomorrow?

I jak? How is it? (food)	**Moje ulubione owoce to wiśnie i truskawki.** My favorite fruits are cherries and strawberries.

Proszę kawę i herbatę.

Coffee and tea please.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

The masculine noun ***stopień***, which we heard in the dialogue has three meanings in English: "degree," "step," and "rank." It can also mean "grade" if we talk about school grades, for example: *mój syn ma bardzo dobre stopnie z biologii* ("My son has very good grades in biology").

Of course the main meaning of the noun *stopień* is "degree," and we use it whenever we talk about temperature. In Poland we use Celsius degrees, but often in everyday speech we cut off the word Celsius, for example: *ile jest dzisiaj stopni?* ("How many degrees is it today?").

Stopień can also mean "step." You'll see very often signs like *Uwaga! Stopień!* ("Attention! Step!"), especially when there's only one step in the place we expect it the least.

The verb ***sprawdzać*** is another Polish word with more than one meaning. In the dialogue it was used as "to check," in other words, to verify or examine something.

For example:

1. *Sprawdź pogodę na jutro*
   "check the weather for tomorrow"

2. *Sprawdzę to na internecie*
   "I'll check it on the Internet"

3. *Ziemniaki już ugotowane?*
   - zaraz sprawdzę
   "Are the potatoes ready yet?
   - "I'll check in a second"

When we put *sprawdzać* together with *się*, the meaning changes slightly. We can use it to say that something turned out as a person thought, or something turned out to be true, for example:

1. *przepowiednia się sprawdziła*
   "the prediction came true"

2. *Moje najgorsze obawy się sprawdziły*
   "my worst fears came true"

The last way to use the verb *sprawdzać się* is to say that someone or something turned out to work well.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Learning about the Polish Future Tense
Jaka tam będzie pogoda?
"What will the weather be like there?"

The Polish verb *być*, meaning "to be" is very special. The future form plays an important role in expressing future. They also have quite a few meanings and usages. One of those we could observe in the dialogue of this lesson. But before we move on to the sentences from the dialogue, let's take a look at the conjugation of the future form of *być - będzie.*

Singular

	Polish	English
ja	*będę*	"I will"
ty	*będziesz*	"you wil"

on	*będzie*	"he will"
ona	*będzie*	"she will"
ono	*będzie*	"it will"

Plural

	Polish	English
my	*będziemy*	"we will"
wy	*będziecie*	"you will"
oni	*będą*	"they will"

Będę plays the role of a future tense of imperfective verbs. In such a case, we put the correct form of *będę* together with a verb—either the infinitive or third person past tense form (both are correct, but the third person form is considered the proper, more elegant way of speaking/ writing). In this lesson we will focus on *będę* + the infinitive combination (we will discuss the other one in the next series).

Będę functions also as a future tense auxiliary verb. What's very important is that it never combines with the verb *być.* It expresses the future of "to be" by itself. Let's see that in a few examples:

1. *Będę jutro zajęty.*
   "I'll be busy tomorrow."

2. *Będziesz w domu o 7 (siódmej)?*
   "Will you be at home at seven?"

3. *Nie będę obecny na spotkaniu.*
   "I will not be present at the meeting."

4. *Będę szczęśliwa jeśli mnie pocałujesz.*
   "I will be happy if you kiss me."

5. *Gosia będzie w domu jutro wieczorem.*
   "Gosia will be at home tomorrow in the evening."

Talking about Weather

Będzie is very often used to talk about weather, just as we heard in the dialogue. Jane said *jaka tam będzie pogoda?,* which translates to "What will the weather be like there?" The first component of the sentence is the feminine pronoun *jaka*, which stands for the English "what...like." Then there's another pronoun *tam*, meaning "there," followed by *będzie*, which is the third person singular future form. And at the end, we have the feminine noun *pogoda*, meaning "weather." Altogether, we have *jaka tam będzie pogoda?* ("What will the weather be like there?").

Then, after checking, Jane said *będzie ciepło i słonecznie,* which stands for "It will be warm and sunny." Here the sentence starts with the third person singular future form *będzie*, which is followed by the adverb *ciepło,* meaning "warm." Then there's a conjunction *i*, meaning "and" and next the adverb *słonecznie* ("sunny").

The most common question about weather is *jaka będzie pogoda?*

Other variations are:

1. *Jaka jutro będzie pogoda?*
   "What will the weather be tomorrow?"

2. *Jaka będzie pogoda w weekend?*
   "What will the weather be on weekend?"

3. *Jaka będzie pogoda w poniedziałek?*
   "What will the weather be on Monday"

4. *Jaka będzie pogoda w Krakowie?*
   "What will the weather in be Cracow?"

Answering all those questions is very easy and simple. Start with the third person singular

future form *będzie* and add the correct adverb that will describe the weather, for example: *słonecznie* ("sunny"), *zimno* ("cold"), *wietrznie* ("windy"), and so on.

In lesson 7 of this series, adjectives and adverbs useful when talking about features of weather were introduced, so if you don't remember them well, make sure to review lesson 7.

Talking about Temperature

Asking about temperature is also very simple in Polish. Here again we have to make use of the auxiliary verb *będzie.* Let's start with the present form. Imagine you want to ask "How many degrees is it today?" In Polish it will go like this: *ile jest dzisiaj stopni?* Since we're asking about an amount, we have to use the interrogative pronoun *ile*, which stands for both "how many?" and "how much?" Then we have the verb *jest* "to be," next the adverb *dzisiaj,* and lastly the noun *stopnie* ("degrees") in its genitive form *stopni.*

If we want to ask about the future, the question will slightly change into *ile jutro będzie stopni?* Instead of the present form of the verb *być* ("to be"), we're using the future form *będzie*. Also instead of *dzisiaj* ("today"), we change the time for *jutro* ("tomorrow") or any other word that expresses the future.

When asked this question, you can answer with *będzie...* and then give the amount of degrees.

Let's check a few examples:

1. A: *Ile jutro będzie stopni?*
   "How many degrees will it be tomorrow?"
   B: *Będzie 25 stopni.*
   "It will be 25 degrees."

2. A: *Jaka będzie pogoda w sobotę?*
   "What will the weather be like on Saturday?"
   B: *Będzie pochmurno i wietrznie.*
   "It will be cloudy and windy."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A Polish Winter Destination

Zakopane is a town often called the winter capital of Poland. It's located in southern Poland, in Podhale region (Lesser Poland). It's the most popular destination during winter holidays, where you can enjoy the beautiful natural landscape of the Tatra Mountains and *góral* culture, which is unique to that region only. Native people, called *górale*, have their own language, cuisine, traditional clothing, and culture, as well as a traditional architecture. Other attractions of Zakopane are countless hiking and climbing trails. You can also enjoy spelunking and winter sports like alpine and cross-country skiing, ski jumping, and snowboarding. For those who are fond of mountaineering, the High Tatra Mountains are a great destination. The most popular spots are *Morskie Oko*, a lake at an elevation of 1,395 meters, another lake called *Czarny Staw*, the highest peak of the Tatra Mountains - *Rysy* - at 2,499 meters, or *Mieguszowiecki Szczyt*.

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