PolishPod101.com



LESSON NOTES

Basic Bootcamp S1 #1 Self Introduction: Basic Greetings in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
5 Grammar
7 Cultural Insight

1

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Jan: Dzień dobry. Nazywam się Jan Nowak.
2. Anna: Dzień dobry. Anna Kot.
3. Jan: Miło mi panią poznać.
4. Anna: Bardzo mi miło.

ENGLISH

1. Jan: Good morning. My name is Jan Nowak.
2. Anna: Good morning. Anna Kot.
3. Jan: It is nice to meet you, ma'am.
4. Anna: Very nice to meet you.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
mi	"me"	noun	
nazywać się	to be called	verb	
poznać	"to meet, to get to know"	verb	
pani	ma'am, ms. mrs	noun	feminine
dobry	good	adjective	masculine

bardzo	very much, very	adverb	
dzień	day	noun	masculine
mieć (mam, masz)	to have	verb	
imię	first name	noun	neuter
być	to be	verb	
cześć	Hello, Hi.	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Miło mi cię poznać. It's nice to meet you.	**Nazywam się Tomasz Brzozowski.** My name is Tomasz Brzozowski.
Nazywam się Tomasz Król. My name is Tomasz Krol.	**Bardzo mi miło pana poznać.** "It's very nice to meet you, sir."
Poznał Anię na studiach. "He met Ann at the university."	**Dzień dobry, pani Anno.** Good morning, Miss Anna.
To jest pani Anna. This is Ms. Anna.	**Dzień dobry, pani Anno.** Good morning, Miss Anna.
To jest dobry sklep. This is a good store.	**Bardzo lubię kawę.** I like coffee very much.
Bardzo za tobą tęsknię. I miss you very much.	**Jest piękny dzień.** It's a beautiful day.

Cały dzień spędziłam na zakupach. I (female) spent the whole day shopping.	**Mam dwie siostry.** "I have two sisters."
Mam na imię Beata. "My name is Beata."	**Basia to ładne imię.** Barbara is a nice name.
Podoba mi się jej imię. I like her name.	**Jestem z Polski.** I am from Poland.
Jestem Tomek. I am Tom.	**Cześć, Ewa.** Hi, Eva.
Cześć, Adam. Hello, Adam.	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Cześć is the universal word for "hello." If you are addressing an older person, someone you don't know, or in a formal setting, you should use the greeting *Dzień dobry,* which stands for both "Good morning" and "Good afternoon."

The verb *nazywać się* literally translates as "to be called," but its English equivalent is "My name is." When using this verb, please give your first and last name.

For Example:

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

We usually use this form of introduction in a formal setting.

When you are among friends, your first name will be just enough. Use the phrase: ***Mam na imię*** ____, followed by your first name.

For Example:

1. *Mam na imię Beata.*
   "My name is Beata."

This phrase literally means "I have for my name Beata." In our lessons, we will use the translation "My name is Beata."

The phrase ***Miło mi*** literally translates as "It's nice for me." It's perfect in both formal and informal situations.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Basic Bootcamp Lesson Is to Teach You Some Essentials of Polish to Get You Speaking Right from Your First Lesson.
Bardzo mi miło.
"Very nice to meet you."

We use the lines in this dialogue for self-introduction.

For Example:

Formal:

1. *Dzień dobry. Nazywam się Jan Nowak.*
   "Good morning. My name is Jan Nowak."

Informal:

1. *Cześć. Mam na imię Beata.*
   "Hello. My name is Beata."

The greeting *Dzień dobry* ("Good morning" or "Good afternoon") is made up of two words: *dzień*, meaning "day," and *dobry*, meaning "good."

If you would like to ask someone his or her name in an informal setting, a fellow student for

example, you should say:

1. *Jak masz na imię?*
   "What is your name?" (first name only) or

2. *Jak się nazywasz?*
   "What is your name?" (first and last name)

Now let's look at the same questions but in a formal setting.

1. *Jak ma pani na imię?*
   "What is your name, ma'am?" (first name only)

2. *Jak ma pan na imię?*
   "What is your name, sir?" (first name only) or

3. *Jak się pani nazywa?*
   "What is your name, ma'am?" (first and last name)

4. *Jak się pan nazywa?*
   "What is your name, sir?" (first and last name)

The Responses

---

1. *Mam na imię Beata.*
   "My name is Beata."

2. *Nazywam się Beata Kot.*
   "My name is Beata Kot."

Then you can add one of the following polite responses.

For Example:

1. *Miło mi.*
   "Nice to meet you."

2. *Miło mi panią poznać.*
   "Nice to meet you, ma'am."

3. *Miło mi pana poznać.*
   "Nice to meet you, sir."

Verbs in Polish

In a dictionary, you will find verbs in their infinitive form. The infinitive form usually ends in *-ć*.

For Example:

Polish	"English"
nazywać się	"to be called"
poznać	"to get to know," "to meet"
być	"to be"

You can find these verbs in our Vocabulary table in this lesson. Since in Polish we conjugate the verbs, we are always going to provide you with the first- and second-person singular present tense conjugations.

For Example:

1. *być (jestem, jesteś)*
   "to be" ("I am," "you are")

This way you will have a chance to get familiar with some basic conjugations as well as conjugations of some irregular verbs where the conjugated form differs completely from the infinitive.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

My Little Polish Nickname

Poles like to use diminutive names, especially when they are addressing someone they know or like very much. For example, the name *Katarzyna* ("Kathrine") can become *Kasia, Kaśka,* or *Kasieńka*, and the name *Stanisław* can be changed to at least *Staś, Stach,* or *Staszek.* You can do it with almost any Polish name. Try it out when you're in Poland. Good luck!!!

LESSON NOTES

Basic Bootcamp S1 #2
Basic Polish Sentence Structure

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar

2

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Beata: Cześć. Mam na imię Beata. Jestem Polką.

2. John: Cześć. Jestem John. Jestem Amerykaninem.

ENGLISH

1. Beata: Hello. My name is Beata. I am a Pole.

2. John: Hi. I am John. I am an American.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
być	to be	verb	
Polka	"Polish (female)"	noun	feminine
Polak	"Polish (male)"	noun	masculine
cześć	Hello, Hi.	noun	
Amerykanka	American (female)	noun	feminine
Amerykanin	American (male)	noun	masculine
imię	first name	noun	neuter
mieć	to have	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Jestem z Polski. I am from Poland.	**Jestem Tomek.** I am Tom.
Jej mama jest Polką. "Her mom is a Pole."	**Ewa jest Polką.** "Eve is a Pole."
On jest miłym Polakiem. "He is a nice Pole."	**Krzysztof jest Polakiem.** "Chris is a Pole."
Cześć, Ewa. Hi, Eva.	**Cześć, Adam.** Hello, Adam.
Ona jest bardzo miłą Amerykanką. She is a very nice American.	**Kate jest piękną Amerykanką.** Kate is a beautiful American.
Jesteś wysokim Amerykaninem. You are a tall American.	**John jest Amerykaninem.** John is an American.
Mam na imię Beata. "My name is Beata."	**Basia to ładne imię.** Barbara is a nice name.
Podoba mi się jej imię. I like her name.	**Mam komputer.** I have a computer.
Dziewczyna ma skarbonkę. The girl has a piggy bank.	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Bootcamp Lesson Is to Teach You How to Talk about Your Ethnicity.

Cześć. Jestem John. Jestem Amerykaninem.
"Hi. I am John. I am an American."

In this lesson, we heard the following phrases:

Polish	**"English"**
Cześć.	"Hello."
Mam na imię Beata.	"My name is Beata."
Jestem Polką.	"I am a Pole."
Cześć.	"Hi."
Jestem John.	"I am John."
Jestem Amerykaninem.	"I am an American."

Other Countries and Ethnicities:

Polish	**"English"**
Niemcy	"Germany"
Niemiec	"German (male)"
Niemka	"German (female)"
Anglia	"England"
Anglik	"English (male)"
Angielka	"English (female)"

Expressing Ethnicities:

Polish	"English"
Jesteśmy Anglikami.	"We are Englishmen."
Jesteśmy Angielkami.	"We are Englishwomen."
Jesteś Angielką.	"You are an Englishwoman."
Jesteś Anglikiem.	"You are an Englishman."

As you have noticed, in Polish we use both male and female forms to express nationality.

For Example:

1. *Anglik*
   "an Englishman"

2. *Angielka*
   "an Englishwoman"

In the plural, however, two forms may appear. When you have a group of males, you will use the masculine plural form.

For Example:

1. *Oni są Anglikami.*
   "They are Englishmen."

If you have a group of only females, you will use the feminine form.

For Example:

1. *One są Angielkami.*
   "They are Englishwomen."

If the group consists of both males and females, you have to apply the masculine form.

For Example:

1. *Oni są Anglikami.*
   "They are Englishmen and Englishwomen."

Word Order in Simple Polish Sentences

The following sentences demonstrate the basic word order of a Polish sentence:

Subject + Verb + Object

In many instances, English takes the same word order for its basic sentences.

For Example:

1. *On pije herbatę.*
   "He drinks tea."

2. *Czytam książkę.*
   "I read a book."

LESSON NOTES

Basic Bootcamp S1 #3
Useful Phrases for Learning Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
4 Grammar

3

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. A: Jak powiedzieć po polsku "water?"
2. B: Woda.
3. A: Proszę powtórzyć.
4. B: Woda.
5. A: Proszę to napisać.

ENGLISH

1. A: How do you say "water" in Polish?
2. B: "Woda."
3. A: Repeat, please.
4. B: "Woda."
5. A: Write that down, please.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
jak	how	pronoun	
powiedzieć (powiem, powiesz)	"to say, to tell"	verb	

polski	Polish	adjective	masculine
proszę	please	expression	
powtórzyć	"to repeat"	verb	
to	this	pronoun	neuter
napisać	"to write; to write down"	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

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?	**Lubię się uczyć polskiego.** "I like to study Polish."
Polski jest trudny. Polish is difficult.	**Mówię po polsku.** I speak Polish.
Proszę mówić wolniej. Speak more slowly, please.	**Proszę mleko.** Milk, please.
Proszę to powtórzyć jeszcze raz. "Repeat that once again, please."	**Proszę powtórzyć.** "Can you repeat that, please?"
Co to jest? What's this?	**Co to znaczy?** What does it mean?
To jest gazeta. This is a newspaper.	**Proszę to dla mnie napisać.** "Write that down for me, please."

Ona napisała książkę.

"She wrote a book."

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

In Polish, we can use the word *Proszę* in many different situations. In today's lesson, we introduced *proszę* as "please" since we were practicing requests.

However, there are other meanings to *Proszę:*

1. When we address someone politely or we want to attract someone's attention, we can, for example, say *Proszę Pani*, meaning "Excuse me, Miss," or *Proszę Państwa*, meaning "Ladies and Gentlemen."
2. When someone knocks on the door, saying *Proszę* means "Please come in."
3. Also, we widely use *Proszę* at stores. For example, when the shop assistant addresses the customer, he or she can say *Proszę*, meaning "Can I help you?"
4. If we did not understand something and we want the speaker to repeat it, it's absolutely proper to say *Proszę?* to mean "Excuse me."
5. In the situation when we are giving something to someone, *Proszę* means "Here you are."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Bootcamp Lesson Is to Teach You How to Express a Request

---

One of the possible ways to express a request in Polish is to use the verb *proszę* ("please") plus another verb in its infinitive form.

In this lesson, we heard phrases such as:

1. *Proszę powtórzyć*.
   "Repeat, please."

2. *Proszę to napisać.*
   "Write that down, please."

In both examples, we start the sentences with the verb *proszę* ("please") followed by the infinitives *powtórzyć* ("to repeat") and *napisać* ("to write"). You already know how to recognize an infinitive form from Basic Bootcamp Lesson 1.

Let's give you some more examples to use:

For Example:

1. *Proszę usiąść.*
   "Sit down, please."

2. *Proszę to przeczytać*.
   "Read that, please."

Bear in mind, though, that the sentence structure of all of the above examples differs from their English equivalents. In Polish you start the sentence with *proszę* ("please") and then you say what you're asking for using an infinitive form, whereas in English we can structure it either way.

You can formulate any request you want using this pattern, not only in a classroom but also throughout your whole stay in Poland.

LESSON NOTES

Basic Bootcamp S1 #4 Counting from 1-100 in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

4

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. A: Jeden, dwa, trzy, cztery, pięć, sześć, siedem, osiem, dziewięć, dziesięć.

ENGLISH

1. A: One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
jeden	one (1)	numeral
trzy	three (3)	numeral
dwa	two (2)	numeral
cztery	four (4)	numeral
pięć	five (5)	numeral
sześć	six (6)	numeral
osiem	"eight (8)"	numeral
dziewięć	nine (9)	numeral
dziesięć	ten (10)	numeral
siedem	seven (7)	numeral

SAMPLE SENTENCES

jeden rok	**Mam tylko jeden złoty.**
For one year.	I only have one złoty.

Proszę jedno jabłko. One apple, please.	**Znam trzy języki obce.** I know three languages.
On ma trzy siostry. He has three sisters.	**Tak, byłem dwa razy.** Yes, I've been twice.
Proszę dwa jabłka. Two apples, please.	**Ona ma dwa koty.** She has two cats.
Herbata kosztuje cztery złote. Tea costs four złoty.	**cztery pory roku** four seasons of the year
Pięć złotych. It's 5 zloty.	**Mam pięć batoników.** I have five chocolate bars.
pięć dziewczyn five girls	**Proszę sześć kaw.** Six coffees, please.
sześć butelek wódki six bottles of vodka	**Ona ma osiem kotów.** "She has eight cats."
Kasia ma dziewięć lat. Kate is nine.	**Koty mają dziewięć żyć.** Cats have nine lives.
Mam tylko dziesięć minut. I only have ten minutes.	**Proszę dziesięć piw.** Ten beers, please.
Teresa ma siedem kotów. Teresa has seven cats.	**Ona kupiła siedem t-shirtów.** She bought seven t-shirts.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Learning Polish Numbers.

Jeden, dwa, trzy, cztery...

"One, two, three, four..."

Even though numbers in Polish at first can seem quite difficult, in reality they are not that complicated. We will show you a system that will help you memorize Polish numbers. What we ask of you is perfect command of numbers one through ten. The rest will be very easy.

To be able to form numbers eleven through nineteen you simply have to add the part *-naście*, which stands for "teen," to the numbers one through nine (please bear in mind, though, that numbers one through nine undergo some small changes.) For example, while there is no change in *dwa* + *naście* = *dwanaście*, the following change occurs for the number "sixteen": *szes* + *naście* = *szesnaście.* Notice the change from *sześć* to *szes* in this example.

We have a very similar situation in creating multiples of ten. This time we have to add the following parts to the numbers two through nine:

1. *dzieścia* in *dwadzieścia* ("twenty")
2. *dzieści* in *trzydzieści* ("thirty") and *czterdzieści* ("forty")
3. *dziesiąt* in numbers *pięćdziesiąt* ("fifty") through *dziewięćdziesiąt* ("ninety")

Here are some more numbers we discussed in the lesson:

Number	***Polish***
25	*dwadzieścia pięć*
33	*trzydzieści trzy*
49	*czterdzieści dziewięć*
99	*dziewięćdziesiąt dziewięć*

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Learning Polish Numbers Is Critical

It would be wise of you to master the numbers before you go to Poland. Even though in many stores you will be able to see how much you have to pay, there will be places, like a farmer's market, where you will be lost without a working knowledge of Polish numbers. Poles say numbers very quickly, and more often than not, all those numbers sound very much alike to the untrained ear.

LESSON NOTES

Basic Bootcamp S1 #5 Counting from 100-10,000 in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

5

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Marek: sto trzydzieści
2. Tomek: trzysta trzydzieści cztery
3. Marek: pięćset dwadzieścia
4. Tomek: sześćset siedemdziesiąt
5. Marek: tysiąc
6. Tomek: trzy tysiące czterysta
7. Marek: dziewięć tysięcy sto

ENGLISH

1. Marek: 130
2. Tomek: 334
3. Marek: 520
4. Tomek: 670
5. Marek: 1,000
6. Tomek: 3,400
7. Marek: 9,100

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
sto trzydzieści	"one hundred and thirty (130)"	numeral
trzysta trzydzieści cztery	"three hundred and thirty four"	numeral
pięćset dwadzieścia	"five hundred and twenty"	numeral
sześćset siedemdziesiąt	"six hundred and seventy"	numeral
tysiąc	"one thousand"	numeral
trzy tysiące czterysta	"three thousand and four hundred"	numeral
dziewięć tysięcy sto	nine thousand and one hundred	numeral
dziesięć tysięcy	"ten thousand"	numeral

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Tomek zapłacił sto trzydzieści złotych za butelkę szampana. "Tom paid 130 złoty for a bottle of champagne."	**Ta spódnica kosztuje trzysta trzydzieści cztery złote.** "This skirt costs 334 złoty."
Andrzej ma ponad pięćset dwadzieścia książek. "Andrew has over 520 books."	**Muszę zapłacić sześćset siedemdziesiąt złotych za czynsz.** "I have to pay 670 złoty in rent."
Ten kościół został zbudowany tysiąc lat temu. "This church was built one thousand years ago."	**Dzisiaj wygrałem trzy tysiące czterysta złotych na loterii.** "Today I (male) won three thousand four hundred zloty in the lottery."

Ten używany samochód kosztuje dziewięć tysięcy sto złotych. "This used car costs nine thousand, one hundred złoty."	**Dziesięć tysięcy papierowych żurawi.** "One thousand paper cranes."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is to Learn Numbers Larger than One Hundred in Polish

Sto trzydzieśc

"130"

Numbers from One Hundred to One Thousand

Number	*Polish*
100	*sto*
200	*dwieście*
300	*trzysta*
400	*czterysta*
500	*pięćset*
600	*sześćset*
700	*siedemset*
800	*osiemset*
900	*dziewięćset*
1,000	*tysiąc*

Multiples of One Thousand up to Ten Thousand

Number	*Polish*
1,000	*tysiąc*
2,000	*dwa tysiące*
3,000	*trzy tysiące*
4,000	*cztery tysiące*
5,000	*pięć tysięcy*
6,000	*sześć tysięcy*
7,000	*siedem tysięcy*
8,000	*osiem tysięcy*
9,000	*dziewięć tysięcy*
10,000	*dziesięć tysięcy*

We are assuming that counting one to one hundred is not a problem for you anymore. Do you remember the part *-naście* for numbers eleven to nineteen and the parts *dzieścia, -dzieści, and -dziesiąt* for multiples of ten from the previous lesson? In this lesson, we will show you how to create multiples of one hundred. So let's start then.

To be able to create multiples of one hundred, add the following parts to the numbers two through nine:

1. *ście* in *dwieście* ("two hundred")
2. *sta* in *trzysta* ("three hundred") and *czterysta* ("four hundred")
3. *set* in numbers *pięćset* ("five hundred") to *dziewięćset* ("nine hundred")

Here are some numbers discussed in the lesson:

Number	*Polish*
130	*sto trzydzieści*
334	*trzysta trzydzieści cztery*
520	*pięćset dwadzieścia*
670	*sześćset siedemdziesiąt*
1,000	*tysiąc*
3,400	*trzy tysiące czterysta*
8,888	*osiem tysięcy osiemset osiemdziesiąt osiem*
9,100	*dziewięć tysięcy sto*

LESSON NOTES

All About S1 #1
Top 5 Reasons to Study Polish!

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

1

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the History of the Polish Language

---

The Beginnings of the Polish Language and Its Country

Once upon a time, there was a group of languages called the Indo-European group. This group was very diverse, gathering together people who spoke such disparate languages as Persian, Greek, Latin, English, and many more-tribes from all corners of the world. Believe it or not, even though now it seems impossible, these languages shared and still, in fact, share some similarities, both in their grammar and vocabulary.

However, the tribes that spoke these languages started to disperse in all different directions. As a result of their movements, the Indo-European group ceased to exist as a whole, and new, smaller groups appeared, including the Slavic group. But, again, the tribes within this subgroup wanted to explore the unknown and settle new territories. Hence, the ties between the tribes started to weaken. So since history likes to repeat itself, between the fourth and the sixth centuries the Slavic group split into three smaller groups-groups that still exist today. They are the West Slavic, East Slavic, and the South Slavic groups.

You're probably wondering to which of these groups Polish belongs. Together with Czech, Slovak, and Sorbian, Polish forms the West Slavic group.

Now you're going to say, well, that explains the birth of Polish as a language, but what about the country?

Having somewhat common languages, the tribes settled various neighboring regions between the Baltic Sea and the Carpathian mountains. Toward the tenth century, one of the tribes, the Polanie, settled on the banks of the Warta River near the present-day city of Poznań. Very quickly, they established their dominance over the region. Their tribal chief, Piast, succeeded in uniting other tribes from the surrounding areas into one political unit and gave it the name *Polska* ("Poland") after its most dominant tribe. Soon after that, in 966, the first ruler of Poland, Duke Mieszko I, converted to Christianity, figuratively baptizing the entire nation. This historical moment is recognized as the official birth of the country.

The Development of the Polish Language

Let's now have a look at how the Polish language developed throughout the following centuries.

The history of the Polish language can be separated into two distinct eras:

1. The first era goes back to the very beginnings of Polish as a language and continues until the year 1136. This era encompasses the evolution of the language before any system of writing was established. There is no evidence of any written documents in the Polish language until the year 1136, and thus all prior events are categorized into the pre-writing era of Polish. We know that Polish was the vernacular language commoners used in their everyday affairs; however, because of cultural influences from the Roman Catholic Church, Latin was the language used in matters of government and liturgy.

2. The year 1136 marks the beginning of the second major era in the history of the Polish language. This so-called written era begins with the first occurrences of actual Polish words within official documents and ends with the creation of entire texts in the Polish language.

Within this era, we can distinguish the following periods:

Period 1

This first division within the written era goes from the year 1136 to the beginning of the sixteenth century. You're probably wondering why we stress the year 1136 so much. A Latin document called the "Papal Bull of Gniezno" written in 1136 contains the first evidence scholars have of Polish words actually being set to paper. Within the next three centuries, Polish sentences followed and whole Polish texts appeared.

Period 2

Period 2 began in the sixteenth century and lasted until the first partition of Poland, which took place in 1772. The sixteenth century is especially important when discussing the history of the Polish language mainly because it is a century when a huge discovery-namely, the printing press-arrived in Poland, allowing linguists to finally attempt to standardize the thus far messy Polish spelling system. Many spelling treatises, new dictionaries, and grammar books appeared at this time. This so-called Golden Age of Polish language and culture formed the foundation for modern spelling. With additional changes throughout the next centuries, ambiguity was replaced with conformity and agreement of spelling and pronunciation.

Period 3

The last period in the evolution of the Polish language begins with the first partition of Poland in 1772. All together, Poland was partitioned three times: first in 1772, again in 1793, with the final partition occurring in 1795 by the powers of Austria, Russia, and Prussia. After 1795, Poland disappeared from the map of Europe for over one hundred years and endured perhaps one of its roughest historical periods, struggling to survive under foreign oppression.

As you can imagine, the language itself also encountered many difficulties as a result of the political situation. On several occasions, the partitioning powers tried to eradicate Polish and replace it with either Russian or German. Luckily for Poland, their attempts were unsuccessful. However, their presence over such a long time influenced the Polish language with some regional features that can be still heard today. Take, for example, the word "potatoes." In southern Poland, the word used for "potatoes" is *ziemniaki,* whereas in Silesia, once a part of Germany, natives use the word *kartofle*-almost identical to the German *kartoffeln*.

When Poland regained its independence in 1918, Polish resumed its position as the official language of the state. World War II, while devastating for the nation, had little effect on the language itself.

Today's Polish is quite uniform, with some regional variations and dialects occurring in different parts of Poland. Also, in recent years Polish has borrowed a large number of English words, mainly in the fields of economics and computer science. With time, the Poles by and large have adjusted their spelling and pronunciation to Polish standards.

Dialects in Poland

There are only a few dialects within the Polish language. While they differ slightly from standard Polish, native Polish speakers can still easily understand them. The differences among them are mainly based on vocabulary changes that developed throughout the years and on their regional pronunciation. The most significant dialects when it comes to number of speakers relate to the following regions in Poland:

- Greater Poland (spoken in western Poland)
- Lesser Poland (spoken in southern and southeast Poland)
- Mazovian (spoken in central and eastern Poland)

While these dialects may claim the largest number of speakers, their variation from standard Polish is rather minimal.

When it comes to significant dialectical differences, the most distinguishable but not so widely spread are the following dialects:

- The dialect from the Podhale region (Highlander's dialect) is widely used in the mountainous regions that border the Czech Republic and Slovakia.
- The Kashubian language is spoken in the northern part of Poland west of Gdańsk on the Baltic Sea. It is difficult for Polish speakers to understand. Since 2005, the Kashubian language has been considered a separate regional language.
- The Silesian dialect is spoken in the region of Silesia (west of the city Katowice), which was mainly influenced by the German language. It is also difficult for Polish speakers to understand.

As mentioned, while these dialects do not lay claim to as many speakers, they are much more difficult for natives to comprehend.

Speakers of the Polish Language in Poland and Abroad

Polish is the official language of Poland, spoken by the roughly forty million inhabitants living within its borders. It is also widely used in countries such as Lithuania, Belarus, and Ukraine, where ethnic Poles form significant minorities. For example, in Vilnius County in Lithuania, Polish is the most frequently used minority language. Also there are still a lot of Polish speakers in Russia and Kazakhstan. This results mainly from forced migrations, resettlements, and border changes during and after World War II.

It is worth mentioning that Polish speakers also live in countries such as Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Great Britain, and the United States. For example, in America, many people have Polish origin; however, they no longer speak Polish fluently.

Why Polish Is Important to Know?

So why should you learn to speak Polish? The top five reasons are...

5. You can read Polish literature in its original form. Remember that there is always something lost in translation! A rich literary tradition exists in Poland, mainly rooted in its tragic

history.

4. You can gain a lot of lifetime friends in Poles. Poles love foreigners who try to learn their language and they will constantly shower you with a lot of compliments, even for trying to say only a few simple words!

3. The Polish language has the largest number of speakers within the West Slavic group!

2. With its infuriating grammar and complex rules of spelling, Polish offers a comprehensive mental workout sure to keep your mind razor sharp for years to come.

1. Knowing the language will help you better understand Poles and their unique mentality, their history, and their culture!

LESSON NOTES

All About S1 #2 Cracking the Polish Writing System!

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

2

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Polish Writing System

The Polish writing system uses the Latin alphabet, just like English, with some modifications. These modifications are diacritical signs that we use to represent sounds unique to the Polish language. They include:

1. an acute mark (For example, the letter *-ź* consists of the consonant *-z* and an acute mark above it. The acute mark, however, is not an accent; we use it to mark the softness of a particular consonant.)

2. a dot (For instance, the letter *-ż* consists of the letter *-z* and a dot above it. This forms a new letter with its own sound.)

3. a hook (For example, the vowel *-ą* consists of the letter *-a* with a little hook attached to it. The hook gives the vowel a nasal sound.)

Each of these diacritical marks influences the pronunciation of a particular letter.

Besides these diacritical marks, throughout the centuries Polish has gained a lot of consonant clusters, such as *-cz*, *-sz*, *-rz*, *-dz*, *-dź*, *-dż*, *-ch*, *-ci*, *-si*, *-zi*, *-dzi*, and *-ni*, which also serve to represent Polish sounds that were not present in Latin.

The First Written Traces of the Polish Language and How They Led to Today's Writing System

Even though the Polish state began its existence in 966, for almost the next two hundred years no written documents in Polish exist-at least none we know of. The first written, and at the same time, the oldest traces of the Polish language occurred in the twelfth century. That evidence is a Latin document entitled *Bulla gnieźnieńska* ("Papal Bull of Gniezno"), which contains 410 Polish words-mainly names of villages and towns, as well as the personal names of their inhabitants. It allows us to understand in some respects the Polish phonetic system, vocabulary, and morpheme features in use at that time.

The next step in our journey is the discovery of the first complete Polish sentence. It was probably written around 1270 by the Cistercian monks of Henryków. It said *Daj, ać ja*

pobruszę, a ty poczywaj, which translates to "Let me grind and you rest." We can assure you that a lot of Poles would have problems translating this sentence because of the many changes that have since taken place within the writing system as well as the archaic vocabulary the writers used in this sentence.

When it comes to entire texts in Polish, the first one was written either at the end of the thirteenth century or at the beginning of the fourteenth century. It is the Polish religious song, and at the same time the first Polish anthem, called *Bogurodzica.* Some believe that Polish knights sang *Bogurodzica* before the Battle of Grunwald in 1410, a famous victory of the Polish nation over the Teutonic Knights.

From that time on, an ever-increasing number of texts and documents appear that were written entirely in Polish. These were mainly devotional and religious texts, such as translations of the Old Testament or sermons that monks wrote, monks being among the few who could perform such translations because of their education and fluency in Latin. However, since in Polish there were some sounds that Latin did not have, very often, they used the same Latin letter to represent many different sounds in Polish. As you can imagine, this must have caused a great deal of confusion.

Together with the arrival of the printing era in Poland, which took place at the beginning of the sixteenth century, printers needed greater standardization within the alphabet. The Golden Age of Polish literature and culture brought new dictionaries, grammar books, and treatises on spelling that helped unify the Polish writing system, a system still used today.

Useful Tip

Knowing that Polish has many common vocabulary roots with other Slavic languages (Russian, Slovak, Ukrainian, etc.) will help you survive with limited knowledge of these languages in many parts of Europe, such as in Russian-speaking countries, as well as Poland's neighbors like Belarus and the Czech Republic. And if you ever consider learning another Slavic language, your knowledge of Polish will come in quite handy.

The Polish Alphabet

The word "alphabet" refers to a writing system that has characters for representing both consonant and vowel sounds. The current Polish alphabet consists of nine vowels and twenty-three consonants, and thus it has thirty-two characters in total.

It also uses the diacritical marks and consonant clusters that we mentioned at the beginning of this lesson.

Below you will find the Polish alphabet. The vowels are shown in bold.

Letter	Name	Letter	Name
		M m	
A a	***a***	*N n*	*em*
Ą ą	***ą***	*Ń ń*	*en*
B b	*be*	***O o***	*eń*
C c	*ce*	***Ó ó***	***o***
Ć ć	*cie*	*P p*	***o*** *kreskowane*
D d	*de*	*R r*	*pe*
E e	***e***	*S s*	*er*
Ę ę	***ę***	*Ś ś*	*es*
F f	*ef*	*T t*	*eś*
G g	*gie*	***U u***	*te*
H h	*ha*	*W w*	***u***
I i	***i***	***Y y***	*wu*
J j	*jot*	*Z z*	***y***
K k	*ka*	*Ź ź*	*zet*
L l	*el*	*Ż ż*	*ziet*
Ł ł	*eł*		*żet*

LESSON NOTES

All About S1 #3
Painless Polish Grammar!

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

3

COPYRIGHT © 2014 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Polish Grammar

In this lesson, we will try to briefly introduce you to-and hopefully help you begin to understand-Polish grammar. Grammar doesn't have to be cryptic and sinister if explained properly. By starting with some simple grammar basics, you will be able to form your utterances in a comprehensible way and rapidly improve your Polish.

Since the grammar of the Polish language is quite complex, before we start talking about it in more depth we would like to outline its most important characteristics. Polish belongs to the group of so-called inflected languages, which means that certain parts of speech will undergo either declension (nouns, adjectives, numerals, and pronouns) or conjugation (verbs). Polish recognizes two numerical groups, singular and plural, as well as three genders: masculine, feminine, and neuter. In Polish, there are three tenses: present, past, and future. Polish verbs also have a feature called "aspect," which refers to whether an action has been completed or not. In addition to that, there are three moods: indicative, imperative, and conditional. Lastly, Polish does not decline adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions, particles, or exclamations, meaning they appear, mercifully, in only one form.

Simple, right?

I. Declined Parts of Speech in Polish

Nouns, adjectives, numerals, and pronouns have several grammatical features, such as gender (either masculine, feminine, or neuter), number (singular or plural), as well as case (nominative, genitive, dative, accusative, instrumental, locative, and lastly, vocative).

A. Nouns

In order to decline nouns and their modifiers-adjectives, numerals, and pronouns-you first have to know how to recognize the gender of a given noun.

Below you will find a table that will help you to determine the gender of Polish nouns.

Masculine Nouns End in:	Feminine Nouns End in:	Neuter Nouns End in:

a consonant:
profesor
("professor"),
kot
("cat"),
stół
("table")

the vowel *-a*:
artysta
("artist"),
dentystka
("dentist")

the vowel *-a*:
kobieta
("woman"),
mapa
("map"),
łyżka
("spoon")

the vowel *-i*:
pani
("ma'am"), *gospodyni*
("hostess")

the vowel *-e*:
pole
("field"),
morze
("sea"),
słońce
("sun")

the vowel *-ę*:
prosię
("piglet"),
imię
("name"),
plemię
("tribe")

the vowel *-o*:
dziecko
("child"),
łóżko
("bed"),
metro
("metro")

the syllable *-um*:
muzeum
("museum"),
gimnazjum
("gymnasium"),
apogeum
("apogee")

Once you know the gender of a particular noun, you can start declining it and its modifiers. We have mentioned that in Polish there are seven cases: nominative, genitive, dative, accusative, instrumental, locative, and vocative. Each of these cases has a specific role to

play, and we use them to express the meanings explained below.

1. Nominative

The nominative case represents the most basic form of a noun, and it is the form that is always presented in the dictionary. If a noun or a pronoun is the subject of a sentence, it will always appear in the nominative form. It's one of the most commonly used cases in the Polish language.

For Example:

1. ***Ten dom*** *jest duży*.
   "This house is big."

2. ***Ta kawa*** *jest mocna*.
   "This coffee is strong."

3. ***To dziecko*** *jest grzeczne*.
   "This child is polite."

2. Genitive

Polish also frequently uses the genitive case, which we use to express the following:

Possessiveness:
For Example:

1. *samochód* ***Tomasza***
   "Tom's car"

Measurements:
For Example:

1. *dwa kilo* ***nowych ziemniaków***
   "two kilos of new potatoes"

2. *paczka* ***mąki***
   "a package of flour"

Dates and time, such as giving a date of birth:
For Example:

1. *Urodziłam się* ***trzydziestego pierwszego sierpnia***.
   "I was born on August thirty-first."

As well as to mark the direct object after a negated verb:
For Example:

1. *Nie lubię* ***mleka.***
   "I don't like milk."

2. *Nie mam* ***kota.***
   "I don't have a cat."

There are also some verbs that require genitive usage only.

For Example:

1. *potrzebować* ("to need")
   Potrzebuję (+ gen.) ***nowego swetra****.*
   "I need a new sweater."

2. *słuchać* ("to listen to")
   Słucham (+ gen.) ***muzyki rockowej****.*
   "I am listening to rock music."

3. *uczyć się* ("to learn")
   Uczę się (+ gen.) ***języka polskiego****.*
   "I am learning the Polish language."

We also use the genitive form after such prepositions as:

do **("to"):**
For Example:

1. *Idę do* ***szkoły****.*
   "I am going to school."

z **("from"):**
For Example:

1. *Jestem z **Ameryki**.*
   "I am from America."

bez **("without"):**
For Example:

1. *Proszę kawę bez **cukru**.*
   "Coffee without sugar, please."

3. Dative

The dative case mainly appears as the case the indirect object of a sentence takes.

For Example:

1. *Sprzedałam **mu** gazetę.*
   "I sold him a newspaper."
   For clarity, in this sentence, "newspaper" is the direct object, whereas "him" is the indirect object.

2. *Życzę **ci** dużo zdrowia.*
   "I wish you a lot of health."

3. *Pomagam **mamie** przy obiedzie*.
   "I am helping my mom with dinner."

4. Accusative

The accusative is definitely another case that, along with nominative and genitive, belongs to the most often applied cases. It has two main functions in a sentence:

We use it as a direct object after transitive verbs:
For Example:

1. *Czytam **książkę.***
   "I am reading a book."

2. *Tomek myje **zęby.***
   "Tom is brushing his teeth."

The accusative is the implied case after most verbs:
For Example:

1. *Ewa pije **sok**.*
   "Eva is drinking juice."

2. *Robię **kawę**.*
   "I am making coffee."

In better dictionaries, along with the entry of a verb, it should also present you with information about the case that a particular verb implies.

5. Instrumental

The instrumental case, you'll be happy to hear, is one of the easiest cases to master in the Polish language. We use it more often than the dative or vocative, but more seldom than the other four.

The instrumental case has the following usages:

We use it to express that the subject of a sentence or phrase is something. Simply remember that the instrumental case tells you who is who and what is what.

For Example:

1. *Aga jest **lekarką.***
   "Agnes is a doctor."

2. *Herbata jest **dobrym lekarstwem** na przeziębienie**.***
   "Tea is a good medicine for a cold."

It has the function of an indirect object when expressing the usage of tools.
For Example:

1. *Jem zupę* ***łyżką.***
   "I am eating soup with a spoon."

2. *Krzysiek jedzie* ***samochodem***.
   "Chris is driving the car."

3. *Lubię pisać* ***piórem***.
   "I like to write with a fountain pen."

The verb *interesować się*, meaning "to be interested in," also implies the instrumental form.
For Example:

1. *Interesuję się* ***literaturą europejską****.*
   "I am interested in European literature."

2. *Adam interesuje się* ***sportem****.*
   "Adam is interested in sports."

Also, the preposition *z*, meaning "with" (compare to another meaning of the preposition *z* we use with the genitive case), requires the instrumental case.
For Example:

1. *Spotkałem się z* ***Basią.***
   "I met with Barbara."

2. *Proszę kawę z* ***mlekiem****.*
   "Coffee with milk, please."

6. Locative

The locative case is the only case that is always implied by a preposition, never by a verb. Along with the already introduced nominative, genitive, and accusative cases, locative case is one of the cases we use most often in Polish.

Its main role is to express location, and we use it with the following prepositions:

***na*, meaning "on" or "at":**
For Example:

1. *Książka jest na **stole**.*
   "The book is on the table."

2. *Jestem na **obiedzie**.*
   "I am at dinner."

***o*, meaning "at" or "about":**
For Example:

1. *Będę o **ósmej**.*
   "I will be there at eight."

2. *Często myślę o **mojej koleżance**.*
   "I often think about my friend."

***po*, meaning "after" or "around":**
For Example:

1. *Jest już po **północy**.*
   "It's already after midnight."

2. *Chodzę po **sklepie**.*
   "I am walking around the store."

***w*, with the translation "in":**
For Example:

1. *Jestem w **biurze**.*
   "I am in the office."

2. *Czy byłeś już w **Krakowie**?*
   "Have you already been in Cracow?"

And the last preposition is *przy,* meaning "next to" and "along":

For Example:

1. *Mieszkam przy **placu** Wszystkich Świętych.*
   "I live next to Plaza Wszystkich Świętych."

2. *Sofa stoi przy **ścianie**.*
   "The sofa is standing along the wall."

7. Vocative

The last case, the vocative, appears in:

Greetings and farewells:
For Example:

1. *Dzień dobry, **Tomku**.*
   "Good morning, Tom."

2. *Do zobaczenia, **Basiu**.*
   "See you, Barbara."

Correspondence:
For Example:

1. *Drogi **Stefanie**.*
   "Dear Steven."

2. *Szanow**ni Państwo**.*
   "Ladies and Gentlemen."

Declination of masculine nouns

English translation	this dentist	my dog	old computer	tasty juice
Nominative	ten dentysta	mój pies	stary komputer	smaczny sok

Genitive	tego dentysty	mojego psa	starego komputera	smacznego soku
Dative	temu dentyście	mojemu psu	staremu komputerowi	smacznemu sokowi
Accusative	tego dentystę	mojego psa	stary komputer	smaczny sok
Instrumental	tym dentystą	moim psem	starym komputerem	smacznym sokiem
Locative	tym dentyście	moim psie	starym komputerze	smacznym soku
Vocative	dentysto	-	-	-

Declination of feminine nouns

English translation	this woman	my book	boring lesson	expensive coffee
Nominative	ta kobieta	moja książka	nudna lekcja	droga kawa
Genitive	tej kobiety	mojej książki	nudnej lekcji	drogiej kawy
Dative	tej kobiecie	mojej książce	nudnej lekcji	drogiej kawie
Accusative	tą kobietę	moją książkę	nudną lekcję	drogą kawę
Instrumental	tą kobietą	moją książką	nudną lekcją	drogą kawą
Locative	tej kobiecie	mojej książce	nudnej lekcji	drogiej kawie
Vocative	kobieto	-	-	-

Declination of neuter nouns

English translation	this child	my name	big animal	famous museum
Nominative	to dziecko	moje imię	duże zwierzę	słynne muzeum
Genitive	tego dziecka	mojego imienia	dużego zwierzęcia	słynnego muzeum
Dative	temu dziecku	mojemu imieniu	dużemu zwierzęciu	słynnemu muzeum
Accusative	to dziecko	moje imię	duże zwierzę	słynne muzeum
Instrumental	tym dzieckiem	moim imieniem	dużym zwierzęciem	słynnym muzeum
Locative	tym dziecku	moim imieniu	dużym zwierzęciu	słynnym muzeum
Vocative	-	-	-	-

Declination of plural nouns

English translation	these dogs	old computers	my books	big animals
Nominative	te psy	stare komputery	moje książki	duże zwierzęta
Genitive	tych psów	starych komputerów	moich książek	dużych zwierząt
Dative	tym psom	starym komputerom	moim książkom	dużym zwierzętom

Accusative	te psy	stare komputery	moje książki	duże zwierzęta
Instrumental	tymi psami	starymi komputerami	moimi książkami	dużymi zwierzętami
Locative	tych psach	starych komputerach	moich książkach	dużych zwierzętach

B. Adjectives, Numerals, and Pronouns

If you would like to use adjectives, numerals, or pronouns in order to describe nouns, always make sure that you maintain the gender agreement between them.

For Example:

Adjectives:

1. *dobry profesor*
   "good professor" (because *profesor* is masculine, the adjective *dobry* needs to take the masculine form as well)

2. *dobra kawa*
   "good coffee" (*kawa* is feminine, hence the feminine form of *dobra*)

3. *dobre dziecko*
   "good child" (*dziecko* is neuter, and so is the form of *dobre*)

Numerals:

1. *jeden profesor*
   "one professor"

2. *jedna kawa*
   "one coffee"

3. *jedno dziecko*
   "one child"

Pronouns:

1. *nasz profesor*
   "our professor"
2. *nasza kawa*
   "our coffee"
3. *nasze dziecko*
   "our child"

II. Verbs

The most basic form of a verb, the one you will find in the dictionary, is the infinitive. The infinitive form of a verb is easy to recognize by its ending, *-ć*....

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
pić	"to drink"
chcieć	"to want"
pisać	"to write"

or by the ending *-c.*

For Example:

1. *móc*
   "can," "to be able to"

In Polish, there are only three tenses: present, past, and future.

A. Tenses in Polish

1. Present Tense

We form verbs in the present tense according to three conjugations, each of which is named after the endings in the first- and second-person singular:

Conjugation *-m, -sz*, being the most regular and the easiest one:
For Example:

czytać ("to read")

Singular

Polish	**"English"**
*(ja) czyta-**m***	"I read"
*(ty) czyta-**sz***	"you read"
*on, ona, ono czyta-**Ø***	"he, she, it reads"

Plural

Polish	**"English"**
*(my) czyta-**my***	"we read"
*(wy) czyta-**cie***	"you read"
*oni, one czyta-**ją***	"they read"

Conjugation of *-ę, -isz/ysz*, with some exceptions; however, it is still quite straightforward.
For Example:

myśleć ("to think")

Singular

Polish	**"English"**

*(ja) myśl-**ę***	"I think"
*(ty) myśl-**isz***	"you think"
*on, ona, ono myśl-**i***	"he/she/it thinks"

Plural

Polish	**"English"**
*(my) myśl-**imy***	"we think"
*(wy) myśl-**icie***	"you think"
*oni, one myśl-**ą***	"they think"

tańczyć ("to dance")

Singular

Polish	**"English"**
*(ja) tańcz-**ę***	"I dance"
*(ty) tańcz-**ysz***	"you dance"
*on, ona, ono tańcz-**y***	"he/she/it dances"

Plural

Polish	**"English"**
*(my) tańcz-**ymy***	"we dance"
*(wy) tańcz-**ycie***	"you dance"
*oni, one tańcz-**ą***	"they dance"

Conjugation of *-ę, -esz*, which is the most irregular, has many changes within the stem:
For Example:

brać ("to take")
Singular

Polish	**"English"**
*(ja) bior-**ę***	"I take"
*(ty) bierz-**esz***	"you take"
*on, ona, ono bierz-**e***	"he/she/it takes"

Plural

Polish	**"English"**
*(my) bierz-**emy***	"we take"
*(wy) bierz-**ecie***	"you take"
*oni, one bior-**ą***	"they take"

The most basic time expressions that we use with the present tense are *teraz* ("now") and *dzisiaj* ("today").

2. Past Tense

The past tense is much easier to form because all Polish verbs, regardless of their irregularities in the present tense, follow the same pattern.

In the past tense, however, we express gender through the ending of the verb, so this may cause some problems for students, especially at the beginning of their study. Let's have a look at the forms of the verb *być* ("to be") in the past tense, focusing especially on gender.

Singular	**Masculine**	**Feminine**	**Neuter**
ja ("I")	*by-**łem*** ("I was")	*by-**łam*** ("I was")	

ty ("you")	*by-**łeś*** ("you were")	*by-**łaś*** ("you were")	
on ("he"), *ona* ("she"), *ono* ("it")	*by-**ł*** (he was")	*by-**ła*** ("she was")	*by-**ło*** ("it was")

Plural	Personal Masculine	Non-personal Masculine, Feminine, and Neuter
my ("we")	*by-**liśmy*** ("we were")	*by-**łyśmy*** ("we were")
wy ("you")	*by-**liście*** ("you were")	*by-**łyście*** ("you were")
oni ("they," meaning a group of people including men), *one* ("they," referring to a group of women)	*by-**li*** ("they were")	*by-**ły*** ("they were")

The most popular time expression that we use with the past tense is *wczoraj* ("yesterday").

3. Future Tense

To form the compound future tense in Polish, you will first need the verb *być* ("to be") conjugated in the future tense.

Future tense of the verb *byc* ("to be"):

Singular

Polish	"English"
*(ja) będ-**ę***	"I will be"

*(ty) będzi-**esz***	"you will be"
*on, ona, ono będzi-**e***	"he/she/it will be"

Plural

Polish	**"English"**
*(my) będzi-**emy***	"we will be"
*(wy) będzi-**ecie***	"you will be"
*oni, one będ-**ą***	"they will be"

To be able to create the future tense of other verbs, simply add the infinitive form to the future of the verb "to be."

For Example:

1. *Będę czytać.*
   "I will read."
2. *Będziesz pisać.*
   "You will write."
3. *Ona będzie oglądać telewizję.*
   "She will watch TV."
4. *Będziemy się uczyć języków obcych.*
   "We will study foreign languages."
5. *Będziecie pracować.*
   "You will work."
6. *Oni nie będą palić papierosów.*
   "They won't smoke cigarettes."

Jutro, meaning "tomorrow," is the most common time expression that we use with the future tense.

B. Aspect of Polish Verbs

As we mentioned at the beginning of this lesson, verbs in the Polish language have a feature called aspect, which we break down into two categories: the imperfective aspect (for example, *pisać*, meaning "to write") and the perfective aspect (for example, *napisać*, also meaning "to write"). Each of these aspects refers to the state of an action of a particular verb.

We use the imperfective aspect to express:

An action that we repeat on a regular basis:
For Example:

1. *Codziennie piszę e-maile*.
   "I write e-mails every day."

An action that is in progress:
For Example:

1. *Właśnie piszę list.*
   "I am just writing a letter."

The duration of an action:
For Example:

1. *Wczoraj przez dwie godziny pisałem list.*
   "Yesterday, I was writing a letter for two hours."

An action that has a very general character:
For Example:

1. *W przyszłym roku będę pisać więcej listów.*
   "Next year I will write more letters."

In all of the above examples, we don't really have too many specifics as to whether the writing

is, was, or will be completed, hence the use of the imperfective verb *pisać* ("to write"). Imperfective verbs can form present, past, and the compound future tenses. (We introduced all these tenses above.)

We use the perfective aspect to express:

An action that we have completed:
For Example:

1. *W końcu napisałem list do Adama.*
   "I finally wrote a letter to Adam."

An action that we will complete in the future:
For Example:

1. *Jutro napiszę list do Adama.*
   "Tomorrow, I will write a letter to Adam."

In order to express that we completed or will complete the writing, we have to use the perfective aspect and the verb *napisać* ("to write"). Use of the perfective form of the verb implies that the doer of an action will definitely accomplish or complete the entire action. Perfective verbs will only appear in the past and future tenses. You know how to form the past tense in Polish, so just remember to use the perfective form of a verb instead of the imperfective.

To create the future tense of perfective verbs, you simply have to conjugate the perfective verbs the same way as in the present tense (using your knowledge of the three conjugations), and these will be your future forms. Do not add the verb "to be" in the future tense, it is not necessary.

For Example:

przeczytać ("to read") perfective

Singular

Polish	**"English"**
*(ja) przeczyta-**m***	"I will read"

*(ty) przeczyta-**sz***	"you will read"
*on, ona, ono przeczyta-**Ø***	"he/she/it will read"

Plural

Polish	**"English"**
*(my) przeczyta-**my***	"we will read"
*(wy) przeczyta-**cie***	"you will read"
*oni, one przeczyta-**ją***	"they will read"

Just remember that in this case, when we use the perfective form *przeczytać*, we are implying that the reader will read something in its entirety or accomplish a certain goal: for example, an entire chapter.

Almost every English verb will have two counterparts in Polish: one imperfective and one perfective.

For Example:

Construction	***Polish***	**"English"**
Imperfective	*Czytać*	"to read"
Perfective	*przeczytać*	"to read"
Imperfective	*Robić*	"to do"
Perfective	*Zrobić*	"to do"
Imperfective	*Jeść*	"to eat"
Perfective	*zjeść*	"to eat"

Some pairs can be very different.

For Example:

Construction	*Polish*	"English"
Imperfective	*brać*	"to take"
Perfective	*wziąć*	"to take"
Imperfective	*widzieć*	"to see"
Perfective	*zobaczyć*	"to see"

Some verbs, although very few, don't have a perfective aspect. They will only appear in the imperfective form.

For Example:

Polish	"English"
być	"to be"
mieć	"to have"
studiować	"to study"
wiedzieć	"to know"

C. Moods in Polish

In the Polish language, verbs appear in the following moods:

Indicative:

For Example:

Polish	"English"
pracuję	"I work"
będę pisać	"I will write"

przeczytałem	"I read

Imperative:

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
pracuj!	"work"
pisz!	"write"
przeczytaj!	"read"

Conditional:

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
pracowałbym	"I would work"
pisałbym	"I would write"
przeczytałbym	"I would read"

D. Active, Passive, and Reflexive Voice in Polish

In Polish, there are three forms of voices:

Active voice:

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
czytam	"I read"
przepisuję	"I copy"

gotuję	"I cook"

Passive voice:

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
jest czytany	"is read"
jest przepisany	"is copied"
jest gotowany	"is cooked"

Reflexive voice:

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
myję się.	"I wash myself."
ubieramy się.	"We are dressing ourselves."
uczę się.	"I am teaching myself."

III. Uninflected Parts of Speech

Besides the parts of speech that we decline and conjugate, the Polish language also has a few words that always appear in the same form. The words that are not subject to declension or conjugation are:

Adverbs:
For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
dobrze	"well"

źle	"badly"

Prepositions:

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
z	"with" or "from"
do	"to"
na	"on," "at"

Conjunctions:

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
więc	"so"
i	"and"
ponieważ	"because

Exclamations:

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
ach	"ah"
och	"ah"

Particles:

For Example:

1. *niech* - "Let/May" creates third person singular and plural, as well as, third person singular imperative forms (as in "Let me guess", "May the force be with you")

2. *czy* - "Does, Do, Did, Will etc..." beginning a question.

LESSON NOTES

All About S1 #4
Polish Pronunciation Made EASY!

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

4

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Polish Pronunciation

Polish pronunciation is not nearly as difficult as it seems. At the beginning it might be a little bit overwhelming since many sounds are different than in English. However, by listening and practicing those sounds, we will help you master your pronunciation. In no time you will become familiar with what once appeared daunting and impossibly foreign.

Don't forget, though, that there are also sounds in Polish that are very similar or, we could also say, identical to their counterparts in English. After all, it is not entirely foreign.

First, we will present you with the vowel system in Polish, and then we will move on to the Polish consonants, consonant clusters, and their pronunciation.

I. Polish Vowels

In the Polish language, there are nine vowels that we can divide into groups as follows:

A. *Samogłoski ustne* ("oral vowels") with three subgroups:

1. *samogłoski przednie* ("front vowels")
2. *samogłoski środkowe* ("central vowels")
3. *samogłoski tylne* ("back vowels")

B. *Samogłoski nosowe* ("nasal vowels")

A. *Samogłoski Ustne* ("Oral Vowels")

We produce *samogłoski ustne,* or in English "oral vowels," within the mouth area where the tongue, uvula, and lips take certain positions. There are seven oral vowels, which we classify according to the place of articulation.

1. *Samogłoski przednie* ("Front Vowels")

Samogłoski przednie are characterized by the placement of the tongue toward the front of the

mouth. For example, try to pronounce the letter -*e* as in "yellow." You will notice that you produce the letter -*e* in the front part of your mouth, which means it is an anterior vowel. Now, just to see the difference, try to say aloud the letter -*o* as in "orange." You should notice that your tongue moves to the back of your mouth, making this letter a posterior vowel.

Here is a list of the anterior vowels in Polish:

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples
-*i*	[i]	"feet," "meet," "sea"	*Kino* ("cinema"), *minus* ("minus"), *minuta* ("minute")
-*y*	[1]	"myth," "big," "if"	*grypa* ("flu"), *my* ("we"), *dobry* ("good")
-*e*	[E]	"pen," "yes," "ten"	*wujek* ("uncle"), *document* ("document"), *elegancki* ("elegant")

2. *Samogłoski Środkowe* ("Central Vowels")

To pronounce the *samogłoski środkowe* ("central vowels") properly, simply place your tongue in the middle area of your mouth. In Polish, there is only one central vowel, -*a,* which is represented by a wide-open sound.

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples
-a	[a]	"father," "cot," "body"	*tak* ("yes"), *pan* ("Mr.," "sir"), *adres* ("address")

3. *Samogłoski Tylne* ("Back Vowels")

To produce this type of sound, place your tongue in the back of your mouth.

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples
-u	[u]	"moon," "dune"	*kultura* ("culture"), *studio* ("studio"), *luty* ("February")
-o	[O]	"moment," "slow"	*moda* ("fashion"), *popularny* ("popular"), *piwo* ("beer")

In the Polish language, there is one additional vowel that we haven't mentioned thus far. It is the letter *ó.*

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples

ó	[u]	"moon," "dune"	*ból* ("pain"), *wróg* ("foe"), *lód* ("ice")

As you have probably noticed, in our table we used the same English examples that we used with the vowel *-u.* The reason for that is that both *-u* and *-ó* have the same pronunciation. The only difference is in their spelling. The position of these vowels in words dictates the spelling rules. For example, the letter *-ó* mainly occurs when there is a *-o:-ó* alternation, as in *wr**ó**g: z wr**o**giem* ("foe": "with a/the foe") and *l**ó**d: z l**o**dem* ("ice": "with ice") and in the particle *-ów*, as in *Krak**ów*** ("Cracow") and *dla pan**ów*** ("for the gentlemen"), whereas the letter *-u* appears in other cases.

To sum it up, in the Polish language there is one sound [u] represented by two letters: *-u* and *-ó.*

B. *Samogłoski Nosowe* ("Nasal Vowels")

Polish is the only language among all the other Slavic languages that still has nasal vowels. You can also find them in languages like French and Portuguese. In order to produce them, the air has to go mainly through the nose. For foreign ears, they may sound different at first, as the air vibrates mainly through the nose and produces a twangy sound. Their written forms are the letters *-ę* (it is basically a letter *-e* with a little hook attached to it) and *-ą* (*-a* with a hook.)

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	*Polish* Examples
-ę	[E~]	*ręka* ("hand"), *zdjęcie* ("picture"), *pięć* ("five")

-ą	[O~]	*mąż* ("husband"), *wąż* ("snake"), *mają* ("they have")

Depending on the position of the nasal vowels, we either pronounce them nasally or simply as mouth vowels. We would like to show you some rules that will help you master their pronunciation.

When the vowels *-ę* and *-ą* are before the following letters...	**...we pronounce them**		**Examples**	
	-ę	**-ą**	**-ę**	**-ą**
-f, *-w*, *-s*, *-sz*, *-z*, *-ż*, *-ch*	[E~]	[O~]	*węch* ("smell"), *kęs* ("bite")	*wąż* ("snake"), *wąs* ("mustache")
-l, *-ł*	[E]	[O]	*kopnęli* ("they kicked"), *kichnęli* ("they sneezed")	*dotknął* ("he touched"), *wrzasnął* ("he yelled")
-p, *-b*	[Em]	[Om]	*tępy* ("blunt"), *zęby* ("teeth")	*skąpy* ("stingy"), *ząb* ("tooth")

-t, *-d*, *-c*, *-dz*, *-cz*	[En]	[On]	*kręty* ("curvy"), *tędy* ("this way")	*zając* ("hare"), *pieniądze* ("money")
-ć, *-ci*, *-dź*, *-dzi*	[EJ]	[OJ]	*dziesięć* ("ten"), *pędził* ("he rushed")	*kącik* ("nook")
-k, *-g*	[EN]	[ON]	*ręka* ("hand"), *tęgi* ("fat," "big")	*mąka* ("flour"), *krąg* ("circle")
- at the end of the word	[E] or [E~]	[O~]	*widzę* ("I see"), *się* (reflexive pronoun)	*widzą* ("they see"), *chcą* ("they want")

Language Tip

To listen to these sounds or any others, go to the learning center and find a word with the grapheme that corresponds to the phonetic symbol you'd like to practice.

II. Polish Consonants

Based on the type of articulation we use to produce the sound, Polish consonants are divided into the following groups:

1. *Spółgłoski zwarte* ("occlusive consonants")
2. *Spółgloski zwarto-szczelinowe* ("affricate consonants")
3. *Spółgłoski szczelinowe* ("fricative consonants")
4. *Spółgłoski półotwarte* ("sonorants")

Let's have a look at each of these consonant groups.

A. *Spółgłoski Zwarte* ("Occlusive Consonants")

We produce these consonants by blocking the air within the vocal tract, then either quickly releasing or holding the air flow.

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples
-p	[p]	"pie," "pen," "pot"	*palec* ("finger"), *pomidor* ("tomato"), *pa* ("bye")
-b	[b]	"beach," "bed," "ball"	*banan* ("banana"), *boisko* ("field"), *broda* ("beard")
-t	[t]	"tool," "talent," "tea"	*tenis* ("tennis"), *ten* ("this"), *tabela* ("table")
-d	[d]	"doll," "dance," "do"	*dolar* ("dollar"), *dyskoteka* ("discotheque"), *dywan* ("carpet")

-k	[k]	"cold," "clue," "club"	*karta* ("card"), *kalejdoskop* ("kaleidoscope"), *krokodyl* ("crocodile")
-g	[g]	"goal," "great," "give"	*galeria* ("art gallery"), *gotowy* ("ready"), *gest* ("gesture")

B. *Spółgłoski Zwarto-Szczelinowe* ("Affricate Consonants")

We initially articulate the consonants that belong to this group as occlusive sounds that we then follow with a release, changing them into fricative sounds.

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples
-c	[t͡s]	"coats," "eats," "tsar"	*cebula* ("onion"), *cal* ("inch"), *co* ("what")

The affricate consonants characteristic to the Polish language are:

Letter or Group of Letters	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples

-dz	[dz]	"needs," "kids," "islands"	*dzban* ("pitcher"), *dzwon* ("bell")
-cz	[t͡ʃ]	"cheese," "cello," "nature"	*czek* ("check"), *czas* ("time")
-dż	[d͡ʒ]	"gin," "June," "judge"	*dżungla* ("jungle"), *dżokej* ("jockey")
-ć/-ci	[t͡ɕ]	We pronounce *-ć/-ci* more softly than *-cz.*	*ćwiczyć* ("to exercise"), *dać* ("to give"), *ciocia* ("aunt"), *ciemny* ("dark")
-dź/-dzi	[d͡ʑ]	We pronounce *-dź/-dzi* more softly than *-dż.*	*dźwigać* ("to carry heavy things"), *dźwięk* ("sound"), *dziwny* ("weird"), *dziecko* ("child")

We pronounce the sounds *-ć* and *-ci* exactly the same way, as are the sounds *-dź* and *-dzi.* While their pronunciation is always identical, their spelling can vary and is dictated by the following rules:

Rule 1: The consonants with the acute mark appear at the end of the words or before another consonant.

For Example:

1. *kość*
   "bone"

2. *pisać*
   "to write"

Rule 2: We use the consonants with the letter *-i* when they occur before a vowel.

For Example:

1. *ciasto*
   "cake"

2. *dziewięć*
   "nine"

These rules apply to all consonants with acute signs and their variants with the letter *-i.*

C. *Spółgłoski Szczelinowe* ("Fricative Consonants")

We produce these consonant sounds by forcing air through a narrow gap by placing two parts of the mouth together. Imagine that you are trying to produce a hissing sound like a snake: *sssss.* Both your upper and lower incisors are closed but there is still a narrow opening that allows air to escape.

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples

-f	[f]	"fun," "physics," "face"	*flet* ("flute"), *fajka* ("pipe"), *filozofia* ("philosophy")
-w	[v]	"vine," "vest," "visit"	*wdowa* ("widow"), *walizka* ("suitcase"), *widelec* ("fork")
-s	[s]	"soup," "snake," "summer"	*skóra* ("skin"), *scorpion* ("scorpio"), *sok* ("juice")
-z	[z]	"zoo," "zenith," "dissolve"	*zero* ("zero"), *zamek* ("castle/lock"), *za* ("behind")

-h/-ch	[x]	"he," "half," "hook"	*handel* ("trade"), *helikopter* ("helicopter"), *honor* ("honor"), *choinka* ("Christmas tree"), *chleb* ("bread")

The letters *-h* and *-ch* represent the same sound despite their different spelling. Polish uses the letter *-h* in words of foreign origin.

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
helikopter	"helicopter"
hokej	"hockey"
herbata	"tea"

The letter *-h* also appears in words that have *-h:-g* or *-h:-ż* alternation.

For Example:

1. *wa**h**adło:wa**g**a*
   "pendulum": "scale"

2. *dru**h**:dru**ż**yna*
   "boy scout": "team"

The group *-ch* occurs in other cases and at the end of words.

For Example:

Polish	"English"
*pia**ch***	"sand"
*kra**ch***	"crash"
*w sna**ch***	"in dreams

Fricative consonants characteristic of the Polish language include the following:

Letter or Group of Letters	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples
-sz	[S]	"fish," "ocean," "she"	*sztuka* ("art"), *szewc* ("shoemaker")
-ż/-rz	[Z]	"beige," "genre," "vision"	*żyrafa* ("giraffe"), *żyto* ("rye"), *rzeka* ("river"), *rzęsa* ("eyelash")
-ś/-si	[C]	We pronounce *-ś/-si* more softly than *-sz.*	*świat* ("world"), *ktoś* ("someone"), *siedem* ("seven"), *się* (reflexive pronoun)

-ź/-zi	[À]	We pronounce *-ź/-zi* more softly than *-ż/-rz.*	*źle* ("badly"), *źródło* ("spring"), *zielony* ("green"), *zima* ("winter")

Note

It is worth mentioning that we again have two consonants with an acute sign, *-ś* and *-ź,* and their variants with the letter *-i, -si*, and *-zi.* The rules as to when to use *-ś/-si* or *-ź/-zi* are identical to the ones we already introduced above with *-ć/-ci*.

Letter *-ż* vs. *-rz*

-Ż and *-rz* represent the same sound with a different spelling. Again, there are many rules that determine whether we write *-ż* or *-rz.* We will show you the most common ones. We write the letter *-ż* when there is a *-ż:-g* alternation.

For Example:

1. *książka: księga*
   "book": "book"

2. *mogę: możesz*
   "I can": "you can" (singular)

We use the group *-rz* when there is a *-rz: -r* alternation.

For Example:

1. *marzec: marca*
   "March": "of March"

2. *dobrze: dobry*
   "well": "good"

We also use *-rz* after the following consonants: *-p, -b, -t, -d, -k, -g, -ch, -j,* and *-w.*

For Example: *br**z**eg* ("coast"), *pr**z**yroda* ("nature"), and *kr**z**ak* ("bush").

D. *Spółgłoski Półotwarte* ("Sonorants")

When producing sonorants, the airflow goes relatively freely through mouth or nose. There is only a partial closure. One of the sonorants is the letter *-m.* Try to hum a little bit. You should feel the air stream going through your nose.

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples
-m	[m]	"melody," "me," "match"	*moment* ("moment"), *meta* ("finish"), *miasto* ("city")
-n	[n]	"nothing," "nose," "novel"	*noc* ("night"), *niebo* ("sky"), *neon* ("neon")
-l	[l]	"love," "leg," "light"	*lawa* ("lava"), *lojalny* ("loyal"), *lato* ("summer")

-r	[r]	It's a rolled -r.	*rower* ("bike"), *rum* ("rum"), *rosa* ("dew")
-j	[j]	"yellow," "you," "yoke"	*jem* ("I eat"), *jutro* ("tomorrow"), *jak* ("how")

Sonorants characteristic to the Polish language include the following:

Letter or Group of Letters	**Phonetic Transcription**	**"English" Examples**	***Polish* Examples**
-ł	[w]	"wedding," "win," "walk"	*łatwy* ("easy"), *okrągły* ("round")
-ń/-ni	[J]	We pronounce *-ń/-ni* more softly than *-n,* close to the sound [-ney] in the word "money."	*dłoń* ("hand"), *słoń* ("elephant"), *niski* ("short"), *niebieski* ("blue")

Letters Q, V, and X

It is worth mentioning that the letters *-q*, *-v*, and *-x* are present in some words; however, they

only appear in words that were adopted into the Polish language but were never adapted to Polish spelling rules. Therefore, they have kept their original forms: for example, *quiz* and *vis-à-vis*. In some cases, two forms of the same word may appear. The word "fax" can be spelled *fax,* as it originally appears in English, or it may be spelled *faks*, adjusted to Polish spelling standards.

LESSON NOTES

All About S1 #5
5 Most Important Phrases for Learning Polish!

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

5

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Five Most Common Polish Phrases.

To be able to survive in a foreign country where people speak a different language than yours, you will need to familiarize yourself with some emergency phrases that will help you function and satisfy your basic needs and in some situations save your skin!

Poland is no exception! Not only will using the five phrases in this lesson and following our tips help you break the ice, but it will also allow you to start on the right foot to establishing a friendly and respectful exchange! Poles will definitely appreciate your attempts at speaking the language-a language even they believe is often difficult to speak.

Phrase One: *Jak się masz? Dobrze.* ("How are you?" "Well.")

After greeting and saying hello to someone, it would be nice of you to ask how he or she is doing. It's a matter of politeness and a sign that you care.

The Question Jak się masz? and Its Formal Equivalent

While in Poland, you will often hear the question *Jak się masz?* [yak sheh mash?], meaning "How are you?" We only use *Jak się masz?* in familiar situations or in informal settings. For example, you could say it when speaking to your Polish colleague you've spent some time with outside of work or simply with a longtime friend.

If you happen to be in a formal setting, use the question *Jak się pan ma?* [yak sheh pan ma], meaning "How are you, sir?" or *Jak się pani ma?* [yak sheh pa-nee ma?] ("How are you, ma'am?"). For example, these questions are perfect when you're speaking to newly introduced co-workers or at a business meeting. Also, whenever you meet people much older than you, out of respect ask them how they are using the formal phrases outlined above.

The response to the question *Jak się masz?* or *Jak się pan/pani ma?* regardless of the setting is *Dobrze* [do-bshe] ("well" or "fine").

Language Expansion

Alternative questions for *Jak się masz?* ("How are you?)

Polish	Pronunciation	"English"
Co słychać?	[tso swy-hach?]	"How are you?" (informal)
Co u pana słychać?	[tso oo pa-na swy-hach?]	"How are you, sir?" (formal)
Co u pani słychać?	[tso oo pa-nee swy-hach?]	"How are you, ma'am?" (formal)

Alternative Answers for *Dobrze* ("Well")

Polish	Pronunciation	"English"
Wszystko dobrze.	[fshy-stko do-bshe]	"Everything is okay."
Wszystko w porządku.	[fshy-stko v po-zhon-dkoo]	"Everything is fine."
Nic nowego.	[neets no-ve-go]	"Nothing new."

Cultural Tip

It is worth mentioning that Poles can talk forever when asked how they are. They not only will tell you about their current life situation, but also about any health problems that they have been dealing with. The *Jak się masz*? question is definitely not a greeting like in English. If you are brave enough and you decide to ask this question, be ready for a long monologue.

Phrase Two: *Proszę* ("Please")

This phrase is a must for anyone who has *trochę klasy* ("some courtesy"). Use *proszę* [pro-she] ("please") whenever you have a chance when dealing with Poles and you will see that it will make your life much easier. We use the phrase *proszę* both in formal and informal settings.

Besides the meaning of *proszę* that we have just introduced, we can also use *proszę* in several other situations. Let's have a look at them.

1. When you would like to address someone politely or attract someone's attention, you can, for example, say *Proszę Pani*, meaning "Excuse me, Miss," or *Proszę Państwa*, meaning "Ladies and Gentlemen."

2. When you want to say "you're welcome," use *proszę* and you're all set.

3. When someone knocks on the door, saying *proszę* means "Please come in."

4. Also, people widely use *proszę* at stores. For example, when the shop assistant addresses the customer, he or she can say *proszę*, meaning "Can I help you?"

5. If you did not understand something and you want the speaker to repeat it, it's absolutely proper to say *proszę?* meaning "Excuse me."

6. In a situation when you are giving something to someone, *proszę* means "Here you are."

Language Expansion

Often, after you use *proszę,* comes the time to thank the person who helped you. To do so, just say "thank you," in Polish, which is *dziękuję* [jen-koo-yeh].

Even better, show your appreciation and break the old routine by using some alternative phrases for *dziękuję*.

Polish	**Pronunciation**	**"English"**
Dzięki.	[jen-key]	"Thanks." (informal only)
Dziękuję bardzo.	[jen-koo-yeh bar-dzo]	"Thank you very much." (both formal and informal)

Phrase Three: *Przepraszam* ("I'm sorry")

There probably will be situations when you say or do something wrong or simply want to

apologize for something. Nobody is perfect, and we do make mistakes from time to time. Doing so, however, requires us to apologize and say that we are sorry.

The word *przepraszam* [pshe-pra-sham] means "I am sorry" and we can use it in formal settings as well as informal situations. The word *przepraszam* has also a secondary meaning to it, which is "excuse me."

The informal "I'm sorry" in Polish is *Sory.* This is not a mistake. It's the English "sorry" adapted to Polish spelling and pronunciation. With English becoming more and more popular in Poland, Poles have started to use English words instead of their Polish equivalents. As you can see, the word *sory* is one of them. You will hear it a lot while in Poland, especially when spending time with the younger generation of Poles.

Language Expansion

Let's not assume that only you will be at fault. You should also know phrases like "that's okay" or "no problem," just in case someone has done something wrong to you. In such an instance, the phrases *Nic się nie stało* [nits sheh nye sta-wo] ("That's okay") and *Nie ma sprawy* [nye ma spra-vy] ("No problem") would be very appropriate.

Phrase Four: *Pomocy* ("Help")

You never know what will happen from one day to the next. Some days are predictable, and others may require fast action on your part to aid in an emergency. In that case, you may need to ask for help.

To get immediate assistance and people's attention, just say *Pomocy* [po-mo-tsy], meaning "help." Poles are usually quite responsive and they will do their best to help you as fast as they can. However, if you are not in such an urgent situation and you would like a stranger to help you, for example, find your way, you can simply say *Przepraszam, potrzebuję pomocy* [pshe-pra-sham pot-che-boo-yeh po-mo-tsy], meaning "Excuse me, I need help." This way you will still catch the person's full attention and he or she will gladly help you with whatever questions you have.

Phrase Five: *Nie wiem* ("I don't know")

While enjoying your stay in Poland and visiting cities and castles, someone might ask you one of the following questions: "Where are the restrooms?" or "Where is the closest restaurant?" More likely than not, since you're only a visitor, you won't know the answer.

A useful phrase to know in such a situation would be *Nie wiem* [nye viem], meaning "I don't know."

Language Expansion

To give an explanation, you could add *Nie jestem stąd* [nye ye-stem stond], meaning "I am not from here."

LESSON NOTES

All About S1 #6
Can You Answer These 5 Questions About Poland?

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

6

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is a Quiz on the Five Things You Need to Know about Poland.

What do you know about Poland?

Test your knowledge! Through this mini-test, you will build your basic knowledge about *Polska* by quizzing yourself on five major areas about Poland:

1. Geography
2. Pop culture
3. Travel
4. Economics
5. Polish society

1. Geography Question

How many provinces are there in Poland?

1. 10
2. 16
3. 49

The correct answer is 2: 16. According to administrative reforms introduced in 1999, Poland is divided into sixteen provinces (*województwa*), also called "voivodships." Before that, Poland consisted of forty-nine provinces centered around major cities.

Currently, the largest and most populous province is the Mazovia province, which contains the capital of Poland, Warsaw. However, the province with the largest number of inhabitants

per square kilometer is Silesia, which has as its main city Katowice.

2. Pop Culture Question

Can you match the following personalities with their respective profession?

Personalities:

1. Robert Kubica
2. Ryszard Kapuściński
3. Zbigniew Brzeziński

Professions:

1. politician
2. journalist
3. sportsman

Robert Kubica is Poland's latest contribution to the world sports scene. The first Pole ever to compete in Formula One Racing, Kubica made his debut in 2006, and in his third race, the Italian Grand Prix, he secured a third-place finish. Despite an impressive overall fourth place finish in the 2008 Formula One rankings, Kubica fell to number fourteen in 2009. Poles are looking for a strong comeback in 2010.

Widely recognized as a master of his craft, Ryszard Kapuściński began his career in journalism as a young man covering events in India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan. Over the course of his career, he reported stories mainly from the third world-most often from Africa and Latin America-and earned a reputation for his insightful, literary style of journalism. Much of his work has been collected and is available in book form, and it has been translated into over thirty languages worldwide.

Many Americans will recognize Zbigniew Brzeziński as National Security Advisor to President Jimmy Carter from 1977 to 1981. While born in Poland, Brzeziński attended schools in both

the United States and Canada, and he has remained an influential figure in U.S. international politics, especially relations concerning the former Soviet Union. He has published many books and is a frequent guest on political talk shows in the United States.

3. Travel Question

Which Polish city is the most popular tourist attraction?

1. Warsaw
2. Cracow
3. Wrocław

The correct answer is 1: Warsaw. Based on a survey of the Polish government's Institute of Tourism, Warsaw is the most popular tourist destination in Poland. Situated almost in the heart of Poland, Warsaw attracts approximately 2.4 million tourists a year. Even though the city was totally destroyed during World War II, the Poles rebuilt it very quickly. The Poles used pre-war city plans to reconstruct the Old Town brick by brick exactly as it stood prior to the war. However, the Poles rebuild the remainder of the city using communist construction techniques, hence the abundance of massive, square, concrete apartment buildings hastily thrown up in an attempt to alleviate a post-war housing shortage. The most popular tourist attractions are the Palace of Culture and Science that Stalin donated as a gift to the nation, the magnificent Old Town, and the former Jewish ghetto.

4. Economy Question

What industry is Poland well known for?

1. glass
2. steel production
3. coal mining

Even though Poland was associated with more traditional heavy industries such as coal mining and steel production in the past, nowadays Poland's glass industry has come to the fore. While browsing in any home or craft store, you are likely to find a "Made in Poland" label on much of the glassware you find. In addition, Polish companies such as *Krosno* are earning a reputation worldwide for their production of glass products ranging from exquisite vases to intricately detailed stemware.

5. Polish Society Question

If there are three Poles stranded on a deserted island, how many political parties would they form?

1. 1
2. 3
3. 4

The correct answer is 3: they will probably form four political parties. This Polish joke illustrates how agreeable, or disagreeable, Poles can be. As you can see, it is very difficult for Poles to come to an agreement regarding almost anything. People say that every Pole is an individual with his own special solution for everything. Moreover, they always think that their solution is the best and the one and only acceptable plan. On the other hand, Poles have proven many times throughout their troubled and tragic history that in critical situations they can act together, mobilize themselves, and do great things. It is a widely held belief that Poles make great soldiers because of their willingness to die for their homeland, but it has oftentimes been their disagreements in peacetime that have been most troubling.

LESSON NOTES

All About S1 #7
Top 5 Polish Dishes!

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

7

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Top Five Polish Foods.

Throughout the centuries, many nations that have come and gone on the terrain of Poland, such as Belorussians, Ukrainians, Lithuanians, and Jews, have influenced Polish cuisine. Their past presence and resulting influences have enriched Polish cuisine both in its taste and in variety.

Polish food is very rich, filling, and heavy, which is not a big surprise considering the bone-chilling winters! We could easily describe Polish food as peasant food because of the huge abundance of potatoes, cabbage, and different meats in Polish cuisine. The portions are not small either. There is a saying that if a Pole is grouchy, he is probably hungry-hence, the big portions. Also a meal without a piece of meat is not really a meal for a hungry Pole.

It was really difficult for us to settle on only five representative dishes since there is much more that's worthy on the Polish table. However, we want you to know the staple dishes that you will encounter in every Polish house and every restaurant that serves Polish food.

Here we present the five dishes that you absolutely must try-and attempt to finish!-while staying in Poland. We can assure you that you won't regret it!

1. Pierogi

Pierogi are almost like ravioli but a little bit bigger. They can be stuffed with meat, cabbage, mushrooms, and sauerkraut. There are also variations of *pierogi* for those with a sweet tooth. They can be filled with strawberries and prunes and topped with homemade whipped cream and some sugar.

2. Bigos

Some consider *bigos* to be the Polish national dish. It's a hunter's stew made up of cooked cabbage, sauerkraut, dried mushrooms, and pieces of sausage, bacon, and ham, all mixed in tomato paste. If you hear a Pole saying "I am making *bigos* today," you should expect a huge

pot of *bigos* that could easily serve ten people. The amazing thing about *bigos* is that the more you reheat it, the better it tastes.

3. Gołąbki

More cabbage is involved in this dish. *Gołąbki* consists of cabbage leaves that are stuffed with a mix of rice and meat and covered in tomato sauce. Since *gołąbki* are also very time-consuming to make, Poles usually make them in bulk.

4. Placki Ziemniaczane

These are famous Polish potato pancakes. The recipe is very simple. Puree as many potatoes as you would like, add an egg, some flour, puree a small onion, and season with salt and pepper to taste, then fry the mixture in oil. When done, you can eat them with sour cream or sugar. Mmm, yummy.

5. Barszcz Biały, also Known as *Żurek*

One of the most well-known Polish soups, *barszcz biały*, is a sour soup made from rye flour. Poles serve it with sausage, hard-boiled eggs, and potatoes. Many families eat a special *żurek* for breakfast on Easter morning. Watch out for the whole allspice!

Useful Tips

Poles are very hospitable. If someone happens to invite you to a Polish house, your hosts will ask you at least several times to eat something. Don't even try to refuse. It is an exercise in futility. Try to eat as much as you can. This way you can express your appreciation for the food that was prepared for you. Otherwise, your hosts will think you don't like it and they might get offended.

When at the table, say the phrase *Smacznego* ("Enjoy your meal") before starting your meal.

Some must-knows while eating in Polish restaurants:

- In many restaurants, the price of the main entrée usually does not include side dishes such as potatoes and salads, so don't be surprised if the bill is a little higher than you expected. You can find prices for the side dishes in the *Dodatki* section.
- They never serve water automatically with the meal. If you would like some, you have to ask the waiter for it, and of course, they will charge you for it accordingly. Beer is sometimes cheaper!
- When paying at a restaurant with a bigger bill, don't say "Thank you" when the waiter comes to collect your payment as you won't see the change. In Poland, Poles take "thank you" to mean "keep the change," and the service staff will more likely assume that this is their tip and that you are being simply very generous. When paying, simply hand the waiter the check with your payment and say *proszę*.
- Remember to dress more elegantly when going to a higher-end restaurant.

Top Five Bizarre Polish Foods

Here are the top five Polish foods for people who would like to experience something new and one of a kind...and who are not afraid to try it!

Number five: fried liver (*wątroba)*
Number four: tripe (*flaki*)
Number three: black pudding *(kiszka/kaszanka)*
Number two: head cheese (*salceson*)

And the winner is: jellied pigs' feet (*galareta*)

LESSON NOTES

All About S1 #8
Top 5 Things You Need to Know About Polish Society!

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

8

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Top Five Things You Need to Know about Polish Society.

1. Poland's Capital City and the History behind It.

The Polish capital, Warszawa ("Warsaw"), is situated near the geographic center of Poland. It is the largest city in Poland with respect to both population and geographic size. Warsaw counts approximately 1.7 million inhabitants and is undoubtedly the most cosmopolitan city in Poland, with very well-developed cultural and political life.

The City's Past and Present

Warsaw became the official capital of Poland in 1596, when Polish King Zygmunt III Waza decided to move the capital from Cracow to Warsaw. In its history, Warsaw has encountered many tragic moments, including the Swedish invasion, known as the Deluge, and the final partition of the Polish nation in 1795. However, the single most destructive period for Warsaw was World War II. During the Nazi occupation, the Polish capital was totally destroyed. According to post-war statistics, around eighty percent of the city's buildings were obliterated and half of the population of Warsaw perished. Of all Polish cities, Warsaw and its citizens arguably suffered the most during the Second World War and its aftermath. After the war, its citizens tried to rebuild the "new" Warsaw to resemble as close as possible its "old" self. However, the damage was so immense that only the Old Town was restored to match pre-war plans. The rest of the capital's architecture was mainly designed to provide housing for those who survived the war and for newcomers. Using communist construction techniques, tall concrete blocks sprouted rapidly-quality often sacrificed for quantity. Since the fall of communism, Warsaw has changed markedly. With a growing number of new businesses, modern skyscrapers, and fast-developing cultural life, Warsaw has become the most popular attraction for tourists in Poland.

2. Family Life

Families in Poland generally still fall into the traditional mold. There is a small difference between urban and rural families: urban families tend to be smaller with one or two children, while in the villages there still exists a need for larger families, where children are often still expected to contribute to farm labor, and, in time, take over entirely.

It is not unusual for younger Poles to stay and live with their parents until they are well into their twenties or thirties or until they get married. Both the cost of living and real estate values in Poland are so high in comparison to most incomes that not many younger, single Poles can afford moving out and living on their own. It is also not uncommon for several generations along with their individual families to live under one roof.

Polish gender roles are still quite traditional, with men working and supporting the families and women taking care of the children and the house. However, this trend is slowly changing. More and more mothers want to climb the career ladder and dads are somewhat more willing to stay at home and take over their wives' responsibilities.

In recent years, however, a number of problems have arisen that Polish families and society must now face. One of them is a decreasing number of births. The main contributing factor to this decline in the birthrate is a delay in tying the knot among younger Poles. More and more, Poles are delaying starting their families until they have sufficiently established themselves in a career. Also, soon after Poland joined the European Union, a lot of young Poles left, looking for better paid jobs, hoping to start their families abroad.

3. Polish Economy

The Polish economy is considered to be one of the fastest-growing economies in Central Europe. Soon after the fall of communism, Poland's economy experienced massive privatization of previously state-owned companies. Also, as a result of new laws concerning the creation of new business entities, the private sector expanded quickly and now accounts for more than two-thirds of Poland's gross domestic product (GDP).

When it comes to industry, the most popular and profitable sectors remain machine building, iron and steel, coal mining, chemicals, ship building, food processing, and glass production.

Some well-known companies in Poland are:

1. PKN Orlen (Petrochemical corporation)
2. PZU (Insurance company)
3. Telekomunikacja Polska ("Polish Telecommunication")
4. Poczta Polska ("Polish Post")

5. Fiat (Polish branch of the Fiat Group)

With regard to export goods, Poland is known for exporting electrical and electrotechnical equipment, transport equipment, chemical products, machinery, and textiles.

Since its entry into the European Union, Poland has become one of the world's most popular outsourcing destinations, mainly because of its central location and well-educated, yet cheap by comparison, workforce.

4. Political System

Poland is a democratic parliamentary republic. The president is the official head of state and is elected popularly every five years. While his main role is to represent the nation in world affairs, one important political function that the president does posses is the power of veto over legislation parliament passes.

The Polish parliament consists of two chambers, the lower house, called the *Sejm*, with four hundred and sixty members, and the upper house, called the Senate, which has one hundred members. Parliamentary elections take place every four years. The Senate was only recently established in 1989, so it is a fairly new element in the government. Before that there was just a one-chamber parliament that consisted of the Sejm only.

The Prime Minister, who is the political head of government and of a multi-party system, is appointed by the president and confirmed by the Sejm. The Prime Minister, together with a council of ministers, represents the executive branch of the Polish government. As in many constitutional governments, the remaining powers are separated among the judiciary and legislative branches.

The political scene is mainly represented by two parties:

1. *Platforma Obywatelska* ("Civic Platform")

2. *Prawo i Sprawiedliwość* ("Law and Justice").

5. Generational Trends

Generally speaking, there is quite a gap between the older and the younger generation in Poland, especially in their attitudes toward work. The older generation shows a strong sense of loyalty to their employers and places work very high on their priority list. Very often, they stay with the same company for their entire lives. The younger generation is not that loyal. If dissatisfied with some aspects of their job, they often immediately look for a new workplace. They very often expect to be promoted quickly, regardless of their experience and the time spent with the company. Also, they have become very demanding as far as work benefits and conditions are concerned.

The older generation knows how to be patient; the younger generation should learn from that.

LESSON NOTES

All About S1 #9
Top 5 Important Dates During the Polish Calendar Year!

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

9

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Top Five Important Dates During the Polish Calendar Year.

Below we have listed the official Polish national holidays. On these days, schools, government institutions, banks, and most companies are officially closed.

Date	***Polish***	**"English"**
January 1	*Nowy Rok*	"New Year's Day"
March/April	*Niedziela i Poniedziałek Wielkanocny*	"Easter Sunday and Easter Monday"
May 1	*Święto pracy*	"Labor Day"
May 3	*Święto Konstytucji Trzeciego Maja*	"Constitution Day"
May/June	*Boże Ciało*	"Corpus Christi"
August 15	*Wniebowzięcie Najświętszej Marii Panny*	"The Assumption"
November 1	*Wszystkich Świętych*	"All Saints' Day"
November 11	*Święto Niepodległości*	"Independence Day"
December 24 and 25	*Boże Narodzenie*	"Christmas"

Now here we will present the most important holidays for Poles:

The Fifth Most Important Holiday for Poles is Mother's Day.

Even though Mother's Day is not a day off from work, it has become a highly celebrated holiday in Polish families. *Dzień Matki* ("Mother's Day") is always celebrated on the twenty-sixth day of May.

The Greeks originated this holiday by celebrating the goddess Rhea, the mother of all gods, every spring. In ancient Rome, in the fifth century before Christ, the pagan custom was to celebrate Matralia, a festivity honoring women and mothers.

In Poland, Mother's Day was celebrated for the first time in 1923 in Cracow. Since then, people have widely celebrated this day throughout the whole country, especially young children. Children meticulously prepare gifts at school such as cards, poems, and the like. Another traditional gift is a nice bouquet of flowers. Older children try to relieve their mothers from their everyday chores such as cleaning and cooking.

The Fourth Most Important Holiday in Poland is New Year's Eve.

There are many different ways Poles celebrate *Sylwester* ("New Year's Eve"). Many people host parties at their house, with fireworks and a sufficient amount of alcohol. Also, restaurants and clubs organize New Year's Eve celebrations; however, there is usually a fee associated with them. Ticket prices usually range from one hundred dollars to four hundred dollars per couple and attendees have to purchase tickets in advance. Most often, there is food and a bottle of champagne included in the price.

Most larger Polish cities host live concerts for New Year's Eve, usually in a market square or other central location. Just before midnight, Poles will do a common countdown and as soon as midnight strikes, friends and strangers wish each other *Szczęśliwego Nowego Roku* ("Happy New Year"). Seconds later, there is a spectacular display of fireworks. If you decide to celebrate New Year's Eve this way, be cautious. Some overzealous celebrants tend to spray champagne everywhere and toss the bottles about. Look out for fireworks from the crowd as well.

The Third Most Important Holiday in Poland is All Saints' Day.

We celebrate *Wszystkich Świętych* ("All Saints' Day") on the first day of November. People widely observe this holiday throughout the whole of Poland. It is a day when Poles visit cemeteries to pray and remember those who have passed away. They pay their respects with

flowers, beautiful wreaths, and an unbelievable amount of candles. At night, these lit candles people place throughout entire cemeteries look especially spectacular and amazing. Since it is a day off work, it is common for those who have moved away from their hometowns to return for this occasion to visit not only family, but also the graves of their lost loved ones. These celebrations extend to the following day in a lesser degree.

The Second Most Important Holiday in Poland is Easter.

Easter is definitely one of the most important holidays in Poland. Since it is a movable holiday, it can fall any day between the twenty-second day of March and the twenty-fifth day of April. It all starts with *Niedziela Palmowa* ("Palm Sunday"), which begins *Wielki Tydzień* ("Holy Week") for Christians. On Palm Sunday, Poles go to church with little palms usually made from willow branches or straw and decorated with colorful ribbons. In some parts of Poland, people make their own palms that can reach up to ten meters high. Some churches even hold a contest for the most beautiful handmade palm.

On *Wielka Sobota* ("Holy Saturday"), Poles prepare baskets filled with different foods, such as bread, sausage, eggs, horseradish, and salt and pepper, and then they go to church to have the baskets blessed. *Pisanki* ("decorated eggs") are very characteristic of Polish Easter. You can recognize *pisanki* by their intricate and colorful folk patterns. You can make them using hard-boiled eggs, or you can simply buy *pisanki* made of wood that could easily become a souvenir.

On *Niedziela Wielkanocna* ("Easter Sunday morning"), families go to church early and afterward they eat a solemn breakfast made from the food blessed on Saturday. Before the meal, some families share eggs, wishing each other all the best.

On *Poniedziałek Wielkanocny* ("Easter Monday"), also known as *Lany Poniedziałek* or *Śmigus-Dyngus* ("Wet Monday"), Poles sprinkle each other with water-sometimes it is really just a sprinkling, but many other times Poles "sprinkle" each other with buckets of water. Theories as to the source of this tradition vary, and time has only served to obscure its origins further. Some claim the practice traces its roots to a pagan ritual whereby a dousing with water symbolized the joy felt at the end of winter; others contend that a sprinkling with water is supposed to bring fertility and a quick marriage for young maidens.

The Most Important Holiday in Poland is Christmas.

Since Poland is mostly a Catholic country, Catholic celebrations play an important role in the lives of many Poles. The latest estimates count approximately ninety-five percent of Poles as Catholic. *Święta Bożego Narodzenia* ("Christmas") is definitely the most celebrated and the most observed holiday of all.

Wigilia ("Christmas Eve"), the twenty-fourth day of December, is the most celebrated day of the entire year in Polish homes. The most important event of this day is a solemn supper that, according to tradition, should begin when the first star appears in the sky. Before the meal, Polish families pray together and share *opłatek,* a special blessed Christmas wafer, wishing each other all the best. No meat is served on *Wigilia,* and the supper itself traditionally should consist of twelve dishes-representing the twelve apostles-including specialties of Polish cuisine such as carp and *barszcz czerwony* ("red borscht"). There is always one extra place set at the table for an unexpected guest, symbolizing an expectation of the coming of Jesus Christ and remembrance of those passed on.

After the supper, Polish families exchange gifts and sing Christmas carols. Just before midnight, Poles go to church for a midnight mass called *pasterka*. There are many beliefs associated with Christmas Eve and this special night. For example, some believe that at midnight animals speak with a human voice and the water in wells turns into wine.

Poles spend most of Christmas Day with immediate family. People go to church, eat, and relax. They reserve the second day of Christmas, the twenty-sixth day of December, for visits with extended family and close friends.

LESSON NOTES

All About S1 #10
Top 5 Polish Pop Culture Icons You Need to Know About!

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

10

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Top Five Things You Need to Know about Pop Culture in Poland.

In this lesson, we will try to introduce you to some of the most important elements that combine to create what we will refer to as Polish pop culture. From sports and music to film and politics, a long list of Poles have made valuable contributions to Polish history and society that make them worthy of memory both in Poland and the world.

Number Five Pop Culture Must-Know: Popular Sports Figures

If you're interested in sports, you might be able to recognize some of the sports figures we introduce below. Even though Poland is a relatively small country, it has a great number of extraordinary sportsmen and women that are well-known beyond its borders and who have made important contributions to a wide range of sports disciplines.

Ski Jumping

Adam Małysz is one of the world's most successful ski jumpers and Polish sportsman of recent memory. He has won a number of medals and several championships during his career, including a total of thirty-eight victories in World Cup competitions, and silver and bronze medals in the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics in 2002. With his last World Cup victory in 2007, in 2009, Małysz posted two second-place finishes and a third-place finish in Lillehammer.

Weightlifting/Strong Man Competitions

Mariusz Pudzianowski, also known as Pudzian, is one of the leading and most easily recognized Polish sportsmen in the world today. Mariusz stands an impressive 6'1" and currently weighs in at 313 pounds. He has held the title of World's Strongest Man five times- more championships than any other competitor in history.

Shot Put

During the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics, Tomasz Majewski won the gold medal in shot put.

During the 2009 World Championships in Berlin, he placed second, winning a silver medal.

Swimming

One of the most renowned Polish swimmers is Otylia Jędrzejczak. She was an Olympic champion in Athens in 2004 in the two hundred meter butterfly. Also in 2004, she won two silver medals: one in the four hundred meter freestyle and another in the one hundred meter butterfly. On her twenty-fourth birthday, December 13, 2007, she broke the world record in the women's butterfly with a time of 2:03:53.

Number Four Pop Culture Must-Know: Popular Music

Even though recent years brought a wave of Western influence to Polish popular music, the Polish music scene has been able to preserve a certain manner of "Polishness" and definitely has a lot to offer.

With rock/pop groups such as Lady Pank, Budka Suflera, O.N.A., Big Cyc, Elektryczne gitary, Myslovitz and vocalists such as Kasia Kowalska, Kayah, Ania Dąbrowska, and Ewelina Flinta, you can sample Polish rhythms that the whole country loves and hums.

Bands like Golec uOrkiestra or Brathanki offer a unique, particularly Polish sound, mixing pop rhythms with Polish folk music: their music is rich in folk elements such as foot stomping, whistling, and high-pitched singing. These groups also feature traditional instrumentation including violin, trumpet, accordion, and trombone.

If you are more of a hip-hop fan, check out the following bands: Mezo, Molesta Ewenement, and Paktofonika.

Number Three Pop Culture Must-Know: Polish Men and Women Abroad

---

Throughout the centuries, Poland has produced its share of world-famous figures, such as Copernicus, Marie Curie-Skłodowska, Frederick Chopin, Solidarity hero Lech Wałęsa, and Pope John Paul II, who have left their mark on history. Today, however, the latest wave of Poles to achieve success abroad has been concentrated in more commercialized industries such as modeling and sports.

Often praised for their beauty, Polish models appear on both runways and magazine pages around the world. *Maxim* magazine recently voted Joanna Krupa, born in Warsaw but raised in the United States, as the "Sexiest Swimsuit Model in the World." She has appeared regularly in print media, on the big screen, and on television, and she was recently featured in the 2009 edition of America's "Dancing with the Stars."

Magdalena Wróbel, another Polish beauty, has appeared as a Victoria's Secret model as well as in the advertisements of the world's largest fashion designers and cosmetic companies.

As for successful Polish sportsmen who have taken their talents abroad, perhaps the most recognizable in Europe would be Jerzy Dudek. After spending several years filling the role of goalkeeper for both Feyenoord Rotterdam in the Netherlands and Liverpool in England, Jerzy has since changed his colors and now has played for Real Madrid since the 2007-2008 season. Dudek was also instrumental in helping Poland to secure the Euro 2012 competition jointly with Ukraine.

Mariusz Czerkawski has made his mark on the ice in the National Hockey League by playing for various teams from 1993 until 2006, when he returned to play two seasons in European hockey leagues. Mariusz retired in 2008 and is well-known for his nickname, the Polish Prince.

Since Poland's entry into the European Union, Poles have been much more active on the world's political stage. Jerzy Buzek, prime minister of Poland from 1997 to 2001, has been a member of the European Parliament since 2004, and he was recently elected its twenty-eighth president in July 2009.

While currently residing once again in Poland, Radosław Sikorski made an unsuccessful run for the position of Secretary General of NATO in 2009. He has also spent time as a professor in the United States. Currently, he is the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Poland.

Number Two Pop Culture Must-Know: Poland's Movie Industry

Despite strict censorship and repression of the free press, Poland's years of communism ironically provided the most fruitful ground for Polish film directors, such as Andrzej Wajda and Roman Polański, who made their most remarkable pieces during this period.

Andrzej Wajda is still active professionally. He has created a long list of movies that have become staples of Polish filmography, such as *Człowiek z marmuru* ("Man of Marble") and

Człowiek z żelaza ("Man of Iron"), both made in the seventies and eighties. Wajda most recently directed the movie *Katyń* in 2007. He often finds the inspiration for his movies in tragic and painful events in Polish history. Wajda received an honorary Oscar in 2000 for his contributions to world cinema. His films are regularly nominated in the category of Best Foreign Language Film.

Roman Polański, although born in France, moved to Poland as a young child and later studied film and acting. He produced only one Polish feature-length film, *Nóż w wodzie* "Knife in the Water"), before leaving for the West, where he is perhaps best known for works such as "Chinatown" and "Rosemary's Baby." In 2002, he won an Academy Award for Best Director for his movie "The Pianist."

Another Polish director, who unfortunately died in 1996, is Krzysztof Kieślowski. His ten-part TV series *Dekalog* ("The Decalogue"), based on the Ten Commandments, as well as his trilogy *Trzy kolory: Niebieski, Biały, Czerwony* ("Three Colors: Blue, White, and Red"), brought him worldwide recognition and important international film awards for the latter.

Other film directors worth mentioning are Agnieszka Holland and Krzysztof Zanussi.

Since the fall of communism, Polish cinema more and more mirrors Western trends and has lately favored shallow romantic comedies and action films. Poles are still waiting for extraordinary film directors of the quality of those seen in past years.

Number One Pop Culture Must-Know: Popular Television in Poland

---

Polish television has been experiencing a huge influx of foreign television series, mainly American, such as "Sex and the City," "Desperate Housewives," "CSI Miami," and "Prison Break." Also, TV game shows such as *Familiada* ("Family Feud"), *Jaka to melodia?* ("Name That Tune") and *Milionerzy* ("Who Wants to Be a Millionaire") are among the most-watched programs on Polish TV.

However, television producers have been successful in trying to come up with their own programs that would illustrate to some degree the lives of ordinary Poles that have to cope with problems of everyday life.

One of the most popular recent Polish series is *39 i pół* ("Thirty-nine and a Half"), a show that tells the story of an average guy, Dariusz, approaching the age of forty who is fighting through his midlife crisis.

Samo życie ("Just Life"), another Polish TV mini-series, centers on the daily newspaper of the same title, *Samo życie,* and its employees, who encounter everyday difficulties both in their professional and personal lives.

As for TV game shows, one of the recent successful ones is *Kocham cię Polsko* ("I Love You, Poland"). On the show, celebrities answer questions about Poland, its history, and its personalities, as well as Polish spelling.

LESSON NOTES

All About S1 #11
Top 5 Tools for Learning Polish!

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

11

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Top Five Tools for Learning Polish.

Learning a language requires a lot of commitment, and the right tools to do it wouldn't hurt either. We would like to help you improve your Polish skills as much as we can. That's why we've created a list of helpful learning tools that you can use as supplemental material while studying Polish.

Having access to diverse learning tools ranging from online dictionaries to pronunciation tools will allow you to not only immerse yourself deeper in the language but also achieve great results faster.

The top five tools for learning Polish are:

1. resource books
2. online dictionaries
3. spelling checks
4. songs and radio stations
5. pronunciation tools

Tool One: Resource Books

There is certainly no shortage of resource books written especially for foreigners who want to study the Polish language. They range from very basic picture dictionaries to more complex publications for near-native speakers. The publisher Universitas in particular offers a wide selection of great resource books for those learning Polish as a second language. You can check to see what Universitas offers on its website at www.universitas.com.pl. Universitas marks the covers of all books it publishes for learners of the Polish language with the appropriate learning level for which they are meant to be used, ranging from A1 and A2 for beginners, through B1 and B2 for intermediate students, to C1 and C2 for those approaching

a native speaking level.

Below we present a short excerpt from the Common European Framework of Reference, which codifies language-learning progress and progression standards into levels, as mentioned above, ranging from A1 to C2, that will help you decide what your current level of ability is within a given language.

Proficient user C2 - Can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read. Can summarize information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments and accounts in a coherent presentation. Can express himself/herself spontaneously, very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of meaning even in more complex situations.

Proficient user C1: Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts and recognize implicit meaning. Can express himself/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic, and professional purposes. Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organizational patterns, connectors, and cohesive devices.

Independent user B2: Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialization. Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party. Can produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.

Independent user B1: Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. Can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst traveling in an area where the language is spoken. Can produce simple connected text on topics that are familiar or of personal interest. Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes, and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.

Basic user A2: Can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g., very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment). Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. Can describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment, and matters in areas of

immediate need.

Basic user A1 - Can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Can introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows, and things he/she has. Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.

Tool Two: Online Dictionaries

There is a wide selection of online dictionaries available that will allow you not only to check a single word but also entire phrases all in one click of your mouse.

Check out the following websites:

1. www.ling.pl: It's one of the best Polish online dictionaries created thus far. Besides offering roughly one hundred and fifty thousand Polish-English entries, it also contains more advanced idioms and expressions. It is available in the following languages: English, French, Russian, German, Spanish, and, of course, Polish.

2. www.dict.pl: Another good website definitely worth pointing out. The creators of this dictionary came up with an excellent idea: every week they present a new group of words as their "words of the week" in Polish with their English equivalents. The words of the week are usually thematically connected to current events or an upcoming holiday.

3. www.univ.gda.pl: Offers a dictionary of Polish slang that will definitely come in handy while visiting Poland.

4. http://portalwiedzy.onet.pl/polszczyzna.html: For more advanced students, we recommend visiting this website. It offers a wide selection of Polish dictionaries such as "The Dictionary of Polish Antonyms and Synonyms," "The Dictionary of Polish Spelling," "The Dictionary of Correct Polish," and even "The Crossword Puzzle Dictionary." Simply type in the Polish word you're looking for in the search engine and it will search for this word in all the above-mentioned dictionaries.

Tool Three: Spelling Check

Unfortunately, there are not too many programs that could help you check your Polish spelling. However, you can always install spelling check for Microsoft Windows on your computer. Also, the software OpenOffice.org offers such a tool.

Tool Four: Songs and Radio Stations

Listening to songs and talk radio is one of the best ways to learn a foreign language. If you are able to understand songs in a foreign language, it means you have made quite a bit of progress. Being able to understand song lyrics is one of the most difficult tasks when it comes to mastering a new language. Tune your ear and get ready for a lot of fun. Maybe when visiting Poland you will have a chance to use your Polish skills and vocal attributes while singing some Polish karaoke. Also, talk radio can help you master some finer elements of the language, such as accent and intonation. As a beginning student, pick out single words that you recognize and then try to build an entire context around them. It's great practice for your pronouns too.

Look for CDs from performers such as Grzegorz Turnau, Justyna Steczkowska, Maryla Rodowicz, Irena Santor, Czesław Niemen, and Czerwone Gitary. Also, compilations of Polish songs from these singers would be a great idea for a learner of the Polish language to get a taste of each of their individual musical styles and varying levels of difficulty.

If you are a beginner, listen to a song with the lyrics in front of you and then try to look up the words you don't already know. This way you're getting to know new vocabulary and its pronunciation. On the other hand, if you are a more advanced student, listen to a song without the lyrics at first. Challenge yourself, checking how much you are able to understand before referring to the written lyrics.

For students of all levels, we strongly recommend the website www.radio.biz.pl that offers a wide variety of Polish radio stations that you can play on your PC or your laptop. Just click on the desired radio station and it will automatically open and begin to play. The most popular radio stations include RMF FM, Radio Zet, and also the public channels such as Jedynka and Dwójka.

There is also a great publication available under the title *Księżyc w butonierce* by Ewa

Lipińska that's meant for more advanced students. The whole book is based on the songs of Andrzej Sikorowski and his band Grupa pod budą. It has a lot of interesting exercises that help to improve your listening skills. There is also an accompanying CD with the book.

Tool Five: Pronunciation Tools

Unfortunately, there aren't that many pronunciation tools available out there. You can listen to pronunciation of selected words on www.wiktionary.org. Besides the actual pronunciation, the website also offers information about declensions, conjugations, and syntax.

For newbies, we can recommend the website www.slavic-net.org. It is not a pronunciation tool per se. It's a website with different basic dialogues and simple vocabulary you can listen to. When you visit the website, just click on the Polish Flag or the abbreviation PL. On the next screen, click the word *Moduły* ("Modules") to access available topics. There are eleven topics organized thematically to choose from.

LESSON NOTES

All About S1 #12
Top 5 Polish Classroom Phrases!

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

#12

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Top Five Most Useful Phrases for Learning Polish.

In today's lesson, we would like to introduce you to a set of very important Polish phrases that will especially come in handy in a classroom setting. Once taking a Polish class, you will be immediately and entirely immersed in Polish. The teacher usually won't speak even a single word in English, and he or she will expect you to follow and comprehend what's going on. Teachers want you to be totally engaged in the language so that you can understand it and begin speaking it as soon as possible. If you would like to ask your teacher to repeat something or write something down for you, it's best to ask in Polish. Your teacher will appreciate the fact that you know the appropriate phrases and that you put a lot of effort into it, and you will gain your teacher's respect right from the very beginning.

Let's have a look at some useful phrases.

Phrase One: *Nie rozumiem* ("I don't understand")

An absolute essential for beginner students! Imagine that your teacher says something in Polish and you don't have the slightest idea what it means. In such an instance, simply say *Nie rozumiem* [nyee ro-zu-myem], meaning "I don't understand." You can also add to the above phrase the word *przepraszam,* meaning "I'm sorry," to make the phrase even more polite. The whole phrase would be *Przepraszam*, *nie rozumiem*, meaning "I'm sorry. I don't understand."

Phrase Two: *Proszę powtórzyć* ("Repeat, please")

You think you're very close to understanding what the teacher was saying; however, you're still missing just a few words and you'd like to ask the teacher to repeat it. In such a situation, use the phrase *Proszę powtórzyć* [pro-sheh pof-too-zhich], meaning "Repeat, please."

If one repetition is not enough, try the phrase *Proszę powtórzyć jeszcze raz* [pro-sheh pof-too-zhich yesh-che raz], meaning "Repeat it once again, please." Hopefully, this phrase is going to help you with any doubts that you might have.

Phrase Three: *Co to znaczy?* ("What does it mean?")

Well, you asked the teacher to repeat the sentence but you're still struggling with its meaning. It's time for another useful phrase that will help save your skin. Ask the teacher *Co to znaczy?* [tso toh znachy], meaning "What does it mean?" This way, you will know once and for all its meaning.

If you don't understand one or two words from the whole sentence, ask specifically for these particular words using the phrase *Co znaczy...?* ("What does...mean?") and then say the word you didn't catch. For example, let's say you don't know the meaning of the word *pies.* To find out its meaning, say *Co znaczy pies?* ("What does 'dog' mean?")

Phrase Four: *Proszę to napisać* ("Write that down, please")

This time it's not about understanding what the teacher is saying. Instead, it's time to put the words and sentences on paper. You already know what they mean, so you just need the spelling so you can match the sounds with the way they're written. It's time for the phrase *Proszę to napisać* [pro-sheh toh na-pee-sach], meaning "Write that down, please."

You will have a chance to use this phrase not only when taking Polish classes but also outside of the classroom: for example, you might use it when hanging out with your Polish friends or when asking a total stranger to write down the name of a street for you.

Phrase Five: *Jak się mówi po polsku...?* ("How do you say...in Polish?")

Now you're definitely making progress. It's time to get to know the question that will help you build up your vocabulary and expand your options while speaking.

Thanks to the question *Jak się mówi po polsku....?* [yak sheh moo-vee po pol-skoo], meaning "How do you say...in Polish?" you can ask for words and phrases that you would like to know, but for whatever reason haven't learned yet.

LESSON NOTES

All About S1 #13
Top 5 Polish Phrases Your Teacher Will Never Teach You!

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

13

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Top Five Phrases Your Teacher Won't Teach You.

It's one thing to study formal Polish in the safe environment of a classroom. However, stepping out into the world, where you're likely to encounter a brand of Polish much different than what you've heard in the classroom, demands that we present a list of the most essential Polish phrases you're not likely to learn from your teacher.

We would like you to get familiar with the top five Polish phrases that we think you'll be sure to hear on your trip in Poland, but may have some trouble finding in your dictionary. These will be all very casual phrases, so please only use them with your friends or people you know very well.

Enjoy!

Phrase One: *No* ("Yes")

As you know, the equivalent of the English "yes" in Polish is *tak*. However, most Poles also widely use the word *no* [noh] as its very casual counterpart. It can be especially confusing for English speakers because it's written exactly the same way as the English "no," and to a certain degree, also sounds like the English "no." Thankfully, a minor difference in its pronunciation should help you recognize its frequent use in conversation. We pronounce the Polish *no* with a short *-o* at the end. We could consider the Polish *no* the rough equivalent of a casual "yeah" in English. We would like to stress once again that we should only use *no* in very familiar and unofficial situations. If you use it otherwise, people consider the word *no* rude and offensive. Expect to hear it often among family and friends.

Phrase Two: *Spoko* ("No problem; Okay; Sure")

Another very casual phrase that you will hear on a regular basis is *spoko* [spo-koh]. It's derived from the word *spokojnie*, meaning "calmly" or "easy." However, since *spoko,* especially in recent years, has been one of the most popular phrases in common Polish usage, its meaning has expanded beyond that of the original "easy," and Poles now use the

word in an increasing number of situations. Today we translate *spoko* in its most basic form to mean "no problem," "sure," and "okay." You can also use this expression to describe a person, an event, or a thing.

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
spoko dziewczyna	"great girl"
spoko impreza	"great party"
spoko film	"great movie"

Luckily, you don't even have to worry about declining the word *spoko* since it only appears in this one form.
Even though people usually associate the use of this word with teenagers, Poles have noted that even some older people have adopted it in their vocabulary.

Phrase Three: *Spadaj* ("Get lost")

Another phrase Poles frequently use in informal Polish is *spadaj* [spa-dye], which translates to "get lost." Again, it is strictly an informal phrase, so don't under any circumstances use it with strangers-unless you really mean it! Reserve it for your friends or people in whose company you feel comfortable. When we use this phrase among friends, it is very often a colorful and humorous way to express disagreement or displeasure. If we use it otherwise, people might misinterpret your intentions and moreover, get offended.

Depending on whom you're addressing, the expression *spadaj* can have two possible forms. It's either *spadaj* when you talk to one person only or *spadajcie* if you're addressing a group of people.

Phrase Four: *Ale czad* ("Wow")

Another expression that you will hear in your travels throughout Poland is *ale czad* [ale chad] ("wow"). You can use this phrase when something great or exciting happened and you would

like to express your admiration. Saying *ale czad* with a lot of feeling in your voice will for sure do the trick.

On the other hand, when something embarrassing occurs, or, in a negative sense, something unbelievable occurs, the phrase *ale czad* will come in handy as well.

Derived from this expression is the adjective *czadowy*, which is a back formation from the word *czad* and has the following meanings: "great," "extra," and "stylish." If you see something that you really like, use *czadowy* to describe it.

For Example:

Polish	"English"
czadowa sukienka	"great dress"
czadowa impreza	"great party"
czadowy chłopak	"great boy"

Phrase Five: *Kombinować* and Its Many Meanings

The word *kombinować* [kom-bee-noh-vach] is an integral word to know in Polish slang. Also, understanding its many meanings will help cast some light on a little bit of Polish history and Polish mentality.

Depending on the context, we can translate the verb *kombinować* as:

1. "to live by one's wits"; "to connive"
2. "to do illegal business"
3. "to put together, to combine"

You will most often hear people use it to mean to obtain or acquire something by perhaps less than legal means. When you must *kombinować* to get something that you want, it usually means that you cannot obtain the item you seek in any other way. Be careful, as people often

use the word to suggest illegal means such as bribery, trickery, or even force; however, we also use it as a colorful and humorous way to describe anything that might be difficult to find or afford.

The verb *kombinować* to some extent mirrors Polish mentality, although maybe to a lesser degree today than in the past; however, the characteristic is still present. In communist times, when people needed to get food rations and other necessary supplies to make a normal everyday existence, they very often had to *kombinować* in order to get them. Many items simply couldn't be purchased and Poles had to be resourceful in order to get their hands on what limited quantities existed. Apartments, for example, weren't simply bought and sold as we think of in western real estate; however, one was assigned an apartment by the government. To obtain such an official assignment from the government often required a good deal of *kombinowanie* ("conniving").

Nowadays, if a Pole uses the word *kombinować*, he's probably trying to solve a problem or get something that is simply difficult to find. It can be something very small, such as a package of cigarettes, but also something much bigger, such as money or electronic supplies.

Kombinować is an imperfective verb and has as its perfective counterpart *skombinować*. It belongs to the conjugation *-ę, -esz* with the first- and second-person forms *(ja) kombinuję* and *(ty) kombinujesz.*

LESSON NOTES

All About S1 #14
Top 5 Polish Language Mistakes You Should Never Make!

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

14

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Top Five Mistakes Not to Make When Speaking Polish.

Every language is unique. Its uniqueness lies in its history and evolution throughout the centuries, as well as the evolution of those who speak it. Every language has acquired certain features in its vocabulary, syntax, and grammar that are specific to that one particular language. As a result, these features, absent in other languages and completely foreign to new students of the language, are often much more difficult to master and require a greater measure of patience and resolve on the part of the student. Polish is certainly no exception to this rule.

In today's lesson, we would like to introduce you to some of those peculiar features of the Polish language that make the lives of many students and even native speakers miserable, features with which you will probably make a lot of mistakes in the beginning of your study. Don't let them discouraged you. Making mistakes is an unavoidable part of the learning process; however, the sooner you are aware of them, the faster improvement will come.

Mistake Number One: Gender Agreement

Gender agreement errors are very common not only among beginning students, but also among more advanced ones. As you know from the third lesson, Painless Polish Grammar, every noun in Polish has a gender assigned to it. Knowing the gender of a noun is essential as it determines the forms of adjectives, pronouns, and numbers that describe this one particular noun.

Memorizing some simple rules will help you choose the right gender in the nick of time. Remember that the easiest way to recognize the noun's gender is to look at its nominative singular form (the form you will find in the dictionary.)

Masculine Nouns

Masculine nouns usually end in a consonant.

For Example:

Polish	"English"
student	"student"
pies	"dog"
telefon	"telephone"

Remember, however, that there are also some masculine nouns that end in the vowel *-a.*

For Example:

Polish	"English"
artysta	"artist"
dentysta	"dentist"
kolega	"friend," "colleague"

These exceptions are words that usually describe masculine professions or roles males generally fill.

Feminine Nouns

Feminine nouns take the ending *-a* in the nominative singular...

For Example:

Polish	"English"
kobieta	"woman"
lalka	"doll"
lampa	"lamp"

and the ending *-i*.

For Example:

Polish	"English"
pani	"ma'am"
gospodyni	"hostess"

Neuter Nouns

We can easily recognize neuter nouns by the following endings in the nominative singular:

-ę
For Example:

1. *imię*
   "name"
2. *kurczę*
   "chick"

-o
For Example:

1. *krzesło*
   "chair"
2. *okno*
   "window"

-e
For Example:

1. *słońce*
   "sun"
   morze
   "sea"

And -*um*
For Example:

1. *muzeum*
   "museum"

2. *liceum*
   "high school"

Let's have a look at how adjectives, pronouns, and numbers change their endings depending on the gender of the noun that they describe.

Adjectives:

1. *czysty pies*
   "clean dog"
   Since the noun *pies* is masculine, the adjective has to have a masculine ending too.

2. *czysta filiżanka*
   "clean cup"

Filiżanka is a feminine noun, hence the ending of *czysta.*

1. *czyste okno*
   "clean window"

"Window" is neuter and influences the ending of *czyste* accordingly.

Pronouns:

Polish	**"English"**
mój pies	"my dog"
moja filiżanka	"my cup"
moje okno	"my window"

Numbers:

Polish	"English"
jeden pies	"one dog"
jedna filiżanka	"one cup"
jedno okno	"one window"

Remember, if you need to describe a noun using either an adjective, a pronoun, or a number, always make sure that the gender agrees.

Mistake Number Two: Declension of Surnames, both Polish and Foreign

---

Declension is another element of the Polish language that can cause a great deal of difficulty and stress, especially when it comes to the declension of surnames. All Polish and most foreign names are declined according to the seven grammatical cases in the Polish language: nominative, genitive, dative, accusative, instrumental, locative, and vocative, which is rarely used, in both singular and plural. The declension of surnames is divided into two main groups: names that are declined like nouns, for example, Nowak, Bush, and Monet; and names that are declined like adjectives, for example, Brzozowski, Szczepańska, and Kennedy.

There are countless numbers of rules as to how to decline names including what declension type they belong to based on their endings and, in the case of foreign names, whether you should decline them using their original spellings or instead use the Polish equivalent or approximation.

Don't be disappointed, but besides directing you to a good dictionary or a resource book, there's nothing constructive we can recommend to help you cope with this issue. You can try to choose a couple of names that represent each declension group, memorize them, and then try to apply them accordingly. However, it's going to be very challenging and might be even discouraging.

Regarding great resources, we recommend *Polszczyzna na co dzień* published by Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN. This resource offers a great insight into the declension of

Polish personal names. Also, *Słownik odmian rzeczowników polskich* ("Polish Dictionary of Declensions of Polish Nouns") by S. Mędak is an indispensable source of help.

Mistake Number Three: Aspect of Verbs in Polish

The aspect of verbs is one of the single most difficult features of the Polish language, making the lives of many students miserable and gloomy. The language uses this feature to express whether an action has been completed or will be completed in the future (perfective verbs, for example, *przeczytać*, meaning "to read") or whether an action is still in progress or is repeated on a regular basis (imperfective verbs, for example, *czytać*, also meaning "to read"). Compare the following two examples:

1. *Wczoraj przeczytałem całą książkę.*
   "Yesterday, I read a whole book."

2. *Wczoraj od ósmej do dziesiątej czytałem książkę.*
   "Yesterday, I was reading from eight o'clock to ten o'clock."

The problem is not only the fact that you have to decide whether an action is going to be completed or not (especially if you have to foresee the future) but also you have to remember that almost every English verb will have two counterparts in Polish (one imperfective and one perfective) that you have to memorize and use accordingly.

The only solution to this problem is to listen to people speak Polish as much as possible to observe certain patterns as to when to use imperfective and perfective verbs. Try to speak as much as you can yourself so that people can correct you in case you use the wrong aspect. Also, use the third All About lesson, Painless Polish Grammar, as a reference for this feature.

Mistake Number Four: Pronouns *swój, swoja, swoje*

Besides regular possessive pronouns such as *mój* ("my"), *twój* ("your" singular), *jego* ("his"), *jej* ("her"), *nasz* ("our"), *wasz* ("your" plural), and *ich* ("their"), in Polish we also use the following pronouns: *swój* (masculine), *swoja* (feminine), and *swoje* (neuter.)

Use the pronouns *swój*, *swoja,* and *swoje* instead of the regular possessive pronouns ("my,"

"your," "his," etc.) when the subject of the sentence is also the owner of the object of the sentence.

Let's have a look at some examples so you'll find this easier to understand.

In the sentence *Mam swoje ciasto* ("I have my own cake"), the noun *ciasto* ("cake") is the object of the sentence and is also the possession of the subject. Therefore, we use the pronoun *swoje*. Using the regular possessive pronoun *moje* ("my") would be a mistake. We can use the pronoun *swoje* (also meaning "my") only.

Another example is the sentence *On przyniesie swoje filmy* ("He will bring his own movies"). If this sentence were to read *On przyniesie jego filmy*, it would mean instead "He will bring his movies," meaning that the subject will be bringing an unnamed third party's movies.

Mistake Number Five: The Verbs *znać, wiedzieć*, and *umieć*

In Polish, there are three verbs, *znać*, *wiedzieć,* and *umieć*, that we could easily translate into the single English verb "to know." However, in Polish, each one of these verbs refers to a specific type of knowledge you possess: hence, we can't substitute one for another.

When to Use *Wiedzieć?*

We generally use the verb *wiedzieć, wiem, wiesz* ("to know," "I know," "you know") to express our knowledge about facts concerning people, history, weather, and so forth.

For Example:

1. *Czy wiesz, ile Anna ma lat?*
   "Do you know how old Anna is?"

2. *Nie wiem, kiedy jest Festiwal Filmów Polskich.*
   "I don't know when the Festival of Polish Films is."

When to Use *Znać?*

Znać, znam, znasz ("to know," "I know," "you know") has the following meanings:

I. "to know a person"

For Example:

1. *Znam Piotra.*
   "I know Peter."

2. *Ona zna Adama.*
   "She knows Adam."

II. "to express a knowledge of foreign languages"

For Example:

1. *Znam polski.*
   "I know Polish."

2. *Nie znam japońskiego.*
   "I don't know Japanese."

III. "to convey familiarity with something"

For Example:

1. *Znam tę piosenkę.*
   "I know this song."

2. *Nie znam tej historii.*
   "I don't know this story."

When to Use the Verb *Umieć?*

We could also translate the verb *umieć, umiem, umiesz* ("to know," "I know," "you know") as "to be able to do something" or "to know how to do something."

For Example:

1. *Umiem grać na pianinie*.
   "I know how to play the piano."

2. *Oni nie umieją pływać.*

"They don't know how to swim."

LESSON NOTES

All About S1 #15
Top 5 Pet Phrases from the Polish Teachers!

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

#15

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Top Five Phrases from the PolishPod101.Team.

On top of the phrases that we have already introduced so far, we would like to add another four that are frequently used in conversation, plus one more that does double duty as both a toast and "God bless you."

Phrase One: To Znaczy ("It means," "This means")

In every language, there are certain phrases that people will sometimes use to hold someone's attention while they perhaps think over what they are going to say next. Often people use these phrases to combine individual thoughts together into longer utterances without standing silently. This way a speaker can maintain a certain flow to his or her story. The other reason for such a phrase is that it makes you sound like a native speaker-natural and relaxed.

The phrase *to znaczy* [toh zna-chy], meaning "it means" and "this means," has such a purpose. You will hear Poles using it between single sentences on a regular basis, just for the sake of saying it. Thinking of when English speakers use the phrase "I mean" when starting their sentences will help you understand the usage of the Polish *to znaczy*.

Phrase Two: Więc ("So")

The Polish word *więc* [vients], with its English translation "so," is another popular request from students of Polish. Again, you can use this expression really any time you want, either at the beginning of a sentence or as a connector between two sentences.

It's worth pointing out that according to Polish grammar rules *więc* shouldn't start an utterance; however, in spoken language, just as in English, *więc* ("so") can often appear at the beginning of a sentence.

Phrase Three: *W Każdym Razie* ("in any case," "in any event," "anyway")

While listening to Poles speaking, you will definitely encounter phrase number three, *w każdym razie* [v kazh-dym ra-zhie] ("in any case," "in any event," or "anyway), any number of times. Feel free to use it along with the phrases that we have presented thus far in this lesson.

It gives you another option to make your utterances more complex and well structured. If you've given a long explanation and want to finally cut to the chase, use *w każdym razie* to let the listener know that you're getting to the point.

Phrase Four: *Dzięki Temu* ("Thanks to that")

The last phrase that we'll introduce in this lesson that you will frequently encounter in Polish conversations is *dzięki temu* [jen-key te-mu], which we translate as "thanks to that."

People who have studied Polish told us that for a very long time they didn't have a clue that *dzięki temu* means "thanks to that." They thought that it referred to something that happened in the past because of another usage of the word *temu*, which, as in the following example, can have the meaning "ago."

For Example:

1. *dziewięć lat temu*
   "nine years ago"

Dzięki temu, however, is just an expression we can usually use to convey a positive reason explaining why something occurred. It's an important expression to know when trying to explain cause and effect.

Phrase Five: *Na Zdrowie* ("Cheers" and "God bless you")

As we mentioned in the introduction, we can use the phrase *na zdrowie* [na zdroh-vie], with its literal translation "to health," in two different scenarios.

One situation that requires you to say *na zdrowie* is when someone sneezes.

Another situation that you will hopefully experience more than once on your travels in Poland is when you toast within a group of Poles. Simply say *na zdrowie* using a cheerful voice and be sure to look everyone in the eyes when you touch glasses. Poles love to point out that Westerners don't look into their eyes when making a toast. This way they will know the toast is honest on your part and you really mean it.

LESSON NOTES

Pronunciation S1 #1 So Many Polish Consonants, So Few Polish Vowels

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

1

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Polish Vowel System.

Along with languages like Russian and Czech, the Polish language belongs to the Slavic family of languages. The thirty-eight million inhabitants of Poland, approximately ten million Poles who live and work abroad in countries such as Russia, Lithuania, and Great Britain, and people who have Polish ancestry all speak the Polish language. For example, in the United States, the city of Chicago, Illinois counts more Polish speakers than any other city in the world except Warsaw, the capital of Poland.

Knowing Polish pronunciation is an essential first step in your mastery of the Polish language, so we'd like you to get off on the right foot from the very beginning. It will help you understand other Poles as well as it make it easier for them to understand you.

In this lesson, we will introduce you to standard Polish pronunciation-the pronunciation you will hear on the radio or television. You will be acquainted with pronunciation rules that will make your life much easier. Remember, though, that depending on where you are, the pronunciation, accent, and some vocabulary can change. These variations result from previous border changes and foreign influences that have come and gone throughout the history of Poland. For example, the word *ziemniaki* ("potatoes") in Silesia is *kartofle* (compare to German *kartoffeln*). The region of Silesia was under German influence for a very long time, and some linguistic influences remain today.

The Polish alphabet is based on the Roman alphabet, the same one that the English language uses. We pronounce a large group of sounds just like their English equivalents. On the other hand, Polish has a significant number of sounds that are very difficult for foreigners. Let's not waste our time, then. Let's get started.

The Polish alphabet has thirty-two letters. Among them, we have:

- Nine vowels
- Twenty-three consonants.

In this lesson, we will look at the nine vowels in detail, with many simple examples and pronunciation practice exercises.

We divide the Polish vowels into two groups as follows:

1. *Samogłoski ustne* ("oral vowels") with three subgroups:
   - *Samogłoski przednie* ("front vowels")
   - *Samogłoski środkowe* ("central vowels")
   - *Samogłoski tylne* ("back vowels")

2. *Samogłoski nosowe* ("nasal vowels")

The Vowel Sounds

The terminology we just used may have confused some of you. Don't worry, though. It is not that complicated.

For example, when pronouncing the letter -*i* right after pronouncing the letter -*u*, you will notice your tongue slide from the front (the tip of your tongue should touch your front incisor) to the back of your mouth (now your tongue should be placed further back).

Pronunciation Practice

Feel for the movement of your lips. Pronounce several times in a row the letters -*i,* -*u,* and -*a*. Stand up in front of a mirror and observe how your lips are moving and how they are changing their shape while producing those sounds.

You should see your lips stretched from side to side when saying -*i* as if you're saying the word "b**ee**" in English. Then when pronouncing -*u*, your lips should form a tight -*o* shape toward the front, like in the word "m**oo**n." Finally, when saying -*a*, your mouth should be wide open, such as in the word "f**a**ther."

I. *Samogłoski ustne* ("Oral Vowels")

We produce *samogłoski ustne* or in English, "oral vowels," within the mouth area where the tongue, uvula, and lips take certain positions. There are seven oral vowels, which we classify according to the place of articulation.

a. *Samogłoski przednie* ("Front Vowels")

Samogłoski przednie are characterized by the placement of the tongue toward the front of the mouth. For example, try to pronounce the letter -*e* as in "yellow." You will notice that we produce the letter -*e* in the front part of our mouth, which means it is an anterior vowel. Now, just to see the difference, try to say aloud the letter -*o* as in "orange." You should notice that the tongue moves to the back of your mouth, making this letter a posterior vowel.

Here is a list of the anterior vowels in Polish:

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples
-*i*	[i]	"feet," "meet," "sea"	*Kino* ("cinema"), *minus* ("minus"), *minuta* ("minute")
-*y*	[1]	"myth," "big," "if"	*grypa* ("flu"), *my* ("we"), *dobry* ("good")
-*e*	[E]	"pen," "yes," "ten"	*wujek* ("uncle"), *dokument* ("document"), *elegancki* ("elegant")

Pronunciation Practice *-e, -y,* and *-i*

Please listen and repeat the following words:

-e	-y	-i
m***e***t	m***y***t	m***i***t
m***e***	m***y***	m***i***
now***e***	now***y***	now***i***
znan***e***	znan***y***	znan***i***

b. *Samogłoski środkowe* ("Central Vowels")

To pronounce the *samogłoski środkowe* ("central vowels") properly, simply place your tongue in the middle area of your mouth. In Polish, there is only one central vowel, *-a,* which is represented by a wide-open sound.

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples
-a	[a]	"father," "cot," "body"	*tak* ("yes"), *pan* ("Mr.," "sir"), *adres* ("address")

Pronunciation Practice: Identifying a Central Vowel

Say several times the letter *-i* and the letter *-a.* Which one is a central vowel?

The first one is anterior and the second one is central. When pronouncing the letter -*i*, you should have your lips stretch from one side to another with the tongue in the front part of your mouth, whereas when saying the letter -*a*, your mouth should be wide open with the tongue placed in the middle section of your mouth.

c. *Samogłoski tylne* ("Back Vowels")

To produce this type of sound, place your tongue in the back of your mouth.

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples
-*u*	[u]	"moon," "dune"	*kultura* ("culture"), *studio* ("studio"), *luty* ("February")
-*o*	[O]	"moment," "slow"	*moda* ("fashion"), *popularny* ("popular"), *piwo* ("beer")

In the Polish language, there is one additional vowel that we haven't mentioned thus far. It is the letter -*ó.*

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	English Examples	*Polish* Examples

-ó	[u]	"moon," "dune"	*ból* ("pain"), *wróg* ("foe"), *lód* ("ice")

As you have probably noticed, in our table we used the same English examples that we used with the vowel *-u.* The reason for that is that both vowels *-u* and *-ó* have the same pronunciation. The only difference is in their spelling. The position of these vowels in words dictates the spelling rules. For example, the letter *-ó* mainly occurs when there is a *-o:ó* alternation like *wr**ó**g: z wr**o**giem* ("foe": "with a/the foe") or *l**ó**d: z l**o**dem* ("ice": "with ice") and in the particle *-ów*, e.g., *Krak**ów*** ("Cracow") or *dla pan**ów*** ("for the gentlemen"), whereas the letter *-u* appears in other cases.

To sum it up, in the Polish language there is one sound [u] represented by two letters: *-u* and *-ó.*

Pronunciation Practice: Telling the Difference Between Anterior and Posterior Vowels

---

Listen and repeat these words several times: *pić/kuć/tyć.* What happens?

You should start in the front part of your mouth since the letter *-i* is a front vowel. Then your tongue should move to the back to pronounce the word *kuć* and than again to the front to say *tyć.*

II. *Samogłoski nosowe* ("Nasal Vowels")

Polish is the only language among all the other Slavic languages that still has nasal vowels. You can also find them in languages like French and Portuguese. In order to produce them, the air has to go mainly through the nose. For foreign ears, they may sound different at first, as the air vibrates mainly through the nose and produces a twangy sound. Their written forms are the letters *-ę* (it is basically, a letter *-e* with a little hook attached to it) and *-ą* (*-a* with a hook.)

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	*Polish* Examples
-ę	[E~]	*ręka* ("hand"), *zdjęcie* ("picture"), *pięć* ("five")
-ą	[O~]	*mąż* ("husband"), *wąż* ("snake"), *mają* ("they have")

Depending on the position of the nasal vowels, we either pronounce them nasally or simply as mouth vowels. We would like to show you some rules that will help you master their pronunciation.

When the vowel *-ę* is before the following letters...	...we pronounce *-ę*	Examples
-f, *-w*, *-s*, *-sz*, *-z*, *-ż*, *-ch*	[E~]	*węch* ("smell"), *kęs* ("bite")
-l, *-ł*	[E]	*kopnęli* ("they kicked"), *kichnęli* ("they sneezed")
-p, *-b*	[Em]	*tępy* ("blunt"), *zęby* ("teeth")
-t, *-d*, *-c*, *-dz*, *-cz*	[En]	*kręty* ("curvy") *tędy* ("this way")
-ć, *-ci*, *-dź*, *-dzi*	[EJ]	*dziesięć* ("ten"), *pędził* ("he rushed")
-k, *-g*	[EN]	*ręka* ("hand"), *tęgi* ("fat, big")

at the end of the word	[E] or [E~]	*widzę* ("I see"), *się* (reflexive pronoun)

When the vowel *-ą* is before the following letters...	**...we pronounce *-ą***	**Examples**
-f, *-w*, *-s*, *-sz*, *-z*, *-ż*, *-ch*	[O~]	*wąż* ("snake"), *wąs* ("mustache")
-l, *-ł*	[O]	*dotknął* ("he touched"), *wrzasnął* ("he yelled")
-p, *-b*	[Om]	*skąpy* ("stingy"), *ząb* ("tooth")
-t, *-d*, *-c*, *-dz*, *-cz*	[On]	*zając* ("hare"), *pieniądze* ("money")
-ć, *-ci*, *-dź*, *-dzi*	[OJ]	*kącik* ("nook")
-k, *-g*	[ON]	*mąka* ("flour"), *krąg* ("circle")
at the end of the word	[O~]	*widzą* ("they see"), *chcą* ("they want")

As you can see, there are many different ways to pronounce the nasal vowels *ę* and *ą*. In some positions, they keep their nasality: for example, before the letters *-f, -w, -s, -sz, -z, -ż,* and *-ch.* On the other hand, when they appear in front of *-l* or *-ł*, we pronounce the vowel *-ę* simply as *-e* and the vowel *-ą* as *-o.*

Pronunciation Practice: Pronouncing the Nasal Vowels

Listen to the audio for the words from the rules table and repeat them several times.

It is also worth mentioning that nasal vowels that appear at the end of words play an important role in the Polish language because they are inflectional endings. Therefore, when speaking, make sure that you are pronouncing them clearly.

For Example:

Verbs:

Construction	***Polish***	**"English"**
First person singular	*pracuję*	"I am working."
Third person singular	*on pracuje*	"He is working."
Third person plural	*oni pracują*	"They are working."

Construction	***Polish***	**"English"**
First person singular	*piszę*	"I am writing."
Third person singular	*on pisze*	"He is writing."
Third person plural	*oni piszą*	"They are writing."

Nouns:

Construction	***Polish***	**"English"**
Nominative singular feminine	*książka*	"book"
Instrumental singular feminine	*książką*	"book"
Dative plural feminine	*książkom*	"books"

Construction	***Polish***	**"English"**

Nominative singular feminine	*dziewczyna*	"girl"
Instrumental singular feminine	*dziewczyną*	"girl"
Dative plural feminine	*dziewczynom*	"girls"

LESSON NOTES

Pronunciation S1 #2 Polish Consonants and Their Shocking Number

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

2

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Mastering the Pronunciation of Polish Consonants.

Since the phonetic system of the Polish language is very rich in consonants, we decided to introduce them in two separate lessons. In today's lesson, we will talk about the consonants that sound and that we pronounce in a similar way to those found in the English language. For example, *-p, -b,* and *-t*. In the next lesson, we will concern ourselves with those consonants that are characteristic to the Polish language. These consonant sounds specific to Polish resulted from a series of historic changes within the language and therefore can be more complicated for foreigners: for example, *-ć, -dź,* and *-dż*.

We divided the consonants into four groups as follows:

1. *Spółgłoski zwarte* ("occlusive consonants")
2. *Spółgloski zwarto-szczelinowe* ("affricate consonants")
3. *Spółgłoski szczelinowe* ("fricative consonants")
4. *Spółgłoski półotwarte* ("sonorants")

The above distinction is based on the type of articulation we use to produce the sound.

Now let's look more in depth at each of those groups.

I. *Spółgłoski zwarte* ("Occlusive Consonants")

We produce these consonants by blocking the air within the vocal tract, then either releasing or holding the airflow.

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples

-p	[p]	"pie," "pen," "pot"	*palec* ("finger"), *pomidor* ("tomato"), *pa* ("bye")
-b	[b]	"beach," "bed," "ball"	*banan* ("banana"), *boisko* ("field"), *broda* ("beard")
-t	[t]	"tool," "talent," "tea"	*tenis* ("tennis"), *ten* ("this"), *tabela* ("table")
-d	[d]	"doll," "dance," "do"	*dolar* ("dollar"), *dyskoteka* ("discotheque"), *dywan* ("carpet")
-k	[k]	"cold," "clue," "club"	*karta* ("card"), *kalejdoskop* ("kaleidoscope"), *krokodyl* ("crocodile")
-g	[g]	"goal," "great," "give"	*galeria* ("art gallery"), *gotowy* ("ready"), *gest* ("gesture")

Pronunciation Practice: *-p* and *-b*

Please listen and repeat the following pairs of words.

-p	***-b***
p*a****p****a*	***b****a****b****a*

*ku**p**a*	*Ku**b**a*
***p**iec*	***b**iec*

Pronunciation Practice: *-t* and *-d*

Please listen and repeat the following groups of words.

-t	***-d***
***t**om*	***d**om*
***t**o*	***d**o*
*wa**t**a*	*wa**d**a*

Pronunciation Practice: *-k* and *-g*

Please listen and repeat the following groups of words.

-k	***-g***
*ro**k**u*	*ro**g**u*
*bo**k**u*	*Bo**g**u*
***k**oni*	***g**oni*

II. *Spółgłoski zwarto-szczelinowe* ("Affricate Consonants")

We initially articulate the consonants that belong to this group as occlusive sounds that are then followed by a release, changing them into fricative sounds.

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples
-c	[ʦ]	"coats," "eats," "tsar"	*cebula* ("onion"), *cal* ("inch"), *co* ("what")

Pronunciation Practice for the Consonant *-c*

Please read several times the following words:

Polish	"English"
***c**ena*	"price"
*mo**c***	"power"
*ko**c***	"blanket"
*no**c**ą*	"at night"
*mó**c***	"to be able to," "can"
***c**ały*	"whole"

III. *Spółgłoski szczelinowe* ("Fricative Consonants")

We produce these consonant sounds by forcing air through a narrow gap by placing two parts of the mouth together. Imagine that you are trying to produce a hissing sound like a snake, *sssss.* Both your upper and lower incisors are closed but there is still a narrow opening that allows air to escape.

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples

-f	[f]	"fun," "physics," "face"	*flet* ("flute"), *fajka* ("pipe"), *filozofia* ("philosophy")
-w	[v]	"vine," "vest," "visit"	*wdowa* ("widow"), *walizka* ("suitcase"), *widelec* ("fork")
-s	[s]	"soup," "snake," "summer"	*skóra* ("skin"), *skorpion* ("scorpio"), *sok* ("juice")
-z	[z]	"zoo," "zenith," "dissolve"	*zero* ("zero"), *zamek* ("castle"/"lock"), *za* ("behind")
-h/-ch	[x]	"he," "half," "hook"	*handel* ("trade"), *helikopter* ("helicopter"), *honor* ("honor"), *choinka* ("Christmas tree"), *chleb* ("bread")

The letters *-h* and *-ch* represent the same sound despite their different spelling. We use the letter *-h* in words of foreign origin.

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
helikopter	"helicopter"

hokej	"hockey"
herbata	"tea"

Also, *-h* appears in words that have *h:g* or *h:ż* alternation.

For Example:

1. *wa**h**adło: wa**g**a*
   "pendulum: scale"

2. *dru**h**: dru**ż**yna*
   "boy scout: team"

The group *-ch* occurs in other cases and at the end of words.

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
*pia**ch***	"sand"
*kra**ch***	"crash"
*w sna**ch***	"in dreams"

Pronunciation Practice for the Letter *-f*

Please read several times the following words:

Polish	**"English"**
***f**oka*	"seal"
***f**otel*	"armchair"

***f**iranka*	"curtain"
***f**antazja*	"fantasy"
***f**unt*	"pound"
***f**utro*	"fur"

Pronunciation Practice for the Letter *-w*

Please read several times the following words:

Polish	**"English"**
***w**iatr*	"wind"
***w**idok*	"view"
***w**ąski*	"narrow"
***w**elon*	"veil"
***w**ersja*	"version"
*mo**w**a*	"speech"

Pronunciation Practice *-s* and *-z*

Please listen and repeat the following groups of words:

-s	***-z***
*ko**s**a*	*ko**z**a*

ma**s**a	ma**z**ak
ka**s**a	wa**z**a

IV. *Spółgłoski półotwarte* ("Sonorants")

When producing sonorants, the airflow goes relatively freely through your mouth or nose. There is only a partial closure. One of the sonorants is the letter *-m.* Try to hum a little bit. You should feel the air stream going through your nose.

Letter	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples
-m	[m]	"melody," "me," "match"	*moment* ("moment"), *meta* ("finish"), *miasto* ("city")
-n	[n]	"nothing," "nose," "novel"	*noc* ("night"), *niebo* ("sky"), *neon* ("neon")
-l	[l]	"love," "leg," "light"	*lawa* ("lava"), *lojalny* ("loyal"), *lato* ("summer")
-r	[r]	[none: it's a rolled *r*]	*rower* ("bike"), *rum* ("rum"), *rosa* ("dew")
-j	[j]	"yellow," "you," "yoke"	*jem* ("I eat"), *jutro* ("tomorrow"), *jak* ("how")

Pronunciation Practice for the Rolled *-r*

Please listen and repeat the following sentences:

1. ***R**oman nap**r**awia telewizo**r** a **R**enata ro**b**i he**r**batę.*
   "Roman is fixing the TV and Renata is making tea."

2. ***R**afał i Ju**r**ek wyb**r**ali się na koncer**t** g**r**upy **r**ockowej.*
   "Rafał and Jurek went to the rock concert."

3. ***K**arol, któ**r**y jest a**r**chitektem, wyg**r**ał konku**r**s na najlepszy p**r**ojekt.*
   "Karol, who is an architect, won the competition for the best project."

Why Pronouncing Two Identical Consonants Separately Is So Important

While studying the Polish language, you will definitely come across words that have clusters of consonants in them. In this lesson, we would like you to get familiar with groups that consist of two identical consonants, such as in the example *le**kk**i* ("light"). In Polish, we have to pronounce both *-k*'s. Whenever you have two identical consonants standing next to each other, make sure you pronounce them. Not pronouncing both of those consonants can change the meaning of a word entirely.

For Example:

1. *le**kk**i* ("light") versus *le**k**i* ("medicine").

As you can see, there is a huge difference in the meaning of those two words.

Let's have a look at some more examples.

For Example:

1. *pa**nn**a* ("girl") versus *pa**n**a* ("mister's")

2. *po**dd**any* ("servant") versus *po**d**any* ("served")

3. *ra**nn**y* ("wounded") versus *ra**n**y* ("wounds")

Letters *-q, -v,* and *-x.*

It is worth mentioning that the letters *-q*, *-v*, and *-x* are present in some words; however, they only appear in words that were adopted into the Polish language, but were never adapted to Polish spelling rules. Therefore, they have kept their original forms. For example, *quiz* and *vis-à-vis*. In some cases, two forms of the same word may appear. We can spell the word *fax* as *f-a-x,* as it originally appears in English, or we may spell it *f-a-k-s*, adjusted to Polish spelling standards.

LESSON NOTES

Pronunciation S1 #3
Very Polish Consonants

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

3

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Mastering the Pronunciation of Polish Consonants.

As we mentioned in the previous lesson, there is an abundance of consonants in the Polish phonetic system. In this lesson, we are going to focus on consonants that over time acquired diacritical signs, such as an acute mark (for example, *-ś* and *-ć*) or a dot (for instance, *-ż* and *-dż*) as a result of several processes (palatalizations) within the language. It is worth mentioning that the acute mark is not an accent mark. We use it in the Polish language to mark the softness of a particular consonant.

We will divide those consonants using the same criteria as in the previous lesson.

Here are the groups:

1. *Spółgłoski zwarto-szczelinowe* ("affricate consonants")
2. *Spółgłoski szczelinowe* ("fricative consonants")
3. *Spółgłoski półotwarte* ("sonorants")

As you have probably noticed, we did not list the occlusive consonant group above. The reason for that is that there are no occlusive consonants within the sounds we will be working on in this lesson.

1. *Spółgłoski zwarto-szczelinowe* ("Affricate Consonants")

So far you have had a chance to practice only one affricate consonant, which was *-c*. We can find this sound in English words like "**ts**ar" and "coa**ts**."

However, the consonant *c* is not the only affricate. Let's have a look at some new affricates.

Letter / Letters	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples

-dz	[dz]	"needs," "kids," "islands"	*dzban* ("pitcher"), *dzwon* ("bell")
-cz	[tʃ]	"cheese," "cello," "nature"	*czek* ("check"), *czas* ("time")
-dż	[dʒ]	"gin," "June," "judge"	*dżungla* ("jungle"), *dżokej* ("jockey")
-ć/-ci	[tɕ]	We pronounce *ć/ci* more softly than *cz.*	*ćwiczyć* ("to exercise"), *dać* ("to give"), *ciocia* ("aunt"), *ciemny* ("dark")
-dź/-dzi	[dʑ]	We pronounce *dź/dzi* more softly than *dż.*	*dźwigać* ("to carry heavy things"), *dźwięk* ("sound"), *dziwny* ("weird"), *dziecko* ("child")

We pronounce the sounds [*ć*] and [*ci*] exactly the same way as the sounds [*dź*] and [*dzi*]. While their pronunciation is always identical, their spelling can vary and is dictated by the following rules:

- The consonants with the acute mark appear at the end of the words or before another consonant: for example, *kość* ("bone") or *pisać* ("to write").
- We only use the consonants with the letter *-i* when they occur before a vowel: for instance, *ciasto* ("cake") or *dziewięć* ("nine").

These rules apply to all consonants with acute signs and their variants with the letter *-i.* We

will discuss them in greater detail below.

Pronunciation Practice: *-c* and *-dz*

Please listen and repeat the following pairs of words:

-c	***-dz***
*no**c**e*	*no**dz**e*
*pra**c**ę*	*Pra**dz**e*

Please read the following words several times:

Polish	**"English"**
*cho**dz**ę*	"I go," "I walk"
***dz**banek*	"pitcher"
***dz**wonek*	"bell"
*bar**dz**o*	"very"
*je**dz**ą*	"they eat"
*wie**dz**ą*	"they know"

Pronunciation Practice: *-cz* and *-dż*

Please read several times the following words:

***-cz*:**

Polish	**"English"**

ka**cz**ka	"duck"
czekolada	"chocolate"
me**cz**	"game"
czas	"time"
po**cz**ta	"post office"
pa**cz**ka	"package"

***-dż*:**

Polish	**"English"**
***dż**em*	"jam"
***dż**entelmen*	"gentleman"
***dż**udo*	"judo"
***dż**uma*	"plague"

Pronunciation Practice: *-ć/-ci* and *-dź/-dzi*

Please listen and repeat the following pairs of words:

-ć/-ci	***-dź/-dzi***
*bu**ci**k*	*bu**dzi**k*
*sie**ci***	*sie**dzi***
***ci**ało*	***dzi**ało*

2. *Spółgłoski szczelinowe* ("Fricative Consonants")

Along with the fricative consonants *-f, -w, -s, -z,* and *-h/-ch* that we introduced in the previous lesson, we would also like you to get familiar with the following fricatives.

Letter / Letters	Phonetic Transcription	"English" Examples	*Polish* Examples
-sz	[S]	"fish," "ocean," "she"	*sztuka* ("art"), *szewc* ("shoemaker")
-ż/-rz	[Z]	"beige," "genre," "vision"	*żyrafa* ("giraffe"), *żyto* ("rye"), *rzeka* ("river"), *rzęsa* ("eyelash")
-ś/-si	[C]	We pronounce *ś/si* more softly than *sz.*	*świat* ("world"), *ktoś* ("someone"), *siedem* ("seven"), *się* (reflexive pronoun)
-ź/-zi	[À]	We pronounce *ź/zi* more softly than *ż/rz.*	*źle* ("badly"), *źródło* ("spring"), *zielony* ("green"), *zima* ("winter")

Consonants with an Acute Sign

We again have two consonants with an acute sign, *-ś* and *-ź,* and their variants with the letters *-i, -si*, and *-zi.* The rules as to when to use *-ś/-si* or *-ź/-zi* are identical to the ones we already introduced above with *-ć/-ci*.

Letter *-ż* vs. *-rz*:

-Ż and *-rz* represent the same sound with a different spelling. Again, there are many rules that determine whether we write *-ż* or *-rz.* We will show you the most common ones.

We write the letter *-ż* when there is a *-ż: -g* alternation: for example, *książka: księga* ("book: book") or *mogę: możesz* ("I can": "you can" (singular)).

We use the group *-rz* when there is a *-rz: -r* alternation: for instance, *marzec: marca* ("March": "of March") or *dobrze: dobry* ("well": "good"), or after the following consonants: *-p, -b, -t, -d, -k, -g, -ch, -j,* and *-w*.

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
brzeg	"coast"
przyroda	"nature"
krzak	"bush"

Pronunciation Practice: *-sz* and *-ż/-rz*

Listen and repeat the following words:

-sz	***-ż/-rz***
dusza	*duża*
szyć	*żyć*
kusza	*kurza*

Pronunciation Practice: *-ś/-si* and *-ź/-zi*

Listen and repeat the following words:

-ś*/*-si	***-ź*/*-zi***
mi***si***a	mi***zi***a
Ka***si***a	Ka***zi***a
siarka	***zi***arka

3. *Spółgłoski półotwarte* ("Sonorants")

The last group of consonants consists of the letters *m*, *n*, *l*, *r*, and *j* and two new consonants that we present in the table below.

Letter / Letters	**Phonetic Transcription**	**"English" Examples**	***Polish* Examples**
-ł	[w]	"wedding," "win," "walk"	*łatwy* ("easy"), *okrągły* ("round")
-ń/*-ni*	[J]	We pronounce *ń/ni* more softly than *n,* close to the sound "-ney" in the word "money."	*dłoń* ("hand"), *słoń* ("elephant"), *niski* ("short"), *niebieski* ("blue")

Pronunciation Practice: *-ł* and *-w*

Please read and repeat the following pairs of words:

-ł	***-w***
łata	***w***ata

*by**ł**a*	*by**w**a*
*la**ł**a*	*la**w**a*

Pronunciation Practice: *-ń/-ni*

Please read and repeat several times the following words:

Polish	**"English"**
*pie**ń***	"stump"
***ni**c*	"nothing"
*pom**ni**k*	"monument"
*ko**ni**k*	"pony"
*ko**ni**ec*	"end"
*ko**ni**czyna*	"shamrock"

Pronunciation Practice for Consonant Cluster *-szcz*

Please read and repeat the following words:

Polish	**"English"**
***szcz**upły*	"slim"
***szcz**upak*	"pike (fish)"
***szcz**ęśliwy*	"happy"
***Szcz**ecin*	city in northern Poland

*chrzą**szcz***	"beetle"
***szcz**eniak*	"puppy"
***szcz**ęście*	"happiness"

Pronunciation Practice for Consonant Cluster -*ść*

Please read and repeat the following words:

Polish	**"English"**
*wie**ść***	"a piece of news"
*nie**ść***	"to carry"
*ko**ść***	"bone"
*wej**ść***	"to enter"
*przyjemno**ść***	"pleasure"
*li**ść***	"leaf"
*pię**ść***	"fist"
*ma**ść***	"ointment"
***ści**eżka*	"path"
***ści**szyć*	"to turn the volume down"

LESSON NOTES

Pronunciation S1 #4 Voiced and Unvoiced Polish Consonants and Why Does It Matter?

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

4

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Recognizing the Difference between Voiced and Unvoiced Consonants.

This is the last lesson in which we will talk about Polish consonants. This time, we will look at them from a different perspective. Thanks to our previous lessons, you are already able to produce every sound that you will find in the Polish language.

In this lesson, we will look at some rules that will help you put them together. We have a saying in Polish, *Czytaj, jak jest napisane,* which translates to "Read as it's written." What we mean by this is that every letter represents the same sound no matter what position it has in the word. Well, it is almost true, with some tiny exceptions. To be able to accomplish the goal of our lesson, first we have to introduce one very important distinction within the phonetic system of the Polish language. To do this, we will divide voiced consonants from their unvoiced counterparts.

The list below will help illustrate this distinction.

1. **Voiced: -***b*, -*w*, -*d*, -*z*, -*dz*, -*ż/-rz*, **-***dż*, **-***ź*, **-***dź*, **-***g*, **-***m*, **-***n*, **-***r*, **-***l*, **-***ł*, **-***j*
2. **Unvoiced**: -*p*, -*f*, -*t*, -*s*, -*c*, -sz, -*cz*, -*ś*, **-***ć*, **-***k*, **-***ch*/**-***h*

The distinction between voiced and unvoiced consonants is based on the vocal cords. If the vocal cords are together, the air stream cannot pass freely and it has to force its way through, causing the vocal cords to vibrate. Such sounds are voiced sounds.

If the vocal cords are apart, the airflow can move without any obstructions, producing in this manner unvoiced sounds.

Knowing which consonants are voiced and which ones are not will help you to understand Polish pronunciation. As you will see below, the pronunciation of one consonant can change depending on its position in relation to other neighboring consonants. In addition, the pronunciation of a consonant can change if it appears at the end of a word or at the boundary of words.

For your ease, in the examples below we decided not to use the phonetic alphabet. Instead,

we represent the letters undergoing a change in pronunciation by either their unvoiced or voiced equivalent. For example, we spell the word *wcale* as *fcale* because the voiced *w* is replaced by its unvoiced counterpart -*f.*

We collected the most important rules and include some appropriate examples below.

Rule 1: We pronounce every voiced consonant appearing before an unvoiced one as unvoiced.

Here are some examples of this rule.

We read *wtedy* ("then") as [*ftedy*] since -*w,* which we voice, appears in front of the unvoiced consonant -*t.* -*w* becomes unvoiced and we pronounce it like -*f.*

We read *dziadka* ("of grandfather") as [*dziatka*]. Again, we have a voiced -*d* occurring in front of the unvoiced -*k*, making -*d* an unvoiced consonant we pronounce like -*t*.

The same process takes place at the boundary of the words. Here are some examples.

We read *naród polski* ("Polish nation") as [*narót polski*]. The unvoiced -*p* from *polski* changed the voiced -*d* from *naród* to an unvoiced -*t*.

We most often pronounce unvoiced consonants that occur before voiced ones (look at point 3) as voiced.
For example, we pronounce *także* ("also") as [*tagże*]. The voiced -*ż* makes the unvoiced -*k* sound like -*g.* In addition, we pronounce *prośba* ("request") as [*proźba*].

Let's have a look at an example at the boundary of two words.

For Example:

1. *jak dobrze* ("how well") becomes [*jag dobrze*].

Rule 2. We pronounce only the consonants -*w* and -*rz* (please remember, not -*ż*) as unvoiced both before and after an unvoiced consonant.

Here are some examples of this rule.

For Example:

1. We pronounce *wpaść* ("to fall in") as [*fpaść*].
2. We pronounce *przykład* ("example") as [*pszykłat*].
3. We pronounce *ćwiczenie* ("exercise") as [*ćficzenie*].

Rule 3. At the end of a word or if there is a longer pause, every voiced consonant becomes unvoiced.

Here are some examples of this rule.

For Example:

1. We read *kod* ("code") as [kot].
2. We read *lew* ("lion") as [lef].
3. We read *sad* ("orchard") as [sat].

Pronouncing Consonant Groups

As you remember, there are also a lot of consonant groups in Polish. Sometimes these groups can be difficult to pronounce, which is why we simplified their pronunciation. It means that we do not pronounce one consonant from the group. Let's have a look at some of these rules.

I. We do not pronounce the letter *-ć* in the following numbers: *pięćdziesiąt* ("fifty"), *sześćdziesiąt* ("sixty"), *dziewięćdziesiąt* ("ninety"), *pięćset* ("five hundred"), *sześćset* ("six hundred"), and *dziewięćset* ("nine hundred").

II. In spoken language, we do not pronounce the letter *-ł* that occurs between two consonants

or at the end of the word after another consonant.

For Example:

1. We pronounce *jabłko* ("apple") as [*japko*].
2. We pronounce *mógł* ("he could") as [*mók*].

III. Also in spoken language, we do not pronounce the consonants -*t* and -*w* that appear between two consonants.

For Example:

1. We pronounce *chrzestny* ("godfather") as [*chszesny*].
2. We pronounce *pierwszy* ("first") as [*pierszy*].

LESSON NOTES

Pronunciation S1 #5 ABCs of Polish Accent, Exceptions, and Accentuation of Groups of Words

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

5

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Accentuation of Single Words and Groups of Words in the Polish Language.

By now, you know almost everything there is to know about Polish pronunciation. However, there is one more feature of the Polish language that we haven't had a chance to discuss thus far. Undoubtedly, it plays an important role in every language, and Polish is no exception. The feature we will be analyzing today more in depth is the Polish accentuation of single words as well as groups of words.

Let's jump right in.

Polish Accentuation of Single Words

Polish accentuation is quite constant, and in most cases, the accent falls on the second-to-last syllable.

For Example:

Polish	"English"
***ksią**-żka*	"book"
*to-**re**-bka*	"purse," "bag"
*pra-**co**-wać*	"to work"
*dy-sku-**to**-wać*	"to discuss"
*prze-li-te-**ro**-wać*	"to spell"

If a word has only one syllable, we stress the entire syllable.

For Example:

Polish	"English"
mam	"I have"
znam	"I know"
mistrz	"champion," "master"
chcę	"I want"
tak	"yes"

Exceptions in Polish Accentuation

Like we have mentioned before, the accent in the Polish language is quite regular and falls on the penultimate syllable. However, there are some groups of words where the accent falls on either the third-to-last, fourth-to-last, or the last syllable. Let's have a quick look at them.

The Third-To-Last Syllable Accent

I. The words that have foreign origin and end with the word part *-ika/-yka* keep their original accent on the third syllable from the end.

For Example:

Polish	"English"
*ma-te-**ma**-ty-ka*	"mathematics"
*A-**me**-ry-ka*	"America"
*bo-**ta**-ni-ka*	"botanics"
*lin-**gwi**-sty-ka*	"linguistics"

*po-**li**-ty-ka*	"politics"

II. We also accent the forms of the first- and second-person plural of the past tense on the third-to-last syllable.

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
***gra**-li-śmy*	"we played"
***by**-li-śmy*	"we were"
***gra**-li-ście*	"you (plural) played"
***by**-li-ście*	"you (plural) were

III**.** We also accent all the forms in singular and the third-person plural of the conditional on the third syllable from the end.

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
*zro-**bi**-ła-bym*	"I (female) would do"/"I (female) would have done"
*na-ry-**so**-wał-byś*	"you (male, singular) would draw"/"you (male, singular) would have drawn"
***czy**-tał-by*	"he would read"/"he would have read"
*na-u-**czy**-li-by*	"they would teach"/"they would have taught"

IV. Some Polish numbers with the parts *-sta or -set* have the accent falling on the third syllable.

For Example:

Polish	"English"
***czte**-ry-sta*	"four hundred"
***o**-siem-set*	"eight hundred"
***dzie**-więć-set*	"nine hundred

The Fourth-To-Last Syllable Accent

The accent falls on the fourth syllable from the end in the first- and second-person plural of the conditional.

For Example:

Polish	"English"
***by**-li-by-śmy*	"we would be/ we would have been"
***by**-li-by-ście*	"you (plural) would be"/"you (plural) would have been"
*czy-**ta**-li-by-śmy*	"we would read"/"we would have read"
*czy-**ta**-li-by-ście*	"you (plural) would read"/"you (plural) would have read"

The Accent on the Last Syllable

One-syllable nouns that we use to create compound words with the particles *arcy-, eks-,* and *wice-* retain the accent on the last syllable.

For Example:

Polish	"English"
*ar-cy-**mistrz***	"grand master"
*eks-**mąż***	"ex-husband"
*wice-**król***	"vice-king"

Accent Groups

In some instances, single-syllable words can form accent groups with other neighboring words. In these accent groups, we stress the following words:

I. The negation *nie* when it appears in front of a single-syllable word.

For Example:

Polish	"English"
***nie** chcę*	"I don't want to"
***nie** wiem*	"I don't know"
***nie** on*	"not him"

II. Prepositions that occur before a one-syllable pronoun.

For Example:

Polish	"English"
***do** was*	"to you"
***ze** mną*	"with me"
*be-**ze** mnie*	"without me"

*prze-**de** mną*	"in front of me"
***przez** nią*	"because of her"

III. Prepositions occurring before a single-syllable word.

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
*wychodzić **za** mąż*	"to get married with a man"
*jechać **na** wieś*	"to go to the countryside"

Polish Words That We Do Not Accent

Let's see now which words from the accent groups we do not accent:

I. Single-syllable forms of personal pronouns such as *ci* ("you (singular)"), *cię* ("you (singular)"), *go* ("him"), *ich* ("them"), *jej* ("her"), and so on, as well as the reflexive pronoun *się*, that occur after verbs.

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
***pro**-szę cię*	"I am asking you"
*mó-**wi**-łem jej*	"I (male) told her"
*wi-**dzia**-łam go*	"I (female) saw him"
***ko**-cham cię*	"I love you"

II. The negation *nie* appearing before two-syllable or longer verbs.

For Example:

Polish	**"English"**
*nie po-**ma**-gaj*	"don't help"
*nie **śpie**-waj*	"don't sing"
*nie **chce**-my*	"we don't want to"
*nie **ma**-my*	"we don't have"

PolishPod101.com

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know



innovativeLANGUAGE.COM

innovativeLANGUAGE.COM

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #1 What's your name? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

1

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Jak masz na imię?
2. A: Mam na imię John.
3. A: Mam na imię Michael.
4. A: Mam na imię Robert.
5. A: Mam na imię Ula.

ENGLISH

1. Q: What's your name?
2. A: My name is John.
3. A: My name is Michael.
4. A: My name is Robert.
5. A: My name is Ula.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
mam	I have	
John	John	noun

Michael	Michael	noun
Robert	Robert	noun
Ula	Ula	noun
na	on	
imię	name	noun
jak	how	pronoun
masz	you have	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Mam siostrę. "I have a sister."	**Mam osiemnaście lat.** "I'm eighteen years old."
Mam na imię John. "My name is John."	**Mam na imię Michael.** "My name is Michael."
Mam na imię Robert. "My name is Robert."	**Mam na imię Ula.** "My name is Ula."
Mam na imię John. "My name is John."	**Jak masz na imię?** "What's your name?"
Mam na imię Beata. My name is Beata.	**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?

Kiedy masz urodziny? "When is your birthday?"	**Ile masz lat?** "How old are you?"

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say What's your name? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {4} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*jak*	how
Word 2	*masz*	you have
Word 3	*na*	on
Word 4	*imię*	name

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #2
Where are you from? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

2

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Skąd jesteś?
2. A: Jestem ze Stanów Zjednoczonych.
3. A: Jestem z Japonii.
4. A: Jestem z Niemiec.
5. A: Jestem z Hiszpanii.

ENGLISH

1. Q: Where are you from?
2. A: I'm from the U.S.
3. A: I'm from Japan.
4. A: I'm from Germany.
5. A: I'm from Spain.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
jesteś	you are	
ze	from	

jestem	I am	
skąd	from where	
z	from	preposition
Stanów Zjednoczonych	of the United States	
Japonii	of Japan	
Hiszpanii	of Spain	
Niemiec	of Germany	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Czy jesteś głodny? "Are you hungry?"	**Skąd jesteś?** "Where are you from?"
Jestem ze Stanów Zjednoczonych. "I'm from the U.S."	**Jestem chory.** "I'm sick."
Jestem lekarzem. "I'm a doctor."	**Jestem z Niemiec.** "I'm from Germany."
Skąd jesteś? "Where are you from?"	**Jestem z Hiszpanii.** "I'm from Spain."
Jadę z miasta. "I'm coming from the city."	**Jestem ze Stanów Zjednoczonych.** "I'm from the U.S."
Jestem z Japonii. "I'm from Japan."	**Jestem z Hiszpanii.** "I'm from Spain."

Jestem z Niemiec.

"I'm from Germany."

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say Where are you from? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {2} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*skąd*	from where
Word 2	*jesteś*	you are

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #3
Where do you live? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar

3

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Gdzie mieszkasz?
2. A: Mieszkam w Nowym Jorku.
3. A: Mieszkam w Tokio.
4. A: Mieszkam w Berlinie.
5. A: Mieszkam w Madrycie.

ENGLISH

1. Q: Where do you live?
2. A: I live in New York.
3. A: I live in Tokyo
4. A: I live in Berlin.
5. A: I live in Madrid.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
Nowym Jorku	New York	noun	
Tokio	Tokyo	noun	neutral

Berlinie	Berlin	noun
Madrycie	Madrid	noun
mieszkasz	you live	
w	in	preposition
mieszkam	I live	
gdzie	where	pronoun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Mieszkam w Nowym Jorku. "I live in New York."	**Mieszkam w Tokio.** "I live in Tokyo."
Mieszkam w Berlinie. "I live in Berlin."	**Mieszkam w Madrycie.** "I live in Madrid."
Gdzie mieszkasz? "Where do you live?"	**Mieszkam w Berlinie.** "I live in Berlin."
Jeszcze nie byłam w Polsce. "I haven't been in Poland yet."	**Jestem w sklepie.** "I am in the store."
Mieszkam w Nowym Jorku. "I live in New York."	**Gdzie mieszkasz?** "Where do you live?"
Gdzie jesteś? "Where are you?"	**Gdzie jest poczta?** "Where is the post office?"

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say Where do you live? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {2} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*gdzie*	where
Word 2	*mieszkasz*	you live

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #4
What do you do? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar

4

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Czym się zajmujesz?
2. A: Jestem nauczycielem.
3. A: Jestem lekarzem.
4. A: Jestem studentem.
5. A: Jestem biznesmenem.

ENGLISH

1. Q: What do you do?
2. A: I'm a teacher
3. A: I'm a doctor.
4. A: I'm a student.
5. A: I'm a businessman.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
nauczycielem	teacher	noun
lekarzem	doctor	noun
studentem	student	noun

biznesmenem	businessman	noun
się	oneself	
jestem	I am	
zajmujesz	occupy yourself	
czym	what (locative case)	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Jestem nauczycielem. "I'm a teacher."	**Jestem lekarzem.** "I'm a doctor."
Jestem studentem. "I'm a student."	**Jestem biznesmenem.** "I'm a businessman."
Gdzie nauczyłeś się polskiego? "Where did you learn Polish?"	**Jak długo uczysz się polskiego?** "How long have you been studying Polish?"
Czym się zajmujesz? "What do you do?"	**Jestem chory.** "I'm sick."
Jestem lekarzem. "I'm a doctor."	**Jestem z Niemiec.** "I'm from Germany."
Czym się zajmujesz? "What do you do?"	**Czym się zajmujesz?** "What do you do?"

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say What do you do? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {3} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*czym*	what (locative case)
Word 2	*się*	oneself
Word 3	*zajmujesz*	occupy yourself

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #5
Do you speak Polish?

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

5

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Czy mówisz po polsku?
2. A: Tak, trochę mówię.
3. A: Tak, dobrze mówię.
4. A: Tak, biegle mówię.
5. A: Tak, ale niezbyt dobrze.

ENGLISH

1. Q: Do you speak Polish?
2. A: Yes, I speak a little.
3. A: Yes, I speak well.
4. A: Yes, I speak fluently.
5. A: Yes, but not very well.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
ale niezbyt dobrze	but not very well	
biegle	fluently	

mówisz	you speak	
polsku	Polish	
po	in	
czy	question particle	particle
tak	yes	expression
trochę	a little	
mówię	I speak	
dobrze	well	adverb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Tak, ale niezbyt dobrze. "Yes, but not very well."	**Tak, biegle mówię.** "Yes, I speak fluently."
Czy mówisz po polsku? "Do you speak Polish?"	**Czy mówisz po polsku?** "Do you speak Polish?"
Czy mówisz po polsku? "Do you speak Polish?"	**Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie?** "Can you eat Polish food?"
Czy mówisz po polsku? "Do you speak Polish?"	**Czy jesteś zmęczona?** "Are you tired?"
Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam barszcz. "Yes, I especially love beetroot soup."	**Tak, jest przepyszne.** "Yes, it's delicious."

Tak, trochę mówię. "Yes, I speak a little."	**Tak, trochę mówię.** "Yes, I speak a little."
Tak, dobrze mówię. Yes, I speak well.	**Dobrze.** I'm fine.
Tak, dobrze mówię. Yes, I speak well.	**Nie czuję się dziś dobrze.** I'm not feeling well today.

Dobrze się czujesz?

Are you feeling well?

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say Do you speak Polish? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {4} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*czy*	question marker
Word 2	*mówisz*	you speak
Word 3	*po*	in
Word 4	*polsku*	Polish

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #6
How long have you been studying Polish?

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

6

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Jak długo uczysz się polskiego?
2. A: Jeden miesiąc.
3. A: jeden rok
4. A: dwa lata
5. A: pół roku

ENGLISH

1. Q: How long have you been studying Polish?
2. A: For 1 month.
3. A: For one year.
4. A: For two years.
5. A: For half a year.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
pół roku	half a year	
dwa lata	two years	

jeden rok	one year	
miesiąc	a month	
długo	long	
się	oneself	
uczysz	you learn	
jak	how	pronoun
polskiego	Polish	
jeden	one (1)	numeral

SAMPLE SENTENCES

pół roku For half a year.	**dwa lata** For two years.
jeden rok For one year.	**Jeden miesiąc.** For 1 month.
Jak długo uczysz się polskiego? "How long have you been studying Polish?"	**Gdzie nauczyłeś się polskiego?** "Where did you learn Polish?"
Jak długo uczysz się polskiego? "How long have you been studying Polish?"	**Czym się zajmujesz?** "What do you do?"

Jak długo uczysz się polskiego? "How long have you been studying Polish?"	**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?
Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie? "Can you eat Polish food?"	**Gdzie nauczyłeś się polskiego?** "Where did you learn Polish?"
Jak długo uczysz się polskiego? "How long have you been studying Polish?"	**jeden rok** For one year.
Mam tylko jeden złoty. I only have one złoty.	**Proszę jedno jabłko.** One apple, please.

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say How long have you been studying Polish? in Polish. The question is broken down into {5} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*jak*	how
Word 2	*długo*	long
Word 3	*uczysz*	you learn
Word 4	*się*	oneself
Word 5	*polskiego*	Polish

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #7
Where did you learn Polish?

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

7

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Gdzie nauczyłeś się polskiego?
2. A: Nauczyłem się w szkole.
3. A: Nauczyłem się na uniwersytecie.
4. A: Nauczyłem się przez internet.
5. A: Nauczyłem się w liceum.

ENGLISH

1. Q: Where did you learn Polish?
2. A: I learned it in school.
3. A: I learned it at university.
4. A: I learned it on the Internet.
5. A: I learned it in high school.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
w liceum	in high school	
przez internet	on the internet	

na uniwersytecie	at university	
szkole	school	
nauczyłeś	you learned	
polskiego	Polish	
się	oneself	
gdzie	where	pronoun
nauczyłem	I learned	
w	in	preposition

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Nauczyłem się w liceum. I learned it in high school.	**Nauczyłem się przez internet.** I learned it on the Internet.
Nauczyłem się na uniwersytecie. I learned it at university.	**Nauczyłem się w szkole.** I learned it in school.
Gdzie nauczyłeś się polskiego? "Where did you learn Polish?"	**Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie?** "Can you eat Polish food?"
Gdzie nauczyłeś się polskiego? "Where did you learn Polish?"	**Jak długo uczysz się polskiego?** "How long have you been studying Polish?"
Gdzie nauczyłeś się polskiego? "Where did you learn Polish?"	**Jak długo uczysz się polskiego?** "How long have you been studying Polish?"

Czym się zajmujesz? "What do you do?"	**Gdzie mieszkasz?** "Where do you live?"
Gdzie jesteś? "Where are you?"	**Gdzie jest poczta?** "Where is the post office?"
Nauczyłem się na uniwersytecie. I learned it at university.	**Czy byłes w Warszawie?** Have you been to Warsaw?
Nauczyłem się w szkole. I learned it in school.	**Jestem w sklepie.** I am in the shop.

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say Where did you learn Polish? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {4} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*gdzie*	where
Word 2	*nauczyłeś*	you learned
Word 3	*się*	oneself
Word 4	*polskiego*	Polish

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #8
Can you eat Polish food?

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

8

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie?
2. A: Tak, jest przepyszne.
3. A: Tak, jest bardzo smaczne.
4. A: Tak, jest wyjątkowe.
5. A: Tak, jest różnorodne.

ENGLISH

1. Q: Can you eat Polish food?
2. A: Yes, it's delicious.
3. A: Yes, it's very tasty.
4. A: Yes, it's exceptional.
5. A: Yes, it's varied.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
różnorodne	varied	
wyjątkowe	exceptional	

bardzo smaczne	very tasty	
jest	it is	
przepyszne	delicious	adjective
możesz	you can	
polskiego	Polish	
jeść	to eat	
czy	question particle	particle
jedzenie	food	
tak	yes	expression

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Tak, jest różnorodne. Yes, it's varied.	**Tak, jest wyjątkowe.** Yes, it's exceptional.
Tak, jest bardzo smaczne. Yes, it's very tasty.	**Jaka jest pogoda w Warszawie?** What's the weather like in Warsaw?
Która jest godzina? What time is it?	**Tak, jest przepyszne.** "Yes, it's delicious."
To jest przepyszne. It's delicious.	**Tak, jest przepyszne.** "Yes, it's delicious."
Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie? "Can you eat Polish food?"	**Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie?** "Can you eat Polish food?"

Gdzie nauczyłeś się polskiego? "Where did you learn Polish?"	**Jak długo uczysz się polskiego?** "How long have you been studying Polish?"
Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie? "Can you eat Polish food?"	**Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie?** "Can you eat Polish food?"
Czy mówisz po polsku? "Do you speak Polish?"	**Czy jesteś zmęczona?** "Are you tired?"
Czy lubisz polskie jedzenie? Do you like Polish food?	**Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie?** "Can you eat Polish food?"
Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam barszcz. "Yes, I especially love beetroot soup."	**Tak, jest przepyszne.** "Yes, it's delicious."
Tak, trochę mówię. "Yes, I speak a little."	

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say Can you eat Polish food? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {5} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*czy*	question marker
Word 2	*możesz*	you can
Word 3	*jeść*	to eat
Word 4	*polskie*	Polish

Word 5	*jedzenie*	food

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #9
Do you like Polish food?

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

9

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Czy lubisz polskie jedzenie?
2. A: Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam pierogi.
3. A: Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam rosół.
4. A: Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam barszcz.
5. A: Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam piernik.

ENGLISH

1. Q: Do you like Polish food?
2. A: Yes, I especially love pierogi.
3. A: Yes, I especially love clear chicken soup.
4. A: Yes, I especially love beetroot soup.
5. A: Yes, I especially love gingerbread cake.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
piernik	gingerbread cake	noun	masculine
barszcz	beetroot soup		

rosół	clear chicken soup	
pierogi	dumplings	
uwielbiam	love	
szczególnie	especially	adverb
lubisz	you like	
jedzenie	food	
polskiego	Polish	
czy	question particle	particle
tak	yes	expression

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam piernik. Yes, I especially love gingerbread cake.	**Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam barszcz.** "Yes, I especially love beetroot soup."
Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam rosół. Yes, I especially love clear chicken soup.	**Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam pierogi.** Yes, I especially love pierogi.
Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam barszcz. "Yes, I especially love beetroot soup."	**Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam pierogi.** Yes, I especially love pierogi.
Czy lubisz polskie jedzenie? Do you like Polish food?	**Czy lubisz polskie jedzenie?** Do you like Polish food?
Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie? "Can you eat Polish food?"	**Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie?** "Can you eat Polish food?"

Gdzie nauczyłeś się polskiego? "Where did you learn Polish?"	**Jak długo uczysz się polskiego?** "How long have you been studying Polish?"
Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie? "Can you eat Polish food?"	**Czy mówisz po polsku?** "Do you speak Polish?"
Czy jesteś zmęczona? "Are you tired?"	**Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam barszcz.** "Yes, I especially love beetroot soup."
Tak, jest przepyszne. "Yes, it's delicious."	**Tak, trochę mówię.** "Yes, I speak a little."

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say Do you like Polish food? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {4} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*czy*	question marker
Word 2	*lubisz*	you like
Word 3	*polskie*	Polish
Word 4	*jedzenie*	food

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #10
How is the Polish food?

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

#10

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: I jak?
2. A: To jest przepyszne.
3. A: To jest słone.
4. A: To jest słodkie.
5. A: To jest ostre.

ENGLISH

1. Q: How is it? (food)
2. A: It's delicious.
3. A: It's salty.
4. A: It's sweet.
5. A: It's spicy.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
słone	salty	
słodkie	sweet	

ostre	spicy	
jak	how	pronoun
jest	is	
to	it, this	pronoun
i	and	conjunction
przepyszne	delicious	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

To jest słone. It's salty.	**To jest słodkie.** It's sweet.
To jest ostre. It's spicy.	**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?
To jest słodkie. It's sweet.	**Co to jest?** What's this?
To jest przepyszne. It's delicious.	**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.

To jest przepyszne. It's delicious.	**Tak, jest przepyszne.** "Yes, it's delicious."

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say How is it? (food) in Polish.
The question is broken down into {2} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*i*	and
Word 2	*jak*	how

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #11
How old are you? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

#11

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Ile masz lat?
2. A: Mam osiemnaście lat.
3. A: Mam dwadzieścia lat.
4. A: Mam dwadzieścia dwa lata.
5. A: Mam dwadzieścia pięć lat.

ENGLISH

1. Q: How old are you?
2. A: I'm eighteen years old.
3. A: I'm twenty years old.
4. A: I'm twenty-two years old.
5. A: I'm twenty-five years old.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
dwadzieścia dwa	twenty-two	numeral
dwadzieścia pięć	twenty-five	

masz	you have	
mam	I have	
lat	years	
ile	How many?	numeral
osiemnaście	eighteen (18)	numeral
dwadzieścia	twenty (20)	numeral

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Mam dwadzieścia dwa lata. I'm twenty-two years old.	**Mam dwadzieścia pięć lat.** I'm twenty-five years old.
Kiedy masz urodziny? "When is your birthday?"	**Ile masz lat?** "How old are you?"
Mam siostrę. "I have a sister."	**Mam osiemnaście lat.** "I'm eighteen years old."
Ile masz lat? "How old are you?"	**Ile masz lat?** "How old are you?"
Ile masz jabłek? How many apples do you have?	**Mam osiemnaście lat.** "I'm eighteen years old."
Mam już osiemnaście lat. I am already eighteen.	**Mam dwadzieścia lat.** I'm twenty years old.

Mam dwadzieścia Euro.

I have twenty euros.

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say How old are you? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {3} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*ile*	how many
Word 2	*masz*	you have
Word 3	*lat*	years

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #12
When is your birthday? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar

#12

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Kiedy masz urodziny?
2. A: Dwudziestego drugiego sierpnia.
3. A: pierwszego stycznia
4. A: jedenastego marca
5. A: piątego maja

ENGLISH

1. Q: When is your birthday?
2. A: It's August 22nd.
3. A: It's on January 1st.
4. A: It's on March 11th.
5. A: It's on May 5th.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
urodziny	birthday	noun
dwudziestego	on 20th	

drugiego	on 2nd	
sierpnia	of August	
pierwszego stycznia	on January 1st	phrase
jedenastego marca	on March 11th	
piątego maja	on May 5th	
masz	you have	
kiedy	when	pronoun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Kiedy masz urodziny? "When is your birthday?"	**Dwudziestego drugiego sierpnia.** It's August 22nd.
Dwudziestego drugiego sierpnia. It's August 22nd.	**Dwudziestego drugiego sierpnia.** It's August 22nd.
pierwszego stycznia It's on January 1st.	**jedenastego marca** It's on March 11th.
piątego maja It's on May 5th.	**Kiedy masz urodziny?** "When is your birthday?"
Ile masz lat? "How old are you?"	**Kiedy masz urodziny?** "When is your birthday?"

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say When is your birthday? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {3} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*kiedy*	when
Word 2	*masz*	you have
Word 3	*urodziny*	birthday

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #13
Do you have any brothers or sisters? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

#13

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Czy masz brata albo siostrę?
2. A: Mam siostrę.
3. A: Mam brata.
4. A: Mam młodszego brata.
5. A: Mam starszą siostrę.

ENGLISH

1. Q: Do you have any brothers or sisters?
2. A: I have a sister.
3. A: I have a brother.
4. A: I have a younger brother.
5. A: I have an older sister.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
młodszego brata	younger brother	
starszą siostrę	older sister	

masz	you have	
albo	or	
brata	brother	noun
czy	question particle	particle
siostrę	sister	noun
mam	I have	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Mam młodszego brata. I have a younger brother.	**Mam starszą siostrę.** I have an older sister.
Kiedy masz urodziny? "When is your birthday?"	**Ile masz lat?** "How old are you?"
Czy masz brata albo siostrę? Do you have any brothers or sisters?	**Mam brata.** I have a brother.
Czy masz brata albo siostrę? Do you have any brothers or sisters?	**Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie?** "Can you eat Polish food?"
Czy mówisz po polsku? "Do you speak Polish?"	**Czy jesteś zmęczona?** "Are you tired?"
Mam siostrę. "I have a sister."	**Czy masz brata albo siostrę?** Do you have any brothers or sisters?

Mam siostrę. "I have a sister."	**Mam osiemnaście lat.** "I'm eighteen years old."

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say Do you have any brothers or sisters? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {5} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*czy*	question marker
Word 2	*masz*	you have
Word 3	*brata*	brother
Word 4	*albo*	or
Word 5	*siostrę*	sister

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #14
How tall are you? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

14

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Ile masz wzrostu?
2. A: Mam sto osiemdziesiąt centymetrów wzrostu.
3. A: Mam sto sześćdziesiąt centymetrów wzrostu.
4. A: Mam sto sześćdziesiąt pięć centymetrów wzrostu.
5. A: Mam sto siedemdziesiąt centymetrów wzrostu.

ENGLISH

1. Q: How tall are you?
2. A: I'm 180 cm tall.
3. A: I'm 160 cm tall.
4. A: I'm 165 cm tall.
5. A: I'm 170 cm tall.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
masz	you have	
mam	I have	

wzrostu	of height	
ile	how much, how many	pronoun
sto	one hundred	numeral
osiemdziesiąt	eighty	
centymetrów	of centimeters	
sto sześćdziesiąt pięć	165	
sto siedemdziesiąt	170	
sto sześćdziesiąt	160	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Kiedy masz urodziny? "When is your birthday?"	**Ile masz lat?** "How old are you?"
Mam siostrę. "I have a sister."	**Mam osiemnaście lat.** "I'm eighteen years old."
Ile masz wzrostu? How tall are you?	**Ile to kosztuje?** How much is this?
Ile masz wzrostu? How tall are you?	**Ile kosztuje kuszetka do Gdyni?** How much is the sleeper to Gdynia?
Mam sto osiemdziesiąt centymetrów wzrostu. I'm 180 cm tall.	**Mam sto osiemdziesiąt centymetrów wzrostu.** I'm 180 cm tall.

Mam sto sześćdziesiąt centymetrów wzrostu. I'm 160 cm tall.	**Mam sto sześćdziesiąt pięć centymetrów wzrostu.** I'm 165 cm tall.
Mam sto siedemdziesiąt centymetrów wzrostu. I'm 170 cm tall.	**Mam sto sześćdziesiąt centymetrów wzrostu.** I'm 160 cm tall.

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say How tall are you? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {3} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*ile*	how much
Word 2	*masz*	you have
Word 3	*wzrostu*	of height

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #15
Do you have a cell phone? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

#15

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Czy masz telefon komórkowy?
2. A: Tak, mam iPhone'a.
3. A: Tak, mam Samsunga.
4. A: Tak, mam Nokię.
5. A: Tak, mam Motorolę.

ENGLISH

1. Q: Do you have a cell phone?
2. A: Yes, I have an iPhone.
3. A: Yes, I have a Samsung.
4. A: Yes, I have a Nokia.
5. A: Yes, I have a Motorola.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
Motorolę	Motorola	noun
Nokię	Nokia	

Samsunga	Samsung	
iPhone'a	iPhone	noun
masz	you have	
telefon	phone	
komórkowy	mobile	
czy	question particle	particle
tak	yes	expression
mam	I have	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Tak, mam Motorolę. Yes, I have a Motorola.	**Tak, mam Nokię.** Yes, I have a Nokia.
Tak, mam Samsunga. Yes, I have a Samsung.	**Tak, mam iPhone'a** Yes, I have an iPhone.
Kiedy masz urodziny? "When is your birthday?"	**Ile masz lat?** "How old are you?"
Czy masz telefon komórkowy? Do you have a cell phone?	**Czy masz telefon komórkowy?** Do you have a cell phone?
Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie? "Can you eat Polish food?"	**Czy mówisz po polsku?** "Do you speak Polish?"

Czy jesteś zmęczona? "Are you tired?"	**Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam barszcz.** "Yes, I especially love beetroot soup."
Tak, jest przepyszne. "Yes, it's delicious."	**Tak, trochę mówię.** "Yes, I speak a little."
Mam siostrę. "I have a sister."	**Mam osiemnaście lat.** "I'm eighteen years old."

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say Do you have a cell phone? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {4} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*czy*	question marker
Word 2	*masz*	you have
Word 3	*telefon*	phone
Word 4	*komórkowy*	mobile

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #16
How are you? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

#16

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Jak się masz?
2. A: Dobrze.
3. A: świetnie
4. A: w porządku
5. A: tak sobie

ENGLISH

1. Q: How are you?
2. A: I'm fine.
3. A: I'm great.
4. A: I'm fine.
5. A: I'm so so.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
w porządku	fine	
tak sobie	so so	

się	oneself	
dobrze	well	adverb
masz	you have	
jak	how	pronoun
świetnie	great	adverb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

w porządku I'm fine.	**tak sobie** I'm so so.
Gdzie nauczyłeś się polskiego? "Where did you learn Polish?"	**Jak długo uczysz się polskiego?** "How long have you been studying Polish?"
Czym się zajmujesz? "What do you do?"	**Dobrze.** I'm fine.
Tak, dobrze mówię. Yes, I speak well.	**Nie czuję się dziś dobrze.** I'm not feeling well today.
Dobrze się czujesz? Are you feeling well?	**Kiedy masz urodziny?** "When is your birthday?"
Ile masz lat? "How old are you?"	**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?

świetnie I'm great.	**Świetnie się dziś bawię.** I’m having great fun today.

Świetnie dziś wyglądasz.

You look great today.

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say "How are you?" in Polish.
The question is broken down into {3} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*jak*	how
Word 2	się	oneself
Word 3	*masz*	you have

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #17
What time is it? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar

17

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Która jest godzina?
2. A: Jest dwunasta.
3. A: Jest druga.
4. A: Jest czwarta.
5. A: Jest szósta.

ENGLISH

1. Q: What time is it?
2. A: It's 12 o'clock.
3. A: It's 2 o'clock.
4. A: It's 4 o'clock.
5. A: It's 6 o'clock.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English
godzina	time
dwunasta	12 o'clock
druga	2 o'clock

czwarta	4 o'clock
szósta	6 o'clock
jest	it is
która	which

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Która jest godzina? What time is it?	**Jest dwunasta.** It's 12 o'clock.
Jest druga. It's 2 o'clock.	**Jest czwarta.** It's 4 o'clock.
Jest szósta. It's 6 o'clock.	**Jaka jest pogoda w Warszawie?** What's the weather like in Warsaw?
Która jest godzina? What time is it?	**Tak, jest przepyszne.** "Yes, it's delicious."
Która jest godzina? What time is it?	

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say What time is it? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {3} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*która*	which

Word 2	jest	it is
Word 3	*godzina*	time

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #18
What are you doing? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar

#18

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Co robisz?
2. A: Myślę.
3. A: uczę się
4. A: pracuję
5. A: robię zakupy

ENGLISH

1. Q: What are you doing?
2. A: I'm thinking.
3. A: I'm studying.
4. A: I'm working.
5. A: I'm shopping.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
robisz	you do	
myślę	I think	

uczę się	I'm studying	
pracuję	I'm working	
robię zakupy	I'm shopping	
co	what	pronoun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Co robisz? What are you doing?	**Myślę.** I'm thinking.
uczę się I'm studying.	**pracuję** I'm working.
robię zakupy I'm shopping.	**Co robisz?** What are you doing?
Co lubisz robić w weekendy? What do you like doing on weekends?	**Co czytasz?** What are you reading?

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say What are you doing? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {2} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*co*	what
Word 2	*robisz*	you do

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #19 What's wrong? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

#19

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Co się stało?
2. A: Jestem zmęczony.
3. A: Jestem chory.
4. A: Jestem śpiący.
5. A: Jestem wyczerpany.

ENGLISH

1. Q: What's wrong?
2. A: I'm tired.
3. A: I'm sick.
4. A: I'm sleepy.
5. A: I'm exhausted.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
zmęczony	tired	adjective
chory	sick	adjective

śpiący	sleepy	
wyczerpany	exhausted	
się	oneself	
jestem	I am	
stało	happened	
co	what	pronoun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Jestem zmęczony. I'm tired.	**Jestem chory.** "I'm sick."
Jestem śpiący. I'm sleepy.	**Jestem wyczerpany.** I'm exhausted.
Gdzie nauczyłeś się polskiego? "Where did you learn Polish?"	**Jak długo uczysz się polskiego?** "How long have you been studying Polish?"
Czym się zajmujesz? "What do you do?"	**Jestem chory.** "I'm sick."
Jestem lekarzem. "I'm a doctor."	**Jestem z Niemiec.** "I'm from Germany."
Co się stało? What's wrong?	**Co robisz?** What are you doing?

Co lubisz robić w weekendy? What do you like doing on weekends?	**Co czytasz?** What are you reading?

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say What's wrong? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {3} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*co*	what
Word 2	*się*	oneself
Word 3	*stało*	happened

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #20
What's the weather like? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

#20

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Jaka jest pogoda w Warszawie?
2. A: Jest słonecznie.
3. A: Jest pochmurnie.
4. A: Jest wietrznie.
5. A: Jest ciepło.

ENGLISH

1. Q: What's the weather like in Warsaw?
2. A: It's sunny.
3. A: It's cloudy.
4. A: It's windy.
5. A: It's warm.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
słonecznie	sunny		
pochmurnie	cloudy		

wietrznie	windy	adverb	
ciepło	warm	adverb	
jest	it is		
w	in	preposition	
pogoda	weather	noun	feminine
jaka	what		
Warszawie	Warsaw		

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Jest słonecznie. It's sunny.	**Jest pochmurnie.** It's cloudy.
Jest wietrznie. It's windy.	**Jest ciepło.** It's warm.
Jaka jest pogoda w Warszawie? What's the weather like in Warsaw?	**Która jest godzina?** What time is it?
Tak, jest przepyszne. "Yes, it's delicious."	**Mieszkam w Berlinie.** "I live in Berlin."
Jeszcze nie byłam w Polsce. "I haven't been in Poland yet."	**Jestem w sklepie.** "I am in the store."
Jaka jest pogoda w Warszawie? What's the weather like in Warsaw?	**Jaka jest pogoda w Warszawie?** What's the weather like in Warsaw?

Czy byłes w Warszawie?	**Jaka jest pogoda w Warszawie?**
Have you been to Warsaw?	What's the weather like in Warsaw?

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say What's the weather like in Warsaw? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {5} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*jaka*	what
Word 2	*jest*	it is
Word 3	*pogoda*	weather
Word 4	*w*	in
Word 5	*Warszawie*	Warsaw

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #21
Are you hungry? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

#21

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Czy jesteś głodny?
2. A: Jestem trochę głodny.
3. A: Jestem bardzo głodny.
4. A: Nie jestem głodny.
5. A: Jestem głodny,ale tylko trochę.

ENGLISH

1. Q: Are you hungry?
2. A: I'm a little hungry.
3. A: I'm very hungry.
4. A: I'm not hungry
5. A: I'm hungry but only a little bit.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
trochę	a little bit	
Jestem bardzo głodny	I'm very hungry.	

Nie jestem głodny.	I'm not hungry.	
Jestem głodny,ale tylko trochę.	I'm hungry but only a little bit.	
jesteś	you are	
jestem	I am	
głodny	hungry	adjective
czy	question particle	particle

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Jestem trochę głodny. I'm a little hungry.	**Jestem bardzo głodny.** I'm very hungry.
Nie jestem głodny. I'm not hungry.	**Jestem głodny,ale tylko trochę.** I'm hungry but only a little bit.
Czy jesteś głodny? "Are you hungry?"	**Skąd jesteś?** "Where are you from?"
Jestem chory. "I'm sick."	**Jestem lekarzem.** "I'm a doctor."
Jestem z Niemiec. "I'm from Germany."	**Czy jesteś głodny?** "Are you hungry?"
Kobieta jest głodna. Głodny mężczyzna szuka jedzenia w lodówce. The woman is hungry. The hungry man is looking for food in the refrigerator.	**Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie?** "Can you eat Polish food?"

Czy mówisz po polsku?	Czy jesteś zmęczona?
"Do you speak Polish?"	"Are you tired?"

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say Are you hungry? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {3} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*czy*	question marker
Word 2	*jesteś*	you are
Word 3	*głodny*	hungry

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #22
What's this? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

#22

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Co to jest?
2. A: Aparat.
3. A: Samochód.
4. A: Notes.
5. A: Rower.

ENGLISH

1. Q: What's this?
2. A: It's a camera.
3. A: It's a car.
4. A: It's a notebook.
5. A: It's a bicycle.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
notes	notebook		
rower	bicycle	noun	masculine

to	this	pronoun	neuter
aparat	camera	noun	
jest	it is		
co	what	pronoun	
samochód	car	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Notes. It's a notebook.	**Rower.** It's a bicycle.
Co to jest? What's this?	**Co to znaczy?** What does it mean?
To jest gazeta. This is a newspaper.	**Aparat.** It's a camera.
Jaka jest pogoda w Warszawie? What's the weather like in Warsaw?	**Która jest godzina?** What time is it?
Tak, jest przepyszne. "Yes, it's delicious."	**Co robisz?** What are you doing?
Co lubisz robić w weekendy? What do you like doing on weekends?	**Co czytasz?** What are you reading?
Samochód. It's a car.	**Prawie każda polska rodzina ma samochód.** Almost every Polish family owns a car.

Małżeństwo jedzie samochodem wiejską drogą. The married couple drives on the country road.	**Jan kupił nowy samochód.** John bought a new car.

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say What's this? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {3} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*co*	what
Word 2	*to*	this
Word 3	*jest*	it is

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #23
Whose is this? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar

#23

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Czyje to jest?
2. A: Moje.
3. A: Jego.
4. A: Jej.
5. A: Nasze.

ENGLISH

1. Q: Whose is this?
2. A: It's mine.
3. A: It's his.
4. A: It's hers.
5. A: It's ours.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
moje	mine		
jego	his		

jej	hers		
nasze	ours		
to	this	pronoun	neuter
jest	it is		
czyje	whose		

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Moje. It's mine.	**Jego.** It's his.
Jej. It's hers.	**Nasze.** It's ours.
Co to jest? What's this?	**Co to znaczy?** What does it mean?
To jest gazeta. This is a newspaper.	**Jaka jest pogoda w Warszawie?** What's the weather like in Warsaw?
Która jest godzina? What time is it?	**Tak, jest przepyszne.** "Yes, it's delicious."
Czyje to jest? Whose is this?	

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say Whose is this? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {3} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*czyje*	whose
Word 2	*to*	this
Word 3	*jest*	it is

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #24
Have you been to Warsaw?

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

#24

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Czy byłes w Warszawie?
2. A: Tak, byłem dwa razy.
3. A: Tak, byłem raz.
4. A: Tak, byłem trzy razy.
5. A: Tak, byłem kilkakrotnie.

ENGLISH

1. Q: Have you been to Warsaw?
2. A: Yes, I've been twice.
3. A: Yes, I've been once.
4. A: Yes, I've been three times.
5. A: Yes, I've been several times.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
kilkakrotnie	several times	
trzy razy	three times	

raz	once	
razy	times	
byłeś	you were	
Warszawie	Warsaw	
w	in	preposition
czy	question particle	particle
tak	yes	expression
byłem	I was	
dwa	two (2)	numeral

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Tak, byłem kilkakrotnie. Yes, I've been several times.	**Tak, byłem trzy razy.** Yes, I've been three times.
Tak, byłem raz. Yes, I've been once.	**Tak, byłem trzy razy.** Yes, I've been three times.
Czy byłes w Warszawie? Have you been to Warsaw?	**Czy byłes w Warszawie?** Have you been to Warsaw?
Jaka jest pogoda w Warszawie? What's the weather like in Warsaw?	**Czy byłes w Warszawie?** Have you been to Warsaw?
Nauczyłem się w szkole. I learned it in school.	**Jestem w sklepie.** I am in the shop.

Czy możesz jeść polskie jedzenie? "Can you eat Polish food?"	**Czy mówisz po polsku?** "Do you speak Polish?"
Czy jesteś zmęczona? "Are you tired?"	**Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam barszcz.** "Yes, I especially love beetroot soup."
Tak, jest przepyszne. "Yes, it's delicious."	**Tak, trochę mówię.** "Yes, I speak a little."
Tak, byłem dwa razy. Yes, I've been twice.	**Tak, byłem dwa razy.** Yes, I've been twice.
Proszę dwa jabłka. Two apples, please.	**Ona ma dwa koty.** She has two cats.

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say Have you been to Warsaw? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {4} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*czy*	question marker
Word 2	*byłeś*	you were
Word 3	*w*	in
Word 4	*Warszawie*	Warsaw

LESSON NOTES

Top 25 Polish Questions You Need to Know S1 #25
How much is this? in Polish

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar

#25

COPYRIGHT © 2013 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Q: Ile to kosztuje?
2. A: Pięć złotych.
3. A: złotówkę.
4. A: dziesięć złotych.
5. A: czterdzieści złotych.

ENGLISH

1. Q: How much is this?
2. A: It's 5 zloty.
3. A: It's 1 zloty.
4. A: It's 10 zloty.
5. A: It's 40 zloty.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
złotych	zloty		
złotówkę	1 zloty		

dziesięć złotych	10 zloty		
czterdzieści złotych	40 zloty		
to	this	pronoun	neuter
pięć	five (5)	numeral	
kosztuje	it costs		
ile	how much, how many	pronoun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Pięć złotych. It's 5 zloty.	**złotówkę.** "It's 1 zloty."
dziesięć złotych. "It's 10 zloty."	**czterdzieści złotych.** "It's 40 zloty."
Co to jest? What's this?	**Co to znaczy?** What does it mean?
To jest gazeta. This is a newspaper.	**Pięć złotych.** It's 5 zloty.
Mam pięć batoników. I have five chocolate bars.	**pięć dziewczyn** five girls
Ile to kosztuje? How much is this?	**Ile to kosztuje?** How much is this?

Ile masz wzrostu? How tall are you?	**Ile kosztuje kuszetka do Gdyni?** How much is the sleeper to Gdynia?

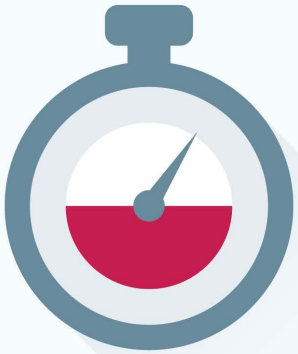
GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is how to say How much is this? in Polish.
The question is broken down into {3} words:

	Polish	English
Word 1	*ile*	how much
Word 2	*to*	this
Word 3	*kosztuje*	it costs

PolishPod101.com

PolishPod101.com



3 MINUTE POLISH

innovativeLANGUAGE.COM

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #1 Self Introduction

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
5 Cultural Insight

1

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Cześć! Jestem Marzena. Miło mi.
2. Dzień dobry! Nazywam się Marzena Kowalska.
3. Miło mi Pana poznać
4. Miło mi Panią poznać.

ENGLISH

1. Hi! I'm Marzena. Nice to meet you.(informal)
2. Good day, my name is Marzena Kowalska.(formal)
3. Nice to meet you.
4. Nice to meet you (to a woman).

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
cześć	Hello, Hi.	expression	
jestem	I am	verb	
miło mi	I am pleased to	phrase	
Marzena	Marzena	proper noun	
nazywam się	I call myself	verb	

dzień dobry	good day	expression	
Marzena Kowlska	person's full name	proper noun	
Pana	Sir, you	noun	masculine
poznać	to meet	verb	
Panią	ma'am, you	noun	feminine
poznać	to meet, to get to know	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Cześć, Ewa. Hi, Eva.	**Cześć, Adam.** Hello, Adam.
Jestem chory. "I'm sick."	**Jestem lekarzem.** "I'm a doctor."
Jestem z Niemiec. "I'm from Germany."	**Z przyjemnością poznam twoich rodziców.** I would love to meet your parents.
Bardzo mi miło pana poznać. It's very nice to meet you, sir.	**Poznał Anię na studiach.** He met Ann at the university.

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to introduce yourself.

	Register	*Polish*	English	Important Notes
Phrase 1	**informal**	***Cześć! Jestem Marzena. Miło mi.***	**Hi I'm Marzena. Nice to meet you.**	
Word 1		*cześć*	Hi	
Word 2		*jestem*	I am	conjugated verb
Word 3		*Marzena*	person's name	
Word 4		*miło mi*	I am pleased to	this the shortened version of miło mi cię poznać, "nice to meet you"
Phrase 2	**formal**	***Dzień dobry! Nazywam się Marzena Kowalska.***	**Good day, my name is Marzena Kowalska.**	
Word 1		*dzień dobry*	good day	
Word 2		*nazywam się*	I call myself	conjugated reflexive verb
Word 3		*Marzena Kowlska*	person's full name	
Phrase 3	**formal**	***Miło mi Pana poznać***	**Nice to meet you.**	
Word 1		*miło mi*	I am pleased to	

Word 2		*Pana*	Sir, you	ACC
Word 3		*poznać*	to meet	inf
Phrase 4	**formal**	***Miło mi Panią poznać.***	**Nice to meet you (to a woman).**	
Word 1		*miło mi*	I am pleased to	
Word 2		*Panią*	ma'm, you	ACC
Word 3		*poznać*	to get to know	INF

CULTURAL INSIGHT

When you introduce yourself, it's a good habit to shake hands. It doesn't matter whether you're meeting a man or a woman-do the handshake.
If you are not sure how to say 'Nice to meet you,' feel free to skip it. Polish people don't use it much.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #2 Greetings

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

2

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Cześć
2. Dzień dobry.
3. Do zobaczenia.
4. Do widzenia.

ENGLISH

1. Hi.(informal)
2. Good day.(formal)
3. See you.(informal)
4. Goodbye.(formal)

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
zobaczenia	see		
do widzenia	goodbye	expression	
cześć	Hello, Hi.	expression	
dobry	good	adjective	masculine
dzień	day	noun	masculine

do	to, till	preposition

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Cześć, Ewa. Hi, Eva.	**Cześć, Adam.** Hello, Adam.
Dzień dobry, pani Anno. Good morning, Miss Anna.	**To jest dobry sklep.** This is a good store.
Jaki jest dzisiaj dzień? What day is it today?	**Jest piękny dzień.** It's a beautiful day.
Cały dzień spędziłam na zakupach. I (female) spent the whole day shopping.	**Idziemy do pubu.** We're going to the pub.
Idę do szkoły. I am going to school.	

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to greet someone when you arrive and when you part.

	Register	*Polish*	English	Important Notes
Phrase 1	**informal**	***Cześć***	**Hi.**	
Word 1		*Cześć*	Hi	
Phrase 2	**formal**	***Dzień dobry.***	**Good day.**	

Word 1		*dobry*	good	masculine
Word 2		*dzień*	day	
Phrase 3	**informal**	***Do zobaczenia.***	**See you.**	
Word 1		*do*	to, till	
Word 2		*zobaczenia*	see	
Phrase 4	**formal**	***Do widzenia.***	**Goodbye.**	
Word 1		*do widzenia*	goodbye	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

When greeting someone far from you, you usually wave your hand. When the person is standing next to you, however, you hugging between friends is not uncommon, but you would never do a handshake.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #3 Manners

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

3

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Dziękuję.
2. Dziękuję bardzo.
3. Dziękuję uprzejmie.
4. Dzięki za wszystko.

ENGLISH

1. Thank you.
2. Thank you very much.
3. Thank you, gladly.
4. Thanks for everything.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
dziękuję	thank you	phrase, expression
bardzo	very much, very	adverb
uprzejmie	kindly	adverb
dzięki	Thanks (informal)	expression
za	for, in	preposition
wszystko	everything	pronoun, noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Dziękuję za pomoc. Thank you for your help!	**Bardzo lubię kawę.** I like coffee very much.
Bardzo za tobą tęsknię. I miss you very much.	**Dzięki! Do zobaczenia!** Thanks! See you!

Zapłacę za wszystko.

I will pay for everything.

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to thank other people in various ways.

	Register	*Polish*	English	Important Notes
Phrase 1		***Dziękuję.***	**Thank you.**	
Phrase 2		***Dziękuję bardzo.***	**Thank you very much.**	
Word 1		*dziękuję*	thank you	
Word 2		*bardzo*	very much	
Phrase 3	**formal**	***Dziękuję uprzejmie.***	**Thank you, gladly.**	
Word 1		*dziękuję*	thank you	
Word 2		*uprzejmie*	kindly	
Phrase 4	**informal**	***Dzięki za wszystko.***	**Thanks for everything.**	

Word 1		*dzięki*	thanks	informal
Word 2		*za*	for	
Word 3		*wszystko*	everything	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

If someone does something for you, you would usually buy something small for that person. If you don't know what to buy, you can either do something for him or her in return. Or buy them a small box of chocolates—this always works!

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #4
Asking How Someone Is

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

4

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Jak się masz?
2. Jak się pan miewa?
3. W porządku, dziękuję.
4. Nie za dobrze.

ENGLISH

1. How are you?
2. How are you? (to a man)
3. I'm fine. Thank you.
4. Not too well.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
jak	how	pronoun	
się masz	are you	verb	
pan	sir, you (man)	noun	masculine
miewa	is doing	verb	
w porządku	fine	phrase	

dziękuję	thank you	phrase, expression
nie	no, not	particle
za	too	adverb, preposition
dobrze	well, okay	adverb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

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?	**w porządku** I'm fine.
Dziękuję za pomoc. Thank you for your help!	**Nie, nie lubię muzyki klasycznej.** "No, I don't like classical music."
On ma za dużo pracy w ten weekend. He has too much homework for this weekend.	**Dobrze.** I'm fine.
Tak, dobrze mówię. Yes, I speak it well.	**Nie czuję się dziś dobrze.** I'm not feeling well today.
Dobrze się czujesz? Are you feeling well?	

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask and answer the question How are you?.

	Register	*Polish*	English	Important Notes
Phrase 1	**informal**	***Jak się masz?***	**How are you?**	
Word 1		*jak*	how	
Word 2		*się masz*	are you	reflexive, 2nd person, singlar
Phrase 2	**formal**	***Jak się pan miewa?***	**How are you (to a man)?**	
Word 1		*jak*	how	
Word 2		*pan*	sir, you	
Word 3		*miewa*	is doing	3rd person, singular
Phrase 3	**informal**	***W porządku, dziękuję.***	**I'm fine. Thank you.**	
Word 1		*w porządku*	fine	
Word 2		*dziękuję*	thank you	
Phrase 4	**formal**	***Nie za dobrze.***	**Not too well.**	
Word 1		*nie*	not	
Word 2		*za*	too	
Word 3		*dobrze*	well	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

It is not uncommon to ask about someone's well-being, but expect a long and usually negative answer. Poles love to complaining, especially to their friends and family.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #5 Making Apologies

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

5

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Przepraszam.
2. Sorry.
3. Nie o to mi chodziło.
4. Najmocniej przepraszam.

ENGLISH

1. Excuse me./ I'm sorry.
2. Excuse me./ I'm sorry.
3. I didn't mean it.
4. I am terribly sorry.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
Przepraszam	Excuse me./ I'm sorry.	expression
Sorry.	I'm sorry.	
nie	no, not	particle
o to	about this	phrase
chodziło	it was (about)	verb

najmocniej	terribly, very	adverb
przepraszam	I'm sorry.	expression

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Nie, nie lubię muzyki klasycznej.

"No, I don't like classical music."

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to apologise yourself and say that you didn't do it on purpose or you are sorry.

	Register	***Polish***	**English**	**Important Notes**
Phrase 1		***Przepraszam.***	**Excuse me./ I'm sorry.**	
Word 1		*Przepraszam*	Excuse me./ I'm sorry.	
Phrase 2	**informal**	***Sorry.***	**Excuse me./ I'm sorry.**	**spoken with Polish accent and Polish "y", very informal and used by young people**
Word 1		*Sorry.*	I'm sorry.	
Phrase 3		***Nie o to mi chodziło.***	**I didn't mean it.**	

Word 1		*nie*	not	
Word 2		*o to*	about this	
Word 3		*chodziło*	it was (about)	3rd person, singular, past (it)
Phrase 4		***Najmocniej przepraszam.***	**I am terribly sorry.**	
Word 1		*najmocniej*	terribly, very	
Word 2		*przepraszam*	I'm sorry.	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

It really depends on the situation, but you would usually just say *Przepraszam* or "I'm sorry" while looking very apologetic. If you do something really bad, you can always try giving a small gift.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #6 Refusing Politely

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
5 Cultural Insight

6

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Nie, dziękuję.
2. Przepraszam, ale nie mogę tego przyjąć.
3. Przepraszam, ale już mam plany.
4. Przykro mi, ale nie dam rady.

ENGLISH

1. No, thank you.
2. I'm sorry, but I can't accept this.
3. I'm sorry, but I already have plans.
4. I'm sorry, but I won't make it.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
nie dam rady	I won't make it	phrase
przykro mi	I'm sorry	expression
plany	plans	noun
nie	no, not	particle
dziękuję	thank you	phrase, expression
przepraszam	I'm sorry.	expression

ale	but	conjunction
nie mogę	I can't	verb
tego	this	dereminitive pronoun
przyjąć	to accept	verb
już	already	particle
mam	I have, have	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Nie, nie lubię muzyki klasycznej. "No, I don't like classical music."	**Dziękuję za pomoc.** Thank you for your help!
Wiem, że jesteś zajęty, ale czy mógłbyś zadzwonić do mojego prawnika. I know you are busy. But can you call my lawyer?	**Lubię twojego brata, ale nie lubię twojej siostry.** I like your brother, but I don't like your sister.
Lubię jabłka, ale tylko kwaśne. I like apples, but only sour ones.	**Już skończyłam.** I already finished.
Mam siostrę. "I have a sister."	**Mam osiemnaście lat.** "I'm eighteen years old."

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to refuse politely an invite.

	Register	*Polish*	English	Important Notes

Phrase 1	**informal**	***Nie, dziękuję.***	**No, thank you.**	
Word 1		*nie*	no	
Word 2		*dziękuję*	thank you	
Phrase 2	**formal**	***Przepraszam, ale nie mogę tego przyjąć.***	**I'm sorry, but I can't accept this.**	
Word 1		*przepraszam*	I'm sorry	
Word 2		*ale*	but	
Word 3		*nie mogę*	I can't	1st, singular, negation
Word 4		*tego*	this	GEN
Word 5		*przyjąć*	to accept	inf
Phrase 3	**formal**	***Przepraszam bardzo, ale już mam plany.***	**I'm sorry, but I already have plans.**	
Word 1		*przepraszam*	I'm sorry	
Word 2		*ale*	but	
Word 3		*już*	already	
Word 4		*mam*	have	1st, singular (I)
Word 5		*plany*	plans	plural
Phrase 4		***Przykro mi, ale nie dam rady.***	**I'm sorry, but I won't make it.**	**it may be on the informal side, but this is more neutral**

Word 1		*przykro mi*	I'm sorry	
Word 2		*ale*	but	
Word 3		*nie dam rady*	I won't make it	1st, singular, negation

CULTURAL INSIGHT

It’s a good idea to think of a good excuse. First we always say why we cannot make it and then apologize for not being able to come. It is always good to promise that you will come next time.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #7
Do You Speak English?

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

7

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Czy mówi pan po angielsku?
2. Mówisz po angielsku?
3. Tak, mówię.
4. Nie, nie mówię.

ENGLISH

1. Do you speak English? (speaking to a man, formal)
2. Do you speak English?(informal)
3. Yes, I speak English.
4. No, I don't.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
czy	whether	particle
mówi	speak	verb
pan	sir, you (to a man)	noun
po angielsku	in English	phrase
mówisz	you speak	verb
tak	yes	particle

mówię	I speak	verb
nie	no, not	particle

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Oni mówią biegle po angielsku. They speak English fluently.	**Czy mówisz po polsku?** Do you speak Polish?
Tak, mam brata. Yes, I have a brother.	**Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam barszcz.** Yes, I especially love beetroot soup.
Tak, jest przepyszne. Yes, it's delicious.	**Tak, trochę mówię.** Yes, I speak a little.
Tak, dobrze mówię. Yes, I speak it well.	**Nie, nie lubię muzyki klasycznej.** "No, I don't like classical music."

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask and answer the question Do you speak English?.

	Register	***Polish***	**English**	**Important Notes**
Phrase 1	**formal**	***Czy mówi pan po angielsku?***	**Do you speak English? (to a man)**	**when addressing a man**
Word 1		*czy*	whether	
Word 2		*mówi*	speak	3rd, singular

Word 3		*pan*	sir, you (to a man)	masculine
Word 4		*po angielsku*	in English	
Phrase 2	**informal**	***Mówisz po angielsku?***	**Do you speak English?**	**to both, a man and a women**
Word 1		*mówisz*	you speak	2nd, singular (You)
Word 2		*po angielsku*	in English	
Phrase 3		***Tak, mówię.***	**Yes, I speak English.**	**same for men and women**
Word 1		*tak*	yes	
Word 2		*mówię*	I speak	1st, singular (I)
Phrase 4		***Nie, nie mówię.***	**No, I don't.**	
Word 1		*nie*	no, not	
Word 2		*mówię*	I speak	1st, singular (I)

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Apart from in the big cities, many people still do not speak English. This is especially true of older people, who speak more German and/or Russian. Most of the younger people, however, should be able to speak English.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #8
Talking About Your Age

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

#8

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Ile masz lat?
2. Ile ma pan lat?
3. Siedemnaście.
4. Wolałabym nie mówić.

ENGLISH

1. How old are you?(informal)
2. How old are you? (speaking to a man, formal)
3. I am 17.
4. I prefer not to say. (for a woman)

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
ile	how many	pronoun, interrogative pronoun	
masz	you have	verb	
lat	years	noun	
ma	he has	verb	

pan	sir, you (man)	noun	masculine
siedemnaście	seventeen	numeral	
wolałabym	I prefer	verb	
nie	no, not	particle	
mówić	to speak; to say	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Kiedy masz urodziny? When is your birthday?	**Ile masz lat?** "How old are you?"
Ile masz lat? "How old are you?"	**Ten pierścionek kosztuje siedemnaście złotych.** This ring costs seventeen złoty.
Nie, nie lubię muzyki klasycznej. "No, I don't like classical music."	**Ludzie mówią "cześć".** The people are saying, "Hello".
Czy mówisz po polsku? Do you speak Polish?	

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask someone's age and to say yours.

	Register	*Polish*	English	Important Notes

Phrase 1	**informal**	***Ile masz lat?***	**How old are you?**	**same for men and women**
Word 1		*ile*	how many	
Word 2		*masz*	you have	2nd, singular (You)
Word 3		*lat*	years	plural, GEN, non-masculine
Phrase 2	**formal**	***Ile ma pan lat?***	**How old are you (to a man)?**	**when addressing a man**
Word 1		*ile*	how many	
Word 2		*ma*	he has	3rd, singular (he -> formal You)
Word 3		*pan*	sir, you (man)	masculine
Word 4		*lat*	years	plural, GEN, non-masculine
Phrase 3		***Siedemnaście.***	**I am 17.**	
Word 1		*siedemnaście*	seventeen.	
Phrase 4		***Wolałabym nie mówić.***	**I prefer not to say. (for a woman)**	**for women**
Word 1		*wolałabym*	I prefer	1st, singular, masculine
Word 2		*nie*	not	
Word 3		*mówić*	to say	inf

CULTURAL INSIGHT

You would NEVER ask about somebody's age in Poland, especially if the person you are asking is a woman. Remember: Polish women are always 18.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #9
Using Adjectives

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

9

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Jestem szczęśliwy.
2. Jestem zmęczona.
3. Jesteśmy smutni.
4. Jesteście spóźnione.

ENGLISH

1. I am happy (for a man).
2. I am tired. (for a woman)
3. We are sad.
4. You are late (for a group of women only).

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
jestem	I am	verb
szczęśliwy	happy	adjective
jesteśmy	we are	verb
smutni	sad	adjective
jesteście	you are	verb
spóźnieni	late	adjective

zmęczona	tired	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Szczęśliwa para przytula się na plaży.

"The happy couple is hugging on the beach."

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to use adjectives in simple sentences.

	Register	*Polish*	English	Important Notes
Phrase 1		***Jestem szczęśliwy.***	**I am happy (for a man).**	**for women**
Word 1		*jestem*	I am	1st, singular (I)
Word 2		*szczęśliwy*	happy	masculine form
Phrase 2		***Jestem zmęczona.***	**I am tired. (for a woman)**	**for women**
Word 1		*jestem*	I am	1st, singular (I)
Word 2		*zmęczona*	tired	feminine
Phrase 3		***Jesteśmy smutni.***	**We are sad.**	
Word 1		*jesteśmy*	we are	plural (we)

Word 2		*smutni*	sad	plural, masculine (men and women, or men only)
Phrase 4	**informal**	***Jesteście spóźnione.***	**You are late (for a group of women only).**	**informal**
Word 1		*jesteście*	you are	2nd, plural (You)
Word 2		*spóźnieni*	late	plural, feminine (to a group of women)

CULTURAL INSIGHT

If you want to intensify the adjective, you can use *bardzo*, "very." For example, you can say *bardzo zmęczony*, "very tired" - if you are a man, or *bardzo ładna*, "very beautiful"—about a woman. Note that the category of adjectives in Polish doesn't have to overlap with other languages. For example, nationalities in Polish are nouns.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #10 Asking How Much Something Costs

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar
5 Cultural Insight

10

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Ile to kosztuje?
2. Ile tamto kosztuje?
3. Dobrze, wezmę to.
4. Nie, dziękuję. To jest za drogie.

ENGLISH

1. How much does this cost?
2. How much does that cost?
3. OK, I'll take it.
4. No, thanks. It's too expensive.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
ile	how much, how many	pronoun, interrogative pronoun	
kosztuje	it costs	verb	
to	this	pronoun, determinative pronoun	neuter

tamto	that	pronoun, determinative pronoun	neuter
dobrze	well, okay	adverb	
wezmę	I will take	verb	
nie, dziękuję	no, thanks	phrase	
jest	it is, this is	verb	
za drogie	too expensive	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ile masz jabłek? How many apples do you have?	**Ile to kosztuje?** How much is this?
Ile masz wzrostu? How tall are you?	**Ile kosztuje kuszetka do Gdyni?** How much is the sleeper to Gdynia?
Ile to kosztuje? How much is this?	**Co to jest?** What's this?
Co to znaczy? What does it mean?	**To jest gazeta.** This is a newspaper.
To czy tamto "This or that."	**Dobrze.** I'm fine.
Tak, dobrze mówię. Yes, I speak it well.	**Nie czuję się dziś dobrze.** I'm not feeling well today.

Dobrze się czujesz? Are you feeling well?	**Jaka jest pogoda w Warszawie?** What's the weather like in Warsaw?
Która jest godzina? What time is it?	**Tak, jest przepyszne.** Yes, it's delicious.

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask how much something costs.

	Polish	**English**	**Important Notes**
Phrase 1	***Ile to kosztuje?***	**How much does this cost?**	
Word 1	*ile*	how much	
Word 2	*to*	this	close
Word 3	*kosztuje*	it costs	3rd, singular, (it)
Phrase 2	***Ile tamto kosztuje?***	**How much does that cost?**	
Word 1	*ile*	how much	
Word 2	*tamto*	that	far
Word 3	*kosztuje*	it costs	3rd, singular, (it)
Phrase 3	***Dobrze, wezmę to.***	**OK, I'll take it.**	
Word 1	*dobrze*	okay	
Word 2	*wezmę*	I will take	1st, singular

Word 3	*to*	this	
Phrase 4	***Nie, dziękuję. To jest za drogie.***	**No, thanks. It's too expensive.**	
Word 1	*nie, dziękuję*	no, thanks	
Word 2	*jest*	this is	3rd, singular, (it)
Word 3	*za drogie*	too expensive	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Bargaining in Poland is still pretty common when it comes to the street stands or markets. If you buy more than one thing, you can usually get a better deal. In big shops and supermarkets they would usually lower their prices at the end of each season.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #11
How to Read Prices

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar
5 Cultural Insight

#11

COPYRIGHT © 2016 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Jeden złoty
2. Dziesięć złotych.
3. Pięćdziesiąt pięć złotych i dziesięć groszy.
4. Dwadzieścia sześć złotych i jeden grosz.

ENGLISH

1. One zloty.
2. Ten zloty.
3. Fifty-five zloty and ten grosz.
4. Twenty-six zloty and one grosz.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
jeden	one (1)	numeral, cardinal number	
złoty	Polish currency (PLN)	proper noun	masculine
dziesięć	ten (10)	numeral	

złotych	zloty, polish currency (PLN)	proper noun	
pięć	five (5)	numeral	
pięćdziesiąt	fifty (50)	numeral	
groszy	polish currency (grosz)	proper noun	
dzwadzieścia sześć	twenty-six	numeral	
grosz	grosz, polish currency (grosz)	noun, proper noun	masculine
i	and	conjunction	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

jeden rok For one year.	**Mam tylko jeden złoty.** I only have one złoty.
Proszę jedno jabłko. One apple, please.	**Mam tylko dziesięć minut.** I only have ten minutes.
Proszę dziesięć piw. Ten beers, please.	**Pięć złotych.** It's 5 zloty.
Pięć złotych. It's 5 zloty.	**Mam pięć batoników.** I have five chocolate bars.
pięć dziewczyn five girls	**Ona ma pięćdziesiąt książek na półce.** "She has fifty books on her bookshelf."

Znalazłam jeden grosz. I (female) found one grosz.	**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.

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to read prices.

	Polish	**English**	**Important Notes**
Phrase 1	***jeden złoty***	**One zloty.**	
Word 1	*jeden*	one	
Word 2	*złoty*	polish currency (PLN)	NOM
Phrase 2	***Dziesięć złotych.***	**Ten zloty.**	
Word 1	*dziesięć*	ten	
Word 2	*złotych*	polish currency (PLN)	GEN
Phrase 3	***Pięćdziesiąt pięć złotych i dziesięć groszy.***	**Fifty-five zloty and ten grosz.**	
Word 1	*pięćdziesiąt*	fifty	
Word 2	*pięć*	five	

Word 3	*złotych*	polish currency (PLN)	GEN
Word 4	*dziesięć*	ten	
Word 5	*groszy*	polish currency (grosz)	GEN
Phrase 4	***Dwadzieścia sześć złotych i jeden grosz.***	**Twenty-six zloty and one grosz.**	
Word 1	*dzwadzieścia sześć*	twenty-six	
Word 2	*i*	and	
Word 3	*jeden*	one	
Word 4	*grosz*	polish currency (grosz)	NOM

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Poland is still using its own currency, which is *zloty*. 1 zloty is 100 *groszy*, and as for now it is more or less 28 US cents. Most of the prices are already displayed with the taxes, but sometimes you may be charged extra when dining at a fancy restaurant.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #12
Asking What Someone is Doing

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

#12

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Co robisz?
2. Co pani robi?
3. Uczę się.
4. Nic takiego.

ENGLISH

1. What are you doing?
2. What are you doing?(speaking to a woman, formal)
3. I am studying.
4. Nothing special.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
co	what	pronoun, interrogative pronoun	
robisz	you do, you are doing	verb	
pani	ma'am, ms. mrs, sir, you (to woman)	noun	feminine

robi	you are doing	verb
uczę się	I'm studying	
nic takiego	nothing special	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

O czym mówisz? What are you talking about?	**Co robisz?** What are you doing?
Co lubisz robić w weekendy? What do you like doing on weekends?	**Co czytasz?** What are you reading?
Co robisz? What are you doing?	**Dzień dobry, pani Anno.** Good morning, Miss Anna.
To jest pani Anna. This is Ms. Anna.	**uczę się** I'm studying.

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask and answer the question What are you doing?.

	Register	***Polish***	**English**	**Important Notes**
Phrase 1	**informal**	***Co robisz?***	**What are you doing?**	**to both, men and women**
Word 1		*co*	what	
Word 2		*robisz*	you are doing	2nd, singular

Phrase 2	**formal**	***Co pani robi?***	**What are you (to a woman) doing?**	
Word 1		*co*	what	
Word 2		*pani*	sir, you (to woman)	
Word 3		*robi*	you are doing	3rd, singular
Phrase 3		***Studiuję.***	**I am studying.**	
Word 1		*studiuję*	I am studying.	1st, singular
Phrase 4		***Nic takiego.***	**Nothing special.**	
Word 1		*nic takiego*	nothing special	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

You would usually ask this question on the phone, when talking with your friend. This would usually imply that you want to invite your friend to do something together or ask him or her to do something for you if they happen to be free..

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #13
Who Is It?

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

#13

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Kto to jest?
2. Kim on jest?
3. To ja.
4. To jest mój kolega.

ENGLISH

1. Who is it?
2. Who is he?
3. It's me.
4. That is a friend of mine.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
kto	who	pronoun, interrogativ pronoun	
to	this	pronoun, determinative pronoun	neuter
jest	is	verb	

kim	who	interrogativ pronoun	
ja	I	personal pronoun	
on	he	personal pronoun	
mój	my, mine	possessive pronoun	masculine
kolega	friend	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Kto tam? Who's there?	**Kto to jest?** Who is this?
Co to jest? What's this?	**Co to znaczy?** What does it mean?
To jest gazeta. This is a newspaper.	**To jest słodkie.** It's sweet.
Ja znam Anię. I know Ania.	**Ja mam dużo czasu.** I have a lot of time.
Mój tata jest policjantem. My dad is a policeman.	**On jest moim kolegą już 20 lat.** He has been my friend for twenty years.

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask who it is.

	Polish	**English**	**Important Notes**

Phrase 1	***Kto to jest?***	**Who is it?**	
Word 1	*kto*	who	
Word 2	*to*	this	
Word 3	*jest*	is	3rd, singular
Phrase 2	***Kim on jest?***	**Who is he?**	
Word 1	*kim*	who	
Word 2	*on*	he	
Word 3	*jest*	is	3rd, singular (he/ she/it)
Phrase 3	***To ja.***	**It's me.**	**"is" (jest) is not needed)**
Word 1	*to*	This	
Word 2	*ja*	I	
Phrase 4	***To jest mój kolega.***	**That is a friend of mine.**	
Word 1	*to*	this	
Word 2	*jest*	is	3rd, singular (he/ she/it)
Word 3	*mój*	my	for masculine noun
Word 4	*kolega*	friend	NOM, masculine

CULTURAL INSIGHT

When you are asking who a certain person is, or just introducing one person to another, remember that it is very rude to point at this person with your finger. If you really need to do so, be sure to use your whole hand with your palm up. Pointing your finger at someone is like accusing that person, while using your whole hand is a more welcoming gesture.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #14
When Are You Leaving?

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

#14

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Kiedy wyjeżdżasz?
2. Kiedy pan wyjeżdża?
3. Za dwie godziny.
4. W następnym tygodniu.

ENGLISH

1. When are you leaving? (informal)
2. When are you leaving? (speaking to a man, formal)
3. I leave in two hours.
4. I leave next week.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
wyjeżdża	he leaves	verb	
tygodniu	week	noun	masculine
następnym	next	adjective	
kiedy	when	adverb, pronoun, iterrogative pronoun	

wyjeżdżasz	you leave, he leaves	verb	
pan	sir, you (man)	noun	masculine
za	for, in	preposition	
godziny	hours	noun	non-masculine
dwie	two	numeral	
w	in	preposition	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Kiedy zaczyna się mecz? When does the football game start?	**Kiedy masz urodziny?** When is your birthday?
Jestem w sklepie. I am in the store.	**Czy byłes w Warszawie?** Have you been to Warsaw?
Nauczyłem się w szkole. I learned it in school.	**Jestem w sklepie.** I am in the shop.

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask when someone is leaving.

	Register	***Polish***	**English**	**Important Notes**
Phrase 1	**informal**	***Kiedy wyjeżdżasz?***	**When are you leaving?**	
Word 1		*kiedy*	when	

Word 2		*wyjeżdżasz*	you leave	2nd, singular, leave by a vehicle
Phrase 2	**formal**	***Kiedy pan wyjeżdża?***	**When are you leaving?(to a man)**	
Word 1		*kiedy*	when	
Word 2		*pan*	sir, you	
Word 3		*wyjeżdża*	he leaves	3rd, singular (he/she/it) -> formal
Phrase 3		***Za dwie godziny.***	**I leave in two hours.**	
Word 1		*za*	in	
Word 2		*dwie*	two	
Word 3		*godziny*	hours	ACC, plural
Phrase 4		***W następnym tygodniu.***	**I leave next week.**	
Word 1		*w*	in	
Word 2		*następnym*	next	
Word 3		*tygodniu*	week	LOC

CULTURAL INSIGHT

To say "to leave" in Polish, you would use the verb "to go (out)" because "to leave" sound very

strong. You can use either *wychodzisz*, which means "to go out on foot," or *wyjeżdżasz*, which means "to go out/depart using a vehicle."

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #15 Where Are You Going?

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

#15

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Gdzie idziesz?
2. Gdzie pan idzie?
3. Idę do supermarketu.
4. Idę do pracy.

ENGLISH

1. Where are you going?
2. Where are you going? (speaking to a man, formal)
3. I'm going to the supermarket.
4. I'm going to work.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
gdzie	where	pronoun, interrogative pronoun	
idziesz	you go	verb	
pan	sir, you	noun	masculine
idzie	he goes	verb	

idę	I go	verb	
do	to, till	preposition	
supermarketu	supermarket	noun	masculine
pracy	work	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Gdzie mieszkasz? Where do you live?	**Gdzie jesteś?** Where are you?
Gdzie jest poczta? Where is the post office?	**Idziemy do pubu.** We're going to the pub.
Idę do szkoły. I am going to school.	

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask where someone is going.

	Register	***Polish***	**English**	**Important Notes**
Phrase 1	**informal**	***Gdzie idziesz?***	**Where are you going?**	
Word 1		*gdzie*	where	
Word 2		*idziesz*	you go	2nd, singular (you), on foot

Phrase 2	**formal**	***Gdzie pan idzie?***	**Where are you going? (to a man)**	
Word 1		*gdzie*	where	
Word 2		*pan*	sir, you	
Word 3		*idzie*	he goes	3rd, singular (he/she/it), on foot
Phrase 3		***Idę do supermarketu.***	**I'm going to the supermarket.**	
Word 1		*idę*	I go	1st, singular (I)
Word 2		*do*	to	
Word 3		*supermarketu*	supermarket	GEN
Phrase 4		***Idę do pracy.***	**I'm going to work.**	
Word 1		*idę*	I go	1st, singular (I)
Word 2		*do*	to	
Word 3		*pracy*	work	GEN

CULTURAL INSIGHT

It is not uncommon to ask where someone is going between friends, but be sure not to overuse this question. Asking where someone is going is regarded as something that is quite annoying, especially if you don't know that person so well. It can be seen as a kind of attack on their privacy and some people can become quite cold after being asked this question too

many times.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #16 Asking Directions

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
5 Cultural Insight

#16

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Gdzie jest stacja?
2. Proszę iść prosto.
3. Proszę skręcić w prawo.
4. Proszę skręcić w lewo.

ENGLISH

1. Where is the station?
2. Go straight.
3. Turn right.
4. Turn left.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
gdzie	where	pronoun, interrogative pronoun	
jest	is	verb	
stacja	station	noun	feminine
proszę	please	expression	

prosto	straight	adverb	
iść	to go	verb	
skręcić	to turn	verb	
w	in	preposition	
prawo	right	noun	neuter
lewo	left	noun	neuter

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Gdzie mieszkasz? Where do you live?	**Gdzie jesteś?** Where are you?
Gdzie jest poczta? Where is the post office?	**To jest słodkie.** It's sweet.
Proszę mówić wolniej. Speak more slowly, please.	**Proszę mleko.** Milk, please.
Wracam prosto ze szkoły. I'm coming back straight from school.	**Tutaj musimy skręcić.** We have to turn here.
Mieszkam w Berlinie. I live in Berlin.	**Jeszcze nie byłam w Polsce.** I haven't been in Poland yet.
Jestem w sklepie. I am in the store.	**Samochód skręca w lewo.** "The car is turning left."

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask and understand basic directions.

	Register	*Polish*	English	Important Notes
Phrase 1		***Gdzie jest stacja?***	**Where is the station?**	
Word 1		*gdzie*	where	
Word 2		*jest*	is	3rd, singular (he/she/it)
Word 3		*stacja*	station	
Phrase 2	**formal**	***Proszę iść prosto.***	**Go straight.**	
Word 1		*proszę*	please	actually a verb "to ask for sth" in 1st person singular
Word 2		*iść*	to go	
Word 3		*prosto*	straight	
Phrase 3	**formal**	***Proszę skręcić w prawo.***	**Turn right.**	
Word 1		*proszę*	please	actually a verb "to ask for sth" in 1st person singular
Word 2		*skręcić*	to turn	inf
Word 3		*w*	in	

Word 4		*prawo*	right	
Phrase 4	**formal**	***Proszę skręcić w lewo.***	**Turn left.**	
Word 1		*proszę*	please	actually a verb "to ask for sth" in 1st person singular
Word 2		*skręcić*	to turn	inf
Word 3		*w*	in	
Word 4		*lewo*	left	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Don't hesitate to ask people on the street where something is. Poles love to help, and, if they have the time, they will be pretty happy to guide you to your destination.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #17
Why?

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar
5 Cultural Insight

#17

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Dlaczego się spóźniłeś?
2. Spóźniłam się na pociąg.
3. Czemu wracasz tak wcześnie?
4. Żeby się nie spóźnić na autobus.

ENGLISH

1. Why are you late? (to a man)
2. I missed the train. (for a woman)
3. Why do you leave so early?
4. To not be late for the bus.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
dlaczego	why	pronoun, interrogative pronoun	
się spóźniłeś	you are late	verb	
spóźniłam się	I missed/was late	verb	
na	on	preposition	

czemu	why	interrogative pronoun	
pociąg	train	noun	masculine
wracasz	go back	verb	
tak	so	pronoun	
wcześnie	early	adverb	
żeby	that	conjuntion	
się nie spóźnić	not to be late	verb	
autobus	bus	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Dlaczego jeszcze nie jesteś gotowy? Why aren't you ready yet?	**Dlaczego nie zadzwoniłaś?** Why didn't you call?
Mam na imię John. "My name is John."	**Jak masz na imię?** "What's your name?"
Następny pociąg do Londynu przyjedzie za 30 minut. The next train to London will arrive in thirty minutes.	**Większość polskich pociągów jest stara.** Most Polish trains are old.
Podróżna czeka na pociąg. The traveler is waiting for the train.	**Pociąg InterCity jest najszybszy** InterCity is the fastest train.

Codziennie jeżdżę tym autobusem do pracy. Every day I get the bus to work.	**Ceny biletów autobusowych w Polsce rosną każdego roku.** The prices of bus tickets rise every year in Poland.

Uczniowie jadą autobusem.

The students ride the bus.

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask and answer why.

	Register	*Polish*	English	Important Notes
Phrase 1	**informal**	***Dlaczego się spóźniłeś?***	**Why are you late? (to a man)**	
Word 1		*dlaczego*	why	
Word 2		*się spóźniłeś*	you are late	reflexive, 2nd, singular (you), to a man
Phrase 2		***Spóźniłam się na pociąg.***	**I missed the train. (for a woman)**	
Word 1		*spóźniłam się*	I missed/was late	1st, singular (I), feminine
Word 2		*na*	on	
Word 3		*pociąg*	train	ACC

Phrase 3	**informal**	***Czemu wracasz tak wcześnie?***	**Why do you leave so early?**	
Word 1		*czemu*	why	
Word 2		*wracasz*	go back	2nd, singular (you)
Word 3		*tak*	so	
Word 4		*wcześnie*	early	
Phrase 4		***Żeby się nie spóźnić na autobus.***	**To not be late for the bus.**	
Word 1		*żeby*	that	
Word 2		*się nie spóźnić*	not to be late	inf, negation
Word 3		*na*	on	
Word 4		*autobus*	bus	ACC

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Just like the "where are you going" question from an earlier lesson in this series, asking "why" can be regarded as a very rude and annoying thing to do. But this only goes for someone's personal life. If you want to ask why Poles do something, or why something is like it is, it will be perfectly ok to do so.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #18 Possession

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

#18

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Masz długopis?
2. Czy ma pan długopis?
3. Tak, mam.
4. Tak, proszę.

ENGLISH

1. Do you have a pen?
2. Do you have a pen? (speaking to a man)
3. Yes, I have.
4. Yes, here you are.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
masz	you have	verb	
długopis	pen	noun	masculine
czy	whether	particle	
ma	he has	verb	
pan	sir, you	noun	masculine

tak	yes	particle
mam	I have, have	verb
proszę	please/here you are	expression

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Kiedy masz urodziny? When is your birthday?	**Ile masz lat?** "How old are you?"
Proszę dziewiętnaście długopisów. Nineteen pens, please.	**Tak, mam brata.** Yes, I have a brother.
Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam barszcz. Yes, I especially love beetroot soup.	**Tak, jest przepyszne.** Yes, it's delicious.
Tak, trochę mówię. Yes, I speak a little.	**Mam siostrę.** "I have a sister."
Mam osiemnaście lat. "I'm eighteen years old."	

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to talk about possession.

	Register	***Polish***	**English**	**Important Notes**
Phrase 1	**informal**	***Masz długopis?***	**Do you have a pen?**	

Word 1		*masz*	you have	2nd, singluar (you)
Word 2		*długopis*	pen	
Phrase 2	**formal**	***Czy ma pan długopis?***	**Do you have a pen? (to a man)**	
Word 1		*czy*	whether	
Word 2		*ma*	he has	3rd, singular - formal you
Word 3		*pan*	sir, you	
Word 4		*długopis*	pen	
Phrase 3		***Tak, mam.***	**Yes, I have.**	
Word 1		*tak*	yes	
Word 2		*mam*	I have	1st, singular
Phrase 4		***Tak, proszę.***	**Yes, here you are.**	
Word 1		*tak*	yes	
Word 2		*proszę*	please/here you are	actually a verb "to ask for sth" in 1st person singular

CULTURAL INSIGHT

There are plenty of possessive pronouns in Polish. The form of the pronoun changes with the

gender of the noun that follows. So you will use *mój*, meaning "my" for a masculine noun like *długopis*, which means "pen", but you would use *moja*, meaning "my" for feminine nouns, like *książka*, which means "book."

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #19
Going Without

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

#19

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Nie mam długopisu.
2. Nie mam czasu.
3. Nie wiem.
4. Nie rozumiem.

ENGLISH

1. I don't have a pen.
2. I don't have time.
3. I don't know.
4. I don't understand.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
nie mam	I don't have	verb	
długopisu	pen	noun	masculine
nie	no, not	particle	
czasu	time	noun	masculine
wiem	I know	verb	

rozumiem	I understand	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Nie, nie lubię muzyki klasycznej.

"No, I don't like classical music."

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to state essential negative statements.

	Polish	**English**	**Important Notes**
Phrase 1	***Nie mam długopisu.***	**I don't have a pen.**	
Word 1	*nie mam*	I don't have	1st, singular, neg
Word 2	*długopisu*	pen	GEN
Phrase 2	***Nie mam czasu.***	**I don't have time.**	
Word 1	*nie mam*	I don't have	1st, singular, neg
Word 2	*czasu*	time	GEN
Phrase 3	***Nie wiem.***	**I don't know.**	
Word 1	*nie*	no, not	
Word 2	*wiem*	I know	1st, singular
Phrase 4	***Nie rozumiem.***	**I don't understand.**	
Word 1	*nie*	no, not	

Word 2	*rozumiem*	I understand	1st, singular

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Making a negative sentence in Polish is pretty simple—you just need to add the particle *nie*, meaning “not,” in front of the verb and it can be used in the same way even with the infinitive forms. If you have an object that follows, it will usually appear in the genitive case.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #20 Talking about Your Likes

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

#20

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Lubisz czekoladę?
2. Lubi pani słodycze?
3. Tak, lubię.
4. Tak, uwielbiam!

ENGLISH

1. Do you like chocolate? (informal)
2. Do you like sweets? (speaking to a woman, formal)
3. Yes, I like it.
4. Yes, I love it!

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
lubisz	you like	verb	
czekoladę	chocolate	noun	feminine
pani	ma'm, you	noun	feminine
lubi	he likes	verb	
tak	yes	particle	

słodycze	sweets	noun	neutral
lubię	I like	verb	
uwielbiam	love, I love	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Czy lubisz polskie jedzenie? Do you like Polish food?	**Tak, mam brata.** Yes, I have a brother.
Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam barszcz. Yes, I especially love beetroot soup.	**Tak, jest przepyszne.** Yes, it's delicious.
Tak, trochę mówię. Yes, I speak a little.	**Tak, szczególnie uwielbiam barszcz.** Yes, I especially love beetroot soup.

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask and answer affirmatively to the question.

	Register	***Polish***	**English**	**Important Notes**
Phrase 1	**informal**	***Lubisz czekoladę?***	**Do you like chocolate?**	
Word 1		*lubisz*	you like	2nd, singular
Word 2		*czekoladę*	chocolate	ACC
Phrase 2	**formal**	***Lubi pani słodycze?***	**Do you like sweets? (to a woman)**	

Word 1		*lubi*	she likes	3rd, singular
Word 2		*pani*	ma'm, you	
Word 3		*słodycze*	sweets	ACC, plural (always)
Phrase 3		***Tak, lubię.***	**Yes, I like it.**	
Word 1		*tak*	yes	
Word 2		*lubię*	I like	1st, singular
Phrase 4		***Tak, uwielbiam!***	**Yes, I love it!**	
Word 1		*tak*	yes	
Word 2		*uwielbiam*	I love	1st, singular

CULTURAL INSIGHT

If you don't know how to start a conversation in Poland, just try asking about someone's likes. To express your likes, you would usually use *lubię*, meaning "I like." We rarely say *Kocham*, which is "I love," but if you need something stronger, you can say *uwielbiam*, which means "I love/really like/adore."

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #21
Talking about Your Dislikes

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
3 Cultural Insight

#21

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Nie lubię tego.
2. Nie lubię czekać.
3. Niecierpię tego.
4. Niecierpię czekać.

ENGLISH

1. I don't like this.
2. I don't like waiting.
3. I hate this.
4. I hate waiting.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
nie lubię	I don't like	verb
tego	this	dereminitive pronoun
czekać	to wait	verb
niecierpię	I hate	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Nie lubię czekać.

I don't like waiting.

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to say that you don't like something.

	Polish	**English**	**Important Notes**
Phrase 1	***Nie lubię tego.***	**I don't like this.**	
Word 1	*nie lubię*	I don't like	1st, singular, neg
Word 2	*tego*	this	GEN
Phrase 2	***Nie lubię czekać.***	**I don't like waiting.**	
Word 1	*nie lubię*	I don't like	1st, singular, neg
Word 2	*czekać*	to wait	inf
Phrase 3	***Niecierpię tego.***	**I hate this.**	
Word 1	*niecierpię*	I hate	1st, singular
Word 2	*tego*	this	GEN
Phrase 4	***Niecierpię czekać.***	**I hate waiting.**	
Word 1	*niecierpię*	I hate	1st, singular
Word 2	*czekać*	to wait	inf

CULTURAL INSIGHT

In Poland it is considered to be rude to say that you don't like something. If you really don't

want to do or eat something, it is better to say that you are not "a fan of it" or *Nie przepadam za...*, literally "I am not particularly a fan of… ."

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #22 Ordering at a Restaurant

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
5 Cultural Insight

#22

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Czy mogę dostać menu?
2. Co pan poleca?
3. Dla mnie będzie kawa.
4. Poproszę kawę.

ENGLISH

1. Can I see the menu?
2. What do you recommend? (speaking to a man)
3. A coffee for me.
4. One coffee please.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
czy	whether	particle	
mogę	I can	verb	
dostać	to get	verb	
menu	menu	noun	neuter

co	what	pronoun, interrogative pronoun	
pan	sir, you	noun	masculine
poleca	recommend	verb	
dla mnie	for me	phrase	
będzie	will be	verb	
kawa	coffee	noun	feminine
poproszę	please	expression	
kawę	coffee	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

O czym mówisz? What are you talking about?	**Co robisz?** What are you doing?
Co lubisz robić w weekendy? What do you like doing on weekends?	**Co czytasz?** What are you reading?
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.	

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to order at a restaurant or coffee shop.

	Register	*Polish*	English	Important Notes
Phrase 1		***Czy mogę zobaczyć menu?***	**Can I see the menu?**	
Word 1		*czy*	whether	
Word 2		*mogę*	I can	1st, singular
Word 3		*dostać*	to get	inf
Word 4		*menu*	menu	
Phrase 2	**formal**	***Co pan poleca?***	**What do you recommend? (to a man)**	
Word 1		*co*	what	
Word 2		*pan*	sir, you	
Word 3		*poleca*	recommend	3rd, singular, formal you
Phrase 3		***Dla mnie będzie kawa.***	**A coffee for me.**	
Word 1		*dla mnie*	for me	
Word 2		*będzie*	will be	3rd, singular, future
Word 3		*kawa*	coffee	NOM
Phrase 4		***Poproszę kawę.***	**One coffee please.**	

Word 1		*poproszę*	please	actually a verb "to ask for sth" in 1st person singular
Word 2		*kawę*	coffee	ACC

CULTURAL INSIGHT

At most coffee shops, there are no staff walking around taking your order, so you need to order your coffee at the counter. If you go to a restaurant or a beer garden, you have to call for the waiter. Attract their attention by simply saying *przepraszam!*

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #23
Asking for the Bill

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
4 Grammar
5 Cultural Insight

#23

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Czy można prosić o rachunek?
2. Gdzie mogę zapłacić?
3. Przepraszam, ale reszta się nie zgadza.
4. Proszę zatrzymać resztę.

ENGLISH

1. Can I have the bill, please?
2. Where can I pay?
3. Excuse me, the change is wrong.
4. Keep the change.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
resztę	the change	noun	feminine
zatrzymać	to keep/stop	verb	
czy	whether	particle	
można	one can	verb	
rachunek	the bill	noun	masculine

prosić o	to ask for	expression, phrase	
mogę zapłacić	I can pay	phrase	
gdzie	where	pronoun, interrogative pronoun	
Przepraszam.	Excuse me.	expression, phrase	
ale	but	conjunction	
reszta	the change	noun	feminine
się nie zgadza	is wrong/ it doesn't agree	verb	
proszę	please	expression	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Proszę cię o radę. "I am asking you for advice."	**Gdzie mieszkasz?** Where do you live?
Gdzie jesteś? Where are you?	**Gdzie jest poczta?** Where is the post office?
Przepraszam, gdzie jest dworzec? Excuse me, where is the train station?	**Przepraszam, czy to miejsce jest zajęte?** Exuse me, is this seat taken?
Wiem, że jesteś zajęty, ale czy mógłbyś zadzwonić do mojego prawnika. I know you are busy. But can you call my lawyer?	**Lubię twojego brata, ale nie lubię twojej siostry.** I like your brother, but I don't like your sister.

Lubię jabłka, ale tylko kwaśne. I like apples, but only sour ones.	**Proszę mówić wolniej.** Speak more slowly, please.

Proszę mleko.

Milk, please.

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to ask for the bill and check the change.

	Polish	**English**	**Important Notes**
Phrase 1	***Czy można prosić o rachunek?***	**Can I have the bill, please?**	
Word 1	*czy*	whether	
Word 2	*można*	one can	special verb, specific conjugation, no inf
Word 3	*prosić o*	to ask for	inf
Word 4	*rachunek*	the bill	ACC
Phrase 2	***Gdzie mogę zapłacić?***	**Where can I pay?**	
Word 1	*gdzie*	where	
Word 2	*mogę zapłacić*	I can pay	
Phrase 3	***Przepraszam, ale reszta się nie zgadza.***	**Excuse me, the change is wrong.**	

Word 1	*przepraszam*	excuse me	
Word 2	*ale*	but	
Word 3	*reszta*	the change	NOM
Word 4	*się nie zgadza*	is wrong/ it doesn't agree	3rd, singular, reflexive, negation
Phrase 4	***Proszę zatrzymać resztę.***	**Keep the change.**	
Word 1	*proszę*	please	actually a verb "to ask for sth" in 1st person singular
Word 2	*zatrzymać*	to keep/stop	inf
Word 3	*resztę*	the change	ACC

CULTURAL INSIGHT

When you are paying your bill in Poland, it is common to leave tips. You can say that you don't need the change, which is *Reszty nie trzeba* or *Proszę zatrzymać resztę*. If you don't have small money for the tip and your bill is 25 zloty but you have only 50, you can always give 50 and say do *30 (trzydziestu) proszę*, meaning "to 30 please." This means that your change will be 20 zloty.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #24 Offering an Invitation

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
5 Cultural Insight

#24

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Masz plany na piątkowy wieczór?
2. Czy ma pan plany na piątkowy wieczór?
3. Idę obejrzeć film.
4. Przyłączysz się?

ENGLISH

1. Do you have plans on Friday night?
2. Do you have plans on Friday night? (speaking to a man, formal)
3. I'm going to the movies.
4. Will you join?

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class	Gender
masz	you have	verb	
plany	plans	noun	
na	for, on	preposition	
piątkowy wieczór	Friday's evening	phrase	
czy	whether	particle	

ma	he has	verb	
pan	sir, you	noun	masculine
na piątkowy wieczór	for the Friday's evening	phrase	
idę	I go	verb	
obejrzeć	to watch	verb	
film	movie	noun	masculine
przyłączysz się	you join	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Kiedy masz urodziny? When is your birthday?	**Ile masz lat?** "How old are you?"
Masz pieniądze na prezent? Do you have money for the gift?	**Idę na film.** I'm going for a movie.
Masz na imię Andrzej. Your name is Andrew.	**To jest interesujący film.** This is an interesting movie.

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to invite someone out.

	Register	*Polish*	English	Important Notes

Phrase 1	**informal**	***Masz plany na piątkowy wieczór?***	**Do you have plans on Friday night?**	
Word 1		*masz*	you have	2nd, sin
Word 2		*plany*	plans	plural
Word 3		*na*	for, on	
Word 4		*piątkowy wieczór*	Friday's evening	
Phrase 2	**formal**	***Czy ma pan plany na piątkowy wieczór?***	**Do you have plans on Friday night? (to a man)**	
Word 1		*czy*	whether	
Word 2		*ma*	he has	3rd, sin, formal you
Word 3		*pan*	sir, you	
Word 4		*plany*	plans	plural
Word 5		*na piątkowy wieczór*	for the Friday's evening	
Phrase 3		***Idę obejrzeć film.***	**I'm going to the movies.**	
Word 1		*idę*	I go	1st, singular
Word 2		*obejrzeć*	to watch	inf
Word 3		*film*	movie	ACC

Phrase 4	**informal**	***Przyłączysz się?***	**Will you join?**	
Word 1		*przyłączysz się*	you join	reflexive, 2nd, singular

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Poles tend to plan their evening at the very last minute, since they are quite spontaneous. So don't be surprised if you get invited the same day. Poles also love big gatherings, so it is almost always ok to bring a friend or two with you, but it is always good to ask if it is ok. If you get invited to Polish house remember, do NOT eat before you go. You will be offered plenty of food and saying that you have already eaten will not help.

LESSON NOTES

3-Minute Polish #25
On the Phone

CONTENTS

2 Polish
2 English
2 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

#25

COPYRIGHT © 2015 INNOVATIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLISH

1. Tak słucham.
2. Mówi Monika.
3. Czy mogę rozmawiać z Tomkiem?
4. Zadzwonię jeszcze raz później.

ENGLISH

1. Hello. (answering the phone)
2. This is Monica.
3. May I talk to Thomas?
4. I'll call again later.

VOCABULARY

Polish	English	Class
Tak słucham.	Hello. (answering to the phone)	expression
mówi	speaking	verb
Monika	Monica	proper noun
czy mogę	Can I	phrase
rozmawiać	to talk	verb

z	with	connector, preposition
Tomkiem	Thomas	proper noun
zadzwonię	I call	verb
jeszcze raz	one more time	phrase
później	later	adverb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Mój brat rozmawia teraz przez telefon. My brother is talking on the phone now.	**Nie rozmawiam z Robertem.** I don't talk to Robert.
Nie lubię rozmawiać przez telefon. I don't like talking on the phone.	**Rozmawiam teraz przez telefon.** I'm talking on the phone now.
Lubię herbatę z cytryną. I like tea with lemon.	**Rozmawiam z Adamem.** I'm talking with Adam.

GRAMMAR

In this lesson you will learn how to understand the basic vocabulary on the phone.

	Polish	**English**	**Important Notes**
Phrase 1	***Tak słucham.***	**Hello. (answering the phone)**	
Word 1	*Tak słucham.*	hello	
Phrase 2	***Mówi Monika.***	**This is Monica.**	

Word 1	*mówi*	speaking	3rd, singular (she/ he/it)
Word 2	*Monika*	Monica	
Phrase 3	***Czy mogę rozmawiać z Tomkiem?***	**May I talk to Thomas?**	
Word 1	*czy mogę*	Can I	
Word 2	*rozmawiać*	to talk	inf
Word 3	*z*	with	
Word 4	*Tomkiem*	Thomas	INST
Phrase 4	***Zadzwonię jeszcze raz później.***	**I'll call again later.**	
Word 1	*zadzwonię*	I call	1st, singular (I)
Word 2	*jeszcze raz*	one more time	
Word 3	*później*	later	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

On the phone, after the person answering says *Tak słucham* we usually answer with *Dzień dobry* meaning "Good morning/good afternoon", but if it's really late it is ok to say *Dobry wieczór* meaning "Good evening". When you call a friend, you can say *Cześć*, which means "Hello" and can be also used as "bye" at the end of the conversation.