

# *Hello and Welcome!*

Yes, anyone can speak... practically every language! We'll try to make it as easy and enjoyable as possible for you.

Our goal is modest ... to give you a chance to become familiar with basic words and common sentences, so that you can already understand what people want from you and even chat a bit, or at least say the right thing at the right time. That's something, isn't it!

You'll do most of it yourself by listening to the language, reading the text and of course repeating what you hear. That's why every word and every sentence is repeated twice... to give you a chance to read... to absorb... and to speak! And by the way, if it doesn't work for you the first time, it will work the second time or maybe the third. Practice as often as you want! The most important thing is never to be afraid to talk. Ok, so others will guess it's not your native language... so what? Language brings people together, and people always appreciate it when you try to speak their language, even if you make mistakes.

We're learning to speak and to express ourselves, because it's important to tell the person we're talking to what we mean and what we want. The English translations of the sentences I read are not always a literal translation of the words, but they are certainly sufficient to get the message across.

We have also tried to be politically correct when it comes to masculine and feminine forms, though sometimes giving all the possibilities in every sentence makes learning more burdensome. In any case, the language is meant both for males and for females, and if here and there only the masculine form is used, it's just to make learning and reading easier.

- 1. Things you need to know**
- 2. Starting to Speak**
- 3. How Much, How Many?**
- 4. Common Questions**
- 5. Important Words**
- 6. Adjectives**
- 7. Numbers**
- 8. Colors**
- 9. Days of the Week**
- 10. Telling the Time**
- 11. Personal Details**
- 12. Hotels**
- 13. Car Rentals**
- 14. Friends and Businesses**
- 15. A New Language**
- 16. Phone Conversations**
- 17. Restaurants and Food**
- 18. Taxis**
- 19. Public Transportation**
- 20. Shopping**

OK. Let's start our journey together by learning the word "yes."..



## 1. Things you need to know

どうか

1.

Yes, it's great to begin with a word of agreement: **Yes**

はい

hai

2.

After saying "yes", sometimes there's no choice but to say "no"... From the tone you can tell that no means **No!**

いいえ

iie

3.

Now that we've mastered "yes" and "no", it's time to ask for something, and say **Please**

どうか・お願いします

douka /

onegaishimasu

4.

If we get what we asked for, we probably want to say thanks: you can just say **Thank You**

ありがとう

arigatou

5.

And you can also add emphasis by saying **Thanks a Lot**

どうもありがとう

Doumo arigatou

6.

Usually you'll get a standard response, such as "my pleasure", "no problem", or a modest response like: **You're welcome**

どういたしまして

Doutashimashite

7.

Now we already know how to put words together and say: **Yes, please**

はい、お願いします。

Hai, onegaishimasu

8.

Or: **No, thank you**

いいえ、結構です。

Iie, kekkoudesu

9.

"Excuse me" is an interesting phrase. When we want to be polite, get someone's attention, make a comment, ask for something, the correct phrase is "excuse me". For example, "Excuse me please, you're stepping on my foot!" – **Excuse me**

すみません

Sumimasenn

10.

There is also a way to ask for forgiveness – "Ooh, I beg your pardon, I didn't mean it!" If we accidentally hurt someone, we can say **I beg your pardon**

許してください

Yurushite kudasai