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Druhý týden

Czech for Foreign MU Staff: Beginners 1

Second week

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Gramatika

Osobní zájmena

Personal pronouns

SINGULÁR		PLURÁL	
I	JÁ	WE	MY
YOU	TY	YOU	VY
HE, SHE, IT	ON, ONA, ONO	THEY	ONI

Sloveso BÝT v přítomném čase

Verb TO BE in present tense

- One of the two irregular Czech verbs (the second one is CHTÍT = to want).
- All Czech verbs are conjugated. Verbs change their endings to express persons.

SINGULÁR	PLURÁL
JÁ JSEM (NEJSEM)	MY JSME (NEJSME)
TY JSI (NEJSI)	VY JSTE (NEJSTE)
ON, ONA, ONO JE (NENÍ !!)	ONI JSOU (NEJSOU)

Sloveso DĚLAT v přítomném čase

Verb TO DO in present tense

- Á konjugace
- Á konjugace is also the irregular verb MÍT (to have)
- Á konjugace usually ends to –at
- Uč. 64/14, 16; 65/19; 8/5, 6

SINGULÁR	PLURÁL
JÁ DĚLÁM (NEDĚLÁM)	MY DĚLÁME (NEDĚLÁME)
TY DĚLÁŠ (NEDĚLÁŠ)	VY DĚLÁTE (NEDĚLÁTE)
ON, ONA, ONO DĚLÁ (NEDĚLÁ)	ONI DĚLAJÍ (NEDĚLAJÍ)

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Formální dialog

Uč. 9/1

Formální dialog

- Pan → sir, Mr (x Pán)
 - Pán je z Německa. X Pan Novák je z Německa.
 - Vážený pane Nováku (Dear Mr. Novák)
- Paní → Mrs, madame
 - Vážená paní (Dear Madame)
- Slečna → Miss
 - Vážená slečno

- Uč. 8/2 [AUDIO](#)

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Intonace otázky

Uč. 8/7

Poslouchejte a opakujte

Intonace otázky

■ 1.7 Question

If you want to ask a question just change the intonation of the sentence. Note two types of question intonation:

1. Questions that can be answered yes or no:

To je Václav Havel? Is it Václav Havel?

Vy jste student? Are you a student?

2. Questions that cannot be answered yes or no:

Odkud jsi? Where are you from?

Co děláš? What do you do?



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Rod podstatných jmen

Gender of nouns

Uč. 9/ jazyk pod lupou; 65/18

- Word ends with –r/ř, -t, -l, -m, -n, -d, -t, -č → usually nothing changes, add

–ka

- Word ends with other consonants (-k, -c, -g, ...), you need to be careful. There is consonant change.

- Czech has grammatical gender (**ta káva**, **to auto**, **ten banán**)
- With people Czech reflects the natural gender (**ten student**, **ten profesor**, **ten muž** x **ta studentka**, **ta profesorka**, **ta žena**)
- Even though there are some rules, you still have to remember most of the nouns and their gender

When a word ends in a consonant, it is	76.9 % masculine (dokto r doctor, léka r medical doctor, obcho d shop, počíta č computer) 20.5 % feminine (kancelá ř office, tramva ž tram) 2.6 % neuter (centru m centre, muzeu m museum)
When a word ends in -a, it is	6.9 % masculine (koleg a colleague, turist a tourist) 92 % feminine (škola ř school, kavárna ř cafe) 1.1 % neuter (only loan words, e.g. téma ř theme)
When a word ends in -o, it is	0.7 % masculine (only loan words, e.g. gigolo ř gigolo, macho ř macho) 99.3 % neuter (divadl o theatre, kino cinema)
When a word ends in -e/-ě*, it is	3 % masculine (průvodc ě guidebook) 89 % feminine (restaurac ě restaurant, kolegyn ě colleague) 8 % neuter (letiště ř airport, parkoviště ř car park, kuř ě chicken)
When a word ends in -í, it is	0.5 % masculine (recepčn í receptionist) 0.5 % feminine (recepčn í receptionist, pan í Mrs., Madam) 99 % neuter (nádraž í station, náměst í square)

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Čísla 0 až 10

Numbers 0 to 10

Uč. 10/1

Jaké máš...?

- ... telefonní číslo? ... UČO?
- X **Jaké** máte telefonní číslo / UČO? (to UČO, to číslo)
- **Jaký** máš / máte telefon / e-mail? (ten telefon, ten e-mail)

- Uč. 10/2 AUDIO, 3, 4

- Jak se píše vaše jméno?

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Vokative

Uč. 10/5 , + grey box

Vokative (5th case)

1.9 Addressing people

To address people and animals, Czech uses names in the vocative case.

The vocative singular

Masculine names

Feminine names

The majority of names: **Martin** – **Martine!**¹

Names ending in h, ch, k, g: **Marek** – **Marku!**²

Names ending in a consonant with a hook, c, j, -tel and sometimes also -l, -s, -z or -x: **Aleš** – **Aleši!**

Names with -a ending: **Honza** – **Honzě!**

The majority of names: **Dana** – **Dano!**

Names ending in -e or a consonant: **Lucie** = **Lucie!** **Carmen** = **Carmen!**

¹ N.B.: Petr – **Petře!**

² The so-called 'mobile e' is underlined. It disappears when the noun is declined.

For formal address, use the title **pan** Sir, Mr., **paní** madam, Mrs., Ms. or **slečna** Miss and a surname/last name in the vocative case.

E.g.: **Pane Maláte!**, coll. **Pane Malát!** Mr. Malát!

Paní Nováková! Mrs. Nováková!

Slečno Zajíčková! Miss Zajíčková!

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Jak se máš? Jak se máte?

In Czech it is not just a polite phrase as in English. You never say it when you meet people for the first time. When Czech person asks you *How are you* he/she really wants to know how are you doing.

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Komiks

Uč. 11 /

3. Apologies

When you apologise you say: **Promiň.** (informal) or **Promiňte.** (formal) Sorry. or **Pardon.** Pardon me. The reaction is: **To nic.** "It's nothing." It's OK. When you want to go through a crowd of people you say: **Pardon.** Pardon me. or **S dovolením.** Let me through, please.

4. Expressing regret and sympathy

Note: When you regret someone or something, you say **To je škoda.** It's a shame/pity. When you are told sad news you say **To je mi líto.** I am sorry (for you).

5. A universal Czech word: prosím

The Czech word *prosím* can be used in many situations. Note:

1. The most common use: Děkuju./Děkuji. – **Prosím.** Thank you. – You're welcome.
2. In a restaurant: **Prosím,** pivo. Beer, please.
3. Your telephone rings. You pick up the receiver and say: **Prosím?** Yes?
4. You are addressed by a shop assistant: **Prosím?** Can I help you?
5. You misunderstand your partner. You ask him or her: **Prosím?** Pardon?
6. You meet someone by a door and want to let him or her pass first: **Prosím.** Please.

6. Non-verbal communication

Shaking hands is usual on formal introduction. Embracing and a kiss on the cheek are only usual within families between relatives, partners or very good friends. When communicating with strangers physical contact is not usual (for example, when address someone on the street, we do not take them by the hand). The distance between speakers in conversation is about 1 metre, between relatives, partners and other close acquaintances it may be smaller.

It often seems to foreigners from western Europe that Czechs don't smile very much. This is, of course, to a certain extent a matter of convention. For Czechs this is a neutral expression and on the contrary they consider it to be significant when a stranger smiles at them (it can make them think that they know the person from somewhere, that the person wants something from them, that they are pretending to be friendly for a reason, etc.)