

## 0. Egy, Kettő, Három

Here is how we count in Hungarian. Numbers in this language are fairly easy, not carrying any complicated grammatical baggage. However, there are special things you need to know about some of them, as seen below the table. In the table itself, use the patterns established to figure out how to say the missing numbers.

<i>Magyar</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>	<i>Angol</i>
<b>nulla</b>	NOOL-law	zero
<b>egy</b>	EDJ	one
<b>két, kettő</b>	KAYT, KET-tœ	two
<b>három</b>	HAH-rohm	three
<b>négy</b>	NAYDJ	four
<b>öt</b>	œT	five
<b>hat</b>	HAWT	six
<b>hét</b>	HAYT	seven
<b>nyolc</b>	NYOHLTS	eight
<b>kilenc</b>	KEE-lents	nine
<b>tíz</b>	TEEZ	ten
<b>tizenegy</b>	TEEZ-en-edj	eleven
<b>tizenkét, tizenkettő</b>	TEEZ-en-kayt, -ket-tœ	twelve
<b>húsz</b>	HOOS	twenty
<b>huszonhárom</b>	HOOS-ohn-hah-rohm	twenty-three
<b>huszonnégy</b>	HOOS-ohn-naydj	twenty-four
<b>harminc</b>	HAWR-mints	thirty
<b>harmincöt</b>	HAWR-mints-œt	thirty-five
<b>harminchat</b>	HAWR-mints-hawt	thirty-six
<b>negyven</b>	NEDJ-ven	forty
<b>negyvenhét</b>	NEDJ-ven-hayt	forty-seven
<b>negyvennyolc</b>	NEDJ-ven-nyohlts	forty-eight
<b>ötven</b>	œD-ven	fifty
<b>hatvan</b>	HAWD-vawn	sixty
<b>hetven</b>	HED-ven	seventy
<b>nyolcvan</b>	NYOHLTZ-van	eighty

<i>Magyar</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>	<i>Angol</i>
<b>kilencven</b>	KEE-lendz-ven	ninety
<b>száz</b>	SAHZ	hundred
<b>ezer</b>	EZ-er	thousand
<b>millió</b>	MEEL-lee-oh	million
<b>milliárd</b>	MEEL-lee-ahrd	billion
<b>mennyi?</b>	MEN-nyee	how many? how much?
<b>kerül</b>	KER-uel	cost
<b>forint</b>	FOH-rint	the Hungarian currency

### ***The Easy Digits***

**Két** and **kéttő** are mostly interchangeable. Use the latter in situations wherein the listener may have trouble distinguishing the former from **hét**. Usually, however, the former is used when expressing a quantity of something, the latter when counting or making numbered lists.

To make *two hundred*, use **kétszáz**; *two thousand* is **kétezer**.

Be sure to pronounce the long **é** in **négy** to distinguish it from the short **e** in **egy**.

### ***The Difficult Teens and Twenties***

To make the teens and twenties, Hungarian uses a separator after **tíz** and **húsz**: respectively, **-en-** and **-on-**. These separators are vowel-harmonious, as are the **-ven-** and **-van-** suffixes for the multiples of ten. They also shorten **tíz** to **tíz-** and **húsz** to **husz-**.

### ***Shortening with Age***

You may also notice how at 40 and 70 we lose a little length. The **-ven** suffix takes the length out of **négy** and **hét**; compare with **negyven** and **hetven**.

### ***The Big Numbers***

No separators are required between hundreds and thousands and what comes after them. In fact, when spelled out, they may form huge strings of word-parts with no spaces separating them. Try translating these numbers into numeric form:

**ötszázkilenc**

**haromezernegyvenhát**

**nyolcszázhetvenkettő**

**tizenkilencezernégyszázharminc**

**hétmillióhatszázötvennégyezerharomszázhuszonegy**

Did you get 509, 3,046, 972, 19,430, and 7,654,321? If so, well done.

### **How Much Is It?**

The currency of Hungary is the forint. As of August 2017, the exchange rate is about 260 forint per U.S. dollar, 305 to the Euro. Five thousand forints would be \$19.25 at that rate.

When inquiring about prices, use the phrase **mennyibe kerül?** to express *how much?* The **-be/-ba** ending in Hungarian means *to, toward, up to*. The ending applied depends on the vowels in the word; this phenomenon is discussed in another chapter. The answer to the question of cost will also contain this ending.

Here is the big twist: *When using numeric or quantitative adjectives to modify a noun, be aware that the noun will always appear as singular in Hungarian, no matter how many of the noun there are.*

**Mennyibe kerül egy liter tej?**  
**Kétszázhetven forintba (kerül).**  
**És egy kiló bab?**  
**Kétezerbe.**

*How much does a liter of milk cost?*  
*(It costs) two hundred seventy forints.*  
*And a kilo of beans?*  
*Two thousand.*

### **Pronunciation: Consonants**

Focus on the consonants and clusters for now. The Hungarian **b, d, f, h, k, l, m, n, p, t, v,** and **z** are not much different from those in English. Just be careful not to aspirate (blow air through) **k, p,** and **t** too heavily, especially at the end of a word. You will rarely see **q, w,** or **x** except in words from other languages (e.g., **taxi**).

The clusters are considered letters of the Hungarian alphabet, and even affect alphabetical sorting: Words beginning with **cs** appear after all other words beginning with **c**. For example, **cukor** (*sugar*) comes before **csak** (*only*).

**c** is *ts*

**s** is *sh*

**cs** is a combination of those sounds, *ch* with tongue against teeth

**sz** is *s*

**zs** is *zh*

**g** by itself is the hard *g*

**gy** is a very light *j*, leaning more toward *dy* with tongue against teeth

**j** is *y* as a consonant

**ly** is pretty much the same as **j**

**ny** is *ny*

**ty** is *ty*

**y** by itself is usually a vowel, appearing in traditional spellings of names

**r** is not rolled, but flapped European-style

**dz** is a combination of those consonants, treated as a single letter.

**dzs** is effectively the English *j*, also treated as a single letter.

When consonants are doubled, as in **millió**, they are considered long and actually take longer to pronounce than single consonants. This lengthening does not occur if the double consonant appears before another consonant.

## Pronunciation: Vowels

Hungarian has 14 vowels: 7 short, 7 long. The short and long versions of vowels do not get separate sections in the dictionary, however. The long vowels literally take twice as long to pronounce as the short. (In Finnish, a cousin of Hungarian, these vowels appear doubled.) There is also a notable difference between the long and short **a** and **e**:

<i>Short</i>	<i>Sounds Like</i>	<i>Long</i>	<i>Sounds Like</i>
<b>a</b>	paw (very low)	<b>á</b>	palm (but longer)
<b>e</b>	between pet and pat	<b>é</b>	pate (but longer)
<b>i</b>	peat	<b>í</b>	peat (but longer)
<b>o</b>	post	<b>ó</b>	post (but longer)
<b>u</b>	pool	<b>ú</b>	pool (but longer)
<b>ö</b>	between pull and pill	<b>ő</b>	same, but longer
<b>ü</b>	between pool and peel	<b>ű</b>	same, but longer

The difference between short and long may make a difference in meaning. Consider **kert** (*garden*) versus **kért** (*he/she asked for*), or **hat** (*six*) versus **hát** (*one's back*). However, you may also see words like **fél**, which could be *half* or *fear* (v.), and only context will help you determine which meaning is correct.

No matter how long a Hungarian word is, the first syllable gets the primary accent. There may be secondary accents in compound words. Remember that what we see as accents are really long marks in this language.

With all this in mind pronounce each word in the vocabulary list at least five times, focusing especially on vowel length.

## Voice Assimilation

Voiced consonants require vibration of the vocal cords: notice as you pronounce the English consonants **b, d, g, j, l, m, n, r, v, w, y,** and **z** that part of the sound comes from the larynx. Voiceless consonants just use tongue, teeth, palate and lips, with no vocal vibration: **c, f, h, k, p, s, t,** and **x**. Also compare sounds like the **sh** in *shine* (voiceless) with the **zh** sound in the middle of *vision* (voiced).

Some voiceless consonants are given voice when found before voiced consonants in the same word, and vice versa. This changes the pronunciation, not the spelling.

When any voiceless (top row) consonant appears directly before any voiced (bottom row) consonant in the same word, it is pronounced like its voiced equivalent...	<b>c</b>	<b>cs</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>k</b>	<b>p</b>	<b>s</b>	<b>sz</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>ty</b>
	...and vice versa.								
	<b>dz</b>	<b>dzs</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>g</b>	<b>b</b>	<b>zs</b>	<b>z</b>	<b>d</b>	<b>gy</b>

As an example, **kilencven** has a voiceless **c** before a voiced **v**. That causes the **c** to be pronounced like its voiced equivalent **dz**: KEE-lendz-ven.

## 1. People and Places

For practicing basic pronunciation, let's get introduced to some Hungarian friends and the places they live. Many of these names have equivalents in other languages, taken as they are from Christian saints; others are taken from figures in pre-Christian Magyar history. Male names will appear in **blue**, female in **red**.

One notable characteristic of Hungarian pronunciation is its consistency. Letters and common consonant clusters rarely vary in how they sound.

<i>Barátok (friends)</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>
<b>Ágnes</b> , <b>Attila</b>	AHG-nesh, AWT-tee-law
<b>Béla</b> , <b>Borbála</b>	BAY-law, BOR-bah-law
<b>Cecília</b>	TSE-tsee-lya
<b>Csilla</b> , <b>Csongor</b>	CHIL-law, CHON-gor
<b>Dávid</b> , <b>Dorottya</b>	DAH-veed, DOR-ot-tyaw
<b>Ernő</b> , <b>Erzsébet</b>	AYR-nœ, AYR-zhay-bet
<b>Ferenc</b> , <b>Franciska</b>	FE-rents, FRAN-tsish-kaw
<b>Gisella</b> , <b>Géza</b>	GAW-bee, GAY-zaw
<b>Gyöngyi</b> , <b>György</b>	DJËN-djee, DJËRDJ
<b>Hugó</b> , <b>Hajnal</b>	HOO-go, HAWY-nawl
<b>Ilona</b> , <b>István</b>	EE-lo-naw, EESHT-vahn
<b>János</b> , <b>Judit</b>	YAH-nosh, YOO-dit
<b>Károly</b> , <b>Katalin</b>	KAH-roy, KAT-aw-leen
<b>Lajos</b> , <b>Lujza</b>	LAW-yosh, LOOY-zaw
<b>Margit</b> , <b>Mihály</b>	MAWR-git, MEE-high
<b>Olga</b> , <b>Orbán</b>	OL-gaw, OR-bahn
<b>Pál</b> , <b>Piroska</b>	PAHL, PEE-rosh-kaw
<b>Robert</b> , <b>Rózsa</b>	RO-bayrt, RO-zhaw
<b>Sándor</b> , <b>Sára</b>	SHAHN-dor, SHAH-raw
<b>Szeréna</b> , <b>Szilard</b>	SE-ray-naw, SEE-lawrd
<b>Tibor</b> , <b>Terezia</b>	TEE-bor, TE-re-zyaw
<b>Vilmos</b> , <b>Virág</b>	VIL-mosh, VEE-rahg
<b>Zoltán</b>	ZOL-tahn
<b>Zsófia</b> , <b>Zsolt</b>	ZHO-fee-aw, ZHOLT

## **Last Name First, Please**

There is evidence that the Magyar peoples migrated to Europe from the Far East during the Middle Ages. They maintain the characteristically Asian practice of placing family names before given name. An origin indicator may also precede the family name.

Foreigners need not adhere to this practice when visiting the Hungarian lands, but if you meet **Kovács Vilmos**, know that he may be addressed as **Kovács úr** (*Mr. Kovács*) or, as friendship develops, **Vilmos**. If he is older, he may become **Vilmos Bácsi** (*Uncle William*).

Perhaps you know these names from history—apologies if the list is disproportionately male. Practice your pronunciation. (Note: where you see the now archaic **th**, just pronounce both letters, *not* as in English *thin*. Final **y** in surnames is often a vowel, sounding just like an **i** as in *ski*. A **ch** is an older spelling of **cs**.)

**Composers and Musicians:** Liszt Ferenc, Rózsa Miklós, Kodály Zoltán, Bartók Béla, Ligeti György, Lehár Ferenc, Szabó Gabor, Dohnanyi Ernő, Ormandy Jenő

**Writers and Poets:** Petőfi Sándor, József Attila, Vörösmarty Mihály, Rapai Ágnes, Tóth Árpád, Jókai Mór, Pulitzer József

**Rulers and Leaders:** Corvinus Mátyás, Báthory Erzsébet, Kossuth Lajos, Dávid Ferenc, Széchenyi István

**Actors/Directors:** Lugosi Blaskó Béla, Gabor Éva, Gabor Zsa Zsa (Sári), Kovács László

**Others:** Rubik Ernő, Károlyi Béla, Keleti Ágnes, Polgár Judit, Soros György (Schwartz)

## **Places**

Hungarian is spoken primarily in Hungary (**Magyarország**), the Transylvanian (**Erdély**) regions of Romania (**Románia**), and northern Serbia (**Szerbia**). Since Hungary was not a colonial power, there are no large pockets of Hungarian-speakers in Africa, the Far East, or Latin America. However, especially after admission to the European Union, the Hungarians are expanding their presence through Europe, wherever jobs are plentiful and in need of skilled, educated workers.

Major cities in Hungary include **Budapest** (which is really three cities, **Buda**, **Pest**, and **Obuda**), **Debrecen**, **Győr**, **Pécs**, **Szeged**, and **Szombathely**. Only Budapest has more than a million inhabitants. Major landmarks include the **Duna** (Danube, Europe's longest river), **Balaton tó** (Europe's largest lake), and the **Alföld** (Great Plain).

Cities in Transylvania, which was part of greater Hungary until 1920, include **Kolozsvár** (Cluj-Napoca), **Marosvásárhely** (Tîrgu Mureş), and **Brassó** (Braşov). The Carpathian Mountains (**Kárpátok**) separate the **Erdélyföld** from the rest of Romania. Some of these cities are bi- or tri-lingual: Signs in Brassó, once a Saxon settlement, may appear in Romanian, Hungarian, and German.

Some of these place names, and others, appear again in Lesson 2.

All ethnic Hungarians are referred to as **magyar**, regardless of their citizenship. Some of the Magyar people in Transylvania are descended from a tribe called the Secklers (**székely**). Their dialect differs slightly in pronunciation and usage from standard Hungarian.

## 2. Hol Lakik?

In the list below, we will mention some of the places discussed in Lesson 1, and add some more. Then you will see how to express your nationality and your country of residence in Hungarian.

<i>Magyarul</i>	<i>Angolul</i>
<b>ország</b>	<i>country</i>
<b>föld</b>	<i>land, earth, ground</i>
<b>alföld</b>	<i>lowland, plain</i>
<b>Magyarország, magyar</b>	<i>Hungary, Hungarian</i>
<b>Budapest, budapesti</b>	<i>Budapest, from Budapest</i>
<b>Románia, román</b>	<i>Romania, Romanian</i>
<b>Amerika, amerikai</b>	<i>America, American</i>
<b>Kanada, kanadai</b>	<i>Canada, Canadian</i>
<b>Anglia, angol</b>	<i>England, English</i>
<b>Ausztria, osztrák</b>	<i>Austria, Austrian</i>
<b>Erdély, erdélyi</b>	<i>Transylvania, Transylvanian</i>
<b>Székelyföld, székely</b>	<i>Seckler land, Seckler</i>
<b>Kolozsvár, kolozsvári</b>	<i>Cluj-Napoca, from Cluj-Napoca</i>
<b>hol?</b>	<i>where?</i>
<b>lakok</b>	<i>I live, I dwell</i>
<b>lakik</b>	<i>he/she lives, dwells; you live (formal)</i>
<b>vagyok</b>	<i>I am</i>
<b>van</b>	<i>he/she is; you are (formal)</i>

### ***Where Do You Live?***

One's place of residence and one's national heritage may be entirely different, as Americans and Canadians certainly understand. This is the reality in Europe as well, especially since the expansion of the European Union. More than a million Romanian nationals are ethnic Hungarians, about six percent of the Romanian population; about half a million are ethnic Roma (**cigány**).

Where one lives is either *in* or *on* something. In Hungarian one lives *on* an **ország** or **föld**, and even *on* some cities like Budapest and Szeged. The *on* is expressed by an **-n** ending, often with an accompanying vowel. Which vowel you use depends on the vowels within the word. For now, just memorize these additional forms:

**Kolozsváron, Magyarországon, Budapesten, Székelyföldön, Szegeden, Szombathelyen**

The ending for *in* is either **-ban** or **-ben**, also depending on internal vowels. Countries without **ország** in their names take these endings, as do most cities. If the place ends in **a** or **e**, lengthen that vowel before adding the ending.

**Romániában, Kanadában, Ausztriában, Angliában, Debrecenben, Erdélyben, Győrben**

Examine the sets of sentences below. Note how expressions of nationality can be used as either nouns or adjectives.

<b>Ágnes vagyok.</b>	<i>I am Ágnes.</i>
<b>Magyar vagyok.</b>	<i>I am (a) Hungarian.</i>
<b>Magyarországon lakok.</b>	<i>I live in Hungary.</i>
<b>Tibor vagyok.</b>	<i>I am Tibor.</i>
<b>Magyar vagyok.</b>	<i>I am (a) Hungarian.</i>
<b>(Az) Erdélyföldön lakok.</b>	<i>I live in Transylvania (the Erdély land).</i>
<b>Janet vagyok.</b>	<i>I am Janet</i>
<b>Amerikai vagyok.</b>	<i>I am (an) American.</i>
<b>Amerikában lakok.</b>	<i>I live in America.</i>
<b>Radu román.</b>	<i>Radu is (a) Romanian</i>
<b>Hol lakik Radu?</b>	<i>Where does Radu live?</i>
<b>Kanadában lakik.</b>	<i>He lives in Canada.</i>
<b>Margit magyar.</b>	<i>Margit is (a) Hungarian.</i>
<b>Hol lakik Margit?</b>	<i>Where does Margit live?</i>
<b>Budapesten lakik.</b>	<i>She lives in Budapest.</i>
<b>Ludwig osztrák.</b>	<i>Ludwig is (an) Austrian.</i>
<b>Hol lakik Ludwig?</b>	<i>Where does Ludwig live?</i>
<b>Győrben lakik.</b>	<i>He lives in Győr.</i>

In the last three sets, the word for *is* is not required to show somebody else's nationality. In fact, to Hungarians it would sound a bit clumsy and redundant to add the verb **van**. It is almost as if the adjective served as the verb of the sentence. This phenomenon occurs with any adjective or noun that describes a third-person subject.

One peculiarity of Hungarian is that it has no prepositions. In addition to endings, it has a set of *postpositions* that follow their objects rather than precede them.



### 3. Tessék!

In this list, where there are two words or phrases separated by a slash, the distinction between them may be a matter of singular versus plural (s/p), or **formal** versus **informal** (f/i). In the *Angol* (English) column, you will see the explanation in parentheses.

<i>Magyar</i>	<i>Angol</i>
<b>igen</b>	<i>yes</i>
<b>nem</b>	<i>no</i>
<b>mi a neve?/mi a neved?</b>	<i>what is your name? (f/i)</i>
<b>a nevem...</b>	<i>my name is...</i>
<b>hogyan van ön?/hogyan vagy?</b>	<i>how are you? (f/i)</i>
<b>bocsánat</b>	<i>excuse me</i>
<b>szia/sziasztok</b>	<i>hello (s/p)</i>
<b>jó napot (kívánok)</b>	<i>(I wish you) good day</i>
<b>jó reggelt</b>	<i>good morning (before 9 am)</i>
<b>jó estét</b>	<i>good evening (after about 5 pm)</i>
<b>jó éjszakát</b>	<i>good night (when parting after dusk)</i>
<b>viszontlátásra/viszlát</b>	<i>see you later (f/i)</i>
<b>legyen szíves/légy szíves</b>	<i>if you please (f/i)</i>
<b>köszönöm/köszönjük</b>	<i>(I/we) thank you</i>
<b>tessék</b>	<i>may I help you, here you go, you're welcome</i>
<b>szívesen</b>	<i>gladly, you're welcome</i>

### **Pronunciation Practice**

Hungarian pronunciation is tricky at first. It does contain some sounds not found in English, and one letter not found in any other language, **ő**.

The worst confusion usually concerns **s** and **sz**. The former is pronounced like English *sh* as in *show*. The latter is like the English *s* as in *sew*. If you are familiar with Polish, or just have friends with Polish names, you know that the reverse is true in that language.

Secondly, it is a good idea to practice pronouncing long vowels longer than their short counterparts. There is also a notable difference between the long and short **a** and **e**, but with the other vowels it is mostly a matter of length.

Start with the word **viszontlátásra**. *VEE-sohnt-lah-tahsh-raw*. The third and fourth syllables last longer than the others. There is also a slight secondary accent on the third syllable.

Also, practice those very important, all-purpose words **bocsánat** and **köszönöm**. The former will give you practice with three vowel sounds that often appear together: *BOH-chah-nawt*. The latter will remind of how the **ö** sounds: somewhere between the German **ö** (shape your lips like an *e* but say *o*) and the schwa. Try not to let an extra *r* sound into it: closer to *KUS-u-num* than *KURS-ur-nurm*.

Now that you have worked with these, pronounce all the other words and phrases in the list at least five times, focusing especially on vowel length.

## Formality

Since this chapter covers greetings and pleasantries, it is good to know how to talk to people whom you have not met before, or with whom you are not yet on intimate terms. As with many languages, Hungarian has ways of speaking respectfully to elders and strangers. As you will see in later lessons, you address these people directly using third-person endings instead of second-person (as one might in Spanish or Italian).

**Mi a neved?** has the second-person possessive ending **-ed**. You can use this safely for children or animals you meet, whether they respond or not.

**Mi a neve?** has the third-person possessive ending **-e**. Use this for adults you meet, except in very informal social situations where you can use the informal.

**Hogy vagy?** is the all-purpose *How are you?* for people you know well. It has the second-person form of the *to be* verb. **Vagy** means *you are* for familiar, informal situations.

**Hogy van ön?** may also be rendered as **Hogy van maga?** The pronoun **maga** is a polite form of address, less formal than **ön**. Both phrases contain the third-person form of *be*. Hungarian uses third-person verb forms for people whom you would address formally and politely. The pronoun is used here, because without the pronoun it might be interpreted as *How is he/she?*

Similarly, with your friends and family, pets and deities, you could use **Szia/Sziasztok!** **Viszlát!** and **Légy szíves**. For people with whom you are not on a first-name basis, use the more formal **Viszonzlátásra!** and **Legyen szíves**. Formally, avoid **Szia!** in favor of **Jó napot** and the other **jó** greetings.

For any situation, formal or informal, **tessék** and **szívesen** are appropriate.

## Hello, My Name Is...

The phrase **a nevem** by itself just means *my name*. In many situations, where English uses *is*, Hungarian omits the verb. One of those situations is when the clause consists of a subject and a predicate noun or adjective.

**A nevem Nagy Bálint.**                      *My name is Bálint Nagy.*

**Jó a neve, Nagy úr.**                      *Your name is good (you have a good name), Mr. Nagy.*

Another expression for asking someone's name is **Hogy hívnak?** or more formally **Önt hogy hívják?** This means literally *How do they call you?*

## 4. Jó Napot!

Here we will reinforce some of the nouns from the previous lesson's vocabulary, and throw in some new ones. We will also examine the significance of the final **t** that appears in a lot of those expressions.

<i>Magyar</i>	<i>Angol</i>
<b>nap, napot</b>	<i>day, sun</i>
<b>reggel, reggelt</b>	<i>morning</i>
<b>este, estét</b>	<i>evening</i>
<b>éjszaka, éjszakát</b>	<i>night, nighttime</i>
<b>név, nevet</b>	<i>name</i>
<b>reggeli, reggelit</b>	<i>breakfast</i>
<b>ebéd, ebédet</b>	<i>lunch</i>
<b>vacsora, vacsorát</b>	<i>supper</i>
<b>étvágy, étvágyat</b>	<i>appetite</i>
<b>látom</b>	<i>I see (definite)</i>
<b>szeretem</b>	<i>I like, I love (definite)</i>
<b>a, az</b>	<i>the (preceding consonants and vowels, respectively)</i>

### Direct Objects

The two forms of each noun in the list are their respective **nominative** and **accusative** singular forms. The nominative case in most inflected languages (those which apply endings based on the use of a word) is used for the subject of a clause or sentence, as well as for nouns after forms of “be” or other linking verbs.

The accusative case may have many uses, but one of them is almost always the *direct object* of an action verb. **Jó napot kívánok** means *I wish (you) a good day*. The noun *day* is the direct object of the wish.

Hungarian uses the accusative case almost exclusively for direct objects. The accusative ending is **-t**, often accompanied by a vowel. The rules for what vowel again has to do with the vowels in the nominative form—and these rules do have exceptions.

<i>If the nominative ends with...</i>	<i>Do this:</i>
<b>i, í, l, ly, n, ny, ó, ő, r, s, sz, ú, ú, z</b>	just add the <b>t</b> : <b>reggelt</b> (there are exceptions!)
<b>a, e</b>	lengthen the final vowel, then add <b>t</b> : <b>estét</b>
anything else	add <b>-et, -őt, -ot, or -at</b> , depending on internal vowels, as outlined in The Rules (next page)

## The Rules

Most words in Hungarian contain exclusively either front vowels (**e, é, i, í, ö, ő, ü, ú**) or back vowels (**a, á, o, ó, u, ú**). Linguists call this characteristic of the language **vowel harmony**.

Most front-vowel nouns that end in certain consonants add **-et** to form the accusative: **ebédet**. Most (not all) nouns whose last internal vowel is an **ö** or **ó** add **-öt**, as in **földöt**. Some nouns, such as **név**, might lose vowel-length when adding endings: **nevet**.

Similarly, back-vowel nouns ending in those consonants will add **-ot**, as in **napot**. However, some categories of nouns add **-at**: **étvágyat**.

For now, it will be best just to memorize the accusative forms of nouns when they are introduced.

The vowels **é, i, and í** are linguistically middle vowels, and mix equally comfortably with back and front vowels. Treat **Béla (Bélát)** and **Margit (Margitot)** as back-vowel nouns.

In any compound noun of two or more parts, the last part determines whether to use front-vowel or back-vowel endings. **Alföld** is a front-vowel compound; **éjszaka** is a back-vowel compound.

## The Definite Article

To indicate *the*, use **a** before words beginning with a consonant, **az** before words beginning with a vowel. You may see sentences in which Hungarian uses the definite article but whose English equivalents do not, as in **Mi a neved?** (literally, *what is the name of you?*)

## Accusative Practice

Now practice making direct objects as you translate these sentences. Names of people and places will require variations on the **-t** ending, as well. Answers will appear in the Answers pages of this unit. For negations, use **nem** immediately before the verb. (**NOTE:** The different parts of the sentence may be arranged in different orders. Hungarian frequently places verbs at the end of a clause or sentence.)

1. I like Csilla. **Csillát szeretem.**
2. I see Ferenc.
3. I like György.
4. I don't see Judit.
5. I see Károly.
6. You (f.) like Hungary.
7. You (f.) see Szeged.
8. You (f.) don't like Győr.
9. You (f.) like the breakfast.
10. You (f.) don't see the sun.

## 5. Sziasztok, Gyerekek!

The table below contains some nouns for some different types of human beings. You will learn how to add the plural ending to various types of nouns in this lesson.

<i>Magyar</i>	<i>Angol</i>
ember, embert	person, human being
személy, személyet	person, personality
gyerek, gyereket	child
lány, lányt	girl
fiú, fiút	boy
nő, nőt	woman
férfi, férfit	man
szeretek	I like, I love (indefinite)
látok	I see (indefinite)
eszem	I eat (indefinite or definite)
egy	a, an, one
és	and

### Plural Forms

To make a noun plural, in order to refer to more than one of something in Hungarian, requires the letter **k**, sometimes accompanied by a vowel. These forms follow a variation of The Rules presented in Lesson 4, for the most part. As always, there are exceptions and eccentricities to remember.

### Nominative Plural

<i>If the nominative ends with...</i>	<i>Do this:</i>
a vowel	just add <b>-k</b> , but lengthen the final <b>a</b> or <b>e</b>
a consonant	add <b>-ek</b> , <b>-ők</b> , or <b>-ok</b> , depending on vowel harmony; <b>-ak</b> for some nouns ending in <b>i</b> , including some nationalities and family names

Front vowels: **emberek, személyek, gyerekek, nők, esték, nevek, reggelek, reggelik, ebédek, földök**

Back vowels: **fiúk, lányok, vacsorák, napok, országok**

The unusual **-ak** ending: **férfiak, amerikaiak, kanadaiak**

## Accusative Plural

The plural ending is attached before case endings. Add **-et** or **-öt** for front-vowel plural forms, **-at** for back-vowel plurals.

Front vowels: **embereket, személyeket, gyerekeket, nőket, férfitket, estéket, nevüket, reggeleket, reggeliket, ebédeket, földököt**

Back vowels: **fiúkat, lányokat, vacsorákat, napokat, országokat, férfiakat, amerikaiakat, kanadaiakat**

## Plural with *in* or *on*

Again, attach the plural ending, followed by the correct suffix (**-n, -en, -on, -ön, -ben, or -ban**).

*in the countries:* **az országokon**

*on the lands:* **a földökön**

*in the people:* **az emberekben**

*in dinners:* **vacsorákban**

Now you have several ways to form a noun: singular and plural of the nominative, accusative, “in,” and “on” forms.

## A Quirk of the Language

**REMINDER:** Whenever you specify a quantity of any noun in Hungarian—whether a specific number, many, a few, several, etc.—the noun appears *not* in the plural, but the singular. *A thousand people* = **ezer ember**. Try not to stick plural endings on nouns in this situation. You will learn some more quantitative adjectives in later chapters.

## The Indefinite Article

To indicate *a* or *an*, use **egy** before any noun or adjective, regardless of its initial letter.

*I see a woman.* **Egy nőt látok.**

*A man likes children.* **Egy férfi gyerekeket szeret.** (3rd person)

Exceptions would be simple subject-predicate sentences, such as:

*Csongor is a Hungarian boy.* **Csongor magyar fiú.**

When a direct object is accompanied by an indefinite article, Hungarian uses the indefinite conjugation of the verb. Contrast these sentences.

*I don't see a man.* **Egy férfit nem látok.**

*I don't see the man.* **A férfit nem látom.**

Lastly, note that the first-person singular of *eat* is the same whether definite or indefinite:

*I eat the breakfast.* **A reggelit eszem.**

*I eat a good breakfast.* **Egy jó reggelit eszem.**

## 6. Sentence Practice

### *Translate to Hungarian*

Each set of four sentences below begins with something very simple, and gradually adds complications. Remember that verbs typically appear at the end of their clauses.

1. Where is Béla?
2. Béla is in Hungary.
3. Béla is a man in Hungary.
4. Béla is a good man in Hungary.
5. Where is Rózsa?
6. I like Rózsa.
7. I don't like Rózsa.
8. I don't like Rózsa and Zoltán.
9. Where is the woman?
10. I see the woman.
11. I see the women.
12. I see women.
13. Is there breakfast?
14. I eat breakfast.
15. I eat breakfast in America.
16. Today (**ma**) I eat breakfast and lunch in America. (*NOTE: Put the adverb directly before the verb.*)
17. Olga is a girl.
18. Pál is a boy.
19. Olga is a girl, and Pál is a boy.
20. Olga and Pál are Hungarian children.
21. Good day.
22. Good morning, people. (*Use a form of either **ember** or **személy**.*)
23. Good evening, people in Romania.
24. Good night, people in Transylvania and Romania.

**Translate to English**

Most of these sentences will be fairly simple, based on the vocabulary you know. There may be some constructions that are unfamiliar; try to figure them out.

1. Jó napot kívánok, gyerekek.
2. A névem Székely Gisella\*.
3. Erdélyi lány vagyok.
4. Angliában lakik.
5. Egy férfit látok.
6. A férfit látom.
7. Hol férfi van?
8. Férfi a földön van.
9. A személyeket szeretem.
10. Emberetek nem szeretek.
11. Bocsánat, hol van Románia?
12. Eszem?
13. Egy magyar ebédet eszem.
14. Köszönöm az ebédet.
15. Szívesen, jó étvágyat.
16. Viszontlátásra, gyerekek.

\* Remember the Hungarian custom of saying the family name before the given name!



## 7. Beszélsz Magyarul?

Now we shall review the verbs you know, add a few, and learn to conjugate them for singular subjects, both for definite and indefinite objects. Some verbs, you may notice, have only indefinite conjugations because they don't typically take objects. The dictionary forms are underlined; irregular or unusual forms are in **red**.

<i>Magyar (singular)</i>	<i>Angol</i>
lakok, laksz, <u>lakik</u>	live, dwell
vagyok, <b>vagy</b> , <b>van</b>	be
beszélek, beszélsz, <u>beszél</u>	speak
hallok, hallsz, <u>hall</u>	hear (indefinite)
hallom, hallod, hallja	hear (definite)
látok, látsz, <u>lát</u>	see (indefinite)
látom, látod, látja	see (definite)
érték, <b>értesz</b> , <u>ért</u>	understand (indefinite)
értem, érted, érti	understand (definite)
szeretek, szeretsz, <u>szeret</u>	like, love (indefinite)
szeretem, szereted, szereti	like, love (definite)
eszem, <b>esz</b> , <u>eszik</u>	eat (indefinite)
eszem, eszed, eszi	eat (definite)
iszom, <b>iszol</b> , <u>iszik</u>	drink (indefinite)
iszom, iszod, <b>issza</b>	drink (definite)
magyarul	(in) Hungarian
angolul	(in) English
németül	(in) German
románul	(in) Romanian

### Singular Persons

**First Person:** If the subject of a verb is *I*, use the first-person singular forms. These end with **k** and **m** in Hungarian.

**Second Person:** If the subject is a singular *you* who is a relative, child, close friend, or divinity, use the second-person singular forms. These typically end with **sz** (indefinite) or **d** (definite). However, if the stem ends with **s**, **sz**, **z**, or **zs**, you will see **l** in place of **sz**. Note also the form **értesz**: Stems that end in two consonants, or with **-ít**, require a spacing vowel before the **sz** ending, depending on vowel harmony either **e** or **a**. One exception to this two-consonant rule is **hallsz**.

**Third Person:** If the subject is any other person, including an adult you don't know intimately, use third-person forms. In the indefinite conjugation, this is just the stem, or the stem plus **ik**—the form you would find in the dictionary (the underlined forms in the list). In the definite, look for **ja** (back-vowel) or **i** (front-vowel) endings.

### **Irregular Verbs**

The verbs **van**, **eszik**, and **iszik** have irregular conjugations. The number of irregular verbs in Hungarian is not huge, and most of them have similar irregularities.

The verb meaning *to be* is irregular in nearly all European languages, including non-Indo-European languages like Hungarian and Finnish.

Note the following about **eszik** and **iszik**:

- As with most **-ik** verbs, they have definite endings on their first-person indefinite forms.
- **iszik** conjugates like a back-vowel verb, with **o** as the spacing vowel.
- Since the stems of these verbs ends with **sz**, rather than attaching another **sz** as the ending, Hungarian resorts to the **l** ending.

### **Present Tense Meanings**

It is worth pointing out that these forms are for the present tense. In Hungarian, as in many languages, this tense takes the place of several different English tenses:

**Eszem** means *I eat* (present regular); *I am eating* (present progressive), *I do eat* (present emphatic), as well as the interrogative *Do I eat?/Am I eating?* and sometimes the future *I shall eat*.

### **In the Various Languages**

To express the language one speaks, writes, reads, or understands, add the adverbial suffix **-ul** or **-ül**, depending on vowel harmony. The adjective **német** means *German*, the language spoken in several countries of Central Europe and a common second language in the old Austro-Hungarian Empire. Because **német** is a front-vowel word, add the frontal suffix **-ül**.

*I speak German and Hungarian.*

**Beszélek németül és magyarul.**

*Do you (informal) speak Romanian?*

**Románul beszélsz?**

*Do you (formal) understand English?*

**Ön ért angolul?**

### **Practice**

Try putting at least ten short Hungarian sentences together with the verbs from this lesson and these words from previous lessons. Be sure to add the appropriate endings.

**a, az, egy, vacsora, ember, föld, fiú, Kanada, nap, és, jó, ebéd, nő, név, Kolozsvár, gyerek, köszönöm, nem, hol, férfi, ország, reggel**

## 8. Beszéltek Magyarul?

The verbs from Lesson 7 return, this time with their plural endings. Also, this list provides you with some potable direct objects.

<i>Magyar (plural)</i>	<i>Angol</i>
lakunk, laktok, laknak	live, dwell
vagyunk, vagytok, vannak	be
beszélünk, beszéltek, beszélnek	speak
hallunk, halltok, hallnak	hear (indefinite)
halljuk, halljátok, hallják	hear (definite)
látunk, láttok, látnak	see (indefinite)
látjuk, látjátok, látják	see (definite)
értünk, értetek, értenek	understand (indefinite)
értjük, értitek, értik	understand (definite)
szeretünk, szerettek, szeretnek	like, love (indefinite)
szeretjük, szeretitek, szeretik	like, love (definite)
eszünk, esztek, esznek	eat (indefinite)
<b>esszük</b> , eszitek, eszik	eat (definite)
iszunk, isztok, isznak	drink (indefinite)
<b>isszuk</b> , isszátok, isszák	drink (definite)
kávé, kávét	coffee
tea, teát	tea
tej, tejet	milk
víz, vizet	water

### Plural Persons

**First Person:** If the subject of a verb is *we*, use the first-person plural forms. These end with **-ünk/-unk** in the indefinite, and **-jük/-juk** in the definite conjugations.

**Second Person:** If the subject is a plural *you* who are relatives, children, close friends, or divinity, use the second-person plural forms. These end with **-tek/-tok** in the indefinite, **-itek/-játok** in the definite conjugation.

**Third Person:** If the subject is any other group, including adults you don't know intimately, use third-person plural forms. Endings here are **-nek/-nak** for indefinite, **-ik/-ják** for definite conjugation.

## Irregular Verbs

Review now the complete present-tense conjugation of **van**:

**vagyok, vagy, van, vagyunk, vagytok, vannak**

Our good friends **eszik** and **iszik** show their irregularities once again, this time having to do with that troublesome **sz** at the end of the stem. When you add an ending that starts with **j** to such a stem, **szj** turns into **ssz**, pronounced as a longer version of **sz**. This phenomenon evolved, presumably, to make the forms easier to pronounce, and the language more difficult to learn.

Note also how **eszik** could mean *you eat/are eating* (f. indef.), *he/she/it eats/is eating* (indef.), or *they eat/are eating* (def.)

Here are their complete conjugations, with the **ssz** forms highlighted in red. You should do your best to memorize them, as with all irregular conjugations.

Indefinite: **eszem, eszel, eszik, eszünk, esztek, esznek**

Definite: **eszem, eszed, eszi, **esszük, eszitek, eszik****

Indefinite: **iszom, iszol, iszik, iszunk, isztok, isznak**

Definite: **iszom, iszod, **issza, isszuk, isszátok, isszák****

## More about Stems Ending in Two Consonants

In Lesson 7, we noted that stems ending in two consonants need an **e** or **a** before the **-sz** ending (second-person singular). This makes the forms easier to pronounce. The same is true for the second- and third-plural indefinite endings **-tek** and **-nek**, or **-tok** and **-nak**. In later lessons you will see some of the **-ít** verbs hinted at previously.

## The Plural Formal You

We have seen the use of the personal pronoun **ön** when addressing somebody formally. To address a whole group of formal acquaintances or strangers, the plural of **ön** is **önök**. There are equivalent pronouns more frequently used, **maga** and **maguk**.

## Simple Sentences

Translate the following sentences to Hungarian. Be mindful of whether the objects are definite or indefinite. The answers are on the Answers pages for Unit 1.

1. We are drinking milk and coffee.
2. The girls are not drinking the tea.
3. Don't you (pl. inf.) hear the water?
4. Are you (pl. f.) in the water?
5. Where do we eat breakfast and lunch?
6. The men do not speak German.

## 9. Mit csinalsz?

Here we present some more of the basic verbs, along with two interrogative and two demonstrative pronouns.

<i>Magyar</i>	<i>Angol</i>
<b>áll, állni</b>	<i>stand (in place)</i>
<b>csinal, csinálni</b>	<i>do, make</i>
<b>főz, főzni</b>	<i>cook</i>
<b>ismer, ismerni</b>	<i>know, be familiar with</i>
<b>mond, mondani</b>	<i>say</i>
<b>szalad, szaladni</b>	<i>run (physically)</i>
<b>tud, tudni</b>	<i>know, know how, be aware; be able</i>
<b>ül, ülni</b>	<i>sit (in place)</i>
<b>az</b>	<i>that</i>
<b>ez</b>	<i>this</i>
<b>ki?</b>	<i>who?</i>
<b>mi?</b>	<i>what</i>

### *The Infinitive*

The verb **tud**, when it means *be able* or *know how*, should be accompanied by a *to* form of some verb, as in *I am able to run*. The *to* form is called the infinitive. To form the infinitive of a regular verb in Hungarian, add **-ni** to the stem; some verbs with stems ending in two consonants require a spacing vowel for pronounceability.

Here are the infinitives of all the verbs we have covered, again with spacing vowels and irregular forms highlighted.

No Spacer: **állni, beszélni, csinálni, főzni, hallni, ismerni, lakni, látni, szaladni, szeretni, tudni, ülni**

Spacer: **érteni, mondani**

Irregular: **enni** (*to eat*), **inni** (*to drink*), **lenni** (*to be*)

Note that when **tud** takes an infinitive, the form of **tud** is indefinite.

### *Conjugations*

The only variations on the standard conjugation here are in **mond**, whose stem ends with two consonants. For easier pronunciation, it has a spacing vowel in three of its forms.

True, **áll** also ends in two consonants, but like **háll**, it is one of the exceptions.

## Indefinite

<i>stand</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>cook</i>	<i>know</i>	<i>say</i>	<i>run</i>	<i>be able</i>	<i>sit</i>
állok	csinalok	főzök	ismerek	mondok	szaladok	tudok	ülök
állsz	csinalsz	főzöl	ismersz	mondasz	szaladsz	tudsz	ülsz
<u>áll</u>	<u>csinal</u>	<u>főz</u>	<u>ismer</u>	<u>mond</u>	<u>szalad</u>	<u>tud</u>	<u>ül</u>
állunk	csinalunk	főzünk	ismerünk	mondunk	szaladunk	tudunk	ülünk
álltok	csinaltok	főztök	ismertek	mondotok	szaladtok	tudtok	ültök
állnak	csinalnak	főznek	ismernek	mondanak	szaladnak	tudnak	ülnek

## Definite

These are a bit more regular than the indefinite. Note that definite forms of **áll** and **ül** exist, but they are not used very often. Also, **zj** combines to make **zz** in **főzzük**, *we cook*.

<i>stand</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>cook</i>	<i>know</i>	<i>say</i>	<i>run</i>	<i>be able</i>	<i>sit</i>
állom	csinalom	főzöm	ismerem	mondom	szaladom	tudom	ülöm
állod	csinalod	főzöd	ismered	mondod	szaladod	tudod	ülöd
állja	csinalja	főzi	ismeri	mondja	szaladja	tudja	üli
álljuk	csinaljuk	főzzük	ismerjük	mondjuk	szaladjuk	tudjuk	üljük
álljátok	csinaljátok	főzitek	ismeritek	mondjátok	szaladjátok	tudjátok	ülitek
állják	csinalják	főzik	ismerik	mondják	szaladják	tudják	ülik

## This, That, Who, and What

The demonstratives **az** and **ez** can also be used as adjectives, just as in English. In Hungarian, they are part of a very small group of adjectives that take endings to agree with the nouns that they modify, or to show their function in a sentence: **azt, ezt** (accusative), **abban, ebben** (*in that/this*), and the troublesome **azon, ezen** (*on that/this*). You will also see plurals for *those* and *these*: **azok, ezek; azokat, ezeket**; etc. When **azt** or **ezt** is the direct object, the verb is conjugated with definite endings.

*I know that.* **Azt tudom.**

*She does this.* **Ezt csinálja.**

The same is true for the pronouns **ki** and **mi**. For direct objects, as in *Whom/What do you see?* use **kit** and **mit**. Add **-k** for plurals, **-ket** for plural accusatives. You will not typically need to use place endings with these pronouns, though, because you can ask **hol?**

Questions with **kit** and **mit**, because the direct object is not defined, contain the indefinite forms of the verbs.

*What are you doing?*

**Mit csinalsz?**

*Whom do you all know?*

**Kit ismertek?**

*What can you (f.) cook?*

**Mit ön tud főzni?**

## 10. A Jó és a Rossz

Adjectives are the spices of language, and the Hungarians do like their spices.

<i>Magyar</i>	<i>Angol</i>
<b>jó</b>	<i>good</i>
<b>rossz</b>	<i>bad</i>
<b>nagy</b>	<i>large, great</i>
<b>kicsi, kis</b>	<i>small, little</i>
<b>sok</b>	<i>many, much</i>
<b>néhány</b>	<i>a few</i>
<b>hosszú</b>	<i>long</i>
<b>rövid</b>	<i>short (in duration)</i>
<b>könnyű</b>	<i>easy, light</i>
<b>nehéz</b>	<i>difficult</i>
<b>fiatal</b>	<i>young</i>
<b>öreg</b>	<i>old</i>

### **Endings on Adjectives**

When an adjective modifies a noun, Hungarian usually does not force an ending on the adjective to match the noun the way many inflected languages do.

*I eat a big dinner.*

**Egy nagy vacsorát eszem.**

However, sometimes adjectives take the place of nouns, or the English placeholder “one,” in which case they can wear the appropriate noun endings.

*I see a young woman; you see an old one.* **Egy fiatal nőt látok; látsz egy öreget.**

Lastly, when *not* modifying a noun representing something or someone small, use **kicsi** rather than **kis**: **Kicsi vagyok** = *I am small*; **Hol a kis lány?** = *Where is the little girl?* (You may see **kislány** as a compound as well.)

### **Forming Adverbs**

Those adjectives which can form adverbs usually do so by adding **-n** with a spacing vowel as needed. The spacer for back-vowel adjectives is usually an **a**; for front-vowel adjectives, **e**. Sometimes the spacing vowel takes the place of the final vowel.

The **-ul/-ül** suffix seen with **magyarul, németül**, etc., is added for a small number of adjectives, or just **-l** when the adjective ends with a vowel. There is no easy way to predict which adverbial suffix an adjective will take, so it must be memorized.

Notice in the following table that **nehéz** loses the long mark to become **nehezen**.

<i>Magyar</i>	<i>Angol</i>
<b>jól</b>	<i>well</i>
<b>rosszul</b>	<i>badly</i>
<b>nagyon</b>	<i>greatly, very</i>
<b>egy kicsit</b>	<i>a little</i>
<b>sokan</b>	<i>a lot</i>
<b>hosszan</b>	<i>for a long time</i>
<b>röviden</b>	<i>for a short time</i>
<b>könnyen</b>	<i>easily, lightly</i>
<b>nehezen</b>	<i>with difficulty</i>

### ***The Few and the Many***

As stated in Lessons 0 and 5, when you use quantitative adjectives, including **sok** and **néhány**, the nouns they modify will always appear as singular.

*There are many people here.*

**Sok ember van.**

*I know a few girls in Szeged.*

**Néhány lányt Szegeden ismerek.**

### ***Constructing Sentences***

Where English uses an adjective in a predicate position, Hungarian often places that adjective before the noun for emphasis, whether making a statement or a question. Note how the verb **van** is omitted in these examples, which in Hungarian is quite correct.

*The night is long.*

**Hosszú az éjszaka.**

*Is Romanian easy?*

**Könnyű románul?**

### ***Sentence Practice***

Try a few. Check your efforts against the answers at the end of this unit.

1. We are cooking a good dinner.
2. They cook the breakfast badly.
3. I run for a short time.
4. The little boy is sitting on the ground.
5. The woman speaks German easily.
6. Whom do you (inf.) know very well?
7. To stand a long time is difficult.
8. Many young people (**fiatalember**) live in Kolozsvár.



## 11. Csak egy Kicsit

Here are some useful adverbs that do not spring from adjectives. There is one unusual verb in the mix.

<i>Magyar</i>	<i>Angol</i>
<b>bizony</b>	<i>certainly</i>
<b>csak</b>	<i>just, only</i>
<b>elég</b>	<i>quite</i>
<b>gyakran</b>	<i>often</i>
<b>itt</b>	<i>here</i>
<b>mindig</b>	<i>always</i>
<b>most</b>	<i>now</i>
<b>nincs, nincsen, nincsenek</b>	<i>there is/are none</i>
<b>ott</b>	<i>there</i>
<b>sajnos</b>	<i>unfortunately</i>
<b>soha</b>	<i>never</i>
<b>talán</b>	<i>perhaps</i>
<b>valahol</b>	<i>somewhere</i>

### **Adverbs in General**

Several of these adverbs have multiple synonyms used nearly as frequently. For now, you can stick with learning the usual allotment of a dozen.

Adverbs modify verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs, answering questions like *where*, *when*, *how*, and sometimes *why*. In Hungarian they most frequently appear directly before the words that they modify. Sometimes, however, the adverb sets the tone for the entire sentence, and thus appears at the beginning.

*I don't cook often.*

**Nem gyakran főzök.**

*Perhaps you (will) like Budapest.*

**Budapestet talán szeretitek.**

*Unfortunately, there is no breakfast here.*

**Sajnos itt nincs reggeli.**

### **Nincs és Van**

Use **nincs** to indicate the lack or absence of something or someone, just as you might use a form of **van** to indicate the existence or presence. This verb appears exclusively in the third-person, and its plural form is **nincsenek**.

*Is Margit here?*

**Margit van?**

*Not now. Perhaps in the morning.*

**Most nincs. Talán reggel.**

## The Prefixes *vala-* and *mind(en)-*

These combine with various pronouns, adjectives, and adverbs, or parts thereof, to mean *some* and *every*, respectively. As a bonus, you can get to know these forms, but you will not be responsible for them in the review:

<i>Magyar</i>	<i>Angol</i>
<b>minden</b>	<i>everything</i>
<b>mindenki</b>	<i>everyone</i>
<b>mindenhol</b>	<i>everywhere</i>
<b>valaki</b>	<i>someone</i>
<b>valami</b>	<i>something</i>

The pronouns **minden**, **mindenki**, **valaki**, and **valami** take the same noun endings that **ki** and **mi** take, depending on their function.

*I love everybody!*

**Mindenkit szeretem!**

*In everybody there is a little good.*

**Mindenkiben van egy kicsit jó.**

## Sokan Szeretlek

Here is one final grammatical pointer to conclude Unit 1, and it is one of the oddest. When the subject is first-person singular and the direct object is second-person singular or plural (informal), rather than (or sometimes in addition to) using the expected personal pronoun for *you*, the **-lek/-lak** ending appears attached to the stem of the verb.

As noted in previous lessons, certain verb stems ending in two consonants or **-ít**, require a spacing vowel **e** or **a**. How would you translate these *I \_\_\_\_\_ you* forms?

**szeretlek, ismerlek, értelek, látlak, hallalak**

## Sentence Practice

This time translate into English. Look for answers on the Answers pages for this unit.

1. Csak egy kicsit magyarul beszél.
2. Ott mindig állnak.
3. Elég könnyű beszélni angolul, nem?
4. Valahol ezen országon van néhány jó személy.
5. Bizony tudod röviden itt ülni és enni.
6. Sajnos itt nincs ebéd; nem főzünk.
7. Attila kávé nem gyakran iszik.
8. Hol most vagytok, gyerekek?
9. Itt soha látlak, Judit.

## 12. Vocabulary Review

Here is the basic vocabulary for this unit, 125 entries in all. First, see how much of it you can translate into as many English meanings as you can remember. Then fill in the rest with help from chapters 0-11, and continue to drill in both directions.

Also, for the nouns, practice making the plural, accusative, and in/on forms; for verbs, the present-tense indefinite and definite conjugations, and the infinitive. For adjectives, where possible, make the adverbial form.

<i>Magyar</i>	<i>Angol</i>
1. a, az	
2. Alföld	
3. áll	
4. Amerika, amerikai	
5. Angolország, angol	
6. angolul	
7. Ausztria, osztrák	
8. az	
9. beszél	
10. bizony	
11. bocsánat	
12. Budapest, budapesti	
13. csak	
14. csinál	
15. ebéd	
16. egy	
17. éjszaka	
18. elég	
19. ember	
20. Erdély, erdélyi	
21. ért	
22. és	
23. este	
24. eszik	
25. étvagy	

<i>Magyar</i>	<i>Angol</i>
26. ez	
27. ezer	
28. férfi	
29. fiatal	
30. fiú	
31. föld	
32. forint	
33. főz	
34. gyakran	
35. gyerek	
36. hall	
37. harminc	
38. három	
39. hat	
40. hatvan	
41. hét	
42. hetven	
43. hogy?	
44. hol?	
45. hosszú	
46. húsz	
47. igen	
48. ismer	
49. iszik	
50. itt	
51. jó	
52. Kanada, kanadai	
53. kávé	
54. kerül	
55. két, kettő	
56. ki?	
57. kicsi, kis	

<i>Magyar</i>	<i>Angol</i>
58. kilenc	
59. kilencven	
60. Kolozsvár, kolozsvári	
61. könnyű	
62. köszönöm	
63. lakik	
64. lány	
65. lát	
66. legyen szíves	
67. Magyarország, magyar	
68. magyarul	
69. mennyi?	
70. mi?	
71. milliárd	
72. millió	
73. mindig	
74. mond	
75. most	
76. nagy	
77. nap	
78. négy	
79. negyven	
80. néhány	
81. nehéz	
82. nem	
83. Németország, német	
84. németül	
85. név	
86. nincs, nincsen	
87. nő	
88. nulla	
89. nyolc	

<i>Magyar</i>	<i>Angol</i>
90. nyolcvan	
91. ország	
92. ott	
93. ön, önök	
94. öreg	
95. öt	
96. ötven	
97. reggel	
98. reggeli	
99. Románia, román	
100. románul	
101. rossz	
102. rövid	
103. sajnós	
104. soha	
105. sok	
106. család	
107. száz	
108. Székelyföld, székely	
109. személy	
110. szeret	
111. szia, sziasztok	
112. szívesen	
113. talán	
114. tea	
115. tej	
116. tessék	
117. tíz	
118. tud	
119. ül	
120. úr	
121. vacsora	

<i>Magyar</i>	<i>Angol</i>
122. valahol	
123. van	
124. viszontlátásra, viszlát	
125. víz	

### ***Bonus Words and Phrases***

The translations of these words and phrases do not appear on the Answers pages. See how much you remember from this list, or how much you can find in Lessons 0-11.

<i>Magyar</i>	<i>Angol</i>
1. bab	
2. bácsi	
3. cigány	
4. cukor	
5. Duna	
6. euro	
7. fél	
8. fiatalember	
9. hát	
10. hogy hívnak?/önt hogy hívják?	
11. Kárpátok	
12. kert	
13. kislány	
14. kíván	
15. liter	
16. maga, maguk	
17. minden	
18. mindenhol	
19. mindenki	
20. tej	
21. tó	
22. valaki	
23. valami	

## Unit 1 Answers

### Lesson 4

1. Csillát szeretem.
2. Ferencet látom.
3. Györgyöt szeretem.
4. Juditot nem látom.
5. Károlyt látom.
6. Ön szeret Magyarországot.
7. Ön lát Szegedet.
8. Ön Gyórt nem szeret.
9. Ön a reggelit szeret.
10. Ön nem lát a napot.

### Lesson 6

#### Translate to Hungarian

1. Hol Béla van?
2. Béla Magyarországon van.
3. Béla férfi Magyarországon. (no **van** required)
4. Béla jó férfi Magyarországon.
5. Hol Rózsa van?
6. Rózsát szeretem.
7. Rózsát nem szeretem.
8. Rózsát és Zoltánót nem szeretem.
9. Hol a nő van?
10. A nőt látom.
11. A nőket látom.
12. Nőket látok.
13. Reggeli van?
14. Reggelit eszem.
15. Reggelit eszem Amerikában.
16. Reggelit és ebédet ma eszem Amerikában. (adverb directly before noun)



17. Olga lány.
18. Pál fiú.
19. Olga lány, és Pál fiú.
20. Olga és Pál magyar gyerekek.
21. Jó napot.
22. Jó reggelt, emberek (személyek).
23. Jó estét, emberek Romániában.
24. Jó éjszakát, emberek Erdélyföldön és Romániában.

### Translate to English

1. Good day, children.
2. My name is Gabi Székely.
3. I am a Transylvanian girl.
4. I live in England.
5. I see a man.
6. I see the man.
7. Where is the man?
8. The man is on the ground.
9. I like the people.
10. I do not like people.
11. Excuse me, where is Romania?
12. Am I eating?/Do I eat?
13. I am eating a Hungarian lunch.
14. Thanks for the lunch.
15. You're welcome, bon appétit.
16. See you later, children.

### Lesson 8

1. Tejet és kávét iszunk.
2. A lányok a teát nem isszák.
3. A vizet nem hálljátok?
4. Önök a vízben vannak?
5. Hol reggelit és ebédet eszünk?
6. A férfiak nemetül nem beszélnek.

**Lesson 10**

1. Egy jó vacsorát főzünk.
2. Rosszul főzik a reggelit.
3. Röviden szaladok.
4. A kis/kicsi fiú a földön ül.
5. A nő könnyen beszél németül.
6. Kit nagyon jól ismersz?
7. Nehéz hosszan állni.
8. Sok fiatalember Kolozsváron laknak.

**Lesson 11**

1. He/she speaks just a little Hungarian.
2. They are always standing there.
3. It's quite easy to speak Hungarian, isn't it?
4. Somewhere in this country there are a few good people.
5. Certainly you can sit here and eat a short while.
6. Unfortunately there's no lunch here; we aren't cooking (we don't cook).
7. Attila usually doesn't drink coffee.
8. Where are you now, children?
9. I always see you here, Judit.

**Lesson 12**

1. the
2. lowland, plain
3. stand
4. America, American
5. England (UK), English (British)
6. (in) English
7. Austria, Austrian
8. that
9. speak
10. certainly

11. excuse me
12. Budapest, from Budapest
13. just, only
14. do, make
15. lunch
16. a, an, one
17. evening
18. quite
19. person
20. Transylvania, Transylvanian
21. understand
22. and
23. night
24. eat
25. appetite
26. this
27. thousand
28. man
29. young
30. boy
31. plain, land
32. forint, Hungarian currency
33. cook (v.)
34. often
35. child
36. hear
37. thirty
38. three
39. six
40. sixty
41. seven
42. seventy
43. how?

44. where?
45. long, for a long time
46. twenty
47. yes
48. know, be familiar with
49. drink
50. here
51. good
52. Canada, Canadian
53. coffee
54. cost
55. two
56. who?
57. little, small
58. nine
59. ninety
60. Cluj-Napoca, from Cluj-Napoca
61. easy
62. thank you
63. live, dwell
64. girl
65. see
66. if you please
67. Hungary, Hungarian
68. (in) Hungarian
69. how much? how many?
70. what?
71. billion
72. million
73. everywhere
74. say
75. now
76. great, big, large

77. day, sun
78. four
79. forty
80. few, a few
81. difficult
82. no, not
83. Germany, German
84. (in) German
85. name
86. there isn't
87. woman, lady
88. zero
89. eight
90. eighty
91. country
92. there
93. you (formal)
94. old, aged
95. five
96. fifty
97. morning
98. breakfast
99. Romania, Romanian
100. (in) Romanian
101. bad
102. short, for a short time
103. sadly, unfortunately
104. never
105. many, much
106. run
107. hundred
108. Seckler land, Seckler
109. person, personality

- 110. love, like
- 111. hello, hi
- 112. gladly, you're welcome
- 113. perhaps
- 114. tea
- 115. milk
- 116. here you go, may I help you?
- 117. ten
- 118. know, know how, be aware, be familiar
- 119. sit
- 120. sir, Mister
- 121. dinner
- 122. somewhere
- 123. is, there is
- 124. farewell, see you later
- 125. water